Marden Family

John\(^1\) Marden (d. c1706) m. Rachel Berry

James\(^2\) Marden m. (1695) Abigail Webster (b. 1676)

Stephen\(^3\) Marden (b. 1699) m. (1721) Charity Lang

Stephen\(^4\) Marden (1736-1781) m. (1760) Elizabeth Webster (1740-1830)

John\(^5\) Marden (1779-1860) m. (1806) Eunice Lord (1780-1851)

Maria\(^6\) Marden (1807-1882) m. (1830) Marcus Ricker (c1807-1853)

John\(^1\) Marden (d. c1706) and Rachel (Berry) Marden

John\(^1\) Marden first appears in the records of Colonial New England in 1664, when he is shown making an appraisal of the estate of the late William King, mariner, at the Isles of Shoals off Portsmouth, N. H.\(^1\) It is reasonable to conclude from this that John Marden was connected with the fishing and maritime industry centered at the Isles of Shoals. Perhaps he first came to the Portsmouth area as a mariner and decided to settle there. In any event, he was evidently not at Portsmouth before 1658, but was a resident there in March 1665/66.\(^2\)

John Marden married, probably about 1666, Rachel\(^2\) Berry (William\(^1\)).\(^3\)

On 19 Jun 1666, John Marden was granted one acre of land on Great Island, in Portsmouth.\(^4\) Great Island was in that part of Portsmouth that became the town of New Castle in 1693; John Marden was one of those who petitioned for a separate township.\(^5\) He maintained two properties, one in the Sandy Beach area of Portsmouth and one on Great Island, and evidently lived in both places at various times.\(^6\)

John Marden made his will on 11 Aug 1698, in which he mentions his wife Rachel and son James.\(^7\) He appears in the records for the last time in 1702.\(^8\) His will was proven on 12 Feb 1706/07 but not recorded until 2 Jan 1722.\(^9\) On the same day that John’s will was proven, John Foss, Sr. and his wife Mary testified to a nuncupative will of Rachel Marden, and William Wallis testifies to what was apparently a different nuncupative will by her. In these wills, she mentions her deceased husband John, her son William, and her daughters Elizabeth Rand and Mary Jones.\(^10\)

John Marden and Rachel (Berry) Marden had the following children:\(^11\)

i. daughter, not mentioned in either parent’s will, but married ______ Conner. They had a son, Samuel Conner, fisherman, who in 1710 mortgaged land that had belonged to his “grandfather John Mardin.” Since Samuel was an adult in 1710, his mother must have been one of the earlier children of John Marden; and since his mother is named in neither parents’ wills, she must have died before 1707.\(^12\)

ii. James\(^2\) Marden,\(^13\) q. v.

iii. Thomas Marden.\(^14\) He is not named in either parent’s will, but he is presumed to be their son since there is no other possible parent in the records. His name appears along with that of his brother James on the rolls of an inquest jury on 27 Feb 1695/96.\(^15\) He probably married Sarah Shaw and probably died about 1697.\(^16\)

iv. John Marden, named in his mother’s will.\(^17\) He is probably the John Marden who married Alles Parker of New Castle in Hampton, N. H. on 16 Nov 1699.\(^18\)

v. William Marden, named in his mother’s will.\(^19\)

vi. Elizabeth Marden, named in her mother’s will as Elizabeth Rand.\(^20\) She married Nathaniel Rand about 1701.

vii. Mary Marden, named in her mother’s will as Mary Jones.\(^21\)
James\textsuperscript{2} Marden and Abigail (Webster) Marden (b. 1676)

James\textsuperscript{2} Marden (John\textsuperscript{1}) was born between 1667 and 1670 in New Castle, N. H.\textsuperscript{22} In 1693, his name appears on the tax records as an inhabitant of New Castle.\textsuperscript{23} In 1698, he received a grant of 20 acres in New Castle, which was at that time part of the Sandy Beach area of Portsmouth.\textsuperscript{24}

Abigail\textsuperscript{3} Webster (Stephen\textsuperscript{2} John\textsuperscript{1}) was born in May 1676 in either Newbury or Haverhill, Mass.\textsuperscript{25} James Marden married Abigail Webster on 23 Oct 1695 in New Castle.\textsuperscript{26} James Marden died between 1710 and 1718.\textsuperscript{27} After his death, his widow Abigail married Samuel Berry.\textsuperscript{28} She died on 19 Jun 1750 in her 75\textsuperscript{th} year.\textsuperscript{29}

