

# Our Martin Ancestors

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|   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Our Martin Ancestors .....  | 1                                   |
| Martin Context .....  | 1                                   |
| Poughkeepsie, New York.....   | 1                                   |
| 2. William Martin 1739 - 1812 Phoebe Everett 1761 in Poughkeepsie, Dutchess, New York, USA .2 |                                     |
| 2. Phoebe Martin 1767 - 1798 Daniel Spicer 1764 - 1833 .....                                  | 2                                   |
| Augusta .....   | 2                                   |
| Appendicies .....   | <b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b> |
| Abbreviations .....   | 4                                   |
| Research Notes on Spicers.....  | 4                                   |
| Martin Resources .....  | 4                                   |

## Martin Context

The Martins were of English stock. X emigrated to Massachusetts, Y migrated to Connecticut, Z migrated to New York. The Martin family name ended in our ancestral line in the marriage of Phoebe Martin with Daniel Spicer.

### Poughkeepsie, New York<sup>1</sup>

Poughkeepsie could refer to the town or City of Poughkeepsie. They are both located in the Hudson Valley midway between New York City and Albany. The name derives from a word in the Wappinger language, meaning "the reed-covered lodge by the little-water place," referring to a spring or stream feeding into the Hudson River south of the present downtown area.

Poughkeepsie is locally referred to as "The Queen City of the Hudson". It was settled in the 17th century by the Dutch and became New York's second capital shortly after the American Revolution. It was chartered as a city in 1854.

The site of Poughkeepsie was purchased from the Indians in 1686 by Robert Sanders, an Englishman, and Myndert Harmense Van Den Bogaardt, a New Netherland-born Dutchman. The first settlers were the families of Barent Baltus Van Kleeck and Hendrick Jans van Oosterom. The settlement grew quickly, and the Reformed Church of Poughkeepsie was established by 1720. The community was set off from the town of Poughkeepsie when it became an incorporated village on 27 March 1799. The city of Poughkeepsie was chartered on 28 March 1854. With its ratification, New York entered the new union as the eleventh of the original thirteen colonies to join together as the United States of America. I

### 1. **Richard Martin b. Ireland d. bef. 13 Jul 1764 New York , m. Bridgette ?**

Richard was born in Ireland possibly 1714. Family lore has it that Richard had been disinherited by his wealthy Irish parents because he married a Catholic girl. Richard and Bridgette made the perilous voyage along with their young six-week-old son William. It is believed that they settled in the colony of New York, making their living as farmers in Dutchess County on the Hudson River.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Poughkeepsie,\\_New\\_York](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Poughkeepsie,_New_York)

He died in 1764 and appointed his son William as Executor. He directed that his wife was to have one cow and 10 sheep and the use of the household furniture for her life, each of two daughters was to get a cow and the proceeds from the sale of his mare and daughter Sarah was to get a heifer as well.

2. i. William Martin b. 1739 Ireland d. 1812 Augusta Twp, Grenville Co, Ontario, Canada, m. Phoebe Everett 02 Mar 1761 in Poughkeepsie, Dutchess, New York, USA
- ii. Sarah Martin b. 1741 in Poughkeepsie, Dutchess, New York, USA
- iii. Second daughter

## **2. William Martin 1739 - 1812 Phoebe Everett 1761 in Poughkeepsie, Dutchess, New York, USA**

William Martin was born 1739 in Ireland. {Research on William Martin He died 1812 Augusta Twp, Grenville Co, Ontario, Canada, He married Phoebe Everett 02 Mar 1761 in Poughkeepsie, Dutchess, New York, USA.

They had four children

- i. James Martin
- ii. James Martin
3. iii. Phoebe Martin b. 1767 in Poughkeepsie, Dutchess, New York, m. Daniel Spicer 1796
- iv. Catherine Martin

## **3. Phoebe Martin 1767 - 1798 Daniel Spicer 1764 - 1833**

Phoebe Martin was born 1767 in Poughkeepsie, Dutchess, New York. She married Daniel Spicer, son of Ezekiel Spicer and Lucy? (possibly Lucy Sherwood) in 1796. He was a United Empire Loyalist

In the Index to the Upper Canada Land Books, Volume 2, Jan 1798 to December 1805 the following are listed

Daniel Spicer, United Empire Loyalist 19 Jan 1802 Book C Page 342

Daniel Spicer, United Empire Loyalist 06 Nov 1804 Book F Page 161 Petition I4

They had three children:

4. i. William Martin Spicer born 1787
- ii. Phoebe Spicer 1800 possibly indexed as a Daughter of a loyalist 18 Jun 1800 Book D page 507
- iii. Jabez Spicer 1804

## **Augusta**

Precis / Extracts from Augusta Township, Wikipedia (accessed June 1, 2018):

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Augusta,\\_Ontario](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Augusta,_Ontario)

Augusta Township is a township in the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville; located in eastern Ontario, Canada. Augusta is situated along the Saint Lawrence River, and extends back into rural hamlets. The township is located between the city of Brockville to the west, and the town of Prescott to the east. The township of Augusta was not fully settled until the late 1700s and into the early 1800s, when the Loyalists received their land grants throughout the area and began building homesteads. Most of the residents living in the township today are direct descendants of these Loyalists. Just prior to this in the mid-to-late 1700s, the French had occupied some of the land in the region, including Pointe au Baril in Maitland, Ontario.

