

Paul Revere, Jr.

2nd of 8 children

b. Jan. 6, 1768

d. Jan. 16, 1813

Commissioned Lt.
in the fourth company
artillery regiment
in which his
father was Lt.
Colonel

Was a mason
listed in 1796 directory
as Paul Revere, Jr.
Goldsmith

1750

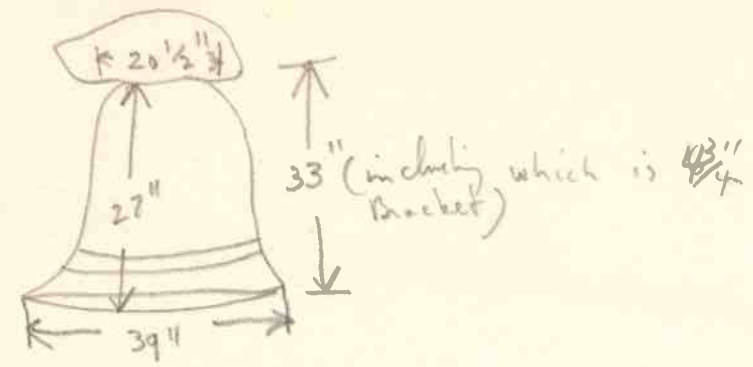
EVERETT BOSTON

DISTANCE AT MID-SECTION

REVERE BOSTON

probably Paul Revere Jr. and prior to 1801 according to
ells of Paul and Joseph W. Revere by Arthur H. Nichols,
oston, 1911 KM

See: Stickney, Revere Bells, 1965, - most likely was made after 1824 by
Revere foundry (Joseph Warren Revere)
see pp. 4, 17.
Slight possibility bell was cast by Paul Revere Jr (early 1800s) see p. 20.

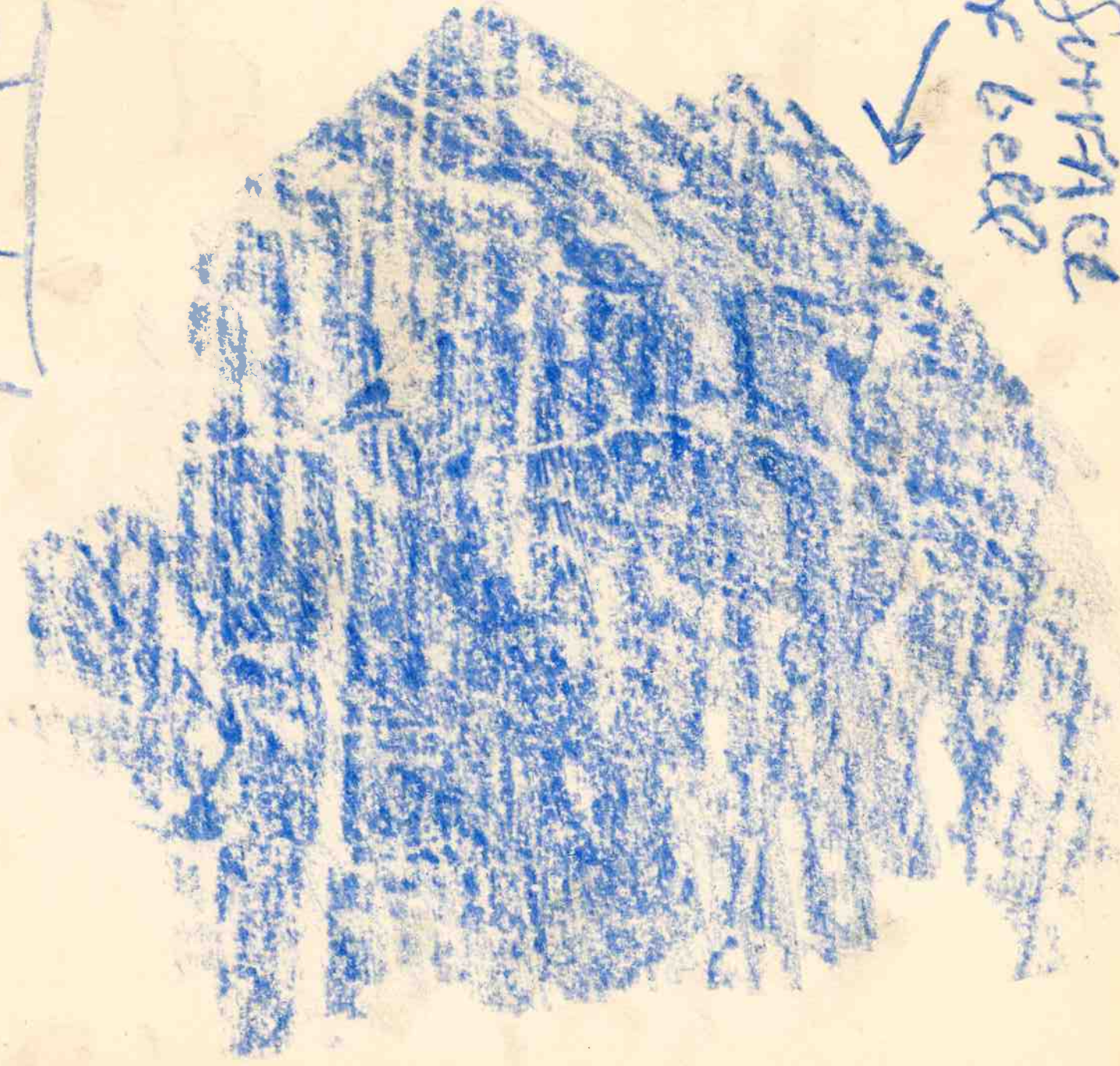
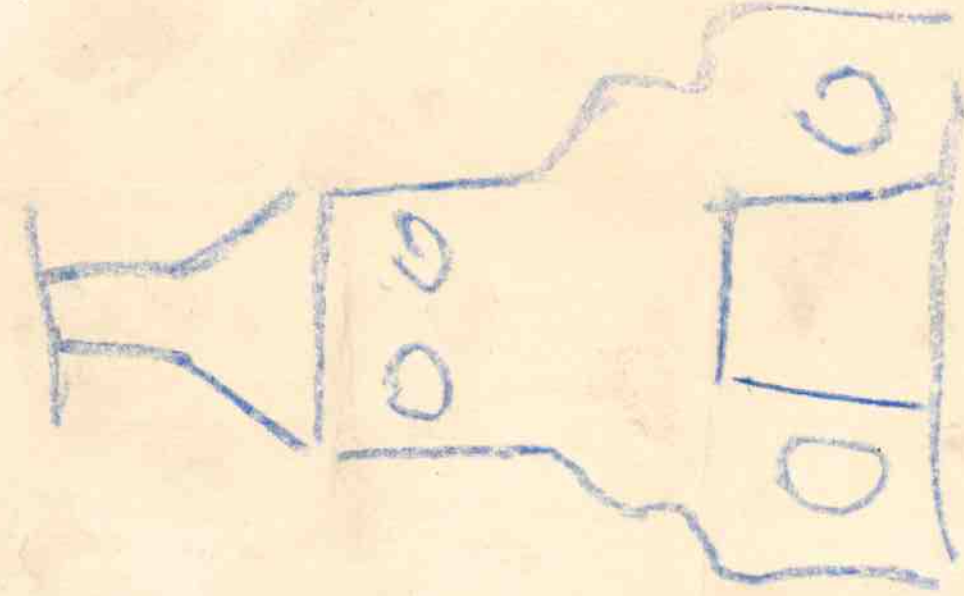
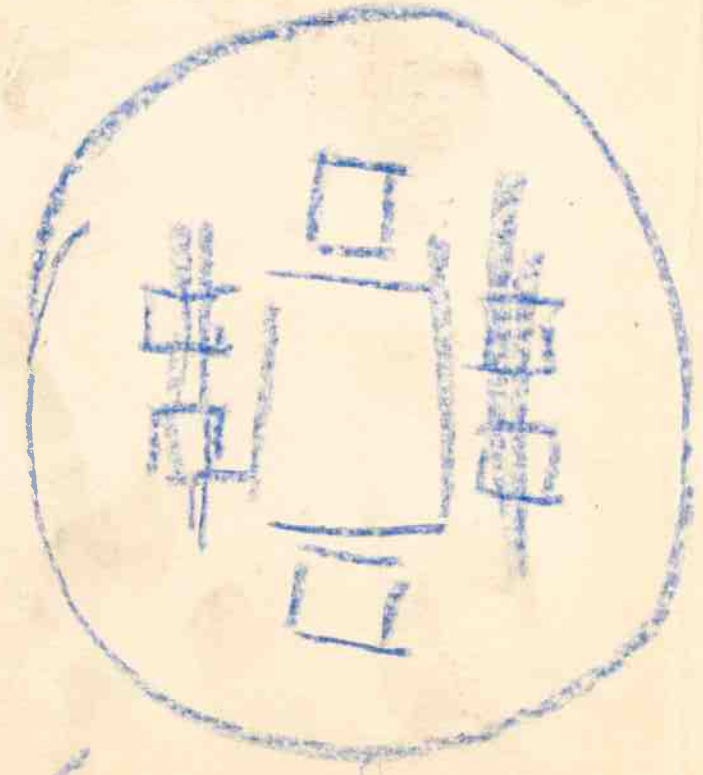
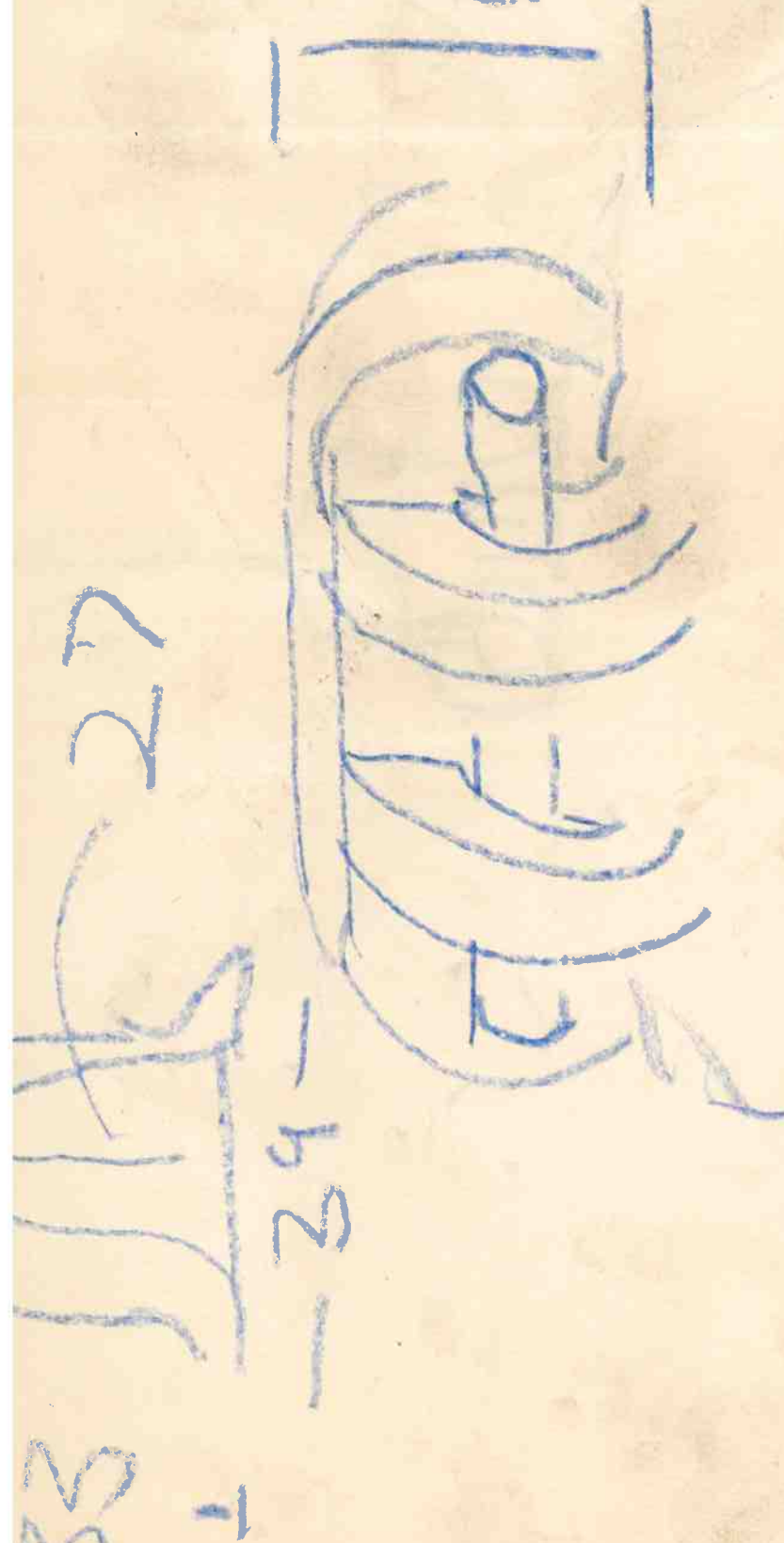


