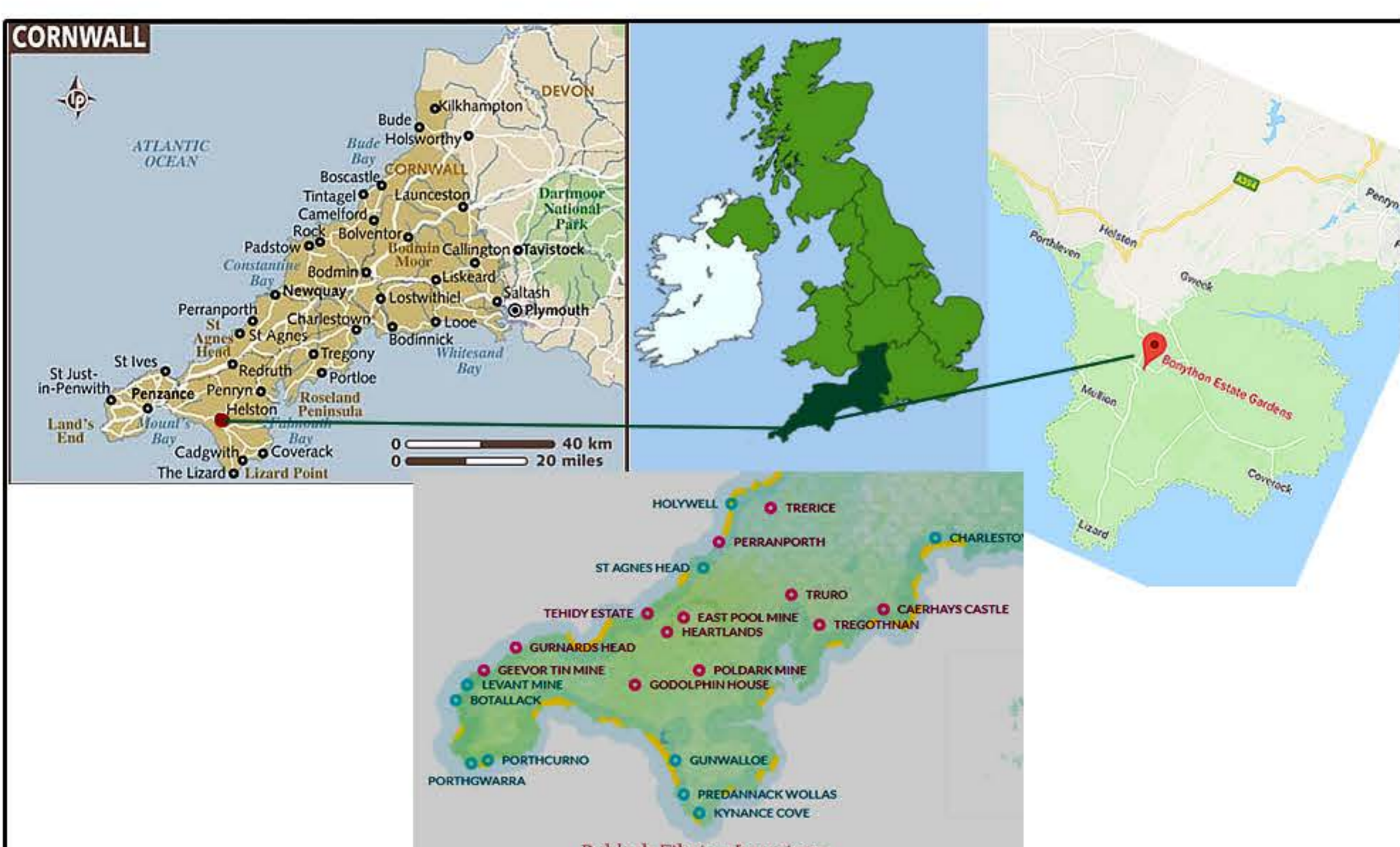


Present-Day Photos of the Bonython Estate in Cornwall, England



Above: The Bonython Estate Gardens, renovated and landscaped by new owners and open to the public



