



# *Forefather Family Profiles*





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*Christina Ollesdotter and her Walraven Descendants*

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# THE SWEDISH COLONIAL SOCIETY

## Forefathers

### Måns Andersson and his Mounts Descendants

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*The mark or  
"bomärke"  
of Måns  
Anderson,  
which he used  
to sign legal  
documents.*

When the *Kalmar Nyckel* left Göteborg on its second voyage to New Sweden in October 1639, it had among its passengers Måns Andersson, probably accompanied by his wife and at least one small child, Brita. He had been hired as a laborer at a wage of 50 Dutch guilders per year.

Arriving in New Sweden in April 1640, Måns Andersson continued to work as a laborer at this wage and, when a tobacco plantation was established at Upland in 1644, he was among those assigned to learn this type of farming.

His first wife having died, Måns Andersson remarried about 1646 to a daughter of Christopher Rettel, a 1641 immigrant who returned to Sweden in 1648 with his 14-year-old son. While in America, Rettel's wife had died and his daughters had married. Måns and his new wife established their own farm, which they called

"Silleryd" (meaning herring manor) in present Delaware County. In that year, he also left the employment of the New Sweden Company and became a freeman. He and another farmer paid 80 guilders apiece for an ox. Prohibited from trading with the Indians, Måns was forced to trade with the company store or Governor Printz's private warehouse. Like most freemen, he fell into debt, which had reached almost 160 guilders by March 1648.

Disillusioned and angry about Governor Printz's harsh treatment of the freemen, Måns Andersson was one of the 22 freemen submitting a complaint to the governor on 27 July 1653, protesting his dictatorial rule and asking for more freedoms. The Governor branded this action as "mutiny," threatened to bring the force of the law upon the signers and soon returned to Sweden.

A number of the freemen decided that for their own safety they should flee New Sweden. Some went directly to Maryland. Måns Andersson chose to go to the new Dutch colony which had been established in 1651 at Fort Casimir (present New Castle). Several other dissatisfied freemen had already settled just north of the fort at Swanwick (Swan Cove). Måns Andersson and his family joined them. He had hardly built his new log cabin when, to everyone's surprise, the ship *Eagle* arrived in May 1654, bearing a new Governor (Johan Rising) and more Swedish and Finnish settlers.

Rising captured Fort Casimir without firing a shot, renamed it Fort Trinity, and once again Måns

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Andersson was living under Swedish rule. Måns quickly discovered that the new governor took a more liberal and reasonable attitude toward the freemen. On 10 July 1654, Rising even offered to buy the buildings and cleared fields at "Silleryd," an offer which Måns quickly accepted. His old farm was then rented by Rising to a new freeman, Nils Mattsson.

For Måns Andersson, the return of Swedish rule was short-lived. In September 1655, Fort Casimir was recaptured by the Dutch and the mark of Måns Andersson (see above) was among those signing an oath of allegiance to Governor Stuyvesant.

Måns Andersson remained a resident of Swanwick until 1661. His experience as a tobacco grower led to his being appointed inspector of tobacco in 1656. His young children attended the Dutch school in present New Castle. However, by 1661 conditions were no longer favorable for him. He owed 15612 guilders on a mortgage to the English trader Isaac Allerton, and residents of New Castle (then called New Amstel) were dying like flies because of new diseases introduced by newcomers from the Netherlands. It was time to move again.

In 1661, Måns Andersson, his wife and six children were recorded as having immigrated to Maryland, and on 25 April 1662, a plantation was surveyed for him near the mouth of the Elk River on Sassafras Neck in Baltimore (now Cecil) County. This 150-acre plantation was named "Mountsfield." While this new land was being prepared and a new house built, Måns temporarily took up residence at Christina on the Brandywine River, in partnership with Walraven Jansen de Vos (a former Dutch soldier married to a Swedish wife). Måns planted this land for four years and then sold his share to his former Swanwick neighbor, Dr. Timen Stiddem, in 1665, and moved to "Mountsfield" in Maryland where he spent the balance of his life.

Our last glimpse of Måns Andersson is a reference to him in the diary of a Dutch traveler, Jasper Danckaerts, who reported that on 4 December 1679, "towards evening we came to a Swede's named Mouns, where we had to be put across a creek, where we spent the night with him, and were entirely welcome. He and his wife and some of his children spoke good Dutch and conversed with us about various matters concerning the country."

## Children of Måns Andersson

Not all of Måns Andersson's children have been identified, but they appear to have included at least the following:

1. **Brita Månsdotter**, apparently born in Sweden by Måns' first wife, was married at Fort Trinity in 1654 to the Swedish soldier Johan Gustafsson, progenitor of the Swedish Justis or Justice family. They moved from the New Castle area in 1656 and ultimately settled in Kingessing on the west side of the Schuylkill River. After her husband's death, she moved to New Castle County to reside with her daughter Annika. She died there in 1723. She had eleven children, as follows:

- **Gustaf Gustafsson (Justa Justis)**, born at Fort Trinity in 1655, married Anna Morton, daughter of Mårten Mårtensson, Sr., died in Kingessing, February 1721/2. They had nine children.
- **Måns Gustafson/Mounce Justis**, born in 1658, married Christina Andersdotter, daughter of Anders Svensson and his wife Anna, died on the Schuylkill in the Northern Liberties of Philadelphia in 1749. They had eight children.
- **Carl Gustafson/Charles Justis**, born in 1660, a tailor, married in 1703 Margaret, died in Kingessing, by 10 Dec. 1718, when letters of administration on his estate were issued to his widow. They had six children.
- **Hans Gustafson/Hance Justis**, born in 1662, married Maria, daughter of Olle Rawson and Brita Andersdotter and initially lived on his father-in-law's plantation on Naaman's Creek. In the early 1700s he moved to the head of the Northeast River in Cecil County, where he died

after 1710. He had four sons and at least one daughter Lydia, who in 1710 married Rev. Jonas Aurén, founder of St. Mary's (Old Swedes') Church in Northeast, Maryland.

- **Annika Gustafson/Anna Justis**, born c. 1666, married [1] by 1690 Matthias Morton of Ridley township, Chester (now Delaware) County, son of Mårten Mårtensson, [2] between 1707 and 1712 the widower Jonas Walraven of New Castle County, [3] 15 June 1727, at Holy Trinity Church, the widower Charles Springer. She died in New Castle County. She had seven children, all by her first husband.
- **Johan Gustafson/John Justis**, born c. 1668, married (name unknown), who died before 1697. He died in Philadelphia County, and was buried 3 Oct. 1716 at Christ Church, Philadelphia. One daughter.
- **Peter Gustafson/Peter Justis**, born 1670, married by 1696 Brigitta, daughter of Olle and Lydia Swanson. He died at Kingsessing and was buried 30 Aug. 1699. He was survived by one son. His widow married Jacob Van Culin.
- **Jacob Gustafson/Justis**, born 1673, died in Kingsessing, unmarried and without children, and was buried 30 August 1699 with his brother Peter.
- **Elisabeth Gustafson/Justis**, born c. 1675, married. [1] before 1696 Matthias Peterson, son of Samuel Petersson and his wife Brita of New Castle County, [2] 18 October 1720, the widower Edward Robinson. She was buried 23 Sept. 1730 at Holy Trinity Church, Wilmington. Three children, all by her first husband.
- **Sven Gustafson/Swan Justis**, born 1677, married Catharina, daughter of Peter Petersson Yocum and Judith Jonasdotter [Nilsson]. He died in Kingsessing by 9 March 1722/3 when his will was proved. Five children.
- **Anders Gustafson/Andrew Justis**, born 1681, married by 1704 Brita, daughter of Samuel Petersson and his wife Brita of New Castle County, died before 19 Aug. 1740, when his will was proved in Salem County, NJ. His wife had been buried at Holy Trinity Church on 27 June 1737. Four children.

2. **Ingeborg Månsdotter**, was born by estimation in 1647. After the move to Maryland, she married Hendrick Hendricks-son, who had arrived in New Sweden on the Eagle in 1654 as a young soldier. In 1661 he moved to Maryland and in the following years had four tracts surveyed for him on Sassafras Neck, named "Hendricks," "Hendrickson," "Hendricks Choice," and finally, in 1679, "Hendricks Addition." All adjoined or were close to "Mountsfield." Hendrickson died in the 1680s and Ingeborg then married Cornelius Clements.

Cornelius was the son of Anders Clementsson, who also first appeared in New Sweden records in 1654. He was a soldier at Fort Christina in 1655 and moved to Maryland by 1662 when a 400-acre plantation called "Clementson" was surveyed for him on Sassa-fras Neck, near "Mountsfield." Andrew Clem-entsson died in 1687, and Cornelius, his third son, inherited 75 acres of his father's lands. Cornelius Clements outlived his wife and died in 1715.

By her two husbands, Ingeborg had three children:

- **Catharine Hendrickson**, married by 1693 Thomas Severson, eldest son of Marcus Sigfridsson, a Finn who had arrived on the Delaware in 1656 on the Mercurius and moved to Sassafras Neck by 1658 when "Marksfield," 50 acres, was surveyed for him. Thomas and Catharine became owners of "Hendricks" and "Hendrickson," and had seven children before Thomas Severson died in 1718. His wife survived him.
- **Christopher Hendrickson** married by 1700 Mary Kelton [English]. He inherited 200 acres, his father's "Hendricks Choice" and "Hendricks Addition," and later acquired other lands in the area. He had five children and died in 1725.
- **Abraham Clements**, baptized in August 1697, died unmarried in 1717.

3. **Christopher Månsson**, born c. 1652, became known in his adulthood as Christopher Mounts, or sometimes as Christopher Ander-son. He married twice. His first wife (name unknown) was the eldest child of Casparus Herman and his first wife, Susanna Huyberts [both Dutch]. She died by 1695, when Chris-topher married Martha, the second wife and widow of Nicholas Dorrell.

Christopher inherited his father's "Mountsfield" plantation and also, by reason of his first marriage, had tenure of his first wife's inheritance, 400 acres in "St. Johns Manor" on the west side of Elk River until her children reached adulthood. Christopher Mounts died intestate in 1710. His widow Martha died at "Mountsfield" in 1738.

By his two marriages, Christopher Mounts had eight children:

- **Charles Mounts**, who inherited 200 acres of "St. Johns Manor," sold that land in 1712 and died unmarried in 1713.
- **Casparus Mounts**, who also died unmarried in 1713.
- **Elizabeth Mounts**, who married Andrew Rosenquist c. 1711. On 14 March 1714/5 they sold the other 200 acres of "St. Johns Manor."
- **Sarah Mounts**, born 7 April 1696, had one daughter, Martha, by her first husband, James Smithson, and married [2] Cornelius Tobey.
- **Mary Mounts**, born 6 Sept. 1698, married John Beedle in 1716.
- **Ann Mounts**, born 9 Jan. 1702/3, married Robert Mercer in 1727.
- **Martha Mounts**, born 16 March 1704/5, married William Mercer, brother of Robert Mercer.
- **Christopher Mounts**, born 18 October 1708, died unmarried in 1738.

4. **Lars Månsson/Lawrence Mounts**, born c. 1660, died by 2 August 1697 when his estate was inventoried in Cecil County, Maryland. His widow Sarah (parents un-known) administered his meager estate. If they had children, none has been identified.

5. **Charles Månsson**, better known during his lifetime as Charles Anderson, was born c. 1664 in Delaware. He married around 1700 (name of wife unknown) and established his home at first at the head of the Northeast River, close to Hans Justis and Andrew Friend, both also Swedes. By 1712, he was actively engaged in Indian trading with Andrew Friend. Around 1720, he moved to Monocacy Creek, near the Potomac River. As an Indian trader, he was called upon by the Maryland government in 1722 and 1725 to bring Shawnee chiefs from present Oldtown, Maryland, to his house for peace negotiations. In 1734 land was surveyed for him on the Potomac River in Frederick County, Virginia (now Berkeley County, WV).

He turned this land over to his son, Joseph Mounts, and moved on to Oldtown, Maryland, where he lived for the remainder of his life. In 1740, at the age of 75, he signed an affidavit for use in the Pennsylvania-Maryland boundary dispute. He died shortly thereafter.

Of Charles Anderson's family, the only proven member was his son **Joseph Mounts**, who was born about 1700 and married Catharine Williams, by whom he had three sons (Providence, Joseph and William Mounts) who perpetuated the surname Mounts for succeeding generations.

6. **Maria Månsdotter**, born c. 1676, married Matthias Matthiason, only son and heir of Hendrick Matthiasson, a Finn, who had been sent to New Sweden in 1641 as punishment for a minor crime. In 1648, he was made a freeman and frequently used Freeman as a surname. He also signed the complaint against Governor Printz in 1653, but did not flee New Sweden. However, after marrying Elisabeth (parents not identified), he moved to the Sassafra River in 1658 and settled on a 100-acre plantation on Sassafra Neck called "Mathiason." Upon his death in 1687, this was inherited by his son Matthias Matthiason.

Matthias Matthiason alias Freeman operated an "ordinary" (inn) on his land, which became the first courthouse in Cecil County. In 1699 and 1700, he also traveled to Delaware and worked for two days helping to build Holy Trinity Church. He was suretor for Christopher Mounts, administrator of the estate of Nicholas Dorrell, and when Matthias died in 1702, Christopher Mounts was suretor for his sister Maria, executrix of Matthias' estate. Maria married [2] Otho Othoson [Dutch] in 1704. She died after 1715. Her children, all by her first marriage, were:



- **Mary Matthiason**, born 2 April 1690, married John Kämpe, son of Lars Pålsson Kämpe of New Sweden. In 1717 they moved to Gloucester County, New Jersey, to join John's brother, Paul Kämpe, who had moved there a few years before.
- **Elisabeth Matthiasson**, born c. 1694, not further traced.
- **Matthias Matthiasson, Jr.**, baptized 20 August 1699, inherited his father's "Mathia-son" plantation. He died in 1733 and his widow Mary died in 1740. They had four children, one of whom (Matthias Matthiasson III) became a mariner and was living in Biddeford, Devonshire, England, when he and his wife, Ann sold the last remnant of the home plantation in 1752.

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## Anders Andersson the Finn and his Descendents

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When the ships Fama and Swan arrived at Fort Christina early in the afternoon of 13 February 1643, most eyes were focused on the new Governor, Johan Printz, and his family. Also on board, however, was Anders Andersson the Finn, his wife and small children. Anders the Finn, formerly a soldier at Fort Älvsborg in Sweden, had been banished to New Sweden as punishment for some undisclosed crime.

By 1644 Anders the Finn had become a freeman, having served out his sentence. Like several other Finns he resided in an area known as Finland, located west of Upland (now Chester) Creek. Here, in the woods, he planted his rye an essential food for his family. By March 1648, however, he was in debt to the New Sweden Company and Governor Printz for 231:10 guilders, the biggest part (160 guilders) being for an ox. Governor Printz therefore had him hauled into court and seized Anders' woods as payment for this debt. This deprived Anders of ground on which to raise his rye and forced Anders to beg and sometimes steal grain from others in order to sustain his family.

When a petition, drafted in July 1653 by pastor Lars Lock, was circulated to complain against Printz's treatment of the freemen, Anders Andersson had his name added to the list of complainers. Governor Printz characterized this petition as a "mutiny," and responded on 1 August 1653 by claiming that the court judgment against Anders the Finn was a legal judgment and therefore beyond criticism. In September 1653, Printz left the colony and returned to Sweden.

### Jacob Jongh's Trunk

The arrival of a new governor, Johan Risingh, in 1654 also changed Anders the Finn's fortunes. His woods were restored to him. But his legal problems were not over. In 1661 he rented a room to Jacob Jongh from Gothenburg, former assistant commissary for New Sweden but now an Indian trader for Willem Beeckman, Governor Stuyvesant's deputy on the South (Delaware) River. In mid-September Jongh eloped with Catharine, the wife of pastor Lars Lock. Beeckman rushed to Anders' house to seek the goods that had been entrusted to Jongh and found that somebody had broken into Jongh's trunk. Initially, Beeckman accused Anders the Finn of this deed, but it later developed that the minister himself had broken into the trunk, looking for evidence of his wife's misdeeds. Jacob Jongh was not to be found. (He had fled to the Bronx River near New Amsterdam, only to return to the Philadelphia area in 1677 when he became sexton and schoolmaster for the new log church at Wicaco.). Beeckman ended up bringing an action against

Lars Carlsson Lock, who was forced to pay for the missing goods.

## **Evert Hendricksson the Finn**

In the spring of 1663, Anders the Finn became one of the principal accusers against Evert Hendricksson the Finn, another resident of Upland Creek. Anders complained that "Evert Hendricksson the Finn daily commits acts of insolence before his, the deponent's, door by beating, shouting and other disorderly acts, and if nothing is done about it, he will have to leave the village in order to live in peace." Others testified that Evert the Finn regularly met with Anders the Finn's wife at the house of Pål Petersson, another Finn. As a result of these and other charges, the Upland Court decided to ban Evert the Finn from living anywhere within the court's jurisdiction. Evert the Finn then moved to Crane Hook, where Governor d'Hinojossa promised that he and other Finns could live without molestation.

Notwithstanding the deportation of Evert the Finn, Anders decided that he would move, too. After the English captured the Delaware from the Dutch in 1664, Anders the Finn moved his family to join the families of Sinnick Broer the Finn and Walraven Jansen de Vos (a former Dutch soldier, married to a Finn) at Deer Point on the north side of Christina Creek. They claimed an area of 450 morgens (900 acres) and a patent for this land was issued on 1 September 1669. A month later Anders and his neighbors on Christina Creek were also given liberty to erect a mill on Anders the Finn's Creek (also called Little Falls Creek) at Deer Point. The area later became known as Richardson Park and is now part of Wilmington.

The last recorded act of Anders the Finn was a deed dated 1 September 1673 by which Anders Andersson and Christina Gulbrand his wife conveyed his 300 acres of land to their two sons, Justa Anderson and John Anderson with the caveat that Anders was "to have the corn when ripe and to live in the house during his pleasure." He probably died shortly thereafter. His widow survived him by many years. She probably lived with her youngest daughter, Brita.

Four children of Anders Andersson and his wife Christina Gulbrand have been identified:

Anna Andersdotter, born in Sweden, married Nils Larsson Frände of Upland Creek in 1656. Their house on Upland Creek, adjoining Lars Carlsson Lock, became an inn and was the favorite meeting place of the Upland Court. Her husband's adopted surname (Frände, meaning "kinsman" or "blood brother") was first used when he and Olle Rawson (see below) were granted a license to buy lands from the Indians in Gloucester County NJ and later became Anglicized to "Friend."

Nils Larsson died in 1686. Anna lived another forty years, being cared for by her son Gabriel Friend. Their children were:

- Brita Friend, born c. 1657, married by 1678 John Cock, son of Peter Larsson Cock and Margaret Lom; died after 1720 when living at St. Georges Creek, New Castle County, Delaware. Eight children.
- Anders Friend, born c. 1659, married twice; first to a daughter (name unknown) of Peter Gunnarsson Rambo, 2nd to Isabela (parents not identified); died in the 1740s at present Williamsport, Maryland. Three known children.
- Catharine Friend, born 1661, married Olof Dalbo, son of Anders Larsson Dalbo and his wife Elisabeth; died 19 April 1721 in Gloucester County, NJ. Nine children.
- Maria Friend, born c. 1663, married c. 1687 Gabriel Cock, son of Peter Larsson Cock and Margaret Lom. Eight children.
- Johannes Friend, born 1666, married c. 1696 Anna, daughter of Hendrick Coleman, died 1738 at Upper Penns Neck, Salem County, NJ. Ten children.
- Susannah Friend, born c. 1670, married c. 1694 Enoch Enochsson, son of Garrett and Gertrude Enochson. Four sons.

- Sarah Friend, born c. 1672, married c. 1700 Amos Nicholas (English). Four known children
- Gabriel Friend, born c. 1674, married Maria Van Culen, daughter of Johan Van Culen and Annicka Grelsson; died after 1748. Five known children.
- Lars Friend, born c. 1676, married in 1718 to Sarah Jaquet, daughter of Paul and Maria Jaquet; died in New Jersey in 1754. Four known children.
- Barbara Friend, born c. 1678, married in 1705 to Peter Longacre, son of Anders Petersson Longacre and Magdalena Cock; died after 1739 in Kingsessing, Philadelphia County. Five known children.

Justa Andersson was an adult by 1670 when he joined his father in signing a letter written in haste to warn the English at New Castle of an impending attack by Seneca Indians from the north. He married, by 1676 a Dutch widow by the name of Aeltie, who was the mother of a teen-age boy named Sybrant Matthiassen Valk, then a servant for Peter Alrichs. When they took back her son into their household, constables were sent to Justa Andersson's house in New Castle to recover the boy for his master. Justa and Aeltie so verbally abused the constables that they fled in terror. Justa and Aeltie were fined 600 guilders for their behavior in the incident.

Justa Andersson had no children of his own. After selling his 150 acres at Deer Point, Justa bought the inn in New Castle. He dealt extensively in real estate, both in New Castle and elsewhere. Among his dealings was the purchase of Olof Stille's original plantation in Chester (now Delaware) County, Pa., from pastor Lars Lock. Part of this land, on Ridley Creek, was then sold to widow Anna Friend, who moved with her younger children to this location.

Justa went bankrupt and the last of his New Castle property was sold by the sheriff to pay his creditors. He then moved to Cecil County, Maryland, where he was known as Justa Anderson alias Cock. When naturalized by William Penn on 32 February 1682/3, he had been called Justa Andries de Haan. The words "de haan" mean "the rooster" in Dutch, which may have been descriptive of his personality. Justa Andersson alias Cock died some time after 12 November 1695 when he was sued in the Cecil County court.

John Andersson, the younger son, married by 1676 Catharina, the daughter of Hendrick Jacobsson and Gertrude his wife. He sold his 150 acres of Deer Point to Peter Jegoe. In 1681, he was granted 390 acres on the east side of Red Clay Creek, which he sold to Peter Stalcop and John Hansson Steelman in 1689. However, he never lived there. By 1681, he was living in Chester County, probably on land owned by his brother-in-law, Olle Rawson. When indicted by the Chester County court for stealing pork, Olle Rawson and Nils Larsson Frände posted bond for him. John Andersson was acquitted, but moved by 1682 to live in "Stockholm Township," on the north side of Raccoon Creek in what became Gloucester County.

While residing in New Jersey, John was called John Anderson "the little," to distinguish him from John Andersson Sträng, who was called John Andersson "the big." By June 1689, John Andersson was back in Chester County, living with his mother. Both were sued there for a debt of £2.12.6 on account. By 1693, when the church census showed seven persons in his household, John was back in New Castle County, where he was granted 300 acres between Brandywine Creek and Red Clay Creek. By this time he was known as John Anderson Cock.

John Anderson Cock gave £4 for the construction of Holy Trinity Church. He and his wife were both assigned pews in the new church in 1699. Having sold most of his land on Brandywine Creek and having given the remaining 100 acres to his son Andrew ("Andrishi") Cock, John purchased 200 acres of "Oak Hill" on Mill Creek from Anna Friend in May 1701. Quitrents on this land were not paid, because John Anderson was sick. John Anderson Cock sold this property to Charles Springer, 10 February 1702/03. He probably died shortly thereafter.

John Andersson Cock and Catharine Hendricksdotter had at least the following children:

- Andrew ("Andrishi") Cock, born c. 1678, married [1] Aeltie, widow of Zacharias Vanderculin [no children] and [2] Sarah Stidham, daughter of Adam and Catharine Stidham, c. 1708; died 8 Dec. 1749 in New Castle County. Ten children by second marriage.



Justa Cock, born c. 1683, married Annika (parents not identified) by 1713. Three children baptized at Holy Trinity, 1713-1720 before he moved to Nottingham in Chester County.

- William Cock, born c. 1685, married Amy Vanderculin (Dutch), daughter of Reigner Vanderculin and Margaret Ogge, c. 1714; died 1743 in New Castle County. Five known children.
- Joseph Cock, born c. 1690, married Maria (parents not identified) by 1718; disappears from New Castle County records in 1720 after baptism of two children at Holy Trinity.
- Catharina Cock, born c. 1695, married Peter Pålsson, son of Olle and Kerstin Pålsson of Fern Hook, 20 October 1720, and had ten children before her death after childbirth on 18 November 1739. Her husband remarried Maria, daughter of Johan Van Culin and Christina Pålsson and widow of Stephen Tussey c. 1742 and moved to Cecil County, where he died in 1755.

Brita Andersdotter, the younger daughter of Anders the Finn, was married by 1673 to Olof Rase, more commonly known as Olle or Wolla Rawson and finally as William Rawson. He had arrived in New Sweden as a soldier on the Eagle in 1654 and, together with Nils Larsson Frände had been licensed to buy land from the Indians in Gloucester County in 1668. He sold his interest in the New Jersey venture in 1675, being satisfied with his original tract of land on the west bank of the Delaware, located above and below Marcus Hook. This tract, originally granted by the Dutch before 1664 was repatented in 1676 by Governor Andros of New York to Olle Rawson and five others and estimated to be 1,000 acres. Each of the other owners moved to new locations, however, so that most of this land ended up in the ownership of Olle Rawson.

With the creation of Pennsylvania and the influx of new settlers from Great Britain, Olle Rawson profited greatly by the sale of lands north of Marcus Hook to the newcomers. He held on to approximately 400 acres, centered around Naamans Creek. In 1685, he entered into an agreement with John Bristow to erect a gristmill on Naaman's Creek, under an obligation to grind 40 bushels of corn per year for the balance of the lives of Wolla Rawson and his wife Brita.. The last record of him alive is a deed dated 25 July 1697 by which Wooley Rawson and his son Lacy Rawson sold seven acres of land with a mill and mill race thereon to Jasper Yeates.

Olle Rawson and his wife Brita had five confirmed children:

- Maria Rawson, born c. 1667, married by 1684 Hans Gustafsson (alias Justis), son of Johan Gustafsson and his wife Brigitta. Initially, they lived at Marcus Hook on lands owned by Olle Rawson, but moved after 1700 to Cecil County to live on lands owned by her brother Lawrence Rawson. In 1710 they witnessed the marriage of their daughter Lydia to Rev. Jonas Aurén. They also had four sons, John, William, Peter and Måns.
- Charles Rawson, born c. 1670, died intestate at Marcus Hook before 22 November 1708, when letters of administration were issued on his estate to his widow Mary. They had two sons and four daughters.
- Lars Rawson, also known as Lacy or Lawrence Rawson, was born c. 1672 and married into wealth when he wed Susannah Oldfield, only daughter and heiress of George Oldfield, formerly of Cecil County, Maryland, and his wife Petronella Tussey, widow of Captain John Carr. On 17 August 1703, George Oldfield, gentleman, of Chester County conveyed to Lawrence Rawson of Cecil County all of his mares, horses and land in Cecil County. These lands soon were also occupied by Lawrence Rawson's brother-in-law Hans Justis and his cousin Anders Friend. Lawrence Rawson died in Cecil County about 1718. His widow Susannah then married John Powell, who sold most of Lawrence Rawson's former lands and chattels in 1720. Lawrence Rawson had no known children
- John Rawson, born c. 1674, married Margaret (parents not identified) and remained in the Marcus Hook area, where he owned 106 acres, inherited from his father. John's will, dated 24 September 1736 and proved 11 October 1739, named one son and four daughters, all of them still minors.
- William Rawson, born c. 1677, inherited 118 acres near Naamans Creek, but he spent most

of his adult life at the Maurice River in southern New Jersey, where he acquired 1100 acres of forest land in 1718, established a sawmill in 1719, and opened a tavern in 1722. He ran into financial difficulty, however, and in 1739 William Rawson and his wife Lydia mortgaged his 118 acres in Brandywine Hundred. The mortgage was not paid and his land was sold at public auction in 1740. He died in January 1748 and was buried in the Maurice River churchyard, established by the Swedes living in that area. Benjamin Bispham was named administrator of his estate. No children of William Rawson have been identified.

- Andrew Rawson, born c. 1680, inherited 107 acres on Naaman's Creek which he sold, with his wife Gertrude, in 1728. He had already, for several years, established himself as an innholder in Chichester, Chester County. He married 2nd Sarah Bloair at Holy Trinity Church, 28 July 1730, but died within a year thereafter. He was survived by three children from his first marriage and one daughter by his second marriage, who died in her infancy.

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## Nils Andersson and His Lykins Descendants

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The freeman Nils Andersson, his wife and at least four children were aboard the *Eagle* when that ship left Gothenburg for New Sweden on the 2nd of February 1654. From the burial records of two surviving daughters, we learn that he came from Nya Kopparberget in Ljusnarsberg parish, Örebro län, Sweden.

Nils Andersson may never have seen the new land. He probably was one of many who died at sea. When the new freemen were gathered at Tinicum Island to sign pledges of allegiance to Governor Johan Risingh, Nils Andersson's widow signed for the family.

The widow (name unknown) soon remarried. Her second husband was Mats Hansson from Borgå, Finland, one of the leading freemen of the colony who had arrived in New Sweden in 1641 and served on Governor Risingh's council.

In order to provide a home for his new family, Mats Hansson became the first settler on Minquas Island, an island to the north of Tinicum Island, later surveyed as 468 acres. By 1660, Mats Hansson had given half of this island to his new son-in-law, Anders Svensson Bonde, who had married Anna Nilsson. The island would later bear his name and become known as Boon's Island. On 18 May 1663, Governor Petrus Stuyvesant granted patents to Mats Hansson and Anders Svensson Bonde for their halves of Minquas Island.

After the surrender of New Sweden to the Dutch in 1655, Mats Hansson from Borgå became one of the justices of the Upland Court and served in that capacity until at least 1663. Upon his death, his remaining half of Minquas Island went to his second son-in-law, Otto Ernest Cock, who received an English patent confirming his ownership on 7 May 1672.

The two youngest children of Nils Andersson were Peter Nilsson and Michel Nilsson. They ultimately settled in the woods of Shackamaxon and adopted the surname of Lyckan, meaning "a glen or clearing in the woods," which was descriptive of their plantations. Neither Peter nor Michel could write. They signed documents with a "P" or an "M." Among literate Swedes their surname was spelled Laijkan, Laican, Leikan and Laikan. In deeds and wills, the English scribes used the spelling of Lakian, Lykell, Lyckan, Lykan, Likin, Lycon, Loykan, Laycon, Leycon and Laicon. Their descendants also have similar variations to the surname.

The four known children of Nils Andersson from Nya Kopparberget are:

1. **Anna Nilsdotter**, born in Nya Kopparberget about 1637, married Anders Svensson Bonde c. 1657 and lived her entire adult life on Minquas (later Boon's Island), where she died in 1713. She had ten children – Sven, Peter, Hans, Catharina, Nils, Olle, Margareta, Brigitta, Anders and Ambora. (See “Anders Svensson Bonde and His Boon Family,” *Swedish Colonial News*, Vol. 1, No. 14, Fall 1996).

2. **Christina Nilsdotter**, born in Nya Kopparberget c. 1639, married **Otto Ernest Cock** [originally spelled Koch], a Holsteiner, c. 1670, who was given half of Boon's (former Minquas) Island. She died there in 1709. Her husband served as a justice on the Upland Court, 1671-1683, and also was a warden of the log church at Wicaco. He died in 1720. Christina, who was buried 3 July 1709, had three children who lived to adulthood and married:

- **Valentine Cock**, born c. 1672, was married in 1697 to Margaret Swanson, daughter of Anders and Anna Svensson. After her death, he married 2nd Elisabeth, widow of Christiern Jöransson of the Wilmington congregation. He died at Boon's Island in 1725, survived by four known sons: Andrew Cock, born c. 1700, married Catharina Hoffman, widow of Andrew Rambo of NJ, and died in 1770 at Boon's Island; Otto Cock, born c. 1704, married Maria Lock and died at Repaupo Creek in New Jersey by 1750; Gunnar Cock, born c. 1708, married Christina Hendrickson in 1734 and died in Gloucester County NJ in 1759; Peter Cock, born c. 1710, married Beata Lock and died in Gloucester County NJ c. 1760.
- **Zacharias Cock**, born in 1674, married Christina Stille, daughter of John and Gertrude Stille, on 24 Jan. 1705. His father gave him a 210-acre plantation on the east side of Cobb's Creek in Kingessing, which remained his home until his death in 1740. He had two sons: John, who died unmarried, and Arthur (Otto), the eldest, who had sons William and Zacharias.
- **Elizabeth Cock**, born c. 1676, married Matthias Nitzilius by 1696. The couple were granted land on Cobb's Creek by her father, which they thought to be 200 acres, but the Quaker government granted 100 acres of it to Richard Tucker, which was the cause of considerable protest among the Swedes. Elisabeth predeceased her husband, who died in 1724, survived by Christina, who married Conrad Niedemark; Otto (a.k.a. Arthur) who married widow Maria Lenderman [Swedish]; Catharina; Maria; Elisabeth who married Daniel Van Culin; Dorothy; and Margaret.

3. **Peter Nilsson Lyckan**, probably born in Nya Kopparberget c. 1641, was married by estimation in 1663. In 1671 was living with his young family on the Printztorp plantation, owned by Armegard Printz at the mouth of Upland Creek. Within a few years, Peter had moved with his brother Michel and Gunnar Rambo to Shackamaxon. Ultimately, in 1691, he received a patent for this land, 468½ acres.

Peter Lyckan also acquired 200 acres nearby which he called “Poor Island.” He wrote his will on 21 January 1691/2, naming his brother Michel and his brother-in-law Otto Ernest Cock as executors. The will left 180 acres apiece to his two unmarried sons and £ 20 apiece to his three unmarried daughters when they reached the age of 21. He died at Shackamaxon shortly thereafter. The name of his wife has not yet been discovered.

Peter's surviving children were:

- **Nils Laican**, born c. 1664, married Maria Gästenberg c. 1687. She was a daughter of Olle Nilsson alias Gästenberg. During his father's lifetime he had been given 300 acres, including “Poor Island.” In 1711 he also purchased a corn grist mill on Red Clay Creek in New Castle County, 294 acres, half of which he gave to his daughter Christina after she married Justa Justis, Jr., of Kingessing, and the other half of which was sold after his death to his



daughter Brita when she married John Seeds of New Castle County. Nils Laican was an active member of Gloria Dei until his death on 4 December 1721. He was survived by seven daughters: Christina, who married Justa Justis, Jr.; Gertrude, who married Edward Hatfield in 1714; Anna, who married John Rambo, Jr., son of John Rambo and Brigitta Cock of Gloucester County, NJ; Elisabeth, who married (1) Fred Geörge by 1718 and (2) Måns Jonasson Keen in 1722; Brita, who married (1) John Seeds in 1722 and (2) Thomas Milner; Susannah (not traced); and Maria, who married Hans Ericsson Keen.

- **Anders Laican**, born c. 1666, was married by 1695 to Anna [parents not identified]. In 1699 he sold his land at Shackamaxon and moved to Matsunk (Swedesford) on the Schuylkill on land that he rented from Måns Cock. By 1709 he had moved upriver to Manatawney (present Douglassville) to share land owned by his brother-in-law Måns Jones. He bought this land in 1721. He sold the same to his son-in-law Benjamin Boone in 1733. He died at Manatawney before 1740, survived by his wife Anna. They had one son, Peter Lycon, born c. 1706, who married Sarah Jones, daughter of Jonas Jones and Anne Seymour of Kingessing and became the progenitor of the Lykins families of present West Virginia. They also had daughters Christina, who married Israel Robeson, a grandson of Israel Helm; Brita, who married pastor Samuel Hesselius; Anna, who never married but had a daughter; Susanna, who married the Quaker Benjamin Boone; Maria, who married Anders Ringberg, an immigrant from Sweden; and Phoebe, who married John Jones, son of Jonas Jones and Anne Seymour of Kingessing.
- **Hans Laican**, born in 1668, married Gertrude Johansdotter, daughter of Johan Classon c. 1695. In 1697, he sold his land at Shackamaxon and acquired 160 acres at Pennypack in Lower Dublin Township, Philadelphia, which remained his home until his death on 19 September 1751. The land was then sold to pay off the mortgage. He had five sons and two known daughters. John Lycon, the eldest, married Elizabeth (surname unknown) and moved to Burlington County; the last report on him was the fact that he escaped from the Burlington County jail in March 1742. Peter Lycon, born in 1699, married Brita Jones in 1719, and lived for several years in Moorland township, Philadelphia, before moving to Frederick County, Virginia, where he died in 1753. Hans Lycon, Jr., remained at Pennypack and was twice married, dying in 1761. Nicholas Lycon remained with his father until the home plantation was sold and then moved to Burlington County, NJ, where he died in 1766. Andrew Lycon, the youngest son, married Jane Cahoon at Christ Church in 1730 and then moved to the Pennsylvania frontier, where he was killed by Indians in Lykens Valley, Fermanagh township, Cumberland County in 1756.
- **Ingeborg Laican**, born c. 1670 married Måns Jonasson [Mounce Jones], son of Jonas Nilsson, about 1690. The couple became the first Swedish settlers at Manatawney (Douglassville) in Berks County. Their children included: Margaret, born 1691, who married Marcus Huling; Peter, born 1693, who married Elisabeth [parents unknown]; Christina, born 1696; Jonas, born 1698, who married Maria Knecht; Andrew, born c. 1700, who married Dorothy Goucher; and Magdalena, who married Andrew Bird.
- Three other daughters, all unmarried, were also mentioned in Peter Laican's will: **Anna**, **Mallee [Magdalena]** and **Brita**. They have not been traced.

4. **Michel Nilsson Laican**, born c. 1644 in Sweden, married Helena Lom in 1670. She was the daughter of Måns Svensson Lom and step-daughter of Lars Andersson Collinus of Moyamensing. Michel moved with his brother Peter to Shackamaxon, which remained his home until 1699, when he sold his lands and moved to a plantation on Woodbury Creek in Gloucester County. Although he had been named a church warden at Gloria Dei Church in 1701, he was instrumental in establishing the new Swedish church on Raccoon Creek in 1702. He was buried on 17 April 1704. He was survived by ten children:

**Catharina Laican**, born 1671, married Laurence Huling of Gloucester County NJ c. 1695. They had two children before Lawrence's death in 1700: Laurence Huling, Jr. (1697-1748), who married Diana Helm and remained in New Jersey, and Michael Huling (1699-1781) who married twice and became a successful shipwright in Philadelphia.

- **Anna Laican**, born 21 Aug. 1673, married John Gunnarsson Rambo c. 1695. They moved to Matsunk (Swedesford) in Upper Merion Township with his father, Gunnar Rambo. She died by 1725 after bearing seven children: Peter, Måns, Gabriel, Michael, Anna, Helena and Ezekiel. Her husband remarried, had four additional children and died in Upper Merion in February 1746.
- **Gertrude Laican**, born 16 Dec. 1675, married Peter Ericsson Cock c. 1702 and died in Gloucester County c. 1721, survived by seven children: Emanuel, Catharina, Helena, Anna, Maria, Peter and Måns. Her husband remarried, had five more children and died in Gloucester County in July 1747.
- **Nils Laican**, born 20 Feb. 1677, married Susannah Casparsdotter Fish at Gloria Dei Church on 11 November 1702. He died as Nicholas Lycon in Deptford Township, Gloucester County, NJ, in March 1733. He had no surviving children.
- **Måns Laican**, born 10 March 1679, married Maria Jones, daughter of John Jones and Catharina Lock, c. 1720. They had daughters Catharina and Helena before he died in Deptford Township in January 1728.
- **Anders Laican**, born 11 March 1682, never married. He died as Andrew Lycon in Deptford Township in March 1733.
- **Christina Laican**, born 15 Feb. 1684, married Elias Casparsson Fish by 1703. They lived in Upper Greenwich Township, Gloucester County. She was bearing children as late as January 1727. It is not known when she died, but it appears that she and several of her children died in the smallpox epidemic of 1728.
- **Michael Laican**, born 11 Oct. 1686, married Annicka Fredricksdotter Hoffman c. 1709. They had at least ten children, including three sons who survived childhood: Michael, Frederick and Ezekiel. The father disappears from recorded history after 1740. Frederick (1715-1770) moved back across the Delaware to live at Calcon Hook in Lower Darby Township.
- **Helena Laican**, born 29 Dec. 1689, married Casper Fish, Jr., of Waterford Township, Gloucester County. She predeceased her husband, whose will of 21 October 1748 named sons Michael, John, Isaac and Elias and daughters Rebecca, Mary and Helena.
- **Zacharias Laican**, born 26 Dec. 1696, never married. He died in Deptford Township at the end of March 1733.



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## Anders Bengtsson and his Bankson & Bankston Descendants

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The dedication of Gloria Dei (Old Swedes) Church in 1700 marked the realization of a lifetime dream for many of the members of the Swedes' church at Wicaco, but especially so for one of its old-timers, Anders Bengtsson, known to the English as Andrew Bankson.

Anders Bengtsson, born in 1640 near Gothenburg, was a lad of 16 when he arrived in former New Sweden on the *Mercurius* in 1656. On 22 November 1668, he married Gertrude Rambo, the 18-year-old daughter of Peter Gunnarsson Rambo and Brita Matsdotter. The new couple established their home and farm at Moy-amensing along the Delaware River in present South Philadelphia.

An industrious farmer, Bengtsson later expanded his holdings by periodic purchase of lands in adjoining Passyunk, fronting on the Schuylkill River, so that he owned well over 400 acres in South Philadelphia by 1694.

Anders Bengtsson quickly rose to positions of prominence in the Swedish community. In 1681, he became a justice on the Upland Court and continued to serve on that court until it was abolished by the new Province of Pennsylvania in 1683. In that year, he served as a member of the first Assembly of Pennsylvania and witnessed the adoption of its Charter on 2 April 1683. He was elected to the Assembly in 1686.

Meanwhile, Anders Bengtsson also served faithfully as a member of the Swedish log church at Wicaco, dedicated in 1677. He was a vestryman of that church by 1684 and continued in this capacity until 1702. His duties for that church increased when the minister, Jacobus Fabritius, became blind in 1682 and the sexton, Jacob Jungh, died in April 1686. To fill the void until replacements could be secured, Anders Bengtsson volunteered his services as lay reader for the congregation.

On 30 August 1694, being "gravely sick and weak of body," Andrew Bankson wrote his final will and testament, bequeathing his property to his wife and children. But, he recovered his health. On 1 October 1695, perhaps in gratitude for his recovery, he sold 84 acres of his land at Passyunk to the church wardens at Wicaco for the use of the minister Jacobus Fabritius, "now superannuated," and such successors who might come thereafter.

And come they did. Fabritius died in 1696, but as he was being buried, three new ministers were being dispatched by the King of Sweden to serve the Swedes on the Delaware. The senior pastor among them, Andreas Rudman, became the new minister at Wicaco. And Anders Bengtsson became one of his most stalwart supporters. When the new church, Gloria Dei, was dedicated in 1700, church warden Anders Bengtsson had one of the choicest pews.

After recovering his health, Andrew Bankson also resumed an active role in civil affairs, being elected again to the Pennsylvania Assembly on 11 May 1698. He also served as a justice on the Philadelphia County court, 1701-1704.

Pastor Andreas Sandel replaced Andreas Rudman as minister of Gloria Dei Church in 1702. He, like his predecessor, relied on Anders Bengtsson's advice. On 14 September 1705, Sandel presented the final word covering his friend's life: "I buried Anders Bengtsson, born in Sweden near Göteborg in the parish of Fåxarn [Fuxerna] and Hanström farm. He drowned in the Delaware, 65 years old."

Andrew Bankson was survived by his wife Gertrude. They had nine known children, generally known by the surname of Bengtson in church records, but usually Bankson in English records. Among descendants in the south, the surname evolved into Bankston.

1. **Bengt (Benjamin) Bankson**, born in 1669, married c. 1692 Catharina, daughter of Peter Larsson Cock and Margaret Lom. They lived in Moyamensing, where both of them died by 1748. They had four known children (Daniel, Peter, Jacob and Mary).
2. **Andrew Bankson, Jr.**, born c. 1672, married c. 1694 Gertrude, daughter of Lars Larsson Boore and Elisabeth. They made their home on Poquessing Creek in Byberry Township, Philadelphia, where he was still living in 1744. They had at least seven children (Andrew, Elisabeth, Lawrence, John, Rebecca, Peter and Daniel). The son Lawrence Bankson moved first to present York County, Pa., and then to North Carolina, leaving many descendants who used the surname of Bankston.
3. **Peter Bankson**, born 6 March 1677, married in 1698 Catharina, daughter of Swan Swansson and Catharina. They lived at Wicaco, where Peter died in 1707 and his wife died in 1711. They had two children (Gertrude and Swan).
4. **Catharine Bankson**, born 29 January 1679, married Peter Mattson, Jr., of Gloucester County NJ. They had five children (Andrew, Peter, Maria, John and Matts) before Mattson's death in 1722. She then married Johan van Culen on 26 May 1726. He died in January 1729. She was buried 27 Sept. 1735. She had no children by her second marriage.
5. **John Bankson**, born 31 March 1681, married c. 1705 Helena, daughter of Peter Cock, Jr., and Helena Helm. They lived at Passyunk, where John died on 12 June 1739. His widow was still living in 1757. They had five children (Andrew, Peter, Deborah, John and Jacob).
6. **Jacob Bankson**, born 19 October 1684, married after 1707 Margaret, daughter of Lasse Cock and Martha Ashman. They lived in Passyunk, where Margaret died before 1752. Jacob died in August 1766, survived by three children (Deborah, Martha and Andrew).
7. **Brigitta Bankson**, born 10 April 1687, was still living when her father wrote his will in 1694. Not further traced.
8. **Daniel Bankson**, born 22 January 1691, became a shipwright, first in Philadelphia, then in Bucks County, where he died in 1727, leaving a wife named Elizabeth. They had no children.
9. **Joseph Bankson**, born 2 May 1696, became a carpenter in Philadelphia. After 1721, he moved to Baltimore, Maryland, where he died in 1732, survived by a wife named Hannah and four children (Joseph, Rebecca, Ariana and Susanna).







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## Anders Svensson Bonde and his Boon Family

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Bonde (pronounced Boon-de in Swedish) means "farmer" and was adopted as a surname by Anders Svensson, born in 1620, one of the farmers hired by Cornelius Van Vliet of Gothenburg in 1639 to work in the New Sweden colony. Promised a wage of 5 guilders per month, Bonde and others from the Gothenburg area, including Peter Gunnarsson Rambo and Peter Andersson (progenitor of the Longacre family) sailed to New Sweden on the *Kalmar Nyckel*, arriving at Fort Christina in April 1640.

Three years later, after the arrival of Governor Printz, Anders Bonde was promoted to the position of gunner at Fort New Gothenburg on Tinicum Island at ten guilders per month. He served in this capacity for ten years until he returned to Sweden with Governor Printz in September 1653 on a Dutch ship, which arrived in Amsterdam in March 1654. On returning to Sweden, it took many months for Bonde to collect his substantial back pay. He then decided to return to New Sweden and left again for the colony on the *Mercurius* in late 1655.

Anders Svensson Bonde established his residence in Kingsessing. By 1660, he had married Anna (parents unknown), who had been born in Nya Kopparberget, Örebro län, in Sweden.

A successful farmer, Bonde added additional lands to his holdings. At an early date, he acquired from the Indians an island in the Delaware east of Tinicum Island which came to be known as Boon's Island, now a part of Philadelphia International Airport. This became his permanent home. He also shared the island with Otto Ernest Cock, a Holsteiner, who had married Anna Bonde's sister. Other acquired lands included "Boon's Forrest" 200 acres, in Calcon Hook (Lower Darby).

The will of Andrew Swanson Boon, dated 18 April 1694 and proved 1 Jan. 1696, provided for his wife and his ten children. His widow Anna Boon dictated her will on 8 Jan. 1713. She was buried at Gloria Dei Church on 11 Jan. 1713. Rev. Sandel reported her age to be 79, probably a substantial exaggeration. The husbands of her three surviving daughters were named administrators of her estate.

