Benjamin Thompson, An Early Settler of Penfield, N.Y.
By: Jane Thompson Kuitems

Benjamin Thompson likely moved to the town of Northfield, Ontario County, New York, (later Boyle and now named Penfield) from Vermont in the spring of 1805. His family was one of several early “Thompson” families who settled in Penfield. It appears that his eleven children moved from Vermont with him although how long some of them stayed in Penfield before moving on west, is unknown.

Benjamin and his sons purchased portions of lots 2,3,4. Many of the deeds were not recorded for years, so the exact timing of the early purchases is not always clear. These lots were located in the southeasterly part of town. Two Thompson homes were built on the corners of what was then Smith Road (now Gloria Drive) and Route 441 near Lovetts Corner.

Benjamin’s ancestors were early settlers in Massachusetts and New Hampshire. His line can be traced to David Thomson of Thomson’s Island in Boston Harbor. His paternal grandfather for whom he was named lived in Worcester County, Massachusetts near the Rhode Island border. He was one of the original proprietors in Cheshire County, N.H. in the area of Swanzey. Although grandfather Benjamin owned land in New Hampshire he does not appear to have lived there, however five of his sons, including Benjamin’s father moved to Swanzey, N.H.

Benjamin’s father Samuel Thompson (1733-1808) was married twice. He had one known son by his first marriage. His first wife likely died shortly after the birth of that child for Samuel remarried in 1761 Rhoda Smith. Rhoda and Samuel became the parents of eleven children with Benjamin being the eldest. Their first five children are recorded either in Uxbridge, Massachusetts or Smithfield, R.I. Between May of 1771 and September of 1773 the Thompson family including son Benjamin moved from the borders of Massachusetts/Rhode Island to Swanzey, Cheshire County, New Hampshire.

The first record of Benjamin as an adult appears in Richmond, New Hampshire on 12 March 1783 when Benjamin Thompson of Swanzey, N.H married Hamutal Thayer of Richmond, N.H. Benjamin and Hamutal’s family had likely moved over the river and into Vermont by 1785, settling in Windham County. Benjamin’s older half brother, Samuel purchased property in Dummerston, Windham County, Vermont in the fall of 1785 and another brother, Benoni moved there by 1789.

Putney, Vermont Town Records show that on 4 September 1787, Benjamin Thompson and family were warned out of town. The 1790 census for Putney, Windham Co. Vermont (taken in 1791 when Vermont became a state) shows the Benjamin Thompson family, which consisted of 1 male over 16; 2 males under 16 and 3 females.

There is no record in Putney of Benjamin buying or selling land. He likely farmed and leased his land. The family moved again in early 1795 purchasing 70 acres of land in “Little Village”, Danby, Rutland Co., Vermont. This land was near his sister Beulah and
her husband Daniel Kelley. When he made this purchase he is described as being from Brookline in the County of Windham.16

The History of Danby, Vermont lists Benjamin as a freeman in 1800.17 The census taken that year shows Benjamin with a larger family. Two males under 10, one male 10-16, one male 16-26 and one male 26-45; three females under 10; two females 10-16 and one female 26-45.18 Approximately ten years after moving to Danby, Benjamin sold his farm in “Little Village” to his brother-in-law, Daniel Kelley for $450.00.19

It seems likely that Daniel and his family left for Penfield in Western New York after the land sale in Danby, Vermont in 1805.20 Their first grandchild was born in Penfield in May of 1806, so the family had likely settled in Penfield prior to that time.21 The first written record of the family’s presence in Penfield is the Federal Census of 1810. At that time Benjamin Thompson was in “Town of Boyle, Ontario County, NY. His family was one white male under 10; two white males 10-16; 1 white male 26-45 and 1 white male 45 and over; two white females under 10 and one white female 45 and over.22 The earliest existing tax record for Benjamin is in 1813. Benjamin’s property in the Town of Penfield is valued at $338.00 and his tax was 78 cents. His property was in School District #4.23

Most likely the Thompson’s leased land when they first arrived in Penfield. Samuel R. Thompson made a land purchase of sixty-eight acres of the east side of the northwest division of lot 2 on April 8, 1814 from Daniel and John Stark and their wives. This land must have been cleared and considered “improved” because he paid $950.00 for it.24 He continued to add to his holdings for nearly forty more years.25 Clearly he was a successful farmer.

