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# Newsletter

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incorporated in 2004 as Dunham/Singletary Family Connections

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## From the President

The anniversary of my father's passing was last week. He passed way at the age of 90. I was looking at a photo of his first birthday in 1933. In the photo are four generations of my family taken in Wells River, Vermont on May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1933.



*Left to Right : Percy Gilmore Dunham Jr (my grandfather), Annie Burke Kenyon (my great great grandmother), Percy Gilmore Dunham Sr (my great grandfather), Alice May Kenyon Dunham (my great grandmother), James Gilmore Dunham Sr (my father), Margaret Evelyn Gallagher Dunham (my grandmother).*

Seeing this photo again made me reflect on the years I have spent researching my family. I know so much more about all of them now. Where they were born. Where they lived. And where they worked throughout their lives. And I also know many details about all the details of those that came before them.

This is what has brought us together here. To find out “where we came from.” My thanks to all those here who have worked to move the ball forward on our family mysteries.

Again, my thanks to all who help share and document our Dunham relatives. It preserves their memories for future generations.

Sincerely,  
Jeffrey M. Dunham  
President  
Dunham Genealogy Research Assn.

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## Editor's Corner

The Dunham Genealogy Research Association is looking for a new Editor for our quarterly Newsletter along with helpers to share their family stories and those who have found Dunham landmarks and other Dunham related locations that would be of interest to our members.

This Newsletter only took a short time to be put together as Audrey and Gratia provide the article on the two Joseph<sup>5</sup> Dunham Cousins and only required a couple changes to make it fit into the Newsletter Design Style. Their article is the result of many years of research by them and other Dunham Family Researchers. It shows what information is now available on your home computer that not too long ago, in the pre-internet and pre-computer era would have taken a lifetime of research and you still may not have the answers.

Also included are a couple "Items of Interest" that I received since the last newsletter. One is on the **Origin of the Name Dunham** from Geneanet and **10 Million Names Project** by American Ancestors.

If you know of an area of Dunham Genealogy that you would like to see discussed in a future Newsletter, please let us know.

James A. Streeter, for the DGRA Newsletter Staff.

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# THE DILEMMA OF SECOND COUSINS NAMED JOSEPH <sup>5</sup> DUNHAM

By Gratia Dunham Mahony and Audrey (Shields) Hancock

## Introduction:

This Dunham, alias Singletary family, had its beginnings when Jonathan <sup>2</sup> Singletary, son of Richard <sup>1</sup> Singletary, married and moved with his family from Massachusetts to Woodbridge, Middlesex County, New Jersey and changed his surname to Dunham. <sup>[1]</sup> <sup>[2]</sup> Here Jonathan <sup>2</sup> Dunham, alias Singletary, started a grist mill. Here he and his sons (Jonathan, David, Nathaniel, & Benjamin) and daughter (Mary Dunham) signed a deed document dated 16 April 1702 at Woodbridge, Old East NJ, as "Dunham, alias Singletary". Daughter Mary signed as "Mary Ellison". <sup>[3]</sup> Thereafter his sons, his sons' children and descendants are usually found in early land and court records as Dunham or Donham before and after they left Woodbridge and moved on as land became available elsewhere.

## In review:

Early researchers tried to make sense concerning the genealogy of Jonathan <sup>2</sup> Dunham, alias Singletary, in relationship to Deacon John Dunham of Plymouth Colony believing they were of the same Dunham family. Availability of early documents were often hidden in attics and courthouse basements. Other records were lost during wartime and in courthouse fires or considered invaluable and destroyed.

As a result, many of our early researchers created books, biographies, genealogies, and manuscripts based upon what they knew, researched, and theorized at the time. However, as more information came to be, these early stories have led to confusion and numerous errors. Many of us have taken these early accountings and used them in creating more books, manuscripts, genealogies, plus DAR lines and SAR lines. With the advent of the internet came on-line lineage files which have become the basis for building our own ancestral lines without much checking or researching. Many family genealogists have become gatherers without questioning. It is time to begin to question information and relationships about this Dunham, alias Singletary family.

## DNA opened new doors:

We now know and understand these two men, Jonathan <sup>2</sup> Dunham, alias Singletary and Deacon John Dunham of Plymouth Colony, are of different DNA via testing with FamilyTreeDNA.com's *Dunham Project* as discussed in previous Dunham Genealogy Research Association Newsletters found at <http://www.dunham-singletary.org/mw/index.php/Newsletters>. Testing participants

were Dunham, Donham, Denham, and Singletary men. Family history is ever fluid as more records are unearthed along with the sharing of information by different families' descendants and researchers and as more Dunham men discover their DNA, which is passed from fathers to sons through the centuries.

### **Considering past books:**

In various libraries and historical research centers, etc. is found this book, "*Dunham Genealogy: Deacon John Dunham of Plymouth, Massachusetts: 1589-1669: and his descendants*" by Isaac Watson Dunham, A.M., Bulletin Print, Norwich, Conn., 1907. It is now found on Ancestry.com under the heading of "North America, Family Histories, 1500-2000." This book by I. W. Dunham appears to have many inaccurate and mistaken family connections and the inaccurate blending of the Deacon John Dunham of Plymouth Colony with the Jonathan <sup>2</sup> Dunham, alias Singletary family as one line.

Another book, "*Dunham-Singletary Genealogy: Descendants of Richard Singletary of Salem, Newbury, and Haverhill, Massachusetts and Deacon John Dunham of Plymouth, Massachusetts*" by Kenneth Royal Dunham, Royal Press, Rochester, New York, 1987, also contains errors in family connections. However, the author begins to question the connection to the Singletary surname but continues to connect the Dunham, alias Singletary line to Deacon John Dunham of the Plymouth Colony line.

### **Validating Dunham, alias Singletary connections:**

Into this confusion of lines from early researchers are the multitude of descendants from Jonathan <sup>2</sup> Dunham, alias Singletary, who have also been connected incorrectly which includes second cousins, Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham (s/o David <sup>4</sup>) and Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham (s/o Joseph <sup>4</sup>) and other Joseph Dunham men of similar age in the same areas. Contributing to these errors is the naming of children with the same given names and no middle names or initials, plus unknown maiden names of the mothers, adoptions, illegitimate children, and intermarriages among families including those between the two different Dunham genetic lines.

In this more recent book, "*Ancestors and Descendants of Lewis Ross Freeman with related families*, based partially on the work of Freeman Worth Gardner and Willis Freeman" by Patty Bartell Myers, Penobscot Press, December 1995, p. 552, Myers notes the two different Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham men of the Dunham, alias Singletary line as not being the same person. Myers presents research on various lines that may include Dunham/Donham interconnections: Freeman, Ayers, Barron, Bloomfield, Clendening, Frazee, Harned, Moore and Pike families.

### **History of early New Jersey:**

Early records of this line are found in Essex County and Middlesex County, New Jersey from which other counties were formed. Knowing the history of early New Jersey and transitions taking place before, during and after the Revolutionary War is important as we attempt to find answers to family connections.

### **Chronology of Westfield, New Jersey**

Westfield in early times was known as the West Fields of Elizabeth(town) which was in Essex Co., NJ. Westfield was a settlement in 1699; a village in 1720; became Westfield Township, Essex Co., NJ in 1794 and which was divided into other townships before and after 1857. On 19 Mar 1857 Westfield Township became part of Union Co., NJ, but the town Westfield was not incorporated until 4 March 1903. <sup>[4]</sup>

### **Map of Westfield in 1750**

*History and Genealogy of Westfield, New Jersey and Vicinity*  
at <https://www.westfieldnjhistory.com/files/lr15.htm>

### **Gleanings from the West Fields**

*The Genealogical Society of the West Fields,*  
**December 1997 Issue, Vol. XVIII, No. 6**

From here the Dunham, alias Singletary children and grandchildren spread into surrounding areas of New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and throughout the U.S.A. as the howling wilderness areas were opened to settlement via the Virginia Military Survey (1784) (aka as the Virginia Military Reserve District), Miami Purchase (aka Symmes Purchase) (1788), and Bounty Land Warrants (1775-1855) and public lands. <sup>[5]</sup> Those leaving New Jersey and other adjacent areas were given as having “gone West” and “went West” in early records of ca. 1790. Some descendants being Loyalists to the British during and following the Revolutionary War moved to Canada or perhaps returned to England. <sup>[6]</sup>

Some time ago Gratia Dunham Mahony, a long time Dunham historian and researcher, identified two Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham men of the Jonathan <sup>2</sup> Dunham, alias Singletary line who in many family records and genealogies became known as the one and same Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham. These two Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham men (of the Singletary line) were second cousins who married wives named Hannah. These two men and their families have frequently been merged and combined erroneously in numerous early written and current on-line family histories and genealogies as one Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham and one wife named **as said Hannah Conger** (sometimes

*Conyer*). Gratia Dunham Mahony broke through the brick wall to alert researchers to the connection error for the two cousins and she wrote me [ASH] in 2018. <sup>[7]</sup> Here in 2023 she has continued to research and share her findings.

