

▼ **Williamsburg, Massachusetts Families: Genealogical Outlines.** Copyright 2018 Eric W. Weber.

▶ **Key to Source Codes and Other Abbreviations**

▶ **A-B**

▶ **C-E**

▶ **F-H**

▶ **I-L**

▼ **M-P**

▶ **MARKS** Family

▶ **MAYHEW** Family

▼ **MEEKINS** Family

- ▼ **Thomas 1** Meekins ~1589–1641/1651 m. bef. 1614 Katherine **Bell** ?–2/3/1650-1 [RChR 175], sister of Thomas Bell [NEHGR 38:62-3]. See *The Great Migration Begins*, Vol. 2, p. 1246-7. They came to America in 1633 as servants to Edmund Quincy.

- ▼ **Thomas 2** Meekins ~1609?–12/10/1687 [HVR], b. England, came to America in 1633 with his parents as a young servant to Edmund Quincy; m. (1) bef. May 1639, Sarah ?**Beardsley** ?–1/21/1651; he m. (2) 2/14/1651 in Roxbury, MA [Roxbury MR] Elizabeth “**Tulston**” (**Tileston?**) ~1619–5/12/1683 [HVR]. He lived in Braintree (Selectman, 1645), Dorchester and Roxbury, and moved by 1660 to Hadley/Hatfield. A millwright by trade, Thomas built the first corn mill in Hadley (on the Hatfield side of the river) in 1661. [HAT] He was the first signer (and possibly the author) of the 5/3/1667 petition from the settlers on the west side of the river for separation from Hadley, and with John 2 Allis and Isaac 2 Graves, he took it to the General Court in Boston, leading eventually to the establishment of Hatfield as a town on 5/31/1670.

- **Joseph 3** Meekins, bap. Boston 5/3/1639–?
- Sarah 3 Meekins, b. Braintree 4/24/1641–?

- ▼ **Thomas 3** Meekins 6/8/1643–10/19/1675 [HVR], the day of the “Springfield Massacre”. His death is also recorded elsewhere in HVR as having occurred in September 1677, but that must be a mistake, because his widow’s remarriage was recorded in Braintree and in Hatfield in 1676. He was b. Braintree; became a miller and millwright like his father and worked his father's mills in Hatfield; m. abt 1665 Mary **Bunce** 9/17/1645–bef. 8/ /1682, b. Hartford, d/o Thomas and Sarah (**Bull**) Bunce. She m. (2) 7/20/1676 [HVR] John **Downing** ?–?

- Sarah 4 Meekins 2/25/1666 [HVR]–12/28/1739; b. Hadley, m. [not in HVR] Peletiah **Jones** ?–?
- Mary 4 Meekins 3/28/1670 [HVR]–?, m. [not in HVR] James **Lewis** ?–? of Hartford

