

## Individual Narrative of William<sup>4</sup> Leverich [9]

William Leverich was born between 1692 and 1702 at Newtown, Queens Co, New York. William was the son of John and Hannah Leverich, and the grandson 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.<sup>1</sup> 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.<sup>2</sup>

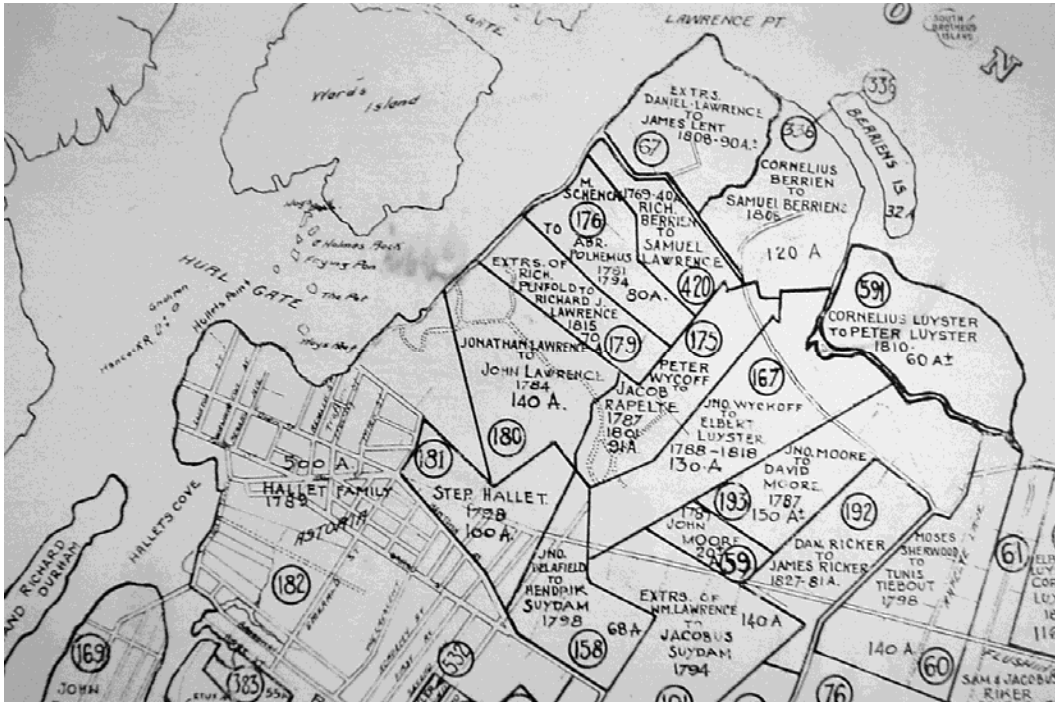
William Leverich married Martha Way, daughter of James Way and Mary Gancel, on 23 Jul 1722 at Newtown, Queens, New York, at the Newtown Presbyterian Church.<sup>3</sup> Martha was the daughter of James Way and Mary Gancel, the granddaughter of James Way and Ede Henricks, all of Newtown. Martha Way's first cousin, John Way, married her husband's sister Martha Leverich. Another first cousin of Martha Way, James Way (brother of John) married another of William Leverich's sisters, Hannah Leverich.<sup>4,5,6,7</sup>

On 26 January 1722/1723 Joseph Burroughs, yeoman, sold land at Newtown to William Leverich, carpenter.<sup>8</sup> On 8 March 1722/1723, the Newtown Purchasers and Proprietors, including Job Wright, John Leverich, and *William Leverich*, sold land at Newtown to Rev. Samuel Pumroy, pastor of the Newtown Presbyterian Church.<sup>9,10</sup> On 14 May 1723, Joseph Sackett, yeoman of Newtown, sold land to William Leverich, carpenter.<sup>11</sup> On 18 July 1723 Job Wright, mason, of Newtown and his wife Mary, daughter of Caleb Leverich and aunt to William, sold land at Newtown to William Leverich, carpenter.<sup>12</sup> On 26 November 1724, a Newtown Town Meeting recorded that the mark of William Leverich for his creatures was two holes in the right ear.<sup>13</sup> At a Newtown Town Meeting on 6 April 1725, William Leverich was voted a Commissioner of Highways with Isaac Bragaw and William Van Duyn for the ensuing year.<sup>14</sup> On 16 March 1725/1726 William Leverich and Martha his wife sold land at Newtown to John Culver.<sup>15</sup> On 4 May 1727 Abraham Boss, blacksmith, and his wife Elizabeth sold land at Newtown to William Leverich, carpenter.<sup>16</sup>

