

## **Additional Findings on Early Johnsons**

### **Johnson Family History Addendum**

**August 5, 2013**

I took DNA tests in 2011. One test, known as Family Finder Test, matches you with other family members through like DNA segments or fragments. I had one match with a person from the Dittmar family but we could not make a precise match as neither of us had family records far enough back. We did find some common characteristics through photos and discussions.

Recently I was contacted by John Bullock and we had a very strong match. Our one common ancestor had to be Rebecca Bonham (1739-1803), wife of Abraham Johnson (1737-1798). He is our oldest known Johnson. John Bullock is a extensive researcher. But he did not have a record of Rebecca after she married Abraham. With John's records, I was fortunate to find details of Rebecca's family dating back to the Mayflower Crossing, and before, in Holland and England.

This Addendum to my original Johnson History contains this new information, and more on Abraham's possible heritage.

#### **Rebecca Bonham's Genealogy:**

Rebecca Bonham, (1739-1803), wife of Abraham Johnson (1737-1798), was the daughter of Ameriah Bonham (1708-1803) and Eunice King (1708-1749). Rebecca's great grand parents were Nicholas Bonham (1630-1684) and Hanna Fuller (1636-1683). Hanna Fuller's family were Pilgrims from the Mayflower landing of 1620, in Plymouth Mass. Hanna's father was Samuel Fuller (1608-1683), son of Edward Fuller (1575-1621). Both son Samuel and Father

Edward came on Mayflower. One son, Mathew, stayed behind in Holland and came on later ship in 1640. Also Hanna's Uncle, Samuel, and brother to Edward, came on the Mayflower. He was a physician and the first doctor in America. Edward and his brother Samuel were signers of the Mayflower Compact.

The Bonham Family has an extensive early American history. Hanna Fuller and her husband, Nicholas Bonham settled in Piscataway Township, Middlesex, New Jersey. He received a land grant of 122 acres, and was a prominent citizen, and member of Francis Drake's Militia.

The Bonham family remained in this geographical area of New Jersey, just west of New York City and Rebecca was born to Ameriah Bonham and Eunice King in Maidenhead, Hunterdon County, NJ.

### **Abraham Johnson early Genealogy:**

There are several researchers with family trees showing our Abraham Johnson (1737-1798) on Ancestry.com. I have attempted to contact these researchers, without success, to find documentation on Abraham's ancestors. These trees are consistent that Abraham's parents were Corten Jansen (1689-1772) and Charity Lane (1693-1772). Charity Lanes name was actually Geurtje Laen. The name Jansen, in Dutch translates to Johnson in English. Corten Jansen was the son of Andries Janson (1663-1745). The book, **Register in Alphabetical Order, of the Early Settlers of Kings County, Long Island, N. Y., from Its First Settlement by Europeans to 1700**, shows Corten or Koren Janson son of Andries Jansen. It also notes that Andries Janson moved to area of Monmouth, NJ. It is noted that in this time period Dutch Settlers in Long Island were caught in the conflict

between England and Holland as to who had what rights of colonization of early America, This may account for them moving on west from Long Island to New Jersey. New Jersey was a wilderness at that time, and families like the Bonhams and Jansens were staking out new land in New Jersey for their well being. These families were deeply religious, and both Baptists and Quakers.

Corten Jansen and Charity Lane had as many as nine children, and Abraham may have been the fourth child. It appears they changed the name from Jansen to Johnson, or Johnston, as some of the early children were named Jansen, and later ones Johnson or Johnston.

When reviewing family birth, marriage and death records, it appears that the Jansens, Johnsons, and Bonhams stayed in this small geographical area of New Jersey, and that this Abraham Johnson is the only one from this area. Interesting to note, there is still a small town in this area called Johnsonville.

Abraham and Rebecca and their family did move on to Washington County, PA as the western front expanded after the Revolution.

Hopefully, at some point some actual documents can be found to verify the limited facts and this unsupported logic.