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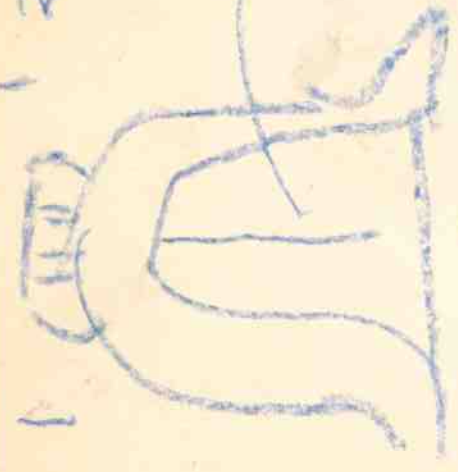
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SURFACE
OF BEER

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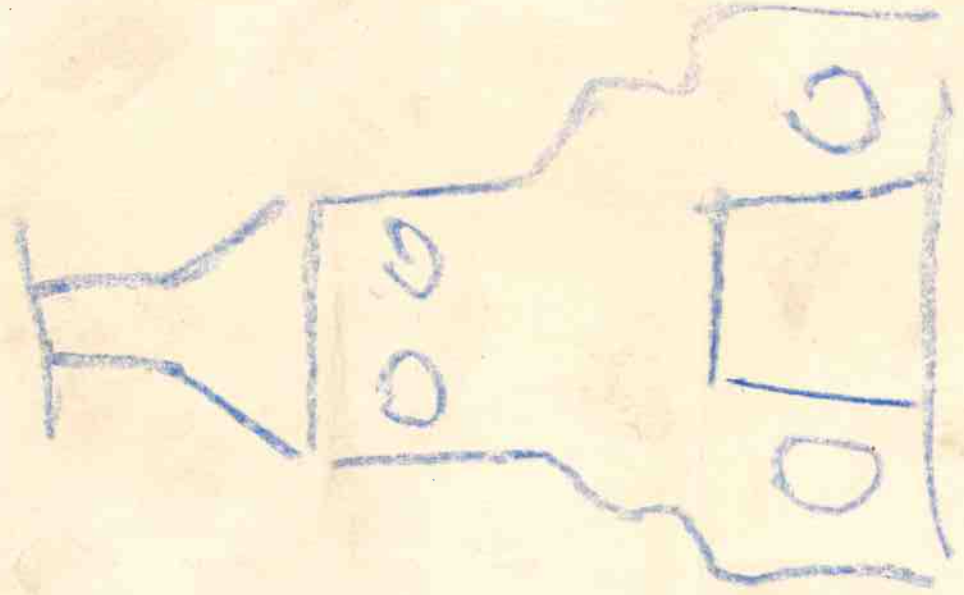
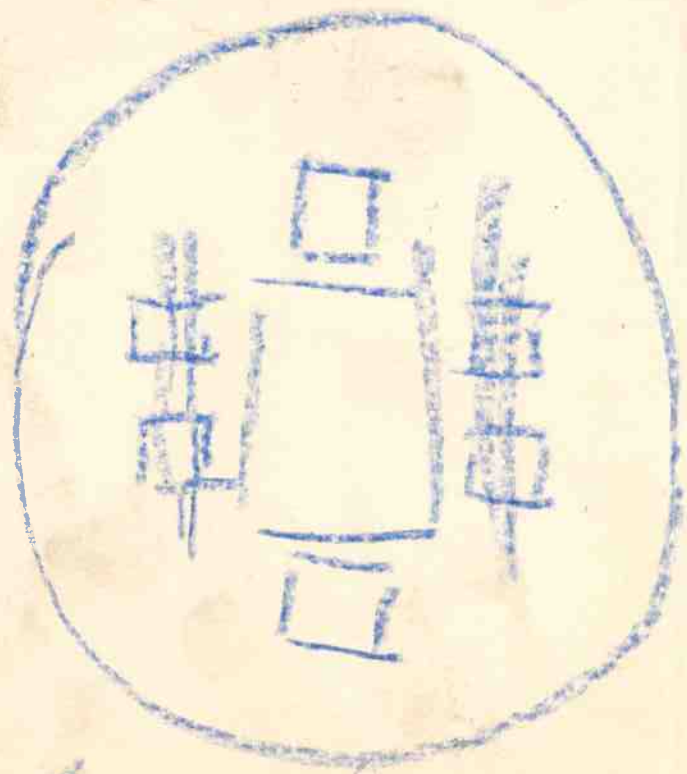


