

JOHN CROMWELL

Fur Trader, Dunstable's First Merchant

Dunstable's first merchant, John Cromwell, is forever remembered with a plaque by the walkway leading from the Anheuser-Busch Brewery to the Clydesdale Hamlet.

John Cromwell was born in England, and as a Puritan was an original member of the Charlestown, Massachusetts church. In 1656, Cromwell built the first wood frame house in Merrimack. He lived on the west bank of the Merrimack River, south of Thornton's Ferry and north of the Pennichuck Brook. The land where his house stood is now part of the Anheuser-Busch, Inc. property in Merrimack.

He was a fur trader and because of the great water supply, decided to build his trading post on the margin of Thornton's Ferry at a place now known as "Cromwell's Falls."