On 16 January 1816, Henry Thompson purchased 50 acres in the southeast division, north part of Lot 4 from Daniel Penfield.26 The same day Benjamin Thompson purchased 61 acres from the south end of the southeast division of Lot 4 from Mr. Penfield for the sum of $465.00.27 On 18 April 1817, Benjamin purchased an additional 54 acres on the west side of the southeast division of Lot 3 for the sum of $436.00.28 This land’s east boundary was land owned by deed by Eber Paine, Benjamin’s son-in-law.29 Then on 18 February 1818, Henry Thompson sold his father Benjamin the fifty acres from the north part of the southeast division of Lot 4 that he had purchased two years earlier.30 On February 12, 1820, Benjamin sold the 54 acre parcel he had purchased in 1817 to Solomon Haynes.31 That same day Benjamin purchased a part of the west side of the southeast division of lot 3, which contained twenty-seven acres from Solomon Haynes.32 At this point he owned 138 acres of land.33 On 15 December 1823 he sold fifty of these acres taken from both lots 3 and 4 to his son Samuel R. Thompson.34

By 1820 three of Benjamin and Hamutal’s sons were listed as Heads of Household in Penfield: Samuel R.; Henry and Josiah. Daughters Elcy and Rhoda had also married and were living in Penfield. Daughter Lydia was likely a single mother and again residing with her parents with her three young children.35 Apparently suddenly, Benjamin died on 18 Feb 1826 leaving no will.36 He is buried in the Smith Road Cemetery on what is
now Gloria Drive.  

By the time of his death, Benjamin was a successful farmer in Penfield. He owned slightly more than eighty-eight acres of land, livestock and grain crops were on hand and planted for the next season. He held several notes and owned a ½ interest in a cider mill off the farm. The intestate papers that were filed at the time of his death have provided many clues that have been used to provide a snapshot into his family.

Many of Benjamin and Hamutal’s eleven children moved from Penfield to the west. Eldest son Samuel R. Thompson remained in Penfield until after 1850. He was a member of the East Penfield Freewill Baptist and Liberal Society and accumulated large amounts of land in that area. He recorded many deeds in 1851 and then sold some of the land to his sons shortly thereafter. When he died he was buried in the Smith Road Cemetery. Daughters Elcy Thompson Ralph and Lydia Thompson Smith are also buried in the Smith Road Cemetery, Penfield, NY.

**Genealogical Summary**

Benjamin Thompson’s (Samuel, Benjamin, John, John, John, David) birth was recorded at Uxbridge, Massachusetts on 22 June 1763. He was the son of Samuel Thompson (1733-1808) and his second wife Rhoda Smith (1739 -). His marriage to Hamutal Thayer, daughter of Jeremiah Thayer and Alice Holbrook Thayer is recorded at Richmond, New Hampshire 12 March 1783. Benjamin died in Penfield, Monroe County, New York on 18 Feb 1826. His wife Hamutal Thayer Thompson died in Penfield, Monroe County, New York 7 Feb 1844.

Children of Benjamin Thompson and Hamutal Thayer:

i. Samuel R. Thompson born about 1783 in New Hampshire. He died 20 September 1856 in Wayne County, New York and is buried in the Smith Road Cemetery in Penfield, New York. He married first, probably in Penfield Lydia (unknown) by 1811. At least two sons, Almer (1814-20 November 1853) and Orrin (1818-16 July 1881) and three daughters Jemima (1812-); Almeda (1816-); Lydia Ann (8 October 1824-11 August 1898) were born of this marriage. Lydia died 28 August 1828 and is buried in the Smith Road Cemetery in Penfield, New York. He married second Miritta (Armarrilla or Marietta) (unknown) Mason following the death of his first wife. There were at least two children from that marriage. Sylvester (1837-29 January 1851) and Mary (1832-). He was a successful farmer who owned 150 acres of which 70 were improved by 1820. He had built a frame house and barn on the property and owned “whole of lot 2” valued at $2,000.00 on which he paid $7.51 in county tax. Many of his parcels of land were held by deed and not recorded until 1851. He left Penfield and was living in Walworth, Wayne Co. by 1853 when he and Miritta sold a parcel of land. He made his will 4 December 1855. He names his five surviving children therein. He apparently still owned land in Penfield, which he allowed his son Orrin to use for his lifetime. Then it was to pass to Orrin’s children if he had any or else to the two sons of his son Almer (Samuel’s grandsons) as Almer had predeceased Samuel. Miritta died 12 October 1877.

