

# NEWSLETTER JABEZ OLMSTED OF WARE



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## JOE BARBER'S COLUMN

On January 19, 1999 Ellen Hooven of Williamsville, NY, in an e-mail wrote; "only 152 days until summer but who's counting". By now the memories of winter and whether it was good or bad in your area will be slipping away as thoughts turn to spring and summer activities. This may also be a time for some to put family history research on the back burner. The World Wide Web and e-mail are becoming important elements in family history research.

This past January when my wife and I were in Arizona, Shirley Moore, a first cousin twice removed, introduced me to the Olmstead Family Genealogy Forum. For those who are not aware of it the address is:

<http://genforum.familytreemaker.com/olmstead/>

Many people have posted queries here and

new queries are being posted all the time. Quite a number of answers are being provided and two of our readers, Lorraine Speers and Lorna Gerten have been helpful in providing answers to several. I have contacted several who appear to be Jabez kin. From her Web research Shirley gave me some pages of Barnes family history and some information on the history of Ware. An interesting statement in the history of Ware was that in 1729 the first grist and saw mills were built on the banks of the Ware river by Jabez Olmstead.

Aired on the ABC network in February was Oprah Winfrey's production "The Wedding". In the background of a scene or two was the Presidential Mansion, Olmstead University. Can anyone tell me where Olmstead University is?

Joe Barber.

## THOMAS BARNES OF BROOKFIELD

*We promised in the last newsletter to trace the ancestry of Thankful Barnes, wife of Capt. Jabez. The sources for the following article are "History of East Brookfield, Massachusetts 1686-1970", by Louis E. Roy M.D., Published by the Town of East Brookfield, Mass., 1970. and "History of the Town of Marlborough, Middlesex, Massachusetts, From its First Settlement in 1657 to 1861; With a Brief Sketch of the Town of Northborough, and a Genealogy of the Families to 1800, and an Account of the Two Hundredth Anniversary of the Incorporation of the Town", by Charles Hudson. Press of T. R. Marvin & Sons, Boston, 1862.*

The ancestry of Capt. Jabez OLMSTED is a closed book at present. However, this does not apply to that of his wife, Thankful BARNES.

The Genealogy of the Olmsted Family in America says, in debunking the notion that Capt. Jabez was part Indian, says "Furthermore a part blood Indian would never have married into a family like the family of Thomas BARNES". However, there is no indication what this means.

The first BARNES in the colonies was Thomas BARNES (BARANCE), who was born in Barkling, Essex, England, about 1636. He came to America at the age of twenty, on the *Speedwell*, arriving on June 27, 1656. He came in the company of Shadrack HAPGOOD, John FAY, Nathaniel GOODNOW, and Thomas GOODNOW, whose daughter he later married.

*(Continued on page 3)*

# CAPT. JABEZ'S LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT

*We mentioned in the last Newsletter that Betty McCLUSKY, a descendant of Timothy BROWN and Thankful OLMSTED, used Capt. Jabez's will to prove her descndnt. Thanks to her, here is the Last Will and Testament of Capt. Jabez Olmsted.*

Probate and Family Court  
Hampshire Division  
33 King Street  
Northampton, Massachusetts 01060  
Volume 8: 26-27

In the Name of God Amen, I Jabez Omsted of Ware-River in the County of Hampshire and Province of the Massachusetts Bay in in New England, being of lawful Age and Sound Mind, this Day calling to mind my own mortality, do make this my last Will and Testament, revoking all former Wills, or anything of that Nature or kind, by me heretofore made. And in the first place, I do commend my Spirit into the Hands of God who gave it, and my Body to a decent Burial, the rites of which to be performed in Such manner, as Shall be that to be best by my Executrix; and as to the Worldly with which God has blest me I do dispose of it in manner and form following.

[Imprimis?] After my Debts and funeral Changes are paid, I do give and bequeath unto my well beloved wife Martha, all my personal estate, of what nature or kind Soever, forever. Item I do give her the improvements of one third part of my real estate during her natural Life, and I do also give her the improvements of my whole estate, till my Son Moses comes of age.

Item. I do give and bequeath to my Son Moses all my real estate upon his paying the legassies hereafter mentioned.

Item. I do give and bequeath to my Son Jeremiah five Shillings lawful money to be paid by my Son Moses when he comes of age.

Item. I do give and bequeath to my Son Israel five Shillings lawful money to be paid by my Son Moses when he comes of age.

Item. I do give and bequeath to the Children of my Daughter Thankful Brawn deceased five Shillings lawful money to be paid by my Son Moses when he comes of age.

Item. I do give and bequeath to my Daughter Hannah Marsh five Shillings lawful money to be paid by my Son Moses when he comes of age.

Item. I do give end bequeath to the child of my Daughter Hammond deceased five Shillings lawful money to be paid by my Son Moses when he comes of age.

Item. I do give end bequeath to my Daughter Dorcas Wolcot five Pounds lawful money to be paid by my Son Moses when he comes of age.

