<u>Introduction</u>

Framingham is the largest town in America by population. It was incorporated in 1700 by immigrants from England, but it has a long and storied history with peoples from other lands before and since that time. The impact that they made on Framingham is as varied as the peoples themselves. We selected four notable Framingham families spanning four centuries of Framingham's history as a common thread in terms of how their stories differ significantly once they arrive in America. The entirety of their stories touch on all of the PRIMES: From the military and political interactions of the Eames family of the 1670's; to the technological and economic interactions of William Knight in the 1800's; to the religious, social, and intellectual interactions of the Solomon Fuller family at the turn of the 20th century; to the political and economic interactions of the Perini family that continue on even today.

We also selected these four immigrants because they represented distinct geographic communities within Framingham, making these places helpful artifacts to research in understanding the impact of immigration throughout the town's history. The Eames family settled in Mt. Wayte to the Southwest; William Knight was from Saxonville to the North; Dr. Fuller lived in the Learner's Pond area to the center; and a large Italian immigrant population worked for the Dennison corporation to the South.

This unit of study is an entirely new instructional unit that supplements several units. We chose this because of the range of grade levels at which we teach. We knew this was a need because of the importance of vertical aligning of the Social Studies curriculum. It connects the Massachusetts Social Studies Curriculum Frameworks for

grades 3 and 4. In grade 3, Standard 3.9 reads, *"Identify historic buildings, monuments, or sites in the area and explain their purpose and significance* and 3 Standard 3.11 reads, *"Identify when the students' own town or city was founded, and describe the different groups of people who have settled in the community since its founding,"* while standard 4.15 reads, *"Describe the diverse nature of the American people by identifying the distinctive contributions to American culture of… B. African Americans….and C. major European immigrant groups".* We consulted with the Research Library of the Framingham Historical Society through several site visits and the staff's expertise.

The contributions of these four immigrant families also encompass all of the 5C's. Most significantly: The Eames Massacre reflects Change Over Time as it was the end of an era when power of landholding went from Native Americans in favor of Colonists; Englishman William Knight's contribution reflects Contingency since Yankee mills needed the new industrial technology developed in England, which Knight was able to provide; The accomplishments of Dr. Solomon Carter Fuller's family represents Complexity as his status as a psycho neurologist and his wife's as a noted sculptress facilitate this black family's acceptance into local church and social organizations, breaking past segregation; Bonfiglio Perini's tale best reflects Context as his is the quintessential immigrant story of seeking the American Dream by working his way up from common laborer as a stone mason to establishing what is now a billion dollar industrial construction corporation.

The significance of these regions as "artifacts" also encompasses all of the 5C's. Most significantly: Mt. Wayte reflects causality because the Evangelical Methodist Movement revitalized and populated the area, expanding it to Farm Pond; Saxonville

reflects complexity as one mill led to the Saxon Factory Village, which emerged as Saxonville; Learned's Pond reflects change over time as the area changed from Native American ownership to settlement by the middle class; and the Dennison Triangle reflects the context of the early 20th century when tags were a staple of commerce.

See the accompanying 5C's and PRIMES chart that compare and contrast immigrant issues over the course of American history.