



# Gardner's Beacon

CAPE ANN AND SALEM PLANTER



Thomas Gardner Society

Founded 2010



Volume III -- Issue 4 -- Winter, 2013/14

Thomas Gardner and Margaret had nine children (the following list is attributed to Frank A. Gardner, MD – 1907): Thomas, George, Richard, John, Sarah, Samuel, Joseph, Miriam, Seeth. It is thought that the first three sons came with Thomas and Margaret to Cape Ann in 1623/24; the rest of the children were born in Salem, MA, except for John who was born at Cape Ann prior to the move. As such, John can be seen as having been the only child to be born in pre-Endicott, even pre-Conant, Massachusetts.

The Gardner family lived in Salem, MA while the children grew to adulthood. Eight of the children were married and had offspring. Joseph, and his wife, Ann Downing, did not have children. When Thomas died in 1674, eight of his children were alive. Daughter, Miriam Hill, died early leaving small children. Son, Joseph, was killed in action in 1675.

Some of Thomas' children moved from Salem. Richard and John took their families to Nantucket to escape persecution. George went to Hartford, Connecticut, due to persecution of the Quakers. However, George continued to own land in, and was a regular visitor to, Massachusetts.

### Quakers in Salem

After Margaret's death, Thomas married Damaris Shattuck who was an active supporter of Quaker beliefs. Too, some of Thomas's children were involved with Quaker activity. Turmoil related to the religion got its start in Salem about 1658. Briefly, Quaker teachings elicited a very violent reaction; horrid punishments, such as lashing, were ordered. Several Quakers were hanged, including Mary Dyer. Thomas' step-son and Damaris' son, Samuel Shattuck, was instrumental in obtaining a stay of the punishments, for a little while. He brought a writ from King Charles II that told the authorities in New England that the handling of Quakers was to be done in England. Local authorities, essentially, ignored the King's wishes in the matter and continued their suppressive mode.

### Continuation of the Annals

#### *Thomas' and Margaret's Times (Annals)*

**Before 1623/4** – Thomas, George and Richard Gardner were born, England.

**1623/4** – Thomas, George and Richard Gardner arrived with their parents at Cape Ann.

**1624 to 1636** – Births -- John, Cape Ann (1624); all of Salem: Sarah (1627), Samuel (1629), Joseph (1630), Miriam (1635), Seeth (1636).

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**1636** – Sons, Thomas and George, got land grant from Salem.

**1643/44** – Thomas, the son, married \_\_ Hapscott. George married Hannah \_\_.

**1650** – Sarah married Benjamin Balch. In England, George Fox was brought up on blasphemy charges.

**1652** – Richard married Sarah Shattuck, the daughter of his step-mother, Damaris.

**1653** – John married Priscilla Grafton.

**1654** – George married Elizabeth (Freestone) Turner.

**1656** – Seeth married Joshua Conant. Joseph married Ann Downing.

**1657** – Samuel married Mary White. Miriam married John Hill. George married Elizabeth (Allen) Stone who was the widow of Reverend Samuel Stone.

**1659** – Joshua Conant died. Seeth Gardner Conant married Joseph Grafton.

**1660** – Mary Dyer, supporter of Anne Hutchinson, hanged in Boston for her Quaker beliefs.

**1661** – Samuel Shattuck, step-son of Thomas, Senior, brought back writ from Charles II that told New England authorities to lay off the Quakers.

**1664** – Miriam (Gardner) Hill died, leaving a husband and small children.

**1667** – Damaris Shattuck Gardner, last wife of Thomas Senior, fined for absence from public worship. Richard and Sarah packed up their belongings and, with daughter, Sarah, and sailed for Nantucket.

