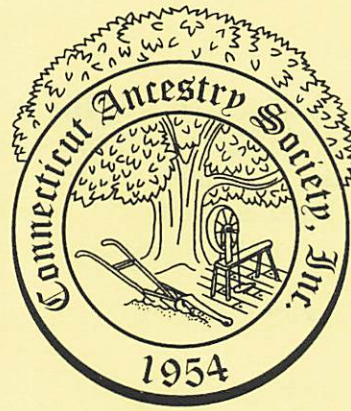


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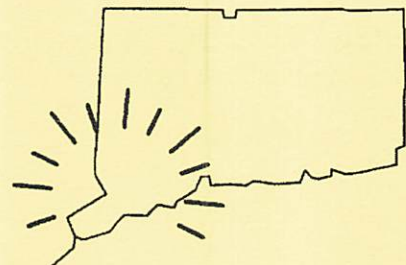
# Ancestry

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● *Focus on Southwestern Connecticut* ●



## **Connecticut Ancestry**

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## The One-Page Challenge

As the president of Connecticut Ancestry Society, I have appealed to members and to readers of our journal, *Connecticut Ancestry*, to submit articles for publication. I have said that every ancestor's story is important in the compiled historical record of Fairfield County. I have also said that the best way to ensure that your research will be preserved is to publish it.

Now I am issuing **THE ONE-PAGE CHALLENGE**. I challenge you, members and readers alike, to pick one ancestor, male or female, young or old, and to write a one-page article about that ancestor. The only requirement is that you write about someone who lived in our focus area--Fairfield County or nearby New York—and that the story you write has a connection to that area.

I have thrown down the gauntlet by writing two myself. First, I chose an African-American and son of former slaves, born in South Carolina in 1869, who became a doctor and practiced medicine in Bridgeport for most of the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Second, I wrote a piece exemplifying the importance of research our ancestors' siblings.

There is no requirement to keep to a single page, but one page will suffice. Write what you know, write what you can document, write from your heart. Isn't there someone in your lineage that we should all know about, someone with an interesting episode in her life? Or someone with a dull but typical life that will teach us something about history?

We would like you to include genealogical details about your subject. Where and when was he born? Whom did she marry? What was the cause of death and where did it occur? Which censuses show the presence of this person in Fairfield County? Land records? City directories? Tombstone inscriptions?

Documentation is important, but don't worry about precise formatting of footnotes. Our editor Harlan Jessup will help to get those details straightened out. What we need from you is the story and where you got the details. Family Bible? (Where is it now?) US census? (what year and town?) Vital records? (What town?, also volume and page if possible)

Here are some ideas:

- We are in the sesquicentennial period for the Civil War. Do you know of anyone who served?
- The bicentennial of the War of 1812 begins next year. Were your family members affected by this conflict?
- Did an ancestor go to the Gold Rush?
- Did an ancestor immigrate here in the 20<sup>th</sup> century?
- Did an ancestor settle here in the 17<sup>th</sup> century?

Sharpen your pencils!! One page is not very long!!

Please send submissions to our editor, Harlan Jessup, at [hjessup@charter.net](mailto:hjessup@charter.net).

*Nora Galvin*



## Editorial Notes

This first issue of our membership year begins with two articles by Ken Rockwell in his series on early Ridgefield families, those of Reuben Rockwell and of Benjamin Wilson. The latter will be continued in the next journal issue.

This is followed by a continuation of our transcriptions of vital records kept by school districts for the years 1847 to 1852. First are records from Brookfield, Easton, and New Canaan for just the first year of this period. The original records for these towns have not been found, but transcriptions for the just one school year, 1847-48, are found in the State Archives. Similar transcribed returns from Ridgefield and Sherman will be published in our November issue. These partial returns are followed by the more complete returns from the town of Monroe, all transcribed by your editor.

The rest of our journal is filled with five short articles on area families by members of our Board of Directors. We hope that many of you will be encouraged by our "One-Page Challenge" to submit articles, however brief, on area families of interest. See President Nora Galvin's introductory letter and a further encouragement in Genealogist Fred Hart's "Three Cheers" article. If any of you have a story to tell, however brief, for a family in our area, we encourage you to submit it for publication. I'll be glad to help with formatting and editing for a future issue of this, your journal.

Finally in this issue is a query on the Osborn family of Ridgefield and Salem (now Lewisboro), New York. Please let us know if you have any clues to offer on this family.

*Harlan R. Jessup*

This is *your* journal on Connecticut families and Connecticut research. Sharing your knowledge of sources, your genealogical techniques, and the results of your research is what keeps the publication going. Reports on work in progress are encouraged—reader response to such an article may advance your research. Whatever you send is appreciated. We will acknowledge all contributions.

Preferred submission is now as an email attachment using any standard word-processing application to [hjessup@charter.net](mailto:hjessup@charter.net). Or send a hard copy in "camera ready" format by mail to the Editor, Harlan R. Jessup, 25 Taunton Ridge, Newtown, CT 06470. As near as possible, please format as follows:

- 1 inch margins all sides of 8 1/2 x 11 inch paper.
- Titles bold and centered in at least 12pt. or 14pt. type followed by author's name and contact information (address and/or email), also centered. Section titles bold on left margin.
- Use a serif font such as Times, Times New Roman, or Garamond, usually 12pt. or 11pt.
- For most text, justification to both left and right margins looks best.
- For family genealogies we prefer either *Register* or *Modified Register* format.
- Sources should be referenced with numbered footnotes (not endnotes).
- Do not number pages except lightly in pencil on reverse of hard copies.

DEADLINE:	July 1	October 1	January 1	April 1
For Issue	#1 August	#2 November	#3 February	#4 May



## **The Family of Reuben Rockwell, Born ca 1778 at Ridgefield, Connecticut**

### Kenneth W. Rockwell

Soon after the founding, in 1708, of Ridgefield, Connecticut, its nascent government began to record vital records. The actual reporting was largely the responsibility of the families themselves, and the early settlers sometimes entered the birth dates of children that had been born in other towns. The quality of recordkeeping varied over time, however, and by the time of the Revolutionary War, numerous important events went unrecorded. A family might have several children's births registered, but no record of either their early deaths or their marriages might be found in the official records. As I have been demonstrating in this series, the land records sometimes prove that a marriage did occur and that subsequent children were born of that union. In this article, I will highlight one of these children of Ridgefield.

The birth of Reuben Rockwell, the son of Ebenezer and Abigail Rockwell, was recorded in the vital records; the date was 11 October, but damage to the original leaves has obscured the year.<sup>1</sup> However, it may have been in 1778, as he is likely the child of this name who was baptized at the Ridgebury Congregational Church on 3 January 1779.<sup>2</sup> It was common to baptize infants during their first year of life. Nearly a century later, an informant of David Williams Patterson, the genealogist who researched the Whitney family for Stephen Whitney Phoenix, stated that Reuben married a Stebbins and settled in western New York.<sup>3</sup> This is all that Boughton reported in his Rockwell-Keeler genealogy—which indicates that he, like Patterson, did not find the Ridgefield land record that begins a paper trail ultimately leading to the “western New York” place of settlement: Enfield, in Tompkins County.

On 13 April 1804, Reuben and Urania Rockwell of Ridgefield, for \$125, quit-claimed to Benjamin Barberry all right, title, etc. that they might have in a piece of land “that our honored grandfather Benjamin Stebbins of Ridgefield gave to our mother Elizabeth by deed of gift to her... and also to one certain tract of land which our said mother by the name of Elizabeth Barberry obtained of Nathaniel Keeler of North Salem...” This deed, in conjunction with other records, clears up the identity of Reuben Rockwell's wife: she was not a Stebbins at birth; rather, her mother was. Other vital dates that apply here are the birth of Elizabeth Stebbins, daughter of Benjamin and Elizabeth, on 10 August 1746;<sup>4</sup> her marriage to Josiah Keeler (unrecorded); the birth of their daughter Urania on 7 April 1772;<sup>5</sup> Josiah Keeler's death prior 17 February 1786, when the Danbury Probate Court granted administration of the estate to widow Elizabeth and

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<sup>1</sup>Ridgefield vital records, vol. 2, p. 34; FHL Film no. 1435730. The Barbour Collection publication (36:253) calls this “volume 1,” but the Town calls it “volume 2,” as it considers the set of vital records found in the first volume of the land records to constitute their first volume of vital records.

<sup>2</sup>“Ridgebury, Connecticut, church records,” transcribed by Imogene O. Hiereth, *Connecticut Ancestry*, vol. 23, p. 53.

<sup>3</sup>S. Whitney Phoenix, *The Whitney family of Connecticut and its affiliations* (New York, 1878), vol. 1, p. 175.

<sup>4</sup>Ridgefield land records, vol. 1, p. 239; Barbour, v.36, p. 284.

<sup>5</sup>Ridgefield vital records, 2:69.



Benjamin Smith;<sup>6</sup> Elizabeth's remarriage to Benjamin Barberry on 3 September 1786;<sup>7</sup> and the death of Elizabeth (Stebbins) (Keeler) Barberry on 28 October 1799.<sup>8</sup> After her death, her children, as heirs-at-law, quitclaimed to her widower.

The last two land records at Ridgefield concerning this Reuben Rockwell identify him as being "of Ridgefield" on 17 October 1807, but "late of Ridgefield, now of North Salem" on 6 April 1808.<sup>9</sup> This indicates the approximate time of his family's first migration, but not their ultimate destination. A pair of mortgage records from Westchester County, New York, provides the next step along Reuben's paper trail. On 19 April 1808, Reuben Smith of North Salem mortgaged a two-acre farm to Reuben Rockwell, also of North Salem.<sup>10</sup> Smith apparently defaulted on the mortgage, as Reuben Rockwell on 7 September 1812 authorized John Titus, Jr., to sell the 2-acre farm at North Salem.<sup>11</sup> By now, however, he was of "Galloway," in Saratoga County, New York.

The 1810 U.S. Census shows the family of Reuben Rockwell at Galway, consisting of 1 male 26–44, 1 female 26–44, 3 males under 10, and 1 female under 10.<sup>12</sup> Another resident of Galway that year was Josiah Keeler, Urania's brother. The Rockwells are gone by 1820, but I believe this family is the one recorded in Tompkins County, headed by Reuben Rockwell; the household then had 1 male 45 or older, 1 female 26–44, 1 male 16–18, 2 males 10–15, and 1 female 10–16.<sup>13</sup> The children match quite well for the family in Galway, though Reuben is probably in the wrong age category. The piece of evidence that substantiates this identification is a headstone in Enfield's Rolfe Cemetery that reads, "In memory of Urania, wife of Reuben Rockwell, died July 28, 1829, aged 56 yrs."<sup>14</sup>

In the census of 1830, the household has one male in his 50s (Reuben), 1 male in his 20s, and 1 female 15–19.<sup>15</sup> Reuben apparently married again, for in deeds with Reuben of Enfield as a

<sup>6</sup>Danbury probate district records, packet no. 2804, viewed on FHL Film #1016239.

<sup>7</sup>RfVR 2:156.

<sup>8</sup>RfVR 2:210.

<sup>9</sup>Ridgefield deeds, vol. 9:189 and 9:200; FHL Film #5500.

<sup>10</sup>Westchester County mortgage records, vol. L, p. 51—52; FHL Film #581684.

<sup>11</sup>Westchester County Land Records, vol. Q, p. 37; FHL #562375

<sup>12</sup>1810 U.S. Federal Census, Galway, Saratoga Co., New York, p. 819, viewed on Ancestry.com.

<sup>13</sup>1820 U.S. Federal Census, Ulysses, Tompkins Co., New York, sheet 7, p.1, viewed on Ancestry.com.

<sup>14</sup>Dora Pope Worden, "Tompkins County gravestone inscriptions," *New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*, v. 53, no. 1 (Jan. 1922), p. 76. Unfortunately, Carl W. Fischer reported not finding this stone when he resurveyed the cemetery in the 1960s, so it may have been destroyed by the elements. See Jessie Howell Finch, et al., *Some cemeteries of the Between the Lakes Country (portions of Seneca, Schuyler, and Tompkins counties, N.Y.)*, (Interlake, N.Y.: Interlaken Review, 1974), p. 758.

<sup>15</sup>1830 U.S. Federal Census, Enfield, Tompkins Co., New York, p. 366.



grantor in 1833 through 1840, his wife is called Mary. In 1840, he was in his 60s, Mary was in her 50s, and another female 10–14 is in the household—probably a daughter of Mary’s from a previous marriage.<sup>16</sup> No record of Mary’s death has been found, but it occurred before 1850, when the census shows Reuben, at the age of 73, in the household of son Ebenezer (mistakenly called “Eleazer”).<sup>17</sup> In 1860, Reuben Rockwell was living in the household of Ephraim Rolfe, Jr., whose wife Elizabeth (age 54) was likely Reuben’s daughter.<sup>18</sup> (Reuben’s birth state is given as “R.I.” [Rhode Island], but investigation in that state’s records has not shown any evidence for a Rockwell family in the 18<sup>th</sup> century.) Neither probate records nor a headstone have been found for him, so the date of his death is unknown, though it probably came before 1870, as he does not appear in the 1870 census.

### Genealogical summary:

1. **Reuben Rockwell**, born 11 Oct. 1778, son of Ebenezer and Abigail (Worden) (Smith) Rockwell; married (1) before 1804, **Urania Keeler**, who was born ca 1773, daughter of Josiah and Elizabeth (Stebbins) Keeler. She died in Enfield, Tompkins Co., N.Y., on 28 July 1829. He married (2) before 1833, **Mary \_\_\_\_\_**, born say 1775, died before 1850. Births of children to Reuben and Urania were not recorded at Ridgefield or elsewhere, but the following reconstruction is possible from Tompkins County records:
  - a. Hiram Rockwell, b. ca August 1801, according to his headstone. (2.)
  - b. Ebenezer Rockwell, b. born 13 June 1804, according to his headstone. (3.)
  - c. Elizabeth Rockwell, born ca August 1806, if my assumption about her marriage is correct. (4.)
  - d. A third son, indicated by the census as having been born by 1810, and in his 20s by 1830. Given the birth dates of the other children, he was probably born ca 1808. He has not yet been identified with certainty, but one candidate is William Rockwell, found in Newfield, Tompkins County, New York, in 1840. He was in his 30s, and the household included a female in her 20s, 2 males 5–9, and 1 male under 5.<sup>19</sup> I did not find him in the county in 1850.
  
2. **Hiram Rockwell**. He is buried in Rolfe Cemetery, with headstone saying he died 24 February 1889, “age 87 yrs, 6 mo.,” thus born ca August 1801. Wife Mary died 26 February 1872, “age 69 yrs.”<sup>20</sup> **Mary** was the daughter of Jonathan **Rolfe** of Enfield, as the latter’s will, dated 17 June 1846 and probated 12 September 1851, names his daughter Mary Rockwell.<sup>21</sup> In 1880, Hiram was a 78-year-old widower living in Enfield with

<sup>16</sup>1840 U.S. Federal Census, Enfield, Tompkins Co., New York, p. 310.

<sup>17</sup>1850 U.S. Federal Census, Enfield, Tompkins Co., New York, p. 384B.

<sup>18</sup>1860 U.S. Federal Census, Enfield, Tompkins Co., New York, p. 266.

<sup>19</sup>1840 U.S. Federal Census, Newfield, Tompkins Co., N.Y., p. 154.

<sup>20</sup>Surveyed by Carl W. Fischer, in: Jessie Howell Finch, et al., *Some cemeteries of the Between the Lakes Country (portions of Seneca, Schuyler, and Tompkins counties, N.Y.)*, (Interlake, N.Y.: Interlaken Review, 1974), 758.

<sup>21</sup>Tompkins County Wills, vol. G, p. 61; FHL Film #853072.



daughter Susan, 54, and her husband William Drake.<sup>22</sup> On 9 April 1878, Hiram, the Drakes, and Charles Rockwell sold a 36-acre parcel in Enfield, which suggests that Susan and Charles were then the only surviving children of Hiram and Mary.<sup>23</sup> Known children:<sup>24</sup>

- a. Charles Rockwell, b. ca 1824.
- b. Susan Rockwell, b. ca 1826, m. William Drake.
- c. Jonathan Rockwell, b. ca 1834, d. bef 1878.

3. **Ebenezer Rockwell.** He was a neighbor of Reuben's in Enfield, New York, in the 1830 and 1840 census. In the 1830 census his household includes 1 male in his 20s, 1 female in her 20s, and 1 male under 5.<sup>25</sup> In 1840, it had 1 male in his 30s, 1 female in her 30s, 1 male in his 20s, 1 female 10–14, 1 male 5–9, 1 female 5–9, and 1 male under 5.<sup>26</sup> (Possibly the lone child of 1830 should have been marked female, but I suspect that it was correct and the 1840 census should have called the oldest child male.) The land records show no purchases but several sales of land: one in 1840 and several in 1844. One of these was a quit-claim to about 8 acres, to Reuben Rockwell.<sup>27</sup> This deed refers to Ebenezer's wife as Hannah, and in one instance she signed her name with the middle initial "P."<sup>28</sup> Therefore, I am confident that Ebenezer is the one called "Eleazer Rockwell" in the 1850 census, as his wife was **Hannah P.** Rockwell, then 41. His occupation was "shoemaker." Children were "Umphry D.," age 18, and "Philancy," a 12-year-old daughter.

Ebenezer died in Enfield, for his grave is at the Presbyterian Cemetery at Enfield Center, with his headstone giving his vital dates: "Eben Rockwell, b. June 13, 1804, d. May 25, 1857." Next to him is "Humphrey, son of Eben & Hannah, d. Feb. 10, 1852, ae 20 yr."<sup>29</sup>

Hannah continued to live in Enfield for several years. She is probably the "Anna Rockwell" in the Charles Fountain household in Ovid, Seneca County, New York in the 1870 census. His wife was "Philansi," likely the daughter in the 1850 household.<sup>30</sup> On 1

<sup>22</sup>1880 U.S. Federal Census, Enfield, Tompkins Co., N.Y., p. 111C.

<sup>23</sup>Enfield Deeds, 3:130; FHL Film #851411.

<sup>24</sup>1850 U.S. Federal Census, Enfield, Tompkins Co., New York,, p. 350.

<sup>25</sup>1830 U.S. Federal Census, Enfield, Tompkins Co., New York,, p. 366.

<sup>26</sup>1840 U.S. Federal Census, Enfield, Tompkins Co., New York,, p. 311.

<sup>27</sup>Tompkins Co. Deeds, UU:434; FHL Film #851255.

<sup>28</sup>*Ibid.*, TT:111—112; Film #851255.

<sup>29</sup>Dora Pope Worden, "Tompkins County gravestone inscriptions," *New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*, v. 53, no. 1 (Jan. 1922), 75.

<sup>30</sup>1870 U.S. Federal Census, Ovid, Seneca Co., New York, p. 123B.



May 1873, “Hannah P. Rockwell of Enfield” purchased an acre of land in Ovid from John J. and Abigail Covert for \$300.<sup>31</sup> On 1 April 1876, “Hannah Rockwell of Ovid” sold the same parcel to John L. Bloomer for \$2,000.<sup>32</sup> Assuming the rate of inflation was not as steep as these deeds make it appear, perhaps the Coverts gave Hannah a bargain on account of a close relationship. I have not found record of Hannah’s death. One further child of Ebenezer and Hannah was likely Reuben D. Rockwell, who was also buried in the Rolfe Cemetery. He died on 5 Nov 1875, aged 47 years, 7 months, 10 days.<sup>33</sup> His connection to the others is indicated by the fact that Charles Fountain named Reuben as an executor of his will, signed on 15 Oct 1870 and probated on 20 Feb 1871.<sup>34</sup>

Probable children of Ebenezer and Hannah:

- a. Reuben D. Rockwell, b. 26 Mar 1828, d. 5 Nov 1875, æ 47y, 7m, 10d.
- b. Humphrey D. Rockwell, b. ca 1832, d. 10 Feb 1852, æ 20 yrs.
- c. Philancy Rockwell, b. ca 1838, m. Charles Fountain.

4. **Elizabeth Rockwell**, born ca August 1806 in N.Y., who married **Ephraim Rolfe, Jr.** In the 1860 census, Reuben was in their household. Her headstone in Rolfe Cemetery gives her date of death as 10 April 1875, aged 68 yrs, 8 mo., days uncertain (inscription damaged at time of transcription). Ephraim Rolfe died on 11 Feb. 1880, aged 76 years.<sup>35</sup> Their children, known from nearby headstones and the 1860 census, included:

- a. Urania Rolfe, b. ca 1827. She married a Manning and was apparently widowed by 1860 when she and son Eugene were in the Ephraim Rolfe household.
- b. Margareta Rolfe, b. ca 1829, died 23 Oct. 1830.
- c. Jonathan Rolfe, b. ca 1835, as he was 25 in 1860.
- d. Reuben Rolfe, d. 25 March 1841, aged 3 years 4 months.
- e. Minor T. Rolfe, b. ca 1839, as he was 21 in 1860.
- f. Cloa (Chloe?) M. Rolfe, b. ca 1842, as she was 18 in 1860.
- g. Henry C. Rolfe, b. ca 1844, as he was 16 in 1860.
- h. Owen L. Rolfe, b. ca 1852, as he was 8 in 1860.

Also near their graves were Nancy and Prudence Rolfe, perhaps also daughters, although damage to these stones obscures any other information.

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<sup>31</sup>Seneca Co. (N.Y.) deeds, 84:335 ; FHL Film #846882, item 1.

<sup>32</sup>*Ibid.*, 89:17; FHL Film #846885, item 1.

<sup>33</sup>Transcriptions of Carl W. Fischer, in: Jessie Howell Finch, et al., *Some cemeteries of the Between the Lakes Country (portions of Seneca, Schuyler, and Tompkins counties, N.Y.)*, (Interlake, N.Y.: Interlaken Review, 1974), 758.

<sup>34</sup>Seneca County, New York, Wills, vol. J, p. 453–454; FHL Film # 843633.

<sup>35</sup>Surveyed by Carl W. Fischer, in Finch et al. (1974), p. 759.

## The Family of Benjamin Wilson of Ridgefield, Connecticut

Kenneth W. Rockwell

**Benjamin Wilson**, of all the original Proprietors of Ridgefield, is the one whose ancestry has not been proven and traced. Some online trees provide two possible birth records, neither of which can be proven to apply to the Ridgefield settler. One of these places his birth in Roxbury, Massachusetts, in 1678. While the original record exists,<sup>1</sup> there is no evidence that this person relocated to Connecticut. The other proposed birth is recorded at Milford, Connecticut, where a Benjamin Wilson, son of Thomas Wilson, was born on 8 July 1673.<sup>2</sup> This solution is attractive in that several Ridgefield settlers had roots in Milford; also, Benjamin named a son Thomas. A search of Milford's land records shows no Wilsons buying or selling land there during this period. Nor does the statewide probate index show any probate records for this Thomas. Land records appear in the deeds of the Town of Fairfield for several Wilsons, including a Thomas. If this was the man whose unidentified wife gave birth in Milford, the son might also be the Benjamin Wilson who married Martha Perry on 16 October 1694 at the Fairfield Congregational Church.<sup>3</sup> Unless this Martha soon died, it is unlikely that her husband was the one who was soon having children in Norwalk, supposedly by a different wife.

The first confirmed record we have of our Benjamin Wilson is the birth of a daughter, Sarah, on 24 September 1698, soon to be followed by Nathan (30 Sep 1701) and Thomas (9 Oct 1703).<sup>4</sup> The wife's name is not given, and it is possible that the mother of Sarah was Martha, but more likely she was **Jane Olmstead** (Olmsted), who is known to be Benjamin's wife by 1700. The first land record involving Benjamin is dated 12 February 1700, in which John Olmsted of Norwalk, "in consideration of the love good will and respects that I have and bare to my sonn in law, Benjamin Willson, and Jane his wife my Daughter," his whole share in the "Hungry Spring" division, which "is where the habitation of sayd Willson now is, and is in Quantity one acre and half of land..."<sup>5</sup> John Olmsted died at Norwalk in 1704, and the Norwalk deeds record Benjamin Wilson's receipt of land from the distributors of "his father" John Olmsted's estate on 28 December 1708.<sup>6</sup>

Benjamin Wilson, then of Norwalk, was one of 24 men who purchased the tract of land that became Ridgefield from local Indians in 1708. These first Proprietors drew lots for homesteads on 25 November 1708, and Wilson drew lot number 16, located northwest of the site of the first meeting house/church (on the site of the present Methodist Church in central

<sup>1</sup>*Vital records of Roxbury, Massachusetts to the end of the year 1849* (Salem: Essex Institute, 1925), v. 1, p. 386.

<sup>2</sup>Milford vital records v.1, p. 13, cited in *The Barbour Collection of Connecticut town vital records* (Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1994-2002), vol. 28, p. 199.

<sup>3</sup>Donald L. Jacobus, *History and genealogy of the families of Old Fairfield* (Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1991) vol. 2, pt. 2, p. 1059.

<sup>4</sup>Norwalk land records vol. 2-3, p. 72 (FHL Film #5001); also Barbour vol. 32, p. 154.

<sup>5</sup>Ibid. v.2-3, p. 2.

<sup>6</sup>Ibid. 4:9; FHL Film #5002.



Ridgefield).<sup>7</sup> Settlement soon followed, and the Wilson family moved there and continued to grow. Benjamin and Jane Wilson sold their Norwalk home lot on 27 June 1709,<sup>8</sup> an act that might indicate their imminent move to Ridgefield. Another sale of land on 28 December 1709 still called Benjamin “of Norwalk,” but by 2 January 1710/11, Benjamin was of Ridgefield.<sup>9</sup> Benjamin continued to receive grants of common land in Norwalk for some years. On 20 January 1710/11, Benjamin and Jane Wilson and Samuel and Rebeckah Saint John, all of Ridgefield, sold their right and interest in the home lot of John Olmsted.<sup>10</sup>

Land records continue to attest to Benjamin Wilson’s presence in Ridgefield for many years. His death and that of his wife were not recorded, though they are assumed to have been buried in the old burying ground at the south end of the village. The area is now entirely overgrown, reclaimed by nature, but a modern monument names Wilsons together with other early settlers. No probate records for them are to be found, either in the Fairfield or the Danbury probate district, nor any land records that show a distribution to heirs of land in the possession of Benjamin Wilson at the time of his death. This may be because he distributed some (perhaps all) of his land as gifts to his heirs before his death. Examples of these gifts are found in the following deeds:

1. Benjamin Wilson, on 28 Nov. 1729, “in consideration of that love and fatherly affection I have unto my son Nathan Willson,” conveyed to Nathan a parcel about 15 acres as well as a third of his “Six acre division” and one third of “my whole right of commons or undivided lands in the Township of Ridgefield.”<sup>11</sup>
2. On 7 February 1737/38, Wilson conveyed to son Thomas Wilson as a gift two allotments of land in the “New Patent” (the future Ridgebury area) along with 16 acres he had bought from his son Nathan.<sup>12</sup>
3. Benjamin Wilson on 10 March 1738, “in consideration of that fatherly love and affection I have for & do bear unto my son in law Benjamin Rockwell” gave him 2 acres under the West Mountain.<sup>13</sup>
4. On 6 December 1739, Benjamin gave to son Benjamin the home lot of 7<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> acres that he had bought from Joseph Osborn, and all of his land in the Ten-acre Division, and a third

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<sup>7</sup>Ridgefield Deeds, vol. 1, folio 4b-5a; Family History Library film #5496.

<sup>8</sup>Norwalk land records, 4:128.

<sup>9</sup>Ibid., 4:164, 234.

<sup>10</sup>Ibid., 4:246.

<sup>11</sup>Ridgefield Deeds, vol. 2, folio 86a; FHL film #5496.

<sup>12</sup>Ibid., 2:212a.

<sup>13</sup>Ibid., 2:214a-b.

part of all his right within the Township.<sup>14</sup>

5. On 25 January 1741/42, Benjamin gave to son Nathan his 18-acre home lot and house, an acre of boggy meadow under Copp's Mountain, and 15 acres at Chestnut Ridge.<sup>15</sup>
6. The divisions of land made by the proprietors included the Fourth 20-acre Division in 1741 and the Fifth 20-acre Division in 1744, both conveying land to Benjamin Wilson; but on 30 December 1745, the Sixth 20-acre Division "laid out to the right originally Benj. Willson's" 27 acres, being the 21st lot, lying well of the Cedar Mountains Road.<sup>16</sup> This wording might suggest that Benjamin had died ca. 1745, between these divisions. However, with the Seventh 20-acre Division on 23 November 1748, the Proprietors granted Lot 28 "to Benjamin Willson & to his heirs and assigns forever."<sup>17</sup>

Further deeds involving grants of common land shed further light on the family of Benjamin Wilson:

7. On 23 February 1750/51, the Proprietors laid out "on account of the Fifteen acre Division" separate lots to Thomas Wilson and to Nathan Wilson.<sup>18</sup> No allotment was laid out to Benjamin Wilson, son of the founder, but this is accounted for in a deed dated 17 April 1750 (possibly a clerical error that should have said "1751") in which he sold to Samuel Bennett "all my right title & interest in the last granted Fifteen acre Division, which is one third part of a whole right..."<sup>19</sup> The "whole right" to which he referred was that of his father, Benjamin Wilson, whom these deeds clearly indicate had died by then. Interestingly, Benjamin the son was still styled "Junr." in two subsequent deeds dated 26 April and 20 May 1751.<sup>20</sup> Again, this may have been the wording of the registrar, Stephen Smith. In the next round of grants, termed the Sixteen-acre Division, the Proprietors on 26 June 1753 granted land to the three brothers, including "Benjamin Wilson, Junr.,"<sup>21</sup> demonstrating that not every use of term is proof that the "senior" man of the same name was still living.
8. On 4 July 1761, the Registrar recorded a grant by the Proprietors "laid out to the right originally Benjamin Wilson's Decd. on account of the 4th ten acre grant, 100 rods of land lying of the south side of the land of the heirs of Jabesh Morehouse decd. ... bounded

<sup>14</sup>Ibid., 3:76b; FHL Film #5497.

<sup>15</sup>Ibid., 3:74a.

<sup>16</sup>Ibid., 3:170a.

<sup>17</sup>Ibid., 3:233b.

<sup>18</sup>Ibid., 3:315b.

<sup>19</sup>Ibid., 4:3b.

<sup>20</sup>Ibid., 4:3b-4a; 4:5a.

<sup>21</sup>Ibid., 4:53b.



northerly by the land of said Morehouse's heirs, southerly and easterly by highway, coming to a point at the west end; also 14 rods of land lying at the norwest part of the land belonging to said Morehouse's heirs, bounded east & north by the land of said heirs, west & south by highway or common land..."<sup>22</sup> Also, the Proprietors laid out two other small parcels to Caleb Lobdell "by virtue of a deed of sale obtained of Nathan Wilson of the 4th ten acre grant."<sup>23</sup> A similar grant went to widow Mary Morehouse "by virtue of a Deed of sale obtained of Nathan Wilson two acres and 44 pole upon the 4th ten acre division."<sup>24</sup> Two more grants "laid out upon account of the 4th ten acre division & on the right that originally belonged to Benjamin Wilson Dec'd" were 1 acre and 1 rood of land north of Samuel Bennett's house and 4 acres 1 rood south of Gershom Bennett's house, both recorded on 4 November 1761.<sup>25</sup> By this time two Benjamin Wilsons, father and son, had died, but one assumes these deeds referred to the father. After this there appear several deeds by heirs conveying their share in these small parcels, as mentioned below. Interestingly, they include not only the sons such as Nathan (mentioned above) but some of the daughters—indicating that they were still considered heirs to their father, even though previous grants had only mentioned land laid out to the three sons.

Children of Benjamin Wilson, probably all by wife Jane (Olmsted):

- Sarah Wilson, born Norwalk, 24 September 1698. A single record suggests that she married, in her 30s, Samuel Gates Sr., who had settled in Ridgefield in 1729 and had lost his first wife. Samuel and Sarah had four children, and then after several years moved to Dutchess County, New York. One land record has Samuel Gates of the Oblong in Dutchess County, selling a parcel of land in Ridgefield; then on 24 April 1765, Samuel Gates and Sarah his wife sold their share in a grant of land from Ridgefield's "fourth 10-acre division," land that had been allotted to Benjamin Wilson.<sup>26</sup> Other children of Benjamin made similar deeds around this time. Children of Samuel and Sarah (Wilson) Gates:<sup>27</sup>
  - Stephen Gates, b. 11 July 1737.
  - Phebe Gates, b. 20 July 1739.
  - Daniel Gates, b. 20 October 1741.
  - Sarah Gates, b. 10 September 1743.
  
- Nathan Wilson, born Norwalk, 30 September 1701. (2)

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<sup>22</sup>Ibid., 4:231b.

<sup>23</sup>Ibid., 4:231b.

<sup>24</sup>Ibid., 4:232a.

<sup>25</sup>Ibid.

<sup>26</sup>Ibid., 5:3a; FHL Film no. 5498.

<sup>27</sup>*Barbour Collection*, vol. 36, pp. 178-179, quoting Ridgefield land records 1:218, 219, 223, 236.

