

Individual Narrative of William⁵ Way [42] Son of John Way and Martha⁴ Leverich [12]

William Way was born at an unknown date at Newtown, Queens Co, New York. He was a son of John Way and Martha Leverich, according to Glenn Way's *Descendants of James Way of Newtown, N.Y.* No source has been found to confirm this. William was probably born about 1736-1737 at Newtown, assuming he was at least 18 years old at the time of his marriage in 1754. William is not included among the children of Martha Way baptized in 1736 at the Newtown Presbyterian Church.^{1,2}

William Way married Sarah Schudt on 19 Apr 1754 at Rombout, Dutchess Co, New York, at the Presbyterian Church.³

William Way appears on the tax lists for the Town of Fishkill, Dutchess County, New York for the years 1753-1763, 1765-1766.⁴

Five children of William and Sarah Way were baptized at the Rombout Presbyterian Church in Dutchess Co, New York:

Gideon Way, 30 March 1755
James Way, 16 January 1757
Rachel Way, 18 February 1759
Altje Way, 1 March 1761
Margaret Way, 4 December 1763

Also baptized on 4 December 1763 was a William Way "adult."^{5,6}

William and Sarah Way likely had a sixth child, William Way Jr., for whom a baptism record has not been found, but is listed without a source citation by Glenn C. Way in *The Descendants of James Way of Newtown.* Glenn Way also identifies another William Way as the son of Benjamin Way and Elizabeth Schudt. This William Way was baptized 19 September 1763 at the Rombout Presbyterian Church. Benjamin Way who married Elizabeth Schudt was the brother of William Way who married Sarah Schudt, according to Glenn Way.^{7,8}

The records of the Dutch Reformed Church of Fishkill note the marriages of two William Way's: William Way married Peggy Way, 1 April 1798; and William Way, married Angelia Myers, 15 December 1803. The William Way who married Peggy Way would have to be the son of Benjamin and Elizabeth Way. Peggy Way (aka Margaret) is identified by Glenn C. Way as the daughter of William Way and Sarah Schudt. The William Way who married Angelia Myers may have been the son of William Way and Sarah Schudt. However, the Angelia Myers marriage could also be a second marriage for William Way the son of Benjamin Way, if Peggy Way had died between 1798 and 1803.^{9,10}

On 30 September 1763, a bond by William Way, mason, in a case of debt was recorded in the Dutchess Co, New York Court of Common Pleas. On 19 March 1765, copies of final bills were recorded separately for William Way, mason, as well as Benjamin Way, also a mason, in cases of debt owed to John Cooke, in the Dutchess Co, New York Court of Common Pleas.^{11,12}

The 1790 U.S. Census records a William Way in the "Out Ward" of New York County (Manhattan), but no William Ways elsewhere, except for North Carolina.¹³

The 1800 Census of Fishkill, Dutchess County, New York records a William Way Senior and a William Way Junior. Both Williams are recorded as being between the ages of 26 and 44, hence born between 1756 and 1774. Based upon age, then these two records could be William Way, son of William, and William Way, son of Benjamin, although the two Williams were likely first cousins, not father and son. However, the record of William Senior tallies 4 females under the age of 10, and the record of William Junior tallies one male under 10 and one female under 10. Therefore, William Junior could be the William married in 1798, but William Senior's census tallies do not fit. William Way who married Sarah Schudt would have been over the age of 45 in 1800.¹⁴

William Way died after 1766 at Dutchess County, New York. A 1766 tax record in Fishkill is the latest record that can be specifically attributed to this William Way. Neither a date nor a place of burial has been found for William.¹⁵

The 1800 Census records a "Benjamin Wy" in Warriorsmark, Huntington County, Pennsylvania, and a "William Whee" in Derry, Mifflin County, Pennsylvania. These two locations are about 90 miles apart in adjacent counties. Both households include a male over the age of 45. William and Benjamin were likely in their 60's in 1800. However, there is no apparent evidence, direct or indirect, connecting these individuals with William and Benjamin Way of Dutchess Co, New York in the 1760's.^{16,17}

A 1769 tax record in Fishkill is the latest record that can be specifically attributed to Benjamin Way, brother of William. Neither a date nor a place of burial has been found for Benjamin. Neither William Way nor Benjamin Way are found in the extant tax lists for Dutchess Co 1770-1775 and 1777-1779. This suggests the possibility that the two brothers either died in Dutchess Co by 1770, or left the county and settled elsewhere by 1770.¹⁸

Printed on: 17 Oct 2013

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Way, William. #4679 (Ancient Documents, Dutchess Co, NY), 30 September 1763. Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 35 North West Temple St, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150.

Endnotes

¹Glenn 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*.

²New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, "Rombout and Poughkeepsie, Dutchess Co, NY Presbyterian Baptisms and Marriages," *New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*: Volume 69, No. 3 (July 1938), page 286. Hereinafter cited as "Rombout and Poughkeepsie NY Presbyterian Records."

³Ibid.

⁴William Willis Reese, compiler and Helen Wilkinson Reynolds, editor. *Eighteenth Century Records of the Portion of Dutchess County New York that was included in Rombout Precinct and the original Town of Fishkill* (Poughkeepsie, New York: Dutchess County Historical Society Collections Vol. 6, 1938), page 41. Hereinafter cited as *18th Century Records Dutchess Co NY*.

⁵New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, "Rombout and Poughkeepsie NY Presbyterian Records", Volume 68, No. 3 (July 1937); Volume 68 No. 4 (October 1937).

⁶Transcription of Baptism and Marriage Records: Rombout Presbyterian Church, Manuscript Ledger Book, New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, 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, Baptisms 1757-1759.

⁷Way, *Descendants James Way Newtown*, page 4.

⁸New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, "Rombout and Poughkeepsie NY Presbyterian Records", Volume 68, No. 4 (October 1938), page 389.

⁹Ruth P. Heidgerd and Kenneth Edward Hasbrouck, *Records of the Dutch Reformed Church of Fishkill, Dutchess County, New York, 1731-1850* (New Paltz, New York: Kenneth Edward Hasbrouck, 1959), pages 24 and 36. Hereinafter cited as *Fishkill Dutch Reformed Church*.

¹⁰Way, *Descendants James Way Newtown*, page 4.

¹¹William Way, Dutchess Co NY Court of Common Pleas #4679 (Ancient Documents, Dutchess Co, NY), Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 35 North West Temple St, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150. Hereinafter cited as Dutchess Co NY Court of Common Pleas.

¹²William Way and Benjamin Way, Dutchess Co NY Court of Common Pleas #1143 & #1146 (Ancient Documents, Dutchess Co, NY), Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 35 North West Temple St, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150. Hereinafter cited as Dutchess Co NY Court of Common Pleas.

¹³1790 U.S. Census, New York, New York Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M637, Roll 6, Out Ward, page 128.

¹⁴1800 U.S. Census, New York, Dutchess Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M32, Roll 21, Town of Fishkill, pages 22 and 23.

¹⁵Reese and Reynolds, *18th Century Records Dutchess Co NY*, page 41.

¹⁶1800 U.S. Census Pennsylvania, Mifflin Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M32, Roll 37, Town of Derry, page 496.

¹⁷1800 U.S. Census Pennsylvania, Huntingdon Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M32, Roll 40, Town of Warriorsmark, page 130.

¹⁸Reese and Reynolds, *18th Century Records Dutchess Co NY*, page 41.