

A Biography of Paul Sawyer (1753-1826)

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Early Life

Military and pension records indicate that Paul Sawyer was born in Lancaster, Massachusetts around 1753.¹ His parents were Moses and Dinah Sawyer. Paul's great-great-grandfather Thomas Sawyer, who emigrated from Lancashire, England, was among the original settlers of Lancaster in 1644. Paul and his Sawyer ancestors resided in the Lancaster area for a total of more than 120 years.

Paul's parents likely married in Lancaster in the early 1750s, though we do not know the exact date or his mother's family name. Only a few records exist about the early years of their marriage because they lived far out of town, were not church members, and did not own land.

Moses and Dinah resided on a farm located in the far western part of Lancaster, which later became the town of Sterling. The farm belonged to Moses' father, Bezaleel Sawyer, who invited Moses and his family to live there. Weeks before his death in 1760, Bezaleel gifted the farm to his "well beloved and fourth son Moses Sawyer."²

On September 24, 1758, Dinah Sawyer joined Lancaster's Second Congregational Church, also known as the West Precinct Church or the Chocksett Church. She must have previously belonged to a church, as they admitted her to membership without performing a baptism. On the same day, the minister baptized her young children Paul, Judith, and Ruth, the oldest of whom was about five years old.³

¹ His age appears in descriptive rolls cited in *Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War* (Boston: Wright and Potter, 1905), volume 13, p. 883 at <https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=uma.ark:/13960/t7kp8612t&seq=891> and in affidavits in his Revolutionary War military and pension file at the National Archives and Records Administration at <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QHN-Y7M5-SSC4-N?lang=en&i=3> and <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QHN-B7M5-3912-C?lang=en&i=8>. The 1818 affidavit states that he was born in "Lancaster now Starling [Sterling]".

² Worcester County deeds, 1761-1762, at <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QSQ-G9ZH-J399>.

³ Nourse, Henry S. (editor). *The Birth, Marriage, and Death Register, Church Records and Epitaphs of Lancaster, Massachusetts, 1643-1850* (Lancaster, 1890), pp. 376 and 384 at <https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=mdp.39015014585221&seq=384>.

Moses did not join the church immediately, but he became a member through an adult baptism on August 3, 1760, when the minister also baptized their new daughter Dinah. Subsequent Chocksett Church baptisms were for their son Thomas on September 5, 1762, and their daughter Louisa on March 10, 1765.⁴

Paul Sawyer's grandson Sylvester Sawyer reported that Paul's father participated in military campaigns during the French and Indian Wars (1754-1763). A Moses Sawyer from Lancaster did serve in 1757 and 1758, there is no clear proof that this is the same Moses Sawyer.⁵

On October 15, 1768, Moses and Dinah sold their Lancaster property and bought a sixty-two-acre farm in what was then known as Ervingshire, about 48 miles west.⁶ Many of Ervingshire's other early settlers also came from Lancaster.

A 1771 property evaluation reveals details about the Sawyers' new farm. Like most Ervingshire farmers, Moses raised only enough to feed his family and their animals and a little extra to barter for needed services. Lack of easy transportation prevented growing cash crops for larger markets. Moses had two oxen, two cows, six goats/sheep, and one pig. He cultivated half an acre for grain, corn, and vegetables, and another half-acre for hay.⁷

Revolutionary War

While there is ample documentation of Paul Sawyer's later service in the Continental Army, his earlier involvement in militia regiments is harder to follow. He likely served as a Minute Man initially and then joined militia regiments led by John Nixon and later his brother Thomas Nixon. That regiment engaged in the siege of Boston and participated in the battles at Trenton and Princeton. Additionally, he served in a militia unit commanded by Captain Aaron Osgood from Ervingshire.⁸ Unlike many militia members who only served short enlistments, Paul appears to have served throughout 1775 and 1776.

⁴ *Ibid.*, pp. 384-386.

⁵ Nourse, Henry S. *The Military Annals of Lancaster, Massachusetts, 1740-1865* (Lancaster, 1889), pp. 60 and 66 at <https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=hvd.32044013680996&seq=68>.

