

Individual Narrative of Eleanor³ Leverich (7) Wife of Joseph Reeder

Eleanor Leverich (7) was born after 1665 at Newtown, Queens Co, New York. Eleanor was the daughter of Caleb Leverich and Martha Cornish who were married about 1665. In a 1711 deed at Newtown, Caleb and Martha refer to their daughter "Eleanor, wife of Joseph Reeder" and an earlier deed executed in 1706, which names daughter "Eleanor Leverich."^{1,2,3,4} On 29 October 1698 Eleanor Leverich witnessed a deed in which her father, Caleb Leverich, and her brother, John Leverich, sold land to Benjamin Cornish (her maternal uncle) at Newtown.⁵ On 3 July 1706 at Newtown, Caleb and Martha Leverich sold land to Job Wright and Eleanor Leverich.^{6,7}

Eleanor Leverich married Joseph Reeder Jr, son of Jacob Reeder and Martha Furman, between Jul 1706 and Jul 1709 at Newtown, Queens Co, New York. On 18 July 1709 Joseph Reeder, Blacksmith, and his wife Eleanor, sold land at Newtown to Job Wright, bricklayer. Eleanor Reeder was the sister of Mary Wright, wife of Job. It appears that Joseph and Eleanor were selling to Job and Mary their share of land sold to Job and Eleanor in 1706 by Caleb and Martha Leverich, parents of Mary and Eleanor.^{8,9}

In some records, Joseph Reeder, blacksmith, is identified as Joseph Reeder "Junior", presumably to distinguish him from his bachelor paternal uncle Joseph Reeder, who also lived at Newtown and Hopewell, Hunterdon Co, New Jersey. See, for example, deed at Newtown 18 July 1709, and Hunterdon Co Court of Common Pleas minutes 1719.^{10,11,12,13,14}

