

**First Fleeter**

*Jacob Nagle*

**15 Sept 1761 Reading, Pennsylvania  
to 17 Feb 1841 Canton, Ohio**

# Why My Interest in *Jacob Nagle*

- I first joined the Fellowship of First Fleeters as an Associate when my wife discovered her ancestors, John and Hannah Barrisford had arrived in 1788.
- One of the projects that the Fellowship undertakes is to locate burial places of First Fleeters and to erect a dedication plaque at or near the location.
- I discovered the story of Jacob Nagle in Molly Gillen's book and thought it would be appropriate for a plaque to be located sometime in the future in Canton, Ohio where he had died.
- My sister now lives in Ohio and on one of my visits in 2016, I made a visit to Canton to learn more about him and his burial.

# Jacob Nagle in Pennsylvania & Ohio



# *Jacob's Life*

• Jacob's Family	1761-1776	(0-14)
• <b>Service in American Revolution</b>	<b>1776-1780</b>	<b>(15-19)</b>
• Sailing as a Privateer	1780-1783	(19-22)
• Sailing with the Royal Navy	1783-1802	(22-41)
<b>*First Fleet and HMS Sirius</b>	<b>(1787-1792)</b>	<b>(26-31)</b>
• Sailing as a Merchant Sailor	1802-1824	(41-63)
• His last years in Pennsylvania & Ohio	1824-1841	(63-79)
• Burial Information	1841	(79)



