

The first two generations of descendants of William Averell of Chipping Norton, England to Ipswich, Massachusetts

This is a condensed version with additional time and or locations historical data to help make the individuals more human and less numeric. We understand when doing genealogy it often appears to be little more than birth, death, and marriage dates with names. We also understand that if you are not really into genealogy and just want your own family history you are less likely to want all the land grant and pages of will and inventory accounts. It is my sincerest hope that for our many thousands of cousins out there, this will be a simplified record of our family's history. For those of you wanting all the details, facts, and sources please see the "William William" 58 page source document provided by Gordon Stevenson, Christmas 2009, as well as the "English Ancestor Documentation" to view some of the original sources. This work is meant as a companion to the "William William" document and many items without sources, such as wills, are seen in it.

William Averell, Sr. & Abigail Hinton

Our common ancestor **William Averell**, was baptized in St Mary the Virgin church. He was either the son of Edward and baptized on February 9, 1588/89, or the son of Thomas baptized May 13, 1592/93. Edward and Thomas are believed to be brothers, sons of William Averie. Other notable members of this family seen on various documents are Brother Phillip and Sister Elizabeth who married Thomas Hyett/Hyat/Hiat, variations of the spelling of his surname. Thomas Hiat is often seen as a witness to wills and inventories for the family. Regardless of whether William's father was Edward or Thomas the genealogy remains the same for the paternal line. If we were to put total weight on naming patterns he did not name a child Edward (at least that we have found records on), but did Thomas. Clara Avery in her addendum to her 2 vol. book on the family claimed Edward Avery and Francis his wife to be William's parents. She did not, however reference the baptismal records and was probably unaware that a close in age cousin existed with the same name. It may even be both boys were named after their grandfather. During this time in history probate as we know it today existed for the mass majority of people and what records can be found this many years past should be used in combination with other records. Like Clara we are attempting to make the most logical and factual identifications, understanding errors can exist. To take it one step further the Will of John Averie of Chipping Norton 1577 provides for Richard, Edward and Philip sons of his brother William, as well as his married Sister Annes Crosley. At present we are unable to find any birth or baptism records for John, William or Annes, yet this will obviously connects them as siblings, and likewise connects William as the father of Richard, Edward and Philip. We can locate wills for these men and baptism records where they are listed as the father of child, but once again no baptism records on them to confirm who their parents were.

During the time of William's birth the Crusades ended in England. You will find the family name has various spellings Averell/Averill are the most common, but you will also see Avery and Averie in the

older records and census records. Many of these records are due to the pronunciation, literacy factors, and legibility of the actual person taking the record not our ancestors themselves. The area of Chipping Norton, "Chippy" Oxfordshire, England was a small medieval market town, from which the current town grew. It was known for sheep shearing or "chipping" (2). The areas of interest to our family were the church that sat near the castle mound, and the Free Grammar School that sat just off the church grounds. It is in the St. Mary's graveyard that many of our ancestors are interned, but with so many years gone by, what stones remain has become unreadable. It was in this same church that William married Abigail Hinton, also seen as Hynton on, November 26, 1618 (1).

They were good people, honest and hard working. William was looked upon very highly in his family often having items left in various wills to him. This increased the family's wealth. The family also held political power in the community. William held the position of Burgess. A Burgess is an elected political representative for the area in which they lived. They had the ability to summon people, make laws, and fine, imprison or otherwise punish violators. He was not the first Averell to hold this position. Edward Avery along with Thomas Hyatt and Richard Berry also important to the family history comprised ¼ of the first Burgess seats in Chipping Norton in 1606. As a business it is believed William's family was cordwainers. Cordwainers are shoe makers. Both Edward Avery and Uncle Philip were cordwainers. Philip lived with William and Abigail till his death, left items as such to them as well as proved this family relationship. William's grandpa and believed namesake William Averie/Averell helped provide the funds and land to build the first Free Grammar School in the area. The Burgesses were also in charge of maintaining the facility and provide the funds for the school master (3). There was once an Averell House, or student building. Peter Tyrrell of the Chipping Norton, Historical Society and Museum said he stayed in Averell House when he went to school. There was a plaque above the door calling it Averell House. I do not believe this memorial to the family who established the school remains today. What remains today was radically reconstructed in the 1800's. A sketch of the old building in 1827 is seen on the internet (4). Like the Averell house plaque there was another memorial to the family in the St. Mary's church by William's descendants. A plaque has been inscribed often credited, but uncertain if Clara Avery provided it or not is as follows: "TO HONOUR AND PREPETUATE THE MEMORY OF EDWARD AVERYE ONE OF THE FIRST BURGESSES OF THE BOROUGH OF CHIPPING NORTON 27th FEBRUARY 1606, AND OF HIS SON WILLIAM AVERIE BAILIFF OF CHIPPING NORTON, 1634, AND A SETTLER AT ISPWICH COLONY OF MASSACHUSETTS BAY IN AMERICA 1635. THIS ALTER IS GIVEN BY THEIR DESCENDANTS IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA 1928". The church is still in use today and under a major remodel.

