Solomon⁶ Walker of Langdon, New Hampshire; Delmar, Tioga County, Pennsylvania; and Nicholas County, (West) Virginia

Eugene Allen Walker and Neva P. Adams

In 1773, Seth⁵ Walker (*Seth*⁴⁻³, *Joseph*², *Samuel*¹) was the first settler of that portion of Charlestown, New Hampshire, which was set off and incorporated as the town of Langdon in 1787. He married at Deerfield, Massachusetts, on 23 October 1770 Eunice Graves. ^[2]

Solomon⁶ Walker was the only son of Seth and Eunice (Graves) Walker.^[3] He was born say 1774 at Charlestown (Langdon),^[4] and married Leah Boyden, with intentions given 18 October 1795 in Alstead, New Hampshire.^[5] She was born 8 January 1766 at Walpole, Massachusetts, the daughter of Ezekiel and Leah (Richardson) Boyden.^[6]

At a Langdon town meeting on 1 March 1796, Seth Walker was chosen moderator. His son Solomon Walker and five others were chosen "Hog Reaf" [hog reeve] at the same meeting.^[7] Solomon Walker joined the Universalist

¹ Frank Burnside Kingsbury, *History and Genealogical Register of the Town of Langdon, Sullivan County, New Hampshire* (Keene, N. H.: the author, 1932) [hereafter Kingsbury, *History of Langdon*], ii, 14, 245, 715–716. Seth Walker's dwelling was number 196 in lot three of range five (see map p. ii). Prior to 1827, Charlestown and Langdon were in Cheshire County.

Kingsbury placed Capt. Richard¹ Walker as the father of Samuel¹ Walker (whom he therefore has as Samuel²). From research published in the early 1900s, however, it was clear that Capt. Richard Walker was born too late to be the father of Samuel; more recently, DNA studies have shown that Richard and Samuel were likely first or second cousins (Eugene Allen Walker, "Samuel¹ Walker, Kinsman of Captain Richard¹ Walker," American Ancestors 23.4 [Winter 2023]:38–41 [hereafter Walker, "Samuel¹ Walker, Kinsman of Captain Richard¹ Walker"]).

- Thomas W. Baldwin, comp., Vital Records of Deerfield, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850 (Boston: Wright & Potter Printing Company, 1920), 241.
- ³ "Melancholy Accident," *Courier of New Hampshire* [Concord, N.H.], 16 Nov. 1803, p. 3, GenealogyBank.com [hereafter "Melancholy Accident"], "He [Seth] has left a wife, and one only son, to lament his untimely death"; see also Kingsbury, *History of Langdon*, 715–716.
- ⁴ S. N. D. North, director, Bureau of the Census, *Heads of Families at the First Census of the United States Taken in the Year 1790, New Hampshire* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1907), 19. Solomon is "under sixteen years" in the census record for his father Seth Walker at Langdon. Because Seth Walker had moved into Charlestown (Langdon) seventeen years prior to the 1790 Census, we can conclude that Solomon was born at Charlestown (Langdon).
- Town Records of Alstead, New Hampshire, 1752–1863, A:310 (FSL DGS 7750180, image 888), "The Intention of Marriage between Solomon Walker of Langdon & Leah Boyden of Alstead. Entered with me October 18th, 1795, Daniel Perin, T. Clerk." Kingsbury, *History of Langdon*, 716, incorrectly identifies her as "Lear (or Leah) Boynton of Al[stead]."
- ⁶ Henry Ernest Woods, editor, Vital Records of Walpole, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850 (Boston: New England Historic Genealogical Society, 1902), 17.
- ⁷ Town Records of Langdon, New Hampshire, 1768–1849 [hereafter Langdon Town Records], 1:119–20 (FSL DGS 5510757, images 62–63).

