



H.F.Y. & C.A.B.

A Genealogical Journey with the Yeatts, Boswell, Barnard,
and Reynolds Families of Patrick County, Virginia

Researched and edited by
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With poetry by Amy Maude Yeatts, nature photos by Garth Hagerman, and other family photos scattered throughout.	

Introduction

by

Garth Hagerman

I have a confession. Actually, I have two confessions. The first one is that I find an awful lot of genealogical research to be deadly dull. It often consists of long lists of begats, names, dates, and places offering little insight into who these people really were, what they believed, how they lived their lives, and how they fit into the grand pageant of history. I've slogged through many genealogical books and websites which are of interest only to cousins looking for specific data about their ancestry.

In this book, I try to avoid the pitfalls of tedious genealogy and conjure up something more interesting. I hope this book is a good read, even for people who aren't realated to the Yeatts/Barnard/Reynolds lines, or for my cousins who are otherwise uninterested in their roots. There is no shortage of begats, names, and dates herein, but I try to go beyond that.



Amy Maude Yeatts (1905-1981), my grandmother, contemplating her roots. One of the pictures she's holding is a still extant shot of Jehu Barnard (1840-1933), her grandfather.

I view genealogy as a lens through which we can view history. Not the standard textbook history of presidents, kings, and generals, but the everyday history of regular people. I hope readers of this volume are inspired to do further research about the historic events our ancestors participated in, whether it's the American Revolution; the rum trade between England, Virginia, and Barbados; the founding of the Rhode Island Colony; or any of dozens of other great historical events.

My own background is largely in photography and drama, so I naturally gravitate towards interesting images and stories. I seek out pictures and tales rather than simply reciting the names and dates. In fact, I've included a number of stories and images a few degrees of separation removed from the direct lines of ancestry simply because I found interesting material with a strong-enough thread connecting it to our direct ancestry.

The second confession: this book is full of plagiarism and other forms of unauthorized use of other people's material. In the academic world, I'd flunk. In the commercial world, I'd probably get sued by quite a few writers, researchers, and photographers. But this book is not an academic text, and it's not a commercial endeavor. It's an unprofitable collection of material I've gathered from around the web and my family archives, with just a few dozen copies made for various cousins. So I think I can get away with it. Plus, I've tried to correctly attribute most of the material to its original sources, but sometimes my note-taking isn't great and sources got lost. Other times, something has been copied from one site to another so many times that its origin is lost.

Ressearch bugaboos

The farther back in time a researcher goes, the murkier many of the lines get. The US Census is one of the best sources of reasonably reliable information we have, and it illustrates the deepening murk as we descend farther into the past. In the later part of the 19th Century, each member of each household is named, with age, relationship to the head of household, state of birth, and a few other tidbits of information. Earlier census reports are much sketch-

ier. They only name the head of household, with a general demographic breakdown of the rest of the household.

Other primary source material gets rarer the farther back we go, too. When people lived in shacks a week's journey from the nearest town, their births, deaths, and marriages frequently went unrecorded. Often what records there were have been lost in the intervening years, or they remain undigitized in some county courthouse somewhere.

So, for the 18th Century and earlier, most of what I have to work with are online trees posted by other researchers. These must be taken with copious grains of salt. Sometimes they're based on solid family histories, written or oral. Sometimes there is good documentation. Sometimes there's a lot of speculation and guesswork with a few tall tales thrown in. Often the same absurdity is copied and pasted from tree to tree without anybody looking at the data and saying "now wait a second, how can the mother be born twenty years after the daughter?" I try to look at each connection from an online tree critically, with an eye on sources cited and chronological and geographic credibility.

But the ultimate genealogical research bugaboo is simply that it's never finished. Every answer just raises more questions. There will always be errors which need to be corrected, threads which need more research, speculation which needs supporting documentation, and mysteries in search of resolution. This volume represents the current state of my research on this branch of my family tree; there are plenty of questions left to answer.

Name confusion

Two forms of name confusion cause much befuddlement among genealogical researchers. Spelling of names was not nearly as consistent in the past as it is today. Sometimes family names get changed on purpose, sometimes they get written down wrong. Sometimes one individual will spell his own name differently at different times or use a different middle name. So, Henry Fleming Yeatts is the same person as Henry Faisal Yeatts. Which is correct? One branch of the Yates family started spelling the name "Yeatts" in the middle of the 19th Century. Folks on the Robertson line seem to have used Robertson, Robinson, and Robeson interchangeably for several generations. Tirea Barnard, Tyree Barnard, Tira Barnard, and Tyre Barnard are all the same person.

The other form of name confusion is common names.

It's easy to get thrown off of your actual line by someone with the same name, or a similar name, who happened to be in the same area at the same time.

There seem to have been roving packs of John Yateses all over Virginia in the 17th and 18th Centuries. The two forms of name confusion combine to make quite a lot of confusion and ambiguity.

Using the charts

I've broken the basic genealogy charts into three levels. The "A" charts cover the most recent history, the "B" charts are older, and the "C" charts are the oldest. The connections between the charts are indicated by the blue discs.

For example, let's say you're following the Barnard line. You start on Chart A1, and follow the line to the right side of the page. The blue disc says "B3". You flip through the book (or check the table of contents) until you find Chart B3. You look back through a few more generations there, and get to the disc labeled "C6". You find that chart, which takes you back to Thomas Barnard, born in Essex, England in 1580. Along the way, you've been able to read notes with some interesting information about these people and their families.

If you're browsing in the charts and notes section, you can also track forward in time. If you find an interesting story and want to see how an individual fits into the tree, you can find that person on their chart, track to the left, and find the higher level chart. That way you can figure out how that person connects to the family lines you're already familiar with.

After the charts and notes section, there's a brief article on more recent family members, and then a series of photos and articles about various family members from a range of points in history. Within the articles and photo captions, I refer to people on the ancestry charts with the chart ID in parenthesis. So, if an article refers to "Jessie Reynolds (B1)", you can find where Jessie fits into the tree on Chart B1.

We shall embark upon a journey. A journey not only through space, but also through time. Our journey begins in 1858, in Patrick County, Virginia, with the marriage of Henry Fleming Yeatts and Caron Aquila Boswell. We'll trace their ancestry as well as we can back to the Old World. We'll also look at the ancestors of two of the women who married sons of HFY & CAB: Edna Roena Reynolds and Stella Barnard.