Their church's current website discusses Vicar John Norgrove who was William's vicar. It states Vicar Norgrove was ejected from the church in the 1650's (5). It may very well be John Norgrove's lectureship that William's uncle Thomas Hyatt, provided for in his Will through William. John Norgrove's name is seen on many family documents that needed signed by a witness. During King Charles I reign the Puritans began to gain power in England. The family was Puritan as many of our Pilgrims coming from England at this time were. The upheaval of the church has brought question as to why William uprooted

his family and left England. Shortly after he left the Averill name disappears in Chipping Norton. Before 1637 William and family have settled in Ipswich, Massachusetts. Back in England the local church was in direct confrontation to the Roman Catholics. The Government in turmoil of Civil War 1642-1649 led to actively seeking out nonconformists. King Charles I was Catholic, and also head of the Anglican Church of England. The Puritans were a threat to their way of life. All but four members of the Chipping Norton community including Vicar Norgrove were placed on the list, exposing them. King Charles I called for political and religious reform in the country. The King's party was Royalists (Cavaliers) and Parliamentarians (Roundheads). The oath was to be taken by all males over 18 (6). Did William see the writing on the wall and escape the upheaval of his ancestral home; the civil war, the rise of Oliver Cromwell in the Puritan party who eventually beheaded King Charles I, and became Lord Protector of England in just over ten years of William's departure. This was sad to be living in England, and William's family had been protected from it. By this time he had purchased land on the side of Muddy River, Ipswich, Massachusetts.

William and Abigail had seven children, three sons and four daughters. Of their daughters only Sarah left a legacy, sad as it is behind. She married John Wildes and was hung as a witch in Salem. Son John left no descendants that we have been able to trace. Thomas married and had children and grandchildren. Lastly is son William Jr., our common ancestor. All seven of William and Abigail's children were born in Chipping Norton and sailed with their parents to the new land. Sarah, Thomas, & William Jr. will continue our study of the first generation to marry and have children in Massachusetts.

Ipswich, Essex County, Massachusetts is a seaboard town. The Atlantic Ocean is part of its borders. Nearly 1/3 of the 33 square miles the town is comprised of is now protected salt marsh and estuaries (7). It is located 27 miles from Boston. The town was incorporated August 5, 1634 and William may have already been there at that time. Prior to this time the area was called Agawam, Indian for fishing station (8). Muddy River, where William built his first home is currently (2010) under a restoration project due to extreme erosion. It is an attempt to preserve historic resources (9). This was a small community and by 1646 there were 800 inhabitants in the town (7). What is currently called Averill's Island is part of the Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary (10). It is unknown if William continued with the shoe business his family previously had in England. The various records indicate he was a carpenter and a farmer, raising goats at one time. Religion is also conspicuously void at this time in the Averill's lives. Perhaps they were not as willing to join a church due to the situation in England. William would have had to join the Congregational Church. This did cause William to be unable to vote, or hold office in this new community as he was not considered a freeman (11). This may also be the reason we do not find a deed for his land that was noted so often in other deeds. It was however recognized as William's as his heirs sold three acres to Francis Crompton in 1694. This was a small portion of his land as much more is listed in his will. William died March 29, 1653. Abigail approved the inventory of their estate. A few items to mention were the lott and house with 10 acres of land and 6 acres of meadow. He had 6 animals, 2 kine. A kine is a cow (12), and 2 shoats. A shoat is a baby pig (13). The family was literate as

