

STAMFORD TRYONS

Stamford Land Records

F:234. 12 Apr. 1757. Cary Leeds of Stamford for £35 conveys to Rowland Tryon of Stamford, 1 acre with dwelling house which John Gold lived in before his decease, reserving life use of the widow Hannah Bro[wn] "it Being her dowry in her first Husband's Estate." Witnesses: John Deleuan [Delavan], John Holms Ju^r.

Note: The name Brown comes at end of line, the first three letters clear, the rest dim under a silk binding which keeps the margin from fraying. It is odd that Rowland Tryon should buy this house and acre subject to the life use of this widow, unless possibly his wife was a daughter of the widow by her first husband. In that case, he may already have been living in the house, for he is called of Stamford in this, his first and only deed.

L:74. 31 Mar. 1787. Sarah Webb W^o of William Webb dec^d of Stamford, for £6, conveys to "my son" Benjⁿ Tryon of Stamford, 14 rods with a dwelling House. Witnesses: Joanna Jager, Charles Webb.

N:181. 10 Dec. 1795. Benjamin Tryon of Stamford, for £9, conveys to Benjamin Tryon Jun^r of Stamford, 1/2 of a tract of 5 acres, with half the dwelling house, on East side of the Road, near Sam^l Jefferies. Witnesses Isaac Webb, James Lockwood.

Note: In the 1790 Census, the name of Samuel Tryon appears directly above that of Samuel Jeffery, indicating that they were close neighbors.

O:666. 8 Mar. 1806. Samuel Tryon of Stamford, for \$150, conveyed to Rowland Tryon of the same, 3 rods lying undivided between myself and my son Benjⁿ, 1/2 is what I now sell to my son Rowland, to include the house. Witnesses: Rufus Tryon, Reuben Scofield.

O:667. 8 May 1806. Rowland Tryon of Stamford, for \$180, to Benjamin Tryon Ju^r of Stamford, 1/2 of 1 Rood with the Dwelling house, bounded north and east on Benjamin Tryon Ju^r and Sam^l Tryon, likewise 1/2 a Cooper shop.

P:290. 19 Aug. 1809. Cary Leeds of Stamford, administrator of the estate of Sam^l Tryon dec^d, for \$132.50, conveyed to Benjⁿ Tryon J^r of Stamford, land near where s^d Benjⁿ Tryon now lives, 5 acres 2 rods 10 rods. Witnesses: Ebenezer Davenport, Joseph Wood (J.P.).

P:294. 19 Aug. 1809. Agreed between Benjⁿ Tryon J^r and Prudence Tryon both of Stamford: Prudence shall use 1/2 of 5 acres 2 rods 10 rods formerly belonging to Samuel Tryon Dec^d, also the south-west bedroom, 1/2 kitchen, right in the cellar etc....nor shall children or grandchildren of s^d Prudence be prohibited from visiting s^d Prudence in s^d house. Witnesses for Benjamin: Ebenezer Davenport, Joseph Wood (J.P.). Witnesses for Prudence: Cary Leeds, Sam^l Webb.

Rowland Tryon had quite a number of deeds, 1808-1825; Rufus Tryon had a number, 1827-1836. There may be still later deeds; I did not go beyond the first volume of the General Index.

Stamford Probate Records

The General Index fails to show any estate for Rowland Tryon. I also tried the contemporary indexes of the early volumes before 1800. Vols. 2 and 4 have a fairly modern index, which apparently lists all names mentioned in those volumes. The usual index is to estates only.

Volume 3 has a rather extensive contemporary index, but not to every name in the volume. Under the letter T I found:

"Rowland Tryon Guardian to Rowland Slason as p^r Bond on file"
 "Rowland Tryon Guardian to Mary Slason as p^r bond on file"

These index entries are made without date, and without page references; they refer to the original files. Entries in the early and late pages of this volume date from 1762 to 1771, so these bonds were given in that general period. The original files are incomplete and documents have, I think, been stolen in the past. They are now in long drawers at the very top (about 15 feet up) of the immensely high vault; are reached by a long ladder, and the long drawers containing quite a weight of paper are hard to get in and out at an angle and hard to juggle on the ladder. The clerks in the office don't like to bother with them. However, Mead's Abstracts of Stamford Probate (a copy is at the State Library) cover the files. You may already have a note of this from that source; if not, I will look it up the next time I am in Hartford. The bonds will merely supply the date, and probably will state the parentage (and perhaps the ages) of the Slason children.