We'll follow these lines back as far as we can, back through early colonists of the New World, back to England, Scotland, Ireland, Wales, Germany, and France. We'll learn of our ancestors' triumphs and tragedies, and their lives in times of war and peace, prosperity and poverty.

When we've finished our journey back in time from 1858, we'll look forward into the middle of the Twentieth Century, briefly visiting the lives of the children and grandchildren of HFY and CAB. Some of them moved west, others stayed in Virginia.

All aboard!

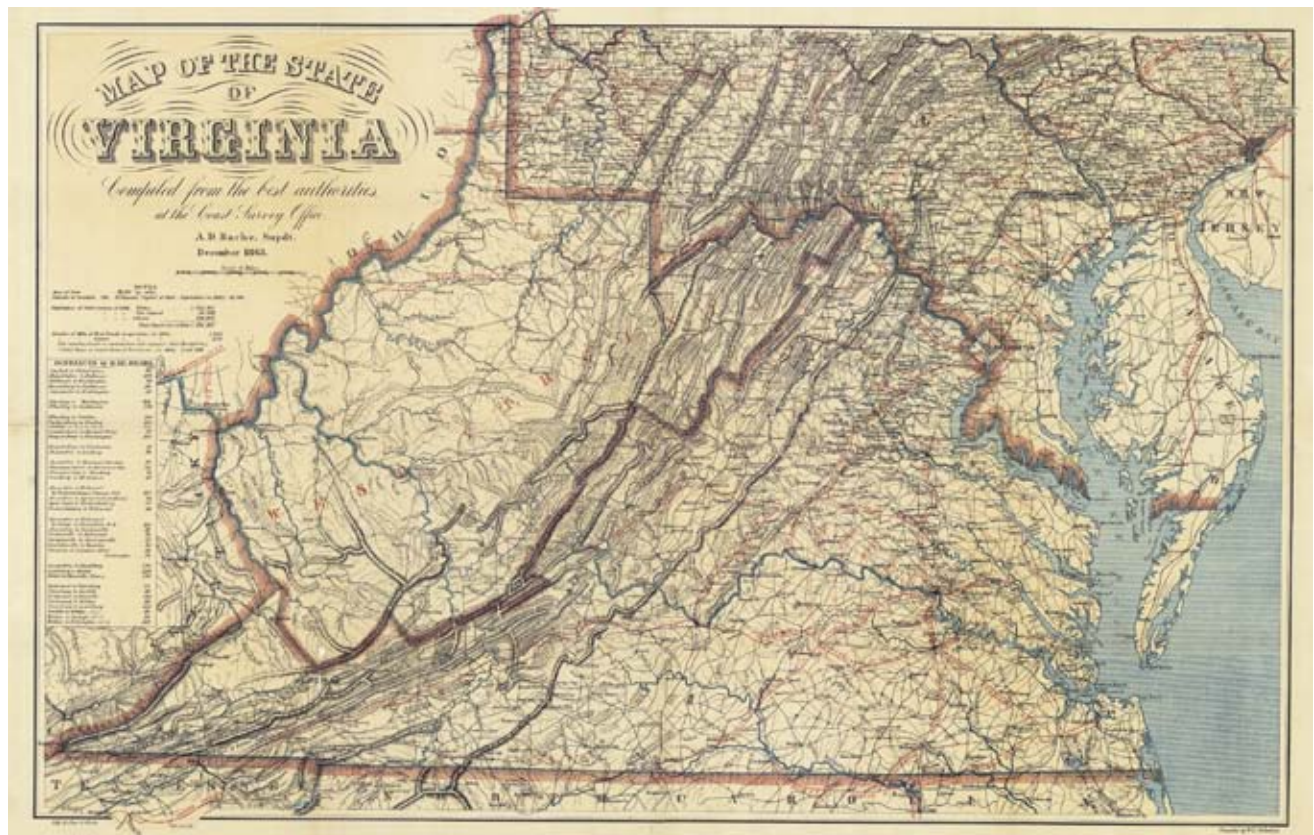
I climbed the attic stairs today
And in a lock I turned a key,
And then before my eyes there lay
The mem'ries that are dear to me.

I see my Mother's wedding veil -
It was her Mother's, too, and mine.
How many a sweet and happy tale
Does that frail web of lace entwine.

Here, neatly wrapped, is baby's shoe,
A guarded sheaf of verse and plays,
A program for a dance or two,
And photographs of childhood days;
So long ago, so far away,
So much has passed twixt now and then
Yet by the attic trunk today
It seems I live my life again.

So many years I've been with you,
The happy days so fast have flown -
I cannot think that they are thru, --
How can I face the world alone? --
They'll wonder what is keeping me -
With mem'ries I'll no longer stay,
Yet as again I turn the key
It seems I lock my life away.