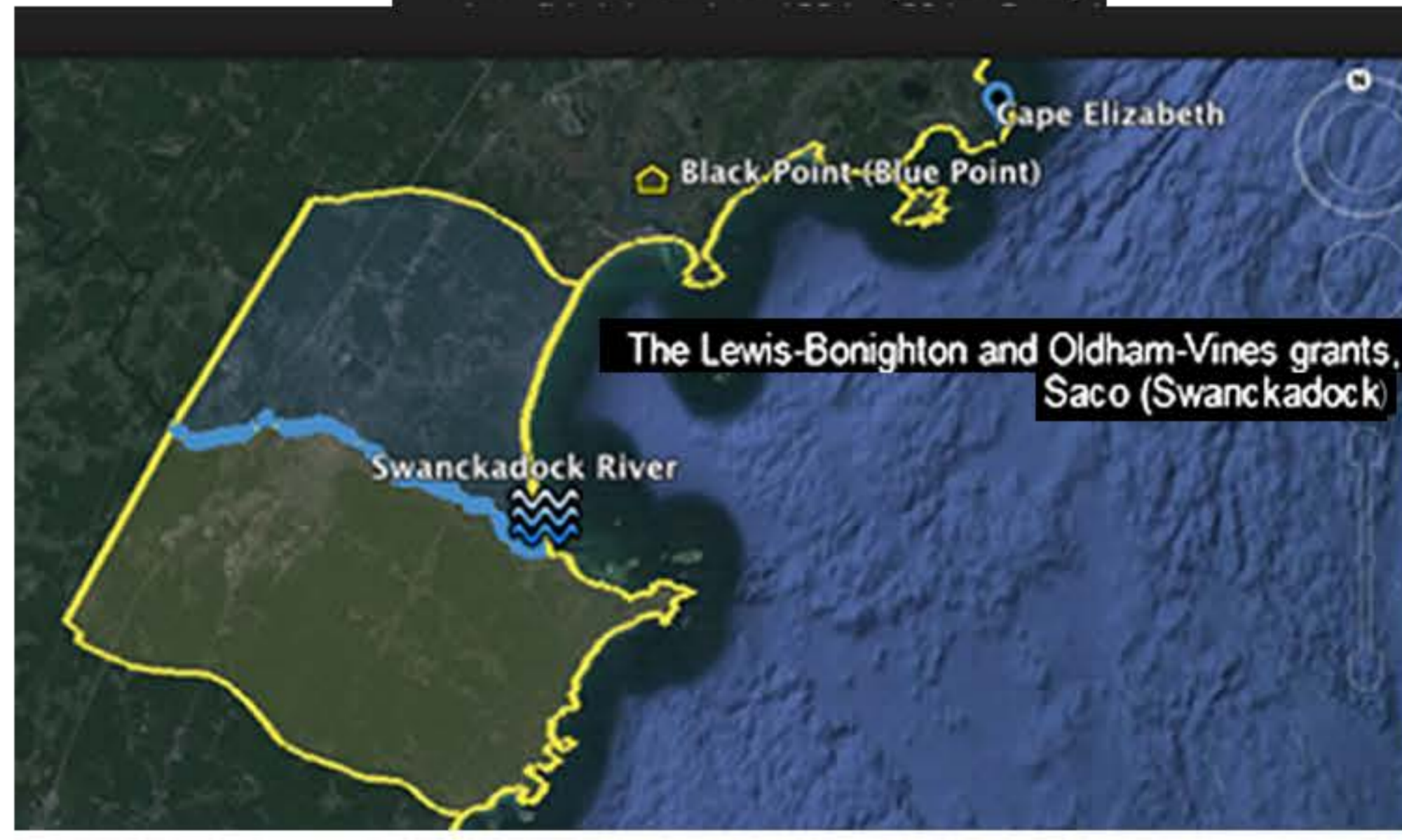
Marriage Record for Richard and Lucretia Leigh Bonython in Cornwall, England

New England Marriages to 1700

BONYTHON, Richard (bef 1653) & Lucretia [LEIGH]; in Eng. by 1610; Scarborough, ME/Saco, ME {Essex Ant. 10:169; Sv. 1:211; Gogins 5; Haley Anc. 57; Davis: Anc. of Lydia Harmon 9; GDMNH 99; Bonython 4-5; Reg. 39:363; Nicholas Davis Anc. 99}

The Patent Granted to Richard Bonython and His Partner

Swanckadocke (Maine)



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THE BENIGHTON - BONYTHON CONNECTION

By Marcia Lindberg

In the last issue of TEG, I placed a Query asking for the parents of two BENIGHTON girls who married at Lynn in the early 18th century: Mary BENIGHTON married, 9 Sept 1707, Samuel MANSFIELD, and Patience BENIGHTON married, 21 May 1717, Joseph COLLINS. I quickly received two responses from Harold Everitt of Saugus, and Eleanor Sproul of Wakefield, both Benighton descendants. Harold said that at an ESOG meeting about 5 years ago, there were four members researching BENIGHTON at that time! The answer was found in two places: Noyes, Libby and Davis, *Genealogical Dictionary of Maine and New Hampshire*, and G. T. Ridlon's *Saco Valley Settlements and Families*, both of which I have in my personal library! I had checked Noyes (I always check that wonderful book for unknown name connections), but there was no entry under "Benighton." One has to look under "Bonython." I thought "Bonython" was pronounced with the accent on the first syllable, in which case it doesn't "sound like" Benighton at all. But evidently the accent is on the second syllable - "Bon - eye - ton." At any rate, I was grateful to Harold and Eleanor, and thought it might be useful to others if the connection were published in TEG.

1. CAPT. RICHARD BONYTHON, was one of two proprietors of the Saco patent (the other was Thomas Lewis). Although his father inherited the manor of Bonython in the parish of Cury (co. Cornwall), almost at Land's End, Richard was born at the maternal estate in St. Columb Major on the Cornish north coast. He was the son of John & Elinor (Myleinton) Bonython. He was a man of great enterprise, served on the Council in 1640, and was held in respect by all. He m. Lucretia Leigh, dau. of William & Phillippa (Prest) of St. Thomas-by-Launceston. Children, bpt. at St. Breage: 1. Grace, bpt. Apr 1610. 2. Elizabeth, bpt. Sept 1611; m. Richard Cummings. 3. Susannah, bpt. Feb 1614; m. Richard Foxwell. 4. John. (Ridlon gives children as: John, Thomas, Gabriel, Thomas, Winefred & Elinor.)

