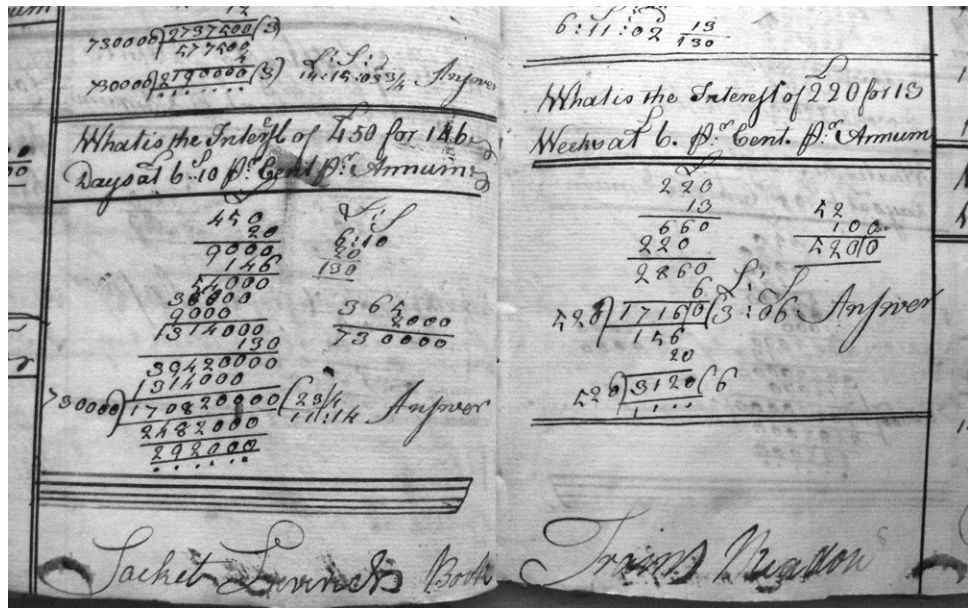
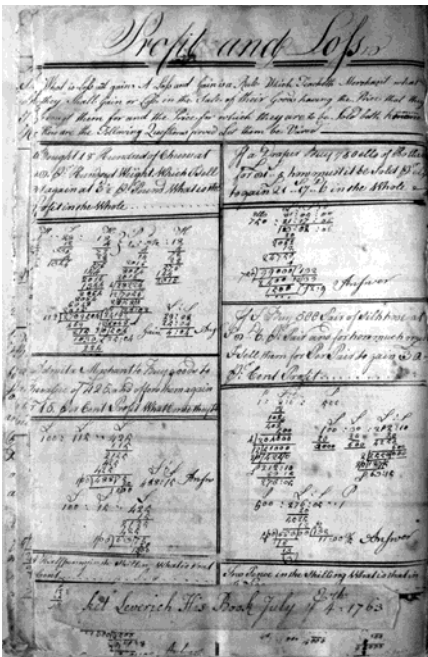


Individual Narrative of Sackett⁶ Leverich [51]

Sackett Leverich was born on 25 May 1750 at Newtown, Queens, New York, according to the James Riker Papers. The calculated birth date based upon age at death (also found in the Riker papers) was 4 June 1750. This birth date conflicts with the date given by Riker by 10 days. This suggests a transcription error on the death date or age at death, or a calculation error related to the change from Julian calendar to the Gregorian calendar in 1752.^{1,2}

Sackett Leverich was baptized on 5 Apr 1752 at Newtown, Queens, New York, at the Newtown Presbyterian Church. His sister Amey Leverich was baptized on the same day, and both were identified as the children of John Leverich.³

