

William Sutton and the Witch's Daughter

Ma's Sutton Family
Part Seven.



Roger Williams, Contemporary of Quaker William Sutton
Born: 21 Dec 1603, London, United Kingdom
Died: 1683, Providence, Rhode Island

*Roger Williams 1603-1683, was a Puritan minister, theologian, and author who founded Providence Plantations, which became the Colony of Rhode Island. He was a staunch advocate for religious freedom, separation of church and state, and fair dealings with Native Americans, and he was one of the first abolitionists. **Wikipedia***

William Sutton 1641-1718, was a Quaker who moved his family out of the reach of the intolerant Puritans of Massachusetts to the area that would become the Colony of New Jersey. He was a staunch advocate for religious freedom, literacy, and for fair dealings with Native Americans. As a Quaker he would have been one of the first abolitionists. At the end of his life, he was regarded by his associates, friends, and neighbors as a good and decent man.

Helen Vaughan Michael

*There is nothing so strong as gentleness—
There is nothing so gentle as real strength.*

Remembering Lunette Chaney Vaughan

Her son, Jack Vaughan, 1911-1992, b Gainesville, Texas.
Lunette Chaney Vaughan, 1873-1957, b Kentucky.
Mary Susan Sutton Chaney, 1851-1899, b Kentucky, Part One.
William Sutton, 1822-1900, b Indiana, m Lucretia Skaggs, Part Two
John Sutton, 1780-1836, m Rachel Roark, d. Indiana, Part Three
Rev James Sutton, 1737-1828 m. Hannah Cox, Part Four.
Rev David Sutton 1703-1775 New Jersey, m. Elizabeth Cox, Part Five.
Reverend John Sutton, 1674-1750 New Jersey, m. Elizabeth Conger, Part Six.
William Sutton b1641, Massachusetts, d1718, N J, m. Damaris Bishop, Part Seven.



William and Damaris Bishop Sutton

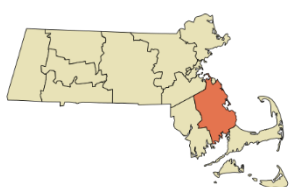
William Sutton married the daughter of a woman who some believed was a witch. His children grew up without one of their grandmothers, and his wife grew up without her mother because the woman was hanged for witchcraft. She was found guilty of slicing the throat of her four-year-old daughter. It was in the Puritan soul to see her evil deed as the act of a witch.

By all accounts William was a mild-mannered fellow throughout his life, so it seems curious that his story begins with a Bible stealing incident in which he's found guilty. He grew up in the neighborhood of pilgrims who had arrived at Plymouth Rock on the Mayflower

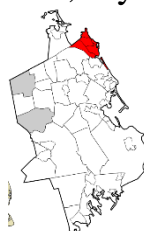
Plymouth, Massachusetts is located on the coast of the Atlantic Ocean. Scituate, Plymouth, Massachusetts, is where William Sutton grew up.

Maps of William Sutton's Childhood

Plymouth, Massachusetts



Scituate, Plymouth





An Incident at Barnstable, Massachusetts

Mayflower -- Mayflower was an English ship that transported the first English Puritans, known today as the Pilgrims, from England to the New World in 1620. After a grueling 10 weeks at sea, the Mayflower, with 102 passengers and a crew of about 30, reached America, dropping anchor near the tip of Cape Cod on November 11, 1620. Wikipedia.

It was the beginning of history for many Americans. Less well known than the *Mayflower*, but relevant to William Sutton's story, is the arrival fourteen years later of the *Good Ship Hercules*. His father, George Sutton, was born in Kent, England in 1613, and George came to the Plymouth Colony of Massachusetts in 1634, arriving on the *Hercules* with his future wife, Sarah Tilden and her family. George Sutton was a servant of the Tildens. The Tildens and George Sutton were Quakers.

William grew up as a Quaker. The son of George and Sarah Tilden Sutton, he was born the 25th of May 1641 in Scituate, Plymouth, Massachusetts. He met and married Damaris Bishop in Barnstable, Massachusetts. Damaris was born in 1646 and died in 1682. By 1674 they had moved to New Jersey. He died the 28th of April, 1718 in Piscataway, Middlesex, New Jersey.

