

## A. Worksheet For Estabrook Household

### Clue 1: Family Genealogy/Vital Records

#### Head of Household

Father's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Born \_\_\_\_\_ Died \_\_\_\_\_  
Mother's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Born \_\_\_\_\_ Died \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of their Marriage \_\_\_\_\_ [

#### Children in 1775 (Fill in information where known, or where surmiseable)

|    |       |            |            |                        |                        |
|----|-------|------------|------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. | _____ | Born _____ | Died _____ | Year of Marriage _____ | At home in 1775? _____ |
| 2. | _____ | Born _____ | Died _____ | Year of Marriage _____ | At home in 1775? _____ |
| 3. | _____ | Born _____ | Died _____ | Year of Marriage _____ | At home in 1775? _____ |
| 4. | _____ | Born _____ | Died _____ | Year of Marriage _____ | At home in 1775? _____ |
| 5. | _____ | Born _____ | Died _____ | Year of Marriage _____ | At home in 1775? _____ |
| 6. | _____ | Born _____ | Died _____ | Year of Marriage _____ | At home in 1775? _____ |
| 7. | _____ | Born _____ | Died _____ | Year of Marriage _____ | At home in 1775? _____ |
| 8. | _____ | Born _____ | Died _____ | Year of Marriage _____ | At home in 1775? _____ |
| 9. | _____ | Born _____ | Died _____ | Year of Marriage _____ | At home in 1775? _____ |

Benjamin Estabrook had a large farm, enough land to settle two sons (Benj. Jr. and Attai) in Lexington (note that the rest of Estabrook's sons moved away). How many of those sons were old enough to provide adult assistance on this farm in 1775? \_\_\_\_\_ What do you think were some of Estabrook's major farming concerns in 1775?  
\_\_\_\_\_

#### Other Known Members of the Household

The genealogy includes Prince as a member of the household. Who was he? Why do you think it does not list the names of his parents or his date of birth? \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Now, put it all together. Who were likely members of the Estabrook household in the spring of 1775?**

|    |       |           |                |
|----|-------|-----------|----------------|
| 1. | _____ | Age _____ | Position _____ |
| 2. | _____ | Age _____ | Position _____ |
| 3. | _____ | Age _____ | Position _____ |
| 4. | _____ | Age _____ | Position _____ |
| 5. | _____ | Age _____ | Position _____ |
| 6. | _____ | Age _____ | Position _____ |
| 7. | _____ | Age _____ | Position _____ |
| 8. | _____ | Age _____ | Position _____ |
| 9. | _____ | Age _____ | Position _____ |

Possible Others? \_\_\_\_\_

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## A. Worksheet For Estabrook Household

### Clue 2: House Description

1. Describe the likely size and layout of rooms in the Estabrook household: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Given this number of rooms, and the number of people in the household, how do you imagine the space was used? (Where do you imagine people slept, ate, worked, stored goods, or entertained guests?)

a. Hall: \_\_\_\_\_

b. Parlor \_\_\_\_\_

c. Chamber above Hall \_\_\_\_\_

d. Chamber above Parlor \_\_\_\_\_

e. Attic \_\_\_\_\_ d. Cellar \_\_\_\_\_

Given these spaces, how closely do you think Prince's life was intertwined physically with the rest of the family?

### Clue 3: Estabrook Probate Inventory, 1803

Imagine the placement of furniture and luxury goods in the four main rooms above. Where would the beds, tables, chairs, chests, chests of drawers, and desk go? Where would the luxury items likely be displayed and used? How much contact would Prince have had with these household items of refinement?

a. Hall: \_\_\_\_\_

b. Parlor \_\_\_\_\_

c. Chamber above Hall \_\_\_\_\_

d. Chamber above Parlor \_\_\_\_\_

### Clue 4. Lexington Tax Assessment, 1774.

How did Benjamin Estabrook's wealth compare to that of his fellow townsmen? How does this ranking influence your interpretation of the goods (and humans) above that he owned? How do you think his possessions might have affected his views towards political rebellion?

Finally, imagine this group of people sharing their lives, work, and physical space in the spring of 1775.

## B. Worksheet for Estabrook Farm and Prince's Work

### Clue 1: Map

Note the location of Benjamin Estabrook's farm near the more densely settled town center and along the main road to Cambridge and Concord. How do you think this location affected Prince's daily life and work?

