

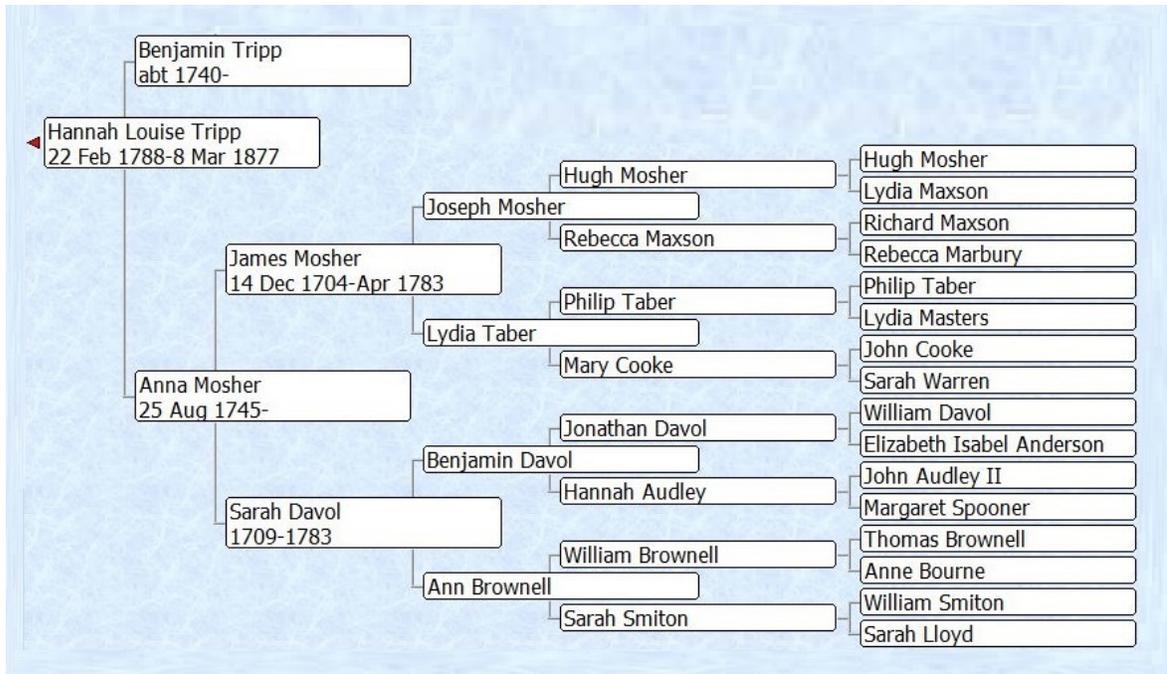
# Chapter 19

## More about our *Tripp* Family Heritage

### *Introduction*

In a recent narrative, I wrote about Hannah Louise Tripp’s maternal ancestors. Recall that Hannah Louise Tripp (my third-great grandmother) was descended from John Cooke and Sarah Warren, and both John Cooke and Sarah Warren’s father, Richard Warren, were Pilgrims who came to the New World on the ship *Mayflower* in 1620.

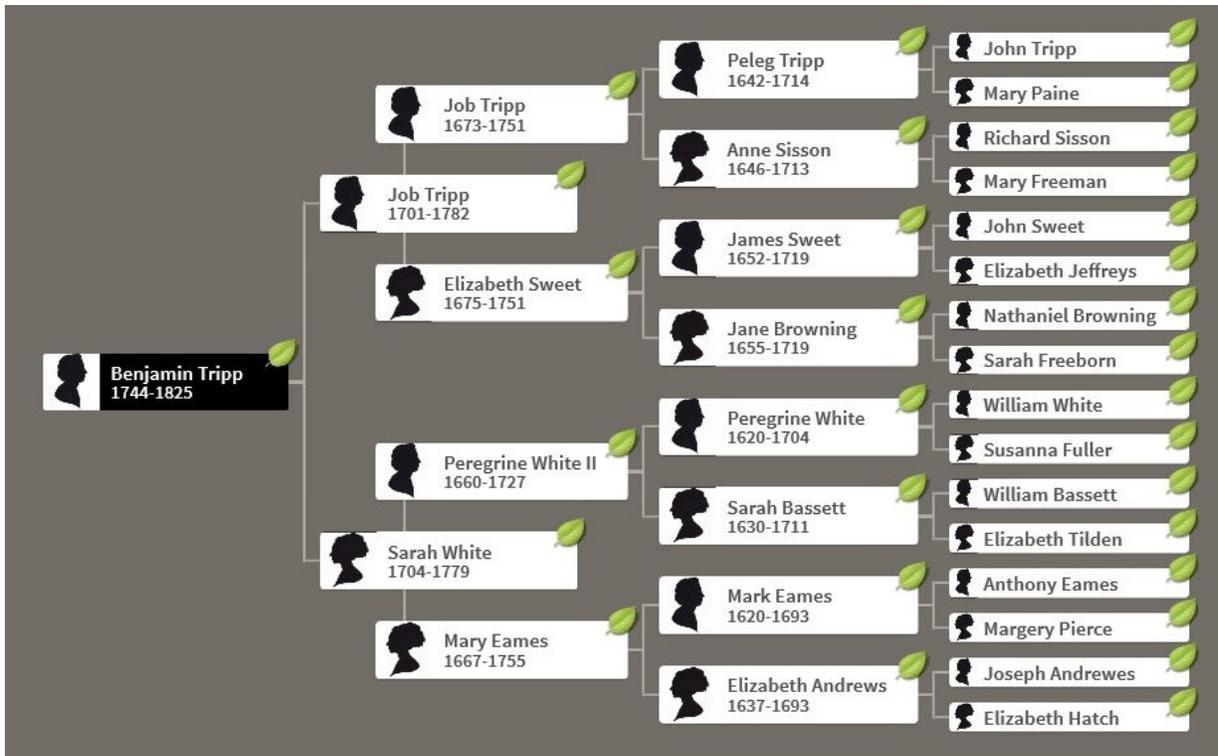
In my narrative about Hannah Louise Tripp, I described DNA matches that I have with many of her maternal ancestors; her maternal line is shown in the following family tree, going back to her third-great grandparents:



However, as is readily apparent from this family tree, at the time of writing that narrative I knew absolutely nothing about Hannah’s *paternal* line, other than that her father was Benjamin Tripp (born about 1740). So I decided to research Benjamin Tripp’s ancestors, and the following narrative describes some of what I found through this research; it not only provides another link to the *Mayflower*, but also to an ancestor with the nickname of “The Founder”. And plenty of DNA matches with living descendants of all these people. Read on!

## Populating Benjamin Tripp's Family Tree

It turns out that the **Tripp** family had a number of descendants who were interested in genealogy, so there is a rich array of family trees on the Ancestry.com website showing Benjamin Tripp's ancestors, going back to John Tripp, who came to America from England in 1635 on the ship *TrueLove*. Using multiple family trees on the Ancestry.com website, I was able to construct the following pedigree for Benjamin Tripp:

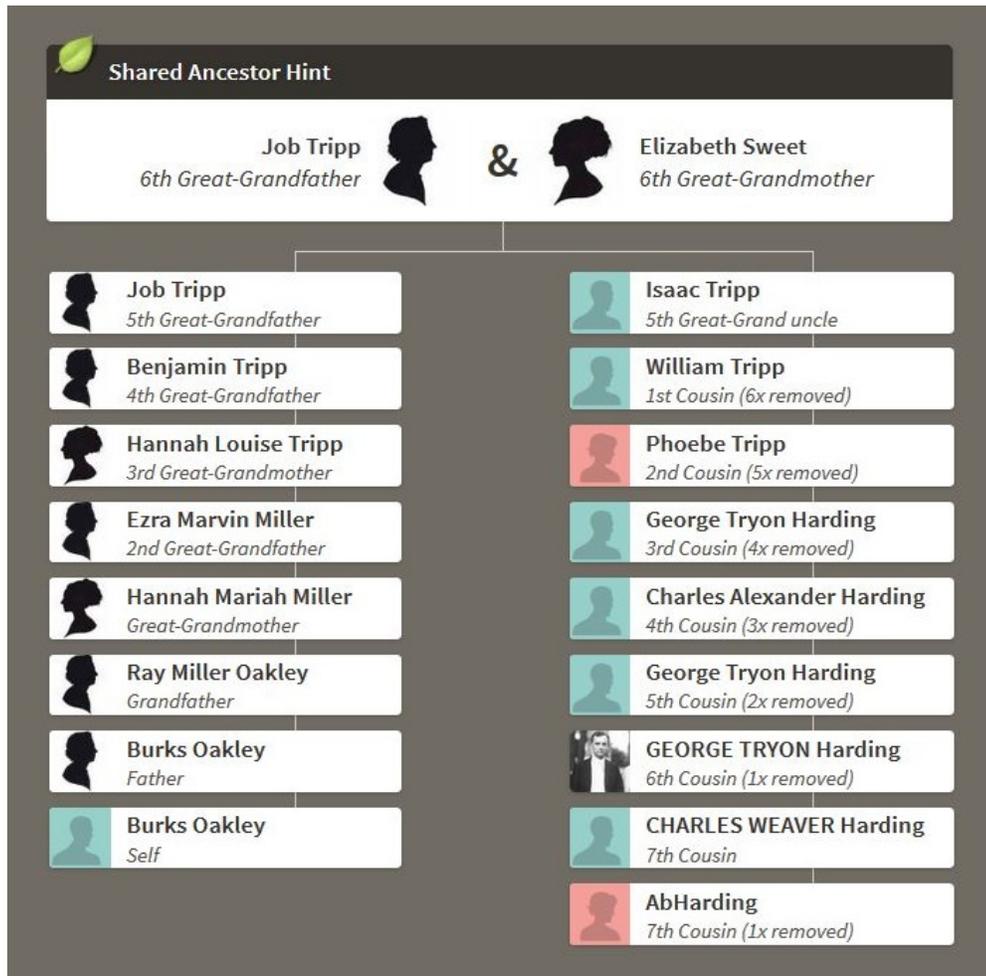


You should see right away that this family tree brings in a number of new surnames to the “Quincy Oakley” family tree: Sisson, Sweet, Browning, White, Eames, Andrews, Bassett, Paine, Freeman, Jeffreys, Freeborn, Fuller, Tilden, Pierce, and Hatch. And I have DNA matches with living descendants of a number of these people.

