

**Individual Narrative of Mary<sup>6</sup> Gorsline [91]  
Daughter of Joseph Gorsline and Sarah<sup>5</sup> Leverich [26]  
2<sup>nd</sup> Wife of John Hamilton**

Mary Gorsline was born on 25 Aug 1760 at Newtown, Queens Co, New York, the daughter of Joseph Gorsline and Sarah<sup>5</sup> Leverich [26]. The birth date is a calculated date based upon Mary's age at the time of death.<sup>1,2,3</sup>

Mary Gorsline was the mother of an out of wedlock child, Edward Leverich Jr, who was born at Newtown on 17 November 1780. His father was Edward Leverich Sr, the son of William Leverich and Dorothy Morse, and a first cousin of Mary Gorsline. Edward Leverich Jr is named as a grandson in the will of his grandfather Joseph Gorsline in 1813, proved in 1822. At the time Edward Leverich Jr was born, his mother was about 20 years old and his father was about 17 years old.<sup>4,5</sup>

Although there is no confirming evidence, it was likely that Edward Leverich Jr was raised as a young child in the household of his maternal grandparents. By the time of the 1790 Census however, he may have been living in the household of his father Edward Leverich Sr.<sup>6,7</sup> Edward Leverich Jr married 10 January 1807 Hannah Underhill, at the Newtown Presbyterian Church. Edward Leverich Jr died at Newtown on 4 January 1861.<sup>8,9</sup>

Mary Gorsline married John Hamilton between 1795 and 1799 at Newtown, Queens Co, New York. They were likely married at the Newtown Presbyterian Church, although there is no record. Mary Hamilton became a member of the Church in 1799, and was baptized there 15 February 1799, specifically identified as the second wife of John Hamilton.<sup>10</sup>

John Hamilton was born before 1755, since he was over the age of 45 in the 1800 U.S. Census. His place of birth has not been identified.<sup>11</sup> John Hamilton's first wife was named Mary, perhaps the Mary Harvey who obtained a marriage bond with a John Hamilton in New York State 15 November 1779.<sup>12,13</sup>

A William Hamilton, living at Flushing, Queens County, New York in the 1850 and 1860 U.S. Census, could have been a son of John Hamilton and his first wife Mary. However, there is only circumstantial evidence to support this theory. William was born about February 1785 according to his age at the time of death. William was born in New York State according to the census records. The 1790 U.S. Census for John Hamilton at Newtown includes one free white male under the age of 16. There were no other Hamilton's living at Newtown-Flushing in this time period.<sup>14,15,16,17</sup>

On 1 May 1786, John Hamilton is included on a Subscribers List in support of Rev. Peter Fish of the Newtown Presbyterian Church.<sup>18</sup> John Hamilton and his first wife became members of the Newtown Presbyterian Church in 1790.<sup>19</sup>

John Hamilton is identified as a head of household in the 1790 U.S. Census of Newtown, Queens Co, New York. In addition to the male under the age of 16, the household included 1 free white male over the age of 16, and 2 free white females. The free white male under the age of 16 could have been the William Hamilton discussed above. However, it could also have been Edward Leverich Jr., son of Mary Gorsline Hamilton by Edward Leverich Sr.<sup>20</sup>

On 1 May 1790, John Hamilton is included on a Subscribers List in support of Rev. Mr. Woodhull of the Newtown Presbyterian Church.<sup>21</sup>

The Session Minutes of the Newtown Presbyterian Church for the period 15 January 1791 to 29 January 1794 document the affair of the first Mary Hamilton, who was accused of intemperate imbibing of spirituous liquors by Abigail Pettit. In addition, Mary allegedly told Thomas Burroughs of indiscretions by his wife Susannah (born Susannah Leverich [69]), and repeating such to Judge Benjamin Coe, then subsequently denying it all. Mary ultimately confessed and was eventually received back in good favor of the Church. Subsequently there was further examination of Mary Hamilton by the Church for excessive drinking, and she was again suspended. The first Mary Hamilton died 20 September 1795.<sup>22,23</sup>