It seems very probable that a daughter of Rowland Tryon married a Slason and that he was grandfather of the two children to whom he was appointed guardian, one of whom was named Rowland after him. At one time I made considerable study of the Slason family in some branches, and I have notes of the probate to considerably later than this date. However, I have not been able to identify the Slason who presumably married a Tryon girl. I made my Slason notes from the original probate volumes, and missed these two guardianships, because they are in the index under T, not under S. I looked today for deeds of Rowland Slason, thinking they might mention property inherited from his father. He had just one deed:

L:102. 18 June 1738. Rowland Slason of Stamford, for 40 shillings, conveyed to Gideon Leeds Jr., 4 acres bounded north on highway, east, west and south on land belonging to heirs of Cary Leeds of Stamford dec'd. [No mention of how he acquired the land, but presumably it was inherited as there is no purchase by him.]

Returning to the probate:

10:385. Estate of Sam^l Tryon. Administration granted to Cary Leeds, 1 Nov. 1809. Inventory entered under date of 2 Jan. 1809 [possibly 1810 was meant if the recorder forgot it was a new year]. It included a few personal effects at \$16.87; and 5 acres 2 roods 10 rods, \$166.87. Estate insolvent. Debts totaled \$81.21.6 [sic] and included \$2.00 due to Rowland Tryon on Book; \$1.75 to Cary Leeds Jr. on Book; and \$6.38 to Elisha Leeds on a note of hand. No distribution.

11:81. 7 Apr. 1812. Estate of Samuel Tryon late of Havanna Dec'd. Administration granted to Benjamin and Rowland Tryon. The inventory contains only a few personal effects. Insolvent.

Cary Leeds, father and son, and other members of the Leeds family, seem to figure considerably in the Tryon records. There may have been a connection, as we do not know who Rowland Tryon's wife was. The possible clue of the widow Hannah Brown, who had life use of the house Rowland bought, should be followed up. It is surprising not to find either probate or a deed from Rowland Tryon, since he bought a house and land. Perhaps he added to his acre. Samuel and Benjamin seem to have owned over 5 1/4 acres jointly; Benjamin sold his half to [his nephew] Benjamin Jr., while Samuel sold his half to his son Rowland, and then Rowland conveyed his half to [his brother] Benjamin Jr. Yet Samuel seems to be considered still the owner when he died, and his administrator sold to Benjamin Jr.

It almost looks as if this 5 1/4 acres may have belonged to the original Rowland Tryon, and perhaps was conveyed by him to his two sons, a half to each; unless they inherited from a maternal grandparent, but that is far less likely. Being a family matter, perhaps through carelessness a deed from Rowland to his sons may not have been recorded. At any rate, it seems certain that Samuel and Benjamin were brothers. Rowland probably had at least two sons and two daughters:

1. Mary, b. say around 1738; m. at Stamford, 11 Jan. 1758, Daniel Lowder, Jr. This name is usually spelled Loder, and he was son of Daniel and Margaret Loder and was born 16 Mar. 1730/1. They had a daughter Margaret born 21 May 1758, and probably other children not recorded. I looked for their deeds. Daniel Loder Jr. of Stamford had a single deed [H:340]; he sold 28 Mar. 1771 for £33 to Jacob Loder of City of New York, about 3 acres with a house. He probably then removed from Stamford. On 8 Apr. 1773, Daniel Loder [Sr. but not so described] for £100 conveyed to "my son" Jacob Loder of City of New York, 6 acres with a house [I:30].

