

## COLONEL THOMAS LOTHROP CHAPTER EARLY HISTORY

Colonel Thomas Lothrop Chapter was formed June 2, 1896. Mrs. Charles A. Gross was the first Regent and the twelve charter members for nine months composed the Chapter. Founded the same year that the DAR was incorporated, Cohasset's Colonel Thomas Lothrop Chapter Charter began in October 19, 1896.

After considering the records of various Revolutionary soldiers who went to war from the Town of Cohasset, the name of Colonel Thomas Lothrop was adopted for the name of the Chapter. Thomas Lothrop, a descendant of Reverend John Lothrop of Scituate and Barnstable was born November 9, 1738 in Hingham. At the age of seven, Thomas's father died, his mother remarried and moved from Hingham so Thomas moved to Cohasset to live with his mother's uncle, Deacon John Jacob from whom he inherited a large estate.

As a youth he served as private and lieutenant in the French and Indian War around 1757-1760. He was an active participant in town affairs in time of peace. A member of the Committee of Inspection and the Committee of Correspondence, he entered the Revolutionary Army as Captain very early in the war. He was commissioned 2<sup>nd</sup> Major in Colonel Benjamin Lincoln's regiment, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Suffolk, and February 7, 1776 was commissioned as 1<sup>st</sup> Major and later Lieutenant Colonel of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Suffolk. He was in command of the forces at Nantasket in 1778.

In 1745, Cohasset was part of Hingham referred as the "second precinct" of Hingham. Cohasset did not become separated from Hingham until 1770. Colonel Thomas Lothrop built his house in 1760 on Spring Street, "near the cold spring". He had twelve children. He served the town as Moderator, Town Clerk, Selectman and Representative for many years until his death in 1813.

The first two years the Chapter work was limited to the study of local history, with reading of papers on the ancestry of members and kindred topics, a Colonial Tea, a lecture or reception, with donations to various patriotic objects. The Chapter observed October 19 (the start of the Chapter Charter) and April 19 (April 19, 1775, British and American soldiers exchanged fire in the Massachusetts towns of Lexington and Concord) in suitable fashion. Beginning with 1898, the Chapter purchased pictures for a room of the Osgood School. A lecture on Cohasset in

the time of the Revolution, with illustrations was given by one of the Chapter members. By a Loan Exhibit in 1901, and several smaller fundraising efforts, money was raised for a Revolutionary Boulder and tablet which was dedicated in June 1902 on Cohasset Commons. In 1903 a complete list of all cemetery inscriptions in the town was prepared for the New England Historical Genealogical Society.

In April 1905 the Chapter sent a contribution for the Continental Hall Fund, in June a donation of a photograph of Turner's "Fighting Temeraire" to the seventh grade of the Osgood School Cohasset, in October, and proceeds from a fundraiser to the Paul Revere House Fund. Chapter field trips occurred in June to historically interesting places.

In 1905, the Chapter had about 60 members, from Cohasset, Scituate, and surrounding areas. In 1906 seven members of the Chapter were descendants of Colonel Thomas Lothrop. The Chapter Regent at that time was Miss Eva E. Lawrence.

Colonel Thomas Lothrop Chapter Twelve Charter Members:

Mrs. Mary T. L. Gross (Mrs. Charles A. Gross), (*Colonel Thomas Lothrop*)  
Miss Ella Bates, (*Private Caleb Nichols, Captain Levi Tower, Navy, Sergeant Zealous Bates, John Bryant, Abel Kent, Nathaniel Turner*)  
Miss Cora F. Bates, (*Lieutenant Nathaniel Nichols*)  
Mrs. Martha P. Howe, (*Private Ebenezer Paul*)  
Miss Edith M. Bates, (*Colonel Thomas Lothrop*)  
Miss Grace H. Merriam, (*Captain James Hall*)  
Mrs. Laura T. Wheelwright, (*Sergeant Abraham Tower*)  
Miss Isabel Pratt, (*Colonel Thomas Lothrop*)  
Miss Martha Jane B. Tower, (*Captain Levi Tower*)  
Miss Grace E. Keene, (*Captain Levi Tower*)  
Mrs Elizabeth O. Davenport, (*Colonel Joseph Ward*)  
Miss Abbie A. Bates, (*Sergeant Zealous Bates*)

Citations from the History of the Massachusetts Daughters of the American Revolution.  
December 1891 – December 1905. Boston, Massachusetts

Citations from Constance W. Parker – Ex-Regent, Colonel Thomas Lothrop Chapter, 1977-1980

Cohasset Historical Society Archives, Colonel Thomas Lothrop Chapter Charter Members List