- ▼ **John 4** Meekins 1/12/1674 [HVR]–1754, b. Hadley, bur. Hat., m. 4/24/1696 [HVR] his first cousin Ruth **Belknap** 3/17/1676–?, b. Boston, d/o Joseph Belknap and Hannah 2 **Meekins** (see below). The marriage of John Meekins and Ruth Belknap was the last Meekins marriage recorded in Hatfield.
 - Hannah 5 Meekins 1/18/1698 [HVR]–?
 - Ruth 5 Meekins 6/6/1700 [HVR]–12/18/1781 ae. 82 [HVR; HillC gs says she d. 12/17] m. [not in HVR] Zechariah 4 **Billings** 11/29/1702 [HVR]–11/11/1771 in 60th yr. [HillC] (see Billings family).
 - **Joseph 5** Meekins 3/20/1703 [HVR]–abt 1756, no issue.
 - Mary 5 Meekins 10/17/1705 [HVR]–? m. [not in HVR] Thomas **Miller** ?–?
 - Martha 5 Meekins 2/1/1707/8 [HVR]–aft. 1756, when she was unmd.
 - Lydia 5 Meekins ? [not in HVR]–12/24/1711 [HVR]. Birth not recorded in HVR. Death record identifies her as d/o John & Ruth.
- ▼ **Thomas 5** Meekins 10/20/1718 [HVR]–8/17/1793 [HillC] m. 2/18/1742 [not in HVR] Martha 4 **Smith** 1/16/1719 [not in HVR]–2/15/1791 [HillC], d/o Chileab 3 Smith Jr. (Chileab 2, Lt. Samuel 1) and Mercy **Golding**. In 1764 Thomas and Martha settled in the part of Hatfield that would become Wmsb. in 1771.
 - **John 6** Meekins 11/9/1742 [HVR]–?
- ▼ **Thomas 6** Meekins 7/7/1744 [HVR]–3/14/1832 ae. 87 [WDR, RMWDR, OVHC] m. (1) [not in WMR] Hannah **Cary** 6/11/1748–7/24/1798 in 51st yr. [OVHC], d/o Dea. Joseph & Phebe (**Mack**) Cary of Wmsb. He m. (2) [int. pub. 3/8/1800 WMR] widow Ruth (_____) Ashley 1740/41–1/10/1829 ae. 87 [WDR, RMWDR; OVHC gs appears to say she d. 1/10/1828], of Conway at time of her marriage to Meekins.
- ▼ **Stephen 7** Meekins 5/6/1769 [WBR, HVR]–5/17/1839 ae. 70 [VHC; RMWDR says he d. 5/18 ae. 71] m. 6/3/1789 [WMR, WCCR] Sarah (Sally) **Hecox (Hitchcock?)** 1768/9–12/2/1859 ae. 89-7-21 [WDR; RMWDR gives d. date as 12/1; gs in VHC says ae. 90]. Stephen was excommunicated from the church at Wmsb. on 9/26/1819 for his unrepentant heavy drinking, after multiple warnings. I think I am correct in believing Stephen raised his family in a large house that stood on the west side of Gere Hill Road a hundred yards above Bill and Deb Turner's present home; the cellarhole is still there. Sally Hecox was living in the Petticoat Hill Road home of Lucius and Clarissa (Hecox) Graves in 1787 when she was twice visited there for medical complaints by Dr. Elijah Paine. [PL]
 - Hannah 8 Meekins 2/21/1790 [WBR]–?
 - Theadotia 8 Meekins 1/20/1792 [WBR]–? m. 11/18/1813 [WMR; int. pub. 10/24/1813 WMR] Joseph **Graves** 2/16/1798 [WBR, but given in the IGI as 2/16/1792, which is far more likely in light of

the marriage date recorded later in Wmsb.]-9/20/1846, s/o Dea. Samuel 6 Graves and Abigail (**Gillett**) Edgerton (See Graves family).

- Lois 8 Meekins 4/24/1794 [WBR]-3/ /1862 [Stephen Meekins letter of April 1862 to his sister Theadotia or Hannah] m. 11/2/1850 [WMR], at age 56, widowed Conway farmer Joseph **Wheeler**, 72.
- ▼ **Dr. Thomas 8** Meekins 12/1/1796 [WBR, VHC]-8/5/1880 ae. 83-8-4 [WDR, VHC] m. (1) 11/20/1828 [int. pub. 10/4/1828 WMR] Hannah **Little** 1/28/1802 [WBR, VHC]-12/12/1844 ae. 42 [WDR, RMWDR, VHC], d/o Isaac Little & Hannah **Paine**. She died of inflammation of the diaphragm following childbirth. Thomas m. (2) 1845 [WMR] Maria **Goodman** 9/17/1822 [VHC]-10/8/1904 ae. 82 [WDR, VHC], b. Wmsb., d/o Spencer Goodman 1780/1-11/27/1868 ae. 87 [VHC], b. Hadley, and Mary "Polly" **Abell** 1792/3-2/16/1872 ae. 79 [VHC], b. Goshen. Thomas and Maria were living alone in 1850 [cen.], and the census of 1880 indicated that he was retired by then. He was a protégé of Williamsburg's unmarried and colorful longtime physician Dr. Daniel Collins, for whom he cared in Collins's old age, and whose medical practice he took over when Collins retired about 1850. Collins is buried in Dr. Meekins' VHC plot along with Meekins, his two wives, his first wife's brother Horace Little, his son and dau-in-law Dr. T. W. and Harriette R. (Hill) Meekins, and their son Thomas Hill Meekins.
- ▼ **Dr. Thomas White 9** Meekins 6/16/1830 [WBR, VHC]-9/7/1897 [VHC], b. Wmsb., d. No. Adams; m. Harriet Rebecca **Hill** 1833 [VHC]-1902 [VHC], b. in CT [1870 cen., N'hamp.] or NY [1900 cen., N'hamp., when she was listed as a wdiowed boarder in the Prospect St. home of an Ellen Cornwell]. Thomas practiced dentistry in Northampton in 1860 and 1870, but seems not to have been recorded there or anywhere else in Massachusetts in the census of 1880.
 - **Thomas Hill 10** Meekins 12/25/1857 [VHC]-1/ /1915 [VHC]
 - **Edward Munro 10** Meekins 12/30/1860 [1870 cen. age 9]-aft. 1920; lived in North Adams, MA.
- Caroline Amelia 9 Meekins 3/18/1833 [WBR]-2/16/1846 ae. 13. [WDR, RMWDR, VHC]
- Quartus 8 Meekins 7/25/1799 [WBR]-10/17/1804 ae. 5-2-17 [WCCR; OVHC gs gives age as 6; WDR gives d. date as 10/7].
- Stephen 8 Meekins 2/10/1802 [WBR]-10/7/1804 ae. 2y-7m [WCCR]. Probably the child who is buried beside Quartus, above. Name on gs is illegible.

