Samuel Weeks (1670-1746): A biographical & genealogical sketch

This sketch is based on the findings of Janet Ireland Delorey in her articles published in the New Hampshire Genealogical Record (“New Thoughts on the Family of Leonard Weeks,” (with Melinde Lutz Sanborn, FASG) Vol. 19, No. 2&3, April & August 2002; and “Which Mary is the Wife of Leonard Weeks of Greenland, N.H.?,” Vol. 15, No. 4, October 1998), and on the research of Dr. Neill DePaoli in Three-and-One-Half Centuries in Greenland: The Weeks Brick House Farm in Greenland, N.H.

Samuel Weeks – of the 1710 Weeks Brick House. Samuel Weeks (1670-1746), the second son of Leonard Weeks, inherited the family farmstead in 1707, and it is believed that the 36’x22’ brick house was built about 1710.

In 1695 Samuel Weeks married Eleanor Haines (1675-1736), a daughter of Samuel Haines, Jr., with whom he had eight children born in Greenland, N.H. (Several were baptised at the same time in 1712): Samuel (abt. 1701-1763), Walter (abt. 1703-1774), John (abt. 1705-aft. 1746), Matthias (abt. 1707-bef. 1777), Joseph (abt. 1709-?), Mary (abt. 1711-1762), Eleanor (abt. 1714-aft. 1748), and William (abt. 1717-bef. 1745). (See the family group sheet at right for more thorough information.)

Judging from the probate inventory of Samuel Weeks, he was the most successful of the Weeks farmstead owners. In addition to his thriving farm, in 1697 Portsmouth selectmen authorized Samuel Weeks to build a mill on the Winnicut River for cutting timber and grinding grain. The most visible indicator of his economic status was the distinctive brick house (pictured at right) built about 1710. Records indicate that Samuel Weeks owned oxen, cattle, horses, and pigs; grew corn and wheat; harvested salt marsh hay; kept bees for honey; and expanded his land-holdings.

Samuel Weeks was captain of the Greenland militia in 1712-13. He was a Portsmouth selectman in 1705, and from 1709-14. At various times between 1696 and 1719 he served as assessor, constable, surveyor of highways, tithingman, and fence viewer. In 1706 he was one of the 29 founding members of Greenland’s Congregational Church.

Samuel willed his 80-acre farmstead to his son, Walter Weeks. Samuel also owned a second farm closer to Great Bay that he willed to another son, Matthias. Samuel Weeks died in 1746.

In Leonard Weeks of Greenland, N.H. and Descendants 1639-1888, Rev. Jacob Chapman described Samuel Weeks: “... A farmer residing on his homestead. He was a man of intelligence, wealth, energy, and influence, in the church and in the town. He is said to have built, about 1710, the brick house which gave name to his branch of the family called ‘The Brick House Family’ as distinguished from the ‘Bay Side Family,’ which descended from his brother Joshua.”

Family Group – Samuel Weeks


Samuel married at Greenland, N.H. (date Eleanor Haines. She was born at Greenland, N.H. 23 August 1675, daughter of Samuel Haines, Jr. and Mary (Pifield) Haines. She died at Greenland, N.H. 1736.

The children of Samuel and Eleanor (Haines) Weeks:

i. SAMUEL WEEKS, b. Greenland, N.H. about 1701

ii. WALTER WEEKS, b. Greenland, N.H. about 1703, 
bapt. 1712, d. Greenland, N.H. betw. 1773-1774, 
m. Greenland 14 Dec. 1725 COMFORT WEEKS (d. betw. 1781-1866). (9 children)

iii. JOHN WEEKS, b. Greenland, N.H. about 1705, bapt. 
1712, d. after 1746; m1. Greenland, N.H. HANNAH 
(no children); m2. 21 Dec. 1727 ABIGAIL FOSS 
(7-?). (8 children)

iv. MATTHIAS WEEKS, b. Greenland, N.H. about 1707, 
bapt. 1712, d. Gilmanston, N.H. bef. 1777; m. 
Greenland 17 Dec. 1735 SARAH (SANBORN) FORD 
(1714-1799). (10 children)

v. JOSEPH WEEKS, b. Greenland, N.H. about 1709, 
bapt. 1712; no further record.

vi. MARY WEEKS, b. Greenland, N.H. about 1711, 
bapt. 1712, d. Greenland, N.H. 1762; m. by 1745 PAUL 
CHAPMAN (d. 1754). (4 children)

vii. ELEANOR WEEKS, bapt. Greenland, N.H. 1714, 
d. after 1748; unmarried.

viii. WILLIAM WEEKS, bapt. Greenland, N.H. 1717, 
d. bef. 1745.