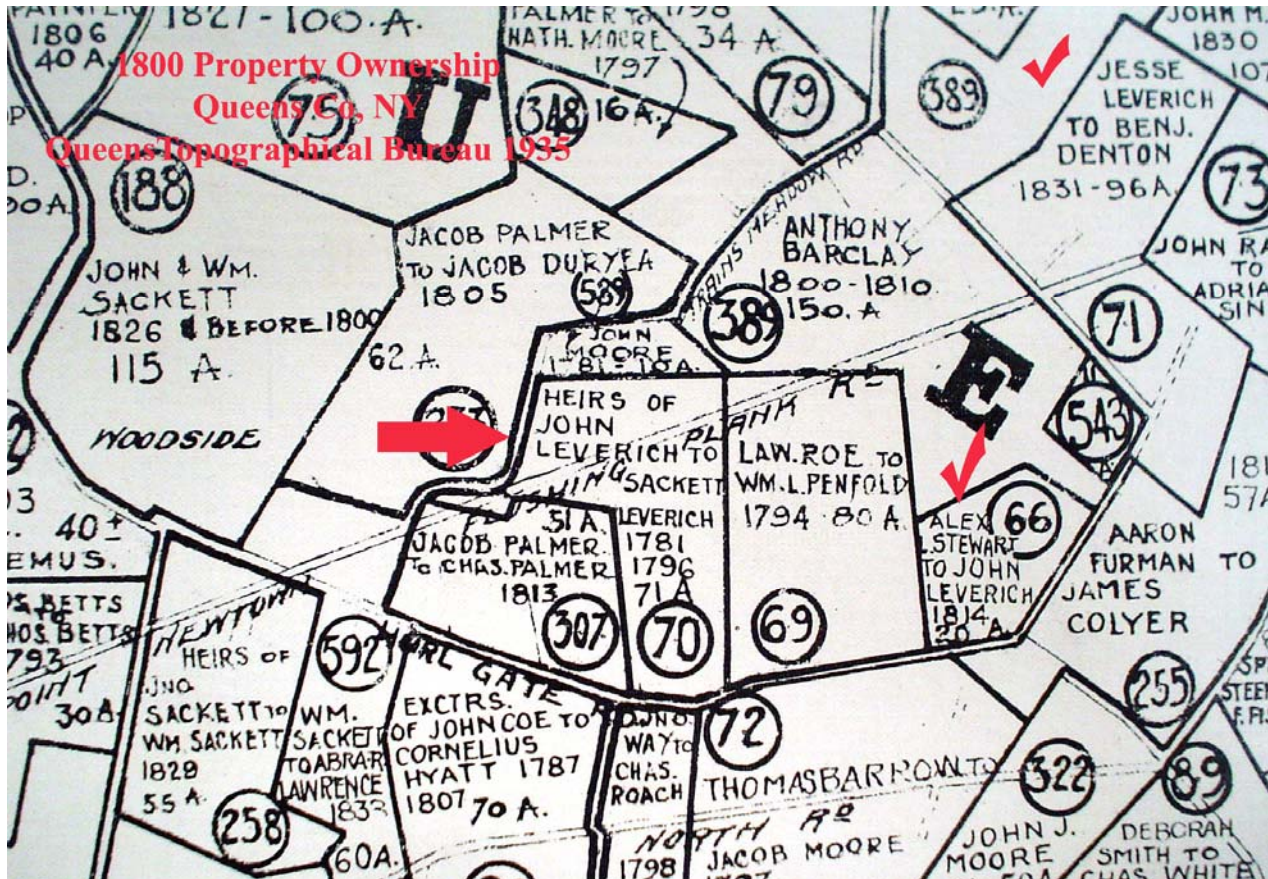
An interesting artifact related to Sackett Leverich is found among the Susan M. Leverich papers, that is an arithmetic workbook inscribed "Sacket Leverich His Book July the 4th 1763 Trains Meadow". Sackett Leverich was age 13 in 1763, and the handwritten manuscript is filled with mathematical exercises and problems that suggest Sackett having received a rather good education for that time period.⁴



On 1 March 1781 Sackett Leverich, grandson of John Leverich Senior (son of John Leverich Jr who died in 1780) bought out the shares in the family homestead and farm held by his three uncles. The grantors are William and Elnathan Leverich, sons of John Leverich Senior, and Samuel Leverich, grandson of John Leverich Senior (son of Samuel Leverich who died in 1754). This deed includes the earliest specific reference to the family burial place.