- **John 8** Meekins 6/14/1804 [WBR]–8/25/1828 ae. 24 [WDR, RMWDR, OVHC].
- Irena “Rena” 8 Meekins 6/22/1807 [WBR]–1/3/1889 ae. 81y-8m-9d, of paralysis [WDR, VHC], unmarried. In the 1850 census, she was living in the home of Edmund Thayer as an “insane pauper.” It appears her siblings must have taken no interest in caring for her. The rocky cleft known to local old-timers as “Rena’s Cave,” off Gere Hill Road a stone’s throw from her childhood home, is named for her.
- ▼ **Christopher H. 8** Meekins 2/15 or 2/17/1810 [WBR, VHC]–1/31/1880 ae. 69-11-15 [WDR; gs at VHC says he d. 1/30/1879. He did not appear in his wife's household in the census of 1880], farmer, m. 2/18/1850 [WMR not found] Lucinda **Wolcott** 2/14/1816 [WBR]–3/7/1904 ae. 87 [WDR, VHC], d/o Luther and Rizpah (**Curtis**) Wolcott, who were married 5/3/1816 in Chfld.
 - **Charles Christopher 9** Meekins 8/7/1851 [WBR, VHC]–6/3/1887 ae. 35y-10m, of Bright’s disease [WDR, VHC]; never married. In the census of 1880 Charles was listed as “at home” without an occupation, so perhaps his illness had already disabled him by then.
 - **Thomas W. 9** Meekins 7/13/1855 [WBR, VHC]–10/23/1935 ae. 80-3-10 [WDR, VHC], never married. His will left “good wishes” to his nephew Wendell Clary, and all of his small estate to the town, the principal item being the gravel bank lot off the SW corner of Petticoat Hill Road — the old Ephraim Fisher farm. Meekins had also owned (inherited from his parents) a 104-acre farm on the west side of Gere Hill Road south of the hilltop, and must have turned it over before his death to Forrest “Pete” Payne 3/17/1908–7/18/1991, who cared for him in his last years. Payne lived there until his own death. Cheryl Brooks and Michael Long bought the farm in 1993 and have renovated the house beautifully.
 - Sarah L. 9 Meekins 10/22/1859–6/22/1902 m. 10/22/1884 Edward H. **Clary** 1867–2/14/1931 [VHC], of Searsville, s/o Elijah Clary and Lusylvia **Taylor**. [See Clary Family]
 - **Stephen 8** Meekins **Jr.** 10/20/1812 [WBR, VHC]–9/6/1894 ae. 81-10-13, of heart disease [WDR, VHC], m. 4/15/1835 [WMR; int. pub. 3/8/1835 WMR] Wealthy **Bradford** 7/1/1812 [VHC]–12/10/1875 ae. 63-5-10 [WDR, VHC], d/o Pardon Bradford and Ruth **Hitchcock**. They had no children. Stephen pinched pennies all his life, raising teasels and sheep and investing the money he earned by lending it at interest to his neighbors. He eventually accumulated a sizable fortune for a country farmer, and having no widow or heirs and no reputation at all for generosity, he astonished his fellow townspeople by leaving \$20,000 to build the Meekins Library, which was dedicated in Feb. 1897. At the end of his life he lived where Jennifer Black’s

