

ROBERT HUDSON

EAST HAMPTON, NEW YORK

ORIGIN

One ROBERT HUDSON, born about 1640, lived in Westchester County, N. Y. Robert Hudson's land at the south line of Yonkers Patent was mentioned in Westchester Town Records, 9 Nov. 1684. Aged 48 or thereabouts, Robert deposed with others at Westchester, 17 July 1688. ^a He was of Rye as early as 1662, when he signed the compact to establish local government there, and later removed to Westchester. ^b

He was doubtless the Robert Hudson of Rye who was accused by HANNAH TERRILL of Milford, Conn., in 1670, as the father of her child. ^c She was baptized at Milford, August 1645, daughter of Roger and Abigail (Ufford) Terrill [see Terrill family herein], and afterward married John Skeels and lived with him in Woodbury, Conn., where she died 11 Nov. 1730.

Hannah Terrill's younger brother Thomas, born at Milford 23 Oct. 1656, was a blacksmith and settled in East Hampton, Long Island. Our Robert Hudson, also a blacksmith, first appears in East Hampton records in 1694 when he bought land from Thomas Terrill. If son of Hannah Terrill, he was named for his putative father and was about 24 when he first bought land. If Thomas Terrill, only fourteen years older than himself, was his uncle, Robert Hudson was probably taken with him to East Hampton as his apprentice or foster son, to learn the blacksmith trade. The facts stated are significant and fit together into a reasonable story of what very probably happened, but the case is circumstantial and cannot be considered proved.

I. ROBERT HUDSON

ROBERT ² HUDSON, quite probably son of Robert Hudson of Rye, N. Y., and Hannah Terrill, and if so born at Milford, Conn., about 1670, died at East Hampton, N. Y., 24 Nov. 1723; married MARY (—), born [around 1680], died at East Hampton, 21 Oct. 1758. She married second, 4 July 1736, Isaac Halsey.

On 3 May 1694, Robert Hudson, "Black Smith," purchased land in East Hampton from Thomas Terrill. As Robert "Hodson," he witnessed a deed there 16 Mar. 1696/7. In 1702 he was one of the two Constables chosen for the year ensuing. On 22 Sept. 1704, Robert Hudson, blacksmith, bought land from Ebenezer Belden. Robert Hudson (so signed) and Mary Hudson (his

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wife, who made her mark, "M") witnessed a deed, 1 Mar. 1710/11. ^d

A deposition was made at East Hampton, 3 July 1714, before "Rob Hudson Justice," but was recorded at Southold. Another document, acknowledged before Robert Hudson, Justice, in 1720, was recorded at Southampton. ^e These records, with the entry of his death, which call him Justice, indicate that he held this office at least from 1714 until his death in 1723. He witnessed the will of John Stratton of East Hampton, 2 Oct. 1721. ^f

The will of Robert Hudson of East Hampton, blacksmith, was made 26 Apr. 1723. His land at ye Wading River was to be sold to pay debts. To his son Samuel he gave the house Samuel lives in, with half the home lot and one acre of commonage. To his wife Mary, the house she lives in and half the home lot during her widowhood, and after her death to his son Henry. To son John, all his iron and smith tools, shop, and £10. "I leave to the rest of my children, not named above, being 7 in number," £30 each. Wife, son Samuel, and Thomas Chatfield, executors. Proved 2 Apr. 1724. ^g

"Justice Rob. Hudson, died abt. 2 of clock P.M. aged abt. 50 years," 24 Nov. 1723. ^h If born 1670, he was actually 53, but the age was stated in round figures and need not be taken too literally.

The wife of Robert Hudson owned the Covenant and was admitted to the church 31 Aug. 1701. The baptisms of all ten children were entered, the father being called Rob. Hudson in five entries and R. Hudson in one; but in 1714 he was called Mr. Rob. Hudson, and in the last three entries simply Mr. Hudson, in deference of course to his judicial office. ⁱ

Robert's widow, left with several young children, did not remarry for some years. Capt. Isaac Halsey and Widow Mary Hudson married at East Hampton, 14 July 1736. The Halseys were of Southampton. The will of Isaac Halsey of Southampton, made 10 Jan. 1751/2, proved 9 June 1757, gave "to my wife Mary £20, also the use of the west room in my dwelling house and 100 weight of good Beef, and 1 cow . . . Also 6 bushels of good wheat, 6 bushels of Indian Corn, 3 loads of firewood, and all the butter and cheese in the house that is of her own make." ^j Isaac Halsey, according to his gravestone, died 23 Mar. 1752 in the 88th year of his age. Probably his widow returned to live with one of her children in East Hampton, for we find recorded there the death of "Widow Mary Halsie" on 21 Oct. 1758. S

Children of Robert and Mary (——) Hudson:

+ i. SAMUEL ³, bapt. 31 Aug. 1701; d. after 1764. 31
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- ii. HENRY, bapt. 18 Jan. 1701/2; m. at East Hampton, 28 Feb. 1727/8, PUAH PARSONS, who was admitted to the church 28 Aug. 1737 and d. 22 July 1752 æ. abt. 50. The only children noted at East Hampton were: *Puah*⁴, bapt. 22 June 1729; and a son, d. 10 Jan. 1733/4 æ. abt. 4 days.
- iii. JOHN, bapt. 12 Dec. 1703. He probably followed his mother to Southampton, N. Y., while she was living there as Mrs. Halsey. In 1751 bounds were established between the lands of John Hudson and Thomas Lupton in Southampton, and the earmark of John Hudson, transferred from Deborah Parnell, was entered for record in 1753-4.² The will of Robert Hudson of Southampton in 1771 mentioned wife Elizabeth and brothers Timothy, John and Ebenezer. The names of three of these brothers indicate that they were grandsons of Robert of East Hampton, and most likely their father was John who is known to have lived in Southampton.
- iv. TIMOTHY, bapt. 21 July 1706; m. at East Hampton, 24 June 1729, MARY SHAW, who was admitted to the church there 26 Apr. 1730. The only children found recorded in East Hampton were *Mary*, bapt. 11 Nov. 1733, and *Puah*, bapt. 31 May 1741. He seems to have been in New Jersey for a time with his brother Samuel, for in Essex County Court Records one Timothy Hudson sued John Akins 25 Sept. 1739, and in Morris County Court Records he sued William Goldsmith July 1755. He may have returned to East Hampton or settled elsewhere.
- v. MARY, bapt. 26 June 1709; m. at East Hampton, 10 Nov. 1730, JAMES REEVES, of "Southold farms."
- vi. SYBIL, bapt. 18 Nov. 1711; m. at East Hampton, 2 Apr. 1734, PETER HALLUCK of Southold.
- vii. HANNAH, bapt. 8 Aug. 1714; possibly the Hannah, not described as wife or widow, who d. at East Hampton, 28 Jan. 1765.
- viii. NATHAN, bapt. 17 Mar. 1717; d. 2 Aug. 1736 æ. "abt. 19 yrs. 5 mos."
- ix. PUAH, bapt. 7 June 1719; m. (not dated, between entries of 19 Sept. 1746 and July 1747), JOSIAH CONKLING.
- x. DAVID, bapt. 29 Oct. 1721; d. at Goshen, Conn., 1798; at an early unspecified date his earmark was entered with that of his brother Samuel at Mendham, N. J.; he was apparently not there long and moved to Branford, Conn., where, calling himself "Taylor," he first bought land 4 Jan. 1754; called of Branford, he bought 75 acres with a mansion house and barn in Goshen, 15 Oct. 1764, and moved there; m. (1) at Branford, KEZIA ROSE, b. 25 Feb. 1729/30, d. 8 Sept. 1754 in 24th yr. (g.s.); m. (2) at Branford, 23 Aug. 1755, REBECCA FOWLER of Guilford; m. (3) SARAH ———. His will, dated 7 June 1794, recorded 16 Apr. 1798, named wife Sarah, sons Timothy and David, dau. Kezia wife of Theodore Parmalee.¹ David Hudson, Jr., was the noted founder of Hudson, Ohio.

II. SAMUEL HUDSON

SAMUEL³ HUDSON, eldest son of Robert, baptized at East Hampton, N. Y., 31 Aug. 1701, died in New Jersey after 1764; married at East Hampton, 9 Nov. 1722, ZERVIAH³ SCHELLINGER (Schellinx, etc.), born 15 Aug. 1705, daughter of Abraham² and Joanna (Hedges) Schellinger.

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Samuel Hudson and Zervia his wife joined the East Hampton church 19 Jan. 1723/4, and ten children appear in the church entries of baptism and death up to 4 Oct. 1741. Mol, negro servant of Mr. Hudson, owned the Covenant 13 Apr. 1740, and had three children baptized — Cuffe, Judah, and Phillis.^m On 1 Jan. 1741/2, Samuel Hudson, Esq., for £227.12.4, quitclaimed to William Schellinx, of Middletown, Conn., all interest in the estate of Mr. William Schellinx, late of East Hampton, deceased.ⁿ

This marks the removal of the family to New Jersey. Samuel Hudson and wife were communicants of the Morristown church [Morris Co., N. J.], 25 May 1750; "moved away," says the record. Their daughter Joanna was married at Morristown the following year. The family shortly after settled in nearby Mendham, where Samuel and David Hudson entered their earmarks at an unrecorded date, perhaps 1749 but more likely after 1752. The son Samuel Hudson, Jr., remained in Morristown, or returned there. No Hudsons were listed in Mendham in the list of Freeholders dated 31 Aug. 1752, but "Samuel Hutson" was then listed in Morris Township.

Samuel Hudson was named as a Justice of the Peace in Morris County in 1764, probably at Mendham.^o No record of death and no probate has been found. Very likely Samuel conveyed his land to his sons and "portioned off" his daughters at marriage.