- Thomas Wilson, born Norwalk, 9 October 1703. (3)
- Rebecca, born Norwalk, ca. 1706 at. She married, on 15 April 1731, Benjamin Rockwell, son of Jonathan and Abigail (Canfield) Rockwell of Ridgefield. They lived in Ridgefield until after 1745, then moved a short distance west, to Salem, New York. On 1 May 1761, they sold to Ezekiel Wilson their interest in the fourth 10-acre division.<sup>28</sup> The children of Benjamin and Rebecca (Wilson) Rockwell:<sup>29</sup>
  - Benjamin Rockwell, b. Ridgefield, 13 August 1733.
  - Jane Rockwell, b. Ridgefield, 13 September 1735.
  - Nathan Rockwell, b. Ridgefield, 22 November 1737.
  - Stephen Rockwell, b. Ridgefield, 14 January 1739/40.
  - Job Rockwell, b. possibly at Salem, NY, 21 June 1746.
  - Rebecca Rockwell, b. probably at Salem, 10 January 1749.
- Benjamin Wilson, born prob. at Norwalk, ca 1708. (4)
- Mary Wilson, born Ridgefield, 3 July 1712, according to Jacobus, though not recorded in the vital records.<sup>30</sup> Some online trees claim that she is the Mary (no surname given) who married Jabez Morehouse on 9 Nov. 1738. Two land records might serve as evidence for this: On 24 April 1761, Nathan Wilson sold to Mary Morehouse an acre to be taken up from the 4<sup>th</sup> ten-acre division; and on 4 November 1761, the Proprietors laid out “to widow Mary Morehouse by virtue of a deed of sale obtained of Nathan Wilson, 2 acres 44 pole of land upon the 4<sup>th</sup> 10-acre division granted to Benjamin Wilson dec’d. ...”<sup>31</sup> If this is Mary Wilson, however, why did she not obtain a share of that division herself as other Wilson daughters did?
- Jane Wilson, born Ridgefield, 28 December 1714, according to Jacobus, though not recorded there. She married on 26 February 1735/6, Joseph Keeler.<sup>32</sup> On 8 May 1761, Joseph and Jane Keeler, along with Thomas Wilson, “for the consideration of that love & respect that we have & do bear unto our sister Rebeckah Rockwell of Salem” gave her all their right and interest in the Fourth 10-acre division ... granted by the Proprietors ... unto our father Benjamin Wilson of said Ridgefield dec’d.”<sup>33</sup> Their children, born in

<sup>28</sup>Ridgefield deeds, 4:268b.

<sup>29</sup>The first four children are given in *Barbour Collection*, vol. 36, pp. 178-179, quoting Ridgefield land records 1:249, 251-253. The last two were not recorded at Ridgefield and were possibly born at Salem. The dates are posted online, and Job’s is at least correct to the month, as it is on his headstone at the Salem Presbyterian Church, which I have seen.

<sup>30</sup>Jacobus, *Families of Old Fairfield*, 1:698.

<sup>31</sup>Ridgefield deeds, 4:232a.

<sup>32</sup>Jacobus, *Families of Old Fairfield*, 1:698.

<sup>33</sup>Ridgefield deeds, 4:225b.



Ridgefield were:<sup>34</sup>

- o Joseph Keeler, b. 31 January 1739/40.
  - o Benjamin Keeler, b. 23 May 1742.
  - o Seth Keeler, b. 30 June 1744.
  - o Ebenezer Keeler, b. 19 May 1746.
- Abigail Wilson, born 28 March 1721 at Ridgefield. She was the Abigail (no maiden name recorded) who on 3 January 1738/39 married Eli Northrup. The Proprietors of Ridgefield laid out to Eli Northrup and heirs “on account of the 4<sup>th</sup> ten-acre division granted to Benjamin Wilson dec’d, 1 acre and two poles of land east of Northrup’s home lot, as well as another parcel 1 acre 15 poles.<sup>35</sup> The children of Eli and Abigail (Wilson) Northrup, born in Ridgefield, were:<sup>36</sup>
- o Eli Northrup, b. 2 February 1742; d. 13 Nov. 1760.
  - o Joanna Northrup, b. 5 or 6 August 1745; m. at Ridgefield on 18 March 1765, James Sturgis.

*(To be continued)*

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<sup>34</sup>*Barbour Collection*, vol. 36, pp. 201, 202, 205, 209.

<sup>35</sup>Ridgefield deeds, 5:19b.

<sup>36</sup>*Barbour Collection*, vol. 36, pp. 228, 229, 230.

**Vital Records of 1847-1848,  
School District Returns from Brookfield, Easton, and New Canaan, CT**

As noted in the May 2011 issue of this journal, the vital records returns by school district for the years 1847 to 1852 appear to be lost for these three towns plus Ridgefield and Sherman (which will be published in a later issue). But for the first year of these returns, August 1847 to August 1848, copies were submitted to the state and are now found in the State Archives, Record Group 6. These transcriptions omit the designation of the school district which was reported in the original returns, now lost.

**Births, Brookfield, CT, 1847-1848**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Surname</b>	<b>Given Name</b>	<b>Names of Parents</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Color</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Residence</b>
16 Sep 1847	Atkins	Maria [?] N.	Eli N. Atkins Sarah J. Atkins	24 21	White "	Hatter	Brookfield "
6 Nov 1847	Baldwin	June S.	Lemuel Baldwin Susan Baldwin	38 37	White "	Merchant	Brookfield "
13 May 1848	Beebe	Mary E.	Ezra Beebe Tamer Beebe	38 35	White "	Farmer	Brookfield "
25 Dec 1847	Bennett	Emily L.	Richard Bennett Emily L. Bennett	28 27	White "	Shoemaker	Brookfield "
22 Feb 1848	Bradley	Lyman E.	Lyman F. Bradley Mary Bradley	35 28	White "	Mason	Brookfield "
10 Feb 1848	Bristoll	Joseph P.	Dennis S. Bristoll Abigail Bristoll	28 29	White "	Farmer	Brookfield "
4 Aug 1847	Bristoll	Anna	Lewis Bristoll Mary Ann Bristoll	22 22	White "	Hatter	Brookfield "
18 Feb 1848	Buckingham	Charles	Eustus C. Buckingham Mary B. Buckingham	41 37	White "	Hatter	Brookfield "
8 Feb 1848	Bulkley	Ives or Ira[?] L.	Stephen Bulkley Harriett Bulkley	34 30	White "	Combmaker	Brookfield "



Date	Surname	Given Name	Names of Parents	Age	Color	Occupation	Residence
12 Dec 1847	Camp	Nelson	Elizur E. Camp Eliza Camp	38 28	White "	Farmer	Brookfield "
30 Jun 1848	Camp	Theodore	Elias Camp Mary E. Camp	46 39	White "	Farmer	Brookfield "
7 Jul 1848	Carley	James	Thomas Carley Mary Carley	39 38	White "	Laborer on Rail Road	Brookfield "
14 Mar 1848	Dibble	Edgar E.	Zenos L Dibble Harriett Dibble	23 21	White "	Farmer	Brookfield "
22 Apr 1848	Elwood	Catherine L.	Elizur Elwood Esther Elwood	48 30	White "	Farmer	Brookfield "
22 Jul 1848	Hawley	No name	Abel S. Hawley Susan B. Hawley	36 29	White "	Carpenter & joiner	Brookfield "
10 Aug 1847	Hawley	Ellen S.	Joseph P. Hawley Samantha Hawley	37 34	White "	Lime burner	Brookfield "
20 Jan 1848	Hull	No name	Bennett B. Hull Hopestill Hull	50 43	White "	Doctor	Brookfield "
5 May 1848	Lobdell	Lee	Ormond Lobdell Dolly Lobdell	52 44	White "	Farmer	Brookfield "
16 Jun 1848	Loyd [sic]	No name	Mark [?] B. Loyd Clarissa Loyd	41 41	White "	Combmaker	Brookfield "
9 Jan 1848	Morgan	Charles S.	George Morgan Anne M. Morgan	22 20	White "	Hatter	Brookfield "
6 Jul 1848	Peck	Charlotte	David N. Peck Lucinda Peck	25 20	White "	Hatter	Brookfield "
3 Apr 1848	Perry	Theodore M.	Justus Perry Sally Perry	47 34	White "	Farmer	Brookfield "
22 Jun 1848	Prindle	Sarah C.	Francis Prindle Lucy Prindle	36 26	White "	Laborer	Brookfield "

Date	Surname	Given Name	Names of Parents	Age	Color	Occupation	Residence
1 Jul 1848	Sherman	No name	Charles Sherman Eliza Ann Sherman	38 35	White "	Farmer	Brookfield "
14 May 1848	Smith	No name	Edwin C. Smith Lucy Ann Smith	23 24	White "	Sadler	Brookfield "
24 Mar 1848	Stewart	Amelia	John Stewart Nancy C.	36 38	White "	Farmer	Brookfield "
28 Oct 1847	Sturdevant	Darius	Henry Sturdevant Amanda Sturdevant	38 33	White "	Day laborer	Brookfield "
23 Jul 1848	Sturdevant	No name	John Sturdevant Sophia Sturdevant	30 29	White "	Farmer	Brookfield "
20 Jan 1848	Terril	Mary Frances	Edwin Terril Emeline Terril	27 22	White "	Farmer	Brookfield "
14 Dec 1847	Whitlock	Henry E.	Lemuel Whitlock Lucia Whitlock	35 37	White "	Farmer	Brookfield "
18 Nov 1847	Whitmore	Helen	Lemuel Whitmore Sarah Ann Whitmore	22 24	White "	Blacksmith	Brookfield "
2 Sep 1847	Williams	Florence	Amos L. Williams Juliaette [sic] Williams	37 36	White "	Physician	Brookfield "

#### Marriages, Brookfield, CT, 1847-1848

Date	Surnames	Given Names	Age	Color	Occupation	Place of Birth	Residence	# of Mar.
1 Nov 1847	Brewer Ruggles	Elisha A. Selina	24 21	White "	Clerk	New York State Brookfield	New York State "	1 1
10 Feb 1848	Camemeyer Somers	Alfred Susan	22 21	White "	Laborer	New York City Brookfield	Brookfield "	1 1
1848	Edmonds Bristoll	Jerome H. Annis	27 21	White	Hatter	New Milford New Milford	Brookfield "	1 1

Date	Surnames	Given Names	Age	Color	Occupation	Place of Birth	Residence	# of Mar.
6 Feb 1848	Lee Bristoll	Robert	20	White	Shoemaker	New Milford	Brookfield	1
		Ruthann	17	"		Brookfield	"	1
9 Sep 1847	Morgan Morris	George	22	White	Hatter	Danbury	Danbury	1
		Anne M.	19	"		Brookfield	Brookfield	1
31 Oct 1847	Peck Lent	David N.	25	White	Hatter	Brookfield	Brookfield	1
		Lucinda	20	"		Peekskill	"	1
9 Apr 1848	Peck Carter [?]	James A.	20	White	Mechanic	Elsworth, CT	Brookfield	1
		Mary E.	25	"		Warren, CT	"	1
17 Apr 1848	Robbins Dunning	Edwin	35	White	School teacher	Ashford, CT	Brookfield	2
		Elizabeth	33	"		Brookfield	"	2
20 Dec 1847	Stebbins Pulling	Benjamin	32	White	Boning [?] knife maker	Sherman	Brookfield	2
		Antoinett	26	"		Ridgefield	"	1
10 Feb 1848	Sturdevant Hall	Homer	34	White	Farmer	Brookfield	Brookfield	1
		Laura	18	"		Plymouth, CT	"	1

#### Deaths, Brookfield, CT, 1847-1848

Date	Surname	Given Name	Age	Color	Occupation	Place of Birth	Residence	Cause
10 Jul 1848	[blank]	child, no name	3 wks	White		Brookfield	Brookfield	
20 Aug 1847	[blank]	child, no name	24 dys	White		Brookfield	Brookfield	
12 Jan 1848	Atkins	Maria[?] Ann	4 mo.	White		Brookfield	Brookfield	Fits
15 Apr 1848	Banks	Levi	20	White	Hatter	Patterson, NY	Brookfield	Consumption
26 Nov 1847	Beebe	Joseph B.	68	White	Farmer	Danbury	Brookfield	Rupture
5 Mar 1848	Brisco	Joseph R.	29	White	Dentist	Newtown	Brookfield	Consumption
28 Nov 1847	Calhoun	Eliza	30	White	Tailoress	Brookfield	Brookfield	Consumption
30 Mar 1848	Campbel [sic]	Mary B.	17	White		Brookfield	Brookfield	Enlargement of the heart

Date	Surname	Given Name	Age	Color	Occupation	Place of Birth	Residence	Cause
1 Jul 1848	Carle	Benjamin	39	White	Farmer	Danbury	Danbury	Consumption
19 Mar 1848	Foster	Harriet F.	28	White		New Milford	Brookfield	Inflammation
3 Jan 848	Gray	Thaddeus	69	White	Farmer	Brookfield	Brookfield	Consumption
11 May 1848	Hamlin	Francis E.	7	White		Brookfield	Brookfield	Dropsy on the brain
18 Oct 1847	Hawley	Liverus	18	White	Farmer	Brookfield	Brookfield	Bilious fever
23 Mar 1848	Keeler	Sally	49	White		Danbury	Brookfield	Apoplexy
29 May 1848	Lacey	Edwin A.	40	White	Physician	Canaan, CT	Brookfield	Consumption
30 Sep 1847	Lobdell	Levi L.	1 – 6 mo.	White		Brookfield	Brookfield	Diarrhea
6 Aug 1848	Lyon	Thomas S.	24	White	Hatter	Scipio, NY	Brookfield	Tyfus [sic] fever
12 Apr 1848	Moore	Harvey	48	White	Hatter	Danbury	Brookfield	Consumption
9 Sep 1847	Northrop	John	76	White	Farmer	Brookfield	Brookfield	Apoplexy
15 Feb 1848	Peck	Sarah	80	White		Newtown	Brookfield	Consumption
11 Aug 1847	Ruggles	Eli	66	White	Merchant	Brookfield	Brookfield	Disease of the heart
29 Jan 1848	Somers	Ranslee	41	White	Farmer	Newtown	Brookfield	Consumption
21 Mar 1848	Starr	Elizabeth	73	White		Danbury	Brookfield	Old age
16 Apr 1848	Stevens	Joshua	80	White	Farmer	Danbury	Brookfield	Palsy
19 Oct 1847	Sudwell	Martin	1 – 3 mo.	White		Patterson, NY	Brookfield	Diarrhea
24 May 1848	Warner	Benjamin R.	82	White	Farmer	Brookfield	Brookfield	Old age
27 Feb 1848	Wildman	Henry	24	White	Carpenter	Brookfield	Brookfield	Lung fever



**Births, Easton, CT, 1847-1848**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Surname</b>	<b>Given Name</b>	<b>Names of Parents</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Color</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Residence</b>
15 May 1848	[blank]	Pan	Henry Pan Rachel "		Indians	[blank]	Easton
18 Sep 1847	Baldwin	Cha <sup>s</sup> Edward	Ja <sup>s</sup> Baldwin Cornelia "	45 40	White "	Physician	Easton
21 Feb 1848	Beers	Alanson B.	Birdsey Beers Lucina "	38 34	White "	Shoe maker	Easton
5 Dec 1847	Blade	Julia E.	George Blade Julia A. "	27 23	Black "	Day labourer	Easton
12 Oct 1847	Cogswell	Mary P.	W <sup>m</sup> Cogswell Sarah A. "	28 25	White "	Carpenter	Weston
25 Feb 1848	DeForest	"no name given"	Julian DeForest (Barlow) [sic]	16	White		Easton
2 Nov 1847	Downs	Mary	Jonathan Downs Eliza "	44 42	White "	Tin pedlar	Easton
9 Aug 1848	Fanton	Melvin C.	Horace Fanton Caty C. "	40 36	White "	Farmer	Easton
17 Aug 1847	Fisher	Emma J.	David J. Fisher Esther A. "	29 31	White "	Shoe maker	Easton
21 Apr 1848	Freeborn	Not named	George Freeborn Hannah "	35 "	White "	Shoe maker	Easton
5 Aug 1848	French	Lydia	Perkins French Abba "	40 31	White "	Farmer	Easton
2 Aug 1847	Godfrey	Mary E.	George Godfrey Pelina [?] "	35 35	White "	Farmer	Easton
12 Sep 1847	Guthrie	Mary L.	Albert Guthrie Nancy "	46 42	White "	Farmer	Easton

Date	Surname	Given Name	Names of Parents	Age	Color	Occupation	Residence
27 Apr 1848	Hall	Julia L.	Harvey B. Hall Mary "	36 28	White "	Farmer	Easton
7 May 1848	Jennings	James	Andrew Jennings Mahala "	32 29	White "	Farmer	Easton
16 Apr 1848	Mills	Susan A.	Walter S. Mills Eunice "	33 24	White "	Iron manufacturer	Easton
22 Feb 1848	Nichols	Not named	Burr Nichols Amelia "	23 "	Black "	Labourer	Easton
25 Aug 1848	Nichols	Arthur	Morris Nichols Harriet "	24 22	Black "	Day labourer	Easton
5 Feb 1848	Persons	Henry G.	Andrew Persons Catherine "	31 28	White "	Hat finisher	Easton
8 Dec 1848	Platt	Hanford Wakeman	Edward Platt Susan "	26 24	White "	Boot maker	Easton
12 Sep 1847	Powell	Sherman	David Powell Jane "	39 27	White "	Farmer	Easton
8 Dec 1847	Reynolds	Armina M.	David Reynolds Abigail M. "	40 39	White "	Farmer	Easton
11 Dec 1847	Sanford	Mason F.	W <sup>m</sup> O. Sanford Lydia A. "	30 24	White "	Iron manufacturer	Weston
5 Aug 1848	Sherwood	Sarah A.	Daniel Sherwood Sarah A. "	22 27	White "	Comb maker	Easton
4 Feb 1848	Sherwood	Charles	David W. Sherwood Laury "	23 21	White "	Farmer	Easton
7 Aug 1847	Tharp	Priscilla M.	John S. Tharp Malinda "	41 40	White "	Farmer	Easton
15 Jan 1848	Turney	Abigail	Zalmon Turney Abigail "	44 38	White "	Farmer	Easton

Date	Surname	Given Name	Names of Parents	Age	Color	Occupation	Residence
30 May 1848	Wakeman	Theodoria	Daniel Wakeman Mary "	60 45	White "	Nothing particular [sic]	Easton
20 May 1848	Wakeman	George B.	George M. Wakeman Ann S. "	29 25	White "	Carpenter	Easton
20 Jun 1848	Wakeman	Martin Lewis	Andrew Wakeman Mary "	30 26	White "	Mason	Easton
Sep 1847	Wheeler	Burr	John Wheeler Malvina "	34 34	White "	Farmer	Easton
27 Jul 1848	Wheeler	Livinia	Isaac Wheeler Amanda "	39 21	White "	Merchant	Easton
13 Jul 1848	Winton	Andrew	Andrew L. Winton Mary E. "	25 18	White "	Merchant	Weston

#### Marriages, Easton, CT, 1847-1848

Date	Surnames	Given Names	Age	Color	Occupation	Place of Birth	Residence	# of Mar.
16 Mar 1848	Austin Sturges	David Rhoda Ann	24 22	White "	Carriage maker	New York City Weston	New York City Easton	1 1
26 Sep 1847	Baldwin Couch	Henry Julia	27 20	Black "	Day labourer	Weston Redding	Redding "	1 1
9 May 1848	Bradley Burr	Sam <sup>l</sup> W. May	46 22	White "	Farmer	Easton Fairfield	Easton	2 1
3 Apr 1848	Burr Smith	Moses Elmira	40 28	White "	Hatter	Weston Orange Co., NY	Easton Weston	2 1
14 Nov 1847	Downs Judd	George Fanny M.	21 21	White "	Shoe maker	Weston Weston	Easton "	1 1
Jul 1848	Elwood Hubbell	George Eliza	27 24	White "	Farmer		Easton "	1 1

Date	Surnames	Given Names	Age	Color	Occupation	Place of Birth	Residence	# of Mar.
6 Apr 1848	Feely [?]	Joseph	25	White	Farmer	Southeast, NY	Easton	1
	Coles [?]	Julia A.	25	"		Wilton	"	1
18 Jan 1848	Hiscock Sherwood	Robert	22	White	Carpenter	England	Danbury	1
		Caroline E.	18	"		Weston now Easton	Easton	1
20 Apr 1848	Jenkins Mallett	Henry	25	White	Comb maker	Redding	Danbury	1
		Sylvia J.	17	"		Weston	Easton	1
9 Feb 1848	Marsh Lovejoy	Samuel	27	White	Farmer	England	Fairfield	1
		Martha M.	33	"		New Haven	Easton	2
11 Sep 1847	Northrup Sanford	Norman	22	White	Farmer	Newtown	Redding	1
		Julia	20	"		Weston	"	1
25 Apr 1848	Platt Lyon	George	32	White	Boot maker	Weston	Easton	1
		Chloe	25	"				2
12 Aug 1847	Powell Taylor	David	39	White	Farmer	Huntington, CT	Easton	2
		Jane	20	"		Newtown	"	1
9 Dec 1847	Sherwood Sherwood	W <sup>m</sup> B.	21	White	Farmer	Fairfield	Fairfield	1
		Elizabeth	19	"		"	"	1
28 Sep 1847	Wheeler French	Isaac N.	39	White	Merchant	Redding	Easton	1
		Amanda	21	"		Trumbull	"	1
15 Feb 1848	Winton Hubbell	Eli		White	Boot maker	Weston now Easton	Easton	1
		Urana		"		" "	"	1
24 Nov 1847	Winton Gorham	Andrew L.	25	White	Merchant	Bridgeport	Weston	1
		Mary E.	18	"		Redding	"	1

#### Deaths, Easton, CT, 1847-1848

Date	Surname	Given Name	Age	Color	Occupation	Place of Birth	Residence	Cause
29 Oct 1847	Baldwin	Louisa C.	4	White		Easton	Easton	Trachitis
11 Aug 1847	Beers	Sylvia J.	1¼	White		Easton	Easton	Brain fever



Date	Surname	Given Name	Age	Color	Occupation	Place of Birth	Residence	Cause
Jul 1848	Castle	Charles	35	White	Shoe maker	Woodbury	Trumbull	Suicide by shooting
18 Jun 1848	Duncomb	Anna	87½	White		Trumbull	Easton	Apoplexy
15 Apr 1848	Fayerweather	Samuel	87	White	Farmer	Weston	Easton	Old age
1 Jan 1848	Gilbert	Isaac	75	White	Farmer	Weston	Easton	Consumption
Mar 1848	Harrison	Eunice	40	White	Town poor	Weston now Easton	Easton poor house	Consumption
[blank, 1847-8]	Hubbell	David S	72	White	Farmer	Weston	Easton	Abcess
8 Aug 1847	Lyon	Andrew	82	White		Weston	Easton	Fits
26 Jul 1848	Taylor	David	60¼	White	Farmer	Weston now Easton	Easton	Fever, ague
Jul 1848	Warner	Harry	53	White	Unknown	Roxbury, supposed to be	Roxbury	Delerium tremens
8 May 1848	Wells	John	60	White	Farmer [?]	Easton	Easton	Consumption
27 May 1848	Wheeler	Obadiah	82	White	Farmer	Weston	Easton	Old age
Sep 1847	Wheeler	Mary	4	White		Easton	Easton	Dropsy of brain
7 Jun 1848	Wheeler	Andrew J.	20	White	Student of Y[ale] Coll.	Weston	Easton	Consumption
10 Jul 1848	Wheeler	Deborah	64	White		Weston	Easton	Dropsy
18 Jul 1848	Winton	Andrew	10 hrs	White		Weston		

**Births, New Canaan, CT, 1847-1848**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Surname</b>	<b>Given Name</b>	<b>Names of Parents</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Color</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Residence</b>
9 Jul 1848	Armstrong	William H.	George W. Armstrong Lumira [?] Armstrong	40 37	White "	Boot & Shoemaker	New Canaan
31 Jul 1848	Ayres	Sophia	Ebenezer Ayres Emily M. Ayres	32 24	White "	Merchant	New Canaan
18 Jun 1848	Ayres	[blank]	Edward Ayres Matilda Ayres	30 28	White "	Blacksmith	New Canaan
5 Jul 1848	Barber	[blank]	John Barber Harriet Barber	26 21	White "	Shoemaker	New Canaan
10 Apr 1848	Beers	Richard	Richard Beers Jane A. Beers	30 27	White "	Shoemaker	New Canaan
15 Feb 1848	Benedict	Sarah Amelia	Charles Benedict Sarah Benedict	33 20	White "	Shoe manufacturer	New Canaan
26 Aug 1847	Benedict	Theodore W.	Caleb S. Benedict Hannah E. Benedict	44 40	White "	Shoe manufacturer	New Canaan
14 Jun 1848	Bishop	Not named	John Bishop [blank]		White	Farmer	New Canaan
1 Dec 1847	Britto	[blank]	Alexander Britto Fanny Britto	28 23	White "	Shoemaker	New Canaan
19 Jun 1848	Brondrige	[blank]	Caleb Brondrige Harriet Brondrige	37 33	White "	Shoemaker	New Canaan
27 Apr 1848	Brower	Albert	Almadurus Brower Mahaley Brower	38 32	White "	Livery stable keeper	New Canaan
24 Apr 1848	Brown	[blank]	George Brown Angelina Brown	35 27	White "	Shoemaker	New Canaan
12 Dec 1848	Button	Henry T.	Edward A. Button Lucy A. Button	23 17	White "	Shoemaker	New Canaan

Date	Surname	Given Name	Names of Parents	Age	Color	Occupation	Residence
7 Jun 1848	Chichester	Not named	George Chichester [blank]		White	Farmer	New Canaan
Mar or Apr [1848]	Comstock	Thomas Hanford [?]	Thomas A. Comstock Patty Comstock		White	Farmer	New Canaan
31 Mar 1848	Comstock	W <sup>m</sup> McK.	George E. Comstock Mary Comstock		White "	Farmer	Norwalk
1 Nov 1848	Crawford	Mary Ann	Andrew Crawford Sarah L. Crawford	48 39	White "	Shoemaker	New Canaan
12 May [1848]	Crofoot	Homer	Cyrus Crofoot Clarissa E. Crofoot	29 26	White "	Turner	New Canaan
20 Jan 1848	Davis	David H.	Charles Davis Julia A. Davis	32 23	White "	Shoemaker	New Canaan
23 Jun 1848	Deforest	[blank]	Legrand Deforest Esther M. Deforest	35 27	White "	Shoemaker	New Canaan
3 Sep 1847	Dickenson	Jane E.	John Dickinson Sarah J. Dickinson	40 38	White "	Shoemaker	New Canaan
15 Sep 1847	Ells	James	George Ells Mary A. Ells	27 28	White "	Shoemaker	New Canaan
20 Feb 1848	Fancher	Ann Munerva [sic]	Darius Fancher Ann Fancher		White "	Cordwainer	New Canaan
28 Jun 1848	Gordon	Charles K.	Mary Gordon	24	White		New Canaan
3 Dec 1847	Gregory	Stephen O.	Nehemiah Gregory Caroline Gregory	37 33	White "	Shoemaker	New Canaan
29 Aug 1848	Hanford	Egbert	Benjamin Hanford Mary Hanford	24 21	White "	Shoemaker	New Canaan
17 May 1848	Hoyt	Emma R.	Elisha Hoyt Catharine Hoyt		White "	Shoemaker	New Canaan

Date	Surname	Given Name	Names of Parents	Age	Color	Occupation	Residence
2 Feb 1848	Hyatt	Isaac B.	Roswell Hyatt Ann Hyatt	34 30	White "	Shoemaker	Norwalk
2 Aug 1848	Jennings	[blank]	Andrw Jennings Caroline M. Jennings	34 36	White "	Butcher	New Canaan
6 Oct 1847	Jones	Mary Elizabeth	Charles Jones Julia Jones	32 30	White "	Laborer	New Canaan
13 May 1848	Jones	Not named	John Jones [blank]		White	Farmer	New Canaan
5 Jun [1848]	Keith	Charles	Thomas Keith Harriet Keith	46 34	White "	Shoemaker	New Canaan
10 Jan 1848	Kellogg	William S.	Martin Kellogg Clarissa J. Kellogg	40 22	White "	Shoemaker	New Canaan
20 Apr 1848	Mead	Hiram	Egbert Mead Emily Mead	33 33	White "	Cabinet maker	New Canaan
13 Nov 1847	Mead	Mary F.	Joseph H. Mead Sarah J. Mead		White "	Shoemaker	New Canaan
17 Feb [1848]	Olmsted	Charles Henry	David R. Olmsted Martha J. Olmsted	32 29	White "	Shoemaker	New Canaan
18 Oct 1848	Platt	Francis	Joseph Platt Clarinda Platt	36 33	White "	Carpenter	Norwalk
27 Dec 1847	Raymond	Lewis	Thomas Raymond Mary J. Raymond	34 29	White "	Merchant	New Canaan
3 Apr 1848	Raymond	Daughter no name yet	Marvin Raymond Laura Raymond	33 33	White "	Farmer	Norwalk
11 Apr 1848	Richards	Samuel	Henry Richards Caroline Richard	24 21	White "	Shoemaker	Wilton
17 Feb 1848	Sarles	Henry V.	William H. Sarles Ann F. Sarles	29 30	White "	Shoemaker	New Canaan



Date	Surname	Given Name	Names of Parents	Age	Color	Occupation	Residence
8 Jan 1848	Schofield	[blank]	Charles A. Schofield Betsey A. Schofield	29 29	White "	Currier	New Canaan
5 May [1848]	Selleck	[blank]	Jonathan Selleck Harriet Selleck		White	Cooper & Mason	New Canaan
28 May 1848	Seymour	[blank]	Daniel Seymour Harriet E. Seymour	28 25	White "	Carpenter	New Canaan
10 Jun 1848	Short	Charlotte	David H. Short Mary E. Short	42 33	White "	Minister	New Canaan
6 Apr 1848	St. John	W <sup>m</sup> F.	W <sup>m</sup> St. John Lucretia St. John		White "	Farmer	Norwalk
5 Oct 1848	Stevens	Susan	David Stevens Betsey S. Stevens	27 22	White "	Farmer	New Canaan
9 Aug 1848	Stevens	George A.	Samuel Stevens Abby S. Stevens	26 21	White "	Farmer	New Canaan
7 Feb 1848	Taylor	Julia L.	George B. Taylor Betsey Taylor	31 27	White "	Hub manufacturer	New Canaan
4 Aug 1848	Tompkins	Susan	Abram D. Tompkins [blank]		White	Tanner	New Canaan
11 Mar 1848	Tristram	Mary E.	John Tristram Mary Tristram	26 28	White "	Shoemaker	New Canaan
10 May 1848	Waterbury	Nancy M.	Isaac Waterbury Nancy Waterbury	59 46	White "	Miller	New Canaan
25 May 1848	Webb	George F.	William G. Webb Phebe Webb	32 32	White "	Shoemaker	New Canaan
15 Mar 1848	Weed	Caroline	Charles Weed Hannah Weed	25 24	White "	Shoemaker	New Canaan
26 Sep 1847	Weed	Emily M.	Gould S. Weed Fanny Weed		White "	Farmer	New Canaan

Date	Surname	Given Name	Names of Parents	Age	Color	Occupation	Residence
26 Jul 1848	Wheeler	Henry	William H. Wheeler Mary F. Wheeler		White "	Farmer	New Canaan

#### Marriages, New Canaan, CT, 1847-1848

Date	Surnames	Given Names	Age	Color	Occupation	Place of Birth	Residence	# of Mar.
22 Mar 1848	Comstock Carter	Andrew H. Emma M.	26 22	White "	Farmer	New Canaan Va., Fredericksburg	New Canaan New Canaan	1 1
4 Mar 1848	Jessup Richards	Zadoc R. Gertrude	47 19	White "	Shoemaker	New Canaan	New Canaan New Canaan	2 1
4 Nov 1847	Lockwood Raymond	George Amelia	34 25	White "	Shoe manufacturer	New Canaan "	New Canaan "	1
6 Mar 1848	Miller Hyatt	Joseph Polly A.	35 27	White "	Day labourer	Liberty, NY Norwalk	Liberty, NY Norwalk	2 1
19 Oct 1847	Olmsted Richards	James Sophia	25 20	White "	Druggist	Norwalk New Canaan	New Haven New Haven	1 1
30 Dec 1847	St. John Hull	Hiram Mary A.	25 23	White "	Carpenter	Wilton Weston	New Canaan New Canaan	1 1
3 Oct 1847	Stevens Lynes	Samuel W. Susan	23 22	White "	Shoemaker	New Canaan Reading	Charleston, SC	1 1

#### Deaths, New Canaan, CT, 1847-1848

Date	Surname	Given Name	Age	Color	Occupation	Place of Birth	Residence	Cause
7 Dec 1847	Abbot	Ellen	53	White		Norfield	New Canaan	Consumption
11 Aug 1847	Abbott	Jonathan	77	White	Farmer	New Canaan	New Canaan	Dropsy
14 Oct 1847	Bissom	Hannah	56	White		New Canaan	New Canaan	Dropsy
28 Feb 1848	Bouton	Cornelia	4	White		New Canaan	New Canaan	Infla <sup>m</sup> in lungs
9 Nov 1847	Bouton	Nathan W.	6	White		New Canaan	New Canaan	Croup

Date	Surname	Given Name	Age	Color	Occupation	Place of Birth	Residence	Cause
8 Dec 1847	Britto	[blank]	8 days	White		New Canaan	New Canaan	
7 Mar 1847	Brundage	John A.	2	White		New Canaan	New Canaan	Consumption
9 Aug 1847	Comstock	Emeline E.	37	White	Seamstress	Bridgeport	New Canaan	Consumption
5 Aug 1847	Crissy	Emily W.	7	White		New Canaan	New Canaan	Billious fever
9 Sep 1847	Crissy	Abrum	86	White	Laborer	Stamford	New Canaan	Old age
7 Sep 1847	Davis	Charles H.	1	White		North Castle, NY	New Canaan	Infantum cholera
9 May 1848	Drummond	John	21	White	Farmer	New Canaan	New Canaan	Accidental
12 Sep 1847	Hoyt	Linus	38	White	Farmer	New Canaan	New Canaan	Fits
30 Mar 1848	Hoyt	Stephen, Jr.	21	White	Hatter	New Canaan	Norwalk	Consumption
5 Aug 1848	Husted	William S.	6	White			New Canaan	Drowning
25 May 1848	Jones	Israel	14	White				
14 Aug 1847	Phelan	Edward	2	White		New York	New York	
30 May 1848	Platt	Joseph E.	3	White		Norwalk	Wilton [?]	Scrofula
12 Apr 1848	Raymond	Bennett	68	White		New Canaan	New Canaan	Consumption
30 May 1848	Reed	Uriah	81	White	Farmer	Stamford	New Canaan	Old age
7 Feb 1847	Seely	Cary H.	67	White		New Canaan	New Canaan	Congestion lungs
11 Jun 1848	Shirt [?]	Charlotte	1 day	White		New Canaan	New Canaan	
19 Feb 1848	Stocker	John J.	6 mos.	White		New Canaan	New Canaan	Dropsy on brain
8 Jul 1848	Tompkins	Abram D.	42	White				
Apr 1848	Warren	Thomas	64	White	Saddler	New Canaan	New Canaan	Inflamation in Lungs
1 Aug 1848	Waterbury	John H.	22	White	Shoemaker	Wilton	New Canaan	Consumption
25 Apr 1848	Watson	James	30	White	Silversmith	New Canaan		Consumption
8 Sep 1847	West	Margaret	32	White		New Canaan	New York City	Consumption
7 Sep 1847	Whitlock	Polly	81	White		Norwalk	Wilton [?]	Fit
2 Sep 1847	Whitney	Edward L.	9	White		New Canaan	Wilton	Inflam <sup>n</sup> Brain

## Births, Marriages, and Deaths, Monroe, CT, 1847-1852

Harlan R. Jessup

Monroe's vital records as reported by school district committeemen from August 1847 until August 1851, are bound in a volume labeled Births, Marriages, Deaths, 1847-1864. Some districts appear to be missing for some of these years. Using the same form and bound in the same volume, though not included here, are records from October 1852 to December 1864. This latter group omits the designation of school district. There is no index for this volume, but the latter group is in chronological order for the town as a whole. It is more easily searchable and is not included in this transcription. No vital records for Monroe are found from August 1851 to October 1852.

