



Newsletter

incorporated in 2004 as Dunham/Singletary Family Connections

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From the President:

We have had several board members who are needing to step away. If you are interested in participating and guiding our group forward, please let one of us know. This work is typically participating in any decisions the organization needs to make – this is infrequent. There is attending the annual board meeting.

We are in need of material for our newsletter. If you would like to share any family stories or your family research, please step up and help document your family history by contributing an article for the newsletter. The newsletters are stored on our website for all our members to see.

And finally, thanks for all of your support to this organization. As we have new dunham family members join us, we are here to help them all find where they came from. And again, my thanks to all here who helped me find out about my family history.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey M. Dunham
President
Dunham Genealogy Research Association.

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Editor's Corner:

I have not been able to complete several articles and projects due to Medical complications due to a fall and injury in November. I'm doing better but have several office visits and procedures before I have recovered to where they will be able to perform some corrective surgery in the fall.

I have also been involved in the purchase since February, of a house for our daughter's family of four. They also will be having her sister-in-law move in with them. She is an adult with special needs and her mother is not going to be able to care for her in the future due to the mothers medical issues.

I have been working with a handyman to make the upgrades that are needed for the wheelchair and repairs to the house that had been a rental for over 15 years and not maintained. The upgrades need to be completed inside before June so do have the needed time to get them completed.

I'm also trying to recover lost computer records due to a fried computer power supply, motherboard, and some files on the hard drive. I have backups but still discovering that files and records are missing. Yes Do back up your records on a regular basis.

DGRA Newsletter Staff, James A. Streeter.

The Big Picture: Nathaniel Dunham's Family, Associates, Neighbors in Woodbridge, Scotch Plains, and Bernardstown, New Jersey

by Gratia Dunham Mahony

Settlement Pattern of the Elizabethtown Tract

On October 28, 1664 a group of Englishmen—the Elizabethtown Associates—from eastern Long Island bought land in New Jersey from the Lenape sachem, Mattano.

This tract of land lying between the Raritan River and the Passaic River, extended westward from Newark Bay about 17 miles. The tract included about 34 miles between the Raritan and the Passaic Rivers and comprised about 500,000 acres. It included what is now the City of Elizabeth, originally called "Elizabethtown". This whole area included all of present-day Union County, and parts of Somerset, Middlesex, Morris and Essex Counties. Elizabethtown Township was formed on 31 October, 1693 and the western parts of the township were known as Elizabethtown Borough.

Two settlements just south of the Elizabethtown tract in Middlesex County were Woodbridge first settled in 1665, and Piscataway formed on December 18, 1666.

Piscataway's earliest European settlers came from near the Piscataqua River, a location on the coastal border between New Hampshire and Maine, and from European settlers who came from Eastham, on Cape Cod in Massachusetts including Benajah Dunham of the Deacon John Dunham line. The earliest European settlers who came to Woodbridge in 1665 included Jonathan Singletary alias Dunham, from Haverhill, New Hampshire and Thomas Bloomfield and others from Newberry, Massachusetts.

These two Dunham families were from completely separate lines as proven by DNA analysis.

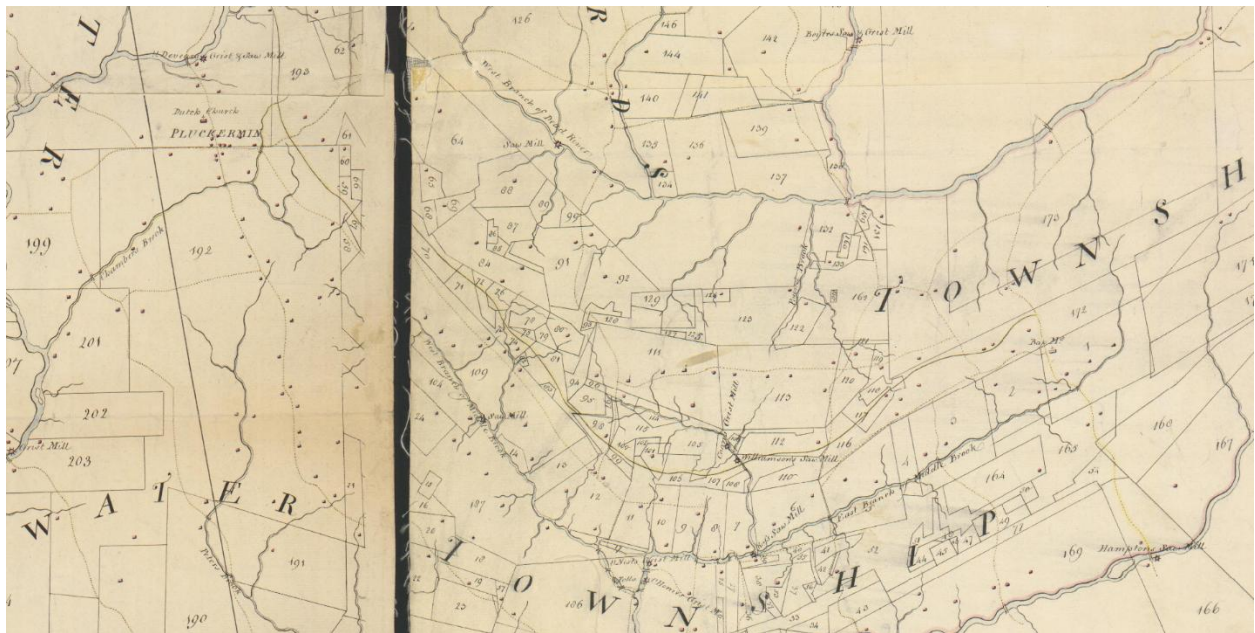
For the purposes of this article we will be following the line of Jonathan Dunham alias Singletary (here-in-after known as Jonathan ² Dunham) of the Woodbridge line. An article published in the October 2023 issue of this newsletter detailed the line of Richard ¹ Singletary, Jonathan ² Dunham alias Singletary, Nathaniel ³ Dunham and his wife Joanna Thornall, David ⁴ Dunham and his wife Esther Crane. In this article I hope to show the connection of the brother of David ⁴ Dunham who was John ⁴ Dunham, and why I believe he was the father of Nathaniel ⁵ Dunham,

