

Generation 1: Johnston Yeamans

Johnston Yeamans lived in Dutchess County, New York during the last half of the eighteenth century. According to William S. Pelletreau's *History of Putnam County, New York* and family records, his brother was John Yeamans, Esq., who was born 17 March 1735 in New York.¹ John Yeamans was a Loyalist during the Revolutionary War.² When the war ended in 1783, John Yeamans and his family fled to New Brunswick, Canada.³ However, John's brother, Johnston Yeamans, remained in New York with some of his descendants.⁴ Johnston was enumerated on the 1790 U.S. Federal Census of Frederickstown, Dutchess, New York; on a 1795 list of tenants of Lots 6 and 8 in the Philipse Patent of Putnam County, New York; and on the 1800 U.S. Federal Census of Carmel, Dutchess, New York.⁵ William S. Pelletreau's *History of Putnam County, New York* identifies Johnston's children and some of his grandchildren. It states,

Johnston Yeamans married a daughter of Thomas Wilson. Their children were: John, Johnston, Ampelias, Epenetus, Hester, wife of Elihu Haines, and Martha, wife of Stephen Haines. Of this family Johnston Yeamans, the second son, was born August 9th, 1785. He married Phebe, daughter of Isaac Pierce.⁶

¹ *Headstone Epitaph for John Yeamans*, Sypher Cove Graveyard, Queens, New Brunswick, copy in possession of author, and *Photograph of Headstone for John Yeamans*, Syphers Cove, Queens, New Brunswick, copy in possession of author.

² Ezekiel Stone Wiggins, *The History of Queens County, New Brunswick, Canada* (Queens, New Brunswick: Queens County Historical Society, 1993), 127; Paul J. Bunnell, *The New Loyalist Index* (Bowie, Md.: Heritage Books, 1989,1996), 212; Gregory Palmer, *Biographical Sketches of Loyalists of the American Revolution* (London: Meckler Publishing, 1984), 953; Peter Wilson Coldham, *American Loyalist Claims* (Washington DC: NAGS, 1980), 541; and W. Bruce Antliff, *Loyalist Settlements, 1783-1789: New Evidence of Canadian Loyalist Claims* (Toronto: Ministry of Citizenship and Culture, 1985), 337.

³ Family Tree Maker, *Loyalists in the American Revolution* (Genealogy.com: CD 9 pt.144), 463.

⁴ William S. Pelletreau, *History of Putnam County, New York* (Philadelphia: W.W. Preston & Co., 1886), 386 [document 1b].

⁵ 1790 U.S. Federal Census of Frederickstown, Dutchess, New York, 8, line 297, www.ancestry.com; Frederick C. Haacker, *Early Settlers of Putnam County, New York* (Salt Lake City, Ut.: Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah, 1967) (U.S./CAN film 529,189 item 5); and 1800 U.S. Federal Census of Carmel, Dutchess, New York, 89, line 3320, www.ancestry.com.

⁶ William S. Pelletreau, *History of Putnam County, New York* (Philadelphia: W.W. Preston & Co., 1886), 386-387 [document 1b].