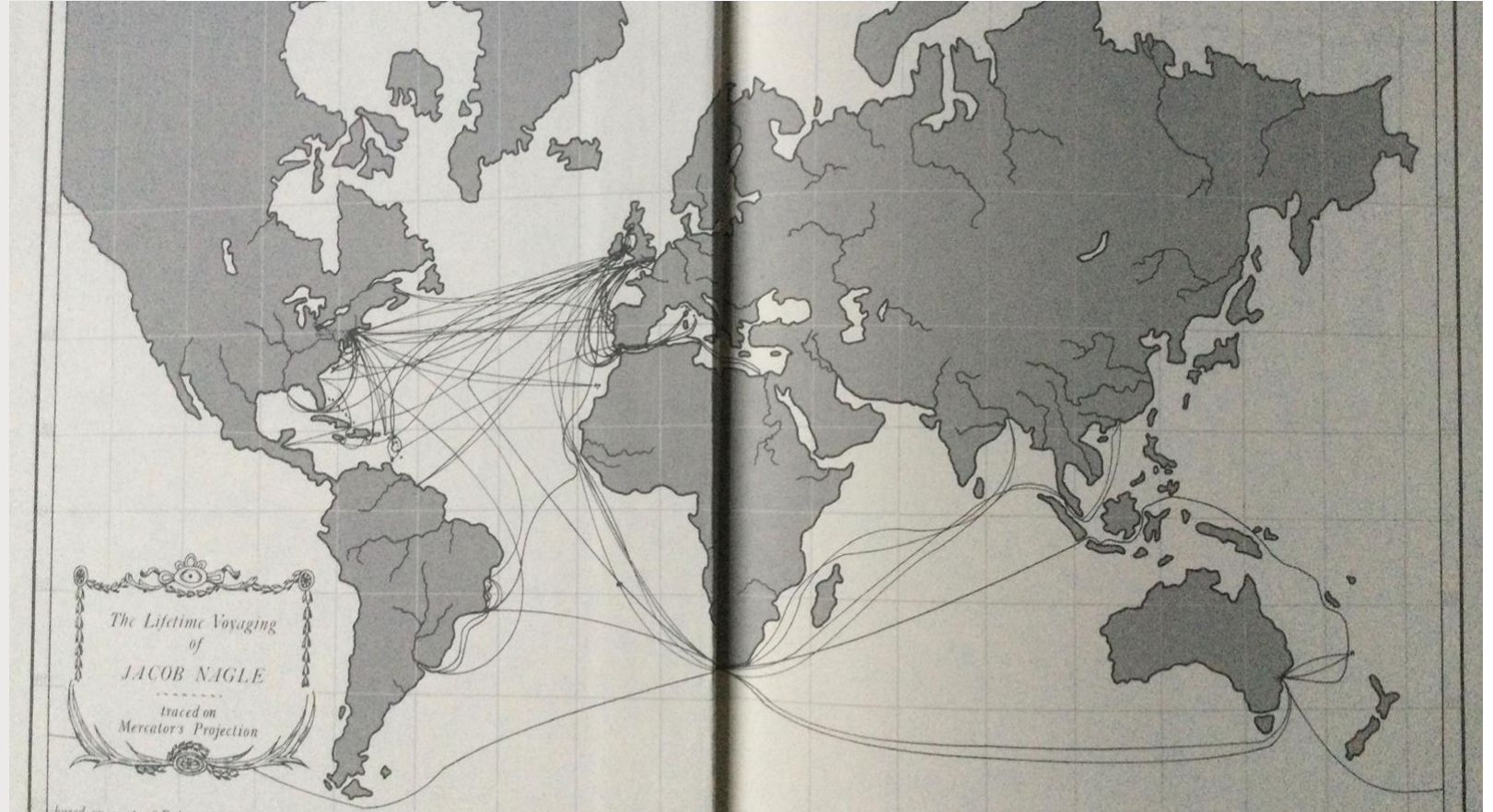
# Jacob's Revolution Experience

- Jacob Nagle was born in Reading, Pennsylvania to George & Rebecca Nagle on 13 September, 1761.
- George, Jacob's father, was a German immigrant in 1749 and served with the American Colonial forces from 1755 to 1763 against the French who were also fighting a war with the British in Europe.
- George became a Captain and later a Colonel in the Continental Army during the Independence War from 1776 to 1783.
- At age 15, Jacob joined up with his father in the American War of Independence in 1776 but was sent home by his father due to his age.
- Jacob rejoined the Continental Army in 1777 and became involved in battles at Valley Forge and Brandywine. In 1779, he joined the American Navy on the Saratoga for 2 years and 8 months.

# Jacob's Service in the Royal Navy

- Jacob signed on to Privateers in the last year of the Revolution in 1782. Privateers were ships that private companies hired to capture British cargo ships to resell goods in America.
- While serving on a Privateer ship he was captured by the Royal Navy in 1782 and then officially signed on with the Royal Navy until April 1783 when the Revolution in America had ended. He was then discharged at Portsmouth, England with pay.
- In September 1783, he again signed on to HMS Ganges and remained with the ship for almost 4 years which took him to Gibraltar several times. Jacob writes that these years were a mixture of boredom and harsh treatment.
- In March 1787, along with several others of the Ganges crew he applied and was transferred to HMS Sirius leaving in May as part of the First Fleet.
- He retired from the Royal Navy in 1802, hoping to return to America with his English wife and two children.

# Jacob's "Lifetime Voyaging" 1780- 1824



# Jacob in Ohio

- Jacob's wife and children died in 1802 during an epidemic in Portugal while waiting for transport to America. He then signed on to various merchant ships that took him to many ports in South America and Asia.
- His merchant service lasted until 1824 when he returned to America aged 63.
- He decided to move to the growing town of Canton in Ohio where his youngest sister and her husband lived. In Canton, he worked as a surveyor and helped develop the nearby town of Massillon.
- During his time in Ohio, he tried at various times to apply for a Revolution War pension and where his diary was important as proof of his service.
- Jacob is officially listed among those granted a pension, although modest in 1832 and listed in official pension lists
- His sister, Sarah Webb died in early 1841 and a month later he also died there.

# FFF Grave Memorials Project

(from my presentation in 2021)

- Project of placing FFF Plaques on or near known graves of First Fleeters
- Efforts at recognising Jacob Nagle in Canton
- Contacts made in Ohio at Library and Canton City Government
- To date the project has stalled (2021)
- Perhaps a plaque may eventually be placed in McKinley Park where the Plum Street Cemetery was located in the future

FFF Plaque  
Dedication  
Canton, Ohio,  
USA  
18<sup>th</sup> May 2024



Saturday, May 18, 2024

**A Salute to Jacob Nagle:**  
**American Patriot and First Fleeter**

**11:00am Memorial Dedication**  
Westbrook Veterans Memorial Park  
Canton, Ohio

**1:00pm Luncheon**  
MAPS Air Museum  
Canton, Ohio

***Mark your calendar! More information to come in early 2024!***



Questions? Please contact  
**[jacobnagleproject@gmail.com](mailto:jacobnagleproject@gmail.com)**.

***Follow us on Facebook at  
"Jacob Nagle, Patriot &  
1st Fleeter"!***





## Sons of the American Revolution (SA)



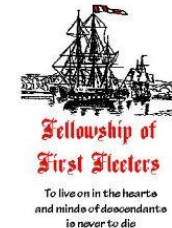
The Sons of the American Revolution honors our Revolutionary War patriot ancestors since 1889 by promoting patriotism, serving our communities and educating and inspiring future generations about the founding principles of our Country.

## Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR)



The DAR, founded in 1890 and headquartered in Washington, D.C., is a non-profit, non-political volunteer women's service organization dedicated to historic preservation, education, and patriotism

## Fellowship of First Fleeters (FFF)



The Fellowship was formed in 1968, and since then over 10,000 descendants have established their lineage, and joined the Fellowship. Links have so far been established in **137 families** to no fewer than **195 individual First Fleet Ancestors**. There are currently over 1650 active members.

# Before the Dedication

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# One of the DAR banners

The banner refers to  
the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
of the Revolution that  
is happening over the  
next several years

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Mr Rushford and  
daughter Jenny from  
Toronto, Ontario  
descendants of FF  
Frederick Meredith

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Welcome by the Canton Mayor's  
Representative

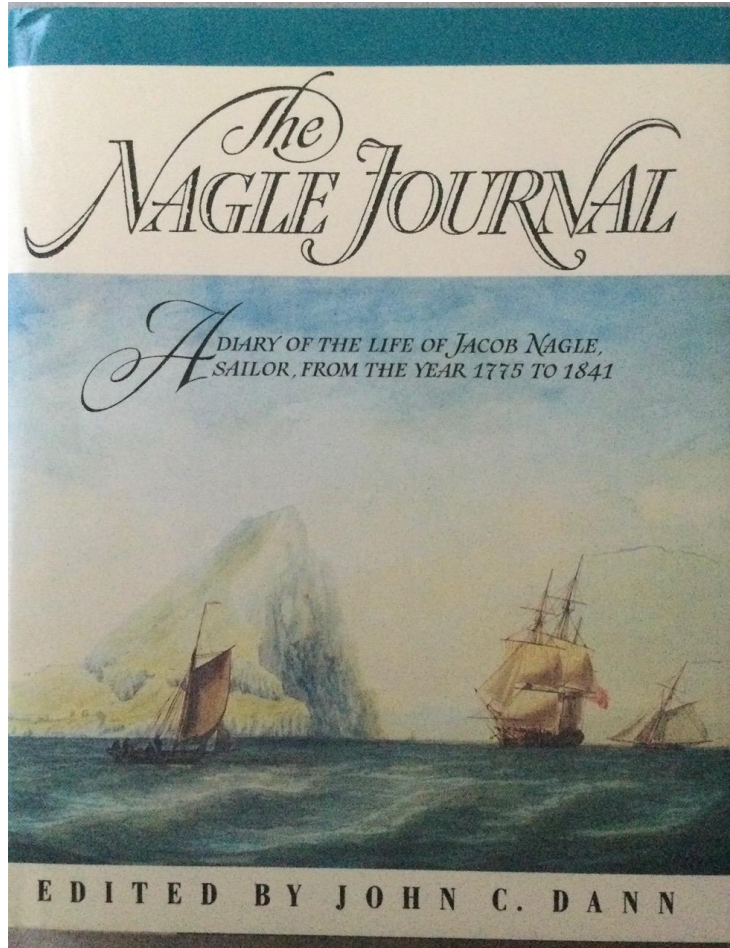




Kim Demor, President and  
Chairperson of the Canton DAR



# Professor John C Dann, editor 1988







Professor John Dann with DAR & SAR Representatives





Attendees at the Dedication





A Member of the Sons of American Revolution (SAR)





A Member of the  
Daughters of  
American  
Revolution (DAR)



Two "Proclamations"  
one from the Canton  
Mayor and the other  
from the Governor of  
Ohio and a Letter from  
Caroline Kennedy, U.S.  
Ambassador to  
Australia







Melissa Danielsson, A descendant of Sarah Webb, (Jacob Nagle's sister) from Georgia

Melissa is also a member of the DAR as she is a descendant of George Nagle (Jacob Nagle's father) who served in the Revolution



# RODERICK BEST Company Secretary spoke on behalf of the Fellowship

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This talk is printed in  
"Founders", Oct-Nov  
2024 Vol 55 Issue 5





