

## HISTORY OF THE FRANCIS WEST AND MERCY MINOR FAMILY

Francis West was born 13 Nov 1669 at Duxbury, Plymouth Co., Mass., the firstborn child of Samuel West and Tryphosa Partridge.

As a young man he went to Preston, New London Co., Conn. Here he married, as recorded; "This may sartyfy all persons whome it may concern that Frances West and Marcy Minor were lawfully joyned in marage the 20 of December 1696, by me, Samuel nason Assist"

Mercy Minor, born 21 Aug 1673, was a daughter of Joseph Minor and wife, Marie Avery, who was a daughter Capt. James Avery and wife, Joanna Greenslade. Joseph Minor was the son of Thomas Minor and wife, Grace Palmer. These progenitor lines of Mercy are all traced well back into England.

Children born in Preston and Stonington

Mercy bapt. 30 Oct 1697 m. Nathaniel Wales Feb 1716

\*Samuel b. abt. 1699 m. Sarah Delano m. A. Lathrop

Joseph bapt. 30 Nov 1701 m. Joanna Delano

On 1 Nov 1702 Francis West and Mercy, his wife, were dismissed from Preston Church unto the First Congregational Church in Stonington and the baptisms of their children are recorded here all but Samuel.

Ammassa bapt. 27 Mar 1704 m. Amy Hatch

Zebulon bapt. 16 Mar 1707 m. Mary Delano

Christopher bapt. 19 Jun 1709 m. Amy Delano

Pelataiah bapt. 30 Sep 1711 m. Elizabeth Lathrop

Francis owned large tracts of land in Stonington. In about 1720 he removed with the first settlers in Tolland, Tolland Co., Conn., and was the First Deacon in the Church there, and also Selectman. He was commonly known as Deacon Francis West.

In 1722 a committee from Coventry and Tolland agreed on a property line between the two towns which placed Francis West's house in Coventry. When he built the house he understood that he was in Tolland, so was told he could pay his taxes in Tolland and be considered a resident of that town. Francis considered it impracticable to reside in one town and pay taxes in another, and he very soon removed his, still occupied, house from Coventry to Tolland. Records show that he had over 700 acres of land standing in his name, lying principally in the south-east corner of the town of Tolland.

He wrote a will on 9 April 1731, and died in that same year at age 62 in Tolland. He was survived by his wife, Mercy, and his six sons. He and his wife are buried in the Tolland Cemetery south of town.