

◊ Casto Connections ◊

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Introducing Ourselves

Welcome to the first issue of Casto Connections, a newsletter created to help researchers of Casto ancestry exchange ideas, theories, and information in order to trace their Casto family genealogy. We are hoping to act more as a "clearinghouse" for Casto information than as a "source", although we will try to provide the sources for the information we print.

The idea for this newsletter came from the discovery of an earlier Casto newsletter, devoted to the same idea, but the newsletter folded when there weren't enough subscriptions to cover the cost of publication. We sincerely hope that won't be the case this time! (And are, in fact, committed to at least one year of publication.) From time to time, we may be quoting items that appeared in the earlier newsletter, but will be sure to mention when we are doing that.

And who exactly are we? Not Casto experts, by any means! Just two fellow researchers who are very involved in doing Casto research and would like to exchange and share whatever they discover.

Danita Smith, originally from Ohio but now a resident of "The Scenic City", Chattanooga, TN, is a happily married housewife, mother of Bonnie (age 6) and Alex (age 3), and volunteers for whatever she can't get out of! She is related to the Castos through her late mother, Ellen Lou Casto Young, and has been working on her Casto research for about five years.

Drusilla Falk has been doing genealogy for about 14+ years and has had a measure of success on some of her lines, including the Castos. She is a housewife and mother of two married children and the grandmother of four exceptionally cute, talented and intelligent grandchildren. She likes to sew and do crafting, read, spend time with her family and of course, do genealogy! For the past 14 years she has been the co-director of the Fort Worth Family History Center and has had the opportunity to speak at both the local genealogy society and the local junior college about using the Family History Center and doing research. She is always happy to share what information she has with other researchers and is very excited about the new newsletter and the prospect of being able to contribute to the untangling of our Casto lines.

We hope that you will find our newsletter both informative and enjoyable and that you, our readers, will feel free to send in your comments, suggestions, and any of your own research that you would like to share with others working on the same lines as yourself. Your input would be greatly appreciated!

Danita and Dru

Casto Connections Newsletter

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Welcome to the Family, Elizabeth Abbott!

It is a long-standing belief that Azariah Casto came to America in 1696, possibly brought here by the infamous Captain William Kidd (1645-1701), maybe coming from Wales, I've even heard he was originally from Spain. My great-grandfather, Isadore Casto (1871-1960), believed this Azariah was the father of William Casto (1717-1778) and wrote a newspaper article back in the 1950's listing the family as he knew it to be. I have no evidence to contradict that Azariah did come to America in 1696 or even that he was brought here by the pirate Kidd. What evidence I do have contradicts Azariah as being the father of William. Read on and form your own conclusions.

This trail started with the research done by David L. Casto and published back in the earlier Casto newsletter. Mr. Casto (who I later learned died in 1996) obviously did a lot of research on the Casto family, even making trips to New Jersey to search for information there. He worked a lot with maps, deeds, and county records. The following is a reprint of an article from that earlier newsletter:

"A BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE EARLIEST CASTO FOOTPRINTS IN AMERICA" by David L. Casto

99.9% of all Casto's in the US descend from the Casto males, both in Cumberland County, NJ, 1750-1765. Researchers have failed to prove their relationship or origin.

1. William Casto, born 1717 in NJ, married first Purthenia Purple, and moved to the Deerfield area about 1753. He had 11 sons and 2 daughters. He was the son of William Castilo (Custo, Caustlo, Castabow) and Elizabeth Abbott.

2. David Casto, born 1706-1730 (nothing connects him with parents), married Phebe Gandy in 1752, gave his address as Turkey Point in 1754, had at least 7 children, and moved with his family to Virginia (now West Virginia) soon after 1765.

3. William Castilo, the father of William Casto born 1717, married Elizabeth Abbott of Salem (circa 1705), quitclaimed Elizabeth's inherited land at Alloways Creek in 1714; shared land in Salem Co. with James Paget in 1718; was constable in Maurice River area in 1731; purchased 63 1/2 acres at 'Scrub Neck, Autuxit' in 1733 from Edward Lummis.