Church of Langdon on 23 April 1796.^[8] The 1800 census entry for Solomon Walker of Langdon lists three boys under 10 years of age, a female of age 16–25, and a female of age 26–44 (his wife Leah).^[9]

On 25 October 1803 Solomon Walker discovered that his father Seth Walker had accidently drowned that evening in a well on the Walker homestead. [10] Seth died intestate, and his widow Eunice Walker and son Solomon Walker were appointed administrators of his estate on 9 November 1803. An inventory showed that the estate was worth \$2,275. [11]

At a Langdon town meeting on 11 March 1806, Solomon Walker and Joseph Willard were chosen fence viewers. [12]

On 5 May 1806, Solomon and Leah Walker sold the Walker homestead in Langdon to James Egerton and Benjamin Stearns for "ten hundred & 50 dollars," described as follows:

A Certain tract or parcel of Land...in Langdon... being lot N° three in the fifth range of lots as formerly laid out in Charlestown the whole of said lot excepting Two Acres sold off of the South west corner of said Lot and deeded to Obediah Kingsbury, and Also excepting the use and improvement of the dower of thirds Sett off to Eunice Walker relict of Seth Walker late of Langdon deceas^d during the natural life of said Widow...

[Signed and sealed] Solomon Walker [and] Lear, her X mark, Walker. [13]

One month later, in June 1806, Solomon Walker and thirty-five other residents of Langdon signed a petition to the New Hampshire Legislature and General Court that a bank be incorporated at Walpole to serve the residents of Cheshire County.^[14]

On 13 January 1807, Eunice Walker, "relict of Seth Walker late of Langdon," sold her right of dower to James Egerton and Benjamin Stearns for "three hundred and twenty five dollars." [15]

Solomon and his family left Langdon sometime after 1806, [16] perhaps soon after Eunice sold her dower in January 1807. Although a Solomon Walker is listed in the 1810 Census for Claremont, New Hampshire, that Solomon Walker is not the Solomon of Langdon. [17]

⁸ Kingsbury, History of Langdon, 84-85.

⁹ 1800 U. S. Census, Langdon, Cheshire County, New Hampshire, roll 20, p. 914.

[&]quot;Melancholy Accident"; Kingsbury, History of Langdon, 715, citing Chandler's History of Shirley, Mass., gives the date of death for Seth Walker as "Nov. 1804."

New Hampshire, Probate Court (Cheshire County), Probate Estate Files, 1769–1885, case W143 (FSL DGS 7131428, images 525–538).

¹² Langdon Town Records, 1:252 (image 135).

¹³ Cheshire County (New Hampshire), Deeds, 47:279 (FSL DGS 7919208, image 745).

¹⁴ New Hampshire, U.S., Government Petitions, 1700–1826, Ancestry.com.

¹⁵ Cheshire County (New Hampshire) Deeds, 50:412–413 [FSL DGS 7836182, images 217–218].

¹⁶ Kingsbury, *History of Langdon*, 716: "they left town, 1806?"

Solomon Walker of Claremont, New Hampshire, married Charity Stevens, granddaughter of Elihu Stevens, Esq., (Cheshire County, New Hampshire, probate estate files (FSL DGS 7131407, images 1354–1384). This family removed to Michigan by 1830. He was likely a son of Andrew and Sarah (Carrol) Walker of Thompson, Windham County, Connecticut, as a Solomon Walker requested appraisers of the Andrew Walker estate and held a \$200 bond at its settlement (Connecticut State Library [(Hartford, Connecticut)], Probate Files Collection, Early to 1880 [FSL DGS 7629176, images 1171–1183]). Solomon and Charity (Stevens) Walker had a son Andrew Carroll Walker,

Leah Walker of Nicholas County, (West) Virginia

After 1806, Solomon and Leah Walker no longer appear in the public records of Langdon or anywhere else in New Hampshire. However, there was a Leah Walker (widow) who appeared in the Nicholas County, (West) Virginia, personal property tax lists from 1823 through 1826. [18] Could this be the Leah Walker of Langdon?

On 5 January 1826, this Leah Walker wrote the following marriage consent letter to the clerk of the Nicholas County Court:

Sir yourself, please to Issue a License for John Mosbarger to Marry my daughter Eliza Walker & this shall be your sufficient authority for so doing. Given in my hand this 5 day of January 1826, Leah Walker.

