

## Individual Narrative of Benjamin<sup>5</sup> Way [44] Son of John Way and Martha<sup>4</sup> Leverich [12]

Benjamin 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. Benjamin was probably born about 1739-1740 at Newtown, assuming he was at least 18 years old at the time of his marriage in 1758 (1759?).<sup>1,2</sup>

Benjamin Way married Elizabeth Schutt on 22 Feb 1759 at Rombout, Dutchess County, New York. at the Presbyterian Church. The marriage may have been in 1758, the record transcription is not clear.<sup>3,4</sup>

Benjamin Way appears on the tax lists for the Town of Fishkill, Dutchess County, New York for the years 1763-1764, 1765-1769.<sup>5</sup>

Frederick, son of Benjamin and Elizabeth Way, was baptized 27 March 1760 at the Rombout Presbyterian Church.<sup>6</sup> William, son of Benjamin and Elizabeth Way, was baptized 19 September 1763 at the Rombout Presbyterian Church.<sup>7</sup> Benjamin and Elizabeth Way may have had two additional children Benjamin and James, according to Glenn C. Way in *Descendants of James Way of Newtown*. However, Glenn Way does not cite any sources in support of this information. Harry Abel Way, in *The New York Way Family*, attributes to Benjamin and Elizabeth Way sons Samuel, born c 1766 and Benjamin, born c 1769. Again, specific sources for this information are not cited. Baptism records have not been found for any of the additional sons.<sup>8,9</sup>

On 19 March 1765, copies of final bills were recorded separately for Benjamin Way, mason, as well as William Way, also a mason, in cases of debt owed to John Cooke, in the Dutchess Co, New York Court of Common Pleas.<sup>10</sup> On 9 December 1769, an action of debt to Joseph McCord by Benjamin Way was recorded in the Dutchess Co, New York Court of Common Pleas.<sup>11</sup>

Benjamin Way died after 1769 probably at Dutchess County, New York. A 1769 tax record in Fishkill is the latest record that can be specifically attributed to Benjamin Way. 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.<sup>12</sup> On 23 March 1792, a Benjamin Way witnessed a deed executed by George Brinckerhoff of Fishkill. The specific identity of this Benjamin Way is unknown. No Benjamin Way's appear in the 1790 Census of Dutchess County, New York.<sup>13,14</sup>

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.<sup>15,16</sup>

Between the years 1792 and 1812, 7 children of Benjamin Way and Phebe Van Vorhees were baptized at the Dutch Reformed Church of Fishkill.<sup>17</sup> The 1800 Census records a Benjamin I. Way in Fishkill, Dutchess County, New York. The household size is 9 persons, the eldest male being one age 26-44, hence born between 1756 and 1774. Therefore, this Benjamin may be the son of Benjamin and Elizabeth Way.<sup>18</sup>

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.<sup>19,20</sup>

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## Endnotes

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- <sup>1</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 2. Hereinafter cited as *Descendants James Way Newtown*.
- <sup>2</sup>Transcription 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, Marriages, 1758 (1759?).
- <sup>3</sup>Way, *Descendants James Way Newtown*, page 2.
- <sup>4</sup>Transcription 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, Marriages, 1759 (1758?).
- <sup>5</sup>William Willis Reese, compiler. Edited by Arthur C. M. and Nancy Kelly. *Dutchess Co NY Tax Lists 1718-1787* (Rhinebeck, New York: Kinship Books, 1990). Hereinafter cited as *Dutchess Co NY Tax Lists 1718-1787*.
- <sup>6</sup>Transcription 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, Baptisms, 1760.
- <sup>7</sup>*Ibid.*, Baptisms, 1763.
- <sup>8</sup>Way, *Descendants James Way Newtown*.
- <sup>9</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 17. Hereinafter cited as *New York Way Family*.
- <sup>10</sup>William 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.
- <sup>11</sup>Benjamin Way, Dutchess Co NY Court of Common Pleas #6788 (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.
- <sup>12</sup>Reese, *Dutchess Co NY Tax Lists 1718-1787*.
- <sup>13</sup>William 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 213. Hereinafter cited as *18th Century Records Dutchess Co NY*.
- <sup>14</sup>1790 U.S. Census New York, Dutchess Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M637, Roll 6, no citation.
- <sup>15</sup>Ruth 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*.
- <sup>16</sup>Way, *Descendants James Way Newtown*, page 4.
- <sup>17</sup>Heidgerd and Hasbrouck, *Fishkill Dutch Reformed Church*, Baptisms 1792-1812.
- <sup>18</sup>1800 U.S. Census, New York, Dutchess Co; o. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M32, Roll 21, Town of Fishkill, page 29.
- <sup>19</sup>1800 U.S. Census Pennsylvania, Huntingdon Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M32, Roll 40, Town of Warriorsmark, page 130.
- <sup>20</sup>1800 U.S. Census Pennsylvania, Mifflin Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M32, Roll 37, Town of Derry, page 496.