Location of the 63 1/2 acres is pertinent to the following SPECULATIVE scenario: David Casto was born circa 1706 in Salem County, the eldest son of William and Elizabeth Abbott Castlou, and was the older brother of William Casto born 1717. By 1718 after the birth of William 1717, the family shared in Salem County with James Paget, that land disputed between Robert Bolton and James Welsh. Between 1718 and 1733, William Castilo and his family revised the name to Casto. In 1733 William Castilo purchased 63 1/2 acres at Beaver Dam, with sons David, now 27, and William, now 16, sharing the site. By 1740, David had married a woman of Spanish extraction (Maria), 2 daughters (Martha born 3 Jan. 1736 who married Jonathan Harris Sr. and Rhoda who married Daniel Biggs). By 1745, William Casto 1717 had married Purthenia Purple, whose father John Purple had succeeded William Castilo (Castabow) as constable in 1732. By 1750 the Elder William Casto/Castilo died, leaving the land to sons. (Probably only as his oldest son by the NJ law). In 1752 David Casto married again, to Phebe Gandy, of the Turkey Point area, whose father Thomas Gandy in 1738 was constable for the Maurice River district after having moved to the Turkey Point area in 1735 from Cape May. In 1753, after death of his wife Purthenia, William-1717 and his family moved to the Deerfield area, where he bought 150 acres of land and married 'Sarah'. Soon after 1765 David and Phebe Gandy Casto moved to Virginia (now West Virginia) taking 5 children with them, and leaving Catherine, born 1758, in NJ with her older half-sister, Martha Casto Harris. A seventh child was born in Virginia in 1769, with both David and Phebe dying shortly thereafter. In 1784, Catherine Casto-1758, daughter of David and Phebe, married Jonathan Harris, Jr., her first cousin, in NJ. By 1810 all but 4 of William Casto-1717's 12 living children had married and moved west of Ohio and nearby Kentucky.

As late as February 1994 the old newsletter was still being published and they were still