Children of Samuel and Zerviah (Schellinger) Hudson, the first ten born at East Hampton, N. Y.:

- i. SAMUEL⁴, bapt. 19 Jan. 1723/4; d. at Morristown, N. J., in 1755; m. MARY _____, who renewed her Covenant at Morristown, 24 Feb. 1754; she probably m. (2) Nathaniel L'Hommedieu of Morristown, whose will dated 24 Jan. 1777, proved 8 May 1777, named wife Mary and four sons, with Abraham Hudson as a witness. Abraham Hudson was appointed administrator because Mary had died, and probably was her son and older than the minor L'Hommedieu children.^p Children, bapt. at Morristown:
 1. Zerviah⁵, bapt. 24 Feb. 1754; m. 15 May 1771, William Hayward.
 2. Abraham, bapt. 24 Feb. 1754; m. (1) 25 Oct. 1772, Abigail Hayward, who d. 12 Apr. 1778 æ. 25; m. (2) 5 Feb. 1782, Sarah O'Hara.
 3. Samuel, bapt. (posthumously) 4 May 1755.
- ii. ABRAHAM, bapt. 6 Feb. 1725/6; no further record found.
- iii. ZERVIAH, bapt. 25 Feb. 1727/8.
- iv. ELIZABETH, bapt. 5 July 1730; d. 7 Aug. 1736 æ. abt. 6.
- v. A son (twin), stillborn 30 Aug. 1732.
- vi. A daughter (twin), d. 3 Sept. 1732 æ. abt. 5 days.
- vii. JOANNA, bapt. 11 Nov. 1733; m. at Morristown, N. J., 2 May 1751, Capt. JOHN LINSLEY; she d. before 4 Dec. 1755, when he m. (2) Sarah Rainer.
- viii. WILLIAM, bapt. 3 Oct. 1736; taxed on 100 acres in Mendham, June 1778, and

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on 150 acres Sept. 1779 and Oct. 1781. He entered his earmark in 1766. It was probably he who d. at Mendham in 1813 leaving a will which named wife EUNICE, perhaps a second wife, and children John L., Elias and Abigail. ⁹

ix. ELIZABETH, bapt. 22 Oct. 1738.

x. MARY, bapt. 4 Oct. 1741.

xi. DAVID, b. abt. 1743; d. at Mendham, 17 Aug. 1796 in 53d yr. (g.s.); taxed on 50 acres in Mendham, 1778, 1779 and 1781; m. SUSANNA ———. At his death, his widow and sons John and David declined administration, which was granted 22 Sept. 1796 to Preserve Riggs, with bondsmen Henry Conkling and Benjamin Leonard. ^r

+ xii. PUAH, b. 1 Dec. 1744; d. 29 Mar. 1822; m. 18 June 1769, PRESERVE RIGGS, b. 26 Jan. 1740, d. 5 Apr. 1821.

Note: There is no direct evidence to place the last two children, David and Puah in the family of Samuel³ Hudson. The birth date of Puah is from a family record. Samuel had a sister Puah, and two of his brothers gave that name to daughters, but their ages do not correspond. Samuel was the only one of the brothers to settle permanently in Mendham, N. J., where Puah (Hudson) Riggs lived. Puah was certainly sister of David, since her husband administered **David's estate**. **David and Puah** were born in sequence at dates slightly later than those of the ten recorded children of Samuel. Samuel's wife was born 1705, so would not have reached the limit of child-bearing age until 1750 or later, several years after David and Puah were born.

The eldest son of Puah (Hudson) Riggs was Rev. Elias Riggs. Samuel Hudson's son William also named a son Elias. David Hudson (brother of Puah) had a son David, presumed to be the Newark man of this name who married Margaret Congar, and after his death Margaret married Rev. Elias Riggs, son of Puah. It would thus appear that Margaret's two husbands were first cousins.

While not fully proved, it seems reasonable to place Puah as a daughter of Samuel³ Hudson.

- a. *N. Y. Gn. and Biog. Record*, 60:114; 54:284.
- b. Charles A. Baird, *History of Rye* (1871), 21-4, 415.
- c. New Haven County Court Records.
- d. *East Hampton Town Records*, 2:304, 354; 3:28, 113, 264.
- e. *Southold Town Records*, 2:347; *Southampton Town Records*, 3:37.
- f. *Abstracts, New York Wills*, 11:126.
- g. *Ibid.*, 2:356.
- h. *East Hampton Town Records*, 5:567.
- i. *Ibid.*, 5:426, 450-1, 453-4, 456-7, 459, 461-2.
- j. *Abstracts, New York Wills*, 5:205.
- k. *Southampton Town Records*, 3:6, 159.
- l. Litchfield Probate, 6:267.
- m. *East Hampton Town Records*, 5:432, 435, 464-6, 468, 472, 474, 476-7, 571, 573.
- n. *Ibid.*, 4:116.
- o. Morris County Court Records.
- p. *N. J. Archives, Wills*, 5:464.
- q. N. J. Wills at Trenton, File 1515N.
- r. *Ibid.*, File 914N.