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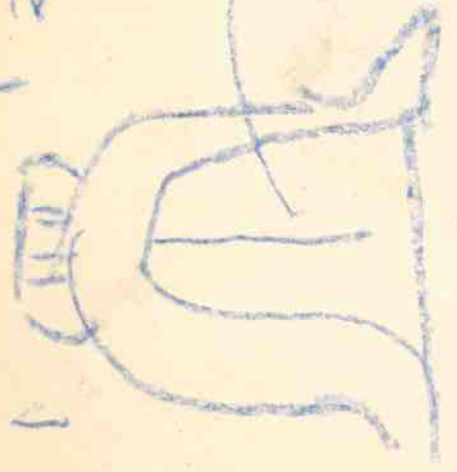
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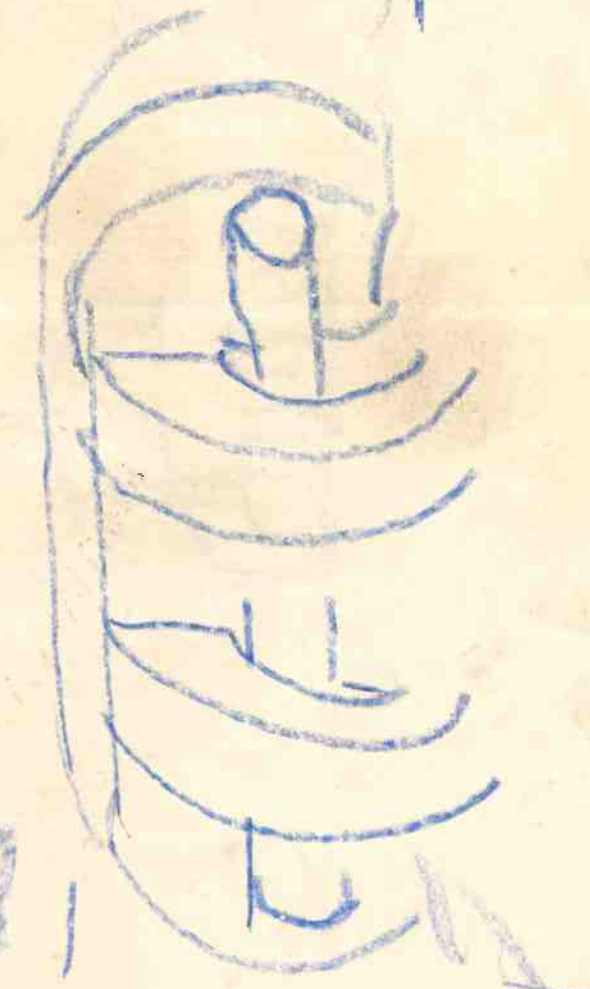
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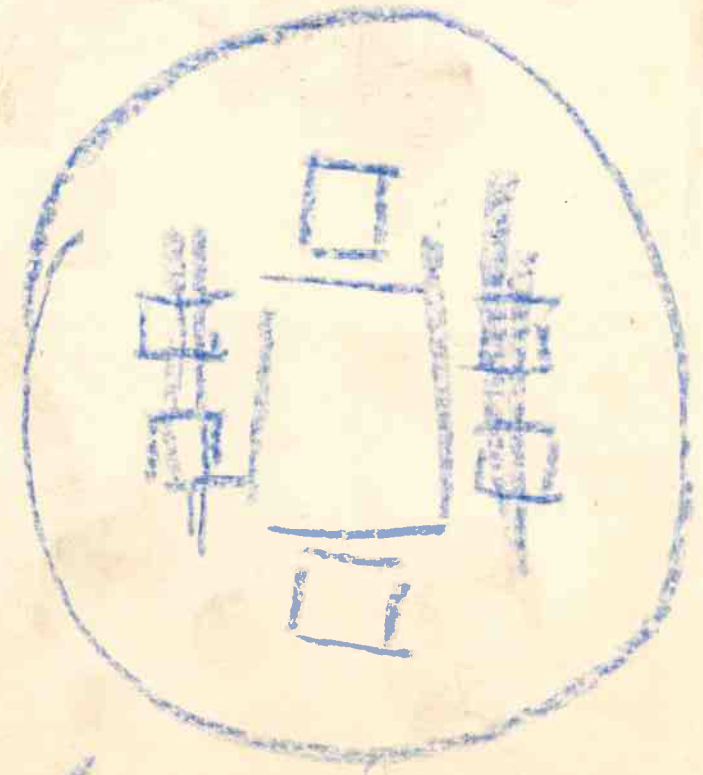
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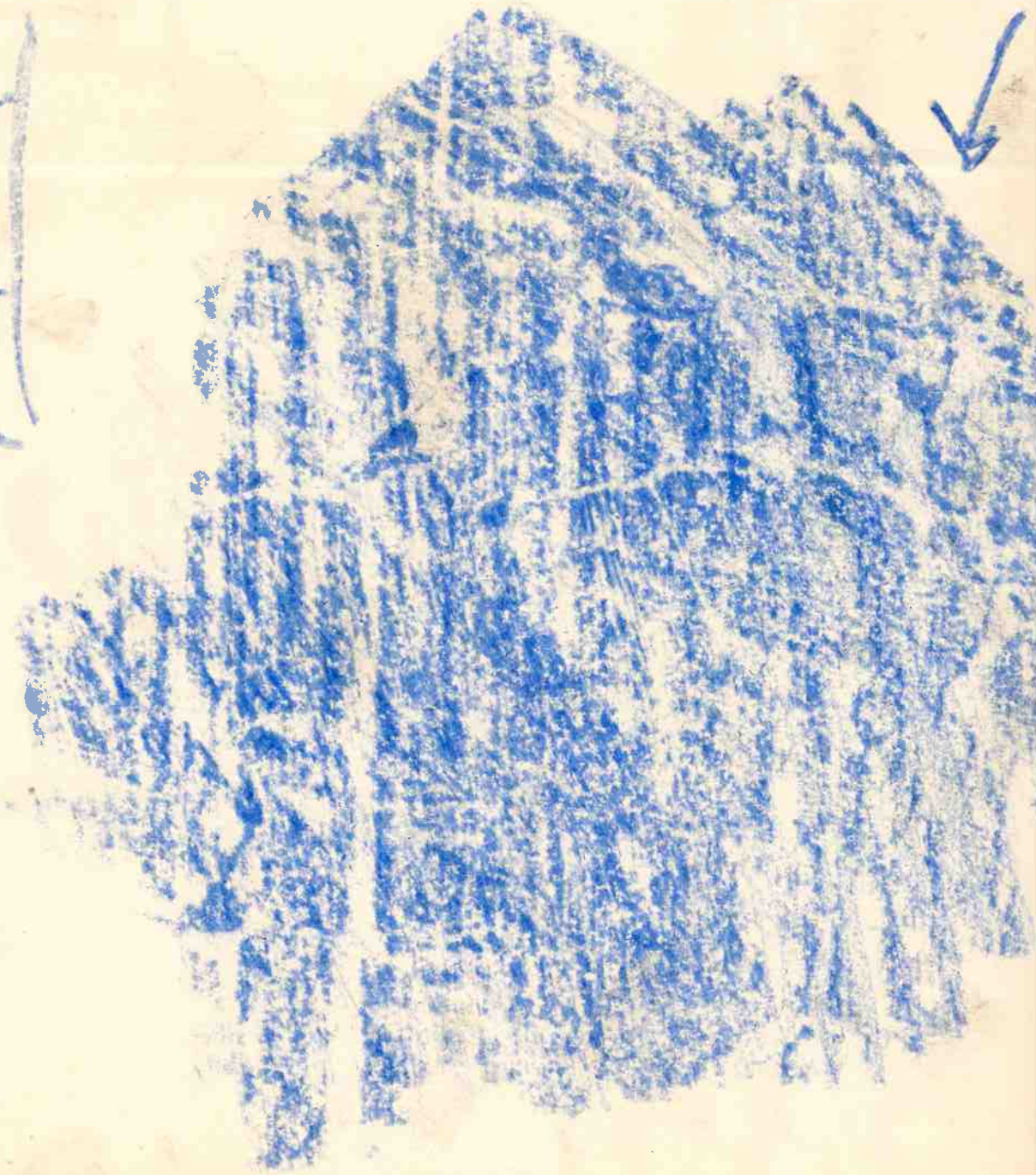
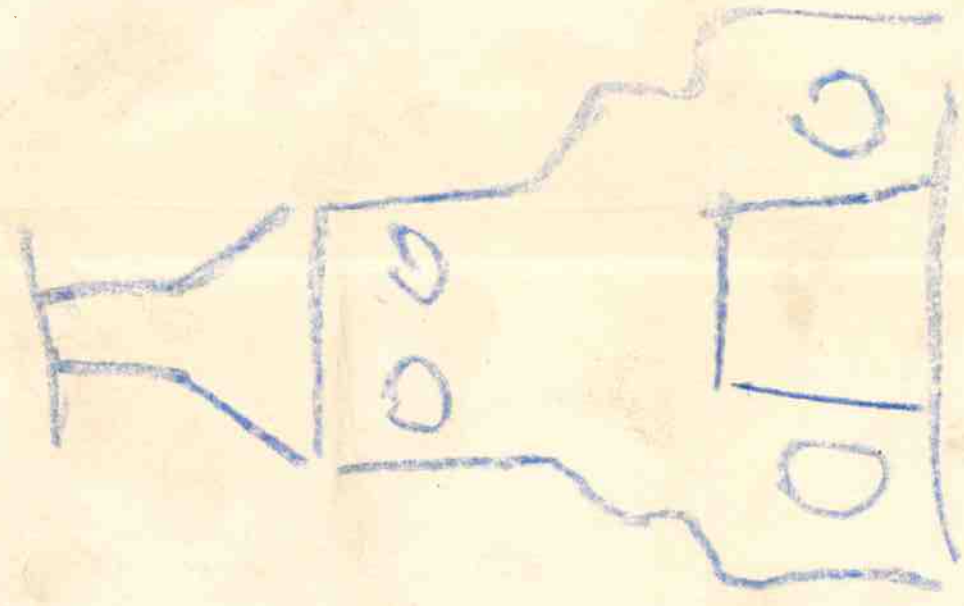
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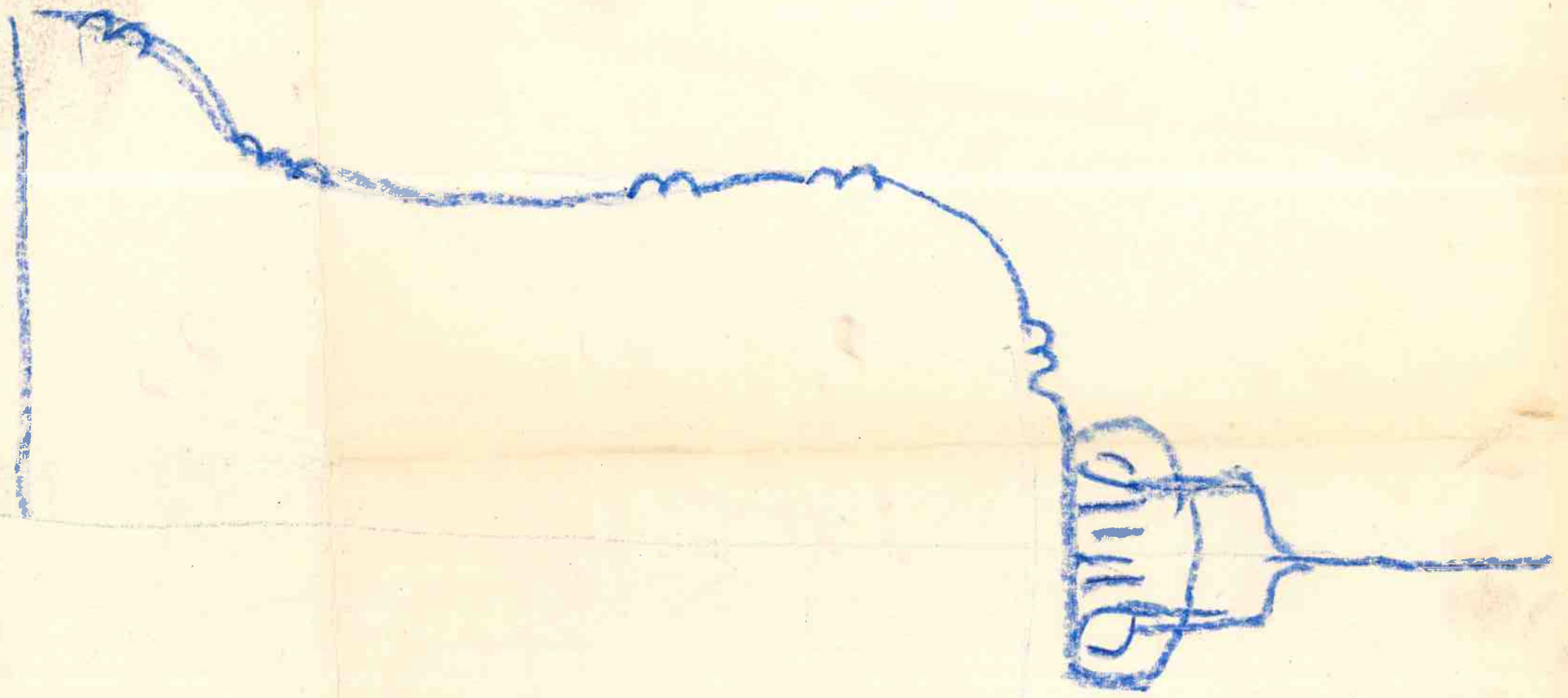


