



The Ancestry of Mary Tanner of Providence

THE RHODE ISLAND FAMILIES

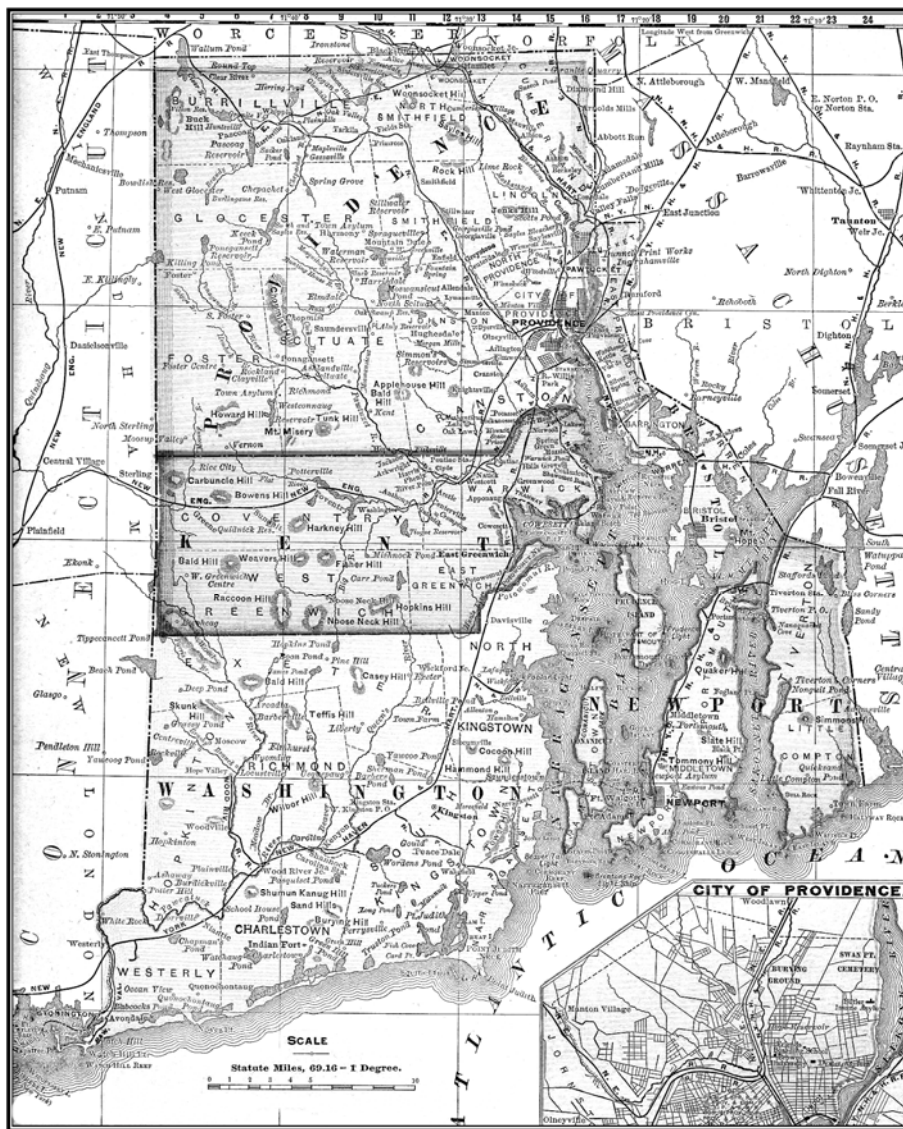
The Rhode Island ancestors of George Ulmer's wife, Mary Tanner, consist of immigrant ancestors in the Tanner, Babcock, Crandall, Drake and Lewis families. They came from Essex, Monmouthshire and Devonshire, England to settle in colonial Westerly, Newport, Portsmouth and South Kingston, Rhode Island. One of our immigrant ancestors, William Tanner, was a deported convict. Their English progenitors, especially among the Drake family, extend far back in time through many lines of royalty.

Not all English immigrants of the time were welcome in the strictly Puritan Massachusetts Bay Colony. Religious freedom for the Puritans meant the freedom from oppression for their own faith, and did not require of them any degree of tolerance for the differing faiths of others. Consequently nearby Rhode Island became a haven for a variety of religions--John Crandall, for example [see below], was a Baptist reverend-- and more of an example of the kind of religious freedom in which America prides itself.

Because of this aversion to any dominating authority, Rhode Islanders developed a peculiarly strong sense of independence, and were among the first to advocate independence from Great Britain, but among the last to ratify the new constitution which they feared might bring unwanted Federalist oppression and taxation. Consequently

Rhode Islanders felt much more of a kinship with the more eclectic populace of Maine [including Germans as well as English settlers], adjacent to the north, than they did to the citizens of Massachusetts to the west. So it was that our George Ulmer, a German-American citizen of Maine, was able to successfully court a woman of the Rhode Island Tanner family while he was in Newport as a private in the military. She returned with him to Lincolnville, Maine upon his discharge and became mother to a prominent family of her own that eventually married into the Wilson family.

