

**William Cranmer b. ~1620**  
unknown, father  
unknown, mother  
**Elizabeth Carwithy b. DATE d. DATE**  
David Carwithy, father  
unknown, mother

These are notes to support my Ancestry.com family tree

<http://trees.ancestry.com/tree/931824/>

In most cases the citations and documentation is contained in the profiles of a tree entry. However, in some cases there are conflicting citations or facts posted in related trees. At times, the evidence is only circumstantial. These notes are intended to support the facts which I have posted in my ancestry tree. In using these notes I am indicating that there is some uncertainty in the facts, and this documents my decision for inclusion of certain data in my tree.

If anyone has any additional information or corrections to these notes, please let me know.  
[drfalken@comcast.net](mailto:drfalken@comcast.net)

I believe that William Cranmer b. ~1620 is the 3rd great grandfather of Mary Cranmer (b. 1780) who married Captain Samuel Falkenburg. These notes are an attempt to trace the family of this William Cranmer and ultimately determine the link between Mary and the family of Archbishop Thomas Cranmer. As stated by Leah Blackman:

**kinsman of theirs. The Cranmers of New Jersey claim to be the descendants of Thomas Cranmer, the Archbishop of Canterbury, who was burned at the stake for his devotion to Protestantism by order of Queen Mary, at Smithfield, England, May 21st, 1556. I believe the Cranmers are right in claiming descent from Archbishop Cranmer, for I have seen a likeness of him, and I have seen many Jersey Cranmers who possessed a striking resemblance to the Archbishop.**

An exploration of public family trees on [ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com) and [familysearch.com](http://familysearch.com) would lead one to believe that William Cranmer b. ~1620 (birthplace cited as *Wolborough Newton Abbot, Devon, England*) was the son of William Cranmer and Susanna Powell. This supposed William, father of William (b. ~1620) is described

by Robert Edmond Chester Waters.<sup>1</sup> The description of William, sr. seems reasonable. He was an influential member of the Fellowship of the Merchants Adventures of England, and in that capacity moved to Rotterdam. It seems likely that a son of such an individual might make his way to colonial America. Waters gives us a pedigree of this family, and indeed William has two sons: William (b. 1630) and George (b. 1624) along with four daughters Susanna, Elizabeth, Mary, and Ann. It looks like the William in this family could be the William who lived in Southold, Long Island and then Elizabethtown, New Jersey. I found the following record of the baptism of this William in the parish records of St. Mildred's Church, Canterbury, England. The record shows the baptisms of Mary, William, Ann, Elizabeth, and George. The other two entries are Thomas Cranmer (father of William, sr. b.1582) and Ann (Carpenter) Cranmer (mother of William, sr. b. 1582). So we have here a record of the birth of William near (but not exactly 1620). Waters gives a brief bio-sketch of William Cranmer, son of William of Rotterdam

WILLIAM CRANMER, the youngest son of Thomas Cranmer the 'Register,' was baptized at St. Mildred's 4th Nov. 1582, and with his sisters was educated at Bishopborne Parsonage by his father's friend Richard Hooker. (177) He was bred to trade, and was admitted in 1604 to the Fellowship of the Merchants Adventurers of England, whose headquarters were at Hamburg. On the lunacy of his brother Thomas in 1607 he became possessed of their father's estate at Sapington. He is described as 'my kinsman William Cranmer the Merchant' in the Will of Richard Manningham of East Malling, which is dated 21st Jan. 1611-12, but the pedigree of Manningham in the Visitation of Kent, 1619, gives no clue to the degree of relationship between the two families. He married, about 1619, Susanna, the third daughter of Edmund Powell Esq. of Fulham in Middlesex, and sister of Sir Edward Powell of Pengelly in Herefordshire, who was created a Baronet 18th Jan. 1621-2. (216) For many years after his marriage Cranmer continued to reside in his native parish of St. Mildred's in Canterbury, and all his children except the eldest were baptized there. (176) It was during this period that his 'happy affinity' began with Isaac Walton, who affectionately reckoned his 'free and entire friendship' with the Cranmers amongst the blessings of his life. The pupil of Hooker could scarcely fail to appreciate Walton. Their friendship was only severed by death; but their familiar intercourse was interrupted some eleven years previously by Cranmer's removal from Canterbury to Rotterdam for the convenience of trade. It appears from the marriage license of his eldest daughter Susanna that he was living at Rotterdam on 26th Aug. 1641, and that he was then Deputy Governor of the English Merchants established in that city. He was annually re-elected to this honourable

V. WILLIAM CRANMER, brother and heir of George, was baptized at St. Mildred's 20th Nov. 1630, (176) and was, like his brother, free of the Merchant Adventurers by patrimony. He was highly esteemed for his integrity and knowledge of mercantile affairs, and was selected by the merchants of London to present an address to King William III., thanking his Majesty for levying duties on English goods exported by strangers. (235) This address was presented at Whitehall on 14th Dec. 1689, when Cranmer received the honour of knighthood. (173) Sir William was then and had been for several years Deputy-Governor of the Merchant Adventurers residing in London, but in 1691 he was elected Governor of the whole Society, and he held this office until his death. He died at his house in the Strand on 21st Sept. 1697, in the sixty-seventh year of his age. His body lay in state for several days at Merchant Taylors' Hall, and was buried at St. Leonard's, Bromley, on 30th Sept. (217) He died unmarried, and on his death the male line of the Cranmers descending from Thomas Cranmer, 'the Register' of Canterbury, became extinct.

