

Recommendations for Future Research

The objective of this research session, which was to identify four generations of the descendants of Johnston Yeamans, has been achieved. To continue researching these families, the following steps are recommended:

First, locate the death certificate of Jane C. Kelley Ganong. She died in 1922, but her place of death has not been confirmed. Since she lived in and was buried in Carmel, Putnam, New York, that is the most logical place to search first. New York mandated registration of deaths as early as 1880, and by 1915, compliance to this law was 90 percent. The public is allowed to access New York death records prior to 1938. A death certificate from the New York State Department of Health in Albany should be available.

Seek the marriage date and place of Worden Kelley and Elizabeth (Betsey) Yeamans. This marriage record may be difficult to find, since marriage registration was not legally required in New York until 1847 and was not strictly enforced until 1915, when a more stringent law came into effect. However, other types of records should be searched, including church records (especially Baptist), local newspapers, state census records, and published genealogies.

Third, determine the maiden name of Sarah, the wife of Epenetus Yeamans. At this point, her maiden name, parents, exact birth date and birth place, death place, and burial date are unknown. Cemetery records give her first name as Sarah and provide her death date and a calculated birth date. Additional information about Sarah may be found in Baptist church records, family Bible records (if available), and military records, as Epenetus may have served in the War of 1812. If none of these provide information about Sarah's family, then tax records, deeds, and probate records of Dutchess County, New York should be examined. The objective of searching these records would be to learn which families lived near the Yeamans and had interaction with them, and identify which of them had a daughter named Sarah that could have married Epenetus.