

BEHIND THE RESERVE

**The Quick Family of Colchester
Essex County, Ontario, Canada
1601 - 1820**

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What this Book is About and How it is Organized

In 1795 after a five-year captivity with the Shawnee Indians in Ohio, John and Elizabeth Quick and their family of perhaps nine children made a “pitch” (a settlement) behind the village reserve of Colchester in Essex County, Ontario. Their story and the stories of their ancestors and descendants make up this book. John was born in colonial New Jersey of old Dutch stock. His great-great-great-grandparents came from Holland to New Amsterdam, now New York City, in 1638. Their probable birthplace was the town of Naarden in south Holland, now a suburb of Amsterdam.

The book is of two sections, Historical and Genealogical. The Historical Section has two parts. Part I is devoted to five of John Quick’s ancestors (1601-1791), Part II to John and Elizabeth themselves. The Historical Section carries the story of the family up to a little beyond John Quick’s death in 1820. A Quick family descendant reading this should be prepared to connect him/herself to one of John and Elizabeth’s children.

The Subjects of the Historical Section of this book

Chapter	Generation	Quality of the Evidence Connecting generations
Part I		
Chapter 1 One Place to Begin	Tomas Quick ca. 1585-ca. 1610 lived and died in Holland	
Chapter 2 The Mason	Teunis Tomassen Quick born ca. 1605 Naarden, Holland ? died ca. 1673 NYC	patronymic “son of” Tomas
Chapter 3 The Runner	Jacob Teunissen Quick baptised 4 June 1634 Amsterdam died ca. September 1684 Albany, NY	Solid Evidence Baptismal record in de Nieuwe Kerk, Amsterdam
Chapter 4 The Mariner	Cornelis Jacobsen Quick born ca. 1663 Albany, NY died ca. 1704/6 at sea?	Solid Evidence Baptismal record in Dutch Reformed Church New Amsterdam (NYC)
Chapter 5 The Farmer	Tunis Quick baptised 21 August 1698 NYC died ca. February 1774 Hunterdon County, NJ	Solid Evidence Baptismal record in Dutch Reformed Church NYC
Chapter 6 The French Dancing Master	Cornelius Quick born ca. 1730 Hunterdon Co., NJ died 15 November 1791 Washington Co., PA	Circumstantial Evidence and signatures Interpretation contrary to ACQ
Part II Chapters 1 to 7	John Quick born ca. 1754 Hunterdon Co., NJ died 4 November 1820 Colchester Twp., Essex Co., ON	Circumstantial Evidence. His signature survives in the will of Cornelius Quick Interpretation contrary to ACQ

In 2002 an unfinished version of the Historical Section was circulated in an effort to encourage feedback, in particular Elizabeth Quick’s maiden name. Ten years have come and gone without this question being answered. I can only hope that a future researcher may be able to

supply this information.

The Genealogical Section is the work of Dorothy Zak and Patricia Smith. In it they list the thousands of John and Elizabeth's descendants down to the present day. More than fourteen generations are touched on in all, spanning more than four hundred years. The sections were separately written and have their own pagination. In order to navigate the Historical Section, a table of contents is provided on page v. The Genealogical Section begins immediately after the index to the Historical Section.

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High Park, Toronto
October 2015

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Acknowledgments

This book was researched, written and revised—off and on—over a forty-year period. Over the whole of that time a constant source of inspiration was the Quick family genealogy by Arthur Craig Quick.¹ Mr. Quick published his book in 1942 in the year I was born long before the advent of the internet or the great explosion of interest in family history. He solicited his information by letter. As it turned out his sources of information on the Canadian branch of the family were limited, leaving him with errors and misinterpretations. In this book we attempt to set the record straight on a number of issues left unresolved by Mr. Quick, and in particular, on the history and genealogy of the Canadian branch of the family.

The documentation for the Historical Section was collected over the period 1976-1984. It would not have been possible without the professional guidance and cheerful assistance of archivists and staff members in many institutions across Ontario and the eastern United States. The best I can do here is to mention the institutions and the records they hold. I dearly hope that the staff of these places reading this might recognize themselves and accept my appreciation for their assistance.

Most of the church and court records of the early Dutch period have been published in volumes that can be viewed by the general reader. These are held in the collections of many institutions. Original Dutch records, transcripts, and lesser-known materials of the Dutch period are preserved in the New York State Library at Albany.

Materials documenting the New Jersey generations are preserved in the Bureau of Archives and History in Trenton, New Jersey, the Hunterdon County Historical Society and the courthouse, both in Flemington, New Jersey.