Rather than itemize each of my DNA matches in a tedious fashion (something I’m sure you all are thankful for), I’ll just highlight several of them in the **Tripp** line. My first DNA match is with a woman with the username of **AbHarding**:

★  **AbHarding**   
Possible range: 5th - 8th cousins   
Confidence: Good   
Last logged in Nov 5, 2015   433 people

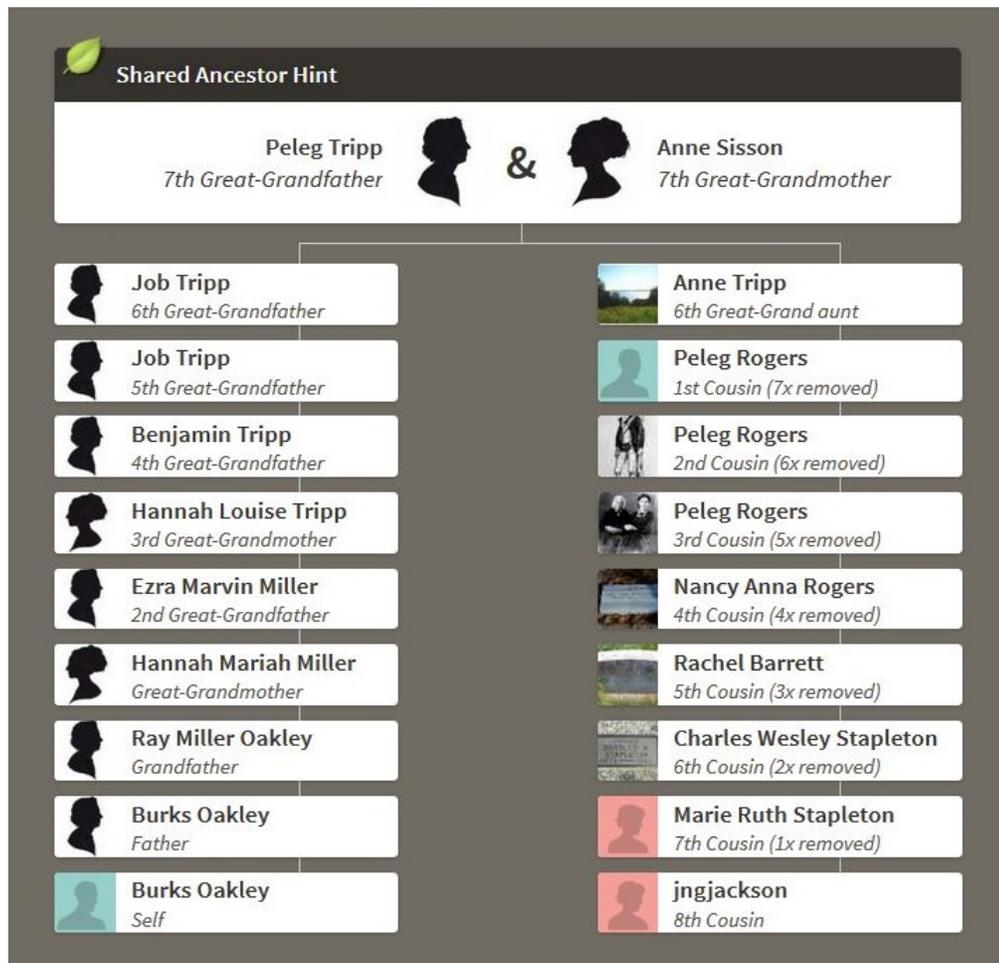
The Ancestry.com website showed that **AbHarding** and I had a DNA match, and that we both were descended from Job Tripp and his wife Elizabeth Sweet:



These folks were Benjamin Tripp’s paternal grandparents, and they lived in Portsmouth, Rhode Island.

My next DNA match is with a woman having the username of **jngjackson**:

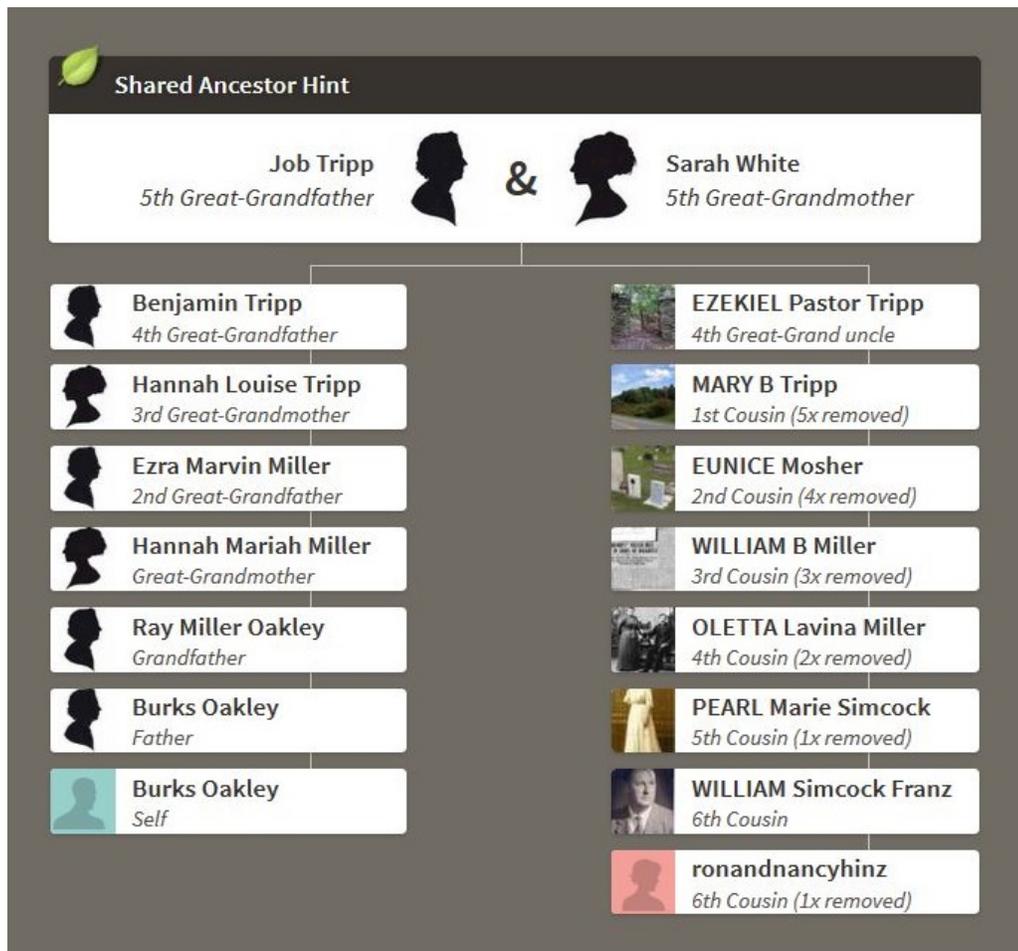
In corresponding with her, I learned that her real name is Gayla Casey Jackson. She and I are both descended from Peleg Tripp and his wife Anne Sisson, as shown in the following family tree:



Peleg Tripp and Anne Sisson were my 7<sup>th</sup>-great grandparents, and they were born in the 1640's in Portsmouth, Rhode Island. In fact, many generations of the **Tripp** family lived in Rhode Island (more about that to follow).

The third DNA match that I'll include is with a woman having the username of **ronandnancyhinz**:

She and I are both descended from Job Tripp and his wife Sarah White, as shown in the following family tree:



Job Tripp and Sarah White were Benjamin Tripp’s parents, and not surprisingly, they lived in Portsmouth, Rhode Island.

### ***The Tripp Family Legacy***

The first ***Tripp*** to come to America was John Tripp, who sailed from England on the ship *TrueLove* in 1635. He has been appropriately called “The Founder,” because he is the ancestor of a long line of the ***Tripp*** family in America. His life has been chronicled on many websites, and the following material was taken from the collection of his biographies on the Geni website.<sup>1</sup>

John Tripp was born 6 February 1610 in Horkstow, Lincolnshire, England. He died 12 Feb 1678 at the age of 68 in Portsmouth, Newport County, Rhode Island.

One of about twelve children of John Tripp and Isabel Moses, John Tripp was apprenticed at the age of fifteen to John Baats of Thorsby, Lincolnshire, to learn

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.geni.com/people/John-Tripp-of-Portsmouth-Rhode-Island/600000006968661959>

ship carpentry and he served seven-plus years. It is probable that he remained in Lincolnshire for several more years of service until 1635, when he immigrated to Boston, Massachusetts.

At some point, he bound himself (as an indentured servant) to Robert Jafra of Boston. Jafra fled from Boston to Rhode Island to avoid religious persecution, and took John Tripp with him. After some time (probably in 1637), John Tripp paid off the remaining time on his contract. In 1639, John Tripp married Mary Paine.

In the Registry of Freemen of Portsmouth, Colony of Rhode Island (Aquidneck Island), John Tripp is listed as: John Tripp, Gentleman. Since the term “Freeman” refers to landholding, voting rights, and the privilege to serve in public office, it is likely that he was admitted as a Freeman about 1641.

Here is a map of Rhode Island showing Aquidneck Island:



John was admitted as an inhabitant of the island of Aquidneck, Rhode Island (the towns of Newport, Middletown, and Portsmouth), and on 30 April 1638 signed a compact with twenty-eight others as follows: “We whose names are underwritten do acknowledge ourselves the legal subjects of His Majesty King Charles, and in his name do hereby bind ourselves into a civil body politic, unto his laws according to matters of justice”.

Records show that John Tripp accumulated land in Dartmouth, Narragansett, Westerly, and on Hog Island. Hog Island got its name from the fact that all of the hogs that were not controlled by their owners by fences or buildings were hauled over and turned loose on Hog Island. We can assume that John was the first **Tripp** to raise pigs in this country!

Active in public affairs, John served in a number of public offices over the years.

- 1651: Clerk of Weights and Measures
- 1655: Commissioner of the Colony
- 1661: Served at Court of Commissioners at Portsmouth
- 1666: Served on Grand Jury; also Ratemaker, Surveyor of Cattle, Deputy-General of Assembly
- 1667: Deputy of General Court
- 1668: Deputy of General Court
- 1669: General Assembly at Newport
- 1675: Prover and Sealer of Weights and Measures
- 1678: Last Appearance in Records