### Births, Monroe, CT, 1847-1852

\* School Districts: 1 – Center, 2 – Eastern, 3 – Stepney, 4 – Birdsey's Plain, 5 – Elm Street, 6 – Cutler's Farm, 7 – Walker's Farm , 8 – Fool's Hatch.

Dist.*	Date	Surname	Given Name	Names of Parents	Age	Color	Occupation	Residence
3	Sep 1850	Beard	Emeline	Elam Beard Minerva "		White	Farmer	Monroe
1	Jul 1851	Beardslee	Agnes M.	Elisha E. Beardslee [blank]		White	Farmer	Monroe
2	5 Sep 1850	Beardslee	Clarke S.	Stephen Beardslee Jane "	25 to 30	White	Farmer	Monroe
2	16 Jan 1849	Beardslee	Harriett	Stephen Beardslee Jane Mariah "	26 26	White "	Farmer	Monroe
1	29 May 1849	Beardslee	no name female	Elisha E. Beardslee Sary Ann "		White "	Farmer	Monroe
1	6 Nov [1849]	Beardslee	Pair of twins male & female	Eli D. Beardslee Caroline "		White "	Blacksmith	Monroe
4	25 Aug 1847	Beers	No name	Legrand J. Beers	29 25	White "	Farmer	Trumbull



<b>Dist.*</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Surname</b>	<b>Given Name</b>	<b>Names of Parents</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Color</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Residence</b>
3	Jun 1851	Benedict	Mary S.	Luke Benedict Mary "		White	Hatter	Monroe
5	1 Mar 1851	Bennett	Elmcy [?] S.	Eli G. Bennett Minerva "		White	Farmer	Monroe
1	5 Jul 1849	Bennett	no name female	Judson Bennett Jenett "		White "	Taylor	Monroe
3	20 Jul 1849	Bennett	Susan	John C. S. Bennett Sarah M. "	38 38	White "	Boot maker	Trumbull
3	16 May 1851	Bennett	William H.	John C. S. Bennett Sarah "		White	Boot maker	Trumbull
5	9 Jun 1848	Booth	Still born male	Elisha Booth Susan "		White "	Shoe maker	Elm St. Disrict
2	16 Jan 1849	Bronson	Ann Eliza	Miles Bronson Eunice "	27 27	White "	Farmer	Monroe
4	8 Oct 1847	Burr	Sarah S.	Handford Burr Clarissa J. "	43 36	White "	Tailor	Monroe
4	10 Dec [1849]	Burritt	No name girl	Isaiah Burritt Mary "	32 22	White "	Boot maker	Monroe
4	3 Jul 1851	Burritt	No name male	George Burritt Susan "	35	White	Joiner	Monroe
3	22 Jan 1850	Burton	Francis	James P. Burton Catharine "	23 20	White "	Hat manufacture	Monroe
2	24 Jun 1849	Cargill	No name boy	Arnold Cargill Agness A. "	39 38	White "	Garment [?] manufacturer	Monroe
2	24 Oct 1850	Cargill	No name female	Foster M. Cargill Jane "	36 to 37	White	Manufacturer	Monroe
2	7 Feb 1849	Cargill	No name girl	Foster Cargill Arnold "	35 34	White "	Manufacturer of cloths	Monroe

Dist.*	Date	Surname	Given Name	Names of Parents	Age	Color	Occupation	Residence
2	1 Mar 1849	Clarke	Jane Eliza	Wait Clarke Mary Jane "	36 26	White "	Farmer	Monroe
2	1 May 1850	Clarke	No name female	Wait Clarke Mary "	30 to 35	White	Farmer	Monroe
3	15 Jul 1848	Clingan	Lydia	Thomas Clingan Arselia Sharp	40 28	White "	Labourer	Stepney
3	20 Jan 1848	Corning	Granville	David Corning Polly Parmelee	54 42	White "	Carpenter & Joiner	Stepney
3	25 Jul 1850	Corning	Moses	David Corning Sally "	56 43	White "	Carpenter	Monroe
8	8 Jul 1848	Curtis	2 children, no name	John Curtis Mary "	21 22	White "	Farmer	Elm Street
8	13 Jun 1848	Curtis	Mary B.	Henry S. Curtis Mary E. H. "	50 27	White "	Farmer	Elm Street
5	29 Apr 1850	Curtiss	No name male	John Curtiss Mary "		White		Monroe
3	22 Jan 1848	Dann	John	Patrick Dann [blank] Rose	32 26	White "	Laborer	Stepney
3	Dec 1849	Dunn	Eliza	Patrick Dunn Rose "	35 32	White "	Wood sawyer	Monroe
3	Dec 1850	Edwards	Adeline	Charles Edwards Sarah "		White	Joiner	Monroe
3	31 Jan 1848	Edwards	George	George T. Edwards Hannah Hemingway	31 29	White "	Painter	Stepney
4	7 Feb [1850]	Edwards	Julius H.	Albert Edwards Viola "	45 42	White "	Laborer	Easton
4	13 Aug 1848	Elwood	Elisabeth	George Elwood Eliza "	24 24	White "	Days workman	Monroe

<b>Dist.*</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Surname</b>	<b>Given Name</b>	<b>Names of Parents</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Color</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Residence</b>
1	22 Jul 1849	Freeman	no name female	Reuben Freeman Frances S. "		Black "		Monroe
4	15 Nov [1849]	Hall	No name girl	Hanford Hall Lois "	42 41	White "	Carpenter	Monroe
3	9 Sep 1847	Hawley	Charles Henry	Plumb Hawley Antha Payne	32 29	White "	Shoemaker	Stepney
4	9 Dec 1847	Hayes	George W.	Asa Hayes Betsey "	59 41	White "	Farmer	Monroe
4	3 Feb 1848	Hubbell	Eliot B.	David B. Hubbell Sarah A. "	21 22	White "	Boot Maker	Monroe
4	22 Sep 1850	Hubbell	Sarah M.	David Hubbell Sarah "	24	White	Boot maker	Monroe
4	13 Nov 1850	Hull	Laura E.	Hanford Hull Louisa "	45	White	House joiner	Monroe
1	Sep 1850	Hurd	Julia C.	Frederick G. Hurd [blank]		White	Hatter	Monroe
1	29 Apr 1851	Hurd	Samuel S.	Samuel S. Hurd [blank]		White	Merchant	Danbury
3	1 Mar 1850	Johnson	Charles	Charles Johnson Susan "	44 22	White "	Miller	Newtown
2	14 Aug 1850	Johnson	Mary	John R. Johnson Elizabeth "	30 to 35	White	Farmer	Monroe
3	1 Aug 1849	Johnson	No name	Harman Johnson Mary "	40 29	White	Taylor	Monroe
4	17 Oct 1848	Joice	Charles F.	Andrew Joice Betsey "	25 25	White "	Hatter & bootmaker	Monroe
6	31 Jan 1849	Joice	Emily L.	W <sup>m</sup> B. Joice Polly "	45 40	White "	Mason	Monroe

Dist.*	Date	Surname	Given Name	Names of Parents	Age	Color	Occupation	Residence
6	11 Jun 1851	Joice	No name female	Charles Joice Caroline P. "	22	White	Boot maker	Trumbull
6	23 Apr 1851	Joice	No name male	W <sup>m</sup> B. Joice Polly "	49	White	Mason	Monroe
3	11 Nov 1847	Judson	Charles	Huldah Jackson, widow	34	White		Stepney Dist., Trumbull
3	24 Dec 1849	Judson	John E.	John Judson Augusta "	27 24	White "	Butcher	Trumbull
8	9 Jul 1848	Judson	Sidney	Thompson Judson Julia "	37 30	White "	Mechanic	Elm Street
6	22 Feb 1851	Knapp	Emily	Geo. W. Knapp Laury Ann "	31	White	Waggon maker	Trumbull
4	3 Sep 1850	Lake	Benjamin	George Lake Thankfull "	40	White	Labourer	Monroe
4	15 Nov 1848	Lake	George	George Lake Thankful "	33 28	White "	Days workman	Monroe
4	20 Jun 1849	Leaven- worth	No name male	Eli Leavenworth Sarah A. "	40 33	White "	Agriculturist	Monroe
4	3 Aug 1849	Leaven- worth	No name female	Mark Leavenworth Emeline "	40 36	White "	Merchant	New York
4	5 Aug [1849]	Leaven- worth	Sarah	Mark Leavenworth Emeline "	42 38	White "	Merchant	New York City
1	Oct 1850	Lewis	William G.	Wells Lewis Elizabeth E. "		White	Joiner	Monroe
4	17 Oct 1848	Lyon	Harry B.	Harry Lyon Susan "	33 28	White "	Boot maker	Monroe
3	1 Jul 1850	Mack	John	James Mack Catharine "	43 33	White "	Wood sawyer	Monroe

Dist.*	Date	Surname	Given Name	Names of Parents	Age	Color	Occupation	Residence
3	14(?) Feb 1848	Mack	Joseph	James Mack Catherine [blank]	42 33	White "	Laborer	Stepney
4	5 Sep [1849]	McNail	Charles	James McNail Elisa A. "	46 44	White "	Hatter	Yonkers, NY
4	13 Aug [1849]	Nichols	Boswell	Boswell H. Nichols Jane E. "	28 33	White "	House joiner	Monroe
4	4 Nov 1847	Nichols	Caroline D.	Agur Nichols Hannah C. "	40 34	White "	Farmer	Monroe
4	23 Aug 1850	Nichols	Harry	Agur Nichols Hannah "	45	White	Laborer	Monroe
6	29 Jan 1851	Nichols	Henry P.	Beers Nichols Eliza "	41	White	Laborer	Monroe
4	17 Nov 1847	Nichols	Henry S.	Roswell V. Nichols Jane E. "	27 32	White "	Joiner	Monroe
4	Nov 1850	Nichols	Infant male	Roswell G. Nichols [blank]	30	White	Joiner	Monroe
4	17 Jan [1850]	Nichols	No name girl	J. Spencer Nichols Delia "	24 22	White "	Boot maker	Monroe
4	13 Nov 1848	Nichols	No name male	J. Spencer Nichols Caroline D. "	23 31	White "	Boot fitter	Monroe
4	5 Sep [1849]	Nickerson	No name boy	L. D. Nickerson Hannah "	35 36	White "	Methodist minister	Southbury
6	23 Nov 1848	Norton	Franklin	Cyrus Norton Betsey "	38 40	White "	Day labourer	Monroe
3	[illeg.] 1848	Osborn	Horatio	Charles Osborn Eliza Canfield	33 32	White "	Farmer	Stepney
2	20 Dec 1848	Pan	George, illegitimate	Catharine Pan	18	Black		Monroe

Dist.*	Date	Surname	Given Name	Names of Parents	Age	Color	Occupation	Residence
4	23 Oct 1847	Parks [?]	Eloisa	Loisa Parks [?] widow	31	White		Monroe
4	12 Feb 1848	Peet	Eunice M.	Abel S. Peet Mary A. "	25 24	White "	Farmer	Monroe
4	10 May 1849	Peet	Mary Esther	Abel S. Peet Mary Ann "	26 27	White "	Days workman	Monroe
4	11 Aug 1848	Peet	Sarah E.	Benajah N. Peet Caroline D. "	23 19	White "	Days workman	Monroe
3	22 Feb 1848	Penfield	Esther Jane	W <sup>m</sup> Penfield Jane Johnson	25 25	White "	Carriage maker	Stepney
1	26 Mar 1849	Perkins	Mary Clarke	N. M. Perkins Harriet B. "		White "		Monroe
3	30 May 1850	Platt	George	Allen Platt Harriet "	27 31	White "	Merchant	Monroe
6	29 Jun 1849	Plumb	No name dau.	Joseph Plumb Nancy M. "	43 39	White "	Carpenter	Monroe
3	13 Aug 1848	Porter	Cornelius	J. B. Porter Sylvia Johnson	22 20	White "	Hatter	Stepney
4	8 Jun 1848	Seeley	Mary E.	Nathan W. Seeley Julia "	41 35	White "	Joiner	Monroe
4	9 Feb 1851	Seeley	No name male	W <sup>m</sup> Seeley Julia "	40	White	Joiner	Monroe
6	12 Nov 1849	Sherman	Isaac Edwards	Austin Sherman Charity "	27	White "	Boot Making	Trumbull
6	29 Jan 1850	Sherman	Mary E.	Frederick Sherman Alvira "	30	White "	Farming	Monroe
6	1 Dec 1850	Sherman	No name male	Everett Sherman Caroline "	24	White	Farmer	Trumbull
6	1 May 1849	Sherwood	Matilda E.	Orville Sherwood	23	White	School teacher	Monroe



Dist.*	Date	Surname	Given Name	Names of Parents	Age	Color	Occupation	Residence
				Francis "	22	"		
4	15 Sep 1850	Taylor	Infant female	Orren (?) Taylor Sarah A. "	28	White	Boot maker	Monroe
3	Jun 1851	Tyrrel	Jane	John W. Tyrrel Caroline "		White	Shoe maker	Monroe
3	29 Jul 1849	Tyrrill	No name	George N. Tyrrill Nancy "	38 34	White "	Blacksmith	Monroe
4	1 Jun 1848	Wakelee	Sarah M.	Samuel B. Wakelee [blank]	25 22	White "	Engineer	Monroe
4	9 Feb 1851	Wakeman	W <sup>m</sup> Lester (?)	W <sup>m</sup> Wakeman [blank]	19	White	Schoolteacher	Monroe
4	20 Nov 1847	Walton	Frank	William E. Walton Jane "	26 27	White "	Tailor	Monroe
3	11 Jan 1848	Wheeler	Guadalo- pier [sic]	Burr Wheeler Rebecca Northrup	25 25	White "	Shoemaker	Stepney
2	7 Apr [1850]	Wheeler	Mary S.	Almon Wheeler Eliza "	44	White	Day laborer	Huntington
1	24 Nov [1848]	Whitlock	Sarah Jane	David F. Whitlock Mary C. "		White "	Stone wall layer	Monroe
1	2 Oct 1850	Whitlock	Wilslee(?) A., male	Harmon Whitlock [blank]		White	Farmer	Monroe
3	10 Jun 1848	Wilmington	Hoyt	W <sup>m</sup> Hoyt Lucina Nichols	27 26	White "	Hatter	Stepney

**Marriages, Monroe, CT, 1847-1852**

\* School Districts: 1 – Center, 2 – Eastern, 3 – Stepney, 4 – Birdsey's Plain, 5 – Elm Street, 6 – Cutler's Farm, 7 – Walker's Farm ,  
8 – Fool's Hatch.

Dist.*	Date	Surnames	Given Names	Age	Color	Occupation	Place of Birth	Residence	# of Mar.
1	17 Jun 1849	Beardslee Nichols	Rufus Betsey	33 17	White "		Monroe "	Monroe "	1
5	14 Oct 1849	Bennett Hard	James N. Sylvia M.	19 19	White "	Mechanic	Monroe Trumbull	Sandy Hook Monroe	1 1
1	10 Feb [1850]	Bennett Sherman	Eli G. Minerva	20 18	White "	Farmer	Monroe Monroe	Monroe Monroe	1 1
5	Feb 1850 [recorded twice]	Bennett Sherman	Eli G. Minerva	21 19	White "	Farmer	Monroe Monroe	Monroe Monroe	1 1
4	14 Oct [1849]	Bennett Hurd	James N. Sylvia M.	22 19	White "	Manufacturer School teacher	Newtown Monroe	Newtown Monroe	1 1
1	14 Oct 1850	Betts Botsford	Rev. John H. Mary		White	Minister	Wilton Newtown	New Hartford	1
7	17 Jun 1849	Bishop Morley [?]	Francis G. Phebe	40 44	White "	Minister Teacher	Illinois Monroe		2
1	Nov 1850	Blackman Thompson	Stephen R. Cornelia		White	Hatter	Danbury Monroe	Monroe	1
2	16 Oct 1850	Booth Lewis	David Julia	20	White	Farmer	Huntington Monroe	Huntington	1
5	5 Jul 1851	Booth Beers	Roswell Maryette	40 17	White	Farmer	Monroe Easton	Monroe	1
3	4 Dec 1848	Burton Brisco	James P. Catherine	21 19	White "	Hatter	Trumbull Monroe	Monroe "	1 1
3	11 Feb 1851	Cables Turney	Burr Jane		White	Tailor	Monroe Trumbull	New York	1

Dist.*	Date	Surnames	Given Names	Age	Color	Occupation	Place of Birth	Residence	# of Mar.
5	17 Nov 1847	Curtis Botsford	John	21	White	Farmer	Monroe	Monroe	1
			Mary	22	"		Newtown	"	
6	8 Apr 1851	Curtis Sherman	Charles W.	37	White	Boot maker	Trumbull	Monroe	1
			Rebecca	36			Monroe		
1	20 Dec 1848	Deacon Buckley	John	23	White	Doctor	Monroe	Waterbury	1
			Nancy	24	"			Monroe	
7	15 May 1849	Defore [Dufour] Payne	Joseph W.	20	White	Sadler	France	Bridgeport	1
			Eliza	19	"		Monroe	Monroe	1
2	21 Oct 1849	Edwards Blackman	Charles			Joiner	Monroe	Monroe	1
			Sarah				Monroe	Monroe	1
3	11 Feb 1851	Elwood Reed	Andrew J. Mary A.						1
3	17 Jan 1850	Foote Corning	Francis	27	White	Farming	Monroe	Easton	1
			Amanda	21	"			Monroe	1
1	1 Jan 1851	French Lane	Alfred A. Mary B.		White	Hatter	Seymour Monroe	Monroe	1
3	11 Jun 1848	Gilbert Hawley	Walter	25	White	Painter	Sherman Monroe	Stepney	2
			Elizabeth	21	"			"	1
4	21 Apr [1850]	Hopkins Taylor	William	45	White	Laborer	England	Newtown	2
			Mary Ann	40	"	Hat trimmer	Newtown	Newtown	2
1	Jun 1851	Hubbell Baldwin	Russell L. Jane		White	Hatter	Monroe Huntington	Monroe	1
4	10 Jun [1850]	Hubbell Hubbell	Mark	20	White	Hatter	Monroe	Monroe	1
			Ruth Ann	25	"	Widow	Monroe	Monroe	2
2	16 Nov 1850	Huggins Sommers	James H.	30	White	Daguerro- typist	Oxford Monroe	New Haven	2
			Mary					Monroe	1
1	6 Jan [1850]	Hurd Beardslee	Edwin C.	24	White	Merchant	Monroe Monroe	Monroe	1
			Ann	21	"			Monroe	1

Dist.*	Date	Surnames	Given Names	Age	Color	Occupation	Place of Birth	Residence	# of Mar.
3	28 Mar 1849	Johnson Garmond	Charles	21	White	Miller	Monroe	Monroe	2
			Susan		"		Newtown	"	1
4	29 Dec [1849]	Johnson Durand	Orvill	22	White	Tailor Hat trimmer	Newtown	Monroe	1
			Jane	22	"		Monroe	Monroe	1
6	22 Mar 1851	Johnson French	Hanford	40	White	Tailor	Monroe	Monroe	1
			Janett [?]	37	"		East Haven	"	2
4	13 Jan [1850]	Joyce McNail	Charles	23	White	Boot maker Hat trimmer	Monroe	Trumbull	1
			Catharine	20	"		Monroe	Monroe	1
1	27 Nov 1850	Judd Judson	Charles S. Cornelia		White	Hatter	Danbury Monroe	Danbury	1
3	28 Feb 1849	Judson Turney	John E.	26	White	Butcher	Monroe	Monroe	1
			Julia A.	23	"		Trumbull	"	1
3	Jun 1849	Knapp Tyrill	William	26	White	Hatter	Norwalk	Monroe	1
			Laura [?]	20	"		Trumbull	"	1
1	2 Dec [1849]	Lewis Bennett	Wells H.	20	White	Joiner	Monroe	Monroe	1
			Elizabeth	21	"		Monroe	Monroe	1
4	8 Jun 1851	Lockwood Durand	A. B.	22	White	Boot making Hat trimmer	Reading	Monroe	1
			Julia A.		"		Monroe	"	
4	12 Jun 1848	Lyon Curtiss	Harry	32	White	Boot maker	Monroe	Monroe	2
			Susan	26	"		Trumbull	"	1
4	24 Nov [1849]	Nichols Marsh	Boswell	28	White	House joiner House keeper	Monroe	Monroe	2
			Caroline	21	"		New Milford	Monroe	1
3	7 Jun 1850	Osborn [blank]	Oliver J.	24	White		New Milford		1
			Francis	21	"				
3	1 Apr 1849	Osborn Sinclair	Daniel	29	White	Coach smith	New Milford	Monroe	1
			Mary	23	"		New York	"	1
4	Apr 1851	Patch Staples	Anthony Elizabeth	21	White	Machinist	Newtown	Newtown	1

Dist.*	Date	Surnames	Given Names	Age	Color	Occupation	Place of Birth	Residence	# of Mar.
6	4 Jun 1851	Patterson Goodsell	Nelson B. Betsey	26 24	White	Boot maker	Easton	Trumbull Monroe	1
3	19 Oct 1847	Porter Johnson	J. B. Sylvia	22 20	White "	Hatter	Newtown Stepney	Stepney "	1 1
4	1851	Sears French	Henry Henrietta		White	Dauguerian Seamstress	Monroe	Monroe	1
3	27 May 1849	Sears Lamphear	John Sylvia	22 22	White	Farmer	Monroe Monroe	Monroe "	1 1
3	25 [?] 1847	Sherman Hurd	Dwight Nancy	23 20	White "	Hatter	Monroe Trumbull	Stepney "	1 1
3	6 Oct 1849	Sherman Johnson	Everett Caroline	23 21	White "	Farming	Trumbull	Trumbull	1 1
7	14 Jan 1849	Sherman Sears	Harry B. Mary R.	30 25	White "	Blacksmith	Walkers Farm Walkers Farm	Monroe Monroe	1 1
1	10 Sep 1848	Sherwood Beardslee	Orvill Burton Frances Eliza	24 25	White "		Monroe "	Monroe "	1
3	6 Oct 1850	Sherwood Tyrrel	Nathan C. Clarissa	36 33	White	Tailor Tailoress	Redding Monroe	Easton	2
5	Feb 1850	Silliman Curtiss	Stephen Eliza M.	45 31	White "	Mechanic	Easton Monroe	Bridgeport Monroe	2 1
3	11 Jan 1850	Stebbins Platt	William Huldah	21 18	White "	Carriage maker	New York	Monroe Monroe	1 1
4	28 Oct [1849]	Studwell Combs	Thomas Deborah	43 25	White "	Brick maker	Greenwich Fairfield	Newtown Newtown	2 2
1	25 Dec 1850	Tilford Mallett	Homer F. Frances F.		White	Shoemaker	Somerstown, NY	Monroe	1
4	16 Jun [1850]	Turney Walker	Albert Lucretia	59 64	White "	Farmer Lady of leisure	Easton Weston	Easton Monroe	2 2

<b>Dist.*</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Surnames</b>	<b>Given Names</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Color</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Place of Birth</b>	<b>Residence</b>	<b># of Mar.</b>
4	14 Jul [1850]	Vredenburg Brisco	Peter Amanda	25 18	White "	Carriage maker	New York Monroe	Monroe Monroe	1 1
3	14 Jul 1850	Vredingburg Brisco	Peter Amanda	25 18	White "	Carriage trimmer	New York Monroe	Monroe Monroe	1 1
4	Nov 1850	Wheeler Hubbell	John Ann E.		White	Hatter Hat trimmer	Monroe	Monroe	1
2	10 Jan 1849	Wheeler Curtiss	Almon Eliza	43 30	White "		New Milford Monroe	Oxford	1
4	24 Dec [1849]	Whitlock Smith	Harmon Mary E.	32 25	White "	Laborer Servant girl	Monroe Derby	Monroe Monroe	1 1



### Deaths, Monroe, CT, 1847-1852

\* School Districts: 1 – Center, 2 – Eastern, 3 – Stepney, 4 – Birdsey's Plain, 5 – Elm Street, 6 – Cutler's Farm, 7 – Walker's Farm ,  
8 – Fool's Hatch.

Dist.*	Date	Surname	Given Name	Age	Color	Occupation	Place of Birth	Residence	Cause
5	22 Jul 1848	[blank]	no name	14 days			Monroe	Elm Street	unknown
6	29 Sep 1848	Adams	Jedidiah	42	White	Hatter	Redding	Monroe	Consumption
2	16 Apr 1848	Beardslee	Smith	37	White	Shoemaker	Newtown	Monroe	Fever
5	18 Nov 1849	Beardslee	Abel	32	White	Farmer	Monroe	Monroe	Typhus fever
4	29 Dec [1849]	Beardslee	James	30	White	Farmer	Monroe	Monroe	Congestive fever
1	13 Mar 1849	Bennitt	Eliza Ann 2 <sup>nd</sup> Wife of Charles Bennitt	29	White		Monroe	Monroe	Bilious Fever
1	18 Feb 1849	Bevans	John	54	White	Hatter	Portland, CT	Monroe	Jaundice
4	16 Jul 1851	Blackman	Mrs. Stephen	78	White	Housewife	Weston	Monroe	Lung fever
5	31 Jan 1849	Booth	Elijah S.	70	White	Farmer	Monroe	Monroe	Erysipelas
5	2 Nov 1849	Booth	Lucius	59	White	Farmer	Monroe	Monroe	
2	3 Nov 1847	Bostwick	Francis	20	White		Monroe	Monroe	Brain fever
1	20 Oct 1848	Buckley	Sarah J.	18	White		Monroe	Monroe	Consumption
6	17 Mar 1849	Burritt	George H.	3	White		Monroe	Monroe	Scarlet fever
1	9 Sep 1848	Clarke	William	73	White	Farmer	Monroe	Monroe	Dysentary
2	20 Sep 1848	Clarke	James	74	White	Farmer	Monroe	Monroe	Dropsey
3	26 Feb 1849	Curtiss	Horace	33	White	Tailor	Monroe		Consumption
2	21 Mar 1848	Curtiss	Charles	61	White	Farmer	Monroe	Monroe	Measels
3	10 Nov 1850	Curtiss	Larina	48	White	Housewife	Southbury	Monroe	Consumption
2	6 Apr 1850	Downs	Ann E.	19	White	Seamstress	Monroe	Monroe	Consumption
3	5 Oct 1847	Edwards	Adaline	20	White	Seamstress	Stepney	Stepney	Fever

Dist.*	Date	Surname	Given Name	Age	Color	Occupation	Place of Birth	Residence	Cause
3	22 Feb 1848	Edwards	Mariah	32	White	Seamstress	Stepney	Stepney	Consumption
4	4 Apr 1851	Edwards	Levi	60	White	Merchant	Trumbull	Monroe	Diabetes
5	31 Jan 1849	Ely	Anna	91	White	Lady	Monroe	Monroe	Lung fever
1	23 Aug [1849]	Ely	Harriet	25	White	Scholar	Huntington	Monroe	Consumption
3	17 Apr [1850]	French	Ruth	62	White		Monroe	Monroe	Strangulated hernia
1	4 Dec [1849]	French	Mary C.	27	White	Seamstress	Roxbury	Monroe	Typhus fever
6	1 Nov 1850	French	Mariah	37	White	Housewife	Monroe	Trumbull	Lung fever
3	24 Nov [1849]	Gilbert	Elizabeth	22	White		Monroe	Bridgeport	Pulmonary consumption
7	16 Jun 1849	Graham	Deborah	73	White			Not known	Fall from waggon
1	4 Jul 1849	Hard	Miss Betsey	78	White	Nurse		Huntington	Fit
1	25 Feb 1849	Hawley	Sally Ruth	78	White			Monroe	
6	21 Nov 1848	Hawley	Melisant Ann	37	White		Sherman, CT	Monroe	Consumption
6	6 Aug 1851	Hawley	Thomas	92	White	Farmer	Trumbull	Trumbull	Old age
4	28 Mar 1848	Hubbell	Harvey	18	White	Boot maker	Monroe	Monroe	Shot
4	2 Apr 1848	Hubbell	Billy	89	White	Blacksmith	Weston	Monroe	Old age
4	15 May [1850]	Hubbell	Truman B.	22	White	Hatter	Monroe	Monroe	Consumption
4	12 Jun 1851	Hubbell	Ezra	65	White	Laborer	Huntington	Monroe	Consumption
5	23 Oct 1850	Jenkins	Hezekiah	21	White	Farmer	Monroe	Monroe	Typhus fever
1	20 Sep 1848	Judson	Permelia, wife of John C. Judson	21	White		Wilton	Monroe	Consumption
2	25 Sep 1848	Judson	Samuel	29	White	Mason	Newtown	Monroe	Disentary
2	15 Apr 1850	Lewis	Cornelia	14	White		Monroe	Monroe	
4	25 Nov 1847	Lyon	Polly	27	White		Trumbull	Monroe	Consumption
1	Apr 1851	McAulley	Ann		White	None	Brooklyn, NY	Monroe	Old age

Dist.*	Date	Surname	Given Name	Age	Color	Occupation	Place of Birth	Residence	Cause
4	19 Nov [1849]	McNail	Marcellus J.	18	White	Hatter	Monroe	Monroe	Cholera dysentary
4	17 Sep 1847	McNeal	Susan	7	White		Monroe	Monroe	Croup
3	5 Oct 1847	Nichols	John	32	White	Merchant	Monroe	Stepney	Fever
4	9 Oct 1847	Nichols	Esther	63	White		Trumbull	Monroe	Fits
6	7 Jun 1850	Nichols	Ann Eliza	5	White		Monroe	Cutlers Farm	Brain affection
4	14 Aug [1849]	Nichols	Jane E.	33	White	Housewife	Easton	Monroe	Fit
6	17 Sep 1849	Plumb	female	8 wks	White		Monroe	Cutlers Farm	
6	24 Feb 1851	Plumb	Harriet M.	7	White	None	Monroe	Monroe	Lung fever
2	9 Aug 1848	Pope	Lewis	81	White	Farmer	Monroe	Monroe	Old age
5	11 Dec 1850	Roberts	John B.	68	White	Mechanic	Monroe	Monroe	[illeg.]
7	3 Jul 1849	Sears	Frances J.	18 mo.	White		Monroe	Monroe	Scalded
1	23 Mar [1850]	Shelton	Henry F.	21	White	Seaman	Monroe	Monroe	Lung fever
6	7 May 1850	Sherman	Charity	27	White		Trumbull	Cutlers Farm	Fits
6	18 Mar 1850	Sherman	Hepsey [sic]	96	White		Monroe [sic]	Cutlers Farm	Old age
1	Oct 1850	Sherwood	Roswell S.	72	White	None	Newtown	Monroe	Typhus fever
5	7 Nov 1849	Stoddard	Paulina	83	White		Monroe	Monroe	Old age
4	15 Jun [1850]	Turney	Joel	73	White	Farmer	Fairfield	Monroe	Rheumatism
3	23 Aug 1848	Tyrrell	Squire	62	White	Blacksmith	Easton	Monroe	Carbuncle
3	4 Jun [1850]	Tyrrell	Annis	72	White		Trumbull	Monroe	Cancer of the breast
4	17 Jun 1848	Wakelee	Sarah M.	22	White		Southbury	Monroe	Child bed fever
3	20 Jun 1849	Wakelee	Ephraim	76	White	Carpenter	Monroe	Monroe	Numb palsy [?]
4	17 Jul 1851	Wakeman	Mrs. Sophiah	24	White	Schoolteacher	Newburg, NY	Newburg, NY	[illeg.]
2	17 May 1850	Wells	Jane A.	31	White		Huntington	Monroe	Erysipylas

## Three Cheers for the One-Page Challenge

Frederick C. Hart Jr., CG, FASG

The invitation to all Connecticut Ancestry Society members to participate in a one-page genealogy and family history writing challenge is an outstanding opportunity for all of us. Thanks to our president and other members of the governing board for inventing it! I would like to offer three cheers and thoughts about how it should help all members to take part.