Teste, Solon Walker, Joel Walker.[19]

A marriage bond was issued for John Mosbarger and Eliza Walker of Nicholas County, Virginia, on 11 January 1826; they were married there on 1 March 1826 by John Skidmore. The Mosbarger family removed to Huntington Township, Gallia County, Ohio, by 1840, and remained there until after 1850. Leah Walker, who accompanied the Mosbarger family to Gallia County, died at Huntington Township on 17 August 1842. [22]

The Mosbarger family then moved to Worth County, Missouri, about 1855. [23] John Mosbarger died in Allendale in that county on 13 September 1856, and his widow Eliza (Walker) Mosbarger died in Allendale on 6 April 1888. [24] Both are buried in the Lotts Grove Cemetery, Allendale. [25]

who may have been named after the likely grandparents Andrew and Sarah (Carrol) Walker of Thompson, Connecticut.

¹⁸ Nicholas County, Virginia, Personal Property Tax Lists, 1818–1850 (FSL DGS 8151581 [hereafter *Nicholas County Tax Lists*], images 235, 253, 273, and 293).

James S. Blake and Evelyn E. Blake, Early Nicholas County (West) Virginia Marriage Bonds (& Records), 1818–1864 (Craigsville, West Virginia: By the Authors, 1995) [hereafter Blake and Blake, Early Nicholas County Marriages], 37. This reference has "Louk? Walker" giving consent, and "Solon Walker-Todd Walker" as Teste (witnesses). However, photocopies of the consent letter and marriage bond were sent to Neva P. Adams by Evelyn E. Blake about 1998–9. Careful examination of these photocopies confirm that the consenting parent was Leah Walker, and that Solon Walker and Joel Walker were the witnesses. It is not known whether the original documents are extant as they are no longer found at the Nicholas County Court.

²⁰ Blake and Blake, Early Nicholas County Marriages, 37, 65.

²¹ 1840 U. S. Census, Huntington, Gallia County, Ohio, p. 47; 1850 U. S. Census, Huntington, Gallia County, Ohio, p. 387b.

John and Eliza (Walker) Mosbarger Family Bible Records, 1806–1888, The Holy Bible Containing the Old and New Testaments (New York: D. Fanshaw, Printer, 1829), privately held by Wayne Mosbarger, a fourth-generation descendant of John and Eliza (Walker) Mosbarger [hereafter Mosbarger Family Bible]: "Leah Walker died August the 17th 1842." She is likely the female age 70–79 enumerated in the 1840 Census for John Mosbarger.

^{23 &}quot;Obituary-Mosbarger," Worth County Tribune (Grant City, Missouri), 7 Feb. 1923, p. 5 (Newspapers.com): "John Quincy Mosbarger, son of John and Eliza Mosbarger, was born near Vinton, Gallia County, Ohio, on Nov. 2, 1853.... When he was two years of age his parents moved to Gentry County, now Worth County [Missouri]."

²⁴ Mosbarger Family Bible: "John Mosbarger Died September the 13th 1856; Eliza Mosbarger Died April 6th, 1888."

²⁵ Ben Glick, Lotts Grove Cemetery, Smith Township, Worth Co., MO, Cemetery Transcriptions based on digital Photos taken by Ben Glick August 2001, worth.mogenweb.org.

Eliza (Walker) Mosbarger of Worth County, Missouri

Eliza (Walker) Mosbarger, widow of John, and daughter of Leah Walker, was born on 15 November 1809. [26] Her place of birth is listed as Pennsylvania in the 1860 and 1870 censuses. [27] In the 1880 census she is listed as born in Pennsylvania, father born in New Hampshire, and mother born in Massachusetts. [28] This matches the profile for Solomon Walker of Langdon, New Hampshire, who was born there, and his wife Leah (Boyden) Walker, who was born in Massachusetts. If Eliza was the daughter of Solomon and Leah Walker of Langdon, then a record of Solomon Walker in Pennsylvania should be found.

A search of the 1810 Pennsylvania census returned a Solomon Walker in Delmar, Pennsylvania. [29] Eliza Walker, who was born in 1809, should be counted in this census record. However, no females under age 10 are found. A careful examination of the entire census page reveals that the first two columns for females are missing. This census record is consistent with the 1800 census for Solomon Walker of Langdon, with the addition of one boy under 10 years of age, and one adult female age 45 or older. [30]

This Solomon does not appear in the 1800 or 1820 Pennsylvania censuses. However, a Solomon Walker was listed in the 1816 tax list for Monongalia County, (West) Virginia. No other entries were found for Solomon Walker for adjacent years or neighboring counties of (West) Virginia. It is likely that Solomon died prior to 1820, leaving a widow and children.