Our Rhode Island family lines are somewhat fewer than those Puritan lines from the Massachusetts Bay area, but are equally interesting genealogically, and give us another beautiful and scenic place to visit in New England that we can call "home" in an ancestral sense.



Rhode Island (1895)



Historical Notes on Colonial Rhode Island



Rhode Island's first permanent settlement was established at Providence in 1636 by English clergyman Roger Williams and a small band of followers who had left the repressive atmosphere of the Massachusetts Bay Colony to seek freedom of worship.

The local Indian chiefs Canenicus and Miantonomi granted Williams a sizable tract of land for his new village. Other nonconformists followed Williams to the bay region, including Anne and William Hutchinson and William Coddington, all of whom founded Portsmouth in 1638 as a haven for Antinomians, a religious sect whose beliefs resembled those of Quakerism. A short-lived dispute sent Coddington to the southern tip of Aquidneck Island (also purchased from the Narragansetts), where he established Newport in 1639.

Because titles to these lands rested only on Indian deeds, neighboring colonies began to covet them. To meet this threat, Roger Williams journeyed to England and secured a parliamentary patent in March 1643-44 uniting the four towns into a single colony and confirming his fellow settlers' land claims. This legislative document served adequately as the basic law until the Stuart Restoration of 1660 made it wise to seek a royal charter. Dr. John Clarke was commissioned to secure a document from the new king, Charles II, that would both be consistent with the religious principles upon which the tiny colony was founded and also safeguard Rhode Island lands from encroachment by speculators and greedy neighbors. He succeeded admirably. The royal charter of 1663 guaranteed complete religious liberty, established a self-governing colony with local autonomy, and strengthened Rhode Island's territorial claims. It was the most liberal charter to be issued by the mother country during the entire colonial era, a fact that enabled it to serve as Rhode Island's basic law until May 1843.

The religious freedom which prevailed in early Rhode Island made it a refuge for several persecuted sects. America's first Baptist church was formed in Providence in 1639; Quakers arrived in Aquidneck in 1657 and soon became a powerful force in the colony's political and economic life; a Jewish congregation came to Newport in 1658; and French Huguenots (Calvinists) settled in East Greenwich in 1686.

The most important and traumatic event in seventeenth-century Rhode Island was King Philip's War (1675-76), the culmination of a four-decade decline in Indian-white relations. Roger Williams had won the grudging respect of his colonial neighbors for his diplomatic skill in keeping the powerful Narragansetts on friendly terms with local white settlers. The Narragansetts in 1637 were even persuaded to form an alliance with the English in carrying out a punitive expedition that nearly extinguished the warlike Pequots. But by 1670 even the friendly tribes who had greeted Williams and the Pilgrims became estranged from the white colonists, and the storm clouds of war began to darken the New England countryside. Clashes in culture, the appropriation by whites of Indian land for their exclusive ownership, and a series of hostile incidents between the Wampanoag chief Metacom and the aggressive government of Plymouth Colony resulted in the terrible colonial conflict called King Philip's War. This futile struggle to rid New England of the white man consumed the lives of several thousand Indians and more than six hundred whites and resulted in enormous property damage.

The Narragansetts, at first neutral, joined forces with the Wampanoags after a Plymouth force staged a sneak attack on the Narragansetts' principal village in the Great Swamp (South Kingstown) in December 1675. The Great Swamp Fight cost the lives of three hundred braves and almost four hundred women and children. The Narragansetts regrouped and launched a vengeful offensive the following spring. On March 26 a large war party led by chief sachem Canonchet massacred a company of approximately sixty-five Englishmen and twenty friendly Indians led by Captain Michael Pierce on the banks of the Blackstone in present-day Central Falls. Three days later the victorious Narragansetts descended upon defenseless Providence, burning most of the buildings in the town. For Williams, who witnessed the event, it represented the destruction of four decades of hard-earned progress.

But famine, disease, and wartime casualties soon decimated the ranks of the Narragansetts and their Wampanoag allies. The killing of Wampanoag Chief King Philip in August 1676 by an Indian allied with the whites effectively ended the war. Remnants of the Narragansetts, Wampanoags, and Pequots sought refuge with the peaceful Niantics, who had remained neutral. This aggregate of remnant groups became the foundation of a new Indian community in Rhode Island that ultimately assumed the name Narragansett.

By the end of the seventeenth century, Newport -- unscathed by King Philip's War -- had emerged as a prosperous port and the colony's dominant community, nine towns had been incorporated, and the population exceeded six thousand inhabitants. The first quarter of the eighteenth century was marked by the long and able governorship of

Samuel Cranston (1698-1727), who established internal unity and brought his colony into a better working relationship with the imperial government in London.