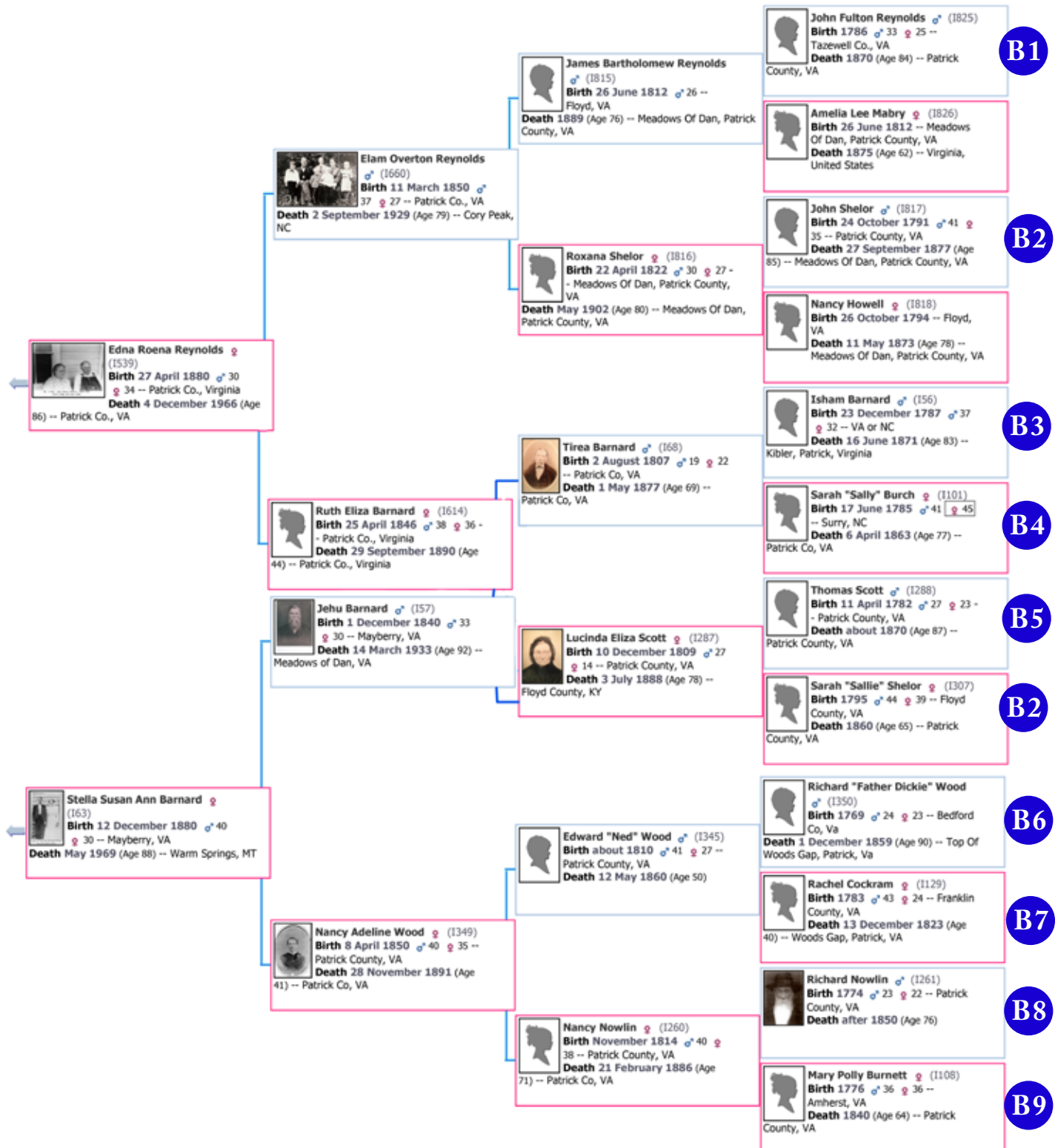
~ Amy Maude Yeatts Searle



Virginia in 1863

Edna Roena Reynolds Stella Susan Ann Barnard Ancestry

A1



Notes for the individuals on Chart A1

Elam Overton Reynolds

was married twice. He had five kids with his first wife, **Ruth Eliza Barnard**:

Isham DeLeon "Lin" Reynolds (1876 - 1957)

Volney Prentiss Reynolds (1878 - 1962)

Edna Roena Reynolds (1880 - 1966)

James Benton Reynolds (1882 - 1960)

Elizabeth Liberta "Bertie" Reynolds (1883 - 1969)

After Ruth's death, he married Malinda Jane "Lindy" Bowman (1882 - 1967). They had several children.



Elam Reynolds with his second family

Ruth Eliza Barnard

was also married twice. Her first marriage was to German Wood (1839-1871), son of **Ned Wood**. This marriage produced two kids:

John Everett Wood (1871 - 1946)

Flora Wood (1867 - 1920)

Flora married William J. Barnard, son of Thomas "Pap" Barnard (1833-1891). Pap was **Tirea Barnard's** brother. Flora and William lived in Colorado.

Jehu "Jace" Barnard

Served in "K" Co. VA 50th Infantry, CSA Postwar farmer, county surveyor, Patrick Co., VA. Postmaster, Mayberry, 1872. He was married twice. First to **Nancy Wood**. This marriage produced:

Theridas Vera Barnard (1873 - 1971)

John Tirea Winifred "Win" Barnard (1875 - 1970)

Jehu Osmond Barnard (1877 - 1961)

James Thomas Barnard (1878 - 1962)

Stella Susan Ann Barnard (1880 - 1969)

Sallie Ellen Barnard (1882 - 1966)

William Alexander Barnard (1884 - 1980)

Nancy Eliza Barnard (1886 - 1890)

Elijah Euwell Barnard (1889 - 1890)

Charles Madison Barnard (1891 - 1897)

Jace's second marriage was to Virginia Alice Orander (1870-1940). This marriage produced:

Alvin Myrick Barnard (1894 - 1986)

Missouri Lois Barnard (1906 - 2002)



Nancy Adeline Wood Barnard

James B. Reynolds and Roxana Shelor
had 14 kids:

Powell Benton Reynolds (1841-1914)

Tillman Dexter Reynolds (1842-1862)

Cardwell McCauley Reynolds (1844-1923)

Hortense Ellen Reynolds (1846-1923)

Rowena Columbia Reynolds (1848-1931)

Elam Overton Reynolds (1850-1929)

Walter Manderville Reynolds (1852-1886)

Octavius Lofton Reynolds (1854-1896)

Minnie Louella Reynolds (1858-1862)

Linville Walker Reynolds (1858-1862)

Metta Victoria Reynolds (1862-1916)

Calneah Mae Reynolds (1863-1918)



Barnard reunion in Montana, circa 1960. (L-R) Missouri Lois, Alvin Myrick, William Alexander, Sallie Ellen, Stella Susan, James Thomas, Jehu Osmond, John Tirea Winifred, Theridas Vera



Confederate Soldiers in Patrick County Virginia, 1900

First row left to right: 1. Green Ingram, 2. John Barnard, 3. Jehu Barnard, 4. Green Dehart, 5. George Yeatts, 6. Jim Barnard, 7. Elijah Hardon Hall, 8. Abe Conner, 9. Alex Wood, 10. Joe Helms, 11. Peter Belcher, 12. Cosley Belcher, 13. Bill Boyd, 14. Robert M. Beasley (see comments below), 15. Joseph Moran, 16. Alex Powers
Second row left to right: 17. Alex Cockram, 18. Nicholas Vipperman, 19. Tyler Boyd, 20. George Boyd, 21. Ahirah (Jack) Harbour, 22. Dr. John K. Martin, 23. Emmual Jackson Vipperman, 24. George Washington Vipperman, 25. Elijah Wood, 26. David K. Harrell, 27. Steve Wood, 28. Peter David Craig, 29. Nathan Randolph Hall, 30. John Hubbard, 31. John Conner, 32. Henry Richardson

Elveah H. Reynolds (1864-1880)

Jay Forney Reynolds (1865-1866)

Walter Manderville Reynolds married Virginia Ellen Blackard (1858-1942). Among their children is Joseph Talmadge Reynolds (1882-1972). Joseph married Sallie Ellen Barnard; they were part of the group which moved to Montana.



