

## The Origins of The Bessoms in Marblehead



## Individual Record

Jean Legros BISSON (AFN: PLLK-K3)  
Sex: M

## Event(s)

Birth: 13 Mar 1695/1696  
Of St Mary's Par, Jersey, Ci, UK  
Burial: 24 Feb 1772

## Parents

Father: Jean Legros BISSON (AFN: PLLL-C6)  
Mother: Elizabeth NOEL (AFN: PLLW-2V)

## Marriage(s)

Spouse: Jeanne LECRAS (AFN: PLLJ-D3)  
Marriage: Abt 1720/1721



## Individual Record

Jeanne LECRAS (AFN: PLLJ-D3)  
Sex: F

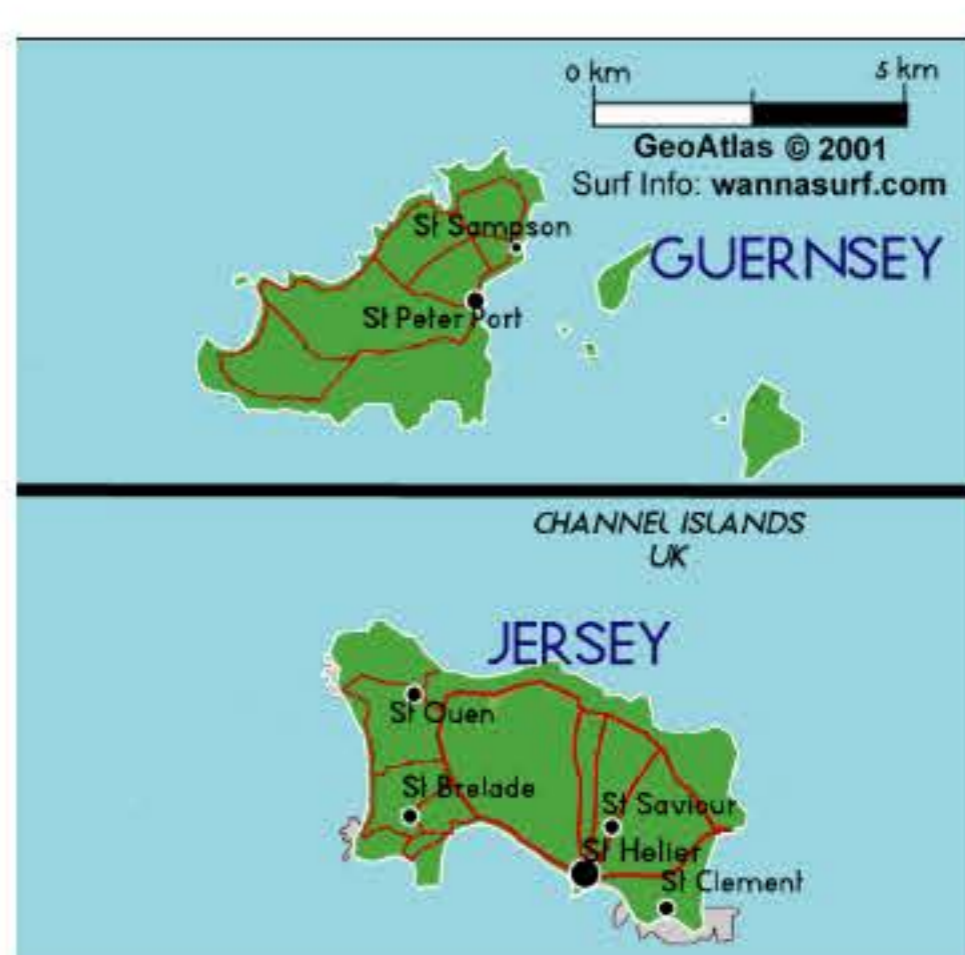
## Event(s)

Birth: Abt 1703  
Of St Ouen's Par, Jersey, Ci, UK  
Death: Abt 1747

## Parents

## Marriage(s)

Spouse: Jean Legros BISSON (AFN: PLLK-K3)  
Marriage: Abt 1720/1721



## The Essex Antiquarian - Volume 9

Capt. Philip Besom<sup>1</sup> lived in Marblehead, 1751-1797; shoreman and yeoman; owned schooner *Peacock*; married Sarah Bubbier Sept. 30, 1751; he died in 1797, his will, dated Sept. 1, 1791, being proved Nov. 8, 1797; she survived him, and was his widow in 1799; in his will he mentioned children of my son "Joseph Brown, deceased." Children, baptized in Marblehead:

1. *Ruth*<sup>2</sup>, baptized Aug. 16, 1752; married William Blaney Sept. 19, 1771; and was living in 1791.
2. *Margaret*<sup>2</sup>, baptized Oct. 14, 1753; died young.
3. *Sarah*<sup>2</sup>, baptized Oct. 13, 1754; married — Barker before 1791.
4. *Margaret*<sup>2</sup>, baptized Nov. 7, 1756; married — Grant before 1791.
5. *John*<sup>2</sup>, baptized Oct. 1, 1758; was devised land in Lyndeborough, N. H., by his father, 1791.
6. *Philip*<sup>2</sup>, baptized July 13, 1760; lived in Marblehead; mariner; married, first, Ruth Collyer Feb. 11, 1779; second, Elizabeth (Betsey) Lewis Jan. 27, 1795; he died March —, 1836; his wife Betsey was living in 1818; his children, born in Marblehead: 1. *Ruthy*<sup>3</sup>, born March 23, 1781; married Samuel Stennis (published Dec. 16, 1797); 2. *Sarah*<sup>3</sup>, born Feb. 9, 1784; married Eleazer Graves before 1818; 3. *Elizabeth*<sup>3</sup>, born April 30, 1786; probably died young; 4. *Hannah*<sup>3</sup>, born Nov. 7, 1789; died young; 5. *Martha*<sup>3</sup>, born Nov. 16, 1791; married John Tucker in 1818; 6. *Philip*<sup>3</sup>, born Nov. 19, 1795; living in 1818; 7. *Hannah*<sup>3</sup>, born June 24, 1797; unmarried in 1818; 8. *Tabitha Lewis*<sup>3</sup>, born July 5, 1799; married John C. Cloon Feb. 15, 1818; 9. *Miriam Lewis*<sup>3</sup>, born May 31, 1801; died young; 10. *Miriam Lewis*<sup>3</sup>, born Aug. 31, 1802; married Eleazer Graves, jr., in or before 1818; 11. *Abigail Lewis*<sup>3</sup>, born Jan. 16, 1804; unmarried in 1818; 12. *Edmund Lewis*<sup>3</sup>, born Sept. 8, 1805; living in 1818; 13. *John Russell*<sup>3</sup>, born May 1, 1807; probably died before 1818; 14. *William Gray*<sup>3</sup>, born June 23, 1809; living in 1818; 15. *George Washington*<sup>3</sup>, born Sept. 13, 1811; living in 1818; 16. *Betsey Lewis*<sup>3</sup>, born Dec. 19, 1812; living in 1818.
7. *Grace*<sup>2</sup>, baptized April 18, 1762; married Joseph Nance Jan. 20, 1784; and died before 1791, leaving children.
8. *Joseph*<sup>2</sup>, baptized Feb. 12, 1764; probably died before 1791.
9. *Jane*<sup>2</sup>, baptized Oct. 20, 1765; married Francis Freeto Sept. 8, 1785.
10. *Mary*<sup>2</sup>, married Samuel Chinn July 28, 1787.
11. *Susannah*<sup>2</sup>, baptized June 11, 1769; married William Strong Oct. 26, 1790.
12. *Elizabeth*<sup>2</sup>, baptized Feb. 17, 1771; died young.
13. *Elizabeth*<sup>2</sup>, baptized Dec. 18, 1774; married Paul A. Caul Jan. 29, 1792.
14. *Hannah*<sup>2</sup>, baptized Sept. 29, 1776; married Thomas Anderton March 23, 1794.
15. *William*<sup>2</sup>, living in 1791.

Richard Bessom married Sarah Gale July 31, 1753; lived in Marblehead, 1753-1798; fisherman, coaster, truckman and yeoman; wife Sarah living in 1776. Children, baptized in Marblehead:

- Sarah, baptized May 5, 1754;
- Jane, baptized May 16, 1756; married Peter Sawins June 2, 1778;
- Mary, baptized Jan. 8, 1758; died young;
- Richard, baptized Dec. 23, 1759;
- John, baptized Nov. 1, 1761; died young;
- Mary, baptized June 5, 1763; married Joseph Pedrick Jan. 28, 1787;
- John, baptized Aug. 25, 1765; died young;
- Susannah, baptized Aug. 28, 1768; died young;
- John, baptized Sept. 9, 1770;
- Susannah, baptized Sept. 13, 1772; married Philip Ramsdell June 3, 1792;
- Richard, baptized Feb. 5, 1775;
- Jonas, baptized Sept. 15, 1776.
- Nicholas Besome married, first, Elizabeth Lasky March 18, 1784; she was his wife in 1805; married, second, Hannah —; lived in Marblehead; fisherman; and died June —, 1838; children, baptized in Marblehead:
- Elizabeth, baptized July 11, 1785;
- Nicholas, baptized Sept. 21, 1788; died young;
- Nicholas, baptized June 5, 1791; died young;
- Nicholas, baptized Oct. 28, 1792;
- John, baptized Nov. 23, 1794;
- Richard Hawley, baptized July 29, 1796; died young;
- Polly, baptized Sept. 3, 1797;
- James Laskey, baptized Jan. 19, 1800;
- Richard Hawley, baptized Nov. 20, 1805

Marblehead

Births

**BESOME** (see also Bessom)  
 Sarah, d. Richard and Sarah, bp. May 5, 1754.  
 Jane, d. Richard and Sarah, bp. May 16, 1756.  
 Mary, d. Richard and Sarah, bp. Jan. 8, 1758.  
 Richard, s. Richard and Sarah, bp. Dec. 23, 1759.  
 John, s. Richard and Sarah, bp. Nov. 1, 1761.  
 Mary, d. Richard and Sarah, bp. June 5, 1763.  
 John, s. Richard and Sarah, bp. Aug. 25, 1765.  
 Susannah, d. Richard and Sarah, bp. Aug. 28, 1768.  
 John, s. Richard and Sarah, bp. Sept. 9, 1770.  
 Susannah, d. Richard and Sarah, bp. Sept. 13, 1772.  
 Richard, s. Richard and Sarah, bp. Feb. 5, 1775.  
 Jonas, s. Richard and Sarah, bp. Sept. 15, 1776.

Marriages

**BESOME: Jane, and Peter Sawins, June 2, 1778.** Marriage Marblehead, MA  
**SAWINS: (see also Sawin), Jane, Mrs., and Thomas Lemaster, Dec. 11, 1781.** Marriage Marblehead, MA  
**BESOME: Mary, and Joseph Pedrick, Jan. 28, 1787.** Marriage Marblehead, MA  
**BESOM: Susanna, and Philip Ramsdall, June 3, 1792.** Marriage Marblehead, MA  
**BESOM: John, and Hannah Laskey, Dec. 29, 1793.** Marriage Marblehead, MA  
**BESOM: Richard, jr., and Hannah Bowden, May 15, 1796.** Marriage Marblehead, MA  
**BESOM: Richard, and [Mrs. C. R. 1.] Hannah Maley, Dec. 18, 1814.** Marriage Marblehead, MA

Nicholass. and Mrs. Hannah Bessom, Jan. 20, 1828

Deaths

Richard, "in an Advanced Age" [dropsy. PR1], Feb. 4, 1812. [Feb. 3, a. 84 y. PR1.; a. 81 y. GR1]

Sarah, w. Richard, Sept. 17, 1802, a. 70 y. GRI

**CASWELL (Casswell)**

Sarah, wid. William [palsy. PR1], July 30, 1821, a. 68 y. [a. 67 y. PR1]

**LeMASTER**

Jane, wid. Thomas, "fell down Stairs and broke her Neck," Feb. 10, 1828, a. 72 y.

**RAMSDELL**

Susan, wid. Philip, June 13, 1841, a. 69 y.

Bessom The Essex Antiquarian, Volume 9 page 90

Richard Bessom married Sarah Gale July 31, 1753; lived in Marblehead, 1753-1798; fisherman, coaster, truckman and yeoman; wife Sarah living in 1776. Children, baptized in Marblehead: Sarah, baptized May 5, 1754; Jane, baptized May 16, 1756; married Peter Sawins June 2, 1778; Mary, baptized Jan. 8, 1758; died young; Richard, baptized Dec. 23, 1759; John, baptized Nov. 1, 1761; died young; Mary, baptized June 5, 1763; married Joseph Pedrick Jan. 28, 1787; John, baptized Aug. 25, 1765; died young; Susannah, baptized Aug. 28, 1768; died young; John, baptized Sept. 9, 1770; Susannah, baptized Sept. 13, 1772; married Philip Ramsdell June 3, 1792; Richard, baptized Feb. 5, 1775; Jonas, baptized Sept. 15, 1776.

