

# THE BUNKER FAMILY

The first information I found on the family indicated the name was originally is an anglicized spelling of the original French name Bon Coeur which means *of good or great heart*. The earliest name I had was for one Guillaume Bon Coeur was born in Nancy, France about 1570. And, his son, also Guillaume Bon Coeur, was a French Huguenot who fled the religious persecution in France and moved to England.

Then based on later research, taken from A Bunker Family Association homepage: (<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~parisho/b/bunker.html>) indicates the Family was spelled Bunker and in England since the 1400s.

I am going to go with this lineage.

The Bunker family married into the Macy, Coffin and finally Barnard family once in America, and Matilda Barnard married Henry Canaday and thus this family chain became a part of our lineage.

I will begin this family's history with Roger Bunker and carry it through the generation of Bunkers that married into our Barnard family.

## **ROGER BUNKER**

He was born around 1470 in Tingrith, Bedfordshire County, England. His wife was named Agnes. He died in Tingrith December 15, 1515. They had at least one son, William, and possibly a George Bunker as well.

## **WILLIAM BUNKER**

He was born in Tingrith in 1497, and died there October 13, 1558. His wife was named Ann. They had seven children, as listed in the Will dated September 30, 1558. The next in our line was Oliver Bunker.

## **OLIVER BUNKER**

Oliver was born in Tingrith in 1535 and died there August 25, 1616. His wife was named Joan. He wrote his will there November 15, 1611 and it was proved October 9, 1616. Joan may have been a Bunker herself. She was born in 1540, and died May 26, 1625. They had nine children. Timothy Bunker was our line.

## **TIMOTHY BUNKER**

He was born in Tingrith, Bedfordshire January 22, 1578. He married first to Joan Massadar on October 16, 1608. After her death, he married Elizabeth Hawkins in Tingrith May 3, 1620.

Elizabeth died in Tingrith on September 29, 1652. Timothy died there on April 11, 1657. They had nine children. Our line comes down from George Bunker. He was a child of Timothy and his second wife Elizabeth.

## **GEORGE BUNKER**

George was born in 1620. He married Jane Godfrey. They were married on May 5, 1644 in Maulden, Bedfordshire, England.

Jane Godfrey was born in England in the mid 1620s. She was a daughter of Richard Godfrey and Jane Turner of Bedfordshire. George Bunker and his family sailed to America sometime in the early 1650s. He settled in Ipswich, Massachusetts and then moved to Topsfield, Massachusetts where he died May 16, 1658.

Jane remarried later that year on September 15, 1658 to Richard Swain of nearby Rowley, Massachusetts. Richard Swain was born about 1601 in England and came to America with his wife Elizabeth and their family. Elizabeth had died in the mid 1650s as well. Shortly afterwards, the entire family moved to Nantucket. Richard and Jane Swain had two more children, John and Richard.

Jane (Godfrey) Bunker Swain died on October 31, 1662, and this was the first recorded death on Nantucket Island. Richard Swain died there on April 14, 1682.

The children of George Bunker and Jane Godfrey were:

### **Elizabeth Bunker**

Elizabeth was born in 1646 in Bedfordshire. She married Thomas Look on Nantucket. Thomas was from England and was a partner of Richard Swain. The looks had mostly daughters. One daughter, Experience Look, married Stephen Coffin Junior. Thomas and Elizabeth moved to Martha's Vineyard.

### **William Bunker**

William was born in 1648. He married Mary Macy in 1669. This is our line and his life is covered in the next section.

### **Mary Bunker**

Mary was born on May 5, 1652 in Topsfield, Massachusetts. She married Stephen Coffin on October 8, 1668. These two folks are also in our direct line and their lives were told in the COFFIN FAMILY HISTORY earlier in this history.

### **Ann Bunker**

Ann was born in 1654. She married Joseph Coleman of Nantucket. He was a son of Thomas and Susanna Coleman. Joseph was the eldest son and was born December 2, 1642.

They only had two children. One was a son born November 17, 1673 who drowned as a youth. The daughter, Ann Coleman, was born November 10, 1675 and she married Edward Allen.

## **Martha Bunker**

Martha was born in November of 1656. She married Stephen Hussey on October 8, 1676. Stephen was a son of Christopher Hussey and Theodate Bachelor. Once again these folks are also in our direct line through their daughter Puella Hussey. More on them will be found in the upcoming HUSSEY FAMILY HISTORY.

## **WILLIAM BUNKER**

William Bunker was born June 17, 1648 in Tingrith, Bedfordshire, England. He came to America with his family and, after his father's death, moved with his mother and stepfather, Richard Swain, to Nantucket.

As he was still a minor, his home lot was included in that of Richard Swain. Once he was old enough in 1669, he obtained his own lot at the east end of the Island. On April 11, 1669 he married Mary Macy and they soon moved to their own land and built a new home.

Mary Macy was born in Salisbury, Massachusetts on December 4, 1648. She was a daughter of Thomas Macy and Sarah Hopcott. More on the Macy bunch is in the upcoming MACY FAMILY HISTORY.

