

Shermans of Watertown, Sudbury, and Brimfield
Sherman

The Shermans began in Watertown. There were several emigrants, but they all seem to have been closely related. Probably most Shermans in this country are descended from one of them. They were among the early settlers of Brimfield, near Springfield, and remained there for many decades.

The Beginnings in Watertown

John the Emigrant

1. JOHN SHERMAN¹ was born on 26 Dec 1613 in Dedham, Essex, England. He died on 08 Aug 1685 in Watertown.¹ He married (1) Abigail Gibbs, born 1613 in Dedham, England and died 8 Apr 1644 in Milford, Connecticut. He married (2) MARY LAUNCE in 1645 in Massachusetts. She was born about 1620 in Watertown. She died on 09 Mar 1710 in Watertown.

The name of his first wife is uncertain. It is sometime given as Mary Gibbs. Her death record in Milford has no mention of her maiden name.

Children of John Sherman and Abigail Gibbs are:

- i. MARY SHERMAN was born 1638 in Wethersfield, Hartford, Connecticut.
- ii. BEZEBEEL SHERMAN was born 1640 in Milford, Worcester, Massachusetts and died 1685.
- iii. DANIEL SHERMAN was born 16 Mar 1641 in Watertown and died 03 Nov 1716 in New Haven.
- iv. SAMUEL SHERMAN was born 14 Apr 1644 in Watertown.

Children of John SHERMAN and Mary Launce are:

- v. ABIGAIL SHERMAN was born 03 Feb 1648 in Watertown and died 1679 in Boston married 08 Aug 1664 in Groton, Middlesex, Massachusetts SAMUEL WILLARD.
- vi. ELIZABETH SHERMAN was born 1649 in Watertown and died 15 Mar 1648/49.
- vii. ABIAH SHERMAN was born 1650 in Watertown and died 1702.
2. viii. JAMES SHERMAN was born 1651 and died 03 Mar 1718 in Massachusetts. He married MARY WALKER.
- ix. JOANNA SHERMAN was born 03 Sep 1652 in Watertown.
- x. HESTER SHERMAN was born 1654 in Watertown and died 25 Aug 1688 in Massachusetts.
- xi. MERCY SHERMAN was born 1655 in Watertown and died 06 Aug 1685 in Wrentham, Norfolk, Massachusetts married SAMUEL BARNARD, 04 Apr 1700 in Watertown.
- xii. MARY SHERMAN was born 05 Mar 1657 in Watertown and died 1710 in Watertown married 27 May 1679 in Watertown ELLIS BARRON.
- xiv. GRACE SHERMAN was born 16 Mar 1658/59 in Watertown and died 1712.
- xv. JOHN SHERMAN was born 17 Mar 1660 in Watertown and died 26 Aug 1688 in Boston, s.p.

¹ Findagrave Memorials, #27163004.

Rev. James SHERMAN

2. Rev. JAMES SHERMAN²(John¹) was born in 1651. He died on 03 Mar 1718 in Massachusetts.^{2,3} He married MARY WALKER on 13 May 1680, daughter of Thomas Walker II and Mary Stone. She was born on 09 Aug 1661 in Boston. She died about 1759 in Salem.

His career as a preacher ended when he was tried before a church court presided over by Increase Mather. He was charged with bad conduct, including preaching while intoxicated.⁴ He was convicted, deposed, defrocked and excommunicated. He later became a physician.

Children of James SHERMAN and Mary WALKER are:

3. i. John SHERMAN Capt. was born 11 Nov 1683 in Sudbury and died 28 Sep 1774 in Brimfield married ABIGAIL WOOD STONE.
4. ii. THOMAS SHERMAN was born 01 Apr 1688 in Sudbury and died 24 Sep 1744 in Charlestown, Suffolk, Massachusetts; then Middlesex.
5. iii. JAMES SHERMAN was born 10 Sep 1690 in Sudbury and died 10 Jun 1729 in Charlestown. He married MARGARET CUTLER, Charlestown.