⁶ Worcester County Deeds, 1767-1769, at <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QSQ-G9ZH-JD6W> and Franklin County Land Records, 1663-1786, at <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QS7-L9Z4-MP94>

⁷ Massachusetts Valuation Records, 1771 at <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C9Y5-3NY1> (listed as Shutesbury but includes Ervingshire).

⁸ *Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War*, volume 13, pp. 882-883 at <https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=uma.ark:/13960/t7kp8612t&seq=890>.

In January 1777, Paul enlisted in the 6th Massachusetts Regiment, part of the Massachusetts Line of the Continental Army. Unlike the militia, whose members often served during specific shorter campaigns, the soldiers of the Continental Army enlisted as full-time soldiers for three years or even for the duration of the war. This regiment primarily defended New York's Hudson River Valley, guarding against attacks by the British forces that held New York City. They also participated in the Battles of Saratoga, where Continental troops under General Horatio Gates defeated British forces from Quebec trying to meet up with those in New York City.

During 1777, Paul's father Moses served for about two and a half months in militia units. Initially, they marched to Fort Ticonderoga on Lake Champlain, which British forces had seized the previous year. Later, his neighbor Captain Aaron Osgood recruited Moses for more service in the Northern department.⁹ Paul's sixteen-year-old brother Thomas must have kept up the farm work in their father's absence.

Paul was an exceptionally large man for his time. His grandson Silas Sawyer later claimed that Paul stood six feet seven inches tall and weighed 280 pounds, but Silas never met his grandfather and military rosters list Paul's height as six feet three inches or six feet two inches. That was still very tall for the period as most soldiers in his regiment were less than six feet tall. Paul had brown hair and a light complexion.

Like other Privates in the Continental Army, Paul earned \$6.60 per month, plus an extra \$10 for meals, but payment delays were common throughout the war. More than nine months after his last day of service, he finally received all outstanding pay, subsistence, clothing allowances, and a gratuity promised upon enlisting totaling \$311.68.¹⁰

Paul's discharge certificate, signed by General George Washington on June 10, 1783, states that he served in the war for eight years, one month, and twenty-two days – basically the entire war.¹¹ He was about thirty years old when the war ended.

Paul had enlisted from Ervingshire, but during his service the Massachusetts legislature united the northern part of Shutesbury with Ervingshire to create the new town of Wendell on May 8, 1781. Area residents had petitioned the legislature in September 1778, and a legislative committee approved the request in early 1779,

⁹ *Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War*, volume 13, p. 881 at <https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=uma.ark:/13960/t7kp8612t&seq=889>.

¹⁰ Massachusetts State Archives. Accounts of certificates received by Benjamin Heywood for pay to officers and soldiers, 6th Mass. Regiment at <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSJ7-1FNW>

¹¹ A transcription of the certificate appears in his Revolutionary War military and pension file at <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QHN-Y7M5-SSC4-8?lang=en&i=12>.

allowing the bill's introduction. Moses Sawyer was one of the petitioners requesting the establishment of the new town.¹²

A Growing Family

While Paul was away, his sister Ruth married Zachariah Drury on March 3, 1779. Both were residents of Ervingshire, but because the congregation there was still meeting in people's homes, the couple chose the meetinghouse in the neighboring town of Montague for their ceremony.¹³ They soon had children, so Paul got to meet several new nieces and nephews in the Drury family upon his return from the war. [Many genealogists incorrectly identify Zachariah Drury's wife Ruth. See [Appendix A](#).]

Thomas Sawyer, Paul's younger brother, married Zibiah Hare at Wendell on September 6, 1784.¹⁴ They had at least two children in Wendell before moving away.¹⁵

Two years later, on September 11, 1786, thirty-three-year-old Paul Sawyer entered matrimony with Sibbil Higgins at Wendell.¹⁶ Sibbil was twenty-two years of age and the daughter of Uriah Higgins and Esther Cooley. In 1784, Uriah relocated his family from Hardwick to Wendell.¹⁷ Although the Higgins family resided in Wendell for only six years, during that period Uriah and Esther had a son baptized and saw the weddings of their two eldest daughters.

