

JONATHAN FOURTH CHILD OF THOMAS (Book Entry, No Updates)

GENERATION TWO

1.4. **Jonathan BINGHAM** (Thomas)

Born: 15 Apr 1674 Norwich CT²: I: 8

Mar: 28 Oct 1697 **Ann HUNTINGTON** (Christopher Huntington, Ruth Rockwell) Windham⁵: 32; Born: 25 Oct 1675 Norwich CT; Died: 20 Aug 1756 Windham CT; Bur: Windham CT⁶⁷; Will: 21 Jan 1756 Windham Co Pbt Crt³: No. 358

Died: 28 Feb 1751 Windham CT; Bur: Windham CT⁶⁷; Will: 4 March 1751 Windham CT Pbt Crt³: No. 379

After growing up in Norwich, Jonathan moved with his family to Windham in 1693. When he was 23 years old he married Ann Huntington. Ann's sister, Ruth, and Ruth's husband, Ralph Wheelock, were the parents of Eleazer Wheelock and Sarah Wheelock. Sarah Wheelock married Joseph Bingham (1.10.5).

Jonathan's father gave him a house southeast across the street from his own and deeded him the land on which the house stood four years later¹⁰: B-177 His father also gave Jonathan a spring lot west of Jonathan's house and near the head of the spring. The deeds show that Jonathan actively acquired other land and may have owned everything on the south side of the road between his home lot and the river to the west.

Jonathan and Ann Huntington had no children, but they "adopted" Jonathan's nephew, Jonathan, son of brother Abel. When Jonathan died he willed nephew Jonathan, in return for the help he had been on the farm, the 150 acres in Windham where he already lived.

Windham voted Jonathan an inhabitant on 14 March 1709. Records show that on 2 Aug 1714 the court appointed him guardian of Esther Smith, daughter of Elisha Smith, and that in 1715 he and Ralph Wheelock, guardians for the Smith children, petitioned the Connecticut General Assembly to accept the conveyance of some of the Smith land to Jonathan so that he might pay off the mortgage.⁷: 1706-16: 527; 1717-1725: 52 Between 1715 and 1719, Jonathan was also involved in the selection of a new burying ground for Windham. A committee on which he served chose a site which became the old part of the present cemetery. Several bodies from the first cemetery were moved to the newer one. Records also show that Jonathan, along with John Fitch, was chosen to represent Windham in the Connecticut General Assembly on 12 Oct 1727.

In 1745, when sixty-one years old, Jonathan recorded his will and sold his homestead and a large piece of land to his nephew, Jabez Bingham (1.1.6.), son of his deceased brother, Thomas. Jonathan, however, did not die until 28 Feb 1751. He distributed his property as follows: (1) to wife Ann, one quarter of his personal estate, and the rents from the homestead sold to Jabez and twelve cord of wood due annually from Thomas Brown and Hezekiah Follet; (2) to nephew Jonathan, all land on which he then lived, about 150 acres; (3) to the First Church in Windham for building a meeting house, sixty pounds; for a meeting house bell, forty pounds; and ten pounds in bills of credit; (4) to nephew John Tracy, son of deceased sister Deborah, fifty pounds; (5) to friend Ebenezer Wales, fifty pounds on a bond of a larger sum against him; (6) to brother Samuel, all that was anyway between them except one two year old steer which shall go to Samuel's son, Jonathan; (7) to sister Mary, widow of John Backus, one hundred pounds, but if she were deceased, and she had died in 1747, the money was to be divided equally among Mary's living children, but not any of the grandchildren; (8) to the children of deceased sister Ann, one hundred pounds equally divided; (9) to children of deceased sister Abigail, one hundred pounds to be divided equally; (10) to children of sister Deborah, one hundred pounds to be equally divided; (11) to brothers Nathaniel, Samuel, Joseph, Stephen, and the children of deceased brothers, Thomas and Abel, all the rest of the estate to be divided into six equal parts and; (12) everything given to remain in wife Ann's possession and not distributed until after her death. Executors were wife Ann, brother Stephen, and friend Ebenezer Wales.

Ann survived Jonathan by five and a half years. She died 20 Aug 1756. In her will, she gave fifty Spanish milled dollars or an equivalent, to Reverend Eleazer Wheelock for the education of Indian youth or in propagating religion and learning among them, besides numerous other legacies to relatives. Wheelock used the bequest for Moor's Indian Charity School which later formed the nucleus of the funds to establish Dartmouth College.