Tirea Barnard's house

Tirea Barnard and Lucinda Eliza Scott
had 11 kids:

Isham B. Barnard (1831 - 1916)

Thomas Amos "Pap" Barnard (1833 - 1891)

Richard Joseph Barnard (1835 - 1871)

Charles T.S. Barnard (1837 - 1862)

Sarah "Sally" Barnard (1839 - 1910)

Jehu Barnard (1840 - 1933)

John Barnard (1842 - 1930)

James William Barnard (1844 - 1923)

Ruth Eliza Barnard (1846 - 1890)

Lucy Emeline Barnard (1851 - 1856)



Tirea Barnard



Lucinda Eliza Scott

Ned Wood

was married twice. It's difficult to track his offspring, as primary source material is scarce and online trees provide contradictory information. His first wife was Mary Moran (1815-1840). As best as I've been able to determine, this marriage produced:

Alexander E. Wood (1831 - 1907)

Elizabeth Wood (1833 - 1928)

Thomas Wood (1833 - 1911)

Elijah Wood (1833 - 1911)

Mary Jane Wood (1837 - 1919)

German Wood (1839 - 1871)

Ned's second wife was **Nancy Nowlin**. This marriage produced:

Sarah Ann Wood (1843 - 1928)

Lucinda Evelyn Wood (1845 - 1938)

Louvenia Wood (1846 - ?)

Lousia Wood (1846 - ?)

Nancy Adeline Wood (1850 - 1891)

Martha Frances Wood (1848 - 1944)

Susan Ruth Wood (1853 - 1931)

Julia Ellen Wood (1854 - 1902)

At least three of the boys, Alexander, Elijah, and German, fought for the Confederacy. Elizabeth's husband, William Craig, died at Gettysburg. I'm pretty sure Louvenia and Louisa were twins.

John Fulton Reynolds and Amelia Mabry
had a big family. Some online trees list 14 kids.

Isham Barnard

As a young lad, Isham became a 'bound boy', an indentured servant, to a Methodist Circuit preacher who exposed him to the ministry until Isham was 18 years old. The minister's area of ministry included Western North Carolina.

It was on one of the minister's circuit stops that young Isham Barnard met **Sally Burch**. Because of Isham's position in life, Sally's parents took a dim view of any attention that young Isham would pay to their daughter.

Upon completion of his service to the minister, and the receiving of the horse and bridle from his master (as was the custom), Isham immediately set out for Surry County, North Carolina where he convinced Sally to accompany him to Patrick Co, Virginia.

Without her parents' permission and against their will, Sally Burch married Isham Barnard on February 26, 1805. The Burches disowned their daughter and she never saw her family again.

Isham and Sally settled in the Kigler Valley by the waters of the Dan River. Isham always resented the fact that the Burch family did not approve of him. He once said "by the time I die, I'll have more than all the Burches".

At the time of his death in 1871, Isham Barnard owned over 1000 acres in Patrick Co, VA.

Isham and Sally Barnard had 13 children: Lucy, **Tirea**, Melinda, Mary, Nancy, James, Mehala, Charles, Sally, Leminia, Lucy Ann, Isham Jr., and William.

~ info from Missouri Lois Barnard Harris

Isham and Sally's farm is now an official historic landmark. There are excerpts from its landmark application later in this book.



Isham and Sally Barnard's house



Lemina "Mina" Barnard (1822-1909)



Interior of Isham's house with William Barnard, Sr. (aged 93), son of James W. Barnard and Dr. Roy O. Yeatts (aged 86), grandson of Jehu Barnard.

Dickie Wood

was married four times. He's buried with one wife to his left, one to his right, one at the foot of his grave, and one at the head. He had many kids. The wives are : **Rachel Cockram** (1783 - 1823), Nancy Fanny Bramer (? - 1830), Elizabeth DeHart (1810 - 1838), and Lucy Via (1815-1855).