Paul and Sibbil Sawyer gave birth to a son in early 1787 who passed away in the following November at approximately ten months old. The baby's name does not appear in town or church records.¹⁸

¹² Massachusetts State Archives. House documents #1134, at <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QHV-V38L-4VYB>

¹³ Montague Births, Marriages, Deaths, 1715-1866, p. 126 at <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33S7-9RSK-9XNC>.

¹⁴ Wendell Vital Records, 1760-1896 at <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QS7-L979-HPR5>

¹⁵ Wendell church records at <https://congregationallibrary.quartexcollections.com/Documents/Detail/church-records-1783-1847-congregational-church-in-wendell-mass./34694?item=34716> and <https://congregationallibrary.quartexcollections.com/Documents/Detail/church-records-1783-1847-congregational-church-in-wendell-mass./34694?item=34717>

¹⁶ Wendell Vital Records, 1760-1896 at <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QS7-L979-HPR5>.

¹⁷ Franklin County Land Records, 1663-1786, at <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QS7-L9Z4-MGN7>

¹⁸ Wendell town records at <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QS7-9979-H52H> and Wendell church records at <https://congregationallibrary.quartexcollections.com/Documents/Detail/church-records-1783-1847-congregational-church-in-wendell-mass./34694?item=34714>

The following year, they had a son named Uriah H. Sawyer after his maternal grandfather, Uriah Higgins. Although Wendell town records do not list Uriah's birth, church records document an unnamed son born to Paul and Sibbil on June 26, 1788, which undoubtedly is Uriah.¹⁹

Shays' Rebellion

After the Revolutionary War, the new country's weak national government under the Articles of Confederation faced significant economic challenges. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts experienced a debt crisis, saw resistance to increased tax collection efforts to address state deficits, and faced allegations of political corruption in state government. These issues led to an armed uprising in western Massachusetts, known as Shays' Rebellion, named after one of its leaders, Daniel Shays.

In 1787, the rebels marched on the federal government's Springfield Armory (forty-six miles south of Wendell) to seize its weaponry and challenge the Massachusetts government. The national government provided no response, but the state militia defeated the rebels. Led by Captain Oliver Wetherbee, a troop of 30 to 40 Wendell rebels participated. Historian Leonard Richards notes Wendell as one of Massachusetts's most rebellious towns.²⁰ Despite opposition from town leaders, about half of the residents there supported the Rebellion.²¹

The state legislature responded by enacting the Disqualification Act, preventing rebels from serving on juries, holding public office, or voting for three years. Rebels could avoid prosecution by surrendering their weapons and signing an oath of loyalty to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Moses Sawyer, his son Thomas, and his son-in-law Zachariah Drury, were among those from Wendell who took the oath, an indication of their involvement in the rebellion.²²

¹⁹ Wendell church records at

<https://congregationallibrary.quartexcollections.com/Documents/Detail/church-records-1783-1847-congregational-church-in-wendell-mass./34694?item=34702>

²⁰ Richards, Leonard L. *Shays's Rebellion: The American Revolution's Final Battle* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2002), p. 57

²¹ Richardson, Pamela A. and Thomas E. Sawin. *Wendell, Massachusetts: Its Settlers and Citizens, 1752-1900* (Amherst, MA, An Off the Common Book, 2015), p. 95, at <https://ia802804.us.archive.org/24/items/wendellmass17521900/wendellmass17521900.pdf#page=119#19>

²² Massachusetts State Archives. Miscellaneous, 1786-1887 (Shays' Rebellion), volume 190 at <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C9YT-YCKP>

Notable by his absence from the list of oath takers is Paul Sawyer. Though Paul probably sympathized with the rebels, he did not actively join them. He had recently married, and his wife was expecting or had just delivered their first child.

