



Middlesex Canal Association

P.O. Box 333 ☆ Billerica, Massachusetts 01821

Dear New Proprietor,

Thank you for joining the Association for the educational and recreational use of the 1793 Middlesex Canal. The Canal was the first part of the water highway between Boston Harbor and Concord, NH. Its efficient transportation made competitive the American System of cloth manufacture powered by the waterfalls of the Merrimack.

The certificate of your election as a proprietor has the portraits of James Sullivan, promoter and first president of the canal, and Loammi Baldwin, builder and first vice president, leading examples of the proprietors who in 1793 subscribed to digging a canal 3½' x 30' x 27 miles with 8 aqueducts, twenty locks, and fifty bridges in ten years. We of the present generation of proprietors are strengthened by their can do example in the ninth year of building a museum/visitor center on the site of the 1794 groundbreaking. We proprietors have worked on the canal "for the benefit of the present & all Future generations" as prayed Loammi at the groundbreaking 239 years ago.

The public walks and talks of the Association scheduled in *Towpath Topics* are a way to enjoy the educational and recreational use of the canal, and I hope to see you there, but the canal can be enjoyed anytime by picking a section from *The Incredible Ditch: A Bicentennial History* or Mary Stetson Clarke's *Middlesex Canal* and walking.

Sincerely,

J. Jeremiah Breen
President



James Sullivan

This certificate is presented to

David Pinals

who has been elected a
proprietor of the

Middlesex Canal Association



Loammi Baldwin

J. Jeremiah Breen

President

Traci B. Jansen

Vice President

Boston Sep^r 2 d. 1793

We the subscribers agree to become associates and Proprietors in the Middlesex Canal according to the number of shares set by us severally against our names, agreeing to be subjected there in to the regulations of the act of Incorporation of said propriety and such Rules and bye Laws as shall be established by said Corporation. No one person is to subscribe to more than twenty shares. And anyone having subscribed on another paper is to have no benefit from this. This paper is to receive subscriptions for two hundred shares only. Two Dollars to be paid for each share on subscription.

Names of Subscribers No. of Shares Sums paid

<i>John Hancock</i>	<i>Twenty</i>	<i>Forty Dollars paid</i>
<i>Oliver Wendell</i>	<i>Five</i>	<i>Ten Dollars paid</i>
<i>Dr. S. L. H. enough</i>	<i>Five</i>	<i>Ten Dollars paid</i>
<i>Wm. Tudor</i>	<i>Five</i>	<i>Ten Dollars paid</i>

John Hancock, 1st proprietor

At the groundbreaking, Sept. 10, 1794, Loammi Baldwin prayed "May the Eye of Wisdom and the Eternal Mind aid this work designed for the benefit of the present & all Future generations." The motto of the Association taken from Baldwin's invocation, "for the benefit of the present & all Future Generations."