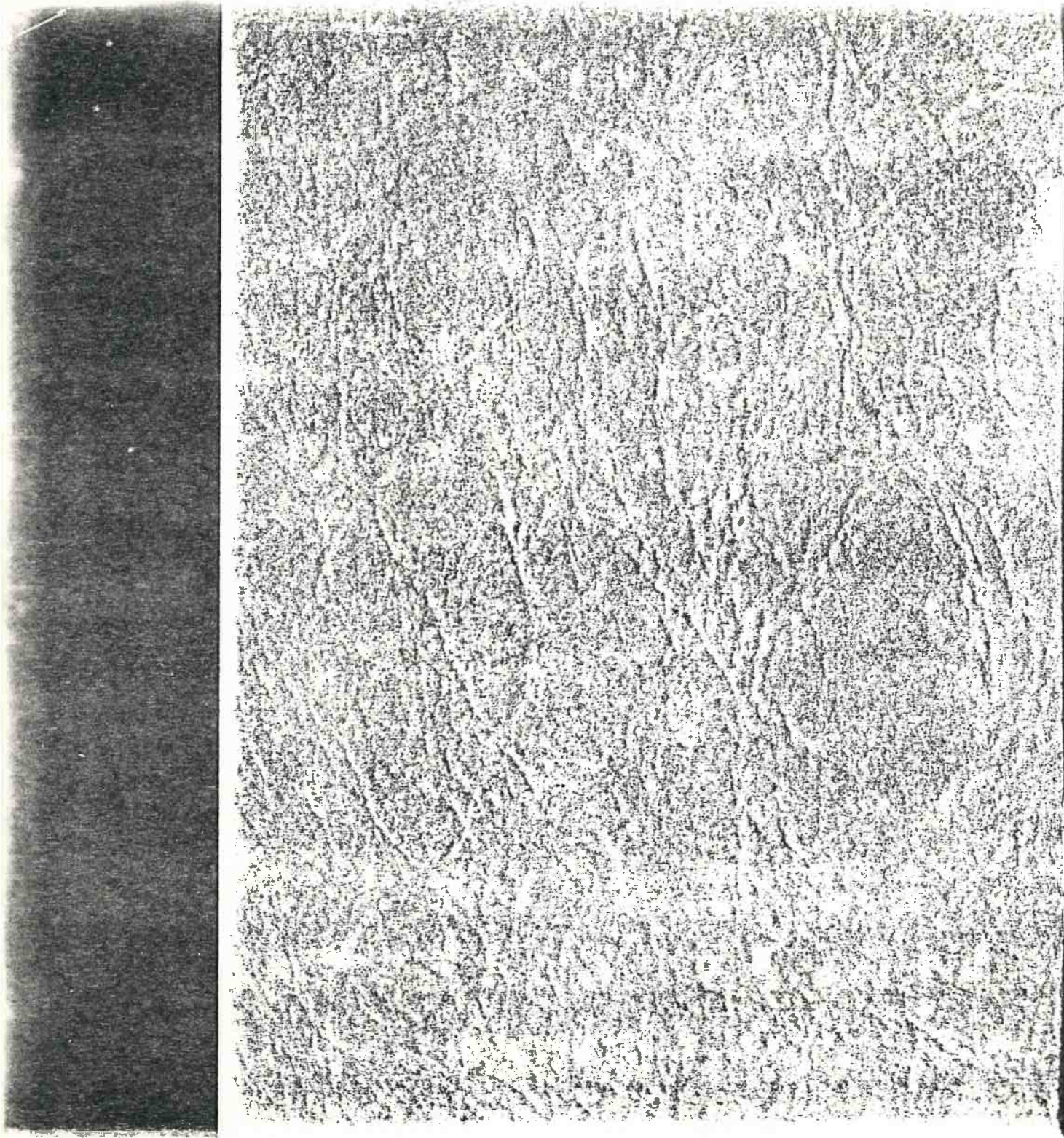
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REVERE BELLS

