

Covenanters to Pennsylvania and New Jersey 1680-1780

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The Reformation

- 1547- John Knox founds Scottish Presbyterianism.
- 1553- Flees to France, studies under John Calvin who preaches importance of governance by Presbytery.
- 1587 Mary Queen of Scots abdicates.

The Reformation

- 1603- James I becomes King of Scotland.
- 1610- James rules Episcopacy the religion of Scotland (loosely enforced).
- 1625- Charles I ascends to throne.
- 1638- Orders new Scottish Episcopalian liturgy.

The Reformation

- 1638- Thousands revolt against liturgy, sign National Covenant in defense of 'true religion' Episcopalian bishops deposed & their faith denounced.
- 1660/61 Charles II crowned, passes Rescissory Act negates Scottish laws since 1638.
- Covenanting Ministers removed, begin to worship in secret outdoor services.

Coventicles and Uprising

- 1679- Charles II outlaws Presbyterianism, issues fines to offenders caught worshipping.
- Covenanters openly disobey the King's orders. Thousands attend outdoor coventicles.
- Captured Covenanters held in tolbooths or banished to the colonies.

Clashes with the Crown

- 1679 Battles of Drumclog & Bothwell Brig.
 - Hundreds of Covenanters captured and imprisoned at Greyfriar's Abbey, Edinburgh.
- King permits execution on-site for "rebels". issues bounties for capture of leaders.
- 1680-1688 "Killing Time" 1,000+ Covenanters are executed for their religious beliefs.

Imprisonment and Scots Worthies

- Greyfriar's Abbey winter prison for hundreds of Covenanters. Many executed, like Captain John Paton, in Grassmarket Square and buried in mass grave.
- Dunnottar Castle prison for over 150 Covenanters. Deplorable conditions, many die of deprivation. Few souls banished to Colonies on board the Henry and Francis.



Henry and Frances

- 1685- George Scot of Pitlochy petitions the Crown to bring Covenanters to New Jersey.
- Scot is given 100 prisoners from Dunnottar Prison.
- Others volunteer to leave Scotland for a total of just under 200 souls onboard.
- Journey disastrous estimated 35-70 passengers die.

Starting Over in the Colonies

- 1686- John Johnstone sues for reimbursement of costs associated with failed venture (looses).
- Johnstone does eventually receive a land grant of over 10,000 acres.
- Surviving prisoners granted freedom. Many are given shelter in Woodbridge, N.J. Several stay and build a new life.

Piecing it together: Rev. Riddle

- Modern indexes of the passengers on the Henry and Francis list Rev. and Mrs. Archibald Riddle as dying at sea.
- The *History of Woodbridge and Vicinity* by Rev. Dally 1859 depicts Riddle's life at Woodbridge. He returns to Scotland with son David in 1689.
- Daughter Janet marries James Dundas shortly after arrival. They remain in Woodbridge.

ment with him on the part of the town was in regard to the transportation of a minister from England in 1679, we presume that Mr. Allen was that minister, and that the town's debt to the Captain was incurred in the manner indicated.

January 1st, 1686, a committee was appointed to communicate with Mr. Archibald Riddell (or "Ruddell") "to Encourage him concerning his Settling in this towne," as its preacher. Mr. Riddell accepted the call and in the same year began his ministrations. On the 11th of October he was granted eight acres of land, "adjoining to the Meetinghouse Green fronting upon the Highway that Runs west into the woods from the Meeting House Green." He was also admitted as a Freeholder and allowed one hundred and twenty acres of upland for a farm and ten more "for planting"—all of which he enjoyed free of tax; but his heirs or assigns were required to pay a half-penny per acre annually. His ten acres "for planting" were laid out on the last day of December, at a place called Bald Hill (a name given, perhaps, by some wag in town to preserve in memory the Christian name of Mr. Riddell—*Archie-bald*). The eight acres granted to him were returned to the town by the clergyman in February, 1687, together with the frame of a house which he had begun to build upon it. This was ordered to be finished, and Mr. Riddell to be indemnified for any expense he might have incurred by it thus far. The building was rented, as soon as it was completed, by the year only, and brought a small revenue into the town treasury.²