Feelings on both sides of the issue ran high at Wendell and soon made rebel Captain Oliver Wetherbee flee to New York.²³ Did this also influence the Sawyers' eventual decision to leave Wendell?

Soon after the collapse of Shays' Rebellion, a national constitutional convention met in Philadelphia to revise or replace the Articles of Confederation. Many historians believe that the inability of the national government to respond to this rebellion or to deal with the debt crisis convinced many people of the need for a new form of government moving some powers from the individual states to the Federal government. Within two years the states completed ratification of the Constitution, conducted elections, and a new federal government took over.

The Sawyers were still in Wendell in 1790, at the time of the first federal census. Paul and his brother Thomas are not listed separately, but Moses' household reported eight people living there.²⁴

The Sawyer Family and the Church

When the Sawyers arrived in Ervingshire, there was no local church, so people went to nearby towns for services. On November 30, 1774, Moses helped organize the town's new Congregational church.²⁵

For nine years, the congregation met in members' homes. Eventually they began constructing a 40' x 55' meetinghouse. Progress on the building was slow. Initially it had only an external cover, a temporary floor, no pulpit, pews, or heating. Nonetheless, the congregation met twice every Sunday in the unheated, unfinished structure.²⁶

By 1789, both Moses Sawyer and his daughter-in-law's father Uriah Higgins were in trouble with church leaders. On June 11, a church meeting appointed a committee to ask Moses about his absence from worship, which he attributed to a lack of decent

²³ Richardson, Pamela A., op.cit., p. 96 at <https://ia802804.us.archive.org/24/items/wendellmass17521900/wendellmass17521900.pdf#page=120>

²⁴ 1790 census of Wendell at <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33S7-9YYG-TRQ>

²⁵ Wendell church records at <https://congregationallibrary.quartexcollections.com/Documents/Detail/church-records-1783-1847-congregational-church-in-wendell-mass./34694?item=34700>

²⁶ Richardson, Pamela A., op.cit., p. 51 at <https://ia802804.us.archive.org/24/items/wendellmass17521900/wendellmass17521900.pdf#page=75>

apparel and to a dispute with church member Henry Sweetser. The church agreed to review his evidence on the dispute but was still concerned about his absence.²⁷

Church leaders also questioned Uriah Higgins on the same charge, but in June 1790 he informed the minister that he was leaving town and moving to Vermont.²⁸ Two months later Moses Sawyer also sold his property and left town. Undoubtedly these disputes with church leaders contributed to their decisions to depart.

The Move to New York

In August 1790, Moses and Dinah sold their Wendell lands.²⁹ In addition to seeking better farming land, their experiences with the Massachusetts government and the Wendell church might have prompted them to seek a new beginning.

They moved 150 miles west to what was then Montgomery County, New York, near Albany. In 1791, the area became part of Cherry Valley in Otsego County after the state legislature divided Montgomery County. In 1797, their portion of Cherry Valley became the new town of Worcester, named after Worcester County, Massachusetts, as many of its early settlers (including the Sawyers) were from there.

On April 20, 1798, the federal government awarded Paul a bounty land warrant for one hundred acres in the Military District of Ohio due to his service in the Revolutionary War.³⁰ Many veterans chose to sell their warrants rather than use them to acquire land directly and it is likely that Paul did so as no record has been found to show him owning land in New York or Ohio.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts also granted Paul bounty lands in 1798, but he neither redeemed the warrant nor sold it. After his death, his six children—Uriah, Louisa, Bezaleel, Saloma, Joseph, and Elmedia—filed a claim for land owed to their

²⁷ Wendell church records at

<https://congregationallibrary.quartexcollections.com/Documents/Detail/church-records-1783-1847-congregational-church-in-wendell-mass./34694?item=34697> and

<https://congregationallibrary.quartexcollections.com/Documents/Detail/church-records-1783-1847-congregational-church-in-wendell-mass./34694?item=34721>

