

The Presumed Descendants of ____ Rublier
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This report attempts to show how some individuals living Huntington, Long Island, New York in the early part of the 1700s are tied together because we don't know with certainty that the children listed below really are their children. William Rublier and Abigail Brush lived and had children in Huntington, Long Island, New York at the same time as Andrew Rublier and his two wives, the first named Hannah Brush and the second Abigail Hawkins. Presumably, William and Andrew were brothers.

There are a number of baptisms recorded between 1729 and 1740, but the parents of the individuals baptized are not given. Family researchers of these families have assigned children to each couple based on the best information available, but we could be wrong. This report outlines our best thinking about how these families are groups together.

This report is a jumping off point for four more reports that extensively treat the descendants of the following couples:

1. The Descendants of William Robblee [1732/33-1792] and Keturah Baker [~1738-1835] of Lanesborough, MA
2. The Descendants of Andrew Rublier/Roblyer [1736- bet 1790-1900] and Dorcas _____ [est 1739-aft 1810] of Orange County, New York
3. The Descendants of Reuben Robblee [1738/39-1795 and Phebe Austin [1739-1815] of Granville, NY
4. The Descendants of John Robblee [1739/40-1810] and Susannah Baker, Loyalist of Nova Scotia. Note that Bob Robblee is the primary researcher for the Robblees of Maritime Canada.

In addition to the uncertain family groupings in the first two generations, there are also some family connections made on the basis of an educated guess. If that is so, I have clearly indicated I also include "questions to myself" that reflect my thinking. For instance: I ask myself "Was Lucia possibly a Benson?" based on the placement of her gravestone in the Jericho Center, VT cemetery. I have tried to identify questions, speculations, and theories by using a red font, but I may have missed some.

I would ask that anyone using this report not turn "speculation" into "fact" when using the data for his or her own purposes. I welcome any questions, criticisms, confirmations, rebuttals, etc. My interest is in placing all of the individuals in their own families, locations and historical context.

Conventions used:

- A date with "est" in front of it is, in fact, an estimate.
- A date with abt in front of it is more likely to be more accurate than an estimated date, as it are based on what is known about the individual or family.
- A date of birth followed by (cal) is calculated from date and age of death.
- A location with a question mark after it – a guess based on where people were last known to be living.
- A location with (prob) after it – a stronger supposition than above.
- A location with (res) after it – usually the place where the last Social Security benefit was sent.

I welcome documentation that would help me to turn that into fact, or establish that my guesses or estimates were wrong!

All of my sources are included in the endnotes and in the narrative. I try for primary sources where they are available. We are fortunate that New York state vital records from 1885 are now available on-line. Be sure and have a look at information available in early New York newspapers <http://fultonhistory.com/> and <http://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/>. Both sites contain a wealth of information about the New York Roblee families.

I have eliminated identifying information on individuals who are less than 100 years old who do not have death dates.

In 2018, a Roblee YDNA study was initiated by Linda McGinnis. The project, called Roblee DNA Project, is housed at FTDNA. It is open to all family members. The more people who participate, the better. We hope that this project will help us to settle some longstanding questions about our family's origins.

Generation One

1. _____ **Rublier**, b. est 1680.

Children:

- + 2 i. William Rublier b. est 1706.
- + 3 ii. Andrew Rublier b. est 1709.

Generation Two

2. **William Rublier**, b. est 1706, d. 28 Jan 1770 in Lanesborough, Berkshire Co., MA,¹ buried in Lanesborough, Berkshire Co., MA. The Huntington records, circa 1730, use the spelling variation Rublier, Rublear, Rublere and Rubleer. Rublear is the variation used in church records; other variations appear in land and other records at fair frequency. Andrew appears in the land records as early as 1730 and William in 1732. The most helpful information we have from Huntington is from the Records of the First Church in Huntington, Long Island. 1723-1779. Printed for Moses Scudder, Huntington, New York, 1899, it contains records for the only church that exists in Huntington during this time period. It contains the following relevant records:

Marriages

21 December, 1727	William Rublear and Abigail Brush, both of Huntington
20 July, 1730	Andrew Rublear and Hannah Brush, both of Huntington
30 July, 1733	Andrew Rublear, widower, and Abigail Hawkins, both of Huntington

Baptisms:

13 April, 1729	Abigail Rublear
21 January, 1732/3	William Rublear

10 May, 1734	Hannah Rublear
18 May, 1735	Thomas Rublear
11 April, 1736	Andrew Rublear
26 March, 1739	Reuben Rublear
9 March, 1739/40	John Rublear

The church records do not list the parents of children baptized, so we cannot organize these children into families with any certainty. This family disappears from the Huntington records by 1742 at the latest.

