



Phineas Wolcott Cook Newsletter

Phineas W. Cook Family Organization

May 2022

Work On New Edition of Phineas' Journal Continues

Work continues on the new edition of Phineas Wolcott Cook's Journal.

Entitled *Phineas Wolcott Cook, A Legacy of Faith*, the Family Organization is making plans to publish the book in a hardbound edition as well as eventually making the book available digitally on the Cook Family website.

"We are looking at various printing options that will make the book available at a reasonable cost, but also preserve the print quality," said Yvonne Peterson, a committee member working on the book.

"We hope it will be a lasting treasure for family members to have in their libraries," she continued, "one that will be available to read for years to come. It will be a resource to help family members feel strengthened in their own lives by Phineas' example of faith and perseverance under adversity in his life."

The book is designed for easier reading, with updated spelling and punctuation. In addition, complementary information will be included to help readers understand the context of events that occurred in Phineas' life and the times in which he lived.

Excerpts from the book are available on pages 4-6 of this newsletter.

President's Message: A Call For Volunteers

By Dan Ditto, President
Phineas Wolcott Cook Family
Organization

Dear Family,

We are excited about some great things that are happening with the Cook Family Organization. With all that is happening, we will need help to keep the organization moving forward. Call for Volunteers. We really need volunteers for several areas, specifically as follows:

(1) Family Representatives *McCleave Family* *Howland Children*

As an organization we have board members from each sub family unit so we can stay in touch with the various parts of the family. We currently have family representatives from the Howland Family, The Savage Family, and the Poulson Family, but we need a representative from

the McCleave Family. In addition, Because the Howland family is such a large part of Phineas' descendants, we also need family representatives from the families of Phineas H. Cook, Phoebe Irene Cook Allred, Alonzo Howland Cook, Henry Howland Cook, William Cook and Hyrum Howland Cook families.

These family representatives will meet with us monthly (via zoom) and be a liaison and help communicate with their families and the Cook Family Organization.

(2) Genealogy Workers.

We have found a gold mine of family names that need temple work to be done! This is exciting and, as you will read in this newsletter, we are undertaking a SIGNIFICANT effort to do family genealogy and

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***FamilySearch* Group Organized for Members Of P W Cook Family**

President's Message, Continued

A Cook Family Group has been organized in *FamilySearch* to aid in getting the temple work done for family ancestors.

The Cook Family Group can be found using the link: https://www.familysearch.org/groups/family?groupId=MMMM-N56&inviteId=MMM9-ZFM&cid=group-mgmt_copy.

Access to the *FamilySearch* group is available only by invitation or by using the link above to request an invitation. Also, any member currently in the group can invite others by copying the link or sending an email invitation to another person.

After receiving an invitation through an email, a text or through the link listed above, members must request admission to the group. Once admitted, the group will appear on the *FamilySearch* main page under a drop down menu in the upper right hand corner. The drop-down box will list all family groups.

The Phineas W. Cook Group is part of an effort to more easily communicate about temple work with other family members. Names of people whose ordinances have been reserved can be shared to the group so other members can do the ordinances at their local temples.

Any group member who researches an ancestor (see story on page 7) and makes a request on the signup genius to do that person's temple work, can share the information with other Cook family members using the "share" feature of the *FamilySearch* group interface.

Information can be shared with individuals within the group or the entire group with the group interface. Each group has a limit of 100 members.

Questions about the group or requests for an invitation can be sent by email to cookfamilynewsletter@gmail.com.

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temple work for these ancestors. So, we have found the gold mine, now we just need gold MINERS!! we really need a few people who are willing to donate a few hours a week to verify genealogy information (birth, marriage, death, etc.) and clarify information (eliminate or consolidate duplicates) on our ancestors. We can then "Share" those names on our new Family Search Sharing Group, so any Cook Family ancestor can go to Family Search, download those names, and do the temple work! This will enable us to dramatically increase temple work for our ancestors. You do not have to be highly trained in genealogy, but you will need some basic knowledge. If you don't have it, we will help you! This new Cook Family Genealogy Committee will be a tremendous benefit to the organization.