As we continue to search information on these two men named Joseph and their wives named Hannah, their children, and their descendants, we question and attempt to correct errors as we learn more. Perhaps we can determine which Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham married the one only known as Hannah (unknown maiden name) and which Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham married the other, given as *Hannah Conger* in family lineages, and even connections for various Joseph Dunham men who served in the Revolutionary War. Finding and validating maiden names of the mothers is essential but sometimes impossible, as in early years a wife was merely known as “Goodwife” or “Mrs.” followed by her husband’s surname.

Questions exist, but can they be answered as much is lost to time? As we move forward these thoughts and questions come to mind concerning these two second cousins, Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham.

- 1. Both are given in family genealogies as born 1735 in Westfield (Westfield Township), Essex County (now Union Co.), New Jersey (British Colonial America 1585 - 1783) according to various family researchers or gatherers. Yet were both born in the same year and in Westfield?**
- 2. Both are given in accountings as residing in Westfield Township, Essex County (now Union County), New Jersey (then in British Colonial America 1585 - 1783). Did both reside in Westfield? Records may prove otherwise.**
- 3. Both are given as having children baptized in the Presbyterian Church in Westfield, New Jersey. However, it appears children were intermingled in numerous genealogies. Are records found to validate families of both?**
- 4. Both Josephs are named in their father’s wills, thus being two different individuals, so they cannot be the same man.**
- 5. Both are given in various lineages as marrying the same said *Hannah Conger*, but only one did.**
- 6. Do marriage records exist to validate the marriages?**
- 7. What religious affiliation were the families?**
- 8. Both are given in family records as buried in the same grave site in Westfield, Essex County (now Union County), New Jersey, however one died in 1776 & the other in 1790, so again they cannot be the same Joseph.**

With this presentation Gratia Dunham Mahony (of the Deacon John Dunham of Plymouth line) and I combined our research and findings and will attempt to identify the second cousins and their families based upon records, historical events, and families sharing their knowledge, yet still questioning and realizing that errors can still be made. It is our hope that others researching the Dunham, alias Singletary line, will share their data and what they believe to be a connection to these two families and to the Dunham, alias Singletary family lines in general. It was with the help of Gratia Dunham Mahony and her decades of research with documentation that I was able to connect my Joseph Sandford <sup>6</sup> Dunham of Westfield, New Jersey, of Hamilton County, Ohio and of Miami County, Ohio records to his father, Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham, who died 1776 in then Essex County, NJ, when I shared my family line in 2001. We present our findings and research on the two cousins named Joseph <sup>5</sup>, who each married a Hannah.

**Audrey A. <sup>13</sup> (Shields) Hancock;** (Dale C. <sup>12</sup> Shields; Sarah Margaret <sup>11</sup> (Creager) Shields; Mary Jane <sup>10</sup> (Dunham) Creager; James <sup>9</sup>; James <sup>8</sup>; Ross <sup>7</sup>, Joseph Sandford <sup>6</sup>; Joseph <sup>5</sup>; David <sup>4</sup>; Nathaniel <sup>3</sup>; Jonathan <sup>2</sup> Dunham, alias Singletary; Richard <sup>1</sup> Singletary).

**As we move forward, we will identify certain individuals with a number to connect them to Gratia Dunham Mahony's I.D. numbers used on the website *Dunham Families in America* at <http://www.dunham-singletary.org/dunhamgenealogy/> . These numbers will follow the descendants of the Dunham lineage from Jonathan Dunham alias Singletary of Woodbridge, Middlesex County, New Jersey.**

## The Dilemma of the Two Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham's - Part 1

48. Joseph-5 Dunham (s/o David-4) vs 35. Joseph-5 Dunham (s/o Joseph-4)

\*Richard <sup>1</sup> Singletary likely married 1<sup>st</sup> Goodwife Singletary and 2<sup>nd</sup> Susanna Cooke, who may or may not have been Jonathan <sup>2</sup> Singletary's mother.  
\*Jonathan <sup>2</sup> Dunham, alias Singletary married Mary Bloomfield.  
\*Nathaniel <sup>3</sup> Dunham married Johanna Thornell.  
\*David <sup>4</sup> Dunham married Esther Crane.  
\*Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham (2<sup>nd</sup> cousin) married Hannah (maiden name unknown) .

48. Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham, son of David <sup>4</sup> Dunham  
Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham (1735-1776),



s/o David <sup>4</sup> Dunham & Esther Crane,  
married  
Hannah (unknown maiden name).  
**This Joseph died 1776.**

**48. JOSEPH <sup>5</sup> DUNHAM, s/o David <sup>4</sup> Dunham** (Nathaniel <sup>3</sup> Jonathan <sup>2</sup> Dunham, alias Singletary, Richard <sup>1</sup> Singletary) and David's wife, Esther (aka Easter) Crane, is given as born 21 November 1735 in Essex County (now Union County), New Jersey. <sup>[8]</sup> In the Myers book this Joseph is also given as born ca 1735/36 but a place of birth is not given. <sup>[9]</sup> Likely, but not proven, this Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham was born in Westfield Township, Essex County, New Jersey since his Crane grandparents lived in the part of Westfield Township known as "Cranes Ford" that eventually became Cranford. His Crane grandfather and family operated a gristmill and sawmill. <sup>[10]</sup>

**Map of Westfield during Revolutionary Times <sup>[11]</sup>**

**Also, found on:**

<https://www.westfieldnjhistory.com/files/lr53.htm>

Where is Westfield?

Westfield is about 20 miles from New York City

**Important to this Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham, son of David <sup>4</sup> Dunham (husband of Esther Crane)  
Cranford Township  
Cranford, New Jersey  
aka Cranes Ford**

<https://www.hmdb.org/m.asp?m=94487>

Cranford was incorporated as a township by an act of the New Jersey Legislature on 14 March 1871, from portions of the Townships of Clark, Linden, Springfield, Union and Westfield. The township's name is said to derive from the Crane family, including John Crane, who built a mill in 1720 along the Rahway River. <sup>[12]</sup>

**Elizabeth, New Jersey**  
**(Previously given as Elizabethtown Tract, Elizabethtown, Elizabeth Town, Elizabeth Township)**

**Elizabethtown Tract** <sup>[13]</sup> was a property that was purchased on October 28, **1664**. The territory encompassed lands from the mouth of the Raritan River and included all what is now Union County, New Jersey. It also included parts of Somerset, Middlesex, Morris and Essex counties.

**Map of Elizabethtown, Essex County, NJ, 1750**

<https://www.westfieldnjhistory.com/files/lr15.htm>

Note: West Fields in photo

**1755 Freeholder**

Joseph's <sup>5</sup> father, David <sup>4</sup> Dunham, was given as a Freeholder in Elizabeth Town, Essex County, New Jersey on 1 September **1755**. <sup>[14]</sup>

**Elizabeth, New Jersey** <sup>[15]</sup>

As time progressed the area was identified in records as Elizabeth Town, Elizabethtown, and Elizabeth, New Jersey. Elizabeth, the city, was created in **1855** and became part of Union County, New Jersey in **1857** with parts of the city that formed Linden Township in **1861**.

**About 1763**

No record is yet found when Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham (s/o David <sup>4</sup> Dunham) married (perhaps circa 1760 or before 1763) to Hannah (maiden name unknown), but they were likely married before the birth of their believed first-born known son, Joseph Sandford <sup>6</sup> Dunham, in 1763.

Likely Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham and wife, Hannah unknown, are the couple in this 1763 Presbyterian Church entry of Westfield, Essex County (now Union County), New Jersey, as being communicant members, perhaps following their marriage or prior to the baptism of son, Joseph Sandford <sup>6</sup> Dunham.

1763

Communicate Members  
Presbyterian Church Records  
Westfield, New Jersey

"Joseph Dunham & Mrs. Joseph Dunham"

### The Hannah (Unknown) Question

Hannah (unknown) is sometimes found in family lineages as Hannah "C." Dunham, but there is nothing found to tell us what "C." is to represent. Could it have been for her maiden name or middle name, or perhaps it was mistakenly meant by researcher(s) to stand for *Conger*? However, she **was not** the said Hannah Conger. Perhaps clues to Hannah's (\_\_\_\_) maiden name or interrelationships could lie in the middle names of some of her sons or the person serving as her bondsman at her husband's death.

1771

David <sup>4</sup> Dunham and wife (Esther Crane) resided in Elizabeth(town), Essex County, New Jersey when he wrote his will in 1771 that mentions his son, Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham. <sup>[16]</sup> Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham was not named in his mother's (Esther Crane Dunham) will which was not uncommon when sons were named in their father's wills. Mothers frequently named daughters in their wills.

1771 April 30.

**Dunham, David**, of Elizabethtown, Essex Co., will of.

Wife, Esther, all personal estate, and use of the real. Son, **Joseph**, the remainder of the house and land I bought of Abraham Meeker, lying on the west side of Ra[h]way River, and contains 30 acres. Sons, **John**, **Joseph** and **David**, the remainder of my salt meadow, lying in Ra[h]way Meadows, which I bought of Joseph Ogden, Benjamin Williams, and Samuel Williams, of 12 acres. Son, David, the remainder of the homestead where I live when he is 21.