a few books were included. William was most likely educated at the Free Grammar School in Chipping Norton, as would have his own children. In his will he stated his estate was small. In comparison to what the family held in England I'm sure it felt that way to him. He left to each of his seven children five shillings. This would roughly convert to \$30.60 or £18.90 in today's standard (2010). Abigail died a few years later in 1655. She died intestate and her estate was granted to her son William. He was listed as her eldest son to be granted a double portion and the rest of her children a single portion. Her inventory is more detailed than William's. It specifically lists the six acre lot at Muddy River, and another 7 acres called the pequett lott, and 6 acres of meadow. They now had a cow, steer, heifer and calf along with swine and eleven fowl, most likely chickens. They owned not one but two bibles. This is a very detailed inventory listing each of her handkerchiefs, plates, hair brushes, various bed linens and clothing items, as well as the exact amounts of food stores that remained in the home.

Generation 2

William, Jr. & Hannah Jackson Averell

Sarah Averell & John Wildes

Thomas & Frances Collins Averell

Oldest son **William Averell Jr.** (William) was born in Chipping Norton as were all of William and Abigail's children. He was born June 26, 1625 (1). This was three months after King James I died (commissioner of the King James Version of the Bible) and Prince Charles Stewart became King Charles I of England. Two months after his birth 40,000 people had died of the bubonic plague (14). He came to America with his family and he met and married Hannah Jackson the daughter of John and Katheryne Jackson. Hannah was born in 1636 in Massachusetts (15). They married in Ipswich on July 31, 1661 (16). William was appointed to public office a few months before their wedding. He became a surveyor of highways. By this respect he joined his father in serving the communities they live in. This position seems to have served him well. Their oldest son William III was born in Ipswich, but all others were born in Topsfield as the family moved there in 1663, on established land with a home and various additional buildings. The family did not move by themselves, however; Topsfield town records show that many of the early settlers were formerly from Ipswich. It was also in 1663 that William's sister Sarah married in Topsfield to John Wildes (17). We know William and his brother-in-law Wildes were close. They shared common lands between themselves and neighbor Thomas Hobbs. Brother Thomas stayed in Ipswich till after his marriage to Francis Collins in 1657, but by 1666 when their daughter Sarah was born the family had also moved to Topsfield (18). It is also not clear if this is the land in part that William Sr. referred to in his will as the Meadow acres. Topsfield was previously part of Ipswich and was referred to as "New Meadows" and later Toppesfield. In 1648 this was shortened to Topsfield (19). The Averell's may have moved away from Ipswich, but the name continues to this day. At the time there was Averill's Hill and Averill's Briches, as noted locations, today (2010) business run by Averell's including landscape to nursing homes are in the Ipswich area. When the highway in Topsfield was finally achieved it crossed the upper end of William's orchard. Considering it took 9 years to accomplish the task it is about the same time frame as

today's slow road work. The size was given as a rod and a half wide. The rod in old surveying standards was the pole used to measure by. (21) This was roughly 16 ½' making the road 24 1/4' wide (20). There is a street in Topsfield named Averell Street it runs from Ipswich Road to Perkins Row (2010). The area of Topsfield is landlocked and more centrally located, where as Ipswich was bordered by water. William continued to advance in local politics and he became constable in 1670 (39). William and Hannah had many children, but somewhat uncommon to the times the family did not join the church. Perhaps a family hand-me-down from William's side and the discontent over what happened in England, however; after William's death Hannah and many of her children joined. This may very well be the testimony of a woman's faith.

William Averell III, also seen as Jr. (William, William) was the only child born prior to the move to Topsfield. He joined the Congregational Church of Topsfield in 1685 as an adult of 23 years. He had his church issues and was expelled for a period of time. Interesting that his job was a carpenter and a grave digger (18), most likely he would have also made the caskets for those he interned. William married Mary and they had many children in Topsfield.

