

THE CLARK FAMILY

The family of Richard Clark came from England to Massachusetts and then went to New Haven and to Southold, Long Island. From there they went to Elizabethtown, New Jersey and it was there that his daughter, Elizabeth Clark married John Marsh in 1683. Three generations of Marshes later, Phoebe Marsh married Reding Putman in Illinois in 1829. These families are all important to my Putman Family and its history.

Also three generations later from Richard Clark, we find his great grandson, Abraham Clark, who was one of the signers of the United States Constitution in September of 1787.

The earliest member of the Clark family that I know about is Richard Clark. The name was more than likely originally spelled Clarke as that was the common early spelling. The letter `e' ended a great deal of early English names such as in one of my other lines, Kinge.

RICHARD CLARK

In a 1942 book, CLARK OF ELIZABETHTOWN IN NEW JERSEY by Elmer Sayer Clark, there is a lineage listed as follows:

1. Thomas Clarke of Holton, Suffolk, married 1617 Elizabeth Goslinge of Brome, a widow.
2. Richard Clarke of Bradwell, Suffolk, married 1639 Ann Winston of Belton, Suffolk.
3. Richard Clarke (1640-1697) removed to Salem, Massachusetts 1655, to Southampton to Southold 1661 to Elizabeth, New Jersey 1678, married Elizabeth 1660/1 probably daughter of Thomas Moore of Salem and Southwold, Suffolk.

There was no proof given and other researchers can not find any record or proof of this chain, so I will only begin with the Richard Clarke who came to America.

Richard Clark seems to have come from Suffolk in the general vicinity of London, but no one has turned up any records of his birth. It is estimated that he was born about 1632-1635. If the above genealogy is correct, then he must have been born after 1640 as the earlier Richard was not married until 1639.

Richard Clark came to Salem, Massachusetts sometime in the mid to late 1640s. He must have come with his parents and then shortly after arriving he moved to eastern Long Island.

Richard Clark seems to have come from Salem, Massachusetts with the group led by the Reverend John Youngs in 1649. Even with the earliest birthday he would have only been about 17 so he must have come with his parents. As one of the original landholders was a Richard Clark, it must have been his father, with the same name. In this case, perhaps the aforementioned Richard who married Ann Winston, may well have been his father.

At any rate, the earliest settlers in Southold, Long Island included a great number of my ancestors; the Clarks, Betts, Moores, Youngs and Scudders. They were all Puritans establishing

new homes in the Colonies. A great many of these people, including their leader Reverend Youngs came from Southwold in England and named their new town in its honor.

Richard married Elizabeth Moore, daughter of Thomas Moore and Martha Youngs, sister of the Reverend John Youngs, and daughter of the Reverend Christopher Youngs and his wife Margaret of Southwold, England. There is a brief history of both the YOUNG FAMILY and the MOORE FAMILY following in this work.

Richard Clark and Elizabeth Moore were married in Southold in 1656. Richard worked as a ship's carpenter as did his son also named Richard. Thomas Moore was also a shipwright and perhaps they worked together, I do not know.

Richard Clark owned land near the present day town of Riverhead. He sold this land in 1683 to William Coleman and moved with others to Elizabethtown, New Jersey. He went to New Jersey about 1678 and sold the land in Long Island while living in New Jersey as stated in the deed to Coleman.

Richard Clark first obtained a warrant for 300 acres of land in Elizabeth- town on February 25, 1679/80 for *'himself, his wife, his sons Richard, John and his daughter, Elizabeth Clark.'* Richard Clark was admitted as an Associate of the town in 1695. His will is dated in New York on April 1, 1697 and he died there a few days later. I have a transcript of that will in my files. His estate was valued at approximately 160 pounds. The will was proved in New York on April 15, 1697. His wife Elizabeth died Intestate in Elizabethtown on February 16, 1725.

The following is what I know of the children of Richard Clark and Elizabeth Moore.

RICHARD CLARK was born about 1661 at Southold, Long Island. He was a shipwright. He died in Elizabethtown, New Jersey and his will was proved in Essex County on May 17, 1743. His children were: Hannah, Richard, Abigail, Elizabeth, Henry, John and Jonathan.

JOHN CLARK married a Martha. His will was proved in Elizabethtown, New Jersey on June 8, 1705.

ELIZABETH CLARK was born in 1665 in Southold. She married John Marsh in Elizabethtown in 1683. This is my lineage and her story is told in the MARSH FAMILY HISTORY preceding this section.

JOSHUA CLARK had a wife named Abigail. His will was proved in Elizabethtown on February 9, 1715. His children were: Joshua, John, Joseph, Benjamin and Abigail (Poule).

SAMUEL CLARK married Susannah. His will was proved April 11, 1716. Their children were: Samuel, Jonathan, John, Isaac, Susanna, Sarah and Elizabeth.

EPHRAIM CLARK was a planter in Elizabethtown and he died Intestate October 28, 1717. His wife, Hannah, was mentioned in a deed.

THOMAS CLARK was a planter in Elizabethtown and his wife was also named Hannah. The will of Thomas Clark yeoman was proved August 22, 1711. His children were: Thomas who was the father of the `signer' Abraham Clark, Abraham, James, Daniel and a daughter.

BENJAMIN CLARK of whom I know nothing.