Executors: wife, Esther, and my son, John.

Witnesses: John Blanchard, Richard Stites, John Dehart.

Proved 1 Sept 1772. <sup>[17]</sup>

## 1772

Esther Crane, daughter of John Crane and widow of David <sup>4</sup> Dunham, wrote her will in 1772. In her will she names James Dunham as a son, who perhaps was not the biological son of husband, David <sup>4</sup> Dunham, but perhaps adopted by him. She is thought to have been married previously, but this is not proven. James is not named in her husband's will.

1772, Sept. 3.

**Dunham, Esther**, of Elizabeth Town, Essex Co.; will of.

**Son, James Dunham**, my late husband's apparel.

Daughters, **Sarah Littell**, **Abigail Lose** and **Mary Terrel**, the rest of my estate; but Abigail is not to have the care of her part, but my Executors are to deal it out to her as they see fit.

Executors: son, John Dunham, and Abraham Terril

Witnesses: John Crane, Melyn Miller, John Crane, Jr.

Proved 2 Mar 1773.<sup>[18]</sup>

## 1776

Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham, son of David <sup>4</sup> Dunham, died on 27 December 1776 at 40 years likely in Westfield Township in Essex County (now Union County), New Jersey. It is not known if this Joseph <sup>5</sup> (s/o of David <sup>4</sup> Dunham) died from natural causes, accidentally or if he was involved in the beginnings of the Revolutionary War as it fomented in New Jersey, a time when Essex County played a strategic role both politically and militarily against the British.

Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham, son of David <sup>4</sup> Dunham and Esther Crane, is buried at the Presbyterian Church Burial Grounds in Westfield, Essex County (now Union County), New Jersey. He is buried in Section I, Row M, Grave 28. His wife, Hannah, as "Hannah Dunham", is buried beside him.<sup>[19]</sup>

However, his 2nd cousin Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham (s/o Joseph <sup>4</sup> Dunham) who married said *Hannah Conger*, is also given as being buried there, yet no record is yet found for his burial anywhere. Where is Joseph <sup>5</sup> (s/o Joseph <sup>4</sup> Dunham) and his wife, said *Hannah Conger* buried?

## 1778

Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham (son of David <sup>4</sup>) died intestate. His estate was probated 25 June 1778 in Essex County (later Union County), New Jersey. The administer and bondsman of his estate was his wife Hannah Dunham (maiden name not given). The fellow bondsman for his estate was Jacob Crane, Jr. of Essex County (now Union County), New Jersey.

"1778, June 25.  
Dunham, Joseph, of Essex Co.  
Adm'x-Hannah Dunham.  
Fellow bondsman-Jacob Crane, Jr.; both of said Co." [20]

### The Hannah (Unknown) Question

The Crane family was related through Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham's maternal line [Esther Dunham (née Crane), wife of David <sup>4</sup> Dunham]. It is not known how "Jacob Crane, Jr." was related at this time to the Crane family or if he was more closely related or merely interconnected to Hannah, widow of Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham, son of David <sup>4</sup> Dunham and Esther Crane, via her marriage. Many times, a biological relative of the widow, a close friend of the widow or family member would have served as bondsman. [21] Was there a closer relationship for Hannah \_\_\_\_\_ to Jacob Crane, Jr. of unknown parents? Having "Jr." in his name does not always denote that his father was Jacob, Sr., but that there was an elder living relative having the same given name.

Apparently, Hannah (\_\_\_\_) Dunham, widow of Joseph <sup>5</sup>, s/o David <sup>4</sup>, was pregnant at the time of her husband's death in 1776 as in 1777 a baptism at the Presbyterian Church in Westfield is recorded for Abraham Davis <sup>6</sup> Dunham, son of "*The Widdow Dunham*". [22] Thus, it was Hannah (\_\_\_\_) Dunham, widow of Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham (s/o David <sup>4</sup> Dunham), who was the "Widdow Dunham", and **not** the said *Hannah Conger* (wife of Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham, s/o Joseph <sup>4</sup>).

Hannah (\_\_\_\_) Dunham, widow of Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham (s/o David <sup>4</sup> Dunham), was born about 1738, died at 43 years on 20 November 1781 in Westfield, Essex County (now Union County), New Jersey. As "Hannah Dunham" she is buried adjacent to her husband (Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham, s/o David <sup>4</sup>) in Section I, Row M, Grave 27 in the Presbyterian Church Burial Grounds in Westfield. [23]

### Cemetery Inscription with gravestone photo

"In Memory of Hannah Widow of Joseph Dunham who died Novem<sup>r</sup> the 20 1781 at 44 years."

It is Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham (1735-1776), s/o David <sup>4</sup> Dunham and Esther Crane, and his wife, Hannah (\_\_\_\_) Dunham, found buried at the First Presbyterian Church Graveyard, Westfield, Essex County (now Union County), New Jersey, USA. They **are not** Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham (s/o Joseph <sup>4</sup> Dunham) and wife, said Hannah Conger. <sup>[24]</sup>

**Cemetery Inscription  
with gravestone photo**

“Here lies ye Body of Joseph Dunham who Departed this Life Dece<sup>m</sup> ye 27 A D 1776 in ye 41<sup>st</sup> Year of Age.”

Children of Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham and Hannah (\_\_\_\_):

After the death of their father, Joseph<sup>5</sup>, in 1776 the children were apparently left in the care of their mother until about 5 years later when their mother, Hannah, died. Usually if the father died, a record would exist naming the guardian(s). Then at the death of the mother, one would expect to discover other guardianship records for the younger children. Little is known of the children until some resurfaced later in life, as no records are yet found for the orphans in the way of guardianships, apprentices or other records after the deaths of their father or mother. It appears that their baptisms occurred soon after their births.

**106. JOSEPH SANDFORD <sup>6</sup> DUNHAM** (Joseph<sup>5</sup> David<sup>4</sup> Nathaniel<sup>3</sup> Jonathan<sup>2</sup> Dunham, alias Singletary, Richard<sup>1</sup> Singletary) as “\_\_\_\_ Dunham”, was baptized 16 Oct 1763 at the Presbyterian Church, then Westfield Township, Essex County (now Union County), New Jersey. His given name was not recorded in the baptismal record. Later family research validated his connection. (“Dunham, -----, c. Mr. & Mrs. Joseph, 16 Oct 1763”) <sup>[25]</sup> Joseph Sandford <sup>6</sup> Dunham would have been 13 years when his father died in 1776; 18 years when his mother died in 1781. The age of majority at this period of time was likely 21 years, so a guardianship or apprenticeship should have been established through the court system. Joseph Sandford Dunham married 5 June 1785 Westfield, Essex County (now Union County), New Jersey at the Presbyterian Church to **Mary "Polly" Miller**, daughter of Enoch Miller & Eliza Ross. <sup>[26]</sup> <sup>[27]</sup> <sup>[28]</sup> Joseph Sandford <sup>6</sup> Dunham, wife Mary, and some of their children went to Hamilton County, Ohio. He owned property in Miami County, Ohio according to court records. Since he left Westfield later in life some of his children remained and others had moved to New York City. Joseph Sandford <sup>6</sup> Dunham likely died in Hamilton County, Ohio where many records were lost to fire. His wife remarried in Hamilton

County, Ohio where she and some children resided. **[This is not the Joseph <sup>6</sup> Dunham who married Anna Wood and moved to Warren County, Ohio.]**

**107. MARY "Polly" <sup>6</sup> DUNHAM** (Joseph<sup>5</sup> David<sup>4</sup> Nathaniel<sup>3</sup> Jonathan<sup>2</sup> Dunham, alias Singletary, Richard<sup>1</sup> Singletary) was baptized 13 April 1766 at the Presbyterian Church now in Westfield, Union County, New Jersey. ("Dunham, Mary, c. Mr. & Mrs. Joseph, 13 April 1766") She was abt. 10 years old when her father died and 15y when her mother died. <sup>[29]</sup> As "Polly Dunham" "daughter of Joseph" she was married at the Presbyterian Church, Westfield, Essex County (now Union County), New Jersey on 20 March 1785 to **Isaac Willcocks** (aka Wilcox). [Isaac is given as s/o John Wilcox and Massy Ross, and perhaps died 1791, but no data has proven his parents or death.] Nothing further is known of Mary and Isaac at this time. <sup>[30]</sup> <sup>[31]</sup>

**108. ASA <sup>6</sup> DUNHAM** (Joseph<sup>5</sup> David<sup>4</sup> Nathaniel<sup>3</sup> Jonathan<sup>2</sup> Dunham, alias Singletary, Richard<sup>1</sup> Singletary) was baptized 12 June 1768 at the Presbyterian Church now in Westfield, Union County, New Jersey. ("Dunham, Asa, c. Mr. & Mrs. Joseph") Nothing more is known of Asa at this time. <sup>[32]</sup>

**109. SARAH <sup>6</sup> DUNHAM** (Joseph<sup>5</sup> David<sup>4</sup> Nathaniel<sup>3</sup> Jonathan<sup>2</sup> Dunham, alias Singletary, Richard<sup>1</sup> Singletary) was baptized 9 December 1770 at the Presbyterian Church now in Westfield, Union County, New Jersey. ("Dunham, Sarah, c. Mr. & Mrs. Joseph") She was 6 years old when her father died; 11y when her mother died. Sarah<sup>6</sup>, "dau/o Joseph". <sup>[33]</sup> Sarah "Sally" Dunham married 11 April 1795 in the Presbyterian Church in Westfield, Essex County (now Union County), New Jersey to her second cousin, **David Conkling**. <sup>[34]</sup> <sup>[35]</sup> They are believed to have gone to New York City, but further research is needed.