2. JOHN BONYTHON, son of Richard, was an eccentric character; a man of violent temper, inclined to insubordination. Being defiant of law, he was twice outlawed, a price was set on his head, and he was imprisoned in Boston. Tradition says his tombstone was inscribed "Here lies Bonython, Sagamore of Saco; He lived a rogue and died a nave and went to Hobomoko." Yet he was a warm friend to Ferdinando George & held important positions. He resisted the administration of Massachusetts (Ridlon, 94-95). He lived on his father's patent from 1653 until King Phillip's War, when he escaped first across the river and then to Marblehead, where his nuncupative will, written 17 Feb 1676/7 was sworn to 17 Sept 1680. This was deposited at York County (*New England Register*, 34:99). The widow Agnes, 25 Mar 1684, and her son John, were ordered to bring in an inventory and settle the estate. Nearly 50 years later, 1732, administration was granted to Sarah Andrews and Robert Edgcomb, court ordering notice to heirs in Reading, Lynn and Marblehead. Ch: 1. Thomas, d.s.p., was lying sick at Marblehead, when his father made his will, 1677. 2. John, b. 1647. 3. Eleanor, in court 1667; m. Arthur Churchwell. 4. Gabrigan, b. Aug 1652; drowned.... 5. Winifred, m. 1674, Robert Nicholson (Noyes, 98-99).

3. JOHN BONYTHON, b. 1647, was called eldest son in father's will. In 1694 at Kittery, "late of Saco" he gave deed, and in 1700 was still there. In 1703, he and 4 ch. at Saco, reported carried off, the last heard of the parents. Peter Weare understood from Richard that his father was killed. Perhaps 7 children, incl: 1. Patience, a witness with Mrs. Hook in Kittery in 1696; m. (as Benighton) at Lynn, 21 May 1717, Joseph Collins of Marblehead. 2. Mary, b. 1681; m. (1) (as Benighton) at Lynn, 9 Sept 1707, Samuel Mansfield; m. (2) 19 Dec 1724, Dea. John Bancroft Jr.; d. 25 Feb 1763. 3. Richard, m. (1) at Marblehead, 6 Dec 1716, Mary Martin; m. (2) 29 Nov 1722, Abigail Cooke. The parentage of Mary Bonython, who m. at Boston 11 years later, is unascertained, poss. his stepd. She m. (as Benighton int. 26 Sept 1729) John Getchell. 7 ch rec in Boston 1733-1748. 4. Samuel, reported captive in Canada in 1711 (ibid.).

For further details on Captain Richard Bonython and his descendants, see Noyes (98-99) and Ridlon (90-91, 94-95).

Marriages of the Children of Richard and Lucretia Leigh Bonython's Children

U.S., New England Marriages Prior to 1700

BONYTHON, John (~1680) & Agnes ? ; b 1647; Saco, ME

CUMINGS, Richard (~1676) & Elizabeth [BONYTHON]; ca 14 Jul 1647; Saco, ME/York, ME/Isles of Shoals

FOXWELL, Richard (?1606, 1604-1676) & Susannah/Sarah? [BONYTHON]; ca 1636?

Marriages of John's Children

New England Marriages to 1700

BONYTHON, John (1647-) & [?Patience CRUCY]; by 1680; Saco, ME {GDMNH 99, 455; Bonython 6}

NICHOLSON, Robert² & ?Winifred BONYTHON (~1729+); Jul 1673; Falmouth, ME {GDMNH 99, 368 has Nichols; 510; Sv.; Bonython 6 has Nichols}

CHURCHWELL, Arthur (~1710) & Eleanor [BONYTHON]; ca 1692; Kittery, ME {Kittery 281; GDMNH 99, 142; Bonython 6, Reg. 38:55}

Marriages of John, Jr.'s Children Who Survived the Indian Attacks in Maine

ma-vitalrecords.org

Marblehead

Marriages

BENIGHTON

Richard, and Mary Marten, Dec. 6, 1716.
Richard, and Abigail Cooke, 29: 9br: 1722.