The Move to Brimfield

Capt. John SHERMAN

3. CAPT. JOHN SHERMAN.³(James², John¹) was born on 11 Nov 1683 in Sudbury.⁵ He died on 28 Sep 1774 in Brimfield.⁶ He married 09 Nov 1703 in Sudbury ABIGAIL WOOD STONE,⁷ daughter of Daniel STONE and Mary MOORE. She was born on 13 Feb 1680 in Framingham. She died 09 Mar 1772 in Brimfield.

Children of Capt. John SHERMAN and Abigail Wood STONE are:

6. i. BEZALEEL SHERMAN was born 21 Mar 1703/04 in Brimfield and died there 1779. He married ABIGAIL GRAVES.
7. ii. BERIAH SHERMAN was born 15 Sep 1705 in Brimfield and died there 01 Apr 1792. He married MARY (CROOK) BURCH.
- iii. JOHN SHERMAN was born 03 Dec 1708 in Brimfield and died there 20 Aug 1735.
- iv. DANIEL SHERMAN was born 28 Jun 1711 in Brimfield and died there 09 Jan 1741.
- v. MARY SHERMAN was born 24 Jul 1713 in Brimfield and died there 20 Oct 1782. She married 13 Jul 1723 ADONIJAH RUSSELL.
8. vi. CAPT. JAMES SHERMAN. was born 12 Aug 1716 in Brimfield and died there 1786.
9. vii. PHINEAS SHERMAN was born 10 Nov 1719 in Brimfield and died 01 Oct 1790 in Brimfield. He married ELISABETH MORGAN.
10. ix. THOMAS SHERMAN was born 06 Sep 1722 in Brimfield and died there 22 Nov 1803. He married ANN BLODGETT.

² *Massachusetts Death Records.*

³ Findagrave Memorials, #71536650.

⁴ Franklin B. Dexter, *Extracts from the itineraries and other Miscellanies of Ezra Stiles, D.D., Litt.D., 1755-1794*, (New Haven: Yale, 1896), 247-249.

⁵ *Vital Records of Sudbury*, 131.

⁶ *Massachusetts Vital and Town Records, Brimfield, Image 287, page 208 (Book 1, 285).*

⁷ *Sudbury VR*, 1: 269

Descendants of Reginald Foster
Phineas SHERMAN

9. PHINEAS SHERMAN⁴(John³, James², John¹) was born on 10 Nov 1719 in Brimfield⁸. He died on 01 Oct 1790 in Brimfield.⁹ He married 12 Dec 1738 in Brimfield ELISABETH MORGAN,¹⁰ daughter of DAVID MORGAN and DEBORAH COLTON. She was born on 10 Sep 1709 in Springfield. She died on 02 Aug 1772 in Brimfield.

He served in the Revolutionary War, being part of the Lexington Alarm.

Children of Phineas SHERMAN and Elisabeth MORGAN are:

- i. ELIZABETH SHERMAN was born 23 Feb 1739 in Brimfield. She married 27 Apr 1761 BENJAMIN NELLSON.
- ii. DANIEL SHERMAN was born 16 Nov 1741 in Brimfield and died 02 Jul 1768; unm.
- iii. MARY SHERMAN was born 12 Dec 1743 in Brimfield. She married 21 Jun 1764 AARON MIGHILL.
- iv. MARCY SHERMAN was born 1745.
14. v. RACHEL SHERMAN was born 10 Jan 1748 in Brimfield; and died there 1784. She married REUBEN LILLEY JR.
15. vi. LEMUEL SHERMAN was born 14 Sep 1750 in Brimfield and died there 25 Sep 1789. He married ROSE BLASHFIELD.

Rachel SHERMAN

14. RACHEL SHERMAN⁵ (Phineas⁴, John³, James², John¹) was born on 10 Jan 1748 in Brimfield.^{11,12,13} She died in 1784 in Brimfield. She married 03 Dec 1767 in Brimfield REUBEN LILLEY JR,¹⁴ son of REUBEN LILLEY SR and Hannah Jennings. He was born on 10 Feb 1746 in Brimfield. He died there on 09 Apr 1800.