<sup>1</sup> Waters, Robert Edmond Chester, [Genealogical Memoirs of the Kindred Families of Thomas Cranmer Archbishop of Canterbury...](#), Robson and Sons (London, 1877).

*Note: If I find that a resource is available on both [books.google.com](#) and [openlibrary.org](#) I will usually cite openlibrary. I find that doing searches using their format is simpler than that of google.*

CRANMER.			
1626/27 <sup>1</sup> .	CRANMER	May 4, 25m	bur.
1630	"	25m 5	"
1633	"	Ann 4.	"
1617	"	Ann and Tho Esq.	bur
1622	"	Elizabeth 25m	bur
1620	"	Geo. 5	"
1621	"	Thos. gent.	bur.

In a footnote, Waters indicates that William Cranmer (b. 1630) desired: *"To be buried in the parish church of St. Leonard, Bromley, Middlesex, England, where my late mother and several of my near relations lie buried."*<sup>2</sup> A record of William Cranmer's interment can be found on [findagrave.com](http://findagrave.com). For the reasons outlined in this note, I conclude that the commonly cited parents of William Cranmer of Southold Long Island and Elizabethtown, New Jersey are not as oft reported, William Cranmer of Rotterdam (b. 1582) and Susanna Bardwell Powell (b. 1582).

Where did William of Elizabethtown NJ come from? Before attempting to look at other lines in the family tree of the English Cranmers, I decided to see if I could find anything in the colonial records of Long Island (where William was first a resident) to see if there are any clues.

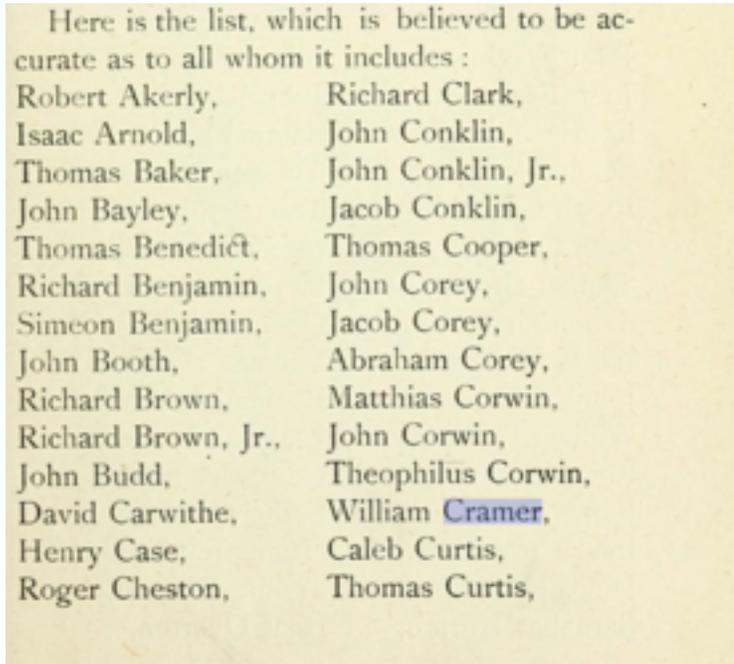
In 1881, The Rev. Epher Whitaker wrote *A History of Southold, Long Island, Its First Century*. William Cranmer is listed by the often used alternate spelling Cramer. On page 45, Whitaker lists 138 names of early settlers<sup>3</sup>. The partial list on the next page includes

Birth:	1630
Death:	Sep. 21, 1697
Family links:	
Parents:	William Cranmer (1582 - 1650) Susanna Powell Cranmer (____ - 1676)
Sibling:	George Cranmer (1624 - 1674)* William Cranmer (1630 - 1697)
	*Calculated relationship
Burial:	St Leonard's Church Bromley London Borough of Bromley Greater London, England
Created by:	Todd Whitesides
Record added:	Oct 08, 2014
Find A Grave Memorial#	136977789

<sup>2</sup> Waters [p. 50](#)

<sup>3</sup> Whitaker, Rev. Epher, *History of Southold, L.I. Its First Century*, Printed for the author (Southold, 1881). [p 45](#).