Item. I do give and bequeath to my Daughter Sarah Marsh five Pounds lawful money to be paid by my Son Moses when he comes of age.

Item. I do give and bequeath to my Abigail Smith five Pounds

lawful money to be paid by my Son Moses when he comes of age.

Item. I do give end bequeath to my Daughter Prudence five Pounds lawful money to be paid by my Son Moses when he comes of age with the interest.

And I do constitute and appoint my well Beloved wife Martha Omstead Executrix of this my last Will and Testament. In witness of all which, I have hereunto Set my Hand and Seal this Twenty fourth of Feb.[anno Domini] Seventeen Hundred fifty two.

Signed Sealed and Publiished

In Pressence of

Job Lane	his	Jabez "X" Omstead
John Downing	mark	

Hampshire Js March 22nd 1753 [said] John Downing & on the 29th of the Same month Job Lane The Witnesses to the foregoing Will which was then presented for probate appearing made oath That They Saw Capt. Jabez Omstead The Testator Sign & Seal & Heard him pronounce & declare the Same to be his last Will and Testament & that he was of Sound Mind & Memory when he did it & that they Signed as Witnesses to the Same in the [said] Testators presence wherefore at a Court of Probate holden at Northampton within & for the County of Hampshire on the Second Tuesday of April being the 10th day of [said] month [anno Domini] 1753 [p] Timothy Dwight Esq. Judge of [said] Court -The foregoing Will as ratified approved & Confirmed [P].

March 22. John Dawning & [same month?] 29th Job Lane Sworn in Com<sup>n</sup>form  
April 10th 1753 [approved] as to the [Personal] Estate

(as to the Conveyance of the Personal Estate which only is hereby conveyed) as the last Will & Testament of Said [Deceased].

[P] Timothy Dwight

## QUERIES

Joe BARBER responded to the query of Mr. Clare A. OLMSTED, who noted there is an OLMSTED Place, a well known historical site, near Ellensburg, WA. It was the homestead of Samuel Benient OLMSTED, a Union veteran, who settled there in 1875. Mr. OLMSTED wants to ask if Samuel OLMSTED is a Jabez descendant. Joe confirmed that Samuel was a descendant of Richard OLMSTED of Norfolk.

Joe also responded to Janet EGLER's query relative to the surname of Mahatable, wife of Jedadiah (9090), son of Jeremiah and Elizabeth. Joe says that from information he has received from Doreen DOLLEMAN, he believes the sur-

*(Continued on page 4)*

*(Continued from page 1)*

He bought land in Marlborough in 1662 or 63, from Jonathon JOHNSON.

He married Abigail, the daughter of Thomas and Jane (RUDDICK) GOODNOW, of Sudbury, on February 2, 1661. His house was burned down in 1678 by the Indians during King Philip's war, and all his goods were destroyed. He lived in Concord temporarily and moved back to Marlborough after the war, and died in 1697.

He and Abigale had seven children: Thomas, March 23, 1662/63; Dorothy, February 6, 1664; John, December 25, 1666; William, April 3, 1669; Abigail, June 14, 1671, Theophilus, February 10, 1673-74 (died February 1675), and Susanna, February 2, 1676. All were born in Marlborough, except Susanna, was born in Concord.

The first son, Thomas, was married on April 14, 1685, to Mary, the daughter of Samuel and Martha (BENT) HOWE, of Sudbury. Mary was born on March 2, 1665, and died February 4, 1718/19.

Thomas and Mary had five children born in Marlborough: Martha, born about 1685; Samuel, born about 1686; Prudence, date of birth not recorded; Lydia, born October 9, 1692,; and Thankful, born May 1, 1695. Two sons were born in Brookfield; Noah, about 1697; and Comfort, about 1706.

Thomas and Mary, with Thomas's brother William, moved to Brookfield in 1691, where Thomas became a leading citizen, and was granted considerable land. His first recorded grant was on August 27, 1691, for eleven or forty acres at the junction of Five and Seven Mile Rivers, in what is now East Brookfield. He later sold this to John HAMILTON.

In 1692, he was one of the signers of a petition to the Great and General Court (the Massachusetts Colonial Legislature) requesting that the Committee for Brookfield (governing body of the as-yet-non-incorporated town) be granted authority to confirm or deny present or former grants so that those who owned land could be made to bear their share of the tax burden and the cost of supporting or acquiring a minister. This was granted.

In 1695, William BARNES, the uncle of Thankful, became the father of the first child born in Brookfield after the town was resettled. (The town was originally settled in 1665, but was destroyed by the Indians in 1675 during King Phillip's War.) He was judged by the court to be the father of Captivity JENNING's child, Stephen. The settlement was 2s 3p a week child support.

In 1699, Thomas BARNES purchased the land of

Richard COY, west of Foot's Hill. He received a land grant in 1701. In 1703, he and Samuel OWENS purchased the land of Thomas PARSONS, from the first settlement of Brookfield, on the Hill. Also, in that year, he purchased the rights of John SCOTT of Suffield to the land of John AYRES.

