

UPDATED APRIL 13, 2010

# THE PINE FAMILY

The Pine, or as originally spelled Pyne, Family was English. The first Pine of my line to come to America was James Pine who came to Connecticut in the mid 1640s. His daughter, Susan Pine married another of my ancestors, John Searing, in 1671 on Long Island and helped to establish my lineage. Their great granddaughter Nancy Searing later married John Marsh and their daughter, Phoebe Marsh, married Reding Putman of my family. This is all an important part of my Putman Family History.

I'll begin with the earliest English ancestor of the Pine Family of whom I have knowledge.

## WILLIAM PYNE

Literally all I know about William is he was born about 1580 and died about 1636 in Woodbury, Devonshire. His wife was named Mary. She was born about 1605 and died about 1640. They lived in Exeter, Devonshire in England. This area is on the coast of southwestern England.

They had at least one child, my ancestor James Pyne senior.

## JAMES PYNE SENIOR

James Pyne was born in Exeter, Devonshire, England in May or June of 1608. He was baptized there on June 4, 1608.

The bulk of the information that I have on the early Pine history comes from an article by John B. Pine in the January 1912 issue of the **NEW YORK GENEALOGICAL & BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD**. The following comes from that journal:

*It seems very probable that he was the James Pyne, son of William and Mary Pyne, who was baptized in Woodbury, near Exeter, Devonshire, England, on June 4, 1608, and who married Edith Williams in St. Mary Magdalen Taunton an adjoining town in Somersetshire in September of 1630.*

*This James Pyne continued to live in Woodbury until 1640, when his mother Mary died, appointing him as her executor. His father had died in 1636, leaving considerable property, consisting mostly of horses, cattle and sheep, from which it is to be inferred that he was a yeoman (a freeman and a landholder).*

*After 1640 the name disappears from the town records of Woodbury in England almost simultaneously with its appearance at Stamford, Connecticut in America.*

*The name of James Pyne or Pine as it is afterwards spelled, is found in the Town Records of Stamford, Connecticut, which was settled in the Summer of 1641 by a 'companie of Wethersfield men' under a grant from the New Haven Colony. He does not seem to have been of this company*

*but to have followed them very soon, as he received an allotment from the Town of the usual house lot and wood lot on December 7, 1641.*

This James Pine Senior seems to be the father of James who came to America. It is my feeling that the two James came to America together. If James junior was born about 1630, he would have been too young to come by himself at age ten. I think they both came and early American references were to the father and later ones to the son. This is, of course, simply a lot of guesswork and no facts at all. Pay heed.

When he came to Massachusetts Bay, or by what vessel is not known, tradition has seemed to indicate that he was from Devonshire.

There was a Thomas Pyne who was admitted as a Freeman in the Massachusetts Bay Colony in 1635. This Thomas fought in the Indian Wars, and probably in the Pequot War of 1637 in the Connecticut River Valley. There is, of course, a possibility that Thomas was the brother of our James as this was the area the early settlers of Stamford came from. I do not know, and I gather that no one is certain of the exact ancestry of James Pine.

At any rate, James Pine seems to have resided in Stamford through the mid to late 1640s, after which he moved to Hempstead on Long Island. Hempstead had been formed in 1643 by English settlers originally from Hemel Hempstead near London. My ancestor on another line, Captain John Betts, was among the founders of Hempstead.

These original settlers had first settled in Stamford, but felt that they were being given no voice in their own affairs. The main colony at New Haven had complete jurisdiction over Stamford. The New Haven Colony was also a very strict observer of the Puritan ways. Many people felt that their intolerance was as bad as that which sent them from England to America in the first place. These original settlers of Hempstead left Stamford under the leadership of the Rev. Richard Denton. They purchased land from the Indians and acquired a town charter on November 16, 1644 from the Dutch government who still controlled New Netherlands (New York) at that time.

James Pyne died June 13, 1685, and his wife Edith most likely also died in Hempstead.

## **JAMES PINE**

James the second was born in Exeter, Devonshire in about 1630 or 1631. He came to America with his parents and then went with them to Hempstead on Long Island.

In about 1650 he married Susan Armitage in Hempstead. Susan was born about 1630 in Bradford, Yorkshire. She was the daughter of Thomas Armitage and Susan Mitchell. The **ARMITAGE FAMILY HISTORY** follows this section.

On July 4, 1656, James Pine signed a petition to Governor Peter Stuyvesant complaining that since they were all required to pay tithes, then the Government should reimburse them for *'injuries received from the Indians.'* *This could have been either of the James Pines.*

In 1657, he received an allotment of some 31 acres of meadow lands. By 1685, he appears as a landholder with some 500 acres of land. He was the largest landholder on that list. On April 17, 1685, then Governor Dongan granted a new charter to the town of Hempstead and James Pine

was listed as one of the Patentees.

In 1686, James died and left his will, which is on record at the Queens County courthouse in New York. Based on the many bequests, it can be inferred that James Pine was a man of considerable wealth. His will mentions his children: the eldest, John, James, Nathaniel, Jonathan and Samuel; minor sons William and Benjamin; his daughters Lea, Agnes, Sarah and Susan and his granddaughter Mary (daughter of John). The will does not include mention of his wife, so I assume she had died before that time.

Many of the descendants of James Pine remained in the Hempstead area for the next century and a half. The following is what I know of the children of James Pine.

**JOHN PINE** was the eldest son, being born in about 1655. He established a grist mill in Hempstead in 1686. He was married twice, first to an Ogden woman in 1684 who died shortly afterwards and then to an Abigail in about 1687. He died quite young in 1703 leaving his wife Abigail and their sons Daniel and John and a daughter Mary.

**JAMES PINE** was born in about 1656 and was a considerable landholder in the area. He was listed in a church petition in 1734/5. At his death, he listed no children.

**JONATHAN PINE** was born about 1661 and died December 17, 1694 in Cape May, New Jersey. He married Abigail Carman. She was born about 1670 and died in Elizabeth, New Jersey May 19, 1732. He was one of the members of the Hempstead colony that went to settle in the Newark area of East Jersey in 1690. He went to Cape May about 1692. He left numerous descendents in that area.

**SAMUEL PINE** was born about 1667 and married Rachel Ellison. According to another genealogy, they had no children.

**WILLIAM PINE** was born about 1666 married Sarah Smith in about 1690 and had at least one son, James, who married Ann Bedell in St. George's Church, Hempstead, on November 23, 1753. William also had three daughters: Mary, Elizabeth who married Joseph Hall junior and Sarah who married Joshua Smith. William Pine died in 1737.

**NATHANIEL PINE** was born about 1659 and he died sometime after 1713.

**BENJAMIN PINE** left no records of descendents except it appears that either he or Nathaniel had a son, James, who married Mary Brush and moved to New Rochelle, New York. This James Pine left numerous descendents throughout what is now Westchester County New York.

**LEA PINE** married Robert Williams.

**AGNES & SARAH PINE** were other daughters. I know nothing about them.

**SUSAN PINE** was born in Hempstead in about 1653-4. On May 10, 1671 she married John Searing in Hempstead. She died there sometime after John, who died in Hempstead in 1713. Their lives are told in the **SEARING FAMILY HISTORY**. This is my line and part of my Putman Family history.