

Worksheet A: Evidence for Sanderson Household

**Clue 1: Town Clerk's Record Book, Warning Out of Non-Resident Poor, 1768**

How old was Samuel Sanderson when he arrived in Lexington? (See Clue #2 for Sanderson date of birth).  
\_\_\_\_\_ Where had he come from? \_\_\_\_\_ What do you  
think he was likely doing in Lexington? [Hint: he would become a cabinetmaker.] \_\_\_\_\_

**Clue 2: Family Genealogy/Vital Records**

Father's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Born \_\_\_\_\_ Died \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Born \_\_\_\_\_ Died \_\_\_\_\_

Date of their Marriage \_\_\_\_\_ How old was Samuel when he was married? \_\_\_\_\_

How long had he lived in Lexington? \_\_\_\_\_ In order to marry and set up an  
independent household, he had to have a means of supporting his wife and family. What does this suggest  
about his economic/craft situation by 1772? \_\_\_\_\_

How old was Mary Munroe when she was married? \_\_\_\_\_ Where is this couple in their  
lifecycle in the spring of 1775 and what likely were their concerns? \_\_\_\_\_

**Children (Complete if data are known)**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Born \_\_\_\_\_ Died \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ Born \_\_\_\_\_ Died \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_ Born \_\_\_\_\_ Died \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_ Born \_\_\_\_\_ Died \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_ Born \_\_\_\_\_ Died \_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_ Born \_\_\_\_\_ Died \_\_\_\_\_

**Clue 3: Deposition of Elijah Sanderson**

In the spring of 1775, how old was Elijah Sanderson, and where was he living? \_\_\_\_\_  
What do you think was his position in the household? \_\_\_\_\_

**Clue 4: Records of Military Service**

In the spring of 1775, how old was Isaac Durrant, where was he likely living, and what do you think he  
was likely doing in this household? \_\_\_\_\_

**Clue 5: Reminiscence of Mary Munroe Sanderson**

Who else was living in the Sanderson Household in 1775? \_\_\_\_\_

**Now, put it all together. Who were likely members of the Sanderson household in April of 1775?**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

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

B. Worksheet for Sanderson House and Livelihood

**Clues 1 and 2:**

When did Samuel Sanderson likely purchase his first house and why? \_\_\_\_\_

**Clues 2 and 3:**

How is the house described? \_\_\_\_\_

What rooms are included in this description? \_\_\_\_\_

How old was the house when the couple lived there in the spring of 1775? \_\_\_\_\_

How do you imagine this house from this description?

**Clues 2 and 3:**

What was Samuel Sanderson's occupation? \_\_\_\_\_

**Clue 4:**

This deed of sale describes the Sanderson property at the time of its sale in 1783. Describe all the *structures* on this property: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe all the *types of land* owned by the Sandersons. \_\_\_\_\_

What types of land included on a complete and sustainable farm are the Sandersons missing?

\_\_\_\_\_

How do you think they survived without those additional acres?

\_\_\_\_\_

The Sandersons moved west, from Lexington to Lancaster, in 1776. What do you think was likely their motivation for this move? \_\_\_\_\_

**Clue 5:**

Describe the Sandersons' wealth in 1774 relative to their other Lexington neighbors. How is this reflected in the property they owned? How do you think it shaped their work and daily concerns?

**Clue 6:**

Look at the map. Consider the Sandersons' location in town relative to other Lexingtonians. How do you think their location along the main road from Boston to Concord affected their experience of the events of the Fall/Winter of 1774 and Spring of 1775?

Imagine this family living in their home, working in their shop and on their land in the Spring of 1775.

C. Worksheet on Sanderson Men's Experience of April 19th

**Clue 1: Capt. Parker's Company Roster**

What members of the Sanderson family served and trained with Capt. Parker's company in the winter and spring of 1774-75?

\_\_\_\_\_

What were there ranks? \_\_\_\_\_

Samuel Sanderson was only 27 in 1775. What does his military rank suggest about his position in Lexington society? \_\_\_\_\_

How do you think their months of regular training shaped these men and affected the household?

\_\_\_\_\_

**Clue 2: Deposition of Elijah Sanderson, 1825**

Consider Elijah's description of the Regulars' activity in the spring of 1775. How do you think that activity shaped daily life and concerns in the Sanderson household?

Consider Elijah's description of the evening of April 18<sup>th</sup>, 1775. He went to check out activity on the common before the official call to arms. Who left home and who stayed home? Imagine the atmosphere in the Sanderson household on that evening.

**Clue 3: Map with Line of March**

Find the Sanderson house. Describe what you imagine to be their experience on the evening of April 19<sup>th</sup>, then again on the morning of April 19<sup>th</sup> as witnesses of activity along the main road.

**Clue 4:**

Samuel Sanderson gives a full account of his actions on April 19<sup>th</sup>. Describe where he went and why, what he did, and what he claims happened to him and to his fellow townsmen.

D. Worksheet on Mary Munroe Sanderson's Experience, April 19, 1775

**Clue 1 and 2:**

Describe where Mary went and what she did during the night of April 18/19<sup>th</sup> and the day of April 19<sup>th</sup>.

From the evidence given in Samuel's deposition, what do you think he and Mary expected to happen? Why should the Sandersons, in particular, been concerned for their lives and the well-being of their home?

*Imagine and describe* what you think Mary's emotions must have been in the early morning of April 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Clue 2:**

What happened to the Sanderson's property?

How did Mary respond to this loss?

Consider the request for tea. Why is this ironic?

What sources of authority did Mary defy on April 19<sup>th</sup>? To whom did she finally submit?

*Imagine* Mary's discovery of the wanton destruction of the major part of her wedding dower.

*Imagine* her forced care-taking of the wounded soldier.

**Clues 3 and 4:**

How do you think the experience of April 19<sup>th</sup> – what she endured and the choices she made in response -- shaped the rest of Mary Sanderson's life?