

excerpted from **Waltham, Massachusetts**

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Waltham is a city in [Middlesex County, Massachusetts](#), United States, known as the birthplace of the American [Industrial Revolution](#), and an early center for the [labor movement](#). The original home of the [Boston Manufacturing Company](#), the city was a prototype for 19th century industrial city planning. The city is now a center for research and higher education, home to [Brandeis University](#) and [Bentley University](#). The population was 59,226 at the [census](#) in 2000.

Waltham is commonly referred to as **Watch City** because of its association with the watch industry. [Waltham Watch Company](#) opened its factory in Waltham in 1854 and was the first company to make watches on an assembly line. It won the gold medal in 1876 at the Philadelphia [Centennial Exposition](#). The company produced over 40 million watches, clocks and instruments before it closed in 1957.^l

Notable residents (partial)

- [F. Lee Bailey](#) -- lawyer
- John A. Bailey -- Inventor of the drink-through container lid ([US Patent No. 4322015](#)) and [vacuum forming](#) pioneer.
- [Nathaniel Prentice Banks](#) -- Union General in the Civil War, 24th Governor of Massachusetts, [Speaker of the United States House of Representatives](#)
- [Suzanne Brockmann](#) -- Author^[14]
- [Annie Payson Call](#) -- author.
- Arthur A. Carey—co-founder of [Sea Scouting](#) in the United States.
- [James N. Hallock](#) -- Scientist, known for his work on the [CAIB](#).
- [Abbie Hoffman](#) -- Bestselling author, radical political activist, founder of the [Youth International Party](#)
- [C.D. Howe](#) -- WWII and Postwar Canadian politician; Waltham native
- [John Lynch](#) -- Current [Governor of New Hampshire](#); Waltham native, attended Waltham public schools
- [Abraham Maslow](#) -- Father of [Humanistic](#) and [Transpersonal Psychology](#).
- [Paul Moody](#) -- Inventor, developer of cotton loom. Namesake of Moody St. in downtown Waltham.
- [Richard Thomas Nolan](#) -- Episcopal Church Canon, writer, philosophy & religion professor, [LGBT](#) advocate, born, raised and ordained in Waltham
- [Paul Pierce](#) -- [Boston Celtics](#) captain who is a 6-time [NBA](#) All-Star as a guard/forward
- [Ida Annah Ryan](#) -- First woman to earn a masters degree in architecture (from M.I.T.)
- [Evelyn Sears](#) -- US open (tennis) champion
- [Gordon S. Wood](#) -- recipient of the 1993 Pulitzer Prize for History for *The Radicalism of the American Revolution*. His book *The Creation of the American Republic, 1776–1787* won a 1970 Bancroft Prize. Former Waltham resident.