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Jaquith

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- The ancestors of the Jaquiths were French Huguenots who fled France some time previous to 1628 and went to Cornwall, England, [possibly back to France temporarily], and from there to America. They became a well known, highly respected family of patriots. They were first --in presence and in numbers-- at Lexington, Massachusetts at the outbreak of the American Revolution. Abraham was admitted to the 1st Church of Charlestown on October 9, 1643. His wife, Ann, had been admitted earlier in the same year, on February 13, 1643. He was declared a "Freeman" in 1656, which meant he was accepted in full membership in the church and community as having met all the requirements of faith and morals. Only Freeman had full rights of citizenship in colonial Massachusetts. His father-in-law was James Jordan, whose Will is included in this chapter. James was born in England and is reported as arriving in America before 1620, but this is unverified. In 1648/49, Abraham purchased the home of "Widow Alice Barnard". A copy of the transaction can be found at the Boston Public Library in the 3rd Report of the Record, (commissioned by the City of Boston in 1878), Book of Reference, 562-1, Pg 110. In 1659, an "Abram Jaquis(sic) of Woburn presented to the court his inability to (take part in) military exercise by reason of his bodily infirmity, as also the same certified to under the hand of Capt. Edward Johnson, is dismissed from all ordinary training. He is paying five shillings per annum to the use of the military company in the town wherein he dwells."

Abraham Jaquith is believed to have landed in Boston June 18, 1643 with Huguenots from La Rochelle, France, who stopped at Cape Sable Island, Nova Scotia, where Charles de la Tour and Madame La Tour boarded their vessel. They proceeded to Boston where La Tour persuaded Governor Winthrop and his council that they could stay. (Jaquith Family in America - forward).

DEATH: Abraham died during the smallpox epidemic which swept Charlestown in 1676 but the actual cause of death and place of burial are not known. (Jaquith Family in America - by Jaquith & Walker).

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WILL OF ABRAHAM JAQUITH 16 Nov 1676 Woburn; Middlesex; Massachusetts

This 16: of the 9th mo 1676. I Abram Jaquith of the Towne of Oburne in the Coun of Midd. in New Engld. being weake in body, but perfect in memory, and understanding, do make this my last will & testamt. Ido bequeath to my beloved wife Hannah, all my houseing & y³ orchard during her life, & two Cows, & their maintenance, winter & sumer, during her life, and Twenty bushels of corne to be yearly pd to her during her life in kind as followeth. Ten bush. of Indian 3. of Ry, 2. of wheate, five of barley, Also I do bequesth to my sonne Abram, all my housing, & houselott, at my wifes decease, but thirty acers of land lying in a lott called Cutlars lott, I give to my sonne Abram in prsent possession to by layd out to him on the north side of the lott from end to end, and besides this also I give to Sonne Abram, halfe of all my meadow lands, also halfe of all my other lands and wood lands with the priviledges. Also I give to my sonne Jno and to my Daughter Lidea, the other halfe of Cutlers lott, wch is thirty acres and the other halfe of my meadow land to be equally divided between them, Excepting one eight pt of the woodland, wch I give to my daughter Sarah. Also I give to my daughter Deborah Six pounds, to be payd to her at my wifes decease, and my will is that my sonne Abram, my sonne Jno and my daughte Lidea, the possessors of ye Arrable lands, shall pay to my wife the Twenty bushels of corne yearly, and also find her with firewood yearly, during her life as above specified. I make my wife Anna & my sonne Abram Executors of this my will Witnes Abram Jaquith Jno Wright this marke Allen Convars Jno Russell Attested on oath by Allen Convars and Jno Russell. Decemb. 19, 1676, at Charlstowne Court. As attests. Tho: Danforth. Record Entred by Tho: Danforth. R.

Abraham came to America in 1640. He lived at Charleston, Connecticut and Dedham, Norfolk, Massachusetts. He became a freeman in 1656. He died in 1675 or 1676 in the King Phillips War.

NAME: Possible surname spellings - Jackewish, Jaques, Jaquith

Other possible father's are John or George, Richard's brothers.