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## JOHN HANBY

Innkeeper, Rowan County, North Carolina, 1756

submitted by Ann Blomquist, #2023-05

John Hanby was born c1700 probably in Salem County NJ, and died cNovember 1768 in Pittsylvania County VA. He married Susannah Thompson on January 13, 1734/35 in Gloucester County NJ, daughter of Quakers William Thompson and Hannah Rodney. She was born August 26, 1704 in Salem County NJ, and died after 1768 probably in VA.

John Hanby and his family lived the life of south westward moving pioneers. During his lifetime, he lived in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, and Virginia.

John Hanby is assumed to be a son of John Hanby (born c1677).<sup>1</sup> He was born about 1700 in Salem County NJ. This area of New Jersey was settled by Quakers, so John would have grown up around the Quaker religion and philosophy of life. By 1715, his father had moved to Ridley Township, Chester County PA.<sup>2</sup> John lived his youth in several townships in Chester County PA because his father was listed in the townships of Ridley, Upper Chichester, and Middleton for 1715 through 1724.<sup>3</sup>

During the years 1727 through 1735, John left a number of court records in Gloucester County NJ.<sup>4</sup>

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1 John Hanby was born c1677 in Northampton Co VA, the oldest son of William Hanby (c1650-1702). In 1685, William took the family to Salem County NJ where John grew up. About 1699, John probably married in Salem County NJ but his wife's name is unknown. In 1702 at his father's death, John Hanby inherited the home plantation in Upper Penn's Neck, Salem County NJ. John Hanby appeared in the tax rolls of Ridley Township, Chester County PA and regularly left records there through 1724. There were no other Hanbys or Hambys in the area so while there is no direct proof of the father of John Hanby (born 1700), it is reasonable to believe that John Hanby (born c1677) was his father. Salem Co NJ Deed Book AAA; Chester Co PA Tax List; Chester Monthly Meeting 1722-1745; Northampton Co VA Will Order Book 13 p 343.

2 Chester County PA Tax List H-J 1693-1740, Historical Society of PA, Ch 94:3, unnumbered pages.

3 Chester County PA Tax List H-J 1693-1740, Historical Society of PA, Ch 94:3, unnumbered pages.

4 Letter from Bill Jobe, 3804 Carpenter Avenue, Studio City CA 91604, dated April 10, 1993, sent to Mrs. Jane Nickles, 5007 South Columbus Street, Aberdeen, MS 39730. Four-page letter includes documented time line of the life of John Hanby. Copy in the possession of Ann Blomquist; Jobe, 2; *Transcriptions of Minute Book, Quarter Sessions, No. 2, 1713-1739*, Gloucester County NJ, p. 310, 322.

In 1735 about age 35, he married Susannah Thompson (born 1704), a Quaker and a daughter of William Thompson and his third wife Hannah Rodney.<sup>5</sup>

In Dec 1739, Thomas Morgan of Chester County PA brought a suit against John Hanby “of Greenwich in the county of Gloucester” for a debt. By September 1740, Hanby was not residing in Gloucester County because a suit against him by William and Elizabeth Jefferies named Hanby as a blacksmith of Chester County PA.<sup>6</sup> A few months later in March 1740/1, in a continuation of the Jefferies suit, Hanby was identified again as “late of Gloucester [township] in the county of Gloucester.”<sup>7</sup> In June 1741, Thomas Morgan brought suit against Hanby for trespass.<sup>8</sup> In Sep 1741 in Gloucester County NJ, Joseph Toplift brought a suit against “John Hanby Jr” for £30 plus damages.

About 1748, the family joined the large Quaker migration from NJ to new lands in North Carolina. By 1749, the Hanbys were in Anson Co NC.<sup>9</sup> In 1753, Rowan County was formed from Anson County and John was a leader in the newly formed government. In June 1753, Hanby was appointed the commissioner for John Doller's district.<sup>10</sup> John, along with his friend Squire Boone (father of Daniel Boone, also Quakers), served on the first court as a justice.<sup>11</sup> Hanby also served as a captain in the militia.<sup>12</sup>

John petitioned the court in January 1756 for a license to “keep an ordinary,” a tavern and inn.<sup>13</sup> In April 1756, Hanby and John Brevard provided security for Col. George Smith for the construction of the county prison and office. In Jan 1757, Hanby and Squire Boone were Justices for the county court. At the same court, he served as a guardian for William Ridge and applied to the Orphan's Court for £36.12.6 for his services. In May 1757, John bought 467 acres “on the east side of Rich Fork of Abbott's Creek” for 10 shillings from

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<sup>5</sup> William Nelson, *Documents Relating to the Colonial History of the State of New Jersey*, Vol. XXII, *Marriage Records, 1665-1800*, p. 173, 407; *Encyclopedia of American Quaker Genealogy*, Vol. II, p. 44.

<sup>6</sup> Gloucester County (NJ) Historical Society, Vertical File, Gloucester Writs-Executions.

<sup>7</sup> Gloucester County (NJ) Historical Society, Bail Bonds, p. 300.

<sup>8</sup> Gloucester County (NJ) Historical Society, Bail Bonds, p. 325.

<sup>9</sup> Brent H. Holcomb, *Anson County NC Deed Abstracts 1749-1766, Abstracts of Wills & Estates 1749-1795*, 1974, p. 141. John Handby and Henry Dowland listed the inventory of the estate of Henry Johnson, June 13 1749, page 277 of the original court book.

<sup>10</sup> Jo White Linn, *Abstracts of the Minutes of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, Rowan County North Carolina 1753-1762*, 1977, p. 60.