James and Abigail (Webster) Marden had the following children, all born in New Castle:\textsuperscript{30}

i. James Marden, born on 25 Sep 1697,\textsuperscript{31} baptized in Haverhill, Mass. 20 Nov 1698\textsuperscript{32} She probably married Job Chapman on 6 Jan 1737, as his second wife.\textsuperscript{36}

ii. Stephen\textsuperscript{3} Marden, born on 28 Aug 1699, q. v.\textsuperscript{33}

iii. Rachel Marden, born on 30 Jul 1701,\textsuperscript{34} baptized in Haverhill on 8 Nov 1702.\textsuperscript{35} There is no record of his baptism or any further mention of him in the records; therefore, he probably died in infancy.\textsuperscript{38}

Stephen\textsuperscript{3} Marden (b. 1699) and Charity (Lang) Marden

Stephen\textsuperscript{4} Marden (James\textsuperscript{2} John\textsuperscript{1}) was born on 28 Aug 1699 in New Castle, N. H.\textsuperscript{29}

Charity\textsuperscript{2} Lang (Nathaniel\textsuperscript{1}) joined the South Church at Portsmouth on 8 May 1720.

Stephen Marden married Charity Lang on 21 May 1721 in South Chester, N. H.\textsuperscript{30} They lived near Odiorne at Little Harbor in Rye, N. H.\textsuperscript{31} Stephen Marden’s name appears on the 1724 petition for the separation of Rye from New Castle. He served a number of terms as a Rye selectman.\textsuperscript{42} He was a cordwainer (a cobbler who makes shoes from cordovan leather), and he operated a ferry to Great Island.\textsuperscript{43} Charity’s death is not recorded.\textsuperscript{44} Stephen died between 1770 and 1777.\textsuperscript{45}

Stephen Marden and Charity (Lang) Marden had the following children:

i. Hannah Marden, born on 13 Mar 1723,\textsuperscript{46} baptized at South Church on 19 May 1723.\textsuperscript{47} She married Jonathan Dolbeer on 25 Dec 1744.\textsuperscript{48} He died on 18 Mar 1761.\textsuperscript{49} She may be the widow Hannah Dolbeer who married Nathan Marden of Epsom, N. H. in 1786.\textsuperscript{50}

ii. Benjamin Marden, born on 9 Aug 1729\textsuperscript{51}

iii. Ruth Marden, born on 8 Dec 1731,\textsuperscript{52} She married Levi Towl on 11 Oct 1753.\textsuperscript{53} He was born on 22 Sep 1731.\textsuperscript{54} She married (1) Daniel Philbrick on 17 Mar 1762.\textsuperscript{55} He was born in Rye on 2 Feb 1740 and died before November 1780.\textsuperscript{60} She married (2) William Davidson, as his second wife.\textsuperscript{61} She died on 20 Jan 1817.\textsuperscript{62}

iv. Elizabeth Marden, born on 12 Apr 1734\textsuperscript{55}

v. Stephen\textsuperscript{4} Marden, born on 21 Sep 1736, q. v.\textsuperscript{56}

vi. Abigail Marden, born on 22 Jul 1739.\textsuperscript{37} She married (1) Daniel Philbrick on 17 Mar 1762.\textsuperscript{58} He was born in Rye on 2 Feb 1740 and died before November 1780.\textsuperscript{60} She married (2) William Davidson, as his second wife.\textsuperscript{61} She died on 20 Jan 1817.\textsuperscript{62}

Stephen\textsuperscript{4} Marden (1736-1781) and Elizabeth (Webster) Marden (1740-1830)

Stephen Marden served during the French and Indian Wars, as part of a company of militia sent from Chester to garrison Fort William and Henry from May to October 1757. When the fort surrendered to the French, many of the surrendering British and American soldiers...
were massacred by the Indians; approximately 80 of the 200 New Hampshire men lost their lives. Stephen Marden escaped the massacre.44

Elizabeth4 Webster (Josiah3 John2 Thomas1) was born in Rye on, 29 Feb 1740, and baptized there on 13 Apr 1740.45

Stephen Marden and Elizabeth Webster were married in Rye on 28 Aug 1760.46 They settled in Chester, N. H.