**110. DAVID <sup>6</sup> DUNHAM** (Joseph<sup>5</sup> David<sup>4</sup> Nathaniel<sup>3</sup> Jonathan<sup>2</sup> Dunham, alias Singletary, Richard<sup>1</sup> Singletary) was baptized 20 September 1772 at the Presbyterian Church, now in Westfield, Union County, New Jersey. ("Dunham, David, c. Mr. & Mrs. Joseph, 20 September 1772") <sup>[36]</sup> He was likely named after his paternal grandfather, David <sup>4</sup> Dunham. David <sup>6</sup> was 4 years old when his father died; 9y old when his mother died. David <sup>6</sup> Dunham married about 7 June 1794 in New York City, New York County, New York to **Mary Shackerly**. <sup>[37]</sup> **[This is not the David <sup>6</sup> Dunham who married Eleanor Nevius and moved to Warren County, Ohio.]**

**111. EASTER/ESTHER <sup>6</sup> DUNHAM** (Joseph<sup>5</sup> David<sup>4</sup> Nathaniel<sup>3</sup> Jonathan<sup>2</sup> Dunham, alias Singletary, Richard<sup>1</sup> Singletary) was baptized 30 March 1775 at Presbyterian Church, now in Westfield, Union County, New Jersey. She was likely born in 1775 in Westfield, Essex County (now Union County), New Jersey. ("Dunham, Easter, c. Mr. & Mrs. Joseph") <sup>[38]</sup> She was likely named for her paternal grandmother, Easter/Esther Crane Dunham. Presently nothing more is known about Easter/Esther Dunham.

**112. ABRAHAM DAVIS <sup>6</sup> DUNHAM** (Joseph<sup>5</sup> David<sup>4</sup> Nathaniel<sup>3</sup> Jonathan<sup>2</sup> Dunham, alias Singletary, Richard<sup>1</sup> Singletary) was baptized 11 August 1777 as "The Widdow Dunham's Child" at Presbyterian Church, now in Westfield, Union County, New Jersey. He was likely born 1776-1777 in Westfield, Essex County (now Union County), New Jersey. With his father's death, his baptism

would have been left to the widow, Hannah. ("The Widdow Dunham's child was baptised name Abraham Davis")<sup>[39]</sup> Abraham Davis<sup>6</sup> Dunham married **Martha Taylor**.<sup>[40]</sup>

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## The Dilemma of the Two Joseph<sup>5</sup> Dunham's - Part 2

35. Joseph-5 Dunham (s/o Joseph-4) vs 48. Joseph-5 Dunham (s/o David-4)

As we move to separate this Joseph<sup>5</sup> Dunham (s/o Joseph<sup>4</sup> Dunham and unknown wife) from his 2<sup>nd</sup> cousin, Joseph<sup>5</sup> Dunham (s/o David<sup>4</sup> Dunham and Esther Crane), we find more challenges to validate this Joseph<sup>5</sup> Dunham (of Joseph<sup>4</sup>) and his family.

So much is lacking in the way of vital records for these two cousins. This requires a review of information that has already been presented elsewhere, since so many early and even today's family histories have blended and entangled the two cousins into one man named Joseph Dunham and one wife named as the said *Hannah Conger*. In untangling we need to continue to

review, to question, to correct and to cite vital records that can be found. The wills of their fathers (David <sup>4</sup> and Joseph <sup>4</sup>) mention their sons, Joseph <sup>5</sup> and other known heirs, so researching other heirs may also validate the correct Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham.

\*Richard <sup>1</sup> Singletary likely married 1<sup>st</sup> Goodwife Singletary and 2<sup>nd</sup> Susanna Cooke, who may or may not have been Jonathan Singletary's mother.  
\*Jonathan <sup>2</sup> Dunham, alias Singletary married Mary Bloomfield.  
\*David <sup>3</sup> Dunham (aka Singletary and Donham) married Mary Ilsley.  
\*Joseph <sup>4</sup> Dunham married \_\_\_\_\_.  
\*Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham (2<sup>nd</sup> cousin) married said *Hannah Conger*.  
(See the Conger Question by Gratia Dunham Mahony below.)

**35. Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham, son of Joseph <sup>4</sup> Dunham**  
Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham (perhaps 1735-perhaps 1790),  
s/o Joseph <sup>4</sup> Dunham & unknown wife,  
is given as married to  
said *Hannah Conger*.  
**This Joseph apparently died 1790.**

**35. JOSEPH <sup>5</sup> DUNHAM, son of Joseph <sup>4</sup> Dunham** (David <sup>3</sup> Jonathan <sup>2</sup> Dunham alias Singletary, Richard <sup>1</sup> Singletary) and unknown mother is given as having been born 1735 in Westfield, Essex County (now Union County), New Jersey. At this time vital information [birthdate, birthplace, marriage, death place, & burial] has not been located, verified, or proven. <sup>[1]</sup>

Some assumptions are made at this time as we begin to bring together a family history for Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham, s/o Joseph <sup>4</sup> Dunham.

Early researchers indicate that the wife of Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham was *Hannah Conger*, sometimes given as *Hannah Conyer*, and that she was born 1737 in Westfield, resided Westfield, baptized children in Westfield, died there 1807, and was buried in the Westfield Presbyterian Church. This said *Hannah Conger* has not been found in Westfield, New Jersey documents and records. What was the source for her name, the date and place of birth, and burial given in numerous family histories? Also, no vital information has been found in Westfield mentioning or including the said *Hannah Conger* in Conger family books or lineages, etc. who married a Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham, son of Joseph <sup>4</sup> Dunham. <sup>[2]</sup>

Records for Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham and said wife, *Hannah Conger*, being in Westfield, New Jersey were actually for 2<sup>nd</sup> cousin, Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham (s/o David <sup>4</sup> Dunham) and his wife, known only as Hannah. It was this 2<sup>nd</sup> cousin, Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham, s/o David <sup>4</sup>, and wife, Hannah \_\_\_\_\_ who lived in or near Westfield, attended the Westfield Presbyterian Church, had children baptized there, likely died there, and were buried side by side in the Presbyterian Church Cemetery in Westfield.

**THE CONGER QUESTION**  
**E-mail to ASH, 2 July 2023 from Gratia Dunham Mahony**

It was “Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham (David<sup>4</sup>, Nathaniel<sup>3</sup>, Jonathan<sup>2</sup> Dunham, alias Singletary, Richard<sup>1</sup> Singletary) who was born about 1735 and married a woman named Hannah whose surname is unknown. Both this Joseph <sup>5</sup> and his wife Hannah are buried in Westfield, Joseph in 1776 and Hannah in 1781. Their children are recorded in the Vital Records of baptisms in Westfield.” <sup>[3]</sup>

**Abt. 1757**

At this time, we assume Joseph <sup>5</sup> (s/o Joseph <sup>4</sup>) and his wife (said Hannah Conger) were married about 1757, but no vital record is **yet** found to indicate his wife, a marriage date or marriage place. Approximate marriage date is thus an assumption based upon the births of their likely children. <sup>[4]</sup>

**THE CONGER QUESTION**  
**Gratia Dunham Mahony**  
**2 July 2023**

“In previous genealogies it has been stated numerous times that Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham (Joseph <sup>4</sup> David <sup>3</sup>, Jonathan <sup>2</sup> Dunham, alias Singletary, Richard <sup>1</sup> Singletary) married HANNAH CONGER. While this could possibly be true, no supporting evidence or vital record has yet been found to prove this marriage. Indeed, no supporting evidence or vital record has been found to prove that a Hannah Conger even existed in the area of Woodbridge, Middlesex County, New Jersey or Westfield, Essex County, New Jersey at the time (about 1757) when she supposedly married Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham.

So many records are not found to represent family connections due to families being involved in wartime activities and its destruction.

**THE CONGER QUESTION**  
**Gratia Dunham Mahony**  
**2 July 2023**

We are well aware that the depredations caused by the Revolutionary War in this part of New Jersey and in surrounding towns resulted in many records to be lost or destroyed. Therefore, it is impossible to state categorically that there was no Hannah Conger who could have married Joseph<sup>5</sup> Dunham. Also, in previous genealogies it has been stated that this Joseph<sup>5</sup> Dunham and Hannah Conger were married in Westfield, and that they died and are buried there.

**The thesis of this article is to show there were two Joseph Dunham men in the 5<sup>th</sup> generation, both of whom married women by the given name of Hannah.**

See: The Conger Question END NOTE below.

