

THE FIRST AMERICAN NEWPORT: WILLIAM NEWPORT¹

generation

	birth	name	file number	
* 1	b.1660-70	William Newport		The First Newport
2	b.1690-95	Thomas Newport	01	
3	b. ca1730	Jesse Newport	01.01	(half sister b. 1718)
4	b. 1759	Thomas Newport	01.01.01	
5	b. 1792	James Train Newport	01.01.01.05	
6	b. 1816	Joseph Corwin Newport	01.01.01.05.02	
7	b. 1846	William James Newport	01.01.01.05.02.05	wife herein: "Mother Newport"
8	b. 1885	Ernest Clifford Newport	01.01.01.05.02.05.04	wife herein: "my grandmother"
9	b. 1911	William James Newport	01.01.01.05.02.05.04.02	

In 1952 when my grandmother and I began researching the Newport family, she told me that when her son William James Newport was born 16 Feb 1911, Mother Newport had asked her to name her son William James because 16 Feb was also her wedding day and that, further, her husband was named for the First American Newport and that this new child (her first Newport surnamed grandson) was the 9th generation American Newport. I asked my grandmother what Mother Newport meant: first to come to America or first to be born here. She answered that she did not know.

Mother Newport (whom I knew as a young child) always spoke very carefully. For example, she would not say "it rained today" but "when I was over at Joe's today it rained there." I have researched her ancestors back to the immigrant using her words as a guide...and they have been a very accurate guide.

So: how did Mother Newport know of events before she was born? The family Bibles that were in her house. This was the house in which were stored all the photographs, Bibles, and family memorabilia; the house that burned in 1934. (see 01.01.01.05.02.05 file)

Thomas (01.01.01) Newport kept track of the family members (& was even interested in the genealogy of his farm animals). In his probate file is the bill of the property of his estate filed 26 May 1847; it includes "1 Bible Joseph Newport". (Joseph: 01.01.01.05.02) On his 50th wedding anniversary (23 May 1888) he & his wife traveled to California for the passing of the torch to the next generation (see "Dot"(Newport) King's description) of the celebration. ("Dot" being 01.01.01.05.02.05.01)

1. the First American of "our" line of Newports.

generation 1: Mother Newport's word is gold to me.
generation 2: preponderance of evidence.
generations 3-9: direct, primary evidence.

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