**Cheer #1** Writing should not be a problem -- it **solves** problems instead. In her book, *Producing a Quality Family History*, Pat Hatcher pointed out that, "It is often the writing process that triggers our analytical skills. Questions almost invariably come to mind as we write up research we did years ago. In fact, it is rare if questions do not come to mind as we write up research we did merely hours ago! **Writing (and the associated mental activity) is the most valuable research tool you can use.**"<sup>[1]</sup> (emphasis added) Also, remember that the present Genealogical Proof Standard includes a requirement for a "soundly reasoned, coherently **written** conclusion."<sup>[2]</sup> (emphasis again added) Our work is not really finished until it has been put into sentences and paragraphs. This challenge gives us all a great way to get started.

**Cheer #2** The challenge recognizes that we all need to be efficient as well as accurate in our writing. In his book, *On Writing Well*, William Zinsser said, "If you give me an article that runs to eight pages and I tell you to cut it to four, you'll howl and say it can't be done. Then you will go home and do it..." (he was speaking to professional writers here) "...and it will be infinitely better. After that comes the hard part: cutting it to three."<sup>[3]</sup> One national genealogical journal has a feature series that has a goal for authors of 2 pages, with a maximum length of 2 ½ pages (including all citations!).<sup>[4]</sup> We should all be able to find countless little chapters of our genealogy that can fit into this one-page format. Not only that, we will be able to (1) get *something* completed, and (2) share our interesting and helpful results with others who have the same interests. What could be better for our progress?

**Cheer #3** My third point has to do with citations and footnotes. Here's an excellent opportunity to get into that issue at last, and on very a manageable scale. Maybe your one-pager will have only one or two or a few footnotes, but they will serve a very useful purpose -- giving your readers leverage to go further into the subject matter on their own if they want. Reference notes are supposed to assist the reader (not to terrorize the writer), so plan to make those reference notes an integral part of your story.

With these three cheers for the project, I urge all Connecticut Ancestry Society members to take up this challenge, at least once, and maybe on a regular basis thereafter! Please get started now, and Happy Writing.

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<sup>1</sup> Patricia Law Hatcher, *Producing a Quality Family History* (Salt Lake City: Ancestry Incorporated, 1996), 21.

<sup>2</sup> Helen F.M. Leary, ed., *The BCG Genealogical Standards Manual* (Washington, DC: Board For Certification of Genealogists, 2000), 1-2.

<sup>3</sup> William Zinsser, *On Writing Well* (New York: Harper & Row, 1976), 18.

<sup>4</sup> "Historic Ancestors," (editorial introduction of the series) *The Genealogist*, 14(Fall 2000), 159.

## Deodate Davenport (1730-1808) of Stamford and New Canaan

Frederick C. Hart Jr., CG, FASG

My mother, Eleanor Frances (Davenport) Hart (1907-2007), decided in 1988 that she wanted to join the DAR, and so we put together an application based upon the patriotic service of her ancestor Deodate Davenport. It was approved, establishing Deodate as a DAR patriot ancestor,<sup>[1]</sup> and she became NSDAR member #718405, joining the Drum Hill Chapter in Wilton. I don't have a list of favorite ancestors, but if I did, Deodate would certainly be included.

**DEODATE<sup>5</sup> DAVENPORT** (*John<sup>4</sup>, Rev. John<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Rev. John<sup>1</sup>*) was born in Stamford 5 January 1729/30,<sup>[2]</sup> and died there 10 March 1808.<sup>[3]</sup> He married (1) at Stamford 16 June 1757 **LYDIA (REED) RAYMOND**,<sup>[4]</sup> born in Norwalk 15 February 1734 [1734/35?],<sup>[5]</sup> died in New Canaan 19 March 1773,<sup>[6]</sup> daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth (Kellogg) Reed and widow of John Raymond,<sup>[7]</sup> married (2) at Stamford 28 September 1774 **ELIZABETH (DAUCHY) JONES**,<sup>[8]</sup> born ca. 1740, died 2 May 1818 "age 78 yrs,"<sup>[9]</sup> daughter of Vivas and (prob.) Rachel (Wallace) Dauchy of Ridgefield, and widow of James Jones.<sup>[10]</sup> His ancestors and his 12 children are well documented elsewhere,<sup>[11]</sup> and will not be covered here in any further detail.

Because of his age, he did not serve in uniform during the Revolutionary War, but he was consistently listed among Stamford's political leaders in support of Independence.<sup>[12]</sup> His younger brother, Lt. Hezekiah Davenport, was killed at the Battle of Ridgefield on 27 April 1777, and Hezekiah's son William applied for bounty land in 1838. Deodate's son Deodate Jr. was only 11 years old in 1777, but provided clear testimony supporting that 1838 application, saying that he had lived with Hezekiah for a short time before his death, "and had the small pox at Hezekiah's house, which was also made an hospital for the soldiers." He also reported that his father personally went to Ridgefield to recover Hezekiah's clothes after the battle.<sup>[13]</sup>

Deodate (Sr.) operated a fulling mill on the Stamford Mill River, near the crossing of Cascade Road. He was still alive when New Canaan was established as a town in 1801, with its formal boundaries described by the Connecticut General Assembly. His mill site became one of the turning points of those boundaries, and therefore the name of Deodate Davenport is honored today as the only personal name that appears in that official boundary description.<sup>[14]</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Ancestor #A029982, NSDAR Genealogical Research System, [http://www.dar.org/library/online\\_research.cfm](http://www.dar.org/library/online_research.cfm)

<sup>2</sup> Stamford Vital Records, 1:20.

<sup>3</sup> Gravestone, North Stamford Cemetery, Hale Collection at the Conn. State Library, Stamford, 146.

<sup>4</sup> Stamford Vital Records, 1:128.

<sup>5</sup> Record on reverse of a title page removed countless decades ago from a family bible published in Edinburgh, England in 1752, now in the writer's possession.

<sup>6</sup> New Canaan Congregational Church Records, 1:59. The entry adds, "in childbed, aged 40."

<sup>7</sup> Samuel E. Raymond, *Raymond Genealogy / Descendants of Richard Raymond* (Seattle, 1969), part 1:95-6.

<sup>8</sup> Stamford Vital Records, 2:77.

<sup>9</sup> Handwritten single page, "A Record of Ages," containing dates for almost all of this family, last event date 31 Oct 1839, in the writer's possession. No other sources for either of her two dates (or places) have been found.

<sup>10</sup> Virginia H. Olsen, "Notes," *Connecticut Ancestry*, 18(September 1975):19.

<sup>11</sup> See, for example, Robert Ralsey Davenport, *Davenport Genealogy* (Bookcrafters, Inc., 1982).

<sup>12</sup> Frederick C. Hart Jr., "Stamford's Patriot Leadership," *Connecticut Ancestry*, 34(November, 1991):51-54.

<sup>13</sup> Deposition of Deodate Davenport (Jr.), NARA Revolutionary War Pension Application File #BLWT2329-200 for Hezekiah Davenport of Connecticut.

<sup>14</sup> *The Public Records of the State of Connecticut* (Hartford: Case Lockwood & Brainerd, 1894- ), 10: 259-61.

## Stories and Keepsakes of the Reuben Wood Family

Robert A. Ferry

Great grandfather Reuben Wood, of all my recent ancestors, left more mementos of his employment and hobbies than any of my other recent ancestors. He was a direct descendant of Samuel Wood, MD, who arrived in Norwalk, Fairfield County, Connecticut, from Manchester, England and settled in Danbury, CT. By 1822 when Reuben was born, his branch of the family had moved to Greenbush, Rensselaer County, NY. But it was just over the state line in Pittsfield, Berkshire County, MA where Reuben and Sylvia Elizabeth Jordan were married in 1848. And it was in Syracuse, New York where Reuben established his catering and pastry shop on the sidewalk level below their second floor apartment. Some of our keepsakes are the platters and plates with "Wood" in large green and gold lettering on the raised edges. These were clearly used when he catered a banquet or luncheon. The ground floor shop sold candies and pastry as well as being the headquarters for the catering business.

Reuben had a hobby, in which he had considerable skill, and which resulted in his receiving national and international recognition. That hobby was flycasting for fish. Our other mementos are two gold medals. One was presented to Reuben in April 1883 by his Syracuse friends and the other was awarded to Reuben at the International Anglers' Tournament held in Great Britain on 11 June 1883 less than a year before his death on 16 February 1884. There is also a large carved rock at the edge of Cranberry Lake, one of the Adirondac lakes, commemorating his American competition wins.

Reuben, like many outdoors people, was bothered by mosquitoes, gnats and other biting insects. So he tested a number of chemicals with strong odors which could be mixed with a salve that could be rubbed on the skin. When he found a satisfactory mix, he sold it in small tins as "Wood's Improved Lollacipop".

Reuben, his family of several generations, and unmarried sister, Olive Wood, traveled eastward from Syracuse by train across New York State each summer so that Reuben could fly cast for fish at Lake George. Olive could and did also paint Lake scenes in oils, and all of the family could avoid the summer heat in Syracuse. We have several of Olive Wood's oil paintings of Lake George including one with a steam paddle wheel boat in the distance. The detail in her paintings reminds me of small pieces of the huge Hudson River area paintings usually associated with the Hudson River school.

Are all the stories true? Reuben's youngest daughter, Mabel, of Pittsfield, MA, and one of her brothers in Syracuse researched the Wood family line. The rest of the stories are based on "family tradition" and the mementos we have. So keepsakes and mementos have an important place in any family history.



## **Bridget (Donahue) Lynch and Ellen (Donahue) Egan of Bridgeport, Conn: Parents Identified through Sibling Research**

Nora Galvin

Some family historians say they are not interested in researching their ancestors' brothers and sisters. But siblings may have left a more complete set of records. Here is a case in point.

Family stories reported that Mary Agnes (Lynch) Conley was born February, 1874, in New York City and died April, 1921, in Bridgeport. Her parents were John Lynch, born in Ireland, and Bridget (\_\_\_?\_\_\_), born about 1848 in Carthage, New York. But who was Bridget (\_\_\_?\_\_\_)?

No birth record was found for Mary Agnes Lynch at the Municipal Archives in New York City. A second child, Robert F., was born to John and Bridget Lynch in Bridgeport 14 October 1875. No maiden name was given for Bridget in this record.<sup>1</sup> John Lynch was not identified in Bridgeport city directories from the 1870s. Mrs. Bridget Lynch appeared in the Bridgeport city directory beginning 1878.<sup>2</sup> Widow Bridget Lynch and her children Mary and Robert were enumerated on the United States census in Bridgeport in 1880.<sup>3</sup>

Bridget Lynch was enumerated with her daughter Mary Agnes (Lynch) Conley and family on the US censuses 1900-1930. Her birthplace was consistently reported as New York, and that of her parents as Ireland.<sup>4</sup> Mary Agnes (Lynch) Conley died 06 April 1921. Her mother's name was given as Bridget Donahue.<sup>5</sup> Bridget Lynch died 08 April 1934. Her death record contained no information about her parents, though her birthplace was given as Carthage, New York,<sup>6</sup> which agreed with the family's story. An obituary named a sister: Mrs. Ellen Egan of Bridgeport.<sup>7</sup>

Ellen Egan was found on the US census in Bridgeport, 1880-1930.<sup>8</sup> She had married Daniel Egan 22 May 1880, but no parent's names were given in the record.<sup>9</sup> Ellen Egan died Christmas Eve, 1936. Her death record stated she had been born in Carthage, New York, and it named her parents as Daniel Donahue and Mary Sullivan, both born in Ireland.<sup>10</sup>

Researching siblings pays off. Without the information from Ellen's death record, Bridget's parents would still be unknown.

<sup>1</sup> Bridgeport Vital Records, Births 1850-1887, p. 122, Robert F. Lynch; McLevy Hall, Bridgeport.

<sup>2</sup> Bridgeport City Directories, 1870-1880, Price and Lee Company, New Haven, Connecticut; p. 149 in 1878.

<sup>3</sup> 1880 US census, Fairfield County, Conn., Bridgeport, population schedule (pop.), p. 575, dwelling 169, family 225, Bridget Lynch.

<sup>4</sup> 1900-1930 US Censuses, Ffld Co., Ct., Bridgeport, pop.: 1900, , p. 244B, dw. 94 , fam. 130; 1910: p. 127, dw. 179, fam. 215, ; 1920: dw. 96, fam. 104; 1930, p. 23B, dw. 47, fam. 95; head of household Thomas Conley.

<sup>5</sup> Bridgeport Vital Records, Deaths January-April 1921, p. 517, Mary A. Lynch Conley.

<sup>6</sup> Bridgeport Vital Records, Deaths April 1934, p. 32, Bridget Lynch.

<sup>7</sup> *The Bridgeport Post*, 09 April 1934, p. 21; microfilm at Bridgeport Public Library.

<sup>8</sup> 1880-1930 US Censuses, Fairfield County, Conn., Bridgeport, pop.: 1880: p. 491B, dw. 308, fam. 515; 1900, p. 8A, dw. 117 , fam. 161; 1910: p. 178, dw. 76, fam. 123; 1920: p. 70, dw. 76, fam. 154; 1930: p. 161B, dw. 142, fam. 306; head of household 1880-1900 Daniel Egan, 1900-1920 Ellen Egan; 1930 Julia Johnson.

<sup>9</sup> Bridgeport Vital Records, Marriages 1871-1893, p. 148, Egan-Donahue.

<sup>10</sup> Bridgeport Vital Records, Deaths, December 1936, p. 147, Ellen M. Egan.

## **Allen C. Bradley, M. D.: An African-American Physician in Bridgeport, CT, in the Early Twentieth Century**

Nora Galvin

The birth records of two African-American babies, one born in Bridgeport and the other born in Stratford, but delivered by the same doctor, brought about the discovery of an African-American physician who practiced medicine in Bridgeport from 1903 until his death in 1945.

Allen Christopher Bradley was born in Beaufort, Beaufort County, South Carolina, to Samuel Bradley and Hannah Means.<sup>1</sup> Conflicting information places his birth year between 1869 and 1879.<sup>2</sup>

The Bradley family was found on the United States census in Beaufort in 1870 and 1880. In 1870 Samuel, 30, and Hannah, 19, Bradley, both born in South Carolina, were enumerated with three little girls aged 2-5, and Allen, 4 months. The appearance of Allen on this census leads to the conclusion that he was born no later than 1870, possibly in November, 1869, since November was consistently given as his birth month in later years. Although no documentation was sought, given their race and ages, Samuel and Hannah likely were former slaves. The family apparently lived in a rural area since Samuel's occupation was "farming," and the other men on the page, all African-American, had either "farming" or "laborer" as occupations. No one on the page had real or personal estates, and no one was able to write, though a few children were able to read.<sup>3</sup>

Samuel Bradley was not enumerated with the family in 1880, and Hannah Bradley was recorded as a widow living on Church Street in Beaufort. Five daughters and son Allen, 11, were living with her. Hannah was employed as a laundress, one daughter as a child's nurse, and another as a house servant. Allen had attended school in the census year. He was able to read, but not able to write, according to this record.<sup>4</sup>

Allen C. Bradley of South Carolina was enrolled in the Preparatory Department of Lincoln University in the 1888-1889 school year. This department fulfilled the same purpose that prep schools do today: it prepared students for college. Courses of study included Bible, spelling, reading, writing, geography, arithmetic, grammar, history, Latin and Greek.<sup>5</sup> Allen Bradley was a

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<sup>1</sup> City of New York, Brooklyn, Certificate 3196, Bradley-Carraway marriage, New York Municipal Archives.

<sup>2</sup> Draft registration card for Allen Christopher Bradley, S. N. 1735, 12 Sep 1918, Bridgeport, Fairfield, Conn.; "World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918," database, Ancestry.com (www.ancestry.com (URL not repeated hereafter)) accessed 17 Feb 2008. This record reports 29 November 1876. Draft registration card for Allen Christopher Bradley, S. N. 1347, 27 April 1942, Bridgeport, Fairfield, Conn.; "World War II Draft Registration Cards, 1942," database, Ancestry.com, accessed 17 Feb 2008; reported birth date 29 November 1879. State of Conn., Dept. of Public Health (DPH), death record for Allen C. Bradley, d 11 April 1945; microfilm D178, Frame 1273, DPH Vital Statistics Office, Hartford. This record says he was born 01 November 1875.

<sup>3</sup> 1870 US Census Beaufort County, South Carolina (S. C.), population schedule (pop., hereafter), Beaufort, p. 57 (stamped), dwelling 994, family 1075, Samuel Bradley household; digital image, Ancestry.com, accessed 07 March 2008; citing NARA microfilm publication M593, Roll 1485.

<sup>4</sup> 1880 US Census Beaufort Co., S. C., pop., Beaufort, p. 19 (stamped), dwelling 329, household 427, Hannah Bradley; digital image, Ancestry.com, accessed 29 July 2010; citing Family History Library microfilm 1,255,221.

<sup>5</sup> Lincoln University (LU) catalog, 1889-1890, p. 24, Philadelphia: Jas. B. Rodgers Printing Co.; <http://www.lincoln.edu/library/specialcollections/CATALOGUES/1888-89.pdf>. According to Wikipedia, Lincoln University, founded in 1854, was the first university created for educating African-Americans.

member of the freshman class at Lincoln the following year<sup>6</sup> and of the senior class in 1892-1893.<sup>7</sup> Other pages in these Lincoln University catalogs provide context for Allen Bradley's educational experience. Costs, curricula and guidelines for students are detailed.

Allen Bradley has not been identified on the 1900 U. S. census. He graduated from the New York Homeopathic College, forerunner of New York Medical College, in 1901 when the campus was in Manhattan, and was accepted as a practitioner on 14 July 1903 after approval by the Homeopathic Medical Examination Board.<sup>8</sup> He married Bertha Carraway 29 April 1902 in Brooklyn, New York. She had been born in Wilmington, North Carolina, about 1882.<sup>9</sup>

Dr. Bradley first appeared in the Bridgeport City Directory in 1904. His home and office were at 61 Elm Street,<sup>10</sup> a block south of the current city hall. In 1910, Samuel Talbird, nephew, age 22, born in South Carolina, was living with the Bradleys at 107 Fulton Street and working for Dr. Bradley as a chauffeur.<sup>11</sup> No Fulton Street exists in Bridgeport today; it ran between Main St. and Harrison in the same general area as Elm Street.<sup>12</sup>

Ten years later Allen and Bertha Bradley were living at 55 Highland Avenue. The original house is no longer at this site which is near the intersection of Washington Street. Houses next to this address are Queen Anne Victorian-style homes. The Bradleys stayed at this address, which was both a home and an office for Dr. Bradley, for the next 25 years.<sup>13</sup>

The 1920 census also revealed that Samuel Talbird continued to drive for Dr. Bradley, and that Edna Martin, 14, and Frank Martin, 7, were living with the family. The youngsters' relationships were "niece" and "nephew," and since their parents had been born in North Carolina, they were likely related to Bertha Bradley. The Bradleys' neighbors were mainly Russian Jews with children born in the United States or people from other states. There was one family with Connecticut roots, and only one other family on the page was black.<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> LU catalog, 1889-90, p. 14; <http://www.lincoln.edu/library/specialcollections/CATALOGUES/1889-90.pdf>.

<sup>7</sup> LU catalog, 1892-93, p. 11; <http://www.lincoln.edu/library/specialcollections/CATALOGUES/1892-93.pdf>.

<sup>8</sup> State of Connecticut, DPH, Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Section, record for Allan [sic] Christopher Bradley, photocopy received from Maritsa Morales, Licensing and Applications Analyst. Information about the medical school: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New\\_York\\_Medical\\_College](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_York_Medical_College).

<sup>9</sup> Bradley-Carraway marriage, New York.

<sup>10</sup> Bradley, Allen C., *Bridgeport City Directory, 1904*, Bridgeport: Price & Lee Co.; Bridgeport Public Library, Historical Collection, (HC hereafter) Broad Street.

<sup>11</sup> 1910 US Census, Fairfield County, Conn., pop., Bridgeport, District 7, p. 124 (stamped), dwelling 49, family 73, A. C. Bradley; digital image, Ancestry.com, accessed 23 Feb 2007; citing NARA microfilm T624, Roll 1209. Also, Samuel Talbird, p. 493, *Bridgeport City Directory, 1910*, Bridgeport: Price & Lee Co.; "Connecticut City Directories," database, Ancestry.com, accessed 28 June 2011.

<sup>12</sup> *Bridgeport City Directory, 1910*, street listings section, p. 11.

<sup>13</sup> 1920 US Census, Fairfield County, Conn., pop., Bridgeport, p. 176 (stamped), dwelling 161, family 405, Allen C. Bradley; digital image, Ancestry.com, accessed 21 Feb 2007; citing NARA microfilm T625, Roll 1806. Also, the death record for Allen C. Bradley gave his residence as 55 Highland Avenue.

<sup>14</sup> 1920 US Census, Fairfield County, Conn., pop., Bridgeport, Allen C. Bradley.

In 1930 Allen Bradley had two employees living in his home. His niece Edna Martin was a chiropodist in his office; he also employed a live-in maid. The neighborhood around the Bradley home was occupied mostly by Italian immigrants at that time.<sup>15</sup>

Dr. Bradley was a member of the Selective Service Appeals board during World War II. Local children liked him because he handed out candy to them.<sup>16</sup> He died 11 April 1945 and was buried in Mountain Grove Cemetery, survived by his wife, a sister and some nieces and nephews.<sup>17</sup>

This short biography of Allen Bradley leaves a number of questions unanswered. What was his early life like in Beaufort? How had he gotten himself to Lincoln University? What made him move to Bridgeport to practice medicine? How did his race affect his medical practice? Though he lived in mixed-race neighborhoods, was his practice restricted to African-Americans? No matter what the answers may be, he had travelled a long way from his South Carolina roots, away from the likely slavery and poverty of his ancestors and into the twentieth century as a pioneering professional man.

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<sup>15</sup> 1930 US Census, Fairfield Co., Conn., pop., Bridgeport, District 7, p.38 (stamped), dwelling 46, family 138, Allen C. Bradley; digital image, Ancestry.com, accessed 17 February 2008; NARA microfilm T626, Roll 321.

<sup>16</sup> Obituary for Allen C. Bradley, *The Bridgeport Post*, Bridgeport, Conn., 12 April 1945, 2:5; microfilm, HC.

<sup>17</sup> Death record for Allen C. Bradley. Also, survivor information from a 2<sup>nd</sup> obituary, *The Bridgeport Post*, 13 April 1945, 30:6.

## Three Ancestors and the Smallpox Scourge

Priscilla Noyes Chatfield

Today the disease of smallpox has been eradicated. We no longer have to fear its terrible effects, as our ancestors did. Three of my husband's maternal direct ancestors from Connecticut, all of whom were serving either in the Colonial Wars or in the Revolutionary War, were infected with smallpox. One died, one sustained permanent disability, and one recovered.

Lt. John Hubbell was born ca 1652 in West Haven, CT and died in 1690 at Wood Creek [near Albany], NY. At the time of his death, he was a resident of Stratford, CT. John served in King Phillip's War 1675-1676, where he was wounded losing a finger.<sup>1</sup> In 1678, he received a colonial grant of 100 acres, probably in the White Hills section of Stratford, as compensation.<sup>2</sup> In 1690, following the Schenectady massacre during the French and Indian War, John received his commission for the Albany expedition from Governor Robert Treat of CT. The army was returning to Albany, when John died of smallpox and was buried at Wood Creek in full uniform.<sup>3</sup> A stone with the year of his death was placed on his grave. An enemy Indian tribe dug up his body and took his uniform for their use. This resulted in about half the tribe dying of smallpox. A great-great grandson, Hezekiah Hubbell, narrated as follows: "The clergy made good use of the horrible catastrophe and many sermons are said to have been preached based on his untimely death."<sup>4</sup>

Captain Ethel Keeney was born 17 March 1755, the first white child born at the "Landing" in Derby, CT. He died 4 October 1837 and was buried in the Old Episcopal Grave-Yard in Derby. He was a sea captain and, in later years, kept Kinney's Tavern. His Revolutionary War pension papers document his serving from 1776 to 1779 in the militia, as a Quartermaster Sergeant, and as a sea captain transporting troops.<sup>5</sup> In March 1777, he was detached from his Company at Saw Pits to proceed to Milford to take possession of a Privateer down to Saw Pits. He contracted smallpox, was left behind, and in May returned home to Derby. He appears to have made a full recovery, as he later served as a guard for arrested traitors and marched to New Haven and Fairfield to guard the coast in July 1779.

Doctor Silas Baldwin was born 4 April 1729 in Waterbury, CT. He died 19 November 1813 and is buried in the Old Derby-Uptown Burying Ground. He had a medical practice as a surgeon in Ridgefield and Derby, CT. By tradition, he was a surgeon of celebrity. He served as a Surgeon's Mate in Col. Lyman's Regiment in the French and Indian Wars 1757-1758. He enlisted in the Revolutionary War in June 1776 under Gen. Humphrey serving in the 1776 New York campaign, and in the battles of Long Island, New York, White Plains, and Stony Point. Connecticut Archives says Silas was sent to the hospital March 1778 to treat smallpox, which settled in one eye causing great pain and loss of the eye.<sup>6</sup> He was discharged at Stony Point as unfit for duty 22 November 1779 and awarded 40 pounds by the State Assembly in May 1785. A list of pension claimants, submitted to the House of Representatives by the Secretary of War 25 in April 1794, says Silas fell ill with smallpox by which he lost one of his eyes, after he was inoculated by general orders.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Donald Lines Jacobus, *History and Genealogy of the Families of Old Fairfield*, (New Haven County: Tuttle, Morehouse, and Taylor Co., 1932), Vol. I, 302.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, *Families of Old Fairfield*, 302. *Colonial Records of Connecticut*, Vol. III, 6.

<sup>3</sup> Walter Hubbell, *History of the Hubbell Family*, (New York: J. H. Hubbell & Co., 1881), Biographical Sketches, 29-32. Nathaniel B. Sylvester, *History of Saratoga County, New York*, (1878), Chapter X.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, *Hubbell Family*.

<sup>5</sup> The author has a copy of the National Archives Pension Papers, #5813.

<sup>6</sup> Connecticut Archives: Series I 27 & 28, Ct State Library, Hartford, CT.

<sup>7</sup> Heritage Quest, Revolutionary War Image, Series: M805 Roll: 44 Image: 260 File: X34.

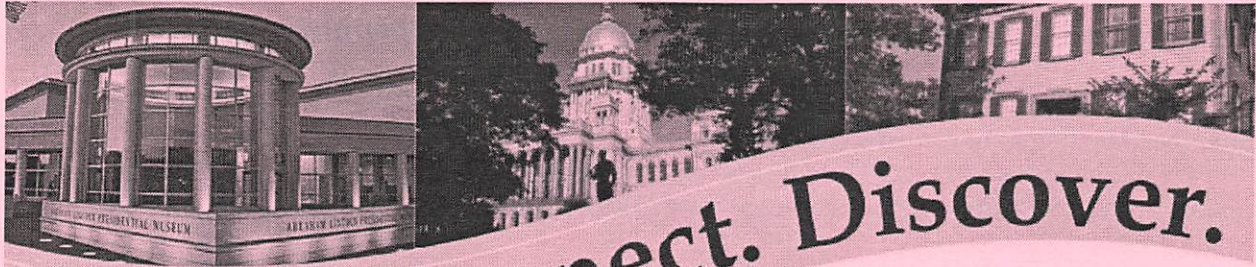
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**112 OSBORN** — Looking for the maiden name of Sarah, second wife of John Osborn (Richard, David, Richard). John was born in 1704 in East Chester, NY; died before 23 May 1767, when his will was proven in Salem, NY. John's first wife was Patience Killum. Their children were born in Ridgefield, CT. Both wives and children were mentioned in John's will of 7 June 1754, written in Salem, NY. Children by Sarah were Richard (b. ca 1751 in Salem, d. 1837 in Pittsfield, MA) and David (b. ca 1753 in Salem?). No divorce from Patience has been found. Seek information and documentation on second marriage.

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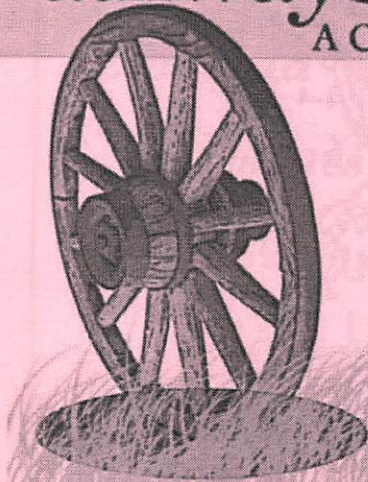
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Saturday, 10 September 2011, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm, two genealogy lectures  
Stamford Historical Society, 1508 High Ridge Road, Stamford, CT

#### **10:00 am      Beginning Your Genealogy**

We will review the key terms, sources and methodologies for researching a family tree. Perfect for beginners and those needing a refresher. Find your personal connections throughout history by joining the #1 hobby!

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Find distant cousins who are collaborating with each other, just an “e-mail” away. See how to establish connections from around the world with dynamic, work-in-progress, publishing of your own tree on the Internet.

### October Meeting at our Northern Hub:

Saturday, 1 October 2011, 10:30 am to 12:00 noon  
Danbury Public Library, 170 Main Street, Danbury, CT

**Roundtable discussion** of genealogy research. Bring stories of your successes and questions about difficulties you are having.

### November Meeting at our Eastern Hub:

Saturday, 12 November 2011, 10:30 am to 12:00 noon  
Trumbull Public Library, 33 Quality Street, Trumbull, CT

#### **Maureen Taylor, nationally known specialist on old photographs**

Maureen’s exact topic will be announced in September. Watch our Web site.

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### **GENEALOGY ROUNDTABLES** – Hosted by Rod McKenzie and Bill Stansfield

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Call 203 259-0346.

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month, 12:30 to 1:30 pm at the Bridgeport Public Library, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor.

4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month, 1:00 to 2:00 pm at the Fairfield Senior Center.

### **CONNECTICUT SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS** – [www.csginc.org](http://www.csginc.org)

**October 15** – Family History Seminar – Beyond the Borders (registration required, see website)

### **GENEALOGY CLUB of NEWTOWN** – [www.rootsweb.com/~ctgcnc/](http://www.rootsweb.com/~ctgcnc/) – 7:00 pm at Booth Library

**September 14** – Penny Hartzell – Using the Family History Center and [FamilySearch.org](http://FamilySearch.org)

**October 12** – Jolene Mullen – Researching Revolutionary War Era Genealogy Records

**November 9** – Nora Galvin – Where Did Our Ancestors Go?: Migration from CT before 1850.

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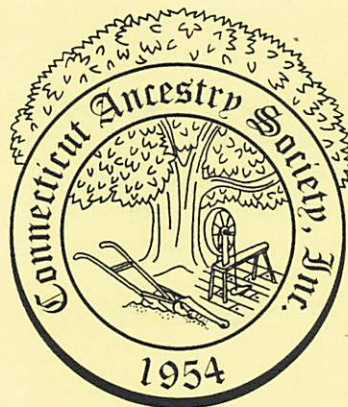
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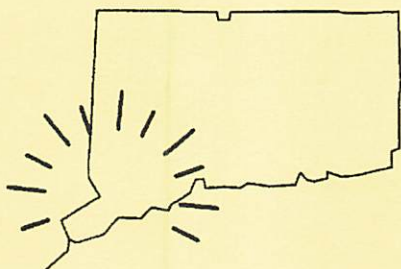
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**Don't forget  
THE ONE-PAGE CHALLENGE!**

We are still looking for your short articles related to families and early life and times in our neck of the woods. These can be about one or two generations with connections well known or still undiscovered. They can be about early life in this area or about the places the immigrants came from or where they moved to. Check out the three short articles in this issue.