an early settler in Clermont County, Ohio. (This surname spelled Dunham or Donham, the Dunham spelling will be used in this article.) John ⁴ Dunham is #27 under the Line of Jonathan Dunham alias Singletary of Woodbridge on the DGRA website. www.dunham-singletary.org

Nathaniel Dunham of Clermont County Ohio

To try to trace Nathaniel ⁵ Dunham and establish his parents we need to locate him at as many points in his New Jersey life as possible. Three things will help us learn these facts. The first is to follow the settlement pattern of Elizabethtown and the Western part of what was Elizabeth-Town Borough which included Scotch Plains, Bernardstown and Mount Bethel. The second is to follow the establishment of the Baptist Church in Scotch Plains and Mount Bethel and it's early Ministers, Elders, and Members. The third is to identify and follow Nathaniel's two wives, Mary Sutton and Keziah Crosley.

We know, and can see on the map, where land located near Mount Bethel Baptist Church that Nathaniel and his second wife Keziah (Crosley) Dunham sold to Joseph Manning on 23 April 1777 was located.



Plan of Somerset County in the province of New Jersey : Copied from the original by Lieut. I. Hills, asst. engr. / surveyed by Benjamin Morgan in 1766.

The land that was Nathaniel's is located right in the center of the above section of the 1766 map and is two lots above the two trapezoid shaped parcels. The Dead River is directly above and it joins the Passaic River at the right angle bend just above the letter "T" in Township.

In looking at the map of Bernardstown/Mt. Bethel surveyed by Benjamin Morgan and illustrated in 1766 by Lieut. I. Hills we can see three small parcels of land owned by David Sutton (1703-1775). We do not know exactly when David³ Sutton bought these parcels, or just when he moved here. There is a clue however in "The History of Hunterdon and Somerset Counties, New Jersey" on p. 562 in the list of lot numbers of purchasers and subdivisions of land tracts in Somerset County north of the Raritan River. Lot #105 was purchased by John Parker on 27 Feb. 1730 "joining Sutton's" on Harrison's purchase.

Joseph Manning

It is interesting to learn a little bit about Joseph Manning who bought Nathaniel's property in 1777. Joseph Manning was born in Woodbridge about 1744, son of James and Grace (Fitz Randolph) Manning. He died in March 1812 in Westfield, NJ and left a will naming his wife and children. Joseph Manning, as well as several members of his family, was a member of the Scotch Plains Baptist Church. He was on that Church's membership list in 1767 and was still a member in 1782.

Diane Tichenor, a descendant of Nathaniel Dunham and a current researchers shared with me a deed record which she gathered and extracted [Somerset Co. deeds, G:306, FHL film 903793]. It reads in part:

"Joseph Manning estate deed 16 Jul 1812, Daniel, acting executor, and wife Anna Manning to Stephen Manning, dividing father Joseph's land in Westfield Twp, Essex Co, AND one quarter or equal fourth part of farm, being part of the land divided as aforesaid Somerset Co; farm purchased on 23 April 1777 by Joseph Manning from Nathaniel Dunham & Keziah his wife, beg. At a heap of stones on the northwesterly side of Stony Hill by a road in the northerly corner of land then belonging to Richard Taylor & running from thence S 76 degrees E 43 chains, 50 links to heap of stones; S 1 degree 15 minutes E 20 chains & 40 links to heap of stones; S 88 degrees W 42 chains 50 links to heap of stones; N 45 minutes W 32 chains to beginning, 111 1/3 acres bonded formerly by a road; southerly by land of David Coriell & W by land of Richard Taylor... signed Daniel Manning and Anna Manning. Wit. David T [?] Dunham, Levi Farrell; rec. 22 Apr 1813

Somerset Co deeds, G:306, FHL film 903793

Daniel Manning, et al Essex Co deeds. Because the deed included land in both counties, the same deed as G:306 was entered at Essex Co as:

U:440 Daniel and Anna Manning to Stephen Manning land in Westfield Twp, Essex Co and 1/4 share of former Nathaniel Donham land in Somerset Co to brother Stephen - gives exact description as in Nathaniel 1777 deed.”