### 1759

Joseph<sup>5</sup> Dunham was named in his father's (Joseph<sup>4</sup>) will that was written in 1759 in Woodbridge, Middlesex County, NJ. The will indicated Joseph<sup>4</sup>'s unnamed wife was to bring up the young children. (See below.)

1759 Oct 20

"Donham, Joseph, of Woodbridge, Middlesex Co; will of. Wife to have the use of land. Son, Daniel, 1/6 of my lands, joining the 1/2 acre where he lives. Rest of estate to be sold. Daughter, Sarah, a prayer book. Youngest daughters, Abigail and Phebe, £25. Youngest sons, James, **Joseph**, Elisha, Moses and Jonathan, rest of my money. Wife to bring up my young children.

**Executors** -- friend Ebenezer Foster, and sons, Joseph and Elisha.

**Witnesses** -- Jonathan Cambell, Amos Donham, Nathaniel Fitz Randolph.

Proved 27 Dec 1771, by Isaac Donham, brother to Amos Donham, one of the witnesses. <sup>[5]</sup>

### 1771

Joseph<sup>5</sup> Dunham's father died by 27 Dec 1771 when his will was probated.

### 1776

Joseph<sup>5</sup> Dunham (s/o Joseph<sup>4</sup>) was given as serving in the Revolutionary War in New Jersey at the time when Essex County, New Jersey played a central strategic role both politically and military. If this Joseph<sup>5</sup> (s/o Joseph<sup>4</sup>), as given by others, did not die until 1790, he **could not be** the Joseph<sup>5</sup> Dunham (s/o David<sup>4</sup>) who died 1776 and was buried adjacent to his wife, "Hannah Dunham" in the 1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Church Burial Grounds of Westfield

### 1776 and Revolutionary War

We know that during the Revolutionary War turmoil in New Jersey many men became involved in their local militias in various ways as supplying items, being teamster delivery folks, chopping

and delivering wood and food, while others actually served in the war in various places. Second cousin, Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham (s/o David <sup>4</sup>), died 27 December 1776 (per gravestone photo), but did he die from Revolutionary War involvement?

**The Revolutionary War**  
**Gratia Dunham Mahony**  
**6 August 2023**  
Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham (s/o David <sup>4</sup>)

We do not know the cause of death for Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham (s/o David <sup>4</sup>). He was a young man only 40 years old which might indicate that he died suddenly of unnatural causes. From a book by Munn, David C., *"Battles and Skirmishes in New Jersey of the American Revolution"* published in 1941 the battles and skirmishes are briefly listed by town. The only battle that Joseph <sup>5</sup> (son of David <sup>4</sup>) could have participated this early in the war was the first skirmish at Springfield, New Jersey in which New Jersey State Troops force the British to turn and retire back to Staten Island. This skirmish took place on 17 December 1776, which should not be confused with the Battle of Springfield fought on 23 June 1780, one of the last engagements of the Revolutionary War. This engagement put an end to British ambitions in New Jersey. I have not found any record to indicate that Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham (s/o David <sup>4</sup>) served with the New Jersey State Troops.  
[6]

Was Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham, s/o Joseph <sup>4</sup>, really the one who served in the militia during the Revolutionary War as indicated in items below or yet another Joseph Dunham? Do the records really validate that it was Joseph <sup>5</sup>, s/o Joseph <sup>4</sup>, who served in the Revolutionary War?

**The Revolutionary War**  
**Gratia Dunham Mahony**  
**6 August 2023**  
Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham, (s/o Joseph <sup>4</sup>)

Circumstantial evidence does appear to show that Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham, (s/o Joseph <sup>4</sup>) did serve in the militia during the Revolutionary War. Records indicate that he was a private in Capt. Asher FitzRandolph's Company of New Jersey State Troops. Capt. Asher FitzRandolph was born in 1755 at Blazing Star which is an area in what is now Carteret, New Jersey. This was just across the

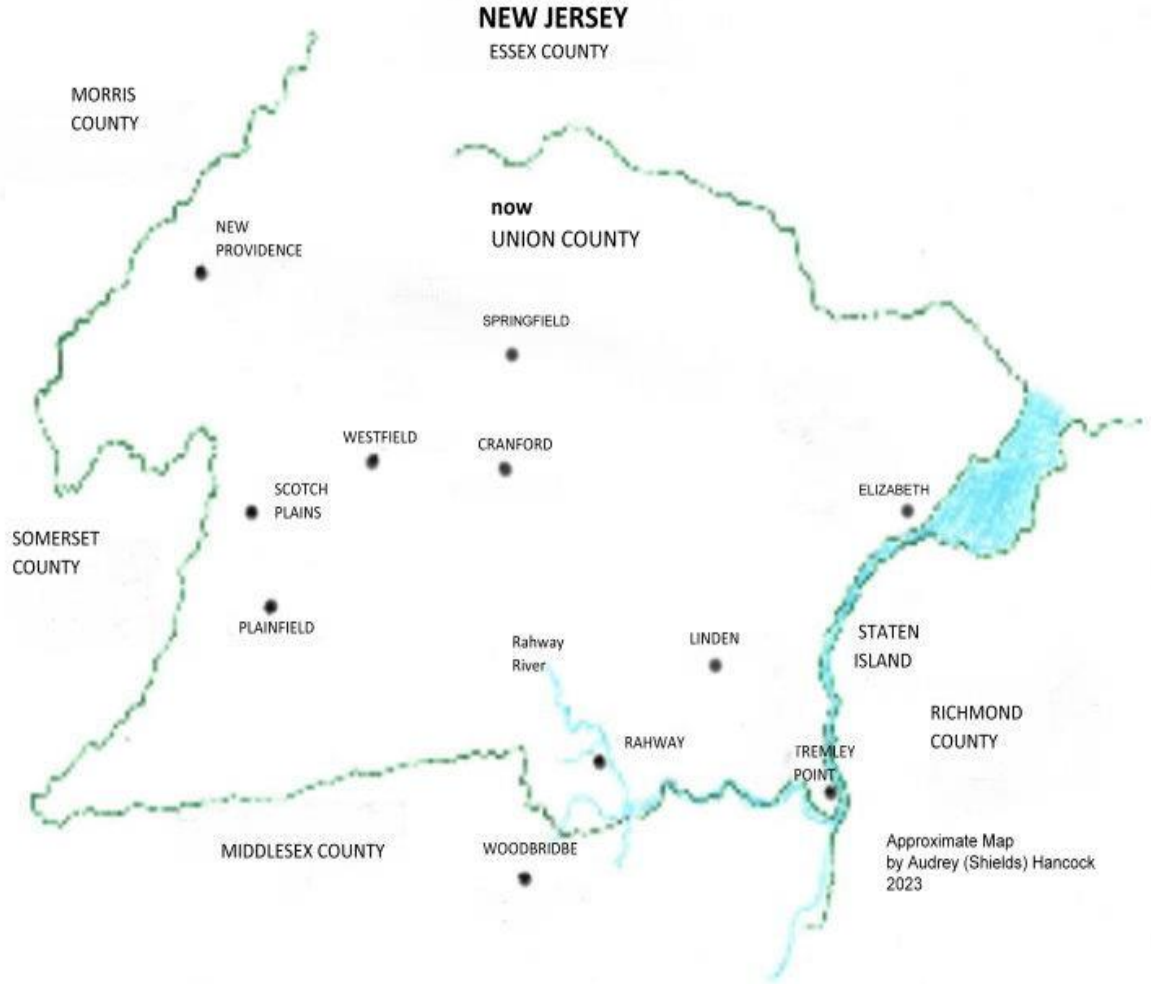
Rahway River from Tremley Point, so in close proximity to where Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham (s/o Joseph <sup>4</sup>) lived. On 8 February 1779 Capt. Asher FitzRandolph led a raid on Staten Island, and it was likely that this was the action in which Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham (s/o Joseph <sup>4</sup>) was involved. <sup>[7]</sup>

Deacon John <sup>6</sup> Dunham of Westfield, New Jersey, given as son of Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham and the said *Hannah Conger*, stated in a lengthy deposition about his war service and participation. He indicated that he served at age 15 years in his father's place during the Revolutionary War and that his father (unnamed) "**lived in Tremley Point**", Essex County, New Jersey (British Colonial America) "**during the whole war**" <sup>[8]</sup> John's <sup>6</sup> service seemed to be mainly guarding the shore and watching the British activity on Staten Island. This was likely an activity that young John could do, while his father could remain at home to devote himself to his livelihood and care for the family. <sup>[9]</sup>

**Tremley Point, New Jersey  
(aka Rahway Neck)**

Essex County is separated from Middlesex County, New Jersey by the Rahway River. Tremley Point is given as being at the southeast end point of Essex County on the Rahway River. Tremley Point is south of Elizabeth(town) and southeast of Westfield...being about 10 miles from Tremley Point.

**See approximate site Map below of Tremley, New Jersey area in relationship to other areas.**



### Depreciation of Currency during Revolutionary War

During the Revolutionary War, depreciation of currency caused pay to soldiers to become reduced. In response to pleas from Massachusetts troops in the Continental Army, and from Congress, a court pledged to adjust wages at the end of the war based on actual prices of commodities.



