

GENERATION NO. 1

JACOB BROWNFIELD

There is an entry dated May 2nd 1682, in the St Alphege's baptismal register, for the birth of a daughter Elizabeth Bromfielde to Ann, and Robert a waterman. An additional entry states that Elizabeth died on September 2nd 1682. According to the St Alphege's burial register, Anne Bromefield, a widow, was buried on April 4th 1707. However, the first entry for the name Brownfield is **JACOB BROWNFIELD**¹ and so this seems a good place to start our story. The spelling seems to have varied over the next eighty years but it is reasonable to assume that we are dealing with a single family. Jacob was a tailor, who by 1704 was living with his wife ELIZABETH in Mr. Skelton's Lane². Despite his name and profession, more normally associated with Jewish origins, Jacob was a Christian and when their daughter Jane Brownfield was born, they took her to St Alphege's Church in Greenwich to be christened. There are entries for six children for JACOB BROWNFIELD and ELIZABETH in the baptismal register at St Alphege's. They are, using the spelling as it is written:

I. JANE BROWNFIELD who was born "in Mr. Skelton's Lane" and christened on April 12, 1704, sadly an additional entry states that she died on August 8, 1704³.

2. II. **JAMES BROMEFIELD** who was born "in Mr. Skelton's Lane" and christened on December 12, 1705/06⁴.

III. RICHARD BROMEFIELD who was born "in Mr. Skelton's Lane, son of JACOB a taylor", He was christened on August 4, 1708. He too died as a child, aged two and a half, on April 3, 1709⁵.

IV. THOMAS BROMEFIELD who was born "in Mr. Skelton's Lane" and christened on January 7, 1710/11.⁶ Thomas was apprenticed to Thomas Peacock of the Turners' Company on October 14, 1724 for the sum of £10 but turned over to Samuel Clark on May 3, 1727.⁷

V. ELIZABETH BROOMFIELD, who was christened on April 17, 1717 in St Alphege's, Greenwich.⁸

VI. MARY BROWNFIELD who was christened on August 4, 1723.⁹ and married JAMES PADDON a butcher on May 9, 1753 in St Alphege's Church, Greenwich.¹⁰

SOURCES

Jacob Brownfield

1. St Alphege's Baptismal register, entry for Jane Brownfield, April 12, 1704. Transcript in Greenwich Local History Library.
2. Ibid.
3. Additional entry for Jane Brownfield, April 12, 1704 in St Alphege's Baptismal register, Transcript at Greenwich Local History Library.
4. St Alphege's Baptismal register, entry for James Brownfield Dec 12, 1706. Transcript in Greenwich Local History Library.
5. St Alphege's Baptismal register, entry for Richard Bromefield, April 3, 1709 Transcript in Greenwich Local History Library.
6. St Alphege's Baptismal register, entry for Thomas Bromefield, Jan 7, 1711. Transcript in Greenwich Local History Library.
7. London Apprenticeship Abstracts 1442 – 1850. Origen network online
8. St Alphege's Baptismal register, entry for Elizabeth Broomfield, April 17, 1717. Transcript in Greenwich Local History Library.
9. St Alphege's Baptismal register, entry for Mary Brownfield, Aug 4, 1723 Transcript in Greenwich Local History Library.
10. Entry for Mary Brownfield, May 9, 1753. Transcript in Greenwich Local History Library.
St Alphege's Marriage register,