ii. Henry Thompson was born about 1784 in Vermont. He died 15 January 1857 in Crockery, Ottawa, Michigan and is buried in the Ottawa Center Cemetery, Coopersville, Michigan. He married Desire (probably Esget) (daughter of Francis Esget and Desire Patten) before 1809, probably in Penfield as her father was living there in 1810. Of
interest is a note on his tax record for 1813, “tax rejected in 1812”. He sold his fifty acres of land from the north part of the southeast division of Lot 4 to his father Benjamin Thompson 18 February 1818. Henry and Desire had at least six children. Mary (Polly) (Abt 1809-15 October 1857), two unknown daughters who were under 10 in the 1820 census; William (b. 1817/1818); Jasper (b. 1823 -1901) and Ellis (b. 1826). Henry likely left Penfield before his father’s death in 1826 as he was not a petitioner in the intestate proceedings. He probably moved to Greenfield, Erie, Pa and from there to Michigan. Desire died in Michigan 25 November 1868. She is buried in Ottawa Center Cemetery, Coopersville, Michigan, with Henry.

iii. Elcy Thompson born in July 1785 in Vermont. She married Dow Ralph about 1806 most likely in Penfield, New York as they are listed as a family with two females under the age of ten in the 1810 census for the Town of Boyle. Her husband was a successful farmer in 1820, owning 83 acres in Penfield and an adjacent 100 acres in Perinton. 50 acres were improved and there was one frame barn on the premises. She died 24 April 1859 probably in Penfield and is buried in the Smith Road Cemetery beside her husband who preceded her in death in either 1821 or 1824. They had at least eight children. Candace (1806-1894); Mary (Abt 1809-1873); Benjamin (1812/1813-); Albert (1821-1905); Rhoda (1815-); Sally (1816-); Roxcena(1820-1875); Cordelia.  

iv. Rhoda Thompson born about 1790 in Vermont married Eber (Ebie) (Eben) Paine. She is not in her parents’ household in the 1810 census so likely married previous to it. Eber Paine owned 63 acres in 1820 of which 15 were improved. He was constructing a frame house at the time of the tax assessment. After Eber’s death in the mid 1830’s Rhoda and her children moved to Ohio. She died in Montville, Geauga Co., Ohio on 6 December 1871. No record of her burial has been found. Rhoda and Eber had five known children: Abdon (8 May 1812-); Eder (May have also been known as Lucy); Samuel T. (1820/21-21 Dec 1899) and Philena (Tilmilda) (1826-1875).  

v. Lydia Thompson was born 27 March 1792 in Vermont. She married Zachariah Horton in the fall of 1811 and probably had at least three daughters. Her first husband either died or abandoned her before the 1820 census. That census shows her parents with three females under ten (likely Lydia’s daughters), 1 female sixteen to twenty six (possible hired girl or daughter Sylvia); 1 female twenty six to forty-five (Lydia would have been twenty-eight); 1 female over forty-five (Hamutah). The household contained one male ten to sixteen (Elijah) and one male over forty-five (Benjamin). She married second about 1822, widower James Smith with whom she had at least seven children: Clarissa (5 March 1823-2 January 1836); Josiah T. (4 February 1825 -5 March 1846); Bethuel W. (7 March 1827 – 7 June 1845); Asenath (30 April 1829-5 October 1852); James S. (7 Feb 1831-2 April 1866); Almor (31 Jan 1832- 2 March 1847) and Lydia Ann (19 June 1836-10 August 1858). She died on 1 April 1844 in Penfield, NY and is buried in the Smith Road Cemetery.

