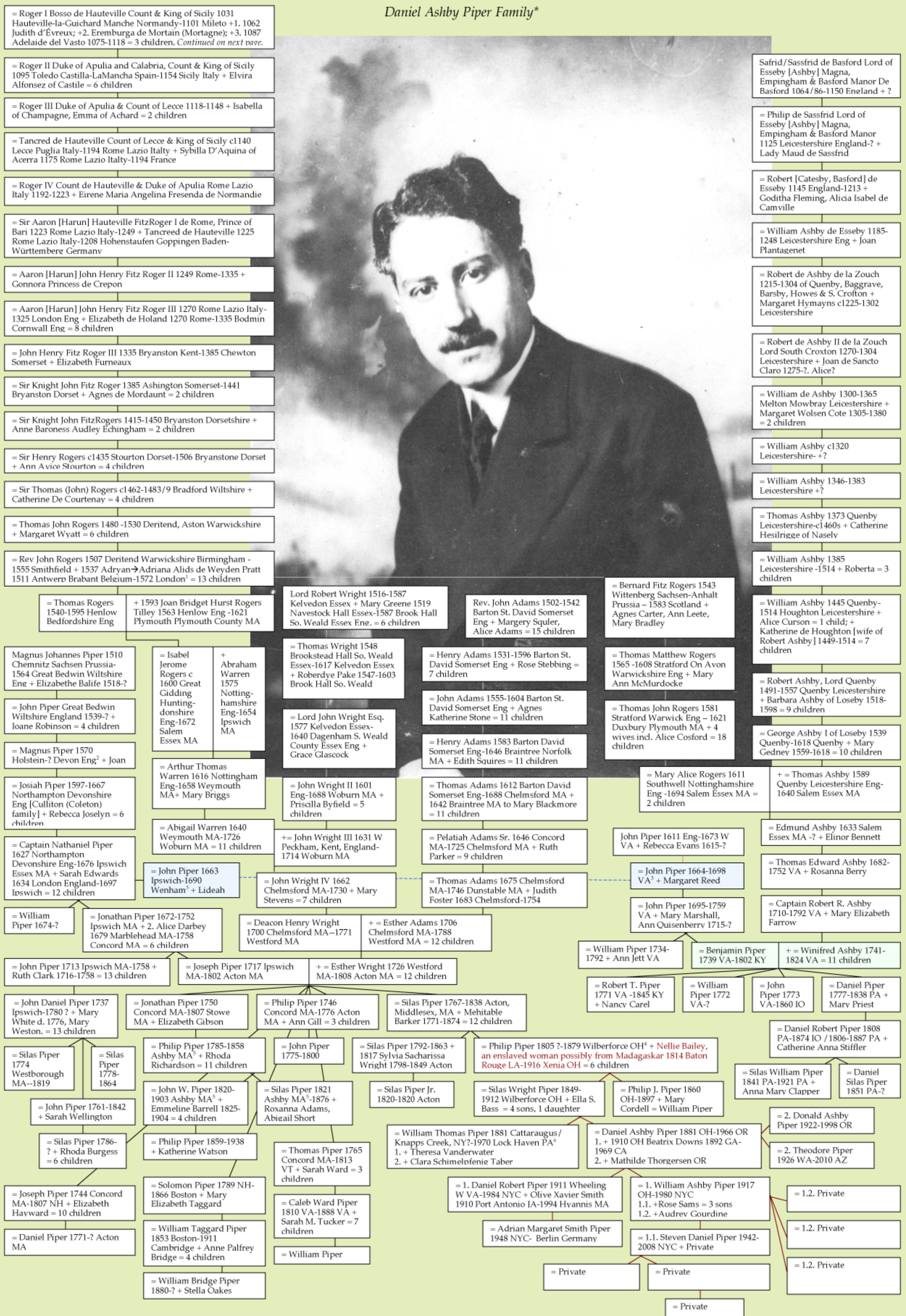


Daniel Ashby Piper Family*



*I am grateful to ACORGYFA for urging me to undertake this research while living in a city where it was relatively easy. Since then it has become easier still. I am indebted to the many accessible online genealogical records, and to the researchers whose hard work there has served mine so well. Clearly there is more to do. Wanda K. Piper's generally thorough treatment cites records that describe Nathaniel Piper as captain of a trading ship. My father (Daniel Robert Piper 1911-1984) described him as a pirate.
 1Adryan Alids de Weyden Pratt (1511-1572) had to be the "family namesake" my father invoked to answer my adolescent objection to my "boy's name." I've found no other Adrians in any of my grandparents' genealogies.
 2Almost all recent and older historical genealogies except for *Burke's Colonial Gentry* (1895: II, 784) claim Magnus Piper's family origin to be Lübeck, Holstein, Prussia. But neither I nor the Stadtarchiv Lübeck could find any historical records confirming this claim. Rather, evidence and fit indicate Devon, England.
 3I could find no historical records confirming the birth, residence or death of John Piper 1664-1698 in Westmoreland, Virginia. Rebecca Evans would have had to bear him at the age of 49, which is unlikely. There are no Pipers listed in Stella Pickett Hardy's massive directory, *Colonial Families of the Southern States of America: A History and Genealogy of Colonial Families Who Settled in the Colonies Prior to the Revolution* (1911: Tobias A. Wright Publisher, New York). I surmise that John Piper is in fact the son of Nathaniel Piper, and also captained or at least traveled on a trading ship between Massachusetts and Virginia.
 4Predictably, I could find no historical records confirming the birth or birth location of Philip Piper 1805-1879. I situate him according to kinship names, dates and relationship patterns. The archival research provided by the Greene County Ohio 8th Grade Educational Program has been an invaluable resource.
 5Piper Road, Ashby, Middlesex County, Massachusetts 01431. John Ashby I (d. 1607; son of George Ashby II (1581-1653, not represented here)), was among the original settlers of Jamestown, Virginia. Thomas Ashby appears in Salem, MA in 1640. The town of Ashby, Mass. is settled in 1676. Thomas Edward Ashby appears in Virginia in 1682. The town of Ashby, MA is incorporated in 1767, the same year as the marriage of Benjamin Piper and Winifred Ashby in Virginia. It is not unlikely that the Ashby-Piper family name stems from this town/family connection, but specifics remain to be determined.