Children of Solomon and Leah (Boyden) Walker

It has been established that Leah Walker of Nicholas County had a daughter Eliza from Leah's consent letter for her daughter's marriage to John Mosbarger. That she had sons Solon and Joel can be inferred from this letter in which Solon Walker and Joel Walker were witnesses. Additional sons of Solomon and Leah Walker have been identified from an examination of Nicholas County records.

An Ira Walker appeared in the personal property tax lists of Nicholas County, (West) Virginia, for the years 1818 through 1820, and 1825 through 1831. He appropriated 27 acres of land in Nicholas County about 1822 from Hedgman Triplett; however, no record has been found that he received a grant for this land.

²⁶ Mosbarger Family Bible: "Eliza Walker was born November the 15th 1809."

²⁷ 1860 U. S. Census, Township 66, Gentry County, Missouri, p. 905; 1870 U. S. Census, Smith, Worth County, Missouri, p. 406B.

²⁸ 1880 U. S. Census, Smith, Worth County, Missouri, pp. 379A–B. Eliza Mosbarger is enumerated in the household of her son John Quincy Mosbarger.

²⁹ 1810 U. S. Census, Delmar, Tioga County, Pennsylvania, p. 89a, "Solom" Walker, 1-3-0-1-0 / b-b-1-1-1." Note: the first two columns for females appear to be missing on the page.

The additional adult female is perhaps Eunice, the widow of Seth Walker and mother of Solomon. It is unlikely that she is Leah's mother, who personally appeared before William Heath, Judge of Probate, on 6 Dec. 1808 at Dedham, Massachusetts, after the Solomon Walker family had left Langdon (Norfolk Co., Mass., *Probate Docket Books and Record Books*, 16:101 [FSL DGS 7703992, image 365]).

Monongalia County. Virginia, Personal Property Tax Lists, 1783–1850, (FSL DGS 7857026, image 811).

³² Nicholas County Tax Lists, images 163, 181, 193, 273, 293, 312, 329, 349, 370, 387.

³³ Library of Virginia, Land Office reel 338, Warrant No. 7224.

On 23 February 1830 Ira Walker appropriated 25 acres of land from John G. Stephenson. [34] This land was "situate[d] in Nicholas County on Strange Creek a south east branch of Elk river," surveyed on "11 May 1832 by virtue of a Land Office Treasury Warrant N° 10,421" and granted to Solon Walker and Joel Walker on 1 November 1832. [35]

Ira Walker died prior to 23 July 1832, when his estate was appraised. [36] Since his parcel of 25 acres was granted after his death to Solon and Joel, we conclude that Ira Walker was their brother and a son of Solomon and Leah Walker.

Ira appeared in the 1820 U. S. Census for Nicholas County, (West) Virginia. [37] The profile of this census is consistent with that for Solomon Walker's 1810 U. S. Census for Delmar, Pennsylvania, when considering the absence of Solomon and the addition of Eliza, age 10–15. Ira Walker, the eldest child, became head of the household after Solomon's death prior to 1820. There are two females in this census age "forty-five and upwards." They are likely Leah and her mother-in-law Eunice.

On 7 July 1823, Solon Walker and Seth Walker were granted "a certain tract or parcel of land, containing One-hundred acres, situate in the County of Nicholas, on the south side of Elk river." This land was surveyed "on the eleventh day of September 1822, by virtue of a Land Office Treasury Warrant N° 7224, issued the 4th of March 1822." [38] On 7 October 1831, "in consideration of one dollar lawful money," Seth Walker sold his share of this land to Joel Walker. [39] These land transactions help to confirm that Seth Walker was a brother to Solon and Joel Walker.

From a biographical sketch of Albert Walker, we learn the following about his father, Seth Walker: $^{[40]}$

Seth Walker was a native of New Hampshire, where his birth occurred on the 9th day of September 1800. The first wife of Seth Walker bore him seven children and died in Brown Township, this county [i.e., Hancock County]; the following are the names of the children: Ira, of Madison County, Indiana..., Solon, of Madison County [NB: probably named after their uncles Ira and Solon Walker].... Seth Walker was reared to manhood in New Hampshire and then went to Virginia, where he lived for some years, going thence to Ohio. For several years he was engaged in rafting and freighting on the Ohio River and on quitting that business came to Indiana and located in Madison County....