By mid-eighteenth century the spacious farm plantations of South County, utilizing the labor of black and Indian slaves, reached the peak of their prosperity. Here and in the rolling fields of the island towns, colonial farmers raised livestock (especially sheep and a renowned carriage horse aptly named the Narragansett pacer) and cultivated such commodities as apples, onions, flax and dairy products. The virgin forests yielded lumber for boards, planks, timber, and barrels, and the sea provided whales and an abundance of fish for food and fertilizer. Most of these items soon became valuable exports for Rhode Island's ever-expanding trade network.

By the end of the colonial era, Rhode Island had developed a brisk commerce with the entire Atlantic community, including England, the Portuguese islands, Africa, South America, the West Indies, and other British mainland colonies. Though agriculture was far and away the dominant occupation, commercial activities flourished in Newport, Providence, and Bristol and in lesser ports like Westerly. The most lucrative and nefarious aspect of this commerce was the slave trade, in which Rhode Island merchants outdid those of any other mainland colony. This traffic formed one leg of a triangular route which brought molasses from the West Indies to Rhode Island, whose distilleries transformed it to rum. This liquor was bartered along the African coast for slaves, who were carried in crowded, pest-ridden vessels to the West Indies, the Southern colonies, or back home for domestic service in the mansions of the merchants or on the plantations of South County.

Rhode Island was a leader in the American Revolutionary movement. Having the greatest degree of self-rule, it had the most to lose from the efforts of England after 1763 to increase her supervision and control over her American colonies. In addition, Rhode Island had a long tradition of evading the poorly-enforced navigation acts, and smuggling was commonplace.

Beginning with strong opposition in Newport to the Sugar Act (1764), with its restrictions on the molasses trade, the colony engaged in repeated measures of open defiance, such as the scuttling and torching of the British customs sloop *Liberty* in Newport harbor in July 1769, the burning of British revenue schooner *Gaspee* on Warwick's Namquit Point in 1772, and Providence's own "Tea Party" in March 1775. Gradually the factions of Ward and Hopkins put aside their local differences and united by endorsing a series of political responses to alleged British injustices. On May 17, 1774, after parliamentary passage of the Coercive Acts (Americans called them "Intolerable"), the Providence Town Meeting became the first governmental assemblage to issue a call for a general congress of colonies to resist British policy. On June 15 the General Assembly made the colony the first to appoint delegates (Ward and Hopkins) to the anticipated Continental Congress.

In April 1775, a week after the skirmishes at Lexington and Concord, the colonial legislature authorized raising a 1,500-man "army of observation" with Nathanael Greene

as its commander. Finally, on May 4, 1776, Rhode Island became the first colony to renounce allegiance to King George III. Ten weeks later, on July 18, the Assembly ratified the Declaration of Independence.

Westerly was the first town incorporated in the King's Province on May 13, 1669, and the fifth town in the colony. On the 23rd of June 1686, the name was changed from Westerly to Haversham, but the former name was restored in 1689. The Towns of Charlestown, Hopkinton

and Richmond were later taken from the Town of Westerly. In its early beginnings, Westerly was the frontier town of the colony. Out of this beginning many diversified industries grew, but Westerly has been best known for the granite that was once taken from its quarries, for building purposes in neighboring towns and cities, and for monuments in various parts of the country.

The original town of King's Town, incorporated in 1674, included the present towns of South Kingstown, North Kingstown and Narragansett. It was in this area that the Narragansett Indians hunted, fished, raised corn and held forth against the rival Niantic Indians. The first settlement was in South Kingstown, and it was there in the Great Swamp Fight, in 1675, that colonial soldiers from Rhode Island, Massachusetts and Connecticut gave King Philip his greatest defeat. Farming was the main activity in early times. Flax was among its earliest products. By 1800, the Wakefield Manufacturing Company was in operation, as well as the Peace Dale Mill, which grew to be one of the town's largest industries.

Roger Williams founded Providence in 1636 after his banishment from Massachusetts for "new and dangerous ideas." Providence was incorporated as a city in 1831 and became Rhode Island's sole state capital in 1900. In Providence, one witnesses the artful blend of the past and present--rich in architectural, educational, and social significance. Atop the magnificent white marble State House, the bronze "Independent Man" champions the cause for which Providence was founded--religious liberty and individual freedom. The fine, restored 18th century homes along Benefit Street are only a short stroll from Brown University, the seventh oldest American college. The first Baptist Church in America, a national historic landmark built in 1775, is only part of this living story.