The ten surviving children of Anders Svensson Bonde, all of whom were known as Boon in English records, were:

1. **Swan Boon**, born 1661, married by 1688 Brigitta Swanson, daughter of Swan and Catharina

- Swanson of Wicaco. He died in Lower Darby Township in 1729 survived by one son (Andrew) and two daughters (Catharine and Margaret).
2. **Peter Boon**, born 1664, married Catharina Morton, daughter of Mårten Mårtensson, Jr., and Margaret Bärtilsdotter, c. 1693. He moved to Boughttown in Upper Penn's Neck, Salem County NJ in 1705 and died there two years later, survived by three sons (Andrew, Morton, and Peter).
  3. **Hans Boon**, born in 1669, married c. 1698 Barbara Swanson, younger sister of Swan Boon's wife. He died in Lower Darby in 1725, survived by two sons (Andrew and Swan) and three daughters (Catharine, Anna, and Brigitta).
  4. **Catharina Boon**, born c. 1673, married c. 1691 Anders Jonasson, son of Jonas Nilsson. She died in Kingsessing before 1728, survived by eight sons and two daughters.
  5. **Nils (Nicholas) Boon**, born in 1675, married Mary Van Kirk, Dutch, from Bucks County. They lived at Pennypack, Lower Dublin Township, where Nils died in 1736, survived by several daughters, including Maria and Catharina.
  6. **Olle (William) Boon**, born in 1677, married c. 1704 Margaret, probably the daughter of Måns Cock and Gertrude Jonasdotter [Nilsson]. he died in 1714 at Boon's Island, Kingsessing, survived by one son (William) and two daughters (Anna and Gunilla).
  7. **Margareta Boon**, born in 1679, married Måns Yocum, son of Peter Petersson Yocum and Judith Jonasdotter [Nilsson]. He died childless in 1722. She may have remarried.
  8. **Brigitta Boon**, born in 1681, died before 1713, as she was not named in her mother's will.
  9. **Anders Boon**, born in 1683, married Helena, daughter of Nils Jonasson and Christina Gästenberg, who bore two sons (Andrew and Nils) and one daughter (Christina). After Helena's death Anders married Mary (parents not identified), who was mother of his third son (Joseph). Anders Boon died in Kingsessing in 1731.
  10. **Ambora Boon**, born in 1685, married Jonas Bjursrtöm, a native of Sweden who arrived in America with pastors Rudman, Björk and Aurén in 1697. They established their home in Mannington Township, Salem County NJ, where Ambora died 12 Nov. 1719. They had one son and one daughter baptized at the Swedish church in Penn's Neck.



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## Sinnick Broer the Finn and his Sinex, Sinnickson & Falkenberg Descendants

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Among the 92 Finns aboard the *Mercurius* when the ship arrived on the Delaware in March 1656 was the family of Sinnick Broer, a group of five which included his wife, a daughter and two sons, Broer and Anders Sinnicksson.

Sinnick considered himself lucky. When the ship left Göteborg in November 1655, less than half of the Finns wanting to come to New Sweden could be accommodated. Over half of them who, like Sinnick, had sold all of their possessions and counted on being given space on the *Mercurius*, were left behind.

But, on arrival in the Delaware, a new shock arose. Unknown to anyone on board, from Lieutenant Johan Papegoja and Commissary Hendrick Huygen down to the passengers and crew, New Sweden did not exist any more. The colony had been surrendered to the Dutch the preceding September. Even worse, Jean Paul Jacquet, the Dutch commander at Fort Casimir (New Castle) forbid the ship to dock and unload its cargoes and passengers. Under directions from Governor Peter Stuyvesant, Jacquet was ordered to send the *Mercurius* back to Sweden immediately.

But the impasse was soon broken by the local Swedish leaders and their Indian friends. Secretly during the night, Indians "in great numbers" boarded the *Mercurius* and defiantly ordered Papegoja to take the ship past the fort to Tinicum Island, where both passengers and cargo were unloaded. The Dutch did not dare to fire upon the ship with so many Indians aboard.

The arrival of 92 Finns and 13 Swedes (several of whom were returning to New Sweden) also tipped the political scales on the Delaware. Huygen traveled to New Amsterdam and negotiated a new agreement with Stuyvesant, which granted the Swedes and Finns living north of the Christina River the right of self-government, including the right to have their own court (the Upland Court), their own militia and their own religion, provided that they remain loyal to New Netherlands.

Sinnick's name appeared briefly in the records of Fort Casimir (New Castle) when, on 10 January 1657, he was named as a party to an agreement fixing the prices that would be paid to Indians for beaver and other animal furs. The Dutch scribe entered his name as "Zenok." Also, under Dutch rule, Sinnick Broer and two partners Anders Andersson the Finn and Walraven Jansen DeVos (a



former Dutch soldier married to Christina Ollesdotter) were granted 450 morgens (900 acres) of land on the north side of Christina River.

After the Dutch surrender to the English in 1664, this tract of land was patented to Sinnick Broer and his partners by Governor Francis Lovelace on 1 September 1669. A month later, Lovelace also issued a patent to Anders the Finn and 19 others living in the neighborhood to construct a mill on this site.

This large tract of land was called "Deer Point" in May 1671 when Walter Wharton made the first English census of the Delaware. Later, after the Dutchman Arnoldus de la Grange bought out the share owned by Anders the Finn, it became known as "Middleburgh." Still later, it became known as Richardson Park, after the family which succeeded de la Grange. It is now part of Wilmington, Delaware.

During Wharton's visit to Deer Point in 1671, Sinnick Broer informed Wharton that he also had purchased 100 morgens (200 acres) of land at Appoquinimink Creek (present Odessa, Delaware) from Daniel Andersson. Wharton dutifully made out a patent for Sinnick Broer for this second piece of land. Daniel Andersson, a Finn from Lekvattnet, Fryksände parish, in Värmland, had also been a passenger on the *Mercurius* and had received a Dutch patent for this land in 1663.

It would appear that Sinnick Broer was then planning a move to his new land at Appoquinimink Creek, for he sold his third of Deer Point to Justa Andersson, eldest son of Anders the Finn. However, within a year, Sinnick Broer was dead and the planned move came to naught. On 12 October 1672, Sinnick's three adult children signed a statement saying, "We the heirs of Seneca Brewer have, for 930 guilders, sold to Justa Anderson his plantation at Appoquinimink."

### **The Falkenberg Line**

The first name listed on this sale was written as "Henry Jackson," a poor translation of Sinnick Broer's daughter's husband, who was generally known as Hendrick Jacobs Falkenberg. He was a Holsteiner who immigrated to Delaware in 1663 or 1664 when the Dutch colony was recruiting farmers from northern European nations. It is unknown when he married Sinnick's daughter or what her name was. In 1675, however, he was residing at Deer Point with Broer Sinnicksson. He then formed a partnership with Pierre Jegou, a French Huguenot, and moved to "Lazy Point," north of present Burlington, New Jersey, where he operated an inn for travelers and native Indians. Becoming well versed in the language of the Lenape Indians, Hendrick Jacobs Falkenberg soon became the foremost Indian interpreter in New Jersey and was a party to many treaties with the Indians. In 1682 he acquired 200 acres on the south side of Rancocas Creek in Burlington County. As late as 1689 he was still listed as a member of the Swedish Church at Wicaco.

In 1679, Hendrick Jacobs and his wife were visited by a Dutch traveler, who gave this description of their house in his diary:

"The house was made according to the Swedish mode, and as they usually build their houses here, which are block-houses, being nothing else than entire trees, split through the middle, or squared out in the rough, and placed in the form of a square, upon each other, as high as they wish to have the house. The ends of these timbers are let into each other, about a foot from the ends, half of one into half of the other. The whole structure is thus made, without a nail or a spike. The ceiling and roof do not exhibit much finer work, except among the most careful people, who have the ceiling planked and a glass window. The doors are wide enough, but very low, so that you have to stoop in entering. These houses are quite tight and warm, but the chimney is placed in a corner."

In 1697 Hendrick Jacobs Falkenberg obtained a confirmation of an earlier Indian deed for land at Little Egg Harbor on the Atlantic Coast. He moved to this location where he married a second time. He died about 1712, survived by his second wife Mary (a Quaker) and their son, Jacob

Hendricks Falkenberg.

By his first marriage to Sinnick's daughter, Hendrick had at least one son, Henry Falkenberg, who was living in Cecil County, Maryland, by 1710. He later moved with his several sons to Orange (now Frederick) County, Virginia, and then moved to Bladen County, North Carolina, by 1746. His descendants use the surnames of Faulkenberry and Fortenberry.

### **Broer Sinnicksson and his Sinex Descendants**

Broer Sinnicksson, born in Sweden c. 1650, stayed on Sinnick Broer's former farm at Deer Point following his father's death and later re-acquired all of his father's land. The chain of succession was a bit complex. After acquiring the plantation from Sinnick Broer, Justa Andersson had sold the entire property to Hans Peterson, the miller of Skilpot Creek. Peterson, in turn, sold half of the land (including the house) to Anders Jöransson, a Finn, on 27 Sept. 1672. Peterson sold the other half (undeveloped) to Matthias Matthiasson, a Swedish blacksmith.

Anders Jöransson died in late 1675, survived by his widow Sophia and five small sons. By early 1678 Sophia had married Broer Sinnicksson. On 8 May 1678, "Broer Sinnexe, husband of Sophia, relict of Andrew Jurianson, deceased," was granted the land of her former husband on condition that he pay his five sons 500 guilders apiece when they reached the age of 21. Meanwhile, the other half of Sinnick Broer's plantation was reconveyed by Matthias Matthiasson to Hans Peterson, who conveyed it to Anders Sinnickson, who conveyed it to his brother Broer.

Upon resurvey in 1684 by the new government of William Penn, Broer's land was found to be 460 acres, for which he was granted a patent on 7 June 1686. He remained on his plantation until his death in 1708, specializing in the raising of sheep and horses as well as grain crops. With the arrival of Ericus Björk as pastor of the Swedish church, Broer was named to the Church Council and served as a faithful lay leader of the church until his death.

In 1703, Broer Sinnicksson made a deed of gift to his only son James of half of his plantation. In his will of 25 November 1708, Broer left the other half (including his house) to his wife Sophia for life, and after her death, to their son James for life, then to James' eldest son Broer. The will directed that £10 be given to the church and that his young mare be given to Pastor Björk "for the funeral service which I desire him to make." On 2 December 1708, Pastor Björk held the funeral and Broer was buried in the church under his own pew.

Sophia, Broer's widow, died in 1717 at the home of her daughter-in-law Mary Anderson, widow of her son Jöran Andersson.

Broer and Sophia Sinnicksson had one child: James Sinnexon, who was born c. 1678. Shortly after 1700, he married Dorcas Harmensen (Dutch), daughter of Jan Harmensen of New Castle, Delaware. In 1703, they sold her father's house in New Castle and made their home on the other half of his father's plantation at "Middleburgh." Shortly after the death of his father, James Sinnexon also became ill. His will, dated 29 January 1708/9 and proved 8 March 1708/9, left his half of his father's land to his two youngest sons, John and James, after his wife Dorcas's demise.

Through subsequent generations, the descendants of James Sinnexon gradually shortened their surname to Sinex. The three sons were:

1. **Broer Sinnexon**, born c. 1703, was married in 1724 to Brita, daughter of John Hendrickson and Brita Mattson. They had five children baptized at Holy Trinity Church between 1725 and 1735. On 13 December, 1726, he and the guardian for his younger brothers sold their 50 acre mill tract at "Middleburgh" to John Richardson. On 29 January 1736/7 Broer and his two brothers formally divided the remainder of their grandfather's "Middleburgh" estate, each obtaining 138 acres. Over the next several years, Broer sold all of his share and

acquired a lot in Newport in 1744.

Deeply in debt to his brother John, Broer sold his pews in the church to his brother James in September 1744 and announced he was moving to another province. He next appeared in Bladen County, North Carolina, where he was granted land in 1746 on the south side of the Pee Dee River. In the meantime, his brother John sued Broer for a debt of £100, causing the sheriff to confiscate and sell Broer's remaining property in New Castle County. On 19 August 1746, on the petition of his abandoned wife Brita, his eldest son, also named Broer, was bound out to Andrew Morton for four and one-half years.

Meanwhile, on 27 February 1746/7, Brewer Sinnixon married the widow Ann Dewit in Winyaw, South Carolina. She owned 300 acres on the north side of the Wateree River in Craven County, S.C., which had been originally laid out 21 November 1746, and which she sold on 26 March 1756 under the name of Ann Sinnixon. Broer was clearly dead by this time. His property on the Pee Dee River was later claimed by his Falkenberg cousins, who claimed that Broer Sinnixon had died without heirs, except for a son who drowned in Virginia.

This was not entirely true. Broer's first wife, Brita, died of pleurisy on 27 March 1755 in New Castle County at the age of 50 and was buried at Old Swedes Church in Wilmington. Her meager estate was administered by George Patton, who had married her daughter Maria, born in 1733.

2. **John Sinnexon**, born c. 1705, was married on 9 December 1726 to Ingeborg, the daughter of Matthias Tussey and Anna Stidham. During their 20 years of marriage they had eight children born between 1727 and 1744: Dorcas, John, Sara, Anna, Catharine, Ingeborg, Susanna and Maria. John Sinnex died in 1746 at his "Middleburgh" farm. His widow, Ingeborg Tussey, married Edward Robinson on 17 December 1752. She died 7 June 1768 at the age of 64.
3. **James Sinnexon**, born c. 1707, was married on 20 January 1730 to Margaret, daughter of John and Margaret Vardeman of Appoquinimink Hundred. James became a tailor and seems to have prospered. He and Margaret had 11 children born between 1731 and 1752, of whom four are known to have lived to adulthood and married Henry, John, James and Margaret. Both parents were still living on their "Middleburgh" farm in 1767.

### Anders Sinnicksson and his Sinnickson Descendants

Anders Sinnicksson, born in Sweden c. 1651, did not return to his father's farm after his father's death. In 1677 he was residing at Feren Hook on the south side of Christina River and by 1678 he had married Margaret Poulson. On 7 January 1678/9 he was sued for medicines supplied to his wife and child. Later in the same year he moved to Chestnut Neck in Salem County, where he was granted 260 acres north of Parting Creek. This would remain his home for the rest of his life.

After giving birth to two children (Ingrid and John), Anders' wife Margaret died. His second wife, Sarah, was the mother of his other five children. Anders Sinnicksson wrote his will on 17 June 1696, but it was not proved until 4 April 1700. He had given two and one-half pounds for Holy Trinity Church but had probably died before 24 June 1699, when only his wife was assigned a pew in the new church. His widow, Sarah Sinnicksson, was buried at the Penn's Neck church on 27 February 1719.

All seven of his children married:

1. **Ingrid Sinnickson**, born c. 1678, married by 1696 Peter Bilderback and, after his death,

John Hendrickson, Jr. She died in Penn's Neck on 26 March 1725.

2. **John Sinnickson**, born c. 1682, married Ann Philpot Gilljohnson, 28 January 1725, and had three children (John, Sarah and Sinnick) before his death in Penn's Neck in November 1739.
3. **Andrew Sinnickson**, born c. 1691, married Maria Weinam c. 1712. Both parents and their infant son Andrew died in 1713.
4. **Sinnick Sinnickson**, born c. 1693, married Maria Philpot 31 October 1717. He died in Penns Neck in 1750, survived by a son Andrew Sinnickson, who was later described by pastor Nicholas Colin as the wealthiest Finn in West New Jersey.
5. **Margaret Sinnickson**, born c. 1695, married [1] Thomas Vickery, [2] Albert Bilderback, and [3] William Mecum. She died of palsy in Penn's Neck on 12 March 1770.
6. **Catharina Sinnickson**, born c. 1697, married Christiern Peterson on 10 May 1716. She was buried 17 April 1721 at Penns Neck.
7. **Dorothea Sinnickson**, born c. 1699, married Oney Stanley, 27 November 1718. She died in Penn's Neck after 1727.

### John Sinnicksson, the youngest son

John Sinnickson, the youngest son of Sinnick Broer, was born in America c. 1660 and first appeared in public records in 1677 when he was first listed as taxable (age 16 or more) in New Castle County. He later moved across the Delaware to Upper Penn's Neck where he purchased 200 acres of land in Piles Grove on 23 July 1698. Shortly before this, he had married Gertrude, the daughter of Isaac Savoy and Brigitta Hendrickson.

John Sinnickson wrote his will on 18 December 1729, but he did not die until 1735. He actively supported construction of Holy Trinity Church in Wilmington in 1698-1699 and later attended the Swedish church in Swedesboro, New Jersey. He and his wife had eight known children, of whom two are known to have married:

1. **Andrew Sinnickson**, born c. 1698, married [1] Helena Friend by 1721. She died the same year and he married [2] Elizabeth Greenway in 1730. Andrew died in Piles Grove in 1764, survived by two daughters, Elizabeth (wife of William Tuft) and Ebajah (wife of Jonathan Beasley).
2. **Brigitta Sinnickson**, born c. 1710, married Ephraim Friend in 1731.

John was also survived by two other children, **Stephen** and **Susannah**, whose fate has not been determined.



# THE SWEDISH COLONIAL SOCIETY

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## Peter Larsson Cock (Cox)

by **Dr. Peter Stebbins Craig**  
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**Historian, Swedish Colonial Society**

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Peter Larsson was given his surname Kock, "cook" in Swedish, because he served in this capacity in 1641 when he was sent to New Sweden from Stockholm on the ship *Charitas*. The name Kock evolved into Cock, and among his descendants finally became Cox.

Born in 1610 in Bångsta, a hamlet in Turinge parish, Södermanland (now Stockholm Län), Sweden, Peter Larsson Cock was the eldest of six sons of Lars Persson. Before departing for New Sweden, he had been an imprisoned soldier at Smedjegården in Stockholm. The reason for his imprisonment is not known.

Also on board the *Charitas* when it left Stockholm was the family of Måns Svensson Lom from Roslagen, including Måns' daughter Margaret, then about 15 years old. Early in 1643, she married Peter Cock in what probably was the first marriage performed in New Sweden.

In New Sweden, Peter Cock soon became a freeman and played a prominent role in the colony. In July 1651 he was an interpreter for Governor Printz in negotiations with the Indians confirming the Swedish claims to the lands on which the Dutch had built their Fort Casimir (New Castle, Del.) Under Governor Rising, he served on the New Sweden court.

After the surrender of New Sweden in 1655, Cock continued to serve as a justice for the up-river Swedes in present Pennsylvania until succeeded by his eldest son, Captain Lasse Cock, in 1680. He owned an extensive plantation which he called "Kipha," located on "Peter Cock's Island" - actually two islands in the Schuylkill that would later be known as Fisher's Island and Carpenter's Island.

Peter Cock and his wife Margaret had 13 children, 12 of whom grew to adulthood, married and had children of their own. The surviving children were

1. **Lars (Lasse) Cock**, born March 21, 1646, died October 1699, who married Martha Ashman (English), May 15, 1669.
2. **Eric Cock**, born c. 1650, died August 1701, who married Elizabeth (daughter of Olof Philipsson) c. 1673.
3. **Anna Cock**, born c. 1652, died by 1722, married Gunnar Rambo (son of Peter Rambo) c. 1675

4. **Måns Cock**, born c. 1654, died after 1720, who married Gunilla (daughter of Jonas Nilsson), c. 1679
5. **John Cock**, born 1656, died December 1713, who married Brigitta (daughter of Nils Larsson Frände or Friend) c. 1678.
6. **Peter Cock**, born 1658, died May 1708, who married Helena (daughter of Israel Ackesson Helm) c. 1681.
7. **Magdalena**, born 1659, died after 1723, who married Anders Petersson Longacre (son of Peter Andersson) c. 1681.
8. **Maria**, born 1661, died after 1717, who married Andrew Rambo (son of Peter Rambo) c. 1684.
9. **Gabriel**, born 1663, died after 1714, who married Maria (daughter of Nils Larsson Frände) c. 1686.
10. **Brigitta**, born 1665, died 1726, who married John Rambo (son of Peter Rambo) c. 1686.
11. **Margaret**, born 1667, died 1701, who married [1] Robert Longshore (an English surveyor) c. 1687 and [2] Thomas Jenner (an English tailor) c. 1691.
12. **Catherine**, born 1669, died 1748, who married Bengt Bengtsson (son of Anders Bengtsson) c. 1691.

Through these 12 children, Peter and Margaret Cock had over 100 grandchildren. Peter Cock died November 10, 1687 at the age of 77. His widow, Margaret Cock, was also 77 when she was buried at Gloria Dei on February 13, 1703.





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## The Enoch Brothers and their Swedish Descendants

by **Dr. Peter Stebbins Craig**  
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During the week of 13 October 1738, Johan Dylander, the new pastor of Gloria Dei Church, recorded the receipt of 5 shillings for "the opening of a grave for a Dutch woman." The woman was the old widow Gertrude Supplee, whose will, proved 20 November 1738, named two sons, Henry and David Enochson, and two daughters, Catharine Smith and Mary Griffith.

Gertrude was Swedish, not Dutch. But she knew Dutch well she had married three Dutch-speaking husbands. Indeed, she was four times a widow. Born by estimation in 1650, she had first married Garret Enochson in 1669. Garret died before November 1677 and she next married Garret's brother Harman Enochson. Harman was buried at Gloria Dei in 1699, and she next married the Finn Lasse Bärtilsson alias Parker, who died in 1705. Within a few years thereafter, she married Andreas Souplis, who was buried at Gloria Dei in early 1727. All of her children were by her first two husbands.

The Swedish churches on the Delaware accepted as members only those persons who were Swedish or who were married to Swedes. Ger-trude and her three Dutch husbands were accepted as members only because of Ger-trude's Swedish credentials.

The brothers Garret and Harman Enochson first appear in surviving records in 1673 when they were renting land in Kingessing. By that time, Gertrude had two sons, Enoch (named after Garret's father) and Johan (named, we believe, after Gertrude's father). It seems probable that her father was Hans Månsson who, around this time, deeded part of his large Aronameck estate in Kingessing to Garret Enochson. (The names Johan and Hans are both derived from the name Johannes.)

Hans Månsson had arrived in New Sweden in 1641 with a wife and children, names unknown. His first wife died before 1654 when Hans married Ella Stille, widow of Peter Jochimsson. Gertrude Enochson's first son, Enoch Enochson, was born in 1670. This places Gertrude's birth year c. 1650. It is known that Hans had a son by his first marriage (Måns Hansson), but his daughters (if any) have not been identified before.

## The Enochson Brothers

The Enochson brothers probably arrived on the Delaware in 1663-1664 among the many young farmers which the Dutch had recruited from the Netherlands, adjoining countries and even from Sweden, to develop agriculture on the river. It is probable that Garret Enochson married Gertrude around 1669. Their first son, Enoch Enochson, was born in 1670. Soon to follow was their second son, Johan Enochson.

Confirmation of the death of Garret Enochson is to be found in Nils Larsson Frände's tax list of November 1677, naming all males sixteen and over within the jurisdiction of the Upland Court. The name of "Harmon Ennis [Enochs]" is shown, but Garret's name is missing.

Gertrude wasted little time in agreeing to marry Garret's brother Harman. He remained on the land acquired from Hans Månsson until about 1683 when he moved with his wife, children and stepsons to join Matthias Keen at two plantations northeast of Philadelphia designated as "Enock & Keene" on Holmes' 1685 map of Pennsylvania. That same map also showed "Enock-son" owning land in Kingessing a reference to Garret Enochson's son Enoch, then still a minor.

In 1684 Harmon Enoch was listed among those agreeing to contribute to the salary of the Swedish pastor at Wicaco, Jacob Fabritius. The 1693 tax list valued his land in Oxford Township at ^60. With the arrival of a new minister from Sweden, Andreas Rudman, Herman Enoc (as Rudman spelled his name) pledged ^3 for the construction of a new church at Wicaco. Rudman's church accounts show that Herman Enoc was buried in late July 1699. Upon the completion of Gloria Dei Church in 1700, his family was assigned a pew. In 1704, as Herman Enoc's widow, Gertrude gave 19 shillings and 7 pence towards the addition of brick porches to Gloria Dei Church.

## Gertrude's Last Two Husbands

Gertrude's third husband was born Lars Bärtils-son, son of Bärtil Eskilsson, but was commonly known as Lasse Parker. Their marriage probably occurred in 1705 and was very short-lived. He died 13 October 1705, in the presence of Enoch Enochson, then aged 35, who proved Lasse's nuncupative will.

On 1 September 1705 Michael Fredericks executed a deed conveying to Gertrude one-half of 200 acres which had been patented to him in 1676. It is likely that this was the land on which Gertrude had been living since 1683. On 23 November 1708, as Widow Parker, Gertrude conveyed this land to her eldest son, Enoch Enochson.

Gertrude's final marriage, about 1709, was to the widower Andreas Souplis, a French Huguenot from Alsace Lorraine, whose primary language was also low German. He had originally settled in Germantown, but later purchased land at Arona-meck in Kingessing from Peter Petersson Yocum. He died in 1727. Gertrude survived him by eleven years and was shown in 1734 as the owner (for life only) of his 40-acre estate in Kingessing. She was probably 88 years old at the time of her death in 1738.

## Children of Garret Enochson

1. **Enoch Enochson**, born in 1670, is first mentioned in records by his patronymic. In 1690, Blackwell made a list of unpaid quitrents and found that Enoch Garretson, then 20 years old, had never paid quitrents since William Penn acquired Pennsylvania in 1681. In 1694, Enoch married Susanna Friend, daughter of Nils Larsson Frände and Anna Andersdotter. He found that living on the Friend family plantation was preferable to his land in Kingessing and remained at Crum Creek in Ridley Township. He therefore sold his 100-acre inheritance in Kingessing to Richard Bonsal for ^58 on 2 July 1696.

In 1697 Enoch Enochson pledged 12 shillings annually for the salary of the new minister from Sweden, Andreas Rudman. However, like the Friend family, he became unhappy over the decision in 1698 to build the new church at Wicaco rather than at Passyunk or Tinicum Island. He therefore gave nothing to build the new church and, in protest, attended St. Pauls Episcopal Church in Chester instead. After his mother deed-ed him the land at Pennypack Creek, he turned around and sold it to Matthias Keen on 12 September 1711 for ^105.

In 1715 Enoch Enochson was still being taxed on land in Ridley Township. Soon thereafter, however, he moved to Cecil County, Maryland, where he lived on land owned by his wife's cou-sin, Lawrence Rawson, until the latter died about 1718. Enoch then returned to Crum Creek in Ridley Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania, where he was taxed in 1722. He stayed there until December 1725, when he acquired a 665-acre tract north of Raccoon Creek in Gloucester County in western New Jersey from his brother-in-law John Friend. Ten years later, Enoch Enochson and his wife Susannah transferred this land to another brother-in-law, Gabriel Friend, and moved with their sons to western Maryland. In 1740, Enoch Enochson, aged 70, and his son John Enochson, aged 36, both living on the Potomac, presented an affidavit which was used in the litigation between Pennsylvania and Maryland regarding the proper boun-dary between the two provinces.

Enoch Enochson and Susanna Friend had four known children:

- Gabriel Enochson, born 25 February 1695 at Crum Creek, Ridley Township, married Maria Guarron, daughter of James and Brigitta Guarron, at the Swedish Raccoon church, 30 Decem-ber 1730. She died three days after the birth of their only child, also named Gabriel, who was born 21 September 1731. Gabriel, Sr., moved west with his father and in 1739 was granted land in present Washington County, Maryland, which he called "Enochson's Lot." He did not remarry and died soon after 1751. His only known son, Gabriel, remained with the Guarron family in Gloucester County, where he died in 1761.
- Anders Enochson, born in 1697 at Crum Creek, was married at the Raccoon Church on 25 October 1727, to Catharine Jones, daughter of Stephen Jones and Anna Mattson. He is traced in western Maryland up to 1754. Known children, all baptized at Rac-coon, were: Rebecca, Priscilla, Abraham and John Enochson.
- Enoch Enochson, Jr., born c. 1702 at Crum Creek, never married. He lived in western Maryland until 1756 when he moved with his younger brother to Rowan County, North Carolina, where he died in 1788.
- John Enochson, born 1704, at Crum Creek, was married at the Raccoon Church to Margaret Vanneman, daughter of David and Catharine Vanne-man, 27 June 1729. In 1745, he was granted an 80-acre tract at the Potomac River which he called "Enochson's Delight." This tract adjoined his brother Anders Enochson's land. John Enoch-son sold this land to Thomas Cresap in April 1750 and moved to Rowan County, North Carolina, in 1756. He died there on 20 June 1765. He had six known children: David, Rebecca, Gabriel, Mar-garet, Mary and Isaac Enochson

2. **Johan Enoch**, born c. 1672, was married in 1696 to the widow of Derrick Johansson, who was named Brigitta Gästenberg, daughter of Olof Nilsson alias Gästenberg (ghost mountain, in Swedish). She already had three children by her first marriage. Her first husband had been executed for murder after a trial which left consider-able doubt as to his guilt. Johan and Brita lived in Nishaminy, Bucks County, on Derrick's plantation. In 1697, Johan Enoch made a pledge for the salary of the new minister and contributed ^3 toward the construction of Gloria Dei Church. He doubled this gift in 1699 and in 1700 was given a desirable pew in the new church. In 1704 he also gave ^1.16 to help pay for the porch additions.

In 1713, John Enoch and his wife sold their 100-acre farm in Bucks County to her late husband's brother Johan Johansson and moved to Aronameck in Kingessing, where they lived on land provided by Nils Jonasson, who had married Brita's sister Christina. Brita died in Kingessing in

childbirth on 29 January 1716. Her husband, Johan Enoch died about 1730. They had six known children:

- Hannah Enoch, born 1698 in Bucks County, married Jonas Yocum, son of Peter Peterson Yocum, 26 August 1715. They moved to Mana-tawney (present Douglassville, Berks County, Pennsylvania) where Jonas Yocum died in 1760. Hannah survived him. They had five children who grew to adulthood and married: Peter, John, Judith, Mary and Margaret.
- John Enoch, Jr., born c. 1700 in Bucks County, was married on 6 November 1718 to Elizabeth Van Zandt. Their son, John Enoch III, was baptized 17 January 1719/20. The father died in the same year and his widow married Jacob Supplee, son of Andreas Souplis, 11 August 1720. They moved to Upper Merion Town-ship, where the younger John Enoch became a faithful member of Christ (Old Swedes) Church of Upper Merion.
- Richard Enoch, born c. 1704 in Bucks County, married Martha (parents not identified). He took over the family farm, which he sold to Swan Jones, son of Nils Jonasson, on 12 January 1730/1. He died before 23 November 1736, when his widow married John Ewan of Burlington County, N.J. He had three known children: Mar-garet, Mary and Thomas Enoch.
- Henry Enoch, born c. 1707 in Bucks Coun-ty, was living in Kingessing in 1730 when he signed the tardy inventory of his brother John's estate. However, he soon left to join his Enochson cousins in western Maryland. He married Elizabeth Ross, daughter of William Ross, and on 23 April 1750 George Washington surveyed for him 388 acres at the Forks of the Cacapon River in Hampshire County, Virginia. George Washington also dined at his home in 1770. Henry died there in 1783. He had seven confirmed children: Henry, David, Enoch, John, Rachel, Elizabeth, Sarah.
- Enoch Enoch, born c. 1712, in Bucks County, accompanied his brother Henry to Virginia, where in 1753 he was granted a patent for 168 acres on the Potomac River. The name of his wife is unknown. He died c. 1760, survived by two daughters, Mary and Sarah.
- Phoebe Enoch, born c. 1714, married Joseph Boyce, Jr., of Kingessing, 10 October 1734. They moved to Ridley Township, Chester County, where Joseph died in 1742, survived by Phoebe and four children: Margaret, Joseph, John and Mary.

### Children of Harman Enochson

**1. Henry Enoch**, son of Harman, was born in Kingessing c. 1680. He was married to Sarah (parents unknown) by 1711. They lived in Bensa-lem Township, Bucks County, and attended the Dutch church there and the First Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia and later the Presbyterian Church in Abingto-n. He died after 1755. They had seven known children:

- Rebecca Enoch, born c. 1713 in Bensalem Township, Bucks County, married John May at the First Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia, on 1 August 1737. Not further traced.
- Hannah Enoch, born c. 1715 in Bensalem Township, has not been further traced.
- Herman Enoch, born c. 1717 in Bensalem Township, Bucks County, was married in New Jersey on 12 November 1741 to Mary Dillon, also of Bucks County. He had no children and died in Philadelphia County in 1769, survived by his widow Mary.
- Joseph Enoch, born c. 1722, was married on 16 April 1747 to Jemima Wynkoop at the Presbyterian Church in Abington. He died in Philadelphia County in 1755. His widow married Abram New-kirk. Joseph had one known child: Jonathan Enoch, who was an heir under his uncle Herman Enoch's will.
- Gertrude Enoch, born c. 1725, was married on 29 May 1747 to William Maxwell at the Abing-ton Presbyterian Church.
- Olive Enoch, born c. 1727, was married on 2 December 1747 to John Lawrenson at the Abing-ton Presbyterian Church. He died in Makefield Township, Bucks County in 1750, naming his wife Olive as sole legatee.
- Susanna Enoch was baptized 19 August 1733. Not further traced.

**2. Garrett Enoch**, son of Harman, was born c. 1688. In 1717 he joined his younger brother David Enoch to trim logs at Passyunk for a new parsonage for the Swedish pastor Andreas Sandel after

the first one had accidentally burned down. From 1731 to 1741, he was taxed as the head of house-hold in East Caln Township, Chester County. His wife and children, if any, have not been identified.

**3. David Enoch**, son of Harman, was born c. 1690. He helped trim logs at Passyunk in 1717. A cordwainer by trade, he was married by 1721 to Helena, daughter of Charles Hansson Steelman and grand-daughter of Hans Månsson. They lived in Brandy-wine Hundred, New Castle County, but after Helena died c. 1733, David Enoch moved to Kingsessing to live with his mother. Around 1738, David Enoch married 2nd Miriam Reece, a Quaker, daugh-ter of William Reece of Haverford. They acquired a house in Wilmington in 1740, which remained his home until his death on 9 December 1767. His known children by two marriages were:

- Anders Enoch, baptized at Holy Trinity (Old Swedes) Church on 1 July 1722, had an illegitimate daughter named Jane Enoch, born of Catharine Brian, 10 February 1752. Not further traced.
- Anna Enoch, born 20 October 1725, died young.
- Hendrick Enoch, born 17 December 1727, was buried as a child at Philadelphia Month-ly Meeting.
- Margareta Enoch, born 29 July 1729, married Nicholas Moore 31 January 1751.
- Gertrude Enoch, baptized 9 November 1731, died young.
- Mary Enoch, born c. 1733, was buried 27 June 1735 at Philadelphia Monthly Meeting.
- Benjamin Enoch, born c. 1737, was married c. 1759 to the heiress Mary Stalcop, only child of Andrew and Hanna Stalcop of New Castle County. After work-ing as a cord-wainer in Wilmington for several years, he sold all of his Delaware property in 1772, and moved to Granville County, North Carol-ina. Benjamin died in Caswell County, North Carolina, after 1790. His known children were Maria, David, Andrew, Sarah, Benjamin Jr., Reece, John and Samuel Enoch.
- Reece Enoch, born c. 1739, was married at Holy Trinity (Old Swedes) Church in Wilmington on 7 May 1764 to Jane Carter. They lived in a house in town provided by his father. Reece died by 17 January 1795 when letters of administration were issued on his estate. He had no children.

**4. Catharine Enoch** married - Smith, who had died before 1737 when Gertrude Enoch wrote her will. Both Catharine Smith and her daughter Brigitta Smith were living with Gertrude at the time.

**5. Maria Enoch** married Henry Griffith of Upper Merion Township. His will of 17 March 1747/8 named his wife Mary, children Rachel and Martha and grandchildren Enoch and Joel (surname not stated), sons of Rachel. Gertrude Enoch's 1737 will made a bequest to her daughter Mary Griffith.

**The author is indebted to Richard A. Enochs of Indianapolis, Indiana,  
for his research contributions to this article.**



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## Johan Fisk of New Sweden and his Fish Descendants

by **Dr. Peter Stebbins Craig**  
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Among the passengers arriving in New Sweden in 1648 aboard the ship *Swan* was a soldier by the name of Johan Fisk. He soon became a freeman and was among the 22 settlers who signed the petition of grievances against Governor Printz on 27 July 1653. After Printz left the colony, Johan changed his surname from Fisk [fish in Swedish] to Skovel [shovel in Swedish]. As Johan Skofel he signed the loyalty oath to the new governor, Johan Risingh on 9 June 1654 and a second complaint against Governor Printz on 7 July 1654. In the same year he sold his farm above Marcus Hook to Governor Risingh and moved to the area of Fort Trinity (present New Castle), where, after the fort was surrendered to the Dutch in 1655, Johan Skovel signed the loyalty oath to Governor Stuyvesant.

The name of Johan Fisk's wife has not been discovered. It is also uncertain where and when he died. He apparently died before 1670 in present Pennsylvania. Records establish that he had at least two children: Caspar Fisk and Christina Fisk.

1. **Caspar Fisk** was born in New Sweden on 4 February 1651. On 17 April 1675, he was married at the Tinicum Island Church by Pastor Lock to Margaret, who was born in 1656 to Gustaf Danielsson and Anna Lom of Upland Creek. When Danielsson died in 1681, Caspar Fisk was named administrator of his estate.

Initially, Caspar Fisk and his wife resided on a 500-acre tract on the south side of Pennypack Creek, which was surveyed on 22 October 1675 for Caspar Fisk and his partner, Peter Petersson Yocum. Caspar sold his share in 1679 and moved with his brother-in-law Marcus Laurensen (who had married Margaret's sister) to "Putshack," a tract of land south of Pennsauken Creek, New Jersey, in old Gloucester County. His tract, on the Delaware River waterfront, was surveyed as containing 120 acres in 1684. This remained his home until his death in 1708.

Caspar Fisk was active in both church and political affairs. He was named constable of old Gloucester County in 1692 and 1693. He served as a church warden of the Swedes' church at Wicaco in the 1690s and again in 1702-1703. He gave £15 toward construction of Gloria Dei Church and remained an active member until his death.



Margaret, the wife of Caspar Fisk, died in childbirth on 14 November 1697. After her death, Fisk married Willemke, the widow of Hans Keen. She survived him. Caspar and Margaret Fisk had eight known children:

- **Anna Fish**, born c. 1675, was married c. 1691 to Peter Peterson, born in 1667, the son of Måns Petersson Stake, a former New Sweden officer who died in Calcon Hook c. 1698. On 1 August 1711 Peter Peterson sold his quarter interest in Calcon Hook and moved to the Maurice River in Salem County, New Jersey, where he acquired 920 acres and a sawmill. His will of 18 September 1733, proved 18 October 1735, named his wife Anna and eleven children: Magdalena (b. 1692), Peter (b. 1695), Henry (b. 1697), Aaron, Gabriel, John, Matthias, Sarah, Rebecca, Christina and Helena.
- **Johan Fish**, born 15 September 1677, died unmarried after 1697 and before 1707.
- **Gustavus Fish**, born 10 December 1679, married Brita Rambo, born 15 November 1685, eldest daughter of John Rambo and Brigitta Cock. By 1704 he moved to Great Egg Harbor, where pastor Andreas Sandel preached on 1 October 1704. In 1710 Gustavus accused James Steelman of having illicit relations with his wife Brita. Gustavus is last discovered as a freeholder in Egg Harbor Township in 1722. His only known son, also named Gustavus Fish, was listed in the 1743 Gloria Dei census as a resident of Matsunk [Upper Merion Township in present Montgomery County, Pa.]
- **Elias Fish**, born 16 June 1681, married Christina Laican, born 17 February 1684, the daughter of Michael Laican and Helena Lom. They lived in Upper Greenwich Township, Gloucester County, and had six children baptized at the Raccoon Creek church between 1714 and 1727: Rebecca, Elias (died young), Susanna, Christina, Israel and Helena.
- **Caspar Fish, Jr.**, born 9 February 1684, married Helena Laican, born 29 December 1689, the daughter of Michael Laican and Helena Lom. They lived in Waterford Township, Gloucester County, where Caspar died in August 1748. He was survived by four sons (Michael, John, Isaac and Elias) and three daughters (Rebecca, Mary and Eleanor).
- **Susannah Fish**, born 11 January 1688, married Nicholas Laican, son of Michael Laican and Helena Lom. She died childless after 1719, survived by her husband who died without issue in Deptford Township, Gloucester County, in March 1733.
- **Maria Fish**, born 15 May 1693, was still unmarried on 15 March 1710 when she was called to testify before the Gloucester County grand jury. Not further traced.
- **Abigail Fish**, born in November 1697, married John Chester, an Englishman, who died in Deptford Township, Gloucester County, in January 1736/7. She then remarried Edward Chapman at the First Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia, 1 January 1738/9.

2. **Christina Fisk** was married by 1681 to Hans Peterson. He was born in Sweden in 1648 and was probably one of the Finns arriving on the Delaware under Dutch rule in 1663. In 1669 he had been fined 100 guilders for his involvement in the "Long Finn Rebellion." He first lived in Carkoens Hook in present Philadelphia, but after marrying Christina he secured a 50-acre tract on Repaupo Creek, Gloucester County, New Jersey, in 1684. He died there by 1693 when his widow Christina married Anders [Andrew] Lock, son of Pastor Lars Lock. Andrew lived on a 150-acre plantation on Repaupo Creek, where he died of a rattlesnake bite and was buried 5 August 1716.

Christina had six children by her first marriage and six children by her second marriage, as follows:

- **Catharine Peterson**, born in 1682, married Jöns (James) Halton, son of Måns Halton of Raccoon Creek. James Halton was buried 14 September 1742. His widow died 8 January 1766 at the age of 84. They had four children who grew to adulthood and married: Christina, Maria, James and Magdalena.
- **Peter Peterson**, born c. 1684 died unmarried in Gloucester County on 25 August 1726.
- **Frederick Peterson**, born c. 1686, moved to New Castle County, Delaware, where he married Elsa (Alice) Lewden, only daughter and heir of Roger Lewden, Jr., by 1711. After selling the 200 acres in Mill Creek Hundred which she had inherited, they returned to Gloucester County where four children were baptized at the Raccoon church between 1714

and 1721: Christina, Hans, Johannes and Timotheus. Not further traced.

- **Elisabeth Peterson**, born in 1688, was still unmarried in October 1705 when, at the age of 17, she witnessed the will of Lassey Parker. Not further traced.
- **John Peterson**, born c. 1691, purchased 280 acres at the Maurice River near present Mauricetown in 1739. He died there in 1752 survived by sons John and Darius and a daughter Ann.
- **Regina Peterson**, born c. 1693, married Hendrick Hendrickson, son of Andrew Hendrickson of Ammansland, by 1713. They had ten children born between 1714 and 1733: Brigitta, Andrew, Christina, Susannah, Jonas, Magdalena, Israel, Hendrick, Sarah and Regina Hendrickson. The family lived on Repaupo Creek where the father Hendrick died in 1749 and his wife shortly thereafter.
- **Maria Lock**, born 15 August 1695, married Garret van Neaman on 6 November 1717. They had two surviving daughters: Christina, born in 1725, and Sarah, born in 1734.
- **Israel Lock**, born c. 1697, married Rebecca Helm, daughter of Hermanus and Catharine Helm, on 25 November 1725. He died in 1753. They had seven known children: Anders, Catharine, Hermanus, Christina, Sarah, Judith and Israel Jr.
- **Lars Lock**, born c. 1699, married Maria Slubey, daughter of Hendrick Slubey, on 11 December 1719. They had three children baptized at the Swedes' church on Raccoon Creek before he died on 18 February 1729: Anders, Catharine and Måns Lock. His widow married John Hoffman and died 24 March 1773.
- **Helena Lock**, born c. 1701, married Peter Justice, the only son of Peter Gustafson [alias Justice] of Kingsessing, on 4 December 1719. They lived in Upper Penns Neck, Salem County, and had seven children who lived to adulthood: Martha, Christina, Susanna, Anders, Peter, Brigitta and Rebecca. Helena died before her husband who drank himself to death in 1766.
- **Måns Lock**, born c. 1703, died unmarried c. 1732.
- **Anders Lock, Jr.**, born c. 1705, died unmarried as a young lad on 20 July 1717.



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## Nils Larsson Frände (Friend)

by **Dr. Peter Stebbins Craig**  
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originally published in *Swedish Colonial News*,  
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One relatively unknown forefather, progenitor of the Friend family in America, is Nils Larsson, who arrived in New Sweden on the *Swan* in 1648 and served as a warden for Governor Rising 1654. Two years later, he married Anna Andersdotter (possibly the daughter of Anders Andersson the Finn) and settled at Upland (now Chester), where they raised a family of ten children. His house was also the location of the Swedes' quarterly court sessions after Armegot Printz sold the Printz family's Tinicum Island estate.

Nils Larsson played a very prominent role in the Swedish community until his death at Upland in the winter of 1686-87. He became known as Nils Larsson Frände, meaning "kinsman" or "blood relative" in Swedish, possibly because of his influence among the Indians who considered him a "blood brother." Under English rule, his adopted surname became anglicized to "Friend." In 1668, Nils and two other Swedes, secured a permit from the governor of the new province of New Jersey to buy lands from the Indians in present Gloucester County. The resulting acquisition led to a large Swedish settlement centering around Raccoon Creek (present Swedesboro).

Nils Larsson Frände also acquired lands in present Bucks County, which he traded to William Penn in return for 800 acres east of Red Clay Creek in New Castle County. Penn built his Pennsbury estate on Frände's former land.

At the time of his death, Nils Larsson was serving as constable for Chester township. His wife Anna survived him by about 40 years and was said to be over 106 when she died. Their children, with approximate birth years, were:

1. **Brigitta**, born 1657, who married John Cock (son of Peter Larsson Cock) and had nine children.
2. **Anders** (Andrew), born 1659, whose first wife was probably a daughter of Israel Helm. Andrew Friend died in Maryland after 1740, and had at least four children, including Israel Friend, a well-known Indian trader and interpreter.
3. **Catharine**, born 1661, who married Olof (William) Dalbo, and died at Raccoon Creek in 1721, the mother of nine children.
4. **Maria**, born 1663, who married Gabriel Cock (son of Peter Larsson Cock) and had eight children.
5. **John**, born 1666, who married Anna (daughter of Hendrick Coleman), and died in Penn's

Neck, Salem County, NJ in the winter of 1737-38; nine children.

6. **Susannah**, born 1670, who married Enoch Enochson and moved to Gloucester County, NJ; four surviving sons.
7. **Sarah**, born 1672, who married Amos Nicholas of Chester County; at least four children.
8. **Gabriel**, born 1674, who married Maria Van Culin of Chester County; at least five children.
9. **Lawrence**, born 1676, who married Sarah Jaquet in Penn's Neck; at least four children.
10. **Barbara**, born 1678, who married Peter Longacre (son of Anders Petersson Longacre); at least three children.

Descendants of Nils Larsson Friend have an active Friend Family Association which owns and operates a Friend Family Library in Friendsville, Maryland, where many records of descendants have been collected.

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## Johan Grelsson and his Archer, Urian and Culin Descendants

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originally published in *Swedish Colonial News*,  
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**Johan Grelsson**, his wife **Helena** and their three children arrived in New Sweden on the ship *Mercurius* in 1656. He was described as a Finn from Fryksdalen, the valley of the Fryken Lakes in Värmland, Sweden. Otherwise, little is known about Johan Grelsson's life in Sweden. His patronymic, Grelsson, indicates that he was the son of Gregor.

In America, Dutch and English scribes had difficulty spelling Johan's patronymic. The Dutch scribe Ephraim Herrman called him Jan Cornelissen. In 1671, the English census taker Walter Wharton called him John Gilsaw. Piecing together the evidence, however, we find that Johan Grelsson settled in the Finnish community known as Ammansland and shared a large tract of land along Mill (now Darby) Creek in what later became Ridley Township, Chester (now Delaware) County, PA. Here the family of Johan Grelsson joined the family of Matthias Matthiasson (also a *Mercurius* passenger from Fryksdalen) and the family of Mårten Mårtensson (who had arrived on the *Örn* in 1654).

The Matthias Matthiasson family abandoned its interest in this tract in late 1671 when it moved across the Delaware to Boughttown (present Penns Grove in Salem County, NJ). But both Johan Grelsson and Mårten Mårtensson remained at Ammansland until their deaths. A contemporary survey placed the cabin of Mårten Mårtensson on the site now occupied by the Morton Homestead. Grelsson's cabin was a stone's throw to the west, on a small creek called Stony (now Amosland) Creek.

Johan Grelsson led a quiet and unassuming life. He last appeared in public records on 27 June 1683, when (as "John Cornelius") he served on the new Chester County court's grand jury. He died shortly thereafter and his widow Helena married, by 1685, the widower Mårten Mårtensson. She also survived her second husband and was buried on 8 February 1713 at Gloria Dei Church at the reported age of 97 (probably somewhat exaggerated).