It is supposed that Mr. Riddell ministered to the Woodbridge congregation until he left the country in 1689. He was the brother of Sir John Riddell and seems to have been a preacher of considerable power.† Before he came from **Scotland** to New Jersey he was imprisoned at Edinburgh, ostensibly for preaching in the open air contrary to law, but really because he was connected "with the rising of Bothwell in 1679." Being finally released by intercessions in his behalf, he emigrated hither; but, in the unhappy voyage which befell the *Henry and Francis*, he lost his wife. He came

to Woodbridge after landing, and settled, becoming the town minister. Others, who arrived in the same vessel, may have settled here, likewise; for many of them, it is supposed, visited the place.* As we have stated, in 1689 he left the country—designing to return to his native land, now that political changes had made his residence possible in Scotland. Setting sail in June with his son, who was but ten years of age, a French war vessel captured the ship, on the 2d of August, just off the coast of England, and the passengers were imprisoned in Rochefort. Mr. Riddell and his son found their way back to the hills and dales of Scotland after a bitter experience of two years in the prisons of France. In 1700 he disposed of his Woodbridge land to Thomas Gordon. In the deed he is called "Minister of the Gospel at Kirkaldie, in the county of Fife." And this is our last glimpse of this heroic man who once preached to our fathers. After such an eventful life, so full of shadow and storm, we cannot but hope that, when its evening fell, some golden light from heaven broke over his path, as the sun bursts through a rifted cloud at the close of a cheerless day.

In Scott's *Lay of the Last Minstrel* Sir William of Deloraine makes a rapid ride from Branksome Hall to Melrose. A stanza in Canto First reads thus:

"Unchallenged, thence passed Deloraine
To ancient Riddell's fair domain,
Where Aill from mountains freed
Down from the lakes did raving come;
Each wave was crested with tawny foam,
Like the mane of a chestnut steed."

The note referring to this verse is as follows: "The Riddells took their name from Ryedale. Tradition carries them back to 727 and 935, the dates of some stone coffins found there."

But to return to the Woodbridge meeting-house: On the last day of May, 1686, the town decreed that the galleries on the east and west sides of the building "should Be forth with

* Whitbread, p. 32. The "Henry and Francis" brought about 100 prisoners to New Jersey, who were subject to intense suffering on account of the bad food eaten on the voyage. Several died before the leaky ship came to land. The captain is said to have been very cruel to the captured company. Riddell and others had embarked reluctantly.

² Town Book, 22. † See Whitbread's *Genie*, K. J. Hist., page 567.

Piecing it together: Adam Hood

- Adam Hood is listed as a passenger on board the Henry and Francis. He appears in lawsuit by Captain Hutton in the spring of 1686.
- *The History of Woodbridge and Vicinity* describes him as Adam Hude, an influential politician in Middlesex, dying in 1746.
- *The Early Contributions of Perth Amboy* by Whitehead Gives a detailed family biography.

WOODBRIDGE.

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for Amsterdam, was wrecked on the coast of Ireland, subjected to much ill-treatment from the Irish, and eventually reached his own house in Scotland on the last day of October, 1691. His whole career was one of romantic interest. Much distress would he have avoided had he been contented with his American home, and probably a greater degree of prosperity and happiness secured, for Wodrow, to whose book I am indebted for these items respecting him, closes his narrative with the remark that, "after all, this excellent person had no reparation after the Revolution, only he possessed his own lands again."²³

THE **HUDE** FAMILY. Among the passengers in the "Henry and Francis" who were induced to regard America as their future home, was ADAM HOOD, or HUDÉ, as the name was spelt by himself. Where he at first established himself does not appear, but in June, 1686, we find him among the others brought before the Court of Common Right at the instance of Captain Hutton, and in 1695 he resided on Staten Island. During that year he purchased some land in Woodbridge, removed thither, and built a farm house for his own residence, which, in an altered condition, is yet standing about a mile north of the church on the road to Rahway.

He is styled in the old records "weaver," but in 1718 he was appointed one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas for Middlesex, soon became the Presiding Judge, and still acted in that capacity as late as 1733—the records of the Court exhibiting a marked regularity in his attendance upon its sittings. At one time he was also Master of Chancery and a Member of the Provincial Assembly. Nothing is known of his character, but he seems to have enjoyed in a great degree the confidence of his fellow citizens.