A Representative  
of the Ohio  
Chapter of the  
Sons of American  
Revolution







Plaque Dedication by DAR & SAR Representatives





Roderick Best speaking at the  
Plaque Dedication





Melissa Danielsson speaking on behalf of the Nagle Family



# Group Photo of Presenters

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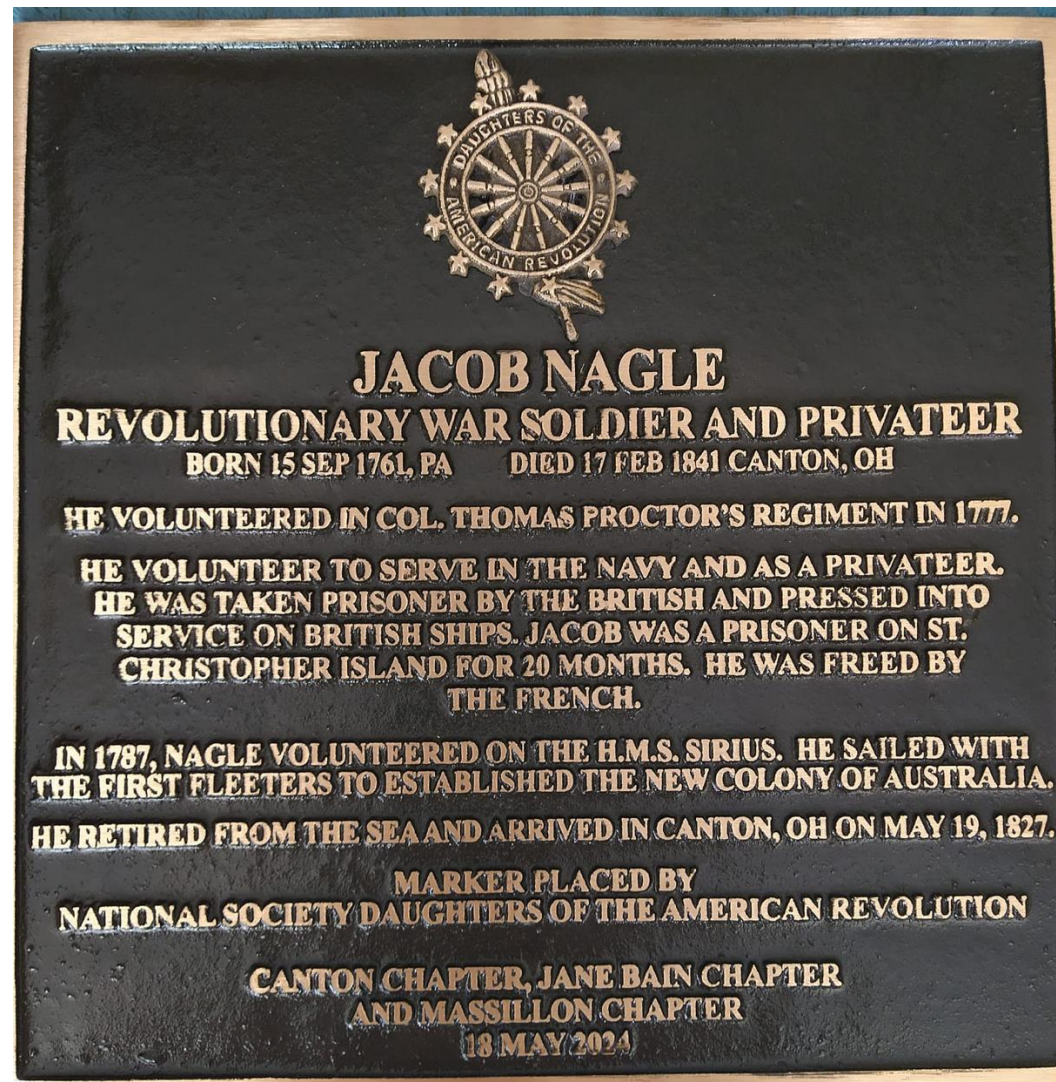






First Fleeters at the Plaque  
Dedication from Australia, Chicago  
and Toronto





The Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Plaque





## JACOB NAGLE

This plaque is dedicated to the extraordinary  
life of this American Patriot and First Fleeter.

Dedicated May 18th 2024.

Donated in the name of friendship between our two nations by  
Blair B. CarMichael, Jonathan J. Guerrier, John R. Guerrier Jr.,  
Gary R. Martzolf, Donald C. McGraw Jr. and Wayne A. Recknor.

on behalf of

The National Society Sons of  
the American Revolution



The Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) Plaque





The Fellowship of First Fleeters Plaque





Westbrook Veterans Memorial Park  
Canton, Stark County, Ohio USA

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MAPS Air Museum





At the MAPS Canton Air Museum Luncheon  
(Military Aviation Preservation Society)





## Table Setting for the Fellowship

The setting and the  
cookies on the next  
slide were hand made  
by the DAR





Cookies  
featured at  
the  
Luncheon





# Kim Demor DAR and the President of the Museum

Roderick Best also spoke at  
the Luncheon and his talk is  
printed in "Founders", Dec-  
Jan 2024-5 Vol 55 Issue 6





Professor John C Dann Speaking at the Military Aviation Preservation Society Luncheon





Fellowship Attendees – Evening Dinner  
Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> May



# Plaques as of 2025 at Westbrook Veterans Memorial Park, Canton Ohio

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