The town of Newport was settled in 1639, and was incorporated as a city in 1784. Rhode Island was founded on the basis of complete religious and political freedom, and in Newport, Quakers and Jews found a comfortable haven shortly after its founding. By the early 1700's, commerce, combined with a successful farming and fishing industry, brought great wealth to the community. Newport ships probably developed what became the first resort in British North America when, during the 1720's, sea captains brought passengers from the Carolinas and Caribbean who wished to get away from the heat, fever and humidity of their plantations. Newport was one of the five most important settlements in the 13 colonies, sharing that distinction with Boston, New York,

Philadelphia and Charlestown. Newport was the "Birthplace of the Navy," and with private and naval shipping combined, added to the cosmopolitan atmosphere of the community. The finest craftsmen in furniture and silver worked there before the Revolution. Summer visitors enjoyed an advanced cultural society that has continued to this day.



THE BABCOCK FAMILY

James Babcock (1612-1679)

The Babcock family (originally spelled "Badcock") in America traces its origin to James Babcock, born in Essex County, England in 1612. He was the son of James Babcock (1580-1679) of Wivenhoe, Essex, England, who was the son of another James Babcock (b.ca.1554) of Essex. He was admitted as an inhabitant of Portsmouth, Rhode Island in 1642; at that time no one was allowed to build a house or plant crops without first being voted in as an official "inhabitant" at a town meeting. His first son had been born in 1641.

During his first 20 years in Rhode Island his name appears in the records under various spellings including Badcock, Babcock, Badcooke and Badcocke. It probably originated in Devon, England as Bade or Babb.

James Babcock was apparently a blacksmith. At a town meeting he and Richard Morris were ordered "to look up all the armes in the Towne within the month above writ," and to "mend any which are defective for use." At the same meeting, 10 acres of land were ordered "laide out to James Babcock at the first brook, next to the footpath eastward." He was made a "freeman" (resident with voting privileges) on 10 July 1648.

James Babcock moved from Portsmouth to Westerly, Rhode Island, in March of 1662, but continued to appear in Portsmouth records until 19 Dec 1662.

A tract of land some 10 x 20 miles, known as Misquamicut, was purchased on 29 June 1660 from Chief Sosa. The purchasers, a company numbering 60 or more, organized themselves at Newport. Records in the Rhode Island Historical Society show that on 31 Aug 1661 the purchases were ordered by the Trustees to meet at Newport to go to "Squamucuck." Two weeks later the company was at "Misquamicut," and a part of the purchased tract was apportioned to the settlers by lot. James Babcock received Lot #52. On 12 Nov 1661 the number of trustees was increased from eight to 18. Two of the new names were James Babcock and John Babcock.

In 1665 James Babcock's wife, Sarah, gave permission (apparently on her deathbed) for him to sell their house, barn, orchard and other property in Portsmouth to Thomas Fish for £50. His son, James Babcock Jr., witnessed the deed. In May of that same year

James Babcock and a company of men drove a band of Pequot Indians from planting grounds they had claimed.

In May of 1669 the town of Westerly was incorporated, at which time there were 24 freemen including James and his three sons, James, John and Job. Sarah had died by that time, and James married a woman named Elizabeth in 1669. Together they had three more children, but our ancestry is through son Job, born in 1646.

James, in his 59th year (1678), was baptized by Elder William Hiscox and joined the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Newport and Westerly. He declared his last will and testament to his sons John and Job on 12 June 1679. By September he had died, and his sons had to appear (17 Sept 1679) before the governor of Rhode Island and testify to the truthfulness of the will. A portion of the will names the three children he had by his second wife: Joseph, Nathaniel and Elizabeth.

Job Babcock (1646-1718)

Job Babcock was born in Portsmouth, Rhode Island in 1646 and married Jane Crandall, daughter of Rev. John Crandall (see CRANDALL FAMILY). The Babcock families moved from Portsmouth to found the new community of Westerly in 1662. Job opened a blacksmith shop and owned a grist mill on the Pawcatuck River. In 1779 he inherited his father's smithing tools.

Job Babcock was made a freeman (voting citizen) on 18 May 1669, at the time Westerly was officially incorporated. He took the oath of allegiance on 17 May 1671, and again on 17 Sept 1679. He was elected Constable in Oct 1680 and also in Feb 1693.

Jane Crandall Babcock, Job's wife, had a deed of 100 acres of land made to her by Samuel Lewis; Job declared that he gave Jane permission to make the purchase. Samuel Lewis's wife, Joanne Crandall (also a direct ancestor of ours), was probably a relative of Jane, although her parents are currently unknown (see LEWIS FAMILY).

Job and Jane Babcock were members of the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Newport and Westerly in 1678. In 1680 Job was serving as an Indian interpreter, having learned their language.

Job and Jane Crandall Babcock had nine children, including our direct ancestor Mary Babcock, who married William Tanner (See TANNER FAMILY).