(3) Website Committee

Our website is in constant need of work, updating, scanning new documents, adding new capabilities, etc. There is a tremendous amount of work to do. If you have any of these skills, please come help us find

new and better ways to manage our website.

If you or anyone in your family that you know meets any of these criteria and has a desire to bless the lives of thousands of Phineas Walcott Cook's descendants, please contact me at: (801) 554-4847 or email me at dlditto@msn.com. This is an amazing group of people to work with and I sincerely want to encourage you to help in this tremendous work. I look forward to hearing from you soon!

In this newsletter, you will also learn about the updated and more inclusive Phineas Walcott Cook Journal: "A Legacy of Faith." You will see a few pages from this Journal, and I think you will love it! It will be available in hardback and will be a wonderful document that will be a blessing to your entire family. You will also read an article by Bryson Cook about publishing a work about "Henry Cook, our First Cook Ancestor" and an article about our plans to publish on our website ALL verified family research on Phineas Cook's ancestors, descendants and collateral lines. Enjoy this newsletter and don't forget to volunteer! I am excited to hear from you!

Cook Young Adult Chapter Hosted Fireside on Zoom, Discussed Family History Options

The Young Adult Chapter of the PWC Family Organization sponsored a "Getting to know Phineas" Fireside via zoom on March 6. The presentation discussed "10 Ways You Can Help Phineas Do His Family History" and introduced projects of the organization that family members can get involved in. Watch our social media outlets – Facebook and Instagram and our website – for more information on these projects.

Young adults who are interested in being a part of the Young Adult chapter can contact Marcia Marshall 248.961.1864 (txt) or respond to a social media post.

Research Paper to be Made Available On Henry Cooke, First Cook Ancestor

By Bryson Cook

Henry Cooke died 25 December 1661, Salem, Essex, Massachusetts.

When Phineas Wolcott Cook was given his patriarchal blessing he was called to be “the savior of his father’s house.” We know from his personal history that he worked on several church structures including the Logan Temple. But true to his blessing he worked in the Temple laboring not only to seal or bind his immediate family to him but to his extended pedigree. The majority of temple work done on his paternal ancestors was done by him.

Since then, collateral maternal lines have been researched and proven and temple work done. With regard to Phineas we might say his ancestry has been proven to each immigrant ancestor and their temple work done. That is the legacy of Phineas. Now a lot has changed. Records have been found and digitized that were not available to Phineas. As a result there is much more to do.

Shortly, a research paper will be posted to the Phineas Wolcott Cook Family Organization website that attempts to document his life and give his progeny perspective and appreciation for his life and times. It is titled, “Henry Cooke, proprietor of Salem.” It will be posted in PDF format and printable. The article gives us insight into what his life in England would have been like and places him in the Puritan movement, migration and settlement in Salem. There is artwork included that gives added visual perspective for his life and times.

The Phineas Wolcott Cook Family Organization plans to make this available as a family history resource for all of his many descendants. One purpose is to help us recruit some of the descendants of Henry Cooke

of Salem to contribute to the Henry Cooke of Salem DNA project on Family Tree.

This project was initiated by the family organization and is managed by David O. Cook. The goal is to develop a Y DNA (paternal) haplogroup for Henry Cooke and connect to other Cook families currently living in England.

The hope is to discover their ancestry and a common English

ancestor for Henry Cooke of Salem. Or maybe even connect to a Cook family, which emigrated after Henry Cooke but whose genealogy in England is known.

By raising awareness for Henry Cooke of Salem our first American ancestor, we hope that appreciation and love for him will grow and lead to faith and prayers and even a miracle with regard to finding our English Cook ancestry.

Family Members Invited to Help with Research In Cook Family Genealogy

So you want to do some Cook Family genealogy?