<sup>11</sup> James S. Brawley, *The Rowan Story 1753-1953*, 1953, p. 16.

<sup>12</sup> Linn, *Minutes 1753*, p. 20.

<sup>13</sup> Rowan County NC, *Minutes of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, Vol. 2, 1755-1767*, p. 104, FamilySearch.org Film #7640158, image 72/655; Linn, *Minutes 1753*, p. 51.

Lord Granville with John Haywood, W. Churton, and Peter Henley as witnesses.<sup>14</sup> This area still bears evidence of the family with "Hamby Creek" flowing into Rich Fork.<sup>15</sup>

In 1756 and 1757, John Hanby and Squire Boone were witnesses together for several deeds. On Oct 18 1759, several deeds were recorded, one where John Hanby was a witness and another where Squire and Sarah Boone sold 640 acres to their son Daniel Boone.<sup>16</sup> The Hanbys and the Boones knew each other and the Hanbys would have known Daniel from 1753 until 1760 as Daniel grew from young manhood into a married man with a young family. Daniel and his wife Rebecca Bryan settled on Sugar Tree Creek where they lived 1758-1766 and had their first 5 children.

During the years 1758-1760, the North Carolina border was troubled with Indian problems, so Squire Boone sent his wife and children to Maryland and Daniel sent his family to Culpeper County VA. By November 1760, John Hanby retreated from the frontier and settled in Halifax County VA (now Patrick County). In the 1760 Rowan County tax list, Hanby was noted as "lives in Virginia."<sup>17</sup> On Nov 2 1760, John Hanby "of Halifax Co VA" sold his 467 acre NC tract to Hugh McCreary for £12 and made safer Virginia home for the family.<sup>18</sup>

Again, John Hanby took an immediate role as a leader in the community. In 1767, "John Hanby, Gent." was assigned a district for collecting tithes.<sup>19</sup> Maud Clement stated in her history of Pittsylvania County that "John Hanby ... (and others) were other familiar names now missing from Pittsylvania's records, but their qualifications for leadership were needed in the new county to the west in which their homes were now located."<sup>20</sup> John's land was originally in Halifax County, but became part of Pittsylvania County in 1767. In June 1767, Hanby "qualified as a Justice of the Peace."<sup>21</sup>

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14 Linn, *Minutes 1753*, p. 15, 58, 68.

15 Richard Enochs, *Rowan County NC Vacant Land Entries 1778-1789*, p. ix, maps, Hamby Creek.

16 Linn, *Minutes 1753*, p. 19, 23, 54.

17 Jo White Linn, *Rowan County, North Carolina Tax Lists 1757-1800*, 1995, p. 43.

18 Linn, *Deeds*, p. 56; Jo White Linn, *Abstracts of the Minutes of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, Rowan County, North Carolina 1763-1774*, 1979, p. 35.

19 Maud Carter Clement, *The History of Pittsylvania County, Virginia*, 1929, p. 280.

20 Ibid, p. 160.

21 Genealogical Services, *Alphabetical Index to the Court Order Books of Pittsylvania County, Virginia, Plaintiffs A to I, Volume 1*, 1982, unnumbered pages.

John was active in obtaining land grants. He was granted 400 acres in November 1765 on the south fork of the north fork of Russell's Creek; 800 acres in May 1766 on the forks of Ivy Creek; 400 acres in January 1767 on the south fork of the Mayo River; 400 acres in August 1768 on the south side of Walton's line.<sup>22</sup>

John died in 1768 in Pittsylvania County about age 63. He named his wife Susannah and children in his will.<sup>23</sup> It is not known where John or Susannah were buried.

The children of John and Susannah:

Hannah, born c1736 in NJ, married George Carter about 1758 probably in Rowan County NC. She had only one child, a son William (born c1759 in VA) and died prior to 1782. George married for his second wife Frances Richman. William married his cousin Susannah Hanby (daughter of Jonathan Hanby and Sarah Dalton) about 1788 and had 10 children before his death prior to 1850.

Susannah, born c1738 in NJ, married Miles Jennings about 1762 probably in Halifax County VA. They had a long life together with 9 children, moving frequently, settling in Oglethorpe County GA where he died in 1798 and she died in 1823. Their children were Hannah c1763), Jonathan (c1766), Solomon (c1772), Annie (c1773), perhaps Susannah (c1775), William (c1776), Levi (c1778), Aletha (c1780), and Keziah (c1782).

Jonathan, born 1741 in maybe Chester Co PA, married Sarah Dalton in 1769 in VA. They had 10 children and made their lives in Patrick County VA. Their children were Susannah (1770), John (1771), Mary (1773), Nancy (1775), David (1778), Samuel (1781), Jane (1783), Gabriel (1785), Sarah (1787), and William (1789). This family largely remained in Patrick Co VA.

David, born about 1745 in Gloucester Co NJ, married Jane Dalton in 1771 in Pittsylvania County VA. They had 4 children and lived in Patrick and Henry counties. Their children were: John (1775), Samuel (1780), Nancy (1783), and Gabriel (1786).



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22 Marian Dodson Chiarito, *Entry Record Book 1737-1770, Land Entries in the Present Virginia Counties of Halifax, Pittsylvania, Henry, Franklin, and Patrick*, 1984, pp. 282, 291, 312, 313, 315, 340, 349; Marian Dodson Chiarito, *Old Survey Book 1, 1746-1782, Pittsylvania County, Virginia*, 1988, p. 130.

23 Lela C. Adams, *Abstracts of Pittsylvania County VA Wills 1767-1820*, p. 253.