If you're unsure about format or documentation, send a draft to your editor, Harlan Jessup at [hjessup@charter.net](mailto:hjessup@charter.net), and I'll be glad to work with you on it.

**Genealogy Events Schedule  
2011 and 2012**

**CONNECTICUT ANCESTRY SOCIETY – [www.connecticutancestry.org](http://www.connecticutancestry.org)**

**February 4, 2012** – 10 am at Stamford Historical Society – Roundtable discussion.\*

**March 3** – 10 am at Danbury Public Library – Harlan Jessup – Tracing your Civil War Ancestors.

**April 21** – 10 am at Trumbull Public Library – Roundtable discussion.\*

**GENEALOGY ROUNDTABLES** – Hosted by Rod McKenzie and Bill Stansfield

2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month, 10 to 11 am at Pequot Library, Southport. Reservations required.

Call 203 259-0346.

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month, 12:30 to 1:30 pm at the Bridgeport Public Library, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor.

4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month, 1:00 to 2:00 pm at the Fairfield Senior Center.

**CONNECTICUT SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS – [www.csginc.org](http://www.csginc.org)**

**January 21** – Workshop – How I Solved my Brick Wall Problems

**February 18** – Edwin W. Strickland – Using Ancestry.com for Genealogical Research

**April 21** – Tom Howard – Solving Brick Walls to Your Irish Ancestors

**GENEALOGY CLUB of NEWTOWN – [www.rootsweb.com/~ctgcnc/](http://www.rootsweb.com/~ctgcnc/)**

Meets 7:00 pm at C. H. Booth Library, Newtown

**January 11** – Roundtable

**February 8** – Harlan Jessup - Researching Civil War Era Genealogy Records

**March 14** – Toni McKeen - Cases that Made My Eyes Cross

**WESTCHESTER COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY – [www.rootsweb.com/~nywcgs](http://www.rootsweb.com/~nywcgs)**

**December 10** – Patrick Raferty – The Cemeteries of Westchester County

**January 14** – Nora Galvin – Special Schedules of the U. S. Census

**February 11** – Tony Lauriano – Overcoming the Brick Walls in Your Research

**\*Roundtables can be fun!**

Have you made a recent genealogical discovery, or are you working on an interesting project? Come and share your case with others in the genealogical community. All will be interested and someone might have an idea to help solve the case.



## Editorial Notes

If your journal is a little bit late, you can blame the weather! The editor's house was without lights, heat and water for seven days beginning October 30, and the treasurer, who helps with final formatting of the journal, was in the dark for a similar period. Nevertheless, we hope you will be pleased with this issue.

We begin with a continuation of Kenneth Rockwell's article on the Benjamin Wilson family of Ridgefield, this time with several notable corrections to part 1 of the past issue. This is followed by an exploration by Patricia Reed of the possible parentage of Josiah Canfield of South Salem, NY, building on (and correcting) an article of mine published two years ago in this journal.

We then continue our transcriptions of vital records by school districts for the years 1847 to 1852, first the records from Weston, CT. This is followed by records for just the first year of this period from Redding, Sherman, and Ridgefield, and now found in the State Archives.

Our request for short articles has brought three "good ones" from our readers, Two Benjamin Beldings by Betty Lou Malesky, Hezekiah and Charity Mills by John Drobnicki, and Richard Partrick of Norwalk by Patricia Haslam. If you have an interesting story to tell through one of your ancestors or if you have a continuing puzzle which deserves more than a short paragraph of explanation, please let us have your contribution.

Nora Galvin's review of the final volume of Robert Charles Anderson's magnificent series on the Great Migration has turned into a review of this and other publications on the immigrants of this early period by the same compiler. If you have early New England immigrants you will certainly have interest in this series and Nora's article will give you some clues on where to start.

It has been some time since this journal has reprinted something from another publication, but we thought Lynn Betlock's article on writing genealogical articles might help in prompting some more of you to develop your skills in this area. And finally in this issue is a query on the Osborn family of Ridgefield and Salem (now Lewisboro), New York. Please let us know if you have any clues to offer on this family.

*Harlan R. Jessup*

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This is *your* journal on Connecticut families and Connecticut research. Sharing your knowledge of sources, your genealogical techniques, and the results of your research is what keeps the publication going. Reports on work in progress are encouraged—reader response to such an article may advance your research. Whatever you send is appreciated. We will acknowledge all contributions.

Preferred submission is now as an email attachment using any standard word-processing application to [hjessup@charter.net](mailto:hjessup@charter.net). Or send a hard copy in "camera ready" format by mail to the Editor, Harlan R. Jessup, 25 Taunton Ridge, Newtown, CT 06470. As near as possible, please format as follows:

- 1 inch margins all sides of 8 1/2 x 11 inch paper.
- Titles bold and centered in at least 12pt. or 14pt. type followed by author's name and contact information (address and/or email), also centered. Section titles bold on left margin.
- Use a serif font such as Times, Times New Roman, or Garamond, usually 12pt. or 11pt.
- For most text, justification to both left and right margins looks best.
- For family genealogies we prefer either *Register* or *Modified Register* format.
- Sources should be referenced with numbered footnotes (not endnotes).
- Do not number pages except lightly in pencil on reverse of hard copies.

DEADLINE:  
For Issue

July 1  
#1 August

October 1  
#2 November

January 1  
#3 February

April 1  
#4 May

## The Family of Benjamin Wilson of Ridgefield, Connecticut

Kenneth W. Rockwell

–continued–

*This continuation of the family of Benjamin Wilson begins with several additions and corrections to part one published in the August issue of this journal. These were pointed out by Barbara Dempsey, currently secretary of this Society, whose contribution is gratefully acknowledged.*

### Amendments to Part 1

1. Several children of the daughters of Benjamin and Jane Wilson were omitted from the previous article:
  - Rebecca and Benjamin Rockwell had an additional child: Jeremiah, born 12 Nov 1742;<sup>1</sup>
  - Jane and Joseph Keeler had the following additional children: Phebe b. 24 Dec. 1737; Ezra, b. 16 July 1748; and Jane b. 24 July 1750;<sup>2</sup>
  - Abigail and Eli Northrup had the following additional children: Jane, b. 21 October 1747; Esther, b. 18 January 1749/50; Benajah, b. 27 March 1752; Wilson [misspelled in *Barbour Collection* 36:233 as “Wilton”], b. 7 April 1754; Dorcas, b. 22 June 1758; Anne, b. 21 May 1760; and Thaddeus, b. 27 February 1763.<sup>3</sup> In addition, the vital records record the death of another Anne, daughter of Eli and Abigail, on 18 July 1758,<sup>4</sup> apparently an earlier daughter, birth year and order uncertain, for whom the child born in 1760 was named.
2. Sarah Gates, daughter of Samuel Sr. and Sarah (Wilson) was born 10 Sep 1733, rather than 1743.<sup>5</sup> The footnote for the Gates children’s births referred to “Ridgefield vital records, vol. 1, p. 218, 219, 223, 226,” but there is nothing on page 218 related to this family.
3. The births of three of the children of Benjamin and Jane Wilson, namely Benjamin, Mary, and Jane, were omitted from the Wilson section of the *Barbour Collection* volume 36, and placed under “Williams.” Looking at the original, in the vital records volume 1, p. 201, one can understand the mistake; for one thing Willson was spelled with two “L”s. This is a good example of why one should refer to the original whenever possible, and cite it instead of a secondary work. That practice is followed in the remainder of this article.

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<sup>1</sup>Ridgefield vital records 1:224.

<sup>2</sup>Ridgefield vital records 1:226,248.

<sup>3</sup>Ridgefield vital records 1:240,243; 2:5, omitting Wilson.

<sup>4</sup>Ridgefield vital records 2:200.

<sup>5</sup>Ridgefield vital records 1:218.



*Part II, Second Generation*

2. Nathan Wilson, son of Benjamin and Jane (Olmsted) Wilson, born 30 September 1701 at Norwalk. He married, on 5 June 1727, Phebe Hobart.<sup>6</sup> Her ancestry is uncertain, but this was soon after the arrival from Long Island of Joseph Hobart, who soon had a daughter named Phebe, born in February of 1729. Perhaps he was a brother of the elder Phebe, and she arrived with him.

They settled in Ridgefield. Phebe probably died in the early 1750s, as Nathan is likely the one who, with a wife named Naomi, had two children in 1755 and 1756. This marriage was not recorded, nor is there further record of Naomi. Nathan Wilson died on 8 March 1785.<sup>7</sup> No probate records have been found for him. Phebe's death was not recorded in the official VRs, nor is there any surviving headstone for her.

Among the interesting deeds involving Nathan Wilson is the one dated 15 November 1762, in which he sold to Benjamin Rockwell of Salem [his brother-in-law] his 9.5-acre home lot in the central village.<sup>8</sup> This was the original home of Benjamin Wilson the founder, and Rebecca Rockwell's childhood home. On 27 July 1767, Benjamin Rockwell, for 100 pounds of New York money, quit-claimed to Nathan Wilson his right and title to the same property.<sup>9</sup>

Children of Nathan and Phebe (Hobart) Wilson, all born at Ridgefield:<sup>10</sup>

1. Nathan Wilson, born 21 May 1729. No further record was found of him.
2. Phebe Wilson, born 26 June 1731. No further record was found of her.
3. Ezekiel Wilson, born 19 November 1733. (5)
4. John Wilson, born 27 January 1735/36. (6)
5. Jeremiah Wilson, born 2 June 1738; died 9 March 1816.<sup>11</sup> His marriage is not on record, but his wife was Hannah, as is evidenced by several deeds. One of them, which concerns money rather than land, proves she was Hannah Couch. In this deed dated 4 May 1787, Benjamin Smith, executor of the estate of Sarah Keeler, stated that, whereas Sarah Keeler had two mortgage deeds from her "children," Jeremiah and Hannah Wilson and Stephen and Sarah Smith of Ridgefield, and whereas the amount that they owed her had been deducted from the legacies given to them in her will, they were now clear of the mortgage obligation.<sup>12</sup> Stephen Smith married Sarah Couch; therefore, Sarah Keeler, the

<sup>6</sup>Ridgefield vital records, vol. 1, p. 228; FHL Film no. 5496; See also *The Barbour Collection of Connecticut town vital records* (Baltimore: Genealogical Pub. Co.), vol. 36 (pub. In 2000), volume 36, p. 301.

<sup>7</sup>Ridgefield vital records, vol. 2, p. 204; FHL Film no. 1435730. [Note: *Barbour Collection* vol. 36 refers to the first *separate* volume of Ridgefield vital records as "volume 1," but the Town of Ridgefield has called it "volume 2" (followed by 3A, etc.), as the records in the back of the first deed book are considered the first actual volume of vital records. Barbour distinguished this volume as "LR1." I follow the town's scheme in this and subsequent footnotes.]

<sup>8</sup>Ridgefield deeds, 4:270a; FHL Film no. 5497.

<sup>9</sup>Ridgefield deeds, 5:32b; FHL Film no. 5498.

<sup>10</sup>Ridgefield vital records, 1:211,219,220,223,237.

<sup>11</sup>Ridgefield vital records 2:219.

<sup>12</sup>Ridgefield deeds, 7:23a; FHL Film no. 5499.

mother of Hannah Wilson and Sarah Smith was the widow of Timothy Keeler, whom she married on 10 Nov. 1736. That record states that she was the widow of Thomas Couch of Fairfield's West Parish [Greens Farms in present-day Westport];<sup>13</sup> and the Fairfield vital records state that Thomas Couch married Sarah Allen on 7 Dec. 1721.<sup>14</sup> Sarah (Allen) (Couch) Keeler died at Ridgefield on 10 March 1787, in her 90<sup>th</sup> year.<sup>15</sup> Her daughter Hannah's birth was not recorded there, nor was her death recorded at Ridgefield. She and Jeremiah apparently had no children. In his will, signed 21 Feb 1794, Jeremiah left all of his property to his wife, Hannah, and named her his executrix. He also provided that a servant named Lydia, if still living after he and his wife died, should be emancipated. Hannah was still living when this will was probated in 1817, and declined to serve as executor of the estate.<sup>16</sup>

6. Ezra Wilson, b. 14 February 1744/45. No further record was found of him.

Children of Nathan and Naomi (-----) Wilson, born at Ridgefield:<sup>17</sup>

7. Stephen Wilson, b. 28 February 1755.
8. Jared Wilson, b. 17 December 1756.
3. Thomas Wilson, son of Benjamin and Jane (Olmsted) Wilson, born 9 October 1703 at Norwalk. He married, on 30 January 1729, Elizabeth Brooks.<sup>18</sup> She was probably the sister of Ebenezer Brooks, who married Jane Saint John in 1730, and daughter of the senior Ebenezer Brooks. (No probate records for Ebenezer exist from which we could confirm this identification.) Elizabeth died on 17 December 1767; Thomas died on 20 August 1775.<sup>19</sup> At a Danbury probate court session on 6 April 1781, Lemuel Abbott and Daniel Coley were appointed to distribute his estate, and the result was recorded on 31 December 1781, in which land was set out to sons Abner and Daniel Wilson.<sup>20</sup> This suggests that the rest of Thomas's children died without issue before this.

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<sup>13</sup>Ridgefield vital records 1:229.

<sup>14</sup>Fairfield land records, Book B, page C, copied from *Barbour Collection*, vol. 12, p. 41.

<sup>15</sup>Ridgefield vital records, 1:204.

<sup>16</sup>Danbury probate register, vol. 10, pp. 589–590; FHL Film no. 4029. Also, Connecticut probate packets, Danbury district file no. 5369, on FHL Film no. 1016325.

<sup>17</sup>Ridgefield vital records, 1:247.

<sup>18</sup>*Ibid.*, 1:228.

<sup>19</sup>Ridgefield vital records, 2:200, 201.

<sup>20</sup>Danbury probate register, vol. 4, p. 238–239; FHL Film no. 4025. Also Connecticut probate packets, Danbury district file no. 5374, on FHL Film no. 1016325

Children of Thomas and Elizabeth (Brooks) Wilson, all born at Ridgefield:<sup>21</sup>

- a. Thomas Wilson, born 2 February 1729/30; d. 10 June 1757.
- b. Elizabeth Wilson, born 8 July 1731. She was probably the Elizabeth Wilson who died on 5 Sept. 1768.
- c. Anne Wilson, born 20 April 1734. No further record has been found of her.
- d. Mary Wilson, b. 6 October 1735. No further record has been found of her.
- e. Daniel Wilson, b. 21 January 1737/38. (7)
- f. Sarah Wilson, b. 13 August 1742. No further record has been found of her.
- g. Abner Wilson, b. 5 June 1744. (8)
- h. Jane Wilson, b. 17 March 1746. No further record has been found of her.

4. Benjamin Wilson, son of Benjamin and Jane (Olmsted) Wilson, born Ridgefield, 17 June 1709.<sup>22</sup> He married, on 2 June 1737, Deborah Bennett.<sup>23</sup> She was the daughter of James Bennett, who moved from Fairfield around 1721 and settled a tract of land known in the land records as "Bennett's Farms," near the border of Danbury and Ridgefield.<sup>24</sup> Among the land records concerning Benjamin Wilson Jr. is one in which Ephraim Bennett [a brother of Deborah], "in consideration of the homestead of Benjamin Wilson Junr. ... made over to me by a bill of exchange," conveyed to Benjamin his own home lot of 30 acres on 6 March 1743/44.<sup>25</sup>

The death of Benjamin is not found in Ridgefield Vital Records, but he died ca. June of 1757, before the birth of his last child. A distribution of his estate, made on 1 June 1759, makes the following provisions (most of the children being minors at the time of the distribution, Thomas only 2 years old):<sup>26</sup>

- To widow Deborah, "now wife of Joseph Miles," the dwelling house and 5 acres; also 4.5 acres 30 rods on north end of hill lot set out to Thomas;
- To daughter Deborah "one sixth part of a 20 acre division lying at Cedar Mountain" and a 16.5 acre parcel at north end of home lot;
- To daughter Abiah "one sixth part of a 20 acre division lying at Cedar Mountain" and a parcel 14 acres 60 rods south of Deborah's;
- To son Benjamin 15 acres 60 rods south of Abiah's, and 1/3 of a common right;
- To daughter Sarah, 15 acres south of Benjamin's;
- To son Samuel 41 acres 3 rods south of Sarah's, and 1/3 of a common right;
- To daughter Jane 8 acres north of Abigail's
- To Abigail 7 acres 55 rods north of Lydia's

<sup>21</sup>*Barbour Collection*, vol. 36, p. 299–301.

<sup>22</sup>Ridgefield vital records, 1:201.

<sup>23</sup>Ridgefield vital records, 1:229.

<sup>24</sup>Ridgefield deeds 1:173b; also mentioned in Jacobus, *Families of Old Fairfield*, vol. 1, p. 67

<sup>25</sup>Ridgefield deeds 3:298b.

<sup>26</sup>Danbury district probate register v. 5, pp. 250–251; FHL Film no. 4025. Also, Connecticut probate records, Danbury district file no. 5364, on FHL Film no. 1016325.

- To daughter Lydia 6 acres 3 roods, 15 rods north of Rebecka's
- To dau Rebecca 6 acres 3 roods
- To son Thomas 3 acres of a hill lot with orchard, 4 acres 3 roods at north end of house lot, north of Jane's land; also 1/3 of a common right

Widow Deborah (Bennett) Wilson married, second, Joseph Miles, who apparently died by 1772, and, third, John Stuart (or Stewart), as evidenced by a deed dated 19 October 1772, in which John Stuart of Ridgefield, for £53, quit-claimed to Nathaniel Selleck of Ridgefield "my claim in & unto the house & six acres of land adjoined to said house that was distributed to my wife Deborah as her dower in her late husband Benjamin Wilson's estate ... said land is bounded north by land set out to Rebeckah Wilson & all other ways by common land & highway; also one other piece of land in quantity three acres, bounded east by land of Jonathan Whitlock, west by highway, north by land of Joseph Mead and south by land of Thomas Wilson."<sup>27</sup> This John Stuart is the "John Stewart Junr." of Norwalk" to whom Benjamin Wilson [son of Benjamin and Deborah] quit-claimed [also for £53] all interest in the same two properties on 26 March 1770. In two other deeds of that date, Benjamin conveyed to "John Stewart Junr" one-third interest in a 3-acre parcel at Bennett's Farm lying undivided between Benjamin, Samuel, and Thomas Wilson; one-sixth part of a right in the common land of Ridgefield; and a 16.5-acre parcel on the Ridgefield-Danbury border, bounded east by David Osborn and Samuel Wilson, West by common land, north by John Trobridge and common land, and south by Samuel Wilson and Gabriel Bennett, together with one-third part of a sawmill on this land.<sup>28</sup>

Deborah (Bennett) (Miles) (Wilson) Stuart died on 10 June 1795, at the age of 78.<sup>29</sup> In two deeds from 1796, we learn the whereabouts of several of her heirs: On 10 February 1796, David Osborn and wife Abiah; Lydia Platt; Daniel Dikeman, and Benjamin Dikeman, all of Danbury; Benjamin Wilson of Fairfield; David Northrup and wife Abigail of Salem, New York; and James Lacy and wife Laurania of Saratoga County, New York, for 16 pounds quit-claimed to Thomas Wilson of Ridgefield all their right and intrest in the real estate of Deborah Stuart late of Ridgefield, "and also of all the right we and each of us have in and unto the real estate of Benjamin Wilson formerly of said Ridgefield decd that was set out to his Widow (afterwards said Deborah Stuart) for her improvement out of said dec'd Benjamin Wilson's estate, for her dower and improvement during her natural life."<sup>30</sup> In a similar deed dated 3 September 1796, Reuben and Rebeckah Sherwood; Gabriel and Deborah Bennett; William and Jane Pullen; Phillip and Huldah Kellogg; and Levi Dykeman, all of Saratoga County, New York, quit-claimed to Thomas Wilson of Ridgefield all title and interest in the lands of "our honored Mother Deborah Stewart" and her dower from the estate of Benjamin Wilson.

Most of the people in these two deeds can be identified as children of Benjamin and Deborah Wilson, but a few are evidently grandchildren. As the vital records show two children, "Lurania" and Benjamin, born to a Benjamin Wilson and wife "Sophira,"<sup>31</sup> these were clearly

<sup>27</sup>Ridgefield deeds 5:152b.

<sup>28</sup>Ibid., 5:152a, 152b.

<sup>29</sup>Ridgefield vital records 2:208.

<sup>30</sup>Ridgefield deeds, 9:56a.

<sup>31</sup>Ridgefield vital records, 2:28.

Laurania Lacy of Saratoga County and Benjamin Wilson of Fairfield, in the place of their father, who had died by 1786. [See under his record.] A Kellogg genealogy states that Philip Kellogg's wife Huldah was a Dikeman,<sup>32</sup> so she and the men named Dykeman had some common connection to Deborah Stuart. A solution presents itself in a deed dated 19 April 1773, wherein Daniel Dikeman and Sarah his wife sold a 20-acre parcel of land in Bennett's Farm to Elnathan Sturges. The same day, Samuel Wilson sold an adjacent parcel to Sturges.<sup>33</sup> Sarah Dykeman was likely the daughter of Benjamin and Deborah Wilson, who had received 15 acres in the 1759 distribution. She evidently married Daniel Dykeman, had at least three children, and died before 1796. Another deed Daniel Dykeman of Danbury purchasing 15 acres at Bennett's Farm from Samuel and Thomas Wilson on 14 November 1788.<sup>34</sup> It is possible that Daniel Dykeman who was party to the 1796 deed may have been her widower rather than a fourth child.

Children of Benjamin and Deborah (Bennett) Wilson, all born at Ridgefield:<sup>35</sup>

- a. Deborah Wilson, b. 4 April 1738. According to the September 1796 deed relating to her mother's real estate, she married Gabriel Bennett and was living in Saratoga County, New York, by 1796. The 1790 U.S. Census shows a Gabriel Bennett family in Ridgefield, containing 2 males over 16; 2 males under 16; and 3 females. It is possible that this is the Deborah Wilson who married Justus Purdy on 6 August 1771 at the Salem Church, if he died before 1790.<sup>36</sup>
- b. Samuel, b. 24 July 1739. He obtained land from some of his siblings. He was not a party to either of the 1796 deeds, but in a separate deed dated 6 April 1796, "for the consideration of many services, assistances, and benefits done by and received of my loving brother Thomas Wilson of Ridgfield, and also for the affection, love & good will that I have for and do bear unto him," he quit-claimed to Thomas all interest in the land and real estate that descended to him from the estate of their father Benjamin Wilson and mother Deborah Stuart.<sup>37</sup> He apparently never married, and is likely the Samuel Wilson who died on 11 February 1822.<sup>38</sup> No probate records exist for him.
- c. Abiah Wilson, b. 4 March 1740/41. She married, first, Nathaniel Selleck, and, second, as his second wife, David Osborn.<sup>39</sup> In a deed dated 18 November 1774, Nathaniel Selleck quit-claimed to Samuel Wilson "all my right, title, and claim belonging to me,

<sup>32</sup>Timothy Hopkins, *The Kelloggs in the Old World and the New* (San Francisco: Sunset Press, 1903), v. 1, p. 154.

<sup>33</sup>Ridgefield deeds 5:196a.

<sup>34</sup>Ridgefield deeds 7:70a

<sup>35</sup>Ridgefield vital records 1:223,226,236,241; 2:18.

<sup>36</sup>"Records of the Church of Christ in Salem, Westchester Co., NY.," *New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*, vol. 31, no. 2, p. 89.

<sup>37</sup>Ridgefield deeds, 8:105b; FHL Film #5499.

<sup>38</sup>Ridgefield vital records 2:223.

<sup>39</sup>S. Whitney Phoenix, *The Whitney family*, vol. 1, p. 68.

and my Mother Stuart's thirds, except my wife's right on the estate of Benjamin Wilson of Ridgfield Decd..."<sup>40</sup> According to the February 1786 deed relating to her mother's real estate, the Osborns lived in Danbury in 1796. The 1790 U.S. Census shows a David Osborn family in Danbury that contained 1 male over 16 and 3 females. If this is them, the other females are daughters of his first marriage, to Hannah Mead.<sup>41</sup> David Osborn died in 1807; his widow, Abiah, died 14 Feb. 1832, "aged 94," though actually about 91.<sup>42</sup>

- d. Benjamin Wilson, b. 25 November 1743. (9)
- e. Sarah Wilson, b. 14 June 1746. She evidently married Daniel Dykeman and died before 1796, leaving children Huldah (who married Philip Kellogg), Benjamin, and Levi. The Daniel Dykeman who signed the February 1796 deed was either her widower or a fourth child. A Philip Kellogg household is found at Ballston, Saratoga Co., N.Y., in the 1800 U.S. Census.
- f. Jane Wilson, b. 4 December 1748. According to the September 1796 deed relating to her mother's real estate, she married William Pullen [or Pulling] and was living in Saratoga County, New York. A William Pullen household (probably this family) was in Providence, Saratoga Co., N.Y., in 1800, with 1 male over 45; 1 female over 45; 1 male 10-15; 1 female 10-15; 1 male under 10; and 1 female under 10.
- g. Abigail Wilson, b. 10 November 1750. According to the February 1796 deed relating to her mother's real estate, she married David Northrup and lived at South Salem, N.Y., in 1796. The Salem Presbyterian Church records include their marriage, on 1 Feb. 1770.<sup>43</sup> Online trees suggest several children, but the family is not readily found in the U.S. Census of 1790 or later. Another deed concerning this couple: On 2 Nov. 1783, David and Abigail Northrup of Salem, N.Y., sold to Ezekiel Wilson a parcel measuring 7 acres, 50 rods, lying at Bennett's Farm in Ridgefield.<sup>44</sup>
- h. Lydia Wilson, b. 12 August 175[?]. The birth record is damaged, but, given that she was listed in the distribution between Abigail and Rebeckah, it is likely that she was born between them; and a death notice for her in 1832 at the age of 97 suggest 1754, though possibly the age was off by a year or two. According to the February 1796 deed relating to her mother's real estate, she married a Platt and lived in Danbury. As she was signing the deed apart from any mention of her husband, he had probably died by then. He was probably Joseph Platt, whose headstone the Hale Cemetery Project recorded in the 1930s at Lower Starr's Plain Cemetery in Danbury; his birth year was unreadable, but he died in 1792.<sup>45</sup> Lydia Platt, widow of Joseph, died on 6

<sup>40</sup>Ridgefield deeds, 7:23a; FHL Film no. 5499.

<sup>41</sup>*Whitney family*, vol. 1, p. 68, 200.

<sup>42</sup>Ridgefield vital records, 2:229.

<sup>43</sup>"Records of the Church of Christ in Salem, Westchester Co., NY.," *NYGBR*, vol. 31, no. 2, p. 88.

<sup>44</sup>Ridgefield deeds, vol. 6:186a; FHL Film no. 5498.

<sup>45</sup>Hale Collection, vol. 11, p. 592, on FHL Film no. 3329.

Feb. 1832 at the age of 97, according to an announcement in the *Connecticut Mirror*, issue of 11 Feb. 1832. By 1934, the Hale survey recorded the grave in the North Main Street Cemetery as giving her death date as "Feb. 15, 1832," again at the age of 97, and they called her the wife of "Josiah" Platt, probably a misreading of an eroded inscription.<sup>46</sup> Possibly, her husband was related to David Platt, to whom Nathan and Thomas Wilson sold an 18-acre parcel on 17 September 1771.<sup>47</sup> And on 28 January 1772, David Platt and Josiah Stebbins sold to James Conklin "a Twenty acre division lying in the township of Ridgefield at the Cedar Mountain, which was laid out to the right that was originally Benjamin Wilson's—suggesting some connection to the family, unless this was the land the Wilson brothers had sold him."<sup>48</sup>

- i. Rebeckah, b. 13 September 1755. She married at Ridgefield, 8 April 1778, Reuben Sherwood.<sup>49</sup> On 3 March 1783, Samuel Wilson sold to "my brother Reuben Sherwood & Rebeckah his wife" a parcel of land 7 acres, 55 rods of land in Ridgefield.<sup>50</sup> On the same date, Reuben and Rebeckah sold another parcel, 6 acres and 3 roods of land, to Samuel Wilson.<sup>51</sup> The 1790 U.S. Census shows the Reuben Sherwood household in Ridgefield, containing 2 males over 16, 3 males under 16, and 3 females. By 1796, they were living in Saratoga County, according the September 1796 deed. The 1800 census shows a Reuben Sherwood as head of a household in Ballston, Saratoga Co., containing 1 male and 2 females over 45; 1 female 26-44; 2 males 16-25; 1 female 10-15; 2 males under 10; and 1 female under 10. Children born to Rebeckah and Reuben Sherwood in Ridgefield: Sarah Graves b. 4 Nov 1778, James b. 16 Feb 1781, Anna b. 9 Feb 1783.<sup>52</sup>
- j. Thomas Wilson, b. 25 October 1757. **(10)**

*To be continued*

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<sup>46</sup>*Ibid.*, 11:401.

<sup>47</sup>Ridgefield deeds 5:127a

<sup>48</sup>Ridgefield deeds 5:127.

<sup>49</sup>Ridgefield vital records 2:153.

<sup>50</sup>Ridgefield deeds 6:94b.

<sup>51</sup>*Ibid.*, 7:23a.

<sup>52</sup>Ridgefield vital records 2:54.

## **The Never-Ending Mystery of Josiah<sup>2</sup> Canfield's Ancestry**

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In "Timothy<sup>4</sup> Canfield of South Salem, NY: Fragments of a Family Line" (*Connecticut Ancestry* 52[Nov 2009]:59-61), author Harlan Jessup incorporated information that was given to me many years ago by my mother, a descendant of Timothy's reputed son Josiah. Some of my mother's information came from notes made by her great-uncle, Oliver Adolphus Canfield, but much of it came from the Canfield Family Association.<sup>1</sup> Her papers state that Josiah Canfield was one of three sons (Josiah, David & Joseph) of Timothy<sup>4</sup> Canfield (*Ebenezer<sup>3</sup>, Samuel<sup>2</sup>, Matthew<sup>1</sup>*) and an unnamed wife; and that he was born in the early 1720's, married about 1741 to Elizabeth<sup>5</sup> Gregory (*Jonathan<sup>4</sup>, John<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Henry<sup>1</sup>*), and died in Schenectady, New York 10 Oct 1760. Josiah and Elizabeth<sup>5</sup> are traditionally credited with eight children, and most Canfield family histories follow this tradition:

- i.       **Elizabeth**, born about 1741
- ii.       **Jonathan**, born about 1742
- iii.       **Phebe**, born about 1744
- iv.       **Samuel**, born about 1745
- v.        **Ichabod**, born about 1746
- vi.       **Jabez**, born about 1748
- vii.       **Josiah**, born about 1750
- viii.       **Ezekiel**, born about 1752

About a year after the article's publication, Harlan Jessup was contacted by Marilyn Bobseine, who is also a Josiah Canfield descendant. She questioned the article's stated genealogical connection between Timothy<sup>4</sup> and Josiah. Through Harlan I was able to establish a correspondence with the delightful Ms. Bobseine, who provided documentary evidence that justified her challenge. I like to think I am not prone to accepting information at face value, but when it came to Josiah Canfield I certainly failed to live up to my own standard. After reviewing Marilyn's argument I realized she was right. Chastened, but with a renewed sense of purpose, I have begun a new investigation of this family. I offer this summary of what the evidence currently tells us about Josiah Canfield and what remains unresolved.

There are no records of Josiah's birth, marriage or death, and no birth records for his children. Such dates as are found in Canfield family histories may have been manufactured to make Josiah's descent from Timothy<sup>4</sup> Canfield a feasible proposition. The only known marriage for Timothy<sup>4</sup> is to Keziah Ferris in Greenwich, Connecticut on 19 Nov 1729;<sup>2</sup> though Timothy<sup>4</sup> was old enough to have had children from an earlier marriage in the 1720's, Marilyn informed me that records from the Wilton Congregational Church indicate Josiah Canfield was born far earlier. This makes his descent from Timothy<sup>4</sup> Canfield problematic, if not impossible.

Two critical entries in the Wilton church records show that on 22 Dec 1757, "widow E. Canfield" married James Lyon of Norfield, and on 20 Sep 1757 Josiah Canfield, age 21, married

<sup>1</sup>*Canfield Family Association Publications*. Wichita, KS: Gene Martinson. 1982-2002.

<sup>2</sup>*Ridgefield LR1:228; Connecticut Ancestry*. 52(Nov 2009):59fn (citing Fairfield Probate Estate Papers #2187). *The American Genealogist*. New Haven, CT: Donald Lines Jacobus, 1937-present. 26[Jan 1950]:127.