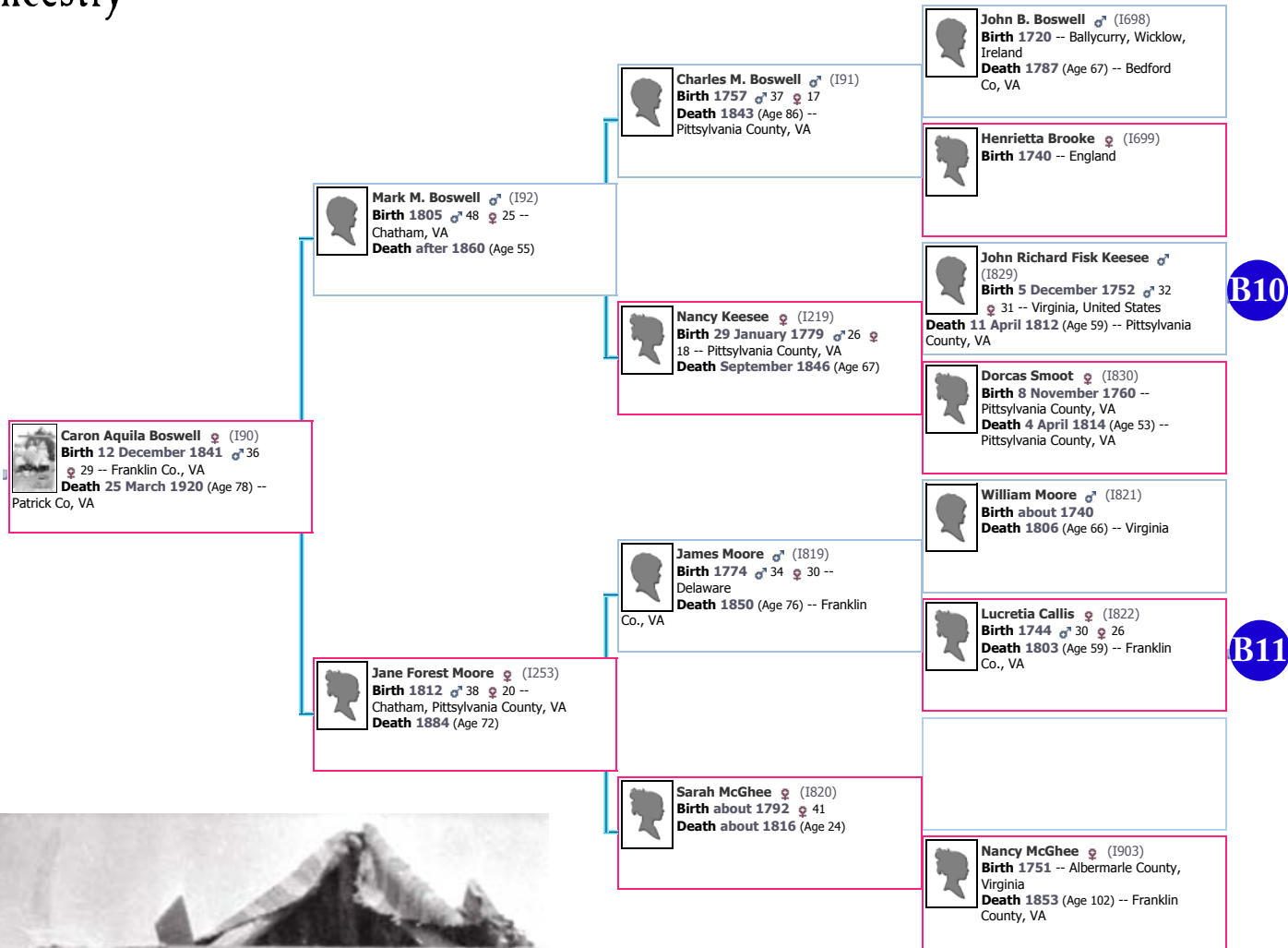
Richard Nowlin and Mary Polly Burnett had ten kids. **Nancy Nowlin** was the third.



Richard Nowlin

Caron Aquila Boswell
Ancestry

A2



Caron Aquila Boswell Yeatts and some girls who might be her granddaughters

Notes for the individuals on Chart A2

Mark Boswell and Jane Moore only had one child, **Caron “Little Muh” Boswell**. Both parents lived for many years after Little Muh’s birth.

Charles Boswell had six kids with **Nancy Keesee**. Some online trees claim he had a prior marriage to someone named Craven which produced eleven kids. I can’t find documentation of this first marriage, but the dates seem credible. Nancy was 22 years younger than Charles, and he was 40 by the time Nancy started having babies.

James Moore was married at least twice. His first marriage that I have documented is in 1813 (when he was 39) to **Sarah McGhee**. He also had a family with Susanah Sigmon.

In general, the Moore and McGhee lines are extremely difficult to track. The names are common and the documentation is scarce.

John Boswell
Researchers agree that Charles Boswell’s father was named John. But which John Boswell? There seem to be two main candidates. John B. Boswell, b 1720, who came over from Ireland, seems to be better documented; we know about his marriage and the ship he sailed to the New World on. But there’s nothing I can find unequivocally linking him to Charles. The other candidate John was born about 1727 in Bedford, VA. He married Sarah Harris. That’s about all I’ve been able to find out.



Caron Aquila Boswell Yeatts, “Little Muh” circa 1912



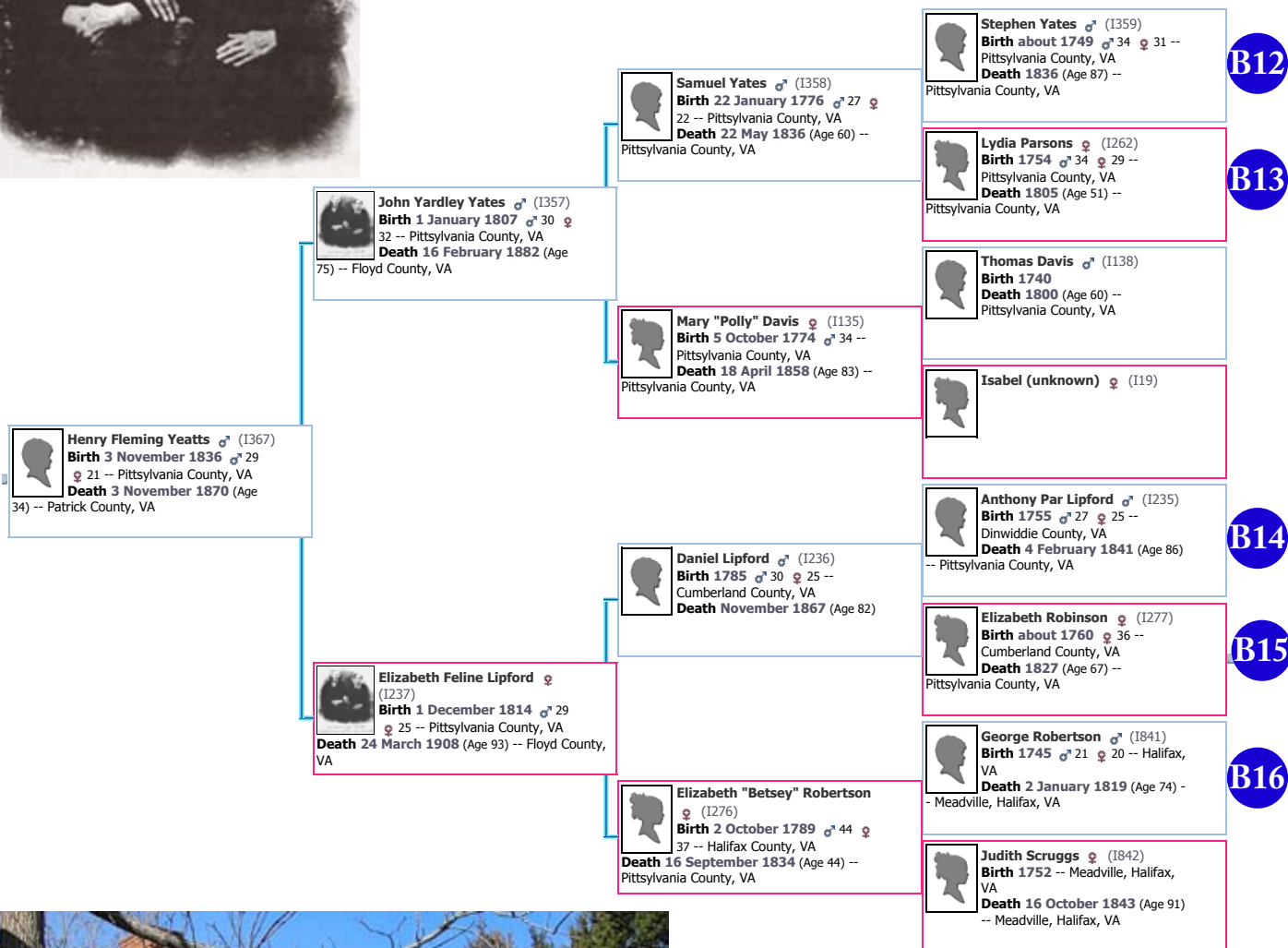
Shack at the Mouth of the Mattole, California. Photo by Garth Hagerman

