

# Afterword



*September 2023*

These articles-stories-chapters do not cover all the tidbits that I have discovered about my ancestors and relatives, real and suspected. What I have not written about and have not yet discovered among the papers and photos available to me might well fill another volume. I just haven't studied everything that thoroughly, and time may run out before I ever do. After writing the memoir of my own years before meeting Beth, which is a volume unto itself (*I Shall Pass This Way But Once*), I realize that what I have not told about my nearly 50 years with her and all our children could fill yet another book.

Clarice (Hines) Woodbury, my grandmother, and her mother, Goldie (Sweet) Hines Jensen, had kept letters and other documents that are both informative and full of mysteries. There are suggestions, for instance, that my grandfather, Everett Hugh Woodbury, whom Clarice divorced in 1936, either married again while living in Cambridge, Massachusetts, or at least fathered some more children. But there are only oblique references to that.

His father, George Hugh Woodbury, evidently had a son with second wife, Nellie — a son named Walter. I have no information about that person, nor much about Nellie. Someone among the Woodbury clan in the area around Rockland, Maine, has told me that we are related, possibly through Walter or more directly through George. I have not followed up on that possibility.

Clarice and Goldie also passed down a hoard of documents in addition to the letters and post cards that remain to be examined, and nearly a hundred deeds to properties in western Maine, over 40 of them so old that they are entirely handwritten, going back as far as 1805.

While my daughter, Ruth (Woodbury) Starr, and I have both dabbled in Ancestry.com we have deemed it exorbitant to maintain a continuous membership there. Therefore I can't, on a whim, explore new leads at that site regularly. (My own active tree at Ancestry.com is Woodbury-Miller in an account under my own name.)

My first cousin, Georgia (Hume) Johnston Fox, in Ohio, has meted out some tidbits to me, notably the two photographs which are the subject of the chapter, Fading Photographs. I am grateful to Georgia for these and can only surmise that she has more records of our Miller-Dershem ancestors. She is still with us but for several years she has lived under the devastation of dementia. It's too late to engage her in any work on the subject.

And so there it stands. I have greatly enjoyed drawing these stories from the records in my possession. May they shed some light onto the past for the inquisitive ones among the descendants of those featured in this volume.

*[For a digital file with a high-resolution copy  
of any personal photo in this book, write to me  
at DavidAndrewWoodbury@gmail.com.]*