Deborah Burroughs and Mary Burroughs, single women and sisters, each made a will the same date, 3 February 1797. John Hamilton was one of the executors named in each will.<sup>24</sup>

John Hamilton is identified as a head of household in the 1800 U.S. Census of Newtown, Queens Co, New York. The microfilm of the original census page is not legible for the female tallies. Free white males include 1 under 10, 1 age 16 to 25, and 1 age 45 and over. The male tallies could represent William Hamilton (who however would have been age 15), Edward Leverich Jr, and John Hamilton.<sup>25</sup>

In 1799, the State of New York enacted legislation providing for the collection of taxes on real estate and personal property. John Hamilton is recorded on the tax assessment list for the years 1799 to 1803 at Newtown, Queens Co, New York. The average assessment of his real estate was \$550, and his personal estate was \$60.<sup>26</sup>

On 5 October 1804, John Hamilton was a witness to the will of Thomas Burroughs of Newtown, husband of Susannah Leverich [69]. Executors named included Richard Leverich and Edward Leverich Sr.<sup>27</sup>

John Hamilton is identified as a head of household in the 1810 U.S. Census of Newtown, Queens County, New York. The census tallies include a free white male age 16 to 25 (perhaps William Hamilton), 1 free white male over the age of 45 (John Hamilton), and 1 free white female age 26-44 (presumably Mary Gorsline Hamilton, although she was age 50).<sup>28</sup>

Joseph Gorsline Sr, the father of Mary Gorsline Hamilton, made a will dated 14 August 1813. The will includes mention of "grandson Edward Leverich Jr and his mother Mary Hamilton". Edward Leverich Jr. was also one of the named executors of the will, which was proved 3 April 1822 in Queens County.<sup>29</sup>

Mary Gorsline Hamilton died on 17 Jul 1814 at Newtown, Queens, New York, at age 53 years, 10 months, 22 days. She is buried in a graveyard located at Queens Blvd (aka Hoffman Blvd) and Elliott Avenue in Newtown. Only four gravestones remained in 1919, one of which was John Gorsline Jr (died 1812), brother of Mary. The other two burials included William G. Frederick (died 1830) and Sarah Jones (died 1837 or 1857 or 1867; possibly sister of Mary). This site is now covered by the Long Island Expressway.<sup>30,31,32,33</sup>

John Hamilton is not found in the 1820 or 1830 Census. Neither a specific date of death nor a place of burial has been found for him. Therefore, it is assumed that he died, probably at Newtown, between 1810 and 1820. William Hamilton appears as a head of household for the first time in Queens County in 1820.<sup>34,35</sup>

No record has been found of any children of John Hamilton by his second wife, Mary Gorsline Hamilton.<sup>36</sup>

Printed on: 24 Aug 2015

Prepared by:

Tom Leverich

28 Saratoga Drive

West Windsor, New Jersey 08550

tomaug12@aol.com

609-275-1239

[www.leverichgenealogy.org](http://www.leverichgenealogy.org)