Deborah Stuart.<sup>3</sup> This is almost certainly the son of Josiah and Elizabeth<sup>5</sup> (Gregory) Canfield; he is not referred to as “Jr.,” probably because his father was already deceased. The “widow E. Canfield” is almost certainly Elizabeth<sup>5</sup> (Gregory) Canfield, and the most likely candidate for her second husband is James<sup>3</sup> Lyon (*Samuel<sup>2</sup>, Richard<sup>1</sup>*), born Fairfield, Connecticut 21 Mar 1704/05, who married Abigail<sup>4</sup> Rowland (*Joseph<sup>3</sup>, Joseph<sup>2</sup>, Henry<sup>1</sup>*) in Fairfield, Connecticut 14 Dec 1732. Abigail<sup>4</sup> (Rowland) Lyon died in Fairfield 26 Mar 1752 “*ae upwards of 40.*”<sup>4</sup>

If, as stated in the Wilton church record, Josiah Canfield Jr. was born in 1736 rather than 1750, and married in 1757, then his parents Josiah and Elizabeth<sup>5</sup> (Gregory) Canfield must have been born before 1715. Further evidence in support of this can be found in the estate settlement of Elizabeth’s father, Jonathan<sup>4</sup> Gregory. On 11 Nov 1724 Nehemiah Smith was appointed guardian for Jonathan<sup>4</sup> Gregory’s children Elizabeth<sup>5</sup> and Samuel<sup>5</sup>; his brother John<sup>4</sup> Gregory was appointed guardian for children Jonathan<sup>5</sup> and Phebe<sup>5</sup>, and his widow Elizabeth (\_\_\_\_) Gregory was guardian for son David<sup>5</sup>. On 05 Dec 1732 Elizabeth<sup>5</sup> Gregory and her brother Samuel<sup>5</sup> released Nehemiah Smith from his guardianship<sup>5</sup>; assuming Elizabeth<sup>5</sup> was at least eighteen on the date of the last record, she would have been born no later than 1714. Author Grant Gregory also gave Elizabeth<sup>5</sup> a birth date before 1715 in his genealogy of the Gregory family.<sup>6</sup>

Since Timothy<sup>4</sup> Canfield was still a minor when his father’s inventory was taken 20 Jan 1715/16 (“*æ 14 yrs. 16<sup>th</sup> last Sept*”),<sup>7</sup> it is improbable that he was Josiah’s father. Even in the unlikely event that an underage Josiah married an older Elizabeth he must have been born no later than 1720, which would have made Timothy<sup>4</sup> Canfield a father at the age of eighteen or nineteen. The probability is even smaller that both Timothy<sup>4</sup> and then his son married and fathered children at such tender ages.

It also seems clear that Josiah Canfield Sr. was deceased several years before his traditionally stated death of 10 Oct 1760 in Schenectady, New York. The Wilton church records ascribe the 1760 death record to Josiah Canfield Jr. and in *Wilton, Connecticut: Three Centuries of People, Places, and Progress*, author Robert H. Russell lists a Josiah Canfield among a group of Wilton men in Captain Thaddeus Mead’s company who died in “upper New York from

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<sup>3</sup>“Wilton (CT) Congregational Church Records 1726-1805.” *The Connecticut Nutmegger*. Glastonbury, CT: Connecticut Society of Genealogists. 1970-present. Hereinafter cited as *Wilton Church Records*. 24[Sep 1991]:210, 384.

<sup>4</sup>“Connecticut Vital Records to 1870” [online database accessed 17 Sep 2011]. *New England Historic Genealogical Society*. 2011. From original typescripts, Lucius Barnes Barbour Collection, 1928. Fairfield Vital Records p. 84 [v1:p165]; “Records of the Greenfield Hill Church, Fairfield, Conn.” *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register*. Boston, MA: New England Historic Genealogical Society. 1847-present. 69[Oct 1915]:377-378; Jacobus, Donald Lines. *History and Genealogy of the Families of Old Fairfield*. Two Volumes in Three. Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Company. 1976, 1991. Originally published Fairfield, Connecticut 1930-1932. Hereinafter cited as *FOOF*. I:397.

<sup>5</sup>*Fairfield Probate Estate Papers* (loose) #2555 and #2559. Information courtesy of Marilyn Bobseine.

<sup>6</sup>Gregory, Grant. *Ancestors and Descendants of Henry Gregory*. Provincetown, MA: privately printed. 1938. p. 66.

<sup>7</sup>Mead, Spencer Percival, LL.B., *Abstracts of Probate Records at Fairfield, County of Fairfield, and State of Connecticut*. Transcribed by Geri Ryerson and published online at Fairfield County, CT GenWeb. Accessed 17 Sep 2011. Hereinafter cited as *Mead*. 5:153-154.

disease and harsh conditions during the final months of the [French and Indian] war.”<sup>8</sup> As the others were young men, it is likely that the Josiah who died was also young.

Josiah Canfield Jr.’s marriage record and his brother Jonathan’s gravestone contain the only known evidence of birth dates for the children of Josiah and Elizabeth<sup>5</sup> (Gregory) Canfield. Josiah Jr.’s marriage record and possible 1760 death in Schenectady represent the sum of what is presently known about him. Most Canfield family histories list no information beyond birth for any of the remaining seven children, except Jonathan and Samuel. My present attempts to sketch them are so rudimentary that they do not lend themselves to a Register-style outline, but the following information is what I have learned or conjectured about them:

- **Jonathan Canfield** is the best documented of all the children. He was born about 12 Jun 1742 and died in Mayfield, New York 12 Jan 1829.<sup>9</sup> He lived in Salisbury, Connecticut when he married there on 22 Dec 1764<sup>10</sup> Sarah<sup>4</sup> Woodworth (*Caleb*<sup>3</sup>, *Benjamin*<sup>2</sup>, *Walter*<sup>1</sup>), born Salisbury, Connecticut 02 Aug 1743, died Mayfield, New York 09 May 1826.<sup>11</sup> Jonathan and Sarah<sup>4</sup> removed to Mayfield at an unknown date, where his name and those of his sons often appear alongside the names of his Woodworth brothers-in-law.<sup>12</sup> Jonathan and Sarah<sup>4</sup> (Woodworth) Canfield are buried in Mayfield’s Riceville Cemetery. I have located several of his descendants in state and federal census records, but not Jonathan himself.
- **Samuel Canfield** married Mary (\_\_\_\_) Waller in Amenia, New York 02 Jul 1776.<sup>13</sup> He is said to have died in Middlefield, New York in 1815, though no record of them has been found. Some of his putative descendants appear in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century census records for Erie County, New York.
- The Wilton church records also list a marriage for **Jabez Canfield** to Mary Dikeman on 14 Jun 1756.<sup>14</sup> *If* (and it is a big *if*) the Jabez Canfield of this record was Josiah Jr.’s brother, then he must have been born far earlier than 1748 and was quite likely the firstborn child of Josiah

<sup>8</sup>*Wilton Church Records*. 24:210; Russell, Robert H. *Wilton Connecticut: Three Centuries of People, Places, and Progress*. Wilton, CT: Wilton Historical Society. 2004. p. 108, Appendix I.

<sup>9</sup>“Cemetery Records: Riceville Cemetery” [online database accessed 18 Sep 2011]. *New Horizons Genealogy*. Original data taken from Miller, Mrs. J.V.W., and Mrs. George Wilbur Fenton. *Cemeteries of Fulton Co., NY*. Gloversville, NY: General Richard Montgomery Chapter, D.A.R. 1931. Josiah’s birthdate is calculated from the age shown on his gravestone, a photograph of which has been provided to the author by Marilyn Bobseine.

<sup>10</sup>The Salisbury Association, Inc. *Historical Collections Relating to the Town of Salisbury, Litchfield County, Connecticut*. New Haven, CT: The Tuttle, Morehouse & Taylor Co., Inc. 1913. 2:122.

<sup>11</sup>*ibid.* 1:76; also see Riceville Cemetery Records (footnote 8).

<sup>12</sup>*Fulton County, NY GenWeb*. “Fulton County Towns”: 1) Mayfield, 2) The History of Gloversville (pp. 71-93) and “Military”: 1) Surprise of the Dunham Party, 2) Lieutenant Solomon Woodworth and 3) The Fate of a Scouting Party. Accessed 18 Sep 2011; Frothingham, Washington. *History of Fulton County*. Syracuse, NY: D. Mason & Co., Printers and Publishers. 1892. pp. 507-520.

<sup>13</sup>“New York Marriages, 1686-1980” [online database accessed 17 Sep 2011]. *Family Search*. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. Batch #M51026-1; Film#17516.

<sup>14</sup>*Wilton Church Records*. 24:210.

and Elizabeth<sup>5</sup> (Gregory) Canfield. This would lend further support to the argument that the parents were born before 1715, but would complicate attempts to use naming patterns as an aid in untangling the children's birth order. If this Jabez is not Josiah and Elizabeth's son then he should be added to the list of unplaced Canfields, as there seems to be no other likely candidate. The only other known Canfield of that name in Fairfield County was Ebenezer<sup>3</sup> Canfield's son, Jabez<sup>4</sup>, who died before 24 Mar 1726/27.<sup>15</sup>

- *Jacobus' History and Genealogy of the Families of Old Fairfield* may help us account for the remaining four children as well. He lists the following "Unplaced Canfields" taken from church records.<sup>16</sup> While it remains conjecture whether or not these are children of Josiah and Elizabeth<sup>5</sup> (Gregory) Canfield, the marriage dates are not incompatible with their supposed birth dates:

**Elizabeth Canfield** married Jonathan Robinson in Greenfield Church 14 Apr 1763

**Ezekiel Canfield** married Ann Jacocks in Greens Farm Church 20 Oct 1773

**Phebe Canfield** married Samuel Lyon in Weston Church 14 Oct 1774

**Ichabod Canfield** married Mary Batterson in Greens Farms Church 18 Aug 1774

Elizabeth<sup>5</sup> (Gregory) (Canfield) Lyon must have died in 1761. On 06 May of that year Jonathan Canfield chose Benjamin Gilbert of Fairfield to be his guardian (probably his uncle Samuel Gregory's father-in-law). On 21 Sep 1761 Samuel and Ezekiel Canfield chose James Lyon of Fairfield to be their guardian.<sup>17</sup> There are no records of guardians appointed for Phebe or Ichabod, though they were allegedly still minors; possibly those records have been lost or perhaps, as with Josiah and Jabez, their birth dates have been misstated.

There appears to be no hard evidence confirming the existence of Josiah Canfield Sr.'s brothers, David and Joseph. Family tradition states that all three lived in the Danbury area and their records were lost in the Revolutionary War. Such a notion certainly seems possible: in a transcription of the previously mentioned Wilton church records made about 1920, David H. Van Hoosear made the annotation, "prob. Wd. E. Canfield of N.P.,"<sup>18</sup> *i.e.*, New Patent, which was bounded on the east by Danbury. As Jack Sanders states on his Ridgefield History website, "It is believed the proprietors obtained the right to this land [*i.e.*, New Patent] in exchange for the land that Ridgefield lost to New York Colony in that same year [1731] when Connecticut ceded the Oblong."<sup>19</sup> Based on the date of the cession, the New Patent lands may have opened up for settlement around the time Josiah Canfield Sr. reached his majority, and it is conceivable that he and his brothers settled there. However, barring further discoveries, we should also accept the possibility that Josiah's two brothers may be mythical.

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<sup>15</sup>"Fairfield County Probate Records, 1704-1757" [online database accessed 19 Sep 2011]. *New England Historic Genealogical Society*.

<sup>16</sup>FOOF. II:288.

<sup>17</sup>*Fairfield Probate Court Records* 14:504-505. Handwritten transcriptions provided courtesy of Marilyn Bobseine.

<sup>18</sup>"Canfield Lineage." Correspondence between Harlan Jessup and Marilyn Bobseine. 14 Nov 1997. Courtesy of Marilyn Bobseine.

<sup>19</sup>*RidgefieldHistory.com*. "Ridgefield Names (New Patent & The Oblong)." Accessed 17 Sep 2011.

An investigation of the evidentiary record makes a compelling case that Josiah Canfield could not have been the son of Timothy<sup>4</sup> Canfield by an unnamed first wife. Unfortunately, nothing has been discovered in the records to tell us whose son he might have been. According to Canfield historian Frederick A. Canfield, there were three immigrant ancestors of the name in colonial Connecticut: Thomas<sup>1</sup> of Milford, Nathaniel<sup>1</sup> of Norwalk, and Matthew<sup>1</sup> of New Haven and Norwalk, who later removed to Newark, New Jersey.<sup>20</sup> Recognizing that there have been various spellings of the surname, I use “Canfield” throughout this article for simplicity’s sake.

- **Thomas<sup>1</sup> Canfield’s** family resided in New Haven and Litchfield counties, whereas there is no evidence that Josiah lived anywhere but Fairfield County. Therefore, it would seem we can safely rule out Josiah’s descent from Thomas<sup>1</sup> Canfield.
- **Nathaniel<sup>1</sup> Canfield** appears in only one source: in *The Ancient Historical Records of Norwalk, Connecticut*, author Edwin Hall lists Nathaniel<sup>1</sup> as the 1670 owner of five acres “Bounded east by Common, west by Town’s Highway, north by Matthias Sention’s home-lot, south by Richard Olmsted’s, that was Thomas Hale’s homelot,” the same land which Samuel<sup>2</sup> Canfield sold to Thomas Fitch on 20 May 1671.<sup>21</sup> Author Frederick A. Canfield claimed that Nathaniel<sup>1</sup> and Matthew<sup>1</sup> were brothers, but the will of Matthew’s father Gregory lists no son by that name.<sup>22</sup>

In discussing this article with Marilyn Bobseine prior to publication, she mentioned she had once seen Nathaniel’s existence questioned and posited that perhaps “Math” was mistakenly transcribed as “Nath”; a logical possibility, but without access to the original land records I was unable to investigate it. For assistance I turned to Harlan Jessup, who searched a manuscript copy of the (undated) proprietors’ records. Harlan confirmed that Matthew<sup>1</sup> Canfield was the owner listed for the land Hall claimed was Nathaniel’s. From a photocopy Harlan sent to me, it is readily apparent that the first four letters of the name are “math,” though the last superscripted letter may be an s or an o or something else entirely. This entry is followed by no less than twelve others of land recorded to “math<sup>i</sup> campheild” or “math campheild,” and a thirteenth that appears to be “math<sup>o</sup> campheild.”<sup>23</sup> Since the evidence for Nathaniel<sup>1</sup> Canfield’s existence seems to rest entirely on Hall’s transcription and since there is no record to explain how land belonging to a “Nathaniel” came to be in the possession of Samuel<sup>2</sup> Canfield a year later, it would seem that Nathaniel<sup>1</sup> Canfield was a figment of Hall’s imagination. To paraphrase Mr. Jessup, this is once again a warning to look at original records wherever possible and not to rely on secondary works, especially those of “zealous 19<sup>th</sup> century local historians”!

- **Matthew<sup>1</sup> Canfield** could still be Josiah’s immigrant ancestor through someone other than Timothy<sup>4</sup>. Samuel<sup>2</sup> Canfield was the only one of Matthew’s sons who settled in Fairfield County after the family removed to New Jersey in the late 1660s. Of Samuel’s three known sons,

<sup>20</sup>Canfield, Frederick A. *A History of Thomas Canfield and of Matthew Canfield With a Genealogy of Their Descendants in New Jersey*. New Haven, CT: The Tuttle, Morehouse & Taylor Press. 1897. pp. 4-5.

<sup>21</sup>Hall, Edwin. *The Ancient Historical Records of Norwalk, Conn.* New York, NY: Ivison, Phinney, Blakeman & Co. 1865. pp. 24, 27.

<sup>22</sup>“The Canfield, Willoughby and Merwin Marriages.” *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register*. Boston, MA: New England Historic Genealogical Society. 1847-present. 138[Jan 1984]:43.

<sup>23</sup>Norwalk Land Records. 1:29-30. Manuscript copy provided courtesy of Harlan Jessup.

we can immediately eliminate the oldest, Ebenezer<sup>3</sup>; Josiah must have been born before Ebenezer<sup>3</sup> died, yet he is not mentioned among the children in Ebenezer's 1715/16 inventory. Nor could Josiah have been Ebenezer's grandson by someone other than Timothy<sup>4</sup>; just as Timothy<sup>4</sup> was not old enough to have been Josiah's father neither were his brothers, as confirmed by their father's inventory<sup>24</sup>:

Ebenezer<sup>4</sup>, "æ 16 yrs. 24<sup>th</sup> last Aug," or born 24 Aug 1699

Jabez<sup>4</sup>, "æ 11 yrs. 20<sup>th</sup> last Oct," or born 20 Oct 1704

Matthew<sup>4</sup>, "7 rs. 12 last Oct," or born 12 Oct 1708

Ezekiel<sup>4</sup>, "æ 5 yrs. 16<sup>th</sup> last Nov," or born 16 Nov 1710

David<sup>4</sup>, "æ 3 yrs 14<sup>th</sup> last Apl," or born 14 Apr 1712

We can also eliminate Samuel<sup>2</sup> Canfield's second son, Samuel<sup>3</sup>; when he died in 1712 only one child was mentioned in his inventory, his namesake.<sup>25</sup>

Few facts are known with certainty about Samuel<sup>2</sup> Canfield's youngest son, Jedediah<sup>3</sup>. He was born in Norwalk, August 1681 (listed as "æ 9 yrs 14<sup>th</sup> last Aug." in his father's inventory); on 18 Dec 1700 he chose Zerubbabel Hoyt as his guardian. In October 1712 he was appointed co-administrator of his brother Samuel<sup>3</sup> Canfield's estate and guardian of Samuel's two-year old son, Samuel<sup>4</sup> Canfield. In February 1715/16 he was appointed guardian to Reuben Dibble, the seven-year old son of Sarah (Clements) (Dibble) Canfield, his brother Ebenezer's widow. In April 1716 he was appointed co-administrator of Ebenezer's estate and guardian of Ebenezer's seven-year old son, Matthew<sup>4</sup> Canfield.<sup>26</sup> Most Canfield family histories state that Jedediah<sup>3</sup> married Lydia Kellum in Norwalk, Connecticut in 1719, **by which time he would have been thirty-eight**, and died May 1761 in Bedford, New York. No sources are cited for these dates. Could Jedediah<sup>3</sup> Canfield have been Josiah Canfield's father by a previous marriage? Josiah's estimated birth before 1715 would not have precluded Jedediah's subsequent marriage in 1719; furthermore it is almost certain Jedediah<sup>3</sup> would have been married when the court appointed him guardian to his young nephews in 1712 and 1716. Both his brother Samuel's and his brother Ebenezer's surviving spouses were second wives and not the mothers of the children in question, so it is unlikely that either of the boys resided with their stepmothers. Another item of note is that Jedediah<sup>3</sup> is credited with a son named Joseph, born in 1724, which corresponds to the long-standing family story that Josiah Canfield had a brother named Joseph who was born in the early 1720's; this Joseph<sup>4</sup> is himself credited with a son named Josiah<sup>5</sup> Canfield. I believe Jedediah<sup>3</sup> must be considered as a possible father to the unplaced Josiah.

There seem to be no answers at present to the question of Josiah Canfield's parentage, but I hope this article provides reasonable suggestions for future research. I believe Jedediah<sup>3</sup> Canfield is the most likely candidate; however other possibilities may exist which I have overlooked, including an illegitimate birth to a Canfield daughter. A fresh approach and a thorough re-investigation will be required if we are ever to solve the mystery of Josiah<sup>2</sup> Canfield's ancestry.

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<sup>24</sup>*Mead.* 5:153-154.

<sup>25</sup>*Mead.* 5:154.

<sup>26</sup>*Mead.* 4:91; 5:153-154, 163.

## Births, Marriages, and Deaths for Weston, CT, 1847-1850

Harlan R. Jessup

The vital records for this period in Weston are in a book marked *Births, Marriages, and Deaths, 1848-1867*. The records by school district begin in August 1847 and continue for only three years, ending in July 1850. There are no records from this date until 1858 when vital records are continued in the same volume and using the same form, but with no school district designated. For the first of these school years each district is named, but for the second and third year it is given only a number.

### Births, Weston, CT, 1847-1850

\* School Districts: a – Upper Parish, b – Den, c – Lyons Plain, d – Kittle Creek, e- Good Hill

Dist.*	Date	Surname	Given Name	Names of Parents	Age	Color	Occupation	Residence
5	14 Jan 1850	No name	Illegitimate					Weston
b	15 Jun 1848	Andrews	Joseph S.	James S. Andrews Minerva "	20 23	White "	Farmer	Weston
3	10 Nov [1848]	Baldwin	Henrietta	Henry Baldwin Julia "	23 20	Black	Laborer	Weston
c	22 Jul [1848]	Banks	Zalmon C.	Aaron Banks Rachel "	39 31	White "	Farmer	Weston
5	11 Aug [1848]	Bedient	No name male	William Bedient Esther "		White	Laborer	Weston
5	4 Aug 1850	Bedient	Wm. H.	William Bedient [blank]			Farmer	Weston
a	13 Apr 1848	Beers	Albert	Edwin Beers Susan "	27 22	White "	Shoemaker	Weston
2	22 Sep [1848]	Beers	Loisa	Father unknown Mary P. Beers	22	White	House work	Weston
3	29 Jul [1848]	Beers	Atwater	Edson Beers Abigail "	24 21	White "	Shoemaker	Weston

Dist.*	Date	Surname	Given Name	Names of Parents	Age	Color	Occupation	Residence
2	17 Feb 1850	Beers	Oscar	Illegitimate Mother Harriet Beers	24	White		Weston
3	4 Jan 1850	Beers	Mary E.	William Beers Laura M. "	24 19	White "	Farmer	Weston
3	17 Oct 1850	Benedict	Stephen Henry	Sanford Benedict Anita "	42 36	White "	Farmer	Weston
e	23 Aug [1847]	Bradley	Joseph	Benjamin Bradley Rachel "	32 30	White	Tanner	Weston
5	12 May 1850	Brotherton	George H.	George Brotherton [blank]			Farmer	Weston
5	11 Jan [1849]	Brown	Cornelia	James Brown Sally "		White	Farmer	Weston
6	6 Nov 1850	Burr	No name	Henry Burr Eleanor "	24 25	White "	Sea captain	Westport
3	7 Sep 1849	Cole	John W.	Eben S. Cole 2 <sup>d</sup> Elizabeth "	24 22	White "	Farmer	Weston
d	11 Jul 1848	Coley	not named daughter	David L. Coley Catherine "		White	Machinist	Weston
6	Sep 1848	Coley	William F.	Levi D. Coley S. M. "		White	Farmer	Weston
6	26 Apr 1849	Coley	Nameless male	David D. Coley Mary E. "		White	Farmer	Weston
4	5 Jun 1850	Coley	Francis	Frederick Coley Harriet "	25 19	White "	Farmer	Weston
6	16 Mar 1850	Coley	Catharine	David L. Coley Catharine "	36 31	White "	Machinist	Weston
1	22 Aug 1853 <sup>1</sup>	Crossman	Carrie Louisa	Nelson Crossman Lois Jane "			Farmer	Weston

<sup>1</sup> The only birth entry for this year, added in pencil apparently some years after the event.

Dist.*	Date	Surname	Given Name	Names of Parents	Age	Color	Occupation	Residence
c	30 Oct [1847]	Davis	Angeline	Joseph Davis Emiline "	39 26	White "	Farmer	Weston
4	10 Feb 1849	Davis	No name male	Joseph Davis Emeline "	40 27	White "	Farmer	Weston
1	24 Dec 1849	Davis	Henry F.	William H. Davis Sarah "		White "	Miller	Weston
1	May 1849	Dowd	Mary A.	Isaac L. Dowd Lydia A. "		White	Shoemaker	Weston
d	6 Dec 1847	Fitch	Daughter not named	Smith Fitch Fanny "		White	Farmer <sup>r</sup>	Westport
d	25 Sep 1847	Fitch	Angeline	Julia Fitch [father not named]		Black	Butcher <sup>2</sup>	Weston
6	28 Jan 1850	Fitch	Caroline	Smith Fitch Fanny Fitch	23 26	White "	Farmer	Westport
2	1 Jul 1849	Godfrey	No name	Daniel Godfrey Harriet "			Farmer	Weston
c	8 Apr [1848]	Gorham	William, Jun.	William Gorham Eveline "	24 18	White "	Butcher	Weston
4	25 Apr 1849	Gorham	No name <sup>3</sup>	William Gorham Eveline "	24 19	White	Painter	Weston
3	11 Sep [1848]	Gould	Malvina A.	Edson Gould Betsey "	32 32	White	Farmer	Weston
4	3 Jun 1850	Gould	Mary Jane	Peter B. B. Gould Jane "	22 22	White "	Miller	Weston
4	10 Nov [1848]	Hall	Charles	Edson Hall Frances "	24 20	White	Blacksmith	Weston

<sup>2</sup> Occupation in State copy, not in original

<sup>3</sup> "Ferdanan" written in pencil



Dist.*	Date	Surname	Given Name	Names of Parents	Age	Color	Occupation	Residence
c	27 Jun [1848]	Henderson <sup>4</sup>	Rinaldo	Abram Henderson Jully[sic, Julia] "	24 20	White "	Turner	Weston
3	10 Feb 1850	Jennings	Lester	Charles Jennings Margaret "	25 22	White "	Shoemaker	Weston
4	16 Jun 1850	Johnson	Charles B.	[blank]		[blank]	[blank]	[blank]
a	6 Mar 1848	Lockwood	John M.	Harry Lockwood Eunice "	49 43	White "	Farmer	Weston
3	25 Aug [1848]	McDowall	Emma	John McDowell Harriet "	45 25	White	Manufacturing matches	Weston
3	1 Jan 1850	Mead	Lewis Henry	Walter Mead Harriet "	23 21	White "	Farmer	Weston
e	13 Jan [1848]	Meeker	Anita	Walter Meeker Susan "	35 31	White	Blacksmith	Weston
5	12 Apr 1850	Meeker	No name	Walter S. Meeker [blank]			Blacksmith	Weston
1	7 Jan 1850	Miles	Still born	Seth Miles [blank]			Farmer	Weston
c	17 Jun [1848]	Nichols	Thomas	William Nichols Ruth "	28 22	White "	Blacksmith	Weston
e	23 Oct [1847]	Nichols	Granvill Ward	Henry B. Nichols Eunice B. "	28 26	White	Hatter	Weston
1	17 Sep 1849	Nichols	Jennette	Warren Nichols Harriet "		White "	Farmer	Weston
4	6 Feb 1849	Nichols	Lorenzo	William Nichols Ruth "	26 35	White "	Blacksmith	Weston
5	5 May 1850	Nichols	Geo. B.	Henry B. Nichols Eunice "			Hatter	Weston

<sup>4</sup> Found in later censuses as Hendrickson or Hendricks. Father's first name also found as Abraham.

Dist.*	Date	Surname	Given Name	Names of Parents	Age	Color	Occupation	Residence
4	28 Apr [1849]	Oakley	No name male	Lyman M. Oakley Chary "	38 30	White "	Carpenter	Weston
4	11 Apr 1850	Oakley	Merwin	Merwin Oakley Charity Hendrix	38 33	White "	Carpenter	Weston
c	8 Aug [1847]	O'Banks	George	Charles O'Banks Sally A. "		White "	Carpenter	Weston
3	1 Apr 1850	Oliver	Not named	Geo. W. Oliver Susanna L. "	29 30	White "	Farmer	Weston
a	4 Nov 1847	Perry	Charles F.	Miah Perry Mary "	29 23	White "	Farmer	Weston
2	26 Nov 1849	Perry	Ira B.	Miah Perry Mary "	32 25	White "	Farmer	Weston
5	24 Apr 1850	Quintard	Ann Elizabeth	Sylvester Quintard [blank]			Carpenter	Weston
e	28 Jan [1848]	Smith	Emma Jane	Francis Smith Jane "	31 30	White	Shoemaker	Weston
2	15 Feb 1850	Smith	Sarah E.	Samuel Smith Hannah "	32 33	White "	Farmer	Weston
a	10 Mar 1848	Sturges	Asdell[?] [Adaline]	John Sturges Fanny "	50 43	White "	Farmer	Weston
c	19 Sep [1847]	Sturges	Augusta	Edmond C. Sturges Abby "	32 22	White "	Farmer	Weston
1	2 Nov 1848	Sturges	Rhoda A.	Burr Sturges Amelia "		White	Shoemaker	Weston
1	16 Jan 1850	Sturges	Anna M.	John S. Sturges Eliza "		White "	Farmer	Weston
4	25 Aug 1849	Sturges	Merwin	Edmond O. Sturges Abigail "	34 25	White "	Farmer	Weston

Dist.*	Date	Surname	Given Name	Names of Parents	Age	Color	Occupation	Residence
None	6 Jan 1839	Sturges <sup>5</sup>	Hezekiah					
1	14 Jun 1850	Thorp	Emma Jane	Hanford Thorp Sarah "		White "	Farmer	Weston
4	19 Nov 1849	Thorp	Frederick S.	Bradley Thorp Fan[n]y "	30 27	White "	Farmer	Weston
c	11 Feb [1848]	Trowbridge	William G.	Thomas D. Trowbridge Sally "	47 41	White "	Farmer	Weston
4	4 Mar 1850	Trowbridge	Amelia	Thos. B. Trowbridge Sally "	49 43	White "	Farmer	Weston
3	15 Jan 1850	Williams	Abigail E.	Bradley Williams Polly "	35 30	White "	Farmer	Weston

### Marriages, Weston, CT, 1847-1850

\* School Districts: a – Upper Parish, b – Den, c – Lyons Plain, d – Kittle Creek, e – Good Hill

Dist.*	Date	Surnames	Given Names	Age	Color	Occupation	Place of Birth	Residence	# of Mar.
a	13 Jun 1848	Beers Mead	Edwin Abigail	23 20	White	Shoemaker	Weston "	Weston "	2 1
3	15 Apr 1849	Beers Lockwood	William Louisa Maria	26 22	White "	Farmer	Norwalk	Weston	1
6	5 May 1850	Bowton Dowd	William L. Elizabeth	24 22	White "	Carpenter	Ridgefield Weston	Norwalk	1 1
e	17 Jul [1848]	Brotherton Brown	George Emeline	18 18	White	Farmer	Westport Weston	Weston	1 1
3	24 Dec 1849	Bulkley Patchen	Geo. Harriet M.	30 23	White "	Farmer	Weston "	Weston	1 1

<sup>5</sup> A late entry in this volume with no other data.

Dist.*	Date	Surnames	Given Names	Age	Color	Occupation	Place of Birth	Residence	# of Mar.
e	4 May [1848]	Burr	Moses	42	White	Hatter	Greenfield	Weston	2
		Burr [ <i>sic</i> ]	Elmira	33			"		1
b	22 Jul 1848	Cole	Eben S. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	21	White	Farmer	Weston	Weston	1
		Patchen	Elizabeth B.	20	"		"	"	1
4	25 Apr 1849	Coley Banks	Frederick Harriet B.	24 17	White "	Farmer	Weston	Weston	1
2	8 Jun 1850	Davis	Charles	23	White	Farmer	Wilton	Wilton	1
		Mead	Louisa M.	18	"		Weston		1
2	4 Feb 1850	Godfrey	Silliman	68	White	Farmer	Weston	Weston	2
		Andrews	Elizabeth	36	"		"		1
c	8 Dec [1847]	Gorham Crofutt <sup>6</sup>	William Eveline	24 18	White	Butcher	Redding Weston	Weston "	
3	24 Oct 1849	Gorham	Geo. M.	27	White	Blacksmith	Redding	Weston	1
		Bulkely	Angeline	26	"		Weston		1
3	3 Mar 1850	Hall	Hezekiah	53	White	Farmer	Weston	Weston	2
		Beers	Eunice	51	"		"		1
4	23 Oct 1849	Hall	Charles		White	Blacksmith	Easton	Easton	1
		Merwin	Margery		"		Weston		1
None	24 Oct 1852	Jelliff <sup>7</sup> Brower	James F. Malvina				Weston Weston		
6	6 Nov 1848	Lansing Coley	William Frances M.	25	White	Merchant	Lansingburg, NY	Lansingburg Weston	1
2	12 Mar 1849	Lockwood	Orrin	23	White	Laborer	Weston	Weston	
		Beers	Mary P.	22	"		"	"	1
2	23 Sep 1849	Olmstead	John	33	White	Farmer	Wilton	Wilton	1
		Lockwood	Rachel A.	28	"		Weston		1

<sup>6</sup> Original reads "Gorham" for both surnames. "Crofutt" added in pencil.

<sup>7</sup> The transcribed certificate of this marriage is the only marriage record entered for this year in this volume.