vi. Sylvia Thompson was born about 1793 in Vermont. She left her parents household before the census of 1810. She is listed as an heir in her fathers’ intestate proceedings. She sells her 1/11 portion of her father’s estate on September 6, 1827 to her brother Josiah. She is of the town of Gerry, County of Chautauque,sic N.Y. at the time of the sale. She is unmarried at this time. Nothing further has been found.

vii. Josiah Thompson was born about 1795 in Vermont. He married Mary (Polly) Unknown before 1820. Mary was born in Schenectady County, New York about 1802 and died in Niagara Co, New York State in 1882. She is buried in Cold Springs Cemetery in Lockport, New York. Josiah appeared in the New York State census of 1865 and died prior to the Federal census of 1870. Josiah and Mary lived in Penfield at the time of the 1820; 1830; and 1840 census. By 1850 the family had moved to Lockport, Niagara Co. New York. They lived in Lockport in 1855 when the
New York State census was taken, but had moved to Newfane, Niagara Co. New York by the 1860 census. Josiah acquired portions of lots 4 and 14 in Penfield. He began by purchasing a portion of the southwest division of lot # 4 in March of 1824. He continued to expand his land holdings in lot #4 over the next several years. He purchased portions of lot # 14 from his sister Elys Ralph and her children, mostly in 1834 but some was not purchased until 1840. This was the land that they had received by will from Dow Ralph. In 1835 he sold Elys twenty acres in the southwest division of lot # 4. Josiah and Mary were the parents of ten children. An unknown daughter born before 1820; Cynthia born 1824; Ann (1826-1907); Elizabeth born 1828; Daniel born 1832; Rhoda born 1834; Rosana born 1837; Van Rensslear (1840-1918) and two others who may have been born and died between census.

viii. Joseph Thompson was born in Vermont about 1797. He is mentioned in his fathers’ intestate proceedings as an heir. On 2nd October 1826 he quit claimed his 1/11 share of his father’s estate to Samuel R. Thompson. He was of the township of Sugarloaf in the District of Upper Canada on that date. On 11 October 1848 he sold his 1/11 of the widows dower share he inherited from his mother to brother Samuel R. Thompson. He is formerly of Penfield in that transaction. Nothing further is known of him.

ix. Beulah Thompson was born about 1800 in Vermont. She married John Williams before 1826. The census of 1850 places the family in Pleasant Grove, Illinois and by 1860 they were in Bourbon, Kansas Territory. Known children are Benjamin born 1826; Emma M. born 1834; Amasia born 1836; and Polly born 1838. A child Lewis born in 1849 is enumerated in the 1850 census but may not be their child.

x. Asenath Thompson was born about 1803/1804 in Vermont. She probably married Asa Baker about 1825. The Baker family was in Shelby, Orleans County in August of 1831 when Asa’s fathers will was submitted for probate. The family has not been found in census records until 1840 when they were living in Kendall, Orleans County. In 1855, they were living in Union, Monroe County, New York. By the 1860 census they are in Sharon, Fayette, Illinois where they remain for at least the next twenty years. They had nine or ten children, as gleaned from census records. Two unnamed daughters born between 1825 and 1830 as well as Ann (1831-); Al (1835-); Mary (1837/1838-); Elijah (1840-) Lydia A. (1840-); Samuel (1841-) and Fayette (1845-).

xi. Elijah Thompson was born about 1808 in New York. He married Eliza See about 1836 probably in New York State. She was born about 1815 in New York State. The family lives in Kendall, Orleans County in 1840 and by 1850 has moved to Carlton, Orleans County. They moved to Manchester, Washtenaw County, Michigan by June 1860 and by 1870 are in Moscow, Hillsdale, Michigan. Elijah dies in Moscow, Hillsdale, Michigan 15 April 1875 and Eliza about 1897. They had the following known children: Alzina (19 April 1837-27 October 1907); Wealthy A. (1840-); Almer (1841-); Elias (1842-); Lymon or Seymour(1846-); Byron (1848-) and Myron (June 1849- 1940).
Boyle originally formed the Town of Northfield, April 6, 1796. Name changed to Boyle, April 6, 1808. Penfield taken off March 30, 1810.


