

Samuel Cook

BIRTH Born 30 September, 1641 in Salem, Essex, Massachusetts
PARENTS Henry and Judith (Birdsall) Cook
MARRIAGE (1) Hope Parker, m. 2 May 1667, New Haven, Connecticut
She died before 1690

CHILDREN

1. Samuel b. 3 Mar. 1668 in New Haven
2. John b. 3 Dec. 1669 in New Haven
3. Hannah b. 3 Mar. 1671, Wallingford
4. Isaac b. 10 Mar. 1673, Wallingford
5. Mary b. 23 Apr. 1675, Wallingford
6. Elizabeth b. 22 Aug. 1677, Wallingford
7. Judith b. 29 Feb. 1779, Wallingford
8. Isaac b. 10 Jan 1681, Wallingford
9. Joseph b. 25 Feb. 1683, Wallingford
10. Hope b. 27 Sept. 1686, Wallingford

(2) Mary ____, m. about 1690, Wallingford
She died 4 Dec. 1695, Wallingford

CHILDREN

1. Israel b. 8 May 1692, Wallingford
2. Mehitable b. 30 Jun 1694, Wallingford

(3) Mary (Mallory) Roberts, widow of Eli Roberts m.
14 July 1696
She died 17 Sept. 1752 at Cheshire

CHILDREN

3. Benjamin b. 8 Apr. 1697, Wallingford
4. Ephraim b. 19 Apr. 1699, Wallingford
5. Elizabeth b. 10 Sept 1701, Wallingford

DEATH March, 1703, Wallingford

Samuel Cook was the second son born to Henry and Judith Cook in early Salem, Massachusetts. His father was a butcher, but Samuel learned the trade of tanning and shoemaking. In 1663, two years after their father died, Samuel and his brother Henry Jr. went with a group of settlers to the new colony of New Haven, Connecticut. Samuel lived in New Haven for seven years, during which time he married Hope Parker in May of 1667. She was the daughter of New Haven settlers Edward and Elizabeth Parker.

Five months after Samuel and Hope were married, settlers in New Haven applied for permission to begin a new village. In 1670 Samuel was one of the 38 planters and freemen, mostly of New Haven, who signed the Covenant setting up the government of Wallingford, 12 miles to the north and west. He set up a tannery on what became known as "Cook's Hill" or "Tan Vat Springs," out in the woods not far from his house, and became the first shoemaker in Wallingford. The tannery still exists as a historical site.

The Samuel Cook house was built near the corner of Long High Way (Main) and Cross



The Samuel Cook house in Wallingford stood on this piece of property next to the historical Merriman home. The Cook home was taken down and rebuilt after his death in 1702. (Courtesy William Cook)

date: 14 July 1696 at Wallingford. He had 7 children under twenty and she had 8. They had another three children, bringing the total of Samuel's posterity to fifteen. His third wife Mary outlived Samuel and married for a third time. Mary Cook and Jeremiah Howe II were married April, 1705 at Wallingford. She died 12 September 1752 at nearby Cheshire.

Samuel wrote a will, which is dated March 12, 1702. In that will he named twelve living children. In March of 1703 Samuel died at the age of 61, a well respected man in Wallingford, leaving an estate of 340 pounds as a reminder that industry and thrift in America produce their rewards.

Highway, the only roads in town in the beginning, and near Old Colony Road running from Hartford to New Haven. The house on the corner which was next to his is now an historical site known as the Samuel Merriman House.

After becoming the mother of ten children, one of whom died soon after birth, Hope died some time before 1690, leaving nine children. Samuel soon married a woman known on her death record only as Mary Cook. Since no marriage record exists, we know nothing about her except that she and Samuel became the parents of two children. Her death record states Mary Cook, the wife of Samuel Cook, died December 4, 1695 at Wallingford.

Samuel married third Mary (Mallory) Roberts, widow of Eli Roberts. Vital records record the marriage



The Samuel Merriman home in Wallingford is next door to the Samuel Cook property. The Merriman home has been listed on the national register of original colonial buildings. (Courtesy William Cook)