A Discussion of the Hendee Family in Early New England [Ancestry of Judith (Shanley) Petrie – March 2016]

To state that there is confusion about the relationships and genealogy of the Hendee family in New England is to understate the obvious. The confusion is partly based upon, and made worse by the spelling of the name itself. It has variously been spelled Hendee, Hendé, Hendy, Hendys, and Handy.

One Handy researcher has stated that, “Hannah Elderkin daughter of John Elderkin and Abigail Kingsland was the wife of Richard Hendee, not Richard Handy! They were two distinctly different families. Genealogists are uncertain as to Hannah Handy’s maiden name but one thing is certain, "It is not Elderkin." [Source: The diary of the Rev. Benjamin Fesseden; Doug Handy - http://marydexter.blogspot.ca/2010/11/cecil-logue-continued.html] However, another source states, “The surname Hendee is identical with Hendé, Hendys, and Handy.” This source being Volume 1 of William Richard Cutter’s, Genealogical and family history of the State of Connecticut.

Another Hendee family source, Abner Hendee (son of Eliphalet Hendee) states, "In the year 1831 I had a Letter from Cyrus Hendee dated at South Chili, New York giving an account of my uncle Asa Hendee’s family . . . Among other things this Cyrus informed me that he had changed his name to [Cyrus Handy] because he had in that country found many who belonged to our [family] who had done the same. Among others he said his father’s cousin Barzilla had done the same. I reproved him for breaking down the ancient landmark of spelling the name as that would lose all trace of name & family. My sister [Mary Hendee] told me that one of my Grandfather’s brothers she had understood settled in Randolph or Royalton & that his descendants now lived there of this perhaps you know more than I do.” [Letter from Abner Hendee (b. 30 Jun 1779 Bolton Township, Tolland County, Connecticut) son of Eliphalet Hendee (b. 28 Apr 1743) to Gen. Caleb Hendee, Jr. – 15 Jun 1834]

Another well known example of surname spelling confusion is the story handed down relating to the heroic effort of the wife of a family member during the Burning of Royalton, Vermont in 1780. This Hannah faced down hostile Indians, Tories and British Military and succeeded in saving not only her own children both several others as well. If one searches the Internet for “Hannah Handy” and Royalton, you will find many references to Hannah Handy being the Heroine. “The Hannah Handy monument, on the South Royalton town green, is a granite arch honoring a young mother.” But again we have another view, “This may or may not be connected to the Hendee name… My aunt found a book at the library in Royalton while she was there that told the story of Hannah Handy and her son Michael Handy. The story goes as I have written above. My aunt also found another book at the same library that told the identical story of a one Hannah Hendee and her son Michael Hendee [this second story was meant to be a child’s fiction book based on the historical event so Handy could have been changed to Hendee purely based on literary license. I have a copy of the book. – D. Petrie] It was thought that the name got bastardized in the telling of the story, and "Handy" was much easier to spell and remember than was "Hendee", so the name "Handy" was stuck to the story, and is all over that little village even to this day.” [James Hendee] Note: It is interesting that the area where Hannah Handy lived was Royalton, Vermont - the same area where Abner Hendee’s letter said, “My sister [Mary Hendee] told me that one of my Grandfather’s brothers she had understood settled in Randolph or Royalton & that his descendants now lived there.”

Internet searches yield, in addition to identical stories about Hannah Handy and Hannah Hendee, numerous examples where the surnames “Hendee” and “Handy” are attached to the same individuals, their parents, and their children. Some Internet family trees even mix the spellings from one generation to the next. However, as pointed out in the Abner Hendee’s letter above, it is very possible that this did indeed happen at various times and places.

So, in my opinion, it may be difficult to reach agreement on a correct family tree for any present day Hendee descendant based on last name spelling alone.
If the Handy and Hendee families are indeed separate, we might try to trace them back in time based on the locations where they were born, married, died and were buried. Below I attempt to do this. In order to reduce confusion, I will start at the most recent generation of my wife, Judith (Shanley) Petrie’s, Hendee line that we know with reasonable certainty. I then work upward so I would recommend you start at the bottom of this section of the document and work your way upward (back in time). As you do this, note the strong reference to a continued Hendee residence in Connecticut and particularly in Windham and adjoining counties in Connecticut for my wife’s Hendee line.