THE CRANDALL and DRAKE FAMILIES

James Crandall (1586-1676)

The American Crandall family traces its origin to James Crandall who, with his son the Rev. John Crandall (1612-1676), left their home in Wiscombe, South Leigh, Devonshire, England to emigrate to Newport in the colony of Rhode Island some time

before 1651. With him came his wife, Elizabeth Drake (1585-1670), also of Wiscombe, whose ancestry is extensively known. James lived to the age of 90, very rare in early America, and died in the same year as his son John, 1676, in Newport, Rhode Island; whether this was coincidence, the result of a contagious disease, or an accident of some kind is unknown.

John Crandall (1612-1676)

John Crandall, who was born in 1612 in Monmouthshire, England, at the boarder between England and Wales. The earliest evidence of John Crandall in New England shows him to have been actively allied as a Reverend with the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Newport, Rhode Island, in 1651. His first wife, Mary Opp (b. 1633) was buried at Westerly, Rhode Island on 2 Aug 1670, after having given birth to seven children, including our direct ancestor, Jane Crandall (born ca. 1653). Jane married Job Babcock (see BABCOCK FAMILY).

John Crandall was among the original purchasers from Chief Soso of the Narragansett branch of the Misquamicutt tribe, of the land which subsequently comprised the town of Westerly (now Hopkinton), Rhode Island. His house was near Burden's Pond. Across from this house, in the old orchard field, was the original cemetery where John Crandall is buried next to his son, John (Jr.).

Following the death of his first wife in 1670, John Crandall married Hannah Gaylord (b. 30 Jan 1647). They had two sons, Jeremiah and Eber, before he died on 29 Nov 1676. She married again, to John Cottrell Jr., but died two years later, on 3 Aug 1678.

Elizabeth Drake (1585-1670)

Elizabeth Drake of Newport, Rhode Island and Devonshire, England, the wife of James Crandall (1586-1676), traces her ancestry to John Drake, born about 1350 in Ashe, Dorsetshire, England. The descendent is as follows:

John Drake (b. ca. 1350), m. Christian Billett (b. ca. 1354)
John Drake (b. ca. 1388), m. Christian Antage (b. ca. 1392)
John Drake (b. ca. 1418), m. _____ Cruwys (b. ca. 1422)
John Drake (b. ca. 1448), m. Agnes Kelloway (b. ca. 1452)
John Drake (ca. 1474-1554), m. Margaret Cole (b. ca. 1476)
John Drake (1500-1588), m. Anne Grenville (b.1513-1577)
Robert Drake (1528-1600), m. Elizabeth Prideaux (1523-1572)
Elizabeth Drake (1585-1608), m. James Crandall (1586-1676)

From Ashe, Dorsetshire the family moved to Otterton in Devonshire for the next four generations, then back to Ashe before 1500, then to Wiscombe Park, South Leigh, in Devonshire, where Elizabeth and her father Robert lived, and where John Crandall's family lived.

Elizabeth Drake's mother, Elizabeth Prideaux (1523-1572) of Wiscombe, also has an extensively known ancestry going back to Piercy Prideaux, born around 1310 in Orcharton, Cornwall, England. The descent of her line is as follows:

Piercy Prideaux (b. ca. 1310), m. ?
John Prideaux (ca. 1336-ca. 1365), m. Joan Adeston (ca.1340-after 1373)
Giles Prideaux (ca.1364-ca.1389), m. Isabella Gunstone (b. ca. 1368)
John Prideaux (b. ca. 1394), m. Anne Shapton (b. ca. 1480)
William Prideaux (ca. 1424-ca. 1466), m. Alice Giffard (ca. 1445-1511/12)
Fulk Prideaux (1471-1531), m. Katherine Poyntz (b. ca. 1467)
Humphrey Prideaux (1487-1550), m. Elizabeth Hatch (b. ca. 1555)
Elizabeth Prideaux (1523-1572), m. **Robert Drake** (1528-1600)

The Prideaux family moved from Orcharton in Cornwall to Adeston in Devonshire where they lived for four generations. William Prideaux relocated to Theuborough in Devonshire, the hometown of his wife. And, although Humphrey Prideaux was born and died in Theuborough, his daughter Elizabeth was born and died in Wiscombe, Devonshire, James Crandall's home town.