EDWARD and EVELYN STICKNEY

1956

[REVISED 1961, 1965]

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BELL NO. 1 No. Cambridge, Mass.

REVERE BELLS

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's TALES OF A WAYSIDE INN imprints indelibly in our minds Paul Revere's famous "one if by land, two if by sea" gallop through the countryside to warn of the coming of the British, but a less familiar aspect of his life was his career as a bell-maker.

When Colonel Aaron Hobart, a bell-maker, went out of business in 1792, he sent his son and a blacksmith to Revere's foundry to teach him how to mould and cast his first bell. Thus came into being the first large scale bell-making establishment in America in the Revere Foundry where he was already specializing in such castings as cannon, and the manufacture of sheets, bolts, spikes and nails from malleable copper.

Although the first bell was not good in tone quality, it was used for a good many years and it still rests as a priceless relic in the auditorium of the St. James Episcopal Church in Cambridge, Mass. Revere, of course, improved with practice, and his bells eventually became noted for their outstandingly clear, mellow tones. What is considered by many to be his masterpiece - one of the largest and finest he cast - hangs in historic Kings Chapel in Boston, its 2437 pounds resounding daily.

Since it was Revere's conviction that the reason for the cracking of so many church bells was faulty methods of hanging and ringing, he erected in the yard of his foundry a form which was a replica of the inside of a belfry. Here he demonstrated, especially upon the sale of a bell, the correct technique. Unfortunately the laymen did not always consider it a matter of such grave importance, and consequently the same fate befell numerous Revere bells.

In the years from 1792 to 1828 Paul Revere's stockbook lists nearly 400 bells, weighing from 50 to 2885 pounds. Though the majority have been lost, destroyed, or shipped to foreign parts many years ago, over 100 of the Revere bells are still in existence, most of them in New England.

Over a period of many years, we devoted much of our spare time to research on this most intriguing subject of Revere bells, and have actually traced 112 bearing the name of Revere, 24 since the original publication of REVERE BELLS in 1956. Many church belfries are in good condition, but it is sad to see a large number of them badly neglected, particularly when housing such a treasure as a Revere bell.

The last thorough check on Revere bells was apparently made in 1911 by Dr. Arthur Nichols, who published his findings at that time. Although we used Dr. Nichols' list as the basis for our research, we had the privilege of examining the original stockbook of Paul and Joseph Warren Revere which was then in safekeeping at the Canton home of Mr. Edward H. R. Revere (now deceased), great-grandson of Paul, grandson of Joseph Warren Revere, and member at that time of the Board of Directors of the Revere Copper and Brass Company.

Since Paul Revere naturally did not know that in years to come he would be a much discussed and honored figure, there are certain aspects of his activities which were not recorded in as minute detail as we of today might wish. The gaps leave much to conjecture. The following is the story as nearly as we can determine it:

Paul Revere started the bell business and was joined by his sons, Paul, Jr. and Joseph Warren. The first bells from the foundry were marked with the words REVERE, REVERE BOSTON, REVERE & SONS BOSTON, REVERE & SON BOSTON, followed by a date in each instance.

In 1801, Paul, Jr. left his father and undertook bell casting with George Holbrook who until that time had been working with the Revere family.

After 1801, all bells from the Revere foundry, now operated by Paul and Joseph, were apparently marked REVERE & SON BOSTON, with a date. It was in this year that Paul moved to Canton where he founded the rolling mill which was the beginning of the Revere Copper Company, joined soon after by Joseph who spent his summers in Canton and winters in Boston, travelling back and forth frequently on business.

Paul, Jr. died in 1813, and since Holbrook was in financial trouble, their company was disbanded. Holbrook returned to bell casting, however, in 1816 in East Medway and his firm cast many bells in the following years.

After Paul Revere died in 1818, the inscriptions on the bells were changed again and from 1821 were marked REVERE BOSTON, with a date until about 1824, then without a date.

The last bell listed in the stockbook was dated 1828, the year the Canton firm was officially incorporated as the Revere Copper Company, with Joseph the first President. It has been said that this company never undertook bell-casting. Apparently, however, it did produce a few upon being approached by people familiar with Joseph's reputation as a maker of fine bells, for there are church records which tell of their obtaining their Revere bell in the 1830's from the elder son of Paul Revere, and some still have their dated receipt from the Revere Copper Company. These bells are marked only REVERE BOSTON. At this time Paul, Jr. was long since deceased, as was his father.

1792-1797 - P. Revere
 1797-1801 - P. Revere & Sons
 1801-1818 - P. Revere & Son
 1818-1828 - J. W. Revere
 1828-1868 - Revere Copper Co. (J. W. Revere, Pres.)

A breakdown of the number of Revere bells still in existence:

Actually cast while Paul Revere was alive	41
Joseph and his associates	68
Paul, Jr.	1
Grandson Paul	2
	<u>112</u>

Woodstock, Vermont, has 4 Revere bells
 Newburyport, Massachusetts, has 3
 Sharon, Mass., has 2
 North Andover, Mass., has 2
 Gloucester, Mass., has 2 (1 in Riverdale)
 Keene, N. H., has 2
 Newport, N.H., has 2
 Washington, D.C., has 2
 The rest are distributed singly.

In a number of instances the information we have obtained does not agree with Dr. Nichols' findings in 1911, which perhaps isn't too surprising since more than 50 years have elapsed and we contacted entirely different people.

We have personally seen nearly all the bells listed.

Our heartfelt thanks to the Historical Societies and historically-minded individuals who cooperated so readily in our research over a period of years.

BELL FRAGMENTS

1. Historical Society, Lexington, Mass.
There is a bell tongue preserved at the Historical Society which may have been from bell no. 44 sold to Lexington in 1801.
2. Privately owned, Medford, Mass.
This fragment was part of the bell in the Third Unitarian Church which was destroyed by fire in 1893.
Bell no. 48 was sold to Medford in 1801.
3. York Institute, Saco, Maine
There are two handbells here which were cast from the clapper of the Revere bell which was in the First Parish Congregational Church until it burned in 1860.
Bell no. 68 was given to the church in 1805 by Colonel Thomas Cutts of Saco.
4. Public Library, Bangor, Maine
The remains of this bell are thought to be from the one in the Congregational Church which was burned many years ago.
Bell no. 146 was sold to B. Bussey of Bangor in 1815.
5. Privately owned, Danville, Vermont
Melted in the fire which destroyed the Congregational Church in 1895. Many handbells were cast from the remains to raise money for a new church and bell.
Bell no. 205 was sold to Danville in 1818.
6. Old Head Tide Meetinghouse, Head Tide, Maine
Marked REVERE BOSTON
Added to list June, 1962.
Struck by lightning July, 1962.
Fragments preserved at church.