Five children have been identified, three of whom left many descendants:

1. **Elisabeth Johansdotter**, born in Sweden, c. 1650, married [1] the widower Bärtel Eskilsson c. 1670, and [2] Hans Geörgen c. 1678. She died at Calcon Hook, Lower Darby Township in

1717 of tuberculosis (See Urian family below).

2. **Anna Johansdotter**, born in Sweden c. 1652, married Johan Van Cöln c. 1672 and died in Ammansland before 1697 (See Culin family below).
3. **Anders Johansson**, born in Sweden c. 1654, inherited his father's half-interest in the 829-acre plantation in Ammansland. After moving to New Castle County, he sold most of this land to his stepfather Mårten Mårtensson and the remainder to his brother John Archer. As a member of the Swedish congregation at Crane Hook and Christina, he was known as Anders Grelsson Mink. He died after 1713, apparently unmarried.
4. **Arian Johansson**, later known as John Archer, born in America c. 1656, married Gertrude Bärtilsdotter (daughter of Bärtil Eskilsson by his first marriage) c. 1679, and died in Ammansland in 1740 (See Archer family below).
5. **Eric Johansson**, born in America c. 1660, became insane. On petition of his father, who "being poor, could not contain him," the Upland Court ordered that a blockhouse be built for "the madman" in September 1678. Eric probably died shortly thereafter.

## The Urian Family

**Bärtil Eskilsson**, the first husband of Elisabeth Johansdotter, was a Finn from Värmland who had been sent to New Sweden in 1641 as punishment for forest-burning. By his first wife, he had children Margareta (who married Mårten Mårtensson, Jr., in 1674), Anders Bärtilsson (who moved to Penns Neck by 1685), Gertrude Bärtilsdotter (who married John Archer) and Johan Bärtilsson (who never married). When he married Elisabeth, Bärtil Eskilsson was living on the west side of Stony Run, opposite the cabin of Johan Grelsson. After his eldest daughter married Mårten Mårtensson, Jr., however, Bärtil joined the young couple at Calcon Hook. He died there about 1677 and his widow then married Hans Geörge.

**Hans Geörge** from Brandenburg, Germany, came to the Delaware under Dutch rule, in 1662-1663. In 1674 he acquired a quarter interest in Calcon Hook and in 1678 married Bärtil's widow Elisabeth. He lived at Calcon Hook the balance of his life and was buried at Gloria Dei Church on 24 April 1713. The g's in his surname were soft g's so that his surname was pronounced "Urian" and, under the influence of English scribes, this became the family surname.

By her two marriages, Elisabeth Johans-dotter had eight verified children:

- **Lars Bärtilsson**, who later adopted the name of Lawrence Parker, born c. 1671, died in 1705, devising his 200-acre farm in Gloucester County, NJ to his nephew Jacob Archer and his cow to his mother.
- **Johan Urian**, born 1679, moved to Gloucester County, where he married Elisabeth Guarron in 1715. He died in 1747, survived by his wife and nine children.
- **Anna Maria Urian**, born 1680, became the second wife of Andrew Wheeler of Moyamensing in 1704. She died in 1720, the same year as her husband, survived by three children.
- **Helena Urian**, born 1685, married her first cousin Gunnar Archer c. 1710. (See below)
- **Fredric Urian**, born 1687, married Elisabeth Lycan c. 1718. He died in Gloucester County in 1722, survived by one child (Hans). His widow then married Måns Keen.
- **Elisabeth Urian**, born 1689, was unmarried as of 1713; not further traced.
- **Andrew Urian**, born 1690, married [1] Maria Longacre in 1717, and [2] Margareta Longacre (widow of Peter Tussey) c. 1737. He inherited his father's farm at Calcon Hook where he died 26 January 1753, survived by five children.
- **Dorthea Urian**, born 1692, was still living in 1713; not further traced.

## The Culin Family



Anna Johansdotter's husband **Johan van Cöln** (meaning from Cologne, Germany) arrived on the Delaware c. 1662, probably as one of the servants of Joost de la Grange from Leyden in the Netherlands who in that year purchased Tinicum Island from Armegot Printz. That island lies on the south side of Darby Creek, opposite Ammansland.

Johan van Cöln, usually described as John van Culin in public records, was granted 100 acres of land on the east side of Crum Creek in Ammansland in 1679 and lived at that location until his death c. 1711. His wife Anna died before 1697. In 1687, John van Culin complained to the Provincial Council of Pennsylvania against the sheriff's seizure of his only two milk cows, which was all his wife and seven small children had to live on, he being 66 years old and unable to work. His children, as they became old enough, generally found employment in other households.

The seven known children of Johan van Cöln and Anna Johansdotter are listed below. Each of the sons, except Jacob, later dropped the "van" from their surnames and became known simply as Culin.

- **Jacob van Culin**, born c. 1671, became the second husband of Brigitta Swanson (widow of Peter Justis) c. 1699. He died in early 1747 in Upper Penn's Neck, Salem County, NJ. He had four children who lived to adulthood.
- **Reigner van Culin**, born c. 1673, married [1] Ingrid (father unknown) c. 1705, [2] the widow Anna Tussey Stidham Scoggin in 1728. He died in the winter of 1731-1732 in New Castle County, DE survived by his wife and three children.
- **Gregor van Culin**, later known as George Culin, was born c. 1675 and was granted his father's farm in Ammansland in 1705 on condition that he support his father for the balance of his life. George married Margaret Morton, daughter of Mårten Mårtensson, Jr., c. 1704 and died in March 1736 in Ammansland. He was survived by his wife and eight children.
- **Margaret van Culin**, born c. 1678, married 13 January 1703 Andrew Mårtensson, son of Mårten Mårtensson, Sr., of Ammansland, and cared for her mother Helena and her stepfather (and father-in-law) for the final years of their lives. She died in Ammansland, 6 February 1755. She had five daughters who lived to adulthood and married.
- **Anna van Culin**, born c. 1682, married 25 May 1703 Andrew Mårtensson the younger, son of Mårten Mårtensson, Jr., of Calcon Hook. She died in Gloucester County, NJ, c. 1750. She had four known children, the first of whom (Morton) later built the Morton Morton House in Ammansland.
- **John van Culin**, born c. 1685, married Christina Paulson 6 January 1714. He died in 1727 at Turkey Island, New Castle Hundred, New Castle County, survived by six children.
- **Maria van Culin**, born c. 1687, married Gabriel Friend c. 1717, and moved to Gloucester County, NJ, where she was living in 1748. She had six known children.

## The Archer Family

Born as **Arian Johansson**, he reversed his name early in life to become **Johan Arian**, which evolved through Orian, Orchard and Archard to Archer. In May 1685, he purchased with his stepfather Mårten Mårtensson, Sr., 500 acres on the north side of Raccoon Creek in an area sometimes called New Stockholm. Later, in 1695, he purchased 137 acres in Ammansland, immediately to the east of the Morton Homestead, from his brother Anders Johansson. This became his home until his death in 1740. His wife Gertrude Bärtilsdotter died there in 1748. They had 11 children:

- **Helena Archer**, born 1680, married in 1701, but died soon thereafter apparently without issue.
- **Gunnar Archer**, born 1685, married his first cousin Helena Urian c. 1710. They lived on the Archer's Raccoon Creek plantation until his death in 1744. He was survived by four children.
- **John Archer, Jr.**, born 1687, married Mary Peterson in 1720. They shared the Archer's Raccoon Creek plantation until his death in 1745. He was survived by his wife and five children

- **Jacob Archer**, born 1694, married Gunnilla Boon in 1734 and inherited that part of his father's plantation on Darby Creek. Both he and his wife died in 1750, survived by three children.
- **Adam Archer**, born c. 1696, married [1] his cousin Helena Morton, daughter of Andrew and Margareta Culin Morton, who died childless. He married [2] a woman named Elisabeth, by whom he had three children. Adam was given the north half of his father's Ammansland plantation, north of the Darby-Chester Road where, from 1730 until his death in 1747, Adam operated the White Horse Tavern.
- **Andrew Archer**, born c. 1699, married by 1732 Christina Halton of Gloucester County, NJ. He died there in 1733, survived by his wife and their posthumous daughter Christina. His widow remarried William Guest.
- **Maria Archer**, born c. 1701, married [1] c. 1722 John Morton, son of Mårten Mårtensson, Sr., and [2] c. 1733, John Sketchley (English). She lived in Ammansland until her death in 1778. Her only child was John Morton, Jr., born in 1725, who later earned fame as a Signer of the Declaration of Independence.
- **Catharina Archer**, born c. 1703, married [1] by 1723 Jonas Walraven, and [2] in 1731 Hans Peterson, both of New Castle County. She died there after 1755. By her two husbands, she had seven children.
- **Brita Archer**, born c. 1708, apparently died unmarried before 1738.
- **Helena Archer**, born c. 1710, married c. 1745 Abraham Jones, son of Peter Jones of Kingsessing. In 1753 they were living in Wicaco with four children.
- **Elisabeth Archer**, born 1713, married [1] in 1739 William Boon, [2] in 1743 Benjamin Simcock (English). She lived her entire married life on Boon's Island, where she died 14 November 1755. She had six known children.



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## Johan Gustafsson, Soldier from Kinnekulle

by **Dr. Peter Stebbins Craig**  
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Kinnekulle is a large wooded hill or plateau, nine miles long and four miles across, rising 860 feet above Lake Vänern in Skaraborg County in central Sweden. This was the home area of the Swedish soldier Johan Gustafsson, progenitor of numerous Justice, Justis and Justus descendants in America.

Johan Gustafsson came to New Sweden on the *Swan* in 1643 on the Fourth Expedition and was initially stationed at Fort Elfsborg, conunonly called "Fort Mosquito" by the men living there. The fort was located on the east side of the Delaware River near the present town of Salem, N.J.

Governor Rising replaced Governor Printz as Governor in 1654 and promoted Gustafsson to the rank of gunner, transferring him to Fort Trinity at present New Castle, Delaware. While there, Johan Gustafsson married Brita Månsdotter, whose father Måns Andersson was then living nearby.

After the surrender of New Sweden to the Dutch in September 1655, Johan Gustafsson decided to join his countrymen in the new, self-governing "Swedish Nation" located north of the Christina River. He established his plantation in Kingssessing (West Philadelphia) on the banks of the Schuylkill River. The English patent for this plantation, dated 16 May 1669, named him John "Eustas" and described the tract as including 150 acres. He later expanded this holding to 300 acres.

Johan Gustafsson died in Kingssessing around 1682 and was survived by his wife Brita and eleven children. Half of his plantation went to his eldest son. The other half was sold in 1699. In her last years, his widow Brita lived with her daughter Anna in New Castle County. Brita lived to be more than 85 years old and was buried at Holy Trinity Church in Wilmington, 22 August 1724. Their children, in order of their birth, were:

1. **Gustaf Gustafsson (Justis)**, born 1655, married Anna Morton, daughter of Mårten Mårtensson of Ammansland, c. 1681. They had nine children. He died in Kingssessing in Feb. 1721/2.
2. **Måns Gustafsson (Justis)**, born 1658, married Christina, daughter of Anders Svensson, c. 1694. They had eight children. He died in 1749 in the Northern Liberties of Philadelphia.
3. **Carl Gustafsson (Justis)**, born 1660, a tailor by trade, married Margaret (parents not identified) around 1700. They had six children. Carl died in 1718 in Kingssessing.

4. **Hans Gustafsson (Justis)**, born 1662, married Maria, daughter of Olle and Brita Rawson of Marcus Hook, around 1684. Initially, they lived near Naaman's Creek, but they moved soon after 1700 to Cecil County, Maryland, and resided at Northeast, Maryland, when Hans died c. 1712. They had at least six children, including a daughter Lydia who married the Swedish minister Jonas Aurén in 1710.
5. **Anna Gustafsson**, born c. 1666, married [1] Matthias Morton of Ridley township, son of Mårten Mårtensson, who had inherited the Morton Homestead, and died in December 1707; [2] Jonas Walraven of New Castle County; [3] Charles Springer of New Castle County. She had seven children by her first marriage and died after 1740.
6. **Johan Gustafsson (Justis)**, born c. 1668, was a widower with one daughter in 1697. He died in 1718 in Philadelphia County.
7. **Peter Gustafsson (Justis)**, born 1670, married by 1696 Brigitta (parents not identified). He died in August 1699 in Kingsessing, survived by one son.
8. **Jacob Gustafsson (Justis)**, born c. 1673, died unmarried in Kingsessing, August 1699.
9. **Elisabeth Gustafsson (Justis)**, born c. 1675, married [1] Matthias Samuelsson Peterson of New Castle County, c. 1695; [2] Edward Robinson of New Castle County in 1720. She had three children by her first husband and died in September 1730.
10. **Sven Gustafsson (Swan Justis)**, born 1677, married Catharine, daughter of Peter Petersson Yocum and his wife Judith Jonasdatter, c. 1700. He died in Kingsessing in March 1722/3, survived by five children.
11. **Anders Gustafsson (Andrew Justis)**, born 1681, married Tied Brita Samuelsdotter Peterson of New Castle County by 1704. They had four children. With his son-in-law Thomas Willing, he founded the town of Willingtown (present Wilmington) in the 1730s. He died in Salem County, NJ in August 1740.



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## Jöns Gustafsson of Östergötland, Sweden, and His Justason Descendants

by **Dr. Peter Stebbins Craig**  
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originally published in *Swedish Colonial News*,  
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Among the passengers on the *Mercurius* in 1655-56 was a former watchman named Jöns Gustafsson, who had entered the game preserve at Omberg, shooting a doe and her calf. The Swedish Privy Council sentenced him to lifetime servitude in New Sweden. Omberg is a ridge of hills east of Sweden's second largest lake, Lake Vättern, in Östergötland. In 1805, the former game preserve became a national forest known as Kronopark. Further details of the circumstances of Jöns Gustafsson's sentence have now been provided to the author in 2008 by Alf Åberg and by Rolf Ström of Hanige, Sweden.

The record of the Göta Court of Appeals, dated 27 February 1655, shows that Jöns Gustafsson, a young married man born in Gränna parish and former gamekeeper at the royal Omberg game preserve, when charged for the crime in the Lysing's District Court, had "fled from his wife, children and all of his property" to Växjö in Småland, 200 kilometers from Omberg. He was arrested there and taken back to court to face the charges. In court, Jöns confessed that he had visited a cavalryman in Jussberg, a farm one kilometer south of Omberg. They had been drinking and practicing target shooting indoors. In the morning they walked together to the Omberg game preserve, where Jöns shot a deer. For his own part, Jöns had just kept a leg, while the cavalryman had taken the rest of the meat and also the hide. An officer of the game preserve, Hendrick Semell, testified that he never had any previous complaints against Jöns Gustafsson, who had been a watchman for two months. However, Semell confirmed the crime and charged that Jöns had also shot at him in the woods.

Jöns pleaded for mercy, emphasizing that he had a wife and two children. The court, however, was of the opinion that the royal regulation about hunting, enacted in 1647, had to be enforced and sentenced him to death. On appeal, the sentence was reduced to his being banished to New Sweden as a slave for life. His marriage was annulled and his wife was free to remarry.

The *Mercurius* left Sweden 25 November 1655 and arrived in the Delaware River 14 March 1656. By the time the ship arrived, New Sweden had surrendered to the Dutch. Jöns Gustafsson unexpectedly found himself a free man. Shortly thereafter, he married again, this time to a daughter of Knut Mårtensson from Vasa. Knut Mårtensson had been a resident of New Sweden since 1641.

Jöns Gustafsson lived with his father-in-law and by 1671, when the English took their first census of the Delaware, he was the head of the household, living in a log cabin located on the west side of the Delaware River between Marcus Hook Creek and Harwicks Creek in present Delaware County, Pennsylvania. The purpose of the census was to locate families that did not yet have a patent from the Duke of York -- and therefore were not paying quitrents or taxes. The census taker had difficulty with Jöns Gustafsson's name, writing it "Umus Eustason," which was close to how it sounded to English ears.

Jöns was finally issued his patent on 10 April 1673, but in the same year he decided to move with his family across the Delaware to Raccoon Creek, thereby becoming one of the first settlers of present Gloucester County. He left both his father-in-law (Knut Mårtensson) and his brother-in-law (Mårten Knutsson) behind to care for the old family farm.

The groundwork for this move had been laid by three of his neighbors, Nils Larsson Frände of Upland (Chester) and Olle Rawson and Olle Jönsson of Marcus Hook, who in 1668 secured a license from Governor Cartrett to buy lands in West Jersey between Oldman's Creek and Timber Creek. They, in turn, sold this license to Hans Hoffman, Peter Jönsson Halton and Jöns Gustafsson, who took up residence on Raccoon Creek by 1673. Sufficient gifts having been supplied to the Indians, this trio succeeded in obtaining an official deed dated 15 November 1676 which conveyed to them the lands between Oldmans Creek on the south and Cachkikanahacking on the north. The deed was recorded in the New Castle court in 1680. At the same time, on 15 May 1680, the three of them persuaded the justices at New Castle that they had met the terms of the 1668 license; namely, that they had been seated on the land and made improvements for seven years.

The Swedes who were newly settled on Raccoon Creek soon confronted a more formidable power than the Duke of York's New Castle court. In 1677 the ship *Kent* appeared on Raccoon Creek, bearing representatives of the West Jersey Proprietors. They asked Jöns Gustafsson, a well-recognized negotiator with the Lenape Indians, to help them buy the same land from the Indians. Jöns obliged them and on 27 September 1677 (as "James Yesteven") he witnessed the deed conveying all of the lands between Oldmans Creek and Big Timber Creek to the West Jersey Proprietors' representatives.

The Indians saw no inconsistency in selling the same land twice within the same year. Jöns Gustafsson probably didn't either. To them, the buyer was merely obtaining the right to share the land, not the right to exclude others from it.

This conflict in cultures was later to cause some embarrassment to Jöns Gustafsson and his family. Fortunately for them, however, one of the West Jersey Proprietors, Andrew Robeson, a former London merchant, sought to reassure the early Swedish settlers and, where they failed to possess lawful patents or deeds, promised them land from his own 5,000-acre allotment. As a demonstration of his support, he even sought to change the name of Raccoon Creek to the Stockholm River (which didn't stick). One large tract retained by Robeson, which was farmed by various Swedes under their presumed "Indian rights," was named "New Stockholm."

Andrew Robeson died in 1694, without the promised deed ever having been delivered. Jöns Gustafsson also died in 1699. His farm, occupied since 1673, was located on the north side of Raccoon Creek near present Bridgeport and adjacent to "New Stockholm." But his heirs never received a deed for this property. In lieu thereof, Andrew Robeson's nephew and namesake, Andrew Robeson Jr., executed a deed in 1711 to Jöns's son "Nicholas Justison" for 100 acres and later Andrew Robeson III executed a deed in 1736 to Jöns's grandson "Justa Justison" for another 100 acres plus five acres of marsh. It was the latter tract, located on the southwest side of Raccoon Creek, that became Nils Gustafsson's home in his later years.

The 1693 census of the Swedes on the Delaware showed three persons in the household of Jöns Gustafsson. The other two were his sons Knut (who died soon after 1702) and Nils.



The English had almost as much trouble with the name of Nils Gustafsson as they did with the name of his father. At first, he was referred to as Cornelius Justesson and served as constable for Gloucester County under this name, 1697-1700. Later, however, he chose Nicholas Justison as a more appropriate English version of his name.

There was, however, another Gustafsson family -- Johan Gustafsson, a Swedish soldier who had come with Governor Printz in 1643 and served initially at Fort Elfsborg, died in Kingsessing (West Philadelphia) and had nine sons who took the surname of Gustafsson/ Justisson. Perhaps to avoid confusion with this other Gustafsson family, Jöns Gustafsson's two sons, Nils and Knut, adopted the surname of Quist (meaning "twig" in Swedish) for use among the Swedes. Jöns's sons and grandchildren were thus referred to in church records from 1699 to 1722 when the name Quist was abandoned in favor of Gustafsson, Justis or Justice.

Nils Gustafsson married soon after 1693. His wife was the eldest daughter of William Cobb of Raccoon Creek and Mill Creek (now Cobbs Creek) in Pennsylvania.

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## Captain Israel Helm

by **Dr. Peter Stebbins Craig**  
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One of the legendary leaders emerging from New Sweden was Israel Helm, originally known as Israel Åkesson.

In 1749, Israel Helm's youngest son told Peter Kalm that his father had come to New Sweden at the age of 12 with Governor Printz in 1642-43 and lived in the Governor's household. Records at the Swedish National Archives give a slightly different story: they show that Israel Åkesson came to New Sweden in 1641 on the *Charitas*, with his father, musketeer Åke Israelsson from Stockholm. His father died at sea, one month before the *Charitas* reached New Sweden, and young Israel was cared for by the Company as an orphan. Undoubtedly, he became a ward of Governor. Printz after his arrival in 1643.

On 1 March, 1648, after Israel became 18, he was named a soldier by Governor Printz and served in this capacity until he returned to Sweden with the governor in 1653. Two years later, Israel Åkesson went to New Sweden a second time on the *Mercurius* and apparently resided on Tinicum Island. When Armegot Printz sold this island to Joost de la Grange in 1662, Israel returned to Europe in her company. Over the next twelve months he appears to have married and to have helped recruit more Finnish Swedes as settlers for the City of Amsterdam, which then controlled the Delaware River. Israel next appears in Delaware River records in the fall of 1663 when he arrived by a Dutch ship at present New Castle in the company of 32 new Finnish settlers. The Dutch governor rewarded him by granting him a monopoly on the fur trade in present Pennsylvania and by naming him a "High Councillor," qualifying him to sit on the Swedes' Upland court.

Israel, who adopted the surname Helm (from *hjälm*, meaning "helmet" in Swedish) served continuously as a justice on the Upland court from 1663 to 1681, and acquired the title of Captain, a rank usually reserved for those who served as captain in the Swedish militia.

Through his Indian trading, Israel Helm also became proficient in the Indian dialects and was in frequent demand to negotiate treaties with the Indians. As a reward, Governor Andros of New York granted him land near Burlington Island in 1677. Helm later surrendered this land to William Penn for his "Pennsbury" estate in exchange for other land on the Brandywine River.

After his return to America in 1663, Helm's principal residences were at Calcon Hook (Lower

Darby) and Upland (Chester). By 1677, however, he had moved to Gloucester County, NJ, where he resided on Clonmell Creek until his death in the winter of 1701-02. He was buried next to his wife in the old Swedish graveyard on Tinicum Island.

Israel Helm had three sons and five daughters:

1. **Israel, Jr.**, born c. 1663, went to sea around 1691 and was never heard from again.
2. **Helene**, born c. 1665, married Peter Cock, Jr., son of Peter Larsson Cock, in 1682 and had nine children. She died at Passyunk (South Philadelphia) after 1708.
3. **Maria**, born in 1666, married Andrew Robeson (of Scotch birth) c. 1690 and had 11 children. She died 12 November 1716 and was buried at Gloria Dei. Her husband died 19 February 1720 and was the first person known to be buried at the Swedish church in Douglassville in Berks County.
4. Another **daughter**, name unknown, was probably the first wife of Anders Friend, son of Nils Larsson Frände, and father of Israel Friend, of later Indian trading fame in Maryland. She died before her father.
5. **Ingeborg**, born c. 1670, became the second wife of Eric Mullica after 1693 and moved with her husband and youngest stepchildren to the Mullica River. She was a widow by 1704 and had no known children of her own.
6. **Elisabeth**, born c. 1673, married George Lawrence (English) by 1695 and had eight children. This family resided in lower Gloucester County, where she died c. 1737.
7. **Hermanus**, born c. 1675, married Catharine (parents not identified) and had at least 11 children. He remained on his father's plantation, known as "Helmstadt," adding other lands, and died in November 1740.
8. **Åkenus**, born c. 1677, had two wives, Catharine Rambo (daughter of John Rambo and Brigitta Cock) and Elisabeth Dalbo, (daughter of Olof Dalbo and Catharine Friend), and had at least 11 children. He served as a trustee of the Swedish church in Swedesboro, NJ and died in 1750 at his plantation on Raccoon Creek in Gloucester County.



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### Hendrickson House: The Oldest Stone House in America?

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additional article by Max Dooley  
in *Swedish Colonial News*,  
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[Holy Trinity Church](#) knew a good deal when it saw one. Forty years ago the church was offered an old stone home, reportedly of historical significance to the Swedish community, on the condition that the structure be dismantled and removed from its site immediately. By acting quickly, [Holy Trinity](#) became the owner of a brand-new, yet 310-year-old structure which had been built for a young Swedish farmer as a wedding present in 1690, and which is - quite possibly - the oldest stone house in America.



**The Hendrickson House of the grounds of Holy Trinity (Old Swedes') Church, Wilmington, Delaware**  
[photo by the author]

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The history of this old stone house began in 1653 when Sweden's Queen Christina agreed to answer Johan Printz's repeated pleas for more men and supplies. Two vessels, *Örnen* (*Eagle*) and *Gyllene Hajen* (*Golden Shark*), were recruited for duty, and preparations were made to replenish the far-off New Sweden colony.

Sven Skute was commissioned to recruit 50 soldiers and 250 colonists for the voyage. He was especially successful finding colonists in the forested area of northern Värmland, where he encountered *skogsfinnarna* (the so-called Forest Finns). These Finnish-speaking people had come to Värmland from Savo, a border province between Protestant Finland (then part of Sweden) and Orthodox Russia. They practiced *huuhta* (the cultivation of rye in the ashes of burned spruce forest) and had been encouraged by Swedish monarchs during the 1500s and early 1600s to clear the ground for eventual farm use. By 1640, however, their Swedish neighbors complained about the burnings, and soon the Forest Finns eagerly volunteered for the voyages to New Sweden.

The *Golden Shark* was damaged and unable to make the Atlantic crossing. The *Eagle* set sail from Gothenburg harbor on the icy, winter morning of 2 February 1654. Aboard were 350 souls, including Peter Mårtensson Lindeström, who would describe this voyage in his famous work *Geographia Americae*, and Johan Risingh, who was destined to become the last governor of New Sweden.

Overcrowding, poor sanitation and illness combined to take their toll on the ship's passengers and crew. When the *Eagle*, after a four month voyage, dropped anchor at Fort Christina on 22 May 1654, more than 100 people had perished.

Among those who survived the voyage were **Johan Hendricksson** and his sons, **Hendrick** and **Johan Johansson**. The father was sick on arrival, but still living in September 1655 when he signed an affidavit describing the surrender of Fort Trinity to the Dutch. He made a purchase of linen and sewant (wampum) from a Dutch trader on the Delaware in April 1657, but he is lost from the record thereafter.

By 1671, Hendrick Johansson owned (together with Bärtil Eskilsson) nearly 600 acres of land in Ammansland (later Ridley Township). By 1673, Johan Johansson owned property on Marcus Kill. Hendrick Johansson and Bärtil Eskilsson partitioned their joint property into four separate parcels (each taking two). By November 1676, Hendrick was dead.

Hendrick Johansson was survived by three minor sons, **Johan**, **Anders** and **Matthias Hendricksson**. Hendrick's brother, Johan Johansson, and his neighbor Mårten Mårtensson were appointed overseers of Hendrick's estate and guardians of his minor children. When Hendrick's eldest son, Johan Hendricksson, came of age, he took possession of his father's homestead in Ammansland, the eastern parcel on Darby Creek. When Anders Hendricksson came of age, he took possession of his father's other tract of land - the western parcel facing Crum Creek. It was here, at the confluence of Crum Creek and the Delaware River, that the Hendrickson House was built in 1690, and there it remained for 270 years.

To document the true historical value of the Hendrickson House, H. Edgar Hammond, long-time vicar of [Holy Trinity Church](#), and Ruth L. Springer, wife of Courtland B. Springer (a descendant of Charles Springer) wrote "The Hendrick-sons of Crum Creek and the Old Swedes House" *Pennsylvania Genealogical Magazine*, 22:45-82 (1961) (reprints available at the [Hendrickson House](#)).

In Crum Creek, the authors propose that Johan Hendricksson, as the eldest son and new family leader, inherited not only the family homestead but also the task of supporting his younger brothers, which, in Anders' case, meant helping him build a good house to live in when he was ready to marry. The presence of a good supply of freestone dictated the material of choice. Thus

was constructed a stone house for Anders Hendricksson and his bride, **Brigitta**, the daughter of Mårten Mårtensson, Anders' old guardian and neighbor whose great-grandson, John Morton, would sign the Declaration of Independence as a representative of the colony of Pennsylvania.

The Crum Creek history reports that the stone house measured 30 by 20 feet and faced southwest overlooking Crum Creek and the Delaware River across to New Jersey. In the center of each of the two longer walls, front and back, was a door, flanked by a window on either side. The gambrel roof was supported by the end walls and by heavy, hand-hewn pine beams which extended two feet beyond the face of the front and rear walls to form protective eaves over the first floor doors and windows. Inside, the northwest wall was completely filled by a huge fireplace, an adjacent wood closet (fed by a hatchway to the outside), and in the right-hand corner, a narrow, winding stair leading to the second floor. The large upstairs room was used for sleeping quarters and was heated by a second fireplace.

Anders and Brigitta had four children (**Hendrick** b. 1691; **Jacob** b. 1693; **Helena** b. 1696; and **Catherine** b. cir. 1700) before Brigitta died in December 1702. Anders soon remarried. With his second wife **Catharine** he had six more children (**John, Peter, Gabriel, Maria, Christina and Rebecca**).

Anders Hendricksson died in late Summer 1722 and was buried "in Christian and decent manner ... at Wicaco (Philadelphia)." The stone house and surrounding 164 acres on Crum Creek were devised jointly to the three youngest sons, John, Peter and Gabriel.

By 1726, John Hendrickson had reached majority. By 1735, he had married **Magdalena** and was considered the head of the household, where also lived his mother and his unmarried brothers. John and Magdalena had two known children, **Isaac** and **Gabriel**. In 1741, Peter Hendrickson purchased land in Greenwich Township, Gloucester County, New Jersey and left Crum Creek, perhaps by 1747, when he married **Catharina Lock**, granddaughter of the immigrant pastor Lars Carlsson Lock.

Late in 1746, John Hendrickson, and then his youngest son Gabriel, died. John's only child and sole heir, Isaac, was scarcely more than five years old. With no family member to care for the plantation, the land, but not the stone house, was leased.

Not long after John Hendrickson's untimely demise, his widow Magdalena married Charles Grantum, a justice of Chester County, whose first wife, Catherina Morton, was a granddaughter of Mårten Mårtensson. Magdalena and Isaac left Crum Creek to live at their new home in Ammansland. On 4 January 1753, Magdalena Grantum died and was buried in the churchyard at Wicaco.

In 1763, Isaac Hendrickson became sole owner of the stone house and the 161 acre Crum Creek plantation. On 31 October 1769, Isaac married **Margaret Nethermark**, the widow of Luke Nethermark of Tinicum Island and daughter of George and Margaret (Justis) Webb. Isaac and Margaret had no children.

On 30 June 1788, Isaac Hendrickson sold the stone house on Crum Creek and the family plantation, which had grown to 182 acres of land and meadow, to John Crosby. Thus ended nearly 120 years of Hendrickson family ownership.

Now more than one century old, the Hendrickson House was in dire need of repair. Around 1798, the size of the original house was increased fifty percent (to 45 by 20 feet) by the addition of a new section, matching the existing section in both material and construction.

The house and grounds passed through a succession of owners until 1868, when the Ward family of Ridley acquired the property and operated a successful quarry business and brickyard for the



next fifty years. In 1918, a large portion of their property, including the stone house, was acquired by the Baldwin Locomotive Works, who owned it until 1956.

In the summer of 1958 the new owners, the Vertol Aircraft Corporation (now The Boeing Company), offered the "Old Swedes House" on their property to [Holy Trinity \(Old Swedes\) Church Foundation](#) with the provision that the structure be removed as soon as possible. Plans were made to create a combination museum-library and church office on the grounds in Wilmington. Careful drawings were made and every structural detail was photographed before the house was painstakingly dismantled, stone-by-stone.

Rebuilding presented many challenges. Where original wood and hardware were no longer serviceable, proper reproductions were crafted or replacement materials secured. The beams (which had been damaged by fire) served as templates for duplication. The original door-frame and two window frames were retained as patterns. The original mantel and frame of the great fireplace are now in place in the restored house. Modern utilities, heat and air conditioning, a fire-proof storage vault and a new straight stairway were installed.

For the past forty years the Old Swede's house has served as an integral part of the Holy Trinity Church/ Hendrickson House/Christina Community Center triad of buildings that form the Swedish presence in Wilmington, not far from Fort Christina Park. In 1960, the house saw the first of its royal visitors when H. R. H. Princesses Brigitta and Desiree admired the rebirth of the ancient Swedish structure. On 29 March 1963 (to coincide with the 325th Anniversary of the Swedes landing at "the Rocks"), this area hosted Vice-President Lyndon Johnson, H. R. H. Prince Bertil, Governor Carvel and other dignitaries who designated Fort Christina and Holy Trinity Church as national historic landmarks, accepted the presentation of the Stallcup log cabin, and officially dedicated the Hendrickson House. In 1976, H. M. Carl XVI Gustaf visited the Swedish landmarks as part of America's Bicentennial celebration and in 1988 the Swedish King returned with Queen Silvia to mark the 350th Anniversary of the ancient Swedes' arrival in the New World.

Today the Hendrickson House serves as headquarters for the [Holy Trinity \(Old Swedes\) Church Foundation](#) and principal meeting place of the [Delaware Swedish Colonial Society](#). Its vault contains the Church's treasures, including the 1718 Communion silver presented by the grateful parish in Sweden where Holy Trinity's first pastor, Ericus Björk, served after leaving New Sweden. In the upper floor gallery may be viewed the altar cloth, bearing a central cross embroidered by H. M. Gustav V, and presented to Holy Trinity in 1950. Students of the earliest settlers visit the library's holdings and throughout the house visitors enjoy Swedish-American antiques and furnishings. Perhaps its proudest role, however, arrives each December when the gift shop offers delightful Swedish treats and the Hendrickson House is decorated for Lucia and a traditional Swedish Christmas.

The 310-year-old Hendrickson House (America's oldest stone?) stands today as both a monument to the Delaware Valley's first permanent settlers and a vital asset rebuilt to meet the needs of the present-day Swedish community.



# THE SWEDISH COLONIAL SOCIETY

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### Matthias Claesson and his Holstein Family

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In 1708, Pastor Andreas Sandel wrote in his list of burials at Gloria Dei Church the following entry (as translated from the original Swedish): "9 April. Buried old Matths Hollsten, born in Dithmarschen in Holstein."

The man referred to was the founder of the Swedish Holstein family, which left an enduring mark among the Swedish churches at Wicaco, Upper Merion and Swedesboro and gave its name to the Holsten River in Tennessee, whose first inhabitant was Stephen Holstein, a grandson of the immigrant, Matthias Claesson from Dithmarschen in Holstein which then, as now, lies east of the Netherlands on the North Sea.

Matthias Claesson was one of several Holsteiners who ended up as husbands of Swedish wives. Others with similar stories were Marcus Laurensen (progenitor of the Hulings family) and Otto Ernest Koch (progenitor of one of the Swedish Cox families).

In 1893, Mrs. Anna M. Holstein of Upper Merion, Montgomery County, PA, wrote a book entitled *Swedish Holsteins in America from 1644 to 1892*, one of the first genealogies to explore the families of the 17th century Swedes. In this book, she claimed that Matthias Holstein had been born in New Sweden in 1644 and that his father (name unknown) had arrived in New Sweden with Governor Peter Minuit in 1638. She was wrong on all counts.

From a special census taken in 1683 and from pastor Rudman's 1697 church census, we know that Matthias Holstein was born in 1642. From Sandel's burial record, we know that he came from Dithmarschen in Holstein. He was 21 years old in 1663 when he answered the pleas of the New Amstel colony for young farmers willing to go to the South (Delaware) River. Having taken over the former colony of New Sweden from the Dutch West India Company, the sponsors were anxious to recruit new farmers from outside of the country to better exploit the potential of their endeavor.

Shortly after Matthias Claesson's arrival on the Delaware, the New Amstel colony was taken over by the English. The local population, however, was still primarily Swedish. Matthias Claesson, now known as Matthias Holstein, found employment in Kingessing and in 1671 was residing at Sayamensing Island on the west side of the Schuylkill River on land owned by Lasse Cock, eldest son of Peter Larsson Cock. Soon thereafter Matthias Holstein married Lasse Cock's eldest sister, probably named Helena Cock. With the aid of Lasse Cock, Matthias acquired land in Passyunk, on the east side of the Schuylkill from Peter Mattson, who (in an apparent exchange) acquired

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Sayamensing Island from Lasse Cock.

It is probable that Matthias Holstein married Lasse Cock's sister by 1672. He acquired his Passyunk property on 5 May 1672 and remained there until his death in 1708. Throughout this time, he was a staunch supporter of the Swedish church at Wicaco, serving briefly as a church warden and contributing £ 7 toward the building of the new church in 1698-1700.

In 1684, however, Matthias Holstein became a widower, with four small boys to raise. He hired as his housekeeper Catharina from the Crane Hook congregation, whose father Måns Pålsson had died in 1682. Later, in 1688, he married Catharina Månsdotter and had two more sons and a daughter by this marriage.

Before his death, Matthias Holstein gave most of his lands to his sons Laurence and Matthias. In his will, he made bequests to his other four sons and designated his wife Catharine to be the executrix, "desiring my friends William Carter and Peter Mounts [his wife's brother] to be assistants to my said executrix."

Six children (all males) were listed in the will of Matthias Holstein dated 14 December 1706:

1. **Laurence Holstein**, born 15 Sept. 1677 at Passyunk, was married about 1702 to his cousin Gertrude Mattson, daughter of John Mattson and Maria Lom. He served on the Gloria Dei Church council and vestry from 1708 to 1710 but moved soon thereafter to Pilesgrove in northern Salem County, where he lived for the balance of his life. He also served as a vestryman of the Swedish church at Raccoon, but after this church lost its minister he was among those joining the new Moravian church at Pilesgrove in 1747. He died in January 1751.

Laurence and Gertrude Holstein had nine known children: Matthias, born c. 1703; Maria, born c. 1705; Sarah, born c. 1707; Catharina, born c. 1709; Andrew, born c. 1711; Susanna, born 31 Aug. 1713; Johanna, born 5 Sept. 1715; Lawrence, baptized 19 March 1717; and Elisabeth, born 26 June 1723.

2. **Andrew Holstein**, born 19 Jan. 1679, had left home by 1704 to try his luck elsewhere. By 1715 he was a resident of Talbot County, where he married Frances, the daughter of Captain John Davis of St. Michaels River. He died in 1718 and his estate was administered by his widow and her second husband, William Elbert. Andrew had no known surviving children.
3. **Matthias Holstein, Jr.**, born 1 July 1681 at Passyunk, was married on 10 October 1705 to his first cousin, Brita Rambo, daughter of Gunnar Rambo and Anna Cock. He was a warden and vestryman for Gloria Dei Church from 1707 to 1709, but soon moved to Matsunk (the Swedes' tract in Upper Merion Township in present Montgomery County), where he established a large farm in the vicinity of present Bridgeport. He was also active politically and was five times elected to the Pennsylvania Assembly (in 1718 and from 1722 to 1725). He died at Matsunk shortly before 11 May 1737, when his will was proved. His widow Brita died in 1758.

Matthias and Brita Holstein had 12 children, the first three of whom died in infancy: Peter, born in 1706; Fredrick, born in 1709; Brita, born in 1711; Catharina, born c. 1713; Debora, born 5 Sept. 1714; Andrew, born 15 April 1716; Matthias, born 2 Dec. 1717; Maria, born 23 April 1720; Brita, born c. 1722; John, born 26 March 1724; Elisabeth, born c. 1726; and Fredrick, born 11 Feb. 1728.

4. **Fredrick Holstein**, was born in Passyunk on 13 Jan. 1684. Like his elder brothers Laurence and Matthias, he served on the Philadelphia County militia in 1704, at a time when there was concern about possible attacks by the French and Indians in the wake of the Deerfield

Massacre in Massachusetts. He died unmarried in 1708, when his brother Laurence was appointed to administer his estate.

5. **Peter Holstein**, born 16 Jan. 1691, was apparently hired by his uncle, Peter Månsson (Mounts), to manage a farm which he had purchased in 1709 on Drawyers Creek in St. Georges Hundred, New Castle County, Delaware. By 1722, Peter Holstein married Sara Peirce, daughter of John Peirce. Their daughter Maria, two months old, was baptized by pastor Andreas Hesselius of Holy Trinity (Old Swedes') Church on 21 July 1723. Peter Holstein disappears from New Castle County records after December 1728. It is presumed that he died of smallpox, which was of epidemic proportions in 1728-1729 and killed a large number of his Månsson cousins.
6. **Henry Holstein**, born 29 March 1694 at Passyunk, also hit the road as a laborer, but initially he remained in the Philadelphia area, marrying by 1715 a daughter of Stephen Evans, a Welsh Quaker who had immigrated to Radnor, PA, from Radnorshire, Wales. In 1734 Henry and his family resided in Providence Township in present Montgomery County, where he farmed (but did not own) six acres of corn. In 1737, he obtained warrants for land in Robeson Township in present Berks County. However he soon moved again, this time to the Northern Neck of Virginia, ultimately settling on Craig's Creek in present Botetourt County, where he died after 1754.

Henry Holstein had four known children: Mary, born c. 1716; Stephen, born c. 1718; Sarah, born c. 1720; and Henry, born c. 1723.

Stephen Holstein became the first white settler on a river later named after him (the Holsten River in Tennessee), then moved to the Carolinas, West Florida and finally the Natchez District on the Mississippi River, leaving many descendants in that area. Henry Holstein remained in Botetourt County, Virginia, leaving many descendants in that area.



# THE SWEDISH COLONIAL SOCIETY

## Forefathers

### Thomas Jacobsson the Finn and his Thompson Descendants

by **Dr. Peter Stebbins Craig**  
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originally published in *Swedish Colonial News*,  
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Among the many Finns arriving in former New Sweden on the *Mercurius* in 1656 was the family of Thomas Jacobsson from Letstigen, Värmland, which included his wife, three children and a maid. With them was the family of Pål Persson which also included his wife, three children and a maid. New Sweden was then under Dutch rule and the two families decided to settle on the colony's western frontier at a place on the north side of the Christina River called "Bread and Cheese Island," located at the junction with White Clay and Red Clay creeks.

By the time a grant was issued on this land in 1666, Pål Persson had died and his eldest son Olof Pålsson and Thomas Jacobsson were named owners of the land. Both were leaders in the area. Olle Pålsson became the clerk of the Swedish church at Crane Hook. Thomas Jacobsson held the title of lieutenant of the militia.

In 1671 Thomas Jacobsson became notorious (among the English) and famous (among the Finns) for his leadership role in the rebellion against Judge Hans Block's dike. The Dutch judge, desiring better road access between his plantation north of Sand Hook and the capital at New Castle, persuaded his fellow judges to issue an order requiring all freemen to contribute labor to build the road through swampland for Judge Block's private benefit. Lieutenant Thomas Jacobson, by his mark ("T") was the first name on the protest against doing this forced labor.

The English sheriff William Tom addressed Governor Andros claiming that "a number of the inhabitants in such a mutinous and tumultuous manner, being led by the priest Jacob Fabritius and others, including Thomas Jacobsson, some having swords, some pistols, others clubs with them," insisted they would not work on Block's dike. The end result was that Thomas Jacobsson and his two adult sons (Olle and Peter Thomasson) were each fined 20 guilders for their refusal to work on Block's dike and Thomas Jacobsson himself was fined 400 guilders for his leadership role in the rebellion.

Thomas Jacobsson was a prosperous farmer who assembled substantial lands for his sons Olle, Peter and Christiern Thomasson. He left his home plantation at Bread & Cheese Island to his son Olle. He acquired land on White Clay Creek in 1676 for his son Peter, and was instrumental in securing land at Tacony in the present Philadelphia area for his son Christiern.

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Our last glimpse of Thomas Jacobsson was on 9 January 1679 when an English orphan, Charles Hedges, was indentured to him by the New Castle court, after Thomas Jacobsson promised that his son Olle Thomasson would “larn the boy to read as much as he could teach him.” Thomas Jacobsson died before 14 October 1679 when his son Olle represented the family in signing a mill agreement with other property owners in the area of Bread & Cheese Island.

Thomas Jacobsson left no will. However, four sons have been identified, the eldest of whom became a Lenape Indian chief:

1. **Jacob Thomasson**, the eldest, born in Sweden, was kidnaped as a small child by the Lenape (Delaware) Indians. He is first mentioned in surviving documents in a letter from Pastor Andreas Sandel to his family in Sweden, written on 17 June 1702: “A Swede, when he was a little boy, went out picking berries in the forest and was taken by the Indians. Now he lives among these wild heathens and won’t return.”

As later described to Pastor Ericus Björk, based on a report by the Swedish Indian trader John Hans Steelman: “Now it once happened at the Christina congregation that two brothers [Jacob and Olof] rambled together away from the house in the woods, of whom the one became lost. The parents couldn’t find the child again, but came to the conclusion that some heathen had kidnaped the child. The parents went around for many years and sought after the child, but could get no news of him, because those Indians were far away. At long last it happened that [John Hans Steelman], who carried on a large trade with the heathens, comes among the said group and engages in conversation with their king. Then it seemed to him from all the circumstances that he was not of heathen but Christian blood. And as he had heard some discussion of it, therefore he let the kidnaped boy’s brother, Olle Thomsson, know about it. They traveled now to the king and believed they recognized him, but weren’t able to say anything. But finally the king came home to Olle Thomsson, where they so arranged it that they were found to be brothers by that which childhood memory brought to hand. With embraces and tears they heartily rejoiced together. And he had then been king among them a long time. Preparations were made to get him away from there. But the heathens were ill-disposed and became alarmed, and thus would not let their king go anywhere alone. On account of his wise and capable rule among them he was much respected and had accrued a great reputation. Afterwards he was killed there.”

It seems certain that Jacob Thomasson, the Lenape Indian chief, had surviving descendants, but recorded history does not provide proof. However, there is strong circumstantial evidence that he not only had children but also that his descendants remained prominent among the Lenape or Delaware Indians. This was the opinion of my mentor Dr. C. A. Weslager, the noted historian, who wrote several books about the Delaware Indians and their westward migration. His principal source for interpretation of Lenape words was the late Nora Thompson Dean (known as “Touching Leaves”) whose grandfather Joseph Thompson was one of the signers of an 1860 letter by leaders of the Delaware Indians seeking lands in the Indian Territory (present Oklahoma). Dr. Weslager related to me that “Touching Leaves” claimed that the family tradition included the story that they had a Swedish ancestor.

2. **Olof Thomasson**, the second son, was also born in Sweden. As presumably the eldest son of Thomas Jacobsson, he inherited his father’s 200-acre plantation at “Bread and Cheese Island.” In 1689 he added 200 acres more, half of which he sold to Bengt Pålsson (son of Pål Persson) in 1697. After the arrival of Pastor Ericus Björk in 1697, Olle Thomasson became a stalwart supporter of the new church. He gave £5 for its construction, transported lumber by canoe to the building site and volunteered his service and two horses for hauling other materials. In June 1699 he and his wife Helena were assigned pews in the new Holy Trinity Church.

Illness struck in 1699. Olof Thomasson wrote his will on 4 November 1699, by which he left one of his plantations at Bread & Cheese Island to his eldest son Peter, his plantation on Mill Creek to his second son Paul Thomasson, and his home plantation on Bread & Cheese Island to his youngest son Olle Thomasson. He died before 1701, when his widow was listed owner of his



properties. His widow Helena was still living in 1704 when she was granted £4 by John Hans Steelman, but she died soon thereafter.

The 1693 census had shown nine persons in his household. This probably included Charles Hedges and his younger brother Joseph Hedges. Three others were his own sons. Only one of two presumed daughters has been identified. The four known children were:

- **Peter Thomasson**, the eldest son, died unmarried and without issue. His brother Paul Thomasson inherited his land.
- **Paul Thomasson** married Hileke, the daughter of John Boyer of New Castle about 1700. He wrote his will on 4 February 1707, declaring himself a resident of Red Clay Creek Hundred, New Castle County. He gave his lands to his only child Eleanor. She married John Twiggs, 16 February 1721, and had eight children: Abraham (who married Sarah Bird, 24 September 1747), Anne (who married John Ferguson), Mary (who married 1st Eric Stalcop in 1746 and 2nd Joshua Watson), Sarah (who married Matthew Glenn), Eleanor (who married John Marten), John, Rebecca and Hannah (who married Nathan Scothorn in 1759).
- **Olle Thomasson, Jr.**, survived his two older brothers. On 28 June 1721 he sold his 135 acres at Bread & Cheese Island to Charles Justis, Jr., of the Wicaco congregation. Not further traced.
- **Maria Thomasson**, the only known daughter, married Bärtil (alias Bartholomew) Johnson of Elk River, Cecil County c. 1712. He was the son of Simon Johansson, one of the first settlers of present Elkton, Maryland. They had three children: Anna (who married Cornelius Clements & Henry Pennington); Maria (who married Conrad Garretson) and Susanna.