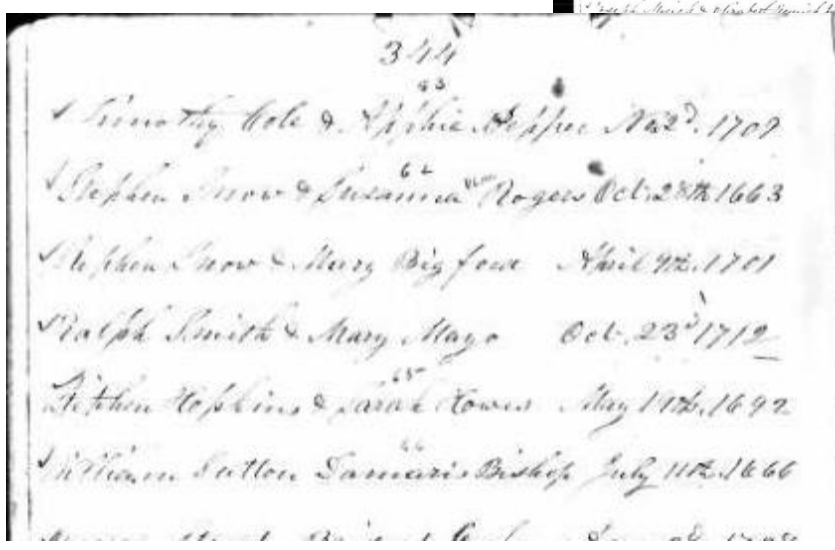
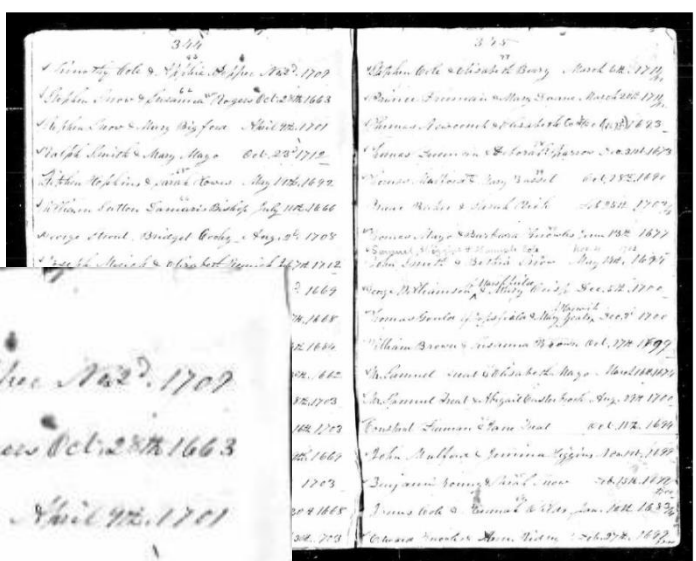
Barnstable was a lively spot for both William and Damaris. On June 5, 1666 William was hauled into court and fined one £ "for purloining the Bible from the meeting house." Meeting House was the name Quakers gave to their church. In the Bible stealing incident he was fined an additional ten shillings "for telling a lye about the same." His descendants can be glad that the Puritans didn't hang him as a thieving, lying Quaker for the peculiar crime of Bible theft.

A little over a month later, on July 11, 1666, William married twenty-year-old Damaris. Could these two events be connected?



Quaker Marriage Ceremony

Quaker Book of Marriage



Detail, bottom line, William and Damaris July 11 1666, from: Quaker Book of Marriage 1666, MA

The Incident

other immigrants. He had a son William.

2nd gen.—William Sutton (ca. 1641-Apr. 28, 1718), first record of whom is at Barnstable, Cape Cod, where on June 5, 1666, he was haled to court and fined “for purloining the Bible from the meeting house one pound and for telling a lye about the same ten shillings,” m. July 11, 1666, at Eastham, Cape Cod, as his first wife, Damaris Bishop (1644/8-Feb. 6, 1682/3). Damaris was a dau. of Richard Bishop of Plymouth, Mass., who m. Dec. 5, 1644, Alice Martin, who was hanged for alleged witchcraft in 1648. William Sutton m. (2) Jan. 3, 1684/5 Jane Barnes, dau. of John Barnes. About 1672 William removed to New Jersey, where he became a landholder, holding 249 acres by 1682. A Quaker, he became a pillar of the congregation that met in the neighboring town of Woodbridge, serving on church boards of discipline and inquiry.

Bible stealing was only one peculiarity that happened among the religious zealots in William’s day. Stretching their legs in the New World of their newly gained religious freedom, their protests and ideology ran the gamut from disbelief to bizarre—from atheism to blood sacrifice.

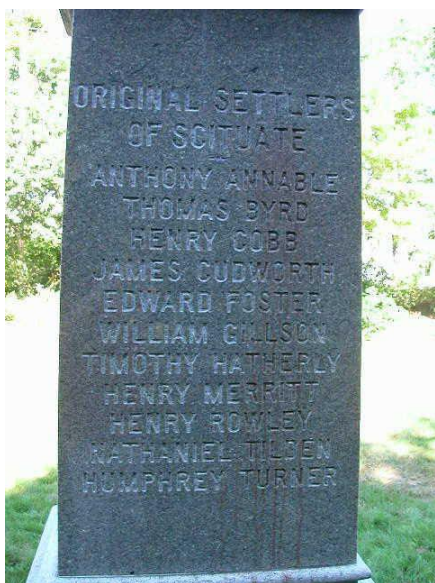
First Parish Church of Scituate is over 375 years old. It started up when a group of nonconformists meeting in London were discovered worshipping clandestinely in 1632, were arrested and jailed, got kicked out of England, and later on sailed for New England. The banned congregation arrived in Scituate in September, 1634. A few months later, a Rev. Lothrop and a dozen people gathered together and made a covenant with each other, forming a church in Scituate.