From looking at this deed it would appear that Joseph Manning never intended to live on the Somerset County property but had purchased it either as an investment or to have land to pass onto his sons. Joseph Manning was married three times, first to Rachel Drake, the mother of his children, second to Providence Cooper, and third to Mrs. Mary V. Laing. His four sons were: James (b. 1769), Daniel (b. 1776), Stephen (b. 1781, and William (b. 1783).

We have records of Nathaniel’s Revolutionary War Service and we can follow his life from this point on when he went to Clermont County, Ohio to live. Now we need to try to work backward from the sale of his land near Mount Bethel in 1777.

The Two Wives of Nathaniel ⁵ Dunham

Nathaniel ⁵ Dunham was married twice, first to Mary Sutton who died about 1774, and second to Keziah Crosley. Who were these women and where could Nathaniel ⁵ Dunham have met them?

From years of previous research, and from the ancestry of several people who descend from Nathaniel ⁵ Dunham, I believe that his line back is from John ⁴ Dunham, a son of Nathaniel ³ and Joanna (Thornall) Dunham, Jonathan ² Dunham alias Singletary, Richard ¹ Singletary. This Jonathan ² Dunham went to Woodbridge, Middlesex County, New Jersey in 1665 and built the first mill there in about 1670. We saw in the article “The Dilemma of Second Cousins Named Joseph ⁵ Dunham” published in Vol. 20, Issue 4, October 2023 issue of the Dunham Genealogy Research Association newsletter that the brother of John ⁴ Dunham, who was David ⁴ Dunham, with his wife Esther (Crane) Dunham lived in Westfield. Westfield is located west of Rahway and just to the east of Scotch Plains, New Jersey.

David ⁴ Dunham moved from Woodbridge to Elizabeth and there married his wife Esther Crane, daughter of John Crane. John Crane was one of the Elizabeth Town Associates for whom land was surveyed in 1669-1700. John Crane went to Westfield, and David Dunham likely went

about the same time or shortly thereafter. David Dunham is of record in Westfield, but we don't know the exact location of his homestead.

John ⁴ Dunham could have also moved to Westfield or more likely he moved directly north from Woodbridge to the area of Scotch Plains. His wife is given in several genealogical charts as Hilah Ann Ross, and indeed there was a Ross family living near the Westfield western boundary near the "Road to Scotch Plains". It has not been proven that the name of the wife of John ⁴ was Hilah Ann Ross, but circumstantial evidence in the naming of several grand or great granddaughters indicated that this unusual name was the name of an ancestor.

A few Scotch families had been living in the area of Scotch Plains, giving the area the name. Local mission work had developed Baptist strength in the neighborhood. In 1747 the Baptist church was organized with its first members from the Baptist Church at Piscataway. In February 1748 their first pastor, Benjamin Miller, was ordained by Elders Benjamin Stelle and Abel Morgan.

Birth date of John ⁴ Dunham, possible marriage date and birth date of Nathaniel ⁵ Dunham.

The birth date of John ⁴ Dunham, son of Nathaniel ³ and Joanna (Thornall) Dunham is often given as about 1708, but it could have been between 1715 and 1723. From Myers, p. 543, Nathaniel ³ married Joanna Thornall in Woodbridge 20 Oct. 1703 and their first child, David ⁴, was born ca. 1704/5. Then there is a gap of 5 years, and then three daughters appear on the Vital Records of Woodbridge. These are Elizabeth b. 10 May 1710; Joanna b. 25 Sept. 1712/ and Jerusha b. 3 March 1714/5. Next two sons, who do not appear on the Vital Records, are given by Brunton (an early Researcher of this family) as Andrew and Jehu. (I question this given name of Jehu, never seen in the line of Jonathan ² Dunham of Woodbridge, and I think this name was actually John.) These are followed by Ephraim Dunham b. 17 Nov. 1724 who does appear on the Vital Records, and can be followed in his later life. Finally a son Nathaniel Dunham b. 1726 is given by Brunton, (p. 23). This Nathaniel Dunham m. in 1754 Elizabeth Wilson, and he can also be followed in public records.

Diane Tichenor, a current Dunham researcher who has kindly shared her work with me, presents evidence that John ⁴ Dunham was more likely born about 1720 and married about 1742. She (Diane Tichenor) then gives a birth date for Nathaniel ⁵, son of John ⁴ as about 1742, m. first Mary Sutton.

Parents of Mary Sutton.

From Mayflower Families Through Five Generations, Vol. 4, the Edward Fuller Family, p. 107 gives the line of the Mary Sutton, daughter of John and Mary (Martin) Sutton of Piscataway.