3. **Peter Thomasson** was fined 20 guilders in the 1671 dike rebellion and in 1676 was granted a patent for a plantation on White Clay Creek. He died unmarried and without issue before 4 December 1682 when his brother and heir Olof Thomasson sold one-half of the land.

4. **Christiern Thomasson**, the youngest son, turned his attention to the northern Swedish community in present Pennsylvania. On 25 October 1675 Walter Wharton surveyed for Eric Mullica, Olle Nilsson Gästenberg and Christiern Thomasson a tract of 950 acres at Tacony. On division of the land, Christiern Thomasson secured 160 acres for himself. In January 1683 he was naturalized by William Penn. He appears to have confronted economic misfortune, as in 1685 he sold a meadow to Anna Salter and owed her money at her death in 1688. In the next year he sold his farm to Henry Malloes, but both parties died before the deed was executed. The May 1693 census of the Swedes on the Delaware listed Christiern Thomasson's widow with six in the household. She died before 1697.

The children of Christiern Thomasson were:

- **Anna Thomasson**, born 1674, married Swan Rambo, son of Peter Rambo, Jr., c. 1700. In 1713, she and her husband joined her three surviving siblings (Maria, Thomas and Lawrence) in executing a deed to Henry Malloes' widow Sarah for the land sold by their father in 1689. Anna died by 1719 when Swan Rambo married 2nd Barbara (surname unknown). Swan Rambo moved to the Swedish settlement on the upper Schuylkill River where he died at Cacoosing Creek in Lancaster County in 1730. Anna had eight children, at least two of which lived beyond infancy: Christian Rambo (born 1708, died in 1748 in Virginia) and Lawrence Rambo (born 1713, died in Abbeville, South Carolina). On 2 February 1773, Lawrence Rambo of Granville County, South Carolina, executed a deed to Gloria Dei Church conferring rights which his grandfather, Peter Rambo, Jr., had owned for the benefit of the church.
- **Maria Thomasson**, born 1676, married Lawrence Boore, Jr., son of Lars Larsson and Elisabeth Bjur in 1699. Born in 1678, Lawrence Boore lived his entire life at Pennypack in Lower Dublin Township, Philadelphia County. He served as a warden and vestryman of Gloria Dei Church and one year (1733) as a justice of the peace in Philadelphia County. His will of 12 October 1745, proved 16 August 1746, named six surviving children: Andrew

(who married Gertrude Cox in 1731 and died in 1765), Joseph (who married Elizabeth Paxton in 1743 and died in 1748), Peter Boore (who married Mary Hall in 1755), Mary (who married John Chamberlain), Thomas (who married Elisabeth) and Benjamin.

- **Thomas Thomasson**, born c. 1679, married Elizabeth [parents not identified]. In 1704 he donated 15 shillings toward the cost of completing the side porches at Gloria Dei Church. He served as a church warden at Gloria Dei in 1709-1710. In 1713, under the name of Thomas Thompson, as son and heir of Christiern Thompson, he received a patent for 160 acres in Oxford Township, paid 40 bushels of wheat as settlement for overdue quitrents (taxes) on the land since 1689 and, with his siblings, conveyed the land to widow Sarah Mallows in 1714. Thomas Thompson of the City of Philadelphia wrote his will on 27 April 1734, naming his wife Elizabeth executrix and sole heir. He was buried the next day in the "Stranger's ground" at Christ Church.
- **Lars Thomasson**, born c. 1682, also donated 15 shillings in 1704 toward the cost of completing the side porches at Gloria Dei. He subsequently married Grace Smith, daughter of Thomas and Sarah Smith of Darby Township, Chester County. On 16 April 1711, as Lawrence Thompson, he purchased 200 acres in the Manor of Moreland from Nicholas and Priscilla Moore for £80. Lawrence and his wife Grace mortgaged the latter property in 1713. The mortgage was satisfied in 1723. Their first child, Sarah Thompson, was remembered in her grandmother Sarah Smith's will of 8 July 1715. This family has not been further traced. It is probable, however, that they had two sons who followed their Rambo in-laws to Lancaster County and then to North Carolina: Lawrence Thompson, Jr., married Sarah Finney c. 1735 and wrote his will in North Carolina in 1790 after having eight children, the eldest of whom was baptized at St. Gabriel's Church in Amity Township in present Berks County, Pa. Thomas Thompson married Ann Finney c. 1738, and died in North Carolina c. 1795 after having eight children.
- **Ingeborg Thomasson**, born c. 1685, was living in the household of Peter Rambo, Jr., in 1697. She apparently died without issue before the sale of the family farm in 1713.
- **Helena Thomasson**, born 1687, was living in the household of Peter Rambo, Jr., in 1697. She apparently died without issue before 1713.



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## Jürgen Schneeweiss, Progenitor of the Keen Family

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Governor Printz' *Monatgelderbuch*, 1643-1653, recorded that the New Sweden soldier known as Jürgen Schneeweiss came from "Sachsen" (Saxony, Germany).

This fact was not known when Dr. Gregory B. Keen, a descendant of Jürgen Schneeweiss and Secretary of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, wrote a series of articles for the *Pennsylvania Magazine of History & Biography*, 1878-1883, "The Descendants of Jöran Kyn of New Sweden," in which he wrote that the progenitor of the Keen family was born in Sweden. In 1913, Dr. Keen, then Vice President of the Swedish Colonial Society, republished this genealogy (with additions) as a book by the same name. By this time Dr. Keen should have known better. In the preceding years, Dr. Amandus Johnson had traveled to Sweden, examined the records of the New Sweden soldiers and undoubtedly informed Dr. Keen, his mentor, of his discovery.

Dr. Keen, however, apparently was unwilling to admit his own error. As a compromise, therefore, Dr. Amandus Johnson's 1911 book, *Swedish Settlements on the Delaware, 1638-1664*, omitted any reference to Jürgen Keen's national origin. Thus, the myth created by Dr. Keen remained unchallenged until recent years when a fresh look at the original records revealed much new information not published by either Dr. Keen or Dr. Johnson, both known as New Sweden scholars in their time.

The history of Jürgen Schneeweiss prior to 1642 is unknown other than the fact that he came from Saxony. Undoubtedly, he was among the many Germans recruited into the Swedish army during the Thirty Years War. His name translates into English as "George Snow-white," the second name being indicative of his personal appearance, possibly the color of his hair or the lightness of his complexion, or both. After becoming a freeman, he substituted the word Kühn, meaning "bold" in German, which became the family surname. Various spelled as Kijn, Kyn, Kien, Kühn or Keen, the surname eventually became standardized as Keen.

Jürgen Schneeweiss went on the New Sweden payroll on 1 Sept. 1642 when he was advanced three months' wages in Stockholm (30 guilders). He sailed to America on the *Swan*, arriving in the New Sweden colony with Governor Printz on 15 Feb. 1643. He served as a soldier under Printz until 1653 when Printz returned to Sweden.

Choosing to remain in America, Jürgen adopted the surname of Kühn (Keen) and settled on

Upland Creek. An English patent, issued 4 August 1668, described his lands as comprising 400 acres in three separate lots.

On 7 April 1663, before the Upland Court, Jurriaen Kyn (as he was called by the Dutch court clerk) sued Evert Hendricksson the Finn for assault and battery. The defendant was convicted and expelled from the colony, only to be granted refuge at Crane Hook by Gov. d'Hinoyossa of New Amstel.

The last known reference to the old soldier occurred on 1 March 1687/8 when "Urine Keen" conveyed his lot in Chester town (former Upland) for a Quaker meeting house. His other lands had previously been transferred to his three known children:

1. **Hans Keen**, apparently the eldest son, sold his Upland property to his brother Jonas in 1678 and moved to Pennypack Creek in what later became Oxford Township or Tacony. He died before 10 August 1684, when his widow Williamke Kühn was listed as a contributor to the Wicaco church. She later became the second wife of Caspar Fisk (Fish). Hans and Williamke had five surviving children: Matthias (born 1667), Eric, Jonas, Gertrude and George, all of whom married and had children.
2. **Jonas Keen** was of age by 17 May 1675 when he was named Ensign of the Upland Court militia. By 1680 he had moved to Burlington County NJ, where he acquired a share of Hans Monsson's 500 acre plantation at Senamensing. He apparently moved from this location in 1693, because on 2 March 1694/5 administration of the estate of "Jonas Skeen" of Cesarie River (Cohansey Creek) was granted to his widow Catharine by the Salem County NJ court. His widow Catharine was buried at the Swedish church on Raccoon Creek (Swedesboro), 5 Oct. 1715. Only three of their six children have been identified: Måns (born c. 1678), George and Catharine.
3. **Anna Keen** was married about 1668 to James Sandelands, an English soldier of Scotch birth who obtained a 200-acre patent on Upland Creek on 4 Aug. 1668 and his discharge from the army in 1669. He died in Chester, 12 April 1692, survived by his wife, two married daughters (Eleanor, wife of George Foreman, and Catharine, wife of Jasper Yeates) and five minor children: Christian, Mary, James, Jonas and Lydia. Anna then married Peter Baynton (English) in 1692 and had an additional child, Rebecca, born c. 1693/4. Her second husband deserted her and returned to England. Anna was buried 5 Oct. 1704 at St. Paul's Church in Chester, beside her first husband.



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## Lars Carlsson Lock, Pastor of New Sweden and his Family

by **Dr. Peter Stebbins Craig**  
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Lars Carlsson Lock, as was typical among Swedish ministers, generally used a Latinized version of his name Laurentius Caroli Lockenius. He was born as Lars Carlsson [Lars, son of Carl] and later adopted his surname from his place of origin, Lockerud, near Mariestad, in Skaraborg County, Sweden. Based on his reported age at the time of his death, he was born about 1624.

In September 1647, at the age of 23, Lars Lock sailed from Göteborg to New Sweden aboard the *Swan*. In the colony, he replaced the veteran minister, Johan Carnpanius, and took up residence at the New Sweden glebe lands, which extended from the mouth of Upland (Chester) Creek to Olof Stille's Creek (now Ridley Creek). His log church, built a few years before by Governor Printz, was located a short distance away on Tinicum Island. His congregation, however, was widely scattered, extending from the Schuylkill River on the north to Christina Creek on the south.

In the summer of 1653, when the freemen, led by Olof Stille, decided to file a petition of grievances with Governor Printz, they apparently turned to Lock to write the petition. Printz accused him of instigating the "mutiny," but the new Governor, Johan Rising, was persuaded that Lock was not guilty of the charge.

Lars Lock married two times. There being no other minister on the Delaware, he performed the marriage rites both times.

His first wife, named Catharina, was born in Sweden about 1635. Her parents have not been identified. In September 1661, she ran away with Jacob Jongh from Göteborg, who had arrived in New Sweden in 1654 as a soldier and commissary. They moved first to Westchester County, NY, but returned to Philadelphia County by 1677. Jongh served as sexton and schoolmaster at the new log church at Wicaco, under Rev. Jacob Fabritius, until his death in April 1686. Catharina, then married John Tank. She died at the age of 78 and was buried at Gloria Dei Church at Wicaco, 14 August 1713. Her only child, Hester Young, apparently was fathered by Jacob Jongh.

Lock's second wife, mother of all of his known children, was Beata Lom, daughter of Måns Lom, who lived with Olof Stille at Techoherassi, the tract between Ridley Creek and Crum Creek. Beata was reported to be the first girl born in New Sweden. She was 18 years old when she married Lock.

in January 1662. The Dutch authorities claimed the marriage was illegal because Governor Stuyvesant had not yet granted Lock a divorce from his first wife. But Olof Stille, speaking for the Upland Court, informed the Dutch it was none of their business.

Around 1663 over 20 Finnish families, members of Lock's congregation at Tinicum Island, moved to Crane Hook, in Dutch controlled territory south of the Christina River. Granted religious freedom by the New Amstel governor, Alexander d'Hinojossa, the Finns built a log church at Crane Hook, which Lock also served until his death.

Around 1664, Lock acquired, as his personal property, the former Techoherassi estate of Olof Stille.

When, in 1669, a number of the Finns plotted a rebellion against the British (who captured the river in 1664), Lock lent support for the scheme and was heavily fined for his role in the "Long Finn Rebellion," so called because the agitator for the rebellion was a tall Finn.

Lock's role as the only minister on the Delaware ended in 1677 when the Swedes living northeast of Mill (Darby) Creek built a new log church at Wicaco and invited Jacob Fabritius to be their pastor. Adding insult to injury, Jacob Jongh, who had eloped with Lock's first wife, became sexton for the new church.

Lock continued to serve in the pulpits of both the Tinicum church and the Crane Hook church until his death at Upland Creek in September 1688 at the reported age of 64. In the final years of his life he suffered from lameness. His widow Beata died in the following spring. Their minor children then moved to Gloucester County NJ to live with their aunt, Maria Lom, wife of Johan Mattsson.

The seven known children of Lars and Beata (Lom) Lock are listed below. All of their spouses were Swedes and all were active in the Swedish church on Raccoon Creek, at present Swedesboro.

1. **Anders Lock**, born c. 1663, was appointed constable of Ridley Township in Dec. 1687. In 1689 he sold the family plantation and moved to Gloucester County, where in 1694 he married Christina Fish, widow of Hans Peterson. Anders died of a rattlesnake bite and was buried 5 August 1716. He was survived by six children: Maria, Israel, Lars, Helena, Måns and Anders.
2. **Måns Lock**, born c. 1665, never married. He died in Gloucester County by 1698.
3. **Catharina Lock**, born c. 1668, married c. 1692 John Jonasson, son of Jonas Nilsson. Perhaps he was a mariner for he seems to be absent most of the time. Catharina, became housekeeper for John Bowles whose 1715 will left his entire estate in Greenwich Township to Catharina, and her five daughters: Beata, Elisabeth, Anna, Maria and Rebecca Jones. Catharina Lock Jones was buried 22 March 1720.
4. **John Lock**, born c. 1670, married by 1713 Catharina Hoffman, daughter of Frederick Hoffman. John Lock was buried 6 Nov. 1720, survived by four children: John, Måns, Beata and Helena. His widow became the second wife of Stephen Jones (Swedish).
5. **Peter Lock**, born c. 1673, married c. 1703 Maria (parents not identified). A vestryman at the Swedish church at Raccoon, Peter Lock was buried 13 June 1731, and survived by nine children: Lars, Charles, Beata, Maria, Jonas, John, Jasper, Peter and Susanna.
6. **Maria Lock**, born c. 1675, secured an order on 1 June 1697 from the Gloucester County court against Hermanus Helm to pay support for her illegitimate child, born the previous April. Before the year was over, it was arranged that she marry Anders Hoffman. They lived at Piles Grove in Salem County. Anders Hoffman was buried 25 April 1727, survived by eleven children: Lars, John, Anders, Måns, Catharina, Maria, Beata, Rebecca, Margaret, Susanna, and Magdalena. Widow Maria Lock Hoffman was still living in 1749.
7. **Gustaf Lock**, born c. 1680, married c. 1709 Magdalena Hoffman, a daughter of Frederick Hoffman. He died in the fall of 1742, survived by seven children: Swan, Anders, Rebecca, Catharina, Elisabeth, Zebulon, and Gustaf.







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## Måns Svensson Lom, Forgotten Forefather, and his Seven Daughters

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Although the surname of Lom died out by 1685, it is probable that Måns Svensson Lorn had more descendants than any other settler of New Sweden. He had nine children, fifty or more grandchildren and at least 250 great-grandchildren. When Andreas Rudman took his census of the Wicaco congregation in 1697, thirty percent (165) of them were Lom's descendants.

Nothing is yet known about Lom's personal history prior to 1641. As he came to America with the Stille brothers (Olof and Axel) it is probable that he was also from Roslagen. That was the reported birthplace of his eldest daughter. The name of his wife is not found in any surviving record. Based on Swedish naming patterns, her name was probably Anna Petersdotter and it seems likely that she was the sister of Olof and Axel Stille, sons of Peter Stille of Roslagen.

Måns Svensson (the son of Sven) used the surname of Lom, pronounced "Loom" in Swedish and sometimes spelled that way. It means "loon" or "diver" and is typical of the kind of name assigned to a Swedish seaman.

Lom's name first appeared in New Sweden records on the passenger list of the *Charitas*, 3 May 1641, on the eve of that ship's departure from Stockholm on the first leg of its voyage to America. Listed right above the family of Olof Stille and the bachelor Axel Stifle was "Måns Svensson Lom, a tailor and formerly a lieutenant, who intends to begin agriculture in New Sweden. He has received 5 Riksdaler but otherwise no salary; he goes with his wife, two almost grown-up daughters and a little son."

In New Sweden, he became one of the first settlers of present Delaware County, where he settled with the Stille brothers on a tract called "Techoherassi" by the Indians. This was at present Eddystone, located on the Delaware River between Olof Stille's Creek (now Ridley Creek) and Crum Creek.

On 6 October 1646, during the war of words between Governor Johan Printz and the Dutch, Olof Stille and Måns Svensson Lom delivered one of the Governor's ultimatums to Andries Hudde, the Dutch commander at Fort Nassau. The account book of Hendrick Huygen, New Sweden's commissary, dated 1 March 1648, showed that Måns Svensson owed the New Sweden Company

274.17 guilders for his purchases from the company store.

Måns Svensson Lom probably died in 1653. On 27 July 1653, his two sons-in-law Peter Larsson Cock and John Wheeler and Olof and Axel Stille were among the 22 freemen submitting a petition of grievances to Governor Printz. Lom's name was conspicuous in its absence. On 9 June 1654, after the arrival of Governor Johan Risinor "Måns Lom's widow" was listed among the "old freemen" pledging allegiance to the new governor.

Arriving on the *Eagle* with Governor Rising, was Lars Andersson Collinus, a "münster" (minister's) scribe, who soon married Måns Lom's widow. In 1664, Olof Stille's family and the Lom family (with its new father-in-law) moved to Moyamensing on the Delaware River in present South Philadelphia. "Lasse" Andersson later became a justice on the Upland Court. After the creation of Pennsylvania, Lasse Andersson was "naturalized" by William Penn and joined other "antient Sweeds" in signing a deposition (for use against Lord Baltimore) establishing that the Swedes were the first permanent settlers in Delaware, which Baltimore claimed belonged to Maryland. The will of Lars Andersson Collinus, dated 17 July 1689, left his Moyamensing plantation to Michael Nilsson Laican and Andrew Wheeler, who were, respectively, a son-in-law and grandson of Måns Lom.

It is unknown when Lom's wife died. However, she was the mother of nine children:

1. **Margaret Lom**, born in 1626 in Roslagen, was buried by pastor Andreas Sandel 13 Feb. 1703 at the age of 76. She married Peter Larsson Cock and lived at Peter Cock's (later Province) Island. They had 13 children:

- Lars ("Lasse") Cock, born 21 March 1646, died October 1699 at Passyunk; married Lydia Ashman; 13 children.
- child (Måns?), born 1648, died young.
- Erick Cock, born c. 1650, died 1701 in Gloucester County; married Elisabeth Olofsdotter Philipson, 9 children.
- Anna Cock, born c. 1652, died in Upper Merion Township; married Gunnar Rambo, 9 children.
- Måns Cock, born c. 1654, died c. 1721, Gloucester County; married Gunilla Jonasdotter Nilsson, 7 children.
- John Cock, born 1656, died 1716, St. Georges Creek, New Castle County; married Brigitta Nilsson Friend, 9 children.
- Peter Cock, born 1658, died 1708, Passyunk; married Helena Israelsdotter Helm, 9 children.
- Magdalena Cock, born 1659, died after 1723 in Kingsessing; married Anders Petersson Longacre. 10 children.
- Maria Cock. born 1661, died after 1717 in Passyunk; married Anders Rambo, 6 children.
- Gabriel Cock, born 1663, died after 1714 in New Castle County; married Maria Nilsson Friend, 7 or more children.
- Brigitta Cock. born 1665, died 1726 in Gloucester County; married John Rambo, 11 children.
- Margaret Cock, born 1667, died 1701 in Kingsessing; married Robert Longshore and Thomas Jenner, 3 children.
- Catharine Cock, born 1669, died 1748 in Moyamensing; married Bengt Bengtsson, 4 or more children.

2. **Catharine Lom**, born in Roslagen c. 1628, married John Wheeler, an Englishman, who lived in the New Sweden colony. After the 1653 protest to Printz, they moved to Swanwyck, near the Dutch Fort Casimir (New Castle), and by 1658 had moved to the Sassafra River in Cecil County, Maryland. Catharine died before 1674 when John Wheeler's second wife Mary renounced any interest in his property. Catharine had four known children:

- Samuel Wheeler, born c. 1650, who remained in Cecil County on his father's "Roundstone"

plantation; never married.

- John Wheeler, born c. 1654, sold his father's 'Wheelers Point' plantation in Cecil County to his brother-in-law Nicholas Allum in 1677, intending to move to land acquired by his "grandfather" Lars Andersson in Blockley Township, Philadelphia County. However, he returned to Cecil County to live at "Roundstone," married Elizabeth and died in 1698, survived by 3 daughters.
- Anna Wheeler, born c. 1656, married Nicholas Allum; 1 daughter.
- Anders Wheeler, born c. 1660, moved as a young man to the Blockley Township land acquired by Lars Andersson. After inheriting part of Moyamensing from Andersson, he sold the Blockley Township lands to his cousins, the Gertsson brothers. Married Catharine Andersdotter Svensson and Anna Maria Georgen (Urian), 7 children.

3. **Peter Månsson**, born in Roslagen c. 1638, never used his father's surname. He married a daughter (name unknown) of Sven Gunnarsson and in 1673 was shown as a one-third owner of the Bought on the Delaware in Brandywine Hundred, New Castle County. He surrendered this interest to Marcus Laurens and moved to Cecil County, where he died in 1677, survived by one child:

- Anders Petersson. Sven Svensson, Peter Månsson's brother-in-law, attempted, without success, to be his guardian. Anders appears to have died in his minority in Cecil County, without issue.

4. **Anna Lorn**, born at sea in 1641, married Gösta Danielsson, who arrived, in New Sweden in 1654 as a tailor and soldier. They lived at Upland (Chester), where Danielsson died intestate in 1681, survived by three daughters:

- Margaret Danielsson, baptized in 1658 at the Dutch Church in New Amsterdam (New York), died in 1697 in Gloucester County; married Casper Fish in 1675, 8 children.
- Brigitta Danielsson, born c. 1660, died c. 1685 in Gloucester County; became 2d wife of Marcus Laurens, a Holsteiner [progenitor of the Swedish Hulings], 2 children.
- Maria Danielsson, born 1663, died 1699 at Tacony, Philadelphia County; married Nils Olleson Gdstenberg, 8 children.

5. **Beata Lom**, born 1643, reported to be the first girl born in New Sweden, died at Upland in the spring of 1689. In January 1662 she became the second wife of Pastor Lars Carlsson Lock, who came to New Sweden in 1648. Their children:

- Anders Lock, born c. 1663, died 1716 in Gloucester County; married Christina Fish, sister of Casper Fish and widow of Hans Petersson, 6 children.
- Måns, Lock, born c. 1665, died c. 1698 in Gloucester County; unmarried.
- Catharine Lock, born c. 1668, died 1720 in Gloucester County; married John Jonasson [Nilsson], 5 daughters.
- John Lock, born c. 1670, died 1720 in Gloucester County; married Catharine Hoffman, 4 children.
- Peter Lock, born c. 1673, died 1731 in Gloucester County; married Maria, 9 children.
- Maria Lock, born c. 1675, had illegitimate child by Hermanus Helm; not further traced.
- Gustaf Lock, born c. 1680, died 1742 in Gloucester County; married Magdalena Hoffman, 8 children.
- Another daughter (not identified) who told Peter Kalm in 1748 that her mother Beata Lom was the first girl born in New Sweden.

6. **Christina Lom**, born c. 1645, married Mårten Gertsson of Christina Creek c. 1663. She died after 1678. After her husband drowned out of his canoe in 1680, Lars Andersson Collinus and Sven Månsson Lom were named administrators of his estate. Her children:

- Gertrude Gertsson, born 1664, died 1744 in Moyamensing; married John Stille, son of Olof Stille, 12 children.

- Armegot Gertsson, born 1664, died 1755 in Blockley Township, married Johan Skute, son of Captain Sven Skute, 3 children.
- Gerrit Gertsson [later Garrett], born c. 1672, died 1732 in Blockley Township, married (1st) Magdalena, (2nd) his cousin Regina Huling, daughter of Marcus Laurens, 8 children.
- Mårten Gertsson [later Garrett], born 1675, died 1751 in Blockley Township; married Brita Jonasdotter Nilsson, 5 children.

7. **Sven Månsson Lom**, born c. 1648, died c. 1685 in Blockley Township; name of wife unknown, one child named in step-father's will:

- Utro (Gertrude?) Lom; no further record.

8. **Helena Lom**, born 1650, died 1720 in Gloucester County. She married Michael Nilsson Laican in 1670. Initially they lived at the Bought on land later occupied by her brother Peter Månsson. Then they moved to Shackamaxon to share land with her nephew, Lasse Cock. Michael Laican stayed in Shackamaxon after inheriting land at Moyamensing from Lars Andersson Collinus. He moved in 1699 to Gloucester County, where he died in 1704. They had 10 children:

- Catharine Laican, born 1671, who married Lawrence Huling, eldest son of Marcus Laurens, 2 sons.
- Anna Laican, born 1673, died in Upper Merion Township; married her cousin John Gunnarsson Rambo, 7 children.
- Gertrude Laican, born 1675, died c. 1721 in Gloucester County; married her cousin Peter Ericksson Cock, 8 children.
- Nils Laican, born 1677, died 1733 in Gloucester County; married cousin Susannah Fish, no children.
- Måns Laican, born 1679, died 1728 in Gloucester County; married Maria, 2 children.
- Anders Laican, born 1682, died 1733 in Gloucester County; never married.
- Christina Laican, born 1684, died in Gloucester County; married cousin Elias Fish, 6 children.
- Michael Laican, born 1686, died after 1740 in Gloucester County; married Anna Hoffman, 10 children.
- Helena Laican, born 1689, died in Gloucester County; married cousin Casper Fish, Jr., 7 children.
- Zacharias Laican, born 1696, died 1733 in Gloucester County; never married.

9. **Maria Lom**, born c. 1652, married John Mattsson, son of Matthias Hanson c. 1672. After living at Moyamensing for 12 years, they moved to Gloucester County where Mattsson died in 1701. Aside from caring for the younger children of Lars and Beata Lock after their deaths, John and Maria Mattsson had at least seven children of their own:

- Matthias Mattsson, born c. 1673, died 1700 in Gloucester County; unmarried.
- Anna Mattsson, born c. 1674, died 1721 in Gloucester County; married Stephen Jones, son of Anders Jonsson Ekoren, 6 children.
- Måns Mattsson, born c. 1670, died c. 1705 in Gloucester County; married Elisabeth, 1 child.
- Gertrude Mattsson, born c. 1678; husband and children (if any) unknown.
- Anders Mattsson, born c. 1680, died 1734 in Gloucester County; married Maria Van Culen, 5 children.
- Maria Mattsson, married in 1717 William Philpot of Salem County, 7 children.
- One or two other daughters not identified.

The "forgotten forefather" Måns Svensson Lom left quite a family!







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## Peter Andersson of Siamensing and his Longacre Descendants

by **Dr. Peter Stebbins Craig**

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*Question: What is the connection between Anders Olsson, a resident of Gothenburg, Sweden, in 1639, and the 1.8 billion Indian head pennies produced by the Philadelphia Mint between 1859 and 1909?*

*Answer: The Swedish Longacre family.*

Anders Olsson was at the docks when his son, **Peter Andersson**, went on board the *Kalmar Nyckel* on its second voyage to New Sweden in the fall of 1639. The lad had agreed to try his luck in the America and had been hired as a laborer by the New Sweden Company at a wage of four Riks--daler per month (10 Dutch guilders). Among his shipmates were several other new settlers who would become his friends and neighbors in future years Peter Gunnarsson (Rambo), Sven Gunnars-son, Peter Larsson (Cock), Anders Svensson Bonde (Boon) and Anders Larsson Dalbo. After his arrival in America, Peter Anders-son sent part of his wages (20 Riksdaler) home for the use of his father, Anders Olsson.

Initially, Peter Andersson probably worked for commander Peter Hollender Ridder, but when Governor Johan Printz replaced Ridder in 1643, Peter Andersson was among the settlers chosen by Printz to help him at his Printzhof estate on Tini-cum Island. The 1644 census of the New Sweden colony reported that Peter was employed cutting hay and sailing with the Governor on his little yacht. By 1648 Peter Andersson was shown as the skipper of the Governor's yacht.

When Governor Printz returned to Sweden on a Dutch ship in 1653, Peter Andersson was among his entourage. After arriving in Amsterdam, Peter collected 50 guilders of his back pay from the Swedish ambassador in April 1654. He then proceeded to Sweden where he collected additional back pay on 24 May 1654.

During his year and a half in Sweden, Peter Andersson not only collected the balance of his wages but also agreed to return to the colony, for which he was advanced two months' wages. More important, he also found a wife. The new couple were among the passengers on the *Mercurius*, which headed out to sea on 25 November 1655.

After 3\_ months at sea, the *Mercurius* arrived before former Fort Trinity (New Castle) on 13 March 1656, only to find that the Swedish colony was now in Dutch hands. At first, the Dutch refused to allow the ship to unload its passengers and cargo. However, the native Indians interceded and -the *Mercurius* finally went upriver and discharged its passengers and cargo at Tini-cum Island.

Peter Andersson and his wife joined three of his old colleagues (Peter Rambo, Sven Gunnars-son and Anders Dalbo) at the village of Kingsess-ing in present West Philadelphia. In May 1660, Peter Andersson successfully represented the residents of Kingsessing in their effort to prevent the Dutch from ordering all the Swede to live in one protected community. The Swedes did not believe they needed any protection from the local Indians.

In 1664, when Peter Rambo moved to Passy-unk, Peter Andersson acquired Rambo's 1/4 interest in Kingsessing. However, Peter also eyed land adjoining the Schuylkill River and settled there on a tract named Siamensing. A 1677 tax list showed him then residing at Siamensing with one other tydable male (aged 16-60), namely his son. Peter Andersson probably died the following year.

Peter's widow, Gunilla, then married Henry Jones, a Welsh hatter.-- She appeared in the Upland Court in a lawsuit against Jonas Nilsson in 1680, accusing the latter of having wrongfully taken some of Peter Andersson's land at Kingsessing and won her case. The will of Henry Jones, dated 8 October 1683, witnessed by Peter Rambo, gave a legacy to his nephew in Wales and left the balance of his estate to Gunilla.

### Anders Petersson Långåker

The only known child of Peter Andersson was Anders Peterson, who was described as 26 years old in a census taken in the spring of 1683. This suggests that he was born during the year following the arrival of the *Mercurius* in America. He married c. 1680 Magdalena, one of six daughters of Peter Larsson Cock.

Anders Petersson inherited his father's lands at Kingsessing and Siamensing. In 1680, the Up-land Court granted him an additional 100 acres adjoining Siamensing. He then sold his Kingses-sing land to his brother-in-law Lasse Cock, who resold it to James Hunt, an Englishman. Unfortunately, with the transfer of sovereignty to William Penn, there was no survey made of Anders Peters-son's expanded Siamensing estate. It would not be patented officially by Pennsylvania until more than fifty years later. It further appears that a part of Anders Petersson's land was sold or rented to Robert Longshore, an English surveyor who had married Lasse Cock's sister, Martha Cock.

In a 1684 survey of adjoining land owned by the Swedish Justis family, we find the first public record of Anders Petersson's adopted surname Långåker in Swedish (meaning "long field"), Longacre in English. It is uncertain whether this was descriptive of his land or a play on words, mimicking his new brother-in-law Robert Longshore.

Anders Petersson and his wife Magdalena Cock were active members of the Swedish log church at Wicaco. As "And. Persson," he was listed among the persons pledging contributions to that church in 1684. When that congregation and its counterpart at Crane Hook were without Swedish ministers or Swedish Bibles and hymn books, they petitioned the King of Sweden on 30 May 1693 asking for help. To the petition was appended the names of the two congregations. The 34th entry of the Wicaco congregation was the name of **Anders Pärsson Långåker** with "seven souls" in his household. On 30 October 1697 the leaders of both churches signed a letter to William Penn thanking him for allowing the Swedish clergymen to come to Pennsylvania. Among the signers for the Wicaco congregation was **Anders Långåker**, apparently written in his own hand.

Church records also show that in 1697 Anders Långåker pledged ^1.5 annually for Rudman's

salary and also gave ^5 towards the construction of Gloria Dei (Old Swedes) Church at Wicaco, which was dedicated in 1700. In return, Anders Långåker was assigned a favorable pew, in the second row of the second quarter. On 14 May 1702, he was elected a vestryman and on 20 September 1717 he was elected a church warden.

On the tenth of October in 1718, Andrew Longacre of Kingessing Township wrote his will, directing that his eldest son Peter receive "the place whereon he now dwells," 60 acres; that his second son Andrew, receive "all the land on which he now liveth on the north side of the King's Road," and that his youngest son Gabriel receive "the place wher-eon I now live" after the death of Magdalena. He also bequeathed to Gabriel two oxen, two cows, one horse, a bed and furniture. The will directed that his daughter Helena was to be "maintained on the plantation whereon I now live for life." He named as executors his wife and his son Andrew. The will was proved two months later, on 10 December 1718.

Andrew Peterson Longacre and his wife Magdalena Cock had ten children, as follows:

1. **Peter Longacre**, born in 1682, married Barbara Friend, 10 Nov. 1705. She was the daughter of Nils Larsson Frände. After his marriage, Peter was given 60 acres of Siamensing lying next to the Schuylkill, which remained his home until he died on 7 May 1739. He was survived by five children

- Peter Longacre, born c. 1710, married his cousin, Sarah Sträng, daughter of Lars Sträng and Rebecca Friend of Gloucester County. He and Måns Justis acquired title to his father's lands, but lost the same to creditors. Peter died in poverty at the Sträng plantation on Oldmans Creek, Gloucester County NJ, 26 November 1770, survived by his widow Sarah and five daughters.
- Sarah Longacre, born in 1713, married Måns Justis, son of Charles Justis and Margaret Boon, on 4 August 1739. They had two known children (Rebecca and Israel) before Måns deserted her to become a "vagabond." Sarah died 13 May 1754 at the age of 43.
- Israel Longacre, born c. 1715, moved with his younger brothers to Calcon Hook, Lower Darby Township, where he initially lived on the land of his uncle Anders Geörgen. In 1766 he moved to Ridley Township, where he acquired land adjoining the Morton Homestead, near the ferry to Tinicum Island. He was a charter member of St. James (Old Swedes) Church of Kingessing, founded in 1762, and served as a vestryman of that church from 1772 until his death 23 September 1784. By his wife Susannah, daughter of Peter Justis and Helena Lock of Gloucester County NJ, Israel had five children, including Peter Longacre (1757-1830), father of James Barton Longacre, who became the Engraver of the Philadelphia Mint.
- Andrew Longacre, born c. 1718, appears to have died in Ridley Township by 1774.
- Gabriel Longacre, born c. 1720, appears to have died in Lower Darby Township by 1768.

2. **Andrew Longacre**, born in 1684, married Elizabeth [parents not identified] about 1705. His father gave him that part of Siamensing lying north of the King's Road (Woodland Avenue). He also acquired Gabriel's share of Siamensing lying south of the King's Road. He and his wife Elizabeth sold all of this to Peter Stille of Philadelphia on 24 December 1736 for ^133. The family then moved to Calcon Hook to live on the Geörgen plantation. Andrew apparently died soon thereafter. His widow Elizabeth died at Calcon Hook 14 February 1758 at the age of 78. They had two known children:

- Elizabeth Longacre, born c. 1706, married Peter Tussey of New Castle County c. 1725. Their sole surviving child, Elizabeth Tussey, married her cousin Anders Geörgen (Urian), Jr., of Calcon Hook.
- Andrew Longacre, born c. 1712, married Hannah, daughter of Richard Ireson c. 1737. They joined a group of Quakers moving to Frederick County, Virginia, in the 1740s. The family was active in the Hopewell Friends Meeting in Winchester, Va. Hannah died 4 August 1793 and Andrew died three years later. They had six children (Joseph, Mary, Richard, John,

Andrew and Benjamin) and became the forebearers of the "southern" Longacres.

3. **Margaret Longacre**, born in 1688, was living at home in 1697. She was not named in her father's will and probably died before reaching adulthood.

4. **Helena Longacre**, born in 1690, was disabled and living at home in 1718; she died unmarried shortly thereafter.

5. **Maria Longacre**, born in 1692, married Andrew Geörgen [Urian] at Gloria Dei Church in 1717. Her husband was born in 1690, the son of Hans Geörgen and Elisabeth Johansdotter Grels-son. The couple made their home on the Geörgen plantation at Calcon Hook, Lower Darby Township, Chester County, which Andrew inherited from his father. They had two children, Benjamin Geörgen or Urian, born c. 1720, and Anders Geörgen or Urian, Jr., born in 1723. Maria died, probably in the late 1720s. Her husband remarried and died in 1753 at Calcon Hook.

6. **Catharina Longacre**, born in 1696-7, was not mentioned in her father's will and probably died in childhood.

7. **Gabriel Longacre**, born c. 1700, died unmarried in 1723. His will devised his father's home plantation to his four surviving sisters (Maria, Anna, Magda-lena and Brita) after the death of his mother.

8. **Anna Longacre**, born c. 1702, married Christopher Lindemeyer (sometimes Linmire) by 1725. He was the son of Niclas Lindemeyer and Christina Jonasdotter [daughter of Jonas Nilsson] and lived on a nearby plantation then owned by his mother Christina and her third husband, Friedrich Schaffenhausen. After the death of her brother Gabriel Longacre and her mother, Ann Linmire was named to administer Gabriel's estate on 7 April 1729. The Schaffen-hausen estate having been sold to John Bartram at public auction in 1728 to satisfy a debt to Christopher and Anna, they collected the money and moved to Kent County, Delaware, where they were living when they conveyed their rights under Gabriel's will to Andrew Longacre, 19 August 1735. Next they moved to Verdrietge Hook, Brandywine Hundred, New Castle County, Delaware, where Christo-pher's mother Christina was living with her daughter Anna Maria Schaffenhaus-en, wife of Olle Tussey. Anna Long-acre Linmire was buried by the pastor of Holy Trinity Church in Wilmington on 25 November 1740. She was survived by two children, Andrew Linmire, born 26 Jan. 1732, and Jöran [George] Linmire, born 5 February 1739. In 1743 Christopher moved to Upper Penns Neck, Salem County, N.J., where he married widow Ann Hays. They joined the Moravian Church on Old-man's Creek. Christopher Linmire died in Upper Penns Neck on 7 November 1756.

9.. **Magdalena Longacre**, born c. 1704, married John Townsend. On 14 August 1735, John Townsend of Kent County, Delaware, and his wife Magdalen joined Christ-opher Linmire of Kent County, Delaware, and his wife Ann in conveying their rights under the will of Gabriel Longacre to Andrew Longacre of Philadelphia County, husbandman, for ^20. On 12 January 1744/5, Magdalene Townsend, widow, was grant-ed administration of the estate of her late husband, John Town-send. On 19 August 1749, Magdalen Townsend, widow, formerly Longacre, quit-claimed any interest in Gabriel's former property to Peter Stille, for five shillings.

10. **Brita Longacre**, born c. 1708, conveyed her share of Gabriel's estate to her sister Ann and Ann's husband Christopher Linmire on 1 March 1729. On 15 September 1729 she married Joseph Tetlow in Chester, Pennsylvania. Not further traced.

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for their research contributions on Longacre descendants.*





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## Nils Andersson and His Lykins Descendants

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The freeman Nils Andersson, his wife and at least four children were aboard the *Eagle* when that ship left Gothenburg for New Sweden on the 2nd of February 1654. From the burial records of two surviving daughters, we learn that he came from Nya Kopparberget in Ljusnarsberg parish, Örebro län, Sweden.

Nils Andersson may never have seen the new land. He probably was one of many who died at sea. When the new freemen were gathered at Tinicum Island to sign pledges of allegiance to Governor Johan Risingh, Nils Andersson's widow signed for the family.

The widow (name unknown) soon remarried. Her second husband was Mats Hansson from Borgå, Finland, one of the leading freemen of the colony who had arrived in New Sweden in 1641 and served on Governor Risingh's council.

In order to provide a home for his new family, Mats Hansson became the first settler on Minquas Island, an island to the north of Tinicum Island, later surveyed as 468 acres. By 1660, Mats Hansson had given half of this island to his new son-in-law, Anders Svensson Bonde, who had married Anna Nilsson. The island would later bear his name and became known as Boon's Island. On 18 May 1663, Governor Petrus Stuyvesant granted patents to Mats Hansson and Anders Svensson Bonde for their halves of Minquas Island.

After the surrender of New Sweden to the Dutch in 1655, Mats Hansson from Borgå became one of the justices of the Upland Court and served in that capacity until at least 1663. Upon his death, his remaining half of Minquas Island went to his second son-in-law, Otto Ernest Cock, who received an English patent confirming his ownership on 7 May 1672.

The two youngest children of Nils Andersson were Peter Nilsson and Michel Nilsson. They ultimately settled in the woods of Shackamaxon and adopted the surname of Lyckan, meaning "a glen or clearing in the woods," which was descriptive of their plantations. Neither Peter nor Michel could write. They signed documents with a "P" or an "M." Among literate Swedes their surname was spelled Laijkan, Laican, Leikan and Laikan. In deeds and wills, the English scribes used the spelling of Lakian, Lykell, Lyckan, Lykan, Likin, Lycon, Loykan, Laycon, Leycon and Laicon. Their descendants also have similar variations to the surname.



The four known children of Nils Andersson from Nya Kopparberget are:

1. **Anna Nilsdotter**, born in Nya Kopparberget about 1637, married Anders Svensson Bonde c. 1657 and lived her entire adult life on Minquas (later Boon's Island), where she died in 1713. She had ten children – Sven, Peter, Hans, Catharina, Nils, Olle, Margaretta, Brigitta, Anders and Ambora. (See “Anders Svensson Bonde and His Boon Family,” *Swedish Colonial News*, Vol. 1, No. 14, Fall 1996).

2. **Christina Nilsdotter**, born in Nya Kopparberget c. 1639, married **Otto Ernest Cock** [originally spelled Koch], a Holsteiner, c. 1670, who was given half of Boon's (former Minquas) Island. She died there in 1709. Her husband served as a justice on the Upland Court, 1671-1683, and also was a warden of the log church at Wicaco. He died in 1720. Christina, who was buried 3 July 1709, had three children who lived to adulthood and married:

- **Valentine Cock**, born c. 1672, was married in 1697 to Margaret Swanson, daughter of Anders and Anna Svensson. After her death, he married 2nd Elisabeth, widow of Christiern Jöransson of the Wilmington congregation. He died at Boon's Island in 1725, survived by four known sons: Andrew Cock, born c. 1700, married Catharina Hoffman, widow of Andrew Rambo of NJ, and died in 1770 at Boon's Island; Otto Cock, born c. 1704, married Maria Lock and died at Repaupo Creek in New Jersey by 1750; Gunnar Cock, born c. 1708, married Christina Hendrickson in 1734 and died in Gloucester County NJ in 1759; Peter Cock, born c. 1710, married Beata Lock and died in Gloucester County NJ c. 1760.
- **Zacharias Cock**, born in 1674, married Christina Stille, daughter of John and Gertrude Stille, on 24 Jan. 1705. His father gave him a 210-acre plantation on the east side of Cobb's Creek in Kingessing, which remained his home until his death in 1740. He had two sons: John, who died unmarried, and Arthur (Otto), the eldest, who had sons William and Zacharias.
- **Elizabeth Cock**, born c. 1676, married Matthias Nitzilius by 1696. The couple were granted land on Cobb's Creek by her father, which they thought to be 200 acres, but the Quaker government granted 100 acres of it to Richard Tucker, which was the cause of considerable protest among the Swedes. Elisabeth predeceased her husband, who died in 1724, survived by Christina, who married Conrad Niedemark; Otto (a.k.a. Arthur) who married widow Maria Lenderman [Swedish]; Catharina; Maria; Elisabeth who married Daniel Van Culin; Dorothy; and Margaret.

3. **Peter Nilsson Lyckan**, probably born in Nya Kopparberget c. 1641, was married by estimation in 1663. In 1671 was living with his young family on the Printztorp plantation, owned by Armegard Printz at the mouth of Upland Creek. Within a few years, Peter had moved with his brother Michel and Gunnar Rambo to Shackamaxon. Ultimately, in 1691, he received a patent for this land, 468½ acres.

Peter Lyckan also acquired 200 acres nearby which he called “Poor Island.” He wrote his will on 21 January 1691/2, naming his brother Michel and his brother-in-law Otto Ernest Cock as executors. The will left 180 acres apiece to his two unmarried sons and £ 20 apiece to his three unmarried daughters when they reached the age of 21. He died at Shackamaxon shortly thereafter. The name of his wife has not yet been discovered.

Peter's surviving children were:

- **Nils Laican**, born c. 1664, married Maria Gästenberg c. 1687. She was a daughter of Olle Nilsson alias Gästenberg. During his father's lifetime he had been given 300 acres, including “Poor Island.” In 1711 he also purchased a corn grist mill on Red Clay Creek in New Castle County, 294 acres, half of which he gave to his daughter Christina after she married Justa Justis, Jr., of Kingessing, and the other half of which was sold after his death to his daughter Brita when she married John Seeds of New Castle County. Nils Laican was an active member of Gloria Dei until his death on 4 December 1721. He was survived by seven

daughters: Christina, who married Justa Justis, Jr.; Gertrude, who married Edward Hatfield in 1714; Anna, who married John Rambo, Jr., son of John Rambo and Brigitta Cock of Gloucester County, NJ; Elisabeth, who married (1) Fred Geörge by 1718 and (2) Måns Jonasson Keen in 1722; Brita, who married (1) John Seeds in 1722 and (2) Thomas Milner; Susannah (not traced); and Maria, who married Hans Ericsson Keen.

- **Anders Laican**, born c. 1666, was married by 1695 to Anna [parents not identified]. In 1699 he sold his land at Shackamaxon and moved to Matsunk (Swedesford) on the Schuylkill on land that he rented from Måns Cock. By 1709 he had moved upriver to Manatawney (present Douglassville) to share land owned by his brother-in-law Måns Jones. He bought this land in 1721. He sold the same to his son-in-law Benjamin Boone in 1733. He died at Manatawney before 1740, survived by his wife Anna. They had one son, Peter Lycon, born c. 1706, who married Sarah Jones, daughter of Jonas Jones and Anne Seymour of Kingessing and became the progenitor of the Lykins families of present West Virginia. They also had daughters Christina, who married Israel Robeson, a grandson of Israel Helm; Brita, who married pastor Samuel Hesselius; Anna, who never married but had a daughter; Susanna, who married the Quaker Benjamin Boone; Maria, who married Anders Ringberg, an immigrant from Sweden; and Phoebe, who married John Jones, son of Jonas Jones and Anne Seymour of Kingessing.
- **Hans Laican**, born in 1668, married Gertrude Johansdotter, daughter of Johan Classon c. 1695. In 1697, he sold his land at Shackamaxon and acquired 160 acres at Pennypack in Lower Dublin Township, Philadelphia, which remained his home until his death on 19 September 1751. The land was then sold to pay off the mortgage. He had five sons and two known daughters. John Lycan, the eldest, married Elizabeth (surname unknown) and moved to Burlington County; the last report on him was the fact that he escaped from the Burlington County jail in March 1742. Peter Lycan, born in 1699, married Brita Jones in 1719, and lived for several years in Moorland township, Philadelphia, before moving to Frederick County, Virginia, where he died in 1753. Hans Lycan, Jr., remained at Pennypack and was twice married, dying in 1761. Nicholas Lycan remained with his father until the home plantation was sold and then moved to Burlington County, NJ, where he died in 1766. Andrew Lycan, the youngest son, married Jane Cahoon at Christ Church in 1730 and then moved to the Pennsylvania frontier, where he was killed by Indians in Lykens Valley, Fermanagh township, Cumberland County in 1756.
- **Ingeborg Laican**, born c. 1670 married Måns Jonasson [Mounce Jones], son of Jonas Nilsson, about 1690. The couple became the first Swedish settlers at Manatawney (Douglassville) in Berks County. Their children included: Margaret, born 1691, who married Marcus Huling; Peter, born 1693, who married Elisabeth [parents unknown]; Christina, born 1696; Jonas, born 1698, who married Maria Knecht; Andrew, born c. 1700, who married Dorothy Goucher; and Magdalena, who married Andrew Bird.
- Three other daughters, all unmarried, were also mentioned in Peter Laican's will: **Anna**, **Mallee [Magdalena]** and **Brita**. They have not been traced.