### Service Record of Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham, son of Joseph <sup>4</sup> Dunham

“Service: Joseph Dunham of Essex Co., NJ served as Private in NJ Militia received Certificate 641 amounting to 12.10.0 for the depreciation of his Continental pay in the Essex Co., NJ Militia during the Revolutionary War.” <sup>[10]</sup>

Records like the ones below likely have led to many making wrong connections, even though the intent was to help to create the family line. It appears this accounting and others were based upon earlier previous books or manuscripts (previously discussed in the introduction) that erroneously connected the Dunham, alias Singletary family to Deacon John Dunham of Plymouth. Of course, this was prior to DNA of today that now helps to set records straight, as we now know the descendants of Deacon John Dunham and Jonathan Dunham, alias Singletary, are different lines with different DNA.

This accounting, *Roster of Revolutionary Ancestors of the Indiana Daughters of the American Revolution*, Vol. II, gives this information, but in this accounting Joseph’s father is incorrectly given as Thomas Dunham likely from an error ridden early history, rather than Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham, son of Joseph <sup>4</sup> Dunham. This accounting continues to identify this Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham, as being a descendant of Deacon John Dunham of Plymouth who is identified as a dissenter. However, Thomas was not his father and Deacon John Dunham of Plymouth was not the dissenter as Jonathan Dunham, alias Singletary, is known to have been a dissenter according to various records and accountings.

### Roster of Revolutionary Ancestors of the Indiana Daughters of the American Revolution <sup>[11]</sup>

#### Wrong Lineage with errors

Dunham, Joseph, b 1735 Westfield, NJ; died 1790 Westfield, NJ; married 1757 Hannah Conyer, b 1737; d 1807.

Service: Joseph Dunham of [Essex Co., NJ](#) served as Private in NJ Militia received Certificate 641 amounting to 12.10.0 for the depreciation of his Continental pay in the Essex Co., NJ Militia during the Revolutionary War.

Names father as Thomas Dunham of Plymouth, MA. Indicates relationship to the Dunhams of Mayflower. (Erroneous entry)

Information from Phoebe Jane (Robertson) Rhinehart, gg-granddaughter of Joseph Dunham Wife of Joseph Clinton Rhinehart (No. 303081)

Then proceeds to connect Joseph to Thomas Dunham and Mayflower and Plymouth, MA. <sup>[12]</sup>

Early D.A.R. & S.A.R. records have often been found to contain errors and information which was not fully validated, but based on theories or family histories passed from one generation to the next which were not always accurate. Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham (s/o Joseph <sup>4</sup>) is found in the above D.A.R. information as being from Essex County, New Jersey, but the S.A.R. Application below indicates he was from Middlesex County, New Jersey, yet both the descendants were of the same Dunham-Lollar/Lawler family line from New Jersey to Warren County, Ohio.

“Joseph Dunham  
Private, **Middlesex County**, New Jersey, Militia, also Private in Captain Asher F. Randolph’s  
Company, New Jersey, State Troops.”  
Reference: *Jerseyman in the Revolution*, p. 582  
“Letter to applicant dated April 1, 1925, Compatriot Francis B. Culver, Registrar General, states  
this information is official.”  
Applicant: Leon Orlando Reed of Greene County, Ohio [a Dunham-Lollar descendant]  
**Mr. Reed gives death place as Westfield, New Jersey but there is no reference. Not proven.**  
Date: 23 April 1923 <sup>[13]</sup> <sup>[14]</sup> <sup>[15]</sup>

This vital record below apparently validates Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham, s/o Joseph <sup>4</sup>, of Essex County, New Jersey in the probate administration of his estate. The record names his assumed sons, Joseph <sup>6</sup> Dunham (administrator) and David <sup>6</sup> Dunham (bondsman). He died intestate, so no heirs or legatees are named. His estate was probated in Essex County, New Jersey, but that does not mean that he actually died there. Since he was not found in Westfield, New Jersey records, one might consider he likely resided in Tremley Point, Essex County, New Jersey when he died.

Estate of Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham, s/o Joseph <sup>4</sup> Dunham

1791 June 29

Dunham, Joseph of Essex County, New Jersey <sup>[16]</sup>

Died Intestate.

Administrator: Joseph Dunham

Fellow Bondsman: David Dunham

Both of said county.

**THE CONGER QUESTION**  
**E-mail to ASH, 2 July 2023 from Gratia Dunham Mahony**

“Joseph <sup>5</sup> (son of Joseph <sup>4</sup>) apparently died about 1790, but it is not known just where he died. Neither Joseph <sup>5</sup> (son of Joseph <sup>4</sup>) who supposedly died about 1790, nor a wife of this Joseph <sup>5</sup> named as Hannah are buried in Westfield.”

“If Joseph <sup>5</sup> was at Tremley Point in 1783, and he died in 1790, then maybe he died at Tremley Point. If Peg Rufner’s statement is true that her Dunhams (Phebe Dunham Lollar/Lawler) went to Ohio in 1797, that would be after Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham had died. Congers don’t seem to be recorded at Tremley Point, but they were surely at Rahway (just up the river from Tremley Point).”

Thus, burials of Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham (son of Joseph <sup>4</sup> Dunham) and said wife, *Hannah Conger*, are **not found** in the Presbyterian Church Graveyard in Westfield, New Jersey records. <sup>[17]</sup> Their burials are also **not found** listed on FindAGrave.com, nor elsewhere at this time.

Sons of Joseph <sup>5</sup>, Joseph <sup>6</sup> Dunham and David <sup>6</sup> Dunham, resided in Essex County, New Jersey at time of their father’s probate. It appears that at various times after Joseph’s death and perhaps with the settlement of his estate that some of his children left New Jersey. His death was close to the time that the Ohio Valley was opened to settlers and many New Jerseyites traveled into Pennsylvania, sometimes settling there for a time, then continuing down the Ohio River into the Miami Valley, which was the wilderness land surrounding the Great Miami River in southwest Ohio. One of those areas was Warren County, Ohio and Clermont County, Ohio...another Hamilton County, Ohio.

**THE CONGER QUESTION**  
**E-mail to ASH, 2 July 2023 from Gratia Dunham Mahony**

Peg Rufner’s statement to Gratia Dunham Mahony indicated that her ancestor, Phebe (Dunham) Lollar/Lawler, went to Ohio in 1797, that would be after Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham had died. Phebe’s brother, Joseph <sup>6</sup> Dunham, married in 1790 and was in Pennsylvania in 1801, perhaps earlier.

The search is on for additional records for Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham (s/o Joseph <sup>4</sup>) and his wife given as *Hannah Conger*. Perhaps descendants of this Joseph <sup>5</sup> can supply some information and answers.

## Children of Joseph<sup>5</sup> Dunham and said *Hannah Conger*:

77. i. **JOHN<sup>6</sup> DUNHAM** (Joseph<sup>5</sup> Joseph<sup>4</sup> David<sup>3</sup> Jonathan<sup>2</sup> Dunham, alias Singletary, Richard<sup>1</sup> Singletary) was perhaps born about 1762 in New Jersey. Deacon John<sup>6</sup> Dunham married **Phebe Ann Williams**, daughter of Benjamin Williams and Sarah Terrill, but John<sup>6</sup> and Phebe's marriage record has not been found. <sup>[18]</sup> We know that eventually John<sup>6</sup> was known as Deacon John Dunham of Westfield, where he and his family are found. He said in an 1833 deposition at Westfield that his father (unnamed) "**lived in Trembley Point**", **Essex County, New Jersey** (British Colonial America) "**during the whole war**". <sup>[19]</sup>

78. ii. **JOSEPH<sup>6</sup> DUNHAM** (Joseph<sup>5</sup> Joseph<sup>4</sup> David<sup>3</sup> Jonathan<sup>2</sup> Dunham alias Singletary, Richard<sup>1</sup> Singletary) is given as born 29 August 1766 New Jersey. Joseph<sup>6</sup> married likely in New Jersey on 2 February 1790 to **Anna Wood** (b 2 February 1767), daughter of Joseph Wood. <sup>[20]</sup> By 1800-1801 the family was apparently sojourning in Washington Township, Pennsylvania, as a daughter is given as born there. <sup>[21]</sup> The family left Pennsylvania and eventually settled in Warren County, Ohio where they are found in censuses and records. <sup>[22]</sup> <sup>[23]</sup>

79. iii. **DAVID<sup>6</sup> DUNHAM** (Joseph<sup>5</sup> Joseph<sup>4</sup> David<sup>3</sup> Jonathan<sup>2</sup> Dunham, alias Singletary, Richard<sup>1</sup> Singletary) is given as born 1769-70 in New Jersey. David<sup>6</sup> Dunham married perhaps 28 May 1798 at New Brunswick Reformed Dutch Church to **(1) Ellenor "Ellen" Nevius perhaps** born near New Brunswick, New Jersey. <sup>[24]</sup> David and Ellenor eventually went to Warren County, Ohio where Ellen died in 1813/1814. After Ellen's death, David married 2 November 1815 in Warren County, Ohio to **(2) Ruhama/Ruhamma/Ruhanna (Dill) Clinton** in Warren County, Ohio. <sup>[25]</sup>

80. iv. **PHEBE/PHOEBE<sup>6</sup> DUNHAM** (Joseph<sup>5</sup> Joseph<sup>4</sup> David<sup>3</sup> Jonathan<sup>2</sup> Dunham alias Singletary, Richard<sup>1</sup> Singletary) was born perhaps in 1772 in New Jersey. She likely married in New Jersey about 1792 to **David Lollar** (aka Lawler). They also went to Warren County, Ohio where David Lollar died about 1804-1805. Phebe and her brother, Joseph<sup>6</sup> Dunham, were appointed guardians of the Lollar/Lawler children. <sup>[26]</sup>

### The Conger Question

#### END NOTE

Gratia Dunham Mahony spent some time researching information on the Conger family connection.