Stephen was killed by a falling tree on 19 Jun 1781 in New Hampton, N. H., leaving nine children and a wife pregnant with a tenth.47 The inventory of his estate made on 22 Jan 1782 in Chester shows joiner and carpenter tools.48

In 1793, her son Josiah moved Elizabeth Marden and the younger children still under her care to Canterbury, N. H.,49 where Elizabeth died on 3 Nov 1830.50

Stephen and Elizabeth (Webster) Marden had the following children, all born in Chester:

i. Abigail Marden, born on 6 Nov 1760,51 baptized on 29 Mar 1761 in Rye.52 She died on 22 Jan 1798.53

ii. Martha Marden, born on 9 Jan 1764.54 She married John Stevens and lived in Loudon, N. H.55 She died on 26 Aug 1830.56

iii. Josiah Marden, born on 31 Dec 176557

iv. Stephen Marden, born on 15 Mar 1768,58 died on 6 Apr 176859

v. Elizabeth Marden, born on 11 Apr 1769.60 She was probably the Elizabeth Marden who married Archelaus Moore of Canterbury, subsequently moved to Middleton, N. H., and died on 19 Nov 1850.61

vi. Stephen Marden, born on 13 Sep 177162

vii. Charity Marden, born on 14 Sep 1773,63 died on 25 Sep 179764

viii. Dolly Marden, born on 23 Feb 1776,65 died on 11 Mar 185866

ix. John5 Marden, born on 18 Feb 1779,67 q. v.

x. Benjamin Marden, born on 29 Sep 1781 (after the death of his father)68

John5 Marden (1779-1860) and Eunice (Lord) (Ward) Marden (1780-1851)

I, John Marden, was born in the Town of Chester, in the County of Rockingham, New Hampshire, Feb 18, 1775.69 When I was in my third year my father was killed by the falling of a tree in the Town of New Hampton and County of Strafford, N. H., on the nineteenth day of June, 1781. He was forty-four years of age. My mother was left a widow in poor circumstances, with the care of eight children, and one added to that number on the twenty-ninth of September following.

It being in the time of the Revolutionary war she had many hardships to encounter, having but little but her hands and good economy to support her family, yet she bore her trouble with a good degree of Christian patience. In the year 1783 a treaty of peace was signed between the United States and Great Britain, which gave her some relief. In the year 1790 my eldest brother moved her and the younger part of the family to the town of Canterbury [N. H.], where she spent the remainder of her life in comfortable circumstances to the day of her death, which was on the third of November, 1830, aged about ninety-one years.

January, 1793, I came into the District of Maine, at the age of fourteen years, in the County of Lincoln (now Waldo) and took up my residence at a place called the Great Pond Settlement at the extremity of the Sheepscot Pond.70

I had many hardships to encounter being the only youth in the place. The nearest mill was twelve miles, through a lonely wood, with but little better than a foot-path and spotted trees. Yet with pleasing prospects I looked forward to the time when this good land would be settled. When school houses and mills would be built and roads made, and this wilderness would become a fruitful field. I took great pleasure in visiting my friends in N. H. once in every three years, although I had to travel the distance of two hundred and twenty miles on the frozen ground in the month of November or December. I worked with my brother, Stephen Marden, until I was twenty-two years of age, when I bought the farm on which I now live, with a barn then built and a log cabin house thereon. April 23, 1801, I was united in marriage with Mary Bagley of Liberty and moved on to the farm that spring with a pleasing prospect
of enjoying happiness. For three or four years we were favored with good health and our crops came in bountifully and all things bespoke prosperity.

Jan. 22, 1805, I was severely wounded by the falling of a tree. Then my sufferings were very great. Yet my mind was happy in the Lord and I could truly say, ‘Though He slay me, yet I will trust in Him.’

On the third day of February, I had my left leg amputated above the knee, which was very expensive at that time, so that my future prospects began to decay. In April following we chose our town officers for the first time. I took a part with them in collecting taxes and serving precepts, etc. This year with the past [?] will long be remembered as a season of great religious excitement in this town and vicinity. A Baptist Church was organized that season and many were added thereto. I was baptized and added to the church at the next August conference. On the tenth day of September my companion was taken sick and died on the sixteenth—with rash and putrid fever—aged twenty-two. My little son died on the twenty-first, aged three and a half years. I had two children left to the mercies of the people. A daughter, Eliza, two years old, and a little son, Hiram, six days old. Then was my house left to me desolate and everything of this world’s was clothed in gloom. All my future prospects were gone and the lonely graveyard was the pleasantest place I could visit. I could truly say with the Psalmist:

Had not the word been my delight
When earthly joys were fled,
My soul oppressed with sorrows’ weight
Had sunk among the dead.

I was then led to put my trust in the Lord and since that time I have witnessed much of his goodness.