Dist.*	Date	Surnames	Given Names	Age	Color	Occupation	Place of Birth	Residence	# of Mar.
2	26 Sep [1848]	Olmsted	John	33	White	Farmer		Wilton	1
		Lockwood	Rachel	28				Weston	1
2	1 Sep 1849 [sic, or 1848?]	Porter	Peter	22	White	Laborer	State of N. York Weston	Weston	1
		Lockwood	Fanny		"			Weston	2
2	15 Sep 1849	Porter	Frederick M.	23	White	Farmer	Ridgebury Weston	Weston	1
		Lockwood	Fanny W.	28	"			Weston	1
c	31 Oct 1847	Reed	Ninian	35	White	Farmer	Springfield Candle Mills	Weston	
		Smith	Roxa	23				"	"
e	25 Nov 1847	Reed	Thomas T.		White		Dover, NY Weston	Fairfield	1
		Wood	Sarah M.					"	"
3	14 Nov 1849	Rowland	Charles	46	White	Farmer	Weston Ridgfield	Weston	2
		Sherwood	Joanna	46	"			Weston	1
1	7 Sep 1847	Tuttle <sup>8</sup>	Erastus	22		Not known	Newcanan [sic] Weston	Newcanan [sic]	1
		Smith	Lydia Esther	17				Weston	1
2	8 Jun 1850	Whitney	David B.	21	White	Blacksmith	Wilton Weston	Wilton	1
		Mead	Rhoda A.	16	"			Weston	1
c	5 Jun 1848	Wildman	Lucius	27	White	Hatter	Danbury Weston	Danbury	
		Inglish	Sarah	21	"			Weston	Weston

### Deaths, Weston, CT, 1847-1850

\* School Districts: a – Upper Parish, b – Den, c – Lyons Plain, d – Kittle Creek, e – Good Hill

Dist.*	Date	Surname	Given Name	Age	Color	Occupation	Place of Birth	Residence	Cause
4	25 Apr 1849	[none]	Female infant	19d	White		Wilton [sic, but Weston?]	Weston	Fits
5	16 Jan 1849	No name	[blank]	1/3			Weston	Weston	Unknown

<sup>8</sup> Entered alone on this page, separate from other entries for the year. The school district designation is not clear.

Dist.*	Date	Surname	Given Name	Age	Color	Occupation	Place of Birth	Residence	Cause
1	Jan 1849	Adams	Silliman		White	Farmer	Weston	Weston	Unknown
c	30 Jul 1848	Banks	Thomas	66	White		Weston	Weston	Colermorbum[?]
b	22 Jul 1848	Bedient	Celestia	1y, 8m	White		Weston	Weston	Dropsey on the brain
2	1 Dec 1848	Beers	Louisa [or Louis?]	unk	White	Laborer [sic]	Weston	Weston	Unknown
2	4 Apr 1850	Beers	Anson	49	White	Farmer	Weston	Weston	Consumption
3	5 Jan 1850	Beers	Sarah	11	White		Weston	Weston	St. Vitus Dance
d	9 Aug 1847	Bennett	Elizabeth	80	White		Weston	Weston	Old age
4	26 Feb 1849	Boughton	Seth	42	White	Hatter	Wilton	Weston	Lung fever
5	22 May 1849	Brotherton	E. M.	¼	White		Weston	Weston	
e	3 Jan [1848]	Burr	Harriet B.	35	White		Weston	Weston	Consumpsen [sic]
4	10 Mar 1850	Cable	Mahli [?]	67	White	Farmer	Weston	Weston	Consumption
6	20 Mar 1849	Coley	Julia F.	¾	White		Weston	Weston	Dysentery
6	6 Apr 1849	Coley	Catherine	2	White		Weston	Weston	Dysentery
c	2 Nov 1847	Davis	Angeline	30d	White		Weston	Weston	Unknown
d	9 Feb [1848]	Douty	Helen	1	White		Norwalk	Weston	Consumpsen [sic]
1	14 Jan 1850	Drew	Hannah	68	White	Farmer	Weston	Weston	Consumption
2	14 Mar 1849	Godfrey	Joseph	57	White	Farmer	Weston	Weston	Consumption
c	15 Apr 1848	Gorham	William, jun	7d	White		Weston	Weston	Unknown
6	30 Aug 1848	Hendrix	Aaron	41	White	Carpenter	Weston	Weston	Dysentery
3	11 Feb 1850	Jennings	Margaret	22	White		Westport	Weston	Child Birth
2	11 Aug 1849	Lockwood	Levi N.	48	White	Farmer	Weston	Weston	Cholera
1	7 Jan 1850	Mile[s]	Infant of Seth				Weston		Still born
3	31 Jan 1849	Morehouse	Jesse	62	White	Farmer	Weston	Weston	Consumption
4	29 May 1850	Nash	Israel	75	White	Black Smith	Weston	Weston	Dropsy



Dist.*	Date	Surname	Given Name	Age	Color	Occupation	Place of Birth	Residence	Cause
4	8 Oct 1850	Oakley	Merwin	38	White	Carpenter	Weston	Weston	Dysentery
3	13 Jul 1849	Perry	Stephen	75	White	Farmer	Fairfield	Weston	By accident
1	21 Mar [1849]	Platt	Justus	80	White	Farmer	Weston	Weston	Old age
c	9 Aug 1847	Robertsen	Amelia	52	White		Weston	Weston	Disentary
1	9 May 1849	Roe	Wm M.	29	White	Laborer	Weston	Weston	Consumption
3	7 Sep 1848	Rowland	Burr	73	White	Farmer	Weston	Weston	Dysentery
3	14 Jun 1849	Rowland	Anna	44	White		Norwalk	Weston	Consumption
4	27 May 1850	Serine[?]	Eliza	40	White		Weston	Weston	Consumption
e	8 Sep [1847]	Smith	Ann Eliza	4	White		Weston	Weston	Consumpsen [sic]
e	8 May [1848]	Smith	Ester	6	White		Weston	Weston	Dropsy on brain
1	18 Sep 1848	Smith	Susan A.	21	White		Weston	Weston	Consumption
5	11 Jan 1849	Smith	Emma J.	1	White		Weston	Weston	
1	30 Jun 1850	Smith	Samuel	43	White	Farmer	Weston	Weston	Disease of the spine
d	26 May 1848	Sturges	Rachel A.	34	White		Weston	Weston	Consumpsen [sic]
6	9 Sep 1848	Sturges	Wakeman	20	White		Weston	Weston	Consumption
4	14 Feb 1850	Tomlinson	Julia	43	White		Weston	Weston	Consumption
3	13 Sep 1848	Webb	William <sup>9</sup>	15	White	Farmer	Weston	Weston	Dysentery
5	29 Jan 1849	Wood	Sarah	77	White	Pauper	Weston	Weston	Old age

<sup>9</sup> Inserted in pencil "Son of Polly & Judson Webb."

**Vital Records of 1847-1848,  
School District Returns from Redding, Sherman and Ridgefield, CT**

The original school district returns for Redding, for Sherman, and for Ridgefield for the years 1847 to 1852 have not been found. But a transcript of these records for the first school year of this period were submitted to the state and are now found in the State Archives, Record Group 6. Similar transcripts of records from Brookfield, Easton, and New Canaan were published in the August issue of this journal.

**Births, Redding, CT, 1847-1848**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Surname</b>	<b>Given Name</b>	<b>Names of Parents</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Color</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Residence</b>
Nov 1847	Abbott	Emily A.	Philo W. Abbott Elozia "	35	White "	Farmer	Redding "
7 May 1848	Ball	Mary J.	George Ball Electa M. "	23 18	White "	Shoemaking Housekeeping	Redding "
14 Nov 1847	Banks	Eliz <sup>th</sup> S.	Cha <sup>s</sup> M. Banks Sophia "	27 23	White "	Shoemaker Housekeeping	Redding "
4 Jul 1848	Bedient	W <sup>m</sup> B.	Tho <sup>s</sup> Bedient Lucy Ann "	30	White "	Blacksmith	Redding "
27 May 1848	Bigelow	No name	Benj <sup>n</sup> Bigelow Mary "	25 20	White "	Day Laborer Housekeeping	Redding "
10 Mar 1848	Burr	Jonathan	Ezekiel Burr Malinda "	41 34	White "	Farming Housekeeping	Redding "
15 Aug 1847	Byington	Harry C. {twins Harriet J.	S <sup>t</sup> John Byington Adelia "	40 34	White "	Shoemaker Housekeeping	Redding "
10 Nov 1847	Byington	George	Alonzo Byington Betsey "	39 35	White "	Shoemaker Housekeeping	Redding "
11 May 1848	Canfield	Harriet	Edwin Canfield Lucy Ann "	22 20	White "	Shoemaker Housekeeping	Redding "

Date	Surname	Given Name	Names of Parents	Age	Color	Occupation	Residence
7 May 1848	Canfield	W <sup>m</sup>	Hiram Canfield	26	White	Shoemaker	Redding
			Caroline "	24	"	Housekeeping	"
27 Mar 1848	Comstock	No name	David C. Comstock	34	White	Clergyman	Redding
			Eliz <sup>th</sup> "	30	"	Housekeeping	"
5 Jun 1848	Couch	Susan A.	W <sup>m</sup> Couch	24	Black	Day Laborer	Redding
			Laura "	20	"	Housekeeping	"
20 Feb 1848	Drew	Levi P.	Levi Drew	32	White	Tailor	Redding
			Lydia "	26	"	Housekeeping	"
7 Mar 1848	Goodsell	Mary E.	Uriah Goodsell	25	White	Comb Making	Redding
			Betsey "	20	"	Housekeeping	"
18 Jul 1848	Goodsell	Charles	Jos <sup>h</sup> P. Goodsell J <sup>r</sup>	33	White	Farmer	Redding
			Adelia "	29	"	Housekeeping	"
Dec 1847	Griffin	Martha A.	Joel Griffin	48	White	Farming	Redding
			Abigail "	41	"	Housekeeping	"
22 May 1848	Hill	Josephine Eliz <sup>th</sup>	John L. Hill	36	White	Farmer	Redding
			Harrriet	25	"	Housekeeping	"
3 Apr 1848	Lee	Hester	Noah M. Lee	34	White	Farmer	Dis' of Columbia
			Sarah "	34	"	Housekeeping	Redding
24 Sep 1847	Lyon	Lucy H.	Edwin Lyon	42	White	Farmer	Redding
			Mary J. "	38	"	Housekeeping	"
10 Jan 1848	Olmstead	James F.	Frederick Olmstead	30	White	House Painter	Redding
			Jane A. "	30	"	Housekeeping	"
1 Jul 1848	Olmstead	Adell	Charles Olmstead	26	White	Shoemaker	Redding
			Eliz <sup>th</sup> "	24	"	Housekeeping	"
4 Jun 1848	Osborn	Henry B.	Aaron Osborn	29	White	Laboring in	Redding
			Mary C. Osborn	27	"	Sieve Factory Housekeeping	"

Date	Surname	Given Name	Names of Parents	Age	Color	Occupation	Residence
19 Apr 1848	Patchen	Levi	Levi Patchen Ann "	45 22	White "	Farmer Housekeeping	Redding "
11 May 1848	Peck	Martha Jane	John Peck Jemima "	35 30	White "	Day Laborer Housekeeping	Redding "
6 Nov 1847	Phillips	Geo <sup>e</sup> H.	Geo <sup>e</sup> B. Phillips Eliza "	44 45	White "	Farmer Housekeeping	Redding "
4 Oct 1847	Rowland	Grace Maria	Sam <sup>l</sup> B. Rowland Ann M. "	34 32	White "	Farmer Housekeeping	Redding "
2 Mar 1848	Smith	Henry M.	John C. Smith Charlotte B. "	30 31	White "	House Painter Housekeeping	Redding "
8 Mar 1848	Taylor	Mary S.	Davis Taylor Jane "	53 41	White "	Farmer Housekeeping	Redding "
30 May 1848	Thorp	Eugene	Orrin Thorp Rebecca "	30 27	White "	Hatter Housekeeping	Redding "
30 Jul 1848	Tucker	Arthur	Floyd Tucker Anna "	43 36	White "	Shoemaker Housekeeping	Redding "
16 Mar 1848	Tucker	Josephine	Joseph S. Tucker Rebecca "	35 23	White "	Shoemaker Housekeeping	Redding "
Oct 1847	Vincent	Eliza	Anson Vincent Harriet "	25	White "	Combmaker	Redding "
8 May 1848	Wakeley	Jane Ann	Harry Wakeley Sally "	30 28	White "	Shoemaker Housekeeping	Redding "
18 Aug 1847	Wheeler	Sarah Alonzo	Ward Wheeler Angeline "	30	White "	Carpenter & Joiner Housekeeping	Redding "

Marriages, Redding, CT, 1847-1848

Date	Surnames	Given Names	Age	Color	Occupation	Place of Birth	Residence	# of Mar.
9 Jul 1848	Banks	Gershom W.	40	White	Farming & S. Teaching	Fairfield, V <sup>t</sup>	Redding	3
	Edmonds	Emma	20	"	Housekeeping	Ridgefield	"	1
10 Dec 1847	Burr	Henry F.	24	White	Farmer	Ridgefield	Redding	1
	Fox	Martha	18	"		Wilton	"	1
16 Jul 1848	Cole	Eli	26	White	Hub Turning	Ridgefield	Wilton	1
	Morgan	Emily	16	"	Housekeeping	Wilton	Redding	1
13 Oct 1847	Drew	Levi	32	White	Tailor	Redding	Redding	1
	Bartram	Lydia	26	"	Housekeeping	"	"	1
12 Apr 1848	Lee	Edmund B.	21	White	Farming	Redding	Redding	1
	Sherwood	Electa M.	23	"		"	"	1
5 Jun 1848	Lyon	Alanson	42	White	Farmer	Redding	Redding	2
	Banks	Adeline L.	27	"	Housekeeping	Weston	"	1
11 Jun 1848	Morehouse	W <sup>m</sup> C.	23	White	Farmer	Amenia, NY	Amenia, NY	1
	Clarissa D.	Denison	23	"		Redding	Redding	1
25 Nov 1847	Olmstead	Edmond	22	White	Hatter	Redding	Redding	1
	Meeker	Maria	23	"	Housekeeping	"	"	1
29 Feb 1848	Sherwood	Aaron	32	White	Farmer	Redding	Manlius, NY	1
	Couch	Jane A.	31	"		"	Redding	1
19 Sep 1847	Wells	Nathan	41	White	Combmaker	Redding	Redding	1
	Goodsell	Eunice	35	"	Housekeeping	Fairfield	"	1
17 May 1848	Winton	Cha <sup>s</sup> C.	24	White	Merchant	Bridgeport	Redding	1
	Read	Sarah H.	21	"		Redding	"	1

**Deaths, Redding, CT, 1847-1852**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Surname</b>	<b>Given Name</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Color</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Place of Birth</b>	<b>Residence</b>	<b>Cause</b>
26 Mar 1848	No name	Infant		White				Unknown
28 Feb 1848	Andrews	Walter	45	White	Farmer	Redding	Redding	Apoplexy
7 Feb 1848	Beers	Sophia	50	White	Housekeeping	Redding	Redding	Neuralgia
28 May 1848	Bigelow	Mary	20	White	Housekeeping	Redding	Redding	Erysipelas
5 Dec 1847	Boughton	Eli S.	53	White	Shoemaker	Danbury	Redding	Fever
28 Feb 1848	Coley	Amos	65	Black	Day laborer	Weston	Redding	Lung fever
4 May 1848	Fairchild	Eliz <sup>th</sup>	79	White	Housekeeping	Redding	Redding	Dropsy
16 Aug 1847	Gregory	Huldah	42	White	Housekeeping	Redding	Redding	Typhus fever
1 Jan 1848	Hawley	Caroline	25	Black		Unknown	Redding	Consumption
12 Feb 1848	Hines	Miles	43	White	Shoemaker	Milford	Redding	Brain affection
7 Mar 1848	Hoyt	Rebecca	76	White	Sewing & knitting	Lewisboro, NY	Redding	Typhus fever
23 Jul 1848	Keeler	Nathan	72	White	Farmer	Ridgefield	Redding	Inflamation of bowels
21 Feb 1848	Lyon	Mary	40	White	Housekeeping	Weston	Redding	Erysipelas
24 Jan 1848	Marvin	Huldah	63	White	Housekeeping	Redding	Redding	Lung fever
4 Aug 1848	Platt	Moses H.	45	White	Farmer	Redding	Redding	Dysentery
Apr 1848	Prindle	Jemima	78	White		Newtown	Redding	Lung fever
8 Jul 1848	Rickson	Hannah	63	White	Day laborer at house work	Westport	Redding	Dropsy
31 Aug 1847	Step <sup>n</sup>	Batterson	87	White	Weaver	Westport	Redding	Liver complaint
8 Apr 1848	Turney	Cha <sup>s</sup> M.	9 mo	White		Redding	Redding	Whooping cough



**Births, Marriages, and Deaths, Ridgefield, CT, 1847-1848**

While most other state copies of the vital records for this year omit the name of the school district, the transcript of Ridgefield records for the year include the school district identified by number. In the Beers Atlas of 1868, the numbered districts are given these names: 1 – Scotts Ridge, 2 – Bennetts Farms, 3 – Limestone, 4 – Titicus, 5 – West Mountain, 6 – not named, but central Ridgefield, 7 – West Lane, 8 – Whipstick, 9- Flat Rock, 10 – not named, but Ridgefield Station, 11 – Florida, 12 – Farmingville, 13 – perhaps the unnamed and unnumbered district shown in northeast Ridgefield, 14 and 15 not named, but in Ridgebury district.

**Births, Ridgefield, CT, 1847-1848**

<b>Dist.</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Surname</b>	<b>Given Name</b>	<b>Names of Parents</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Color</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Residence</b>
7	27 Dec 1847	Abbott	Harriet L.	William Abbott Harriet "	29 27	White	Farmer	Ridgefield
2	10 Nov 1847	Ambler	Hanford H.	Henry Ambler Eliza "	25 27	White	Farmer	Ridgefield
10	14 Apr 1848	Bates	John	Walter Bates Lorany "	35 35	White	Stone cutter	Ridgefield
10	11 Nov 1847	Beers	Seth	Bradley Beers Mary "	30 25	White	Miller	Ridgefield
7	16 Feb 1848	Bennett	Henry	Jeremiah Bennett Adaline "	26 21	White	Shoe maker	Ridgefield
1	28 Jul 1848	Beours[?]	Mary F.	Francis Beours[?] Mary "	29 24	Black	Farmer	Ridgefield
2	1 Jul 1848	Booth	No name	William Booth Cynthia "	22 24	White	Hatter	Ridgefield
12	6 May 1848	Boughton	Clark	Wilson Boughton Julia Ann "	23 20	White	Shoemaker	Ridgefield
13	11 Aug 1847	Brush	William A.	Henry C. Brush Clarissa "	28 28	White	Carriage trimmer	Ridgefield
1	6 Dec 1847	Burt	Rachel	Edwin Burt Rachel "	43 34	White	House mason	Ridgefield

Dist.	Date	Surname	Given Name	Names of Parents	Age	Color	Occupation	Residence
5	5 Jan 1848	Burt	David	Stephen Burt Chana[?] "	28 31	White	Farmer	Ridgefield
1	18 Mar 1848	Deforest	Charles	George Deforest Sally A. "	36 30	White	Shoe maker	5 School district
4	21 Jun 1848	Gilbert	Jenett	Eben Gilbert Juliann "	43 40	White	Farming	Ridgefield
1	20 May 1848	Hunt	Anonymous	Henry W. Hunt Julia A. "	37 34	White	Farmer	Ridgefield
11	23 Mar 1848	Jennings	Charles Edgar	Anson Jennings Nancy Jane "	48 35	White	Farming	Redding
10	15 Mar 1848	Jones	Harriet	Stephen Jones Esther "	40 35	White	Labourer	Ridgefield
8	31 Dec 1847	Keeler	No name	Jonah C. Keeler Henrietta "	40 35	White	Agriculturist	Ridgefield
6	1 Mar 1848	Lobdell	Mary Jane	Samuel Lobdell Harriet M. "	28 28	White	Tailor	Ridgefield
4	19 May 1848	Main	Almiah	Zamon S. Main Martha "	38 36	White	Hatter	Ridgefield
9	12 Oct 1847	Mead	Paulina	Russel Mead Mary Ann "	43 37	White	Farmer	Ridgefield
6	11 Sep 1847	Meeker	Rebecca F.	Francis Meeker Mary "	30 27	White	Merchant	Ridgefield
7	21 Feb 1848	Miller	Sarah E.	Wd Sally Miller	36	White		Ridgefield
8	2 Dec 1847	Miller	Radcliff	Justus Miller Sarah "	28 41	White	Miller	Ridgefield
4	30 Mar 1848	Mills	Mary Elizabeth	Horatio W. Mills Sarah "	39 24	White	Labourer	Southport
2	27 May 1848	Pickett	Jane	Aaron J. Pickett Jane "	22 18	White	Hatter	Ridgefield
1	14 Aug 1847	Platt	Eliza	Bradley Platt Lydia "	36 31	White	Day labor	Ridgefield

Dist.	Date	Surname	Given Name	Names of Parents	Age	Color	Occupation	Residence
6	25 Jan 1848	Platt	Susan A.	James E. Platt Martha E. "	26 22	White	Silver plater	Ridgefield
6	23 Apr 1848	Powel	John W.	Isaac Powel Sarah A. "	34 33	White	Farmer	Ridgefield
6	31 Jan 1848	Rider	James W.	James Rider Hannah "	41 41	White	Shoemaker	Ridgefield
11	18 May 1848	Scofield	Mary Ann	George R. Scofield Harriet M. "	25 26	White	Shoe maker	Ridgefield
4	10 Apr 1848	Smith	Jenett	George Smith Emma "	41 38	White	Taylor	Ridgefield
6	3 Sep 1847	Smith	Nathan	Nathan Smith Sarah S. "	58 40	White	Farmer	Ridgefield
7	2 Mar 1848	Smith	Julia L.	Henry Smith Anna E. "	27 28	White	Merchant	Ridgefield
8	9 Sep 1847	Smith	George W.	William Smith Anna /E.	43 30	White	Agriculturist	Ridgefield
4	19 Feb 1848	St. John	Malinda	Keeler St. John Sarah "	32 40	White	Blacksmith	Ridgefield
6	23 May 1848	Staples	Mary	Aaron T. Staples Eliza "		White	Farmer	Ridgefield
1	24 Jul 1848	Warren	Eliza Jane	Burr Warren Eliza "	30 31	White	Carpenter	Ridgefield
2 <sup>d</sup> School Society (Ridgebury). No other births returned from 2 <sup>d</sup> Society								
	28 Oct 1847	Smally	Mary Ann	John Smally Caroline "	46 36	Black	Gardening	Ridgefield

**Marriages, Ridgefield, CT, 1847-1848**

<b>Dist.</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Surnames</b>	<b>Given Names</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Color</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Place of Birth</b>	<b>Residence</b>	<b># of Mar.</b>
6	9 May [1848]	Albin Platt	Charles Harriet	24 26	White "	Sive [sic] maker	Redding		1
2	17 Dec 1847	Bates Whitlock	Harry Eunice	23 27	White "	Backsmith	Ridgefield	Ridgefield	
13	3 Nov 1847	Coolidge Hawley	Henry Margaret	31 24	White "	Merchant	Poughkeepsie Ridgefield	New York "	
5	27 Oct 1847	Dauchy Osborn	Charles Charity T.	32 23	White "	Farmer	Ridgefield North Salem, NY	Ridgefield "	
6	21 May 1848	Dauchy Smith	Jacob L. Mary	20 16	White "	Hatter	Ridgefield	Ridgefield "	1
3	28 Mar 1848	Dikeman Smith	Niram Jane	24 24	White "	Farmer	Danbury Ridgefield	Danbury	1
7	21 Nov 1847	Grummon Hays	Josiah N. Mary J.	24 26	White "	Shoemaker	Ridgefield Lewisborough	Ridgefield "	1
5	27 Feb 1848	Kellogg Gilbert	Hiram Mary	26 26	White "	Farmer	Ridgefield	Ridgefield	
2	10 Sep 1847	Knapp Smith	John Nancy	23 35	White "	Farmer	Ridgefield	Ridgefield	
5	28 May 1848	Lockwood Ritch	Andrew Hannah	18 22	White "	Hatter	Redding North Salem, NY	Ridgefield "	
6	26 Oct [1847]	Northrop Keeler	Benjamin K. Catharine	23 21	White "	Teacher	Ridgefield Riegefield	Ridgefield "	1
1	31 Jul 1848	Scott June	Burr Laura	30 29	White "	Sailor	Ridgefield Ridgefield		1
1	5 Sep 1847	Smith Scott	Laurence Mary A.	27 23	White "	Farmer	North Salem, NY Ridgefield	North Salem North Salem	1

Dist.	Date	Surnames	Given Names	Age	Color	Occupation	Place of Birth	Residence	# of Mar.
12	18 Jan 1848	Smith Lee	Samuel M. Lucy		White "	Farmer	Ridgefield "	Ridgefield "	1
6	16 May 1848	Stater [?] Pickett	George W. Issabella [sic]	21 16	White "	Carriage maker	Ridgefield	Port Chester, NY Ridgefield	1
2	15 Feb 1848	Stebbins Pulling	Benjamin Annette	32 26	White "		Brookfield Ridgefield	Brookfield Ridgefield	
4	2 Nov 1848	Stone Loder	William D. Charlotte	23 18	White "	Cabinet work	Danbury Lewisborough, NY	Carmel, NY Ridgefield	1

#### Deaths, Ridgefield, CT, 1847-1848

Dist.	Date	Surname	Given Name	Age	Color	Occupation	Place of Birth	Residence	Cause
12	21 May 1848	Bouton	Clark	15d	White		Ridgefield	Ridgefield	Smothered
13	11 Aug 1848	Brush	William H.	infant	White		Ridgefield	Ridgefield	
5	20 Mar 1848	Burt	David	2½ mo	White		Ridgefield	Ridgefield	Whooping cough
5	18 Apr 1848	Dickens	Rachel	83	White		South Salem, NY	Ridgefield	Old age
13	22 May 1848	Grummon	Hester	69	White		Pennsylvania	Ridgefield	Dropsy
4	27 Oct [1847]	Hoyt	Peter T.	1	White		Ridgefield	Ridgefield	Cause unknown
4	1 Dec [1847]	Jervis [?]	Eunice	46	White	Farming	Ridgefield	Ridgefield	Dropsy
5	7 Mar 1848	Knapp	Sarah J.	4	White		Ridgefield	Ridgefield	Whooping cough
2	6 Mar [1848]	Luson	Sally	82	White	Farmer	Norwalk	Ridgefield	Old age
?	7 Mar 1848	Mead	Sally	73	White	Labourer [sic]	Ridgefield	Ridgefield	Inflammation on the lungs
?	25 Jan 1848	Mead	James	4	White		Ridgefield	Ridgefield	Croup
6	21 Sep 1847	Miller	Enos C.	30	White	Shoe maker		Ridgefield	Fever

<b>Dist.</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Surname</b>	<b>Given Name</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Color</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Place of Birth</b>	<b>Residence</b>	<b>Cause</b>
5	26 Dec 1847	Mills	Rebecca	47	White		Ridgefield	Ridgefield	Consumption
1	28 Jul 1848	Patrick	Edson	21y, 10m	White	Carpenter	Ridgefield		Consumption
6	28 May 1848	Rider	James W.	4 mo.	White		Ridgefield	Ridgefield	Consumption
13	29 Feb 1848	Scott	Ruth	78	White		Ridgefield	Ridgefield	Consumption
5	25 Feb 1848	Sherwood	Sarah	94	White		Ridgefield	Ridgefield	Lung fever
4	11 Sep [1847]	Smith	Harry	23	White	Farming	Ridgefield	Ridgefield	Dispepsia
?	10 Jul 1848	Thomas	Gershom	71	White	Shoemaker	Wilton	Ridgefield	Palsy
1	21 Sep 1847	Whitlock	Israel M.	19y, 9m	White	Blacksmith	Ridgefield	Danbury	Inflamation in the lungs
2	20 Dec 1847	Wilson	Thomas	82	White	Farmer	Ridgefield	Ridgefield	Old age
From 2 <sup>d</sup> School Society (Ridgebury), South District									
	15 Mar [1848]	Keeler	Caleb	66	White		Ridgebury	Ridgebury	Pleurisy
	15 Mar [1848]	Keeler	Lurany	80	White		Ridgebury	Ridgebury	Lung fever
	16 Feb [1848]	Rockwell	Lydia	93	White		Ridgebury	Ridgebury	Old age
	4 Mar [1848]	St. John	Thomas	62	White		Ridgebury	Ridgebury	Cancer



**Births, Marriages, and Deaths, Sherman, CT, 1847-1848**

**Births, Sherman, CT, 1847-1848**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Surname</b>	<b>Given Name</b>	<b>Names of Parents</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Color</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Residence</b>
10 Sep 1847	Beardsley	Martha	Orlando Beardsley Nancy "	32 31	White White	Farmer	Monroe "
Jan 1848	Briggs	Daniel F.	Charles Briggs Jennett "	28 26	White White	Farmer	Sherman "
1 Jun 1848	Dorland	Ann Elisabeth	Emanuel Dorland Susan "	32 23	Colored Colored	Laborer	Sherman "
11 Jun 1848	Draper	Philip V.	James L. Draper Emma "	26 24	White White	Laborer	Sherman "
19 Aug 1847	Freeman	Sylvester	Gilbert Freeman Emma "	24 32	Colored Colored	Laborer	Sherman "
15 Dec 1847	Hawes	Judson S.	David P. Hawes Catharine "	60 45	White White	Farmer	Sherman "
18 Mar 1848	Hoag	David Doughty	David D. Hoag Eliza Oakle "	30 27	White White	Merchant	Sherman "
5 Jul 1848	Hungerford	Mary Eliza	Orrin Hungerford Welthy "	30 21	White White	Carpenter	Sherman "
26 Feb 1848	Hungerford	Oliver	Harvey Hungerford Susan "	25 19	White White	Carpenter	Sherman "
10 Jul 1848	Hungerford	Abbey [?]	Ansel Hungerford Louisa "	54 42	White White	Carpenter	Sherman "
Dec 1847	Kelley	Philip	Jeremiah Kelley Alicce "	23 22	White White	Laborer	Sherman "
10 Apr 1848	Pepper	Frank	Charles Pepper Charlotte "	28 31	White White	Waggon maker	Sherman "

Date	Surname	Given Name	Names of Parents	Age	Color	Occupation	Residence
Jan 1848	Pepper	Ann O.	Seth Pepper Maria "	45 40	White White	Shoemaker	Sherman "
17 Jun 1848	Platt	Charles Henry	Oliver Platt Margarett "	29 27	White White	Shoemaker	Sherman "
Sep 1847	Seeley	Sarah E.	Peter Seeley Nancy "	42 38	White White	Cooper	Sherman "
29 Oct 1847	Stuart	Isaac	James Stuart Susan "	31 18	White White	Farmer	Sherman "
19 Jul 1848	Suarrow	Maria	Aaron Suarrow Jane "	34 32	Colored Colored	Laborer	Sherman "
Aug 1847	Turner	Alexander	Lyman Turner Maria "	24 20	White White	Laborer	Sherman "
16 Mar 1848	Vincent	Mary	Job Vincent Betsey A. "	24 21	White White	Laborer	Sherman "
17 Aug 1847	Woodruff	Theron	Levi Woodruff Sarah "	24 25	White White	Millstone maker	Sherman "

### Marriages, Sherman, CT, 1847-1848

Date	Surnames	Given Names	Age	Color	Occupation	Place of Birth	Residence	# of Mar.
5 Jan 1848	Briggs Stuart	Mr. Stephen Miss Nancy	32 24	White White	Farmer Teacher	Sherman Sherman	Sherman "	1
3 Feb 1848	Cable Blakman	Mr. Wheeler Mrs. Rebecca		White White	Laborer	Sherman Sherman	Sherman Sherman	Not known 2
[above] Returned and recorded through mistake								
3 Jul 1848	Durgy Fairchild	Mr. Niles Miss Emily	21 18	White White	Laborer	Sherman Sherman	Sherman Sherman	1 1

Date	Surnames	Given Names	Age	Color	Occupation	Place of Birth	Residence	# of Mar.
1 Jul 1848	Durgy Osborn	Mr. Seely Miss Abigail	22 15	White White	Laborer	Sherman Sherman	Sherman Sherman	1 1
2 Jul 1848	Fairchild Durgy	Mr. Henry G. Miss Rachael	21 19	White White	Laborer	Sherman Sherman	Sherman Sherman	1 1

#### Deaths, Sherman, CT, 1847-1848

Date	Surname	Given Name	Age	Color	Occupation	Place of Birth	Residence	Cause
13 Dec 1847	Appleby	Harriet	10	White		Sherman	Sherman	Affection of the heart
12 Jan 1848	Barnes	Mrs. Hannah	77	White		New Milford	Sherman	Disease of the heart
9 Jan 1848	Briggs	Elizabeth	55	White		New Fairfield	Sherman	Bilious fever
2 Sep 1847	Cougo [?]	Elijah	45	White	Laborer	Sherman	Sherman	Well damps
Feb 1848	Disbrow	Lois	68	White		Sherman	Sherman	Lung fever
20 Feb 1848	Giddings	Edward	$7\frac{1}{12}$ yr	White		Sherman	Sherman	Lung fever
25 May 1848	Giddings	Meeker	19	White		Sherman	Sherman	Consumption
16 Oct 1847	Gorham	Elizabeth	88	White		Sherman	Sherman	Old age
15 Aug 1847	Hall	Eliza	42	White		Sherman	Sherman	Chronic disease
8 Jan 1848	Hungerford	Polly	71	White		Sherman	Sherman	Old age
25 Jul 1848	Hungerford	Henry K.	$1\frac{5}{12}$	White		Sherman	Sherman	Inflamation of bowels
22 Aug 1847	Northrop	Martha Lucretia	$1\frac{5}{12}$ yrs	White		Sherman	Sherman	Cholera infantum
11 Mar 1848	Pepper	Sarah	85	White		Unknown	Sherman	Old age
10 Sep 1847	Soule	Abbey Jane	$4\frac{1}{12}$ yr	White		Sherman	Sherman	Cholera infantum
Apr 1848	Squire	Susan	92	White		New Fairfield	Sherman	Old age
20 Aug 1847	Stuart	Nancy	79	White		Newtown	Sherman	Paralytic attack
Sep 1847	Wanzer	Hannah	50	White		Sherman	Sherman	Consumption

## Two Benjamin Beldings Linked by a Saw Pit

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The name Belding is found in Connecticut as far back as the 1630s, spelled variously Baildon, Belden and Belding. A definitive genealogy of the family seems never to have been attempted likely due to confusion with the early lineage and sparse colonial records to help distinguish between various families.<sup>1</sup>

Benjamin Belden of Rye, Westchester County, New York, undoubtedly came out of Connecticut but facts as to when and where he originated remain elusive. He may be found first in the 1790 Federal census of Bedford Township, Westchester County, with an entry for a male over 16, a male 26 to 45 and five females, a total of 7 persons.<sup>2</sup>

No land records are found in Westchester County for him, but by 1800 the family appears to have moved to Rye, Westchester County. Here he is reported with a male under 16, one under 26, one under 45, and two females under 10, one under 16 and one under 45, for a total of 7 persons.<sup>3</sup>

The only absolute record found for Benjamin Belden of Rye is his will dated 5 Mar 1802 and admitted to Probate 10 Mar 1802.<sup>4</sup> He left "... to wife Abigail, all money and income due him for her support and children [unnamed] unable to support themselves...to son Henry Belding all wearing apparel..." His inventory totaled £371.18.8 and included, "... 25 tand Calveskins, 1 lot of leather, a man's sadel & bridel, 57 pair of shus, 1 pair of boots & 1 pair of shues, l lot of leather & lining, towls & lasts in shop, shuthread, 3 pair of small shus, 1 pair of mens shus, 1 small skin,..." indicating that he was probably a shoemaker. No further records exist for Benjamin's wife Abigail, supposed mother of all of his children.