Robert Drake's known ancestry goes back even farther through the family of his mother Anne Grenville (1513-1577) of Stowe and Musbury, Devonshire. Her descent from William Grenville, born ca. 1238 in Kirkhampton, Cornwall, is as follows:

Robert Grenville (b. ca. 1238), m. Johanna Wortham (b. ca. 1242)
Bartholomew Grenville (ca.1260-before 1325), m. Johanna Vivian (b. ca. 1268)
Henry Grenville (ca. 1294-1330), m. Ann Vivian (b. ca. 1298)
Theobald Granville (b. ca. 1326), m. Margaret Courtenay (b. ca. 1381)
William Granville (ca.1395-ca.1450), m. Philippa Bonville (b. ca. 1405)
Thomas Granville (ca. 1417-1483), m. Elizabeth Gorges (b. ca. 1421)
Thomas Granville (ca.1449-ca.1513), m. Isabella Gilbert (b. ca. 1445)
Roger Grenville (1477-1524). m. Margaret Whitley (b. ca. 1474)
Anne Grenville (1513-1577), m. **John Drake** (1500-1588)

In fact, almost every maternal line in the Drake family chart goes back through many medieval British families and many generations. Some of those lines intersect British royalty and consequently go back even farther. Just to serve as an example, here is the descent of Anne Grenville's great-great-grandfather William Granville (fifth in the above list of Grenvilles) from Aubri "The Burgundian," Count of Fezensac, France, who was born around 775:

Aubri, Count of Fezensac (b. ca. 775)
Bouchard de Fezensac (b. ca. 800)
Geoffrey of Orleans (b. ca. 825)
Aubri, Viscount of Orleans (ca. 850-after 886)
Geoffrey, Viscount of Orleans (ca. 875-after 942)

Aubri, Count of Gatinais (va. 900-after 966)
 Geoffrey, Count of Gatinais (ca. 925-after 987)
 Aubri, Count of Gatinais (ca. 950-after 990)
 Geoffroy I, Count of Gastinois (ca. 970-1000), m. Beatrice de Macon
 Geoffroy II, Count of Gastinois (ca. 1000-1046), m. Ermengarde,
 Countess of Anjou
 Foulques IV, Count of Anjou (1043-1109), m. Bertrade de Montfort
 Foulques V, Count of Anjou (1092-1143), m. Ermengarde du Maine
 Geoffrey V Plantagenet (1113-1151), m. Matilda, Empress of Germany
 Henry II Plantagenet, King of England (1133-1189), m. Eleonore
 Princess of Aquitaine
 John Lackland, King of England (1166-1216), m. Isabelle de Taillefer
 Henry III, King of England (1206-1272), m. Eleonore Countess of Provence
 Edmund "Crouchback," Prince of England (1244/5-1296), m. Blanche d'Artois
 Henry Plantagenet (1281-1345), m. Maud de Chaworth
 Eleonore Plantagenet (1311/22-1372), m. John de Beaumont
 Maude Beaumont (ca. 1356-1467), m. Hugh Courtenay
 Margaret Courtenay (b. ca. 1381), m. Theobald Granville
William Granville (ca. 1395-ca. 1450), m. Philippa Bonville

A vast number of such lines running through the early English and European aristocracy and nobility are possible, although relatively few go back before 600 A.D. For more on these lines in our ancestry see the chapter on "*Royal Lineages*."

THE LEWIS FAMILY

John Lewis (1631->1673)

Very little is known about the early Lewis family in America. Researchers believe that it began with Edmund Lewis (b.1601 in Llystalbont, Glamorganshire, Wales) and his wife Mary Carey (b.1602 in Greenwich, England, where their two children were also born). Edmund's genealogy is extensively known, going back through several long lines of Welsh ancestors, the following being one example of such a line [note that in the Welsh language *ap*="son of" and *verch*="daughter of"]:

Tegin (b.ca.314)
 Padarn ap Tegid (b.ca.339)
 Edern ap Padarn (b.ca.364)
 Cunedda ap Edern (b.ca.386), m. Gwawl verch Coel (b.ca.388)
 Einion ap Cunedda (b.ca.417), m. Prawst verch Tidlet (b.ca.422)
 Cadwallon ap Einion (b.ca.442), m. Meddyf verch Maeldaf (b.ca.446)
 Maelgwn ap Cadwallon (b.ca.470), m. Gwallwen verch Afallach (b.ca.471)
 Rhun ap Maelgwn (b.ca.492), m. Perwyr verch Rhun (b.ca.496)
 Beli ap Rhun (b.ca.517, d.599)
 Iago ao Beli (b.ca.540, d.ca.616)
 Cadfan ap Iago (b.ca.569), m. Tandreg verch Cynan (b.ca.569)

