

THE 2014 MEADER FAMILY NEWSLETTER

WWW.themeaderfamily.org

Reunion September 6, 2014 Meaders Heritage Farm, Rochester NH.
Your reunion button will be your ticket for lunch and Reunion Book.
Still time! but need to hear from you no later than August 18, 2014.
Contact JaneMeaderNye@nycap.rr.com or phone 518-399-5013.

WE are actively searching to prove JOHN MEADER of Piscataqua was from Devon and not Dorset, England. Malcom Meader of the UK and Erik Meader of the USA are working together searching records in Devon not available when our first volume was published in 1975.

History may explain circumstances that prompted John's emigration to America. There were three main phases in the English Civil War or the great Rebellion. The first phase began in 1642 and ended with Charles I a prisoner of the parliamentarians in January 1647. The second phase of the civil war, began with the Scottish Engagement at the end of 1647 and ended with the king's execution in January 1649. The third phase was initiated by the Scottish rising in favor of Charles II in 1650 and ended by the royalist defeat at Worcestor, England, in September 1651. That same year, 1651, John Meader and Peter Coffin paid taxes in Dover, New Hampshire. Peter Coffin was born at Brixton, Devon, in 1631 and 1630 was the birth year given for John Meader by early Meader genealogists. A Meader in the UK emailed me a couple years ago that John Meader born in 1625 is not OUR John Meader. Further, it's interesting that he is the only Meader in the Hampshire grants. In 1968 Daniel Burton Meador published THE MEADOR FAMILY and gave a copy to Robert F. W. Meader. This from his book:

The Virginia Colony

"The Head Right"

Under this law, everyone who transported an immigrant overseas to the colony was given 50 acres. There was no limit to the number a person could bring. This created a new or servant class called "indentureds." The individual would bond himself for a fixed period for his passage or whatever need he had for his support.

"The London Company"

The land of Virginia was claimed by the English sovereign as absolutely as if it had been his own by ancestral heritage. No right of the Indian to the soil he had occupied indefinitely was even considered, much less allowed.

Title to the land was vested by grant from the sovereign, in the London Company. Acting as its regents the governor and council conveyed title to the settler. Each shareholder in the company was entitled to 100 acres. This "hundred" led to a system of representation in government. Meritorious service of various kinds was another basis for awarding a portion of the soil. Soon a grant of 100 acres was made to every planter who at his own cost came to the colony.

How were the people distributed over the land? At first, for self-protection from the Indians, they all settled on the island of Jamestown (the first time that I knew it was on an island). Soon afterward they took up the land adjacent. So gradually they spread up and down the James.

The settlers who came and developed this country represented all sorts and conditions of men. Among them, however, were scarcely any other than English. Though they came classed as gentlemen, yeomen, mechanics and servants, they came under such circumstances, that a social system grew up which divided itself sharply between master and slave.

Cavaliers and Pioneers Abstracts of Virginia Land Patents and Grants—1623-1800 by Mrs. Nell Nugent, Director of Virginia Land Office, Richmond, Va.

Meader Immigrants

Page 41, Peter Johnson 600 acres Warrisquicke Co., 1 June 1636, p. 354. 150 acres by surrender from Ambrose Meader due to (him) for his personal adventure, his wife & 1 servant, others made up the rest of the 600 acres.

Page 86, William Clarke, 1100 acres Henrico Co., 6 May 1638, p. 547. to whom it was due for transportation of 22 person, one of them being Jon. (Jonathan) Meader.

Page 88, Abraham Wood, 400 acres Charles City, Co., 14 May 1638, p. 557 transportation of eight persons, one of them being Nicholas Meader.

Page 431, Mr. Richard Webley, Robt. Davis & Thomas Freshwater, 7221 acres in Rappahannock and North Cumberland Co. 24 Aug. 1664, p. 106 (603) for transportation of 145 persons, one of them being Samuel Meader.

Page 476, Samuel Coghill, 400 Acres on N. side Rappa. River in Farnam Parrish, beg. at miles end of Jon. Meader, 20 Feb. 1662, p. 254 (188). Transportation of eight persons, one of them being William Meader.

Mrs. Nugent states that the London Co. used two plans to encourage colonization. Any person who paid his own passage way to Virginia was assigned 50 acres of land "for his own personal adventure," and if he transported "at his own expense" one or more persons he should, for each person whose passage he paid, be awarded fifty acres of land. He who brought others was known as a head right.

The author believes that most of the patents since 1624 have been preserved by being recopied, and also, it is not certain that the emigrant always came at the time the patent was issued.

Meador became Meador in the South and many Meador genealogies have been published. Canadian Meador genealogies and records of Meeder and Meder will be on display, Please bring you family pictures to share.

February 13, 1709/10: The testimonie of John Medder senr of Dover beeing eighty years of agge and saith that the five hundred ackers of Land granted to Mr. Valentine Hill by the town of Dover at the head of Oyster river adjacent to his sawmill the North line of ye land running near aboutt the foott path going from the falls to Stoney Brook near Capt. Woodmans orchard soe running up the hill northerly between Capt. Woodmans house and ALittell barn westerly of the house, I being lately upon the Spote and acquainted to the above premises aboutt sixty foure years, and further saith ... (contains more description then continues)... is noe part of the land wich Capt. Nathll Hill and Bartholmew Stevenson is now in controversy with..."

