

Thomas Gandy
Born in Long Island City, Queens, New York
1670
Died in Cumberland County, New Jersey
1725
Father: Gandy
Mother: Unknown

Records in hand

- **Spouse was Rebecca Daws 1672 . Marriage date was May 14, 1692 in Long Island City, Queens., New York.**
- **The Thomas Ghandy referred to who married Rebecca Daws was correctly spelled Thomas Gandy, Sr. He and Rebecca Daws were married May 14, 1694 as per Gravesend records. From the book, "Register in Alphabetical order, of the early settlers of Kings County, Long Island, NY, from its First Settlement by Europeans to 1700," By Teunis G. Bergen. Thomas Gandy and Rebecca Daws were married May 14, 1692 (or 1694) -- "Thomas Ghandy to Rebecca Dawes; by Justice Nicholas Stillwell, bans published in Jamaica." Thomas and Rebecca Gandy moved to Cape May around 1694 and shortly thereafter their first son, Thomas Gandy, Jr. was born. Thomas Gandy and Rebecca Daws were the parents of: Thomas Gandy, Jr. b: 1694 in Cape May Co., New Jersey, ... Elias Gandy, John Gandy,,, Samuel Gandy...the main reason so many people moved to Cape May around 1694? The reasons for moving from Long Island to South Jersey seemed to be two-fold. First, was whales. Many of the families were whalers, and there were some easy catchings in the Delaware bay and environs, so several families migrated to follow the whales. Supposedly, the area was about fished out in a**

few years, so many of the whaler families also established farms and continued to sustain themselves with farming and other water trades. A second reason was a general intolerance of religion in the northern parts.. The Puritans had pushed out the Baptists from MA, and the religious migration ran down through Rhode Island into Long Island. As it turned out, the Quakers still found little comfort on Long Island, so many left--as well as many Baptists--for parts south, stopping in Monmouth County and Cape May and Cumberland County. You will find Stillwell, Holmes, Hubbard, Hewitt, for instance, at both ends of the New Jersey coast as the families trickled down. Golding, Corson, Garretson, Townsend, and many others migrated south during this period. Thomas Gandy and wife settled at Cape May, New Jersey, before 1696. Thomas purchased additional land from the West Jersey Company in 1710. He is listed as one of the "earliest families" to settle in New Jersey. He was a land owner by 1697 along with the names of some of the earliest settlers to Cape May on the Atlantic coast. In 1699 bought 50 acres called the "Addition" in Cape May County on the seaboard side, adjoining Gandy's Hall taken from early land records. Where did Thomas Gandy come from? What brought the Gandys to New Jersey? ONE THEORY: BACON'S REBELLION...uprising in 1676 of Virginia farmers, under the leadership of Nathaniel Bacon {1647-1676} against the colonial authorities headed by Sir William Berkeley, governor of Virginia. Among the grievances of the colonists were the Navigation Acts of 1651 and 1660, which forced them to trade only with English firms and individuals at prices established in England, and the intolerably high export duties levied by colonial officials. in addition, the colonists were outraged by Governor Berkeley's monopoly of the fur trade with the Indians.

Toward the end of 1675 the Indians began a series of raids on the frontier plantations of Virginia. Fearful of jeopardizing his trade with them, Berkley made only a half-hearted attempt to repel the attacks. The colonists then formed an army of their own and named as its leader Nathaniel Bacon, a plantation owner and member of Governor's Council. The fight ensued; Bacon died of malaria. His rebellion immediately collapsed. The governor took revenge upon Bacon's followers, executing some and confiscating the property of others. Among the names of Petitioners to the Governor, is the name of THOMAS GANDY. Thomas Gandy may have fled Virginia, the Isle of Wight, by boat to the Cape May area of New Jersey following this Rebellion in Virginia.

SECOND THEORY: From Cape May County Magazine, 1981, "History & Genealogy" -- "The Gandys came to this country in 1663 and landed at or near Gravesend, Long Island, but the religious climate was so hostile that they moved over to Rhode Island and joined Rodger Williams and his band. In 1690 two of them, Uriah and Thomas Gandy, migrated to Cape May, NJ, where three years later they each purchased 50 acres of land from the West Jersey Society with Jeramiah Brasse {sic} acting as its agent.