"This indenture made the first day of March in the year of our Lord and Savior Christ Jesus One thousand seven hundred and eighty one. And in the twenty first year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Third by the grace of God over Great Britain, France and Ireland King. Defender of the Faith. Between William Leverich Elnathan Leverich and Samuel Leverich Legatees in and by the last Will and Testament of John Leverich Senr ?<Satate>? of New Town in Queens County in Nassau Island in the Colony of New York dec'd of the one part and Sackett Leverich of the same place of the other part. Whereas the said John Leverich Senr in and by his last Will and Testament did make John Leverich Junr late of the said Town decd & said William Leverich Elnathan Leverich and Sam Leverich Legatees in & for the whole of his Estate both real & personal to be equally divided amongst them share and share alike Relation being thereunto had is fully set forth and expressed.

A map of property ownership in Queens County, New York about the year 1800, prepared in 1935 by the Queens Topographical Bureau based upon an examination of deeds, shows the boundaries of the 71 acre Leverich farm as well as neighboring properties, based upon the 1781 deed.⁸



The 1786 Tax List for Newtown included the following members of the Leverich family: Widow Sarah Leverich, William Leverich, William and Edward Leverich, Sackett and William Leverich, Gabriel Leverich, Samuel Leverich, Jesse Leverich. One of the William's is likely William Leverich the blacksmith. Sons of William included William, Edward, and Jesse. It is uncertain which William was the William identified with Sackett Leverich, who would have been living on the old family homestead. Gabriel and Samuel were sons of Samuel Leverich, died 1754, who was a brother of William the blacksmith.^{9,10}

On 6 June 1787, Sackett Leverich was a witness to the will of his uncle William Leverich. Other witnesses were Samuel Riker and John Lowwill.¹¹ The will of Benjamin Cornish was proved in Queens County 1 December 1787. Benjamin's will, dated 29 August 1787, was witnessed by Samuel Leverich, Jesse Leverich, and Jas E. Darby. Letters of administration were granted to Sackett Leverich, Richard Leverich, Robert Moore, and Samuel Riker.¹²

Sackett Leverich was never married.^{13,14} Sackett Leverich is listed as a head of household in the 1790 U.S. Census of Newtown, Queens County, New York. The census tallies by age and sex suggest that also living in the household were his mother Elizabeth Sackett Leverich, his sister Amey Leverich, his brother Richard Leverich, and Richard's wife Amy Leverich Titus.¹⁵

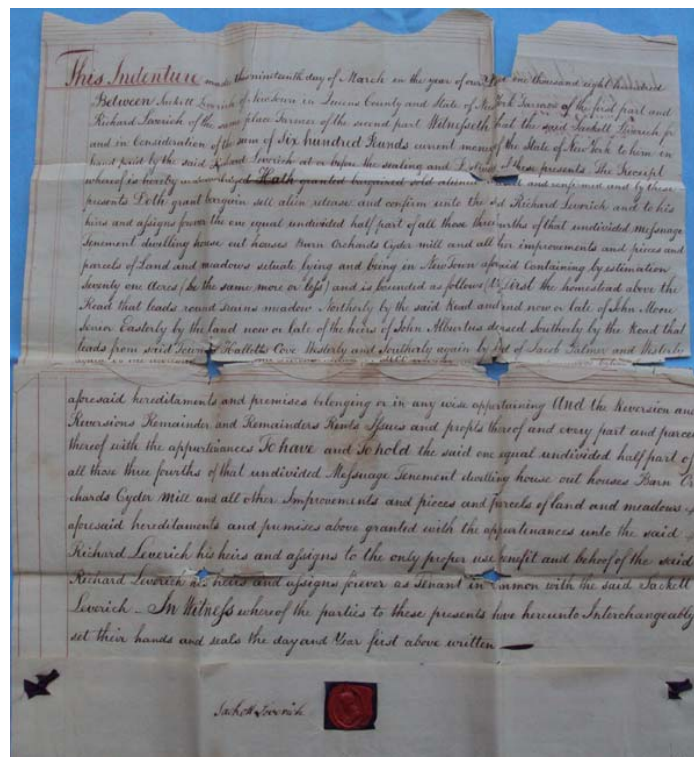
The household also included three slaves. Slave holding on a small scale was common in Newtown in this time period. Jessica Kross discusses the background of this phenomenon in her book *The Evolution of an American Town: Newtown, New York 1642-1775*.¹⁶ Statistics compiled from the 1790 census indicate that 139 of 294 households (47%) in Newtown

