

## Town Meeting - March 19, 1770

Between 1765 and 1770, the residents of Sudbury continued their normal business, except that they started stockpiling barrels of powder, bullets and flints. Their town meetings alternated between the West Meetinghouse for the March meetings and the East Meetinghouse for the October meetings.

Then, on March 19, 1770, the 1st Article for Town Meeting was to vote on whether to support the merchants of Boston in boycotting "British Goods". Again, the town met here at the West Meetinghouse and "by their vote manifested their hearty and Unanimous Approbation of the Generous Agreement of Merchants in Boston to put a Stop to the Importation of British Goods and Engage for themselves and all within their Influence and by all proper Methods that they will Countenance and Encourage the Same."

Town Meeting then voted to boycott any newspaper that advertised imported goods and to encourage businesses and manufacturers "to Abstain from the Luxerys & Superfluities of the Times which has ben So Impoverishing to this Contry Especially the Renowned Plant Tea..." And finally, they voted that if anyone in town "Should hold any Commerce with the Importers within Our knowledge we will Publickly Expose them."

The residents of Sudbury left no doubt that they were incensed by the conduct of the King and his attitude toward the colonies. And, if anyone dared to support the King, they would be subject to public shame!

*(Throughout this presentation, the spelling is as it appeared in the original records. Spelling was flexible in the 1700's!)*