Note below that, even those Hendees who did not live in Windham County, lived in counties such as Hartford County (Ashford, Coventry, Mansfield, Windham) and New London County (Voluntown, Pomfret, Killingly, Canterbury, Plainfield, Lebanon), or Tolland County which were either incorporated into Windham County or split off from it over the years. In the 17th and 18th centuries this was a small area on the frontier with a very small population.

Thank you,

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14 Mar 2016

Generation 1:

Richard Hendee (or Hendy)  b. abt 1585 Normandy, France “Mrs. Carl E. Mueller, N. Hackett avenue [Milwaukee, Wisconsin], traces her ancestry through the paternal line to a certain Richard Hendee, born in Normandy, France, toward the close of the Sixteenth century. He was of a family of French Protestants, that group called Huguenots who suffered so severely in the famous massacre of St. Bartholemew. Richard, apparently, was born some years after this bloody event, but during the age of religious oppression that followed. His family finally fled from France to England, whence in 1639 [?] [His son – I believe there is a legitimate question about whether the above Richard ever came to the United States from England or even ever went to England from France. The above Richard would have been about 54 years old (not young for that time) at the time of the Atlantic voyage while his son, Richard, Sr. would only have been 28 years old at that time. Also the son is known to have been a ship’s carpenter and did settle in Connecticut? – D. Petrie] “Richard sailed to America as a ship’s carpenter, settling at last in Connecticut.”

Supporting Information and Sources: Milwaukee Sentinel – March 3, 1935 -
http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/wlhba/articleView.asp?pg=1&id=14055&key=Hendee&cy=

Generation 2:

Richard Hendee, [Sr. ?]  Born 1611 Killingsworth, Middlesex County, Connecticut Married 1661 Killingsworth, CT to Hannah Elderkin Died 29 May 1719 Killingsworth, Middlesex County, Connecticut
Abner Hendee, a cousin still in Connecticut, which told about the family fleeing Normandy at the time of "the religious wars" in France, and the early arrival of Richard Hendee, Sr. (b. 1611) in Boston. Richard had a son Richard [Jr.](b. 1631), who had a son [Ensign Richard Hendee (b. 21 May 1672) who had a son] Jonathan [b.17 Mar 1694], who was Deacon Caleb's father.”

“My father always told me they first came to Boston about the first settlement of that town. I found a small bag of papers at home left by my grandmother who died at my father’s 40 years since. Among the papers I find a record of the birth of all her children even to the day & time of the day they were born. I also found the original deeds of the land he bought. I also found a deed given by Richard Hendee at Windham about 100 years since [abt 1734] & have enclosed it to you as a relic of the family which please accept from me. [Letter from Abner Hendee (b. Jun 1779 Andover-Hebron, Connecticut) to Gen. Caleb Hendee, Jr. – 15 Jun 1834]

“Richard was banished from Normandy France. He first fled to Bandland Latch, England, then to America. He landed first at Fairhaven, Connecticut or Boston, Massachusetts about the year 1639.” [Wayne Duncan - DUNCAN642@CS.COM]

... Richard Hendee [Sr.] became a resident of the New World, which a century or more later [1639 to 1776?] became the U.S.A. Richard 1 [Richard Hendee, Jr.] had a son Richard 2 [Ensign Richard Hendee] b. 21 May 1672 who was the father of Jonathan 3 who had a son know in manhood as “Deacon” Caleb Hendee.

Richard sailed to America as a ship's carpenter, settling at last in Connecticut.”

His family finally fled from France to England, whence in 1639 [?], [His son – I believe there is a legitimate question about the above Richard ever came to the United States from England. The above Richard would have been about 54 years old [not young for that time] at the time of the Atlantic voyage while his son, Richard, Sr. would only have been 28 years old at that time. Also the son is known to have been a ship's carpenter and did settle in Connecticut? – D. Petrie]

“Richard Hendy was born at Killingworth, Middlesex, Connecticut 1611. His parents were Handy and ?. He married Hannah Elderkin 1661 at Killingworth, Middlesex, Connecticut. Hannah Elderkin was born at Dedham, Norfolk, Massachusetts 17 May 1634 daughter of John Elderken and Abigail Kingsland.”