A small log cabin served as the first church. The site is marked today by a monument that lists the early members of the parish, "The Men of Kent," and by gravestones from the 17th century.

**A History of the First Parish Church of Scituate, Massachusetts:
Its Life and Times,**

By Richard Stower, 2013

Men of Kent Cemetery, Scituate, Massachusetts



William's father George Sutton is not listed as one of the Men of Kent, because he came as one of Nathaniel Tilden's servants.

First Parish was the scene of considerable theological dissent. The principle disagreement was over baptism. These disagreements led to the separation of many members who later formed new churches. A number of Sutton men took to these Baptist ideas and in the future left their Quaker heritage to become Baptist ministers who went on a mission to build new Baptist church houses and schools.

By 1639 dissention over baptism had divided the parish, and Reverend Lothrop led an exodus of a majority of the congregation to Barnstable on Cape Cod Bay. While staunch support for baptism by immersion washed the descendants of William and Damaris Bishop Sutton ever westward from pulpit to pulpit, William, their faithful father, remained a lifelong Quaker.



Original map copyright 2005 digital-topo-maps.com

Damaris

In Barnstable William met and married his future wife. Her name was Damaris Bishop. After nearly ten years of marriage

and four or five kids, they moved to Piscataway, Middlesex, New Jersey.

Damaris may have been glad to make the move from the Barnstable-Plymouth community. In the beginning, life in Puritan Massachusetts for the little girl had started out as hard as Plymouth Rock.

Tragically, in Plymouth, when Damaris Bishop was a toddler of two her mother, Alice, was accused of killing her four-year-old half-sister. Of course, her mother was hanged, some believing she was a witch. This dark and gloomy history of the girl he loved may have provided the scenario from which William Sutton would one day feel compelled to rescue her.

Given his history of purity and piety, William had to have a noble reason for stealing a Bible. Some say the Bible he stole was his own. If seen as an illustration of his desire to protect the woman he loved, his Bible stealing episode could be viewed as a preview of the lifelong deeds of his service to others. . . .For instance, considering that Bible pages were once used to record the news of the day, someone may have recorded the deadly deed of Damaris's mother in its holy pages—which William then stole to try keep the story from the searing eyes--and out of any cold heart--of a future congregant.

Humorous United States Coast Guard Emblem for Massachusetts



SUTTON

I. WILLIAM¹ SUTTON is first recorded in America at Eastham, Massachusetts, on Cape Cod, 11 July 1666, when he married Damaris, daughter of Richard and Alice Bishop. Between 1672 and 1674 he removed from Eastham, and settled in Piscataway Township, Middlesex County, New Jersey. Whether he went directly to New Jersey or stopped a year or two in some Long Island town, as many other New England families did, is not definitely known. Here he was known as a Quaker, belonging to the Woodbridge Monthly Meeting. By 1682 he was owner of 349 acres of land on which he paid a nominal rent of a half cent annually.^(a) Damaris Sutton died 6 February 1682/3, and William Sutton married, secondly, 3 January 1684/5, Jane Barnes. In 1713 he was spoken of as an aged man. He died April 1718.^(b)

Children of William¹ and Damaris (Bishop) Sutton:^(c)

- i. Alice, b. 13 May 1668, Eastham, Massachusetts.
- ii. Thomas, b. 11 November 1669, Eastham, Massachusetts; granted a small tract of meadow at Piscataway, 10 March 1697.
- iii. Mary, b. 4 October 1671, Eastham, Massachusetts; m. 23 December 1689, Daniel McDaniel.
- iv. John, b. 20 April 1674, place uncertain; settled in Passaic Valley, New Jersey.
- v. Judah, b. 24 January 1674/5, Piscataway, New Jersey; granted a small tract of meadow at Piscataway, 10 March 1697.
2. vi. Richard, b. 18 July 1676, Piscataway, New Jersey.
- vii. Joseph, b. 27 June 1678, Piscataway, New Jersey; d. young.
- viii. Benjamin, b. 24 February 1679/80, Piscataway, New Jersey.
- ix. Daniel, b. 25 February 1681/2; Piscataway, New Jersey; lived Basking Ridge, New Jersey.

William Sutton, a Quaker in New Jersey

After marriage in July of 1666, Damaris had a child every year or two for more than a dozen years. She and William were able to instill in several of them the importance of true Christian beliefs. That some of their sons went from Quaker ways to Baptist activists was simply a sign of the times.

Reportedly, William and Damaris were parents of five sons who became leaders in the Baptist movement that was sweeping the country. Back when individual freedom and the right to express oneself on religious and social issues could be turned into a matter of life and death by Puritan authorities, their move could be viewed as an act of courage.

Damaris and William made a good couple. Their move to Piscataway, Middlesex, New Jersey in 1672 was a fateful one. They left a legacy of good will in the children they raised there and in deeds of public service. Besides there being privacy for Damaris, in the sparsely populated area there were no Puritan bigots for the Quakers to deal with. William was

known for treating Native Americans fairly, and it was said of his new homeplace, "...The wolves and the forest were his only enemies." He was where he could live his Quaker beliefs in the acts of love and the art of peace. Respected by both Indians and whites, he was often elected to public office to positions in which he was to watch over the people and keep them safe from harm.