The single most important find for this book, the IOU linking John Quick of Colchester with his father Cornelius of Washington County, Pennsylvania, is stored in an anteroom of the courthouse in Washington, Pennsylvania, among the administration papers of Cornelius Quick's estate. These papers are not available on microfilm. I hope that, in time, this large body of documents can be transferred to an archive for secure preservation and made more easily available to the genealogical community.

Materials documenting the later chapters of Part II are preserved in the Public Archives of Ontario, Toronto, the Public Archives of Canada, Ottawa, and most particularly, the Burton Historical Collection in the Public Library, Detroit. The copy of the Draper Manuscripts I used is held by the Purdy Library of Wayne State University in Detroit.

It is important to understand that the Historical Section is based almost entirely on original source material: church records, wills, land records, and other records of various kinds that are catalogued holdings of archives. It is not based on information from “contributors”, on personal genealogical web-sites or in leavings in genforums. It can be said without exaggeration that most of the online information to be found on our branch of the Quick family is manifestly incorrect.

Contributions have, however, been essential in the production of the Genealogical Section. Dorothy and Pat give their acknowledgements there.

1 A.C. Quick, *A Genealogy of The Quick Family in America (1625-1942) 317 Years* (Private Pub., 1942), hereinafter abbreviated ACQ. This work is admirable in scope, but it contains errors, the line making up our family tree from “The French Dancing Master” onwards being one of them.

Origins of the Name “Quick”

Lucky is the genealogist who is able to trace a name to the individual who first adopted or was given it. This is more likely to happen in England for a family that has resided in the same parish for centuries or for an aristocrat who for dynastic reasons preserved a family genealogy. Most of us, however, are eventually thwarted in our backward searching by the lack of critical records or by the fact we are following a common name. We must then settle for the occurrences of the name in the same place as our last verifiable ancestor on their own without the critical proof they are bona fide members of the family tree.

The name “Quick” is not as common a name as, say, “Smith” or “Potter” so the Quick genealogist should have an easier time of it. But it is a name that does occur in 14th century England, Ireland, Germany and the Low Countries.

Scholars of family names think “Quick” (spelled one way or other) has been in use in England for over a thousand years. It appears they say in Domesday Book (1085) as “Cuica”, a Saxon word derived from “Cuicbeam”, meaning poplar tree. The better-known meaning is, of course, “swift” or “with speed”. The name apparently sprang from the hamlets of Cowick Barton in Devonshire, Quickbury in Essex, and Quick Mere in Yorkshire among other places. The Irish variant is supposedly “Quigg”.²

The name “Quick” (or variations thereof) was in use in Belgium in the 14th century. One John Quek “merchant of Flanders” was shipping cloth into England in the reign of Edward III (1330-1377).³ This man could easily have been English as well as Belgian. As will be shown in the first chapter of this book, Flemish protestants with the names “Quicq”, “Quecke”, and “Queeckers”, were in the 16th century among those persecuted by Philip II of Spain.⁴ Thousands of heretics were murdered or forced to flee for their lives in this period. Many Flemish moved north into the Netherlands only to fall into the hands of the army of the inquisition. The entire population of Naarden, a little town in North Holland, was massacred by Spanish forces in 1572.

As it happens, the town of Naarden is where the earliest-known record in our family tree comes to light. The year is 1601. It is possible, therefore, that our family came from Flanders in the 16th century and settled in Naarden sometime after the massacre.

Speculations on the origins of family names are often colored by biases, such as the one Arthur Craig Quick offered in his book. He rejected the most likely hypotheses that the name was Dutch, or at the very least English, brought to England in the 14th century, and settled on the assumption the name was Scottish introduced to Naarden in the 1580s through a Scottish soldier garrisoned there with English forces fighting with the Earl of Leicester. This is a possibility. But evidence to be presented in the following pages indicates more strongly that our people are Dutch—or Flemish—at least as of the early 16th century.

2 E. C. Smith, *American Surnames* (Childen, 1969).

3 *Calendar of Miscellaneous Inquisitions* (Chancery), 3, 48.

