

Biographical Sketch

John Crawford

(I) John Crawford, the first of the family in this country, came from Ayrshire, Scotland, about 1672, first making settlement in Massachusetts, then lived on Long Island, finally settling in Middletown, Monmouth county, New Jersey, as early as 1678.

He is first of record in New Jersey in a deed from Richard Gibbons and wife, dated December 11, 1678, conveying to him a house and lot in Middletown, assigned to the grantor in the first division of the land in 1667, under the Nichols Patent. The original deed was in the possession of descendants of John Crawford for 227 years, then (in 1895) was presented to the Monmouth County Historical Society (Monmouth County Deeds A, see facsimile in "Historical and Biographical Atlas of New Jersey Coast," page 69).

Between 1691 and 1694 a number of men from Monmouth county and Long Island founded a town called Portsmouth, on Delaware Bay, in the lower township of Cape May county, about three miles north of Cape May Point, and the earliest deed for land at Portsmouth was made April 1, 1699, to John Crawford, for 300 acres.

1678, December 11: He bought a house and lot in Middletown, New Jersey, from Richard Gibbons and wife.

1678: He was licensed to keep an ordinary or public victualling house at Middletown.

1679, March 15: John Crawford made a mortgage to Robert Hamilton.

1680, November 25: He had 306 acres of a proprietary grant surveyed for him at Middletown.

1682, April 10: Richard Hartshorne, attorney for Thomas Snowsell, sold forty acres in Middletown to John Crawford.

1682, July 11: John Crawford bought land on the south side of the highway in Middletown, as it runs east and west from Samuel Moor, of Woodbridge, attorney for Mr. Anthony Checkely, of Boston, who received the same by process of law by a marshal's bill of sale of lands of Thomas Snowsell,

July 10, 1682. 1684-5: John C. sold to Richard Hartshorne one hundred acres of land on the south side of said town (Middletown) adjoining the home lots of Richard Stout, Richard Gibbons and John Smith.

1685, September 19: He sold 130 acres in Middletown to Jeremiah Bennet.

March 25, 1687, he had a tract of 280 acres at Waykake, conveyed to him by patent from the proprietors of East Jersey. 1687, December 3: John Crawford, Gentleman, of Middletown, received a grant of land from the proprietors, bounded by Richard Gibbons and John Wilson, containing 200 acres, lying in Nutswamp, occupied by his descendants till recently.

1691, August 3: John Crawford, of Middletown, conveyed 280 acres to his son, John Crawford, Jr., of the same place, lying at Waykake, Monmouth county, New Jersey.

1692, April 30: John Crawford, of Middletown, and his wife Elizabeth, sold a sixteen acre house lot in Middletown to Major Anthony Brockhole, of New York City.

1693, August 18: John Crawford, of Middletown, sold to Richard Hartshorne the sixteen acre homelot bought of Richard Gibbons in 1678.

1694: John Crawford died, and was buried upon his farm in Nutswamp, Middletown. His wife Elizabeth died about the same time. They had at least two sons, George and John.

Monmouth County NJ Archives Biographies.....Crawford, William Henry 1809 – 1874

Author: Mary Depue Ogden, Editor (1917)