Piscataway, Middlesex, New Jersey

SUTTON FAMILY

George Sutton b. ca 1620 m. Sarah Tilden. /son;
 William Sutton b. ca 1641 d. 4-28-1718 m. 7-11-1666 Damaris Bishop at Eastham, Mass., the dau. of Richard Bishop and Alice Martin, the widow of George Clark. Damaris Bishop died 2-6-1682/3 in Piscataway, New Jersey. He married 2nd 1-9-1684/5 Jane Barnes, the first of her family in New Jersey, who was the widow Jane Barnes of London, who was given deed to 1-24 share in the East Jersey Company. As shown by the records of his 1st marriage and the births of three of his children he lived in Eastham from 1666 to Oct. 1671. Likewise, the birth record of his child in April 1671, at Piscataway, Middlesex Co. N.J., shows that he went west to New Jersey about 1672 or 1673. The quest of religious freedom was perhaps the reason for his removal, since in the New Jersey Colony he was an influential Quaker. On or near the Paritan River, not far from the present town of New Brunswick, William Sutton settled and prospered. Known for his fair dealing with the Indians, the wolves and forest were his only enemies. In 1713 he was spoken of as an aged man and he was buried in the Quaker churchyard at Woodbridge.
 Issue by 1st wife; Damaris Bishop;
 1. Alice Sutton b. 5-13-1668
 2. Thomas Sutton b. 11-11-1669 m. 1-1699 M. A. J.

Alice Sutton, b. 1668

Two years after their marriage Damaris gave birth to a little girl she named, Alice. Interestingly, Alice was her murderous mother's name.

It is believed that Alice Martin, early on, was an orphan. Some say her parents came over on the **Mayflower**, that they were **Mayflower** passengers, Christopher Martin and Marie Prower, and that Alice may have been born aboard ship. Both Martins died shortly after landing, in which case, by the time the first Thanksgiving rolled around, Alice would have been an experienced orphan toddler, a child suffering from the loss of a mama and a daddy. In her later life she would marry twice and endure the loss of her first husband. She had three daughters: Abigail, Martha, and Damaris. Damaris was the child of her second husband, Richard Bishop. It was four-year-old Martha who was murdered.

In July 1648 a jury reported that "coming into the house of the said Richard Bishope, we saw at the foot of a ladder which leadeth into an upper chamber, much blood; and going up all of us into the chamber, wee found a woman child, of about foure yeares of age, lying in her shifte uppon her left cheeke, with her throuth cut with divers gashed crose wayes, the wind pipe cut and stuke into the throat

downward, and a bloody knife lying by the side of the child, with which knife all of us judge, and the said Allis hath confessed to five of us at one time, that shee murdered the child with the said knife"

Rachel Ramsden testified that when she went to Richard Bishop's house on an errand, *"the wife of the said Richard Bishope requested her to goe fetch her some buttermilke at Goodwife Winslows, and gave her a kete for that purpose, and shee went and did it; and before shee went, shee saw the child lying abed asleepe ..., but when shee came shee found [Alice Bishop] sad and dumpish; shee asked her what blood was that shee saw at the ladders foot; shee pointed unto the chamber, and bid her looke, but shee perseived shee had killed her child, and being afraid, shee refused, and ran and tould her father and mother. Moreover, shee saith the reason that moved her to think shee had killed her child was that when shee saw the blood shee looked on the bedd, and the child was not there."*

The child was Alice (Martin) Clarke Bishop's daughter, Martha Clark, by Alice's first husband, George Clark. On 1 August 1648, Alice Bishop confessed she had murdered her daughter and said she was sorry for it. And on 4 October 1648 she was sentenced to be hanged, which accordingly was executed.

An original report of the murder, [Plymouth Colony And Its People 1620 - 1691](#), by E.A. Stratton.

In the Name of Alice

It's worth considering that a quarter of a century later Richard Bishop was living with his daughter and her Sutton family. Damaris Bishop was only two when Martha was killed. She not only lost her half-sister when Alice Martin Bishop slashed the throat of her four-year-old daughter, she lost her mother who was hanged for the crime. It was believed by some that Alice Bishop had to be a witch.

A toddler would not remember the name of her mother, much less any good deeds she might have done, good deeds that one day would inspire a daughter to name her own child after her mother twenty years later. Richard Bishop had to be the one who remembered the good Alice, her witchy mother, so sympathetically to Damaris.

History says a Puritan community could be counted on to recall the bad.

Damaris Bishop, born in 1646, grew up in a Puritan community as the daughter of a notorious witchy woman, who happened to be the first woman hanged in the colony. Since Puritans have often been described as a dour folk who feared that somewhere, somehow, sometime, someone was going to be happy and have a good time, life could have been miserable for the poor child of a woman who was hanged for murder. It's fair to conclude that the young woman William Sutton married in 1666 was a shamed young woman. That William Sutton took pity on the Bishop maiden--whom he loved and married, and whom he removed to a distant spot off the Puritan map to give her sanctuary--seems plausible. The fact that they graciously named their first child after the notorious Witch Alice, needs to be pondered.

