Samuel Tatum & Unknown Wife, of Bermuda, Timeline

NOTE: This Samuel Tatum may have been the son of William Tatham/Tatum and wife (1) Ellen Kerke or (2) Anne, baptized 8 Oct 1594 at St. Michaels Crooked Lane, London, England. He was a haberdasher. This Samuel Tatum may be the one who married Elizabeth Tomson in 1613 and had a son Thomas, who was buried Jan 1617.

bef 1600  Unknown location. Samuel Tatum was born to unknown parents. Date is only a rough guess.

abt 1615/1620  Unknown location. Samuel Tatum married an unknown woman.

NOTE: Samuel Tatum of Bermuda “reputedly had the following children: Captain Nathaniel (2) Tatum, Sr., Chirurgeon (Surgeon) of Warwick and Pagent Tribes; Samuel (2) Tatum, Jr., of Somerset, in the Sandy Tribe; Nehemiah (2) Tatum, Councilor of Warwick Tribe; and Hannah (2) Tatum who married Charles Sothern. The name Samuel has descended in all of their lines.”

abt 1616/1621  Unknown location. Hannah Tatum was born to Samuel Tatum and an unknown wife.

NOTE: The birthdate is only a rough guess.

Oct 1619  Bermuda, established by 1609 as an area for settlement by the English Virginia Company, was settled by the new governor and the passengers of four ships. “The appointed Governor,

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1 See, e.g.: http://www.planetmurphy.org/pagebuild.php?highlight=TatemMariners1.htm&query=Bermuda. This webpage is written and compiled by James R. Murphy, n8sml@yahoo.com. Accessed 1 October 2016. He stated, under the heading, “Family Reconstruction Summary of the Mariner Tatems Bermuda, Barbados, and Norfolk County, Virginia” that many Tatams or Tatums of this group eventually used the spelling "Tatem."


4 See: Richard P. Tatum, "Tatum Narrative 1626 - 1925," Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, published after his death by his wife, October 1926. This document can be found at www.ancestry.com, www.familysearch.org, and also other sources on the Internet. In this book, Richard P. Tatum speculates that the maiden name of Samuel's wife was Wainwright. A number of people have now assigned this name to Samuel's wife, but there is no documentation for this assumption.


6 According to www.planetmurphy.org, webpage written and compiled by James R. Murphy, n8sml@yahoo.com, many Tatams or Tatums of this group eventually used the spelling "Tatem."


7 Wikipedia on 1 Oct 2016 stated: " In 1609, the English Virginia Company, which had established Jamestown in Virginia (a term originally applied to all of the North American continent) two years earlier, permanently settled Bermuda in the aftermath of a hurricane, when the crew and passengers of the Sea Venture steered the ship onto the surrounding reef to prevent its sinking, then landed ashore.
Nathaniel Butler, arrived with 500 people in four ships in October 1619, joining 600 persons already there. The new arrivals reputedly included [NOT PROVED] our Samuel (1) Tatum, a mariner, planter, trader, and member of the Council for Warwick Tribe. The first true record of Samuel is his signature, together with those of other planters, on a plea for growing more tobacco; their tobacco shipments were being held up by customs and they were in desperate need of money to carry on.”

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abt 1622 Unknown location. Samuel Tatum, Jr., was born to Samuel Tatum and an unknown wife.9 NOTE: The birthdate is only a rough guess.

1622 Bermuda. Samuel Tatam/Tatum/Tatem’s name was not on the list of early settlers.10

abt 1624 Unknown location. Nathaniel Tatum was born to Samuel Tatum and an unknown wife.11 NOTE: The birthdate is only a rough guess.

abt 1625 Unknown location. Nehemiah Tatum was born to Samuel Tatum and an unknown wife.12 NOTE: The birthdate is only a rough guess.

21 Mar 1626 Warwick Tribe, Bermuda. (Near Port Royal). The first record for Samuel Tatum/Tatam was (28 May 1626) on this date “when he signed a plea for growing tobacco in answer to the Company of the City of London for the Plantation of the Summer Islands,” addressed to Capt. Hy. Woodhouse, Governor.13,14

Sep 1626 Warwick Tribe, Bermuda. Samuel Tatam signed “Inhabitants Grievances” against a Capt. Stockes.15 (This appears to be Capt. Thomas Stokes.)