Lynn

Marriages

BENIGHTON

Mary, and Samuel Mansfield, Sept. 9, 1707.*
Patience, and Joseph Collins, May 21, 1717.*

BANCROFT (Bancraft)

John, jr., and wid. Mary Mansfield, Dec. 19, 1724.*

Marriage Records for Elizabeth's Daughter Elizabeth and Her Husband's Second Marriage after Her Death

U.S., New England Marriages Prior to 1700

HARMON, John & 1/wf Elizabeth [CUMINGS]; b 1 Jul 1673; York, ME

HARMON, John & 2/wf Deborah (JOHNSON) [FOXWELL], w John; by 21 Jan 1680?; ME?/York, ME

Cummings

Richard Comings of the Saco area in Maine was first mentioned 14 July 1647 as the son-in-law of Capt. Richard Bonython,^[11] patentee in 1630 of what is now Saco and Old Orchard. A later petition to the General Court at Boston of 16 May 1672 by Richard Foxwell and Richard Comings referred to Bonython's "two Daughters Elisabeth and Susanna wives unto your said Petitioners...."^[12]

Richard Comings was made freeman at Saco in 1653. The Saco historian, George Folsom, tells us in 1830 that "Mr. Cummings ... after the death of his father in law ... removed to the eastern part of his patent, near Little river.... Mr. Cummings Banks, one of his descendants, now lives at the same place. The name of Richard Cumming, or Cummin," continues Folsom, "occurs very often in the town records until 1674...."^[13]

There seem to have been only two children, Thomas and Elizabeth. Administration on the estate of Richard Comings was granted in July 1676 to Thomas, the son, and John Harmon, husband of the daughter Elizabeth. Thomas, as soldier, was "Living three muskett shot from [Blackpoint] garison" at Scarborough 12 October 1676,^[14] but is not heard of again, and apparently died soon without issue. Elizabeth, wife of Joseph Banks and daughter of John and Elizabeth (Comings) Harmon, described herself in a deed of 1714 as "Sole heir" to the lands of Richard Comings and his wife.^[15]

Richard and Elizabeth Bonython Cummings' daughter Elizabeth married John Harmon. In doing research about the Cummings, you may find two points of confusion: 1) Did John Harmon live in York County or in Massachusetts? and 2) Did Elizabeth Cummings marry her first cousin, John Foxwell, son of her aunt Susanna Bonython Foxwell and her husband, Richard Foxwell. Answers: 1) There were two John Harmons in New England. The one who married Elizabeth Cummings lived in the Saco area of Maine; and 2) Elizabeth Cummings married this John Harmon, but never married her cousin John Foxwell.

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RICHARD BONYTHON

OCCUPATION: Magistrate.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP: "Captain Richard Bonython" was assessed £3 for the minister's rate at Saco, 17 September 1636 [MPCR 1:lxii].

EDUCATION: Sufficient to serve as a magistrate.

OFFICES: Magistrate, 25 March 1636, 21 October 1645 [MPCR 1:1, 83]. Councillor under Gorges, 1639, 1640 [MPCR 1:31, 36, 42, 55-56, 76]. Assistant, 6 July 1646 [MPCR 1:93].

ESTATE: On 29 February 1629/30, the Council for New England, "in consideration that Thomas Lewis, gentleman, hath already been at the charge to transport himself & others to take a view of New England in America, aforesaid, for the bettering of his experiences in advancing of a plantation, & doth now wholly intend by God's assistance with his associates to plant there," granted to "Thomas Lewis & Capt. Ric[hard] Bonighton ... all that part of the mainland in New England in America aforesaid, commonly called or known by the name of Swanckadocke, ... lying & being between the cape or bay commonly called Cape Elizabeth & the cape or bay commonly called Cape Porpus"; livery of seizin was performed on 28 June 1631, to Lewis but not to Bonython, indicating that the latter was not yet in New England [YLR 2:110-11].

On 14 July 1647, "[w]hereas Ric[hard] Bonighton of Saco, gentleman, desired one hundred acres of land for Ric[hard] Comeman his son-in-law, betwixt the River of Saco & Thomas Williams his house, ... Robert Child, gent.," and Richard Bonython exchanged land, Child receiving "the like proportion of upland & marsh, on the northeast side of the River of Saco, in my patent not broken up"; "Eliza[beth] Bonighton" and "Lucretia Bonighton" witnessed [YLR 1:1:40].

On 1 July 1661, "Richard Commings father of Tho[mas] Cumings is plaintiff as executor to Capt. Richard Bonighton in an action of the case for a debt due to the said Ric[hard] Bonighton contra Mr. John Bonighton defendant"; annotated "withdrawn" [MPCR 2:99]. (This record was inaccurately reported by Noyes, Libby and Davis [GDMNH 99], and, given the imprecise usage of the terms "executor" and "administrator" at the time, does not necessarily imply the existence of a will.)

On 23 September 1681, "John Wincoll, John Penwill, & Abraham Preble, being chosen by mutual consent of James Gibbins, John Bonighton, Phillip Foxwell & John Harmon, heirs & proprietors of that patent land, granted to Mr. Lewis & Capt. Ric[hard] Bonighton, as by their agreement obligatory bearing date the twelfth day of November one-thousand six-hundred and eighty may appear, for equally dividing the said land between the said proprietors," proceeded to divide the patent into eight parts, four of which went to James Gibbins, two to John Bonython and two to Philip Foxwell and John Harmon jointly [YLR 3:102-3]. (In this division, James Gibbins was the only representative of Thomas Lewis; John Bonython as the eldest and only son received a double share of Richard Bonython's half of the patent, while the shares intended for Richard Bonython's two daughters came into the hands of his grandsons Philip Foxwell and John Harmon [Charity Haley Anc 58; see also YLR 1:1:152-53, 4:22, 8:30-31, 242-43, 12:160, 173, 13:137-38].)