Discarding the 1790 census entry as possibly for a different man, we can assume that Benjamin and Abigail had a son born 1784 to 1790, a son born 1774 to 1784, and two daughters one born 1790 to 1800, one born 1786 to 1790. He and his wife were both born by 1755. Benjamin's will accounts for Henry, a son who is apparently of age, i.e., self-supporting, but mentions no other children by name.

Three Belden marriages were recorded in Christ Church, Rye, as follows: 14 May 1804, Mr. Daniel Davis to Miss Priscilla Belden, both of Saw Pitt; 21 Sep 1805, John Brundage of King Street to Miss Sally Belden of Sawpit; and 26 Apr 1815, Henry Belden to Anne Sniffin.<sup>5</sup>

Henry Belden appears to have spent the rest of his life in Rye where he is found in every census, 1810 through 1850. In 1850 Henry, age 66 therefore born 1784, is a shoemaker with

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<sup>1</sup> Poste, Donald E., "English Origins of the Beldens of Wethersfield," *The American Genealogist*, vol. 45 (1969), p. 135-138; and Paul C. Reed, FASG & John C. B., "*The American Genealogist*," Vol. 76 (2001), p. 20-28; 122-128, are excellent discussions of the problems with the English ancestry of the family.

<sup>2</sup> 1790 U. S. Census, New York, Westchester Co., Bedford Twp., NARA microfilm M637, roll 6, p. 186, Benjamin Belding household.

<sup>3</sup> 1800 U. S. Census, New York, Westchester Co., Rye, NARA microfilm M32, roll 27, p. 7, Benjamin Belden household.

<sup>4</sup> Benjamin Belding will, file 7-1809, Westchester County Archives, White Plains, New York, microfilm roll C-93.

<sup>5</sup> "Vital Records of Christ's Church at Rye, N.Y.," *New York Genealogical & Biographical Record*, June 1907, vol. 37, p. 148, 257; vol. 38, p. 145.

wife, Nancy, 65, and their apparent son William H., 32, also a shoemaker, and perhaps two daughters, Levina, 27 and Mary, 26.<sup>6</sup> Henry's wife Nancy at 73 is evidently a widow in 1860 when she lives in Stephen Raymond's household, next door to her son William H. Belden.<sup>7</sup>

### Another Benjamin Belden in Saw Pit

In 1660 three settlers from Greenwidge (now Greenwich, Connecticut), Thomas Studwell, John Coe, and Peter Disbrow, arranged to buy Manursing Island and land near the Byram River from the Mohegan Indians. In 1665, this land was claimed by both New York and Connecticut, but relinquished to the New York Colony by Connecticut in 1683. The land became known as Saw Pit by 1732 due to the saw pits, holes in the ground in which logs were cut to be used by shipbuilders. The struggle over its ownership continued for almost 105 years until 1788 when the New York Legislature ruled Sawpit was part of the Town of Rye. It eventually outgrew its name and became Port Chester by incorporating in 1868 as a village within Rye.<sup>8</sup>

Two sources state that a Benjamin Belding came to Ohio from Westchester County, New York. The first written in 1864 and published by the local historical society when he was still alive, stated Benjamin "came in 1829 from Sawpits, West Chester County, New York. He located on the center road in section 2. He sold out some years since, and now resides in New London."<sup>9</sup> A history of Huron County written in 1879 states he came in 1829, "... the same time as Marshall" from Westchester County.<sup>10</sup> Two named "Marshel," an Isaac and a Henry, appear in the 1830 Huron County census but neither is found in the 1820 Westchester census.

On 31 Dec 1827 Cyrus Mead purchased 117 acres in [Greenwich,] Huron County, range 21, township 1, section 2 from the county auditor for back taxes. He sold 24 acres to Benjamin B. Belding the same day. Benjamin presented his receipt for the sale to the auditor on 20 Nov 1833 and requested a deed, the first deed filed for him.<sup>11</sup> He later purchased additional acreage in Greenwich.

Benjamin was born around 1800 in New York according to census records.<sup>12</sup> He was probably married about 1818 in New York to Jane [—?—], also born there 1802/03. No marriage record has been located but she appears in deeds, censuses and his will as his wife. They had 15 children born between 1818 and 1845.

He appears in the 1830 census as Benjamin Baily,<sup>13</sup> 1840 as Benjamin Beldin,<sup>14</sup> 1850 as

<sup>6</sup> 1850 U.S. Census, New York, population schedule, Westchester Co., Rye, NARA microfilm M432, roll 615, p. 108, line 22, Henry Belden household.

<sup>7</sup> 1860 U.S. Census, New York, population schedule, Westchester Co., Rye, NARA microfilm M653, roll 882, p. 272, dwelling 1807, family 2022, Stephen Raymond household.

<sup>8</sup> "Port Chester, New York," *Wikipedia*, [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Port\\_Chester,\\_New\\_York](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Port_Chester,_New_York).

<sup>9</sup> "Memoirs of Greenwich," *Firelands Pioneer* (Firelands Historical Society, Norwalk, Ohio) June 1864, vol. V, p. 75.

<sup>10</sup> W. W. Williams, *History of the Fire lands, comprising Huron and Erie Counties, Ohio, with illustrations and biographical sketches of some of the prominent men and pioneers.* (Cleveland, Ohio, Leader Print. Co.:1879), p. 342.

<sup>11</sup> Huron County Deeds vol. 8, p. 56, The Auditor to Benjamin Belden, County Recorder, Norwalk, Ohio.

<sup>12</sup> 1850 U.S. Census, Ohio, population schedule, Huron County, Greenwich Twp., NARA microfilm M432, roll 697, p. 410-11, dwelling 1119, family 1138, Benjamin Belding household.

<sup>13</sup> 1830 U.S. Census, Ohio, Huron Co., Greenwich, NARA microfilm M19, roll 133, p. 405, Benj Baily household.

<sup>14</sup> 1840 U.S. Census, Ohio, Huron Co., Greenwich, NARA microfilm M704, roll 404, p. 329, Benjamin Beldin household.

Benjamin Belding with \$2000 real property,<sup>15</sup> and 1860 as Benjamin Belden.<sup>16</sup> In June 1851 Benjamin Belding, a farmer in Greenwich, was indicted in Common Pleas Court and charged with placing an obstruction across the railroad tracks. He was found not guilty by a jury of his peers.<sup>17</sup> Evidently the railroad had appropriated some of his acreage for right-of-way without paying him. Shortly after his acquittal the railroad purchased his land and he moved to nearby New London.

Benjamin died in New London, Ohio, before 24 July 1665 when the administrator of his estate filed for settlement.<sup>18</sup> He was survived by his wife Jane and children: Abby J. Buffington, Henry B. Belding, Mary Coalbaugh, Charles M. Belding, William Belding, Olive Merifield, Francis Read, Henrietta Wolcott, Sandford W. Belding, and Theodore Belding; also grandchildren Albert R. Hazard and Eava Hazard [children of daughter Priscilla, deceased. Not listed were sons Benjamin Belding, Lewis Belding, and Samuel Belding, all deceased without children].

Jane Belding last appears in the 1880 census at age 77 living in Grafton, Lorain County, Ohio, with her son Sanford and his wife.<sup>19</sup> A search of Lorain County death records for her name was unsuccessful. The 1880 census states she was born in New York to parents who were natives of Connecticut.

### **Conclusion**

Benjamin Belding of Huron County, Ohio, born around 1800, is presumed to be a son of Benjamin Belden of Rye, Westchester County, New York. The main reasons for this conclusion are the absence of any other Belden/Belding families in Westchester County and the similarity of names in the two families.

The Ohio Benjamin's eldest daughter is Abby Jane. Abigail is the Westchester Benjamin's wife and Jane the Ohio's Benjamin's wife. The eldest son of the Ohio Benjamin was also named Benjamin. His 2<sup>nd</sup> son was named Henry B., the same name as the Westchester Benjamin's only proven son. Both Benjamins have a son William and a daughter Priscilla.

Finally, Westchester Benjamin was a shoemaker. Ohio Benjamin's son Samuel was a shoemaker. Skilled trades often passed from father to son. While the elder Benjamin is called "farmer" he may have learned the shoemaking trade from his brother Henry while growing up.

### **Belden/Belding DNA Project**

In an effort to find a solution to this Belding enigma, I have created a Belden/Belding DNA Project at Family Tree DNA, <http://www.familytreedna.com>. My uncle contributed his DNA to the project as the last male Belding in our line, well documented back to my third great grandfather, Benjamin B. Belding of Huron County. I am hoping for additional descendants of the Connecticut family to join the project and perhaps together we can make strides toward creating a comprehensive genealogy of this long neglected family.

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<sup>15</sup> 1850 U.S. Census, Ohio, population schedule, Huron County, Greenwich Twp., Benjamin Belding household.

<sup>16</sup> 1860 U.S. Census, Ohio, population schedule, Huron County, New London Twp., NARA microfilm M653, 991, p. 382, dwelling 2944, family 2843, Benjamin Belden household.

<sup>17</sup> *The State of Ohio vs Benjamin Belding*, Journal vol. 9, p. 512, Huron County Common Pleas Court, Norwalk, Ohio.

<sup>18</sup> Benjamin B. Belding administration of estate, Huron County, Ohio Probate Record, Huron County Courthouse, Norwalk, Ohio.

<sup>19</sup> 1870 U.S. Census, Ohio, population schedule, Lorain County, Grafton, NARA microfilm T9, roll 1042, p. 501D, dwelling 206, family 217, Sanford Belding household.

## Hezekiah and Charity Mills of Westport, Connecticut

John A. Drobnicki

Hezekiah Mills (*Daniel*<sup>4</sup>, *William*<sup>3</sup>, *John*<sup>2-1</sup>) was born in Westport, on Nov. 7, 1792, and was baptized on May 15, 1794, the youngest of nine children of Daniel Mills and Abigail Roberts.<sup>1</sup> Charity Mills (*John*<sup>5</sup>, *Ebenezer*<sup>4</sup>, *Robert*<sup>3</sup>, *John*<sup>2-1</sup>) was baptized on June 23, 1793 in Green's Farms, the third of eleven children of John Mills and Eunice Frasier.<sup>2</sup> Hezekiah and Charity – this author's great-great-great-great grandparents – were married on Jan. 22, 1810, in Westport, by David Judah, a justice of the peace.<sup>3</sup> They were second cousins once-removed, since Hezekiah's grandfather (William) was the younger brother of Charity's great-grandfather (Robert), making them both descendents of shipwright John Mills<sup>1</sup> of Stamford.

Although Hezekiah's father Daniel had once had Loyalist sympathies,<sup>4</sup> Hezekiah enlisted in Nov. 1814 for service during the War of 1812 and was a Private in Lt. John W. Hanford's Company of Infantry, 4<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Burr's Connecticut Militia. He served as a shore guard at Black Rock in Fairfield, and was present during an attack by a British ship upon Capt. Hart's schooner, during which the British were repulsed. He was discharged on Mar. 5, 1815.<sup>5</sup> At some point, he received land warrants of 40 acres and 120 acres for his service.<sup>6</sup> No occupation was listed for Hezekiah Mills on the 1850 Census, but both the 1860 and 1870 Censuses listed him as a blacksmith in Westport.

On Mar. 15, 1871, 78-year-old Hezekiah Mills applied for a War of 1812 pension under a law that had been passed one month earlier, and his application was approved for \$8 per month.<sup>7</sup> He died on Nov. 30, 1875 at age 83 in Westport.<sup>8</sup> Six months later, Charity Mills applied for a War of 1812 widow's pension, and was also granted \$8 per month.<sup>9</sup> She died in Westport on Jan. 6, 1884 of old age.<sup>10</sup> For their children and further generations, see Helen Schatvet Ullmann's book, *Descendants of John Mills of Stamford, Connecticut*. Please, no "kissing cousin" jokes.

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<sup>1</sup> Donald Lines Jacobus, *History and Genealogy of the Families of Old Fairfield* (New Haven: Tuttle, Morehouse & Taylor Co., 1932), Vol. 2, p. 656; correspondence between the author and the Congregational Church of Green's Farms, Apr. 1, 1987.

<sup>2</sup> Jacobus, Vol. 2, p. 656.

<sup>3</sup> Pension file for Hezekiah Mills, National Archives, in possession of the author.

<sup>4</sup> Daniel had served in Capt. John Bell's company in 1776 along with his brothers Ezra and John, but must have become sympathetic to the Loyalist cause, for after moving to Dutchess County, New York, Daniel was tarred and feathered on Dec. 16, 1783, before eventually moving back to Connecticut. See Helen Schatvet Ullmann, "John<sup>1</sup> Mills of Stamford, Connecticut and Some of His Descendants [Part 4]," *Connecticut Ancestry* 48, no. 4 (May 2006): 163-169.

<sup>5</sup> Military and pension files for Hezekiah Mills, National Archives, in possession of the author.

<sup>6</sup> Pension file for Hezekiah Mills.

<sup>7</sup> Pension file for Hezekiah Mills.

<sup>8</sup> Pension file for Hezekiah Mills. According to correspondence between the author and the Westport Town Clerk, Mar. 10, 1987, Hezekiah died due of an accident. In her *Descendants of John Mills of Stamford, Connecticut* (Boston: Newbury Street Press, 2010), Helen Schatvet Ullmann cites (on p. 92) an unpublished family history by Cyrus Bradley as saying that Hezekiah had a nightmare during a blizzard, "jumped out of the window in his nightgown," and then died the next day.

<sup>9</sup> Pension file for Hezekiah Mills.

<sup>10</sup> Certified copy of Death Record of Charry [*sic*] Mills from Connecticut State Department of Health, in possession of the author.



**Richard Patrick/Partrick  
(c.1698–1765 +) of Norwalk, CT, and North Salem, NY**

Patricia L. Haslam  
plhaslam@earthlink.net

After 44 years of trying to prove or disprove the written, handed-down tradition that my seventh great-grandfather Richard Patrick or Partrick was a descendant of Capt. Daniel Patrick, an evaluation of the evidence by Harry Macy, Jr. FGBS, FASG, in early 2011 suggests that there cannot be any connection. So it is back to square one. Finding the origins of Richard before 19 Dec. 1718 when he was married at Swansea, Bristol County, MA, to Mary<sup>3</sup> Munrow/Monroe of Bristol, Bristol Co., RI, seems to have hit a brick wall.

The christenings of the first two children of this couple, **John** born c. 1719, and **Catherine**, born c. 1721, have not yet been found. But by 30 May 1724 Richard's cattle mark is registered at Norwalk, CT,<sup>1</sup> and christenings of later children are recorded in Stratford, CT, Christ Church [Anglican] Records 1722-1826. Congregational church records in area towns do not record any earlier entries for baptisms of this family.

One solid clue to the previous place of residence for Richard Patrick was discovered after checking the second recorded deed for him of 7 Feb. 1731/2.<sup>2</sup> Richard is grantee and pays a consideration of £30 to John Bears/Beers, grantor, of Norwalk for "2 acres precise measure lying in Norwalk near or about the lower end of Chestnut Hill near Smith's Hills with a fraim of a house upon part of ye same." An investigation of this John Bears reveals that the first deed for *him* as grantee<sup>3</sup> dated 1 Dec 1720 states that he is most recently from Bristol, Bristol County, Province of Massachusetts Bay, and that his wife is Martha Munroe/Manroe, a cousin of Mary Munrow who married Richard Patricke. The father and a brother of Mary Munrow Patrick had already migrated to Norwalk, CT. This is the migration trail of another extended family.

Another clue is the christening of a John *Partridge* at Fairfield, CT, as an adult, 30 Nov 1722 by Rev. Samuel Johnson, missionary, in the Stratford Episcopal Church Records 1722-1826. No further data discovered about him.

Between January 1750/1 and 1757 Richard removed to North Salem, Westchester Co., NY, then known as the Upper District of Salem, Cortlandt Manor.<sup>4</sup> Rent-rolls for Great Lots 9 and 10 North exist, and the latest one for him is dated 5 Jan 1765 after which he may have died there.<sup>5</sup>

The children of Richard and Mary Patrick/Partrick are well documented: **John** b. c. 1719, m. (1) Bethia Fillow 1740 at Norwalk; m.. (2) Deborah Wright c. 1772 at Norwalk; **Catherine**

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<sup>1</sup> Norwalk Town Proceedings Vol.2:16A.

<sup>2</sup> Norwalk Land Records 7:249

<sup>3</sup> Norwalk Land Records Vol. 5:515

<sup>4</sup> Norwalk Land Records 11:277.

<sup>5</sup> Sleepy Hollow Restorations Library.

m. David Olmsted (1725-1759);<sup>6</sup> **Mehitable** bp. 14 Nov 1727 Christ Ch, Stratford, CT, m. Moses Mead; **Mary** bp. as an infant 14 Mar 1725 at Fairfield,<sup>7</sup> m. Joseph Randall 23 May 1745 at Norwalk;<sup>8</sup> **Sarah** m. Hezekiah Dickson 29 Mar 1758;<sup>9</sup> **?Peter** m. Elizabeth Dickens 17 Jan 1760,<sup>10</sup> age 21 in 1758 when he enlisted in the militia of Capt. Jos. Lobdell's Co., "born Norwalk;" **?Lydia** m. Richard Newton 4 Aug 1765;<sup>11</sup> **Thomas** bp. 11 Mar 1744/5 at Norwalk, "son of Richard and Mary,"<sup>12</sup> m. Elenr Welsh 19 July 1768,<sup>13</sup> served in 9<sup>th</sup> Regimental Militia 1766 at NY, Capt. Ozias Marvin's Co.

Where did Richard reside before his marriage 19 Dec 1718 at Swansea, Bristol Co., MA? Primary and secondary records for eastern Rhode Island and southeastern Massachusetts have been combed. Where were the first two children christened? Or was he the immigrant? Searches of early passenger lists and immigration materials show men of this name, but without an age or birth date or port of entry, it difficult to sort them out. No connection can be found to other Patrick or Partrick families early to Western, MA/Voluntown, CT, the William Patrick family 1644 at Hartford, CT, nor the Partridge families of Duxbury or Marblehead, MA. Any suggestions for further research would be appreciated.

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<sup>6</sup> Donald Lines Jacobus, *Families of Old Fairfield*.

<sup>7</sup> Christ Church Record.

<sup>8</sup> *New England Historical and Genealogical Register*, Jan. 1999 p. 110-120.

<sup>9</sup> South Salem Congregational Church Records.

<sup>10</sup> South Salem Congregational Church Records.

<sup>11</sup> South Salem Congregational Church Records, *NYG&B Record* 31:87.

<sup>12</sup> *New England Historical and Genealogical Register*, Jan. 1999 p. 110-120.

<sup>13</sup> South Salem Congregational Church Records.

## **The Great Migration Study Project and Its Publications**

Nora Galvin

1. *The Great Migration Begins, Immigrants to New England 1620-1633*. Boston: New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS), 1995. (3 volumes)
2. *The Pilgrim Migration: Immigrants to Plymouth Colony, 1620-1633*. Boston: NEHGS, 2006.
3. *The Great Migration, Immigrants to New England 1634-1635*. Boston: NEHGS, 2011. (7 vol.)
4. *Great Migration Newsletter*. Boston: NEHGS, 1990-2011.

All by Robert Charles Anderson. (Volumes 1 & 2 of the 1634-1635 series were also authored by George F. Sanborn and Melinde Lutz Sanborn)

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“The goal of the Great Migration Study Project is to create comprehensive biographical and genealogical accounts of all immigrants to New England from 1620 to 1643, from the arrival of the Mayflower to the decline of immigration resulting from the beginning of the Civil War in England.” Robert Charles Anderson has been researching and writing this series since 1988 when the New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS) agreed to sponsor the work.<sup>1</sup> This review, prompted by publication of the final volume in the 1634-1635 series, gives an overview of the massive project which includes sketches of over 2,400 immigrants to date.

1. *The Great Migration Begins, Immigrants to New England 1620-1633* comprises three volumes and covers over 900 migrants who arrived in the years 1620 to 1633. The first resource used in compiling this series was previously published materials about the individuals or families living in New England.<sup>2</sup> (See footnote for the major sources consulted in this phase.) Anderson then combed through original source material, i.e., vital, church and probate records, deeds, court records, and much more, collecting other bits of information. He then correlated all of the data and attempted to resolve or explain discrepancies. The information about each person was assembled into a sketch organized by the following topics: Origin, Migration, First Residence, Removes, Return Trips, Occupation, Church Membership, Freeman, Education, Office Holding, Estate, Birth, Marriage, Death, Children, Associations, Comments, Bibliographic Note.

As readers might expect, some people have barely a mention, while others have several pages of data. The “Comments” might include mentions of the individual in correspondence between two other people; might discuss a discrepancy or present an analysis of data; or might provide some details that do not fit neatly into another category. “Bibliographic Note” tells about journal articles or books that include the individual. Regardless of whether one has colonial ancestors, the sketches provide myriad details of daily 17<sup>th</sup>-century life and reveal the true depth of our historical record. There is, of course, plenty of documentation and a name and place index.

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<sup>1</sup> “About the Great Migration,” <http://www.greatmigration.org/about.html> , accessed 31 October 2011.

<sup>2</sup> Savage’s *Genealogical Dictionary of the First Settlers of New England* (1860-1862); Austin’s *Genealogical Dictionary of Rhode Island* (1887); Pope’s *Pioneers of Massachusetts* (1900); Noyes, Libby and Davis’s *Genealogical Dictionary of Maine and New Hampshire* (1928-1939). Journal articles were also used.

The individuals in this series are included in a searchable database available to members of NEHGS at [www.americanancestors.org](http://www.americanancestors.org). Images of the book pages containing the searched name are viewable from the "hits" page.

2. *The Pilgrim Migration: Immigrants to Plymouth Colony, 1620-1633* highlights 200 or so of the earliest residents of Plymouth (1620-1633). All of these people or families were included in the first series. This volume includes additional material about these 200 and about life in early Plymouth, plus some corrections and revisions from the earlier series. Complete genealogical accounts, including marriages and children of the immigrants, are found here as well.

3. After 1633 migration increased exponentially, so the second series, *The Great Migration, Immigrants to New England 1634-1635*, comprising seven volumes, covers only two years. There are approximately 200 sketches in each volume, so the series includes about 1,400 people. The same methodology was used in compiling information and writing the sketches as was used in the first series, and the format is the same.

The first five volumes of this series are searchable at [www.americanancestors.org](http://www.americanancestors.org).

4. Throughout most of the time that these books have been in the works, project personnel have been publishing a quarterly newsletter, *Great Migration Newsletter*. Each issue of this publication discusses a focus topic, typically a town in early New England, or sometimes a particular record type. The focus topic takes up half of the 8-page newsletter with the remaining pages dedicated to listing recently published books or journal articles that pertain to the time period. In addition there is a short article about some aspect of research or about insights that have been gained from immersion in the ancient records. Some articles explored by this reviewer were "Household Goods,"<sup>3</sup> "Establishing Birth Order,"<sup>4</sup> "Focus on Ipswich,"<sup>5</sup> "Disciplining Servants,"<sup>6</sup> "Focus on Milford."<sup>7</sup> The focus articles are useful and interesting in-depth reviews or histories. The smaller articles are also wonderful pieces that contribute to methodology and general knowledge rather than specifically applying to individuals and are very interesting in terms of history, as well.

Individual newsletters are not indexed. Volumes 11-20 (2002-2011) are available online with a \$10 membership (<http://greatmigration.org/newsletter.html>) and access to them is well worth the meager cost. They can be downloaded as pdf files. Volumes 1-15 are not available in a digital format. They have been published as a book, which is fully indexed by subject, place and name. Volumes 11-15 have been published in a separate book.

All of the books are available from the New England Historic Genealogical Society in Boston or online ([www.americanancestors.org](http://www.americanancestors.org)). There are various pricing schedules for individual books or for entire series.

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<sup>3</sup> Great Migration Newsletter, Boston: NEHGS, 20:3.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid., 19:4

<sup>5</sup> Ibid., 15:1

<sup>6</sup> Ibid., 15:3.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid., 20:3

## Writing Articles

Lynn Betlock

*This article was originally published in the August 17, 2011 edition of The Weekly Genealogist, the e-newsletter of the New England Historic Genealogical Society. The Weekly Genealogist archive is available at [www.AmericanAncestors.org](http://www.AmericanAncestors.org). While it refers to articles submitted to that online newsletter, we would encourage submissions to this journal (or indeed to any other reputable genealogical journal) to follow similar guidelines.*

Since becoming the editor of *New England Ancestors* (now *American Ancestors*) magazine in 2003, I've read many article submissions and thought a great deal about what makes a good story. In this column, I want to encourage you to write down some of your family history in article form. Whether or not you are interested in publication, genealogical research is fun. Genealogical writing can seem like more of a chore, but I urge you to capture some of the stories you've uncovered for yourself, your family, and perhaps for a wider audience. Contemplating a publication that would cover all your ancestors can seem overwhelming and intimidating, but I think that writing up article-length summaries and case studies is more manageable — and it can be beneficial. Some of the rewards of writing down the results of your research are obvious — having a clear summary that can be consulted and shared. But there can be some additional benefits. Assigning yourself a fairly limited topic motivates you to make sure you've done all the research you can do. Writing an article almost always increases your knowledge of the family in question. When writing, you are forced to be rigorous, to recheck sources, and make sure your claims can be verified. If your article is selected for publication, you also get input from editors and proofreaders who may question your assumptions or ask questions and draw conclusions that hadn't occurred to you. For *American Ancestors* [or for *Connecticut Ancestry*], a successful article:

- Tells a good story that engages readers
- Is focused on a particular topic — and doesn't attempt to include all known information on an individual or family
- Often includes an unexpected twist, the solution to a mystery, or some sort of "eureka moment"
- Provides reliable documentation.

If you are writing only for yourself or family members, you may be producing summaries of ancestral lives — useful and necessary material that would not be of sufficient interest for a genealogical publication. But that doesn't mean you can't write up particular ancestors or episodes as if you were writing for a broader audience — family members may well be receptive to a more lively presentation and you can practice a wider range of writing styles. Sometimes I receive article submissions that simply provide a biographical sketch of an ancestor. The documentation may be exemplary but the story isn't likely to catch the interest of a general audience. I often suggest that these writers go through their family lines and select a few people and incidents that have captured their imaginations. When the story is exciting to you, you can make the story exciting for others. Here are some examples of article themes featured in *American Ancestors* [or in *Connecticut Ancestry*]:

- Discovering the truth behind a long-standing family tradition
- Solving a brick wall, especially by using an interesting method or source.
- Using DNA to prove (or disprove) family stories
- Examining the life of an ancestor through a diary or letters
- Documenting a family migration
- Sharing information about an unusual record or set of records
- Relating unusual or unexpected information about ancestors; for instance, a previously unknown criminal background or a hidden marriage
- Telling the story of an ancestor who participated in a significant historical event, like the California gold rush or the Civil War.

*Editor's note: A brief outline on formatting (but not on article contents) is included on the front pink pages of this and every issue of Connecticut Ancestry.*

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## Query

Address to the Editor, Connecticut Ancestry Society, PO Box 249, Stamford, CT 06470 or by email to [hjessup@charter.net](mailto:hjessup@charter.net). Members of the Society may submit queries for publication at no cost. We depend on readers to respond to queries, as the Society has no research staff. Please send copies of your responses to the Editor for publication.

**113 DICKSON, BISHOP** — Looking for the maiden name of Ruth, widow of Gabriel Dickson and second wife of Joseph Bishop, born 30 August 1719 in Stamford, Connecticut. There is a record of Ruth Dickson marrying Joseph Bishop on 29 December 1760 at the South Salem Presbyterian Church (formerly the First Church of Christ in Salem).

A will for Gabriel Dickson of the nearby "Manor of Courtlandt," proved 21 December 1758, names children Rebecca, Lydia, Gabriel, and Hannah. These children, identified in the Salem church records as the children of "widow" Ruth Dickson, were baptized at the Salem church in 1760, several months before their mother married Joseph Bishop in the same church. Since Joseph Bishop and many of the other early members of the South Salem community had previously lived in Connecticut, perhaps Gabriel and Ruth Dickson were also from there, but I've been unable to find anything on them.

Please respond (with copy to the editor) to: Janet Zengel Messer, 135 Bayberry Circle #1601, St. Augustine FL 32086-7509, [jzm@atlantic.net](mailto:jzm@atlantic.net)



## The One-Page Challenge

(reprint from August 2011)

As the president of Connecticut Ancestry Society, I have appealed to members and to readers of our journal, *Connecticut Ancestry*, to submit articles for publication. I have said that every ancestor's story is important in the compiled historical record of Fairfield County. I have also said that the best way to ensure that your research will be preserved is to publish it.

Now I am issuing **THE ONE-PAGE CHALLENGE**. I challenge you, members and readers alike, to pick one ancestor, male or female, young or old, and to write a one-page article about that ancestor. The only requirement is that you write about someone who lived in our focus area--Fairfield County or nearby New York—and that the story you write has a connection to that area.

I have thrown down the gauntlet by writing two myself. First, I chose an African-American and son of former slaves, born in South Carolina in 1869, who became a doctor and practiced medicine in Bridgeport for most of the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Second, I wrote a piece exemplifying the importance of research our ancestors' siblings.

There is no requirement to keep to a single page, but one page will suffice. Write what you know, write what you can document, write from your heart. Isn't there someone in your lineage that we should all know about, someone with an interesting episode in her life? Or someone with a dull but typical life that will teach us something about history?

We would like you to include genealogical details about your subject. Where and when was he born? Whom did she marry? What was the cause of death and where did it occur? Which censuses show the presence of this person in Fairfield County? Land records? City directories? Tombstone inscriptions?

Documentation is important, but don't worry about precise formatting of footnotes. Our editor Harlan Jessup will help to get those details straightened out. What we need from you is the story and where you got the details. Family Bible? (Where is it now?) US census? (what year and town?) Vital records? (What town?, also volume and page if possible)

Here are some ideas:

- We are in the sesquicentennial period for the Civil War. Do you know of anyone who served?
- The bicentennial of the War of 1812 begins next year. Were your family members affected by this conflict?
- Did an ancestor go to the Gold Rush?
- Did an ancestor immigrate here in the 20<sup>th</sup> century?
- Did an ancestor settle here in the 17<sup>th</sup> century?

Sharpen your pencils!! One page is not very long!!

Please send submissions to our editor, Harlan Jessup, at [hjessup@charter.net](mailto:hjessup@charter.net).

*Nora Galvin*

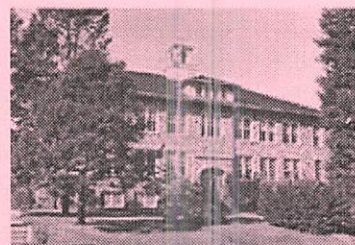




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Reel 24: *Connecticut Cemeteries 1673-1911*, by William A. D. Eardeley; *Headstone Inscriptions, Town of Stamford*, Hale Collection, S. P. Mead, *Abstracts of Records and Tombstones of the Town of Greenwich*.

Reel 35: S. P. Mead, *Abstracts of Stamford, Conn., Church Records*; S. P. Mead, *Abstract of Darien, Conn., Church Records*; William A. D. Eardeley, *Stamford Congregational Church Records*; *Directory of the Town of Stamford, 1872*; S. P. Mead, *Abstract of Probate Records for the District of Fairfield, 1648-1757*.

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