On 1 May 1731 Peter Berrien, yeoman, sold land at Newtown to William Leverich, carpenter.<sup>17</sup> On 15 December 1731 Robert Titus, yeoman of White Clay Creek Hundred, New Castle on the Delaware, sold land at Newtown to William Leverich, carpenter.<sup>18</sup> On 5 May 1732, William Leverich, carpenter, and Martha his wife, sold land at Newtown to Christopher Van Der Beck, yeoman.<sup>19</sup> On 5 May 1732, William Leverich, carpenter, sold land at Newtown to Benjamin Comfort.<sup>20</sup> On 15 May 1732, Nicholas Berrien and James Hazard, executors of the estate of William Lawrence, sold land at Newtown to William Leverich, carpenter.<sup>21</sup> On 30 March 1733 William Leverich, carpenter, sold land at Newtown to Joseph Sackett, yeoman.<sup>22</sup>

On 19 April 1733, Newtown Freeholders and Purchasers, including John Leverich and *William Leverich*, granted land to build a church to "said people or society of the Church of England."<sup>23</sup> On 24 February 1734/1735 John Lawrence sold land for a school to Joseph Moore, Thomas Lawrence, Cornelius Berrien, and *William Leverich*.<sup>24</sup> At a Newtown Town Meeting on 8 April 1738, William Leverich was appointed to be Constable and Collector for the ensuing year.<sup>25</sup> On 26 January 1746/1747, William and Mary Sackett sold 10 acres of land at Newtown to William Leverich. It is likely, based upon the location of the land, that this was William Leverich the blacksmith (married Hannah Way) who lived at Trains Meadow, rather than William Leverich the carpenter (married Martha Way) who lived at Hellgate. However, in his manuscript papers James Riker specifically identifies this William as "William Jr", although the actual record does not include the "jr" reference. Such a William Jr would have been a son of William the Carpenter.<sup>26,27</sup> At a Newtown Town Meeting on 3 April 1753, William Leverich was appointed an overseer for the ensuing year.<sup>28</sup>

William Leverich died on 25 Mar 1754 at Newtown, Queens, New York, as recorded at the Newtown Presbyterian Church.<sup>29</sup> On 18 April 1754 at the New York County Surrogate Court, Letters of Administration on the estate of William Leverich of Newtown, Queens Co, carpenter were granted to his widow Martha. Bonds were posted by Martha Leverich, widow; Samuel Gorsline, mason; and Richard Penfold, farmer; all of Newtown. Samuel and Richard were sons-in-law of William and Martha.<sup>30</sup> On 20 April 1758 a deed was executed selling to Wilhellmus Wycoff of Newtown a 105 acre farm at Hells Gate Neck for 1100 pounds. The grantors were: Martha Leverich (widow of William Leverich); Samuel Goslin and Martha his wife (son-in-law and daughter of William); Richard Penfold and Mary his wife (son-in-law and daughter of William), Ruth Leverich and Sarah Leverich (daughters of William).<sup>31,32</sup>



Hallett Cove and Hurl Gate  
 Map of the Borough of Queens City of New York Showing Ownership as of the Year 1800  
 Queens Topographical Bureau 19 August 1935

William Leverich and Martha Way had four daughters: Martha Leverich, married Samuel Gorsline; Mary Leverich, married Richard Penfold; Ruth Leverich, married Robert Hallett; and Sarah Leverich, married Joseph Gorsline. Most likely, they also had one son, William Leverich Jr who married Else Cook in 1748 at the Newtown Presbyterian Church.<sup>33,34,35,36</sup>

Riker does not mention a William Leverich Jr in the *Annals of Newtown*. There do not appear to be any references to this William Leverich in the Newtown Town Records. However, the above cited deed of 1746/1747 and a town meeting reference in 1753, could be either William Sr or William Jr. The 1758 deed of Martha, widow of William Leverich, and her children (i.e. four daughters and husbands of two) does not include William Jr. It is possible that he had already received his inheritance from his father, or it is possible that he had died prior to 1758.