Great! We need your help! We have identified thousands of names of Cook family ancestors who need their temple work done! Here’s how you can help:

1. Choose a Cook name on the Sign Up Genius that we have created on the Cook Family Organization website, Cookfamily.org.

The link will lead you to the Cook Family Organization Extended Family Temple Project (signupgenius.com)

2. Open that name in FamilySearch. Check to make sure that is a “real person” — is there at least a little documentation for that person’s birth, residence (from censuses, etc), marriage, having children, or death? Attach any relevant records. Check for duplicates and merge any duplicate records.

3. Request the temple ordinances.

4. Go to the temple and do the ordinances OR —

5. Share the names with other Cook family members using FamilySearch’s Family Group (see “A Cook Family Group Organized in FamilySearch” on page 1). These family members may be able to help complete the temple work.



Front page of Cook Website with Sign Up Genius Link

Journal excerpt page 1

Phineas Wolcott Cook A Legacy of Faith

Early years in Goshen, Connecticut¹

My desires are to know my own life and I therefore attempt to pen down such incidents as shall come to my recollection, for when I think of the inexperienced rising generation and the acts and the joys and the sorrows of human life I feel stimulated for the good of my posterity that they may learn by these things which I have passed through perhaps to be able to increase in knowledge and wisdom, and profit by the admonitions which I shall give in the course of my history. *My object is to lay before my children such things as shall do them good, and shall endeavor to impart as much good instruction as I can.*

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Original Phineas W. Cook Journal page 1 (Image 54)

The Western Lands

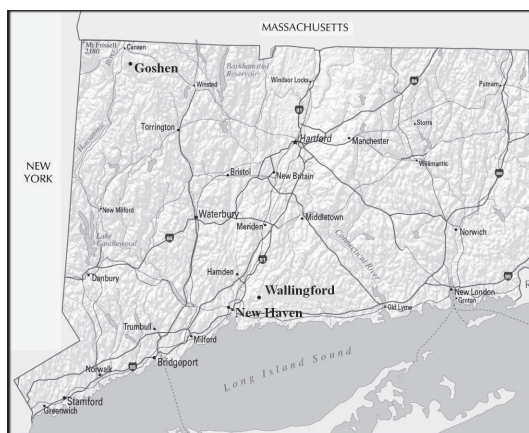
The northwestern corner of Connecticut was originally known as "The Western Lands." It was decided that Hartford and Windsor would "hold the land thus granted for the Governor and Company until those times of danger and trouble should be passed, but not as their property." By 1719 it was published that ownership belonged to the Connecticut Assembly. In the past when the Assembly took over a piece of land it was assigned at no cost to a group of settlers who applied to the General Court for it, but that policy was about to change.

I was born the 28th day of August in the year 1819 in the town of Goshen, Litchfield County, state of Connecticut.

The good old spot on which my eyes first beheld the light of the sun and where I spent the days of my childhood was situated on a beautiful plain sloping to the west a distance of about 1/4 mile to a swamp of timber; then south nearly on a level from 1/4 to 1/2 mile tapering and sloping gradually to the south for nearly one mile until it lost itself in the midst of hills and ravines.

On the east the land gently rises a distance of about 80 to 100 rods to the summit; thence descending suddenly to a swift running stream where many a day of pleasure has been spent in angling for trout. [I remember] cutting the long and slender sprouts which had grown the year before, rubbing the bark and making whistles which, in time of spring when the leaves were just verging from the bud, would seem to make all nature rejoice to echo the sound.

Also, many a long night I have passed in



Samuel, second son of Henry Cook of England and Salem, moved from Salem, Mass in 1663 to New Haven, CT. He helped settle the town of Wallingford in 1670. His son Joseph bought land in Goshen in 1737. The family lived in Goshen for 5 generations.

1. Spelling and punctuation of the original journal have been modernized to clarify the meaning. Where sentence structure was altered, the added or changed words are in brackets. Information added to the genealogical portions of his journal is also in brackets.

