

ATE

ANCIENT DAYS RECALLED

Oct 31 1910

ampus, a col-
dition, also
a nice home,
lly situated

The notice of a sale of woodland re-
cently appearing in the Gazette recalls
to the writer some facts relating to
the property of more or less public
interest historically. The land men-

This article contained information about several early Northampton Families. Only that portion about Alexander is reproduced here. The complete article is on micro-film at the Forbes Library in Northampton.

country, for property to be handed down
by inheritance.

Of Alexander Edwards it is known
that he came from a "border town in
Wales" in 1630 to New Town or Cam-
bridge, where as has been said Mr.
Hannum lived the latter part of his life.
From Cambridge Mr. Edwards came
with Rev. Mr. Hooker to the Connecti-
cut river country and settled in Spring-
field, his home lot being on the west side
of Main street, below State. Here he
married Widow Sarah (Baldwin) Searle
who had a son John, who was in the
Pascommuck massacre. Mr. and Mrs.
Edwards came to Northampton in 1655,
where their seventh child Nathaniel was
born June 25, 1657. The house and
home lot of Alexander was the westerly
one of two, located on Main street, be-
tween Pleasant and Hawley streets.
The house was of logs. Here he lived
five or six years when he sold out and
removed to the present site of Ply-
mouth Inn. Here he opened a street
now called Green street, to and beyond
Mill river, which was crossed by ford-
ing for many years. By vote of the
town he was "allowed to maintain a
gate at the entrance to the road that
thus he may cultivate his land." The
ford and later a bridge were called
"Welch end," since the Edwards fam-
ily were all living in that vicinity and
were "Welchmen" originally.

The laying out of this street is the
first recorded layout in the town and
upon it was maintained a grist and saw
mill which the writer has in early life
had occasion to visit on business.

Nathaniel Edwards married twice

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