BIRTH: Baptized at St Columb Major, Cornwall, 8 April 1580, son of John and Eleanor (Myleinton) Bonython [Arthur J. Jewers, ed., *The Registers of the Parish of St Columb Major, Cornwall, from the Year 1539 to 1780* (London 1881), p. 10; Bonython Gen 40, citing St Breage parish register].

DEATH: Before 29 June 1654 (when "Mr. Richard Foxwell & Mr. Comings [were] plaintiffs in an action of trespass upon the case for pulling down their house & laying claim to their lands, contra Mr. John Bonighton defendant" [MPCR 2:24]).

MARRIAGE: By about 1607 Lucretia Leigh, daughter of William and Phillippa (Prest) Leigh of St Thomas by Launceston, Cornwall [Bonython Gen 203-4 and sources cited there, especially "Chancery Proceedings. 6 Charles I. T. 14/3"].

CHILDREN:

- i JOHN, b. say 1607 [see COMMENTS below]; m. by about 1650 Agnes _____ (in his nuncupative will of 17 February 1676/[7], John Bonython bequeathed a double portion to "the eldest son John" and "declared that his three sons should according to their proportion of estate afford to his wife Agnes Bonighton their own mother a comfortable maintenance" [NEHGR 34:99, citing "County Registers of York"]; eldest son John seems to have been born about 1650 [GDMNH 98-99; NEHGR 38:55]).
- ii FRANCIS, bur. St Breage, Cornwall, 22 January 1609/10.
- iii GRACE, bp. St Breage 19 April 1610; no further record.
- iv ELIZABETH, bp. St Breage 20 September 1612; m. about 1647 Richard Cummings [YLR 1:1:40].
- v SUSANNAH, bp. St Breage 5 February 1614/5; m. by 1635 RICHARD FOXWELL [GMB 1:695].

ASSOCIATIONS: Richard Bonython and THOMAS LEWIS had formed a close association some years before either had arrived in New England [Bonython Gen 203-4].

COMMENTS: On 25 March 1636, "Mr. Richard Bonithon for incontinency with Ane [blank] his father's servant is fined forty shillings, & the said Ane 20s. he to keep the child" [MPCR 1:1]. Based on the baptismal dates of his siblings, John Bonython must have been born before 1610 or after 1615. Although he could well have had an illegitimate child at age nineteen or twenty, we think it more likely that he was older than this in 1636, and so place his birth about 1607. (Based on circumstantial evidence, Philip Howard Gray thought that "Ane [blank]" of 1636 was the same as John's wife Agnes, and that she could be identified with Susanna Lewis, daughter of Richard Bonython's partner THOMAS LEWIS [Penobscot Pioneers 2:34-37]. The evidence presented by Gray is slight and unconvincing.)

Savage thought that a daughter of Richard Bonython "married Richard Codman," and has an entry for Richard Codman, the totality of which is "York 1653, son-in-law of Richard Bonython" [Savage 1:211, 416]. Richard Cummings, who married Elizabeth Bonython, had his name garbled frequently, and from this Savage was enticed to create Richard Codman, a man who did not exist.

BIBLIOGRAPHIC NOTE: In 1884 Charles E. Banks published an account of the Bonython family, including three generations of the agnate ancestry of the immigrant [NEHGR 38:50-56]. The documentation supplied by Banks was quite good by the standards of his time, but from our perspective is inadequate, and this research should be replicated. We are reliant on this source for the identification of the mother of the immigrant.

Walter Goodwin Davis, although he did not descend from Richard Bonython, had occasion to discuss the family three times in the course of his writings on other families; his treatment of the landholdings of Bonython is more extensive than what we have supplied in this sketch [Lydia Harmon Anc 9; Charity Haley Anc 56-59; Nicholas Davis Anc 99, 118-20].

In 1966 Eric Glenie Bonython published a comprehensive account of many branches of the Bonython family throughout the world [*History of the families of Bonython of Bonython and Bonython of Carlew in the Duchy of Cornwall; to which is added an account of the Bonythons who settled in South Australia, the small branch at Newlyn East and St. Columb Minor, Cornwall, and those who settled in what is now Maine, U.S.A., in 1630* (n.p. 1966), cited above as Bonython Gen].

Death in Salem

By Diane Foulds

Like so many of the afflicted girls, Sarah Churchill (spelled **Churchwell** in some documents) was baptized in the terrors of Indian warfare. Her grandfather, John Bonython, was a prominent property owner in Saco, **Maine**. When Indians attacked in 1680, the family abandoned their impressive home over the Saco River and fled to **Major** William Phillips's garrison house on the opposite shore. Sarah, who was eight, was one of about fifty mostly women and children who took refuge inside. The next morning, the Indians sacked and burned the houses on the opposite bank, including her grandfather's. Then they set fire to Phillips's mills, hoping to lure the garrison's defenders out. When that failed, they attempted to torch the garrison itself. Several were wounded in the gunfire, including Sarah's grandfather, though no one was killed. In the morning, the Indians withdrew.