The tombstone of himself and wife are yet to be seen in the Presbyterian cemetery at Woodbridge. The latter bearing the following inscription:—

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²⁴ Here Lyes ye Body of M^{rs} Marion Hude, Wife of Adam Hude Esq^r For ye Spouse of 46 years dearly beloved in Life and lamented in death. She lived a Patern of Piety, Patience, meekness and affability, and after she had served her generation in ye love and fear of God in ye 71 year of her Age fell asleep in Jesus Nov. ye 30, 1732.²⁵

Mr. Hude's death occurred on the 17th June, 1746, in his 85th year—having for many years been a communicant in the Presbyterian church. Two sons and one daughter survived the parents: ²⁶

Of ROBERT little is known. He was born Sept. 5th, 1691; was a member of the Assembly in 1740–42, and in April of the latter year was appointed a Judge of Middlesex Pleas. He resided in New Brunswick, and died January 30th, 1748–9. The other son, JARVIS, was a gentleman of considerable note in New Brunswick, much respected and esteemed. He was a merchant there in 1726; was appointed one of the Judges of the Pleas in 1732, and continued in the exercise of his duties as such till 1745. He was elected a member of the Assembly in 1735; on the accession of Governor Morris, in 1745, was taken into the Council, continued his consistent supporter throughout his administration, and was one of his attendants to the grave. He was also a member of subsequent Councils, a Master in Chancery, &c. He had several children:—

James died young.

Robert lived and died in New Brunswick, marrying just before his death.

Adam married RAVAND KEARNY, and is noticed elsewhere.

Sybil married Mr. Wm. Neilson of New York, who left children.

Mary married a Mr. Livingston of New York.

Catherine married Cornelius Lowe of New Brunswick. A daughter of theirs married Mr. Jacob R. Hardenbergh, and another Mr. Hugh Wallace of New York.

One daughter died young and unmarried.

The following obituary notice of Mr. Hude is from the New York Mercury of Nov. 8th, 1762:—

²⁴ On Monday last (Nov. 1st) between the hours of eleven and twelve in the forenoon, departed this life in an advanced age, after a long and tedious indisposition, the Hon. Colonel James Hude, of New Brunswick, Esq., a gentleman who, for his great probity, justice, affability, moral and political virtues, was universally esteemed and beloved by those who knew him. He passed through almost all the honorable offices and employments in the government, where he lived, as well as those in the voice of the people. At the time of his death he was one of His Majesty's Council, Mayor of the Corporation of New Brunswick, &c., &c. His death is not only an irreparable loss to the poor, who had at all times free access to his person, and his advice and assistance without fee or reward, but to the public is a subject of great regret. He was a most tender and loving husband, an indulgent father and kind master. He has left a disconsolate and weeping widow and children. 'Blessed are the dead, &c.'²⁵

Piecing it together: Others

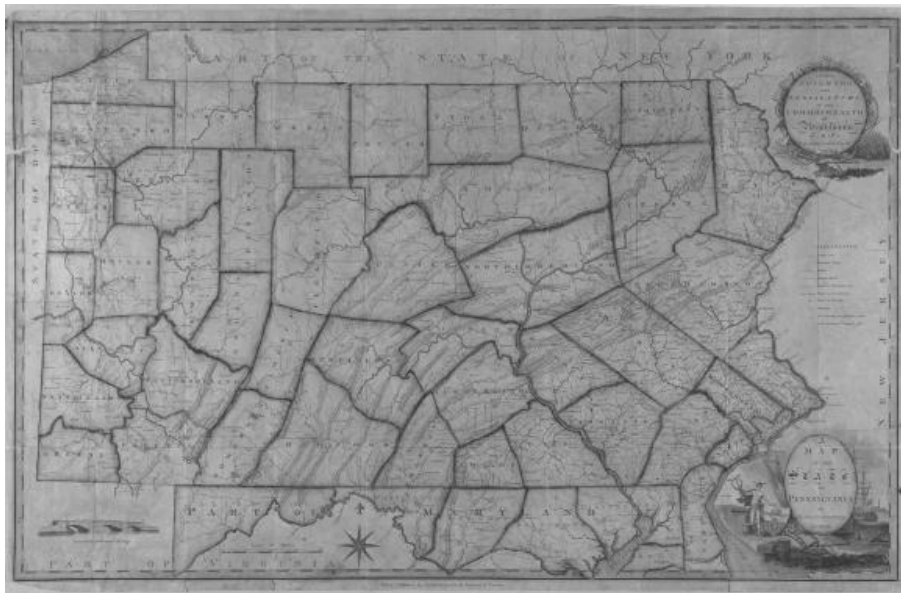
- William Jackson, Cordwainer, Moves to Staten Island, N.Y.
- John Frazer returns to Scotland and is ordained.
- Walter Ker moves down to Freehold N.J. where he helps found their Presbyterian church
www.fpcfreeshold.org/our-history
Like other families, Ker descendants slowly begin to move west.