Records of the Newtown Presbyterian Church suggest the existence of a William Leverich Jr, who in that time frame could only have been the son of William Leverich and Martha Way. In addition to the 1748 marriage with Else Cook, there are two burial records for children of William Leverich in 1750 and 1758, as well as a 1754 baptism of a daughter of William Leverich. Then there is a death record 19 February 1822 of Mrs Leverich, widow of William Leverich, Jr. Glenn C Way's *Descendants of James Way of Newtown* does cite a William Leverich Jr as a son of William Leverich and Martha Way, but states without specific source citation that he died young in 1740.<sup>37,38,39,40</sup>

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## Endnotes

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- <sup>1</sup>James 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*.
- <sup>2</sup>Newtown 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.
- <sup>3</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 1722. Hereinafter cited as "Newtown Presbyterian Records."
- <sup>4</sup>William 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 2, pages 158-159, Will of James Way 1714 July 27. Hereinafter cited as *Abstracts Wills Surrogate New York City*.
- <sup>5</sup>Riker Jr, *Annals of Newtown*, page 278.
- <sup>6</sup>Glenn C. Way, *Some of the Descendants of James Way of Newtown, N. Y.* (Niagara Falls, New York: Glenn C. Way, 29 January 1935), page 1. Hereinafter cited as *Descendants James Way Newtown*.
- <sup>7</sup>Harry Abel II Way, *The New York Way Family: being the descendants of Sgt. James Way of Newtown, Long Island: from the records of Glenn C. Way of Niagara Falls, NY* (Charlestown, Rhode Island: H. A. Way, 1995), page 7. Hereinafter cited as *New York Way Family*.
- <sup>8</sup>Newtown Town Records 1714-1753 Book 288, Original Town Records: page 132, 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.
- <sup>9</sup>*Ibid.*, page 294.
- <sup>10</sup>*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 (Memoria Volume 1), page 150. Hereinafter cited as *James Riker Papers*.
- <sup>11</sup>Newtown Town Records 1714-1753 Book 288: pages 136-137.
- <sup>12</sup>*Ibid.*, page 138.
- <sup>13</sup>Newtown Town Records 1701-1712 Book 287, Book 2: page 8.
- <sup>14</sup>Riker Jr, *Annals of Newtown*, page 423.
- <sup>15</sup>Newtown Town Records 1714-1753 Book 288: pages 194-195.
- <sup>16</sup>*Ibid.*, pages 227-228.
- <sup>17</sup>*Ibid.*, page 296.
- <sup>18</sup>*Ibid.*, pages 336-337.
- <sup>19</sup>*Ibid.*, page 288.
- <sup>20</sup>*Ibid.*, page 389.
- <sup>21</sup>*Ibid.*, pages 338-339.
- <sup>22</sup>*Ibid.*, pages 317-318.
- <sup>23</sup>*Ibid.*, pages 332-334.
- <sup>24</sup>*Ibid.*, pages 335-336.
- <sup>25</sup>*Ibid.*, page 575.
- <sup>26</sup>*Ibid.*, page 486.
- <sup>27</sup>*James Riker Papers*, Box 9, Notebook 2, page 22.
- <sup>28</sup>Newtown Town Records 1714-1753 Book 288: page 582.
- <sup>29</sup>Newtown Presbyterian Records, Deaths 1754.
- <sup>30</sup>Kenneth Scott, compiler, *Genealogical Data from New York Administration Bonds 1753-1799* (New York, New York: Collections of the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, Volume X, 1969), page 82. Hereinafter cited as *Genealogical Data NY Administration Bonds*.
- <sup>31</sup>Newtown Town Records 1753-1850 Book 289: page 117, New York City Municipal Archives, 31 Chambers St, Room 103, Manhattan, New York, New York 10007. Hereinafter cited as Newtown Town Records 1753-1850 Book 289.

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<sup>32</sup>Riker Jr, *Annals of Newtown*, page 351.

<sup>33</sup>Newtown Town Records 1753-1850 Book 289: page 117.

<sup>34</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 231.

Hereinafter cited as *NY Marriages Previous to 1784*.

<sup>35</sup>Riker Jr, *Annals of Newtown*, page 351.

<sup>36</sup>Newtown Presbyterian Records, Marriages 1748.

<sup>37</sup>Riker Jr, *Annals of Newtown*, page 351.

<sup>38</sup>Newtown Town Records 1753-1850 Book 289: page 117.

<sup>39</sup>Newtown Presbyterian Records, Marriages 1748; burials 1750, 1758, 1822; baptisms 1754.

<sup>40</sup>Way, *Descendants James Way Newtown*, page 3.