20 Nov 1626 Warwick Tribe, Bermuda. Samuel Tatam was at the Council Table as Counsel for War.16

"The island was administered as an extension of Virginia by the Company until 1614. Its spin-off, the Somers Isles Company, took over in 1615 and managed the colony until 1684. At that time, the company's charter was revoked, and the English Crown took over administration. The islands became a British colony following the 1707 unification of the parliaments of Scotland and England, which created the Kingdom of Great Britain." 


10 “Tatum Narrative,” p. 10.


Mar 1629-30  **Warwick Tribe, Bermuda. Samuel Tatum** served on the Grand Inquest.17

1629  **Warwick Tribe, Bermuda. Samuel Tatum** sold 10 lbs. of tobacco to **Goodwife Harvard**.18

1629/1630  **Warwick Tribe, Bermuda. Samuel Tatum** served on the Grand Inquest in the Islands.19,20

aft 1630  No further data have been found for this Samuel Tatum I.

abt 1636  **Bermuda. Hannah Tatum**, daughter of Samuel Tatum, married **Charles Sothern**.21 They had a daughter with an unknown first name, who married **William Nelmes, II**.

04 Mar 1643  **Southampton, Bermuda. Samuel Tatum, II**, married **Ann Knowles**, daughter of **Damon and Ann Knowles**.22 They had children, **Samuel III and Ann**.

abt 1646  **Bermuda. Nathaniel Tatum**, son of Samuel I, married **Mary**, perhaps Underwood, not proved maiden name. Their children were **Nathaniel II, Mary, Elizabeth, Samuel, and Sarah**.

11 Sep 1646  **Bermuda. Abell Shingleton**, of Barbadoes, mariner, contracted a debt to **Nathaniell Tatem** of Somers Islands (Bermuda), witnessed by **John Clark** and **John Vaughn**.24 [This is the son of Samuel I.]

abt 1652/1662  **Bermuda. Nehemiah Tatum** married **Patience Bullock**, daughter of **William Bullock** and **Patience Paynter**.25 They had sons **John and Samuel**.

Nov 1659  **Warwick Tribe, Bermuda. Capt. Nathaniel Tatem**, son of Samuel I, was a church officer.

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20 “The appointed Governor, Nathaniel Butler, arrived with 500 people in four ships in October 1619, joining 600 persons already there. The new arrivals reputedly included our Samuel (1) Tatum, a mariner, planter, trader, and member of the Council for Warwick Tribe. The first true record of Samuel is his signature, together with those of other planters, on a plea for growing more tobacco; their tobacco shipments were being held up by customs and they were in desperate need of money to carry on.”
22 She was baptized in Southampton, Bermuda, in 1629, according to Virginia Bernhard, Slaves and Slaveholders in Bermuda, 1616-1782, University of Missouri, Columbia, 1999, reprinted 2016, p. 126.
25 According to Richard P. Tatum, "Tatum Narrative 1626 - 1925," Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, published after his death by his wife, October 1926, pp. 29-30, Nehemiah Tatum married Patience Bullock, daughter of William Bullock and Patience Painter. He was living in Warwick Tribe, Bermuda, in 1682, according to this book, p. 44. Patience Bullock Tatem was a Quaker, but Nehemiah was not. This book is in the database of Ancestry.com and also available from this link: https://familysearch.org/search/catalog/29327?availability=Family%20History%20Library.
1662  **Warwick Tribe, Bermuda. Nehemiah Tatem**, son of Samuel I, was a councilor.