In order to try to identify Mary Sutton further, the first wife of Nathaniel⁵ Dunham, we need to find the Sutton Families living in both Scotch Plains and Mount Bethel. The Scotch Plains Baptist Church was formally organized in 1747 from the mother church at Piscataway. The founding members were dismissed from the Piscataway Church to the church at Scotch Plains and were the following 15 persons:

William Darby

Recompence Stanbery

John Lambert

John Dennis

John Stanbery

Henry Crosley

John Sutton, Jr. (abt. 1701-1761)

Isaac Manning

Mary Brodwell

Mary Green

Mary Dennis

Tibiah Sutton (Tabitha)

Catharine Manning

Sarah De Camp

Sarah Perce

John³ Sutton, Jr. was the son of John² Sutton, William¹ Sutton. John³ Sutton was born about 1701, married Mary⁶ Martin of Piscataway, and died in 1761 [Ref. Genealogical notes of the Sutton Family of New Jersey, p. 17] aged 60 years old. The will of John Sutton of Somerset County, NJ was written 25 August 1758 and probated 22 Jan. 1761. [Abstracts of NJ Wills, Vol. 33:418] In it he names wife Mary, daughters Elizabeth, Anne, Lois and Mary; and sons Jeremiah Abner, and Philip

The father of the Mary Sutton who m. Nathaniel⁵ Dunham has also been given as David³ Sutton, brother of John³ Sutton. David's will was dated 1 Dec. 1775 and proved 19 Dec. 1775. [Abstracts of NJ Wills VI. 34:512] "Sutton, David, of Bernards Township, Somerset Co' will of. To my wife, ½ of my estate. To Marah, Jeonner (Joanna) and Abigail who are the 3 youngest of my daughter, Elizabeth, deceased, £5 a piece. To the children which my daughter Marah had, who is deceased, viz., to eldest son, David, £10, and to each of the rest, £5. Eldest son, Isaac £10, and then to have equal with David, John, Abraham, Jeames (James), Moses and Sarah. Executors-sons David and Moses...."

Note: The four brothers, Isaac⁴, David⁴, John⁴ and James⁴, plus their cousin Abner⁴ (the son of John³ Sutton,) were all Baptist Clergymen. They were known as the five preaching Suttons.

Birth dates are not given in any Vital Records for either the children of John³ and Mary (Martin) Sutton, or for David³ and Elizabeth (Cox) Sutton. John³ Sutton had gone from Piscataway to Scotch Plains (founding member of Church in 1747); and David³ Sutton seems to have been living in Bernardstown. He married in Basking Ridge in 1723 Elizabeth Cox who died in Bernardstown in 1746.

Which Mary Sutton was the wife of Nathaniel⁵ Dunham?

Two candidates for the father of Mary Sutton have confused descendants for years. They are the brothers, John³ Sutton, Jr. and David³ Sutton, both sons of John² Sutton. John³ Sutton, Jr. went to Scotch Plains, as we can see from the list of founding members above; and David³ Sutton is found owning land in the area close to Mount Bethel and also close to the land owned by Nathaniel⁵ Dunham. Both John and David Sutton had daughters named Mary.

To add to the confusion, a descendant of John³ Sutton has been accepted into the Mayflower Society as a descendant of Edward Fuller through his great granddaughter Mary Bonham who m. Edward³ Dunham (Benajah² Dunham of Piscataway, Deacon John¹ Dunham). Edward³ Dunham and Mary Bonham were parents of Elizabeth⁴ Dunham b. 26 Nov. 1689 who married in Piscataway Jonathan Martin. Jonathan and Elizabeth (Dunham) Martin were parents of Mary⁵ Martin b. 21 Sept. 1707 who married John³ Sutton, Jr. See DGRA Newsletter article by Neal Alan Clark in Vol. 17, #3, 15 July 2020 "Neal Clark Family Genealogy".

As the discussion of the beginning of the Mount Bethel Baptist Church shows, we know that prior to that Church's founding people living in Bernardstown went to Scotch Plains to attend Sunday Services. We know also that it was a long and arduous trip to travel back and forth to

Scotch Plains due to the rugged terrain. We can figure that David ³ Sutton and his family must have made this Sunday trip to Scotch Plains with his family, and if Nathaniel ⁵ Dunham was also there, or even just living in the area, both the families of John ³ and David ³ Sutton might well have known him. Nathaniel ⁵ Dunham is not listed as a member of the Scotch Plains Baptist Church, but both his wives were associated with that church, and he likely was also.

Again we have to estimate the likely birth dates for the two daughters named Mary Sutton. Mary, daughter of John ³ and Mary (Martin) Sutton, was b. 21 Sept. 1707

and married John Sutton say 1724-1727 (according to International Marriage Records).

Children of John and Mary (Martin) Sutton were: (birth order unknown)

- i. Elizabeth Sutton
- ii. Anna Sutton
- iii. Lois Sutton
- iv. Mary Sutton
- v. Jeremiah Sutton
- vi. Abner Sutton b. 8 May 1741 (He is buried in Mt. Bethel Cemetery in 1795)
- vii. Philip Sutton

The best information is that Nathaniel Dunham married Mary Sutton in 1765. Nathaniel Dunham is detailed well in DGRA Newsletter, Volume 4, Volume 16, October 15, 2019.

Children of Nathaniel and Mary (Sutton) Dunham:

- i. David ⁶ Dunham prob b. about 1767 (called oldest son in will of David Sutton)
- ii. John ⁶ Dunham b. 7 April 1769
- iii. Henry ⁶ Dunham b. 14 June 1771
- iv. Lewis ⁶ Dunham b. 6 Feb. 1773
- v. Mary ⁶ Dunham b. 5 May 1774

Mary (Sutton) Dunham died in 1774 shortly after the birth of her daughter Mary. Nathaniel married second Keziah Crosley. Nathaniel Dunham fought in the Revolutionary War as part of the 1st New Jersey Regiment Continental Line, Colonel Matthias Ogden. Nathaniel was at Valley Forge with General Washington that first winter. Sometime after the war was over, probably about 1790, Nathaniel and Keziah moved to Green County, PA (Washington County,

PA at the time) and then finally to Clermont County, OH approximately early 1800's. Nathaniel died before August 10, 1820 in Clermont County, OH

In Feb. 2021 Diane Tichenor, a descendant of Nathaniel Dunham did a lot of research to locate and follow the land ownership of Nathaniel Dunham. Her research points strongly to David³ Sutton as the father of the Mary Sutton who married Nathaniel Dunham.