William Rublear, Thomas Brush and Ebenezer Prime witnessed the will of Nathaniel Williams of Huntington on 31 Jul 1732. (Collections Of The New York Historical Society For The Year 1894, p. 127)

The next sign we have of this family is in Dutchess County, New York. Here we see more name variations in the written record. This quote by Helen Wilkinson Reynolds in her article "Dutchess County Before 1830" in The Quarterly Journal of the New York State Historical Association (Vol. 20, pp. 278-9) may explain of what we are up against:

"The first group of arrivals in Dutchess Co. was in the first quarter of the 18th century were largely of Dutch and Palentine German extraction, but included a few Walloons, French and English. The second, larger group were mostly English, from New England and Long Island, with a strong minority of Dutch from Long Island and New Jersey. From the first, Dutch and English languages competed for supremacy. Dutch began to give way to English in the 1760's. 18th century records are full of puzzling items produced by the phonetic spelling of Dutch words by English speaking people and vice versa."

The following appears on the Patterson, NY Historical Society's web page (<http://pattersonhistoricalsociety.org/History.html>) and may shed light on the persistent suggestion that our family was actually descended from Joris de Rapalje:

"Another example were the Roblee/Rublee/Rubly brothers (Andrew taxed 1744 and William taxed 1758) and their Baker in-laws and their children from Huntington, LI who had farms in the Terry Hill section of Town (their names were 'Hollandized' by the Dutch tax collectors to Rapalyea/Rapeleje/Rubbelyea contributing to even more confusion when trying to follow the records):

During the period 1740 - 1790, we see many name variations of Robblee, Rublee, etc. for men by the names of William, Rubin, Thomas, John, Andrew and Nathaniel living in Southern Precinct, Nine Partners Patent, Rombout Precinct, Charlotte and Fredericksburg.

The following members joined the Congregational Church in Lanesborough:

- Reuben Robblee, admitted 1 Apr 1770, died
- Abigail Roblee, admitted 8 Aug 1771, absent
- Phebe Roblee, admitted 3 Aug 1772, died
- William Roblee, admitted 18 Jul 1779, died

Tentatively, this is Reuben Robblee, Abigail (Brush) Robblee, Phebe (Austin) Robblee and William Robblee, Jr. (as William, Sr. died in 1770). Note that Abigail is referred to as "absent". Was this really Abigail, wife of

William, or was it their daughter Abigail? There is no sign in the records of the younger Abigail, so she may not have even lived to adulthood.

He married **Abigail Brush**, 21 Dec 1727 in Huntington, Suffolk Co., NY,^{2,3} b. abt 1708 in Huntington, Suffolk Co., NY,² (daughter of **Thomas Brush** [- 1726] and **Rebecca Brush** [1681 -]), d. in Lanesborough, Berkshire Co., MA? Abigail Brush is tentatively identified as a child of Thomas and Rebecca Brush (Mann, 1935 in the NY Biographical and Genealogical Record, page 216).