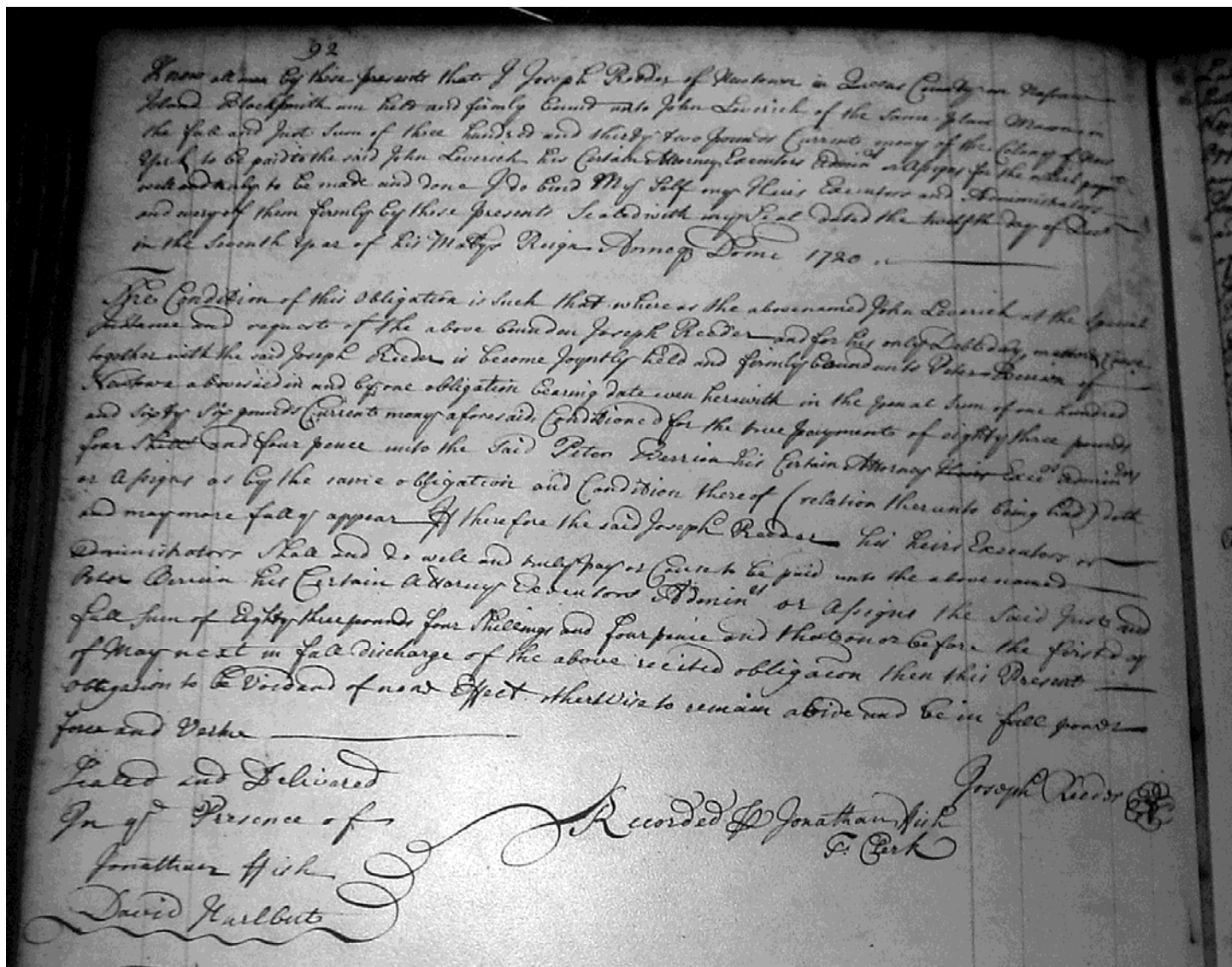
On 19 April 1705, Joseph and Josias Reeder, sons of Jacob Reeder Sr, transfer land to their brother Jacob Reeder Jr at Newtown.¹⁵ On 21 April 1710 Joseph Reeder, yeoman and blacksmith, and Eleanor his wife, sold land to Nathaniel Woodward at Newtown, 13 acres bordering land of Content Titus and the heirs of John Leverich.¹⁶ On 15 December 1710, Isaac Reeder sold land at Newtown to Joseph Reeder, blacksmith, 14 acres bounded west by Samuel Moore Jr and northeast by widow Berrien.¹⁷ On ??? January 1710/1711 Eleanor Reeder and her husband Joseph Reeder sold multiple lots of land at Newtown to Job Wright, son-in-law of Caleb and Martha. This deed refers to land sold in 1706 by Caleb and Martha to Job Wright and Eleanor Leverich, as well as the land of the children of John Leverich deceased.¹⁸ On 11 February 1711/1712 Theophilus Ketcham acknowledges to Jacob, Joseph, and Josias Reeder full satisfaction of the legacies left to his wife by the will of her father Jacob Reeder and the will of her mother Martha Burroughs. This would be Elizabeth Reeder, sister of the three Reeder brothers.¹⁹ On 1 April 1713 Joseph Reeder, blacksmith, and his wife Eleanor, sold land at Newtown to Nathaniel Woodward.²⁰

In 1714, Hunterdon County New Jersey was created out of Burlington County, and included the townships of Trenton, Maidenhead (contemporary Lawrence), and Hopewell. These townships became part of Mercer County in 1838 when it was formed out of Hunterdon. In 1838, Ewing township was created out of Hopewell township. Several Newtown (Queens Co, NY) families settled in this area of New Jersey about the year 1710, including John Reeder and his son Isaac, Joseph Reeder (bachelor uncle of Joseph Jr) and a Jacob Reeder.^{21,22,23}