Early Colonial Covenanting Ways

- Known as “Society People” they could:
 - Practice their faith
 - Hold worship services recite passages
 - Maintain order and discipline
 - Accept new members
 - Handle financial matters
- They could not perform sacraments or take communion, therefore few early records exist.

Societies and Western Movement

- 1743- Covenanting Church established in Octorara, PA. Rev. Alexander Craighead first minister.
- 1750-1775 Movement west into Adams and Lancaster then Westmoreland and Allegheny Co's.
- First Reformed Presbytery created March 10, 1744 by the Revs. Cuthbertson, Lind and Dobbins.



Map courtesy of the PHMC

Rev. Alexander Craighead

- 1707-Born in Donegal, Ireland, he arrives in N.J. with parents in 1721. He is ordained in 1734.
- Arrives in the Pennsylvania and assigned to the Octorara church in 1743.
- Rev. Craighead's fiery demeanor and views conflict with the church and he leaves Octorara in 1751.

Rev. Alexander Craighead

- He establishes several Presbyterian Churches here in 1758 including the Sugaw Creek Presbyterian Church where he dies in 1766.
- The strong Covenanter tenant of refusal to acquiesce to British authority leads many men from his churches to enlist to fight in the American Revolution. Several of these patriot families are given land in Craven County, S.C.



Map courtesy of the Presbyterian Heritage Center

Rev. John Cuthbertson

- 1751- Arrives in the United States from Scotland.
- Settles at Octorara Church and begins his ministry. Preaches from 1751-1791.
- Travels on circuit from PA-DE.-N.J.-N.Y.-CT-PA
- Kept detailed diary of all sacraments conducted. Diary is transcribed and available online.

5th.--Rode 8 miles to Hew Rosses, Baltim, on the ice 15 f. thick and 9 f.
 where it diged etc.
 7th.--Preached psa. 74:4-8 and lectured 1 Kings 18:17-22 all pub. conv. let suc.
 9th.--Sabbath. Hew Rosses, Muddy Creek, preached psa. 24:3-7. Lectured Jer. 50:
 4-9 and preached Isa. 45:23 - a vastly pub. day - an unheard offer of Christ
 10th.--Rode 12 miles to Susqu. etc. to Jo. Duncan's. Conversed Bi. Mitchel etc.
 11th.--Rode 14 miles to James Wilsons at Gateshills Ford, Octarara.
 12th.--Rode 6 miles to McDowals Miln and Jo. Galbreaths - good health -
 13th.--Lectured psa. 74:18-L. and examined 30 persons.
 14th.--Rode 8 miles to Sam Jacksons and Robert Loughheads - held session.
 16th.--Sabbath. Rode 10 miles to meeting-house, preached paa. 18:46-L. Lectured
 Gal. 5:13-17. Preached Isa. 45:23 and baptized John son to Wm. Lauchlin, L
 pr by the wife. Then went to Wm. Kers, where exer. psalm 30 (gave 23
 shillings and 6 pence for 2 shirts etc.)
 17th.--Rode 4 miles to Humphrey Fulertons. Dejected, etc.
 18th.--Rode 12 miles to Lancaster - talked with Miller and Holl. about printing
 5-----
 19th.--Preached psa. 62:7-11 and preached Acts 2:39 in the Town-house etc. Then
 supped etc. with -- Polson Scot, who goes to Charlestown.
 20th.--Rode 18 miles -- slaber, etc. big Creeks to Barny News Tavern.
 21st.--Rode 3 miles to the Harris's, spent the day in vain waiting.... .