During the American Revolutionary War, residents of the American colonies were politically divided; many American's were displeased with the British and striving for their independence from British rule. During this

period of political unrest, those who sided with the British were viewed as traitors or rebels, and their opposition was met with violence. Individuals were forced to take sides, as even neutral parties were deemed rebels. Those who remained loyal to the crown were called Loyalists. During and after the war, the Loyalists were essentially pushed out of present-day America for their opposing views and left destitute with no where to go; they then turned to the British for relief. Initially, the Loyalists were hopeful that Britain would be able to successfully negotiate with the rebelling colonies, and that their land, homes, and possessions would be returned to them. No such negotiations ever occurred and with the end of the war military payouts were dwindling. New laws were passed in New York state which allowed the Loyalists' property to be officially seized, and threats were made on the lives of Loyalists who may try to return. The Loyalists had no other option but to rely on the British and return to present-day Augusta and the neighbouring townships.

Britain's solution to the widespread poverty and homelessness was to provide the Loyalists with land grants which could be used to build new settlements and start over. These grants were also looked at as a reward for the men's loyalty to the crown. Originally, areas of Quebec were considered for division and distribution to the Loyalists; Quebec feared that the Loyalists would affect the area negatively, and could bring diseases such as measles into their community therefore the idea was abandoned. Major Samuel Holland, surveyor-general of Quebec was put in charge of surveying lands west of Quebec and assess their suitability for settlement. In 1783, Holland declared the land to be more than adequate for Loyalist settlements. The only remaining obstacle in the way of the Loyalists' land grants was the native population of Augusta; Britain would have to consider their land ownership when dividing the land. A man named Sir John Johnson was instructed to inquire as to which lands belonged to the native communities, and to purchase any land that they claimed as theirs. Captain Justus Sherwood, who remained in the area, was employed to provide a detailed survey of Augusta and the surrounding townships.

By 1784, the Loyalists were becoming increasingly restless and began to petition the government for relief from their dire situation; they were scheduled to be settled for the Spring of 1784. The long waiting period to be settled was due in part to the fact the government knew they would need to provide the Loyalists with some tools and supplies in order for them to sustain themselves. The government intended to provide each settler with some seeds and livestock to begin farming, as well as a few essential tools such as axes, knives and hoes. Carpentry and blacksmithing tools were also to be distributed to be shared amongst groups of settlers. The land grants were to be granted based on military position and rank.

By the spring of 1784, supplies had been gathered and the land had been surveyed in detail and divided into lots to be drawn for. Batteaux and provisions were ready to be transported along with the Loyalist settlers to the new settlements. The area surrounding present-day Augusta township was divided into two ranges of townships, the first of which being called the Royal Townships. There are seven Royal Townships, Augusta being the seventh and titled Royal Township Number Seven. Eventually, the townships were named, Augusta being named Princess Augusta after the third daughter of King George III. In June 1784, the Loyalists finally embarked from Quebec down the St. Lawrence River to their new settlements; Edward Jessup's Corps were to be the first settlers of the new Royal Township.

The earliest known school established in Augusta was the Johnstown Grammar School which stood in Maitland. It was not until the mid-1800s that substantial progress was made in regard to education in Augusta township. By 1844, the township had been successfully divided into 22 school sections, as well as 5 part-sections, which were union sections with neighbouring townships with pupils from multiple townships. The original sections and schools are found in the larger article in Wikipedia

During the 1950s and 60s as transportation improved larger public schools were built in centralized locations to amalgamate the pupils from the smaller schools. Present day, only one elementary school exists within the boundaries of Augusta township: Maynard Public School located within Maynard, Ontario. Elementary students can either attend school in Maynard or be transported to Prescott or Brockville to attend the elementary schools

there. There are no secondary schools within the township; however, secondary schools located in Prescott and Brockville service students living in Augusta township.