³⁴ Library of Virginia, Land Office reel 339, Warrant No. 10421.

³⁵ Virginia Land Office Grants No. 83, 1833–1837 (Library of Virginia, Reel 149, p. 28).

Nicholas County, West Virginia, will books, 1:71 (FSL DGS 4713615, image 52). The inventory of Ira Walker's personal goods was valued at \$65.29 ½ and consisted of a sword, a castor hat, a regimental coat, two volumes of "Matitia Law," a coat, waist coat, and pantaloons, "one double barrilled gun one half the property of the deceast," a foot adze, a falling axe, a scythe, a pinch back watch, an inkstand, a cleaver, a bed tick, one third part of a whip saw, a butcher knife, a cotton handkerchief, and a small kettle and lid—essential items for life on the frontier. Ira's military items may have been his own outright, or inherited from his father Solomon or grandfather Seth Walker.

³⁷ 1820 U. S. Census, Nicholas County, (West) Virginia, p. 205A, "Ira Walker, 0-1-0-3-0-0 / 0-1-0-0-2."

³⁸ Virginia Land Office Grants No. 72, 1822–1826 (Library of Virginia, Reel 138, p. 294).

³⁹ Nicholas County, West Virginia, deed books, 2:425 (FSL DGS 8588381, image 536).

⁴⁰ Biographical Memoirs of Hancock County, Indiana (Logansport, Indiana: B. F. Bowen, 1902) [hereafter Biographical Memoirs of Hancock County], 415.

According to the publisher, "every biographical sketch has been submitted for approval and correction to the person for whom it was written" (who in this instance would be Albert Walker, the youngest son of Seth).^[41]

Seth left Nicholas County about 1824. [42] It was then that he probably went to Ohio via the Elk and Kanawha Rivers, which empty into the Ohio River. He probably moved to Brown Township, Hancock County, Indiana, about 1831, when he sold his Nicholas County property. [43]

Solon and Joel Walker were very close to each other, as evidenced by both signing Leah's consent letter and their joint ownership of property. They are listed together in the Braxton County, (West) Virginia, tax lists for the years 1836 through 1850 inclusive, where Joel is enumerated as Joel B. Walker for several of those years. [44] In the 1850 census for Braxton County, Solon Walker and his family are listed in dwelling number 429. His brother Joel is listed next door in dwelling number 430. [45] After Solon's death, his widow Elizabeth moved to Iowa. She is listed in the 1860 census for Union, Iowa; and her brother-in-law Joel is in the same household. [46]

Y-Chromosome DNA

Y-chromosome DNA testing has indicated that this West Virginia family had its roots in New England. The Y-chromosome is inherited exclusively in the male line, being passed from father to son. Within group GR-12 of the Walker Surname DNA Project, descendants of Samuel¹ Walker of Woburn, Massachusetts, are characterized by short tandem repeat (STR) mutations of 22 at DYS390 and 13 at DYS522. [47] Big Y-700 DNA tests for descendants of Solon Walker and Seth Walker, both sons of Leah, have these same defining characteristics, confirming descent from Samuel¹. [48]

The testing also revealed a single nucleotide polymorphism (SNP) mutation at I-FT374885. This mutation is unique to the descendants of Seth³ (*Joseph*², *Samuel*¹) and John³ (*Joseph*², *Samuel*¹) and is not found in the descendants of Samuel² (*Samuel*¹), thus indicating descent from Joseph² (*Samuel*¹).

Genealogical Summary

SOLOMON⁶ **WALKER** (*Seth*⁵⁻³, *Joseph*², *Samuel*¹), was born in Charlestown (Langdon), New Hampshire, say 1774, the son of Seth and Eunice (Graves) Walker. He died in West Virginia between 1816 and 1818. Solomon married

⁴¹ Biographical Memoirs of Hancock County, Preface.

^{42 1823} is the last year in which Seth Walker appears in the Nicholas County tax lists (Nicholas County Tax Lists, image 235).

⁴³ As noted above. The Seth Walker family appears in Brown Township in 1840 (1840 U. S. Census, Brown, Hancock County, Indiana, p. 197).

⁴⁴ Braxton County, Virginia, Personal Property Tax Lists, 1836–1850 (FSL DGS 8151944, images 20, 36, 47, 61, 176, 200, 217).