**1672** – George Gardner removed from Salem to live in Hartford, CT. John Gardner got a land grant on Nantucket.

**1673** – Richard and John Gardner go to New York to see Governor Francis Lovelace on the behalf of Nantucket.

**1674** – Thomas Gardner, Senior, died.

**1675** – Joseph Gardner killed at Great Swamp fight, leaving widow, Ann (Downing) Gardner.

**1676** – Ann, Joseph's widow, married Governor Simon Bradstreet after he signed her pre-nuptial. John and Richard meet opposition on Nantucket; John writes the





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Governor in New York. George Gardner died, leaving widow Elizabeth (Allen) Stone Gardner. Samuel married Elizabeth () Paine.

**1682** – Thomas Gardner, Junior, died leaving widow, Elizabeth (Horne) Gardner.

**1686** – Sarah (Gardner) Balch died.

**1688** – Richard Gardner died, leaving widow Sarah (Shattuck) Gardner. John Gardner bought land on Martha's Vineyard.

**1695** – John Gardner reports to the Governor of Massachusetts that the French had landed on Nantucket and did some plundering.

**1706** – John Gardner died, on Nantucket, leaving widow Priscilla (Grafton) Gardner.

**1707** – Seeth Gardner Conant Grafton died.

**1713** – Ann Downing Gardner Bradstreet died at age of 79.

**1724** – Sarah Shattuck Gardner died; she was 92 years old.

**Samuel Shattuck:** (1620-1689) Born in England, Samuel was the son of Daniel and Damaris Shattuck. Damaris came over as a widow and became the 2<sup>nd</sup> wife of Thomas Gardner, Senior. Samuel was the brother of Sarah (Shattuck) Gardner who was the wife of Richard, Thomas Gardner's son. Like others in his family, Samuel was a Quaker; those of this faith were severely mistreated in Massachusetts. Since Samuel lived in Salem, he was subject to harassment, imprisonment, and was eventually banished back to England. While Samuel was in England, Edward Burrough succeeded in obtaining support for the Quakers from King Charles II. Though he was banned from Massachusetts, Samuel, in 1661, agreed to carry the King's writ back to Governor John Endicott who had earlier ordered Mary Dyer, and others, to be hanged due to their Quaker beliefs. In the writ, which Samuel delivered to Endicott, the King told officials in New England to "forbear" carrying out any punishment. Rather, New England was to ship back to England any Quaker for whom they wanted to press charges, along with whatever legal papers were required. That order did stop the outrageous behavior, for a while. But, at some point, persecutions continued albeit at a lower intensity. New England did not send back any Quakers. However, there was even peril in England. Edward Burrough was imprisoned in London. Despite Charles II ordering his release, the local authorities kept Edward jailed. Edward died behind bars at the young age of 29.

### First-born grandchildren of Thomas and Margaret:

- Mary Gardner, daughter of Thomas (1643)
- Hannah Gardner, daughter of George (1644)
- Samuel Balch, son of Sarah (1651)
- Joseph Gardner, son of Richard ()
- John Gardner, son of John (1653)
- Joshua Conant, son of Seeth (1657)
- Miriam Hill, daughter of Miriam (1658)
- Mary Grafton, daughter of Seeth (1660)
- Mary Gardner, daughter of Samuel (1662)
- ...

### Gardner's Beacon, Issues

Vol	No	Issue date	Title/topic
I	1	Spring, 2011	Thomas and Margaret Gardner
I	2	Summer, 2011	Gardner Patriots
I	3	Fall, 2011	Margaret's House
I	4	Halloween, 2011	Gardners & 1692
I	5	Winter, 2011	New England Christmas
II	1	February, 2012	St. Valentine's Day
II	2	Spring, 2012	Gardners and the sea
II	3	Summer, 2012	War of 1812
II	4	September, 2012	Houses
II	5	Halloween, 2012	1692, again
II	6	Winter, 2012	Celebrations, Annals
III	1	March, 2013	Before the Arrival
III	2	June, 2013	Spirit of independence
III	3	Fall, 2013	Dorchester Company
III	4	Winter, 2013/14	First generation

We are inviting contributions of articles in regard to the Thomas Gardner families.

Contact: [algswtlk@thomasgardnersociety.org](mailto:algswtlk@thomasgardnersociety.org)

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