4. **Michel Nilsson Laican**, born c. 1644 in Sweden, married Helena Lom in 1670. She was the daughter of Måns Svensson Lom and step-daughter of Lars Andersson Collinus of Moyamensing. Michel moved with his brother Peter to Shackamaxon, which remained his home until 1699, when he sold his lands and moved to a plantation on Woodbury Creek in Gloucester County. Although he had been named a church warden at Gloria Dei Church in 1701, he was instrumental in establishing the new Swedish church on Raccoon Creek in 1702. He was buried on 17 April 1704. He was survived by ten children:

- **Catharina Laican**, born 1671, married Laurence Huling of Gloucester County NJ c. 1695. They had two children before Lawrence's death in 1700: Laurence Huling, Jr. (1697-1748), who married Diana Helm and remained in New Jersey, and Michael Huling (1699-1781) who married twice and became a successful shipwright in Philadelphia.
- **Anna Laican**, born 21 Aug. 1673, married John Gunnarsson Rambo c. 1695. They moved to Matsunk (Swedesford) in Upper Merion Township with his father, Gunnar Rambo. She died

by 1725 after bearing seven children: Peter, Måns, Gabriel, Michael, Anna, Helena and Ezekiel. Her husband remarried, had four additional children and died in Upper Merion in February 1746.

- **Gertrude Laican**, born 16 Dec. 1675, married Peter Ericsson Cock c. 1702 and died in Gloucester County c. 1721, survived by seven children: Emanuel, Catharina, Helena, Anna, Maria, Peter and Måns. Her husband remarried, had five more children and died in Gloucester County in July 1747.
- **Nils Laican**, born 20 Feb. 1677, married Susannah Casparsdotter Fish at Gloria Dei Church on 11 November 1702. He died as Nicholas Lycon in Deptford Township, Gloucester County, NJ, in March 1733. He had no surviving children.
- **Måns Laican**, born 10 March 1679, married Maria Jones, daughter of John Jones and Catharina Lock, c. 1720. They had daughters Catharina and Helena before he died in Deptford Township in January 1728.
- **Anders Laican**, born 11 March 1682, never married. He died as Andrew Lycon in Deptford Township in March 1733.
- **Christina Laican**, born 15 Feb. 1684, married Elias Casparsson Fish by 1703. They lived in Upper Greenwich Township, Gloucester County. She was bearing children as late as January 1727. It is not known when she died, but it appears that she and several of her children died in the smallpox epidemic of 1728.
- **Michael Laican**, born 11 Oct. 1686, married Annicka Fredricksdotter Hoffman c. 1709. They had at least ten children, including three sons who survived childhood: Michael, Frederick and Ezekiel. The father disappears from recorded history after 1740. Frederick (1715-1770) moved back across the Delaware to live at Calcon Hook in Lower Darby Township.
- **Helena Laican**, born 29 Dec. 1689, married Casper Fish, Jr., of Waterford Township, Gloucester County. She predeceased her husband, whose will of 21 October 1748 named sons Michael, John, Isaac and Elias and daughters Rebecca, Mary and Helena.
- **Zacharias Laican**, born 26 Dec. 1696, never married. He died in Deptford Township at the end of March 1733.



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## Olle Matthiasson, alias Olof Isgrå, alias Oliver Caulk and his Caulk/Calk Descendants

by **Dr. Peter Stebbins Craig**  
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Among the soldiers arriving in New Sweden on the *Eagle* in 1654 was a young man named Olle Matthiasson, who had recently been drafted into the Swedish army. As was the custom, he was assigned a soldier's name befitting his appearance or personality. In this case Olle was assigned the name of Isgrå, meaning "ice-gray," probably because of his prematurely gray hair.

### Olof Isgrå at New Castle

Olof Isgrå first saw military action on 21 May 1654 when the Dutch surrendered Fort Casimir at present New Castle to the Swedes without firing a shot. (The small garrison there had run out of gunpowder.) The fort was renamed Fort Trinity by Governor Rising and placed under the command of Captain Sven Skute.

Fearing that the Dutch Governor Petrus Stuyvesant might attempt to recapture Fort Trinity, Governor Rising assigned Captain Sven Skute the task of rebuilding and strengthening that fort and assigned half of his soldiers, including Olof Isgrå, to assist in this endeavor. However on 31 August 1655, a Dutch fleet of seven ships passed by and landed north of the fort, cutting the fort off from Rising's remaining troops at Fort Christina. Stuyvesant demanded that Skute surrender the fort, but he initially refused.

When word reached the soldiers in the fort that the Dutch troops outnumbered the Swedes by a 10:1 margin many soldiers, including Olof Isgrå, decided it was hopeless to try to defend the fort. Captain Skute then addressed his soldiers and demanded, "Whoever wants to be a loyal fellow and serve his ruler like an honest man, step forth from this rebellious lot and come with me." During this confusion, Olof Isgrå jumped over the wall of the fort and surrendered himself to the Dutch, also informing them of the division of opinion within the fort. Lacking the support of his own soldiers, Skute surrendered the fort to Stuyvesant the next morning.

The ill feelings between Isgrå and Skute carried forward for a considerable time. In January 1656,

Olof Isgrå accused Captain Skute of having confiscated the poor tax for his own use. Skute denied the charge and claimed Isgrå threatened to kill him. In the summer of 1656 Olof Isgrå agreed to sell his plantation north of the fort at Swanwick to another former New Sweden soldier, Constantine Grönenberg, and in February 1657 he appeared at the Dutch fort again to promise he would pay his debt to Isaac Allerton, a New England trader, within a year. After that time, the name of Olof Isgrå disappears from the record. The reason, it turns out, was that he had fled to the Sassafras River in present Cecil County, Maryland.

## Olle Matthiasson in Maryland

Among the things Olle left behind in the New Castle area was his soldier's name. Reverting to his patronymic, Olle Matthiasson, his wife Anna and their three small children were granted head rights in Maryland in 1664 and 200 acres, which he called "Sweedland," were surveyed for him on the south side of the Sassafras River in 1665. Later, about 1670, he moved with his family to a tract on the north side of the same river, called "World's End." The English scribes in the area had some difficulty with Olle's first name and often entered it as Olive or Oliver.

## The Naturalization and Death of Oliver Caulk

The name of Olle Matthiasson disappeared from Maryland records after 1671. Thereafter the owner of "World's End" became known as Oliver Caulk. The name, quite obviously, came from the fact that his once ice-gray hair was now chalk white. ("Calk," now spelled "kalk" in Swedish, means "chalk.")

On 6 June 1674, Oliver Calk, described as a native of Sweden, became a naturalized citizen of Maryland, meaning that he could convey or will his land to his children or others. By 1683, Oliver Caulk had been named a Commissioner in Cecil County.

Oliver Caulk died at "World's End" shortly before 30 May 1685, when his widow Ann and his eldest son Isaac Caulk were named administrators of his estate. The inventory, filed 20 days later, showed that his estate included a horse, a mare, 2 yearlings, 8 cows, 4 steers, 2 heifers, 38 hogs, 5 deerskins, 2 guns, a number of beds, tools for the carpenter and cooper trades and two indentured women servants.

Among the children of Oliver Caulk and his wife Anna were four sons: Isaac, Peter, James and Jacob. It is likely that they also had daughters, but their names are not yet known.

**1. Isaac Caulk**, the eldest son, inherited the "World's End" plantation on the north side of the Sassafras River. He married, before 1691, Mary Finch, an English woman, daughter of Francis and Mary Finch of Kent County, Maryland. He died at "World's End" in 1702. His widow, Mary then married Daniel Pearce of Kent County. She named five children by her first husband in her will of 26 May 1740:

- Oliver Caulk, baptized in Cecil County on 30 September 1692, was past 60 before he married Phoebe Brown, a Quaker, in 1752. He died at "World's End" 22 December 1781, survived by three children: Mary, Isaac and Oliver.
- Isaac Caulk, born c. 1693, married Temperance (surname unknown) and died at "World's End" in the winter of 1748/9. They had nine children: John, Isaac, William, Oliver, Jacob, Benjamin, Richard, Mary and Sarah.
- Mary Caulk, born c. 1696, married George Wilson.
- Sarah Caulk, born c. 1699, married John Kennard.
- Jacob Caulk, born in 1702, never married and died in Kent County, MD, in 1758.

**2. Peter Caulk**, the second son, moved south to Talbot County to earn his livelihood, acquiring part of "Lostock" in 1706. A successful planter, he died there c. 1727. The name of his first wife, who died c. 1710, is unknown. His second wife, Sarah Cartwright, died in 1738. Peter's children by his two wives were:

- Mary Caulk, born in February 1698, apparently died young.
- Peter Caulk, born in 1700, married Mary Sockwell in 1725 and died at "Lostock" in 1756. He had five children: Mary, John, Henry, Dawson and Daniel.
- John Caulk, born c. 1704, died unmarried in 1728.
- Lawrence Caulk, born c. 1709, married the widow Mary Camper in 1744 and died in Dorchester County in 1772. His children included John, Elizabeth and Peter.
- Sarah Caulk, born c. 1714, married Bartholomew Roberts.
- Alice Caulk, born c. 1716, married Edward Collison.
- James Caulk, born in 1718, married Judith Tribbles in 1740. He died before 1783 at his plantation called "Lewis" in Talbot County. His children included a son named Peter.
- Francis Caulk, born c. 1722, apparently died unmarried after 1745.
- Charles Cartwright Caulk, born c. 1723, died before 1743.

**3. James Caulk**, the third son, was married by 1695 to Sarah Allum, daughter of Nicholas and Ann Allum. Sarah's mother had been born Anna Wheeler, the daughter of John Wheeler and Catharina Lom of New Sweden. They lived in Talbot County, where James Caulk died c. 1706. One child has been identified:

- James Caulk, born c. 1700, in Talbot County, moved as an adult to Northumberland County, VA, and then to Prince William County, VA, where he died in 1776. By his wife Eleanor, he had two known sons: James Calk, born 5 July 1729, and William Calk, born 7 March 1740.

**4. Jacob Caulk**, the youngest son, became a shoemaker in Cecil County. On 7 February 1713/4 he married Sarah Joce, widow of Thomas Joce of Kent County, MD, and mother of three children. Later, Jacob married Mary Freeman, daughter of William Freeman of Cecil County. They had two children: Elizabeth, born 23 November 1716, and William, born 11 February 1723/4. The will of Jacob Caulk, who died 11 February 1724/5, left his entire estate to his widow Mary during her widowhood, but if she remarried, his estate was to be divided between Elizabeth and William. His widow married Thomas Ward in 1729. No later trace has been found of the two children.



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## The Mattson & Dalbo Families of West Jersey

by **Dr. Peter Stebbins Craig**  
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Three hundred years ago in 1700, Rev. Andreas Rudman reported in his book of burials the death of **Elisabeth Dalbo**, aged 78, "born in Sweden, Anders Dalbo's widow, previously married to Matts Hansson."

Elisabeth died at the home of her youngest son in Gloucester Co., NJ. She had been a 19-year-old bride when she arrived in New Sweden in 1641, yet by 1671 she was twice a widow and lived for the remainder of her life with her youngest son, Olof Dalbo. Through her three married sons, she had 25 known grand-children and at least 114 great grand-children.

Her first husband was **Matts Hansson**, who was hired to be a gunner at Fort Christina. They departed from Stockholm on the *Charitas* among a group of new settlers that included Hansson's brother, Anders Hansson. After five years of service at Fort Christina, Matts Hansson became a freeman on 1 December 1646. Like other freemen, he soon became unhappy with Governor Printz's harsh treatment of the settlers. On 27 July 1653, he and his brother joined other freemen in filing a complaint with the Governor. Printz, however, branded the complaint a "mutiny" and left for Sweden, leaving the colony under the rule of his son-in-law Johan Papegoja, threatening to take legal action against the mutineers on his return.

Fearing for their lives, many of the freemen who had signed the complaint fled New Sweden in the fall of 1653. Anders Hansson made it safely to Kent Island in the Chesapeake Bay, but Matts Hansson did not. Papegoja hired Indians to bring back the escapees, dead or alive. Two of the freemen were overtaken and killed, with the Indians bringing back their heads on stakes. One of those killed was Matts Hansson.

Widow Hansson returned safely to New Sweden with her two small sons. She then married her second husband **Anders Larsson Dalbo** from Dalsland, Sweden who had been sent to the New Sweden colony on the *Kalmar Nyckel* in 1640 as punishment for a minor crime. After seven years of servitude, he secured employment with the New Sweden company as a provost (sheriff) on 1 Nov. 1647 at a wage of 15 guilders per month and served in this capacity until Printz's departure in 1653. In 1654 he became a freeman. Two years later, when the Swedes were permitted to select their own government by the Dutch, Dalbo was named lieutenant of the Swedish militia. He made his home in Kingessing, but died before 1671, when the first English census identified Widow Dalbo as the head of household there.



By her two husbands, Elisabeth had four sons and, through them, 25 grand-children, two of whom became wives of Gloria Dei's first pastors - Andreas Rudman and Andreas Sandel.

1. **Peter Mattson**, alias Peter Dalbo, was born in New Sweden in 1647. When the first English patent was issued for Widow Dalbo's Kingsessing plantation in 1671, it was issued in the name of Peter Dalbo, her eldest son.

On 16 February 1674 Peter Mattson married Catharina Rambo, daughter of Peter Gunnarsson Rambo. They settled on new land adjoining her father's plantation in Passyunk, on the east side of the Schuylkill, where they lived for ten years. In 1684, however, they moved to Little Mantua Creek in Gloucester Co., which remained their home until Peter's death in 1699. He was survived by his wife and nine children:

- Brita Mattson, born in 1674, died in 1750 in Christiana Hundred, New Castle Co.; married John Hendrickson, son of Hendrick Jacobsson, by 1695 and had 8 children (Catharina, Elisabeth, Peter, Maria, Brita, John, Sarah & Susannah).
- Elisabeth Mattson, born 7 February 1678, died in September 1736 at Piles Grove, Salem Co.; married Rev. Andreas Rudman 4 May 1698 and had 2 sons who died in childhood and 2 daughters who later married (Gertrude Magdalena & Anna Catharine).
- Catharina Mattson, born 29 December 1679, died after 1728 [place unknown]; married c. 1702 John Cock, son of Eric Cock, and had three known children (Peter, a daughter & John).
- Maria Mattson, born 11 May 1682, died in Sweden, 5 February 1739; married Rev. Andreas Sandel, 22 February 1704, and had 10 children (Magdalena, Peter, Peter, Anders, Anders, John, Benjamin, Andreas, Samuel & Magnus).
- Peter Mattson, born 27 May 1685, died in September 1735 in Deptford Township, Gloucester Co.; married c. 1710 Catharina Bankson, daughter of Anders Bankson and Gertrude Rambo; and had 5 children (Anders, Peter, Maria, John & Matthias).
- Matthias Mattson, born 12 August 1688, died 5 October 1750 in Greenwich Township, Gloucester Co.; married in 1712 Judith Swanson, daughter of Olof Svensson and Lydia Ashman, and had 6 children (Peter, Catharina, Lydia, Maria, Matthias & Olof/William).
- Margaret Mattson, born 1 February 1692, died about 1748 in Passyunk, Philadelphia Co.; married Peter Cock, son of Peter Cock and Helena Helm, c. 1716 and had 4 children (Helena, Israel, Rebecca & Margaret).
- John Mattson, born 14 June 1694, died 11 September 1739 in Greenwich Township, Gloucester Co.; married 1 May 1717 Annika Cock, daughter of Eric Cock, and had 5 children (John, Eric, Peter, Elizabeth & Israel).
- Jacob Mattson, born 25 May 1697, died in the 1740s; married [1] Lydia Culin, daughter of Jacobus van Culin, 29 April 1724, 1 child (Mary Brigitta); [2] Maria Runnels, 20 January 1733, 4 children (Anna Catharine, Jonas Abraham, Jacob & Maria).

2. **John Mattson**, alias John Dalbo, was born in New Sweden c. 1649. By 1673 he had married Maria Lom, youngest daughter of Måns Svensson Lom, and owned 1/4 of the Moyamensing tract south of Wicaco. He sold his share in 1684 and acquired land on Great Mantua Creek, Gloucester Co., where he died in 1701, survived by 7 children:

- Anna Mattson, born c. 1674, died 10 June 1721 in Gloucester Co.; married c. 1692 Staffan Jönsson alias Stephen Jones, son of Anders Jönsson Ekoren, and had 6 known children (Andrew, John, Jonas, Catharina, Joseph & Abraham).
- Matthias Mattson, born c. 1676, died unmarried in 1701.
- Måns Mattson, born c. 1678, died c. 1706; married c. 1703 Elizabeth (parents not identified) and had 1 child (Maria).
- Anders Mattson, born c. 1680, died c. 1734 in lower Greenwich Township, Gloucester Co.; married c. 1712 Maria Culin, daughter of Jacobus van Culin, and had 5 children (Maria,

Rebecca, Matthias, Andrew & Peter).

- Gertrude Mattson, born c. 1682, died after 1727 in Piles Grove, Salem Co.; married c. 1702 Lawrence Holstein, son of Matthias Claesson Holstein and Helena [?] Cock, and had 9 children (Maria, Matthias, Sarah, Catharine, Andrew, Susanna, John, Lawrence & Elisabeth).
- Brigitta Mattson, born c. 1686, died 6 Nov. 1726 at Repaupo Creek, Gloucester Co.; married c. 1706 Eric Steelman, son of Hans Månsson and Ella Stille, and had 7 children (Helena, Brigitta, Eric, Catharina, Maria, Hans & Charles).
- Maria Mattson, born c. 1690, died in Lower Penns Neck, Salem Co., after 1745; married William Philpot as his second wife, 27 February 1717, and had 6 children (Nicholas, Thomas, Mary, William, Joseph & Francis).

3. **Lars (Lasse) Dalbo**, born in 1657, became the head of the Dalbo household in Kingsessing after his older half-brothers married and moved away. In May 1683, he took a census of Kingsessing for the new William Penn government and, with his brother Olof, helped build a new courthouse and prison for Chester (former Upland). He died unmarried c. 1685.

4. **Olof Dalbo**, born in 1660, joined his half-brother Peter Mattson in the move to Little Mantua Creek in 1684 with his new bride, Catharina Friend, daughter of Nils Larsson Frände and Anna Andersdotter. After the death of his half-brother Peter Mattson, Olof moved to Raccoon Creek, where he was one of the founders of the Swedish log church built at present Swedesboro about 1703. He died in January 1712, survived by his widow and 9 children:

- Anders Dalbo, born c. 1684, died in Upper Penns Neck in December 1748; married by 1712 Magdalena, daughter of Lars Halton and Sarah Jönsson Hutt, and had 9 children (Sarah, Olof, Lars, Anders, Gabriel, Charles, John, Daniel & Israel).
- Lars Dalbo, born c. 1686, died 28 May 1721 in Gloucester Co., unmarried.
- Gabriel Dalbo, born c. 1688, died in Greenwich Township, Gloucester Co., 4 November 1722, unmarried.
- Peter Dalbo, born 1690, died after 1771 in Gloucester Co.; married c. 1721 Catharina, daughter of Andrew Hendrickson and Brigitta Morton, and had 11 children (Helena, Catharina, Rebecca, Gabriel, Sarah, Brigitta, Andrew, Jonas, Peter, Susanna & Dina).
- Charles Dalbo, born c. 1693, died in Gloucester Co. 22 April 1721; married Elsa Runnels, daughter of John Reynolds and Anna Mullica, 11 June 1717, and had 2 children (Maria & Anna Catharine). His widow married Christopher Taylor of Tinicum Island, who took over Charles Dalbo's tavern operations in New Jersey.
- John Dalbo, born c. 1696, died 16 April 1721, unmarried.
- Sarah Dalbo, born c. 1698, died c. 1740 in Piles Grove, Salem Co.; married 20 Oct. 1718 Jonas Keen, son of Matthias Keen and Henricka Claesson, and had 8 children (Sarah, Catharina, Christina, Maria, Matthias, Rebecca, Susanna & William).
- Berthil Dalbo, born c. 1700, died unmarried after 1719.
- Elisabeth Dalbo, born c. 1702, died in Greenwich Township, Gloucester Co., before 1745; married, as his second wife, Åke Helm, 27 December 1728, and had 4 children (Andrew, Gabriel, Åke & Deborah).



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## Mårten Mårtensson and his Morton Family

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In the year 1750, Peter Kalm borrowed the church books of Gloria Dei and copied various entries that caught his fancy. Among these were three burial records, which read, in translation, as follows:

- *31 May 1706. Old Mårten Mårtensson at Ammansland, born in Finland in Sweden, and said to be 100 years old.*
- *8 Feb. 1713. Mårten Mårtensson's widow Helena, born in Sweden, 97 years old.*
- *3 Dec. 1718. Old Mårten Mårtensson at Calcon Hook, born in Sweden, came to this land when 8 years old, died in his 75th year.*

The first and third entries suggest that the father Mårten Mårtensson was born in Finland and later moved to Sweden, where his son Mårten was born. Helena, Mårten Sr.'s widow, was not, however, the mother of any of his children. She was the widow of Mårten's partner, Johan Grelsson, who died about 1684.

Mårten Mårtensson arrived in New Sweden on the *Eagle* in 1654 and was among the "new freemen" pledging loyalty to Governor Rising at Tmicum Island, 9 June 1654. Initially, Mårten made his home near Fort Trinity (now New Castle), where, in September 1655, he pledged allegiance to the Dutch after their capture of that fort. Dissatisfied with living under Dutch rule, Mårten soon moved to join the Finnish settlers at Ammansland.

Ammansland, meaning land of the wet-nurse in Swedish, first had been cleared for settlement under Governor Rising in the winter of 1654-1655. Ammansland extended along Darby Creek between Crum Creek on the west and Muckinipattus Creek on the east. This area, which became known as Ridley Township after the creation of Pennsylvania, was the principal settlement of Finnish settlers in Pennsylvania under English rule.

Mårten Mårtensson built his cabin at the present site of the Morton Homestead. His partner Johan Grelsson's cabin was a short distance away, on Ammansland Run. Between them, they owned 728 acres, extending from Ammansland Run to Muckinipattus Creek. In 1685, after marrying Johan Grelsson's widow, Mårten Mårtensson and his stepson, John Archer, acquired 500 acres on the upper side of Raccoon Creek in Gloucester County.

In 1694, the Ammansland plantation was divided between Mårten Mårtensson and Johan Grelsson's sons. Mårten retained the strip containing the Morton Homestead and Johan Grelsson's old home lot. John Archer obtained a 137-acre strip immediately to the east. All lands east of John Archer went to Mårten, who paid £40 for the half he didn't own. (See map, Swedish Colonial News, Fall 1991 issue, page 3.)

Mårten Mårtensson, Sr., was one of the signers of the Swedes' 1693 letter to Sweden, requesting new ministers and Swedish Bibles, using the same distinctive mark as appears on the 1654 oath of allegiance to Rising. After the arrival of the new ministers, Mårten pledged £1.10 per year for Rudman's salary in 1697. Thereafter, he ceased to be active in either church or court affairs.

In lieu of a will, Mårten Mårtensson signed two deeds in May 1703, dividing his lands between his two youngest sons. The home plantation (the Morton Homestead) was given to his son Matthias "for taking care and maintaining of me and my wife during the remainder of our natural lives." The rest of Mårten's lands at Ammansland and on Raccoon Creek were divided between Matthias and Andrew.

Mårten Mårtensson probably had three wives during his lifetime. This is inferred from the gap in ages between his two eldest sons and his four younger children. He had 34 grandchildren and at least 147 great-grandchildren, the most famous of whom was John Morton, signer of the Declaration of Independence. John Morton's wife Anna Justis was also a great grandchild.

Mårten Mårtensson's children were:

1. **Mårten Mårtensson, Jr.**, born in Sweden c. 1645, married c. 1672 Margaret Bärtilsdotter, daughter of the Finn Bärtil Eskilsson, and established his residence at Calcon Hook, Lower Darby Township, where he died in 1718. They had nine children:

- Catharina Morton, born 1673, married Peter Boon c. 1693. They moved to Boughttown in Upper Penn's Neck, Salem County NJ, in 1705. After his death, she married John Savoy. Three sons by first marriage.
- Morton Morton, born 17 June 1675. Died unmarried and without issue, 1700.
- Lars Morton, born 5 Oct. 1678, married Brigitta (parents not identified) and died in Calcon Hook in 1713. Two children.
- Andrew Morton, born 8 Sept. 1681, married Anna Van Culen c. 1704 and owned plantations at Ammansland and Raccoon Creek. Died in NJ after 1741. Four children.
- John Morton, born 1 June 1683, married Mary, daughter of John Archer, c. 1724. Died in Ammansland 1725 on plantation he had been given by his uncle, John Bärtilsson. One posthumous child, John Morton, the signer of the Declaration of Independence, who was raised by his English stepfather, John Sketchley.
- Jacob Morton, born 24 May 1686, died unmarried and without issue in 1701.
- Margaret Morton, born 27 March 1688, married George Van Culen of Ammansland by 1705. Still living in 1753. Nine children.
- Matthias Morton, born 8 Sept. 1690, married Brigitta Johnson, died in 1736 in Ammansland. His widow moved to New Castle County, where she married [2] Peter Peterson Smith, Jr., and [3] Thomas Elliott. Four Morton children.
- David Morton, born 20 Feb. 1695, married first cousin Helena Justis c. 1718, died Calcon Hook in 1738. His widow moved to New Castle County where she married Israel Peterson. Three children.

2. **Lars Mårtensson**, probably born in Sweden about 1650, was living with his father at Ammansland in 1677. In the following year he moved to New Castle County where the court granted him and his partner Justa Paulsson 100 acres, 5 March 1677/8. Lars died before 24 Oct. 1680, when the patent was issued to Gustaf Paulsson alone. No known children.

3. **Anna Mårtensdotter**, born c. 1662, married Gustaf Gustafsson of Kingsessing c. 1681. They

lived for several years on her father's land on Raccoon Creek, but by 1693 returned to Kingsessing where she died between 1717 and 1721. Nine children:

- John Justis, born c. 1682, moved to Red Clay Creek, New Castle County, where he married [1] Christina Stalcop in 1704, and [2] Christina Colesberry, widow of Walraven Walraven, in 1737. Died in Newport by 1749. Five children.
- Måns Justis, born in 1684, also moved to Red Clay Creek, where he married [1] Catharina Walraven by 1709 and [2] Catharina Robinson, widow of Henry Snecker, 1756. Måns died between 1766 and 1774. Twelve children.
- Justa Justis, Jr., born 8 Feb. 1686, married Christina Lycon c. 1712 and moved to Mill Creek Hundred, New Castle County. He died in Newport in 1760. Five children.
- Morton Justis, born in 1689, also moved to New Castle County, where he married Brita Walraven in 1713 and settled at Bread & Cheese Island, where he died in 1765. Eleven children, including Anna Justis who married John Morton, the signer of the Declaration of Independence.
- Andrew Justis, born in 1691, married Sarah Månsson of New Castle County in 1716. They returned to Kingsessing, where Andrew died 1757. No children.
- Peter Justis, born in 1693, died in his youth.
- Helena Justis, born in 1695, married her first cousin, David Morton. (See above.)
- Charles Justis, born 15 Oct. 1697, married [1] Margaret Boon by 1722 and [2] Rebecca Cleneay, 1753. He died in Kingsessing in 1761. Three children.
- Maria Justis, born c. 1702, married Jonas Walraven of New Castle County in 1727 and died in 1757. Two children.

4. **Brigitta Mårtensdotter**, born c. 1667, married Andrew Hendricksson of Ammansland by 1690. She was buried 8 Dec. 1702, after having four children: .

- Hendrick Hendrickson, born 1691, moved to Gloucester County NJ, where he married Regina Peterson and died in 1749. Ten children.
- Jacob Hendrickson, born 1693, died in 1749 in Gloucester County, unmarried and without issue.
- Helena Hendrickson, born 1696, married John Jones in Gloucester County by 1722. She died by 1754, seven children.
- Catharina Hendrickson, born 1701, married Peter Dalbo by 1721, died by 1754. Eleven children.

5. **Matthias Mårtensson**, born in 1669, was married in 1690 to Anna, daughter of Johan Gustafsson and Brita Månsdotter. He built a log cabin at the Morton Homestead, adjacent to his father's. Matthias' cabin is the oldest log cabin still standing in America today. He inherited the Morton Homestead property with the duty to care for his father and stepmother, but died in December 1708. His widow and children moved to New Castle County, where Anna married [2] the widower Jonas Walraven, and [3] the widower Charles Springer. Children:

- Andrew Morton, born 1691, moved back to Ammansland to become the third owner of the Morton Homestead, where he died after 1740. By two wives, Maria and Catharina (parents not identified), he had five known children, the eldest of whom (Jonas, c.1714-c. 1781) became the fourth owner of the Morton Homestead and built the ferry house which now stands on the site of Mårten Mårtensson's original log cabin.
- Morton Morton, born 1692, married Christina Walraven in 1718. He died in New Castle County c. 1766. Ten children.
- Maria Morton, born 1695, married John Stalcop of Red Clay Creek, New Castle County, c. 1711. She was still living in 1764. Ten children.
- John Morton, born 14 April 1697, married Margareta Stalcop and made his home on the south side of Christina Creek in New Castle County, where he died in 1742. Five children.
- Christina Morton, born 23 Oct. 1699, moved to New Castle County, where she married [1] Samuel Peterson in 1720 and [2] Jesper Walraven in 1752. She was still living in 1764. Ten

children.

- Peter Morton, born c. 1702, died unmarried and without issue in New Castle County after 1741.
- Matthias Morton, born c. 1704, shared land on the south side of Christina Creek in New Castle County with his brother John. Matthias married Elizabeth Hyland c. 1728 and died in 1771. Five children.

6. **Anders Mårtensson**, born 1671, married Margaret (parents not identified) on 13 Jan. 1703. He inherited the eastern end of his father's large Ammansland tract and built his cabin about a mile east of the Morton Homestead site. After the death of his brother Matthias in 1708, he assumed the burden of caring for Mårten's widow Helena until her death in 1713. Anders died in Ammansland in 1722; his widow died in 1755. Children:

- Letitia Morton, born c. 1704, married Hans Torton of Ammansland by 1729, died 1772. Three children.
- Helena Morton, born c. 1706, married Adam Archer of Ammansland by 1730, died childless in 1731.
- Catharina Morton, born c. 1708, married Charles Grantham of Ammansland in 1728, died c. 1746. Four children.
- Rebecca Morton, born c. 1710, married Andrew Boon c. 1730, died 1735 without issue.
- Lydia Morton, born c. 1712, married c. 1734 her cousin Morton Morton (1705-1781), son of Andrew Morton and grandson of Mårten Mårtensson, Jr. They built a brick house which still stands in Norwood. She died in 1756. Three children.

### **John Morton, "the Signer" and his wife, Anna Justis**

It is generally known that John Morton, signer of the Declaration of Independence, was a great grandson of Mårten Mårtensson. Few are aware, however, that his wife, Anna Justis was a great granddaughter of the same 1654 immigrant from Sweden. They were second cousins.

John Morton (1725-1777) was born in Ammansland, Ridley Township, the posthumous son of John Morton (1683-1725) and Mary Archer (died 1777). His paternal grandfather was Mårten Mårtensson, Jr. (son of Mårten Mårtensson, Sr.), who married Margaret, daughter of Bärtil Eskilsson. His maternal grandfather was John Archer (son of Johan Grelsson) who married Gertrude, daughter of Bärtil Eskilsson.

Ann Justis (1732-after 1800), John Morton's wife, was born in New Castle County, Delaware, the daughter of Morton Justis and Brita Walraven. Her paternal grandfather was Gustaf Gustafsson or Justis of Kingsessing, who married Anna Morton, daughter of Mårten Mårtensson, Sr. Her maternal grandfather was Jonas Walraven, whose second wife was Gustaf Gustafsson's sister Anna, the widow of Matthias Mårtensson of Ammansland.



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## Pål Jönsson Mullica the Finn and his Descendants

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Three and a half centuries ago, in 1654, the ship *Eagle* arrived in New Sweden, carrying many Finns. Among them was the large family of Pål Jönsson Mullica. Generally known as Pål Jönsson, his Finnish surname (Mullikk-a) rarely appeared in the records. On one occasion he was called "little Pole," leading one genealogist to claim he was the first of Polish birth to come to America. However, records show that he came originally from Mora parish in Hälsing-land, but probably had moved to western Sweden prior to being recruited by Captain Sven Skute to come to America.

Many passengers had died during the trans-Atlantic voyage of the *Eagle* and Pål Mullica was himself in poor health, so that his family initially had to be supported by charity. After the Dutch takeover in 1655, the family was living on the southwest side of the Christina River, obliquely opposite Fort Christina. In June 1656, Margareta, the wife of Pål Jönsson the Finn, complained to the Dutch court at Fort Casimir (present New Castle) that Anders the Finn was threatening to take her grain from the field and secured an injunction from the court, prohibiting further molestation. This land was being rented on half shares.

### Indian Point

Soon, however, Governor Stuyvesant granted Pål Jönsson his own land on the north side of the Brandywine at the mouth of Skilpot Creek. This tract was known as Wild or Indian Point, and finally patented to Pål Jönsson on 7 April 1661.

Before this patent arrived, Pål Jönsson had already moved to Cecil County, Maryland, with his wife and younger children, leaving his eldest children behind to manage the land at Indian Point.

### None So Good In Finland

On 29 July 1661, Maryland granted Pål Jönsson denization, allowing him to secure land in present Cecil County. He selected a site on the north side of the Sassafras River, which he called, "None So Good in Finland." Unfortunately, Pål Jönsson Mullica died before this land was surveyed and patented.



On 14 April 1664, Rev. Lars Lock convened the widow and heirs of Pål Jönsson at the Crane Hook church and drafted an agreement for the division of his property:

The land at Indian Point was to be divided between the widow Margareta Andersdotter and her son-in-law Hans Peterson. "None So Good in Finland" was to be divided among the youngest daughters.

After the death of Pål Jönsson, his widow Margareta Andersdotter married the widower Anders Mattsson, who had been a passenger on the ill-fated *Golden Calf*, which had arrived near Manhattan in 1655. Eventually he rejoined his countrymen (including his brother Matthias Mattsson) on the Delaware and on 14 November 1668 received a patent from the English for Margareta's half of Wild Hook. Anders Mattsson died within a few months after this patent was issued. (His son, by the same name, thereafter moved to Mary-land).

## The Long Finn Rebellion

In late 1669, Margaret Andersdotter, now twice a widow, and her children living in New Castle County became active in the Long Finn Rebellion a plot to take up arms against the English when (as was erroneously expected) a Swedish fleet would sail up the Delaware River to re-establish New Sweden.

The plot was discovered and quashed by Peter Cock, then chief justice of the Swedish court at Upland. As a result of her involvement, Margaret was fined 100 guilders. On one fine list, she was listed as "Margaret Matson, widow." On the other she was named as "Paul Johnson's wife."

The last mention of Margareta Andersdotter was in a deed dated in September 1674 when she sold her half of "Wild Point" to her grandson Paul Månsson, who on the same day reconveyed the same to her son-in-law Hans Peterson.

Paul Jönsson Mullica and Margaret Anders-dotter had ten children, all of whom appear to have been born in Sweden:

1. **Pålsdotter**, became the first wife of **Måns Pålsson** by 1654. He was also a Finn arriving on the *Eagle* in that year and initially settled in "Finland," the area just north of Naa-man's Creek in present Delaware County, Pa. She had two children before her death c. 1658 Paul Månsson and Margareta Månsson.

2. **Elisabeth Pålsdotter** became the second wife of Måns Pålsson, who relocated his home plantation to an island in the Christina River at the north end of Crane Hook. He was fined 150 guilders in the Long Finn Rebellion. He served as deacon of the Swedish church at Crane Hook, but became disabled in 1676 while working for Hans Peterson. He died at the age of 70 in December 1680. Elisabeth had four known children by him, sons John and Peter Måns-son and daughters Cath-arine (who became the second wife of Matthias Holstein of the Wicaco congregation) and Anna (who married John Tussey-). Elisabeth was still living in 1699 when assigned a pew in the new Holy Trinity Church at Christina (present Wil-ming-ton).

3. **Magdalena Pålsdotter** became the second wife of **Hans Peterson** alias Petascus, a Holstein-er, born in 1631, who had arrived on the Delaware as a Dutch soldier. He had previously been married to a daughter of Carl Jönsson, a Finn who came on the *Mercurius* in 1656. She bore him a son named Carl. Hans Peterson was fined 50 guilders in the Long Finn Rebellion and became active in the Swedish church. At the settlement of Pål Jönsson Mullica's estate, he received one-half of Indian Hook, and later added further holdings, including the first grist mill on Skilpot Creek. It is unknown when Magdalena died, but she was the mother of three sons Peter, Paul and Israel Peterson. At the time of his death, c. 1720, Hans Peterson had married a third time, to a wife named Anna.

4. **Eric Pålsson Mullica**, born c. 1637 in Hälsingland, Sweden, moved as an adult to live among the up-river Swedes, where he married Ingrid, daughter of **Olof Philipsson**, a Finn who arrived with his family on the *Mercurius* in 1656. They lived successively at Moyamensing and Tacony until her death. Eric then married Inge-borg Helm, daughter of **Israel Helm**, and moved to the river on the Atlantic coast of New Jersey which later bore his name the Mullica River. He died before 1704, when Pastor Andreas Sandel preached at his house. All of Eric's eight children were by his first wife and used the surname of Mullica. All of them died in New Jersey:

- Anna, born 1668, married John Reynolds (Run-nells), English; seven children; died after 1724.
- Anders, b. 1670, m. Brigitta Kämpe; died childless, 1720.
- Olof (Willia-m), b. 1675, m. Eva -; seven children; d. after 1731, Mullica Hill, NJ.
- Eric, Jr., b. 1675, m. Marga-reta, daughter of Olle Petersso-n; seven children; d. after 1754, Mullica Hill, NJ.
- John, b. 1677, m. Anna Halton; d. 1766, Mullica Hill, N.J.; no surviving children.
- Helena (Ella), b. 1680, m. George Keen; d. before 1740; three children living to adulthood.
- Catharina, b. 1682; not traced.
- Stephen, b. 1684, m. Elisabeth -, 1712, Christina Homan, 1731; died at Maurice River, N.J. after 1748; seven children.

5. **John Pålsson Mullica** was fined 150 guilders, under the name of "John Powles" on one list and as "Jan Paulson" on a second list for his involvement in the Long Finn Rebellion in 1669. No later record has been found about him.

6. **Margareta Pålsson** married before 1664 **Bärtel Hendricksson** and moved with her parents to Maryland. On the division of Pål Jönsson Mulli-ca's estate, it was agreed that she and her husband would receive 150 acres of "None So Good in Finland." In 1668, he traded his share of this plantation to John Cocks for the latter's 200-acre tract known as "Cock Crows Thrice" and later added a 100-acre tract known as "Indian Range." The death of Bartholomew Hendrickson occurred in 1684, after which Margareta married their servant, John Hagley. She had three sons: Matthi-as, Hendrick and Bärtel (Bartholomew) Hendrick-son.

7. **Anna Pålsson** was married in Maryland to an English widower, John Cocks (Cox), who already owned extensive lands in present Cecil County. She apparently was the mother of John's two younger sons, Benjamin and Thomas Cox.

8. **Christina Pålsson** also became married in Maryland, first to **Cornelis Petersson**, born in Sweden, who had arrived in New Sweden on the *Eagle* in 1654 with his father, **Peter Månsso**, and thereafter moved to the Sassafras River. On the division of Pål Jönsson Mullica's estate, Cornelis received 150 acres of "None So Good in Finland," which he sold to John Cocks in 1669. Cornelis died childless soon thereafter, and Christina then married his brother **Anders Peters-son**. He died in 1686, after which Christina married an Englishman **Nicholas Dorrell**. She died a year later, survived by Mary Peterson (then married to Peter Sefferson), Andrew Peterson and Margaret Dorrell (who later married Robert Money).

9. **Anders Pålsson Mullica**, the youngest son, was called Andrew Mullica in the 1661 record of his move to Maryland, but he generally was known as Andrew Poulson, which was the surname used by his sons. In 1662 a 50-acre tract called "Poleson" was surveyed for him on the southeast side of Elk River, north of the Sassafras River. A 1676 deed identifies Andrew Powlson as the son-in-law of **Nils Jöransson** (also known as Cornelius Urinson) and his wife Elinor. Nils had arrived in New Sweden as a soldier on the *Eagle* in 1654. In 1678, Andrew Poulson petitioned Governor Andros in New York for land on the Delaware, claiming that he had received a warrant for land at Appoquinimink Creek in New Castle County, which had been surveyed for him, but

that when the Dutch retook the Delaware in 1673-1674, he had been taken as a spy, imprisoned and lost his land. He claimed to be poor with a large family. In 1683 Andrew Poulson alias Mullica was naturalized by Maryland. From 1683-1690 he lived at the Head of Elk in the Swedish village known as Sahakitko (known as "Successor" in land patents). He sold his interest there in 1690 and his name disappears from public records after November 1692. His known sons include John Poulson (adult by 1700, died 1733), Jonas Poulson (adult by 1693, died 1744), and Poul Poulson (b. 1686, still living in 1760).

10. **Maria Pålsson** married **Johan Nom-mers-son** [later **Numbers**], who had been born in Sweden in 1643 and came to the Delaware River by 1664, as a servant for the Dutch colony of New Amstel. In 1665, after the English captured the Delaware, Johan Nommersson moved to Cecil County, Maryland, where he was naturalized in 1674. He then returned to White Clay Creek in New Castle County, where he obtained a patent for 340 acres of land in 1675. He conveyed 100 acres of this land to Anders Poulson (#9) in 1677. Although Anders sold this land in 1680, Johan Nommerson maintained close ties with Anders Poulson, visiting Anders on occasion at Sahakitko. In 1698, Johan Nommerson returned to Cecil County, where he died c. 1716. Johan and Maria had five known children: sons John, Peter and James Numbers and daughters Maria and Elisabeth.

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### Jonas Nilsson

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Among the many soldiers accompanying Governor Printz on the Fourth Expedition to New Sweden was Joen Nilsson of Skåning hundred, Skaraborg län, who was later better known under the name of Jonas Nilsson. Born in 1620, Jonas, a tailor by trade, started his voyage to New Sweden from Stockholm in September 1642. After arriving at Fort Christina, 15 February 1643, he was one of many men assigned to help build Fort Elfsborg, where he was subsequently stationed.

Jonas Nilsson served the governor faithfully as a soldier for eleven years. But, when Printz returned to Sweden in 1653, Jonas did not go with him. He obtained his discharge, became a Freeman and married Gertrude, the daughter of Sven Gunnarsson.

For reasons that are not entirely clear, Jonas left his young bride in mid-July, 1654 to return to Sweden on the *Eagle*. While there, he collected the back wages that were due and returned to New Sweden on the *Mercurius*, which arrived in March 1656. Meeting the ship were his wife and eldest son, who had been born during his absence.

By family legend, Jonas Nilsson was six and one-half feet tall and an active Indian trader. Neither claim is supported by contemporary records: the only Swede of remarkable height was "Long Nils," a name given to Nils Matsson, a later immigrant. Although Jonas' son Måns Jonasson (Mounce Jones) and two sons-in-law (Peter Petersson Yocum and Måns Cock) were active Indian traders, no record supports that claim as to Jonas Nilsson himself.

Jonas Nilsson lived for his entire married life in Kingsessing (West Philadelphia), where he was a successful fanner and raised eleven children. He also acquired 270 acres of land at nearby Aronameck from Peter Yocum, land which he divided among his three eldest sons. Jonas died in October 1693 at the age of 73; his wife died shortly thereafter. Their children, in order of their birth, were:

1. **Nils Jonasson**, born May, 1655, married Christina Gästenberg, daughter of Olof Nilsson, c. 1683. They had eight children. Nils died at Aronameck in January 1735.
2. **Judith Jonasdotter**, born c. 1658, married Peter Petersson Yocum, son of Peter Jochimsson, by 1676. She died in Amity township, Berks County, in 1727. They had ten children.
3. **Gunilla Jonasdotter**, born c. 1661, married Måns Cock, son of Peter Larsson Cock, by 1680. In the 1690s they moved across the Delaware to Senamensing, Burlington County.

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She had seven known children.

4. **Måns Jonasson**, born 1663, married Ingeborg Lycon, daughter of Peter Nilsson Lycon, c. 1690. After building a stone house at Aronameck (the core of the present Bartram's Gardens mansion), they moved in 1704 to Manatawney (Douglasville) in Amity township, Berks County, where the Mouns Jones house still stands in his honor. He had six known children and died in April 1727.
5. **Anders Jonasson**, born c. 1666, married Catharine Boon, daughter of Anders Svensson Bonde, by 1691. He died in November 1728 at Aronameck and had nine surviving children.
6. **Christina Jonasdatter**, born c. 1668, married twice: Frederick King in 1686 and, after his death, Nicklas Lindemeyer by 1700. Her family, raised in Senamensing (Cinaminson, NJ) included five children by her first marriage and two sons by her second marriage.
7. **John Jonasson**, born c. 1670, married Catherine Lock, eldest daughter of Pastor Lars Carlsson Lock, in 1693. They separated by 1697. Nevertheless, all five of her daughters were named Jones. John was still living in 1738 when he became administrator of his brother Jonas' estate.
8. **Peter Jonasson**, born c. 1673, was living with his sister Christina in 1697; not further traced.
9. **Jonas Jonasson**, born c. 1675, married an English servant, Anne Amesby, in 1702. A shoemaker, he died in Kingsessing in May 1738, survived by seven children.
10. **Brigitta Jonasdatter**, born in 1678, married Mårten Garrett of Blockley township in 1703 and had at least five children. She died near the Falls of the Schuylkill in December 1753.
11. **Jonathan Jonasson**, born. c, 1681, died in Kingsessing in June 1748. His will named a wife Mary and two children.

The male descendants of Jonas Nilsson started with the patronymic of Jonasson, which became shortened to "Jones" and, in this form, became the family surname.



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### Johan Printz

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Adapted from an article written for the

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Few Americans have ever heard of Johan Printz or New Sweden, yet, the establishment of this colony turned out to be of utmost importance to the expansion of European civilization in North America and eventually also to the development of the United States. Even though, during its short existence, 1638-1655, New Sweden never became as well known as some of the other European colonies or settlements in America, the accomplishments of Johan Printz during his years as governor, 1643-1653, have caused him to be compared favorably with such contemporaries as John Winthrop in New England and Peter Stuyvesant in New Amsterdam. It is therefore proper to focus our attention on him in this 350th year commemorating his arrival in America.

John Printz was appointed governor at the age of 50 in 1642. At that time he could look back on a very interesting life and a somewhat checkered military career. He was born in Bounaryd, County of Jönköping in the province of Småland. His father was a Lutheran minister and Printz received the best possible education in Sweden with the intent that he also enter the church. A lack of means forced him to discontinue his theological studies after only one year at the age of 26.

He then shifted his attention to a military career and served under King Gustavus Adolphus both in Poland and in the Thirty Year's War. However, due to a tactical error in judgment, he was removed from office in 1640 and, though exonerated, it halted his military career of over 20 years and he went into retirement.

In July, 1642, Printz's military career resumed when he was knighted and appointed Royal Governor of New Sweden.

In 1641, the Swedish government had decided to buy out the Dutch participants. New Sweden was now a wholly Swedish venture with the government of Sweden as one of the stockholders.

A new charter was drafted with 28 articles. *The Instruction* deals in great detail with the treatment of the various groups living within the territory of New Sweden. Most remarkable is the article dealing with the treatment of the Indians. As a consequence of these instructions, the Swedes enjoyed far better relations with the Indians than did any other European group and never experienced the massacres of the type visited on the Dutch and the English.

