

March 10, 2002

JEREMIAH BARTON'S ANCESTORS
Allen H. Barton

Jeremiah Barton of Yorktown, Westchester County, NY named six sons in his will made in 1815: Jesse, Joshua, William, James, Daniel, and Henry, and two daughters Susan and Mary. Jesse, Joshua, William, and Henry all produced known descendants. Daniel suffered the loss of all three of his children at an early age. We have no records of James other than that he lived in New York City at 105 Thompson Street with his brother Daniel in 1829 and was a "smith," that he made a couple of land purchases in Sullivan County in the 1840s, and received \$72 from his father's estate in 1845. And the two daughters seem to disappear from the records. There has been a good deal of research on William's descendants (by some of us who are his descendants) and this has also produced some information on those of Jesse, Joshua and Henry. But given the limitations of early census records it has been very hard to establish Jeremiah's ancestors.

Research on Jeremiah's ancestry was attempted by Adolph Law Voge working for Dr. Joshua Barton of New York in the 1920s. and by Margaret Alberta Barton McLean who published a book on "Roger Barton's Kinsmen" in 1940. The major effort to track the Bartons of the southern New York area was carried out by George E. McCracken of Drake University, and published in six issues of The New England Historical and Genealogical Register in 1952 and 1953. He became aware of and critiques Voge's work and also the McLean book, and attempts to formulate a version of Barton genealogy based on land records and other public records of the 17th, 18th and 19th century. At some points he lacks specific information linking people in his chains of descent, but makes inferences from the available records. His version has been questioned on some points by later researchers, but has the most comprehensive record so far put together. He starts with Roger Barton, presumed to have been born in England, probably in 1628, and pursues the lines of his six children (generation 2), their c. 19 children (generation 3), and their c. 75 children (generation 4). Jeremiah of Yorktown appears in the fifth generation.

Jeremiah's line is as follows:

- Roger 1 (1628?-1688?)
- Roger 2 (1666?-1724?)
- Roger 3 (1695-1757)
- Isaac (? – d. between 1800 and 1810)
- Jeremiah(1765-1816)

ROGER BARTON (1)

In 1655 the town of Brookhaven, Long Island was settled from Connecticut and was claimed as part of the Connecticut colony from 1661. On 23 October 1662 Roger Barton was one of four men appointed to lay out the town. He signed a deed there as a "recorder" in 1664, and in the same year a contract to build a mill there. That Roger Barton had lived in Connecticut is apparent in the Connecticut records in which he was named as a deputy to the General Court on 23 April 1664, and made a Freeman of Connecticut by the General Assembly at Hartford, 12 May 1664. The Brookhaven community was being treated as part of the Connecticut colony.

On March 1665/6 (the change from old to new calendar causes this) he was elected to represent "Seatacott or Brookhaven" (McCracken's words) at a convention in Hempstead called by the governor of New York. There was apparently a severe dispute over which colony had jurisdiction over this Long Island area, and the Governor of New York ordered the arrest and expulsion of Roger Barton and another Connecticut man, at which point they fled to Connecticut. The families stayed and Roger's wife Mary petitioned the governor to be allowed to stay unmolested in the family property.

In 1670 Roger Barton acquired land at Rye Neck, in what is now the village of Rye, NY but was then considered a part of Connecticut. McCracken described the tract as "all the lands [in 1871] bordering on Grace Church Street, north of the road leading to Mamussing Island, as far as the brook and inlet... near to Port Chester." Roger called this "Barton's Neck." [I and my brother and sister will immediately recognize this as land near where our Hoisington grandparents lived from 1910 to 1956, on Kirby Lane, the road leading to Manursing Island. Barton's Neck must have included the old Sackett house and the Guion Road area stretching toward Port Chester harbor.]

In 1678 (20 November) Roger Barton purchased 102 acres from John Archer, Lord of the Manor of Fordham, "lying near Brunxes River..." for "valuable considerations of money" and delivery to Archer of a "fat hen" every Shrove Tuesday. The Barton family moved to Fordham. Unfortunately the Lord of the Manor had mortgaged all his property to one Cornelius Steenwick of New York City, and had not paid off the mortgage. After his death his widow left the Steenwick assets to the Dutch Reformed Church of New York. In 1682 on July 4 the Town of Westchester tried to insure Roger Barton's claim to his house and land by giving to him the land "on the West side of Brunxes River where his dwelling house now stands."

