

BOWNE HOUSE ARCHIVES



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BOWNE FAMILY PAPERS OF FLUSHING, L.I.

Transcription of BFP #2018.1.01-07

Deed, John Firman to John Bowne

Date: January 1, 1666 Old Style

(January 11, 1667 New Style)

This transcription retains the spelling and punctuation of the original document.
Transcribed by Brandon Loo & Eric Haviland; reviewed/edited by Charlotte Jackson
Last revised: 7/2024

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NOTES ON 17TH- AND 18TH-CENTURY DOCUMENTS

Dates:

1. Quaker dates: early Quakers used the numbers, not the names, of the months and the days of the week. (Note that the numbering of the months was different in the Old Style calendar-- i.e., their "seventh month" is September, not July.)
2. Old Style ("O.S.") vs. New Style (N.S.): Prior to 1752, English people mostly used "Old Style" dating, which followed the Julian calendar and began the New Year on March 25. However, the Dutch and many other European countries followed the "New Style" calendar in use today. By the 17th century, the Old Style calendar had fallen ten days behind the New Style.
3. Dual dating: because the New Style calendar began the year on January 1 and the Old Style began it on March 25, dates that fall in between are sometimes given in a format like 1663/4 or 1663-4.

Common abbreviations:

y ^e = the or thee	y ^m = them
y ^t = that	w th = with
y ⁿ = than or then	w ^{ch} = which

Note: words like "ye" are spelled with the Old English character thorn, which looks like the letter "y" but is pronounced "-th."

Money is denominated in pounds, shillings, and pence, in columns as follows: £ : s : d

Transcription Notations:

Text in ROUND PARENTHESES: () is in parentheses in the original document

Text in BRACKETS or SQUARE PARENTHESES: [] indicates missing or hard-to-read words supplied from context, or from an alternative source.

Text in BRACES or CURLY PARENTHESES: { } is an annotation inserted by the editor

[...] indicates missing text (page torn, ink faded, or letters blotted out)

[???] indicates hard-to-read words that we have yet to transcribe.

The forward slash: "/" represents the end of a line in the original document (where we have not been able to fit the text onto one line in the typed transcription).

Deed - John Firman to John Bowne - January 1, 1666/7 (Old Style)

BFP #2018.1.01-07

Know all men by these presents that I John Firman¹ of newtowne² on long Island in yorke shere³ have sold unto John Bowne of Flushing on long iland apece of medo {*a piece of meadow*} five ackrees {*acres*} more or lesse lying by Flushing creke bounded with Thomas: Robards his medo {*meadow*} on the south and henory satle⁴ on the north, the woode on the west & Flushing creke on the est & by these presents I, John Firman affore s^d. have sold unto John bowne affore said his heiers, successors & assines {*assigns*} the fore said medo from me and mine forever to him his heires, successors & assines to have & to hold as his or there proper inheritance to enjoy peaceably without lett⁵ or molistation from any that shall lay claime there unto to the true performance of the premisies & do bind my self my heiers, executors & assines in witnesse here unto I have sett to my hand and seal this first day of January, 1666.

John (his mark) Firman

Witnesse

John Burroughes

John Marshall

Recorded by mee John Burroug[hs]

Clark at newtowne

{SEAL}

¹ John Firman (c.1626–1677), son of John Firman, Sr. of Watertown, CT., arrived in Long Island in 1653, living in Hempstead, Newtown, and Oyster Bay. it's not clear if he was related to Flushing patentee Robert Firman.

² Newtown: a former settlement across the Flushing Creek from Flushing, in present-day Forest Hills and Corona.

³ "Yorkshire" in the British colonial Province of New York comprised present-day New York City, Long Island, and Westchester County. "Newtown" refers to a former settlement in the area of present-day Forest Hills and Corona.

⁴ *Henory Satle*: Henry Sawtell (before 1609–after 1666) was an original patentee of the town of Flushing and a signer of the 1657 Flushing Remonstrance.

⁵ *lett*: (archaic) To hinder, prevent, impede, hamper, cumber; to obstruct (someone or something)