“Deacon Caleb Hendee was one of the early settlers of Pittsford [Vermont]. He moved there from Connecticut before the Revolution. His son, Caleb, kept a journal for many years in which he recorded all the information he had about his family. I have a copy. If you would send me the names of your early ancestors I will see if I can find them. Caleb also recorded a letter about 1839 from Abner Hendee, a cousin still in Connecticut, which told about the family fleeing Normandy at the time of "the religious wars" in France, and the early arrival of Richard Hendee, Sr. (b. 1611) in Boston. Richard had a son Richard [Jr.] (b. 1631), who had a son [Ensign Richard Hendee (b. 21 May 1672) who had a son] Jonathan (b.17 Mar 1694), who was Deacon Caleb's father.”

Supporting Information and Sources: Jane Sencer – jsencer@mindspring.com; The Hendee/Hendy Family - http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mach/hendee_page.html; Richard Hendy - http://www.frontiernet.net/~brewirish/5082.htm; FamilyCentral Family Website - http://www.familycentral.net/index/family.cfm?ref1=6012:2673&ref2=6012:2674

Generation 3:
Richard Hendee, Jr. born 1630; died 04 Aug 1670 in Killingsworth, CT. He married Hannah Elderkin 1664 [married at age 33 instead of at age 53 if had been born in 1611 – D. Petrie] in Killingsworth, Middlesex County, CT. Hannah Elderkin, born 17 May 1634 in Dedham, Norfolk, Massachusetts; died 23 Jan 1686/87 in Wethersfield, Hartford County, Connecticut. She was the daughter of John Elderkin and Abigail Kingsland.

“Richard Hendee Sr. Is the first recorded member of this family in the USA. He was born approx. 1631 in either France or England [migrated with this family to the United States at the age of about 8 years in 1639? – D. Petrie]. There have been letters reviewed among his descendants, that this family came from the Huguenots or Protestants in the Normandy area of France and migrated to England, while fleeing persecution. Richard received many different land Allotments or grants most probably due to his Carpentry Talents. Richard is recorded in 1660 and 1661 as working on Vessels in New London Connecticut and as being proprietor of a Lumber Mill there previously built by John Elderkin whose daughter he married in 1661.

Richard Hendee, born 1630 in Killingsworth, Middlesex County, Connecticut; died 29 May 1719 in Killingsworth, Middlesex County, Connecticut. He married Hannah Elderkin 1664 in Killingsworth, Middlesex County, CT. Hannah Elderkin, born 17 May 1634 in Dedham, Norfolk, Massachusetts; died 23 Jan 1686/87 in Wethersfield, Hartford County, Connecticut. She was the daughter of John Elderkin and Abigail Perh Kingsland. Children of Richard Hendee and Hannah Elderkin are: i. Hannah Hendee, born 14 Jul 1665; married Samuel Belden 14 Jan 1684/85; born 03 Jan 1664/65 in Wethersfield, Hartford County, CT; died 27 Dec 1738 in Wethersfield, Hartford County, CT; ii. Richard Hendee, born Bet. 1665 - 1667 in Windham County, CT; died 06 Feb 1742/43 in Windham County, CT; married (1) Sarah Smith 01 Mar 1692/93; married (2) Elizabeth Conant 17 Oct 1695 in Windham County, CT.; iii. John Hendee, born 1677.

1  John Elderkin 1616 - 1687  
.. +Abigail [Kingsland?] 1616 - 1660  
........ 2  Hannah Elderkin 1634 - 1687  
............ +Richard Hendee 1630 - 1670

“Richard Hendee Gender Male Birth Place Windham, Windham, Connecticut, United States Birth Year 1635.”

Richard Hendee, born abt. 1638 in Killingsworth, Middlesex Co., CT. He married Hannah Elderkin 1661. Hannah Elderkin, born Abt. 1635 in Killingsworth, Middlesex Co., CT. She was the daughter of John Elderkin and Abigail Kingsland.

“Middlesex County is a county in the south central part of the U.S. state of Connecticut . . . The county was created in May 1785 from portions of Hartford County and New London County.”

“John Elderkin, the ancestor of the family, the progenitor of all who bear the name in this country, was born in England about 1612. He came to New England, and is first heard of at Lynn, Mass, in 1637 and at New London, Ct, in 1651. In 1663 he moved to Norwich, Ct, about four years after the settlement of that place, where he built the first mill and church erected in that town. In 1664 he moved to Killingworth, Conn . . . [daughter] Hannah Elderkin married to Richard Handy (Had one son Richard).”