2. Samuel, b. 9 Mar. 1743; d. 21 Aug. 1808; m. 10 June 1766 Prudence Brown, b. 30 Dec. 1742, d. 9 Aug. 1825. Vital statistics of this family not recorded in Stamford and are from your family record, except marriages of some of the children. Prudence dau. of David and Sarah (Weed) Brown was born 22 Aug. 1741 by Stamford Registration. Children:

- i. Sally, b. 5 June 1767. Sarah m. 15 Dec. 1792, David Lockwood 3c
- ii. Jacob, b. 16 May 1769. He may have d. young.
- iii. Prudence, b. 13 June 1772. M. 4 Aug. 1796, James Lockwood.
- iv. Benjamin, b. 19 Mar. 1775. Called Jr. to distinguish him from his uncle; m. 27 Oct. 1805, Hannah Weeks. Two children recorded at Stamford: Mary, 28 Aug. 1811; Elizabeth, 17 Oct. 1816
- v. Samuel, b. 3 May 1777. Died at Havana by 1812, prob. unm.
- vi. Hannah, b. 3 Apr. 1781. M. 25 Jan. 1800, Frederick Bell.
- vii. Mary, b. 3 Sept. 1781; d. 22 Feb. 1788.
- viii. Rowland, b. 27 May 1783; d. 20 Dec. 1873; you have his wives.
- ix. John, b. 30 Oct. 1785.
- x. Rufus, b. 17 June 1788.

3. A daughter, born probably as early as 1746; m. ^{James "3d"} Slason or Slauson, and had:

- i. Rowland, b. by 1767, since he gave deed 1788 after coming of age.
- ii. Mary.
Perhaps others.

4. Benjamin, b. say 1748-50. He m. (1) at First Church, Stamford, 8 Sept. 1771 [Bailey, Early Conn. Marriages, 6:52], Rebecca Bell. No children found. He m. (2) 25 Nov. 1777, Mary Webb, b. 4 Aug. 1751, dau. of William and Sarah (Scotfield) Webb. This marriage and children recorded at Stamford. Children:

- i. Polly, b. 23 Dec. 1778; d. 25 May 1780.
- ii. John, b. 15 Aug. 1780.
- iii. William, b. 20 Jan. 1782. m. Eng. Ch. 25 Dec. 1805 Hannah Young.
- iv. Polly, b. 29 Feb. 1784.
- v. Henry, b. 13 July 1786.
- vi. Betsey, b. 30 Sept. 1788.
- vii. Sally, b. 17 July 1791.
- viii. Barney, b. 10 Apr. 1795.

There may be a little more on these family groups available at the State Library. I went to Stamford, to make sure of covering the town records, also the microfilms at the State Library take more time when a lot of records have to be looked up.

I have tried a number of other sources, such as copies of Stamford Episcopal and Baptist church records which I happen to have. People sometimes changed their church affiliations, and you never know where you may strike some item. There are of course other sources that could be tried. Rowland Tryon seems to have kept out of the public records pretty well. The New Fairfield vital and land records before 1832 were burned. It is possible his marriage and births of his children occurred there. I have not tried probate records of the Danbury District to see if Ziba Tryon had a will or probate.

It seems to me reasonably certain, though lacking LEGAL proof, that Ziba's son Rowland is the Stamford man. It was not a common given name; and he seems to have named a son Samuel for his brother. It seems to be certain that Samuel and Benjamin were brothers, and Samuel named a son Rowland for his father and a son Benjamin for his brother.

I assume that you have the family of the first William Tryon, whose children were all by his unknown first wife except the youngest, Abial, who was by his second wife, Saint (Robinson) Latimer. Of the sons of Ziba, I think James was of New Fairfield, and probably father of Dr. Simeon Tron (1746-1769), Yale 1769, whose Bible record is given in N.Y. Gen. and Biog. Record, 58:183-4. The son Oliver was a Quaker, and the births of his children are in the Quaker records of Oblong [a district in New York just over the border in Dutchess County from New Fairfield], published in the "Old Northwest" Genealogical Quarterly, see vol. 3, pp. 171, 117. Oliver named a son Ziba, and also named a son Samuel (b. 27-7-1747) who was four years younger than your Samuel and whose date of birth otherwise does not correspond.

There are two or three items I should like to check at the State Library, such as Mead's Abstracts of Stamford Probate (where we get an index to names occurring in other estates), and Danbury Probate for New Fairfield collaterals, in case a brother of Rowland died without children and the will or probate might name Rowland or his children. I do not know just what Mr. Bassett has covered; and quite likely some of what I send in this report may duplicate what he has found. I hope some of the data herein will be new and of use.