Henry Fleming Yeatts Ancestry

A3



*John Yardley Yates and
Elizabeth Feline Lipford Yates*



The (restored) Yates Tavern

Notes for the individuals on Chart A3

Henry F. Yeatts

Served in Company A, 34th Virginia Militia, Confederate States Army. He survived the war but never regained full health. His family's post-war struggles are documented in "The Move to Mayberry".

John Yardley Yates

has his own book, *A History of John Yeardley Yates of Pittsylvania and Patrick Counties, Virginia* by Robert Somerville Radford Yates, Sr. A microfilmed copy is available for download on familysearch.org.

John and **Elizabeth Feline Lipford** had 13 kids:

William Anthony Yates (1835 - 1906)

Henry Fleming Yeatts (1836 - 1870)

George Washington Yates (1838 - 1922)

Richard Davis Yates (1840 - 1910)

Susan Jane Yates (1842 - 1925)

Beverly Arnold Yates (1844 - 1904)

Ferdinand Yates (1845 - 1850)

Thomas Monroe Yates (1847 - 1927)

Hartwell F. Yates (1848 - 1861)

Elvira A. Yates (1852 - 1894)

Mary Elizabeth Yates (1853 - 1861)

John David Yates (1856 - 1922)

James B. Yates (1858 - 1858)

"Records substantiate that five of John Yeardley Yates' sons served in the Civil War. Both Richard Davis Yeatts and George Washington Yeatts were wounded and received pensions from the State of Virginia. We believe that Henry F. Yeatts contracted a sickness which felled him shortly after the war was over. Later both the widows of George and William Yeatts received yearly pensions from the State of Virginia because of their husbands' service to the State."

~ R.S.R. Yates

Elizabeth Feline Lipford

Obituary from the local paper - "In memory of Mrs. Elizabeth F. Yates who was born December 1, 1815 and departed this life March 24, 1908 making her stay on earth 92 years, 3 months, and 23 days.

She was a Miss Lipford of Pittsylvania County, and was married to John Y. Yates december 16, 1833.



George Washington Yeatts (1838-1922)



Richard Davis Yeatts (1840-1910)

Lillian (Hensley) Thompson (1892-1981)

There was born to their union 13 children, 10 boys and 3 girls, 8 of them and her husband preceded her to the spiritual world. She was the mother of the late William Yates, F. M. Yates, and J. D. Yates of this county (Floyd) living, G. W. Yates of Patrick County, R. D. Yates of Pocahontas.

She was a woman of wonderful activity in body and mind. She could relate to incidents that occurred three-fourths of a century ago and they seemed to be fresh on her mind. Her descendants numbered nearly two hundred children, grand children and great grandchildren living and dead.

She joined the Missionary Baptist Church about sixty-five years ago and lived a constant Christian member until death. She joined the New Haven Church by letter when she came to this county and held her

membership until death. She said she was ready to go home and was only waiting for the Lord to take her away.

She was not thought to be seriously ill but was taken worse and quietly passed away a few hours later. Her funeral was preached by Reverends G. H. Thompson and J.K. Rumburg of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Stonewall at high noon the 26th March 1908.

While the funeral was preached the casket which contained the remains was before the altar covered with flowers and evergreens showing the high esteem in which she was held.

She was laid to rest in the Yates burying ground by the remains of her husband in the presence of a large crowd of sorrowing friends and relatives. May we live the life that she has lived so we can say that we are ready and only waiting to be called home.

Written by her grandson F. G. Yates.

Samuel Yates and Mary Polly Davis

had another large family. Some online trees list as many as 17 kids. R.S.R. Yates lists 14: Here are the ones I'm most sure of:

Stephen Yates II (1796 - 1854)

Leticia Yates (1797 - 1853)

Thomas W. Yates (1801 - 1884)

Susan E. Yates (1805 - ?)

John Yardley Yates (1807 - 1882)

Daniel Yates (1809 - ?)

George Washington Yates (1811 - ?)

William D. Yates (1813 - 1864)

Judith J. Yates (1819 - 1843)



Yates Tavern prior to restoration

Byrd R Yates (1823 - 1860)

Polly Yates (1803 - 1870)

Daniel Lipford

Served in the 4th Regiment (Greenhill's) Virginia Militia, War of 1812. In addition to **Elizabeth Feline Lipford**, Daniel and **Elizabeth Robinson** had two kids, Robinson Lipford (1815-1882) and George Lipford (1825-1864).

Stephen Yates

In 1815, with his son **Samuel**, Stephen Yeatts took out a license to operate an ordinary (an early American term for an inn or bed & breakfast) at the Yates Tavern in Gretna, Virginia.

Anthony Par Lipford married

Elizabeth Robinson,

daughter of Field Robinson and Obedience Bradshaw, on 25 July 1785 in Cumberland County, Virginia, and they moved to Pittsylvania County, Virginia by 1788, according to the pension application. In 1789 he bought 112 acres of land on the north side of the Banister River near Chatham.