^{45 1850} U. S. Census, District 4, Nicholas County, (West) Virginia, p. 204b.

⁴⁶ 1860 U. S. Census, Union, Des Moines County, Iowa, p. 239.

⁴⁷ Walker, "Samuel¹ Walker, Kinsman of Captain Richard¹ Walker," 40.

familytreedna.com/groups/walker-dna-project-mt-dna-results/about, kit numbers 919661 (DNA donor¹¹, Edward¹⁰, John⁹⁻⁸, Solon⁷, ...) and 1006487 (DNA donor¹², Harlan¹¹, Glen¹⁰, Jesse⁹⁻⁸, Seth⁷, ...).

(intentions published 18 October 1795 at Alstead, New Hampshire) **Leah Boyden**, the daughter of Ezekiel and Leah (Richardson) Boyden. She was born at Walpole, Massachusetts, on 8 January 1766, and died at Huntington, Gallia County, Ohio, on 17 August 1842.

Children of Solomon⁶ and Leah (Boyden) Walker (i-iv born in New Hampshire, probably in Langdon):

- i. Ira⁷ Walker, b. say 1796; d. Nicholas Co., (West) Virginia, before 23 July 1832.
- ii. Solon Walker, b. abt. 1799;^[49] d. Braxton Co., (West) Virginia, abt. 1854/5;^[50] m. Nicholas Co. 18 Dec. 1828 Elizabeth Cart, daughter of John Cart.^[51]
- iii. Seth Walker, b. 9 Sept. 1800;^[52] d. Brown Twp., Hancock Co., Ind., 19 July 1874;^[53] m. (1) Gallia Co., 12 Jan. 1825 Mary "Polly" Childers;^[54] m. (2) Henry Co., Ind., 3 Feb. 1842 Elizabeth Rogers;^[55] m. (3) Hancock Co., 2 Aug. 1871 Nancy (Rogers) Cass,^[56] sister of Elizabeth.
- iv. JOEL B. WALKER, b. abt. 1806;^[57] d. Iowa bet. 1895 and 1900.^[58]
- v. Eliza Walker, b. probably in Delmar, Pa., 15 Nov. 1809;^[59] d. Allendale, Mo., 6 April 1888;^[60] m. Nicholas Co. 1 March 1826 John Mosbarger.^[61]

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⁴⁹ 1850 U. S. Census, District 4, Braxton County, (West) Virginia, p. 204B: age 50.

⁵⁰ Braxton County, (West) Virginia), Land Book 1851–1856, pp. 239, 310 (FSL DGS 8613399, images 144, 183), entered for the years 1854 as "Walker, Solon" and 1855 as "Walker, Solon heirs."

⁵¹ Blake and Blake, Early Nicholas County Marriages, 51, 69. This reference has 1828-12-28 which is clearly a transcription error from the original marriage document. A photocopy of the original document was sent to Neva P. Adams by Evelyn E. Blake c. 1998–1999. Careful examination of the photocopy confirms that the marriage date was 18 Dec. 1828. It is not known whether the original marriage document is extant as it is no longer found at the Nicholas County Court.

⁵² Biographical Memoirs of Hancock County, 415.

⁵³ Biographical Memoirs of Hancock County, 416.

⁵⁴ Marriage records of Gallia County, Ohio), 1:136 (FSL DGS 4016313, image 82).

⁵⁵ Marriage records of Henry County, Indiana, D:452 (FSL DGS 4171276, image 243).

⁵⁶ Marriage records of Hancock County, Indiana, 6:29 (FSL DGS 7730026, image 176).

⁵⁷ 1860 U. S. Census, Union, Des Moines County, Iowa, p. 239: Joel Walker born in N. H., age 54. His age in the 1850 census was given as 42 (District 4, Braxton County, [West] Virginia, p. 204B).

⁵⁸ In the 1895 Iowa State Census (Benton Township, Des Moines County, p.28), Joel Walker was enumerated in the household of James Caten and his wife Susan (Walker) Caten, daughter of Solon Walker. He cannot be found in the 1900 census.

⁵⁹ Mosbarger Family Bible.

⁶⁰ Mosbarger Family Bible.

⁶¹ Mosbarger Family Bible.