Sarah fled with her parents, **Arthur** and Eleanor Churchill, to Marblehead, Massachusetts, where her grandfather would later die of his wounds. She then moved to Salem Village (now Danvers), where a relative, Nathaniel Ingersoll, ran a tavern.

By 1692 she was twenty-five. Her once prominent family having fallen on hard times, she was reduced to working as a lowly maidservant, employed in the home of George Jacobs Sr., a strong-willed elder. Her marital prospects looked dim, as she could no longer entice suitors with the promise of an inheritance or even a dowry.

When the community erupted in witchcraft, Sarah's afflicted friends, including her eighteen-year-old relative Mary Walcott, may have pressured her into joining their ranks. She seemed hesitant. At first she exhibited the usual symptoms, but they cleared up. Noticing that she had recovered, Mercy Lewis asserted that Sarah had succumbed to the devil's bidding (why else would he cease to torment her?). Mercy then claimed that she had persuaded Sarah to confess and that, when George Jacobs Sr. had learned of it, he had beaten Sarah "most cruelly" with his wooden canes. Sarah admitted that her afflictions had left her "unable to doe her service as formerly" and that Jacobs had hurled abuse at her, calling her "bitch witch" and other derogatory names. He and his granddaughter, Margaret Jacobs, had forced her to sign the devil's book. Sarah's words prompted a chorus of charges, and soon Jacobs and his granddaughter were in prison. But Sarah's accusation ultimately backfired. Soon she found herself among the accused and she landed in jail. In June she confessed again, hoping that this time she would win the magistrates' mercy. She did.

Though she accused George Jacobs, Ann Pudeator, and Bridget Bishop, she retracted her words later, saying she had lied when threatened with the prospect of being thrown in the dungeon. The problem was getting the authorities to believe her.

"If I told Mr. Noyes but once I had set my hand on the Book he would believe me," she is recorded as saying, "but if I told the truth and said I had not set my hand to the Book a hundred times he would not believe me."

In 1709 Sarah moved to Berwick, **Maine**. At the age of thirty-seven, she married a weaver, after paying a court fine for fornication. She also received a portion of her inheritance. Though the family estate was long gone, her grandfather had left a piece of Saco land to her mother. Sarah and her husband sold it for fifty pounds sterling. She would never again reach the level of wealth that she had enjoyed with her grandfather, though she outlived her husband. She was still alive at the age of sixty-four, but she disappeared from the records thereafter.



BANCROFT-BONYTHON.

BY CHARLES E. BANKS, M. D.

The genealogy of the Bancroft family in the *Antiquarian*, VI., 57-59, may be supplemented by the following data, which was collected by me years ago when I prepared the Bonython genealogy for publication in the Register:—

John³ Bonython, jr. (John², Richard¹) of the Saco, Maine, family, had among other children, Mary, living 1731, who was then the wife of John Bancroft, jr., of Lynn. The estate of Bonython, who died sometime after 1694, was not finally settled till 1732. Mary Bancroft declining to administer, her cousin, Sarah Andrews, was appointed, and in the account of the administratrix is an item of expense for "journey to Reding, Lyn & marblehead to notify some of the Heirs of John Benighton."

It may be that this Mary Bonython had previously married a Mansfield, and was the widow Mary Mansfield who became the second wife of Dea. John³ Bancroft in 1724. Evidence of the above alliance is to be found in York county, probate records, IV., 105, 125, and the Bonython line runs into a distinguished family in Cornwall.

U. S. Marine Hospital, Key West, Fla.

Patience was indeed the sister of Richard. This contributor had not discovered that "Benighton" was a variation of Bonython.

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14. JOSEPH³ COLLINS (Joseph², Henry¹) was born at Lynn, 26 March 1695, and died after 1733/34, the last date his name appears in the Lynn Town Records, and the date of birth of his last known child. He married at Lynn, 21 May 1717, PATIENCE BENIGNTON. She was probably from Marblehead, Mass., and perhaps a sister of Richard Benighton who married there (1) 6 December 1707, Mary Martin, and married (2), "br: 29: 1722." Abigail Cook. There are no Benighton births or deaths in Marblehead Vital Records.

Joseph served the town of Lynn as a fence viewer in 1728 and 1729, as a tithingman in 1730, as a leather sealer in 1732, and a surveyor of highways in 1733 (Lynn Town Records, various pages). Although Joseph and Patience appear to have lived in Lynn, at least five of their children were baptized at Marblehead, Mass. There are no further records found. Perhaps this was the Joseph Collins who, 11 December 1740, was a "Chesterfield [NH] Proprietor" (Mass. Archives, 115:828).