Early Tax Records for the County of Ontario, New York exist for the years 1813, 1817, 1818, 1819 and 1820. These records show Benjamin Thompson, William Thompson, Henry Thompson, Samuel Thompson, Samuel Thompson 2nd; Luke Thompson, Timothy Thompson and Josiah Thompson as taxpayers. William Thompson, Samuel Thompson, Luke Thompson and Timothy Thompson were not related to Benjamin. Henry, Josiah and Samuel Thompson 2nd, often referred to as Samuel R. Thompson, are Benjamin’s sons. Copies of these records are available at the Penfield Town Historian’s office in Penfield, New York.

Land Records Monroe County, New York
Map of Lots in Penfield located at the Penfield Historians Office.
Map of Penfield showing names of residents. This map located in the Penfield Town Historian’s office shows Samuel R. Thompson’s sons Almer and Orrin (grandsons of Benjamin) owning these homes.
DNA evidence from the writers’ father, Clinton S. Thompson, provided a critical link into this ancestry. Family Tree DNA kit # 164860. Samuel Thompson b. 18 September 1760 son of Samuel Thompson & Unknown Mother.


Only the oldest child, Samuel R., gives his birthplace as New Hampshire in census records. The second born son Henry gives his birthplace as Vermont in census of 1850. See citations 34 and 42. Records cited in endnotes 12 & 13 place the family in Vermont henceforth until the birth of Elijah about 1808 in New York.

Land Records Dummerston, Windham, Vermont in possession of the author. Samuel Thompson Jr. of Swanz, N.H. purchased from Paul Willard Hazen of Swanz, N.H. September 5, 1785. Parts of lots 105 & 106 in Dummerston, Windham Co. Vermont. Samuel Thompson sold another part of lot 106 which he held by deed from Samuel Thompson (his father) to his ½ brother Benoni Thompson on April 28, 1788. This deed was recorded May 25, 1789.


Land Records Rutland County, Vermont. Book No. 5 page 23. Family History Microfilm #000,028,131. Sale of land in “Little Village” from Levi Thornton of Danby, Vermont to Benjamin Thompson of Brookline, Windham Co. Vermont. Witnesses: Daniel Shearman and Daniel Killey. (sic) 70 acres for the sum of 70 Pounds. Benjamin’s former home as defined in this document was Brookline, Windham County. Settled since about 1777, it officially was formed into a separate town in 1794 from parts of Putney, Athens and Newfane.

J.C. Williams, The History and Map of Danby, Vermont, Rutland, VT; McLean & Robbins—Independent Office. 1869, p 44.
"United States Census, 1800," index and images, FamilySearch (https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/XHRQ-RL1: accessed 31 Aug 2014), Benjm Thomson, Danby, Rutland, Vermont; citing "1800 United States Federal Census," Ancestry.com; p. 84, NARA microfilm Census 1810, Danby, Rutland, Vermont: Benjamin Thompson as in publication M32, roll 52, National Archives and Records Administration, Washington D.C.; FHL microfilm 218689. Josiah and Joseph (2 males under 10); Henry (one male 10-16); Samuel R. (1 male 16-26); Benjamin (1 male 26-45); Lydia, Sylvia and Beulah (3 females under 10); Elcy and Rhoda (2 females 10-16) and Hamutal (one female 26-45).

Land Records Danby, Rutland, Vermont, page 363. Daniel Kelley was married to Benjamin’s sister Beulah.

Find A Grave, Oak Grove Cemetery, Coldwater, Branch, Michigan. Her birth date is on her gravestone. Candance Ralph born in Penfield 23 May 1806, daughter of Dow Ralph and Elcy Thompson.

"United States Census, 1810," index and images, FamilySearch (https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/XH26-B9C: accessed 31 Aug 2014), Benj Thompson, Boyle, Ontario, New York; citing "1810 United States Federal Census," Ancestry.com; p. 641, line 1850, NARA microfilm publication M252, roll 33, National Archives and Records Administration, Washington D.C.; FHL microfilm 0181387. Members living in Benjamin’s household in 1810 were Benjamin (male over 45); Samuel R. (male 26-45); Josiah and Joseph (2 males 10-16); Elijah (male under 10); Hamutal (female over 45); Beulah and Asenath (2 females under 10).