Nathaniel Averell (William, William) born 1664 in Topsfield, and married three times. He married first to Mary, then to Sarah Howlett, and last to Lydia French. Only by his wife Sarah did he have children. They had son Capt. Nathaniel Averill who married his cousin Hannah Wildes the daughter of Ephraim Wildes and Mary Howlett. Ephraim was Sarah Averell Wildes only child. Brother Jacob Averell married Hannah's sister Priscilla Wildes, so the families were very close. Nathaniel was also a carpenter and millwright. They too joined the Congregational Church where his children were baptized.

John Averell (William, William) born 1665 in Topsfield married Ann Greensleet. He was a planter and yeoman meaning he owned his own property and farmed it. He also became a surveyor like this father as he was appointed in 1691(41). This was the year his father died and perhaps took it on in that respect. John and family may have lived with his widowed mother after his father's death. He too was baptized as an adult of 31 years of age. They had several children also all born in Topsfield.

Job Averell (William, William) was born 1666 in Topsfield and married Susannah Brown. Job joined the Congregational church with his mother and siblings when he was 31 years of age. His land records can be seen in both Topsfield and Middletown as a section of Topsfield became known as Middletown. He also owned land in Boxford as there are records of him selling acreage there. He seemed to enjoy land dealings with his brother Paul as they are often seen together in such matters. He died in 1730 leaving a Will in Middleton. His wife died about three years later. They had seven children, six of them listed as being baptized in Topsfield.



Ebenezer Averill (William, William) born 1669 in Topsfield married Susanna Hovey and had one son Luke. He married a second time to Mehitabel Foster and had many children in Topsfield. Son Luke was provided for by his half siblings when they sold him their shares of their father and Sister Ruth's estates. Ebenezer's gravestone in the Pine Grove Cemetery, in Topsfield, Massachusetts and is one of the oldest of this families stones to remain, and believed to be the oldest stone to still have a decipherable inscription. Ebenezer died December 22, 1717. His stone has the top section

covered to preserve it. The stone usually is covered due to its delicate condition (22). To view the stone without the cover go to.

http://gravematter.smugmug.com/gallery/1983873_KeXiJ/1/101147894_eCbBs/Medium From the uncovered view of the stone we know he spelled his name Averill. This may be the earliest visible indication of the spelling of the surname as Averill with an (i) that remains today (2010). Also under the cover it is visible that he was listed as Sgt.

Isaac Averell (William, William) born in 1671, only lived to be about 10 years old. (16) A subsequent son, born a few months after his older brother's death, became his namesake. This second Isaac was born in November of 1680. It has been confused previously that there was only one Isaac when in fact



there were two. Obviously it is the later Isaac who moved to Connecticut where he was later joined by his brothers Thomas and Paul. He married in Massachusetts to Esther Walker. He was a carpenter, but also very active in the new land he now called home. In Preston, Litchfield, Connecticut he was a Granary man in 1714 (where the public stored their grains), constable, and Justice of the Peace in 1722, and Tythingman in 1724(38). A Tythingsman kept the peace about town, attended all weddings and funerals, and town meetings of any kind

(40). By these jobs Isaac would have known all and been known by all in the town. His farm was part of

the original Indian Chief Waramaug holdings in 1746. The land was deeded to son Samuel who in turn deeded it to his brother Daniel. The Averill cemetery where many of their descendants are interned, sits just off from where the large orchards are kept to this day (2010). Isaac and Esther are said to be interned there as well, but no stone remains (photo above of cemetery view 34). This cemetery was referred to in Clara Avery's book as Averill Hill Cemetery, located on the ancient farm of Samuel Averill. This cemetery is now (2010) also known as the Baldwin Hill Cemetery. Samuel's brother Daniel Averill is also mentioned as interned in New Preston Cemetery next to Edward Cogswell. Isaac and his wife Esther were to be interned in one of these two cemeteries, but as of 2010 no stone remains to mark their passing. Descendants of Daniel own and operate the Averill Farm (23). www.averillfarm.com Daniel and his wife Lucy are interned in the New Preston Village Cemetery in Litchfield County, Connecticut. (37)

Thomas Averell (William, William) was born 1672 in Topsfield he married Mary Baker of Litchfield, Connecticut, having gone there with his brother's Isaac and Paul. It has been rumored he married Abigail Cogswell, but from his marriage record with Mary to his Will, only Mary is found. They had a number of children.