I disposed of my children where they were nursed with tenderness and care. I left my home and attended to my business in Town that fall. In the winter I went to New Hampshire to visit my friends. I returned in the Spring and finished collecting and engaged in Town business again. In the year 1805 I let out my farm to Elder Robinson and Dr. Pratt with but little expectation to pay the bills and save the farm. I earned what I could. I found I had many friends to encourage me and made me some presents. I was encouraged to try and pay the bills and save the farm. This season I formed an acquaintance with Mrs. Eunice Ward of Harlem (now China) which was left a widow about the same time—and near the same age, with three children, the eldest six years and the youngest seventeen months, with about seven or eight hundred dollars worth of property for their support. She was a professor of religion and a member of the Baptist Church in Harlem. We were united in marriage on the twenty-fourth day of August, 1806, and moved home and commenced keeping house that fall. She assisted me to pay the bills and stock the farm. I was encouraged to pursue a course of farming for a living and attend to Town business and such labor as I could do. Soon after this I was chosen Town Clerk and kept the records, which was continued about twenty years. In the same year I was appointed first Post Master in Palermo, which was continued about seven years. Having the company and assistance of a prudent and industrious companion I have enjoyed much peace of mind for many years and have witnessed much of the goodness of the Lord. We were members of the First Baptist Church in Palermo forty-five years. We took much satisfaction with out Christian friends both in prosperity and in adversity. In the year 1850 my companion was sick, and died Feb. 28, 1851, aged seventy years and four months. We had nine children. For a few years I have witnessed much what I read in the twelfth chapter of Ecclesiastes of the aged. ‘Yet God is the strength of my heart. Although He cause grief yet he will have compassion according to the multitude of His mercies.’ He has been my friend and protector in youth and middle age, and I trust he will not forsake me when my strength fails. ‘Therefore will I trust in Him as long as I live.’

Where I reside is about twenty miles north-easterly of Augusta then called (Fort Wesson). The inhabitants east and north of my residence were but few at that time. Several small settlements were made in the woods, and generally called after the name of the first settler or by the old Indian name of ponds and streams. The land was very good for crops of corn and rye. Each settler made their choice for a farm. No taxes were called for at that time. There were no framed buildings east or north of my residence for the space of twelve or fifteen miles and three or four miles to the south and west until the next April, 1793, when two barn frames were put up. ... [The account continues with information on the early development of Palermo and environs.]

Written at Palermo, June 8, 1855, at the age of 76 years.

Signed, John Marden

John Marden (Stephen James John) was born on 18 Feb 1779 in Chester, N. H. He settled at Palermo, Me. About 1800 he and his brothers Stephen and Benjamin Marden built a mill
Marden Family

John Marden married Mary Bagley of Liberty, Me. on 23 Apr 1801. She bore him three children and died on 16 Sep 1805, six days after the birth of the last child.

Eunice Lord was born on 4 Nov 1780 in Harlem (now China), Me. She married Jonathan Ward on 21 Oct 1799 in Vassalboro, Me. He was the son of Josiah and Deborah (Bates) Ward. She bore him three children.

John Marden and Eunice (Lord) Ward, widow of Jonathan Ward, were married on 24 Aug 1806 in Vassalboro.

Eunice died on 28 Feb 1851 in Palermo, Me. John died on 25 Aug 1860 in Palermo. Both are buried in the Dennis Hill Cemetery at Palermo.

John Marden and Eunice (Lord) (Ward) Marden had the following children, all born in Palermo:

i. Maria B. Marden, born on 22 May 1807. She married Marcus Ricker, q.v.


iii. Allen Marden, born on 29 Jan 1812.

iv. Adner Marden, born on 17 Mar 1814. He married Rebecca B. Howard and lived at Troy, Me.

v. Sophia B. Marden, born on 24 Apr 1816. She married Joshua Goodwin.

vi. Samuel L. Marden, born on 27 Jul 1818.

vii. Philena Marden, born on 1 Nov 1820. She married Ebeneezer Michaels of Morrill, Me. on 29 Jan 1859.

viii. John A. Marden, born on 7 Apr 1823.

ix. Nathan Lord Marden, born on 1 Sep 1826.