## Bibliography

- 1790 U.S. Census New York, Queens Co. NARA, M637, Roll 6. Ancestry.com, 360 West 4800 North, Provo, Utah 84604.
- 1800 U.S. Census New York, Queens Co. NARA, M32, Roll 25. Ancestry.com, 360 West 4800 North, Provo, Utah 84604.
- 1810 U.S. Census New York, Queens Co. NARA, M252, Roll 34. Ancestry.com, 360 West 4800 North, Provo, Utah 84604.
- 1820 U.S. Census New York, Queens Co. NARA, M33, Role 78. Ancestry.com, 360 West 4800 North, Provo, Utah 84604.
- 1850 U.S. Census New York, Queens Co. NARA, M432, Roll 583. Ancestry.com, 360 West 4800 North, Provo, Utah 84604.
- 1860 U.S. Census New York, Queens Co. NARA, M653, Roll 843. Ancestry.com, 360 West 4800 North, Provo, Utah 84604.
- Burroughs, Thomas 1804 Will, Liber B, page 234. Queens County, New York Surrogate, 88-11 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, New York 11435.
- Eardeley, William Applebie. *Abstracts of Wills Administrations, and Guardianships in NY State 1787-1835*. On-line Database NEHGS, Online [www.americanancestors.org/search.aspx?Ca=094&Da=7?](http://www.americanancestors.org/search.aspx?Ca=094&Da=7?)
- Find A Grave. Online [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com).
- Gorsline, Joseph 1822 Probate, Queens County, New York Surrogate, 88-11 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, New York 11435.
- Inskeep, Carolee. *The Graveyard Shift: A Family Historian's Guide to New York City Cemeteries*. Orem, Utah: Ancestry Publishing, 2000.
- Kelby, Robert H. and Scott, Kenneth. *New York Marriages Previous to 1784, a reprint of the original edition of 1860, with Additions and Corrections*. 1860. Reprint Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1968.
- New York Tax Assessment Rolls of Real and Personal Estates, 1799-1804. New York State Archives, Albany, New York. Ancestry.com, 360 West 4800 North, Provo, Utah 84604.
- Newtown Presbyterian Records - Original*. Newtown Presbyterian Church: 54-05 Seabury St, Elmhurst, NY 11373. LDS Microfilm Number 497549 (Item 21).
- Powell, Charles U. - Compiler and Meigs, Alice H. - Editor. *Description of Private and Family Cemeteries in the Borough of Queens Compiled by the Topographical Bureau*. Jamaica, New York: Long Island Collection, Queens Borough Public Library, 1932.
- White, Arthur. "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. Originally Published in the *New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*: 55 (1924) 162-167, 281-291, 383-400; 56 (1925) 73-83, 173-187, 353-359. Subsequently published in *Collections NY G&B Society*, Volume 8. Original transcript is part of the NYG&B Manuscript Collections, which are now held by the New York Public Library, Archives Division. The original Church records remain at the Church, 54-05 Seabury Street Queens Blvd and 54th Avenue, Elmhurst, Queens County, New York.
- Wyckoff, William F. *Long Island Cemetery Inscriptions*. Brooklyn, New York: Josephine C. Frost, Typescript, March 1912.