The last article of *The Instruction* states that Printz's appointment is for three years. He would then

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be free to return home.

The ships, the *Fama* and the *Swan*, left Gothenburg early in November and arrived at Fort Christina in February. On his arrival, Printz was assisted by Commander Ridder in surveying the colony and becoming familiar with its operation. The survey was very thorough and went the full distance from Cape Henlopen to Sankikin (Trenton Falls). He noted particular points that would be of importance for defense of the colony and areas that were suitable for agriculture.

He built a new fort near present Salem and called it Elfsborg. The heaviest cannon available were positioned there and by early May 1643 any foreign vessel trying to pass had to strike its flag before being allowed to proceed. The garrison, 13 men under Sven Skute, was the largest in the colony.

Printz wasted no time selecting a new place for his residence as authorized in the Instruction. He chose Tinicum Island just south of the present Philadelphia Airport. He built both a residence with supporting buildings and a fort, New Gothenburg, for their defense. The fort was ready by early May.

The first buildings have been described in some detail, but all of them, except for the storehouse, were destroyed by a fire in November 1645. The residence was rebuilt shortly thereafter. Peter Lindeström, who arrived in New Sweden in 1654 tells us that Printz had a hall built "for himself and his family, which is called Printzhof - very splendidly and well built with a pleasure garden, summer house and other such things." Tinicum therefore became the first seat of government in what is now the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and Printzhof can be considered its first State House.

In addition to living quarters for the governor and his family, the building contained one or more rooms for office use, for record keeping, and for court proceedings, as well as for receiving commissioners from adjacent colonies and other prominent visitors. It is known that some of the interior wood work came from Sweden as did at least some of the bricks used for the construction of two or more fireplaces. Many windows of glass added to the luxury.

Printzhof also became the first seat of a court and Printz the first chief judge in present Pennsylvania.

Fort Christina was also repaired during the summer of 1643, and a blockhouse was built to the north at Upland (now Chester), an area in which many of the Finns settled. Printz also assigned land to the freemen and he renewed commercial and political relations with the Indians. As instructed, Printz also paid great attention to religious matters and, in addition to the church at Christina, he built a "new beautiful church" at Tinicum which was consecrated in 1646.

However, above all he made every effort to assert the Swedish rights to the New Sweden territory against the counter claims of the Dutch and the English.

The colony prospered, but the problems with the surrounding Dutch and English gradually increased in severity. Both nations claimed the Swedish territory by virtue of the first discovery. However, neither had ever established a permanent settlement in the New Sweden territory and neither had purchased the land from the Indians. Printz made every effort to keep peace with both groups.

Commercially, the colony began to suffer a setback in the beginning of 1644. The ships that brought Printz to New Sweden carried only a small cargo and hardly anything for Indian trade. As a consequence, Printz could not prevent the Dutch and the English from almost monopolizing the beaver trade. Finally the *Fama* arrived with a large cargo in March 1644. Now the Swedes could resume the Indian trade and the ship left for Europe with a large cargo of tobacco and skins.



Printz had become greatly encouraged by the progress made during the first year of the new administration, but he was also keenly aware of the great problems associated with a lack of manpower. He therefore sent an urgent request for 1,000 colonists and additional supplies.

Nearly two and one-half years later in October 1646 the next ship, the *Gyllene Haj* (Golden Shark), arrived with a large cargo both for the Indian trade and the needs of the colony which gave rise to considerable joy in New Sweden where despite the lack of manpower and fresh supplies, considerable progress had been made since the *Fama* left. A grist mill was constructed on Cobbs Creek which was the first manufacturing facility within the limits of present-day Pennsylvania and can be considered a forerunner of the huge industrial establishment that eventually grew up within the Commonwealth. A brewery was also erected. In addition, Printz constructed a wharf at Christina, where he built several ships, one of 100 tons burden. He also built a pleasure yacht, causing Printz to be considered "the first yachtsman of America."

When the *Gyllene Haj* arrived, Printz expected to be recalled since he had been in charge of the colony for more than three years and under very difficult conditions, years "that were longer and more arduous to him than all of the previous twenty-four during which he had served his dear fatherland". He "became sad" when he was instructed to stay a few years longer because no suitable successor could be found. However, he accepted the extension of his appointment and proclaimed a special day of Thanksgiving. The settlers assembled in the new church and gave praise to God with a holy "Te Deum".

After the arrival of the *Gyllene Haj*, the outlook was better in New Sweden. Printz's report showed the colony was still very small, 183 souls in all, but the conditions were greatly improved. Besides Printz' report was a list of needed articles and a request for skilled workmen needed to complete a barge.

Preparations were already underway in Sweden for a new expedition. The *Swan* was selected and left Gothenburg with one of the largest cargoes ever for the Indian trade and arrived in good condition in January 1648.

With the arrival of the *Swan*, Printz had again hoped to be relieved of his duties but was directed to remain. The conditions would now have given rise to considerable optimism in New Sweden, were it not for the increasingly aggressive stance of the Dutch exacerbated by the arrival of Peter Stuyvesant as Director General of New Netherlands.

The letters and reports from New Sweden apparently made a major impression when read in Stockholm. It was now decided to send a new expedition - the *Katt* (Cat). This ship and its passengers never arrived in New Sweden but were shipwrecked and ended in atrocities at the hands of the French and Spaniards from which only 19 survived and returned to Sweden.

In New Sweden the situation grew increasingly worse. In May of 1651 Stuyvesant sent a ship with cannon and people "well armed from New Amsterdam." Printz readied his little yacht and ordered it with soliders, cannon, and ammunition down the river to meet the Dutch. The ship withdrew to Manhatten.

On June 25 Stuyvesant returned with 120 men on foot and 11 ships. He sailed his fleet up and down the river "drumming and cannonading." Obviously Printz could not do anything but follow at some distance. Again the Dutch returned without incident.

Soon Stuyvesant, however, obtained title to the land Minquas Kill (Christina River) down to the Bay, land that had already been purchased by the Swedes. Protests and copies of deeds were sent to Stuyvesant but he ignored them. Instead he built a fort called Ft. Casimir (New Castle) which was strategically placed so all traders were compelled to pay duty to the Dutch.

Printz had no choice but to accept the fact that the Dutch were masters of the Delaware, at least for

the time being. Ft. Elfsborg was abandoned and the garrisons of some of the other forts were also withdrawn so he could concentrate his forces.

At this time, Printz had had "absolutely no orders nor assistance - for three years and nine months." He was not a man to give up, however. The carpenters were kept busy repairing and improving the forts and building boats.

Heavy rains did damage to the grain in 1652 and the situation in the colony grew steadily worse. Printz continued to send pleas for help to Sweden, but without response.

The colonists themselves were dissatisfied and many deserted. The situation continued throughout the winter, spring and summer of 1653. By the fall of that year it reached a crisis point and a "revolt" broke out against Printz, who had been ill and unable to exert his former energy during much of the year. Several severe grievances against the governor were presented in a written supplication of eleven articles signed by 22 settlers. This invoked the wrath of the governor, who had the leader of the opposition arrested, tried and executed on a charge of treachery.

Finding his position untenable, Printz finally decided to go to Sweden in the fall of 1653. Elaborate preparations were made for his departure. In September, Indian chiefs were called to Printzhof, speeches were made, gifts presented, etc. Above all, Printz assured the Indians that large new supplies would arrive within a few months, because he himself was going to the fatherland to care of the matter. After a farewell service in the church, Printz turned the command of the colony over to his son-in-law and left for New Amsterdam.

Printz, being 62 years old when he returned to Sweden in 1654, spent the next three years without an official position. However, in 1658 he was appointed Governor of Jönköping County. While traveling from his estate, Gunillaberg, not far from his birth place, Bottnaryd, to Jönköping in the spring of 1663, he was thrown from his horse and died of injuries on May 3rd, at the age of 71.

The horse carrying Printz must have been very strong, because Printz was a physically most impressive man, something that unquestionably was to his advantage when he dealt man-to-man with the Indians as well as with the Dutch and the English. He is supposed to have weighed close to 400 pounds and, among the Indians, he went under the descriptive name, "Big Belly." It is said, "No governor before or since has weighed as much as Johan Printz."



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## Peter Gunnarsson Rambo

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Peter Gunnarsson chose the distinctive surname of Rambo from his place of origin, Hisingen, the northwestern section of Gothenburg, which is dominated by Ramberget (meaning, raven's mountain) with its enchanting view of the Gothenburg harbor.

Born in 1612, Peter Rambo was 27 years old when he sailed to New Sweden as a laborer on the second voyage of the *Kalmar Nyckel* in 1639-40. After becoming a freeman, Peter married Brita Matsdotter from Vasa, Finland, on April 7, 1647. Initially they lived in Kingsessing, but moved by 1669 to Passyunk on the northeast side of the Schuylkill.

During Governor Rising's rule (1654-55), Peter Rambo served on the Governor's Council. He continued to serve as a justice under both Dutch rule (1655-64) and English rule (1664-80).

Peter Rambo had a prosperous farm, which included apple trees grown from seeds he had brought from Sweden. The "Rambo Apple" is still grown in several of the northeastern states.

Peter Rambo's hospitality was well known. Not only was the court occasionally held at his house, but it was also a place where many visitors were welcomed, notable among them William Penn, founder of Pennsylvania.

Peter's wife of over 46 years, Brita Matsdotter, died at their Passyunk plantation on October 12, 1693. Peter Rambo was buried at the Swedes' log church at Wicaco on January 29, 1698, at the age of 85 years and almost eight months.

According to a letter written by Peter Rambo to his sister in Gothenburg in 1693, he had four sons and four daughters. One daughter died at the age of eight. Another daughter (married in 1693 but dead by August 3, 1694, when Peter Rambo revised his will) has not been identified. The six surviving children were:

1. **Gunnar Rambo**, born January 6, 1649, died January 1724 at the age of 75 at "Matzong" in Upper Merion township of present Montgomery County, Pa. Married Anna Cock (daughter of Peter Cock); nine children.
2. **Gertrude Rambo**, born October 19, 1650, died after 1705 in Moyamensing (South Philadelphia). Married on November 22, 1668, to Anders Bengtsson (Andrew Bankson),

who drowned in the Delaware River on September 14, 1705; nine children.

3. **Peter Rambo, Jr.**, born June 17, 1653, died December 12, 1729, in his 77th year in Lower Dublin township, Philadelphia County. Married on November 12, 1676, Magdalena Skute (daughter of Captain Sven Skute); seven children.
4. **Catharine Rambo**, born c. 1655, died after 1708 on Little Mantua Creek, Gloucester County, NJ. Married on February 16, 1674, Peter Mattsson (1647-1699), son of Matthias and Elizabeth Hansson and stepson of Anders Dalbo; nine children, including a daughter Elizabeth (1678-1736) who married the Rev. Andreas Rudman and a daughter Maria (1682-1739) who married the Rev. Andreas Sandel and died in Sweden, where her grandson, Baron John August Sandels (1764-1831), later became a famous general.
5. **Anders (Andrew) Rambo**, born 1658, died in 1698 at Passyunk (South Philadelphia). Married c. 1684 Maria (daughter of Peter Cock); six children.
6. **John Rambo**, born 1661, buried October 17, 1741, in Gloucester County, N.J. Married Brigitta (daughter of Peter Cock); 11 children.

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## Pastor Andreas Rudman and his Family

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Andreas Rudman, founder of Gloria Dei Church, was born 3 November 1668 in Gävle, Gästrikland Province, Sweden, the son of Johan Augustison Rudolph and Magdalen Nilsdotter. After completing his studies and securing a degree at the University of Uppsala and being ordained, Rudman was chosen by Archbishop Swebelius and Dean Jesper Swedberg in February 1696 as the pastor to lead the delegation being sent by King Carl XI to serve the Swedish Lutheran congregations on the Delaware.

At first, Rudman was reluctant to accept the offer. But, after being assured by the King that he would be rewarded with a good post in Sweden after his time in America, Rudman agreed to take on the job.

During the next several months, there were frustrating delays while two other ministers (Eric Björk and Jonas Aurén) were selected and ordained and all of the religious books were assembled for the trip to America. Finally, in late July 1696, the party left Stockholm on the ship *Palmboom*, destined for London.

Arriving in London in early October 1696, Rudman and his party were detained there for four months. During this time, on 3 December 1696, they called on Governor William Penn. As Rudman wrote in his diary, "He very graciously gave us his opinion and promised us his protection. He also gave much good advice as to our management and conduct there, and promised us a recommendation to his deputy governor [William Markham]."

### Sails to America

Rudman, Björk, Aurén and their assistant, a lad named Jonas Björström, boarded the ship *Jeffries* at Blackwell, 4 Feb. 1697. After four months at sea, the ship anchored in the James River in Virginia on 3 June 1697. The four Swedes stayed with the ship until it reached Annapolis on the 19th of June. Then, after being generously entertained by Governor Francis Nicholson for four days, they departed on a smaller ship for the Elk River. On the 24th, they arrived at the Swedish settlement known as Sahakitko, located at the Head of Elk (present Elkton, Maryland).

The residents of Sahakitko quickly sent word to their Swedish neighbors on the Delaware of the ministers' arrival. Soon, men, horses and carts assembled to escort Rudman and his colleagues to

Crane Hook, where Rudman and Björk conducted a short prayer and thanksgiving for their safe arrival on June 27th. On the next day, they journeyed to Philadelphia, where they called on Vice Governor Markham on the 29th.

### **Rudman Chooses Wicaco**

On the 30th of June, Rudman and Björk met with the Wicaco congregation to read the messages they carried from the King and the Archbishop. They did the same at Crane Hook on 2 July 1697. Rudman, as the senior pastor, chose the Wicaco congregation as his own. Björk, therefore, became pastor at the other church, then located at Crane Hook. Both of them gave their first sermons at their respective churches on 11 July 1697.

One of Rudman's first duties was to become acquainted with his new congregation. In the course of this, he met Elisabeth, the daughter of Peter Mattsson and Catharina Rambo. Rudman and Elisabeth Petersdotter were married at her home on Mantua Creek in West Jersey on 4 May 1698. She was then twenty years old.

### **Builder of Gloria Dei**

It was evident to both Rudman and Björk that the old, dilapidated log churches at Wicaco and Crane Hook were not adequate for the congregations that they served. It was therefore decided, with the consent of the congregations, to replace them with new stone and brick edifices. The "lower congregation," led by Björk, soon agreed to build its new church at Christina (present Wilmington), but Rudman's "upper congregation" split into factions, with some favoring Wicaco, others Passyunk.

Unable to bring unity to his congregation, Rudman concluded his sermon on 31 July 1698 with the announcement that he had decided to leave them. He bid them farewell and moved to Christina, planning to return to Sweden.

This announcement, plus an impassioned sermon by Björk at the Wicaco church on 28 August 1698, caused the "upper congregation" to agree to end their internal differences, to renew their pledges to build a new church and to leave the decision-making on the new church to the pastors. Rudman thereupon returned to Wicaco and resumed his duties.

For the next two years, Rudman labored hard to bring the new church into being at Wicaco. The first contracts were signed in October 1698. The church was sufficiently finished to permit its formal consecration on Sunday, 2 June 1700. Rudman had consecrated Holy Trinity Church at Christina the year before. Björk did the honors at Wicaco. The new church was christened Gloria Dei (Glory to God).

Another project receiving Rudman's attention was liturgical music. Rudman brought with him from Sweden a small spinet and devoted time to writing eight hymns which were printed and published by Reynier Jansen, a German printer, in 1700 the first two hymnals to be printed in America.

### **Founder of Manatawny**

While the new church was under construction, Governor William Penn returned to Philadelphia from London. On 7 Dec. 1699, Rudman, Björk, Aurén and "a large part of the upper congregation" paid their respects to Penn, who assured them that he would thereafter continue to show the Swedes "all possible favor." Rudman soon put Penn to the test on his promise. Pointing out that many of the Swedes felt cheated by the preemption of their lands for Quaker settlement, Rudman secured an order from William Penn in October 1701 setting aside 10,000 acres up the Schuylkill, near Manatawny Creek, for members of his congregation. The resulting settlement in Amity Township, originally known as Manatawny, now Douglassville, later became the location of St. Gabriel's (Old Swedes) Church, founded in 1720.

With the completion of Gloria Dei Church, Rudman felt that his mission was completed and wrote to Sweden, asking that he be replaced. His health had suffered. He yearned to see his mother, siblings and native land again. However, when his replacement (Andreas Sandel) arrived in 1702, Rudman was persuaded to postpone his return to Sweden and, instead, to serve as pastor of the Dutch Lutheran Church in New York City. He preached his farewell sermon at Gloria Dei on 19 July 1702 and left the next day for New York.

After a year in New York, Rudman decided he could not, because of his health problems, continue. He therefore recruited his own replacement, Justus Falckner, whom he ordained at Gloria Dei on 24 November 1703. Shortly thereafter, on 23 Feb. 1704, King Carl XII of Sweden, issued an order formally confirming Rudman as 'Superintendent' (suffragan bishop) of the Lutheran Church in America.

## Rudman's Final Years

Rudman remained in Philadelphia, residing on a lot between Cedar and Pine streets, between Front Street and the Delaware River. He now spent part of his time writing a history of the Swedish church at Wicaco, which is still preserved in the records of Gloria Dei. In addition, however, he was persuaded by Rev. George Keith to assume the pastorate of Trinity Church near Frankfort in Oxford Township, 8 miles from Philadelphia. He began serving this Anglican church on 2 April 1704. In 1707, he added the pastorate at Christ Church, Philadelphia, to his responsibilities during the absence of its regular minister, Evan Evans, in England.

It had been Rudman's intention to move back to Sweden after Evans returned from England. But fate intervened. Rudman became mortally ill with "lung sickness" on 13 September 1708 and died four days later. Björk and Sandel presided at Rudman's funeral on 20 September and he was buried in the floor of the church in front of the altar. "He was not yet 40 years old," lamented Eric Björk, who delivered the funeral sermon before "an exceeding great number of people."

Rudman's will, dated 13 Sept. 1708, named his wife Elisabeth executrix and made bequests to his two surviving children, Magdalena and Anna Catharine. He also had at least two other children, both sons, who died in childhood. His widow Elisabeth did not remarry. She lived on the Schuylkill on land her husband had acquired in 1708 from her brother, Peter Mattson, Jr., until her final year when she lived with her daughter Anna Catharine Tranberg. She wrote her will at Peter Tranberg's house in Piles Grove, Salem County, on 1 September 1736 and was buried by her son-in-law on 5 September.

The two surviving children of Andreas Rudman and Elisabeth Mattsson were:

1. **Magdalena Rudman**, born 24 Feb. 1699 in Philadelphia, was married on 21 August 1718 at Gloria Dei Church to Andrew Robeson, Jr., born in 1692, the eldest son of Andrew Robeson (Scotch) and Maria Helm (Swedish). They resided in Roxborough Township, Philadelphia and had five children, all of whom died without issue: Andrew, Elisabeth (who married William Vander-spiegel), Rudman (who married Margaret), William and Sarah. Magdalena's husband died in 1740. She outlived all of her children, excepting Elisabeth Vanderspiegel, and died on 25 Feb. 1769 at the age of 70.
2. **Anna Catharine Rudman**, born about 1705 in Philadelphia, was married in 1726 at Gloria Dei Church to Pastor Peter Tranberg, newly arrived from Sweden. They lived from 1726 until 1742 at Piles Grove, Salem County NJ, during which time Tranberg served as pastor of the Swedish churches at Raccoon (Swedesboro) and Penns Neck. In 1742, Tranberg became pastor of Holy Trinity Church in Wilmington, which he served until his death in November 1748. Anna Catharine Tranberg died in Wilmington on 25 Sept. 1764. They had six children:
  - Andrew Tranberg, born 18 April 1727, became a merchant in Wilmington, but died



unmarried 16 Jan. 1759.

- Rebecca Tranberg, born 3 June 1730, was married on 27 Feb. 1752 at Holy Trinity Church to Baron Adolph Benzel, son of the Swedish Archbishop Eric Benzeliu and grandson of Bishop Jesper Swedberg. Benzel became an officer in the British Army in the New York colony and died at Crown Point on Lake Champlain in 1775. Rebecca returned to Wilmington, where, on 26 Nov. 1783, she married William Killen, Chief Justice of the State of Delaware. She died 7 Jan. 1790 in Dover, Delaware.
- Elisabeth Tranberg, born 7 Nov. 1732, married [1] pastor Olof Parlin of Gloria Dei Church, 31 Oct. 1751, [2] Gabriel Springer of Wilmington, 14 Jan. 1762; died 29 Sept. 1802 in Wilmington.
- Rachel Tranberg, born 9 Jan. 1737, died in 1743 in Wilmington.
- Peter Tranberg, born 15 Jan. 1741, buried 29 July 1750 in Wilmington.
- Theophilus Tranberg, born 9 March 1746, died 9 May 1746 in Wilmington.

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## Samuel Petersson of Christina and His Descendants

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When the ship *Örnen* (the *Eagle*) arrived in New Sweden in 1654, it brought two new freemen to the country named Samuel Petersson, both of them Finns. They were distinguished by their place of origin and their marks. Both appeared at Tinicum Island on 9 June 1654 to sign the loyalty oath to the new Governor of New Sweden, Johan Risingh. One was recorded as Samuel Petersson of Fryksände Parish in Värmland, Sweden; the other as Samuel Petersson of Bogen, Gunnarskog Parish in Värmland. The latter purchased goods from the company store on 8 July 1654 and soon disappeared from history.

Samuel Petersson of Fryksände bought goods from the company store on 2 August 1654. He was residing in the Fort Trinity area (near present New Castle) when that fort was surrendered to the Dutch in September 1655. He then signed an oath of allegiance to the Dutch, signing by his mark, which was in the shape of a diamond with concave sides. In 1657, the Dutch paid Samuel and his co-worker Måns Larsson 18 guilders for services rendered.

The first English census of the Delaware, taken in May 1671, found Samuel Petersson and his family residing at Crane Hook on the Delaware River, south of the Christina River. He was among the Finns moving to this location in 1663 at the invitation of the Dutch Governor d'Hinoyossa. In 1669, after the English captured the Delaware from the Dutch, Samuel played a minor role in the "Long Finn Rebellion" for which he was fined 50 guilders. A ringleader in this rebellion was Johan Andersson Stalcop, who owned extensive lands north of the Christina River adjacent to old Fort Christina. To pay for his fine, Stalcop was forced to sell part of his lands. By deeds dated 2 September 1674 and 16 April 1675, Samuel Petersson purchased the lower quarter of the Stalcop plantation, fronting on Christina Creek. This land at Christina became Samuel Petersson's home until his death in 1689. He also added land to his holdings. This included a patent dated 30 July 1684 from William Penn for "Mill Point," 300 acres, bounded by land belonging to John & Andrew Stalcop, the "old land" of Samuel Petersson and land of Lucas Stedham.

Samuel Petersson was very active in the Swedish church. He gave a 30-foot strip of his former land at Crane Hook for the church at that location. Further, in the dispute between Pastor Lars Carlsson Lock and Pastor Jacobus Fabritius for the right to the pulpit, Samuel Peterson, a warden of the church, supported Lock. By a letter to the English government of 14 August 1675, he joined other leaders of his congregation to urge that Fabritius, who could not speak Swedish, be rejected as their pastor. Samuel signed the letter with the same mark used when signing the oaths of

allegiance to Governor Risingh in 1654 and to Governor Stuyvesant in 1655.

Samuel Petersson's wife was Brita, daughter of Jöns Andersson the blacksmith at Christina. Jöns' will, proved 5 November 1678, left his entire estate to Samuel Petersson. Jöns Andersson and his wife Maria had also arrived on the *Eagle* in 1654. He lived near Fort Christina and made several purchases from the company store from 17 June 1654 to 8 August 1655. After the surrender of New Sweden to the Dutch in September 1655, he informed Captain Sven Skute that he intended to remain at Fort Christina. He and his wife Maria submitted an affidavit on 7 March 1660 to the Dutch authorities regarding the illegal sale of liquor to the Indians by Hans Juriansen Becker, a Dutch soldier.

The will of Samuel Petersson, dated 20 November 1689, has been lost. However, we know from later deeds that the will included a bequest that "he of my sons whom is longest with my loving wife he shall have my now dwelling plantation." He was survived by his wife Brita and at least nine children, three sons and six daughters.

His widow Brita Petersson was listed on the 1693 census as head of a household that included seven others persons. Soon thereafter she married Joshua Jones, an Englishman. On 24 June 1697, she was granted administration of his estate. In August 1697, "Mrs. Brita" subscribed £ 2 towards construction of Holy Trinity Church; her daughter Brita added 12 shillings. During construction of the church, "Mistress Brita" boarded workmen at her house "on the old land" for five weeks. An audit of quitrents (property taxes) in 1701 reported that "Bridget Peterson alias Jones" was current on her taxes. She died in the following year.

The 1701 audit showed the existence of two plantations. The one occupied by widow Brita Jones was on the "old land," originally acquired from Stalcop. This would be inherited by Peter Peterson, the youngest son, who had lived the longest with his mother. The "new land" was then occupied by Matthias Peterson. It was north of Christina and supposed to contain 300 acres when granted by William Penn, but on resurvey was shown to contain 618 acres. Matthias was unwilling to pay the money required to keep the "overplus," so he kept only the 300 acres of his choosing. To fulfill his father's directions in his will, Matthias Peterson executed a deed in December 1702 confirming the "old land" to his brother Peter Peterson.

Within 40 years after the death of widow Brita, four of her grandchildren became famous, two as wives of the first two ministers of Holy Trinity (Old Swedes') Church and two as founders of Wilmington and Newark, Delaware.

Samuel and Brita Peterson's known children are listed below in the apparent order of their birth:

1. **Margareta Petersson**, born c. 1663, was first married about 1686 to **Erasmus Stedham**, son of Dr. Timen Stiddem. He was father of all of her children. Erasmus, often called "Asmund," was born c. 1658. On 20 October 1686 he acquired from Adam and Benedict Stedham their 1/8th shares in the Timen Stiddem plantation, which he apparently shared with his brother Lulof. He served as a churchwarden of Holy Trinity, 1704-1707. The will of Asmund Stedham, husbandman, dated 26 August 1711 and probated 22 August 1712, directed his son Samuel to maintain the other children until they came of age. Erasmus' widow Margaret married Thomas Jones on 7 Sept. 1714 and was buried in 1739. Her known children were:

- **Samuel Stedham**, born c. 1687, was named sexton of Holy Trinity Church 1713-1714 and 1716-1717. On 17 September 1719 he married Annika Tussey, the orphaned daughter of Olof and Gertrude Tussey of Brandywine Hundred. They had one child: Jacob Stedham, born 19 September 1720, who died in childhood. Samuel Stedham of Christiana Hundred dictated his nuncupative will on 31 October 1721. His widow thereafter married Jonas Scoggin 1 November 1722 and, finally, James McCaslin.
- **Margareta Stedham**, born c. 1689, was married by 26 August 1711 when Asmund wrote his will. She was then the wife of William Howell. Known children by her first marriage

were Patience and Elizabeth Howell. Margaret also had an illegitimate daughter named Rachel, described as the daughter of Johan Hayard and Margareta Howell, baptized 5 July 1722. The sole sponsor was Thomas Jones' wife Margareta. On 19 April 1726 Margeret Howell married Richard Jeffries at Holy Trinity Church. Not further traced.

- **Sarah Stedham**, born c. 1691, was married before 1713 to Edward Milsson. They had one child baptized at Holy Trinity after baptism records began in 1713: Maria Milsson, born 4 June 1714. Sarah Stedham Milsson was buried in April 1715.
- **Maria Stedham**, born 1693, was married on 6 November 1716 to William Forehead of Brandywine Hundred. His name later evolved into Forwood. He was born in Ireland in 1692, moved to England and thence to Delaware. He died in 1777 at the age of 85. His wife Mary died in 1783, 90 years old, the last of Samuel Peterson's grandchildren to die. William Forwood's will, dated 13 Aug. 1771, was proved 18 Jan. 1777. They had 11 known children.
- **Christina Stedham**, born c. 1699, is named in her father's will, but her name has not been found among the records of Holy Trinity. Presumably, she died shortly after her father.
- **Adam Stedham**, born c. 1703, was buried 9 January 1723.
- **Erasmus (Asmund) Stedham**, born c. 1705, married Christina Hendrickson, 14 May 1735. She was the daughter of Hendrick and Judith Hendrickson, born 27 February 1719. With the death of his two older brothers, Erasmus Stedham inherited the 3/8th share of the Timen Stiddem plantation which his father had owned, and on 26 April 1738 entered into an agreement with Timothy Lulofsson Stedham dividing the property. Thereafter, Erasmus Stedham moved to Penns Neck for about ten years. By 5 May 1748, he had returned to the Wilmington area, as he was then chosen to be sexton and gravedigger for the church. On 27 December 1759 he resigned as sexton. In the 1764 church census Erasmus and his wife Christina were living in the Brandywine rota with their 16-year-old son Cornelius. The family's fate after that is not known. Erasmus (Asmund) Stedham, Jr., and his wife Christina had seven children baptized at Holy Trinity.

2. **Catharina Peterson**, born c. 1665, was married by 1685 to **Peter Stalcop**, born c. 1664, the son of Johan Andersson Stalcop and Christina Carlsdotter. Peter Stalcop owned extensive lands on Red Clay Creek. He pledged £7 for construction of Holy Trinity Church, helped in its construction for 14 days, furnished horses for two days and lathe for the plastering. On 24 June 1699 he and his wife were assigned pews. Peter's will, dated 3 September 1709 and proved 16 May 1710, named his wife Catharina and his son-in-law pastor Ericus Björk co-executors, to be joined by his son John when he came of age. Soon after 26 September 1711, his widow Catharina became the second wife of Lucas Stedham, Sr., who had eight children by his first wife. There were no children by her second marriage. Lucas Stedham, Sr., was buried 8 December 1726. Karin (Catharina) last took communion on 6 June 1731.

By her first marriage, Catharina had six children who grew to adulthood:

- **Christina Stalcop**, born 19 April 1686, married Ericus Björk, the first pastor of Holy Trinity Church, 6 October 1702. Initially, pending completion of a parsonage, they were provided with a house on her father's Red Clay Creek property. It would be several years before the parsonage was completed. In 1714, when Björk was recalled to assume the pastorate at Falun, Sweden, Christina left America with her husband and five young children (Tobias, Magdalena, Catharina, Christina and Maria). She died in Falun on 16 March 1720. Another son, Peter Björk, had died 10 September 1710 and was buried in Holy Trinity Church. More children were born in Sweden, including Sarah and Brita.
- **Brita Stalcop**, born c. 1686, married John Justis, son of Johan Giöstason of Kingsessing, 13 November 1704. As a wedding present, Peter Stalcop gave him 105 acres of his Red Clay Creek plantation. John and Brita Justis sold this land in 1728 to his cousin Jonas Walraven, and acquired 100 acres at "Cold Harbor," on the north side of Christina Creek. He then subdivided this property to create the town called Newport. Brita died in the spring of 1737. Brita and John Justis had four known children, all of whom died in childhood.
- **John Stalcop**, born c. 1692, married Maria Morton (daughter of Matthias Morton and Annika Justis of Ammansland, Ridley Township) by 1711. He inherited his father's

plantation on Red Clay Creek, where he died of a heart attack, 24 June 1751. They had ten children born between 1712 and 1737.

- **Maria Stalcop**, born 15 March 1696, married John Corneliusson Van der Veer, 14 January 1714. She accompanied her sister Christina to Sweden, where, after Van der Veer's death, she married Hans Georgen Schmidt c. 1719. After her sister's death, the Schmidts returned to New Castle County. Maria's daughter Catharina Van der Veer, born in Sweden, returned to America and on 4 November 1738 married Simon Johnson in Cecil County, Maryland. Maria had eight more children by her second husband. Maria was buried 19 November 1750. She was then 54 years and 10 months old. Hans Georgen Schmidt (Smith) died of tuberculosis and was buried 27 December 1753.
- **Andrew Stalcop**, born c. 1699-1700, married Christina Peterson, 7 May 1725, at the Swedes' church in Penns Neck. They had a son John, born in Salem County on 15 Dec. 1730. In 1738, Andrew moved back to Newport, Delaware, but by 1750 he and his son John were residing in Cecil County, Maryland.
- **Margareta Stalcop**, born c. 1703, married John Morton (son of Matthias Morton of Ammansland, Ridley Township) on 11 November 1725. They lived on a large 436-acre tract south of Christina Creek which John Morton and his brother Matthias had purchased from Ebenezer Empson on 18 November 1724. They had five children. Margareta was buried 12 May 1741. Her husband John Morton wrote his will on 20 April 1742, devising his land to his two surviving sons, Matthias and Peter Morton.

3. **Christina Peterson**, born c. 1667, married in the late 1680s Gisbert (Jesper) Walraven (son of Walraven Jansen DeVos and Christina Ollesdotter). She was buried 20 December 1725. Gisbert Walraven, also known as Jesper Walraven, was born about 1660. They lived at Middle Borough, Christiana Hundred, where he divided his father's plantation with his younger brother Jonas Walraven, 19 April 1708. His will of the same date, proved 4 June 1708, named five children.

- **Brita Walraven** married John Stalcop, son of Andrew Stalcop, by 1706. They had one son who survived childhood, Andrew Håkan Stalcop. After the death of her first husband, Brita married Ambrose London, 6 January 1715, by whom she had four additional children. Brita was buried at Holy Trinity on 16 March 1721 and Ambrose London was buried there on 4 December 1721. Edward Robinson served as executor of his estate and became guardian of London's only surviving son, Ambrose London, Jr.
- **Catharina Walraven**, born 1690, married by 1709 Måns Justis (son of Johan Giöstasson of Kingsessing). They lived on the east side of Red Clay Creek. They had twelve children born between 1710 and 1732, all of whom grew to adulthood. The mother died of a heart attack on 2 January 1754 at the age of 63. Her husband survived her by about two decades.
- **Gisbert (Jesper) Walraven** married Maria Snicker (daughter of Hendrick Jöransson Orrhan, *snickare* (carpenter in Swedish), 24 May 1716. She was buried 12 November 1723. He then married widow Anna Paulson (daughter of Bengt Pålsson and widow of John Garritson) in 1724. She died after 1743. On 15 November 1752, Gisbert married his third wife, Christina Morton, daughter of Matthias Morton and widow of Samuel Peterson. Gisbert Walraven lived his entire life on the Middle Borough plantation, which he inherited from his father. He died intestate before 21 July 1761, when his widow Christina Walraven filed her first accounting of his estate. By his first two wives he had eleven children.
- **Jonas Walraven** married in 1723 Catharina Archer, daughter of John and Gertrude (Bartleson) Archer of Ammansland. Jonas was buried 11 March 1727. His widow married Hans Peterson in 1731 and died before 1748. On 28 January 1723/4 Jonas acquired 110 acres at Christina in Christiana Hundred from his cousin Samuel Peterson. A weaver by trade, Jonas devised his land to his son John. He was also survived by a daughter Maria.
- **Sarah Walraven** married John Seeds, 22 August 1720, but died in childbirth and was buried at Holy Trinity Church on 4 April 1721. Her son Edward Seeds survived.. John Seeds remarried Brita Lynam by 1722.

4. **Samuel Peterson, Jr.**, born in 1668, died intestate and unmarried before 10 March 1691/2, when an inventory was taken, listing his property (six cattle, four pigs, a gun, axe, frying pan, iron

pot, chest, anchor and his clothing) as worth £19.

5. **Matthias Peterson**, born c. 1671, was married c. 1695 to Elisabeth Justis, daughter of John Giöstason of Kingsessing. He pledged £1.1.0 in 1697 for the building of Holy Trinity Church, worked 9 days helping to build the church and provided lathe for the plastering. He and his wife were assigned pews in 1699. He became a warden of the church and served for several years on the church council. He also was named co-executor of the wills of his brothers-in-law Gisbert Walraven 19 May 1708, Asmund Stedham 22 Aug. 1712, and Christian Urinson 16 October 1716. Matthias Peterson was buried 27 September 1719. His widow Elisabeth married Edward Robinson 18 October 1720. His known children were:

- **Samuel Peterson**, a twin, born in November 1698, was married on 26 May 1720 to Christina Morton, born 23 October 1699 to Matthias Morton of Ammansland. She died after 1764. They had ten children baptized at Holy Trinity Church. On 15 August 1723, Samuel released 200 acres of the land inherited from his father to his younger brother Matthias Peterson. On 28 January 1723/4 Samuel released another 110 acres to his cousin Jonas Walraven. Samuel died of a heart attack 1 January 1751 at the age of 52. He had ten children.
- **Maria Peterson**, a twin, born November 1698, married Christiern Brynberg, a recent immigrant from Sweden, on 2 July 1719. She was buried 31 July 1750 at the age of 51 years and 7 months. Her husband died “of a pitchfork” and was buried 28 March 1752 at the age of 68. They had ten children, six of whom lived to adulthood and married.
- **Matthias Peterson**, born c. 1701, never married. By his will dated 6 January 1731/2 and proved 6 February 1731/2, he left 100 acres acquired from his brother Samuel in 1723 to his nephew Matthias Peterson, son of Samuel Peterson, and the other 100 acres to his nephew Peter Brynberg, son of his sister Maria.

6. **Sarah Peterson**, born c. 1673, married Jonas Walraven, youngest son of Walraven Jansen de Vos in 1693. She died c. 1708. Jonas Walraven married second, by 1713, Anna Justis, widow of Matthias Morton of Ammansland. He lived at Middle Borough in Christiana Hundred. Jonas was buried 31 Aug. 1724. His widow married, as her third husband, Charles Springer, in 1727. By his first marriage to Sarah Peterson, Jonas had five children:

- **Brita Walraven**, born in 1693, married Morton Justis, son of Justa Giöstason of Kingsessing, on 1 October 1713. They made their home at Bread and Cheese Island, Mill Creek Hundred, and had ten children born between 1714 and 1739, of whom six grew to adulthood. After Brita's death at the age of 54 on 14 July 1747, Morton Justis married Magdalena Springer, then twice a widow, on 5 December 1747. Their child Helena was born in 1750. Morton Justis died in 1765 at the age of 78.
- **Sarah Walraven**, born 3 February 1695, married Rev. Andreas Hesselius, pastor of Holy Trinity (Old Swedes) Church, 3 May 1713. She died in London, England, on 17 June 1724 en route to Sweden with her husband and children, Anders, Jonas, Maria Christina and Sarah, the last of whom was born in London eight weeks before her death.
- **Walraven Walraven**, born c. 1698, married Christina Colesberg (daughter of Sven Kålsberg and Elisabeth Anderson), 6 October 1725. On 29 April 1735, as son and heir of Jonas Walraven, Walraven Walraven divided the Middle Borough plantation with Gisbert Walraven, son and heir of Gisbert Walraven. The will of Walraven Walraven, dated 1 August 1736, left his plantation to his two eldest sons, Sven (Swithin) and Jonas. There were four other children. The father was buried 4 Aug. 1736, and his widow married John Justis, 30 July 1737.
- **Christina Walraven**, born in 1700, married Morton Morton (son of Matthias Morton of Ammansland) 8 May 1718. They made their home on the south side of Christina River in New Castle Hundred. They had ten children born between 1719 and 1741, of whom four lived to adulthood. Christina died of pleurisy at the age of 53 and was buried 3 May 1754. Her husband remarried and died by 1767.
- **Jonas Walraven**, born 31 May 1704, married Maria Justis (daughter of Justa Giöstason of

Kingssessing), 1 December 1727. A weaver, he acquired land on the north side of Christina Creek at Newport from his cousin John Justis. He died there on 6 November 1751, survived by two children.

7. **Peter Peterson**, born c. 1675, married Helena Peterson (daughter of Hans Peterson of Brandywine Hundred) c. 1697. He subscribed £2 for the building of Holy Trinity Church and worked 35½ days on the actual construction of the church. He also served as a church warden and was a member of the church council when he was buried 6 February 1715. He was frequently called Peter Peterson Caupany to distinguish him from Peter Peterson Smith (son of Hans Peterson of Brandywine Hundred). Caupany was derived from the Swedish word “kåpa” meaning a short cloak. By his will of 29 January 1715, Peter bequeathed his 211 acres (the “old ground”), after his wife’s death, to his two surviving sons, Peter and Hans. His widow Helena married Erasmus Stedham 11 May 1716 and was buried 4 May 1724. Peter’s known children were:

- **Peter Peterson, Jr.**, born c. 1698, married Magdalena Stedham, daughter of Lucas Stedham, on 3 December 1724. On 8 May 1727, Peter and Magdalena conveyed 105 acres, the lower half of the “old ground,” along Christina Creek, to Anders Justis in exchange for 150 acres in Christina Hundred. On 13 November 1732, Peter confirmed to his brother Hans Peterson the upper half of the “old ground.” At the time of the 1752 church census, Peter was living north of the Brandywine. Church records confirm nine children born between 1725 and 1747. Peter died before 1764, when Magdalena was shown as head of household.
- **Hans Peterson**, born c. 1704, became the second husband of Catharine Archer (widow of Jonas Walraven) by 1731. He inherited the upper half of the “old ground,” which he conveyed to his eldest son, Jonas Peterson, on 15 October 1763. He had four other children, all of whom grew to adulthood and married. Hans died in 1766.
- **Anders Peterson** was buried as a child on 5 April 1713.
- **Anna Peterson** married John Littlejohn on 6 May 1729. Not further traced.
- **John Peterson**, born 3 June 1714, died young.

8. **Brita Peterson**, born c. 1680, married by 1704 Anders Justis, son of Johan Giöstason of Kingssessing. The couple lived on the land (300 acres) which Matthias Peterson had inherited from his father. After Matthias Peterson declined to buy the overplus for such land, Anders Justis made repeated requests to the Board of Property in Philadelphia to buy that overplus. He finally succeeded and on 8 May 1727 he traded the 150 acres thus acquired to his brother-in-law Peter Peterson Caupany for 105 acres of the “old ground” situated on the north side of Christina Creek. Soon thereafter, “Andrew and Bridget Justison” began subdividing the land, an endeavor in which their son-in-law Thomas Willing later joined. The result was the creation of “Willing Town,” now known as Wilmington. After the death of Brita, who was buried 27 June 1737, Anders Justis moved to Salem County to live with his youngest daughter Annika. The will of Andrew Justis, dated 15 July 1740 and proved 19 August 1740, named his two surviving daughters. The children of Andrew and Brita Justis were:

- **Catharina Justis**, born in 1705, first married Thomas Scott on 30 July 1723. After his death, she married Thomas Willing, 5 December 1728. She had five known daughters by her two marriages. She died after 1764.
- **Brita Justis**, born 1707, was buried 21 August 1720 at the age of 13½.
- **Anna (Annika) Justis**, born 1709, married Jacob Derickson 9 June 1728. He died 1 October 1728. She then married Charles Corneliuson of Penns Neck, 20 June 1730. His will of 26 December 1750 named Anna and four children.
- **John Justis**, born c. 1711, was buried 11 March 1715.

9. **Elisabeth Peterson**, born c. 1684, married **Christiern Jöranson** (generally called Christian Urinson) c. 1710. He was born in 1664, the eldest son of Anders Jöransson. On 13 April 1685, after reaching the age of 21, Christiern Jöranson was given 100 acres on White Clay Creek by his stepfather Broer Sinnickson. From 1694 to 1697, Christiern Urinson was also paying the quitrents (taxes) due on the land of John and Ann Stalcop at Christina which he was then renting. A



carpenter by trade, Christiern pledged 1½ pounds in 1697 toward construction of Holy Trinity Church in Christina. He was employed in the fall of 1698 to work on the church roof. He worked at this task and other carpentry jobs at the church for 33½ days. He agreed to be the carpenter for the glebe house to be built next to the church. He was present when the land for the glebe was surveyed, 20 June 1701, and started work on the glebe house on 16 October 1701. He remained active in church affairs. On 24 June 1714 he was elected church warden. About 1712, at the age of 48, Christiern married Elisabeth Petersson. They had three children (Sophia, Christiern and Margareta), born between 1713 and 1716, all of whom died in childhood. The will of Christian Urinson, "formerly of Christina Creek but now of Fish Point," was dated 16 October 1716 and proved 6 November 1716.

Christiern's widow Elisabeth next married Valentine Cock of Boon's Island, Kingsessing, on 23 April 1720. She then moved to Boon's Island to live on her new husband's own plantation and to help care for his four sons. Elisabeth had no more children of her own by this marriage. After the death of Valentine Cock in 1725, Elisabeth renounced her right to administer his estate and returned to New Castle County where she became housekeeper for the widower Conrad Constantine. On 14 May 1730 she married, as her third husband, John Garretson of Newport, son of Paul Garretson. At the time she was pregnant. Their son Thomas Garretson, "some weeks old," was baptized at Holy Trinity Church on 13 December 1730. The last discovered reference to Elisabeth Peterson Jöransson Cock Garretson was on 18 May 1734, when John Garretson of White Clay Creek Hundred and Elisabeth his wife sold her 15 acres at Fish Point, New Castle Hundred. Elisabeth's sole surviving child was:

- Thomas Garretson, born in 1730, was married on 17 April 1754 to Jane Ferris. In the 1764 Holy Trinity Church census he was listed as a Swedish farmer married to an English wife. By 1765 they had moved to Duplin County, North Carolina, in the Cape Fear area, where their surname became Garrison. The 1783 tax list for Duplin County lists Jane Garrison, his widow, with property valued at £10. Thomas and Jane Garrison had at least five children.



# THE SWEDISH COLONIAL SOCIETY

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## Captain Sven Skute

by **Dr. Peter Stebbins Craig**  
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Sven Svensson Skute, a veteran of the Thirty Years War (1618-1648), was the highest-ranking official to remain in New Sweden after its surrender to the Dutch in 1655.

Prior to his coming to New Sweden with Governor Printz in 1643, Sven Skute had served as a lieutenant with the Åbo and Björneborg County cavalry. Of Swedish parentage, he came from Kronoby in Finland and was married to Anna Johansdotter in Sweden.

On his first trip to New Sweden, Skute left his bride behind. She took residence at Näsby in Dingtuna parish, Västmanland, and, with his brother Jacob Svensson, is reported to have collected money from his wages while he was in America.

Lt. Sven Skute's salary was substantial by contemporary standards. He earned 40 guilders per month, four times the wage of common soldiers and company workers.

After arriving in New Sweden, Lt. Sven Skute was assigned the task of supervising construction of Fort Elfsborg in present Salem County, NJ. He was still there in 1644 when he fired on, and boarded, Governor Winthrop's ship from New England. In 1648, his name was prominent in leading the Swedish soldiers who barred Dutch settlement near Fort Beversreede on the Schuylkill River. In the summer of 1650, Governor Printz ordered Sven Skute to return to Sweden with letters to plea for more assistance for the colony. He arrived in Stockholm in early November 1650. In March 1651 he secured an audience with Queen Christina and reported that there were only 70 men remaining in New Sweden and that more settlers and supplies were desperately needed.

Queen Christina was slow in responding to this plea. Finally, in August 1653, instructions were issued to Sven Skute to find 250 new settlers for the colony. Skute was also well rewarded for his past services. She promoted him to be a captain and on 20 August 1653, she issued him a patent for extensive lands in present South and West Philadelphia.

Skute immediately left on an extensive recruiting trip through Västeraås, Värmland and Dalsland and recruited more settlers than the next ship, the *Eagle*, could carry. The ship, under the command of the new Governor, Johan Rising, left Gothenberg 2 Feb. 1654 and arrived at St. Christopher in the West Indies on 16 April 1654 when Skute went ashore to obtain fresh fruit and water. On 20

May 1654 the ship reached Fort Elfsborg, which was found ruined and deserted. On the next day, the ship reached Fort Casimir (present New Castle). Skute led three squads of musketeers ashore and they easily captured the fort, without resistance from the Dutch who were out of gunpowder.

In June 1654 Skute presented Queen Christina's land patent to Governor Rising for confirmation. Rising, however, was unwilling to allow Skute to occupy land which had been previously settled and developed by freemen for the previous decade and ultimately ruled that it was dependent on his confirmation, which he never gave.

**Many historians, beginning with John F. Watson, have erroneously assumed that the patent issued by William Penn to the three Swanson brothers at Wicaco was a confirmation of land owned by their father, Sven Skute, under Queen Christina's 1653 patent. These Swanson brothers were the sons of Sven Gunnarsson, not Sven Skute.**

Sven Skute and his wife, Anna Johansdotter, made their home at the former Dutch Fort Casimir which had been renamed Fort Trinity after its capture. Here Skute assumed the difficult task of rebuilding the fort. He also served on Governor Rising's Council which governed the colony and heard court cases.