He was one of eight men commissioned to build the first sawmill in Brookfield in 1709, on Sucker Brook, at what was later called the Malt Mill Bridge. The nine men received a grant of 40 acres, to be divided among them, for their encouragement to build a new mill, and they had liberty to cut all sorts of lumber in any part of the town for the use of the mill.

In 1710, BARNES and four others petitioned the Great and General Court for a grant to repair the gristmill dam, stating that Indian troubles made it impossible to travel 30 miles to the nearest gristmill, and furthermore, winter was coming. In 1713, BARNES and two others reported to the town that the owner of the gristmill was not living up to the terms of his contract, and had forfeited his grant of land and mill rights.

On September 18, 1714, the Committee for Brookfield appointed Thomas BARNES and two others as members of a special commission to settle a dispute between the minister and his neighbors over a plot of land. There was some controversy over the report of the commission. Finally, the minister left town.

In 1715, Thomas BARNES and eight others were appointed to a commission to oversee the construction of a Meeting House.

In 1717, another mill grant, on Mill Brook, was made to Thomas BARNES, and one to his son Samuel (no location specified).

In 1717, he was the largest resident landowner in Brookfield, owning over 1100 acres. The property tax on his land that year was 4£, 8p, (the second highest in the town, out of 121 tax payers) out of the total tax raised of 200 £. (In the same year, Capt. Jabez's tax was 1£ 5s 4 p, the 18th highest.)

His house was the meeting place of the Committee when they met in Brookfield. In 1718, he was elected an assessor of the town, and in 1719, after the incorporation of the Town, he and his son Samuel were both elected to the first Board of Selectmen and also to the first Board of Assessors. (The five members of both Boards were the same!) In December of that year, he and the other selectman petitioned the Great and General Court for confirmation of a plot of eight square miles denoting the boundary of the town and granting of township privileges, which was granted.

He also owned land in Hardwick, as well as a sawmill in New Braintree, for which he received a grant of 40 acres.

Later in his life, he lived with his youngest son, Comfort. Thomas died in Brookfield on April 23, 1734, after been gored by a bull!

Descendants of Thomas and Mary still live in Brookfield.

See page 6 for exact genealogical details of his family.

*(Continued from page 2)*

name was JENKINS. He states that he has more information about descendants of Jedediah, which he will pass along to Janet if she writes him.

Sue LLOYD, 12262 Harbor Boulevard, Garden Grove, CA 92840, wrote to ask the marriage date of Abigail OLMSTEAD, daughter of Moses OLMSTEAD and Abigail ELWELL, and Aaron CASE.

Joe BARBER asked where OLMSTEAD University is located. (See Joe's column on page 1.) I searched the INTERNET for this university, and consulted a directory of US and Canadian Colleges and Universities in my town library, and found no reference to such a University. It appears that the name was made up, and OLMSTEAD University does not exist. The name is wide open if one of us wants to start a new one!

I (COH) have a query myself. I am trying to trace Mercy Wells (1768-1861), wife of Jeremiah Olmsted (1762-1846) (9071). They were both buried in Spafford, Onondaga Co., NY, but there is no record of her in the Census records for 1850, 1855 or 1860 for Spafford. If I could find her in the 1855 New York State Census, it would tell me where she was born, and if in New York State, which county. It may be that she went to live with another of her children after her husband died, but there were nine other children, who lived in places ranging from Hope, NY, to Michigan. Incidentally, my niece has Mercy's heirloom china set.

## EDITORIAL

One of our subscribers sent me [COH] a letter this winter in which he suggested an alternate possible ancestry of Capt. Jabez. Without going into details, because there was no documentation, the reader suggested that Capt Jabez was a half or quarter blood Native American from Connecticut.

This is of course not an original suggestion; it is mentioned in the GOFA. It may have originated from the fact that Jabez, as a young man, participated in the "scout" from Deerfield to Lake Champlain, (see the last two issues) in which, as was customary in those days, no quarter was granted on either side. It was very bloody.

The GOFA, as mentioned elsewhere in this issue, says that a person of part Native American blood could not have married into the family of Thomas BARNES. Thomas was a very influential town official in Brookfield, one of the most landed men in town. Furthermore, his boyhood home in Marlborough was burnt to the ground in King Phillip's War, and members of his family scalped and killed. It is doubtful that he have allowed his daughter to marry a person with Native American blood.

Capt. Jabez was granted a portion of land when he settled into Brookfield. He was the Town Constable. Brookfield itself was razed to the ground during King Phillip's War, and the settlers killed, taken into captivity, or dispersed. The town fathers had a long memory.

The records state that Capt. Jabez received grants of land from the Great and General Court for his services in the earlier French and Indian Wars. To my knowledge, grants of land were not given to people of mixed blood.

Finally, the argument that a part Native American could not be a commissioned officer was justified. It was just not possible.