Anthony and Elizabeth had three children: Daniel Lipford, born 1785, Amos Lipford II, born 1786, and Fielding Lipford, born about 1788. In 1815 Anthony bought another 137 acres of land.

After his first wife died, Anthony married Elizabeth Ferguson in 1827 in Pittsylvania County. Anthony sold the 170 acres of land north of the Banister River in 1829 and bought 245 acres of land on the north side of the Lynchburg Road on Cherry Stone Creek.

At age 79 he applied for a Revolutionary War pension in 1833 and was granted a pension in November of that year amounting to \$33.36 per annum.

APL's Revolutionary War service:

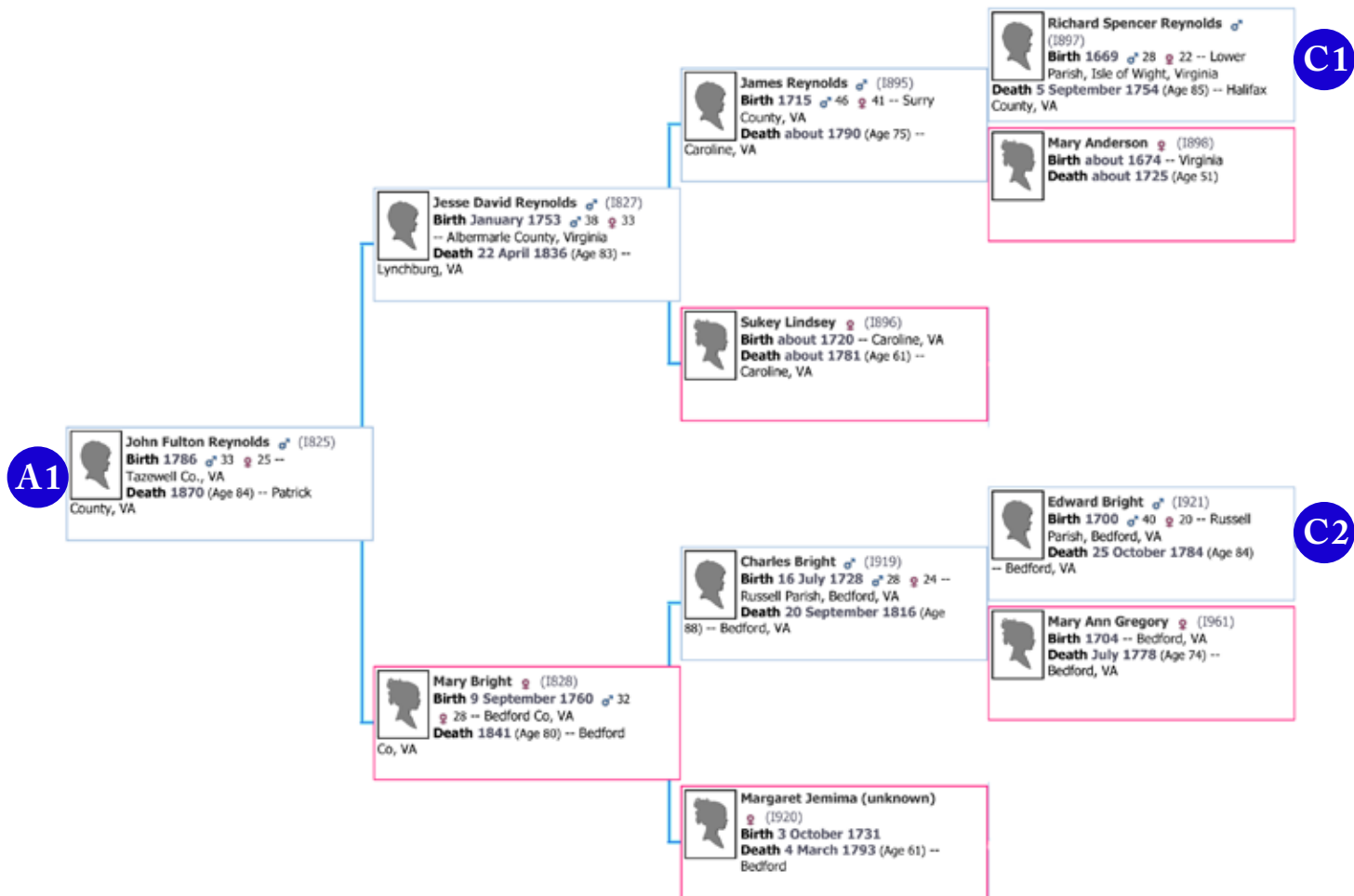
Soldier, Private, Virginia Militia. Substituted in 1780 for George Wright at Cumberland Court House; Attached to 4th Regiment under Colonel Stubblefield at Hillsboro; Was at Rougeley's Mills before Camden, where the American Army was defeated.

2nd tour: drafted under Captain William Meredith at Cumberland; Attached to 3rd Virginia Regiment under Colonel Wilson; Marched with the famous French General Lafayette to meet General Wayne at Raccoon Ford.

An Intimate History of the American Revolution in Pittsylvania County, Virginia p. 158

John Fulton Reynolds Ancestry

B1



*Old Isle of Wight County,
Virginia, Courthouse.
Built in 1750*

Notes for the individuals on Chart B1

Jesse David Reynolds

is included in the book, *Reynolds-Reynolds Family of England and Virginia 1530-1948*, by Stephen Frederick Tillman, as a descendant of Christopher Reynolds, b. ABT 1530 in County Kent, England.

JDR's Revolutionary War service is detailed in article later in this book.

JDR and **Mary Bright** had a large family. One online tree lists 15 kids.

Sukie Lindsey

Some online trees claim that Sukie (1717-1781) was a child of James Lindsay (1700-1782) and Sarah Daniel (1703-1781). Documentation is sketchy to non-existent, and those would be some mighty young parents. Possible, sure. But...

Edward Bright

Different trees list different wives for Edward:

Mary Ann Gregory (1704-1778)

Rebecca Tuton (1708-1763)

Rebecca (1708-1763)

Mary Ann Rebecca Gregory (1708-1763)

Maybe Rebecca died, he married Mary Ann later, and some researchers mush them together???