Children of Rachel SHERMAN and Reuben LILLEY Jr are found in the entry for Reuben LILLEY Jr

Other Shermans

4. THOMAS SHERMAN³(James², John¹) was born on 01 Apr 1688 in Sudbury. He died on 24 Sep 1744 in Charlestown, Suffolk, Massachusetts (then Middlesex). He married MARGARET CUTLER. She was born in 1690.

Children of Thomas Sherman and Margaret Cutler are:

- i. JAMES SHERMAN was born 1712 and died 04 Apr 1801 in Boston, Suffolk, MA.
- ii. THOMAS SHERMAN was born 18 Nov 1713 in Charlestown and died there 1752.

5. JAMES SHERMAN-3 (James², John¹) was born on 10 Sep 1690 in Sudbury. He died on 10 Jun 1729 in Charlestown. He married MARGARET CUTLER in Charlestown. She was born on 13 Mar 1690 in Charlestown and died there on 13 Jun 1758.

⁸ *Massachusetts Town Birth Records.*

⁹ Findagrave Memorials, #52428016.

¹⁰ *Vital Records of Brimfield*, 239.

¹¹ *Massachusetts Birth Records.*

¹² *Brimfield VR*, 127.

¹³ *Massachusetts V and TR*, Image 35, page 80.

¹⁴ *Brimfield VR*, 239.

Children of James Sherman and Margaret Cutler are:

11. i. THOMAS SHERMAN was born 18 Nov 1713 in Charlestown, Suffolk, Massachusetts; then Middlesex and died 1752 in Charlestown. He married KATHERINE TUFTS.
12. ii. JAMES SHERMAN was born 27 Jul 1717 in Charlestown and died 04 Apr 1801 in Boston. He married REBECCA STARKEY.
- iii. MARGARET SHERMAN was born 14 May 1721 in Charlestown and died 06 Feb 1801 in Charlestown.
- iv. SARAH SHERMAN was born 28 Dec 1728 in Charlestown.

6. BEZALEEL SHERMAN⁴(John³, James², John¹) was born on 21 Mar 1703 in Springfield. He died in 1779 in Brimfield. He married ABIGAIL GRAVES on 04 Feb 1731/32 in Brimfield.

Children of Bezaleel Sherman and Abigail Graves is:

13. i. JOHN SHERMAN was born in Brimfield 12 Jun 1738 and died 29 Apr 1823 married LUCY HOAR 23 Nov 1758 in Brimfield.
- ii. EUNICE SHERMAN was born in Brimfield 6 Oct 1744.

7. BERIAH SHERMAN⁴(John³, James², John¹) was born on 15 Sep 1705 in Brimfield. He died there on 01 Apr 1792. He married on 26 Sep 1744 in Brookfield MARY BURCH. She died on 23 Jul 1786.

Child of Beriah Sherman and Mary Crook is:

- i. BERIAH SHERMAN was born 07 Oct 1747 in Brimfield and died September 1832 in Vermont.
 - ii. PELETIAH SHERMAN was born in Brimfield 27 Nov 1761.
 - iii. SARAH SHERMAN was born in Brimfield 22 Oct 1753.
 - iv. PELETIAH SHERMAN was born in Brimfield 10 Aug 1745.
08. CAPT. JAMES SHERMAN⁴ (John³, James², John¹) was born on 12 Aug 1716 in Brimfield. He died in 1786 in Brimfield. He married 18 Jul 1749 in Brimfield MARY POST. She was the widow of LEVI STEBBINS, whom she married 19 Dec 1738.

