

The Life and Family of Nicolas Whitman

Nicolas Whitman was born February 9, 1761 in Ashburnham Massachusetts to parents Christian William Whitman and Anistina Gross Whitman. Nicolas's parents were German immigrants.¹ Nicolas Whitman married Elizabeth Rodiman 23 August 1781 in Asbhornham MA. Elizabeth's father was also a German immigrant.² Nicolas and Elizabeth Whitman's children, all born in Ashburnham, are shown in the table below:

Children of Nicolas and Elizabeth Whitman of Ashburnham MA			
Name	Birth	Marriage	Death
Nancy Whitman	1790	Ozias Partridge Jr.	After 1850
Jacob Whitman	unknown	unknown	1835
Peter Whitman	1797	Betsey _____ unknown Sally Weeks Nov 22 1822 Warren NH Lydia Page July 31 1843 Eaton Quebec	1855
Sources: Nancy Clark of Tompkins County NY is identified as the widow of Ozias Partridge in a deed for land in Reading NY: New York, Steuben County Registry of Deeds, volume 66, page 249, 2 May 1852, consideration \$160, deed of Nancy Clark of Mc [?], Tompkins County NY, widow of Ozias Partridge, to Clinton Reed of Reading, Steuben County NY, land in Reading, Steuben County, digital images, image 443 of 648, FamilySearch.org. Massachusetts, Ashburnham, Town and Vital Records, 1620 – 1988, Ashburnham, Births, Marriages, and Deaths, 1760 – 1842, marriage of Nancy Whitman and Ozias Partridge, 7 January 1803, Ashburnham MA, digital images, image 53 of 64, Ancestry.com. US Census, 1850, New York, Tompkins, Groton, household of William Clark, age 72, Nancy Clark, age 60, Seventh Census of the United States, 1850; National Archives Microfilm Publication M432,			

¹ Massachusetts, Town Birth Records, Necklaus Whitman, born February 19, 1761, Ashburnham MA, parents Christian William and Anistina Whitman, Records of the Town of Ashburnham MA to the end of the year 1849, Franklin Rice, publisher, Worcester MA, 1904. Boston, Massachusetts, Marriages 1700 – 1809, marriage of Christian Wideman and Arensteen Gross, Germans, 28 December 1751, First Presbyterian Church, Massachusetts Registry Department, Boston Marriages from 1700 to 1751, Vol. 1, Boston, MA, USA: Municipal Print, Boston MA, 1898.

² Massachusetts, Compiled Marriages, marriage of Nicolas Whitman and Elizabeth Rodiman, 23 August 1781, Ashburnham MA, Dodd, Jordan, Liahona Research, comp. Massachusetts, Marriages, 1633-1850. With some noted exceptions all marriage records in this collection can be found at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah. U.S. and Canada, Passenger and Immigration Lists, 1500s – 1900s, arrival of Simon Rodimell, 1753, Boston MA, citing Hurst, Charles W. "French and German Immigrants into Boston 1751." In The American Genealogist, vol. 43:3 (July 1967), pp. 168-177.

Roll: 605; Page: 127a; Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29; National Archives, Washington, D.C.

Massachusetts, Worcester County Probate Court, Guardianship of Nicolas Whiteman, case #64675, *Worcester County, MA: Probate File Papers, 1731-1881*. Online database. AmericanAncestors.org. New England Historic Genealogical Society, 2015. (From records supplied by the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court Archives.)

New Hampshire, Death Records 1650 – 1969, death of Horace Whiteman, 28 January 1868, Warren NH, father Peter Whiteman, born Ashburnham MA. Source record: New Hampshire Archives and Records Management; Concord, New Hampshire; New Hampshire Death Records, 1650-1969. Digital images, image 1763 of 3506, Ancestry.com.

New Hampshire, Marriage and Divorce Records, 1659 – 1947, marriage of Peter Whiteman and Sally Weeks, 22 November 1822, Warren NH, New England Historical Genealogical Society; New Hampshire Bureau of Vital Records, Concord, New Hampshire.

New Hampshire, Death Records, death of Peter Whiteman, 21 March 1885, Warren NH, parents Peter and Betsey Whiteman, New Hampshire Archives and Records Management; Concord, New Hampshire; New Hampshire Death Records, 1650-1969.

Canada, Quebec, Vital and Church Records (Drouin Collection), marriage of Peter Whiteman and Lydia Page, 31 July 1843, Eaton Quebec, Baptist Church, Institut Généalogique Drouin; Montreal, Quebec, Canada; Drouin Collection; Author: Gabriel Drouin, Comp.

Canada, Quebec, burial of Peter Whiteman, 27 July 1855, Eaton Quebec, Church of England, age 56, Institut Généalogique Drouin; Montreal, Quebec, Canada; Drouin Collection; Author: Gabriel Drouin, Comp.