On 28 June, 1688, Roger deeded over his property to his family, to son Elisha Barton, son Elijah Barton, son Roger Barton, wife Mary Barton and on her decease her share to sons Noah, Enoch and Joseph. At this time Roger was 60,

hence born around 1628. It would appear that Elisha, Elijah and Roger (junior) were of age while the other three were minors.

The Reformed Church however did not let them enjoy their property in peace. On 16 July, 1688, a couple of weeks after the deeding over, a mob of Church supporters physically attacked the houses of Elijah and Elisha. McCracken gives the colorful description of the action from the records of a Westchester County jury which heard testimony of eyewitnesses two weeks later. One of the mob took a fence rail and broke open the door of Elijah's house, and the mob dragged out his father Roger (who was there in Elijah's absence) and beat him to shouts of "Kick him! Kick him in the breech!" They then assaulted Elisha in his house. Local residents apparently came to their rescue, and the Westchester County Sheriff convened a jury of 24 on July 31 to indict the attackers, who however had fled his jurisdiction. It is believed that Roger the elder died that year. Son Elijah was not at home during the melee, perhaps because he was serving in the militia (he is recorded serving in 1689-90 at the fort in Albany, NY.)

In 1693 the Reformed Church gave up its claim to the Town of Westchester, which had already in 1682 affirmed the Barton ownership. In 1698 a census of Westchester found Roger's widow Mary living with sons Noah and Joseph.

THE SONS OF ROGER BARTON (1) (1628?-1688?)

Elisha, born in c. 1662, who defended his house from the mob in 1688, died sometime before 1717. McCracken points out that in 1717, the New York colonial government awarded his brother Elijah money for his service in the militia in 1689-90, but paid it to Noah. Thus by 1717 not only Elijah but Elisha must have died, since it would have come to Elisha as oldest surviving son had he been living. Voge "conjectures" that he moved to Burlington County, NJ where "Elisha Bartin, yeoman" appears in the records in 1694 in Mansfield Township. This Elisha had a son Thomas, and probably another son who would have fathered an Elisha Barton (1729-1823) of Hunterdon County, and Gabriel Barton, (1732-1809), of Elizabeth, NJ.

Elijah, born c. 1664, probably in Brookhaven, Long Island. He probably was in the militia in Albany when his house was attacked by the mob in 1688. McCracken argues that he must have died before 1717 when New York made its belated payment for his service. Likewise he must have died without issue, or they would have inherited the claim. There seem to be no further records of him, and he likely died in his 20's or 30's without marrying.

Roger (2) (OUR ANCESTOR) was born c. 1666, possibly in Brookhaven or in Connecticut if his mother had moved back there after his father's "expulsion," and must have been of age in 1688 when his father deeded property to him. He is recorded serving in "Capt. George Lockhart's troop of horse" October 1687-

August 1688, so he would also have been unavailable to defend the family property from the 1688 mob attack. In 1689 he was a lieutenant in Albany.

He married Bridget Palmer shortly after 1692 – she had five children by him by 1698 according to the Westchester census. From 1702 to 1709 he was Sheriff of Westchester County. In 1709 he was a Captain in the militia, and in 1714 he led a company on the Canadian expedition of that year (against the French). He may have died on that expedition, because in 1715/16 his estate was inventoried. His children were:

- Palmer, b. c. 1693, d. before 1710
- Bridget, b. c. 1694
- Roger (3), b. 1695 (OUR ANCESTOR)
- Abigail, b. c. 1696
- Elisha, b. c. 1697, Westchester
- ?Rebecca, b. c. 1698

Noah, the fourth son of Roger(1), was born c. 1668, probably in Connecticut, and died some time after 1737. He was apparently not involved in the “riot” in 1688. Wife unknown, he had three children: Gilbert, Susanna, and Joseph.

Enoch, fifth son of Roger(1), was born c. 1669. There seems to be no information about him.

Joseph, sixth son of Roger(1), was born c. 1672, probably in Rye, NY. (See article by Dr. Joshua Lindley Barton, New York Genealogical and Biographical Record v. 59, p. 239 ff.) He married twice and had 13 children. By his first wife, possibly named Rachel, he had Benjamin, John, Mary (a twin of John), Rachel, and Elijah. By his second wife Abigail Lewis whom he married in 1717 he had Thomas, baptized 1718, William, Joseph, b. 1722 or earlier, Millicent, b. c. 1722, Lewis, b. c. 1725, Caleb, b. c. 1725, Sarah, b. c. 1730, and Roger, b. c. 1730.