Capt. Richard Bonython was probably settled on his grant as early as his associate, Mr. Lewis.† Our first notice of his presence here, however, is in the record of the Commissioners' court 1636, holden at his house. He was appointed by Sir F. Gorges one of the Counsellors for the government of the Province in 1640. The last court under that authority sat at Wells 1646, when Capt. Bonython was present. The latest transaction in which we find him engaged, is the conveyance of a piece of land July 14, 1647. His death probably occurred not long after, certainly before the year 1653; for he is not enumerated among the inhabitants of East Saco, in a list taken at that time, which contains the name of his son.‡ Capt. Bonython was, doubtless, strongly opposed to the claims of Rigby, but we have met with no evidence that he took an active part in the discussions growing out of them. He seems to have sustained a character for gravi-

*Sullivan. 126. †See Appendix D. ‡Mass. Records.

ty of deportment, and was evidently treated with great respect by his associates in office. He was rarely, if ever, a party in any action of whatever kind, but constant in the performance of his duties as a magistrate; we even find him entering a complaint against his own son, for threatening violence to Mr. Vines. At the same term the court ordered "that Jane Shaw, wife of Edw. Shaw, shall be whipped at the next quarter court holden at Saco, for abusing Capt. Bonython in slanderous and unreverend speeches." Edward recognized in the sum of £50 "to bring his wife to abide the censure of the court." The children of Capt. Bonython were a son and two daughters; born in England.

John, the son, bore a character the reverse of that of his father. His litigious disposition has already appeared in our extracts from the court records. In 1645, Capt. Bonython said in open court, "that he knew wherever his son met Mr. Richard Vines he would be revenged on him, for he had not forgotten the old quarrel." He did not appear to answer to the charge, and the court proceeded to pass the following decree; "Whereas J. Bonython of Saco, in the Province of Maine, hath been summoned divers times in his Majesty's name to appear at our courts, and hath refused, threatening to kill and slay any persons that should lay hands on him; whereupon the law hath had its due proceeding to an outlawry, and divers judgments, executions and warrants of good behaviour: We, therefore, at a General Court assembled, adjudge the said John Bonython outlawed and incapable of any of his Majesty's laws, and proclaim him a rebel." It was then ordered "that if Mr. John Bonython be taken, that he be forthwith sent to Boston, to answer such things as shall then be brought against him." His contempt of the authority of the province was referred to the arbitration of that government. His father was a member of the provincial court.

Under the government of Mass., John was still more violent; by whom, we have seen, he was again outlawed, and a price set upon his head. This rigorous proceeding brought him to terms. The town book, in which his name is rarely found, contains the following record: "July 11, 1665. At a townmeeting, the justice of the peace and the freeholders being met together, a warrant is sent to Mr. John Bonython to come and take his oath to be constable, as he was chosen: but he refused, and is fined 4l." R. Booth was then chosen in his place. This was soon after the arrival of the King's commissioners in the province. It appears, therefore, that he attempted to act independently of all authority; hence doubtless he gained the burlesque title of 'Sagamore of Saco,' which has come down to us in the couplet, said to have been inscribed on his grave stone:

"Here lies Bonython, the Sagamore of Saco;
He lived a rogue and died a knave and went to Hobomocko."

His death occurred about 1684; an order of the court in that year continues his wife in the possession of her late husband's property. He was supposed at a subsequent period to have been destroyed by the Indians, as appears from the following record in the Book of Claims to eastern lands, opened by order of government at Boston 1718: "Peter Weare, of Hampton claims a tract of land containing 120 acres on the eastern side of Saco river, part of that granted to Richard Bonython in 1629, and by him granted to his son John, who was killed by the Indian enemy—said Weare bought of his son and heir by deed." In the registry of deeds we find, that "Richard Bonython, formerly apprentice to Jas. Weymouth of Newcastle, N. H. cordwainer, son and heir to John Bonython of Saco, sold in 1713, to Lieut. Peter Weare of Hampton, a tract of six score acres on the north east side of Saco river in the patent granted to his honored grandfather, Mr. R. Bonython and T. Lewis."

This Richard, however, was not a son, but a grandson of John Bonython, senior. At the time of the death of the latter, there was peace with the Indians; and as he was then far advanced in years, it is more probable that he died in the course of nature. In May, 1683, when near the close of his life, John gave to the town '20 acres of upland for the minister,' as if to atone for his past errors. He was buried at his own request near the river on the line separating one division of his estate from that of Gibbins. A man who lives near the spot, informs us that having had frequent occasion to pass it when a boy, the path from a landing place on the river leading in that direction, he was often told that the 'governor of Saco' lay buried there. The children of John Bonython were John, Thomas, Gabriel, William, Winifred, and Eleanor. John, the oldest, was born 1654; chosen one of the selectmen 1685; and four years after, removed to Newcastle, N. H. where he was living 1694. It is probable he afterwards fell by the hands of the Indians. Richard, the cordwainer, who sold to Weare, was unquestionably his son. This Richard had a sister, the wife of John Collins. The other sons of the 'Sagamore' left no heirs, except collateral ones. Winifred, the oldest daughter, married Robert Nicholson, or Nichols: Eleanor married a Churchwell. A son of the former, living at Marblehead, sold his mother's right in her father's estate to Robert and Thomas Edgecomb, 1729. The name of Bonython has long been obsolete in this quarter, and probably in New England.