On 13 December 1714 Joseph Reeder and his wife Eleanor sold land at Newtown to Robert Willson.²⁴ In 1715, Joseph Reeder is listed as a corporal in Captain Daniel Stevenson's militia company at Newtown. Also listed as a member of the company is a Jacob Reeder, a brother of Joseph. The list also includes a "John Lenderick", which could be a transcription error for John Leverich Jr., 1696-1780, a nephew of Joseph and Eleanor Reeder.²⁵ On 12 January 1716/1717 Benjamin Cornish, yeoman, sold land at Newtown to Joseph Reeder, blacksmith.²⁶

In September 1719, at a court held at Trenton, then Hunterdon County, New Jersey, the first grand jury empaneled included Joseph Reeder Junior. This would appear to be the earliest specific reference to Joseph in New Jersey in the documentary record.^{27,28} Eleanor Reeder died after 12 Sep 1720 at probably Hopewell, Hunterdon Co, New Jersey. On 12 September 1720 Joseph Reeder, blacksmith, and his wife Eleanor sold land at Newtown to John Leverich, Eleanor's nephew. This land included 30 acres at Trains Meadow bordering Benjamin Cornish, Nathaniel Woodward, Job Wright and the heirs of Josias Reeder, as well as a separate tract of 15 acres of meadow at Trains Meadow. Three days later on September 15, John Leverich sold the same lands to Job Wright. This is the last specific reference in the documentary record to Eleanor. It would seem likely that Eleanor moved to Hunterdon Co, New Jersey with Joseph as early as 1719. However, no specific death or burial record has been located for Eleanor either at Newtown or at Hopewell.²⁹

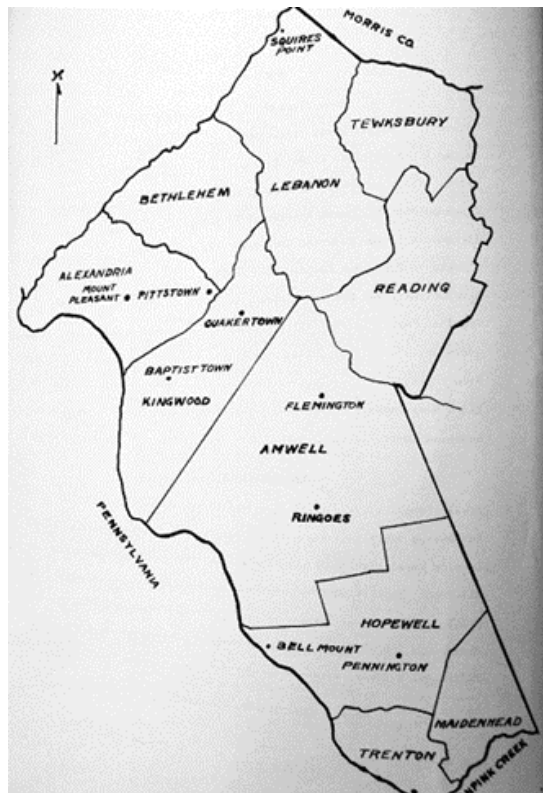
On 12 December 1720 Joseph Reeder, blacksmith of Newtown, confirms a debt and bond of £322 current money of the colony of New York to John Leverich (nephew of Joseph's wife Eleanor). £322 was a large sum of money in 1720.³⁰



1720 Bond Joseph Reeder to John Leverich, Newtown, Queens Co, New York
 Newtown Town Records 1714-1753, Book 288, page 92

Joseph Reeder, bachelor uncle of Joseph Reeder Jr who married Eleanor Leverich, appears in Burlington/Hunterdon County, New Jersey as early as 25 May 1708 when he purchased 156 acres of land in Maidenhead (contemporary Lawrence Twp). On 24 December 1712, Joseph granted land at Newtown to his nephew Josias Reeder, the brother of Joseph Reeder Jr. On 30 May 1719, the elder Joseph Reeder sold his 156 acres of land at Maidenhead to John Brearley. The elder Joseph Reeder died before 1722. In a deed dated 7 February 1722/1723 at Newtown, William Valence to James Renne, reference is made to upland and swamp formerly belonging to Joseph Reeder, deceased.^{31,32,33,34}