As adults, and as new parents, Damaris and William apparently knew something about the murderous events that happened at the end of that summer of 1648--and about the murderer, that the rest of Plymouth didn't know. Since Richard Bishop, so close to the tragic facts in the matter, made the move from Plymouth to the New Jersey Colony with the Suttons, he must have been the informant. He and Damaris may have known a close father-daughter bond. He could have recalled to her, all the years of her life, the good woman a two-year-old would have otherwise forgotten, because Damaris never had much of a chance to know her mother at all, good or bad.

Richard Bishop survived his wife by nearly a quarter-century. The naming of baby Alice Sutton, his granddaughter, ought to be the true legacy of his wife, Alice Martin Clark Bishop—the hanged ancestor whose daughter married into the Sutton family.



THE HOUSE BUILT BY WILLIAM SUTTON, NEW CASTLE, N.H.

A 17th century house in Massachusetts, as photographed in the late 19th century

A Tale Told by Others...

THE SUTTON FAMILY
PART I
DIRECT LINE RECORDS

(Only one person to each generation carries forward the direct line of ancestry. All others are transferred to Part II and considered as collaterals.)

WILLIAM¹ SUTTON

"The first of the family of whom we have record was William Sutton who appears in Massachusetts in 1666 at Eastham on Cape Cod. As the stream of Puritan immigration had almost dried up twenty years before this date, it is extremely probable that he represents the second generation in New England. Their proximity suggests a relationship to one or the other of two families of Suttons, respectively, of Hingham and Scituate, small towns of Old Plymouth Colony, directly across the bay from Eastham.*

"Careful investigation however has failed as yet to establish a connection with either or to suggest any other line of research. Our history opens therefore at Eastham, on the eleventh of July, 1666, with the marriage of William Sutton, yeoman (aged probably twenty-five years) of either English birth or descent, to Damaris, daughter of Alice and Richard Bishop."—From *The Sutton Family of New Jersey*.

Of William Sutton it is further recorded that he removed to New Jersey about the year 1672; that he was an influential Quaker, a pillar of the Quaker congregation that met in the neighboring town of Woodbridge; that in 1682 he was owner of 249 acres of land at Piscataway; that he was in turn freeholder, constable and town clerk in his community.

In the *New Jersey Archives*, volume XXI of the first series, may be found the following entries:

- 1693—Aug. 28. William Suttten, constable of Piscataway gives return for the election of a Representative in place of Hopewell Hull, deceased.
1685/6—Feb. 17. Patent to William Suttone of Piscataway for several small parcels of land.

*William Sutton is supposed to have been a son of George Sutton of Scituate, Massachusetts, and of his wife, Sarah Tilden, daughter of Nathaniel Tilden of Scituate. The wife is named in her father's will of 1641.

Moving to New Jersey

Eastham was originally called Nausett, after the local Indian tribe. By 1666, it was a settlement of four to five dozen brave souls, and was considered a tiny English outpost in the narrow neck of land between the bay and the Atlantic Ocean.

About this time, word was spreading about a new Colony in the Southwest, between the Hudson and Delaware Rivers, where the Indians were friendly and new settlers were welcome. The soil and climate was supposed to be good and religious freedom was guaranteed. When William's Quaker parents fled to North Carolina, in order to flee religious persecution, he did not join them. Instead, William decided to move with his wife, Damaris, and their children, to the afore mentioned settlement in Piscataway, Middlesex County, New Jersey, in 1672-1673. His wife's father, Richard Bishop, sold his land in Duxbury, Massachusetts and went along to live with his only daughter, and William, in New Jersey. William was constable, in 1673, in Piscataway, New Jersey.

The first record of the William Sutton family in New Jersey occurred on Jan. 30, 1677, when there were surveyed to him one hundred and twenty acres. This is recorded in the Elizabethtown bill-in-chancery. There were several subsequent surveys made in his name.

William and his family settled on or near the Raritan River, not far from the present town of New Brunswick. In 1682, Piscataway had a population of about 400, and William owned 249 acres of land, burdened only by nominal quit-rent of one-half penny per acre, annually.

Although there had been few Quakers in Eastham, Massachusetts, William became very influential in the NJ community. He was a pillar in the Quaker congregation that met in the neighboring town of Woodbridge. He was a chosen freeholder, a constable, a town clerk, and he served on the boards of church discipline and inquiry, at different times.

Records show that William contributed a "year old steer" toward the building of a new Friends' Meeting House at Woodvridge, NJ. Unfortunately, for two years the finance committee was unable to convert the animal to cash and had to pay exorbitant boarding fees of six to eight and one half shillings per winter. Sutton kin wintered the animal.

(Continued)

This story was written by: miltran@aol.com . It is available in full on rootsweb at:
<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~colonialfamiliestonewjersey/sutton/d0/i0000092.htm>

References include:

New England Historic Genealogical Register, Vol 91, Jan. 1937

Sutton Searchers Newsletter #2 July 1991

Outlaw Genealogy, Albert Timothy Outlaw & Arnie Henry Outlaw

Colonial Dames of XVII Century, 1896-(1968)

“Eastham was a tiny English outpost in the narrow neck of land between the bay and the Atlantic Ocean.”