Note: Capt. Jabez's lieutenant in the Tenth Company, Fourth Massachusetts Regiment, in the Louisbourg campaign, was one James FRY, whose cousin, John FRY, was set upon in Maine and was chased for miles by Native Americans. He only escaped by jumping off a one hundred foot high cliff (now known locally as Frye's Leap) into Sebago Lake, and swimming to an island, now known as Frye Island (my summer home).

## QUIZ

*One of the features of our newsletter is a quiz, to test your knowledge of the Olmsted Family. The answer to the quiz is elsewhere in the newsletter. Contributions for future quizzes are welcome. Answers should be documented.*

Quiz:

Why was the settling of Sudbury, Massachusetts in the early 17th century relevant to the ancestry of Thankful BARNES?

## JABEX WORKSHOP AT CHAUTAUQUA

There will be a Capt. Jabez workshop at the fall reunion of the Olmste(a)d Family Association in Chautauqua, New York, September 9-12, 1999. It will be hosted by your editor, Carlton Olmsted Hommel (Carl), and Editor Joe Barber is trying to make arrangements to attend also. We hope to meet many of the subscribers to this newsletter at that time.

Those of you who are members of the Olmste(a)d Family Association have already received registration information for the reunion. For those who are not, you may write the president of the Association, Mrs. Ester Olmsted, 8254 Glasgow Road on the Lake, Cassadaga, NY 14718. Phone (716) 598-3263.

# VITAL RECORDS OF BROOKFIELD

We commence a series of articles on selected portions of the Vital Records of Brookfield, with marriages and deaths of Jabez's descendants named OLMSTED. The numbers refers to the number of the individual in the GOFA, and were assigned by the editor [COH]. We ask readers to review the assignments. Names are as spelled in the VR. Note the various spelling of OLMSTED.

## BIRTHS/BAPTISMS

Surname **OMSTED** p. 168

Aaron	9089	s. of Jeremiah (9071) & Elizebeth	Feb 11, 1737
Abigall	9078	d. of Jabish & Thankful	Mar 24, 1731
Darcus	9075	d. of Jabish & Thankful	Apr 15, 1724
Dorothy	9096	d. of Israel (9072) & Sarah	Dec 15, 1737
Elizebeth	9091	d. of Jeremiah (9071) & Elizabeth	Jul 31, 1741
Hannah	9073	d. of Jabish & Thankful	Apr 22, 1718
Isriel	9072	s. of Jabish & Thankful	Mar 24, 1716
Jabish	9088	s. of Jeremiah (9071) & Elizabeth	Jul 29, 1735
Jedediah	9090	s. of Jeremiah (9071) & Elizebeth	Feb 13, 1739
Jeremyah	9071	s. of Jabisz & Thankful	Jan 6, 1714-15
Martha	9074	d. of Jabisz & Thankful	Sept 16, 1721 (?)
Moses	9080	s. of Jabish & Thankfull	Jan 29, 1736
Prudence	9079	d. of Jabish & Thankfull	Oct 28, 1733
Sarah	9076	d. of Jabisz & Thankful	May 24, 1726
Sarah	9173	d. of Joseph & Sarah (9076)	Mar 16, 1775
Silance	9077	d. of Jabish & Thankfull	Nov 30, 1728
Thankful	9070	d. of Jabisz & Thankful	Feb 15, 1712-13
Thankful	9097	d. of Israel (9072) & Sarah	Oct 7, 1739

## MARRIAGES

Surname **OMSTED**

Abigail	9078	to Nathan Hamilton	Jan 1, 1771
Dorcas	9075	to Benoni Wolcot *	Oct 13, [1741 ?]
Hannah	9073	to Judah March *	Nov 4, 1736
Israel	9072	to Sarah Banister *	May 12, 1737
Jeremiah	9071	to Elizabeth Litten *	Dec 11, 1734
Sarah	9076	to Ephraim Marsh*	Oct 8, 1741

Surname **OMSTID** p. 380

Joseph	9101	to Sarah Wood	int. Jun 11, 1774
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Surname **ORMSTEAD** p.380

Dorothy	9096	to Abijah Scott (of Ware River)	Apr 17, 1761
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Surname **ORMSTED** p. 380

Marth	9074	to Thomas Hammond*	Aug 21, [1741 ?]
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\* Intention not recorded

## DEATHS

Surname **OMSTED**

Aaron	9089	s. of Jeremiah & Elizebeth	3y 7 mo 27 d	Oct 7, 1740
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## Answer to Quiz

Six of Thankful's great grandparents settled in Sudbury before 1650: Thomas and Jane (RUDDICK) GOODENOW in 1638, John HOW (HOWE) and his wife, Mary, before 1641, and John and Martha (BAKER) BENT in 1638.

References: "History of Sudbury, Massachusetts, 1638-1898", by Alfred Sereno Hudson, Sudbury Press, Sudbury, MA, 1898. In the next issue, I will print excerpts from Hudson.