owned slaves, ranging from 1 to 13 per household, an average of 3.78 per slave holding household.¹⁷ Writing in about 1850, James Riker in *The Annals of Newtown* observed that "Slavery did not cease in this state till July 4th, 1827, though emancipation began soon after the Revolution. Most of the slaves hailed the event with joy, many of them deserting their homes in anticipation of it. Others preferred to stay with their masters."¹⁸

In 1799, the State of New York enacted legislation providing for the collection of taxes on real estate and personal property. Sackett Leverich and his brother Richard are recorded together on the tax assessment roles at Newtown, Queens Co, New York for the period 1799-1803. The property was valued at \$2,800.00 during this period of time.¹⁹

On 18 March 1800 Amey Leverich spinster of Newtown sold her 1/12 share in the estate of her father John Leverich to her two brothers Sackett and Richard Leverich, farmers of Newtown, in consideration of £200. The deed was witnessed by Phebe Leverich and Samuel Riker. Richard and Sackett Leverich executed bonds to their sister on the same date.²⁰

On 19 March 1800, Sackett Leverich sold one half part interest in the family farm to his brother Richard Leverich, in consideration of £600. The deed was witnessed by Phebe Leverich and Samuel Riker.²¹

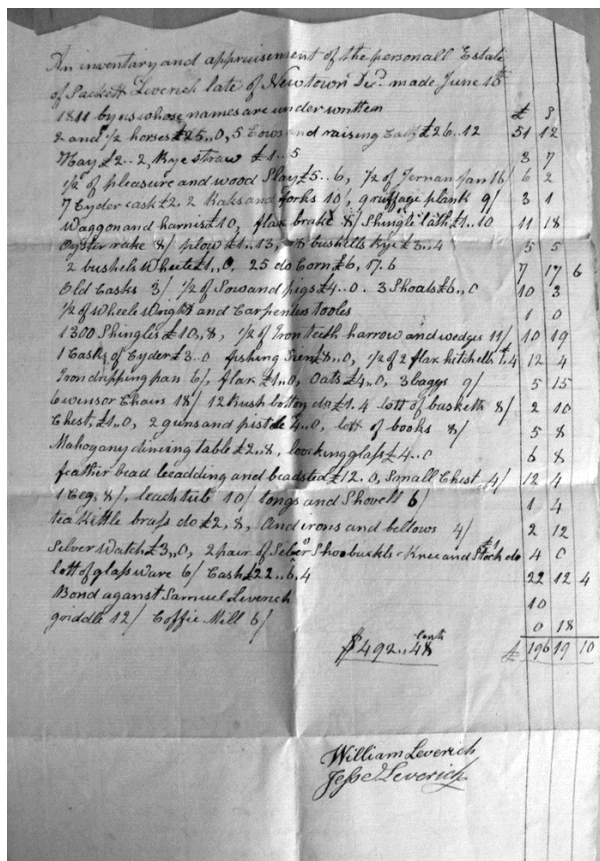


Sackett Leverich is listed as a head of household in the 1800 Census of Newtown, Queens County, New York. The census tallies suggest that the household also included his mother Elizabeth Sackett Leverich and his sister Amey Leverich. Three slaves are also listed as part of the household. Richard Leverich is listed as a separate household in 1800, but is listed immediately adjacent to Sackett, suggesting that the two households were likely sharing the homestead and farm. Richard's household included five persons, Richard, his wife, a female age 10-15 (perhaps cousin Phebe Leverich who witnessed 1800 deeds, although the age does not fit), one other free person, and one slave.²²

Sackett Leverich is listed a a head of household in the 1810 Census of Newtown, Queens County, New York. His mother Elizabeth Sackett Leverich had died in 1809, and so is not included in the household. Presumably the household did include Sackett's sister Amey Leverich, but not his brother Richard, who is listed separately as a household. Based upon his location in the census listing, Richard is likely not sharing the family farm with Sackett in 1810. Sackett's household also included one male and one female over the age of 45, and one male and two females under 10. These individuals have not been identified. There were also 4 slaves listed in the household.²³