John Bessom married Hannah Laskey Dec. 29, 1793; lived in Marblehead; coaster and truckman; children, baptized in Marblehead: Hannah, Feb. 1, 1795; John, June 26, 1796; Sarah Gale, Oct. 22, 1797; Peggy Hawley, March 17, 1799; Richard, May 18, 1800; James Laskey, Jan. 9, 1803; Jonas, May 27, 1804; Nicolas, Sept. 7, 1806; Elizabeth, Oct. 29, 1809; Mary, June 16, 1811; Philip, May 16, 1813; Harriot, Sept. 10, 1815.

—Records.

Richard Bessom, jr., married Hannah Bowden May 15, 1796; and lived in Marblehead, where their children were baptized, as follows: Hannah, April 10, 1796; Richard, Dec. 17, 1797; Michael, Nov. 10, 1799; Sarah, Dec. 6, 1801; John, Nov. 27, 1803.

SOLDIERS AND SAILORS OF THE REVOLUTION.

181

**RICHARD BESOM** of Marblehead; matross, Capt. Edward Fettyplace's (Marblehead) co.; enl. Feb. 20, 1776; rolls made up to Jan. 1, 1777; service, 10 mos., 10 days; also, Capt. Fettyplace's co. of coast guards; list of men appearing on a memorandum of beef delivered Feb. 18, 1777.

**RICHARD BESOM** of Marblehead; priv., Capt. Francis Felton's co.; pay rolls for service from July 21, 1775, to Dec. 31, 1775, 5 mos., 24 days; co. raised and stationed at Marblehead.

No 2435

Bessom  
 Richard  
 1812. Feb. 2.  
 7/

*June 20. 1776. 350. p. to N. 2. 24. to N. 2. p. 8*  
 Jane Lemaster 32  
 318.  
*N. 2. Rich. Besom 310. from N. 1. p. 8.*  
 Richard Besom 8  
 318.  
*N. 3. Philip Ramsdell 290. from N. 1. p. 24. from N. 4. p. 4.*  
 Susanna Ramsdall 128  
 318.  
*N. 4. Sarah Caswell 33. p. N. 5. p. 8. N. 3. p. 4.*  
 Sarah Caswell 12  
 318.  
*N. 5. John Besom 310. from N. 5. p. 8.*  
 John Besom 8  
 318.

Joshua Prentiss

The Mystery: Did Richard Bessom Have a Second Wife Named Sarah?

Commonwealth of Massachusetts, ss. }  
 By Samuel Kollen esquire,  
 Judge of Probate for said County.  
 To Joshua Prentiss esquire, deacon John Goodwin and Ralph Hill French esquire,  
 all of Marblehead, and Freeholders in said County,  
 GREETING.  
 YOU are hereby appointed a Committee (being first sworn) to divide and fet off, by Metes and Bounds, one third Part, both for Quantity and Quality, of all the Real Estate of late of Richard Besom, Widow Sarah Besom, intestate, unto his said Real Estate, to and for her Use and Improvement, during her natural Life: And when you have so done, make Return of your Doings, in and for this Warrant, into the Registry of the Court of Probate in and for said County.  
 Given under my Hand and Seal of Office this twenty second day of July, Anno Domini 1812.

*There is July 22, 1812. Show before me that by the above when garden was owned by the said Sarah Besom, the said Richard Besom was her husband.*

- If Sarah Gale Bessom died in 1802 why does his probate show a widow Sarah ten years later?
- A review of Marblehead early Vital Records showed the following:
  1. Sarah Gale Bessom, wife of Richard died in Sept 1802
  2. A marriage of a Richard Bessom to Sarah Calley two months after the death of Sarah Gale Bessom
  3. The death of Sarah Bessom, the widow of Richard at about 84 years of age
  4. There was the birth of a Sarah Calley 80+ years previous to the death of Richard Bessom's widow
- Were there any children born of a Richard and Sarah Bessom after 1802 that would indicate the marriage of a couple of child-bearing age? None found
- Was Sarah Calley a widow? No previous marriages recorded for her.

Marblehead

Births

Deaths

**CALLEY**  
 4. Sarah, d. James and Betty, Oct. 26, 1757

**BESOM (Besom)**  
 3. Sarah, wid. Richard, old age, July 19, 1842, a. 83 y. 9 m.  
 1. Sarah, w. Richard, Sept. 17, 1802, a. 70 y. GRI

Marriages

**CALLEY**  
 2. Sally [Sarah. CR1], and Richard Besom, Dec. 5, 1802.\*