Abigail Averell (William, William) was born 1674 in Topsfield she married Jonathan Bishop. He was the son of Edward & Sarah Wildes Bishop Jr. This connection becomes more interesting when you realize Sarah Wildes was the daughter of John Wildes and his first wife Priscilla Gould. This made Jonathan a step grandson to Sarah Averill, and Abigail her niece by her brother William. When the Witch hunt is discussed under Sarah Averell Wildes it is interesting to also note that her step-daughter Sarah Wildes Bishop was also accused. The Bishop families lived in a section of Salem that became Beverly. To escape the accusations and the same fate as Sarah Averell Wildes, the Bishop family moved to Rehoboth, Massachusetts.

Paul Averell (William, William) was born in 1677 in Topsfield and married Sarah Andrews there in 1706. He too was baptized with his siblings when he was in his early twenties. His wife died in 1732 and he married a second time to Mary Symonds. He became constable of Middleton in 1733. In 1735 husband and wife left Middleton church and were joined to the church in Killingly, Connecticut. This was some time after his older brothers had gone to Connecticut. Paul's children were born to his first wife and believed in Topsfield or Middleton Massachusetts. It is not believed that his children followed him to Connecticut, but their youngest son Joseph received land from his parents.

Of William and Hannah's daughters Hannah and Mary, and sons Ezekiel and Silas there is little known.

Sarah Averell (William) was born about 1627 in Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire, England (1). Only seven years after the Mayflower landed in Plymouth, Massachusetts. Little did her family know at that time they too would one day live in Massachusetts? She came to America along with her parents and siblings, after she married, she was also known as “Goody.” It is unknown if Sarah married prior to John Wildes, as she was 36 years old when they wed. She was a bit of a “wild thing” in her younger years, as at the age of 22 years she was brought before the Ipswich Quarterly Court charged with fornication, a “sin” for which she was whipped (25). She was John Wildes second wife when they married in 1663 in Topsfield, Essex County, Massachusetts (17). It is believed her brother John Averell built a farm house in Topsfield in 1730, which eight years later he sold to John Wildes. The land the home was built on is believed to have been their father William Averell’s property. The house William bought was removed and a new one replaced by John. Sarah having died in 1692 never lived in the home, but her husband and their only child Ephraim lived there. Ephraim who died in 1812 Willed the property to his wife Lydia and her heirs sold it to Samuel Bradstreet, then to Elisha Perkins and lastly to John F. Perley. I’m unsure when the home was completely removed and now referred to as “The Averill Cellar”. The “Topsfield Historical Collections” (1902) chapter titled “Topsfield House and Buildings pg 55 states “The Averill Cellar, Ridge St. about five hundred feet beyond Ferguson house and at the left-hand side of the road just as it leaves the ridge, may be seen the cellar hole of the William Averill house. The barn formerly stood just over the wall at the southeast, and there are evidences of the location of some buildings of considerable size just over the ridge behind the cellar hole.” It may be that John built his home directly over his father’s utilizing the same basement.

Sarah’s husband, like her brother was a land surveyor and carpenter. This gave him political pull when establishing boundaries between Salem and the Averell’s former home of Topsfield. The survey caused much controversy in the communities. When all was said and done Salem felt they were given the short end of the stick. John’s sister-in-law by his first marriage was Mary Reddington. She began the accusations towards John’s new wife. John, taking much offence to this threatened to sue over the liable comments towards his wife. It was however too late, the damage was done and rumors spread like wild fire. Of the nine originally accused of witchcraft five of them had come from Topsfield (25). Seeing how Salem residents were already upset with Topsfield this only caused for more hardships. Money and politics were the real cause of the witch hunt. The real evil in the town was greed, often against ones only families. It seems all too easy now to see the truth of the accusations, but at the time superstition was rampant. The idea of evil witches casting spells was most likely brought over from England. There was some mischief, however; a slave, named Tituba who belonged to the minister was performing “voodoo” with the young pre-teens of the town. Whether this was in retaliation to her owner’s religion or simply her way of connecting to this group of people is unknown. Tituba confessed and was not killed but rather kept as a witness against the others. If you confessed you were not killed. Fifty-five people confessed to the charges (26). Strange how the community stating they were upholding God’s word to execute the witch (27) would permit those who confess to live?

