

John Macomber of Taunton

AND HIS DESCENDANTS

The old tradition concerning "three brothers" who came to America seems to be verified in the case of the Macomers, for William was in Duxbury in 1638; Thomas in Plymouth in 1643; and John in Taunton in 1643. No descendants of Thomas have been found. Those of William are numerous. The descendants of John are traced here. 20089

John Macomber was admitted as a freeman and enrolled in the militia of Taunton in 1643. He was granted permission to build a mill in Taunton in 1659. There were then four persons in his family, and there is no record of more. The name of his first wife has not been learned. He married, 7 Jan. 1686, as his second wife, Mary Babcock. He was in a military company in 1680. He was living in 1687, as shown by a deed. Another deed shows that he died before 1690. He was a carpenter by trade. His property was equally divided between a daughter, Mary Staples, and a son, John Macomber.

John Macomber, 2d, signed a deed with his father in 1672, showing that he was then of age. He served in military companies in 1680 and 1700 and also in Queen Anne's War in 1691. He married, 16 July 1678, Anna Evans, daughter of William and Ann (Hailstone) Evans of Taunton.

William Evans was enrolled in the militia of Taunton in 1643 and took the oath of fidelity there in 1657. He married Ann Hailstone, probably daughter of William Hailstone, who was one of the first purchasers of Taunton in 1637 and was living there in 1672. The inventory of the estate of William Evans was made 16 Sept. 1671. He left daughters Mary and Anna.

June 28, 1723, John Macomber, "oldest of that name in Taunton," and Anna his wife sold to their son Thomas land in Taunton on "Mill River,"—See County Records at Taunton, XVI.51.

Jan. 5, 1724-5, Anna Macomber, "for good cause," sold to her son Thomas land in Taunton. Her husband was then dead.

The rights of her grandsons, Abiel and William, are protected in this deed. See Deeds at Taunton, XVI.52.

July 7, 1725, Anna Macomber, widow, sold to her son Thomas all undivided lands descended to her from her father, William Evans deceased and from her mother Ann Hailstone deceased.—See Deeds at Taunton, XVI.178.

March 20, 1681, Mary and Anna Evins, heirs of William Evins deceased, sold land to J. French for sixty pounds. Following the date the deed says, "It is always to be understood that though the abovesaid Anna is Anna Macomber by her marrying of John Macomber, Jr., but when this abovesaid bargain was made her name was Anna Evins." See Deeds at Taunton, XXVII.128.

Jan. 29, 1700-1, John Macomber, "son of John Macomber late of Taunton deceased," sold land to Nathan Walker.—See deeds at Taunton, XVI.326.

Dec. 6, 1721, John Macomber sold to his son Samuel for £300 the house that Samuel was living in, also other lands except one tract lying within the bounds of said lands known as the "old Beaver dam," also one-half his right in the saw mill on said land, also " $\frac{1}{4}$ of a purchase right in the old township of Taunton," also one-half his right in Middleboro 16 shilling purchase. See Deeds at Taunton, XIV.84.

Feb. 15, 1724-5, John Macomber and Samuel Macomber quit-claimed to Thomas Macomber all right to their father John Macomber's property other than that which he had given them by deed. See Deeds at Taunton, XVI.47.

The will of John Macomber is dated 22 Jan. 1721-2 and was probated 21 Oct. 1725. In it he names wife, children Thomas, John, William and Samuel, and grandchildren Abiel, William, Anna and Sarah. John Macomber is mentioned as deceased in a deed dated 5 Jan. 1724-5. His four sons lived in Taunton.

3. THOMAS b. 30 July 1679; m. Mary ———.

4. JOHN b. 18 March 1681; m. Elizabeth Williams.

5. WILLIAM b. 31 Jan. 1684; m. Sarah Hollaway.

6. SAMUEL b. ———; m. Sarah Pierce.