## Appendices

### Abbreviations

abt    about    aft.    After    b.    born    bp    baptised/christened    m.    married  
mos.    months    d.    died    yrs.    Years

### Calendar Old Style-New Style, Julian & Georgian<sup>2</sup>

The old calendar used up to about 1752 in Protestant countries was the Julian Calendar based on 365.25 days. In 1582 Great Britain and empire switched to the Julian Calendar and since the actual year is 365.2422 days long the switch over caused a 11 day out of synch problem. To solve this problem, it was proclaimed that September 2 would be followed by September 14. As well the old-style calendar the calendar year began on Lady Day 25<sup>th</sup> of March i.e. the year ran from 25 March to 24 March. Hence January 24, 1712 old-style would-be January 24, 1713 new style. The correct way to describe a date in the “overlap” period from January 1 to March 24 is to state the Old/New Style as 1712 /1713 which means

“January 24, 1712 old style is what we call January 24, 1713”

Also, since the calendar began in March the months if numbered are as follows

March 1  
April 2  
May 3  
June 4  
July 5  
August 6  
September 7  
October 8  
November 9  
December 10  
January 11  
February 12

### Research Notes on Spicers

The Spicers first came to Canada as United Empire Loyalist and were believed to have settle in South eastern Ontario (Johnstown District) sometime after 1783. In October 1792, the old district of Lunenburg (1788-1792) was renamed th Eastern District and included the present counties of Stormont, Dundas, Glengarry, Prescott, Russell Leeds, Grenville and Carleton. In the Act of 1798, proclaimed in 1800 the Counties of Leeds, Grenville and Carleton were separated out of the Eastern District to become Johnstown District. In March of 1816, the Counties of Prescott and Russell became the Ottawa District.<sup>3</sup>

### Resources

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<sup>2</sup> Greenwood, Val D. The Researcher’s Guide to American Genealogy, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ed. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co Inc 2000

<sup>3</sup> The Marriage Registers of Upper Canada/Canada West, Vol 12 Eastern District, 1801-1865, compiled by Dan Walker & Fawne Stratford-Devai

## Websites

## Martin Relationship to Author

9th great grandfather

|   |  |
|---|--|
|  | <b>Joseph Martin</b><br>b: 1575<br>of Preshute, Wiltshire, England<br>d: |
|---|--|

8th great grandfather

|   |   |
|---|---|
|  | <b>George Martin Jr</b><br>b: 21 Oct 1648<br>Salisbury, Essex, Massachusetts<br>d: 14 Apr 1734<br>Ipswich, Essex, Massachusetts B |
|---|---|

7th great grandfather

|   |   |
|---|---|
|  | <b>George Martin III</b><br>b: 17 Sep 1680<br>Ipswich, Essex, Massachusetts,<br>d: 15 Aug 1755<br>Windham, Windham, Connecticut |
|---|---|

6th great grandmother

|   |   |
|---|---|
|  | <b>Elizabeth Martin</b><br>b: 17 Jul 1707<br>Windham, Windham, Connecticut<br>d: 1755<br>Dover, Dutchess, New York, Unite |
|---|---|

5th great grandmother

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  | <b>Elizabeth Preston</b><br>b: 30 Oct 1733<br>Windham, Windham, Connecticut<br>d: 1766<br>Cambridge, Washington, New Yor |
|--|--|

4th great grandfather

|   |  |
|---|--|
|  | <b>Hezekiah "Ki" Mosher</b><br>b: 18 Oct 1756<br>Quaker Hill, Beekman, Dutchess<br>d: Aug 1821<br>Augusta, Ontario, Canada |
|---|--|

3rd great grandmother

|   |   |
|---|---|
|  | <b>Sophia Mosher</b><br>b: 18 Apr 1799<br>Augusta Twp, 1654301, Ontario,<br>d: 18 May 1880<br>Augusta Twp., Leeds & Grenville |
|---|---|

2nd great grandfather

|   |   |
|---|---|
|  | <b>Robert Nicholson Spicer</b><br>b: 11 Aug 1832<br>Augusta, Grenville, Ontario, Cana<br>d: 26 Nov 1904<br>Maynard, Augusta, Grenville, Ont |
|---|---|

Great grandmother

|   |  |
|---|--|
|  | <b>Abigail Almada Spicer</b><br>b: 13 Sep 1860<br>Prescott, Ontario, Canada<br>d: 10 Jul 1940<br>Merrickville, Ontario, Canada |
|---|--|

Maternal grandfather

|   |   |
|---|---|
|  | <b>Edward Elbert Atkinson</b><br>b: 26 Feb 1887<br>Merrickville, Merrickville-Wolford,<br>d: 14 Jan 1957<br>Vancouver, British Columbia |
|---|---|

Mother

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  | <b>Grace Elizabeth Atkinson</b><br>b: 11 Dec 1916<br>Waskada, Manitoba, Canada<br>d: 04 Jun 2008<br>Truro, Colchester County, Nova S |
|--|--|

Self

|   |  |
|---|--|
|  | <b>James Clifford Retson</b><br>b: 28 Jul 1948<br>Truro, Colchester County, Nova S<br>d: |
|---|--|