She shared the following for consideration as we try to identify the said *Hannah Conger*, given as the wife of Joseph<sup>5</sup> Dunham, s/o Joseph<sup>4</sup> Dunham.

Wright, Anne Mims, Ancestry.com: On-line Database: "A Record of the Descendants of Isaac Ross and Jean Brown and allied families," 1911.

**p. 100 Conger Family Narrative**

18 October 1669 "Laid out for John Conger. . . one house lot and addition containing fifteen acres bounded north by the meadow of Papiac. . . John Conger was a planter and frequently mentioned in the records of this part of New Jersey. He was constantly exchanging and buying and selling land. In 1672 he sold 60 acres of upland on the Rahway River.

In 1688 he was chosen by the town of Woodbridge to help protect the common land from depredations of cattle thieves for the Rahway section and parts adjacent.

A list of the members of Christ's Church at Woodbridge shows that Sarah Conger became a communicant Dec. 26, 1708, and that John (probably son of John and Mary Conger) joined the church May 12, 1709.

11 January 1710-1711 Planter, John Conger of Woodbridge, wrote his will. Left bequests to his 2<sup>nd</sup> wife Sarah & sons Joseph, Job, Benjamin, John, Jonathan and Gershom, and "to each" unnamed daughters.

**p. 103 Anne Wright (author) gives children:**

John Conger and 1<sup>st</sup> wife, then children of John Conger and his 2<sup>nd</sup> wife, Sarah:

**Children of John Conger and first wife:**

- i. Sarah Conger, b. Jan. 1668-9; m. \_\_\_\_ Wilkinson.
- ii. Joanna Conger, b. Aug. 1670; m. Joseph Fitz Randolph of Piscataway.  
(Some records name her as Joanna; others as Hannah.)
- iii. John Conger, b. May 24, 1674.
- iv. Elizabeth Conger, b. Jan. 1, 1678-9.
- v. Lydia Conger, b. Jan. 1, 1679-80.
- vi. **Jonathan Conger, b. March 29, 1683 (See note below.)**

Moved to Newark, NJ; died there May 8, 1733.

p. 103: Children of Jonathan:

- a. Samuel Conger, b. Feb. 1715.
- b. Mary Conger, m. Nehemiah Baldwin

**Children of John and second wife Sarah:**

vii. Enos Conger, who d. Nov. 21, 1689

viii. Joseph Conger, b. May 17, 1692

*He (Joseph Conger) & brother, Job Conger, were Privates in Col. Parker's Co. of Col. Thos. Farmer's Militia Regiment.*

Also, in 1715:

**David <sup>3</sup>, Nathaniel <sup>3</sup> and Benjamin <sup>3</sup> Donham** were on the list of the Militia Regt. under the command of Col. Tho. Farmer. <sup>[4]</sup>

Col. Thomas Farmer's New Jersey Regiment of 1715". *Proceedings of the New Jersey Historical Society*, Vol. 13, 1928

ix. Job Conger, b. June 9, 1694, m. Keziah \_\_\_\_\_

Children of Job & Keziah:

- a. Job Conger, b. abt. 173-, m. Lydia Coddington
- b. Enoch Conger, m. Ziliah Coddington, a sister of Mary
- c. Moses Conger
- d. Ruth Conger, m. Nathaniel Price
- e. Sarah Conger, m. Nathaniel Coddington
- f. Elizabeth Conger, m. Reuben Heard
- g. Esther Conger
- h. Bathia or Bethia Conger

**FOOTNOTE:**

vi. Jonathan Conger b March 29, 1683 at Woodbridge; d. at Newark 8 May 1733. Married and known to have son Samuel & daughter Mary.

The son Samuel was b. 1715 and d. in Newark Dec. 14, 1852. "The last genealogist whom I have employed thinks that John Conger of Rowan County, NC and Jonathan of Woodbridge were also his sons and were older than Samuel. Jonathan, Sr. seems to have removed from Woodbridge to Newark and his son Samuel went with him, but John of Rowan County and Jonathan, Jr. of Woodbridge remained in that vicinity. Jonathan, Jr. dying there in 1779, and John Conger, supposed to be John Conger of Rowan County, was there as late as 1745, and owned land there and at Paypack, (Papaick), NJ.

My reasons for connecting John Conger of Rowan County, NC and Jonathan, Jr. of Woodbridge, NJ is as follows: Jonathan Conger of Woodbridge had three sons named in his will, David (dead at the making of the will, as it mentions Mary Conger, widow of his son David), Jonathan and John. The son David married Mrs. Mary Green, nee Mary Darby, who had two sons, David, Jr. and Elias Darby. Both of these sons removed to Washington County, Penn. and David Conger died there."

**The rest of the Conger section in this book follows the Rowan County, NC line.**

**Other Resources:**

**Researched by Gratia Dunham Mahony who states, "I found no Hannah Conger in any of these publications who could have been the wife of Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham (of Joseph <sup>4</sup>, David <sup>3</sup>, Jonathan <sup>2</sup> Dunham, alias Singletary, Richard <sup>1</sup> Singletary.)"**

1. Book on-line: Leonard, Maxine Crowell, *"The Conger Family of America"* (Privately printer: Jamesville, Iowa, c. 1972

This book follows all 15 children (by both wives) of the immigrant John <sup>1</sup> Conger. It includes the child David <sup>3</sup> Conger b. abt. 1741 in Woodbridge who m. in 1762 Mary Darby. She died in 1796 in Morris Twp., Greene Co., PA. This Conger family was in "Ten Mile" PA as was **Nathaniel Dunham**, who went to Butler/Hamilton Co. OH, and subsequently to Adams, Monroe Co., OH.

2. Searched some Conger Newsletters, *"Conger Confabs Quarterly Newsletters 1975-1994"* by Maxine Crowell Leonard ["Conger Confabs Quarterly Newsletters 1975-1994"] held at the University of Wisconsin-Madison; digitized in 2011.

Need to continue search for information to validate Hannah Conger as wife of Joseph <sup>5</sup> Dunham (of Joseph <sup>4</sup>, David <sup>3</sup>, Jonathan <sup>2</sup>, Richard <sup>1</sup>." ASH

<https://archive.org/details/recordofbirthsma00lccong/page/20/mode/2up>

Perhaps this book on-line will help some researchers:

Conger, Charles G. B. (Charles Greenwood Barker), *A Record of the births, marriages and deaths of the descendants of John Conger of Woodbridge, N.J. through his grandson, John Conger of Woodbridge, N.J. and Albany, Co., N.Y.*, Chicago, 1903

#### Resources:

1. E-mail to ASH: 25 Jul 2023, Research of Gratia Dunham Mahony
2. Ibid.
3. Ibid.
4. Research of Gratia Dunham Mahony
5. New Jersey Colonial Documents, Abstract of Wills, 1771-1780, Lib. K, p. 459
6. Munn, David C.; "Battles and Skirmishes in New Jersey of the American Revolution" pub. in 1941, p. 104.
7. Ibid.
8. Transcription 2023 by Gratia Dunham Mahony: *Deposition of Deacon John Dunham's Revolutionary Service*
9. Op. Cit. 4
10. Op. Cit. 4
11. Ancestry.com: Image:  
[https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/29740/images/dvm\\_LocHist013467-00399-1?pId=746](https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/29740/images/dvm_LocHist013467-00399-1?pId=746)

12. Ancestry.com: *A Roster of Revolutionary Ancestors of the Indiana Daughters of the American Revolution*, Vol. II, p. 97 given by descendant: Rhinehart, Phoebe Jane Robertson (Mrs. Joseph Clinton) No. 303081 at [https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/29740/images/dvm\\_LocHist013467-00399-1?ssrc=&backlabel=Return&pid=746](https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/29740/images/dvm_LocHist013467-00399-1?ssrc=&backlabel=Return&pid=746)
13. Ancestry.com: <https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/117418649/person/330198677162/facts>
14. Ancestry.com: [https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/2204/images/32596\\_242219-00068?pid=491024](https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/2204/images/32596_242219-00068?pid=491024)
15. D.A.R. Lineage Book 1000:21 shared by Gratia Dunham Mahony.
16. New Jersey, U. S., Abstract of Wills, 1670-1817, Volume XXXVII, Abstracts of Wills, 1791-1795, p. 116
17. Thomas, George W., *Inscriptions from the Cemetery of the Presbyterian Church at Westfield in New Jersey [Union County] from the Year 1740 to the Year 1899* copied from the Old Tombstones in the Year 1899, 1923.
18. Op. Cit. 4
19. Transcription by Gratia Dunham Mahony: Deposition of John's Revolutionary Service
20. Op. Cit. 4
21. Death Record of daughter
22. Warren County, Ohio Census
23. Warren County, Ohio Vital Records
24. *Documents relating to the Colonial History of the State of New Jersey: New Brunswick Reformed Dutch Church Marriage Records, 1794-1799*, p. 626.
25. Warren County, Ohio Marriage Records
26. Bowers, Ruth and Anita Short. "Gateway to the West". Warren County, Ohio, Vol. 2: 638



## Origin of the Name Dunham

**Dunham:** English: habitational name from any of the places called **Dunham** (Norfolk Nottinghamshire Cheshire). Most are named from Old English *dūn* 'hill' + *hām* 'homestead', A place in Lincolnshire now known as Dunholme appears in the Domesday Book as Duneham and this too serves as a source of the surname; here the first element is probably the Old English personal name Dunna. **Dunham** is often difficult to tell apart from Downham.

