

Two Jeremiah Bannings

A Mystery of History

Was Jeremiah Banning, free person of Easton, named for the Mariner and Patriot of the same name of Talbot County?

- Was there a connection?

Jeremiah Banning, mariner, was appointed to lay out the town of Easton. He died in 1798 before the manumission of Jeremiah Banning, free person.

In the 1830 Census of Easton there is a household of interest, Jerry Banning, free person.

2 men 55 – 100 yrs of age

1 man 100 + yrs of age

1 female slave 24-36 yrs of age

1 male under 10 yrs of age

1 male slave under 10 yrs of age

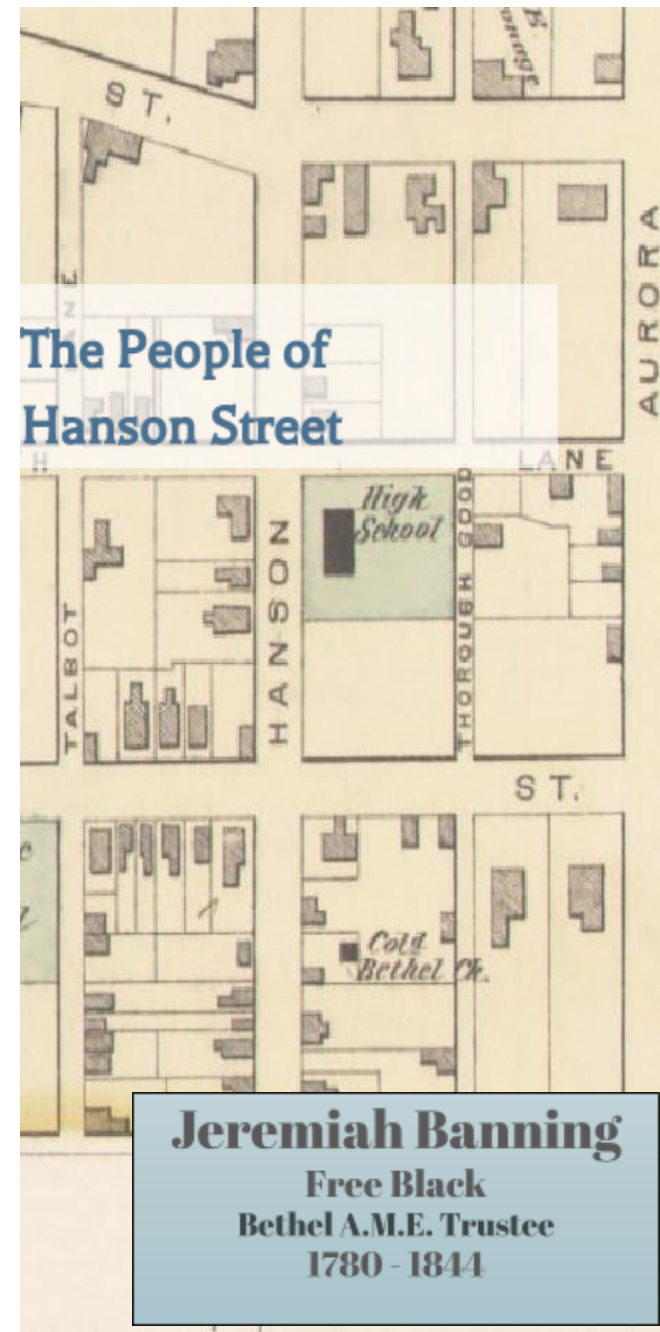
- Is Jerry the man 100+ years old or one of the men 55-100 years old?

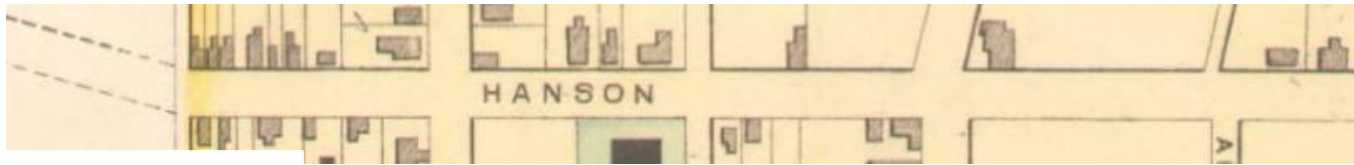
The 1832 Census of Free Persons records Jeremiah Banning of Lot No.30 and his family.

Jere Banning aged 50 yrs.

Cassa Banning aged 44 yrs.

David Banning aged 12 yrs.





Jeremiah Banning

Landowner

Legacy

“Jerry” or “Jere”

Historic records reveal part of his story. Jeremiah was born a slave of Talbot County in 1780-1782.

A manumission was filed in the Courts of Talbot County by the Rev. Joseph Telford of Easton freeing Jeremiah on the 1st day of January 1801.

The Freedom Papers filed in July of 1811 state that Jeremiah or Jerry Banning was manumitted by Joseph Telford, deceased.

Jeremiah, a free man at the age of 21 years married a girl named Cassie who was born in 1788.

David and Cassie would have two sons. Thomas whose birthdate is undetermined and David who was born in 1820.

In 1827, Jeremiah is listed as a trustee of the Bethel A.M.E. Church.

Jeremiah died in December of 1844, being sick at the time, leaving his widow Cassie and both sons as heirs. He not only owned a house and lot in town but a wood lot outside of the town of Easton.

Lot No. 30 identified on the plat of Easton was first identified in the 1798 Tax Assessment as being owned by Samuel Yarnall. In the 1804 Tax Assessment Samuel Yarnall is still in possession of Lot No. 30 on South St. and there is one old house upon the land.

It is stated that Jeremiah Banning resided on Lot No. 30 prior to his purchase of the lot.

At the death of Samuel Yarnall Lot No. 30 was sold was sold to Jeremiah Banning in 1837 by the Commissioners appointed to divide his estate.

A profession for Jeremiah was not stated, but the records indicate his one half acre lot served Jeremiah and his family as a small farm. He had horses, cattle, hogs, chickens and part of the lot was planted in corn. There was certainly a garden upon the lot also.

The lots since created within the bounds of Lot No. 30 are still referred to as “The Banning Lots” by many locals.

Jeremiah Banning’s will was probated in 1844

To my wife Cassy one half of my house and lot. To have the bed and furniture she now occupies. Sole possession of my bay colt and cart.

To my son David – the other half of my house and lot in Easton.

To my son Thomas my wood lot of 2 ³/₄ acres lying near the town of Easton.

Lot No. 30 was a half- acre during Jeremiah Banning’s lifetime. The parcel divisions began after the sale in 1857. Bounded by South St., Hanson St., Lot No. 31 and by Talbot or Chilcutt Lane.

Contemporary map record of Lot No. 30