Supporting Information and Sources: GENEALOGY —— OF THE ELDERKIN FAMILY WITH INTERMARRIAGES. Containing Family Records from John lst, who came from England in A. D. 1637 and Located in Massachusetts, Through Ten Generations to 1886 - http://international.loc.gov/master/gdc/scdser01/200401/books_on_film_project/bodpdfs/20060731012ge.pdf; Jane Sencer – jbsencer@mindspring.com;
Ensign Richard Hendee  b. 1666 Windham, Windham County, Connecticut, New England  m(1). Sarah Smith 1 Mar 1693 Windham, Windham County, Connecticut  d. 6 Feb 1743 (or 1742) Windham, Windham County, Connecticut, about age 76 yrs  bur. Windham Center Cemetery (Also known as: Old Burying Ground), Windham Center, Windham County, Connecticut. "Richard (2), son of Richard (1) Hendee, was born about 1665. He went to live in the family of his grandfather, John Elderkin, and became an inhabitant of Norwich [Connecticut]. . In 1691 he and others from Norwich settled at ‘Joshua’s [Tract]’ purchase, Windham, Connecticut, and he had a house built there, on what was called the Hither Place, on the north side of Old Windham street. Hendee bought his land of Captain James Fitch, and was then unmarried [married in 1693]." "Richard Hendee was one of the first proprietors of Killingworth, Conn. In 1689 he purchased land in ‘Joshua's Tract’ of Joseph Fitch, on which he settled as early as 1691. 'Joshua's Tract' took its name from the fact that it was given by Joshua, grandson of Uncas, the Indian sachem. Joshua’s tract was named for the son of Uncas and the land was granted to a company of gentlemen of Norwich; the name was soon changed from 'Joshua's Tract' to Windham.

“In 1691, Joshua and Jeremiah Ripley, John Crane, [Ensign] Richard Hendee, Thomas and Joseph Huntington, ' William and Joseph Backus and John Larrabee, had broken up land, built houses and established themselves in the Hither-place — on what is now the west side of Old Windham street Crane — a blacksmith by trade — bought land of Calkins; Hendee of Captain James Fitch; the young Backus brothers sold their accommodations in Norwich " to remove to the new, nameless town, springing up in the wilderness, ten miles northwest of Norwich." Cates was a widower; the Messrs. Backus and Hendee were unmarried [Ensign Richard Hendee married Sarah Smith 1 Mar 1693 Windham, Windham County, Connecticut]; the other settlers brought with them wives and families. All but the Ripleys and Cates were previous residents of Norwich. All were men of good character and position; worthy to become the fathers and founders of a township.”

“In January, 1698 . . . A new [stray animal] pound was ordered at the southeast quarter, at the southeast corner of Richard Hendee’s house-lot.”

Children of Richard Hendee and Hannah Elderkin: Richard Hendee, born Bet. 1665 - 1667 in Windham, CT; died 06 Feb 1742/43 in Windham, CT; married (1) Sarah Smith 01 Mar 1692/93; married (2) Elizabeth Conant 17 Oct 1695 in Windham, CT.
Richard Hendee, born Bet. 1665 - 1667 in Windham, CT; died 06 Feb 1742/43 in Windham, CT. He was the son of Richard Hendee and Hannah Elderkin. He married Elizabeth Conant 17 Oct 1695 in Windham, CT. Elizabeth Conant, born Bef. 29 Jul 1677 in Beverly, MA; died 23 Sep 1762 in Norwich, New London, CT. She was the daughter of Exercise Conant, Lieut and Sarah Andrews.

“Richard Hendee was one of the first proprietors of Killingworth, Conn. In 1689 he purchased land in ‘Joshua's Tract’ of Joseph Fitch, on which he settled as early as 1691. ‘Joshua’s Tract’ took its name from the fact that it was given by Joshua, grandson of Uncas, the Indian sachem. ‘Joshua's tract’ was named for the son of Uncas and the land was granted to a company of gentlemen of Norwich; the name was soon changed from ‘Joshua's Tract’ to Windham. In 1692 he was granted the privilege of building a dam and saw mill on Beaver brook, also half a mile of land adjoining for timber and pasture. Richard Hendee was admitted an inhabitant 30 May, 1693. He d. 6 Feb 1743; his wife d. 23 Sep., 1762. By his first wife, Sarah Smith, he had one son, Jonathan, who is the ancestor of the Pittsford, Vt., Hendees.”

“Middlesex County is a county in the south central part of the U.S. state of Connecticut...The county was created in May 1785 from portions of Hartford County and New London County...”