In 1722, Joseph Reeder appears on a tax list for Hunterdon County, New Jersey, owner of 200 acres of land and 7 cattle and horses. It is reasonable to assume that this is Joseph Reeder, spouse of Eleanor Leverich, since his uncle Joseph Reeder had died before 1722.^{35,36} An inventory of the estate of William Blow of Hunterdon Co, New Jersey was completed on 21 April 1722. The inventory includes a list of persons owing money to the estate, including "Joseph Reeder, Smith."³⁷ On 31 October 1722 at a Hopewell Town meeting held at the house of Thomas Runion ... "Likewise at the said time and place by the Said Inhabitants it was concluded that a public pound be erected by Thomas Reed and **Joseph Reeder** at their own proper charge Sufficient for the use of the Said Town to be finished within a month after this day and the erectors to have the profit thereof."³⁸



Old Hunterdon Co, NJ 1714-1838

Hunterdon Co formed from Burlington Co in 1714
 Mercer Co, including Hopewell, Trenton, and
 Maidenhead (Lawrence) formed from Hunterdon
 Co in 1838

Some Records of Old Hunterdon Coy 1701-1838 by Phyllis B. D'Autrechy; Trenton, NJ: Trenton Publishing Co, 1977.

On 9 October 1738, a poll was conducted of the freeholders of Hunterdon County for representatives to serve in the General Assembly for the Province of New Jersey. The poll list includes Joseph Reeder of Amwell. This could be either Joseph Reeder Jr, age about 51, or his son Joseph Reeder III, age about 22.³⁹ A Census of the Province of New Jersey in 1741 records a Joseph Reeder in Maidenhead Township, Hunterdon County. This could be either Joseph Reeder Jr, age about 54, or his son Joseph Reeder III, age about 25.⁴⁰

Documentation that Jacob, Joseph, and Benjamin Reeder were brothers is found in the will of Jacob Reeder, proved 1777, Amwell, Hunterdon Co, NJ. No direct evidence has been found to confirm that these three brothers were the children of Joseph Reeder and Eleanor Leverich. Circumstantial evidence, i.e. repetition of given names Jacob and Joseph, location in Hunterdon Co, NJ, suggests that they were. Consuelo Furman's The Reeder Family in America adopts this position, but does not provide sources.^{41,42,43} Various other Reeder family researchers attribute other children to this couple, but there is no supporting evidence.

Joseph Reeder Jr and Eleanor Leverich had 21 known grandchildren.

<Children of Jacob Reeder>

m-Elizabeth Burt

Phebe Reeder

m-Daniel Drake

Elizabeth Reeder

Son Reeder: granddaughters Elizabeth and Anna Reeder

<Children of Joseph Reeder III>

m-1 Mary Jobs

William Reeder

m-Jemima Howell

m-2 Susannah Gano

Elizabeth Reeder

m-Thomas Lake

Joseph Reeder

m-Anna Huff

Mary Reeder

m-Thomas Hubble

Daniel Reeder

m-Rebecca Foster

David Reeder

m-Mary Adams

m-Katherine Voorhis

Susan Gano Reeder

Eleanor Reeder

m-William Groves

Elijah Reeder

died as an infant

Elijah Reeder

m-Jemimah (?)

Cornelius Reeder

died age 20 1778

Jacob Reeder

m-2 widow Elizabeth Faris

Stephen Reeder

m-3 Elizabeth Thomas

<Children of Benjamin Reeder>

m-Ann Bonham

Joseph Reeder: m-Isabella McMurtie and m-Elizabeth Courright

Ann Reeder, m-Samuel Hunt

Jacob Reeder, m-Eunice Hozen

Mary Reeder, m-James Powell

Rachel Reeder, m-George McMurtie.^{44,45}

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