BELLS OF THE REVERE COPPER COMPANY (Joseph Warren Revere)

These bells are not listed in the stockbook of Paul and Joseph Warren Revere. In many cases, records and/or Revere Copper Company receipts show that the bell was obtained in the 1830's at which time Joseph was President of this company. They are all inscribed REVERE BOSTON, with no date.

Heretofore bells so inscribed, and not listed in the stockbook, were credited by historians to Paul, Jr. The above-mentioned evidence, however, would appear to prove otherwise.

1. Congregational Church, Paxton, Mass.
2. First Congregational Church, Sharon, Mass.
3. Newfields, New Hampshire
Stored in a barn pending action to have it mounted in the town square.
4. Union Meetinghouse, Winterport, Maine.
5. Christ Episcopal Church, Rochdale, Mass.
6. Congregational Church, Haverhill, New Hampshire
7. Universalist Church, Woodstock, Vermont
8. First Parish Meetinghouse, Castine, Maine
Replaced bell no. 62.
9. First Baptist Church, North Conway, New Hampshire
10. William P. Straw Estate, Manchester, New Hampshire
11. Methodist Church, Greenland, New Hampshire
12. Town Hall, Wolfeboro, New Hampshire
This is thought to have been purchased in the 1820's.
13. Main Building, Shaker Village, Canterbury, New Hampshire

14. Universalist Church, Alstead, N. H.



BELL NO. 15

15. Second Congregational Church of Alstead, East Alstead, N. H.
Marked REVERE BOSOTN
Note spelling of Boston, making it the only one of its kind.
16. First Baptist Church, Amherst, Mass.
Replaced original Revere Bell no. 2
17. South Congregational Church, South Amherst, Mass.
18. First Parish, Unitarian, Ashby, Mass.
19. Congregational Church, Assonet, Mass.
20. Congregational Church, Barre, Mass.
21. Union Church, Bingham, Maine
22. Baptist Church, Stafford, Conn.
23. First Parish Church, Unitarian, Tyngsboro, Mass.

24. Covenant-First Presbyterian Church, Cincinnati, Ohio
Have been unable to verify this bell, but church officials and newspaper articles indicate that it is a Revere.
25. First Baptist Church, Meadville, Pennsylvania
Originally sold to Washington, D. C., in 1822, and used on the Tenth Street Baptist Church which was razed to make room for theater in which President Lincoln was assassinated. At this time, 1850, the Meadville church bought bell.

Paul Revere Bell

The bell was purchased by the Universalist Society in 1834 evidently from Paul Revere ~~from Paul Revere~~ (a son of Paul Revere Sr.) -- letter Frank Nash 5/25/30 ✓

Paul Revere Jr had been associated with his father until early in 1800 when he became interested in an iron foundry at Braintree, Mass., where he evidently cast a few bells. -- letter E H R Revere, 7/7/30

His bells were usually inscribed "Revere" and rarely bore a date. -- letter Frank Nash 5/25/30

The bell hung in the belfry of the Universalist Church from 1834 to 1929. In 1927 the Universalist Society dissolved and sold the building, including the bell to the Local Lodge of Odd Fellows. The lodge sold it to one of their members who in turn sold it to a junk man - who later sold it to some antique dealer in Boston.

-- letter Frank Nash 5/25/30

Paul Revere Jr was born January 6, 1750, the second child of Paul Revere and his first wife Sarah.

Unable to give any record of bells cast by Paul Revere Jr -- letter E H R Revere, Taunton-
New Bedford Copper Co., 7-7-30

*Purchased from
Boston Antiques
1929?*

Copy

TOWN OF HINGHAM

Massachusetts

USA

April 24 1930

Frank Campsall
Asst Secretary to HENRY FORD
Detroit Mich

Dear Sir:

Your communication regarding "Paul Revere Bell" recently purchased by Mr Ford, so far as I know never hung in the North Church at Hingham.

Our records show that early in the nineteenth century "The New North Meeting House Corporation" purchased a bell from Paul Revere (not the Revere Copper Company) and it proving to be of too light weight and not deep enough in tone they returned it to Revere with a request (at his suggestion) that several hundred weight of metal be added to it and melt it up recasting a new bell. - This was done, the new bell cast from the old bell and the added metal and installed in the church satisfactorily. Some years later boys in ringing the bell for some local celebration cracked it and it was taken down and recast by a Malincaux & Son, (Revere having died). Thus the Revere contact ceased.

The New North Bell was never sold to any Presbyterian church as such was never in Hingham.

Am quite sure the bell you have is the Revere bell recently taken from the abandoned Universalist Church.

Respectfully,

Wm Wallace Lunt, President

Hingham Historical Society, Inc.

Hingham Mass

Bell has been cleaned
can see no chalk markings

J. Smith

6/30/30

May 25 1930

Mr. J. A. Humberstone
Dearborn
Michigan

Dear Mr. Humberstone:

Yours of May 2nd received. Have delayed answering until I could get more information regarding the bell you mention, namely the bell which hung in the belfry of the New North Church. This particular bell was purchased in 1907 and remained in its original place until about 1961-1965 when it was discovered that through some means the bell had become cracked. It was accordingly replaced by a new one and the original one called to obtain the brass and copper it contained. The bell which you have is not the bell which hung in the New North Church but was hung in the Unitarian Church. This is proven by the fact that in 1931 the Unitarian Society voted to purchase a bell, after the same had been provided for that purpose had reported "original" and "original" officials to check the records had been "original."

The Unitarian Church was built in 1822 and the bell was not added until 1931, the bell was made in 1822 and the bell was made in 1822.

In 1907 the Unitarian Society purchased a bell for the building, including the bell to the local bell foundry. The bell was purchased for this bell was placed in the belfry of the church at the best of the bell foundry. During my investigation regarding the history of the bell, which occupied a year or more time, the letter which I sent to the bell foundry for \$250. He in turn told me to contact the bell foundry to the antique dealer in Boston from whom I understand, Mr. Earl purchased it.

Earl Bell was died in 1912 and the bell was made on some date thereafter by his son Joseph until it was made at the Boston Bell Foundry which never had bell casting. Earl, an older man, was associated with the bell foundry in 1901, but who later sold the bell to the antique dealer. The bell was described "original" and "original" in his book. Upon the inscription of the bell it is earned the figure in blue chalk which is the figure of the bell foundry. You will find both these characters on the bell you have, namely "Boston" and the blue chalk marking (if it has not been obliterated since

it left Hingham). This bell is no doubt over 100 years old and has a very sweet tone and is of priceless value to one interested in antiques.

Although I doubt very much if it is an original Paul Revere bell I do think it was cast by his son Paul who succeeded his father in the casting of bells.

While we cannot be sure just who cast the bell, we are absolutely sure that it came from Hingham and hung in the belfry of the Universalist Church from 1834 to 1930.

Permit me to say in this connection that we have a meeting house in Hingham built in 1621, the oldest one in the United States in continuous service, the interior of which is now being restored to its original state.

We hope to have the work completed so that we may re-dedicate it some time next fall. If Mr Ford happens to be in Sudbury, which is not far from Hingham, at that time, I should be more than pleased to have him present at the services. If he is interested should be pleased to give him further particulars later.

I hope you will excuse this long letter, but if any information contained therein is of any value to you, I shall have been well repaid for writing it.

Sincerely yours

Frank W Nash

C
O
P
Y

Paul Revere Bell
29-1/11

51 Summit Avenue
Brookline, Mass.
August 15, 1936

Mr. H.R. Waddell
The Edison Institute
Dearborn, Michigan

Dear Mr. Waddell,

Just the other day I learned positively the identity of the Paul Revere who was casting bells after the death of both Col. Paul Revere and his son Paul. As this may interest you on account of your bell I am passing this along to you. My informant was Mr. Robert Rogers, a direct descendant of Col. Revere whose barn is the old bell casting building of Col. Revere. He, however, does not desire publicity.

Since Elbridge Goss refers to the Colonel's son Paul as Paul Revere Jr. I supposed he was so known. But it appears that as far as Mr. Rogers knew the son Paul never called himself Junior. He was trained by his father to carry on his silversmith's line of work and never cast bells. His son, the Colonel's grandson Paul, did call himself Junior. He also was one of three grandsons who were associated with the Colonel in bell casting and the copper business for a time. Later he cast bells for himself and in company with William Blake.

This easily explains the confusion and why the Colonel's son Paul was thought to have cast bells.