Generation 5:


“My grandfather [Jonathan Hendee] died at a place now called Ellington in Hartford County, Connecticut about the commencement of the Revolutionary War aged between eighty and ninety years. He was poor and I suppose illiterate, but was said to be an honest man and possessing more than a common share of physical powers of body, as did his sons by his first marriage, as I have been informed.”

Jonathan Hendee m(2). Martha Millington 12 Feb 1740 Coventry, Tolland County, Connecticut Martha: b. Mar 1706 (or Mar 1707) Coventry, Tolland County, Connecticut, New England chr. 23 Mar 1707 christened as an adult, 1st Church of Hartford, Hartford County, Connecticut d. abort 1789 Pittsford, Rutland County,
Vermont Parents: John Millington (b. 20 Jan 1674 Suffield, Hartford County, Connecticut, New England m. 1 Jul 1703, Hartford, Hartford County, Connecticut d. 1720 Coventry, Tolland County, Connecticut) and Martha Reeve (b. abt 1683 Hartford, Hartford County, Connecticut, New England)

“During 1723 and 1724 . . . Among those simply “owning the covenant” [with the church] during these years, were . . . Jon[athan] Hendee . . . The large number of residents not connected with the church called out the following regulations: —

** February 4, 1726, voted, ye we look upon every baptized person to be a subject of church discipline and ought to be called to an account by some church or another, whenever they offend.

Also, it is ye duty of that church where the Providence of God hath made persons (baptized or not in full communion) Inhabitants, to call them to account and to see that the laws of Christ's Kingdom are put in due execution on them when they offend.

Also— February 15, — That when any communicant of other churches settle with us, we will desire a letter of recommendation of them from ye church whence they came, and If any such person shall neglect to procure ye same, after reasonable time, we will deny such persons church privileges unless there appears to be some peculiar reasons.**

On the same day, it was also voted : — ** That we do take ye Word of God to be our platform in all ye management of Christ's discipline."

Supporting Information and Sources: THE BARBOUR COLLECTION; Suffield, p.181; FHL film 0002980. HISTORY OF ANCIENT WINDSOR by H.R. Stiles; v.2 p.493; Idaho Genealogical Library.”; Hartford Church Record; p.110; FAMILIES OF EARLY HARTFORD CONNECTICUT by L.B. Barbour; p.403; grandson, grandson Gen. Caleb Hendee, Jr. manuscripts (1827-1854), pg. 1-2; BARBOUR COLLECTION, Windham; p.113, p.116; "History of Windham County, Connecticut" - http://www.archive.org/stream/historywindhamc01larnoog/historywindhamc01larnoog_djvu.txt

Generation 6:

Deacon Caleb Hendee, Sr. b. 30 Aug 1745 Simsbury, Hartford County, Connecticut, New England m(1). Caroline Ellsworth 27 Apr 1767 Simsbury, Hartford County, Connecticut d. 2 Oct 1823 (age 78 yrs) Pittsford, Rutland County, Vermont bur. The Old Baptist Burying Ground, Pittsford, Vermont

Deacon Caleb Hendee m(2). Mary (Reeves) Squires 30 Jun 1791 Manchester, New Hampshire

Mary (Reeves): b. abt 1749 Coventry, Tolland County, Connecticut

“Deacon Caleb Hendee was one of the early settlers of Pittsford [Vermont]. He moved there from Connecticut before the Revolution. His son, Caleb, kept a journal for many years in which he recorded all the information he had about his family. I have a copy. If you would send me the names of your early ancestors I will see if I can find them. Caleb also recorded a letter about 1839 from Abner Hendee, a cousin still in Connecticut, which told about the family fleeing Normandy at the time of “the religious wars” in France, and the early arrival of Richard Hendee, Sr. (b. 1611) in Boston. Richard had a son Richard [Jr.] (b. 1631), who had a son [Ensign Richard Hendee (b. 21 May 1672) who had a son] Jonathan [b.17 Mar 1694], who was Deacon Caleb’s father.”
Supporting Information and Sources: “Mary Reeves Squire . . . prior to her marriage to Caleb Hendee. She is also shown as “Mary Squire” on the written copy of her son, Abner Hendee’s Vermont birth record. "Vermont, Vital Records, 1760-1954" “Abner Hendee; gender: Male; birth date: 08 Aug 1792; birthplace: PITTSFORD TWP, RUTLAND, VERMONT; race: White; father's name: Caleb Hendee; father’s age: 46; father born: Simsbury, Hartford County, Connecticut, New England; mother’s name: Mary Squire; mother’s child no: 1; town: Pittsford; town clerk: Caleb Hendee, Jr.”; "Vermont, Births and Christenings, 1765-1908"; Jane Sencer – jbsencer@mindspring.com