1662-1663  **Bermuda. Nathaniel Tatum**, Chirurgeon, & **Samuel Tatum II**, sons of Samuel I, were listed in the Norwood Book of Survey1662-1663 with land in Norwich Tribe and Somerset in Sandy Tribe, respectively.\(^{26}\)

26 Mar 1670  **Hamilton Tribe, Bermuda.** The will of **Charles Sothern**, Gentleman, was made.\(^{27}\) He named Grand-daughter **Elizabeth Nelme** and loving son in law **William Nelme, Junr.**, her father. Granddaughter **Hannah Nelme** the Sound side share. Grandson **William Nelme**. Son in law Wm. Nelme, Junr., & **Nathaniel Tatem**, brother of my wife **Hannah Sothern** & Uncle of my aforesaid Grandchildren. Execrs. & loving friend **Henrie Tucker**, Sect. of the Somers Islands to be Overseer. Wit: **Daniel & Henry Tucker**. Proved 16 Oct 1671.\(^{28}\) [This indicates that Hannah was a daughter of Samuel Tatam I.]

NOTE: “Wm. Nelme, the grandson, was born 1665. His father, Wm. Nelme, Junr. was b. Apl. 6 1634 & was son of Wm. Nelme & Elizabeth North who were mar. May 27 1633.”

16 Oct 1671  **Hamilton Tribe, Bermuda.** The will of **Charles Sothern**, husband of Hannah Tatum, was proved.\(^{29}\)

04 Nov 1686  **Pagetts Tribe, Bermuda. Capt. Nathaniel Tatum** made his will.\(^{30}\)


\(^{27}\) “Tatum Narrative,” p. 18.


I give unto my dere and loveing wife Mary Tatam all that I have possessed or enjoyed for and during her natural life after my decease, Onely a Negr woman named Jack and after her decease to my children as followeth,

To our son, Nathaniell Tatem, I gave Fifty pounds unpon his going to Bahama Islands or before his going away from these Islands, and he has resided since his departure from mee at the Bahama Islands, of my said fifty pounds, and I do likewise give him a Negro named Jack and by these I do give him the said before one hundred pounds which he hath already received and ye sd. negroe.

I give unto my daughter Mary Tatemall my wife dresses, a Negroe woman named Hannah.

I give unto my daughter Elizabeth Teatem after my wife decease one African I have named Bess and the great Cupboard in the Hall and the little table and forme in the chimney chamber.

I give unto my son Samuel Tatem after my wife's decease my dwelling house and land connected with all outhouses now adjacent to the said dwelling house as also the great table and two florence in the hall and one great shayne.
NOTE: No will has been found for Samuel Tatam I. Were there any Bermuda records for Samuel after 1629/1630? There is an index to registers of wills 1648-1954 (Series RG 1001), Family History Library, Salt Lake City, UT, International Film 1667772. Also, Book of Wills, v. 1 1640-1686 (years missing). Perhaps Samuel died before 1648 and thus was not in the index, or perhaps he had a will that was in one of the missing years. Perhaps he even left Bermuda for some other location.

NOTE 2: As an argument for Samuel Tatum of Bermuda being the same man as Samuel Tatum/Tatam of London, researcher Ed Tatum, tatume@verizon.net, wrote: “The governor of Bermuda, Thomas Smyth, was also a member of the Worshipful Company of Haberdashers, and it seems to have had a hand in the early settlement of both Virginia and Bermuda, . . .” in email of 10/8/2016 5:27 PM to Cecilie Gaziano, cgaziano@prodigy.net; Ronnie Tatum, rontatum@swbell.net; and James R. Murphy, n8sml@yahoo.com.

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I give to my daughter Sarah Tatem the proffitt of my shallop that went to the Bahamas Islands bee considerable Twenty pounds but if it be not considerable, I leave it to the descretion of my wife Mary Tatem what to abate of the same profit gained by the said Shallop.

I give and bequeath all my other goods and chattels not before given as Bed goods, Bedding, linen, pewter, brass and iron, cattle and hogs and whatever that may be called mine after the decease of my well beloved wife unto my three children, Mary, Elizabeth and Samuel Tatem equally to be divided among them.

Appoint Mary, my well beloved wife executrix and my cousin Benjamin Wainwright, Executor.

Nathaniell Tatem(Seal)

Signed, Sealed and delivered in presence of: John Brion, Christopher Prudden, Cornelius White