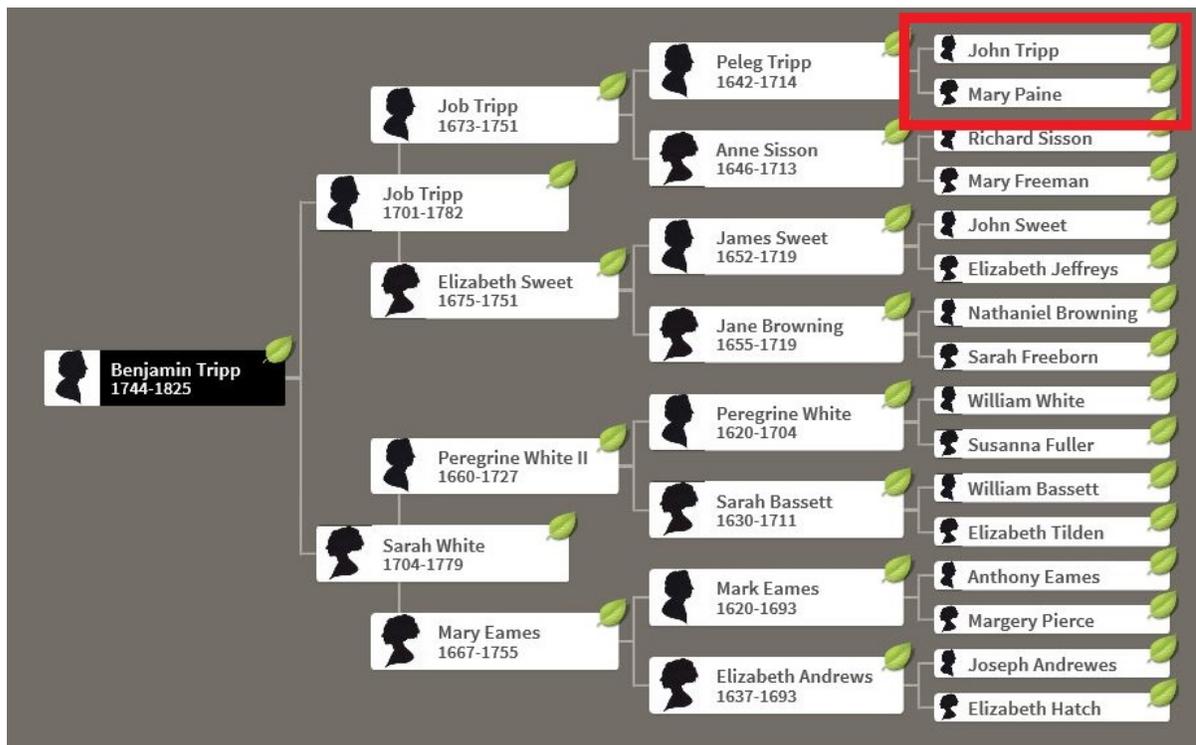
John Tripp made his last will and testament 16 December 1677, proved 28 October 1678, leaving five male descendants. Some of these male descendants would remain in Rhode Island and become prominent in many areas, including the whaling industry. Other descendants would begin a restless migration, first to New York, and then continuing west. His daughters, of whom less is known, married into some of the first one-hundred families of Rhode Island.

There is a document in the New Bedford, Massachusetts library, which was written by John Tripp in 1670. It reads:

The resolution of John Tripp concerning the places of his abode. First I was born in Covetown (Horkstow near Barton on Humber) in Lincolnshire 3 miles from Benton Harbor, and my father's name was John Tripp and my mother's name was Isabel Moses and before she married my father when she was a maid and they had about twelve children and much kindred we had and when I grew in years I was put an apprentice to a ships carpenter whose name was John Baaty (Baats, Beety, Beedy?) of Horysbury three miles of from Alsand in Lincolnshire aforesaid where I served years and sometime after wrought with him and after that I bound myself to owe Frances East for 4 pounds a year for 4 years who sold me and I had served him and his assign for about a year and a half. He sold me to Robert Jafra (Jeffery?) then living in Boston and Boston church members persecuted

some to the offending of others. My master came to Rhode Island with the said persecuted people and I with him and his wife being sickly and they could not get their maid to Rhode Island with them. People whom the said members and expelled from them. Therefore my master was forced to sell me to Randall Houlding of Portsmouth on Rhode Island and I served a while and after bought out the rest of time of him and after a while I married a wife whose maiden name was Mary Paine. I being about thirty or twenty eight years old or thereabouts, and the Lord hath given us eleven children of when one is dead. The eldest is 29 years old and this 17 on the second month 1670. Praised be thee our Rock who hath been help and unto us at all times give what thou pleased. It is mercy from thee to receive anything for the earth and sea is all thine and the fullness thereof.

Here is a family tree for Benjamin Tripp, going back to his 2<sup>nd</sup>-great grandparents – John Tripp (aka “The Founder”) and his wife Mary Paine are highlighted in the red box:



Much more about the descendants of John Tripp and Mary Paine can be found on the Tripp Family Genealogical Web Site at: <http://www.trippgenealogy.org/>

# Tripp Family

## Genealogical Web Site

### *The Founder Starts a Lineage of Over 50,000 Descendants*

It is estimated that John Tripp started a North American lineage of over 50,000 descendants – thus, the reason he is simply referred to as “The Founder”. His notable descendants include U.S. President William Harding and Sir Winston Churchill, not to mention the “Quincy Oakleys”.

Other famous descendants and relatives of John Tripp include: President George Washington, President William Howard Taft, Presidents Roosevelt, President Nixon, President Carter, and Presidents Bush. He is also related to Prince Charles of Wales and the late Princess Diana Spencer. He is related to Anne Hutchinson, his illustrious Colonial contemporary, through the *Spencer* lineage, as well.