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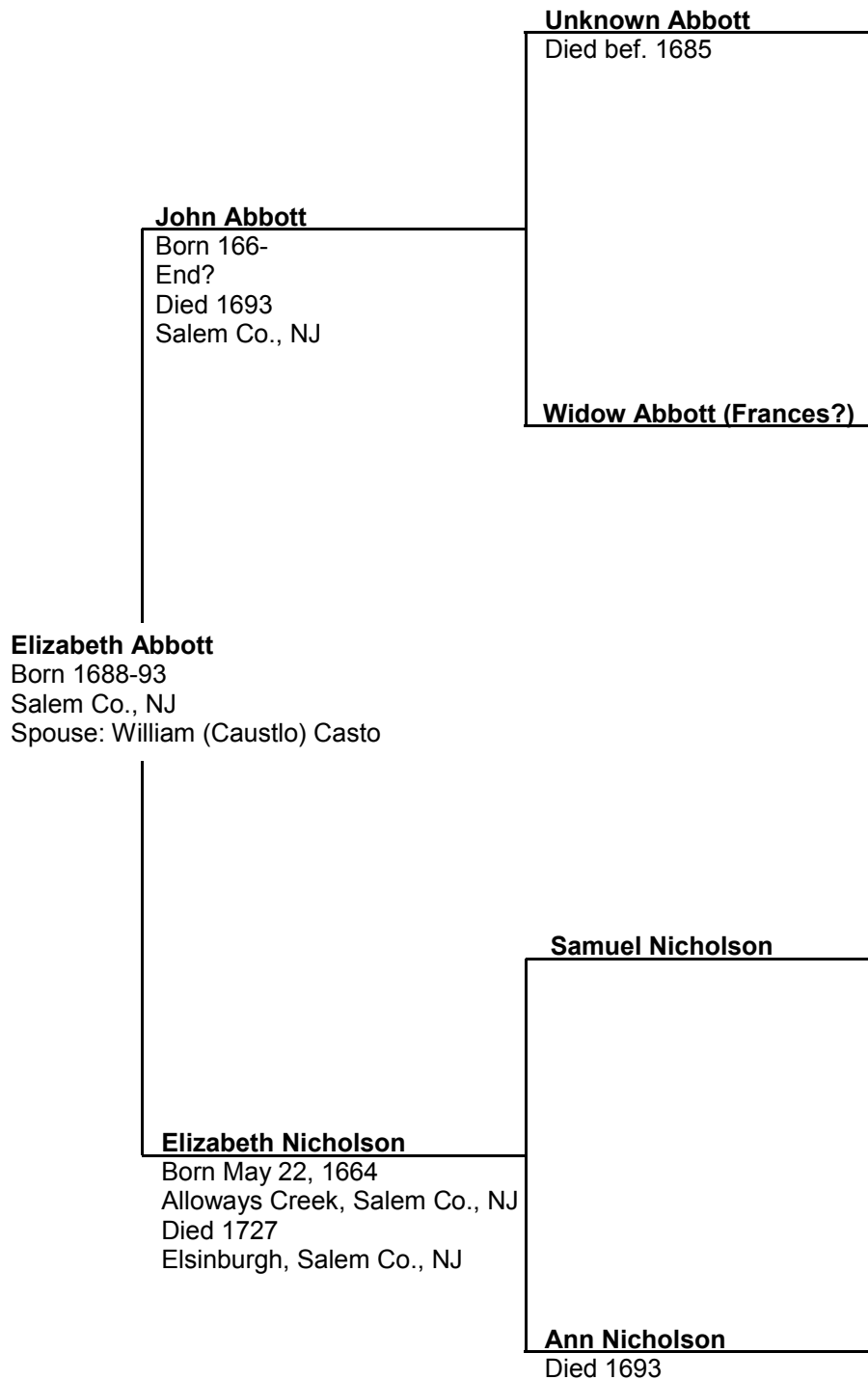
printing reports from David Casto. Upon reading the above information, I decided to see if I could find out any more about these early New Jersey families. My research led me to the following information: The Abbott family came to Salem County, NJ no later than 1685 when the widow Abbott (Frances) was mentioned in a land transaction. There was the widowed mother, four sons (John, Thomas, Stephen, and George) and a daughter (Mary). John Abbott was born about 1655 and in 1684 married Elizabeth, daughter of Samuel and Ann Nicholson of Alloways Creek, who was born May 22, 1664. This John Abbott bought land in 1691 but died soon after for his will was probated Aug. 8, 1693, giving his wife power to dispose of the 500 acres, of which 225 acres belonged to his brother Thomas. On Nov. 21, 1693 the widow Elizabeth Abbott deeded to her husband's brother the 225 acres. The wills of both her mother, Ann Nicholson (1693) and her brother, Samuel (1694), mention Elizabeth Abbott and her daughters (Rachel, Mary, and Elizabeth).

On Sep. 28, 1694, Elizabeth Abbott of "Munmouth River, alias Allowayes Creek," widow of John, conveyed to Edward Wade, et al, in trust for her daughters Rachel, Mary, and Elizabeth Abbott, a plantation of 275 acres near the head of Munmouth River, adjoining Thomas Abbott. Elizabeth Nicholson Abbott then remarried in 1694 to John Walker, who died in 1704/5. Together, John Walker and Elizabeth Nicholson Abbott Walker had two children, Sarah and Priscilla. One thing I have neglected to mention to this point is that John Abbott and his wife Elizabeth were Quakers, as was Mr. Walker. However, Elizabeth Nicholson Abbott Walker remarried a third time to Thomas Wakefield, who was NOT a Quaker, which caused Mrs. Wakefield to be disowned for marrying out of unity. The last know record of Thomas Wakefield appeared in 1711/12 when he helped take inventory of Mathew Smith's estate in Salem County. One child, Mary Anne, is attributed to this marriage. In 1718 Elizabeth Wakefield was reinstated into membership of the Quakers, having "acnolages her outgoings and declares that she is sorry upon the account that she left Friends to take a Husband contrary to Truth and is willing to give Satisfaction to the meeting." She was probably a widow by then, but no record of Wakefield's death has been discovered.