Children:

- 4 i. Abigail Robblee, b. bef 13 Apr 1729 in Huntington, Suffolk Co., NY.⁴ [NO FURTHER INFORMATION.]
- 5 ii. William Robblee, b. bef 21 Jan 1732/33 in Huntington, Suffolk Co., NY (prob),⁴ d. 26 Mar 1792 in Lanesborough, Berkshire Co., MA,⁵ buried in Center Cem., Lanesborough, Berkshire Co., MA. [SEE REPORT ON WILLIAM ROBBLEE AND HIS DESCENDANTS.]
- 6 iii. Andrew Rublier or Roblyer, b. bef 11 Apr 1736 in Huntington, Suffolk Co., NY,³ d. bet 1790-1800 in Warwick, Orange Co., NY (prob). He married Dorcas _____, b. est 1739, d. aft 1810 in Warwick, Orange Co., NY? [SEE REPORT ON ANDREW ROBLYER AND HIS DESCENDANTS.]
- 7 iv. Reuben Robblee, b. bef 26 Mar 1737/38 in Huntington, Suffolk Co., NY,³ d. 22 Sep 1795 in Granville, Washington Co., NY (prob).⁶ He married Phebe Austin, 5 Sep 1759 in South Amenia, Dutchess Co., NY,⁷ b. 1739 in NY?,⁷ d. 1 Nov 1815 in Granville, Washington Co., NY (prob).⁷ [SEE REPORT ON REUBEN ROBLEE AND HIS DESCENDANTS.]
- 8 v. Thomas Rubbelee or Robblee, b. 6 Jun 1740, d. 16 Jan 1818/1808 in Shaftsbury, Bennington Co., VT.⁸ . A Thomas Rubbelee was a private in the Revolution, from VT, serving in Capt. Brownson's Co. He was born on 6 Jan 1740 and died 1 Jan 1818. His wife was Lydia. (NSDAR Patriots) Some Revolutionary War sources indicate that he was born in Bennington; however, Bennington was not settled until 1761.

Fisher and Fisher indicate that Thomas Rubbelee died in 1808; the NSDAR sources say 1818.

The records show that Thomas Rubbelee (rank not shown) served in Capt. Eli Bronson's company of Ira Allen's regiment of Vermont militia, Revolutionary War. His name appears on a payroll dated at Sunderland Aug 26, 1783 also on a pay roll dated Sunderland May 3, 1780. It also appears from these records that Thomas Rubbelee, rank unknown, served in Capt Brownson's command of Vermont troops Revolutionary war payroll dated March 19,1783 for service done in Windham County, which roll bears this record, days on service, five, signed by authority of the Secretary of War. (Source: F.C. Ainsworth, Colonel, US Army, Chief of Office)

The placement of Thomas Robblee as a son of William Rublier and Abigail (Brush) Rublier is an educated guess at best. The 1740 birth date puts him in the same generation as William of Lanesborough, Reuben of Lanesborough and later Granville, NY - and the brothers Thomas and John, the Loyalists who went to Nova Scotia. Tentatively, we have William and

Reuben as brothers, probably sons of William, Sr. and Abigail (Brush) -- and cousins to Thomas and John, tentatively sons of Andrew and Hannah (Brush). So, one wonders if this Thomas might be a sibling to William and Reuben, due to his physical location. Given that Abigail Brush's father was named Thomas, this doesn't seem far-fetched. The Reuben Robblee family has connections to the Bennington County, VT area -- The Everts family settled in Sunderland, from CT. Both Mary (Molly) and Chloe Everts, who married Robblees, were born in Sunderland, VT. Sunderland is just northeast of Shaftsbury, and both in Bennington Co. Note that this date of birth is five years after the Huntington baptism for a Thomas Robblee. That baptism seems to have been for the Thomas the Loyalist, who went to Nova Scotia.

I searched for a likely Thomas in the census for Bennington Co. for 1790, 1800 and 1810 - and for a Lydia in 1810 and 1820, with no results. The only Thomas Robblee to be found in the 1790 census is Thomas of Granville, NY, who is probably not this Thomas. Likewise in 1800.

He married Lydia _____. [NO FURTHER INFORMATION.]

3. **Andrew Rublier**, b. est 1709. Brush (1982, page 17) says Johannah probably married Andrew Rublier. Andrew was a widower when he married Abigail Hawkins. He married (1) **Johannah "Hannah" Brush**, 20 Jul 1730 in Huntington First Church, Huntington, NY,^{9,3} b. abt 1708,¹⁰ (daughter of **Richard Brush** [1673 - 1724] and **Deborah Jarvis or Wood**), d. bef 30 Jul 1733. He married (2) **Abigail Hawkins**, 30 Jul 1733 in Huntington, Suffolk Co., NY.³

Children:

- 9 i. Thomas Robblee, b. bef 18 May 1735 in Huntington, Suffolk Co., NY,³ d. 4 Sep 1796 in Granville, Annapolis Co., NS, Canada,¹⁰ buried in Christ Church Anglican Church, Karsdale, Annapolis Co., NS.¹¹ This is likely the Thomas Rublier who was baptized at Huntington, Long Island, NY at the Huntington First Church in May, 1735.

