

Individual Narrative of Hannah⁴ Leverich [11] Wife of James Way

Hannah Leverich was born between 1692 and 1702 at Newtown, Queens Co, New York. Hannah was the daughter of John and Hannah Leverich, and the granddaughter of Caleb and Martha Leverich. The birth date range was calculated based upon counting back the number of children from the death date of John Leverich, 1702-1705.¹ On 4 May 1705, Caleb Leverich granted land and meadow to his five grandchildren, the children of his deceased son John (John, William, Benjamin, *Hannah*, and Martha Leverich), naming their widowed mother Hannah Leverich as guardian and administrator of the property until each child came of age. One half of this bequest was for John Leverich, Jr., with the remaining one half divided equally among his four siblings.²

On 14 April 1716, James Way sold land at Newtown to Joseph Sackett Jr. The deed was witnessed by James' mother Elizabeth, widow of Francis Way, then married to her second husband Peter Buckhout.³ Hannah married James Way, son of Francis Way and Elizabeth (?Arbell?), in May 1716 at Newtown, Queens, New York, at the Newtown Presbyterian Church.⁴ On 10 April 1722 James Way (?weaver?) sold land at Newtown to his mother Elizabeth Buckhout.⁵ On 2 May 1728 James Way, yeoman, and his wife Hannah, sold land at Newtown to Joseph Sackett.⁶ On 3 November 1729 John Way sold land at Newtown to his brother James Way.⁷ Hannah died on 10 Nov 1729 at Newtown, Queens, New York, as recorded at the Newtown Presbyterian Church.⁸

James Way married for a second time, presumably at Newtown, Elizabeth (Unknown). Elizabeth Way, widow of James Way, died 4 September 1769 as recorded at the Newtown Presbyterian Church.^{9,10} At a Newtown Town Meeting on 4 April 1732, it was voted that James Way Jr shall be Constable and Collector this ensuing year. At the time, there were two adult age James Way's living at Newtown, but neither was a son of a James. There was James³ Way the son of Francis² Way, and the grandson of James¹, who married Hannah Leverich and died in 1767. There was also James³ Way the son of John² Way, and the grandson of James¹, who married Mary Alsop, and died in 1788. The latter James Way is named "James Way Jr" in the will of his father-in-law Thomas Alsop, dated 8 September 1743, proved 14 October 1743.^{11,12,13}

At a Newtown Town Meeting on 5 April 1737, it was voted that James Way Jr shall be Constable and Collector this ensuing year.¹⁴ At a Newtown Town meeting on 2 April 1745, it was voted that John Leverich, Francis Cornish, and James Way Jr shall be overseers of highways for the ensuing year.¹⁵ At a Newtown Town meeting on 3 April 1750, it was voted that James Way Jr, John McDonnough, and Benjamin Fish Jr shall be overseers of highways the ensuing year.¹⁶ At a Newtown Town meeting on 3 April 1753, it was voted that James Way (no Jr designation) shall be a fence viewer this ensuing year.¹⁷ James Way died at Newtown on 8 January 1767. According to James Riker in the Annals of Newtown, James had become blind at some time, unspecified, prior to his death.^{18,19}

James Way and Hannah Leverich had at least three children, identified by Riker as Elizabeth, Francis, and James born 1717, 1719, and 1721. Glenn C. Way in The Descendants of James Way of Newtown, NY identifies four additional children, i.e. Hannah, Delia and Ruth (twins), and John, likely born between 1723 and 1725. Glenn Way however does not cite any specific sources supporting the identification of these children.^{20,21,22}

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Endnotes

- ¹James Riker Jr, *Annals of Newtown in Queens County, New York: Containing Its History from its first Settlement* (New York: D. Fanshaw, 1852), page 351. Hereinafter cited as *Annals of Newtown*.
- ²Newtown Town Records 1701-1712 Book 287, Original Town Records: page 163, New York City Municipal Archives, 31 Chambers St, Room 103, Manhattan, New York, New York 10007. Hereinafter cited as Newtown Town Records 1701-1712 Book 287.
- ³Newtown Town Records 1714-1753 Book 288, Original Town Records: page 81, New York City Municipal Archives, 31 Chambers St, Room 103, Manhattan, New York, New York 10007. Hereinafter cited as Newtown Town Records 1714-1753 Book 288.
- ⁴Arthur White, "Newtown Presbyterian Church Records," 1922, Transcription, New York Public Library, Stephen A. Schwarzman Building, Irma and Paul Milstein Division of U.S. History, Local History and Genealogy, 5th Avenue and 42nd Street, Manhattan, New York, New York 10018, Marriages 1716. Hereinafter cited as "Newtown Presbyterian Records."
- ⁵Newtown Town Records 1714-1753 Book 288: page 150.
- ⁶Ibid., pages 311-312.
- ⁷Ibid., page 363.
- ⁸Newtown Presbyterian Records, Deaths 1729.
- ⁹Riker Jr, *Annals of Newtown*, page 379.
- ¹⁰Newtown Presbyterian Records, Deaths 1769.
- ¹¹Newtown Town Records 1714-1753 Book 288: page 573.
- ¹²Riker Jr, *Annals of Newtown*, pages 378-379.
- ¹³William S. Pelletreau, compiler, *Abstracts of Wills in the Surrogate's Office, City of New York, Volumes 1-17, 1665-1801* (New York, New York: Collections of the New York Historical Society, 1893-1909), Volume 3, page 410. Hereinafter cited as *Abstracts Wills Surrogate New York City*.
- ¹⁴Newtown Town Records 1714-1753 Book 288: page 575.
- ¹⁵Ibid., page 578.
- ¹⁶Ibid., page 581.
- ¹⁷Ibid., page 288.
- ¹⁸Newtown Presbyterian Records, Deaths 1767.
- ¹⁹Riker Jr, *Annals of Newtown*, page 379.
- ²⁰Ibid.
- ²¹*James Riker Papers 1660-1989*, Historical Research Notes, Donated to NY Public Library 1918 by Title Guarantee and Trust Company, File W94-a231. New York Public Library, Stephen A. Schwarzman Building, Manuscripts and Archives Division, 5th Avenue and 42nd Street, Manhattan, New York, New York, Volume 23 (Memorial Volume 1), page 584 cites Newtown Town Records without providing a specific liber and page reference. Hereinafter cited as *James Riker Papers*.
- ²²Glenn C. Way, *Some of the Descendants of James Way of Newtown, N. Y.* (Niagara Falls, New York: Glenn C. Way, 29 January 1935), page 2. Hereinafter cited as *Descendants James Way Newtown*.