## Endnotes

- 
- <sup>1</sup>Find A Grave, online <[www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com)>, Memorial No. 7426232. Hereinafter cited as Find A Grave.
- <sup>2</sup>Charles U. Powell - Compiler and Alice H. Meigs - Editor, *Description of Private and Family Cemeteries in the Borough of Queens Compiled by the Topographical Bureau* (Jamaica, New York: Long Island Collection, Queens Borough Public Library, 1932), pages 16-17. Hereinafter cited as *Description Private and Family Cemeteries Queens*.
- <sup>3</sup>Joseph Gorsline will (3 April 1822), E-59; Queens County, New York Surrogate, 88-11 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, New York 11435. Hereinafter cited as 1822 Probate Joseph Gorsline.
- <sup>4</sup>Ibid.
- <sup>5</sup>William F Wyckoff, compiler, *Long Island Cemetery Inscriptions* (Brooklyn, New York: Josephine C. Frost, Typescript, March 1912), Volume 4, page 69. Hereinafter cited as *Long Island Cemetery Inscriptions*.
- <sup>6</sup>1822 Probate Joseph Gorsline, Queens County, New York Surrogate, E-59.
- <sup>7</sup>1790 U.S. Census New York, Queens Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M637, Roll 6, Town of Newtown, page 22.
- <sup>8</sup>Arthur 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 1807, Deaths 1861. Hereinafter cited as "Newtown Presbyterian Records."
- <sup>9</sup>Wyckoff, *Long Island Cemetery Inscriptions*, Volume 4, page 69.
- <sup>10</sup>Ibid., Members 1799; Baptisms 1799.
- <sup>11</sup>1800 U.S. Census New York, Queens Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M32, Roll 25, Town of Newtown, page 655.
- <sup>12</sup>Kelby, Robert H. and Scott, Kenneth; *New York Marriages Previous to 1784, a reprint of the original edition of 1860, with Additions and Corrections* (1860; reprint Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1968), page 168. Hereinafter cited as *NY Marriages Previous to 1784*.
- <sup>13</sup>Newtown Presbyterian Records, Members 1790; deaths 1795.
- <sup>14</sup>1850 U.S. Census New York, Queens Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M432, Roll 583, Town of Flushing, page 262B.
- <sup>15</sup>1860 U.S. Census New York, Queens Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M653, Roll 843, Town of Flushing, page 592.
- <sup>16</sup>1790 U.S. Census New York, Queens Co, Ancestry.com, Town of Newtown, page 18.
- <sup>17</sup>Find A Grave, online [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com), Memorial No. 131834150.
- <sup>18</sup>*Newtown Presbyterian Records - Original*; Newtown Presbyterian Church:54-05 Seabury St, Elmhurst, NY 11373. LDS Microfilm Number 497549 (Item 21), Session Minutes, Riker Transcription. Hereinafter cited as *Newtown Presbyterian Records - Original*.
- <sup>19</sup>Newtown Presbyterian Records, Members 1790.
- <sup>20</sup>1790 U.S. Census New York, Queens Co, Ancestry.com, Town of Newtown, page 18.
- <sup>21</sup>*Newtown Presbyterian Records - Original*. LDS Microfilm Number 497549 (Item 21), Session Minutes, Riker Transcription.
- <sup>22</sup>Ibid., James Riker transcription pages 92-100.
- <sup>23</sup>Newtown Presbyterian Records, deaths 1795.
- <sup>24</sup>William Applebie Eardeley. *Abstracts of Wills, Administrations, and Guardianships in NY State, 1787-1835*. (On-line Database NEHGS) online [www.americanancestors.org/search.aspx?Ca=094&Da=7?](http://www.americanancestors.org/search.aspx?Ca=094&Da=7?), Queens County, NY Surrogate, Liber A, pages 324-326.
- <sup>25</sup>1800 U.S. Census New York, Queens Co, Ancestry.com, Town of Newtown, page 655.
- <sup>26</sup>New York Tax Assessment Rolls of Real and Personal Estates, 1799-1804. New York State Archives, Albany, New York; Series B0950. Ancestry.com, 360 West 4800 North, Provo, Utah 84604. Hereinafter cited as New York Tax Assessment Rolls 1799-1804.
- <sup>27</sup>Thomas Burroughs will (30 October 1804), Liber B, page 234; Queens County, New York Surrogate, 88-11 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, New York 11435. Hereinafter cited as 1804 Will Thomas Burroughs.

---

<sup>28</sup>1810 U.S. Census New York, Queens Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M252, Roll 34, Town of Newtown, page 287.

<sup>29</sup>1822 Probate Joseph Gorsline, Queens County, New York Surrogate, E-59.

<sup>30</sup>Find A Grave, online [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com), Memorial No. 7426232.

<sup>31</sup>Powell - Compiler and Meigs - Editor, *Description Private and Family Cemeteries Queens*, page 17.

<sup>32</sup>Wyckoff, *Long Island Cemetery Inscriptions*, Volume 4, page 69.

<sup>33</sup>Carolee Inskeep, *The Graveyard Shift: A Family Historian's Guide to New York City Cemeteries* (Orem, Utah: Ancestry Publishing, 2000), page 54. Hereinafter cited as *The Graveyard Shift*.

<sup>34</sup>1810 U.S. Census New York, Queens Co, Ancestry.com, page 287.

<sup>35</sup>1820 U.S. Census New York, Queens Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M33, Role 78, No township identified, page 74A.

<sup>36</sup>1810 U.S. Census New York, Queens Co, Ancestry.com, Town of Newtown, page 287.