

### Lt. Jonathan Delano and His Lands Given His Heirs.

In the March-April DELANO KINDRED newsletter we asserted that Lt. Jonathan Delano had obtained his lands from his father Philip Delano (considered roughly 3200 acres) and that he had also received an additional 800 acres of the Land Division of 1694. We had found the "Deeds of Reapportionment" on the Dartmouth Historical and Arts Society (DHAS) Website. The index to these "Deeds" was intriguing because it listed records of deeds dated 1714 of Jonathan Delano Jr. and Jabez Delano. Since 1714 was six years before the date of Lt. Jonathan's Will, we hoped it would shed light on the amount of lands he had already given sons Jonathan Jr. and Jabez. We also found some land apparently given to his son Nathan who predeceased Lt. Jonathan.

We discovered that the first 36 pages of the "Deeds of Reapportionment" were actually later land owners' claims for portions of the original 1652 Proprietors' shares. From these claims we discovered that Philip Delano had sold his 1652 share. His share was claimed by William Earl and John Russell—each claiming half of Philip's lands by deeds in 1660. This was verified by Richard Gifford in an 8 April e-mail. Obviously our assertion was incorrect.

In regards to Lt Jonathan, he claimed acreage from John Shaw (25 acres), John Cooke (about 5/12<sup>th</sup> of Cooke's 1652 share), and Samuel Hicks (80 acres). There is an intriguing entry in Field Survey Book IV (presumably Benjamin Crane's survey book) on page 20: "the 800 – Jonathan Delino 1/8<sup>th</sup>". It is not clear if this means Lt. Jonathan received 100 acres of the 800 Land Division of 1710. Richard Gifford noted that Lt. Jonathan purchased a parcel from John Cooke for an unknown price, which he later sold to Lt. William Spooner. We note that Lt. Jonathan's Will mentions his "right" to the cedar swamps. Sally Aldrich states a share of the Cedar Swamp division was 16 acres and was divided in 1713. If one assumes each original 1652 Land Purchase share was about 3200 acres, then Lt. Jonathan's accumulated lands could be as much as 1400+ acres. However, Richard Gifford cautions that the 3200 acre assumption is not helpful in determining the size of an original 1652 Land Purchase share.

When one adds up the number of shares Lt. Jonathan gave to his heirs or sold to others it appears to be significantly less than in our assumption of 1400 + acres. We used the "Deeds of Reapportionment" to do this. We found the "Deeds of Reapportionment" were actually a collection of Field Surveys largely made by surveyors Benjamin Crane, Benjamin Hammond and others and in most cases recorded after 1725.

Jonathan Delano Junior: ---	165 Acres and 26 Rods.
Jabez Delano -----	79 Acres and 143 Rods
Nathan Delano -----	20 Acres
<i>predeces</i> → <i>Lt. Jonathan</i> Nathaniel Delano -----	<u>128 Acres and 101 Rods</u>
Total Acreage -----	392 Acres and 262 Rods

Richard Gifford used a different method to calculate the number of acres Lt. Jonathan accumulated and came up with "about 390 acres, so it appears that Lt. Jonathan's accumulated lands that can be accounted for may be around 400 acres or so.

Sally Aldrich noted James Congdon was commissioned in 1867, by the Massachusetts Legislature, to "make sense" of the Proprietors Records. In doing so he transcribed these Field Notes and most of other records into "script." We have transcribed the Field Notes into print to make them more readable and we have included copies of the notes for the above sons of Lt. Jonathan in parcels for your information.

Some general comments: All of the Field Notes for Jabez Delano and two of Jonathan Jr. Delano's Field Notes have no "Recorded Date"—presumably the date they were entered into the Proprietors Records was after 1725. In many cases the geographical locations are lost in history or are unfamiliar to "new comers." Only one Field Note describing some of Nathaniel's lands mentions his younger brothers Jethro and Thomas. It is not clear if any of the other Field Notes describing his land are part of his brothers' inheritance or not.

We thank and greatly appreciate the comments and clarifications given by Sally Aldrich and Richard Gifford. Their information was of great help to us. We have included information from Richard Gifford that describes the location of some of Lt. Jonathan's properties on the following page.

Respectfully Submitted  
George B. DeLano

Property Locations Taken from  
Richard Gifford's Email dated 31 May 2018

It occurs to me that the railroad shown on the 1856 map, although obviously not an 18th century feature, is at least roughly on a bearing of W 20 degrees S (the bearing used in Lt Jonathan's will), and provides a useful piece of framework for getting a general picture of the orientation of the parcels south of the highway as of 1723, when Thomas and Jethro filed an indenture (division) deed drawing a new north/south line, with Jethro owning West and Thomas the East side. (Under the will, Jethro was South of Thomas).

**Nathaniel:** 44 acres on S side of highway, probably similar to the 40 acres purchased by Warren Delano I in 1809 from Joseph Damon, Nathaniel's successor in title, where the NW corner was at "the burying ground" (Nasketucket Cemetery) and the NW corner at "the road to Ephraim Delano's" (Weeden Road). Warren sold this piece in 1833 to Capt. Silas Brownell, who was still there in the 1850's.

**Jonathan Jr.:** East of Weeden Road and North of the railroad.

**Thomas:** East of Weeden Road and South of the railroad.

**Jethro:** West of Weeden Road and South of the railroad.

**The E. Delano and T.R. Delano** (Ephraim III and Thomas Rudolphus) shown on the 1856 map are outside the footprint of Lt Jonathan but on land owned by Jabez from 1716 to 1734 (Jabez had two farms, this property was part of the old Samuel Hix homestead) and by Jethro from 1754 to 1758, when he sold it to Ephraim I, at which time the deed states that land formerly of Thomas Hathaway abuts to the North I don't think Jethro lived here, deeds from the 1740s indicate he had two dwelling houses, the newer one West of the first, both on the South side of "the driftway to Nackatah Island" (Goulart Memorial Drive and Sconticut Neck, more or less)