In October of 1765, Thomas Robblee and his brother John Robblee acquired 150 acres of land in the Nine Partner's Patent in Charlotte Precinct of New York. He and his brother John were a Loyalist. When New York was evacuated by the British in 1783, the two brothers went to Nova Scotia where they were given land in lieu of their confiscated land in Dutchess County. Thomas and Mary (Allen) Robblee had no children. (manuscript in possession of Mike Robblee).

Thomas Robblee is listed as a resident of Granville, NS about 1784, owning 3 slaves (Collections of the Nova Scotia Historical Society, Vol. 10, p. 24).

"To the Commission Appointed by Act of Parliament, for inquiring into the losses and services of the American Loyalists.

The Memorial of Thomas Robblee, late of County of Dutchess and Province of New York.

Most respectfully Sheweth:

That your memorialist was uniformly and steadily attached to His Majesty's Person and the British Government and was opposed to the measures of the American Congress. That he joined the Royal Army in April 1777 and rendered them every Service in his Power for the Suppression of the Rebellion and the Restablishment of the British Government in America.

That because of his having joined His Majesty's Troops as aforesaid, he was indicted for high treason against the States, and the whole of his Property, Real and Personal, hath been confiscated and sold for the benefit of the United States, or the State of New York, and account and estimate of which is hereunto annexed. (amounting to £1249. .19. .4 Sterling)

That previous to the Evacuation of New York, your memorialist removed with his family, into the Province of Nova Scotia, where he is now in great Poverty and Distress, by reason of the Confiscation and Sale of his Estate as aforesaid, and the unfortunate Termination of the War. In the Hope that the Benefit of the late Act of Parliament to benefit the American Loyalists may be extended to him He most humbly Prays that you may take his Case into consideration, in order that he may be enabled under your Report, to receive such Aids and Assistances, as his Losses and Services may be found to deserve.

Thomas Robblee by
John H. Rooney, his attorney

And the said John le Chevalier Roome (?) by Virtue of the Power of Attorney hereunto annexed Humbly Pray's that the Memorial of the Said Thomas Robblee may be accepted, of, and entered so that may be inabled (sic) hereafter to more fully to establish not only the Facts herein set forth but to give more ample and special Proofs of this Loyalty, Losses and Services and as may be required, of which he is not at present of Possession and from his situation in Nova Scotia is unable to furnish.

London, 23rd March 1784
John H. Rooney
Great Queen Street
No. 27 Lincoln Inn Fields"

(Ancestry.com. UK, American Loyalist Claims, 1776-1835 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2013. Original data: American Loyalist Claims, 1776-1835. AO 12-13. The National Archives of the United Kingdom, Kew, Surrey, England.)

Thomas' headstone in the cemetery at Karsdale Baptist Church in Granville, NS reads as follows: To the Memory of Thomas Robblee, who departed this life Sept 4, 1796, Aged 61 years and 4 months. The grave has eloquence, its lectures teach, in silence louder than divines can teach, hear what it says, ye sons of Folly, hear, it speaks to you, lend an attentive ear.

His will, dated 9 Jul 1791, reads as follows:

In the name of God, Amen, I, Thomas Robblee of Granville, in the County of Annapolis, and in the province of Nova Scotia, being of sound and disposing mind, memory and understanding, do make and order that my last will and testament in the following: First and principally, I resign my soul to God, Almighty and hope for salvation through the merits of my Redeemer, Jesus Christ. I desire to be interred at the direction of my Executors, hereinafter named.

