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Innkeeper, "Bunch of Grapes," Hartford, Connecticut c. 1683 - 1714

Zechariah Sandford was born about 1644 in Hartford, Connecticut, son of Robert and Ann (-) who came from Essex County, England. He married Sarah Willet, daughter of Nathaniel Willet, and died 18 January 1718.

Before Jeremy Adams, innkeeper, died, the mortgage on the "Bunch of Grapes" was foreclosed and he gave it up in 1680, but remained at the inn until he died.* Two years later Zechariah Sandford, whose wife was a granddaughter of Jeremy Adams, redeemed the mortgage and property and ran the inn until he died in 1714.

Meetings of the courts were held there. In 1687 Captain Wadsworth blew out the candle at the inn, seized the Connecticut Charter and had it hidden in the Charter Oak tree so that Sir Edmund Andros, appointed by King James as Governor of New England, would be unable to have it surrendered to him.

After Zechariah died, the "Bunch of Grapes" was run by two more generations of the family until at least 1755, though the name of it was changed. Zechariah's daughter Sarah married Jonathan Bunce who ran the inn. Then their daughter, Sarah Bunce, married Samuel Flagg who took it over, the inn then called "Black Horse Tavern". It stood on the site of the Traveler's Insurance Building and probably extended to the Athenaeum property.

-Winifred Brachvogel

#74-23

REFERENCES

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Early Hartford Families, by Lucius Barbour, 1976 edition, p. 492
Ackley-Bosworth Genealogy, by N. Grier Parke with Donald Jacobus, p.86

* See Jeremy Adams, 1604 - 1683 in Vol.V of this publication.