 11 days . 186 miles . 3 C . 1575 . God helping and
 directing me.....

Transcript of Rev. Cuthbertson's Diary www.familysearch.org

Putting it Together: Covenanters

- Many of the people listed in Rev. Cuthbertson's diary can be found in Pennsylvania land records and Revolutionary War Records.
- Land records have been digitized by the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission. An overview can be found here. www.phmc.pa.gov/Archives/Research-Online/Pages/Land-Records-Overview.aspx

LORD'S PATRIOT		VALUABLE	ACRES		GUARANTEE	NAME OF TRACT	DATE OF WARRANT			COUNTY	
Day	Month		Year	Acres			Pl.	Up	Month		Year
AA - No. 14 - Continued.											
16	March	1794	219	Futhey, Samuel	182.100	Patrick Adams	St. Patrick	27	Nov	1794	LANCASTER
					141.74	David Bussan	Christendom	1	Oct	1790	LANCASTER
6	April	"	234	Fisher, Christian	129.112	Christian Fisher	Christians Promise	9	Aug	1781	LANCASTER
14	June	"	479	Francis, Turbutt	1062.67	Turbutt Francis	Abrahams Plains	19	June	1774	LANCASTER
	May	"	473	"	2775	"	Colonels Reward	5	March	"	LANCASTER
7	July	"	598	Faulke, William	168	William Faulke	Rising Sun	24	"	"	LANCASTER
8	"	"	525	Ferris, David	98.80	David Ferris	Endeavour	4	July	"	LANCASTER
21	Sept	1794	692	Fisher, William	274	William Fisher	Clover Hill	20	Sept	"	LANCASTER
6	Oct	"	713	Futmer, Marcus	242	Joseph Futmer	Quick Work	16	"	"	LANCASTER
15	Sept	"	781	"	310	"	Jacob's Spring	18	"	"	LANCASTER
23	Nov	"	287	Fryer, Geo. Paul	143.109	George Paul Fryer	Fryer's	15	July	1774	LANCASTER
11	Oct	"	798	Feather, Michael	224	Michael Feather	Feather's farm	11	Oct	"	LANCASTER
22	Nov	"	804	Freeman, Richard	55	Richard Freeman	Chestnut Hill	22	Nov	"	LANCASTER
6	July	1795	810	Fintrick, Theobald	96.80	Theobald Fintrick	Rochester	18	Oct	1770	LANCASTER
AA - No. 15 - Sept 1795 - July 1776.											
13	Dec	1774	17	Francis, Turbutt	1146	Turbutt Francis	Soldiers Retreat	5	Dec	1774	LANCASTER
23	July	1795	384	Finney, James	116	James Finney	Knock Castle	19	July	1775	LANCASTER
			39	"	150.120	"	Bally Castle	20	"	"	LANCASTER
			60	"	112.40	"	Castle Knock	23	Oct	1774	LANCASTER
			60	Francis, Turbutt	724	Francis Turbutt	Keppel	17	March	1763	LANCASTER
1	March	"	116	Faulke, Peter	110.182	John U. Bergen's	Keppel	22	March	1763	LANCASTER
14	"	"	159	Flickinger, John	760.8	Samuel Hornish, Jr.	Whippinger	19	April	1775	LANCASTER
8	July	"	195	Folge, Joel	1088.9	Joel Folge	Harb's Sheds	17	July	"	LANCASTER
			239	"	332	"	Old Town	27	July	1775	LANCASTER
			240	Kirley, James	122	James Kirley	Release	26	"	"	LANCASTER
			252	"	895	"	Friendship	23	May	1772	LANCASTER
20	Feb	"	227	Fooley, Abraham	322.20	Abraham Fooley	White Oak Bottom	16	Feb	1772	LANCASTER
3	Dec	1774	228	Faulke, William	144.80	John Garver's	Fairview	28	Sept	1773	LANCASTER
						Francis Faulke	Alexandria	26	March	1763	LANCASTER