# GENEALOGY OF THE BARNES FAMILY, FROM THOMAS TO THANKFUL 1636-1712

*On page 1 we published a story on the family of Thomas BARNES. Here is his exact genealogy.*

Thomas BARNES (BARENCE); b 1636, Barkling, Essex, England (HEB); d 1697, in Marlborough, MA (HEB); married, February 2, 1661/2 (HEB), July 21, 1662 (GOSM), Abigail GOODENOW, dau. of Thomas and Jane (RUDDICK) GOODENOW, in Sudbury, MA; b. March 11, 1641/2, in Sudbury, MA; d. 1679, in Marlborough, MA (HTM), 1697 (HEB).

## Children:

Thomas II; b. Mar 23, 1662/63, in Marlborough, MA (HTM, MVR, HEB); d. April 23, 1734, in Brookfield, MA (BVR, HEB) April 14, 1685 (MVR); married Mary HOWE, dau. of Samuel and Martha (BENT)HOWE (HOW), April 23, 1685, in Marlborough, MA, April 14, 1685 (MVR, HEB) . Mary, b. March 2, 1665 (HEB) d. February 4, 1718/19 (BVR, HEB)  
Dorothy; b. February 6, 1664, in Marlborough, MA(HTM, MVR, HEB); married, James WOODS, March 19, 1717/19 (GOSM).  
John; b. December 25, 1666, in Marlborough, MA (HTM, MVR, HEB), d. April 5, 1753 (HTM), married Hannah HOWE (HTM).  
William; b. April 3, 1669, in Marlborough, MA (HTM, MVR, HEB).  
Abigail; b. June 14, 1671, in Marlborough, MA (HTM, MVR, HEB); d. November 4, 1749, in Stockbridge, MA (GOSM); married (1) Josiah JONES, 1692 (GOSM), (2) Peter BENT, February 27, 1704/5 (GOSM).  
Theophillus; b. February 2, 1773/4, in Marlborough, MA (MVR, HEB); d. February, 1674/75, in Marlborough, MA (MVR, HEB).  
Susanna; b. February 2, 1676, in Concord, MA.(HEB), married Supply WEEKS, June 4, 1699 (HTM).

## Children of Thomas BARNES II:

Martha; b. ~1685, in Marlborough, MA (HEB); married Thomas GILBERT (HEB).  
Samuel; b. ~1686, in Marlborough, MA (HEB) ; d. September 7, 1733, in Brookfield, MA; married Mercy GILBERT, 1710.  
Prudence; b. before 1692, in Marlborough, MA (HEB); married Eleazer WARNER, December 4, 1722, in Brookfield, MA (HEB).  
Lydia; b. October 9, 1692, in Marlborough, MA (MVR, HTM, HEB); d. before 1778, in Brookfield, MA (GOSM); married Samuel Gilbert (HEB) Mar. 24, 1710 in Brookfield, MA (GOSM).  
Thankful; b. May 1, 1695, in Marlborough, MA (HTM, MVR, HEB); d. March 20, 1744/45, in Ware River, MA; married Jabez OLMSTED, 1712 (GOFA, HEB).  
Noah; b. 1697, in Brookfield, MA (HEB); d. September 3, 1783, in Brookfield, MA (HEB); married Joanna GETCHELL, May 5, 1723 (GOSM).  
Comfort; b. 1706, in Brookfield, MA (HEB); d. Jan. 17, 1746/7 (GOSM), d. Jan. 1, 1747/48, in Brookfield, MA (HEB); married Sarah ABBOTT, September 6, 1728, in Andover, MA (HEB).

## Children of Thankful BARNES and Jabez OLMSTED/OMSTED

Thankful; b. February 15, 1712/13, in Brookfield, MA (BVR, WVR); d. October 6, 1743; married Timothy BROWN (GOFA).  
Jeremiah; b. January 6, 1714/15, in Brookfield, MA (BVR, WVR); married December 11, 1734, Elizabeth LITTEN (BVR, WVR).  
Israel; b. March 25, 1715/16, in Brookfield, MA, March 24, 1715/16 (BVR, WVR); d. 1806, in Lymon (Monroe), NH (GOFA); m. (1) Sarah BANISTER, May 12, 1737 (BVR, WVR); (2) Anna SAFFORD, November 25, 1756 (HVR).  
Hannah; b. April 22, 1718, in Brookfield, MA (BVR, WVR); d. October 20, 1793, in Ware River, MA; married Judah MARSH, November 4, 1736, in Brookfield, MA (BVR, WVR).  
Martha; b. September 16, 1721, in Brookfield, MA (GOFA), September 16, 1721[?] (BVR) WVR); d. January 3, 1743/4, in Swanzey, NH (GOFA); married Thomas HAMMOND, August 21, 1744, August 21, 1741? (BVR), August 21, 1741 (GOFA, WVR).  
Darcus (Dorcas); b. April 15, 1724, in Brookfield, MA (BVR, WVR); married Benoni WOLCOT, October 13, 1741[?] (BVR), October 13, 1741 (WVR).  
Sarah; b. May 24, 1726, in Brookfield, MA (BVR, WVR); married Ephram MARSH, October 8, 1741 (BVR, WVR).  
Silance; b. November 30, 1728, in Brookfield, MA (BVR, WVR); married Ephram BROWN  
Abigail, b. March 24, 1732/33, in Ware River, MA, March 24, 1731 (BVR, WVR); married Benoni SMITH, before 1752 (WILL).  
Prudence; b. October 28, 1733 (BVR, WVR), in Ware River, MA.  
Moses; b. January 29, 1735/36 (BVR), in Ware River, MA (WVR); married Abigail ELWELL, June 4, 1759 (WVR).