Sackett Leverich died on 14 May 1811 at Newtown, Queens, New York, at age 60 years, 11 months, and 10 days. The James Riker Papers state that Sackett died a bachelor of rheumatism, a complaint his father had suffered until he was cured by certain Indians near Fishkill on the Hudson.²⁴

Letters of Administration on the estate of Sackett Leverich were granted in Queens County, New York on 1 June 1811 to his brother Richard Leverich.²⁵ On 10 June 1811, Jesse Leverich and William Leverich, first cousins of Sackett, completed an inventory of Sackett's estate. A review of the inventory discloses that Sackett died a relatively affluent farmer for his time. Of note in the inventory, other than household goods, livestock, and crops, were "a lott of books", a silver watch and two pair of silver shoe buckles. The total value of the estate was 196 pounds, 19 shillings, and 10 pence, or \$492.48. The approximate value in 2012 dollars ranges from \$8,870 to \$242,000. The inventory value did not reflect the value of real estate and improvements.^{26,27}



On 15 January 1812, John Sackett signed a receipt, release, and discharge acknowledging payment from Richard Leverich, administrator of the estate of Sacket Leverich, relative to the estate of William Sackett deceased. The instrument was witnessed by Samuel Riker and Abraham Riker.²⁸

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Endnotes

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- ¹⁰ James Riker Jr, *Annals of Newtown in Queens County, New York: Containing Its History from its first Settlement* (New York: D. Fanshaw, 1852), page 352. Hereinafter cited as *Annals of Newtown*.
- ¹¹ William Leverich will (1787), Volume A, page 10: will dated 6 June 1787, proved 8 August 1787, Queens County, New York Surrogate, 88-11 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, New York 11435. Hereinafter cited as 1787 Probate William Leverich.
- ¹² Probate Benjamin Cornish, Original Document, 1 December 1787, Susan M. Leverich Papers, Stephen P. Shaw, Chester, Connecticut, no page citation.
- ¹³ Leverich, Susan M., "A House of the Olden Time", page 45.
- ¹⁴ Riker Jr, *Annals of Newtown*, pages 352-353.
- ¹⁵ 1790 U.S. Census New York, Queens Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M637, Roll 6, Town of Newtown, page 22.
- ¹⁶ Jessica Kross, *The Evolution of an American Town: Newtown, New York, 1642-1775* (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: Temple University Press, 1983), pages 91-93. Hereinafter cited as *Evolution American Town Newtown*.
- ¹⁷ 1790 U.S. Census New York, Queens Co, Ancestry.com, Ancestry.com index.
- ¹⁸ Riker Jr, *Annals of Newtown*, page 261, note 1.
- ¹⁹ New York Tax Assessment Rolls of Real and Personal Estates, 1799-1804. New York State Archives, Albany, New York; Series B0950, Reel No. 17, Box 39: folders 5, 11, 17, 23, 29. Ancestry.com, 360 West 4800 North, Provo, Utah 84604, Reel No. 17, Box 39: folders 5, 11, 17, 23, 29. Hereinafter cited as New York Tax Assessment Rolls 1799-1804.
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- ²² 1800 U.S. Census New York, Queens Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M32, Roll 25, page 660.
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²⁴ *James Riker Papers*, Box 9, Notebook 2, pages 87-91; Volume 34 (Memoria Volume 12), page 203.

²⁵ Sackett Leverich Letters of Administration, Original Document, 1 June 1811, Susan M. Leverich Papers, Stephen P. Shaw, Chester, Connecticut, no page citation.

²⁶ Release and Discharge John Sackett Estate Receipt, Original Document, 15 January 1812, Susan M. Leverich Papers, Stephen P. Shaw, Chester, Connecticut, no page citation.

²⁷ Measuring Worth, online <www.measuringworth.com>. Hereinafter cited as Measuring Worth.

²⁸ John Sackett Estate Receipt, Original Document, 15 January 1812 Susan M. Leverich Papers, no page citation.