Ocean View from the Beach



“Suttons and More Suttons”

FAMILY OF WILLIAM SUTTON

4. WILLIAM SUTTON, b. ca 1641 in Scituate, Massachusetts; d. 28 Apr 1718 at Piscataway, Middlesex County, New Jersey;
 m. ¹11 July 1666 at Eastham, Massachusetts to
²DAMARIS BISHOP, the dau. of Richard and Alice (Martin) (Clark) Bishop. She was b. ca 1645, d. 6 Feb 1681 at Piscataway, New Jersey.

Children of William and Damaris (Bishop) Sutton:

- i. Alice Sutton, b. 13 May 1668 at Eastham, Massachusetts.
- 44. ii. Thomas Sutton, b. 11 Nov 1669 at Eastham, Massachusetts.
- iii. Mary Sutton, b. 4 Oct 1671 at Eastham, m. 23 Dec 1689 Daniel McDaniel of Piscataway, New Jersey.
- iv. Damaris Sutton, b. ca 1673 at Piscataway, m. Benjamin Force of Woodbridge, N.J., d. 1733.
- 27. v. JOHN SUTTON, b. 20 Apr 1674 at Piscataway, d. Dec 1750.
- 48. vi. Judah Sutton, b. 24 Jan 1676 at Piscataway, New Jersey.
- 49. vii. Richard Sutton, b. 18 July 1676 at Piscataway, New Jersey.
- viii. Joseph Sutton, b. 27 June 1678, d. 19 Dec 1682.
- ix. Benjamin Sutton, b. 24 Feb 1680, d. 22 Dec 1682.
- 52. x. Daniel Sutton, b. 25 Feb 1682 at Piscataway, New Jersey.
- 4. WILLIAM SUTTON, m. 2nd 3 Jan 1684 to Jane Barnes, dau. of John Barnes.

³Child of William and Jane (Barnes) Sutton:

- xi. Joseph Sutton, b. 11 Sept 1693 in Piscataway, N.J.

44. THOMAS SUTTON, b. 11 Nov 1669 at Eastham, Massachusetts, m. Apr 1693 to Mary Adams, of Woodbridge. They lived at Piscataway, N.J.

⁴Children of Thomas and Mary (Adams) Sutton:

- 54. i. Joseph Sutton, b. ca 1694.
- ii. Rachel Sutton, b. 27 Mar 1695.
- iii. Benjamin Sutton, b. 19 Jan 1696/7.

1. American Marriage Records Before 1699 by William Montgomery Clemens.
 2. For ancestry of Damaris Bishop see Pedigree chart # 387.
 3. Genealogical Notes of the Sutton Family of New Jersey, by Edward F.H. Sutton, pg. 10.
 4. Ibid., pg. 10, 11.

"Sutton Family"

SUTTON FAMILY

George Sutton b. ca 1620 m. Sarah Tilden. /son;
 William Sutton b. ca 1641 d. 4-28-1718 m. 7-11-1666 Damaris Bishop at Eastham, Mass., the dau. of Richard Bishop and Alice Martin, the widow of George Clark. Damaris Bishop died 2-6-1682/3 in Piscataway, New Jersey. He married 2nd 1-9-1684/5 Jane Barnes, the first of her family in New Jersey, who was the widow Jane Barnes of London, who was given deed to 1-24 share in the East Jersey Company. As shown by the records of his 1st marriage and the births of three of his children he lived in Eastham from 1666 to Oct. 1671. Likewise, the birth record of his child in April 1671, at Piscataway, Middlesex Co. N.J., shows that he went west to New Jersey about 1672 or 1673. The quest of religious freedom was perhaps the reason for his removal, since in the New Jersey Colony he was an influential Quaker. On or near the Paritan River, not far from the present town of New Brunswick, William Sutton settled and prospered. Known for his fair dealing with the Indians, the wolves and forest were his only enemies. In 1713 he was spoken of as an aged man and he was buried in the Quaker churchyard at Woodbridge.

Issue by 1st wife; Damaris Bishop;