Ancestor Member Descendants GRC

PHINNEY, JAMES JR

Ancestor #: A090866

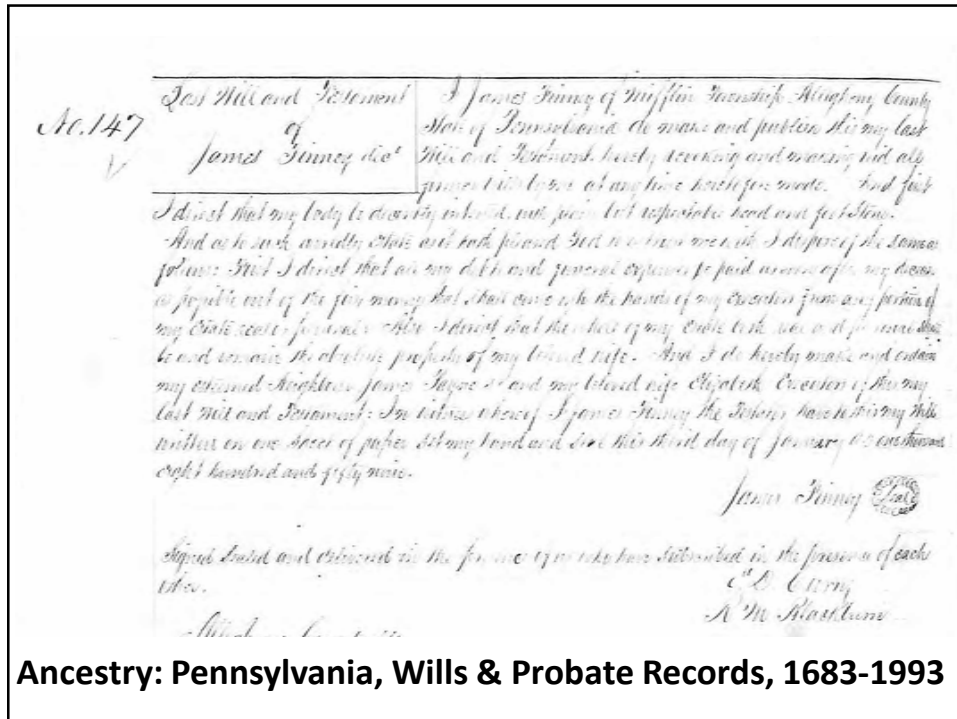
Service: PENNSYLVANIA Rank(s): PRIVATE
 Birth: 1750 LANCASTER CO PENNSYLVANIA
 Death: 9-1-1829 CADIZ, SHORT CREEK TP HARRISON CO OHIO
 Service Description: 1) CAPT MARTIN WEAVER'S CO, LANCASTER CO
 2) MILITIA, COL JOHN ROGERS

PHINNEY, JAMES SR

Ancestor #: A090865

Service: PENNSYLVANIA Rank(s): PATRIOTIC SERVICE
 Birth: 1726 IRELAND
 Death: 8-3-1802 ELIZABETH TWP ALLEGHENY CO PENNSYLVANIA
 Service Source: PA ARCH, 2ND SER, VOL 13, P 394
 Service Description: 1) TOOK OATH OF ALLEGIANCE, LANCASTER CO

Daughters of the American Revolution
 Patriot Index www.dar.org



Online Resources: United States

- Presbyterian Heritage Center
www.phcmontreat.org/collection.htm
- Presbyterian Historical Society
www.history.pcusa.org
- Reformed Presbyterian Church of America Archives <http://rparchives.org>

Online Resources: United States

- Internet Archives www.archive.org
- Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission: www.phmc.pa.gov
- New Jersey Digital Highway
www.njdigitalhighway.org/genealogy_ever.php
- Genealogical Society of N. J. www.gsnj.org

Local Research Centers

- Pittsburgh Carnegie Library
www.carnegielibrary.org
- Heinz History Center
www.heinzhistorycenter.org
- Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Society <https://wpgs.org>

Presbyterian College Archives

- Pittsburgh Theological Seminary
www.pts.edu/barbour-library
- Geneva College www.geneva.edu/library
- Yale University Archives
<http://web.library.yale.edu/mssa>

A copy of this presentation
including a more robust
bibliography can be found at:
www.tamarackgenealogy.com