Elizabeth Wakefield made her will in August of 1727, and it was probated Sept. 13 of the same year. In her will, she mentions her daughters Rachel, Mary, and Elizabeth (Abbott), Priscilla (Walker), Mary Anne (Wakefield), granddaughter Elizabeth Syms, granddaughter Jane, John Sym's two daughters, well-beloved son-in-law John Syms (who was also sole executor). A marriage for John Syms has not been found but when he died in 1743, his widow's name was Sarah. The first daughter, Rachel, married Thomas Kelley in 1714. There were land deed transactions from William and Elizabeth Caustlo to Thomas and Rachel Kelley. The second daughter, Mary, married first William Tyler, Jr. in 1711, and then Robert Townsend in 1735. The third daughter, Elizabeth, is the one who married William Caustlo. The author of this particular article, Mary Ann Nicholson, made note of the fact "Caustlo Family Notes on file at Gloucester County Historical Society, Woodbury, NJ". The spouses for the other daughters are not known, although it is assumed that Sarah married John Syms.

So, I was able to find information on the Abbotts, Nicholsons, and a mention of William Caustlo, all of which fit what the earlier newsletter had said. It does look like William Caustlo was our early Casto ancestor. I would like to find more information linking him to David and William Casto, perhaps a will or land deed. Maybe we can find a) when and where did William Caustlo come from?, b) was he a Quaker like Elizabeth Nicholson Abbott Walker Wakefield and would Quaker records shed more light on the Casto ancestry?, and c) were there more children than David and William born to William and Elizabeth (Abbott) Caustlo? In our next newsletter, we'll look at William Casto, b. 1717, and his wives and children.

Sources: Genealogies of New Jersey Families, [Genealogical Mag. of NJ, 1996]
Patents and Deeds and Other Early Records of NJ, 1664-1703, [Gen. Pub. Co., Inc. 1976]
Family History Library, Ancestral File, ver. 4.17
Casto Chronicles Newsletter, 1993



Family Group Sheet

Husband: William (Caustlo) Casto

Born: ab. 1660 in: Salem Co., NJ?
 Died: af. 1727 in: Salem Co., NJ?
 Father:
 Mother:

Wife: **Elizabeth Abbott**
 Married:

Born: 1688-93 in: Salem Co., NJ
 Died: in:
 Father: John Abbott
 Mother: Elizabeth Nicholson

M Child 1 **David Casto**

Born: ca. 1706 in: Salem Co., NJ
 Died: ca. 1769 in: VA
 Spouse: Maria (of Spanish extraction)
 Married: in:
 Spouse: Phebe Gandy
 Married: Aug 1752 in: NJ

M Child 2 **William C. Casto**

Born: Mar. 10, 1717 in: NJ
 Died: 1778 in: Deerfield, NJ
 Spouse: Purthenia Purple
 Married: in:
 Spouse: Sarah Surname Unknown
 Married: in:

I have taken these records from a microfilm of Jackson Co. marriages. I have used the spelling that was in the records. These were typed records and there could be misspellings. Although I have since found family connections for many of these names, I have not elected to add them because of space and to lessen confusion. I would be happy to check my database for family groups for those who might be interested.

