

# LINCOLN LORE

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## LINCOLN FAMILIES ORIGINATING IN HINGHAM, MASS.

The growing interest in Abraham Lincoln as an outstanding world figure very naturally has caused people bearing the same surname to inquire about their possible relationship to him. There were as many as a dozen men bearing the name Lincoln who arrived in the state of Massachusetts during early colonial days, eight of them settling in Hingham. The task of tracing one's ancestral branch to the family tree of the President is somewhat confusing.

Like so many traditions in genealogy "there were three brothers who came to America." They settled in Hingham, Massachusetts as early as 1637. Unlike many other brothers, one did not go south, another north and another west but they all remained in Hingham. However, two of them simplified the genealogical task of subsequent generations. Daniel remained a bachelor and Thomas though married had no offspring. The third brother, Samuel became Abraham Lincoln's first American progenitor and it is through his descendants that we are able to trace the lineage of the President.

### SAMUEL THE WEAVER 1619-1690

It is fortunate indeed that a relative of Samuel, Waldo Lincoln of Worcester, Massachusetts, was an accomplished genealogist and in 1923 published the *History of the Lincoln Family*. It contains ten generations of Samuel's descendants totaling over 3,000 persons bearing the name Lincoln, as well as 6,000 members of families who intermarried with the Lincolns. The thoroughness with which Waldo Lincoln did his work might assure one that if the name of an ancestor is not found in his book it would be difficult to establish a relationship with the President.

It is to be regretted that only 300 copies of the *History of the Lincoln Family* was published as it has long been out of print; stray copies bring a premium. Many of the larger public libraries however possess a copy. An earlier book published in 1909 under the title *Abraham Lincoln An American Migration*, limited to 500 copies, is also out of print and only available at libraries or in Lincoln collections. This publication is confined to the direct Lincoln line from Samuel to the President.

The President's direct forebears, his only son to reach maturity and the only grandson bearing the Lincoln surname are presented.

I Samuel m. Martha Lewis; II Mordecai m. 1st Sarah Jones, 2nd Mrs. Mary Hobart; III Mordecai (2nd) m. 1st Hannah Saltar, 2nd Mary Robeson; IV John m. Mrs. Rebecca Flowers Morris; V Abraham m. Bathsheba (Herring); VI Thomas m. Nancy Hanks; VII Abraham (2nd) m. Mary Todd; VIII Robert m. Mary Harlan; IX Abraham (3rd) (Jack) died unmarried.

### STEPHEN THE HUSBANDMAN ?-1658

Two more of the Lincolns who settled in Hingham in colonial days were brothers named Stephen, the husbandman and Thomas, the husbandman. They came to America from Wymondham, England. In 1894 William E. Lincoln, a descendant of Stephen published a book entitled *In Memory of John Larkin Lincoln*. The book is largely a biography of the above named member of the family who for nearly fifty years was a professor at Brown University. The appendix to the book carries the author's line of descent from Stephen Lincoln. The same author in 1930 published a genealogy of several related families among them the descendants of Stephen Lincoln, the husbandman. The following generations of the author's family are noted.

I Stephen m. (name not known); II Stephen (2nd) m. Elizabeth Hawke; III David m. Margaret Lincoln; IV David (2nd) m. 1st Lydia Beal, 2nd Leah Beal, 3rd Mary Hersey; V David (3rd) m. Elizabeth Fearing; VI

Ensign m. Sophia Larkin; VII John Larkin m. Laura Douglass; VIII William Ensign m. Mary Porter; IX Kirk m. 1st Josephine McConway, 2nd Alice Darragh, 3rd Cecilia Robaugh; X Kirk Porter, Jr.

### THOMAS THE HUSBANDMAN ?-1692

Thomas the brother of Stephen was the forebear of many Lincolns who settled throughout New England. Only six generations of any one family line of descent is available and it is herewith presented.

I Thomas m. Margaret Langer; II Thomas (2nd) m. Sarah Lewis; III Ebenezer m. Hannah Allen; IV Ebenezer (2nd) m. Sarah Loring; V Thomas (2nd) m. (name not known); VI Ebenezer (3rd) m. Elizabeth Corthell.

### THOMAS THE MILLER 1603-1684

Norfolk County, England was the home of Thomas Lincoln, the miller, before coming to Hingham, Mass. in 1635. Fourteen years later he moved to Taunton, Mass. and became the progenitor of that branch of the family known as the Taunton Lincolns. Some members of this family established a settlement thirty miles to the south east named Wareham. James Minor Lincoln published in 1899 a genealogy of his forebears which he entitled *The Lincoln Family and Branches of Wareham, Mass.* The lineage traced to the author of the book follows:

I Thomas Lincoln m. 1st (name unknown), 2nd Elizabeth Harvey; II Thomas (2nd) m. Mary Austin; III Thomas (3rd) m. 1st Mary Stacey, 2nd Susannah Smith; IV Nathaniel m. Alice Andrews; V Ichabod m. Hannah Coddling; VI Rufus m. Lydia Sprague; VII Bradford m. Mercy Gibbs; VIII Minor Sprague m. 1st Elizabeth Wheaton, 2nd Almira Shepherd, 3rd Mrs. Mary Ann Borden, 4th Carolina Augusta Seabury; IX Preston Shepherd m. Annie Eliza Moore; X James Minor m. Josephine Vermilye Lott.

### THOMAS THE COOPER ?-1691

The fourth Thomas Lincoln at old Hingham was Thomas the cooper and it is not known that any one of the four were related, although English historians are confident there are some connections in earlier generations. Thomas who came from the west of England was in Hingham as early as 1636 and is the earliest American forebear of General Benjamin Lincoln of Revolutionary War fame. This genealogical table traces the different generations through the General Benjamin Lincoln line of descent:

I Thomas m. Anis or Avith Lane; II Benjamin m. Sara Fearing; III Benjamin (2nd) m. Mary Lewis; IV Benjamin (3rd) m. 1st Mary Loring, 2nd Mrs. Elizabeth Norton; V General Benjamin m. Mary Cushing; VI Martin m. Lydia Cushing; VII Frank Wallace m. Lydia Lovell.

### DANIEL THE SERGEANT 1619-1698

Daniel's name does not appear in the records of Hingham until 1644 but he was a prominent figure in colonial days. Apparently he was interested in navigation as he was also called the boatman and the seaman. Among the many descendants of Daniel the eight generations concluding with George M. of New York will be presented.

I Daniel m. Susanna (surname not known); II Daniel (2nd) m. 1st Sarah Nichols, 2nd Elizabeth Whitcomb; III Joshua m. Rachel Stodder; IV Joshua (2nd) m. Tamar Sprague; V George m. 1st Sarah French, 2nd Betsey French; VI George (2nd) m. Mercy Hall; VII George M. m. Rebecca Jewett.

Note. A four volume *History of Hingham* of which two volumes contain genealogies of the early settlers including the Lincoln pioneers mentioned in this article as well as cognate family was published by the town in 1893.