REFERENCES (All personally verified).

# Doreen Dolleman's Research

Here I am on the first day of 1999 starting to gather some thoughts and information to pass along to you. I am hopeful that this new year will be every bit as exciting and productive for genealogical research as 1998. I told several of you fellow correspondents that I think I accumulated more new OLMSTEAD information in '98 than all my previous 27 years combined. Not only that, but it was almost too easy! In the past it required a lot of hard work and persistence just to find one new record or fact. Now the information seems to be pouring in faster than I can even keep it organized, sometimes overwhelming me! I think the reason for this must have something to do with records being made more accessible to the public and also because of computers. I don't even have one (as some of you have voiced your complaints) and yet people seem to keep finding me anyway through Internet contacts and e-mail. It has been great fun and I really appreciate all of you who keep sending me your family data.

In this article I am going to fill you in on the discoveries made on our various trips to Washington County, N.Y. First though I need to have you make some corrections in my October column. There were a number of editing errors, including the omission of my closing paragraph. Several mistakes involved incorrect names that need to be changed to avoid confusion. Paragraph #2 mentions Col. Joseph VASE that should be VOSE, and all Alfred (Mass.) should be ALFORD. In paragraph #5 the first sentence should read, "JOSIAH BROWN (not Joshua) who was a nearby neighbor of JABEZ SR. (9088) (not Jr.)".

Our first trip to Washington County, N.Y. was frustrating and somewhat of a disappointment. There didn't appear to be much new to learn about our OLMSTEADs. Except for a few early federal and state census records and a small number of land records (Jedediah and sons and Aaron), one could very easily have missed most of our large family of OLMSTEADs who settled there around 1785. Much of the credit for confirming the actual location of the Jabez OLMSTEAD (9088) family goes to the local historian, Harold CRAIG, who shared with many of us his hand drawn copy of an old 1794 map of the William COOPER Patent in Hebron. To this day it hangs on a wall in the original Caleb GREEN home in Hebron along with a 1794 land indenture that was witnessed and signed by Jabez OLMSTEAD. This home is still owned by descendants of the GREEN family. Neither of the documents is recorded in the land record office in Fort Edward. Mr. CRAIG is one amazing fellow! He is the Hebron Twp. Justice of the Peace, cemetery caretaker, gravedigger, farmer, real estate agent, and more. Although his wife is the official town historian it is Harold who has the passion for it and he is a gold mine of information. On one of our subsequent trips he took us on an unforgettable escapade that my husband still exclaims over to this day! He wanted to show us several unmarked tombstones on what had been the original Jabez OLMSTEAD property according to the COOPER Patent (See page 9). We drove partway up the mountainside and then proceeded to walk (crawl would be a more accurate description) the rest of the way uphill. We were on our hands and knees under barbed wire fencing, tromped through the woods, brambles, and wild grapevines until we reached our destination. The stones were so ancient, broken, worn, and hidden in the undergrowth that we had no clue as to how he had ever discovered them in the