Journal Excerpt Page 2

Goshen is Formed From the Western Lands

By October, 1737 there were many who needed land, and an Act was passed ordering the sale and settlement "of all the Townships in the Western Lands" (Connecticut Town Origins p. 32). It was published that land would be sold at the courthouse at New Haven on December 1. Six months later the Court confirmed that the "township sold at New Haven...is hereby named...Goshen." The town was legally organized 28 September, 1838.

There was a flood of requests for land in this new area, so the Assembly divided the town site into 53 shares, three of which would be reserved for public purposes such as schools, and the other 50 sold at auction to the highest bidder. The shares were quickly taken. Within a few weeks, the buyers elected a committee to survey the land and plan highways. Bruce Colin Daniels, in his book The Connecticut Town, p. 30, describes how the town was divided into parcels and prospective settlers drew lots to determine their location. This process was repeated for the other towns in Litchfield County.

Joseph Cook's Deed From the Government:

The General Assembly at New Haven October 13, 1737 grants settlement of all the townships in the Western lands...the towns in said lands joining to Litchfield.... sold to the highest bidder on the first day of December next at one o'clock in the afternoon, 'till the whole be sold.' For £130-0-0, Joseph Cook of Wallingford, New Haven, Connecticut purchased "one right, part of allotment in the township (of Goshen) aforesaid, the same being divided into 53 equal allotments," dated February 3, 1737/1738 (Goshen Land Records, Volume 1, p. 76).

company with my father and brothers bobbing for eels which run in the still places in the night but in the daytime they lie still in the mud. The manner in which this was done I shall say more about hereafter.

To the north of the place a little distance is a small stream which drains the spring from the east under the hill. [The stream] is generally dry in summer, on the north bank of which stood the venerable mansion of my grandfather. To the north of this, joining the house, was an apple orchard.

In the street stood three or four large English Cherry trees which bore excellent fruit. The cherries grow in clusters of from three to seven in a cluster. They grow about 5/8 of an inch in diameter, the stems about one inch in length. At the head of this little stream which I speak of grew an immense quantity of sweet flag under which the soil is composed of blue clay. This little stream ran across the north end of the big meadow and emptied into another just in the edge of the swamp which headed about 1/2 mile north, ran south nearly one mile and emptied into the swift running stream east of the hill.

Directly north of this on the dry ground stood the old barn and cow house, directly west of the house in which I was born. Between it and the swamp, first came the long meadow on the opposite side of the road in which stood the barn and two cow houses on the south, [see drawing]. This meadow was about twenty or thirty rods wide and about 130 rods long, producing a most excellent quality of grass



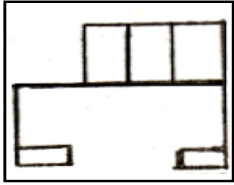
Town Hill Road where Joseph Cook bought land in 1737 (Courtesy Marcia Marshall)

Joseph Cook: Third Generation of Cooks in America

Joseph Cook and his wife Eleanor Johnson had eight children at Wallingford but were unable to provide an inheritance for all of them, an important ideal for early American landowners. As he searched for an opportunity, sales were advertised in nearby New Haven for the Western Lands in northwest Connecticut, and Joseph purchased land at the top of Town Hill in Goshen. Eventually all but one of the children followed their parents to Goshen.

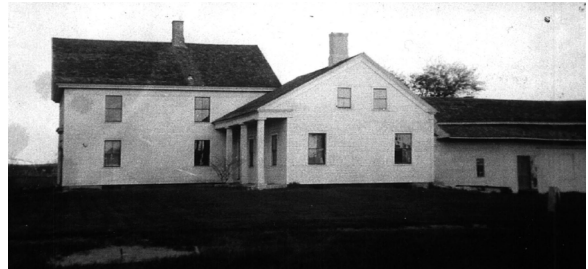
Joseph Cook of Wallingford purchased one share, and is listed as one of the first 50 proprietors of Goshen, drawing Lot #15. On the Grantee Index Joseph's name appears many times on land records as he purchased land and participated in proprietor's meetings between 1737 and 1750. Joseph was the third generation of Cooks in America: the son of Samuel Cook of New Haven and the grandson of Henry Cooke of Salem, Massachusetts. He was born 25 February 1683 at Wallingford, the fifth son of Samuel and Hope (Parker) Cook.