The daughters of Capt. Bonython became the wives of Richard Foxwell and Richard Cumming. Mr. Foxwell was one of the first and most respectable planters in this vicinity. He settled at Blue-point, on the southwestern side of Scarboro' river in 1636, when thirty two years of age.* George Foxwell, his nephew, who died in Virginia, was from the city of Exeter, in Devonshire, England, and it is quite probable that Richard was from the same place, or its neighborhood. He lived forty years on his estate at Blue-point, without apparently mingling in the political disputes of that period. He was

*There was a person of the same name at Scituate 1634, a merchant; (Farmer's Register;) but as our planter married in England, it is probable that he came out with his father in law with the view of settling on his patent, and hence it is unlikely he should have gone to Scituate.

a member of the General Assembly of Lygonia in 1648, being of the committee to whom was referred Mr. Jordan's petition. But his chief attention was given to his plantation, which became a valuable legacy to his heirs. He died about the close of 1676, or early in the succeeding year. Administration on his estate was granted to his son Philip Foxwell 1677; Joseph Curtis and Richard Rogers afterwards administered.

The children of Mr. Foxwell, were three sons and five daughters. Richard jr., probably the oldest son, was living 1664; we have no further account of him. John married a daughter of Richard Cumming; he died young, leaving one son, Nathaniel, who removed to York. Deborah, daughter of Nathaniel, married William Corbain of Boston, and as the sole heiress of her father and grandfather, conveyed all her right in the estate of Richard Foxwell, to William Pepperell jr., afterwards Sir William, in 1729.

Philip Foxwell, the other son, was one of the selectmen of Scarboro' in 1681. In the subsequent dispersion of the inhabitants of that town by the Indians, Philip removed to Kittery, where he died, apparently without heirs, in 1690.

Of the daughters, Esther married Thomas Rogers of Goose-fair, in 1657. Mr. Rogers was here as early as 1638, when we find him attesting a deed. He was probably quite young at that time, as his name does not occur again until 1653. He lived on the seashore, near the mouth of Goose-fair brook, in the western part of what is now called Old Orchard. A northwest line dividing the patent of Lewis and Bonython into two equal portions, was run 1681; which the commissioners began at "Rogers' garden." The house of Mr. Rogers was destroyed by the Indians 1676, when he removed to Kittery, and soon after died. An inventory of his estate was taken the following year. He had two sons, Richard and John. The former, purchased from Gibbins 1687 a tract of about half a mile square situated between Goose-fair brook and the middle line of the patent. He afterwards removed to Kittery. His son Richard jr. gave this piece of land to Patrick Googins 1737. Patrick came

rick left six sons, one of whom is now living at an advanced age. Mr. Rogers Googins, a grandson of Patrick, and some others of this family, now possess and improve a part of the old estate.

Lucretia Foxwell married James Robinson of Blue-point. On the breaking out of the Indian war, they removed to New Castle, N. H. and there ended their days. They left four children, daughters, three of whom were married.

Susannah Foxwell married an Austin. Mary, another daughter, married George Norton, of York. Sarah Foxwell married Joseph Curtis of Kittery, 1678. Their daughter Eunice was born Dec. 23, 1698. She married Richard Cutts of Kittery, Octo. 20, 1720. Their children were seven sons and three daughters, viz. Sarah, Robert, Joseph, Samuel, Edward, Foxwell Curtis, Richard, Mary, Thomas, and Eunice. Thomas, late Col. Cutts of Saco, the ninth of these children, was born April 5, 1736. Edward, the fifth, late Judge of the C. C. Pleas, was born 1728. The mother, a grand daughter of Richard Foxwell, died March 30, 1795, at the great age of ninety six years.*

The second daughter of Capt. Richard Bonython was married to Richard Cumming before 1647. Mr. Cumming first settled on the western side of the river, but after the death of his father in law, he removed to the eastern part of his patent, near Little river. In 1672, a committee was appointed by the town "to meet the Black-point men at the river next Richard Cumming's, to run the line between them and us." Mr. Cummings Banks, one of his descendants, now lives at the same place. The name of Richard Cumming, or Cummin, occurs very often in the town records until 1674; he died soon after. An inventory of his estate was taken 1676. The administrators were Thomas Cumming and John Harmon. The former did not long survive his father.

Elizabeth the only daughter of R. Cumming married John Foxwell, her cousin, after his death John Harmon, previously to 1680. By this marriage Mr. Harmon became sole heir to that division of the patent which fell to the wife of Cummings. The daughter of Mr. Harmon, an only child, married Joseph Banks of York, to which place Harmon removed before 1690. Banks thus acquired Harmon's right, but, in 1714, conveyed one-half of it to Peter Weare and others. He also sold one quarter to Caleb Preble of York, who afterwards transferred it to Jas. and Joseph Brown of Newbury, 1717. Samuel Banks, a son of Joseph, settled at Old Orchard on a part of the Cummings estate, about 1735, where his descendants now live.

* John Harmon married first Elizabeth Cummings, and together they had daughter Elizabeth Harmon. After Elizabeth's death, he married Deborah Johnson Foxwell, the widow of Elizabeth's cousin John Foxwell (son of Richard and Susannah Bonython Foxwell).