His new land on the east end was some ten acres north of North Bottom Pond. Later part of this land was taken for a Towne House, church and jail. His heirs were given other lands by the town in exchange for this taking. In 1686, William Bunker was appointed keeper of the jail.

Sometime in the 1670s, sailors from a French ship broke into his house that was quite isolated at that time. They took food and goods and forced him to go on board ship with them to help them sail through Vineyard Sound. He was released a day later and returned home.

According to the records I have, William Bunker died on, June 6, 1712. I think Mary lived longer, to perhaps 1729.

They had seven children all born on Nantucket.

## **George Bunker**

George Bunker was born April 22, 1671. He married Deborah Coffin on October 10, 1695. Deborah was a daughter of James Coffin and Mary Severance. Deborah's sister, Abigail Coffin, is in our direct line as were her parents. George died in 1743. He and Deborah had three children.

**DANIEL BUNKER** was born August 16, 1696. On November 14, 1717, he married Priscilla Swain. Priscilla was a daughter of John Swain and Experience Folger. Their children were **Ruth, Joseph, Deborah, Silvanus** and **Tristram**.

**JOHN BUNKER** was born December 27, 1697. On February 13, 1725/26, he married Mary Coffin. Mary was a daughter of James Coffin and Love Gardner. I have no information on children.

**CALEB BUNKER** was born November 2, 1669. He married Priscilla Coffin on October 3, 1725. He died and his will was probated July 4, 1777. It mentions his wife Priscilla and these children: **Anna (Brock), William** and **Caleb, junior**.

## **John Bunker**

John was born July 23, 1673. He married Mary Coffin on February 13, 1725/6. Mary was a daughter of James Coffin and Ruth Gardner, his second wife. Mary was born July 29, 1710 and she died July 19, 1785. John died in December 1760.

They had seven children.

**CHRISTOPHER BUNKER** married Abigail Worth on January 3, 1765. She was a daughter of John and Mary Worth.

**JOSHUA BUNKER** married Margaret Brock on January 17, 1750.

**JOHN BUNKER.**

**GEORGE BUNKER** married his cousin, Phebe Barnard, on January 4, 1763.

**ELISHA BUNKER** married Margaret Gardner on December 20, 1770.

**ABIGAIL BUNKER** married George Coffin on February 19, 1750. He was a son of Nathan and Lydia Coffin.

**MARY BUNKER** married Thomas Carr on January 7, 1750 (?).

## **Jonathan Bunker**

Jonathan was born February 25, 1675. He married Elizabeth Coffin. Elizabeth was a daughter of James Coffin and Mary Severance (the parents are our direct line, Elizabeth was not). His will was written August 16, 1719 and was probated on September 13, 1721. His wife survived him.

They had nine children.

**ZACCHARIAH BUNKER** married Desire Gorham on September 2, 1728. She was a daughter of John Gorham and Desire Howland. Their children were: **Jonathan, Shubael, James, Simeon, Elizabeth, Desire, Zachariah, Francis** and **Andrew**.

**SIMEON BUNKER** was married January 2, 1734/35 to Huldah Hussey, a daughter of Bachelor Hussey and Abigail Halle. Simeon died at sea in 1751, and Huldah later married Benjamin Barney. Huldah died April 3, 1798. Simeon and Huldah's children were: **Bachelor** and **Simeon**.

**GEORGE BUNKER** married Abigail Worth on June 1, 1738. She was a daughter of Joseph and Lydia Worth. They had one daughter, **Lydia**.

**JAMES BUNKER** was married on May 30, 1737 to Bethiah Jenkins, daughter of Matthew and Mary Jenkins. Their children were: **Matthew, Ruth, Nathaniel, William** and **Elisha**.

**LYDIA BUNKER** was married on March 5, 1717 to Nathan Coffin, son of James Coffin and Ruth Gardner, his second wife. Nathan was born November 13, 1696 and died December 4, 1768. Lydia died December 4, 1785. Their children were: **Jemima, Elizabeth, Elisha, George, Simeon, Jonathan, Nathan, Deborah, Lydia** and **Charles**.

**RUTH BUNKER** married Richard Coffin on November 20, 1718. He was a son of John Coffin and Hope Gardner. Richard was born August 12, 1696 and died on March 4, 1768, Ruth died on January 14, 1779. Their children were: **Judith, Christopher, Phebe, Daniel, Barnabas, Abigail, Richard, Ruth, Lydia, Margaret, Francis** and **Silvanus**.

**PATIENCE BUNKER** married Jonathan Gardner on October 14, 1723. He was a son of James Gardner and Mary Starbuck. Jonathan was born September 12, 1696 and died July 3, 1777. Patience died January 11, 1794. Their children were: **Elizabeth, Seth, Simeon, Elihu, Kezia, Ruth, Eunice, Barnabas, Miriam, Dinah** and **Mary**.

**ABIGAIL BUNKER** married Shubael Pinkham on November 9, 1712.

**JUDITH BUNKER** married Alexander Coffin on January 12, 1737/38. He was a son of Ebenezer Coffin and Eleanor Barnard. Alexander was born February 20, 1713 and died at sea in the West Indies in April of 1741. They had a son, **Ebenezer**.