On 30 August 1655, Governor Peter Stuyvesant of New Netherland appeared in the Delaware with seven armed ships and 317 soldiers. The outnumbered Swedish forces recognized that fighting was useless. Their 50 soldiers were divided between two forts. Captain Sven Skute surrendered Fort Trinity on 1 Sept. 1655 and Governor Rising surrendered Fort Christina two weeks later.

After the surrender of New Sweden, Governor Stuyvesant agreed to allow the Swedes to retain their lands north of the Christina River and to establish their own government. This new "Swedish Nation," later known as the Upland Court, was established in 1656.

Remaining at Fort Casimir (New Castle) under Dutch rule became intolerable for the Skute family. They sold their lots and grain in the spring of 1656 and moved to the west bank of the Schuylkill River, on the northeast side of Kvarn Kill (Mill Creek), adjacent to Hans Månsson's Aronameck plantation, in the vicinity of present Woodlands Cemetery. There is a 1658 Dutch reference to "Sven the miller," which is probably a reference to Sven Skute's occupation in his forced retirement. He also, however, was captain of the militia for the new "Swedish nation."

Captain Sven Skute died at his Schuylkill plantation c. 1665. He was survived by four known children:

1. **Johan Skute**, born 4 Sept. 1654 at Fort Trinity (New Castle), moved further up the Schuylkill to lands bought from the Indians by William Warner, Sr., at Nitapkung (present Fairmount Park). He married Armegot, daughter of Mårten Garretson and Christina Lom. A warden and trustee of Gloria Dei, he died in 1722, and had three known children, Christina, Sven and Jacob. The surname continued with Jacob under the name of Schooten.
2. **Christina** married William Warner, Jr., who moved to Woodbury Creek, Gloucester County, NJ, by 1681. He died there in 1714, survived by his wife and five children, William, Sven, Isaac, Hannah and Jacob.
3. **Magdalena**, born 25 March 1660, married Peter Rambo, Jr., 12 Nov. 1676. They made their home on Pennypack Creek in Lower Dublin Township, where her husband died in 1729. They had 7 children: Swan, Brigitta, Peter, Andrew, Elias, Jacob and John.
4. **Gertrude**, born c. 1664, was married in 1683 to John Stille (1646-1722), youngest son of Olof Stille. They lived at Moyamensing (south Philadelphia) and had 12 children: Christina, Anna, William, Sarah, John, Brigitta, Barbara, Peter, Gertrude, Morton, Helene and

Allemky.  
[See Correction below]

**NOTE:** The original grant is in the Royal Archives at Stockholm, according to The Swedish Colonial Society's *History, Charter, By-Laws, Officers, Members, Publications, Etc*, (Philadelphia, 1954). However, an original deed has been found in the Archives of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania as well.

#### **Correction: Skute & Stille families**

The Forefathers article on Captain Sven Skute in the Fall 1993 issue of the *Swedish Colonial News* [See above] was in error in listing, as his daughter, Gertrude (born 1664), who married John Stille. The will of John Stille named Sven Skute's son Johan Skute his "brother-in-law," suggesting that Stille had married Johan Skute's sister. However the names given to John Stille's children prove that his wife Gertrude was the daughter of Mårten Gertsson and Christina Lom and sister of Johan Skute's wife Armegot. John and Gertrude Stille named their eldest daughter Christina and named a son Morton. They did not name any son Sven.

[From *Swedish Colonial News*, Volume 1, Number 12 (Fall, 1995)]



# THE SWEDISH COLONIAL SOCIETY

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## Charles Springer and his Family

by **Dr. Peter Stebbins Craig**  
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originally published in *Swedish Colonial News*,  
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The dedication of Holy Trinity (Old Swedes) Church in 1699 was a milestone in the remarkable success story for one of its members, Charles Christophersson Springer, who came from Sweden some 22 years after the Dutch seizure of New Sweden. It was he who wrote the 1693 letter asking for new Swedish ministers on the Delaware. It was he who lent his tireless assistance to pastor Eric Björk in the negotiations necessary to accomplish their goal of constructing the new church. And it was he who Björk singled out as the most important reason for the success of this venture.

Unlike his countrymen in America, Charles Springer came from an upper class household. His father was Christopher Springer, who died in Stockholm in 1669 after 40 years of government service. His mother was Beata Salina, Christopher Springer's third wife, who survived her husband for almost 25 years, serving as royal housekeeper for the dowager queen Hedwig Eleonora, widow of King Charles X.

Charles Springer was born in Stockholm in 1658 and seemed destined to follow in his parent's footsteps as a leader in Swedish society. He was sent as a young man to study in Riga, Latvia (then a province of Sweden). Following this he was sent to London to study English and mathematics. About to return home, Charles Springer, then 21, was kidnapped and carried aboard an English vessel bound for Virginia, where in his own words, "I was sold like a farm animal" and held in "very slavery" for five years. Upon his release as a supposed "indentured servant," he walked 400 miles to the Delaware, where he had heard other Swedes lived.

His initial residence, from 1684 to 1690, was in an area known as "New Stockholm," located on the north side of Raccoon Creek in Gloucester County. On 27 December 1685 he married Maria Hendricksdotter, daughter of Hendrick Jacobsson and his wife Gertrude. Around 1690, Charles Springer and his family moved to Oak Hill, located on the east side of Red Clay Creek in New Castle County. This was his home until his death in 1738.

As one of the few Swedes able to read and write the English language, Charles Springer was frequently called upon to draft wills, deeds and other legal documents for his Swedish compatriots. (The courts wouldn't accept such documents in a foreign language.) His reputation was such that he served as a justice on the New Castle court for 35 years (1703-1738) in addition to his manifold duties for Holy Trinity Church as warden, vestryman and trustee. Earlier, prior to the arrival of Björk in 1697, Springer also had served as reader at the Swedes' church at Crane Hook.

Charles Springer's last official act was to travel to Gloucester County to prove in court on 24 May 1738 a deed he had witnessed on 9 May 1685, conveying land in "New Stockholm" to Mårten Mårtensson, Sr., and John Archer, two Swedes of Ammansland in Ridley Township. While crossing the Delaware on his return trip, 26 May 1738, Charles Springer died of a stroke. He was then eighty years old. He was buried in the church that he loved.

Maria Hendricksdotter, the first wife of Charles Springer, had been buried at Holy Trinity Church on 15 March 1727. Three months later Springer married Annika, daughter of Johan and Brita Gustafsson and widow of both Matthias MArtensson and Jonas Walraven.

Charles Springer had eleven known children, all born by his first wife, Maria Hendricksdotter:

1. **Anna Elisabeth Springer**, born c. 1687, married c. 1706 Samuel Hall, an Englishman who died as a weaver in Kennet, Chester County in 1738. His will named his wife Elisabeth, eight daughters (Mary, Sarah, Phoebe, Elisabeth, Hannah, Dinah, Susanna and Margaret) and four sons (George, Samuel, James and Charles).
2. **Rebecca Springer**, born c. 1689, married c. 1708 Jacob Stilley, Swedish, son of Anders Stille. She died in Christiana Hundred after 1764, and had ten children (Jonathan, Andrew, Maria, Peter, Susanna, Elisabeth, Margareta, Rebecca, John and Lydia).
3. **Maria Springer**, born c. 1691, married on 31 July 1716 William Cleneay, probably of French origins. She died in Christiana Hundred by 1736 after having nine children (Rebecca, William, Charles, Jane, Maria, Hannah, Jane, Samuel and Sarah).
4. **Charles Springer, Jr.**, born in 1693, married in 1722 Margareta Robinson, daughter of Edward Robinson and Anna Walraven. He died in Christiana Hundred and was buried 26 Aug. 1759. They had twelve children (Maria, John, Anna, Charles, Catharina, Edward, Jacob, Gabriel, Margareta, Rachel, Rebecca and Elisabeth).
5. **Christopher Springer**, born 12 May 1696, married in 1722 his first cousin Catherine Hendrickson, daughter of John Hendricksson and Brita Mattson. Christopher died in Christiana Hundred and was buried 31 July 1755. They had nine children (Charles, John, Brita, Peter, Susannah, Solomon, Abraham, Joseph and Catharina).
6. **John Springer**, born blind c. 1698, married [1] his first cousin Maria Hendrickson, daughter of John Hendricksson, in 1727, [2] Mary Dempsey, English, 31 August 1736. He died in Christiana Hundred in June 1772. By his first wife, he had four children (Charles, William, Mary and Joseph). By his second wife, six more (Elisabeth, Rebecca, Israel, John, Margaret and Andrew).
7. **Anders Springer**, born c. 1700, died unmarried in January 1731.
8. **Jacob Springer**, born in 1703, married c. 1732 Mary Bishop, English, daughter of Nicholas and Dorcas Bishop. He died in Christiana Hundred and was buried 18 December 1763. They had eleven children (Dorcas, Charles, Susanna, Maria, Rebecca, Nicholas, Anna, Elisabeth, Jacob, John and Thomas).
9. **Israel Springer**, born c. 1705, died unmarried in January 1731.
10. **Magdalena Springer**, born c. 1707, married [1] Jesper Robinson, 11 November 1725; [2] Paul Paulson 19 November 1728; [3] Morton Justis, 5 December 1747. All three were Swedish. She had ten children (Jesper Robinson, Dorothea, Maria, Rebecca, Paul, Charles, Peter, John and Anna Paulson and Helena Justis).
11. **Joseph Springer**, born in 1709, married in 1731 Annika Justis, Swedish, daughter of Måns Justis and Catharina Walraven. He died in Christiana Hundred in 1799. They had twelve children (Charles, Anders, Beata, Maria, Joseph, Catharina, Sarah, Rebecca, Anna, Rachel, Eleanor and Hannah).



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## Johan Andersson Stålcop

by Larry S. Stallcup  
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originally published in *Swedish Colonial News*,  
Volume 1, Number 4 (Fall 1991)

Johan Andersson of Strängnäs, Södermanland, Sweden, was just a young boy of perhaps 13 or 14 when he was hired by Måns Kling to go to New Sweden as a farm hand. He sailed May 3, 1641, from Stockholm aboard the *Charitas* for Gothenburg, where his ship joined company with the *Kalmar Nyckel*. The two ships departed for the Colony in July and arrived at Fort Christina November 7, 1641. Johan Andersson was soon at work and, with the arrival of Governor Printz in 1643, he became one of the first tobacco planters at Upland (now Chester).

At about the age of 19, Johan Andersson was hired by Governor Printz to be a soldier. With the arrival of Governor Rising in 1654, he was promoted to the position of gunner, an occupation which may have led to his wearing a piece of armor called a breastplate, which probably explains the nickname of "*Stålkofta*" (steel coat in Swedish) by which he was usually called in Swedish records. During the Dutch invasion in 1655, Johan Stålkofta was the gunner at Fort Trefaldighet (Trinity) at present New Castle. His nickname soon appeared phonetically in Dutch records as "Staelcop" and later passed into English records as "Stalcop." This last version became the basis for the surnames adopted by all of his descendants (Stallcop, Stallcup, Staulcup, Stalcup).

Under Dutch rule Johan Andersson Stålcop began acquiring land and eventually owned the greater part of the land now occupied by the City of Wilmington. He married Christina Carlsdotter, the daughter of Carl Jönsson. Carl Jönsson and his family, from Letstigen in southeastern Värmland, Sweden, arrived on the *Mercurius*, the last expedition to the colony, which reached the Delaware River in 1656 after New Sweden had fallen to the Dutch.

Johan Andersson and Christina Carlsdotter established their home only about 400 paces (approximately one-quarter mile) west from Fort Christina. Their seven known children and their approximate year of birth were:

1. **Anders** (Andrew), born 1656, who married Catharine (parents unknown) and had five children before his death c. 1692.
2. **Charles**, born 1658 and died, unmarried, in 1692.
3. **Daughter** (name unknown), born 1660, who was the first wife of Lulof Stedham, and had three children before her death c. 1691. After her death, Lulof Stedham married Catharine, the widow of Andrew Stalcop.
4. **John**, born 1662, married Annika (daughter of Johan Ericksson). John Stalcop played a large



role in the building of Holy Trinity (Old Swedes') Church by providing some of the land (inherited from his father) where the church is built. Later he sold some 250 acres of land to the church for a glebe. John died unexpectedly 1700. He and Annika had four children.

5. **Peter**, born 1664, married Catharine (daughter of Samuel Petersson). Peter operated a large plantation on Red Clay Creek. He died in 1710, survived by six children.
6. **Mary**, born 1666, married John Hance Steelman. They had at least four children.
7. **Jonas**, born 1669, was unmarried and apparently died about 1690.

Johan Andersson Stålcop died in 1685 and Christina Carlsdotter died about a decade later. They probably were buried in the Old Swedish Burying Ground near old Fort Christina which later became part of the graveyard of Holy Trinity (Old Swedes') Church. Today their descendants comprise one of the largest single family units in America.

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## Hans Månsson and his Steelman Family

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originally published in *Swedish Colonial News*,  
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Hans Månsson chose to go to New Sweden with alacrity. His alternative was death by hanging.

In the autumn of 1640, a young trooper called Hans Månsson from Hanaskede, Skaraborg län, Sweden, entered the Crown's garden at the monastery in Varnhem "and there ruined six of the best apple trees and two of the best cherry trees in order to obtain material for some mane combs." At his sentencing on 31 May 1641 he was given the choice of being sent to New Sweden with his wife and children or of going to the gallows.

Born about 1612, Hans Månsson was not yet 30 years old when he departed from Göteborg on either the *Kalmar Nyckel* or the *Charitas* in July 1641. It is probable that his wife and children accompanied him, although no later reference to them has been found. Arriving in New Sweden in November, Hans served for at least five years as a convict laborer before gaining his freedom. He then settled on a tract of land on the west side of the Delaware known as Aronameck with Peter Jochimsson, a former Swedish soldier who married Ella Stille, daughter of Olof Stille.

In 1653 Hans Månsson joined Peter Jochimsson and 20 other freemen in signing a petition to Governor Printz raising objections to the harshness of his rule. Printz labeled the petition a "mutiny" and then abruptly returned to Sweden. When Governor Rising arrived in 1654 to assume command, both Hans and Peter joined other freemen in pledging their allegiance. Peter Jochimsson then agreed to go to New Amsterdam to deliver a letter of friendship from Rising to Governor Stuyvesant and to bring back the Dutch governor's reply. However, Peter became ill in Manhattan and died there in the summer of 1654, leaving the young widow Ella and their two infant children, Peter and Elizabeth. Hans Månsson, then 42, married Ella Stille, then 20, and started his second family.

Hans Månsson became a respected leader of the up-river Swedes living within the jurisdiction of the "Swedish Nation," later known as the Upland Court. He succeeded Sven Skute as captain of the militia and served as spokesman for settlers in his area who in 1660 successfully opposed Stuyvesant's plan for them to move to a single, fortified village. His 1100-acre plantation fronted on the Schuylkill between present Woodlands Cemetery and about 60th Street and extended westward as far as Cobb's Creek.

In the mid-1670s, Hans Månsson also became the first white settler on Pennsauken Creek in

present Burlington County. He moved permanently to this site by 1681 when he sold his Aronameck plantation to his stepson, Peter Petersson Yocum. Hans returned to Pennsylvania on occasion. On 25 June 1684, at the request of William Penn, Hans Månsson, aged "72 years or thereabouts," joined Peter Cock, 74, and Peter Rambo, 72, in signing an affidavit relating facts designed to show that Lord Baltimore recognized the right of New Sweden to occupy lands on the Delaware.

Hans Månsson died at Senamensing, Burlington County, about 1691. In the following year his property was taxed to "Widow Hance."

By 1693 Hans Månsson's widow and his six sons (known as Hansson, or son of Hans) adopted the surname of Steelman, undoubtedly derived from her maiden name of Stille. Old Ella Steelman, born in Sweden, was buried in Gloucester County, NJ, 22 Jan. 1718, at the age of 83.

Ella's known children, all but the first two born to Hans Månsson, were:

1. **Peter Petersson Yocum**, born 1652, who married Judith Jonasdotter, daughter of Jonas Nilsson of Kingsessing, in 1676 and had ten children, seven of them sons, before his death at Aronameck in 1702.
2. **Elizabeth Petersdotter**, born 1654, who married John Ogle, an English soldier. They resided on White Clay Creek in New Castle County and had two sons before Ogle's death in 1684. She died in the early 1690s.
3. **John Hansson Steelman**, born 1655, moved to New Castle County by 1687 and married Maria, daughter of John Andersson Stalco. Moving to Cecil County, MD, by 1693 he became an Indian trader and died in present Adams County, PA, in 1749. He had at least two sons, possibly more.
4. **Christiern Hansson Steelman** followed his brother John to New Castle County. By 1708 he was the second husband of Mary Cann, a Quaker, widow of James Claypoole, Jr. Thereafter, until at least 1737, Christiern was an active communicant at Holy Trinity Church. Children, if any, are unknown.
5. **James Hansson Steelman** married Susannah Toy by 1690. In 1695 he acquired lands at Great Egg Harbor in the area of present Atlantic City. He died in 1734, survived by six sons and two daughters.
6. **Peter Hansson Steelman**, born c. 1674, married Gertrude Keen, daughter of Hans Keen, c. 1695. He, too, acquired lands in the Atlantic City area, where he died after 1737, survived by five sons and two known daughters.
7. **Charles Hansson Steelman**, born 1679, married Anna, daughter of Anthony Nilsson, c. 1702. He died six years later at Senamensing in Burlington County, NJ, survived by one son and two daughters, all of whom moved to New Castle County.
8. **Eric Hansson Steelman**, born 1681, married Brigitta [parents not identified] and acquired land in Gloucester County, NJ, from Gustaf Lock in 1715. He died of smallpox in 1731, survived by two sons and four daughters.

It is not unlikely that Ella Stille, who was bearing children for almost 30 years (1652-1681) had additional daughters who have not been identified.



# THE SWEDISH COLONIAL SOCIETY

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### Timen Stiddem [and his Stidham/Stedham Family]

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Timen Stiddem of Gothenburg, a barber-surgeon for New Sweden, apparently crossed the ocean seven times before he finally settled in America. Based on a 1651 letter that he wrote to Oxenstierna, he was one of two barber-surgeons on the *Kalmar Nyckel* on its first voyage in 1637-38. He remained with the ship and, after its second voyage to the new world, Timen became the resident barber-surgeon from 1640 to 1644. Returning to Sweden, Stiddem married and departed again for New Sweden on the *Kattan* in 1649 with his wife and two small children. A third child was born at sea.

Unfortunately, the *Kattan* ran aground at Puerto Rico and Timen's wife and three children perished as prisoners of the Spanish. Timen Stiddem miraculously escaped and made his way back to Sweden by 1651. Marrying again, he sailed for a fourth time to New Sweden with Governor Rising in 1654. This time he stayed.

Initially Timen Stiddem settled at Fort Trinity (New Castle), but after the surrender of New Sweden to the Dutch in 1655, he moved to Christina (Wilmington) where he led an active life until his death in 1686. Being the only Swedish doctor in America, he periodically had to travel by canoe as far as Upland (Chester) to serve his patients.

In his will, Timen Stiddem wrote that he had been born in "Hammell" which may be a reference to Hammel in Denmark. Timen's father, Lulof Stiddem, formerly of Copenhagen, became a prominent burgher in Gothenburg and was buried there at the Kristina Kyrka, 3 July 1639.

Timen Stiddem's second wife (name unknown) died before 1679 when he married Christina Ollesdotter, the widow of Walraven Jansen DeVos. Timen was survived by nine children, all born by his second marriage. His male descendants eventually adopted "Stidham" as the preferred spelling of the family surname. The nine surviving children, in the order of their birth, were:

1. **Lulof**, born c. 1654, who married twice, first to the eldest daughter of Johan Andersson Stalcop. He died in 1704, survived by six children.
2. **Lucas**, born c. 1656, who married twice. The name of his first wife, mother of all his eight surviving children, is unknown. Lucas died in 1726.

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3. **Erasmus** (also called Asmund), born c. 1658, who married Margaret, the daughter of Samuel Petersson. He died in 1712, survived by seven children.
4. **Adam**, born c. 1660, who married Catharina (parents unknown) and had six children before his death in 1695.
5. **Benedict**, born c. 1662, who married Anna, daughter of Olle Olleson Thorsson, and had five children before his death in 1699.
6. **Ingeborg**, born c. 1664, who married Peter Jaquet, son of the former Dutch governor, Jean Paul Jaquet, by 1686. She died before 1713 and was survived by six known children.
7. **Elisabeth**, born c. 1666, who apparently never married.
8. **Maria**, born c. 1668, who married Mårten Knutsson, son of Knut Mårtensson from Vasa, Finland, and had at least three sons before she died at Marcus Hook after 1732.
9. **Magdalena**, born c. 1671, who married Petef Andersson, son of Anders Jöransson and died after 1721, probably at Red Lyon Creek; number of children unknown.

**For more information, visit The Timen Stiddem Society web site:**



**The Timen Stiddem Society**

The Timen Stiddem descendants family association.

<http://homepages.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~tstiddem/index.htm>



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### Olof Persson Stille and his Family

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Olof Stille was born on the island of SoIö in Roslagen, northeast of Stockholm, the son of Per Stille, a relatively prosperous supervisor of the Penningby estate in Länna parish. By 1627 Per Stille had retired and was granted land by the owners of Penningby on a nearby island called Humblö. Here Olof Stille married and began his family. Although Olof Stille was on good terms with Erik Bielke, who inherited Penningby in 1629, he did not think well of Bielke's wife, Catarina Fleming.

At the Norrtälje fair in 1636, Olof Stille indiscreetly voiced his opinion of Lady Catarina Fleming, who retaliated by prosecuting Olof for defamation and took his property at Humblö. When Olof refused to leave the island, he was imprisoned. After securing his freedom, Olof and his family resettled in Matsunda, where he was joined by one of his former servants named Anders. Lady Fleming, now a widow, had Anders seized on 18 March 1638 and imprisoned at Penningby under the claim that Anders had broken a verbal agreement with the late Lord Bielke to be their servant.

Olof Stille heard the news the next day, entered Penningby Castle by a secret door, broke the lock to the dungeon with his axe and then fled, with Anders carrying the axe and Olof his own rapier. On complaint from Lady Fleming, the Governor issued an order for Olof Stille's arrest on 28 March 1638 - the same day that the first expedition to New Sweden was landing at the Rocks. At the trial on 13 April 1638 Olof Stille was convicted of burglary and sentenced to death by the sword. The appellate court, however, modified the sentence to a fine of 100 daler silver money, the equivalent of 17 months pay for a New Sweden soldier.

Three years later, in May 1641, when the *Charitas* departed for New Sweden, the passenger list included Olof Stille, a mill-maker, his wife, a daughter aged 7 and a son aged 11/2. Also on board were Olof's younger brother Axel Stille, and the family of Måns Svensson Lom, whose wife appears to have been Olof's younger sister. His older brother, Johan Stille, later pastor at Fundbo, 1644-1672, and his sister Kerstin remained in Sweden.

In New Sweden, Olof Stille settled as a freeman at a place called Techoherassi by the Indians, located between present Crum Creek and Ridley Creek (called Olof Stille's Creek). Joining him at this location were his brother Axel Stille and the Lom family. The Indians were frequent visitors to Techoherassi and liked Olof Stille very much, but they considered his heavy, black beard a monstrosity and conferred a strange name on him because of it.

As the only known mill-maker in the colony, Olof Stille probably was in charge of building the first Swedish gristmill on Mill (now Cobbs) Creek. He also became a leader among the freemen and played a key role in promoting the July 1653 list of grievances, signed by Olof Stille and 21 other freemen, which was submitted to Governor Johan Printz, protesting his dictatorial rule. Printz labeled this action mutiny and promptly left for Sweden. To Olof Stille, however, it was simply exercising the right of free speech. When Governor Rising arrived, Olof asked for a prompt trial. Rising, who took a more kindly view toward the freeman, let the matter drop.

After the surrender of New Sweden, the Dutch governor, Petrus Stuyvesant, agreed to allow the Swedes and Finns living north of the Christina River to govern themselves. The first Swedish court, organized in 1656, had Olof Stille as its chief justice and also included Peter Larsson Cock, Peter Gunnarsson Rambo and Matts Hansson from Borgå, Finland.

During his eight years as chief justice of the Swedes' court, there were frequent policy clashes between the Swedes and the Dutch. Olof Stille proved himself to be an able defender of the Swedes' position and usually prevailed.

Retiring as chief justice in 1664, Olof Stille moved to Moyamensing (later south Philadelphia) with Lars Andersson Collinus (who had married Måns Lom's widow) and his son-in-law Marten Roosemond. Even in retirement, he was called upon to arbitrate disputes among the settlers. He died about 1684. He was survived by his brother Axel Stille, who had no children, and four children who have been identified:

1. **Ella Stille**, born in 1634 in Roslagen, married twice. By her first husband, Peter Jochimsson, she had two children, Peter Petersson Yocum, born 1652, and Elisabeth Petersdotter, born 1654, who married John Ogle, an English soldier. By her second marriage to Hans Månsson, she had six more sons, originally known by the patronymic Hansson but later adopting the surname of Steelman. They were John, Jöns (James), Christiern, Peter, Charles and Eric. Ella died in 1718 in Gloucester County NJ.
2. **Anders Stille**, born in 1640 in Roslagen, moved to New Castle about 1658 and married there, by 1671, Annetje Pieters, daughter of the Dutch brewer, Pieter Wolfertsen van Couwenhoven. Soon after his marriage, he moved to Christina Creek, taking up residence next to his niece, Elisabeth Petersdotter Ogle. Later, they moved to White Clay Creek in New Castle County, where he died between 1688 and 1692, survived by two sons, John and Jacob, and one daughter thus far identified, Elisabeth, who married Charles Hedges.
3. **Christina Stille**, born in America c. 1643, became the second wife of Marten Roosemond, a Dutch "cleinsmit" (toolmaker), who moved from New Castle to Moyamensing after his marriage. Two landmarks on that property were named Roosemond Creek and Hollanders Creek. Roosemond returned to New Castle before 1671 and served as judge on the New Castle court and deacon of the Dutch church there until his death in 1677. It is unknown whether Christina had any children.
4. **Johan Stille**, born in America in 1646, married about 1683 Gertrude, daughter of Mårten Gerritsen and Christina Lom of New Castle County. They had twelve children: Christina (born 1684), Anna (1685), Olof [William] (1687), Sarah (1690), John (1692), Brigitta (1693), Barbara (1697), Peter (1699), Gertrude (1701), Morton (1704), Helena (1705) and Allemisha (1709). Johan Stille inherited the Moyamensing plantation, where he died in 1722. His widow died in 1744.





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## Sven Gunnarsson and his Swanson Family

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originally published in *Swedish Colonial News*,  
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In August 1639, the Swedish government, needing settlers for its New Sweden colony, sent word to the governors of Elfsborg, Dalsland and Värmland to capture deserted soldiers and others who had committed some slight misdemeanor and to send them to America.

Among the "convicts" rounded up in this effort was Sven Gunnarsson. When the *Kalmar Nyckel* left Göteborg in September 1639, he was aboard with his pregnant wife and two small children.

Initially, in New Sweden, Sven was stationed at the Fort Christina plantation, where he was found in 1644 working on the New Sweden tobacco farm. In October 1645 he was finally granted freedom from his servitude and joined other freemen residing at Kingessing (now West Philadelphia). Here he was known as Sven the Miller, as he operated the first gristmill built in New Sweden on present Cobbs Creek.

Being a freeman in New Sweden was like being a peasant under the tyrannical rule of Governor Johan Printz. Like other freemen, Sven was required to work without pay at Printz's Printzhof plantation whenever the Governor demanded, was prohibited from trading with the Indians and forced to buy all necessities at the company store. Like other freemen, he fell heavily into debt. Another such freeman, Lasse Svensson the Finn and his wife Carin had their plantation seized by Printz (who renamed it Printztorp). Both Lasse the Finn and his wife were forced to live without shelter in the woods. Both perished, leaving several impoverished children.

It was not surprising, therefore, that Sven Gunnarsson was one of the 22 freemen signing a petition of grievances which they submitted to Governor Printz in the summer of 1653. Printz called it a "mutiny" and returned to Sweden.

Sven the Miller fared better under Governor Rising, 1654-1655. He even volunteered to help defend Fort Christina against the Dutch invasion. A pitched battle was averted when Rising decided to surrender the colony.

Conditions proved to be even better under Dutch rule. Stuyvesant allowed the Swedes living north of the Christina River to organize their own government. That government, known as the Upland Court, treated Sven Gunnarsson well.

In 1664, Sven Gunnarsson moved with his family across the Schuylkill to Wicaco, a former Indian settlement, where Sven's 1125-acre plantation embraced what would become the future City of

Philadelphia. Here, on his land, the first log church at Wicaco (now Gloria Dei Church) was built by 1677. Sven Gunnarsson died about 1678 and probably was one of the first to be buried at the Wicaco church.

In the spring of 1683, Sven's three sons agreed to provide the northern part of Wicaco for William Penn's planned new city, to be called Philadelphia. They were left with 230 acres apiece. Records prove that Sven also had two daughters. His family, in the order of their birth, included:

**1. Sven Svensson** (Swan Swanson), born in Sweden by 1636, married about 1658 Catharina (Carin) Larsdotter, the daughter of Lasse Svensson the Finn. Sven was a justice on the Upland Court, 1681-1682 and served in the Pennsylvania Assembly in 1683. He died at Wicaco in 1696. His widow, born near Stockholm in 1638, was buried at Gloria Dei on 19 August 1720. Their known children:

- Lasse Swanson, born about 1660, died unmarried between 1687 and 1692.
- Brigitta Swanson, born c. 1669, died at Boon's Island, Kingsessing, after 1753. Married Swan Boon c. 1688; 4 children.
- Margaret Swanson, born c. 1671, died 1699 at Passyunk. Married John Larsson Cock in 1694; 2 children.
- Barbara Swanson, born 1674, died at Calcon Hook, Lower Darby, after 1743. Married Hans Boon 1699; 5 children.
- Catharina Swanson, born 1682, died at Wicaco 1711. Married Peter Bankson 1698; 2 children.

**2. Gertrude Svensdotter**, born c. 1638 in Sweden, married the New Sweden soldier Jonas Nilsson in 1654 and died in Kingsessing c. 1695, survived by eleven children:

- Nils Jonasson, born in 1655, died at Aronameck in 1735. Married Christina Gästenberg c. 1683; 8 children.
- Judith Jonasdatter, born c. 1658, died at Manatawny, Berks County in 1727. Married Peter Petersson Yocum by 1676; 10 children.
- Gunilla Jonasdatter, born c. 1661, died in Gloucester County NJ. Married Måns Petersson Cock in 1680; 7 children.
- Måns Jonasson, born 1663, died at Manatawny 1727. Married Ingeborg Lycon c. 1690; 6 children.
- Anders Jonasson, born c. 1666, died at Aronameck 1728. Married Catharina Boon by 1691; 9 children.
- Christina Jonasdatter, born c. 1668, married (1) Frederick King 1686; (2) Nicklas Lindemeyer 1700; 7 children.
- John Jonasson, born c. 1670, died after 1738. Married Catharina Lock 1693; 5 daughters.
- Peter Jonasson, born c. 1673, died after 1697; no known issue.
- Jonas Jonasson, born c. 1675, died at Kingsessing 1738. Married Anne Amesby 1702; 7 children.
- Brigitta Jonasdatter, born 1678, died in Blockley Township 1753. Married Mårten Garrett 1703; 5 children.
- Jonathan Jonasson, born c. 1681, died at Kingsessing 1748. Married Mary; 2 children.

**3. Olle Svensson**, born at sea on the *Kalmar Nyckel* in 1640, married an English woman Lydia Ashman. He served as a justice on the Upland Court, 1673-1680 and died at Wicaco in 1692. His widow Lydia died in New Jersey in 1730. Their eight children:

- John Swanson, born 1667, never married and died in 1736 in Gloucester County NJ.
- Peter Swanson, born 1668, died in 1737. Married Anna Stille; 1 child.
- Maria Swanson, born c. 1676, died at Wicaco in her youth.

- Brigitta Swanson, born 1678, died after 1747 in Gloucester County. Married (1) Peter Gustafsson c. 1696; (2) Jacob Van Culen 1700; 5 children.
- Lydia Swanson, born c. 1680, married Josiah Harper.
- Swan Swanson, born c. 1682, died at Wicaco 1712. Married Maria, but no issue.
- Catharina Swanson, born c. 1686, died in Burlington County NJ. Married James Lacony by 1712.
- Judith Swanson, born 1688, died after 1754 in Gloucester County. Married Matthias Mattson 1712; 6 children.

**4. Anders Svensson**, born in New Sweden c. 1642, died at Wicaco in 1688. He married Anna (parents unknown), who died in 1709. Seven children:

- Gunnar Swanson, born 1667, died 1702, leaving 1/3 of his 50 acres to Gloria Dei Church. Never married.
- Catharine Swanson, born c. 1669, died c. 1700. Married Andrew Wheeler c. 1689; 4 children.
- Elisabeth Swanson, born c. 1671, died after 1732. Married Peter Larsson Cock c. 1691; 4 children.
- Christina Swanson, born c. 1673, died in Philadelphia's Northern Liberties 1750. Married Måns Gustafsson c. 1693; 8 children.
- Margaret Swanson, born c. 1676, died at Boon's Island by 1719. Married Valentine Cock c. 1696; 4 sons.
- Christopher Swanson, born 1678, died at Wicaco 1735. Married Christina Keen c. 1712; 5 children.
- Andrew Swanson, born 1686, died at Calcon Hook, Lower Darby Township, c. 1735. Married Brigitta Boon c. 1724; 3 children.

**5. A daughter** (name unknown), born in New Sweden after 1644, died in Cecil County MD by 1676. Married Peter Månsson Lom; 1 son.

### Swanson Family Myths

**Myth 1: Sven Skute was the father of the three Swanson brothers of Wicaco.**

Relying on the self-styled historian, Betty Cosans-Zebooker, the recent book *The Buried Past; An Archaeological History of Philadelphia* (1992), pages 33 and 222, states that the three Swanson brothers were sons of Sven Skute, whose 1653 patent from Queen Christina embraced their land at Wicaco.

**Facts:** Sven Skute's 1653 patent did not include Wicaco; it was also nullified by Governor Rising in 1654 because it embraced lands west of the Schuylkill which had long been settled by others. Sven Skute had one son, Johan Skute, who lived on the west side of the Schuylkill. Patents for Wicaco, issued by the Dutch and English, confirm that Sven Gunnarsson was the father of the Swanson brothers. Peter Kalm confirmed the same in his 1748-1750 journal.

**Myth 2: Claude A. Swanson of Virginia, (1862-1939), Secretary of the Navy under FDR, was a descendant of the Swansons of Wicaco.**

This claim was most recently published in Landelius' *Swedish Place-Names in North America* (1985), page 228.

**Facts:** Claude Swanson's earliest identified Swanson ancestor was William Swanson who was living in Virginia in 1750. Although Sven Gunnarsson had many descendants, the surname of Swanson was continued by only one of his

great-grandchildren, Gunnar Swanson, son of Andrew Swanson, Jr. Gunnar's son William Swanson was living in Southwark, Philadelphia County, at the time of the 1790 census.

### **Swanson Descendants**

Sven Gunnarsson had five proven children, 32 grandchildren and over 120 great-grandchildren. Among his many descendants today are:

1. All members of the du Pont family of Delaware, who can trace their lineage back to Christopher Swanson, son of Andrew.
2. Two officers of the Swedish Colonial Society: Deputy Governor Esther Ann McFarland (via Jonas Jonasson) and Historian Peter S. Craig (via Judith Jonasdatter who married Peter Yocum).

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# THE SWEDISH COLONIAL SOCIETY

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*Dr. Peter Stebbins Craig, who resided in Washington, DC was a Fellow of both the American Society of Genealogists and the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania. He was the Historian of the Swedish Colonial Society and a Forefather Member. One of his ancestors was Peter Jochimsson, who arrived on the Fama in 1643 and established the Yocum family in America. He was also descended from Olof Stille, Sven Gunnarsson and Jonas Nilsson.*

*This is the last of the late Peter Craig's forefather articles, drafted a few months before his death Thanksgiving Day 2009 and published in the [Swedish Colonial News](#), Vol. 4 No. 2 (Summer 2010) . For years Dr. Craig puzzled over the origins of the King and Toy families and finally suggested the scenario that follows as being the most likely, based on circumstantial evidence as well as documented fact. Technically, Christina Tay's story remains a mystery, and research continues, primarily in the Dutch records, in the hope of finding proof of her marriages, the births of her children and still unanswered questions.*

*Ellen T. Rye, Chair  
Publications Committee  
Swedish Colonial Society*

## The Toy and King Families of Senamensing, New Jersey

*by Dr. Peter S. Craig*

One of the major mysteries of the 17th century Swedes on the Delaware is the origin of two apparent half-brothers who joined old Hans Månsson to be among the first settlers in present Burlington County, NJ. They lived at Senamensing, NJ—now known as Palmyra and Cinnaminson – across the Delaware opposite Philadelphia, north of Pennsauken Creek.

In February 1674, Hans Månsson, progenitor of the Steelman family, purchased rights for 500 acres from the New Jersey government. Later, Hans Månsson recruited his stepson Peter Petersson Yocum and Frederick King, fellow residents of Aronameck in Kingsessing, PA, as his partners in this endeavor. Yocum sold his interest to Jonas Keen, and acquired the Aronameck plantation from Hans Månsson as the place to raise his family. By June of 1680, with the establishment of Burlington County, Månsson, Keen and King laid claim to 500 acres bordering the Delaware River, north of Pennsauken Creek. In 1689, King divided his portion with Elias Tay, later known as Elias Toy. In 1693, they jointly purchased another 150 acres.

From the court records of Burlington County we learn that the full name of Frederick King was Frederick Fredericksen de Coninck [“the king” in Dutch] and that the full name of Elias Toy was Elias Jansen Tay. In 1750, descendants of the early Swedes informed Per Kalm that the Toy family came from Holland.

Nevertheless, both were active members of the Swedish church. Their names appeared in the 1693 petition for new Swedish ministers. They were active in making gifts to Pastor Andreas Rudman for the construction of Gloria Dei Church and for the payment of his salary.

When visited by Rudman in July 1697, Frederick King said he was born in September 1659 and that he had married Christina, daughter of Jonas Nilsson of Kingsessing, in 1686. Their eldest surviving child was a son

named Elias King, born in September 1690. Next door, Elias Tay reported that he was born in October 1664 and that he had married Gertrude, daughter of Anthony Nilsson of Gloucester County, NJ. Their eldest child was a son named Frederick Tay, born 30 July 1690.

The connecting thread between the King and Toy families was Christina, identified as the mother of Elias Tay and his sister Susannah Tay. If, as the author suggests, she was also the mother of Frederick King, the answer to our mystery emerges.

Frederick Fredericksen de Coninck was clearly the son of Captain Frederick de Coninck, who was captain of the warship *de Waegh* (the scales), which had been dispatched by the burgomeisters of Amsterdam in 1655 to lead an attack on New Sweden.

The pretext for the attack was that Governor Risingh had violated orders from Sweden in capturing the Dutch Fort Casimir in 1654. When the Dutch siege of Fort Casimir began, Frederick de Coninck led a force of 78 soldiers that landed north of the fort with Governor Peter Stuyvesant. Hopelessly outnumbered, the Swedish captain Sven Skute met with Stuyvesant and de Coninck in a clearing north of the fort. At this meeting, de Coninck informed Skute that he had been to Sweden and had been told by King Charles that Risingh had no orders to capture Fort Casimir.

Skute surrendered the fort without a fight on 1 September 1655. The fort was then seized by Captain de Coninck and his Dutch soldiers.

Stuyvesant did not stop there. He ordered the Dutch troops to lay siege to Fort Christina at present Wilmington, DE. Governor Risingh in his diary reported: "On September 3rd, noticing the Dutch presence south of the fort, I sent Lieutenant Sven Höök under a flag of truce to inquire of their intentions. Höök was ushered to the quarters of one of their captains, Frederick de Coninck who sent the lieutenant down to Fort Casimir to Stuyvesant, who imprisoned him as a traitor and threw him into the hold of the ship. They thus treated our envoys contrary to the law, custom and manner of all honorable people."

Subsequently, Governor Risingh also surrendered. Part of the surrender agreement of 25 September 1655 was granting permission to Governor Risingh and the commissary Hendrick von Elswick "to remain in their lodgings at the fort with four or five servants in order to attend to their affairs." Among such servants was Risingh's maidservant named "Kerstin," a variant of the name Christina.

The Dutch did, however, strike a deal with the New Sweden settlers that they could retain sovereignty over the area north of the Christina River, having their own militia, their own religion and their own court, as long as they remained loyal to the Dutch government in New Amsterdam. The Dutch also offered to transport, at no cost, any of the Swedes wishing to return to Sweden.

A member of Captain de Coninck's crew on the *de Waegh* wrote a letter on 31 October 1655 reporting that on the "11th of October Governor Risingh and Commissary Elswick with some Swedes, came on board, whom we carried with us to Manhattan." Among these was probably the governor's maidservant, Kerstin (Christina). It was during this trip, which took ten days, that presumably de Coninck and the maidservant had their courtship.

Tending to confirm the theory that Christina was Risingh's maidservant is her later connection with Hans Månsson. Hans could not have been her father, as her own daughter married Hans's son James Steelman. However, Hans Månsson had close ties with Governor Risingh, who used his services for major visits to Maryland and to Manhattan in 1654 and 1655. On at least four occasions, Risingh mentions meetings with Hans Månsson in his journal. Undoubtedly, Hans became acquainted with the maidservant Christina as a result.

Captain Frederick de Coninck spent the winter of 1655-1656 in Manhattan, where he lived aboard *de Waegh* while preparing a street plan for the city. On orders from Governor Stuyvesant, he also acted to remove the English from Westchester, NY. He came back to Fort Casimir in May 1656 on the return voyage of *de Waegh* to Amsterdam. The ship *de Waegh* made a second round trip to New Netherlands in 1657, but de Coninck was not aboard this voyage.

It is uncertain when Christina returned to former New Sweden with her children. It most likely happened in 1673 when the Dutch briefly retook the Delaware from the English, only to have it returned to English rule by the Treaty of Westminster in 1674. Soon thereafter, in 1677, the name of Frederick "Koning" appeared next to that of Hans Månsson in a petition seeking new land. Frederick was then 18 years old. By that time, Christina and her children were living on Hans Månsson's plantation at Aronameck in Kingsessing, next to the land of Jonas Nilsson.

Christina was soon to marry for a third time. She became the third wife of Marcus Laurensen, a Holsteiner, forefather of the Swedish Huling family. He lived at Putshack, NJ, just south of Pennsauken Creek, where he died on 4 May 1689. Witnesses to his death reported he asked his wife whether she would care for his children. She answered that she would have to check first with her own son, Elias Tay. Marcus said he could not wait for this, so would she agree to have his estate and children managed by three Englishmen. She agreed and subsequently went to live with her daughter Susannah, who moved to Great Egg Harbor, NJ with her husband, Jöns Steelman, second son of Hans Månsson and Ella Stille.

It is likely that Christina, presumed mother of Frederick King and Elias and Susannah Toy, was of Finnish descent. Morton Garrett of the Schuylkill, in the lone dissent from the claim that the Toy family had its roots in Holland, informed Per Kalm in 1750 that the Toy family was Finnish. Garrett had married Brigitta Jonasdotter, a younger sister of Frederick King's wife, in 1703. It is likely that both the majority and Garrett were right, Christina Toy was accepted as a member of the Swedish church. This meant that she had to be Swedish or Finnish, since her husbands were not.

## The Frederick King Family

Frederick Fredericksen de Coninck, alias Frederick King, had the misfortune of dying at the age of only 39. An able carpenter, he had agreed with Pastor Rudman on 30 August 1697 to provide 402 board feet of lumber to increase the seating capacity of the old log church at Wicaco. He had also been appointed constable of Chester Township, Burlington County, on 21 February 1698. However, he drowned in the Delaware River on 24 September 1698 and his body was buried at Wicaco five days later. Elias Tay then completed the contract for lumber for the old church.

Christina Jonasdotter, the widow of Frederick King, returned to Kingsessing, where she married 2nd Niclas Lindemeyer, a recent immigrant from Stockholm, Sweden. Her second husband was buried on 9 September 1705. She then married again, this time to Frederick Schaffenhhausen, a German, who in 1712 acquired from Christina's brother, Mounce Jones, a 102-acre tract at Aronameck in Kingsessing. She lived there until 1728, when the property was sold by the sheriff to John Bartram to satisfy a judgement against her deceased third husband. The suit had been brought by her own son Christopher Lindemeyer. That tract is now an historic site known as Bartram's Gardens.

Christina Jonasdotter then moved to Brandywine Hundred, New Castle County, DE, to live with her daughter Anna Maria Schaffenhhausen Tussey. Christina died there on November 1731.

The known children of Christina Jonasdotter, by her three husbands, were:

- 1. Elias King**, born in September 1690, married Elsa Cobb, daughter of William Cobb and widow of Charles Hoffman, on 5 May 1719. They lived in Penn's Neck, Salem County NJ, where all three of their children were born. Elsa died by 1728, whereupon Elias moved to Brandywine Hundred to join his relatives. In partnership with Elias Tussey, he became a mill operator. He married 2nd Annika, daughter of Måns Pålsson, widow of John Tussey and mother of Elias Tussey, 22 October 1735. They had no children. After her death, Elias married 3rd the widow Mary Lucasdotter Stedham Bean, 1 January 1744/45. In his will of 14 February 1746/7, Elias King gave his third wife his "Cold Spring" plantation and his half of the mill. After her death the same property was to go to his son. The will was proved 10 March 1746/7. His widow was buried 10 December 1755.

Elias's surviving children were: Christina, born 15 February 1720, who married 1st Elias Tussey, and John King, born 27 May 1726.

- 2. Julia King**, born in September 1693. Not further traced.

- 3. & 4. Andrew King and John King**, twins, born 11 December 1694, died in their childhood.

- 5. Alexander King**, born 31 March 1697, married Brigitta Hoffman on 4 January 1721. He owned extensive lands in Piles Grove, Salem County. His will of 20 December 1753, was proved 22 May 1754. His widow Brigitta died 1 February 1769. His will named three surviving children: Christina, Frederick and Elisabeth.

- 6. George Lindemeyer** was born in Kingsessing c. 1701. On 30 June 1731, he married Judith Justis, daughter of Swan Justis and Judith Yocum. They lived in Kingsessing and were active members of Gloria Dei Church, where they were buried. He died 10 March 1765 and she died exactly four years later. They had six children: Christina, Maria, Sarah, Elizabeth, Rebecca and Alexander.

- 7. Christopher Lindemeyer** was born in Kingsessing c. 1703. By 1729 he had married Ann Longacre, daughter of Anders Petersson Longacre. Christopher was a planter in Kent County, DE, in 1735 when he executed a deed conveying his wife's share of the Longacre estate to Andrew Longacre of Philadelphia. He soon moved to New Castle County, DE, where his first wife was buried on 25 November 1740. In 1741 he married the



widow Ann Hays. They moved to Upper Penn's Neck where they became members of the Moravian Church. Christopher Lindemeyer died there 7 November 1756. All his children; Andrew, George, Sarah and Christopher, were also members of the Moravian Church.

**8. Anna Maria Schaffenhause**n, born in Kingessing in 1708, married William Tussey of Brandywine Hundred by 1727. He was the son of Matthias Tussey and Sarah Stedham. Anna Maria had ten children: Catharine, John, Christina, Sarah, Frederick, Matthias, William, Anna Maria, Isaac and Rebecca. William Tussey died at the age of 66 on 13 December 1771. His wife Anna Maria died 7 March 1786 at the age of 78. Both were buried at Holy Trinity Church, Wilmington, DE.

## The Elias Toy Family

Elias Tay, alias Toy, had two wives. His first wife, Gertrude, died about 1706. To replace her household services, Elias hired Maria Gästenberg, born 18 January 1690, the daughter of the late Nils Gästenberg and Maria Danielson, as his housekeeper. On 22 November 1708, Elias Tay conveyed to her part of his lands. They married soon thereafter.