Jackson Co., West Virginia Marriages 1831-1849

Date	Groom	Bride
13 Oct 1831	Joel Cunningham	Mary Casto
27 Nov 1831	John C. Casto	Katherine Westfall
28 Jun 1832	James Newel	Susan Casto
26 May 1833	Isaac Casto	Margaret Green
14 Feb 1833	Levi Casto	Hannah Carney
9 Oct 1834	Rollings	Sarah Casto
12 Feb 1835	John Greathouse	Phobe Casto
18 Feb 1836	William Gandee	Nancy Casto
7 Apr 1836	Silas H. Slaughter	Martha Casto
27 Oct 1836	John Harpold	Phebe Casto
12 Mar 1837	Benjamin Neial	Elizabeth Casto
23 Mar 1838	William Edmund	Susan Casto
5 Sep 1838	Hiram Price	Temperance Casto
8 Oct 1840	Harrison Rollings	Nancy Casto
1 Dec 1840	James Rollings	Sarah Casto
24 Dec 1839	JMD Casto	Margaret Anderson
17 Sep 1840	Elmore Casto	Phebe Cunningham
14 Jan 1841	Elias Casto	Elizabeth Casto
28 Dec 1841	William Casto	Ann Deweese
21 Nov 1840	Isaac Casto	Elizabeth Parsons
5 Dec 1843	Baney Casto	Elizabeth Deweese
19 Mar 1843	Abraham Casto	Rose Anna Slaughter
14 Apr 1843	David Casto	Rachel Boice
9 May 1844	Alfred C.S. Devers	Elizabeth Casto
18 Nov 1844	Edmon Casto	Lucinda Cottril
12 Apr 1845	George Casto	Susan Deweese
30 May 1844	Isaac W. Johnson	Rachel Casto
26 Dec 1844	George Casto, Jr.	Nance Raines
10 Sep 1845	George Anderson	Sintha Casto
7 Aug 1845	Nicholas Casto	Telitha Casto
19 Nov 1846	AB Casto	Margaret Parsons
25 Jan 1847	Abraham Casto	Rebecca Crites
16 Feb 1847	Thomas Stout	Manery Casto
3 Jul 1849	Henry B. Price	Catherine Casto
14 Jan 1848	Alexis Parsons	Phebe Casto
28 Jul 1848	Joseph Casto	Mariah Morrison
12 May 1848	Leonard Green	Phebe Casto
16 Feb 1848	David G. Casto	Sarah Rains
24 Aug 1848	William Foglesong	Mary Casto
9 Oct 1848	Charles Casto	Martha Bonnett
13 May 1849	Robert Barnett	Elizabeth Casto
25 Oct 1849	George Casto	Nervy Sayre
5 Nov 1848	Benjamin Deweese	Grace Casto
15 Mar 1849	D.L. Casto	Louisa Casto
15 Mar 1849	Mason Casto	A.J. Cunningham
25 Mar 1849	James M. Casto	Sarah Tolley
6 Sep 1849	James Rains	Mary Casto
1 Nov 1849	Hiram Casto	Sally Casto
20 Dec 1849	Edward Casto	Polly Anderson

The birth & death records leave much to be desired. Not only are there misspellings but some of the information is missing and just plain wrong when compared to other records on these families. I am copying these records as they appear on the microfilm.

