

**A Brief History
of
Rev. Malachi Jones, Sr.**

Born 1651 in Wales

Died 26 March 1729 in Abington, Montgomery, Pennsylvania



Franklin Pierce Mason II

Rev. Malachi Jones, Sr.

Franklin P. Mason II

Malachi Jones^{1,2,3} was born in about 1651 in Wales.⁴

Malachi received his education in Wales, and he entered the ministry in Wales at an early age.

Malachi Jones served as a Dissenting preacher in "the welch part of Herefordshire" (Refer to the Appendix.) sometime after 1689 (at age 38 years). His ministry was supported by the Congregational Fund in London, which provided Him with at least four grants between 1697 and 1704.

His earliest recorded residence is in the Parish of Clodock, Herefordshire, where he was employed as a tanner between 1693 and 1694. (Apparently, Malachi was employed in a more usual trade as well as attending to his pastoral duties.)

Malachi Jones married Mary [] in about 1681, probably in Wales.

Malachi and Mary Jones had the following children, all of whom were born in Wales (or near Wales in Herefordshire, England):

Samuel Jones, b. 1682, d. 1719

Benjamin Jones, b. March 1683, d. 1748 [Katherine Crusan, m. 1717, 10 children]

Ann Jones, b. 1686, d. 1754 [Rev. David Evans]

Mary Jones, b. 1688 [Abenego Thomas, six children]

Elizabeth Jones b. 1690, d. 1735 [David Parry, m. 1727]

Malachi Jones, b. 1695, d. 1748 [Mary Parry, m. 1729]

Joshua Jones, b. 1697, d. 1781 [Hanna Given, m. 1735]

Martha Jones [John Parry, m. 1729]

[Note that three of the Jones siblings married three Parry siblings.]

Perhaps Malachi's most famous child was the Dissenting educator Samuel Jones,⁵ who remained in Great Britain when his father and most of the other family members immigrated to America.

In May of 1713 (at age 62 years), Malachi Jones (with almost his entire family—wife and children—and with a company of his followers) sailed from Bristol, England bound for Pennsylvania aboard the frigate *Foy*.

During the first decades of the 1700's large numbers of Welsh left their native land for America and settled mainly in Pennsylvania.

This Jones family (and their associates), settled in Abington, fourteen miles north of Philadelphia.

¹ [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malachi_Jones_\(clergyman\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malachi_Jones_(clergyman))

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[https://www.google.com/books/edition/Publications_of_the_Buffalo_Historical_S/INYwAQAAAJ?hl=en&gbpv=1&dq=Notes+on+the+ancestry+and+descendants+of+Horatio+Jones"&pg=PA521&printsec=frontcover](https://www.google.com/books/edition/Publications_of_the_Buffalo_Historical_S/INYwAQAAAJ?hl=en&gbpv=1&dq=Notes+on+the+ancestry+and+descendants+of+Horatio+Jones)

³ <https://www.genealogy.com/ftm/n/o/r/Beverly-A-Norton/WEBSITE-0001/UHP-0311.html>

⁴ There is some information abroad concerning the parentage and children of Malachi Jones that I believe is in error. (Jones is a very common name, especially in Wales.) Please verify all your facts before you publish them.

⁵ [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Samuel_Jones_\(academy_tutor\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Samuel_Jones_(academy_tutor))

In September 1714, Malachi Jones was received into fellowship by the Presbytery of Philadelphia, which had then been organized for eight years and numbered 11 ministers. During that year a church organization was established at Abington with Rev. Malachi Jones as pastor.

In addition, the First Presbyterian Church, or Great Valley church, was organized in 1714, and the Rev. Malachi Jones officiated as its pastor until 1720. This church is about 20 miles, as the crow flies, from Abington, and Malachi no doubt officiated at both congregations.

On 25 August 1719, Rev. Jones deeded to certain trustees for 10 shillings in silver, 1/2 acre of land to "build a house of worship there on and bury the dead". On this ground the congregation erected a log building said to have been the first place of public worship possessed by the Presbyterian domination within the limits of Montgomery County.

The Rev. Malachi Jones is buried in the graveyard of the church he founded in Abington. And his tombstone, a large flat slab supported upon four pieces of brick, is still to be seen there. (Refer to the Appendix.)



Plaque commemorating the burial of Rev. Malachi Jones in the cemetery in Abington Presbyterian Church in Abington, Pennsylvania