Journal Excerpt Page 3

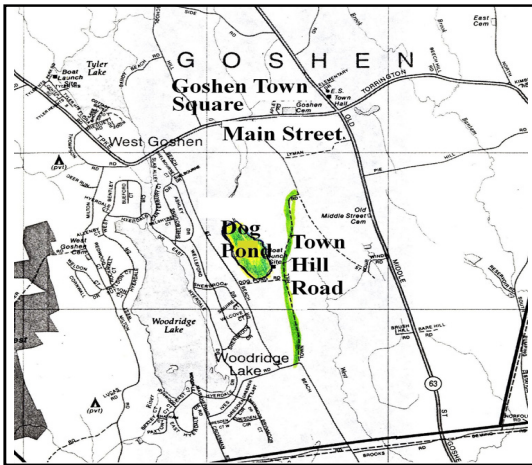


and a great deal of it, principally herds grass and red clover. The north end of the meadow was wet and the grass was wide blade or cut grass such as generally grows on such ground.

Directly west of the meadow were the maple trees or sugar works, a most delightful place in summer. It consisted of from 250 to 300 trees, mostly tall and straight and some very large. They were so near together they formed almost one entire shade with no small shrubbery to annoy those who wished to pass through. This cluster of trees was



The old Daniel Cook home on Town Hill in Goshen, Connecticut. Purchased in 1750 by Daniel Cook Sr (Courtesy William Cook 1990).



Cook Family 1737-1836 - Goshen, Connecticut.
In 1737 Joseph Cook bought land on Town Hill Road in Goshen. After serving in the Revolutionary War, His grandson Daniel Jr. bought land where his son and Joseph's grandson Phineas Cook grew up. Great grandson Phineas W. Cook lived there until he was age 17.

about ten to fifteen rods wide and about 100 rods long, all rock or hard maple. This was a good place. It was not only pleasant in summer, but it afforded all the sugar the family needed and also molasses which was made after the buds began to swell for leaves.

Directly west of this just in its edge and a little south of west from the house and barn was a large oval-topped rock about twelve rods in circumference and this may be a mark by which the place may be found for it will not decay. A number of cracks are in this rock which my mother's father used to tell me were made when Jesus was crucified. This place was situated about

Daniel Cook's Property Purchase

"On the top of Town Hill on the west side of the road, and a little south of the present dwelling of Gen. Moses Cook, stood the house of Joseph Curtis, from Wethersfield. He sold out in 1750 to Daniel Cook, father of the present Moses Cook, Sr., who still survives (1881). About 25 rods south of Gen. Moses Cook's present dwelling, on the east side of the road, stood the house of Joseph Cook, from Wallingford, father of Daniel Cook, and grandfather of Moses (and Daniel Cook, Jr.) Joseph Cook lived here until the time of his death, November 7, 1764." (History of Litchfield, J. H. Lewis & Co., p. 327).

one-half mile south of the town line joining Cornwall and about the same distance west to Warren.

[I have given] a description of the place of my birth, which I think I have done so that any of my children can find it if they should happen to pass that way. The big rock can easily be found. The creek passes just west of it.

The house where Grandfather lived was the birthplace of my father. Grandfather's name was Daniel Cook and grandmother's name was Elizabeth Porter. Him I never saw but I just remember seeing



Goshen North Street, Courtesy Coldwell

Gathering Accurate Cook Research

By Janet Porter

While both Family Tree and FamilySearch found at familysearch.org are great resources for genealogy researchers, there are still problems with duplicated, inaccurate and unverified information.

Some of these issues are found in the FamilySearch and Family Tree information for Henry Cooke of Salem, Massachusetts and his son Samuel Cook of New Haven and Wallingford, Connecticut.