first place! At least two were children's graves marked with both a head and foot stone, and at least three were adult's. So far we have not yet found any evidence of OLMSTEAD graves in the numerous Hebron or Granville public cemeteries. On a more recent trip we visited the Washington County map maker in Fort Edward. He gave us a drawn to scale map of the 1789 David BORRY Patent in Granville Twp. that shows the location of Aaron OLMSTEAD Sr.'s (son of Jabez and Miriam) property (See page 9). It is adjacent to the OLMSTEAD land in Hebron Twp. Because of the COOPER and BORRY Patents we now know the exact locations of our various OLMSTEADs, including married daughters. Aaron's property, which we found directly behind Mt. Tom, is across the present day road from an old church foundation and small Taylor Hill Cemetery. I found this especially interesting as a Lorenzo B. OLMSTEAD married a Lucy TAYLOR (daughter of Joseph and Lydia) of Hartford in 1828. The Hartford Twp. line adjoins the COOPER and BORRY Patents on the western side. Our most productive trip to the area was just after the arrival of computers in the county archives. Information that in the past had been unavailable was now brought to life simply by entering the OLMSTEAD surname into the computer. Magically six entries appeared on the screen, all of which were court records. The archivist brought us the six original documents. They were so fragile, rolled and ribbon tied, dating from 1789 to 1826. We were allowed to unroll and read each one and then have photo copies made. I was ecstatic and Bill was highly amused with what we had learned from these wonderful court records. I had always wondered why so many of our OLMSTEADs had left Washington County, relocating in Ontario when they were neither U.E.L. nor had they obtained free land from the Canadian government. In fact according to the William LOWING Petition filed in 1792 in neighboring Pawlet, Vermont our OLMSTEADs had applied for free land in Canada and were denied. Well, the unearthing of these court records told a very revealing story about the character of these ancestors, and answered many questions. As you may recall from my previous article we found court records in Berkshire County, Mass. as well, indicating some trouble with our OLMSTEADs and their finances (or lack of). It appears that the problems continued in Washington County. Aaron was in considerable hot water between armed burglary and defamation of character. In fact he was described as a person of "ill name and fame". His brother Gideon also was caught in thievery in 1798 and brother Richard in 1796 at armed bank fraud. Jeremiah was in trouble in 1826 for blasphemy and disrespect of the Sabbath. Aaron Jr. in 1817 - 1819 had serious financial debt which led to bankruptcy. The CASE "boys" who seemed to run in the same mischievous circle were also in several of the same court records. Abigail OLMSTEAD, probable daughter of Jabez and Miriam, was married to Aaron CASE (COOPER Patent). The CASE family was also connected to our OLMSTEADs in Berkshire County. What proved to be most revealing was the date of Richard's jury trial in 1796 and Gideon's in 1798, both coinciding exactly with their arrival dates in Burritt's Rapids, Ontario. One would have to assume that they either ran from their troubles or were "run out of town". These kinds of discoveries are what make our research so much fun and so very interesting!

If any of you are planning a trip to Washington County new information is being processed into the computer each year. There is also a new county historian and his office is open every Wednesday. There are a number of ongoing and new projects that might prove helpful to us such as the completion of the old newspapers on microfilm.

Before closing I must mention the 1792 LOWING Petition again. It was not my find. In fact I don't really know who did discover it, but we OLMSTEAD researchers have shared it with each other for years. For those of you who are new and have never seen or heard of the petition it is

*(Continued on page 10)*

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BVR	Brookfield Vital Records
GOFA	"Genealogy of the Olmsted Family in America", by H. K. Olmsted and G. K. Ward, A. T. De La Mare Printing and Publishing Co., LTD, New York, 1912.
GOSM	"Gooddenows Who Originated in Sudbury, Massachusetts, 1638 AD", by Thomas Banvard, Goodenow Family Association, Gateway Press, Baltimore, 1994. Banvard has more genealogical information on the BARNES family that I did not cite.
HVR	Harwick Vital Records
HTM	"History of the Town of Marlborough, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, from 1657 to 1861", by Charles Hudson, T. R. Morris & Sons, Boston, 1862. Hudson has more genealogical information on the BARNES family that I did not cite.
MVR	Maryborough Vital Records.
HEB	"History of East Brookfield, Massachusetts, 1686-1970", by Louis E. Roy, The Heffernan Press, Inc., Worcester, MA 1970. Roy has more genealogical information on the BARNES family that I did not cite.
SVR	Sudbury Vital Records.
WILL	Will of Capt. Jabez Olmsted, 1752.
WVR	Ware Vital Records, in Corbin Collection.

## *GIDEON OLMSTEAD ARRIVAL IN ONTARIO, CANADA*

*Marion OLMSTED, one of our subscribers, sent me a lot of material from her research. In one of them, it talks about the arrival of two Gideon OLMSTEADs in Canada. The source is a recent journal article, so I can not copy it, but only present the information. The source is "The Townsend Settlement Story", Long Point Settlers Journal, Vol. 2, # 1, January 1995, Robert Mutrie, Ed. We will continue with her information in the next issue.*

Gideon OLMSTEAD and his wife, Elizabeth COOLEY, arrived in Townsend, Upper Canada, with their family in 1793. Elizabeth was born in Greenwich, Massachusetts, November 3, 1761, the daughter of Gideon COOLEY. The COOLEY family removed to Pittsford, Vermont, where Elizabeth grew up. She there married Gideon OLMSTEAD/UMPSTEAD.

Elizabeth filled an Upper Canada Loan Petition on May 30, 1797, stating in part:

"came to the province in 1793, then the wife of Gideon UMSTEAD after agreeing with Andrew PIERCE to take land in his township...settled in the township under Mr. PIERCE... having now lived in the township 4 years and expending a large sum of money by improving on a certain lot, her husband departed this life, not having secured his lot of land...widow with a large family of children..."

Elizabeth, who was then married to Joshua FAIRCHILD, received her patent on lot 7, west of the Peter FAIRCHILD family location.

The other Gideon OLMSTEAD arrived in Upper Canada in 1792, also having removed from Vermont. He was 24 years of age. In 1793 Lieutenant Governor SIMON promised him 400 acres of land, twice the size of the usual entitlement. Richard BEASLEY, J.P., in an attachment to Gideon's Upper Canada Loan Petition, certified that "Gideon UMSTEAD is an actual settler in PEARCE's Township of Townsend since 1794". This grant was for lots 13 and 14 in the third concession. A part of this grant later was incorporated into the village of Boston.