Cadwallon ap Cadfan (b.ca.591, d.635)
 Cadwaladr ap Cadwallon (b.ca.615, d.664)
 Idwar ap Cadwaladr (b.ca.664)
 Rhodri ap Idwal (b.ca.690, d.754)
 Cynan ap Rhodri (b.ca.745, d.817)
 Esylt verch Cynan (b.ca.770), m. Merfyn ap Gwriad (b.ca.764, d.843)
 Rhodri ap Merfyn (b.ca.789, d.878), m. Angharad verch Meurig (b.ca.825)
 Cadell ap Rhodri (b.ca.861, d.910), m. Rheingar (b.ca.865)
 Hywel ap Cadell (b.ca.887, d.950), m. Elen verch Llywaech (b.ca.893, d.943)
 Owain ap Hywel (b.ca.913, d.987), m. Angharad verch Llewelyn (b.ca.918)
 Einion ap Owain (b.ca.933, d.984), m. Nest (b.ca.934)
 Cadell ap Einion (b.ca.953), m. Elinor verch Gwerystan (b.ca.1007)
 Tewdr ap Cadell (b.ca.977)
 Rhys ap Tewdr (b.ca.997, d.1093), Gwladus verch Rhiwallon (b.ca.1041)
 Gruffudd ap Rhys (b.ca.1081, d.1136), m. Gwenllian II verch Gruffyd (b.ca.1090)
 Rhys ap Gruffydd (b.ca.1129, d.1197), m. Ystedur verch Caradog (b.ca.1129)
 Hywel ap Rhys (b.ca.1148, d.1204)
 Rhys ap Hywel (b.ca.1194)
 Tangwystl verch Rhys (b.ca.1250), m. Ifor ap Llewelyn (b.ca.1245)
 Llewelyn ap Ifor (b.ca.1282), m. Angharad verch Morgan (b.ca.1304)
 Morgan ap Llewelyn (b.ca.1330, d.1384), m. Mallt verch Rhun (b.ca.1338)
 Philip ap Morgan (b.ca.1355, d.1382), m. Gwenllian Norris (b.ca.1357)
 Jenkin ap Philip (b.ca.1377, d.1441), m. Cecily Welsh (b.ca.1380)
 Morgan ap Jenkin (b.ca.1413, d.1472), m. Elizabeth Vaughn
 (b.ca.1413 in Herefordshire)
 Thomas Morgan (ca.1453), m. Jane Herbert (b.ca.1457), both of Monmouthshire
 William Morgan (b.ca.1483, d.1542), m. Florence Brydges (b.ca.1493)
 Anne Morgan (b.1512), m. Edward Lewis (b.1508) of Monmouthshire
 Thomas Lewis (ca.1534-1560), m. Margaret Gamage (b.ca.1536) of
 Montgomery, Wales
 George Lewis (1560-1593), m. Catherine Matthew (b.ca.1569)
 of Glamorganshire, Wales
Edmund Lewis (1601-1650), m. Mary Carey (1602-1658),
 both d. Lynn, Essex, MA

Edmund Lewis and his wife Mary embarked for the Massachusetts Bay Colony from Ipswich, England aboard the *Elizabeth* on 30 April 1634, bringing with them their children John Lewis (age 3; i.e. born 1634), and Thomas Lewis (age 9 months; i.e. born 1633). [Richard Kimball and his family were aboard the same ship---see under Massachusetts Families.] This same John Lewis--there was no other in the area-- is believed to be the one who, in 1661, relocated in Westerly, Rhode Island as one of the first settlers there. He and about 60 other men purchased a 10 x 20-mile tract of land from Chief Soso of the Misquamicutt tribe. John Lewis and his wife Mary Button (who had been born in Westerly in 1739, married ca. 1757) had seven sons and a daughter between 1661 and about 1673, including Samuel, our ancestor.

Samuel Lewis (1671-1734)

Little more is known about Samuel Lewis than about his father. He Married Joanna Crandall, a cousin of Jane Crandall (wife of Job Babcock; see BABCOCK FAMILY). Samuel Lewis, Joanna's husband, sold a 100-acre tract of land to Jane Crandall Babcock. Samuel and Joanna had at least four children, including Joanna (b. ca. 1690, d. ca. 1740), who married Benjamin Tanner, a miller from South Kingston, Rhode Island (see TANNER FAMILY).

THE TANNER FAMILY

William Tanner (ca. 1660->1719)

The earliest generation of the Tanner family in America is William Tanner, born ca. 1660 in Ducklington, Oxfordshire, England. He and his sister(?) Jane Tanner ran afoul of the law there and were imprisoned, but were reprieved in 1680 and 1684 respectively, to be transported to America. William lived in North Kingston, Rhode Island, where he first married a daughter of Henry Tibbets. They had only one son, who settled in Kingston on land given to him by his maternal grandfather, and became a yeoman (a farmer who cultivated his own land).

Our line, however, comes through William (Sr.) Tanner's second wife, Mary Babcock, daughter of Job and Jane Crandall Babcock of Westerly, Rhode Island. They had four children, including two of our direct ancestors, Benjamin Tanner (who, according to his tombstone, was born 24 Dec 1692), and John Tanner (b. ca. 1694?).

William (Sr.) married a third time, following Mary Babcock's death ca. 1706, to Elizabeth Cottrill, daughter of John Cottrill (d. 1721). Together they had six more children from 1708 to 1719.