The underlining is mine for emphasis. I do not believe that John Meador misstated his age in this deposition or two years later when he said he was eighty two. I believe he was born about 1630 possibly in Brixton, Devon County, England. This differs from our published genealogy. Sixty four from 1709/10 would easily place him in Dover in 1647 when one source states that he "knew" Robert Huckins land and that he "lived with" Mr. Valentine Hill about 1650. Seldom if ever did someone go alone to a new area. Often they knew each other as neighbors or were related by blood or marriage.

Peter Coffin was born at Brixton, County of Devon, England, in 1631, married Abigail Starbuck; daughter of Edward Starbuck, and with his father Tristram was one of the purchasers of Nantucket in 1659. The Meadors also follow to Nantucket. I believe the will below indicates a relationship between Peter Coffin and John Meador. Nicholas Coffin, the father of Nicholas Coffin a minor the Executor in 1602, died in 1613 and named as his first bequest "Ann Meador the daughter of Eliner Meador". Four brothers, Tristram, Phillip, Lionel and Thomas were recorded with no sisters. I suggest there was a sister who died before October 1602 and that she was the wife of Nicholas Meador whose four children are not named but receive amounts equal to the children of some of the brothers. Extracted from the District Registry Attached to the Probate Division of the High Court of Justice at Exeter, In the Archdeaconry Court of Totnes:

In the name of God Amen the vith day of November in the year of our Lord God 1601. I Tristram Coffing of Butlers in the prish of Brixton beinge sicke of bodye but pfect of remembrance thanks be geven unto Almighty God do make this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following that is to saye First I gene and bewueath my Soule unto Almighty God my Maker and Jesus Christ my Redeemer through whose death & passion I hope to be saved First I geve & bequeath unto the poore men box of Brixton V^d. Item I geve & bequeath to Johan Coffing the Daughter of Nicolas Coffing II brass pannes the greatest and the lest and one coverlett of draught work. Item I geve and bequeath unto Tristram Coffing the Sonne of Philip Coffing forty shillings. Item I geve and bequeth unto Philip Coffing XX^d. Item I give unto Richard and Johan Coffing the children of Lionell Coffing VI^d VIII^d. Item I geve to the children of Thomas Coffing each of them III^d III^d. Item I geve more to Johan Coffing the Daughter of Nicolas Coffing vth. Item I geve to An Coffing the Daughter of Nicolas Coffing the right & titell of such ground as I have from Robert Chamber or eles the som of X^{li} more I give to the sayd An II brass pannes and one coverlett Item I geve to foure children of
 → Nicolas Meador each of them III^d IIII^d. Item I geve to John Coffing the Sone of
 Nicholas Coffing one bullock of the age of one year the resydue of my goddes & cattelles movable or immoveable. I give and bequeath to Nicholas Coffing the Sone of Nicolas Coffing whome I make to be my whole Executor to pay my debts and to discharg my Legacies as far as bill bond or speciallitie is to shewe. Moreover I doe appoint Nicolas Coffing and James Coule to be my overseers to see Will and Testament to be pformed.

This Will was proved on the 16th day of October 1602 by Nicholas Coffine the Father of Nicholas Coffine a Minor the Executor. during his minority.

2014 Annual Meader/Meeder/Meder Reunion September 5 & 6, 2014

MEADER'S HERITAGE FARM, ROCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Location: Meader's Heritage Farm, 23 Meaderboro Road, Rochester, NH 03867
Saturday, September 6, 2014 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Schedule:

- Informal gathering at the Holiday Inn Express, 7 to 9 PM Friday evening September 5th.
- REUNION, SATURDAY September 6, Meader's Heritage Farm, 23 Meaderboro Road, Rochester, NH
- 9 AM annual meeting, introductions, election of directors
- NOON lunch and Meader Limerick Contest

Cost for the day: \$25.00 per person; children under 12 - \$12.50 each and children under 5 - free. Payable to THE MEADER FAMILY ASSOCIATION, INC. 158 Ashdown Rd, Ballston Lake, NY 12019. Mail with full contact information - name(s) addresses, phone & email address to the treasurer.

We are grateful to Lorraine Meader Rines for all her help. See www.meadersupply.com

Please respond as soon as possible as we need to know "how many" to plan lunch!.

Lodging:

Holiday Inn Express; 77 Farmington Road, Rochester, NH Tel: 603-994-1175

We have a block of rooms for Friday, September 5 and Saturday, September 6. We have group rate \$149 + taxes (\$129 + taxes for 2 Queen beds). (They will also honor AAA discount when requested) Rooms are double occupancy (2 beds), plus a King. Extra people in room, \$10 per person. They will only hold our block through the last week of August. YOU MUST TELL THEM YOU ARE WITH MEADER FAMILY REUNION

Please let all YOUR family relatives know. We're doing our best to contact everyone.

Please - Attending or not, please include/confirm your home mailing address to receive our newsletter.

Marydawn Meeder, Secretary mdmiller@verizon.net

Jane Meader Nye, Treasurer janemeadernye@nycap.rr.com

THE MEADER FAMILY ASSOCIATION, INC.
158 Ashdown Road
Ballston Lake, NY 12019
518-399-5013

Meaders Heritage Farm, Reunion Saturday September 6, 2014, Rochester, New Hampshire
9 AM to 4-PM. Directions at www.meadersupply.com. \$25 adult, under 12 \$12.50, under 5 free.
Payable to the Meader Family Association, 158 Ashdown Rd, Ballston Lake, NY 12019.
See www.themeaderfamily.org for more information.

Name(s) _____

Address(s) _____

Phone and email _____