David³ Sutton was born in Piscataway, Middlesex County, New Jersey 31 July 1703; d. in Bernardsville, Somerset County 19 December 1775. He was son of John Sutton and Elizaeth Conger who were married in 1723 in Basking Ridge, Somerset County, New Jersey.

David³ Sutton married first Elizabeth Cox, b. 1705; d. in Somerset County New Jersey in 1746. She was daughter of Philip Cox. He married second Sarah Trembley who was born in Basking Ridge in 1715; d. in 1775. They had one child, Sarah who married Isaac Cox. Philip Cox, father of Elizabeth Cox, had a large amount of land just to the north of Dead River on which he had developed an early copper mine. Philip Cox was one of the very first settlers in this area.

This is the Rev. David Sutton whose land on Stoney Hill was just southwest of the land of Nathaniel Dunham. He also owned three smaller parcels of land on Stoney Hill that were near Nathaniel Dunham. The will of Rev. David Sutton from New Jersey Colonial Documents Abstract of Wills. Vol. p. 512 follows:

“1775, Feb. 1. Sutton, David, of Bernards Township, Somerset Co.: will of. To my wife, ½ of my estate. To Marah, Jeonner and Abigail, who are the 3 youngest of my daughter, Elizabeth, deceased, £5 a piece. To the children which my daughter, Marah, had, who is deceased, viz., to eldest son, David, £10, and to each of the rest, £5. Eldest son, Isaac, £10, and then to have equal with David, John, Abraham, Jeames, Moses and Sarah. Executors-sons, David and Moses. Witnesses-John Colins, Hannah Collins, Benjamin Courton. Proved Dec. 19, 1775.

1775, Dec. 18. Inventory, £271.16.8, made by Jacobus Rechtmeyer and Abraham Van Tul.

Lib. L, p. 176.”

Children of Rev. David and Elizabeth (Cox) Sutton:

- i. Isaac⁴ Sutton (called oldest son)
- ii. David⁴ Sutton, Jr.
- iii. John⁴ Sutton b. 1733

- iv. Abraham ⁴ Sutton
- v. James ⁴ Sutton
- vi. Moses ⁴ Sutton
- vii. Elizabeth ⁴
- viii. Mary/Marah ⁴ Sutton b. abt. 1744-6

Child of Rev. David and Sarah (Trembley) Sutton:

- ix. Sarah ⁴ Sutton

Philip Cox came to Somerset County, and settled in the “Blue Hills”, perhaps at and just South of Stoney Hill as early as 1727, when he bought 200 acres between the first and second mountain. [Ref. A Brief History of Warren Township: The Introduction to Images of America – Warren Township Alan A. Siegel, 1996 at <https://www.warrennj.org/336/Township-History>)

“Phinias Cox owned plot 142 of 707 acres in Bernards Township. This parcel was just two lots north of Ephraim Dunham’s land, making them near neighbors. (on 7 Jan. 1737 Ephraim Dunham and Daniel Blackford made inventory of the estate of Philip Cox which was proved in 1736 at Blue Hills, Somerset Co., NJ.)

From Diane Thchenor:

“Philip Cox made his will 27 Sept. 1728, proved 18 Aug. 1736 at Blue Hills, Somerset Co., New Jersey. [NJ Abstracts of Wills Vol. 30 1730-1750] Will names wife, executrix. Sons John, Philip and Phineas. Daughter Elizabeth. Executors empowered to sell 100 acres of land in Somerset Co. purchased of John Budd *. Executor, John Kinsey, Jr. Witnesses, John Kinsey, Wm. Thomson, Joanna Kinsey.

Lib. C:115

1737, Jan. 7 (Filing Date) Inventory £304.14-3. Includes Bible, £1.5, made by Daniel Blackford, **Ephraim Dunham**. Signed “Derkes (Dorcas) Cox, admx. (her mark).

Children of Philip and Dorcas (Graves) Cox:

- i. John Cox
- ii. Philip Cox

- iii. Phineas Cox
- iv. Elizabeth Cox

Another Dunham in Bernardstown

There has been speculation that perhaps there is a connection between Ephraim Dunham, who owned land in Bernards Township (Mount Bethel) that was located just to the north east of the land later owned and sold by Nathaniel Dunham on 23 April, 1777. I want to address that question here. These are the following facts that relate to this question:

If we look at all known facts about Ephraim and his associates, we may be able to estimate a date of birth and death for him. Ephraim Dunham was associated with Adam Hude and John Kinsey and Col. Elisha Parker.