Notes for Marden Family

1. Sylvia Fitts Getchell, Marden Family Genealogy (Newmarket, N. H., 1974), 11, citing NHRP 1:75
2. Getchell, Marden Family Genealogy, 11, citing 1658 and 1666 subscription lists for the support of Rev. Joshua Moody as reported in Tibbets, New Hampshire Genealogical Record, 1:9, 12-13
3. Getchell, Marden Family Genealogy, 15
4. Getchell, Marden Family Genealogy, 12, citing Tibbets, op. cit., 1:1, 2:22,59
5. Getchell, Marden Family Genealogy, citing New Hampshire Provincial Papers, 2:94-96. In 1726 this section of New Castle became part of the town of Rye.
6. Getchell, Marden Family Genealogy, 12-14, which also cites a number of occurrences of John Marden’s name in various contemporary records and includes a discussion of exactly where his lands were located.
7. Getchell, Marden Family Genealogy, 14-15, which includes a transcription of the will from New Hampshire Archives Deeds, volume 13.
8. Getchell, Marden Family Genealogy, 13
9. Getchell, Marden Family Genealogy, 15
10. Getchell, Marden Family Genealogy, citing New Hampshire Archives Deeds, 13:94. In the 1698 tax list for Sandy Beach, John Foss and William Wallis are shown as neighbors of the Mardens.
11. Mary Foss was the sister of Rachel Marden.
12. The order of children is from Getchell, Marden Family Genealogy, 16-17, and differs from that given in GDMNH.
13. Getchell, Marden Family Genealogy, 16-17
14. Getchell, Marden Family Genealogy, 16-17
15. Getchell, Marden Family Genealogy, 16-17
16. Getchell, Marden Family Genealogy, 16-17
17. Getchell, Marden Family Genealogy, 16-17
18. Hampton VR, 1:81, from Hampton Town Book, 2:403
19. Getchell, Marden Family Genealogy, 16-17
20. Getchell, Marden Family Genealogy, 16-17
21. Getchell, Marden Family Genealogy, 16-17
22. Getchell, Marden Family Genealogy, 17
23. Getchell, Marden Family Genealogy, 17
24. Getchell, Marden Family Genealogy, 17
25. GDMNH, 731, says the birth occurred in Haverhill on 27 May. Hoyt, Old Families, 343-344, says that her birth is recorded twice: on 19 May in Newbury and on 27 May in Haverhill. Hoyt also speculates that a Newbury baptismal record of 16 Jul 1676 for a Sarah Webster, child of
He undoubtedly means “one who professes faith in a religion” and not “one who is employed as a Professor of Religion!”

This is apparently an error. His signature (below) indicates that he was 76 years of age in 1855, which squares with his birthdate shown in Getchell.

The town of Palermo was first called the Great Pond Settlement from the fact that the first settlement was near the Sheepscot Great Pond. [Goodwin, A History of the Early Settlement of Palermo, Maine, 11]

He witnessed the will of his brother James on 8 Sep 1770 but was not living when the will was proved 24 Sep 1777. [Getchell, Marden Family Genealogy, 32]

There is a theory, with some evidence to support it, that Charity died before 1757 and Stephen remarried an Elizabeth Rand in that year.

This is apparently an error. His signature (below) indicates that he was 76 years of age in 1855, which squares with his birthdate shown in Getchell.

The town of Palermo was first called the Great Pond Settlement from the fact that the first settlement was near the Sheepscot Great Pond. [Goodwin, A History of the Early Settlement of Palermo, Maine, 11]

He undoubtedly means “one who professes faith in a religion” and not “one who is employed as a Professor of Religion!”

Goodwin, A History of the Early Settlement of Palermo, Maine, 5f

Getchell, Marden Family Genealogy, 66, citing NHVR and a family Bible.

Goodwin, A History of the Early Settlement of Palermo, Maine, 123, citing town clerk’s record of China, Me.

i. John Webster Marden, born on 3 Apr 1802 in Palermo and died there 21 Sep 1805.

ii. Eliza Marden, born on 6 Oct 1803 in Palermo. She married Hale Bradstreet, who was born about 1802 and died on 25 Jul 1851. She died in Vinal Haven, Me., on 24 Aug 1893. iii. Hiram Marden, born on 10 Sep 1805 in Palermo. [Getchell, Marden Family Genealogy, 124]


Getchell, *Marden Family Genealogy*. citing their gravestones. The cemetery is approximately 1/2 mile south of the intersection of Nelson Lane and Parmeter Road in Palermo.

Getchell, *Marden Family Genealogy*, 124

Getchell, *Marden Family Genealogy*, 124

Getchell, *Marden Family Genealogy*, 124

Getchell, *Marden Family Genealogy*, 124

Getchell, *Marden Family Genealogy*, 124

Getchell, *Marden Family Genealogy*, 124

Getchell, *Marden Family Genealogy*, 124

Getchell, *Marden Family Genealogy*, 124

Getchell, *Marden Family Genealogy*, 124