Ontario County, NY, Mortgage Book 8 page 470.

Ontario County, NY, Mortgage Book 8 page 471.

Ontario County, NY, Mortgage Book 8 page 481.

Ontario County, NY, Mortgage Book 8 page 481. The boundaries of the parcel are described within the document.

Monroe County Land Records Liber94 p. 340 Lot 4 recorded in 1851.

Monroe County Land Records Liber 29 p. 431, Deed dated Feb 12, 1820 recorded in 1834. The west part of southeast division of lot 3.

Monroe County Land Records, Liber 94 p. 343, lot 3. Deed dated 12 Feb 1820 recorded 1851. 27 acres west side of southeast division of lot 3 for $500.00.

61 acres 1816 +54 acres 1817+50 acres 1818 =54 acres 1820 +27 acres 1820 = 138 acres.

Monroe County Land Records, Liber 3 p. 455 Lots 3 &4. Described as being fifty acres of land being part of the southwest and part of the southeast division of lot number four and part of the southwest division of lot number 3.


Intestate papers, Monroe County Surrogates Court re: Benjamin Thompson late of the Town of Penfield, Administrators named April 3, 1826; Inventory Received October 23, 1826; Dower and Children’s portion settled March 5, 1827. All children or their husbands signed except Joseph and Sylvia. However Joseph and Sylvia are listed as heirs. Complete packet in the possession of the writer. Abstractions available thru Monroe County Library System are incomplete.

Personal Visit to the Smith Road Cemetery. April 27, 2014.

Benjamin acquired his first land by deed from Daniel Penfield and his wife Mary 16 January 1816 and another parcel of fifty acres by deed from his son Henry on 12 February 1820. See citation 22.

Monroe County Surrogates Court Intestate Papers as in citation 22.

Land Records Samuel R. Thompson, census records
East Penfield Freewill Baptist and Liberal Society Minutes of The Annual Meeting from December 19, 1832 to January 1, 1887 including minutes of meetings, Church membership list and subscription list.

Located in the Penfield Town Historian’s office, Penfield, N.Y.

Baptist Church Records East Penfield Baptist Church

Monroe County Land Records

Smith Road Cemetery Personal Visit April 27, 2014

Ibid, Ely’s name is spelled this way in most records, but is sometimes given as Elsy. She appears to have spent some of her later years living with her daughter Rhoda See in Kendall, Orleans County, N.Y. as she is there for the 1850 United States Census. “United States Census, 1850,” index and images, FamilySearch (https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/MC139-3LS : accessed 09 Sep 2014), Elsa Ralph in household of Rensule Lee, Kendall, Orleans, New York, United States; citing family 689, NARA microfilm publication M432.

Descendants of David and Amyes (Colle) Thomson and their son John by Amy 1962 page 39. Amy estimates Benjamin’s fathers’ death as 1803 in Swanz. His death notice appears in the Vermont Centenel Newspaper, dated 10-14-1808. “Died at Richmond on the 9th instant, Mr. Samuel Thompson age 76.” His death date is 9 October 1808. At least 4 of Benjamin’s brothers resided in Richmond, Vermont at that time so it is a logical place for him to live in his old age.

Bezaleel Thayer, Memorial of the Thayer Name: From Massachusetts Colony of Weymouth and Braintree, Embracing Genealogical (sic) and Biographical Sketches of Richard & Thomas Thayer, and Their Descendants fro 1636 to 1874, R.J. Oliphant 1874 p. 515. She is called Hamlet in this book. Henry Thayer of the Thayer Families Association says Uxbridge, Ma records, spell her name Hamulet. Her gravestone in Smith Cemetery spells her name Hamutual. I have used the spelling given in her marriage to Benjamin as it is also used in the Intestate Papers for the Dower Division.


Monroe County Surrogates Court Intestate Papers as in citation 22.

Smith Road Cemetery Personal Visit April 27, 2014.


Monroe County Surrogates Court Records in Wayne County, N.Y. Smith Road Cemetery as cited in 28.