### *King Henry V Renames Battlefield Hero Howard to Tripp*

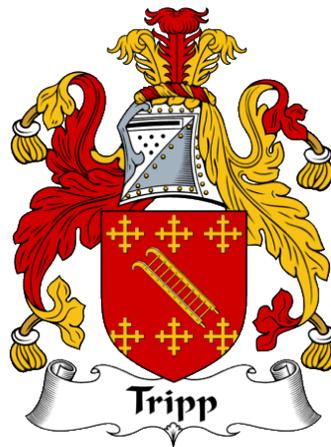
According to some, the advent of the *Tripp* surname name in England can be traced to King Henry V's renaming Lord Howard's youngest son in 1415. The following inscription appears underneath the Tripp coat of arms emblazoned on an ancient escutcheon in the possession of Reverend Charles Tripp , D.D., around 1850:

This achievement was given unto my Lord Howard's fifth son at the Siege of Bullague; King Henry the Fifth being there asked how they took the town and castle. Howard answered, "I tripped up the walls." Saith His Majesty, "Tripp shall be thy name and no longer Howard," and honored him with the scaling ladder for his Band, or adornment.

Thus Lord Howard's youngest son became the root ancestor for the *Tripp* lineage of North America. The family surname essentially is the result of the blithe battlefield bravery (how's that for an alliteration?) demonstrated by Lord Howard's son when he “danced” up a ladder to surmount a Burgundy castle wall.

## Tripp Family Coat of Arms

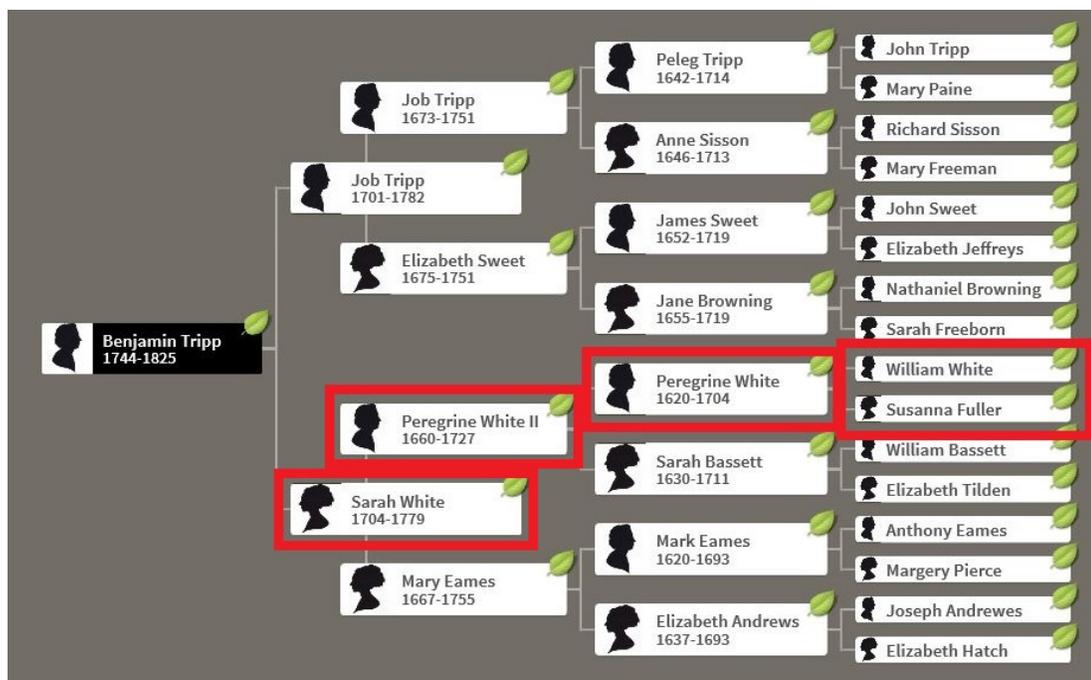
Here is the **Tripp** Family Coat of Arms (Family Crest):



Notice the scaling ladder in the middle of the shield.

## Another Mayflower Connection

Benjamin Tripp's *maternal* line turns out to be just as interesting as his *paternal* line. His mother was Sarah White (1704-1779), and in tracing her ancestry, I learned that she was the great-granddaughter of William White (1580-1621) and Susanna Fuller (1592-1680), who came to America on the *Mayflower* in 1620. Here is the pedigree for Benjamin Tripp, emphasizing his **White** family lineage:



William White came on board the *Mayflower* with his pregnant wife Susanna, their son Resolved, then about five years in age, and two servants. Susanna gave birth to their son Peregrine on board the *Mayflower* several weeks after White signed the Mayflower Compact in November 1620. The name Peregrine means “one who journeys to foreign lands,” or, more simply, it is a French and Middle English word for “pilgrim.”

In 151, William Bradford (a governor of the Plymouth Colony) wrote about the White family's *Mayflower* voyage and the birth of Peregrine: “Mr. William White, and Susana, his wife, and one sone, called Resolved, and one borne a ship-bord, called Peregriene; and \*2\* servants, named William Holbeck and Edward Thomson.”

The *Mayflower* departed Plymouth, England, on 16 September 1620. The small, 100-foot ship had 102 passengers and a crew of about 30-40 in extremely cramped conditions. By the second month out, the ship was being buffeted by strong westerly gales, causing the ship's timbers to be badly shaken with caulking failing to keep out sea water, and with passengers, even in their berths, lying wet and ill. This, combined with a lack of proper rations and unsanitary conditions for several months, attributed to what would be fatal for many, especially the majority of women and children. On the way there were two deaths, a crew member and a passenger, but the worst was yet to come after arriving at their destination when, in the space of several months, almost half the passengers perished in cold, harsh, unfamiliar New England winter.