house now stands on the south side of Hyde Hill Road, opposite Ruth Koczela's. He bought the house there from his old friends William and Benjamin Ludden. After his death it was sold to Edson Ross [who had owned the store in Leeds that was barely spared by the MRD]. The house then passed to Ross's son John. It burned to the ground in 1915.

- ▼ **Joseph 7** Meekins 12/31/1771 [WBR; not in HVR]–? m. 10/20/1791 [WCCR] Sarah "Sally" 6 **Nash** 12/16/1772–10/21/1840 ae. 68 [RMWDR, OVHC], d/o Dea. Elisha 5 & Elizabeth (**Smith**) Nash. They supposedly moved to OH in their old age and died there, but Sally, at least, is buried in OVHC.
 - Philinda 8 Meekins 10/2/1792 [WBR]–8/22/1865 m. Erastus **Brown** 1791–4/21/1864 of Conway, b. Thetford, VT (see Brown under Misc. Families, below). They lived in Conway.
 - Rukesby/Ruxby 8 Meekins 2/16/1796 [WBR]–7/13/1880 ae. 84 [GVR] m. 11/21/1816 [int. pub. 10/13/1816 WMR] John Worthington 5 **Miller** 9/5/1789 [WBR]–11/15/1874 ae. 89 [GVR] (see Miller Family)
 - **Emmons 8** Meekins 1/9/1798 [WBR]–?
- ▼ **Russel 8** Meekins 2/11/1800 [WBR]–? m. ~1824 [int. pub. 9/4/1824 WMR] Sally **Packard** ?–? of Deerfield
 - **Joseph Russel 9** Meekins 8/14/1825 [WBR]–? m. 9/16/1857 in Goshen [GVR] Pamela B. 7 **Bassett** 1827–? of Goshen, d/o Silas 6 Bassett. He was a provisions dealer in Boston.
 - unnamed child 9 Meekins ?–12/6/1830 ae. 3. [RMWDR]
 - **Edwin C. 9** Meekins ~1829–1/26/1853 ae. 23-4-6 [CummDR, which says he was b. Wmsb.; gs Cumm. says he d. 1/25]
 - Patty 8 Meekins 4/13/1802 [WBR]–10/6/1804 ae. 2y-5m [WDR, WCCR; OVHC gs says "d. 1804, ae. 2."]
 - **Truman 8** Meekins 8/20/1804 [WBR]–12/27/1880 m. 11/25/1825 [int. pub. 11/15/1825 WMR] Polly **Packard** ?–6/16/1871 of Deerfield. They lived in Conway. Their son Marshall (1828–1831) is buried in the Cricket Hill Cemetery there.
 - Sally 8 Meekins 10/4/1806 [WBR]–? m. 1835 [int. pub. 5/20/1835 WMR] Patterson **Smith** ?–? of Conway
- ▼ **Stoddard Smith 8** Meekins 11/28/1811 [WBR]–? m. ~1835 [int. pub. 4/19/1835 WMR] Lorintha **Jones** 8/11/1812 [ChF]–? of Chesterfield [ChF calls her Roena, saying she was b. 8/11/1812 to Noah Jones & Dorcas 5 **Alvord**]. He was a farmer in Wmsb.
 - **Elbridge 9** Meekins 4/1/1836 [WBR]–?
 - **Albert 9** Meekins 12/11/1837 [WBR]–?