### Clue 2: 1771 Valuation for Benjamin Estabrook

#### Land Holdings

| <u>Benjamin Estabrook</u> | _____ | <u>Average Lexington Farmer</u> |             |
|---------------------------|-------|---------------------------------|-------------|
| Tillage                   | _____ | Tillage                         | 5.1         |
| Pasture                   | _____ | Pasture                         | 12.5        |
| Meadow                    | _____ | Meadow                          | 14.7        |
| Upland                    | _____ | Upland                          | 5.2         |
| Fresh                     | _____ | Fresh                           | 9.5         |
| Total Acres "Improved"*   | _____ | Total Acres "Improved"          | 32.3        |
| Total Acres Woodlot**     | _____ | Woodlot                         | 32.3        |
| <b>TOTAL FARM ACREAGE</b> | _____ | <b>TOTAL FARM ACREAGE</b>       | <b>64.6</b> |

\*Improved acres are those that have been cleared of trees and turned to productive farm use.

\*\* Woodlot was not considered "improved" land and so was not taxed. However, as a general rule of thumb, we can assume that Lexington's colonial farmers held about as much "unimproved" woodlot as the total of their other acres. (Thus, the average farmer had 32 improved acres, and likely 32 unimproved or woodlot acres).

#### Livestock Holdings

| <u>Benjamin Estabrook</u> | _____ | <u>Average Lexington Farmer</u> |                      |
|---------------------------|-------|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| Horses                    | _____ |                                 | 1.1                  |
| Oxen                      | _____ |                                 | 1.4                  |
| Cows                      | _____ |                                 | 5.1                  |
| Goats/Sheep               | _____ |                                 | 3                    |
| Swine                     | _____ |                                 | 2.2                  |
| Cider (barrels)           | _____ |                                 | 2 barrels/person/yr. |

How did Estabrook's farm compare with the average farm in Lexington in 1771? How did this likely shape Prince's daily life and work?

## B. Worksheet for Estabrook Farm and Prince's Work

### Clue 3: U.S. Revolutionary War Rolls

How did Prince Estabrook identify his primary work and skills? What do you think this reveals about his identity?

### Clue 4: Probate Inventory Excerpt

From the tools listed in this inventory, what sorts of farm work do you think were being done on the Estabrook farm?

- a. Tillage? \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Pasturing animals? \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Raising meadow hay? \_\_\_\_\_
- d. Keeping a woodlot? \_\_\_\_\_

Finally, *imagine* the family's daily work and Prince's role in accomplishing essential tasks.

## C. Worksheet for Evidence of Prince Estabrook's Slavery

### **Clue 1: Will of Joseph Estabrook**

If Tony was indeed the father of Prince, describe the likely interpersonal relationship between Benjamin Estabrook, the master, and Prince, the slave.

### **Clue 2: Mass. Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War**

This is a rare reference to Prince's age. His master, Benjamin, was born in 1729. How close in age were the two men? If they grew up in the same household, how do you think this shaped their relationship?

### **Clue 3: Canavan Account**

What does this anecdote suggest about the relationship between Benjamin and Prince?

### **Clue 4: Lexington Valuation of 1775**

This is the first documentary evidence we have that Prince was indeed a slave, and not a free or manumitted black person living in the Estabrook household in 1775. Given the rhetoric of liberty that saturated eastern Massachusetts from 1767 to 1775, how do you imagine Benjamin justified his slave-holding? How do you think Prince received the talk of fighting for liberty?

### **Clue 5: U.S Population Census of 1790**

What happened to Prince's status between 1775 and 1790. When and why do you think this likely happened?

### **Clue 6: Lexington Tax Records 1790s**

What does this suggest about Prince's status as a freedman in post-war Lexington?

### **Clue 7: Ashby Gravestone**

What does this evidence suggest about Prince's ability to achieve full independence after being released from slavery?

## D. Worksheet for Prince's Actions on April 19th

### Clues 1-4: Battle Evidence

1. Reconstruct a likely scenario for what Prince did and what happened to him on the morning of April 19<sup>th</sup>.

2. Why do you think Prince, a slave, risked his life in this battle?

3. Prince was the only member of Benjamin Estabrook's household who trained with Capt. Parker's militia in the fall and winter of 1774/75 and the only member of the household who fought on April 19<sup>th</sup>. Why do you think this might be so? Estabrook gave his permission for his slave to serve. Why do you think this might be so?

### Clue 5: Mass. Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War

What does this suggest?

### Clue 6: U.S. Revolutionary War Rolls

Bounties and wages for service were usually paid to the master of any dependents who served, including apprentices and slaves. What does this evidence suggest has happened? *Why* do you think this might have happened?

Given the evidence above, how do you *imagine* the 34-year-old slave Prince Estabrook on the morning of April 19<sup>th</sup>? What do you think were his thoughts and feelings, what were his motivations for acting as he did? What choices did he make, and why do you think he made those choices?