Very truly yours,

Christine M. Ayars

CND NEWS SECTIC

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
KEYTY-MARRIAGES AND DEATHS

Copyright, 1930, by The New York Times

1817 Bell Cast by Paul Revere
To Share Tower With Chimes

Special to The New York Times.
PAWTUCKET, R. I., Sept. 13.—

Unknown to many there has re-
posed in the tower of St. Paul's
Episcopal Church in Pawtucket
since 1817 a bell cast by the Ameri-
can patriot Paul Revere of Boston.
Now Albert Preston Everett, an
old parishioner, has come forward
to donate an electrically operated
set of chimes costing \$15,000, which
will hang in the tower with the
historic bell. The chimes will be
made by the Kenesly Bell Com-
pany of Troy, N. Y.
St. Paul's parish has a member-
ship of nearly 15,000 under the rec-
torship of the Rev. Roberts A. Bell-
hamer, a descendant of Horace
Greley, and the Rev. John I. By-
ron. The Revere bell has not been
used for 113 years.

FORD BUYS ANCIENT
HINGHAM CHURCH BELL

HINGHAM, April 25—The bell which
for the past 100 years has called the
faithful to worship at the Universalist
Church has been sold to Henry Ford.
According to records the bell was cast
by a member of the Paul Revere fam-
ily, and its tone was one of the most
pleasing of the many bells which have
sounded on the Sabbath morning still-
ness in this old Colonial township.

During the past year the Universalist
Church property was acquired by Old
Colony Lodge, I. O. O. F., and the edi-
fice remodeled. The belfry was re-
moved and this necessitated the dis-
posal of the bell.
For several weeks the bell had
passed from one individual to another,
including several junkmen. It was
discovered finally that it was cast by
the Revere family. Eagerness to gain
possession of the bell then was shown
by many dealers in antiques, and later
the owner communicated with agents
of Mr. Ford.

No 89 - Bell

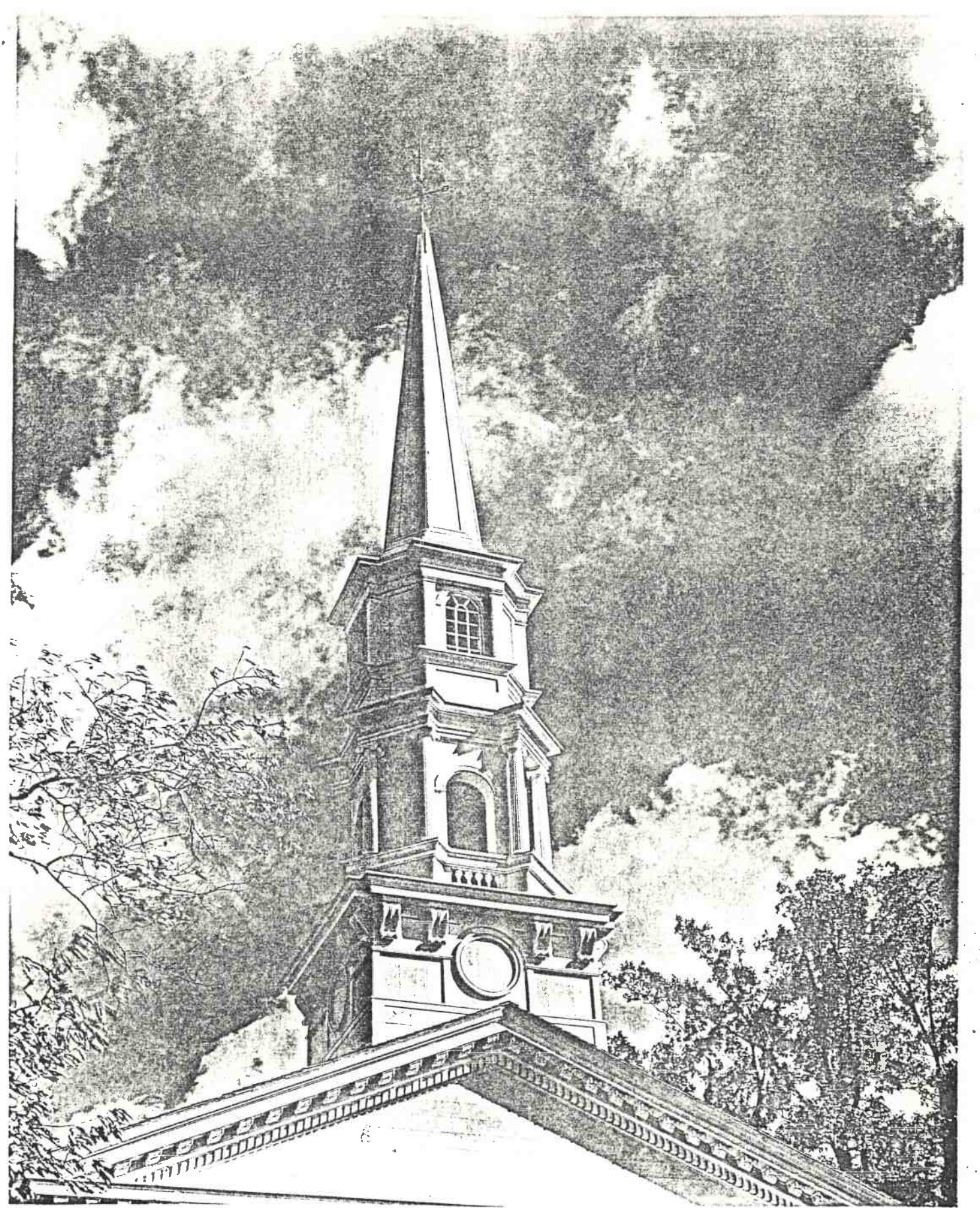
"One we are sending you
is exactly the same
except that the frame
is of wood & the bell is
struck by a trip hammer.
I should say that the bell
in the photo is made in
the same mould as the
other one."

- letter Boston Antique
Shop: 11-8-29

Wednesday July 10, 1929
11 o'clock in the morning
The ground was broken up
for the foundation of the tower

TOWER BELL OF MARTHA-MARY CHAPEL

David Ruth
546890
Material Culture
GEO 681
July 11, 1980



TOWER OF MARTHA-MARY CHAPEL

The object in this artifact study is the tower bell in the Martha-Mary Chapel at Greenfield Village in Dearborn, Michigan. By standing a distance away from the chapel, the bell can be seen in the wake of the tower. Standing on the ground and looking up is the closest one can get to the bell and still see it without using some kind of aid. There are no steps or ladder that lead up to the belfry. The tower in which the bell is in occupies the highest point in the village.

The bell is made of bronze or as it is called a bell metal, which consists of a mixture of copper and tin. The usual proportions are thirteen parts copper to four parts tin. Early American made bells are said to have a very fine quality of copper in them.

The bell was cast as a one piece object. The core and cope system were used to mold the molten bell metal. Every minute detail in the construction of the bell is important for the production of a harmonious instrument. This bell was cast and used with a virgin ring. Virgin ring will be discussed later in this paper.

A picture post card sent to Henry Ford shows a bell made in the same mold as the one that hangs in the Martha-Mary Chapel. The bell has rings cast into it. There are two rings about two inches from the mouth of the bell, three rings at the quarter mark, two sets of rings at the shoulder separated by embossed letters, REVERE BOSTON, and two rings on the top of the bell.

HISTORICAL DATES, CASTERS AND INSCRIPTIONS OF REVERE BELLS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>PROBABLE CASTER</u>	<u>INSCRIPTION</u>
1792-1820	Paul Revere, Paul Revere Jr. and/or Joseph Revere	REVERE & SON BOSTON (with a date)
1820-1822	Joseph Revere and associates	REVERE BOSTON (with or without date)
1822-1825	Joseph Revere and associates	REVERE BOSTON (with date)
1825-1828	Joseph Revere and associates	REVERE BOSTON (no date)
1828-on	Revere Copper Company Formed	



Photo from the
Boston Antique Shop
on November 8, 1929
of a Revere bell made
from the same mold as
the Martha-Mary Chapel
Revere bell.