From NJ Abstracts of Wills, Vol. XXIII 1670-1730

1709, Sept 8, Parker, Elisha of Woodbridge, Merchant, will of. Wife Ursela. Children: John, Elisha, Elizabeth, Ursela, Mary, all under age, and an expected child. Mansion house at Woodbridge with lot, 34 acres of pasture between Samuel Smith, Steven Tuttle, Henry Freeman and the highway, an island of 3 acres in Papiack Creek, a farm bought of Benjamin Hull, John Worth and Daniel Clemence in Woodbridge Piscataqua Townships.

Personal property – Executor son John when he comes of age, until then the wife, Adam Hude and John Kinsey. Witnesses: Tho. Farmer, Miles Forster, George Willocks,
proved 1 July 1717.

Lib. A. p. 78

NOTE: Elisha Parker . Ursula Craige 27 Sept. 1697 in Woodbridge

Adam Hude (from Scotland) came in ship “Henry and Francis” 3 Sept. 1685, and 10 years later bought land in Woodbridge. He d. 20 Nov. 1732 age 71 yrs. (so b. about 1661).

He married Marian (Renwick) who d. 27 June 1746 age 85 yrs. (so b. about 1661).

Both Col. Elisha Parker and Adam Hude were listed on “Land Holders in Somerset County in 1766” according to Survey by Benjamin Morgan. Even though both were dead by 1766 the land was still shown in their name, as follows:

Col. Elisha Parker: (note, his sons, John and Elisha, also owned a lot of land in 1766)

Plot 4 250 acres

Plot 5 (either part of above, or a separate plot (no acreage given))

Plot 113 469 acres

Plot 114 46 acres

Plot 115 (either part of above, or a separate plot (no acreage given))

Parker and Holingshead

Plot 148 132 acres

Adam Hude:

Plot 6 250 acres

Plot 111 469 acres

Philip Cox

Plot 51 50 acres

Daniel Blackford

Plot 31 40 acres (together with Tho. Erwin)

Ephraim Dunham

Plot 132 100 acres

[Note: John Budd is listed on Survey 1766 as owner of Plot 195 of 1,036 acres.]

Ephraim Dunham owned Plot 132 of 100 acres in 1766, but that does not mean that he was still alive at that time. Note that both Col. Elisha Parker and Adam Hude were listed on the 1766 survey by Benjamin Morgan, but both were deceased. Col. Elisha Parker d. by **1 July 1717** (probate of will); and Adam Hude d. **20 Nov. 1732**.

Ephraim Dunham was also associated with Philip Cox who d. by **18 August 1736**, and indeed took inventory of his estate along with Daniel Blackford.

From: New Jersey Abstracts of Wills:

“1728, Sept. 27. Cox, Philip, of the Blue Hills, Somerset Co., will of. Wife, executrix. Sons-John, Philip and Phineas. Daughter Elizabeth. Executors empowered to sell 100 acres of land in Somerset Co., purchased of John Budd. Executor-John Kinsey, Jr. Witnesses- John Kinsey, Wm. Thomson, Joanna Kinsey, Proved 18 Aug. 1736.

Lib. C, p. 115

1737, Jan. 7. (Filing date), Inventory (£304.14.3) Includes Bible, £1.5. Made by Daniel Blackford, **Ephraim Dunham**. Signed, Derkes (Dorcas) Cox, admix her mark.”

Philip Cox came to Somerset County, and settled in the “Blue Hills”, perhaps at and just South of Stony Hill as early as 1727, when he bought 200 acres “between the first and second mountain called the Blue Hills”. He lived just SE of later Mount Bethel, on probably what was also the South side of Stony Hill. [A Brief History of Warren Township The Introduction to Images of America - Warren Township Alan A. Siegel, 1996 at <https://www.warrennj.org/336/Township-History>]

So we know that Ephraim Dunham was still alive in August 1736. We also know that Ephraim Dunham purchased Lot # 108 in what became Bernard (later Warren) Township on March 1, 1730.

If Ephraim Dunham took inventory of Philip Cox of the Blue Hills, in 1736, he would have been over 21 years of age, and probably old enough to live near Philip Cox in the Blue Hills, and thus own land and have living quarters there. 1736 minus 21 = 1715, so prob. the latest that Ephraim could have been born would have been 1715. He was likely born before that, so say that he was age about 40 when he took the inventory. That would have made him born in 1696. The purchase of land in 1730 also indicates that Ephraim Dunham was an adult man and thus born probably before 1705.

Who Was Ephraim Dunham?

After a lot of research to try to see if there was any relationship between Ephraim Dunham (who owned land just north of Nathaniel Dunham), and Nathaniel Dunham I have found several references to Ephraim Dunham. He was a descendant of the Piscataway Dunham line of Deacon John ¹, Benajah ², Edmund ³ Dunham.

From "History of Hunterdon and Somerset Counties, New Jersey" by Snell, p. 562-3; Lot numbers of land tracts in Somerset County north of the Raritan River: lists start in 1683;

Lot # 108 Ephraim Dunham, March 1, 1730, joining Penn's Brook and 29 chains on Passaic River, 100 acres.

Ephraim⁴ Dunham (Edmund³, Benajah², John¹) born in Piscataway New Jersey 2 May 1696,^[1] died after 9 Aug. 1742 when he was a witness to his brother Benajah's will. He married in Piscataway 26 Jan. 1715/6 **Phebe Smalley**, dau. of John and Lydia (Martin) Smalley.^[2] She was born in Piscataway 20 June 1695. There are no death dates or wills for Ephraim or Phebe in the New Jersey Archives.