²⁸ Wendell church records at

<https://congregationallibrary.quartexcollections.com/Documents/Detail/church-records-1783-1847-congregational-church-in-wendell-mass./34694?item=34721>

²⁹ Franklin deeds, 1789-1791 and 1793-1794 at <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QSQ-G9Z8-RQDX> and <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QS7-99Z8-RHD5>

³⁰ Revolutionary War military and pension file at <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QHN-B7M5-3912-Z?lang=en&i=9>; also Revolutionary War Bounty Land Warrants Used in the U. S. Military

District of Ohio at the National Archives and Records Administration at

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS1K-F7G6>

father by Massachusetts authorities. In 1832, they received a deed for two hundred acres of land in Somerset County, Maine.³¹

The 1800 census of Worcester, New York includes an entry for Moses Sawyer with his son Thomas Sawyer listed immediately below him.³² This is the last record I have found for these two families. It remains unclear whether they passed away in Worcester or relocated elsewhere.

Paul Sawyer is not listed in the 1800 census by name, and his family does not appear to be living with either his father or brother. It is known from later New York state census records that the family lived in Otsego County in the 1790s when his son Bezaleel and daughter Saloma were born there.³³

By 1802 Paul's family was in Chenango, Tioga County, New York, about seventy-four miles southwest of Worcester.³⁴ It is even possible that they were in Chenango before 1800 as there is a "Henry" Sawyer listed in the 1800 census of Chenango, with the ages of family members corresponding closely to the known ages of Paul's family.³⁵ The town of Chenango soon became part of Broome County, and Elmedia, the last of Paul and Sibbil's children, was born there in about 1804.

The Later Years

By the 1810s, some family members had moved west to New York's Finger Lakes region. Paul's son Uriah was in Genoa, Cayuga County when drafted to serve in the War of 1812, joining Colonel Henry Bloom's 19th New York militia regiment serving near Niagara Falls. The regiment discharged Uriah after only three months due to a severe hand injury he received while butchering meat for the commissary.³⁶

³¹ Massachusetts Land Records, 1803-1841 (Paul Sawyer file) at <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QSQ-G93N-D9FY-4>. The land is now located in Piscataquis County.

³² 1800 census of Worcester, Otsego, New York at <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:XH5Y-58M>

³³ Otsego appears as the county of birth in the 1855 census of Aurelius, Cayuga, New York (Bezaleel Sawyer) and Chenango, Broome, New York (Saloma Sawyer Handy) at <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:K67R-429> and <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33S7-9BPT-DJ>

³⁴ New York Tax Assessment Rolls of Real and Personal Estates, 1799-1804 at https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/6771/records/286548?tid=73437923&pid=412584347861&ss_rc=pt. Paul did not own real estate, so his tax liability was 2 cents.

³⁵ 1800 census of Chenango, Tioga, New York at <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:XH5Y-JRT>

³⁶ War of 1812 military and pension file at the National Archives and Records Administration at fold3.com

A year later, the same regiment included Privates named Paul and Bezaleel Sawyer on its payroll records.³⁷ Apparently sixty-year-old Paul Sawyer and his son Bezaleel decided to take Uriah's place in the unit. Paul was still in Cayuga County when he applied for a Revolutionary War pension in 1818.

In 1820, Paul, Uriah and Bezaleel were back in Broome County. Paul communicated with the pension office from this location and likely is the male over 45 years old listed in Bezaleel's 1820 census record. Uriah is listed next to Bezaleel in the town of Windsor, while his sister Saloma Handy and her family lived nearby in the town of Chenango.³⁸

In his 1820 application for an increase in pension payments, Paul Sawyer reported that he had no income other than the pension, owned no real estate, and had a fever sore on his right leg that rendered him unable to work. He stated that aside from his necessary clothing and bedding, his only possessions were a hoe and a drawing knife. Additionally, he mentioned that he "has no family, his wife and children having left him."³⁹ While this may have been true at one point, it is possible that he had reconciled with his children if he was living with Bezaleel.