The service of Nicolas Whitman in the Revolutionary War is shown in the table below:

Revolutionary War Service Record of Nicolas Whitman of Ashburnham MA					
Year	Regiment	Enlistment	Discharge	Length of Service	Location
1777	Gates' Company MA	October 1, 1777	October 25, 1777	25 days	Saratoga
1778	Stearns Regiment MA	April 1, 1778	July 2, 1778	3 months 5 days	Boston
Source: US, Revolutionary War Rolls, 1775 – 1783, muster roll of Captain John White's Company, Stearns [Regiment], 23 May 1778, Microfilm Publication M246, 138 rolls; War Department Collection of Revolutionary War Records, Record Group 93; The National Archives in Washington, D.C. Massachusetts, Soldiers and Sailors in the Revolutionary War, service record of Nicholas Whitman, Ashburnham, MA, enlistment 1 Oct 1777, discharge 2, July 1778, Capt. Jonathan Gates's Company, Col. Abijah Stearns, Regiment, Wright & Potter Printing Co.; Boston, MA, USA; Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War; Volume: Volume 17, page 190.					

After his service in the Revolutionary War, in 1782 Nicolas moved briefly to Warren New Hampshire.³ Nicholas moved back to Ashburnham and his father Christian sold his farm

³ New Hampshire, Warren, Inhabitants Tax List for 1782, volume 1 page 155, digital images, image 79 of 509, FamilySearch.org.

there to him.⁴ Nicolas is listed on the 1798 tax list for Ashburnham.⁵ In 1814, Nicolas conveyed title to the farm to his son Jacob Whiteman in 1814.⁶

When Jacob Whiteman died in 1835, Nicolas stated in a court deposition that he was Jacob's sole heir, and that he wanted to be appointed executor of Jacob's estate.⁷ Instead, the Judge appointed another man executor of Jacob's estate.⁸

On 10 December 1836, the Ashburnham Board of Selectmen filed an application to the Worcester County Probate Court to appoint a guardian for Nicholas Whitman due to his age and incapacity.⁹ Nicolas had a guardian appointed by the court. The guardian was

⁴ Massachusetts, Worcester County Registry of Deeds, volume 123 page 636, 22 January 1787, consideration £100, Deed of Christian Whitman to Niclaus Whitman, 65 acres with dwelling house and barn, being lot No 4 in Lexington Farm, digital images, image 683 of 692, FamilySearch.org.

Massachusetts, Worcester County Registry of Deeds, volume 125 page 506, 23 June 1794, consideration £45, Deed of Christian Whitman to Nicolaus Whitman, lot 6 in Lexington Farm, containing 50 acres, digital images, image 627 of 702, FamilySearch.org.

⁵ *Massachusetts and Maine: Direct Tax, 1798*. (Online database. *AmericanAncestors.org*, New England Historic Genealogical Society, 2003.) Original manuscript: Direct tax list of 1798 for Massachusetts and Maine, 1798. R. Stanton Avery Special Collections, New England Historic Genealogical Society, Boston, MA.

⁶ Massachusetts, Worcester Registry of Deeds, volume 190 page 275, 12 March 1814, consideration \$2,000, Deed of Nicholas Whiteman to Jacob Whiteman, farm in Ashburnham containing 160 acres, digital images, image 146 of 692, FamilySearch.org.

⁷ Massachusetts, Worcester County Probate Court, Estate of Jacob Whiteman, case #64667, Statements of Nicolas Whiteman, George G. Parker, and Nathaniel Pierce, Judge of Probate, page 3 of the file. Source Record: *Worcester County, MA: Probate File Papers, 1731-1881*. Online database. *AmericanAncestors.org*. New England Historic Genealogical Society, 2015. (From records supplied by the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court Archives.)

⁸ Massachusetts, Worcester County Probate Court, Estate of Jacob Whiteman, case #64667,. Order of the Court of {Probate Worcester County MA, appointment of Nathaniel Pierce as administrator of the Estate of Jacob Whiteman, page 6 of the file. Source Record: *Worcester County, MA: Probate File Papers, 1731-1881*. Online database. *AmericanAncestors.org*. New England Historic Genealogical Society, 2015. (From records supplied by the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court Archives.)

⁹ Massachusetts, Worcester County Probate Court, Guardianship of Nicolas Whiteman, case #64675, Application for Guardianship of Nicolas Whiteman by the Ashburnham Board of Selectmen, page 3 of the file. Source Record: *Worcester County, MA: Probate File Papers, 1731-1881*. Online database. *AmericanAncestors.org*. New England Historic Genealogical Society, 2015. (From records supplied by the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court Archives.)

authorized by the Judge of Probate to sell the farm to provide funds for the care of Nicolas and Elizabeth Whiteman. In a statement in the probate file, Nicolas's daughter Nancy and son-in-law Ozias Partridge had asked to take care of Nicolas and his wife Elizabeth.¹⁰ Per the note by the guardian at the bottom of the Partridge letter, Ozias and Nancy were the only family members who had communicated with Nicholas in the past ten years. Ozias and Nancy Partridge lived at that time in Reading New York, a town on Seneca Lake in the Finger Lakes region.¹¹