Ref. for birth from Mayflower Families Edward Fuller, Vol. 4 p. 109 Ibid for marriage to Phebe Smalley.

Children of Ephraim and Phebe (Smalley) Dunham: (Ref. MF Edward Fuller p. 109)*

- i. Zerviah Dunham b. 11 Nov. 1716
- ii. Prob. Hannah Dunham b. 28 Dec. 1718 (Charles Caroll Gardner
Note: Books, Alexander Library, New Brunswick, NJ)
- iii. Elisha Dunham b. 16 Aug. 1720
- iv. Ephraim Dunham b. 17 March 1722
- v. Phebe Dunham b. 3 Jan. 1723/4
- vi. Susannah Dunham b. 23 Sept. 1727
- vii. Benjamin Dunham b. 18 March 1727/8 (sic)
- viii. Elizabeth Dunham b. 17 June 1730
- ix. John Dunham b. 15 Sept. 1732
- x. Edmund Dunham b. 2 Aug. 1734
- xi. Jeremiah Dunham b. 10 April 1737
- xii. Bethsheba Dunham b. 30 May 1740

*Note: The births are recorded in Piscataway but they are given in two different sources. Children Zerviah and Elisha, Jeremiah and Bethsheba are in one source; children Ephraim through Edmund are given in a different source.

Also note: There is no child named Nathaniel among the children of Ephraim and Phebe (Smalley) Dunham.

Notes on Somerset County and it's early settlement

The area that is today northern Somerset County had its beginning with the original Indian Purchase made 4 May, 1681 when English settlers purchased it from two Raritan Indians.

The Province of East Jersey was first divided into four counties in 1683. The four counties were Bergen, Essex, Middlesex, and Monmouth. Somerset County was set off from the territory of Middlesex and separately erected by the Provincial Assembly at a session at Amboy on May 14 1688. In 1692 an act was passed to divide each county into townships.

A well known local site in Somerset County was Metape's Wigwam, an Indian site located at what was later Sebring Mill Road and Rt. 22. It was two miles upstream from the Raritan River where King George Road crossed the Raritan and then headed north over the first Wachung Mountain. King George Road ran between Metape's Wigwam and the confluence of the Dead River and the Passaic River. It probably was an important Indian trail which connected the Raritan and the Passaic Rivers and it was likely well traveled by the early settlers. As the Indian trails were widened by the settlers wagons were used to transport goods both to and from Philadelphia along the Old York Road, or north from Woodbridge and Piscataway. Water transportation was also used to transport goods by way of the Raritan Landing, or the ports at Elizabethtown and Trenton.

Stoney Hill and Mount Bethel, where both Ephraim Dunham and later Nathaniel Dunham had their property, was in that portion of Somerset County that was the township of Bernard, or Bernardstown. In 1701 the governor and proprietors of East Jersey appointed John Harrison agent to procure lands from the Indians in this area. John Harrison purchased about 3000 acres in Bernard between the Passaic River in the east and Green Brook on the west; and from Dead River in the south to Penn's Brook on the north. He was probably living at that time on Rocky Hill. After the death of John Harrison, his son Benjamin sold the whole purchase to Daniel Hollingshead and George Risarick who again sold half their land to Col. John Parker of Amboy and James Alexander of New York. By 1720 Parker and Alexander sold a part of it to Cornelius Brees of Staten Island, These four proprietors, Hollingshead, Parker, Alexander and Brees had lands surveyed in 1727 and laid out into farms, usually small acreage to 150-200 acres each.

One of these small lots, #108 of 100 acres was taken up by Ephraim Dunham on March 1, 1730. It joined Penn's tract and also had a boundary of twenty chains on the Passaic River. Unfortunately it is now impossible to detail these purchases further than that as the deeds and records of Somerset County were destroyed by fire during the Revolutionary war.

The Morgan map of Somerset County shows lot numbers, boundaries and original owners of the grants from the East Jersey Proprietors. The map (drawn by I. Hills) was based on a 1766 survey by Benjamin Morgan; however, by 1766, many of the lots had changed hands several times, or been further subdivided into wood lots, mine lots, and farms. A map drawn by Robert Erskin, #70E in Rev. War map series, shows the road from Mount Bethel Meeting House to Quibbletown (New Market), and from Quibbletown to Brunswick. The map identifies the point where the road crosses the first mountain as the "Quibbletown Gap". What we call the Watchung Mountains today was known to General Washington and the Continental Army as the Blue Hills. They were the natural barrier that could keep the Army safe from incursions by the British who held Manhattan.