1. Alice Sutton b. 5-13-1668
2. Thomas Sutton b. 11-11-1669 m. 4-1693 Mary Adams. Issue;
 - (1) Joseph Sutton b. ca 1694 d. 3-17-1762
 - (2) Rachel Sutton b. 3-27-1695
 - (3) Benjamin Sutton b. 1-19-1696/7
 - (4) Samuel Sutton twin b. 3-16-1698/9 m. ca 1725 Martha
 - (5) Hanna Sutton twin b. 3-16-1698/9
 - (6) Nathaniel Sutton b. 5-23-1701
 - (7) Thomas Sutton Jr. b. ca 1705 m. 1-6-1734/5 Mary Lewis
3. Mary Sutton b. 10-4-1671 m. 12-23-1689 Daniel McDaniels.
4. JOHN SUTTON b. 4-20-1674 d. 1750 m ca 1695 Elizabeth Bonham b. ca 1679 d. 5-10-1731, dau of Nicholas Bonham & Hanna Fuller. Family lineage continued.
5. Judah Sutton b. 1-24-1675 m. 5-6-1698 Emma Canter. Issue;
 - (1) Emma Sutton b. 3-9-1699 m. 6-19-1720 Hugh Dunn Jr.
 - (2) Damaris Sutton b. 12-18-1700
 - (3) Patience Sutton b. 1-27-1702/3
 - (4) William Sutton b. 1-4-1706/7
 - (5) Mary Sutton b. 7-3-1709
 - (6) Sarah Sutton b. 2-28-1711
 - (7) Elizabeth Sutton b. 10-3-1713
 - (8) Anne Sutton b 6-25-1714
 - (9) Joseph Sutton b. 12-6-1716
 - (10) Rachel Sutton b. 5-30-1719
 - (11) Benjamin Sutton b. 4-13-1722
6. Richard Sutton b. 7-18-1676 d. 1732 m. 1st 1-25-1702 Sarah Boutcher, (she m. 2nd 1736 James Campbell) She was the dau. of Vincent Runyon & Anne Joseph Manning
 - (1) Sarah Sutton b. 12-31-1703 m. Joseph Manning
 - (2) Anna Sutton b. 5-20-1706 m. Hendrick Sleight
 - (3) Nathan Sutton b. 8-16-1708 d. 1733 unmarried
 - (4) Richard Sutton Jr. b. 2-14-1711/12
 - (5) Peter Sutton b. 5-2-1713 d. 1740 m. Sarah
 - (6) Catherine Sutton b. 1-24-1715/16
 - (7) Joshua Sutton b. 11-18-1718
 - (8) Jonas Sutton b. 4-18-1721
 - (9) Amos Sutton b. 7-16-1723
 - (10) Joseph Sutton b. 8-15-1726
7. Joseph Sutton b. 6-27-1678 d. 12-19-1682
8. Benjamin Sutton b. 2-24-1679 d. 12-22-1682

Sutton Family -- on William Sutton, Ancestry.com, shared from, 2016
 NOTE: Marriage of 4. John Sutton to an ELIZABETH BONHAM, not Elizabeth Conger is an error. Elizabeth Bonham m. a kinsman of John Sutton—also named John Sutton, and she is buried in his graveyard. Their lost graveyard was found and renovated.

Though incomplete and inaccurate, this is a record and of some use.

1682-'83 Death of Damaris and Children

George Sutton, the father of William, had migrated to a Quaker community along the Virginia/North Carolina border in 1669, where he later died in North Carolina. Other Suttons went with him. It is believed that the Quaker patriarch was seeking a Quaker community down south that was renowned for its strength in Quaker practices and principles. William stayed behind. He had to say goodbye to his brothers, Joseph and Nathaniel and their families as they left with his mother and father. More goodbyes lay ahead.

After the birth of baby Alice in 1668, two or three more children were born to Damaris and William in Massachusetts before their own move to New Jersey: Thomas 1669, Maria 1671, and Damaris 1673. **John David 1674-1750 carried on this Sutton line.** He could have been born in either colony. Judah 1676, Richard 1676, Joseph B. 1678, and Daniel 1682, were to be born in New Jersey.

Damaris died young in February of 1683 at the age of forty after the birth of her tenth child, Daniel. Some records show that the Suttons had a two year old and a four year old who also died and were interred in Piscataway, New Jersey in 1682. Piling up more ominous signs that something was wrong, about two months before Damaris died, the following entry appeared in the Piscataway Town Records:

Nov. 25, 1682 William Sutton voluntarily gives his son Richard to James and Elizabeth Giles until he should be 21. They agreeing to do for him "as their own".

Could it be that there was a deadly sickness going around, had stricken the Sutton family hard, and a father gave away his eight year old son to be cared for? Perhaps William was ill, himself, and he tried to save Richard's life during a smallpox, typhoid, or cholera epidemic. Death was no stranger to the newcomers in New England. William was a farmer, and he and Damaris, who was dead or dying, had a houseful of very young, and very vulnerable, children who needed care.

As a farmer, William needed land. Records show that he acquired several hundred acres of Piscataway:

1685-6 Feb. 17. Patent to William Suttone of Piscataway, for several small parcels, vizt:

1. a houselot of 22 acres, bounded E by Timothy Caute, W by a road, N and S by small brooks;
2. 19 acres of upland, bounded S by a road, N by a small brook, W by Thomas Farnsworth. E by George Wingfield;
3. 79 acres of upland, bounded SW by Doctor Henry Greenland, NE by Michael Symones, NW by Daniel Leoington, SE by a small brook;
4. 4 acres of meadow, bounded S by James Godfrey, N by Vincent Rognion and Nicholas Munday, E by Richard Smith, W by Robert Gannett and Peter Bellew.