SEX	DATE	PLACE	CHILD	PARENTS
M	April 1853	Tug Ford	? Casto	Father: Martin Casto Mother: CJ Johns
M	6 Feb 1853	Mill Creek	A.E. Casto	Father: Levi Casto Mother: Hannah Carney
F	6 May 1853	Bear Fork	Roseanna Casto	Father: D.S. Casto Mother: Louisa Casto
F	1 Oct 1853	Cox Fork	Ruth Casto	Father: G.W. Casto Mother: M. Sayre
M	18 Oct 1854	Jackson Co.	? Casto	Father: Jno R. Casto Mother: Louisa
?	1854	Parchment	? Casto	Father: E.H. Casto Mother: Phebe
?	1854	Grass Lick	? Casto	Father: A.G. Casto Mother: Rebecca
?	1854	Jackson Co.	? Casto	Father: Jacob Casto Mother: Celia
?	1854	Jackson Co.	? Casto	Father: Wm. Casto Mother: Jane
M	15 Dec 1854	Jackson Co.	CET Casto	Father: Levi Casto Mother: Hanah
F	29 Aug 1854	Jackson Co.	Mary Casto	Father: JMI Casto Mother: Margaret
F	26 Mar 1854	Jackson Co.	Mary Matilda Casto	Father: David Casto Mother: Sarah
F?	9 May 1854	Jackson Co.	Rathbone E. Casto	Father: Geo. Casto Mother: Nancy
M	10 Jun 1854	Jackson Co.	Silvester Casto	Father: Charles Mother: Martha
M	9 Jul 1854	Jackson Co.	W.B.M. Casto	Father: N.B. Casto Mother: Margaret
F	16 Sep 1854	Jackson Co.	Wm. Mc Casto	Father: Martin Mother: Elizabeth J.
M	Feb 1858	Jackson Co.	? Casto	Father: Nick Casto Mother: Tuletha
M	Nov 1858	Jackson Co.	Elias S. Casto	Father: Charles Mother: Martha
M	May 1858	Jackson Co.	Enoch Casto	Father: Wm. Casto Mother: Anna
M	Apr 1858	Jackson Co.	Franklin Casto	Father: C.H. Casto Mother: Deborah
M	13 Jan 1858	Jackson Co.	Jacob A. Casto	Father: Edward Casto Mother: Mary
F	7 Sep 1858	Jackson Co.	Lenora Casto	Father: James H. Casto Mother: Ruanna C.
M	24 Mar 1858	Jackson Co.	Pleasants S. Casto	Father: N.S. Casto Mother: Margaret

SEX	NAME	DEATH DATE AGE	PLACE	PARENTS
F	? Casto	5 Apr 1853 not given	Parchment	John R. Casto R.
F	? Casto	20 Oct 1854 not given	Jackson Co.	G.S. Casto S.
M	Wm. G. Casto	16 Nov 1854 not given	Jackson Co.	J.M. Casto S.
F	Malinda Casto	10 Aug 1857 17 y 1 m 5d	Jackson Co.	Elijah Casto Rachel
F	Martha E. Casto	28 Apr 1857 5y 5m 25d	Jackson Co.	Nich Casto Zabitha
M	Franklin Casto	Apr 1858 5 days	Jackson Co.	Charles H. Debora
M	John Casto	1859 6 months	Jackson Co.	George Casto Susan
F	Susan Casto	10 Sep 1859 35 years	Jackson Co.	Saml Deweese Eda
M	Jacob Casto	Dec 1859 10 months	Jackson Co.	Edud Casto Mary
M	M. Sucrelin	17 Jul 1859 8y 9m 6d	Jackson Co.	Joseph Casto Mary
M	Elijah B. Casto	Oct 1860 3 months	Jackson Co.	E. Casto Mary

Vital Records were provided by Dru Falk.

Questions may be sent to her at d1985d@aol.com

Quips and Queries

Some suspect that CASTO was shortened to CAST and is the root family that migrated from New Jersey (Salem/Cumberland Counties) to Ohio to Illinois and intermarries with Biggs, Whitaker, and Villars. Do any readers have information on these lines?

Also, I am looking from a Rhoda, born 1740 prob. NJ. She married a TITUS, then a SUMMERILL, both in 1770's, and the TITUS researchers think her maiden name was BIGGS. Others have suggested she might have been a CAST or CASTO.

Please respond to: Hal Amick
halamick@earthlink.net

Looking for a connection for my maternal Great-Grandmother, Lelia Belle CASTO, married Peter McClellan HATCHER. Lelia was born Sep. 6, 1885 and Peter was born. Dec. 9, 1862 (but I am not certain of those dates). Their daughter was Mary Elizabeth HATCHER, my grandmother, who moved to Southern Ohio in 1929, after she married Noah Elcainah BRENDON. The Casto's lived in Jackson Co., WV. Isaac and Marilla Casto were parents of Lelia Belle. I would appreciate any help you can give.

Please respond to: Doris Reid
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