- Sarah Ellen 9 Meekins 8/1/1839 [WBR]–1/17/1843 ae. 3y–5m [OVHC, RMWDR]. Her gravestone is in the edge of the woods on the far right, near the back of the cemetery.
- **Edgar 9** Meekins 5/9/1843 [WBR]–?
- **Thomas 7** Meekins Jr. 2/21/1779 [WBR]–?
- infant child 7 Meekins d. 10/25/1773, unbap. [WCCR]
- Hannah 7 Meekins 1/2/1774 [WBR] or '75 [also WBR]–9/3/1779 [WDR].
- infant child 7 Meekins, stillborn 3/ /1782. [WCCR]
- infant child 7 Meekins d. 2/11/1786 [WCCR]
- Tabitha 6 Meekins 1/24/1747 [HVR]–?
- **Levi 6** Meekins 4/16/1750 [HVR]–6/20/1823 ae. 73 [gs, Old Burying Ground, Hatfield]
- Abner 6 Meekins 1/11/1752 [HVR]–?, must have d. young
- Martha 6 Meekins 2/15/1754 [HVR]–?; possibly the Martha who m. 2/3/1785 [HVR] James Preston ?–? of Granby
- **Abner 6** Meekins 2/28/1756 [HVR]–?
- Irene 6 Meekins 1/16/1758 [HVR]–?
- ▼ **Thomas 4** Meekins 11/8/1673 [HVR]–?, m. [not in HVR] widow Sarah (_____) Wells ?–? and lived in Hartford in 1711.
 - Keziah 5 Meekins d. 5/6/1707 [HVR]
 - Mehitable 4 Meekins 8/18/1675 [HVR]–1694, m. [not in HVR] Thomas **Dickinson** Jr. ?–? of Hartford, CT
 - Mary 3 Meekins 1645–1705 m. (1) Nathaniel **Clark** ?–? of N'hamp; she m. (2) 12/14/1669 John 2 **Allis** 3/5/1642–1/ /1690-91, of Hatfield; she m. (3) abt. 1691 Samuel **Belden** ?–? of Hatfield.
- ▼ Hannah 3 Meekins, b. Roxbury, 3/13/1647–12/26/1688 [HVR] m. Joseph **Belknap** ?–?
 - Ruth Belknap 3/17/1676–? m. her first cousin John 3 **Meekins** 1/12/1672(1674?)–1754 (see above)
 - John 3 Meekins 2/28/1649–5/10/1649.
- ▼ UNPLACED
 - Elvira Meekins ?–? m. 11/26/1845 [WMR] William **Muson?** **Mason?** **Meeson?** or **Merson?** ?–? No further info about either of them.

- ▼ **Charles A. Meekins** ?–?, laborer, b. Cummington(?) [no CummbR fd.], m. Lucia _____ ?–?, b. Williamstown, VT

- Jennie S. Meekins 1/3/1866 [WBR]–?, b. Buckland, but rec. in Wmsb.

- ▶ **MERRITT** Family
- ▶ **MILLER** Families
- ▶ **MORIN** Family
- ▶ **MORTON** Family
- ▶ **MUNSON** Family
- ▶ **MUNYAN** Family
- ▶ **NASH** Family
- ▶ **NEHRING-DAHMKKE-NIETSCHE** Families
- ▶ **NEWPORT/BULKLEY** Family
- ▶ **NICHOLS** Families
- ▶ **NOBLE** Families
- ▶ **OTIS** Family
- ▶ **PACKARD** Families
- ▶ **PAINE** Families
- ▶ **PARTRIDGE** Families
- ▶ **PHILLIPS** Families
- ▶ **PHINNEY** Families
- ▶ **PITTSINGER** Family
- ▶ **POMEROY** Family
- ▶ **PORTER** Family
- ▶ **PURRINGTON** Family
- ▶ **R-T**
- ▶ **U-Z**
- ▶ **MISC. families and individuals**
- ▶ **Williamsburg's Irish families**
- ▶ **Early inhabitant lists (various sources and themes)**

► **Williamsburg War Veterans**

- **Other families to investigate:** Edwards, Heath, Ingellis, Morin, Nutting, Nye, Tilley, Turner.

► **Other towns' histories in my electronic files:**