 6I could find no historical records confirming the birth of William T. Piper 1881-1970 either in Cattaraugus or in Knapps Creek, NY. It is claimed that his father is Thomas Piper 1850 Salehurst, Sussex, England-1907 Erie, NY+ Sarah Maltby. I could find no historical records confirming this claim.

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⁴Earlier ancestral generations beyond this point are traced and documented primarily through the non-legendary Norse Sagas. See in particular the *Hversu Saga*, *Hversum Noregr Byggdist*, *Orkneyinga Saga*, *Ynglingesaga* (the *Ynglingatal* ancestral verse of the Ynglings dynasty), and the *Codex Flateyensis*. Although these narratives most probably record matters of genealogical fact, they do not observe a precise chronology, and researchers differ on the exact dating of vital information. So in ordering the sequence of earlier generations, I indexed them relative to later generations for which more precise dating was possible. I thereafter relied on the traditional Scandinavian custom of primary patronyms, which assigns the father's first name as the offspring's last name plus the genitive binary gender suffixes *-sdottir/sdatter* or *-sson/ssen* (meaning "—'s daughter" or "—'s son" respectively), and selected among the estimated possible birth and death dates — or estimated them myself — accordingly. This same criterion led me to leave out Ogier the Dane, whom I could not place in the resulting chronological sequence. My approach, very much a minority view, locates the chronological point of

origin of the de Hauteville family three centuries later than that ascribed by those genealogies which place King Fornjótr Jotne as early as 100 BC.
⁷The variety, multiplicity, and interconnectedness, and above all the plethora of free-for-all battles for titles, territories and taxes that characterize Adelaide del Vasto's family genealogy reflect the confusion, instability and disarray of political alliances in Early Medieval Europe. I include here only an arbitrary sampling of her ancestral familial alliances, comprising as many different nationalities as possible. It is at best a small fraction of the total. Feudal titles and fiefdoms during the Early Medieval period numbered in the thousands.
⁸The ancestry of Hugues the Great (c.898-956) is traced further in the Vermandois family lineage on the far right.
⁹In "The Feudal Society and the Christian Epic" in his *Medieval Essays*, Christopher Dawson compares Héribert II Comte de Vermandois (c.880-943) to "the bosses and racketeers of the American underworld" "who had made a position for themselves by a judicious combination of intimidation and protection."