Sarah's only child Ephraim was the current constable and was the one to go and arrest several people, when complaints were made. It is also felt his mother received the brunt of his political standing. When people wanted to get even with Ephraim over their loved ones arrest they accused this mother. They also accused John Wildes daughters, Sarah and Phebe, from his first marriage. Both Sarah and her husband Edward Bishop were accused. To add insult to injury to this family, Ephraim was often expected to arrest his own family members. He did not arrest his mother as previously thought, but it is thought he arrested his ½ sister Sarah. The Bishops were able to escape and leave the area to avoid the fall out. Phebe Wildes Day was one of the ones living in Gloucester and imprisoned in Ipswich prison (30). Another who accused Ephraim's mother was Mrs. Elizabeth Symonds (26) who was to have been Ephraim's future mother-in-law, but he broke the engagement causing hurt feelings that spurned the accusation (28). Sarah was arrested and taken to jail in Boston. At this time the families were responsible for all prisoners' care including food and any medical needs. John Wildes would have needed to visit various prisons throughout the area to see to his family members needs. In 1710 Ephraim gave an account of his mother's prison time. It was at considerable cost at the Salem prison, then the Boston prison for two months, followed by the Ipswich prison until coming full circle back to the Salem prison. "And [at all places] we were at all the cost both of caring and providing for her maintenance. Either father or myself went once a week to see how she did, and sometimes twice a week, which was a great cost and damage in our estate." (24) This all began in 1692 the year after Sarah Averell Wildes, brother William died. Brother Thomas had moved, but Brother John remained to see the terrible events unfold before him. It was her brother John, witness to the events that sold to her widower, the home he built back in Topsfield. It was here that John Wildes and his third wife moved. John Wildes remarried a year after Sarah's death, and his third wife Mary Jacobs shared the tragedy of the witch hunt. Mary's former husband George Jacobs was also accused (29). When accused, if you were a property owner, all your possessions were seized. Even Mary Jacobs' wedding dress and ring were taken from her, and she was forced to buy back items from the Sheriff. Their 16 year old granddaughter was accused and found not guilty, due to the fact she was considered to have been under her grandfather's influence. George Jr. was also accused, but escaped (30).

In the movies we see witches burned at the stake, when in reality, those accused in Salem were hung. In 1976 "Science Magazine" posed a theory that was presented as a possible cause of the initial claims. Their thoughts were that contaminated rye grain, a commonly used item in the area can cause "Convulsive Ergotism". Symptoms included: hallucinations, violent fits, and choking, pinching, itching, crawling sensations of the skin and muscular contractions. It seems these symptoms are more common in women and children.



Due to the “unholy” lives none of those hanged were permitted burial in the church cemetery. Their bodies were put in mass in an unmarked grave. Today a stone bench with the date Sarah was hung, July 19, 1692, sits as a memorial below the cemetery on Charter Street (photo 31). The photo of the “bench garden” showing Black Locust trees and the stone wall that surround the cemetery, leaves



the feeling this was very much an afterthought, and an attempt to bury them, but still as outcasts. Those residents of long ago that were interned properly appear to still look down on those shamed by the witch hunt. The Black Locust trees are said to be the same type from which they were hung (photo 31).



In a museum to the tragic event is a plaque with Sarah Averell Wilds words to her accusers when they were trying to get a death bed confession out of her. She cursed Reverend Noyes saying “You will have blood to drink for your part in this evil day.” The plaque goes on to say Reverend Noyes would die from a hemorrhage in his mouth.... drinking his own blood. (Photo 32)

Sarah's only child **Ephraim Wildes** (Sarah Averell Wildes, William Averell,) was born Dec 1665 in Topsfield, Essex Co. Massachusetts (17). He married Mary Howlett. The Wildes surname can be seen as Wilds, Wild, or Wildes. Two of their daughters married back into the Averell families. Priscilla married Jacob Averell, son of Nathaniel & Sarah Howlett Averell. It is also believed that Sarah and Mary were related. Daughter Hannah married Capt. Nathaniel Averell, also a son of Nathaniel & Sarah Howlett Averell. Ephraim remained in Salem and for a time and held various offices in Topsfield, Ipswich, Salem and Boxford. He built the bridge over the Ipswich River (42). The home he lived in at Topsfield was his fathers and his Uncle John Averell's prior to that.