Although in fact Peter Whiteman, son of Nicolas and Elizabeth, was alive and living in Quebec,¹² the court accepted the statement of Nancy and Ozias Partridge and the probate court judge ordered Nicholas's guardian to sell the farm in Ashburnham to provide money to Nancy and Ozias Partridge to support Nancy's parents.¹³

¹⁰ Massachusetts, Worcester County Probate Court, Guardianship of Nicholas Whiteman, case #64675, Letter from Ozias and Nancy Partridge, page 12. Source Record: *Worcester County, MA: Probate File Papers, 1731-1881*. Online database. AmericanAncestors.org. New England Historic Genealogical Society, 2015. (From records supplied by the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court Archives.)

¹¹ US Census, 1830, New York, Steuben, Reading, household of Ozias Partridge, Fifth Census of the United States, 1830. (NARA microfilm publication M19, Roll: 107; Page: 332; Family History Library Film: 0017167. Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29. National Archives, Washington, D.C.

¹² 1842 Census of Canada East, Quebec, Sherbrooke, Eaton, household of Peter Whiteman, 1842 Lower Canada Census, page 2745, image 356, Affiliate Publication MG 31 C1, FHL Film 2443972. 1851 Census of Canada East, Quebec, Sherbrooke, Eaton, Peter Whiteman, age 54, born USA, enumerated directly below him Horace Whiteman, born USA, age 28, 851 Census of Canada East, Canada West, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia, Schedule: A; Roll: C-1143; Page: 57; Line: 43.

¹³ Massachusetts, Worcester County Probate Court, Guardianship File of Nicholas Whiteman, file #64675, 1836-7, digital images, American Ancestors. Order of the Worcester County Probate Court to sell the whole of the real estate of Nicholas Whiteman on the first Tuesday of December, 1837, and the return of said sale at public auction on 5 February 1838, sale to George W. Cushing and Samuel P Gibson for \$1,490, page 18 of the file.

Nicolas and presumably Elizabeth Whitman were living with Nancy and Ozias Partridge in Reading New York by the December 1837.¹⁴ The 1840 household of Ozias and Nancy Partridge had this composition:

1840 Household of Ozias Partidge [Jr.] in Reading New York						
Males 15 – 19	Males 50 – 59	Males 80 – 89	Females 50 – 59	Females 70 – 79	Females 80 – 89	
1	1	1	1	1	1	
Willard	Ozias Jr.	Nicolas Whiteman	Nancy	Zipporah Partridge	Elizabeth Whiteman	Hypothesized Members
Source: US Census, 1840, New York, Steuben, Reading, household of Ozias Partridge, The National Archives, Washington, D.C., NARA microfilm publication Roll: 341; Page: 117; Family History Library Film: 0017207.						

This evidence indicates that both Nicolas and Elizabeth were alive in 1840. They must have died some time prior to the sale of their son-in-law's land in Reading in 1849. Nancy Partridge resided in Tompkins County NY with her second husband William Clark in 1850.¹⁵

No evidence has been found of the deaths or burial locations of Nicolas or Elizabeth Whitman. It is very likely they died in Reading NY, but there is no burial marker of

¹⁴ Massachusetts, Worcester County Registry of Deeds, Volume 332, pages 3-4, deed dated 12 December 1837, recorded 3 March 1838, consideration \$2,000, Deed of Nicholas Whiteman of Reading NY to Ozias Partridge, Nancy Partridge, and their children, of Reading NY, land in Ashburnham MA known as the Whiteman farm.

¹⁵ New York, Steuben County Registry of Deeds, volume 49, page 518, 18 January 1849, consideration \$345, deed of Nancy Partridge, widow of Ozias Partridge, to John S. Livingstone, of Dutchess County [NY], land in the 20th section of James Watson's Purchase in the Town of Reading, known and described in a contract made by agent of John S. Livingstone with Daniel S Buck, 14 September 1832 for the sale of 60 acres of the east end of Lot number 2, digital images, image 282 of 565, FamilySearch.org. New York, Steuben County Registry of Deeds, volume 66, page 249, 2 May 1852, consideration \$160, deed of Nancy Clark of Mc [?], Tompkins County NY, widow of Ozias Partridge, to Clinton Reed of Reading, Steuben County NY, land in Reading, Steuben County, digital images, image 443 of 648, FamilySearch.org. US Census, 1850, New York, Tompkins, Groton, household of William S. Clark, age 72, Nancy Clark, age 60, Lawrey Clark, age 39, and Nancy Partridge, age 9, Eleventh Census of the United States, 1850; Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29; National Archives, Washington, D.C. Roll: 605; National Archives Microfilm Publication M432, Page: 127a.

acknowledgement of the service of Nicolas Whitman in the Revolutionary War there or in Ashburnham MA, where he had lived most of his life.