Estimated based on age of first known child, Jemima. Census 1850 as cited in 34; Smith Road Cemetery as cited in 28.

Smith Road Cemetery as in 28; Census of 1820 as in 21.

Smith Road Cemetery as in 28. Tombstone identifies her as Lydia wife of Samuel R. Thompson.

Probate Records Maretta Thompson, Wayne County, NY File No. 01270 dated 15 January 1878. These records name her children by her first marriage, thus providing her surname at her marriage to Samuel.


Ontario County Tax Records for 1820 available in the Penfield Town Historian’s office as in citation 2.

Monroe County, New York Land Records, citing Liber 94 p. 336,339,340,341,342,343,345,346,347, and Liber 95 p. 230,231,232,233,234,235,293 and Liber 96 p. 137. These deeds date from 1816 -1848 but were recorded in March or April of 1851.

Monroe County, New York Land Records, citing Liber 132 page 387. Deed dated 20 August 1853 and recorded July 1, 1856.

Wayne County, NY Surrogate Court Records. File #0421. Referring to Will dated 4 December 1855 recorded in Book H of Wills on page 101.

Probate Records Maretta Thompson, Wayne County, N.Y. File No. 01270, dated 15 January 1878.


On line Records of Cemetery in Crockery, Ottawa Michigan
Based on birth of first known child. Census of 1810 shows Desire Esget father in Town of Boyle. When browsing the census of 1810 for the Town of Boyle (now Penfield), I note a number of entries that are completely illegible.

Ontario County Tax Records for 1813 in Penfield Historian’s office. I have been unable to find out exactly what this meant.

Benjamin Thompson intestate proceedings as cited in 22 describe this sale. It is recorded in Monroe County as Liber 94 p. 340.


Benjamin Thompson intestate proceedings as cited in 22 show that eldest son Samuel R. Thompson and third born Josiah Thompson are the named administrators. The question arises as to why the second born son Henry was not named. It could be because he had or was about to leave the area.

1840 Census Pennsylvania


Cemetery Record of Desire Thompson

Smith Cemetery Record for birth date as in citation 23. Reference to United States Census of 1800 in Vermont as in citation 17.


Early Tax Records of Ontario County as in citation 2.

Smith Road Cemetery Records as in 28.

Smith Road Cemetery Records as in 28. The stone clearly is engraved January 4, 1821. The will was dated December 28, 1823 and probated January 1824. Wife Elsy and children Canadace, Benjamin, Albert, Rhoda, Sally, Roxina, Cordelia are listed as well as mother Mary and stepfather Benjamin Bigsby. From will book A copied by Gertrude A. Barber in 1940. See citation 55. Available Monroe County Gen Web.


United States Census of 1800 as cited in 17.

United States Census Town of Boyle, N.Y. 1810 as cited in 1.

Ontario County Tax Records as cited in 2.

Biographical History of Northeastern Ohio embracing the counties of Astabula, Geauga and Lake Chicago Publishing Company 1893 page 992. Daughter referred to as Tilmida says she was ten when her father died. Eber and Rhoda sold land in Monroe County Liber 30 p. 94 on 28 July 1831. When it was recorded 12 Dec 1834, Eber was unavailable to attest to this and his brother-in-law Samuel R. Thompson gave testimony that Eber had signed the deed previously. Monroe County Land Records, liber as above.

Household ID: 177 , Line Number: 4 , Affiliate Name: The U.S. National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) , Affiliate Publication Number: M432 , GS Film Number: 444675 , Digital Folder Number: 004204440 , Image Number: 00029 This census of 1850 shows Rhoda Paine next to Lucy and Benjamin Sweet, with next household Samuel T. Paine family. Descendants of Samuel T. Paine have submitted notes to the Penfield Historian indicating a child Lucy, but not Rhoda.

Biographical History of Northeastern Ohio embracing the counties of Astabula, Geauga and Lake Chicago Publishing Company 1893 page 992. This book names the children as Abdon, Samuel T., Eder; Rhoda and Tilmida.

United States Vermont Census of 1800 as cited in 17.

United States Census Town of Boyle, N.Y. 1810 as cited in 1.