William Cranmer (Cramer) and David Carwithe (father of Elizabeth Carwithy, William's wife). In his book, Whitaker documents the fact that William Cramer moved from Southold to Elizabethtown, New Jersey; he lists seven other early settlers who made this move<sup>4</sup>. There is nothing more in the book about William Cranmer.

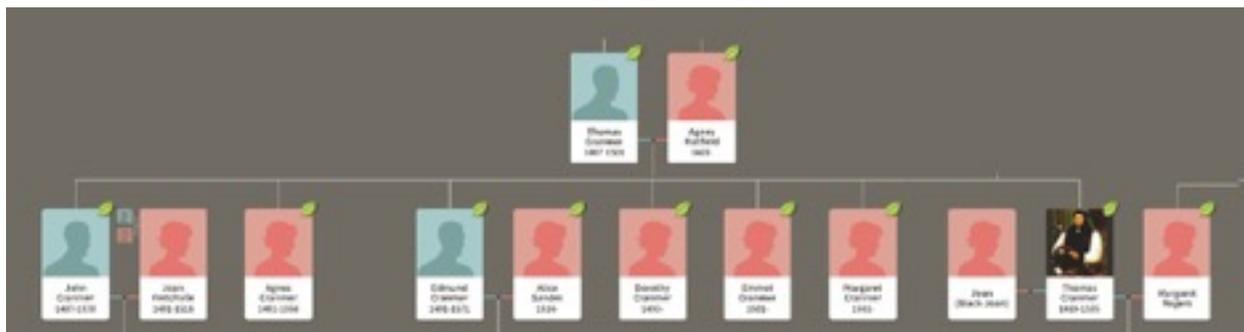


I ask the question: why did William Cranmer and seven other early settlers leave together. Whitaker does not address this. The year 1640 appears to be an important year for change in Southold. This is the year that the Rev John Young established a Puritan church in Southold and

affiliated Southold with the New Haven Colony. Like New Haven, Southold became a theocracy, and in 1644 established a court that was based on Levitical law. The Puritan's were persecuted in England, and here in the new colonies under their jurisdiction they meted out rules that punished anyone who did not follow the strict rules set down by their faith. The persecuted became the persecutors. One member named Smith was whipped and bound in bond of £50 for embracing the opinions of the Quakers.<sup>5</sup>

### Following other Cranmer Lines

Most of the data supporting this section is found in the narrative and the Cranmer pedigrees by Waters<sup>6</sup>. I will begin with the parents of Archbishop Thomas Cranmer. Of course, the ancestry could branch before the family of Thomas Cranmer and Agnes Hatfield.



<sup>4</sup> Whitaker, [p. 52](#)

<sup>5</sup> Flint, Martha Bockee, *Early Long Island, A Colonial Study*, G.P. Putnam (New York, 1896) [p. 136](#).

<sup>6</sup> Waters [pp. 76-84](#)

There are three male lines which would carry the surname Cranmer.

THOMAS CRANMER (1467 - 1501) + AGNES HATFIELD (1469 - ?)

In addition to the male lines described below, Thomas and Agnes had four daughters: Agnes (1491-1556), Dorothy (1493 -?), Emmet (1501-?), and Margaret (1501-?)

The male line contains:

1. John Cranmer (b. 1487 d. 1578) John was born at the family estate at Aslacton, Nottinghamshire, England. He was the eldest male son and heir to Thomas, his father.
2. Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury (b. 1489 d. 21 MAR 1555/6)
3. Edmund Cranmer, Archdeacon of Canterbury (b. 1491 d. 20 APR 1571)

### ARCHBISHOP THOMAS CRANMER

I will begin with Archbishop Thomas Cranmer. This Thomas first married Joan (we do not know her last name). Joan died in childbirth. Thomas' second wife Margaret had three documented children. two girls (Margaret (d. 1584) and Anne. The Archbishop's only son was Thomas. In Waters' narrative<sup>7</sup> he states: *"Thomas was still under age at the time of his father's death..."* If he was age 20 at that time, then his birthdate would be ~1635. The most frequently cited date for son Thomas in ancestry trees is 1538. This would be consistent with Waters' text. According to Waters, son Thomas' *"moral conduct was such as to confirm the proverbial scandal that pious fathers have profligate sons."* Thomas was buried 14 NOV 1598 at St. Andrew's, Holborn. Unless, this Thomas fathered a son out of wedlock, the trail of finding a **direct line of descent from Archbishop Thomas Cranmer to William Cranmer of Elizabeth NJ can be ruled out.**

JOHN CRANMER (1487-1578)

This is a work in progress. At this time I do not see a documented link between William Cranmer of Elizabeth NJ and the family of Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop. More work needs to be done here. Check back in the future.

Links to [falkenburg-genealogy.com](http://falkenburg-genealogy.com) website

[Home](#)

[The Falkenburgs:  
a Colonial  
American Family](#)

[Research](#)

[Resources](#)

© 2016 Donald Falkenburg

---

<sup>7</sup> Waters, [p. 28](#)