ROGER BARTON(3)

Roger Barton(3) was born in Westchester c. 1695, son of Roger Barton (2) and Bridget Palmer. and died in 1757, probably in Ulster County, NY where his estate was administered. Wife unknown. His children were:

- Roger(4)
- Caleb
- Gilbert, b. c. 1740. Possibly on the payroll of the Orange Militia in the revolution. Married Mehitabel and had 11 children, born 1770 to 1791.
- Isaac (OUR ANCESTOR), born ?, died between 1800 and 1810.
- Andrew
- Elisha, lived near Cold Spring, Putnam County.

ISAAC BARTON, son of Roger Barton(3)

McCracken says he was “probably” the child of Roger Barton(3) since he was recorded in 1800 living in New Paltz, Ulster County, the county in which Roger Barton(3)’s estate was administered. He married twice; second wife was possibly the Sarah Jones who married an Isaac Barton in the First Presbyterian Church in New York City on September 2, 1770.

Isaac was a “pathmaster” in Newburgh Precinct, Ulster County in 1770 and 1792. In 1775 he signed an “association oath” on 14 July. (Significance?) During the revolution he was fined because a son was a loyalist in Ulster County. In 1779 Isaac was an “exempt” in the West Newburgh Company of the 4th Ulster Militia. {Oxford English Dictionary has one definition of an exempt as “a subordinate cavalry officer.” This would be a British usage, which might have been current for the American militia.}

In 1799 he paid a road tax in Marlboro (later known as Plattekill).
In 1800 he was recorded in New Paltz, Ulster County, but not there in 1810.

His children were (order uncertain):

Gabriel, perhaps b. before 1755. Reputed to have been a Loyalist.

Roger, b. 1755.

Isaac, b. 6 Oct 1760

Jeremiah (OUR ANCESTOR) b. 1765

Margaret, of New Paltz, m. Walter Sluyter, 1785

?Rachel, m. Gilbert Bloomer of Hackensack

There was a family tradition of a “red coat” belonging to Gabriel being cut up and distributed to family members as a souvenir of his having been a Loyalist.

JEREMIAH BARTON, 1765-1816

Married Elizabeth (perhaps Lounsbury, according to Voge.)

Children:

McCracken has a first son Jeremiah, b. c. 1789. However if there was such a son he must have died early because he was not listed in Jeremiah’s will in 1814 or otherwise mentioned in the family records.

McCracken also lists:

Jesse, b. 14 April 1791

Joshua, b. December 1792 in Westchester County

Susan (twin) b. July 8, 1799

William (twin) b. July 8, 1799
 James, b. 1804
 Daniel, b. 1807-1810
 Henry, b. 1810
 Mary, b. 20 Nov 1812.

Jesse and Joshua are named in Jeremiah's will, being of age when he made it in December 1815. The others (but not Jeremiah Jr.) were named in the probate of the will in 1843-44 on Jeremiah's widow's death.

The date for William is apparently wrong – other sources have 12 Oct 1801, which corresponds to the ages reported in the 1850 and subsequent censuses – so he was not a twin of Susan. (Voge had him born in 1802+/-). Daniel was born in 1805 since a December 23, 1892 newspaper article about him has him in his 87th year. (Voge didn't know when he was born and McCracken repeats his guessed dates.) The other dates seem right.

In any case, if the Jeremiah son of Isaac, born in 1765 is the same as the Jeremiah who lived in Yorktown, Westchester County and left the will listing his children in 1815, then we can establish his ancestry to Isaac. It is not clear what evidence McCracken had to make this identification. The 1765 date of birth is reasonable in view of the birth years of Jeremiah of Yorktown's children, and Westchester is adjacent to Ulster County and across the Hudson from New Paltz where Isaac lived. And Westchester was where a lot of Roger Barton (1)'s descendants lived. The other assumption in the chain is that Isaac Barton of New Paltz is the son of Roger Barton(3) of Ulster County. It would be nice if we had wills or other records making these connections unambiguous. However with all the proliferation of descendants of Roger Barton(1) in Westchester and Ulster Counties there may be other connections if these turn out not to be supportable.

Jeremiah made his will in December, 1815, and died in January 1816.

Information on Jeremiah here is based on research done by Arlene Frodey who obtained Westchester County records of his will, census data, etc. She also provided me the reference to the McCracken article.