

10 June 1991

Dear Mom & Louise:

Enclosed are copies of the deeds of Solomon Whitlock in York County, N.B. A listing of these deeds is also enclosed. These are all of Solomon's deeds listed in the York County indices. They seem to tell a complete story. Thus I think we probably have all of his deeds in the enclosed package.

I do have some land petitions involving Solomon, but have not transcribed those yet. They will be along in due course.

The enclosed deeds contain only limited genealogical information. One deed is to his son Jacob, specifically identified as such. This 1812 deed is co-signed by Priscilla. His last deed is to his son Elijah. That relationship is not stated in the deed, though it is obvious by the deed itself in that Solomon reserves the use of the land to himself during his lifetime. Solomon Jr witnessed this deed.

As indicated above, Priscilla co-signed the deed to Jacob. She also co-signed a 1796 deed. Solomon's second wife Mary co-signed a mortgage in 1821.

The question arises as to whether any of these deeds provide us a clue as to Priscilla's parentage. Probably not. However I wonder about the 1787 sale of 200 acres on Madam Kiswick Creek by Jacob Coddington, formerly of the N.Y. Volunteers. Solomon & Priscilla named one of their sons, apparently the first surviving son, Jacob. Probably a coincidence, but possibly not. We know only that Solomon & Priscilla were married on or before 1790, the year we estimate son Jacob was born. Perhaps they married as early as 1787. In that event they may have lost one or more children before Jacob's birth.

As previously noted, Priscilla co-signed the 1796 resale of the land bought from Coddington. This may simply have been the customary practice, though Solomon does not appear to have ever lived on that plot and the acknowledgement of Priscilla's signature makes no reference to dower or power of thirds. Thus her signature may reflect other interests. Priscilla did not co-sign the 1791 deed, but that was land in which Solomon had an interest through his military service and a wife often would not be involved in a transaction of this nature. Mary did not co-sign the 1829 deed to Elijah, but that might have been due to the fact that this was land Solomon had before he married Mary or may have been that it was considered inappropriate for the stepmother to be involved.

Thus it is unclear whether the fact Priscilla co-signed the 1796 deed is of particular significance or not. Nevertheless, lacking any other clues to Priscilla's possible identity, I think we should check out Jacob Coddington. If his wife's name matches any of Solomon's daughters names then I would feel we were probably on the right track. Possibly there might even be a better record, a will in N.B., or a birth record of a Priscilla in N.Y.

I also considered whether the Hunts might be Priscilla's parents, as the price of Lot 2 was only 2 pounds. However Mrs Hunt was a Sarah and Solomon had no daughters of that name. Thus I tend to discount the Hunts as a possibility.

And I guess that is all for this letter. Love

20 June 1991

Dear Mom & Louise:

This is another letter on **Whitlock**.

First, enclosed are six land grant petitions. These are all from the RS-108 series. Four of these specifically mention Solomon Whitlock. The other two are less clear in their relationship to Solomon. The index indicates that the following 1785 petitions relate to Solomon: #s 114, 117, 119, 120, & 121. These involve various members of the Prince of Wales Regiment. #121 clearly involves Solomon. My recollection is that that Solomon was a party to #120 also, but we seem to have copied only the first page of that document. I believe the second page listed the 20 petitioners. We did not see Solomon mentioned in all five of the 1785 petitions. For example, the other 1785 petition enclosed, which I think may be #119, does not seem to involve Solomon directly. In retrospect we should probably have copied them all anyway, though they consisted of a dozen or more pages. We will have to check them again, though, to be sure we have all the pertinent information concerning Solomon.

Secondly, you will note in Solomon's petition of 5 Feb 1788, that he requests land for himself and his family. It is evident, then, that Solomon had by then married, or, as a minimum, was about to acquire a wife. I feel certain he had not married by the time of the Nov 1786 petition, or he would have mentioned the wife in that petition also. I think we can safely conclude that Solomon married, presumably to Priscilla, sometime during 1787. The use of the word family in that document does confuse me a little. We have no evidence that any of his children about whom we have knowledge was born as early as 1787. I am inclined to believe that Solomon used the word family loosely, meaning his wife and probable future children. Possibly though, his wife may have been then pregnant with a child who died prior to the date of Solomon's will many years later, or one of the children may be older than we currently believe. The important point, though, is that we now know that Solomon had married somewhat earlier than we had previously presumed.

Thirdly, the 1815 petition mentions an 1804 purchase of land by Solomon from a William Harris. This deed was not among those I copied, and certainly was not listed in Vol. I of the index to York deeds. I see three possibilities here. One is that the deed was never recorded. A second is that it was recorded only at a much later date, after Solomon had died, and I missed the reference, and perhaps was one I assumed belonged to Solomon Jr. Or third, that it was mis-indexed. The easiest way to check that would be to look for an 1804 deed of a William Harris to see, if recorded, if Solomon's surname had been badly misspelled or misread.

Lastly, and unrelated to the above, I simply jotted down the names of other Whitlocks who had York deeds during the period 1786-1849. The list follows. Several of these are clearly Solomon's children, and Mary is probably his widow. I didn't make a true index, but did note 3 or 4 specific deed citations

Whitlocks listed in the 1786-1849 index to York County, N.B. Deeds

Grantors

- Admiral H.N.
- Elijah
- Israel 10:4
- Jacob
- Jane 16:321
- John
- Mary 18:436; 25:533
- Nelson
- Solomon
- William

Grantees

- Elijah
- Jacob
- Solomon

And I think that wraps up the material and notes on Solomon I have from our trip to Fredericton.

Love

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