On 9 November 1620 they spotted land, which was the Cape Cod Hook, now called Provincetown Harbor. After several days of trying to get south to their planned destination of the Colony of Virginia, strong winter seas forced them to return to the harbor at Cape Cod Hook, where they anchored on November 11. The Mayflower Compact was signed that day.<sup>2</sup>

William White was the eleventh signatory to the Mayflower Compact. His servants, William Holbeck and Edward Thompson, were not of age and could not sign the Compact.

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<sup>2</sup> The "Mayflower Compact" was signed on 11 November 1620 onboard the *Mayflower* shortly after she came to anchor off Provincetown Harbor. The Pilgrims had obtained permission from English authorities to settle in Virginia, whose northern border at the time extended up to what is now New York. The Pilgrims had originally intended to settle near the mouth of the Hudson River, but due to bad weather and strong headwinds on their attempt to head south, they decided instead to plant themselves outside the bounds of the Virginia Company patent--which caused some “mutinous speeches” amongst some of the passengers. The Mayflower Compact was an attempt to establish a temporary, legally-binding form of self-government until such time as the Company could get formal permission from the Council of New England. This formal permission came in the form of the Pierce Patent of 1621.

William White died late in the first winter on 21 February 1621. With the death of her husband, Susanna White, with newborn Peregrine and five-year-old Resolved, became the only surviving widow out of the many families who perished that winter. By the spring of 1621, 52 of the 102 persons who originally had arrived on the *Mayflower* at Cape Cod would be dead.

In May 1621, Susanna White became the first Plymouth colony bride, marrying Edward Winslow, a fellow *Mayflower* passenger whose wife had perished on 24 March 1621. At least five children were born to Edward Winslow and his wife Susanna.

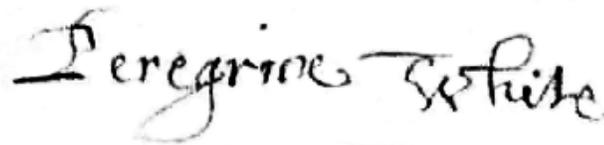
And though deceased, in the 1623 Division of Land, William White received five acres (akers) "lyeth behind the forte to the little ponde" (lying behind the fort to the little pond). Edward Winslow, his wife Susanna's husband since 12 May 1621, received four acres in the same section. White's sons Resolved and Peregrine were both listed with their step-father Edward Winslow and mother Susanna in the 1627 Division of Cattle, and they all moved to Marshfield, Massachusetts, in 1632.

Peregrine White (20 November 1620 – 20 July 1704) was the first English child born to the Pilgrims in the New World. He was born in Provincetown Harbor to William and Susanna White, before the passengers of the *Mayflower* had decided where they would settle.

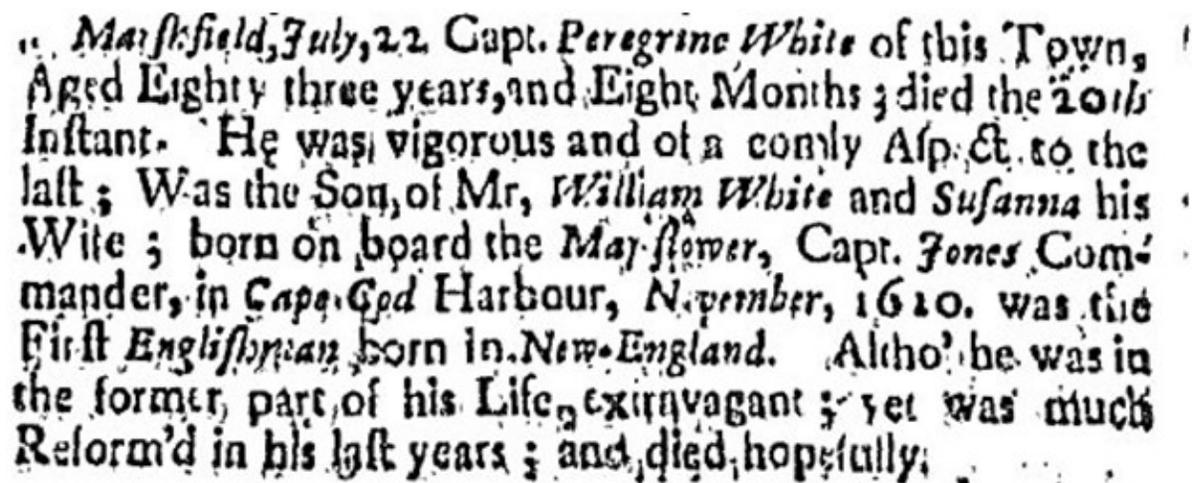


This cradle is believed to have been brought on the *Mayflower* by William and Susanna White, for the use of Peregrine White, who was born onboard the ship in November 1620, while it was anchored off the tip of Cape Cod. It is on display at the Pilgrim Hall Museum in Plymouth, Massachusetts.

White's name appears frequently in the records of the colonists. Though he was an esteemed member of the community as the first English child born in New England, he appears to have had a dissolute youth, and was brought before the local court for "fornication before marriage" with his future wife Sarah. He later became a citizen of the settlement of Marshfield, Massachusetts, and held some minor civil and military offices. Peregrine White died in 1704 at the age of eighty-three.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Peregrine White". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid, with some loops and flourishes characteristic of the 17th or 18th century.