Thomas Averell (William) was born in 1629 in Chipping Norton, England. It was this year that King Charles I walked out of Parliament, something that lasted eleven years. During this time he did not collect taxes. This was in large part the beginning of Charles demise. Thomas married Frances Collins in 1657 in Ipswich, Massachusetts. Francis was from Gloucester Massachusetts, what has become known as the oldest seaport in America (35). Thomas surname can be seen as Averell, Averill, and Everill. By the time of his sister Sarah Averell Wildes death Thomas was living in York County, Maine. There are various land records that Thomas was involved in. He is seen as early as 1671 in Wells, York County, Maine, and by 1680 in Cape Neddick, by 1689 he is listed as being from Capenuduck county of York, Province of Maine, and as a fisherman. Thomas and his wife died within a short span of time of each other. The inventory for Thomas' estate was taken October 7, 1714, York County Maine. He owned 126 acres of marsh land. Some report he died in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Being a fisherman it is possible he died while fishing in Portsmouth. Also his son Job owned property in Portsmouth New Hampshire. Thomas and Frances had six children. At the time of their death they were living with son Job. During the Indian War Thomas his wife and his son Job and family were together living in Chebacco. It may be this home that was destroyed by the Indians. This land was later sold and the family moved towards the Cape, making the life of a fisherman easier to accommodate. Job moved his parents and the household back and forth to Cape Naddick and York. He claimed these expenses towards their estate at the time of their deaths. It appears from court records Job did not divide the estate of his parents to the liking of his siblings. In 1725/26 Benjamin Averill of Gloucester, listed himself as a mariner along with Sarah Lufkin wife of Ebenezer as the older siblings of Job Averell. Benjamin was claiming his double portion by law as the oldest son of the deceased. This was eleven years after their parent's deaths. Job died during this time but his children received the double portion of land in Cape Neddock known as "Averills Neck"; Benjamin received a single share as did Sarah.

Sarah Averell (Thomas, William) was born in 1666 in Topsfield, Essex County, Massachusetts (17). She was the wife of Ebenezer Lufkin, a carpenter. They married in 1700 and at least for a time lived in Chebacco as their first child Anna was born there in 1701(36). Ebenezer received his father Thomas Lufkin's home and 18 acres in Gloucester upon his father's death. Their land bordered that of Ipswich.

Benjamin Averell (Thomas, William) said in the court records to be Job's older brother, but records show he was born in 1673 making him two years younger than Job. Perhaps that is why he only received a single share from the court. He listed himself as a mariner. Various land records list him along with his wife Mary. He married Mary Chambet in 1702 in Boston, Massachusetts.

Job Averell (Thomas, William) cared for and lived with his parents till their death. Job died while his parent's estate was still involved in a court issue with his two living siblings in 1726. Job was a Caster and a fisherman and was about 55 when he died. Job married Mary Preble and was seen as "Avery" on her father Joseph's estate when 8 £ was paid to Mary at the time of her father's death.

We wish to thank Cheryell for taking the time to convert an immense amount of genealogical data into a readable version for those of you who simply wish to get a big picture of your early family heritage.

- Gordon Stevenson, Tresa Tatyrek, January 2010

Source

- 1) Parishes register of St. Mary the Virgin, Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire, England.
- 2) <http://www.chippingnorton.net/Visitors/history.htm>
- 3) "Schools Inquiry commission" Vol XII London 1808
- 4) <http://www.exchippy.org.uk/history2.html>
- 5) <http://www.st-marys-cnorton.com/httpdocs/History.html>
- 6) <http://sancreedopccornwall.tripod.com/id58.html>
- 7) <http://www.ipswichma.com/directory/history.asp>
- 8) Nason and Varney's Massachusetts Gazetteer, 1890 seen on line at <http://capecodhistory.us/Mass1890/Ipswich1890.htm>
- 9) <http://www.muddyrivermmoc.org/html/RestorationLinks/landscape.html>
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