As the previous chart indicates, the history of Revere bells begins with the first bell ever cast by Paul Revere in 1792. The bell was inscribed THE FIRST CHURCH BELL CAST IN BOSTON 1792 BY P. REVERE. All the Paul Revere bells known today have the words REVERE & SON BOSTON with the date, from 1792-1820. These bells were cast by Paul Revere, Paul Revere Jr., and/or Joseph Warren Revere. (Paul Revere was the famous patriot with Paul Jr. and Joseph Warren being his sons.) Within that time both Paul Revere and his namesake died. Paul Revere died in 1818 and Paul Revere Jr. died in 1813. Joseph Revere continued casting bells after these deaths. From 1820-1822, Joseph Revere made 50 bells of which some were inscribed REVERE BOSTON with no date and some had REVERE BOSTON with the date. From 1822-1825 all the bells he cast had the date. From 1825-1828 none of the bells had a date. However, all the bells from 1822-1828 still carried the inscription REVERE BOSTON. The last bell listed in the stockbook of the Revere Family was dated 1828. In 1828, the Revere Copper Company was officially incorporated with Joseph Revere as it's first president.

The Revere Copper Company has been said to have supposedly never undertaken bell casting. However, the company possibly did produce a few bells upon being approached by people familiar with Joseph's reputation as a maker of fine bells. On the other hand, even if it was true that the Revere Copper Company did not make bells, they did have a number of bells to sell. There are church records which tell of their obtaining a Revere bell in the 1830's from Joseph Revere and some still have their dated receipts from the Revere Copper Company. There are 28 of these bells known with receipts from the company. An example

of this is the First Congregational Parish, Unitarian in Sharon, Massachusetts. This church has a bill of sale that states their bell was purchased from the Revere Copper Company on March 11, 1833. The inscription of the bell read REVERE & SON, which indicates that the bell was cast sometime during a much earlier period (1792-1820). This bell could have come to the company in two ways, either it was made earlier but never sold or the bell was a used bell which had come back to the Revere Copper Company. There was a common practice where churches liked to upgrade their bell by purchasing a larger, better bell. For example, bell number 216, which was cast by Joseph Revere and associates, was obtained on December 27, 1820 by Chelmsford. This bell was 687 pounds. It was exchanged for another Revere bell in 1823 which weighed 1538 pounds. To get rid of the old bell the churches would sell it back to the caster or bell company. Also, many times when a church disbanded and did not know what to do with their bell, they often would sell it back to the company they bought it from. Both of these ideas of brand new bells or used bells would have possibly given the Revere Copper Company a large inventory of bells to sell without casting any.

Of the 50 Revere bells made from 1820-1822, there are only 16 known today. One of these 16 bells, cast by Joseph Revere in 1821 (bell number 233), weighs 904 pounds and is still in use today. It is said to have a fine tone. This bell is marked REVERE BOSTON just like the one in the tower of the Martha-Mary Chapel. The location of Revere bells numbers 220-232 are not known today. These bells might also have the REVERE BOSTON inscription. The bell in the chapel could be one of these.

The bell of the Martha-Mary Chapel can be only traced to 1834 because the church records where the bell hung from 1834-1928 does not show where they got the bell from. There is no date on the bell nor are there any blue chalk marks telling of it's weight. (This blue chalk mark in the inner waist of bells, cast by Paul Revere Jr., was very common.) All the above research on dates, names and inscriptions can only lead to a few options of who cast the bell and when the bell was cast. First of all, the possibilities of who cast the bell will be discussed. Since the bell is only signed REVERE BOSTON, it is for sure that the bell was not cast by Paul Revere, the patriot, or his son Paul. All the bells cast during their life time were signed REVERE & SON BOSTON with the date. Another Revere, not mentioned earlier, who cast bells was Paul Revere's grandson. He used the inscription PAUL REVERE & CO. with a date. It seems that Joseph Warren Revere and his associates were the only Reveres to use the inscription REVERE BOSON with or without the date. Due to this information, they appear to be the ones who made the bell.

The second question is when was the bell cast. According to the inscription and what is known about it, this bell had to have been made some time after the death of Paul Revere in 1818. There seem to be two options as to the time period after 1818 which it was cast in. The first option is that the bell was made from 1820-1822 or 1825-1828, which are the years that the bells with the inscription REVERE BOSTON had no dates. If it was made during this time, the bell would have been bought direct from Joseph Revere and associates. It was then either sold to another church or organization and eventually

ended up in Hingham, Massachusetts (where the first true records exist) or the bell could have been an old traded in bell or a bell never sold before that was eventually sold by the Revere Copper Company after its formation to the Hingham church. The various church records, as sited earlier, prove that even if the Revere Copper Company supposedly did not make bells, they did sell bells. The second option is that the bell was made after 1828 when the Revere Copper Company was formed. As stated before, it is possible that the company did make some bells, even if they don't show in the stockbook records. Joseph Revere, with his fine reputation, could have made only special orders.

The known records of the Martha-Mary Chapel bell begin in 1834 when the Universalist Church in Hingham, Massachusetts reported that they had sufficient subscriptions to cover the expense of a bell. In 1927, the Universalist Church dissolved and sold the building and their bell to a local Lodge of Odd Fellows. The Odd Fellows voted to sell the bell to one of it's members for \$250. That member sold it to a junk man and the junk man sold it to an antique dealer in Boston. Mr. Henry Ford then bought the bell from the Boston Antique Shop in November of 1929. There has been no sales slip, receipts or invoice found on the sale of the bell to Mr. Ford.

The Martha-Mary Chapel was built around the organ that is now in it. Ed J. Cutler said that the Revere bell was one of many bells that Henry Ford had in his collection and that was the one that went in the tower. Since Henry Ford wanted the chapel to look like something that came from New England, the Revere bell turned out to be the heavy favorite.

Most bells of this type swing back and forth while the clapper hangs in the center of the bell and hits it on both sides of the bell. This method of the swinging bell is called ringing. The tone of a bell is at it's best if the ringing method is used. The Martha-Mary Chapel bell is rung by a trip hammer. This method call^{ed} chiming is when the bell does not move, but a hammer hits the outside of the bell. This method of chiming does not have as good a sound quality as ringing.

After a bell is cast and tested to see how it sounds, some of the bronze can be removed if the tone is not pleasing. This ~~scrap~~ing of the bronze out of the inside of the bell to get a good tone takes lots of knowledge, skill and experience. None of the Revere bells were scraped. They had a virgin ring. A virgin ring is the tone of the bell when it comes out of the mold. The Revere bells were not known for their good quality of tone in comparison to other bells of their time. A Boston newspaper, The Boston Globe, on April 25, 1929, said the tone of the bell that Mr. Ford bought "was one of the most pleasing in the area." Mr. J. A. Humberstone, a village official, received a letter from Mr. Nash on May 25, 1930 which reported that "this bell is no doubt over 100 years old and has a very sweet tone." In comparison to other bells made by the Revere family the Martha-Mary Chapel bell has a good tone to it. The Boston Globe also compares this bell to be better in tone than other bells of its day.

Bells were commonly placed in churches at the highest point in town so they could be heard by everyone around. Bells would usually ring three times daily, at 7 A.M., at noon, and at either 8 or 9 P.M. curfew. Bells would also ring for weddings,

fire, peace after a war, New Years Eve, death and call to worship. The number of times the bell rung would indicate which of these events was occurring. For example, the ringing of bells telling of the death of a man would be three rings, three times and then the number of rings at a slow strike for every year he lived. For the death of a woman, it was the same except there would be three rings, two times.

People are said to be able to predict the weather by how bells sound. Cold, still air makes the tone of the bell sound good. Warm, moving air gives the bell's tone a poor sound.

There are some bell folk superstitions. Some people believed that bells drove away the devil. Other people believed that bells must be rung to inform Heaven of the necessity of earth. To some people it was believed that bells had life. It is easy to see why people thought bells had life. Once one gets a bell that swings to move, the bell will swing for a long time by itself.

Today any bronze bell is very high in price. There are only two foundries that make bells of bronze today in the United States. The Bevins Brothers bell makers only cast bells up to ten inches in diameter. The other bell casting company, McShane, will cast almost any size bell.

Bells today are not found in many churches. The high price of bells and the towers they go in have kept many churches from not even thinking of getting bells. However, bells are becoming more popular on the college and university campuses today.

Many old bells are melted down to make new ones. The old bells that still exist today have better bell metal in them but most of the time they are not better in sound. Many older

churches that have these bells keep them in good ringing shape and do enjoy them.

Bells today, in churches that have them, still call people to worship. Today it is more symbolic than an actual type of communication. Wedding bells are still very popular today and also bells at Christmas time can always be heard.

In 1976, on the fourth of July at 2:00 P.M., bells from all over the United States rang. The bells rang in honor of the nations 200th birthday and the brave people that gave this country it's independence. I think it is ironic that the patriot who made cannons for the colonies, also made bells almost out of the same material to sound peace and help celebrate the nation's birthday.

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