In looking at the 1766 map surveyed by Benjamin Morgan we note that numbers for the parcels of land surveyed are given, and that they correspond to the list of Land Holders in Somerset County. We see that three small parcels, numbers 75, 79 and 93, were owned by David Sutton. The number given to the parcel that later became Nathaniel Dunham's (which he sold to Joseph Manning in 1777), still belonged to the very large tract belonging to William Penn. This would indicate that in 1766 this parcel had not yet been split off and probably still belonged to the large 7,500 acre lot #126. If Nathaniel married Mary Sutton about 1765-6 and then shortly thereafter purchased the 111 acre parcel, he would not have been shown on the Morgan map. So we can estimate that Nathaniel and his first wife, Mary Sutton, lived on this land from say 1767 until her death in about 1774. During that time they had the following children:

- i. David Dunham, b. say 1766 (called oldest son in the will of David Sutton)
- ii. John Dunham, b. 7 April 1769
- iii. Lewis Dunham, b. 24 June 1771
- iv. Henry Dunham, b. 6 Feb. 1773
- v. Mary Dunham, b. 5 May 1774

Mary (Sutton) Dunham died shortly after the birth of Mary in 1774, and Nathaniel married second Keziah Crosley.

Nathaniel and Keziah (Crossley) Dunham had the following children:

- vi. Abel Dunham . b. 19 July 1777
- vii. William Dunham b. say 1779
- viii. Amos Dunham b. say 1782
- ix. Robert Dunham b. say 1784
- x. Jonathan Singleton Dunham b. 15 Feb. 1786

Nathaniel Dunham enlisted in the Revolutionary War Service as a Private on 4 April 1777 and served in Capt. Morrison's Company. He may have been recruited by Capt. Isaac Morrison. Isaac Morrison (1745-1798) was born in Basking Ridge, then Essex but now Somerset County, NJ. Isaac Morrison of NJ was First Lieut. of the 1st NJ Regt from 15 Dec. 1775 to 10 Nov. 1776; and was promoted to Capt. of First NJ Jan. 1777. Morrison was wounded at the Battle of Germantown on 4 Oct. 1777. He retired from service 26 Sept. 1780. Capt. Isaac Morrison served under Col. Mathias Ogden of the First NJ Regt. which was commanded by General William Earl Sterling.

The Muster Rolls for May 31, 1777 and June 14, 1777 state that Capt. Isaac Morrison was at Elizabethtown, and the muster Roll for June 14, 1777 states that Nathaniel Dunham was stationed "at Rahway".

Probable Parents of Keziah Crosley

Again I want to thank Diane Tichenor for her diligent research on this line. She has developed strong circumstantial evidence that the parents of Keziah Crosley, second wife of Nathaniel Dunham, were Robert and Mary (--) Crosley. Below are a few notes from Diane showing the close connection between the Crosley family and both Scotch Plains and Mount Bethel Baptist Churches, and the move of these families, including Nathaniel and Keziah (Crosley) Dunham to the Baptist Church at Redstone, (Pennsylvania).

Notes from Diane: "The facts that both Nathaniel & Keziah and Robert Crosley, Jr., son of Robert Sr., owned land in Cumberland Twp, Washington Co, Pennsylvania; and, three of Robert Crosley Sr.'s sons also settled in Hamilton & Clermont Co, Ohio, indicate that Keziah's father was Robert.

from <https://www.angelfire.com/my/crosleyconnect/master2.html>

1761 Mr. CROSLY mentioned in Scotch Plains Church rec that he, Rev. R Mr. Easton, Mr. STILLE, Mr. (M)ILLER ordained John SUTTON & David SUTTON, 6-10-1761

1761-1763 Henry - Bernard Twp. Henry Crosley was pastor of Mount Bethel Baptist Church.

1767 Henry- Mount Bethel church, Bernard Twp. Nov 11,1767, Meeting opened with a prayer by the Rev. Mr. CROSLY. Benjamin SUTTON, choses as Moderator, Abner SUTTON, chose to keep books, John WORTH, chose to set Psalms, Benjamin SUTTON Sr., chose as reading clerk, it was agreed that they would send for David SUTTON Sr. at Piscataway to join them.

1767 Henry- kept Minutes of meeting at his house, 12-30-1767

1768 Henry -- at a meeting at the house of Rev. Mr. CROSLY, 3-2-1768.

3 Feb 1769 - Robert Crosley of Scotch Plains, NJ went to Frederick Co., VA (now Berkeley Co., WV). Dismissed from Scotch Plains Baptist Church and went to Mill Creek Baptist Church. The David Jennings family followed this same path. David Jennings daughter, Sarah, married Nathaniel Donham's son, John.

p. 59 The Records of The Baptist church at the Scotch Plains in East New Jersey...at ancestry.com, FHL film # 888773

1777 Robert & Henry Crosley were dismissed from the Scotch Plains Baptist Church - prob sons of Robert Sr. and Mary"

In addition I want to note that Diane Tichenor has participated in DNA analysis and she shared her results with me in 2021. She had a majority of matches with descendants of David⁵ Dunham, but she also had matches to John⁵ Dunham, so the results at that time were inconclusive. I have tried to make contact with Diane again over the past several months but have not been able to locate her.

What is new on the Dunham Website"

by James A. Streeter

Minor additions to the website's main page on upcoming events were made since the January 2024 Newsletter.

Suggestions for new Articles for the Newsletter and new sections for the Dunham Families in America Collections are always welcome.

HELP NEEDED - We are looking for some help to review Dunham lines found in the DSFC Newsletters and prepare them to be added into the Dunham Families in America collection. If you have questions about what is involved or are able to help, please contact James A. Streeter - james8313@sti.net