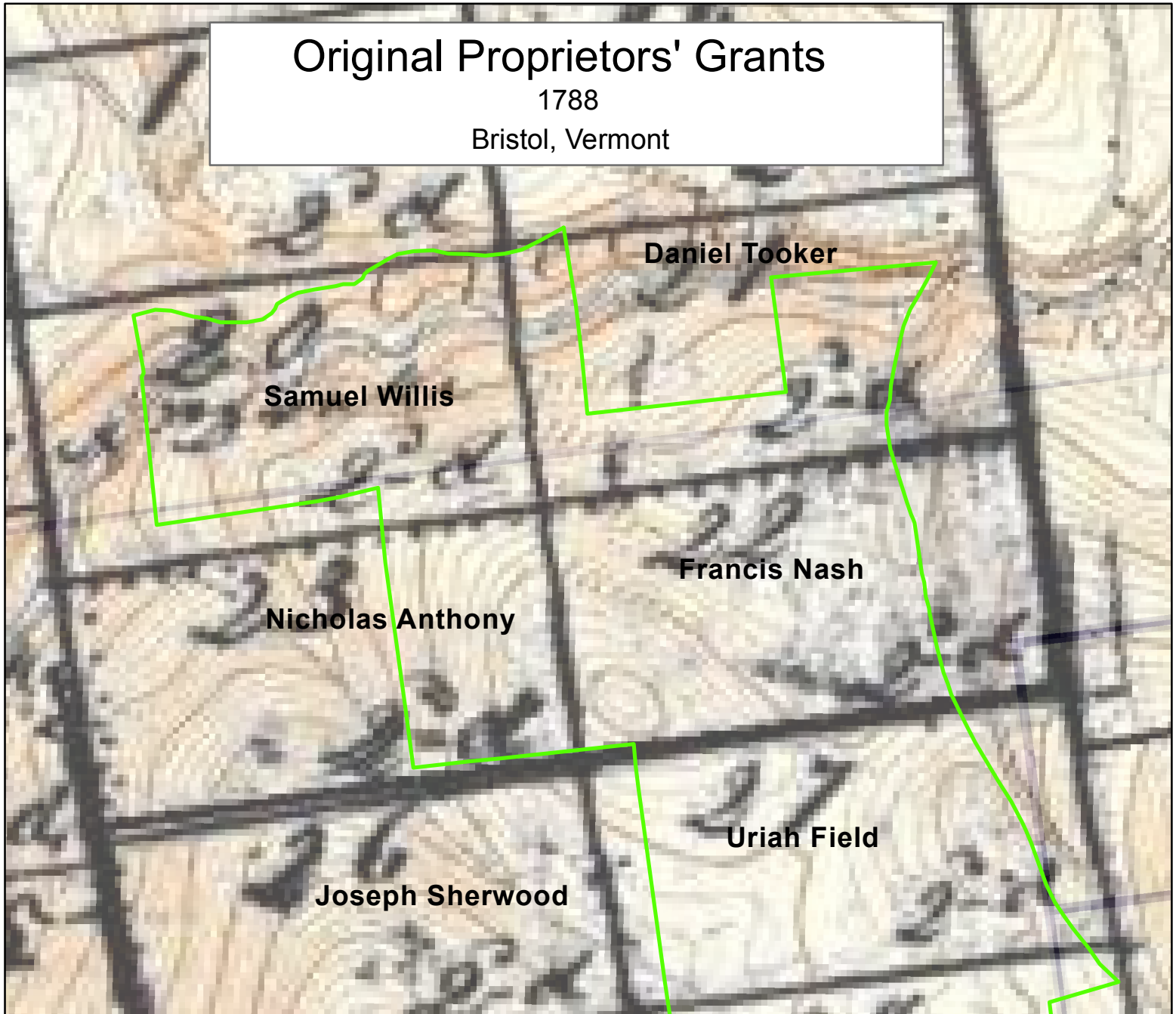


# Original Proprietors' Grants

1788

Bristol, Vermont




The township of Bristol was originally granted by Benning Wentworth 26 June 1762 to Samuel Averill and sixty-two associates or proprietors. Wentworth was the first Royal Governor of New Hampshire from 1741 to 1766. Wentworth sold to speculators or townships large parcels of land in what would become Vermont, despite claims to the land by New York. Each grantee or proprietor typically paid Wentworth about £20 each. Claims of corruption and complaints by purchasers of worthless swampland and mountainsides eventually drove Wentworth from office.

There is some evidence that as early as 1784 efforts began to divide the township (known then as Pocock) into lots. By 1788 three divisions had been made and a 4th contemplated. However, at a proprietors' meeting in May 1788, it was decided the previous divisions and surveys were not legal and new divisions should be made. The first division lots were subsequently made containing 90 acres each. The second division lots were 110 acres each; the third, 100; the fourth, 50; and the fifth, 20 acres.

This portion of Bristol was annexed to Lincoln on November 18, 1824 by the Vermont legislature. The annex totaled 4400 acres.

From Robert S. Raymond

 Guthrie-Bancroft Parcel