## **Peleg Bunker**

Peleg is our direct line. His daughter, Mary Bunker, married Timothy Barnard and their granddaughter, Matilda Barnard, married Henry Canaday. He was born on Nantucket on December 1, 1676.

On January 9, 1700 he married Susanna Coffin on Nantucket. Susanna was a daughter of Stephen Coffin and Mary Bunker. She was born about 1680 on Nantucket Island. They remained on Nantucket where he died on June 1, 1730 and she on June 11, 1740.

Their five children, all born on Nantucket, were as follows.

**JUDITH BUNKER** was born on September 21, 1701. She married Bartlett Coffin on January 1, 1718/19. Bartlett was born about 1795. He was a son of Peter Coffin and his first wife Christian Conde. Their children were: **Peleg, Rebecca, Enoch, Christian, Judith, Bartlett** and **Uriah**.

**PRISCILLA BUNKER** was born December 8, 1703. She married Joshua Coffin on April 3, 1721. Joshua was a son of James Coffin and Ruth Gardner, his second wife. Joshua was born September 16, 1701 and died in 1722. Priscilla died October 8, 1795. They had one child, **Susanna**.

**DINAH BUNKER** was born January 25, 1705, and died on January 14, 1778. She married Elisha Coffin on April 3, 1721. Elisha was a son of James Coffin and Ruth Gardner and a brother to Joshua (above). Elisha was born August 10, 1699 and died in 1722, probably in the same shipwreck as his brother. They had one daughter, **Judith**.

**MARY BUNKER** was born in about 1707 and married Timothy Barnard. This is our direct connection. For the details on this family, see the preceding BARNARD FAMILY HISTORY that began this Nantucket Section.

**JONATHAN BUNKER** was born in about 1708. He married Judith Macy on January 6, 1742/43. Judith was a daughter of Richard Macy and Deborah Pinkham, his first wife. Judith was born December 14, 1721. They moved to North Carolina in 1780. Jonathan died October 20, 1778. Their children were: **Peleg, Susannah, Deborah, William, Hepzibah, Judith, Lydia** and **Jonathan**.

## **Jabez Bunker**

Jabez was born November 7, 1678. He married Hannah Gardner on November 19, 1706. Hannah was a daughter of Nathaniel Gardner and Abigail Coffin. She was born on July 6, 1686 and died March 25, 1773. Jabez died July 6, 1750.

They remained on Nantucket and had ten children.

**NAOMI BUNKER** was born February 4, 1709 and died May 31, 1792. She married Eliphalet Paddack, son of Joseph and Sarah Paddack, on November 9, 1726.

**SAMUEL BUNKER** was born November 5, 1711 and died September 3, 1786. He married Priscilla Coleman on February 7, 1731/32. Priscilla was a daughter of John and Priscilla Coleman. She died July 11, 1797. Their children were: **Phebe, Abishai, Mary, Abigail, Charles, Silas, Priscilla, Elihu, Elizabeth, Rachel** and **Barnabas**.

**PAUL BUNKER** was born October 16, 1713 and died August 20, 1795. On March 3, 1736/37 he married Hannah Gardner. Hannah was a daughter of Samuel Gardner and Patience Swain. She was born April 21, 1720 and died November 15, 1788. Their children were: **Hezekiah, Eunice, Seth, Phebe, Heppzibah** and **Dinah**.

**SILAS BUNKER** was a twin of Paul born October 16, 1713. He died a year later on February 18, 1714/15.

**LYDIA BUNKER** was born in 1717 and died eighteen months later.

**ABNER BUNKER** was born April 30, 1719 and died November 17, 1780.

**BENJAMIN BUNKER** was born June 14, 1721. On February 9, 1743/44, he married Abigail (Worth) Bunker, the widow of his cousin George. Abigail was a daughter of Joseph and Lydia Worth. He left Nantucket for North Carolina in 1788. Their children were: **Anna, Barzillai, Timothy** and **Elijah**.

**HANNAH BUNKER** was born March 1, 1722/23 and died September 25, 1806. She married Benjamin Coffin on April 3, 1766. Benjamin was a son of James Coffin and Ruth Gardner. Benjamin had previously married Rebecca Coffin. Their children were: **Elisha, Rebekah, Benjamin, Lurana, Susana** and **Seth**.

**PETER BUNKER** was born March 8, 1724/25 and was lost at sea in 1755. He married Judith Gardner on March 9, 1748/49. Judith was a daughter of Jethro Gardner and Kezia Folger. She was born February 9, 1726/27 and died August 30, 1758. Their children were: **Kezia** and **Peter**.

**PELEG BUNKER** was born June 19, 1727. He married Lydia Worth, daughter of Joseph and Lydia Worth, on February 8, 1749. She died July 17, 1776 and he left Nantucket for North Carolina in 1786. Their children were: **Miriam, Latham, Abial, Anna, Paul, Rufus, Way, Prince** and **Lydia**.

This brings us up to the generation that married into our Barnard lineage