His death on 20 July 1704 prompted an obituary in the *Boston Newsletter* – the only known newspaper obituary for anyone directly associated with the *Mayflower's* voyage: "Marshfield, July, 22 Capt. Peregrine White of this Town, Aged Eighty three years, and Eight Months; died the 20th Instant. He was vigorous and of a comly Aspect to the last; Was the Son of Mr. William White and Susanna his Wife; born on board the *Mayflower*, Capt. Jones Commander, in Cape Cod Harbour, November, 1620. Was the First Englishman born in New-England. Altho' he was in the former part of his Life extravagant; yet was much Reform'd in his last years; and died hopefully.

A printed obituary notice in a historical, slightly irregular font. The text is arranged in several lines, with some words in italics. It matches the transcription provided in the previous block, including the date of death, age, and details of his birth on the Mayflower.

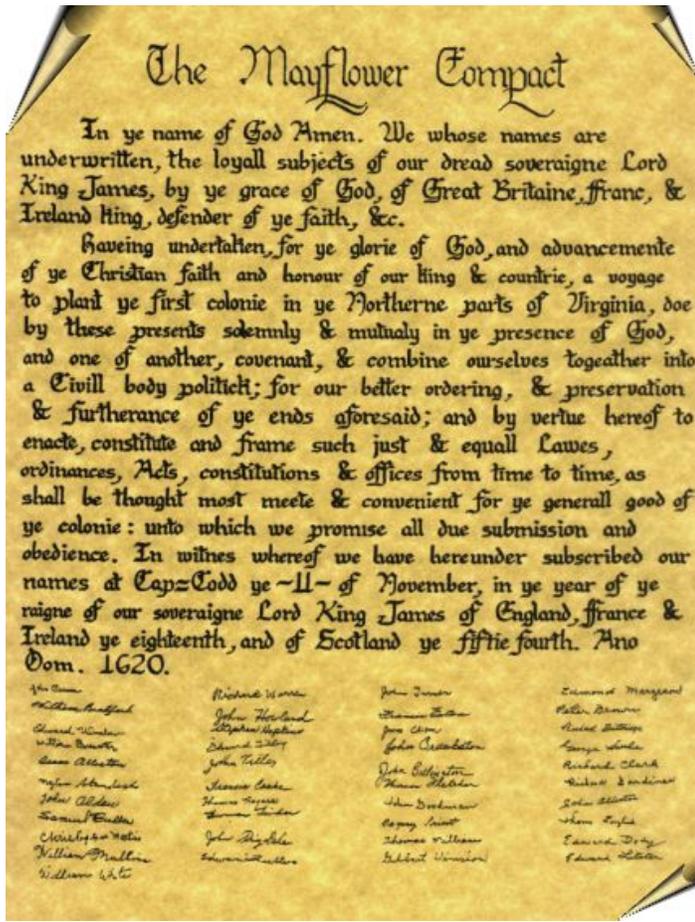
Here are some additional interesting (and somewhat relevant) images:



The Mayflower at Sea  
By Gilbert Margeson (1852-1940)



Signing the Mayflower Compact



Copy of the Mayflower Compact  
William White's signature is in the lower left corner



US Postage Stamps Commemorating the Tercentenary of the Signing of the Mayflower Compact



Cole's Hill Pilgrim Memorial Tomb, Water Street, Plymouth, Massachusetts.  
Known as the "Sarcophagus".

The sarcophagus shown in the photo above was erected in 1920 by the General Society of Mayflower Descendants at Cole's Hill in Plymouth, Massachusetts. The sarcophagus contains bones of Pilgrims found at different times nearby. The area was used in 1620-1621 as a burial ground for Pilgrims.

The long east side of the sarcophagus states: OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND FOUR PASSENGERS / THESE DIED IN PLYMOUTH DURING THE FIRST YEAR. The names of the dead are listed alphabetically in four columns; William White's name appears near the bottom of the fourth column.<sup>3</sup>

Cole's Hill Cemetery is located on the top of the hill overlooking Plymouth Rock. The Pilgrims' first winter in Plymouth proved deadly, with half of the colony dying of sickness. They were afraid of burying the dead openly, as it would alert the Indians to how weak the colony was and possibly provoke an attack. In order to prevent this, they buried their dead in secrecy at night at Cole's Hill.

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=16633390>



## ***Concluding Remarks***

I continue to be amazed by our “Quincy Oakley” family history! I never would have thought that looking into Benjamin Tripp’s ancestors would uncover a link back to an English king who gave our ancestor the surname of ***Tripp***. Nor would I have expected to find another branch of our family with ancestors who were Pilgrims that came to America on the *Mayflower*. Nor would I have expected to find an ancestor who was ***born*** on the *Mayflower*. We certainly do have a fascinating family history!

Now let me conclude with a bit of trivia. In the *Introduction* to this narrative, I wrote that Hannah Louise Tripp (a daughter of Benjamin Tripp and his wife Anna Mosher) was descended on her mother’s side of the family from John Cooke and Sarah Warren, and both John Cooke and Sarah Warren’s father, Richard Warren, were Pilgrims who came to the New World on the *Mayflower* in 1620. John Cooke was about thirteen years old when he arrived in Plymouth with his father, Francis Cooke. It turns out that John Cooke was the last surviving male passenger of the *Mayflower* when he died on 23 November 1695, having lived through the entire life of the Plymouth Colony. So the “Quincy Oakleys” are descended not only from the first child born to Pilgrims in the New World, but also from the last surviving male Pilgrim who came to the New World on the *Mayflower* in 1620.