Early researchers had very few primary resources on which to base their information, and many mistakes were published about these two men and their families. This incorrect information was then reprinted, republished and in other ways duplicated.

In fact, because of these early duplicated falsehoods, we face a tidal wave of false information in our efforts to correct their pages on FamilySearch. This includes information not just about Henry and Samuel, but it applies to all our ancestors.

Because information can be posted without authentication, salvaging the truth is incredibly time-consuming and has proved almost impossible to maintain.

Therefore, the Cook Family Organization will begin a project to post and maintain on our website all organization-verified research on Phineas Wolcott Cook's ancestors, descendants and collateral lines.

In addition, in the future, each change made by the Cook Family genealogists to FamilySearch will be done in the name of The Cook Family Organization and the website address will be attached.

Cook family genealogists have been working for decades to provide original, verified research. The organization will now collect and preserve this information and store it in one place, where anyone interested will be able to find it.

The information currently available for Phineas Wolcott Cook's ancestors and descendants is available on the Cook website at cookfamily.org. The information can be found by looking under the "Family Tree" subheading or the front page link for Discover Histories of Ancestors. While there is much information on Phineas and his descendants and ancestors, there is little information on the website about his wives and their ancestry. Efforts are underway to include that information.

When the day comes that family organizations can monitor more closely the material posted to FamilySearch, the Cook Family Organization will be prepared to participate.

Despite the problems with duplications and inaccurate information, there is still much good information available and much has been accomplished by using information which has been posted there, including photos of ancestors and obtaining insights into their lives and families. Many people devote much time to sharing information and documenting what they can.

Henry Cooke on FamilySearch with multiple unverified sources for vital information.

Henry Cooke page on the Phineas Wolcott Cook website. Information listed here is verified by the family organization.

P.W. Cook Family Organization

Date			
Suggested Annual Donation - \$10 per family - Tax Deductible (You may contribute more)			
Item (10% discount on all items if dues are current or accompany this order)	Price	Quantity	Total
COMING SOON! Phineas W. Cook Journal 3rd Ed., Color Illustrated, 400 pages	TBD		
NEW! Samuel Bryson's Journey book	\$15.00		
The Posterity of Phineas Wolcott Cook CD	\$6.00		
Amanda P. Savage Descending Pedigree Book	\$10.00		
Amanda P. Savage Descending Pedigree CD	\$5.00		
Triumph of Testimony, 462 page history of PWC to Utah	\$37.50		
P.W. Cook Diary Paperback 1980 2nd Edition	\$4.00		
DVD (42 minutes) on the Life of P.W. Cook	\$8.00		
Cook Ancestral Tour Guides			
Goshen & Litchfield Co., Connecticut	\$4.00		
Wallingford, Connecticut	\$4.00		
Salem, Massachusetts	\$4.00		
State of New York	\$4.00		
State of Utah	\$4.00		
Family Fireside Stories			
Book I (Illustrated Stories of PWC to Marriage)	\$9.00		
Book II (Illustrated Stories:LDS Conversion)	\$9.00		
Book III (Illustrated Stories:Winter Quarters)	\$9.00		
PAF CD with complete Cook and Porter genealogy and documentation	\$6.00		
Goshen Documents	\$6.00		

Total Purchases

Personal Information	Donations for Family Research (Tax Deductible)	
Name:	Phineas Wolcott Cook Family Line	
Street Address:	Ann Eliza Howland Family Line	
City:	State:	Zip:
Phone:	Email:	Amanda Polly Savage Family Line
	Catherine McCleve Family Line	
	Johanna Christine Poulson Family Line	
	Other: Web Site, equipment, etc.	
Mailing Information:	Total Donations:	
Mail this form with check to :	My Annual Dues are already paid: Yes No	
PWC	Annual Organizational Dues	
130 Twin Peaks Drive	Paid Dues Discount on Items Purchased (Minus 10%)	
Layton, Utah 84040	(Add Purchases, Donations, Dues and Discount) GRAND TOTAL:	