By 1687 William remarried, and he was still acquiring more land:

1687 March 25. Patent to William Suttone of Piscataway, for 125 acres there, 25 being due to his wife Jane as headland, the other 100 acres being granted to W. S. as an old settler; all bounded S by Edward Dunhame, E by John Randolph, N and W by unsurveyed land. (William Nelson, Ed. Patents and Deeds and other early records of New Jersey, 1664-1703, 1976 Reprint by Genealogical Publishing Company from Archives of the State of New Jersey, First Series, Vol XXI: Page 98 of reprint from Page 95 of East Jersey Deeds, etc., Liber "B")

William Sutton, received a grant 25 March 1687 totaling one hundred and twenty-five acres of New Jersey. He had remarried and twenty-five acres went to his new wife, Jane Barnes, as "Headland."

Widow Jane Barnes of London was connected to the prominent family of Thomas Fitz Randolph, and she owned the deed to one twenty-fourth share in the East Jersey Company. She was a recent immigrant to the New Jersey shore. In 1695, when William Sutton was Constable of Piscataway, he "returned Thomas Fitz Randolph elected as representative."

1687 March 25. Patent to William Suttone of Piscataway, for 125 acres there, 25 being due to his wife Jane as headland, the other 100 acres being granted to W. S. as an old settler; all bounded S by Edward Dunhame, E by John Randolph, N and W by unsurveyed land. William Nelson, Ed. Patents and Deeds and other early records of New Jersey, 1664-1703, 1976 Reprint by Genealogical Publishing Company from Archives of the State of New Jersey, First Series, Vol XXI: Page 98 of reprint from Page 95 of East Jersey Deeds, etc., Liber "B"

1693 - Aug 28. William Sutton, constable of Piscataway gives return for the election of a Representative in place of Hopewell Hull, deceased.

1697 - March 10. Confirmation of 21 persons including William Sutton, Thomas Sutton, Judah Sutton, all of Piscataway for a small tract of meadow.

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Recorded in the "List of Judges and Assistants of Middlesex County Courts of Common Pleas and Quarter Seccession, 1683-1736," William Sutton was known as a Quaker who lived most of his life as a farmer, and he was recognized as an outstanding member of the community.

Before his death 1718 he had acquired patents for hundreds of acres of land. He got elected as Constable. He served as Town Clerk. He was a Freeholder. Being a Freeholder in colonial times meant that William Sutton was a man who owned property worth 40 shillings (£2) and was thus entitled to vote.



A NEW ENGLAND KITCHEN IN THE OLDEN TIME.

He stayed busy in the church. Quaker records indicate that "*William Sutton, about to remove from Piscataway to Burlington, on the 15th of June, 1706 donated a year old steer "towards building [the Woodbridge] Meeting-house."*

William Sutton & Thomas Sutton

1706--William Sutton donated a year-old steer & his son, Thomas Sutton, took care of the steer for the winter.

Taken from:

**Woodbridge and vicinity. Chapter VI. 1686-1750.
The Quakers. . .**

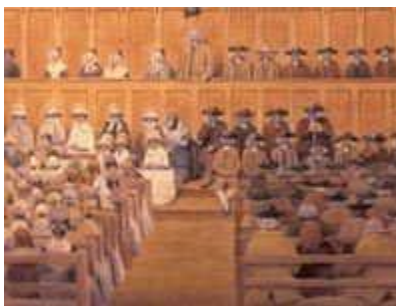
On the 18th of August the building of a Meeting-house was again discussed, John Kinsy offering a plot of ground for the purpose. Kinsy's offer was not accepted on account of the inconvenience of the locality in which his land lay. It was resolved, however, to select a suitable place. In September Nathaniel Fitz Randolph reported that no eligible spot had been heard of; but in October he stated that a man willing to sell a desirable piece of ground had been found. He was authorized to effect the purchase of it. On the 21st of January, 1706, he informed the Friends that the land, comprising half an acre, could be obtained for six pounds. The meeting approved the proceedings of Fitz Randolph, and he was directed to make the purchase in his own name. A subscription of eleven shillings and six pence was paid, which was swelled at subsequent meetings to the full amount required. William Sutton, being about to remove from Piscataway to Burlington, on the 15th of June donated a *year-old steer* "towards building [the] Meeting-house." The animal was taken to be "wintered" for 6s. by Thomas Sutton, son of William, by order of the Friends. At this date the land in question had been laid out by Nathaniel Fitz Randolph and John Allen; and a deed was written by the

William Sutton died the 28th of April, 1718 in Piscataway, Middlesex, New Jersey. At the time of his death he was recognized as a peaceful and prosperous elder of the community. He is reportedly buried in the Quaker churchyard at Woodbridge.

On 19 January 1713, the Woodbridge Quaker meeting offered to William Sutton and his wife, an aged couple, the privilege of living up-stairs in the meeting house.

He lived to be almost eighty years old. It is good to know that he was so well thought of in his old age that his church wanted to take care of him. It is especially gratifying since so many years ago, on June 5, 1666 William had been hauled into court and fined one £ "for purloining the Bible from the meeting house." In the end, the Meeting House provided him with a final shelter.

The End



Quaker Meeting