Monroe County Probate Documents for the Estate of James Smith. Deposition by Francis S. Newton of Mechanic Township, Holmes, Ohio on 17 November 1864 in response to questions by DB Beach atty for sundry liens estate of James Smith. Pages 70-79 of the document. Francis Newton states that he was employed by Justice of the Peace ESQ William Speer in the town of Penfield and describes the marriage of Lydia Thompson and Zachariah Horton.

Monroe County Probate Documents for James Smith as cited in 85. It is not clear why the deposition about an earlier marriage for James Smith’s second wife Lydia Thompson is pertinent in the probate of his
estate. Zach Horton appears in the 1810 census of Boyle as a single man between the age of 16 and 26. He has not been found in an 1820 census, but appears in Steuben County, New York either in Bath, Prattsburg or Avoca in each census from 1830 thru 1860. He has an apparent wife Sarah and at least one child. His age as given in census and on his gravestone would indicate a birth in the 1790 to 1792 range an appropriate age for a spouse of Lydia Thompson. The name Zachariah Horton is uncommon with at most one other appearing in those census’. As of now I have not located any divorce papers for the couple.

Census of 1820 for Benjamin Thompson

Based on first wife’s death and age of their first born daughter Clarissa. See citation 23.

Children who are buried in Smith Road Cemetery, with indication on headstone of their parents.

Smith Road Cemetery Headstone as per citation 23.

Danby, Rutland, Vermont Census of 1800 as citation 17.


Benjamin Thompson intestate records as per citation 22.

Land Records of Monroe County. Liber 28 p. 361 recorded in 1834. Only unmarried (single or widowed) women could buy or sell real estate in their own name.


New York State Census of 1865, Newfane, Niagara County. Household of Josiah Thompson. Wife named Maria says she is age sixty-three and born in Schenectady County.


Cemetery Record


"New York, State Census, 1855," index and images, FamilySearch (https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/K67T-KTJ : accessed 05 Sep 2014), Josiah Thompson, E.D. 2, Lockport, Niagara, New York, United States; citing Secretary of State; FHL microfilm 1577674. They have lived in this place for 10 years so likely moved from Penfield, N.Y about 1845.


Monroe County, N.Y. Land Records. Josiah purchases a portion of lot # 14 formerly owned by Dow Ralph. Recorded in Liber 30 page 130; Liber 52 pages 318-320; Liber 53 p. 159; and Liber 61 p. 428.

New York State Census of 1865, Niagara County, Newfane. Household of Josiah Thompson. His wife states she is the mother of ten children.

United States Census Records 1820 as citation 21; United States Census Records 1850 as citation 72.

United States Census, Danby, Rutland, Vermont as per citation 19.

Benjamin Thompson intestate records as per citation 22.
Monroe County, N.Y. Land Records Liber 94 page 336. Deed dated October 2, 1826 recorded April 4, 1851.

Monroe County, N.Y. Land Records Liber 94 page 340. Deed dated October 11, 1848, recorded April 4, 1851.


Benjamin Thompson intestate records as citation 22.


United States Census of 1850 as referenced in citation 83. Child Lewis Williams age 1 was perhaps a grandchild, but unlikely a child as Beulah would have been forty nine and quite old to be giving birth.


Benjamin Thompson intestate papers name her husband as in citation 22.


United States Census of 1840 as in citation 90.

New York State Census of 1855 as cited in 86. Lists all children except Lydia Ann. 1870 Census lists Lydia Ann.

Likely born New York based on marriages; land sales of father, but sometimes gives Vermont as birthplace in Census Records. "United States Census, 1850," index and images, FamilySearch...
The death record of daughter Alzina gives her mother's maiden name as See. The marriage date is estimated based on the birth of their first child Alzina 19 April 1837.


130 United States census 1860 as accessed thru Heritage Quest M 653; Roll 563; pages 80 & 81.


132 Moscow Plains Cemetery Records accessed thru Heritage Quest.

133 Dates of life from cemetery records. Moscow Plains Cemetery accessed thru Heritage Quest.

134 United States Census of 1850 as in citation 98 show children. Citation 96 shows Alzina.