

## **Town of Northbridge, MA website**

Mill Towns> Slatersville and Whitinsville> [Town of Northbridge, MA website](#)

### **About Northbridge**

What is Northbridge?

Where is it located?

Why was it important to the industrial era? (2 reasons)

What three rivers run through Northbridge?

Define tributaries.

What are the two tributaries discussed in this passage.

How does the author describe the Blackstone and Mumford Valley?

What agricultural activity was popular in this area?

Has there been evidence of Native American activity in this area?

Northbridge was described as an important \_\_\_\_\_ hub: the junction of the Providence Road, the Central Turnpike and the Blackstone Canal (replaced by the Providence and Worcester Railroad in 1847).

In Northbridge, what village had the most industrial growth.

Betsy Fletcher Whitin expanded what two businesses in the 1840's?

**Fill in the blanks with the correct words from the passage.**

By the beginning of the Civil War, the Whitins were among the leading manufacturers in the Blackstone Valley. Between 1864 and 1869, John Whitin consolidated all his machine shop operations in Whitinsville, leading to extensive construction activity including \_\_\_\_\_ and tenements, a distinct residential area for \_\_\_\_\_, and numerous large proprietors' \_\_\_\_\_. In addition, a library (1844), a high school (1865) and the Whitinsville National Bank (1865) were established.

Describe townspeople's living conditions. Was everyone housed in an equal way?

If you were a worker, what benefits were there to living in this town?

If you were Mr. Whitin, what would you provide your workers to ensure hard work and loyalty? (based on your reading and understanding at this point)

What percentage of men worked at the factory between 1870 – 1915?

What new form of transportation was brought to Northbridge in the 1890's?

How would this change the town?

When did industry experience a decline? Why?

What questions do you have about this area?