As to my temporal estate, I dispose thereof as follows: I name my wife, Mary Robblee and Francis Mills of Granville, Executors of my last will and testament. I give and bequeath unto each of the children of my friend, Mr. Robert Mills, five pounds lawful money of Nova Scotia. I give unto the godchild of my wife, Elizabeth Fretz, two cows and six sheep, likewise a bedstead, curtain and bedding. I will that said cows and sheep shall be put out eighteen months after my decease, for the benefit of the child, according to the custom of the country which said stock shall be under the direction of my said executors or the survivor thereof until the said child shall arrive at the age of eighteen years. I give and bequeath to Thomas Robblee, the son of my dear brother John Robblee, all of my real estate at the decease of my dear wife, together with the stock and farming utensils that may be remaining, and in the case of the Said Thomas Robblee without issue, I will and bequeath the said real estate to his brother William. I give all my real and personal property to my loving wife during her natural life, the personal estate to be at her own disposal, and lastly, I will that what money remaining at her decease to be equally divided amongst the children of my said brother John Robblee.

In witness whereof, I have, hereunto, set my hand and seal at Granville, the Ninth day of June in the year of our Lord, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety One.

Thomas Robblee
SIGNED, SEALED IN THE PRESENCE OF
James Thorne
Robert Mills
William Muir

“ROBBLEE, THOMAS A012/109/262, A013/15/225
Of Charlotte, Duchess County, New York. Joined the Royal Army in 1777, and subsequently indicted for treason; Robblee's property was confiscated and sold. He moved to Nova Scotia before the end of the war, and estimated his loss at £1,120 sterling. He was awarded £500 sterling.” (Biographical Sketches of Loyalists of The American Revolution" by Greg Palmer (Westport, CT: Meckler Publishing, Westport, CT, 1984), page 731)

The notice of Thomas' estate listed his wife Mary as the executor. She is not buried with Thomas. Bob Robblee states that twice he has come across a record of a Mary Robblee? marrying a George Randall, b 28 Aug 1785 in Aylesford.

He married Mary Allen, aft 29 Aug 1765 in NY,¹¹ b. est 1738, d. aft 4 Sep 1796 in Granville, Annapolis Co., NS? [NO FURTHER INFORMATION.]

- 10 ii. John Robblee, b. bef 9 Mar 1739/40 in Huntington, Suffolk Co., NY,³ d. 14 Jan 1810 in Wallace, Cumberland Co., NS, Canada,¹² buried in Dotten Cem., Cumberland Co., NS, Canada.¹³ . He married Susannah Baker, est 1767 in NY?, b. est 1741, d. bef 1783? in NY? [SEE REPORT ON JOHN ROBBLEE AND HIS DESCENDANTS.]

¹ Lanesborough, Berkshire County, Massachusetts Town Records.

² Mann, Conklin, "Thomas and Richard Brush of Huntington, Long Island" in *The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*, Vol. XXVI (New York: The New York Genealogical and Biographical Society: July 1935), page 216.

³ *Records of the First Church in Huntington, Long Island. 1723-1779* (Printed for Moses L. Scudder, Huntington, New York, 1899)

⁴ *Records of the First Church in Huntington, Long Island. 1723-1779* (Printed for Moses L. Scudder, Huntington, New York, 1899), page 29.

⁵ Tombstone.

⁶ Carpenter, G[eorge] W[eyland], *Descendents of Ruben and Phebe Roblee, 1949. Based on the Notes of Mrs. Clarence Jones, Historian of Minerva, NY* (Family History Library, Salt Lake City. Call # 929.273 A1 #6901), page 1.

⁷ Doherty, Frank J., *Settlers of the Beekman Patent, Dutchess County, New York, Volume II* (Pleasant Valley, NY: The author, 1993), page 254.

⁸ NSDAR Patriots.

⁹ Brush, Stuart C., *The Descendants of Thomas and Richard Brush of Huntington, Long Island* (Baltimore, Maryland: Gateway Press, 1982), page 17.

¹⁰ *Christ Church Anglican Cemetery, Karsdale, Annapolis Co., NS, Canada* (findagrave.com)

¹¹ *New York Marriages Prior to 1784. A Reprint of the Original Edition of 1860* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1968)

¹² *Dotten Cemetery, Cumberland Co., NS, Canada* (findagrave.com)