SUBDIVISION OF A PATENT GRANTED TO  
DAVID BORRY, 1789

SOURCE OF INFORMATION  
OBTAINED FROM MORTGAGE BOOK A

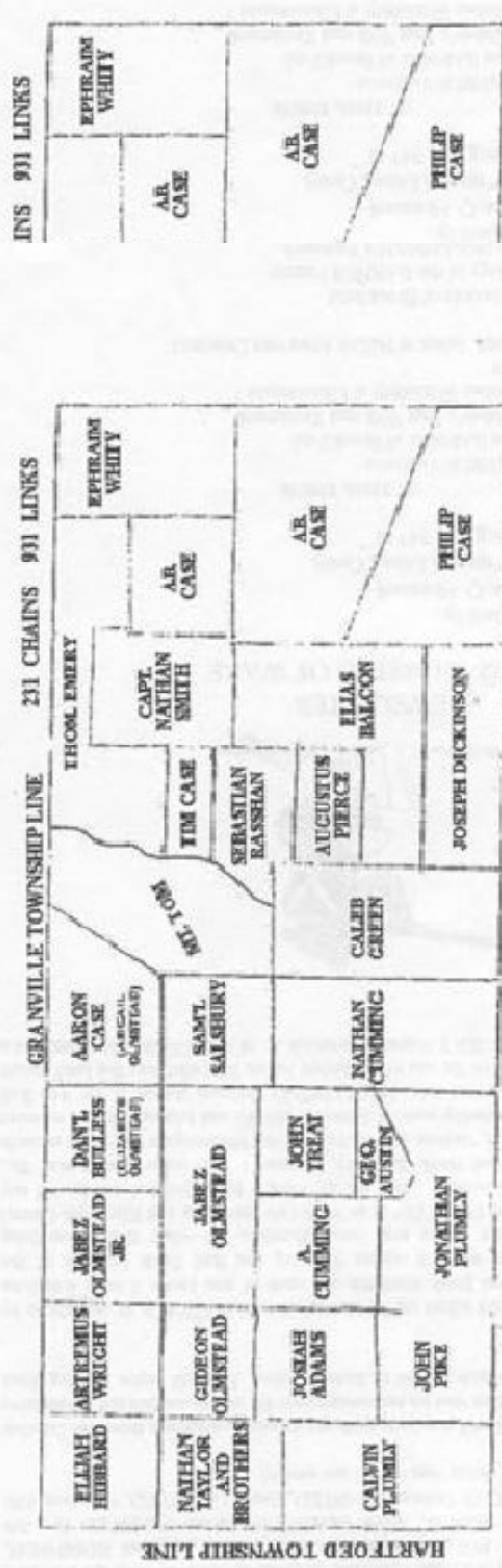
THIS IS NOT A SURVEY

SITUATE IN

TOWN OF GRANVILLE, WASHINGTON CO., NY

SCALE 1" = 40 CHAINS

1 CHAIN = 66 FEET  
1800 = 165 FEET



WILLIAM COOPER PATENT  
NORTH HEBRON VILLAGE  
P. BISHOP, SURVEYOR

2140 ACRES

SEPTEMBER 1794

NOT TO SCALE

*(Continued from page 7)*

a terrific record of our OLMSTEAD family. Among the long list of applicants is a block of OLMSTEAD and relations, in order as follows: William BULLIS, Bridget BULLIS, Jeremiah OLMSTED Jr., Nathan ROBINSON, Daniel BULLIS, Jabez OLMSTED, Jabez OLMSTED Jr., Job OLMSTED, Gideon OLMSTED, Zenes OLMSTED, Abraham ANDRES (notice that not all are adults).

I will conclude with my missing paragraph from the October article that was an encouragement for you to contact me if you have any thoughts, ideas or facts to share. I would enjoy hearing from you!

P.S. Carl asked me to identify the OLMSTEADs in my article by their Red Book numbers. As most of you know, I have a serious problem when it comes to using the Red Book because of the numerous errors and inconsistencies. So other than identifying

Jedediah OLMSTEAD as 9090 (s/o Jeremiah and Elizabeth Litten) and his brother Jabez Sr. as 9088, I have decided not to use any other Red Book numbers. Instead I will state that Aaron Sr., Jeremiah, Gideon and Richard of the Washington Co. court records were probably sons of Jabez Jr. (9088) and Miriam Husse, as were Jabez Jr. and Job of the LOWING Petition. Aaron Jr. (p. 416 Red Book) was the son of the above Aaron Sr. (who was the land owner in the BORRY Patent). Jeremiah Jr. of the LOWING Petition was a probable son of Jeremiah and Elizabeth Litten. Please keep in mind that Jabez Sr. (9088) was listed with a wrong death date, wrong wife (should be Miriam Husse) and military records that are most likely not his. In fact, the only information that is correct is his birth date.



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