Windham County 1726: Established from parts of Hartford County (Ashford, Coventry, Mansfield, Windham) and New London County (Voluntown, Pomfret, Killingly, Canterbury, Plainfield, Lebanon) 1734: Union incorporated as part of Windham County 1785: Tolland County established from parts of Hartford County and the town of Union. Tolland County information: Neighboring areas: East: Windham County; Southeast: New London County; West: Hartford County; Northwest: Hampden County, Mass. [The Political Graveyard - http://politicalgraveyard.com/geo/CT/TO.html]

Generation 7:

Abner Hendee, Esquire b. 8 Aug 1792 (Wednesday) Pittsford Township, Rutland County, Vermont, USA m. Mary (“Polly”) Atwood 14 Nov 1813 Brandon, Rutland County, Vermont officiant: John Conant, Justice of the Peace d. 23 May 1844 Pittsford Township, Rutland County, Vermont (or 22 Apr 1845 Pittsford, Vermont) bur. Pittsford Township, Rutland County, Vermont[?] Occupation: Justice of the Peace - State of Connecticut, TOLLAND COUNTY, SS. HEBRON PROBATE DISTRICT Residence: Hebron, Tolland County, Connecticut (1820-1840) Mary (“Polly”): b. abt 1788 Warwick, Franklin County, Massachusetts, USA d. 3 Oct 1877 (age 86 Y. 8 M.) Newark Township, [west of Beloit], Rock County, Wisconsin bur. Newark Cemetery, Newark Township, [west of Beloit], Rock County, Wisconsin (Bock 1, Lot 13) Monument Inscription: “Polly wife of A. Hendee died Oct 3, 1877 aged 86 yrs 8ms”

Supporting Information and Sources: Personal visitation to Newark Township Cemetery; 1820-1840 United States Census for Hebron, Tolland County, Connecticut; 1850 United States Census: Enumeration District No. 21, Newark, Rock County, Wisconsin

Questions:

The main questions from the above discussion remain as follow:

1. Who was the Richard Hendee who was the first to actually come to the United States?
   - Richard Hendy/Handy born 1585?
   - Richard Hendee born 1611?
   - Richard Hendee born abt 1630-31?

2. In what year did the above Richard Hendee arrive in the United States?
   - If about 1623, the Richard Hendee born in 1611 could not have been born in the United States contrary to many Internet postings, but would have come from England with his family at about age 12.
If about 1639, the Richard Hendee born in 1611 could not have been born in the United States contrary to many Internet postings, but would have come from England at about age 28.
- If about 1623, the Richard Hendee born in 1630-31 would have been born in the United States.
- If about 1639, the Richard Hendee born in 1630-31 could not have been born in the United States but would have come from England with his family at age 8 or 9.
- Other?

3. In what ship did this first Richard Hendee arrive in the United States?
   - The Hopewell?
   - The Anne?
   - another ship?

4. Are Richard Hendee born 1611 and Richard Hendee born 1630-1631 the same person? There are multiple references to both (see above) showing both marrying Hannah Elderkin in 1661 or 1664 in Killingsworth, Middlesex County, CT and both living in Killingsworth, Middlesex County, CT.

5. Can we tell which “Handy” Internet entries are actually “Hendee” family members who have changed their names to “Handy” and which “Handy” family members are indeed a separate family, at least going back to their time in England and France? Based on my references above, my wife’s Hendee line appears to have been centered in Windham and adjoining counties in Connecticut for multiple generations until they moved to Pittsford, Vermont and later to southeastern Wisconsin. The other “Handy” family appears to have been centered more around Sandwich in Barnstable County, Massachusetts and Swansea, in Bristol County, Massachusetts. If, indeed, these are two separate families, then the Hannah Hunter Handy who married Robert Handy who was born about Aug 1645 in Sandwich, Barnstable County, Massachusetts is likely NOT related to my wife’s Hendee line. The confusion between the names would appear to have been created when multiple Internet contributors mixed Connecticut “Hendee” and Massachusetts “Handy” family members in the same family trees.

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