

**NEWSLETTER:**

**Tewksbury Historical Society**

**P.O. Box 522**

**Tewksbury, MA 01876**

# **TEWKSBURY GAZETTE**

**JANUARY 2024**

**T E W K S B U R Y ' S F I R S T N E W S P A P E R**

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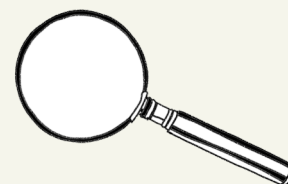
### **FRAMED, ORIGINAL**

### **1852 MAP OF TEWKSBURY**

### **BY HENRY FRANCIS WALLING, SURVEYOR**

### **TO THE TOWN**

### **ON DISPLAY AT TOWN HALL, FIRST FLOOR LOBBY AREA**



### **VISIT TOWN HALL TO SEE THIS ORIGINAL 1852 MAP OF THE TOWN!**

- SEE OUR TOWN BEFORE 4 SECTIONS OF NORTH TEWKSBURY WERE VOTED TO GO TO THE CITY OF LOWELL.
- SEE OUR TOWN BEFORE THE TEWKSBURY STATE HOSPITAL WAS BUILT IN 1854.
- SEE OUR TOWN BEFORE ADELBERT AMES DAMMED UP STONGWATER BROOK TO BUILD AMES POND, IN THE EARLY 1900'S.
- SEE WHAT YOUR OWN NEIGHBORHOOD WAS BEFORE IT WAS BUILT.

## ABOUT THE CARTOGRAPHER OF THE 1852 MAP:

### HENRY FRANCIS WALLING

**Henry Francis Walling** (1825-1889) was an American civil engineer, cartographer, surveyor and map publisher from the middle to late 1800's. Born in Providence, Rhode Island, he studied at the Providence Athenaeum before discovering a talent for mathematics and surveying. He took a position with Samuel Barrett Cushing, a Providence based civil engineer.

In 1846, his collaboration with Cushing on the new edition of Stevens' 1831 Rhode Island map may have been Walling's first introduction to what at the time was known as "trigonometric" surveying. This involved the use of extremely careful astronomical observations to establish geodetic "control points," from which a network of triangulated reference points were run across the state. This highly accurate framework was then filled out with less-rigorous but more detailed data obtained from surveys with compass, chain and odometer. Walling established himself independently around 1850 and began preparing a series of town plans in the area of Bristol County, RI. He expanded his operations to Massachusetts and by 1855 had produced about 50 town plans.

Walling was the one of the first American commercial mapmakers to employ the blended approach to map construction, where he used both "trigonometric" surveying and filling out using compass and chain surveying. His work led him to be appointed as the Massachusetts 'Superintendent of the State Map,' around 1855.

During his long career he produced perhaps 150 large-scale maps of Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and numerous county atlases. He helped pioneer models of partnership between commercial, local, state and Federal mapping enterprises; demonstrated that commercial mapmakers could produce high-quality maps by drawing on the work of government scientific agencies; was a leading advocate of applying geodetic survey methods and tools to local and regional surveys; and catalyzed the first topographical (three dimensional) survey of an American state.

By 1883, he was working for the newly formed U.S. Geological Survey, and in 1884 was assigned to duty for the geodetic survey of Massachusetts in preparation of the state maps, on which work he was engaged at the time of his death in 1889.

Walling was a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

This 1852 map of the Town of Tewksbury is thus an important artifact of a transitional period in American mapmaking, when commercial cartographers began to combine scientific rigor With far more detailed depictions of the natural and human landscape.

#### References:

John Russell Bartlett, *Bibliography of Rhode Island*, p. 181. Phillips, *A List of Maps of America*, p. 499. Stephenson, *Land Ownership Maps*, Walter Ristow's *American Maps and Mapmakers*, Michael Buehler's "Henry F. Walling and the Mapping of New England's Towns, 1849-1857," *The Portolan*, no. 71 (Spring 2008), pp. 22-33, [en.wikipedia.org](http://en.wikipedia.org) and [www.geographicus.com](http://www.geographicus.com).

° Map published by Hutchinson, Upham & Co., Litho., No. 4, Cornhill Court, Boston, MA.

° Produced by lithography on paper mounted on linen. Original with full period hand-color.

Original wooden rods. Bottom Roller with acorn finials.

- Engravings of local scenes.

Residence of Elijah M. Read, Esq., N. Tewksbury

Congregational Church, Tewksbury Centre, Rev. J. Coggin, Pastor

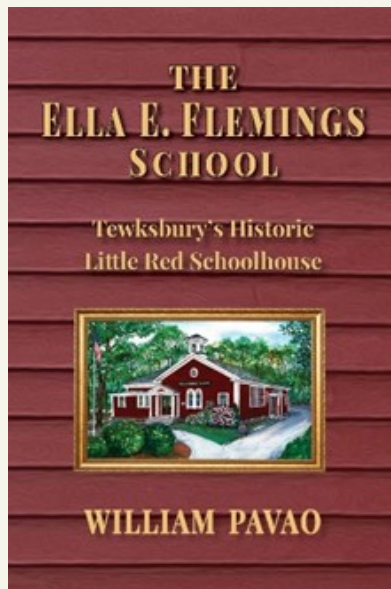
Residence of Dr. A. Astle

Baptist Church, N. Tewksbury

# **The Elle E. Flemings School Book:** **by Bill Pavao**

TO ORDER A COPY OF THIS 400+ PAGE BOOK:

EMAIL: [vpres@tewksburyhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:vpres@tewksburyhistoricalsociety.org)



Thanks to the author, Bill Pavao, the Tewksbury Historical Society will receive profits on books that we sell.

The price for the book is \$20.00. Cash or Check

The Ella E. Flemings School is an historic schoolhouse located in Tewksbury, Massachusetts. The original one-room school was constructed ca. 1859. Through its long history, the Ella E. Flemings School was moved and twice enlarged in order to continue meeting the changing needs of a once-rural community. The school was a pioneer in the field of education as it was among the first, if not the first, training school for student teachers in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. After almost 150 years of service to the children of the Town of Tewksbury, the last students left this historic schoolhouse in 2004.

## **About the Author:**

William Pavao never attended the Ella E. Flemings School, but was educated in the Tewksbury Public Schools until he was in the ninth grade. He was graduated from Fitchburg State University with a Bachelor of Science in history and a teaching certification. Mr. Pavao received his Master's in Middle School Education from Eastern Nazarene College in Quincy, Massachusetts. He has been a public-school teacher of American history and government since 1998. For many years, Mr. Pavao was the curator of the Lizzie Borden Bed & Breakfast/Museum in Fall River, Massachusetts as well as the curator of Lizzie Borden's Maplecroft. He has been featured on several television programs about the Borden case on The Learning Channel, The History Channel, and the Travel Channel.



**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO SUPPORTED AND  
ATTENDED THE BOOK LAUNCH ON  
NOVEMBER 28, 2023 AT THE TEWKSBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY.**

**ALSO, MANY THANKS TO ROBERT HAYES, COMMUNITY OUTREACH LIBRARIAN  
OF THE LIBRARY WHO SUPPORTED  
AND PROMOTED THE EVENT AS WELL!**

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**Tewksbury Historical Society  
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Tewksbury, MA 01876**

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Board of Directors and Members serve as volunteers.

All Donations and Membership dues go directly to maintaining the Society's collections, archive materials, storage costs, postage and stationery.

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