4 A. L. E. Verheyden, *Le Conseil Des Troubles, Lists des Condamnés* (1567-1573) (Palais des Academies, 1961).

Footnotes and Abbreviations

I have tried to make all statements in this book verifiable to anyone, thus the liberal use of footnotes. The footnotes have been placed at the bottom of pages to enable them to be read immediately or, on a first reading, bypassed. To keep them as short as possible I have used abbreviations; the less obvious ones are listed below. Volume numbers are underlined>. For the most part a reference points to an original archival document, less often to a roll of microfilm. The notation LDSx means the material can be found in the roll of microfilm numbered x in the collections of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

ACQ	A.C. Quick, <i>A Genealogy of the Quick Family in America (1625-1942) 317 Years</i> (South Haven and Palisades Park, Mich., Private Publication, 1942).
BAHT	Bureau of Archives and History, Trenton, New Jersey.
BHC	Burton Historical Collection, Detroit Public Library, Detroit.
Cal.CM	A.J.F. van Laer, ed., <i>Calendar of Council Minutes (New York City), 1668-1783</i> (Albany, 1902).
Cal.NYM	E.B. O'Callaghan, ed., <i>Calendar of New York Historical Manuscripts in the Office of the Secretary of the State of New York, Part II (English)</i> (Albany, 1866).
CBRE	<i>Commemorative Biographical Record of Essex County, Ontario</i> (Beers, 1905)
CM	Council Minutes, New York City, 1668-1783 (MS), NY State Library, Albany.
Com.CM	H.L. Osgood, ed., <i>Minutes of the Common Council of the City of New York, 1675-1776</i> (NY, 1905) 8 Vols.
CO	Colonial Office
Draperx	Manuscript x in the Lyman Copeland Draper Manuscripts, Wisconsin Historical Society, Collections.
EAmwell	East Amwell Bicentennial Committee, <i>A History of East Amwell, 1700-1810</i> (Flemington, New Jersey, 1979).
ERA	J. Pearson, trans., A.J.F. van Laer, rev. & ed., <i>Early Records of Albany</i> (Albany, 1869-1919) 4 Vols.
Garlandx	Volume x in the Garland Library of Narratives of North American Indian Captivities (Garland Pub., Co., various dates), various vols.
HCHS	Hunterdon County Historical Society, Flemington, New Jersey, Collections.
JAP	M. M. Quaiife, ed., <i>The John Askin Papers, 1796-1820</i> (Detroit Library Commission, 1931) 2 Vols.
LDSx	Roll x of Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, microfilm.
MCPH	Minutes of the Court of Common Pleas, Hunterdon County (MS), Courthouse, Flemington, New Jersey, 46 Vols.
MFOB	A.J.F. van Laer, trans. & ed., <i>Minutes of the Court of Fort Orange and Beverwyck</i> (Albany, 1920, 1923) 2 Vols.
MG	Military Group
MHNY	J.G. Wilson, ed., <i>Memorial History of the City of New York</i> (NY Hist. Co., 1892) 4 Vols.
Motley	J.L. Motley, <i>The Rise of the Dutch Republic</i> (Harper, 1899)
MPHC	Michigan Pioneer and Historical Collections (Lansing, Mich., 1877-1929) 40 Vols.
NYCD	E.B. O'Callaghan and Berthold Fernow, eds., <i>Documents Relative to the Colonial History of the State of New York</i> (Albany, 1881).
NYGBC	New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, Collections. Various Vols.
NYHMD	A.J.F. van Laer, trans. & annot., <i>New York Historical Manuscripts: Dutch</i> (Gen. Pub. Co., 1974) 4 Vols.
NYHSC	New York Historical Society, Collections. Various Vols.

NYMB New York Historical Manuscripts, English, New York State Library, Albany.
 OHS Ontario Historical Society, Papers and Records, Various Vols.
 PAC Public Archives Of Canada, Ottawa.
 PAO Public Archives of Ontario, Toronto.
 RG Record Group
 Richardson A. Casselman ed., *Richardson's War of 1812* (Hist. Pub. Co., Toronto, 1902),
 reprinted by Coles Pub. Co. (1974)
 RNA B. Fernow, ed., *Records of New Amsterdam* (Knickerbocker Press, 1897) 7 Vols.
 SI I.N. Phelps Stokes, comp., *The Iconography of Manhattan Island, 1498-1909* (NY,
 1926) 6 Vols.
 Snell J.P. Snell, comp., *History of Hunterdon and Somerset Counties, New Jersey*
 (Philadelphia, 1881).
 TPL Toronto Public Library, Toronto
 UCLP Upper Canada Land Petition
 WIC West India Company
 Wood W. Wood, ed., *Select British Documents of the Canadian War of 1812* (Champlain
 Society, Toronto, 1920-1928), 3 Vols.
 WVU Archives, West Virginia University, Morgantown, West Virginia

Part I
Five Generations (1601-1791)