Children of James Sherman Capt. and Mary Post Stebbins are:

- i. MAY SHERMAN was born 09 Nov 1762.
 - ii. ASA SHERMAN was born 16 Mar 1755 in Brimfield and died 1757.
 - iii. LEVI SHERMAN was born 27 May 1752 in Brimfield and married there 13 Jul 1775 MARY BLODGETT. They died in upstate New York.
 - iv. JAMES SHERMAN was born 08 Sep 1750 in Brimfield and died 14 Jul 1813 in Lafayette, New York.
 - v. ELIJAH SHERMAN was born 4 Nov 1766 in Brimfield.
10. THOMAS SHERMAN⁴(John³, James², John¹) was born on 06 Sep 1722 in Brimfield and died on 22 Nov 1803 in Brimfield. He married ANN BLODGETT on 12 Sep 1751 in Brimfield. She was born 10 Apr 1724 in Lexington. She died in 1808.

Descendants of Reginald Foster

Child of Thomas Sherman and Ann Blodgett is:

- i. ABIGAIL SHERMAN was born 11 Jan 1752 in Brimfield and died 1799 in Waterbury, Washington, Vermont.
 - ii. SAMUEL SHERMAN was born 14 Mar 1754 in Brimfield.
 - iii. THOMAS SHERMAN, JR was born 28 Dec 1766 in Brimfield and died there 14 Jan 1840. He married in Brimfield 19 Jun 1789 SALLY TOWNSELY. She was born in 1770 and died in Brimfield 13 Jun 1811.
11. THOMAS SHERMAN⁴(James³⁻², John¹) was born on 18 Nov 1713 in Charlestown. He died in 1752 in Charlestown. He married on 01 Dec 1737 KATHERINE TUFTS. She was born about 1715 in Massachusetts.

Children of Thomas Sherman and Katherine Tufts are:

- i. JAMES SHERMAN was born ca 1740.
- ii. THOMAS SHERMAN was born Boston.

12. JAMES SHERMAN⁴(James³⁻², John¹) was born on 27 Jul 1717 in Charlestown. He died on 04 Apr 1801 in Boston. He married on Nov 1742 in Boston REBECCA STARKEY. She was born on 01 Sep 1722 in Boston. She died on 10 Dec 1799 in Boston.

Children of James Sherman and Rebecca Starkey are:

- i. JAMES Sherman was born on 16 Jan 1746 in Boston and died 31 Dec 1789 in Freeport, Cumberland, Maine.
 - ii. JOHN SHERMAN was born 16 Oct 1748 in Boston and died there 30 May 1752.
 - iii. PATIENCE SHERMAN was born 10 Dec 1743 in Boston and died 14 Oct 1784.
 - iv. REBECCA SHERMAN was born 12 Apr 1745 in Boston and died 02 Jun 1764.
 - v. THOMAS SHERMAN was born 18 Aug 1751 in Boston and died there 18 Jun 1752.
13. JOHN SHERMAN-5(Bezaleel⁴, John³, James², John¹) was born on 12 Jun 1738. He died on 29 Apr 1823. He married on 23 Nov 1758 in Brimfield LUCY HOAR, daughter of JOSEPH HOAR and DEBORAH COLTON. She was born on 04 Jun 1737 in Brimfield.

Child of John Sherman and Lucy Hoar is:

- i. JOHN SHERMAN JR. was born Nov 1772 in Brimfield and died 26 Dec 1827 in Brimfield; s.p. He married LOIS NICHOLS, 20 Nov 1794 in Brimfield.
13. LEMUEL SHERMAN⁵(Phineas⁴, John³, James², John¹) was born on 14 Sep 1750 in Brimfield and died there on 25 Sep 1789. He married (2) 18 Jun 1773 in Brimfield ROSE BLASHFIELD, daughter of JOHN BLASHFIELD and MARY REA. She was born on 17 Jul 1754 in Brimfield. She died in Massachusetts s.p.

Children of Lemuel Sherman and Rose Blashfield are

- i. JACOB SHERMAN was born 24 Apr 1779 in Brimfield and died 15 Dec 1811 in Brimfield.
- ii. PHINEAS SHERMAN was born in Brimfield 23 Nov 1773 and died there 25 Sep 1775.
- iii. LUCY SHERMAN was born 1 Jul 1781 in Brimfield.

iv. ELIZABETH SHERMAN died in Brimfield 16 Oct 1775.

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