Source: Geneanet:

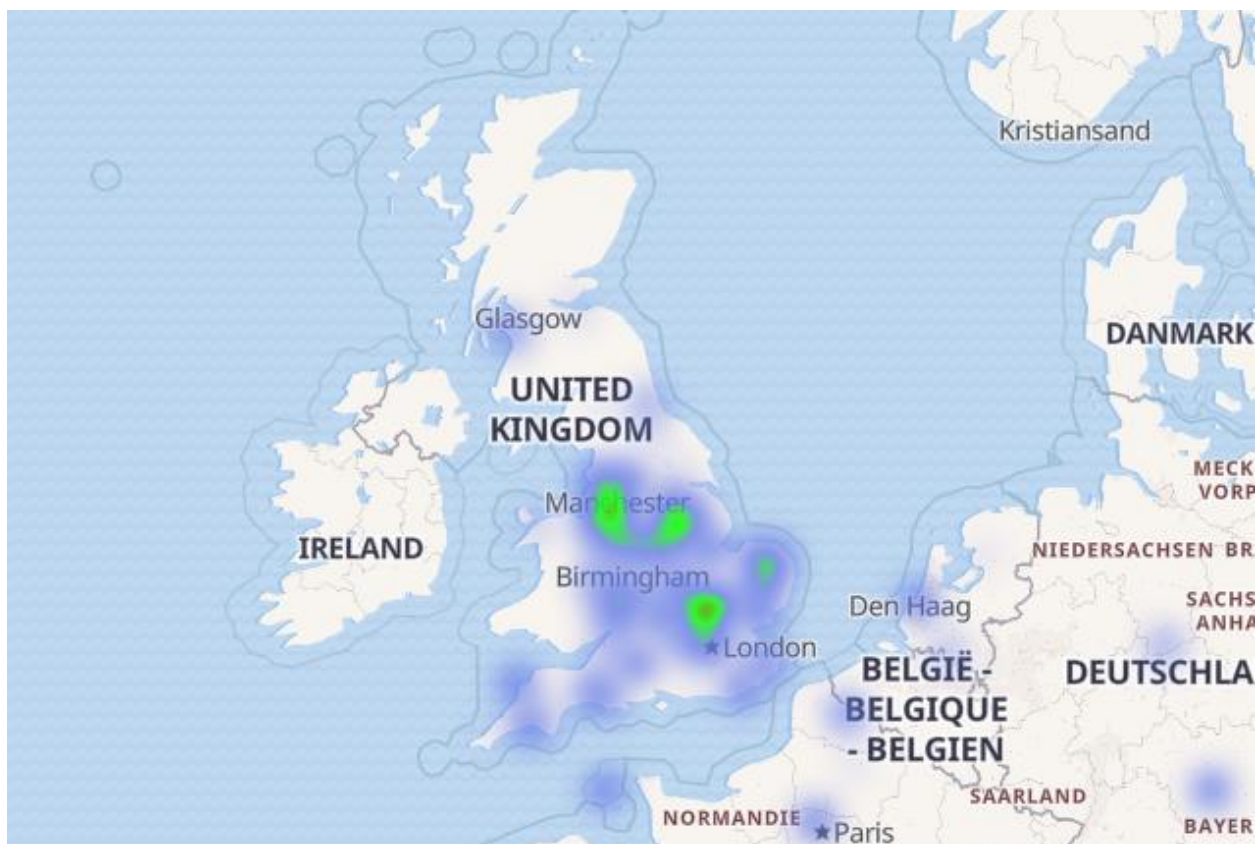
DAFN2: Dictionary of American Family Names 2nd edition, ©2022 by

Patrick Hanks and Oxford University Press.

FANBI: The Oxford Dictionary of Family Names in Britain and Ireland, ©2016,

University of the West of England.

Geographic distribution of the name DUNHAM on Geneanet in 1600.



Information on the descendants of Deacon John Dunham and his father Richard can be found on the DGRA website at: [DJD-1-John-1 - Dunham-Singleton Family Connections](#) and [RD-1-Richard-1 - Dunham-Singleton Family Connections](#)

# 10 Million Names Project

By American Ancestors

American Ancestors announced **10 Million Names**, a new project that will recover the names and restore information to families of the estimated 10 million men, women, and children of African descent who were enslaved in America between the 1500s and 1865. The project debuted on ***Good Morning America*** to more than three million viewers across the country!

The end result of **10 Million Names** will be a centralized repository of genealogical and historical information about enslaved people of African descent and their families on a free website. This will take years to accomplish, but we're already underway.

To do the work, 10 Million Names is engaging a collaborative network of expert genealogists, cultural organizations, and community-based family historians. Together we will amplify the voices of people who have been telling their family stories for centuries, connect researchers and data partners with people seeking answers to family history questions, and expand access to data, resources, and information about enslaved African Americans.

[Discover More About 10 Million Names](#)

Published in **The Weekly Genealogist** By American Ancestors, 9 Aug 2023

## What's New on the Dunham Website

*By James A. Streeter*

I have been very busy since the last DGRA Newsletter working on Family History Research on several different families including Dunham. Gratia and Audrey have been working on the article published in this newsletter and I have started to add that information to the Dunham-Singletary lines as Gratia has sent it to me. We now have the 4<sup>th</sup> Generation of the Dunham-Singletary line added to the website and will shortly be adding the 5<sup>th</sup> Generation. A complete review of that line is also taking place, so if you see anything that needs to be fixed let us know.

<http://www.dunham-singletary.org/mw/index.php/S-D-2-Johnathan-2>

New Email forwarding addresses have been added to the DGRA website. They have been just added to the Main Page at [Dunham-Singletary Family Connections](#) and will be added to all the other pages where they are needed shortly.

President - [president@dunhamgenealogy.org](mailto:president@dunhamgenealogy.org)  
Historian - [historian@dunhamgenealogy.org](mailto:historian@dunhamgenealogy.org)  
Research - [research@dunhamgenealogy.org](mailto:research@dunhamgenealogy.org)  
Questions - [questions@dunhamgenealogy.org](mailto:questions@dunhamgenealogy.org)  
DNA - [dna@dunhamgenealogy.org](mailto:dna@dunhamgenealogy.org)  
Editor - [editor@dunhamgenealogy.org](mailto:editor@dunhamgenealogy.org)  
Facebook - [facebook@dunhamgenealogy.org](mailto:facebook@dunhamgenealogy.org)  
Treasurer - [treasurer@dunhamgenealogy.org](mailto:treasurer@dunhamgenealogy.org)

We are also adding to the Dunham in America Section an update to the Deacon John Dunham line beginning with his son Thomas-2 Dunham. The previous page for Thomas did not show any marriages or children. Thanks to the work by Bruce and Peter Dunham, 10 generations of family is in the process of being added to the website. Thomas-2 can be found at:

**<http://www.dunham-singletary.org/mw/index.php/DJD-3-Thomas-2>**

I have some new photos that will be added to the Dunham Ancestral Photographs Collection soon and we are still looking for more Dunham family pictures. You can find the Collection at:

**<http://www.dunham-singletary.org/mw/index.php/Photos>**

## HELP NEEDED!

DGRA is looking to expand the Deacon John Dunham line that is posted on the Dunham Families in America Site from the current 4 Generations to 5 Generation along with the birth information on the children found in the 6<sup>th</sup> generation. Gratia and James will both be researching the families and as each person is completed the material will be added to the site. If anyone has information on the 5<sup>th</sup> generation Dunham's or is interested in helping research, please let James know.

We are also looking for help to review Dunham lines found in previous issues of the DSFC Newsletters and prepare them for addition to the Dunham Families in America collection. If you have questions about what is involved or if you can help, please contact James A. Streeter - [james8313@sti.net](mailto:james8313@sti.net).