The exact date of Paul Sawyer's death is unknown, but records indicate that he received his final Revolutionary War pension payment in 1825, suggesting that his death occurred later that year or early in 1826.⁴⁰

By 1830, his son Bezaleel was once again in Cayuga County, with his brother Uriah joining him there later. In the 1850s, Saloma Sawyer Handy and her family moved to Isabella County, Michigan. The last record for Elmedia Sawyer Rummer Bunce shows her in Hardin County, Iowa, living with her daughter's family in 1870. I have not yet found later records for Paul's children Louisa and Joseph.

³⁷ War of 1812 Payroll Abstracts for New York State Militia, 1812-1815 at Ancestry.com.

³⁸ 1820 Census of Windsor, Broome, New York at <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33SQ-GYYB-75D>.

³⁹ Revolutionary War military and pension file at <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QHN-B7M5-3912-C?lang=en&i=8>.

⁴⁰ Revolutionary War pension payments ledger, 1818-1832. Digital copy at <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QS7-99WB-QRTM>

Appendix A - Zachariah Drury's Wife Ruth Sawyer

Many genealogists incorrectly identify Zachariah Drury's wife Ruth as a daughter of Humphrey and Hannah Sawyer of Newbury, Massachusetts and state that she was born on June 28, 1757, at Newbury (although a few report that she was born at Wendell, but to the same parents). Here are some points to consider in contemplating Ruth's ancestry:

1. **The Ruth Sawyer who was born in Newbury in 1757 died on 12 October 1760**, so she could not be Zachariah's wife.⁴¹
2. **Records at Ervingshire/Wendell do not show a birth date, birth place or names of parents for Ruth**, only the date of her marriage, the dates of birth of her children, and her death and burial dates (with no age given), so we cannot be certain exactly when she was born.⁴²
3. **Zachariah Drury purchased land in Ervingshire in 1771, having lived previously in Framingham and Lancaster**.⁴³ He appears to have lived continuously in Ervingshire/Wendell from that point on, with the exception of his time serving in the Revolutionary War.
4. **Moses and Dinah Sawyer moved from Lancaster to Ervingshire in 1768 and had a daughter named Ruth** who was probably born around 1756 or 1757 (the births of the Sawyer children do not appear in Lancaster records, but Ruth and two siblings were all baptized in 1758 when their mother joined the Chocksett church). After Zachariah Drury arrived in Ervingshire, these Sawyers lived near him and attended the same church.
5. **The 1779 marriage record for Zachariah Drury and Ruth Sawyer shows them as "both of Ervingshire".**⁴⁴
6. **Zachariah Drury served in the Revolutionary War with Ruth's father**, according to documents attached to his record in the FamilySearch Family

⁴¹ Massachusetts Town Clerk, Vital and Town Records, 1626-2001 at <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:FH8W-84Z?lang=en>

⁴² Wendell birth, marriages, and deaths at <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QS7-9979-H5N5>; Wendell church records at <https://congregationallibrary.quartexcollections.com/Documents/Detail/church-records-1783-1847-congregational-church-in-wendell-mass./34694?item=34746>.

⁴³ He was born in Framingham and spent his childhood there. He was listed as a resident of Lancaster on the deed in which he first bought land in Ervingshire at <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QSQ-G9Z4-MPLP> and on a list of Lancaster polls and estates at <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C9YR-VX68>

⁴⁴ Montague Births, Marriages, Deaths, 1715-1866, at <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33S7-9RSK-9XNC>.

Tree.⁴⁵ Both Zachariah Drury and Moses Sawyer have documented military service (although I see no known overlap in terms of regiments and dates).⁴⁶

While there is no proof, circumstantial evidence makes it likely that Zachariah Drury married the daughter of neighbors who attended the same church.

⁴⁵ See <https://www.familysearch.org/en/tree/person/memories/LZZK-WHJ>

⁴⁶ Moses Sawyer's military service is described on page 3. For Zachariah Drury, see *Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War*, volume 4, pp. 969, 975, and 989 at <https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=hvd.32044097906150&seq=975>.