Benjamin Tanner (1692-1767)

Benjamin Tanner was born, probably in South Kingston, Rhode Island, on Christmas Eve of 1692. He married Joanna Lewis, daughter of Samuel Lewis and Joanna Crandall (see LEWIS FAMILY). Together they had seven children, including our direct ancestor, Joanna (b. 1721), who married her first cousin Joseph Tanner (son of John Tanner, Benjamin's brother).

Benjamin is known to have sold land in South Kingston in 1733. Later he moved to West Greenwich (then within the limits of East Greenwich), where he bought land at the foot of Escoheag Hill on the Wood River, near where he built a grist and saw mill. The grist mill was in operation for four generations thereafter, the land still in family hands as of 1905.

Benjamin Tanner's cattle marking is recorded (5 May 1725) as "a crop in the Right Eare and a slit in the crop, his brand is thus on the left B T buttock." Consequently it seems clear that he raised some livestock.

Benjamin's wife, Joanna Lewis, died sometime between 1733 and 1740, when he married Deborah Stillman, he had only two more children.

On 2 Dec 1746 it is recorded that Benjamin Tanner "joyned the Petit Juror to attend ye Cort of General Sessions of Ye Peace & Inferior Cort of Common Pleas to be held in Providence on ye third Tuesday of this Instant Dec'mer." In 1762 he is recorded again as serving on a Grand Jury at the Inferior Court of Common Pleas.

The will of Benjamin Tanner was drawn up on 23 Apr 1767 and approved (following his death) on 29 June 1767. He describes himself as a miller and yeoman by occupation, and a freeman in both South Kingston and East Greenwich. He was one of the early members of the First Sabbatarian (Seventh Day Baptist) Church in what is now Hopkinton.

John Tanner (ca. 1694->1730)

Little is known about Benjamin Tanner's younger brother, John. He was born in South Kingston around 1694, and married Mary Shelley around 1718. Together they had only two children before Mary's death in 1722: Joseph (our ancestor, born 1719/20) and Jane (b. 1721/2).

Following Mary Shelley's death, John Tanner married Susannah West and had four more children from 1723 to 1730. Susannah was the daughter of Francis and Sarah Meakins West.

Joseph Tanner (1719-1752)

Joseph Tanner was born in Westerly (now Richmond), Rhode Island, on 2 Feb 1719/20 and married his first cousin, Joanna Tanner (daughter of his father's brother Benjamin) on 27 Feb 1738/9. Joseph and Joanna settled in Exeter, Rhode Island. He was a farmer and was admitted as a freeman in Charlestown in 1742. Three years later he bought the land in Exeter, where he was admitted as a freeman on 14 Apr 1752, but died that same year, leaving a family of five children including Gideon (our ancestor, then 12 years old); Gideon chose Clark Rogers of West Greenwich to be his legal guardian and probably moved in with the Rogers family. Joanna asked the Exeter Town Council for letters of administration of her late husband; they responded on 16 March 1754, ordering "that Joanna Tanner, widow and family, have a certificate to West Greenwich" (whatever that means, possibly a grant of legal residence). No further record of Joanna appears in Exeter or West Greenwich. She was a member of the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Westerly (now Hopkinton), Rhode Island.

Gideon Tanner (1739/40->1790)

Gideon Tanner was born in Westerly, Rhode Island on 26 Jan 1739/40. After the death of his father Joseph in 1752, he chose Clark Rogers of West Greenwich for his guardian. He married Mary Lyng (parents unknown) of Newport, Rhode Island around 1760. They are known to have had at least two children, Mary Tanner (our ancestor, wife of Gen. George Ulmer, b. 1762) and Sarah (b. 1771), but considering the nine years separating these births, they may have had several more unrecorded children. In the 1774 census Gideon and Mary are listed with *three* female children under 16 years old; the 1790 census lists two male children under 16 and one female. Consequently it appears that they may have had six children all together.

Gideon Tanner was a soldier in the Revolutionary War. He served in 1776 as a private in Col. John Topham's Regiment beginning on 25 December. In 1777 he served as a private in Harper's Regiment from Harrison County, New York (nearly all the Tanners in the New York Levies were from Rhode Island); in Capt. Kinyon's Company (where he appears on a list of those unable to equip themselves); and in Capt. Gorton's Company of Col. Dyer's Regiment, under the command of Lieut. Caleb Lewis, from November 8 to December 8. He returned to Capt. Gorton's Company until January 1778, and his name appears on Ration Bills in September 1778. He then returned to Capt. Hopkins' Company of Col. Topham's Regiment from Feb to March 1779, and served further with him in 1780, when they were taken prisoner by the British near Lake George. He survived the war, appearing later on the 1790 census, but apparently died before 1800.

Gideon Tanner's daughter, Mary, met the young Sergeant George Ulmer of Maine while he was stationed in Providence, Rhode Island, and they were married in 1779.