Throughout his life, Elias Tay remained a very active member of Gloria Dei Church in Philadelphia. He was among the top contributors to the new church's construction, giving £15 for this purpose. He pledged £3 annually for the pastors' salaries and gave another £3 for the addition of the church porches in 1704. He served as both a churchwarden and vestryman under Pastor Andreas Sandel and accompanied Sandel on his trips to Great Egg Harbor in 1704 and 1710, staying overnight at the house of his brother-in-law James Steelman.

After his death in February 1720, the estate of Elias Tay was inventoried under the name of Elias Toy. His personal property was valued at £112 and included a trunk full of books.

By his two wives, Elias Tay had nine known children:

**1. Frederick Toy**, born 30 July 1690, was married c. 1711 to Brigitta Gästenberg, born 11 April 1691, the sister of his father's second wife. He maintained his membership in Gloria Dei Church until his death in Senamensing in February 1742/3. He was survived by his wife and nine children. By his will of 27 January 1741/2, he named his two eldest sons as executors. His children were: Elias Toy (1712-1762), who built the famous Toy house in present Palmyra, NJ, which still stands; Mary Toy, who married Philip Wallis, Jr.; Nicholas Toy (1717-1753), a carpenter, who lived in Gloucester County; Frederick Toy, Jr. (1720-1745), a mariner in Philadelphia; Margaret Toy (d. 1784) who never married; Rebecca Toy; Gertrude Toy; Peter Toy, a ship carpenter, who died in Philadelphia in 1748; and Daniel Toy (1729-1767), a shoemaker, who died in Mount Holly, Burlington County on 21 May 1770.

**2. Margaret Toy**, born 14 December 1691, never married. Her will was proved in Burlington County on 21 May 1770.

**3. Mary Toy**, born 4 September 1693, married Turlass Sullivan, Jr., whose father had been an investor in the spoils of the pirate Billy the Kid's ship *Dolphin*. Her husband, a laborer, died in Burlington County by 27 February 1732/3 when the widow Maria requested that the principal creditor administer his estate. Sullivan's meager goods were sold to Mary's father, Frederick Toy. Her son Benjamin Sullivan of Trenton, NJ, died by January 1744 when Mary again renounced administration in favor of the principal creditors.

**4. Christina Toy**, born in 1694, never married. She was still alive in 1745 when named in the will of her brother Isaiah.

**5. Isaiah Toy**, born 20 June 1697, never married. He was a faithful member of Gloria Dei Church. His will of 11 July 1745 left his land, bought from Elias King, to his two unmarried sisters, Margaret and Christina.

**6. Andrew Toy**, born c. 1699, moved to Pennypack in Lower Dublin Township, Philadelphia County, PA where he first married Annika Keen, daughter of George Keen and Anna Gästenberg, c. 1724. They had one son, Elias, before her death. He then married 2nd Mary Boon, daughter of Nils Boon. They had nine children before his death on 12 August 1752 at age 53. His widow died 29 January 1753. Andrew Toy was very active in Gloria Dei Church, serving as warden and vestryman. His children were: Elias, Nicholas, John, Jacob, Sarah, Susannah, James, Eleanor, Margaret and Isaiah.

**7. Daniel Toy**, born c. 1709, married Rebecca [LNU] by 1741, when he bought 78 acres of land in Bristol Township, Philadelphia County. His eldest child Eleanor was born there in September 1743. His youngest child, John, died at the age of six months and was buried at Gloria Dei Church on 30 August 1751. Daniel Toy died 7 May 1751 and was buried at Gloria Dei. His widow Rebecca administered his estate.

**8. Nicholas Toy**, born 1711, married Susannah [LNU], but he had no children. He became a shoemaker in Bridgetown, Burlington County. He died 6 October 1758 at the age of 47, leaving his entire estate to his wife Susannah.

**9. James Toy**, born c. 1714, was married four times: to Patience Wallis on 14 May 1748, to Mary Jorden by 1750, to Eleanor Fish on 25 August 1759 and finally to Elizabeth [LNU]. He died in Chester Township, Burlington County, in 1787. He had seven known children: Patience, Richard, James, Caleb, Andrew, Peter and

## The James Steelman Family

Susannah, the only known daughter of Christina Toy, married Jöns [James] Steelman by 1691. At the time of the 1693 church census there were four in their household, which then included Susannah's son Andrew and her mother Christina. By 1697, when visited by Pastor Rudman, they had moved to Great Egg Harbor on the Atlantic coast, where James Steelman had purchased over 2,000 acres of land. This is the last glimpse of the mother Christina alive. Susannah Toy Steelman died by 1708. Her children who grew to adulthood were:

**1. Andrew Steelman**, born in 1691, died at Great Egg Harbor in 1737. He married Judith LNU](English) and had eight children: Frederick, James, Mary, Susannah, Andrew, Peter, Judith and John. At his death, he owned over 1500 acres of land and had a herd of 83 cattle.

**2. Susannah Steelman**, born in 1693, married John Keen of Oxford Township, Philadelphia County, in November 1713. She died 9 November 1753, after bearing eleven children.

**3. Hans Steelman**, born c. 1697, married Elsa Jones, daughter of John Jonasson and granddaughter of Jonas Nilsson, by 1716. He died in Greenwich Township, Gloucester County, NJ in 1760, and was survived by five children: James, Susannah, John, Charles and Daniel.

**4. John Steelman**, born c. 1699, died at Great Egg Harbor in 1762, naming eleven children in his will: sons John, Jeremiah and Zephaniah and eight daughters Catharine, Susannah, Jemima, Esther, Mary, Rebecca, Rachel, and Hanna.

**5. James Steelman, Jr.**, born c. 1701, married Rebecca Jones, sister of Hans Steelman's wife Elsa, they had sons James and John and five daughters – Susannah, Catherine, Rebecca, Mary Ann and Sarah. He died at Great Egg Harbor in 1784.

**6. Elias Steelman**, born c. 1703, married Sarah Lake, 10 August 1730. He died at Great Egg Harbor in 1739, survived by a daughter Sarah and a son Elias.

**7. Mary Steelman**, born c. 1706, married Dan Allen, 25 December 1728; 2nd Andrew Blackman, 25 July 1733. In 1730, over twenty years after the death of his first wife, James Steelman married a second time. She was named Catherine Ouster and bore him an eighth child, Peter Steelman, who died at Great Egg Harbor in 1775. James Steelman wrote his will on 2 August 1734, and died at Great Egg Harbor before 4 January 1734/5, when the inventory of his estate was filed. His personal estate was valued at £322, including cattle and sheep valued at £122.

### *Editor's Note:*

We gratefully acknowledge the contributions to this article by SCS Forefather Member

**Christina W. Lassen**

a descendent and researcher of the Toy/King Families



# THE SWEDISH COLONIAL SOCIETY

## Forefathers

### Olof Thorsson of Swanwick and his Tussey Descendants

by **Dr. Peter Stebbins Craig**  
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Fellow, Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania  
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originally published in *Swedish Colonial News*,  
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*'Bomärke' of  
Olof Thorsson,  
the legal  
signature for an  
illiterate person.*

Among the men sentenced for some minor crime and ordered to go to New Sweden in 1641 was one Olof Thorsson. As yet, his place of origin in Sweden and the nature of his crime is unknown. But it is known that when he boarded the ship *Kalmar Nyckel* in Göteborg he was accompanied by his wife and children.

After three years of servitude at the Christina plantation, Olof Thorsson won his freedom and chose to remain in New Sweden. He was hired as an agricultural worker at a wage of ten guilders per year, the same wage as a common soldier. As the years wore on, however, he found working for Governor Printz increasingly intolerable.

#### Co-founder of Swanwick

A new opportunity arose for Olle Thorsson and other disgruntled settlers in 1651 when the Dutch built Fort Casimir at present New Castle, Delaware. This led Olle Thorsson and a number of other New Sweden settlers to move across the Christina River and live under the Dutch. They were not permitted to live within the Dutch fort but were allowed to build a community of log cabins north of the fort at Swan Cove (Swanwick). This was to be Olle Thorsson's home for the rest of his life.

In May 1654 the Swedes, under Governor Johan Rising, captured Fort Casimir from the Dutch, so Olle Thorsson and his Swedish neighbors once again were under the Swedish flag. But Governor Stuyvesant retaliated in 1655, conquering all of New Sweden and with it the young settlement of Swanwick.

Olof Thorsson would see four more changes in government before his death in 1678. In 1657, Stuyvesant surrendered jurisdiction over Swanwick to another Dutch colony, called New Amstel. In 1664 the English captured all of the Delaware from the Dutch, only to surrender it back to the Dutch in 1673. Finally, in 1674, the area was returned to English rule.

#### A Family Divided

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These changes brought an international flavor to Olle Thorsson's family. Under Dutch rule, his daughter Maria married a Dutch gunner Hans Block. Under English rule, his daughter Petronella married Captain John Carr.

Rifts, however, occurred in the family over the political issues of the time. During the Long Finn Rebellion of 1669, when Pastor Lars Lock sided with those prepared to take up arms against the English if, as was expected, Sweden attempted to retake its lost colony, Olle Thorsson's two sons sided with the rebels, while their father stood fast with the English government and his son-in-law Captain John Carr. The incident also led to Olle Thorsson inviting a Lutheran minister in New York, Jacob Fabritius, to establish a church at Swanwick to compete with Lock's church at Crane Hook.

Again, in 1675, there was a family split when the New Castle Court ordered every able-bodied man in the county to build a dike for Justice Hans Block's convenience. Rev. Fabritius was one of the leaders opposing this, and Olle Thorsson's two sons drew fines for refusing to work on the dike. This incident also led Olle Thorsson to withdraw his support for Fabritius and to return to Lars Lock's Crane Hook church. Fabritius had to look elsewhere and in 1677 became pastor of the new Swedish church at Wicaco.

Olof Thorsson died at Swanwick between May and November 1678. His widow Elisa (apparently short for Elisabeth) died after 22 December 1679, when she joined her eldest son Olle in agreeing to sell one of Olle Thorsson's properties at Swanwick to her granddaughter Barbara Block's husband, Peter Maeslander.

## From Thorsson to Tussey

The name Thorsson was not a surname, but rather Olof's patronymic, meaning that he was Olof, son of Thor. However, in succeeding generations it became the family surname (spelled Toarson, or variants thereof), later evolving into Tossa, Tossava and finally Tussey.

Five children of Olof Thorsson and his wife Elisabeth have been identified:

**1. Olle Olleson Toarson**, born in Sweden c. 1633, married Anna Hendricksdotter, of Finnish descent, c. 1658 and lived at Bochten (also known as Verdrietige Hook, now Edgemoor, DE) in Brandywine Hundred. He was fined for his involvement in both the Long Finn Rebellion and the dike rebellion and died in 1687, survived by six children:

- Hendrick Tussey, born c. 1659, became one of the first settlers at the Maurice River in New Jersey around 1700, but returned to St. Georges in New Castle County, where he died after 1720. He married and had at least one child (Margaret).
- John Tussey, born c. 1661, married Anna, daughter of Måns Pålsson, and had six sons and two daughters before his death in Bochten in 1722: Annika, Maria, Olof, John, Peter, Måns, Elias and Hendrick.
- Margaret Tussey, born c. 1664, married Be-nedictus Stidham and had five surviving children: Timothy, Sarah, Anna, Benjamin and Margaret.
- Matthias Tussey, born c. 1673, married Sarah, daughter of Lucas Stidham, and had five children before his death in Bochten in late 1712: Ingeborg, Olle, Annika, Sarah and Maria.
- Olle Tussey, born c. 1678, married Gertrude Petersdotter, widow of Johan Månsson, c. 1701 and died in Bochten in 1713, survived by at least four children: Annika, Christina, Stephen and Catharine.
- Stephen Tussey, born c. 1680, married Catharina, daughter of Anders Stalcop, and died in Bochten in February 1715, survived by at least three children: Thomas, Anders and Catharine.

**2. Elizabeth Ollesdotter**, born in Sweden c. 1635, married by 1655 Matthias Eskilsson, who also took up residence in Swanwick. Both of them were dead by 1677, when their minor children were placed under the guardianship of her father, Olof Thorsson, and her sister, Maria Block. They had four known children:

- Peter Matthiasson, born c. 1656, married Metje, daughter of Gerrit Sandersen of Swanwick [Dutch] and died in Swanwick in 1683. Their son George Petersson was progenitor of the Peterson family of Swanwick.
- Margaret Matthiasdotter, born c. 1658, still living in 1685; not further traced.
- Simon Matthiasson alias Cock, born c. 1660, still living in 1688, not further traced.
- John Matthiasson alias Cock, born c. 1663, still living in 1688, not further traced.

**3. Lars Olleson Toarson**, born in Sweden c. 1637, married Annika Clementsdotter, of Finnish descent. He lived at Bochten and was fined in both the Long Finn Rebellion and the dike rebellion. He died in 1685, survived by six known children:

- Olle Larsson Toarson, born c. 1659, married Sarah, daughter of Foppe Jansen Outhout and Sarah Neering [both Dutch] and died in Lower Penns Neck in 1695, survived by sons Fabius and Saffredus Toarson and two daughters.
- Matthias Larsson, born c. 1661, apparently never married and was last found working for John Williams Neering at Middle Neck in New Castle Hundred in 1698.
- Ellen Larsdotter, born c. 1663, married Abraham Van Heyst of Lower Penns Neck [Dutch] and had two children before the death of her husband in 1686: Abraham and Gertrude Van Heyst.
- Margaret Larsdotter, born c. 1665, married [1] Sicca Olleson, [2] William Simpson of Chester County, Pa., and died after 1702.
- Lars Larsson Tussey, born c. 1668, never married and died in Lower Penns Neck c. 1699.
- Jacob Larsson Tussey, born c. 1674, whose wife was named Mary, moved to the Pennsylvania frontier where his family later provided the name for Tussey Mountain in Huntingdon County, Pa.

**4. Maria Ollesdotter**, born in Sweden c. 1639, married about 1659 Hans Block, a Dutch gunner and later a justice on the New Castle Court, who died in 1676. She was still living in 1692. She had one child:

- Barbara Block, born c. 1660, married [1] Peter Maeslander c. 1678, and [2] Adam Hikey alias Hay [both Dutch] and had two surviving sons: Cornelius and William Maeslander.

**5. Petronella Ollesdotter**, born in New Sweden c. 1645, married c. 1665 Captain John Carr, chief officer for New York's possessions on the Delaware. They lived in the town of New Castle. After the Dutch recapture of former New Netherland in 1673, they fled with their children and Patrick Carr (John's bachelor brother) to Cecil County, Maryland, where they were granted a 2,000-acre tract known as "St. John's Manor" on the west side of Elk River. After a prolonged illness, Carr died in 1676 and Petronella remarried George Oldfield, also English. To handle their New Castle County affairs, the Carr family relied upon Hans Block and their Tussey relatives. In 1695, George and Petronella Oldfield and her son Richard Carr sold Carr's lands in Cecil County and moved to Chester in Chester County, Pa., where Petronella died after 1697. She had five known children:

- Richard Carr, born c. 1666, still living in 1716.
- Elisabeth Carr, born c. 1668, married Peter Clawson [Swedish] in Cecil County.
- Maria Carr, born c. 1670, married John Bristow, Jr., of Chester County, Pa.
- Petronella Carr, born c. 1672, married Peter Mainardo of Cecil County, Md.

- Susannah Oldfield, born c. 1677, married Lawrence Rawson [Swedish] of Marcus Hook, Chester County, and lived in Cecil County on George Oldfield's former land.

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## Jacob & Catharina Van der Veer and their Vandever Descendants

by **Dr. Peter Stebbins Craig**  
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Among the passengers on the Golden Shark when it left Göteborg on 15 April 1654 was a young woman named Catharina who expected, like the other passengers, to go to the New Sweden colony. The ship had been scheduled to leave with Governor Risingh and the Eagle, but its departure was delayed by repairs. The ship never did arrive in New Sweden. Instead, it landed near Staten Island on 12 September 1654 and was confiscated by Governor Stuyvesant three days later. Catharina therefore found herself alone in Manhattan.

She was soon befriended by a Dutch corporal, Jacob Van der Veer. After giving birth to a child by him, she was banished to the South River in 1657, probably because of adultery. Van der Veer deserted his Dutch family and followed her. Now a sergeant, he served under Willem Beeckman at the old Swedish fort at Christina (now Wilmington). In 1660, Jacob Van der Veer sought permission to return to the fatherland in the spring, but Stuyvesant persuaded him to stay. Jacob bought a tavern in New Amstel, but after the English conquered the Dutch in 1664 and renamed the Dutch town New Castle, Jacob was banished from the town for his insolence toward the court. He sold the tavern in 1665 and purchased over 100 acres of land north of the Christina River from a former Dutch soldier, Walraven Jansen de Vos, who then occupied the former land of Governor Johan Risingh at "Timber Island."

Jacob Van der Veer was granted a patent for this new land by Governor Francis Lovelace of New York on 25 March 1669 and later expanded it to 535 acres through an additional grant from the New Castle court in 1677, which was confirmed by a new survey under William Penn on 29 January 1684/5.

Jacob and Catharina made their home on the island (renamed Jacob Van der Veer's Island) on the north side of the Brandywine River – an area later known as Brandywine Village. Disputes with the Stedham family, who claimed part of this land, were finally resolved in favor of the Van der Veers by arbitration on 12 May 1688. A week later Jacob was granted the right to build a grist mill, using the water of the Brandywine.

Until his later years, Jacob Van der Veer was in frequent trouble with the New Castle court. The justices wrote in 1679 that he had "always been a troublesome, mutinous person and one of a



turbulent spirit, from the beginning, always contending with and opposing authority, for which various and other his misdemeanors he formerly was banished from this town and his wife from New York.” In 1675, he was accused as being the “ringleader” in the refusal of the Swedes and Finns to improve the dike of Justice Hans Block. He and his two eldest sons were fined 20 guilders apiece for their refusal to work on the dike. In 1679 he was fined 200 guilders for fraud, having sold a bag of feathers to which he added a stone to falsify the weight. He was constantly in debt and at one time, in 1686, his goods were seized and he and his family were turned out of their house for non-payment of debts.

The will of Jacob Van der Veer, dated 15 April 1698, was proved on 31 March 1699. It required that Catharina be allowed to stay on the land which was divided among three of his sons – William, Cornelius and John – provided that each of them pay £10 to his son Jacob, Jr., who had settled across the Delaware River in Salem County. In addition, the three sons should pay “every one of their sisters” (not named) £10 apiece. His “creatures” were also to be divided equally among all of his children.

On 24 June 1699, the widow Catharina Van der Veer “on the island” was assigned a pew at the new Holy Trinity Church. She also gave £1 to the church. A year later, she and her family prosecuted a case before William Penn and the Pennsylvania Provincial Council, complaining of encroachment by their neighbor Cornelius Empson. Catharina Vandever died at the home of her son Jacob in Penn’s Neck in February 1720. She was the mother of four sons and an unknown number of daughters. Four sons and two daughter have been positively identified:

**1. William Vandever** was born in 1656 in Manhattan and died 8 October 1718 on Van der Veer’s Island. He had no children. He married Alice Smith [English], daughter of Francis Smith of Kennet Township, Chester County, Pa. The will of William Vandever, innkeeper, of Brandywine Ferry, proved 13 October 1718, bequeathed £5 to the Swedes’ church and left all of the remainder of his estate to his wife Alice. She then married Samuel Kirk on 8 January 1720. In her will of 12 March 1731/2, she devised to her husband Samuel Kirk the ferry and adjoining lands for life, after which they were to go to Jacob Vandever, Jr., son of Cornelius. The tombstone of Alice Kirk states that she died 13 March 1732 at the age of 63 years.

**2. Cornelius Vandever** was born about 1658. His wife Margareta, whom he married by 1681, was probably the daughter of Olof Fransson of the Bought [Verdrietige Hook]. When old Olof Fransson conveyed 50 acres of his land to his grandson, Cornelius Vandever signed a bond on 20 July 1687 to give his personal security to the transaction.

The will of Cornelius Vandever, dated 18 December 1712 and proved 18 February 1712/13, bequeathed his dwelling plantation to his wife Margareta, but if she remarried it was to be rented out for the children's benefit until the youngest was 21. His son John was to receive the tract on the Brandywine between Spring Run and William Vandever. His two youngest sons, William and Henry, were to receive the dwelling plantation after the death or remarriage of Margareta. All movables were to be divided among all of the children. His widow Margareta did marry again, 19 April 1720, to the widower William Lerchenzeiler of St. Georges Hundred, New Castle County. She was still living in February 1727 when she was one of the sponsors at the baptism of one of her many grandchildren. The children, all named in the will of Cornelius, were:

- **Jacob Corneliusson Vandever** (c.1682-1739) married Maria Stedham, daughter of Adam Stedham. He lived on the Brandywine and, by the will of his aunt, Alice Kirk, inherited the Vandever property at the Brandywine Ferry in the vicinity of present Market Street. The will of Jacob Vandever of Brandywine Hundred, yeoman, dated 19 October 1739 and proved 8 December 1739, provided for his wife Maria during her widowhood, gave to his two eldest surviving sons John and Cornelius 5 shillings apiece, and to Jonathan Stilley and his wife Magdalena 5 shillings. He gave to his son Tobias the ferry and half the land belonging thereto and the “upper” [westerly] half of the land to his son Peter. One third of his movables went to his wife; the other two-thirds were to be equally divided among Tobias,

Peter, and his daughters Catharina and Elisabeth. Elisabeth subsequently married John Welsh in 1745. Jacob's widow survived him by many years. She was still listed in the 1764 church census.

- **Philip Vandever** (1684-1750) had four wives. The first one, Elisabeth, was buried 5 February 1728. He then married, on 13 May 1729, Brita Stille, who died 1 November 1730. In 1731 he married Christina, who died by 1744 when he married Beata Hoffman, daughter of Andrew and Maria Hoffman and widow of John Vanneman. The will of Philip Vandever of Brandywine Hundred, dated 1 March 1747/48 and proved 15 August 1750, provided his 4th wife Beata with one-third of the personalty and one-third of the income from his real estate for life. All of his real property was devised to his sons John and Peter equally, except for six acres of marsh which went to his son-in-law Joseph Jackson, husband of Magdalena, for life. He also was survived by five other daughters: Maria (the second wife of Timothy Lulofsson Stedham), Elisabeth (married to Peter Schmidt), Susanna, Rachel and Rebecca. After his death, his widow Beata married Edward Graham.
- **John Corneliusson Vandever** (c.1689-c.1718) was married on 14 January 1714 to Maria Stalcop, daughter of Peter and Catharina Stalcop. On 29 June 1714, they sailed to Sweden with Pastor Ericus Björk, who had married Maria's elder sister, Christina. John died in Sweden, after which his widow married Hans Georgen Schmidt. They returned to Delaware in 1720. Maria Stalcop Vandever Schmidt died 19 November 1750 at the age of 53. Her only child by her first marriage was Catharine Vandever, born in Sweden in 1715, who married Simon Johnson in Cecil County, Maryland, 4 November 1738.
- **Elisabeth Vandever** (1695-1738) married Timothy Lulofsson Stedham 7 June 1715 and bore five children before her death on 5 March 1738.
- **Margareta Vandever** (c.1699-1733+) married John Wilder, 30 April 1719. They had six children baptized at Holy Trinity, 1720-1729, of whom three died in their infancy. Margareta appeared as a baptismal sponsor up to 1733.
- **Catharine Vandever** (c.1701-1735) married Hendrick Stedham, 10 November 1719 and bore ten children before her death on 21 October 1735.
- **William Vandever** (c.1703-1739) of Brandywine Hundred acquired, for a nominal £3, one-half of his uncle Jacob Vandever Jr.'s share of the Vandever plantation on the Brandywine on 4 November 1726. A year later, on 7 December 1727, he married Margareta Colesberg, daughter of Sven Colesberg and Elisabeth Anderson. William Vandever died in Brandywine Hundred on 12 October 1739, survived by two children who reached adulthood: Elisabeth, who married John Taylor of Red Lion Hundred, and Sven, who conveyed all of his father's property to John and Elisabeth Welsh.
- **Henry Corneliusson Vandever**, born c.1705, and his wife Margaret deeded the land he inherited from his father to John and Elisabeth Welsh on 14 March 1749/50. Henry apparently had one son, also named Henry Vandever, born c. 1734, who was living on the Brandywine with his wife Sarah at the time of the 1764 census with "small children" who were not further identified.

**3. John Vandever**, born by 1665, was married and had one child by 1693 when three persons were listed in his household in the Crane Hook church census. He died intestate before 1713 when Judith Vandever, described as the daughter of the late John Vandever, was a sponsor at the baptism of Zacharias and Helena Derrickson's child. Subsequent deeds conveying his former land to Philip Vandever identify four married daughters. His known children were:

- **Jacob Johnsson Vandever** (c 1691-c1724) was married to Jane, widow and administratrix of John Gill of Baltimore County, Maryland, by November 1718. He died there without issue before 1725, when his sisters began to sell their father's land in Brandywine Hundred. Jane Vandever, his widow, died in 1730 in Baltimore County.
- **Judith Vandever**, born c. 1693, married Jonas Stalcop of New Castle County, 5 January 1716. They had three children (John, Annika and Carl) before her death in June 1721.
- **Catharine Vandever**, born c. 1695, married John Scoggin of Penn's Neck, 22 January 1717. They had five children (John, Jonas, Maria, Jacob and Elisabeth) before her husband's death

in 1729. Not further traced.

- **Maria Vandever**, born c. 1697, married Henry Vanneman of Penn's Neck, 21 October 1724. She had children John and Elisabeth born in 1725 and 1728. No further record.
- **Anna Vandever**, born c. 1699, married Samuel Fowdrie of New Castle County, 8 December 1724. They had a daughter Susanna born in 1726. Not further traced.

**4. Jacob Vandever** was born by 1668. He moved to Boughttown in Upper Penn's Neck, Salem County, New Jersey, c. 1692 when he married Catharine, the widow of Andrew Bartleson. She was buried 1 December 1716. He next married Catharine, the widow of Stephen Tussey, on 12 December 1717. The will of Jacob Vandever of Penn's Neck was dated 15 August 1726 and proved 7 December 1726. His widow Catharine died before 23 January 1727/8 when the inventory of her estate was filed. Jacob's surviving children were:

- **Judith Vandever** (c. 1693-after 1732), married c. 1710 Michael Homan of Gloucester County, New Jersey. They had six sons: Jacob, Peter, Gustaf, Johannes, Olof and Abraham Homan.
- **Magdalena Vandever** (c. 1695-1748), married c. 1712 William Vanneman of Piles Grove, Salem County. They had twelve children, six of whom grew to adulthood: Jacob, John, William, Elisabeth, Rebecca and Andrew Vanneman.
- **Jacob Vandever** (c. 1696-1729) was married on 2 November 1720 to Margaret, daughter of Peter and Catharine Månsson. They resided in Upper Penn's Neck until their deaths during a smallpox epidemic in 1729. The inventory of Jacob Vandever was filed 5 May 1729, that of his widow on 17 October 1729. They had three children who grew to adulthood: Henry (c. 1721-1761) who married by 1742 and left one surviving daughter; Jacob (c.1725-c.1757), who married Maria Connaway 13 July 1748; and Margaret Vandever (c. 1728 - ?), who married William Smith of Penn's Neck on 4 August 1763.
- **Henry Jacobsson Vandever** was born 13 January 1725. On 29 October 1747 he married Sarah Barber. They lived in Upper Penn's Neck, Salem County, on land inherited from his father. Henry died there shortly after making his will, dated 22 February. 1748/9, which directed that his estate be sold to support his only child, Jacob. His widow Sarah sold the land as directed and then married Henry Peterson, 10 January 1751. No further record has been found relating to his son Jacob.

**5. Helena Vandever** married Zacharias Derrickson, son of Olle Derrickson, c. 1701. Over the next sixteen years she had nine children, all of whom grew to adulthood and married. She died about 1734. Her husband remarried and died in 1748. Their children:

- **Jacob Derrickson** (1702-1728) married Annika Justis 9 June 1728. No children.
- **William Derrickson** (1704-1766) married Maria Peterson in 1735 and had eight children.
- **Helena Derrickson** (1706-after 1776) married Jonas Stedham in 1727. They had nine children.
- **Kerstin Derrickson** (1708-1738) married Peter Anderson in 1728. She died in October 1738 as the result of childbirth after bearing six children.
- **Elisabeth Derrickson** (1709-after 1737) married John Smith in 1727. He died one year later.
- **Catharine Derrickson** (1711-after 1764) married 1st Robert Robinson by 1730, 2nd John Loinam in 1745. She had six children by her first marriage and three children by her second marriage.
- **Zacharias Derrickson** (1713-1776) married Sarah (surname unknown) in 1735 and had eleven children.
- **Peter Derrickson** (1715-1753) married Margaret Stille in 1740 and had five children.
- **Cornelius Derrickson** (1717-1787) married Mary Vanneman in 1756 and had four children.

**6.** Another daughter, name unknown, married Johannes Casperson of Upper Penn's Neck about 1695. He was described as German in 1714 when he gave land on which the Swedish church was

to be built. His will of 14 November 1733 was proved the following January, naming seven children:

- **John Casperson**, born c. 1694, married Maria Baner 1 October 1719. She was the daughter of Isaac Baner, a native Swede, who had died in Penn's Neck in 1713. Isaac Baner's family in Sweden arranged for Maria and her two unmarried brothers to return to Sweden in 1727.
- **Susanna Casperson**, born c. 1697, married David Straughan in 1717.
- **Tobias Casperson**, born c. 1699 married Brita Mink in 1724 and, after her death, Judith Corneliuson by 1726. He died in Penn's Neck in 1734.
- **Catharine Casperson**, born c. 1705, married Thomas Nixon in 1725 and, after his death, became the second wife of Peter Enloes.
- **Maria Casperson** became the wife of — Boerd by 1733.
- **Anthony Casperson**, baptized in 1713, married Elizabeth Redstreak in 1739.
- **Rebecca Casperson**, baptized in 1717, was unmarried when her father wrote his will.

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# THE SWEDISH COLONIAL SOCIETY

## Forefathers

### Christina Ollesdotter and her Walraven Descendants

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Among the passengers arriving at Fort Christina on the *Kalmar Nyckel* and *Charitas* in November 1641 were three small orphans, Jöns (Jonas) Olleson, Helena Ollesdotter and Christina Ollesdotter. The voyage from Gothenburg had been a stormy one and their parents had died at sea. Of these three orphans, only one has been accounted for in subsequent records Christina Ollesdotter, who married the Dutch soldier Walraven Jansen deVos and became the ancestor of the Walraven families of Holy Trinity (Old Swedes) Church in Wilmington, Delaware.

A 1951 article appearing in the *New York Genealogical and Biographical Record* by George V. Massey, claimed that Christina Ollesdotter was the daughter of Olof Thorsson. This now proves to be incorrect. There was never any association between Olof Thorsson or his Tussey family and the family of Walraven Jansen deVos. Massey was unaware of Hendrick Huygen's New Sweden accounts identifying the three orphans arriving in 1641.

#### Walraven Jansen de Vos

Christina Ollesdotter was married by 1659 to a Dutch soldier stationed at Fort Altena (former Fort Christina) by the name of Walraven Jansen de Vos ("the fox"). He had been a soldier for the Dutch West India Company since 1656. At the time of her marriage, Christina was probably living with the family of Måns Andersson, whose eldest daughter Brita (wife of Johan Gustafsson) lived with the Jonas Walraven family in her old age.

In the summer of 1659, Walraven Jansen's commander Willem Beeckman granted Måns Andersson and Walraven Jansen a tract of land west of Fort Altena straddling the Brandywine. Måns' tract, later sold to Dr. Timen Stiddem, was on the south side; Walraven's was on the north side. Here Walraven built a house for himself and his bride. Walraven asked for his discharge, which initially was opposed. In January 1660, Stuyvesant's Council in New Amsterdam approved a salary increase for him, but Walraven was persistent and before the month ended, Beeckman granted the requested discharge.

After a few years of farming, Walraven sold his farm on the north side of Brandywine Creek to

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another former Dutch soldier, Jacob van der Veer, and moved up Christina Creek to settle on a 900-acre tract of land in partnership with Anders Andersson the Finn and Sinnick Broer the Finn. An English patent confirming their joint ownership of this tract, called "Deer Point" (later called Middle Borough, now Richardson Park in Wilmington) was granted on 25 March 1676.

The will of Walraven Jansen DeVos was proved on 1 March 1680/1. The will left one-half of his lands to the eldest son living at home Gisbert Walraven with the other half going to his youngest son Jonas Walraven after Christina's death. The will mentioned but did not name other children, some married and some not.

Within a few years, Walraven Jansen's wife Christina Ollesdotter was remarried, this time to the widower Dr. Timen Stiddem, whose plantation lay across the Brandywine on the south bank. The will of Christina Ollesdotter Stedham, proved 13 March 1698/9, named sons Gisbert and Jonas and daughters Christina, Anna and Maria.

The apparent children of Walraven Jansen de Vos, who adopted their patronymic (Wal-raven) as their surname, were as follows:

1. **Hendrick Walraven**, although not named in either will, appears to be the eldest son of Walraven Jansen, perhaps by a prior marriage. By 1677 he was taxed at Appoquinimink Creek, where 225 acres were surveyed for him in 1678. Later, in 1689, he acquired 600 acres at Dragon Swamp. He died there c. 1715. By his wife (name unknown) he had three known children:

- Peter Walraven, born by 1677, married by 1707 Tanne Van Horen (Dutch). He died in 1713 in St. Georges Hundred. They had three children: Jacob, born c. 1708, died young; John, born 1710, married Susan-nah Margaret, died 1764 in Appoquini-mink Hundred; and Isaac, born c. 1712, died young.
- Anna Walraven married Robert Hart-op (English), a large landowner on Blackbird Creek. She had sons named John, Henry and Robert Hartop and died in St. Georges Hundred in 1710.
- Cornelius Walraven married Walborg Evert-son (Swedish) by 1713. Initially he lived in Penns Neck, but took over his father's farm at Dragon Swamp by 1715. The last reference to him alive was on 1 May 1733 when, after being convicted by the Lancaster County court for counterfeiting seven silver dollars, he was sentenced to receive 21 lashes, stand in the pillory for one hour and have both of his ears cut off. He was survived by his wife, who remained at Dragon Swamp, and four children: John, Susan-nah, Elias and Eliza-beth.

2. **Aeltie Walraven**, eldest daughter, married Matthys van Limborgh (Dutch) of New Castle, who died soon after the birth of their sons, Sybrant and Jan Matthy-sen Valk ("hawk" in Dutch). She then married by 1676 **Justa Anders-son**, eldest son of Anders Andersson the Finn. Aeltie was described as the daughter of Walraven Jansen when she and her second husband sued the Stalcop family for slander in 1680. She had no children by her second marriage. Both Aeltie and her sons disappear from records after 1684 when Justa Anderson sold land which had been patented to his stepson Sybrant Matthysen Valk.

3. **Gisbert Walraven**, also known as **Jesper Walraven**, was born about 1660. In the late 1680s he married Christina (Kerstin) Peterson, daughter of Samuel Petersson and Brita Jönsdotter Anderson of Christina (now Wilmington). She was buried 20 Dec. 1725 at Holy Trinity Church. They lived at Middle Borough, Christiana Hundred, where he divided his father's plantation with his younger brother Jonas Walraven, 19 April 1708. His will of the same date was proved 4 June 1708 and named Mathias Peterson [his wife's brother] and Edward Robinson [his sister's husband] as executors. His will named five children:

- Brita Walraven married John Stalcop, son of Andrew Stalcop, by 1706. They had one son who survived childhood, Andrew Håkan Stalcop. After the death of her first husband, Brita married

Ambrose London, 6 Jan. 1715, by whom she had four additional children. Brita was buried at Holy Trinity on 16 March 1721 and Ambrose London was buried there on 4 December 1721. Edward Robinson served as executor of his estate and became guardian of his only surviving son, Ambrose London, Jr.

- Catharina Walraven, born 1690, married by 1709 Måns Justis, son of Justa Justisson and Anna Morton of Kingsessing. They lived on the east side of Red Clay Creek in Christiana Hundred. They had ten children born between 1710 and 1732, all of whom grew to adulthood. Catharina died of apoplexy on 2 January 1754 at the age of 63. Her husband survived her by about two decades.
- Gisbert (Jesper) Walraven married Maria Snicker (daughter of Hendrick Jöransson Orrhan, *snickare* [carpenter in Swedish], 24 May 1716. She was buried 12 Nov. 1723. He then married widow Anna Paulson (daughter of Bengt Pålsson and widow of John Garritson) in 1724. She died after 1743. On 15 Nov. 1752, Gisbert married his third wife, Christina Morton, daughter of Matthias and Anna (Justis) Morton and widow of Samuel Peterson. Gisbert Walraven lived his entire life on the Middle Borough plantation, which he inherited from his father. By his first two wives he had ten children. He died intestate before 21 July 1761 when his widow Christina Walraven filed her first accounting of his estate. On 27 March 1762 his heirs sold all 113 acres of his plantation to Richard Richardson.
- Jonas Walraven married in 1723 Catharina Archer, daughter of John and Gertrude (Bartleson) Archer of Ridley Township., Chester County. Jonas was buried 11 March 1727. His widow married Hans Peterson in 1731 and died before 1748. On 28 Jan-uary 1723/4 Jonas had acquired 110 acres at Christina in Christiana Hundred from Samuel Peterson. A weaver by trade, Jonas devised his land to his son John by his will of 7 March 1726/7. He was also survived by a daughter Maria.
- Sarah Walraven married John Seeds, 22 August 1720, but died in childbirth and was buried at Holy Trinity Church on 4 April 1721. Her son Edward Seeds survived.. John Seeds remarried Brita Lynam by 1722.

4. **Jonas Walraven**, born by 1672, was married in 1693 to Sarah Peterson, a younger sister of Jesper Walraven's wife. Sarah was the mother of all of his children. Jonas married second, by 1713, Anna Justis, widow of Matthias Morton of Ridley Township., Chester County. He also lived at Middle Borough in Christiana Hundred. Jonas was buried 31 Aug. 1724. His widow married, as her third husband, Charles Springer, in 1727. By his first marriage, Jonas had five children:

- Brita Walraven, born in 1693, married Morton Justis, son of Justa Justisson and Anna Morton, on 1 Oct. 1713. They made their home at Bread and Cheese Island, Mill Creek Hundred, and had ten children born between 1714 and 1739. After Brita's death at the age of 54 on 14 July 1747, Morton Justis married Mag-da--lena Springer, then twice a widow, on 5 December 1747.
- Sarah Walraven, born 3 February 1695, married Rev. Andreas Hesse-lius, pastor of Holy Trinity (Old Swedes) Church, 3 May 1713, and died in London on 17 June 1724 en route to Sweden with her husband and children.
- Christina Walraven, born c. 1698, married Morton Morton (son of Matthias Morton and Anna Justis) 8 May 1718. They made their home on the south side of Christina River in New Castle Hundred. They had ten children born between 1719 and 1741, of whom four lived to adulthood. Christina died of pleurisy at the age of 53 and was buried 3 May 1754. Her husband remarried and died by 1767.
- Walraven Walraven, born c. 1700, married Christina Colesberry (daughter of Sven Kålsberg and Elisabeth Anderson), 6 Oct. 1725. He was buried 4 Aug. 1736, and his widow married John Justis, 30 July 1737. On 29 April 1735, as son and heir of Jonas Walraven, Walraven Walraven divided the Middle Borough plantation with Gisbert Walraven, son and heir of Gisbert Walraven. The will of Wal-raven Walra-ven, dated 1 August 1736, left his plantation to his two eldest sons, Sven (Swithin) and Jonas. He was buried 4 August 1736.
- Jonas Walraven, born 31 May 1704, married Maria Justis (daughter of Justa Justisxon and Anna Morton), 1 Dec. 1727. A weaver, he lived on the north side of Christina Creek at



Newport, west of Middle Borough, in Christiana Hundred on land purchased from Conrad Constantine in 1735. He died there on 6 Nov. 1751, survived by two children, Justa and Sara.

5. **Anna Walraven** married before 1700 Edward Robinson, born in England in 1676, who had arrived in America at the age of 8 and became the first Englishman to serve as a trustee of Holy Trinity (Old Swedes) Church. They had seven children who grew to adulthood and married:

- Joshua Robinson, who married by 1720 a woman named Maria.
- Catharina Robinson, who married Henry Snicker (son of Hendrick Jöransson) on 1 November 1720; 2nd, Måns Justis, 8 August 1756.
- Israel Robinson, who married Elizabeth Hendrickson (daughter of John Hendrickson and Brita Mattson) by 1723.
- Margareta Robinson, who married Charles Springer, Jr. (son of Charles Springer and Maria Hendrickson) by 1723.
- Jesper Robinson, who married Magdalena Springer (daughter of Charles Springer and Maria Hendrickson) on 11 November 1725.
- Robert Robinson, who married Catharina Derickson (daughter of Zacharias Derickson and Helena Van der Veer) by 1730.
- Jonas Robinson, who married Rebecca Cleneay (daughter of William Cleneay and Maria Springer) on 19 May 1736.

After the death of Anna before 1714, Edward Robinson remarried several times: first to Margaret Claes-son, daughter of Jacob and Greta Claes-son (by whom he had three additional children); second to Elizabeth, widow of Matthias Peterson; third to Sarah Empson Bird, widow of Thomas Bird; fourth to Ingeborg Tussey Sinnex, widow of John Sinnex. Edward Robinson died 31 May 1761.

6. **Maria Walraven** was named in her mother's will and appeared frequently in the records of Holy Trinity Church as a communicant and baptismal sponsor from 1714 until her death on 3 February 1734, under the name of Maria Brown, widow of Robert Brown. No evidence has been found indicating that she had any children.

7. **Christina Walraven** was named in her mother's will. Not thereafter traced.



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## Peter Jochimsson and his Yocum Descendants

by **Dr. Peter Stebbins Craig**  
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Peter Jochimsson, born in Schleswig in Holstein, was enrolled in Gothenburg in September 1642 to serve as a soldier in New Sweden at a wage of ten guilders per month. He sailed to the colony on the *Fama*, the same ship that carried the new Governor, Johan Printz.

In New Sweden, Peter Jochim (as he was usually called) was first assigned to the new Fort Elfsborg near the mouth of present Salem Creek NJ. Later, when the Dutch in 1648 built Fort Beversrede at Passyunk on the Schuylkill, he was transferred to Fort Korsholm on the Schuylkill. The Dutch commander complained that in September 1648 Peter Jochim "contemptuously pulled the palisades of Fort Beversrede apart and broke through them, making use of great insolence by words as well as deeds." The Swedes built a house in front of the Dutch fort, blocking its view from the river. They also prevented Dutch freemen from settling in the area, effectively preserving the trade with the Indians for themselves.

Stuyvesant countered in 1651 by abandoning Fort Beversrede and Fort Nassau (on the east side of the Delaware) and building a new fort at present New Castle (Fort Casimir). To counter this move, Printz sought declarations from the Indians that the new fort was built illegally on land sold by the Indians to the Swedes. Peter Jochimsson was instrumental in obtaining the needed affidavit from the Indians, which was signed at Fort Elfsborg on 3 July 1651.

Shortly thereafter, Peter Jochim married Ella Stille, daughter of Olof Stille. They made their home at Aronameck on the west shore of the Schuylkill. Their first child was born in 1652, and on 1 November 1652 Peter Jochim was granted his discharge and made a freeman.

As a freeman, Peter Jochim joined his father-in-law and 20 other freemen in filing a protest with Governor Printz on 27 July 1653, seeking relief from the Governor's oppressive treatment of the freemen, particularly the Finns. This was the last straw for the tormented Governor, who packed up his substantial belongings and returned to Sweden via New Amsterdam and Amsterdam.

Upon the arrival of the new Governor, Johan Rising, in May 1654, the Dutch fort surrendered to the Swedes without a shot being fired. Peter Jochim then found his services in demand once more. As one of the few freemen who could read and write and being well-known to the Dutch, Peter Jochim was chosen by Rising to travel overland to New Amsterdam (Manhattan) to deliver a diplomatic letter to Governor Stuyvesant and to find out his intentions towards New Sweden. Peter

Jochim and his Indian guide Taques left on 27 May 1654. Taques returned on 25 June with a letter from Jochim reporting that he had become ill in Manhattan and was too sick to return. Shortly thereafter, Rising received a bill from Stuyvesant for 127 guilders for Jochim's burial.

Ella Stille Jochim, widowed at the age of 20, married Hans Månsson later in 1654. He took over operation of the Aronameck plantation and raised her two children by Peter Jochim as his own. In addition, Ella had six additional sons, the eldest of whom, John Hansson, was born in 1655. Hans Månsson died in Senamensing NJ c. 1690. Thereafter, Ella and her sons by her second marriage adopted the surname of Steelman. Ella died in 1718 at the home of her youngest son, Eric Steelman, in Gloucester County NJ.

Peter Jochim and Ella Stille had two children:

1. **Peter Petersson**, born in 1652, grew up in a household where his closest friend was his half-brother, John Hansson Steelman, born in 1655. Both became Indian traders with John Hans Steelman becoming a big-time operator, establishing trading posts in Maryland and Pennsylvania. Peter, however, remained at Aronameck, which became his own in 1681 when Hans Månsson, having moved to New Jersey, sold the tract to Peter Petersson Yocum, the new surname which Peter had adopted. It was derived, of course, from his father's patronymic. The new spelling can be blamed on the English clerks. Although many spelling variations are to be found, the surname became standardized as Yocum, except among descendants of Jonas, who chose the Yocom spelling.

Peter Petersson Yocum was married c. 1675 to Judith, daughter of Jonas Nilsson. Aside from farming and trading with the Indians, Peter also served as an Indian interpreter for William Penn in the negotiation of new treaties and owned a small gristmill on Mill Creek, a creek just south of present Woodlands Cemetery. He died in 1702 and by his will asked to be buried at Gloria Dei Church in Philadelphia. His widow Judith moved to Berks County with two of her younger sons. She died at Manatawny in Berks County in 1727 and is buried at St. Gabriels Church in Douglassville.

Peter Petersson Yocum and Judith Jonasdotter Nilsson had ten children:

- Peter Yocum, born 1677, died 1753 in Upper Merion Township; married Elizabeth; one surviving son.
- Måns Yocum, born 1678, died 1722 at Aronameck in Kingsessing; married Margaret Boon; no children.
- Catharine Yocum, born 1681, died 1723; married Swan Justis; 5 children.
- Charles Yocum, born. 1682, died 1741, Kingsessing; married Ann Supplee; one son and one daughter.
- Swan Yocum, born 1685, died 1758, Kingsessing; married Joanna Collins; two surviving sons.
- Julia Yocum, born 1687, not traced.
- Jonas Yocum, born 1689, died 1760, Douglass Township, Berks County; married Hannah Enochson; survived by two sons and three daughters.
- Anders Yocum, born 1693, died after 1734, Kingsessing; married Elizabeth Trollup; survived by one son and three daughters.
- John Yocum, born 1696, died 1727, Berks County; never married.
- Maria Yocum, born c. 1699; married William Morgan.

2. **Elizabeth Petersdotter**, born in 1654, moved from her home as a teenager to help in the household of her uncle, Anders Stille, living on Christina River. Here she met and married John Ogle, an English soldier who had participated in the English conquest of the Delaware in 1664. John Ogle and Rev. Jacob Fabritius were indicted in 1675 for inciting the Swedes and Finns to riot in opposition to orders of the New Castle Court to build a dike and road for Hans Block, a Dutchman.

John Ogle and Anders Stille made their homes at Christiana Bridge, Christina River. Ogle, a big speculator in lands and tobacco, died insolvent in the winter of 1683/4. Adding to his widow's troubles was a 1684 raid by Colonel James Talbot from Maryland which resulted in the destruction of her hay and the building of a Maryland "fort" on her property. Elizabeth Ogle and Anders Stille then sold their property and moved to White Clay Creek. She lived at the "Hopyard," which had been surveyed for her husband the year before. Unable to pay all of the estate's debts, Elizabeth Ogle was discharged from all further debts of her husband on 17 June 1690 by the New Castle Court. Meanwhile, her brother Peter Petersson Yocum in 1687 had purchased the "Hopyard" to protect it from creditors. Elizabeth died before 12 Sept. 1702 when John Hans Steelman and Judith Yocum, as executors of the Yocum estate, sold the property.

John and Elizabeth Ogle had two sons:

- Thomas Ogle, bom c. 1672, died 1734 in White Clay Creek Hundred, New Castle County; married [1] Mary Crawford, [2] widow Elizabeth Graham.,
- John Ogle, born c. 1674, died 1720 in White Clay Creek Hundred; married widow Elizabeth Harris.

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