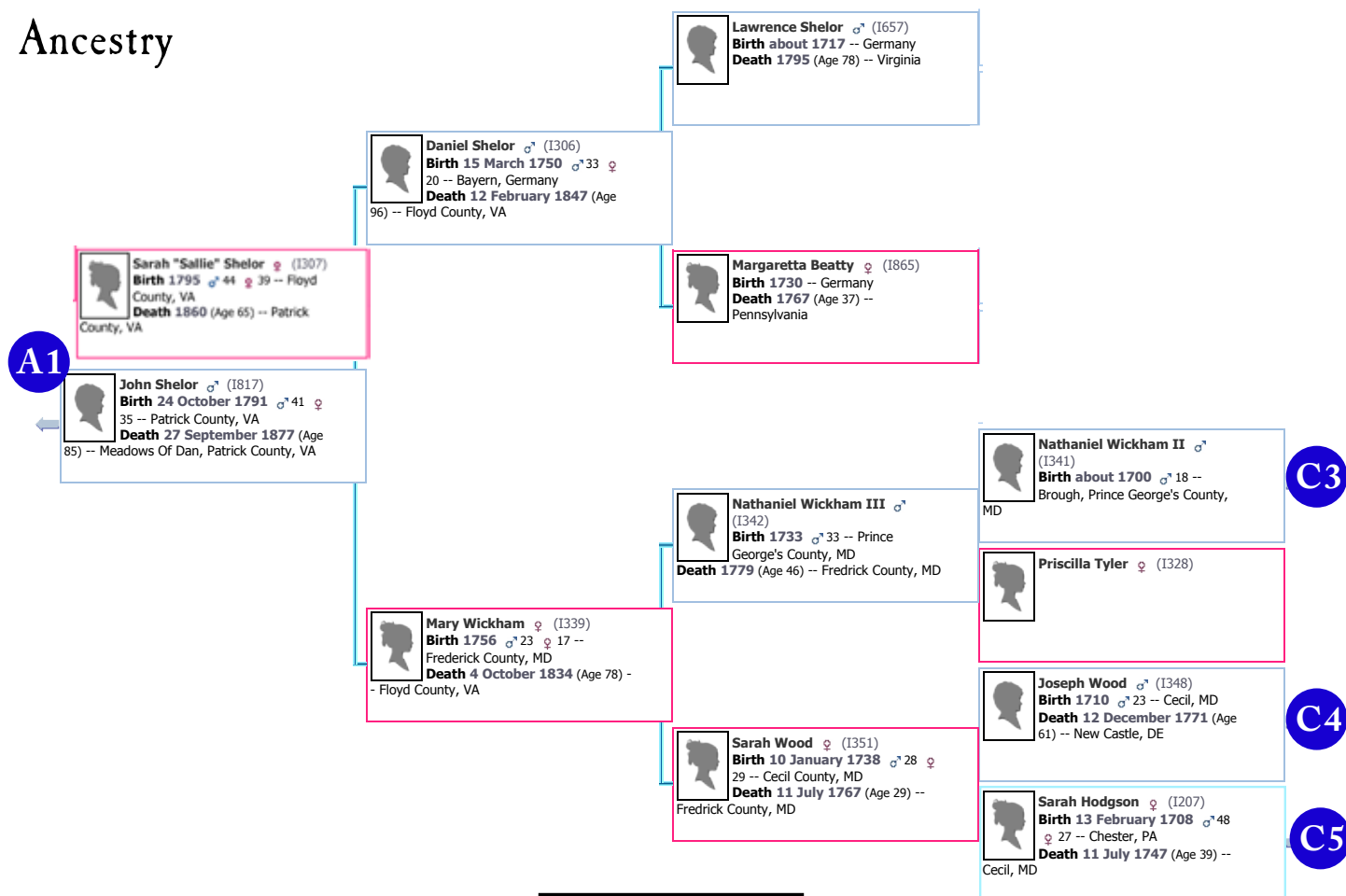
D. A. R. COLLECTION OF FAMILY/BIBLE RECORDS	
(continued)	
Records from the Bible of CHARLES BRIGHT. The Bible was printed in London in 1784. A true register of the ages of CHARLES BRIGHT, SENIOR, (son of EDWARD BRIGHT) and JEMIMA BRIGHT, his wife:	
BIRTHS: To wit: CHARLES BRIGHT, SENIOR, was born the year of our Lord, August the 16th, 1728.	
JEMIMA BRIGHT, his wife, was born October the 3rd, 1731.	
Their children:	
ELIZABETH BRIGHT, dau. of CHARLES BRIGHT & JEMIMA, his wife, was born November the 3rd, 1750.	
LUCY BRIGHT, daughter, was born February the 19th, 1752.	
AMY BRIGHT, daughter, was born March 17, 1754.	
EDWARD BRIGHT, son, was born July 14, 1757.	
MARY BRIGHT, daughter, was born September the 9th, 1760.	
CHARLES BRIGHT, son, was born June the 11th, 1763.	
JEMIMA BRIGHT, daughter, was born February 28, 1769.	
JOSHUA BRIGHT, son was born April the 1st, 1774.	
JOSEPH BRIGHT, son, was born October the 31st, 1776.	
EDWIN CHARLES BRIGHT, son of JOSHUA BRIGHT & PEGGY WILLISS TINSLEY, his wife, was born June 30th in 1817 about 8 o'clock in the morning.	
LOUISA MANDARIN BRIGHT, dau., was born March the 28th in 1820 about 3 o'clock in the afternoon.	
EMILA MARIAN BRIGHT was born 11th September 1821, about 7 o'clock in the morning.	
CATHARINE SUSAN OGLESBY, dau. of WILLIAM OGLESBY & MARGARET WILLISS, his wife, was born November 7th, 1827.	
JOSHUA BRIGHT OGLESBY was born November 28th, 1831.	
LODOWICK MCDANIEL OGLESBY was born December 26th, 1835.	
DEATHS:	
JEMIMA BRIGHT, lady of CHARLES BRIGHT, SENIOR, departed this life the 4th March 1793, 20 minutes to 3 in the morning.	
CHARLES BRIGHT, SENIOR, departed this life on Friday, the 20th day of September, about 7 o'clock in the evening in 1816.	
(The above Bible belongs to Miss Louise Meriwether, Holcomb's Rock, Bedford County, Virginia.)	

Bedford County, Virginia



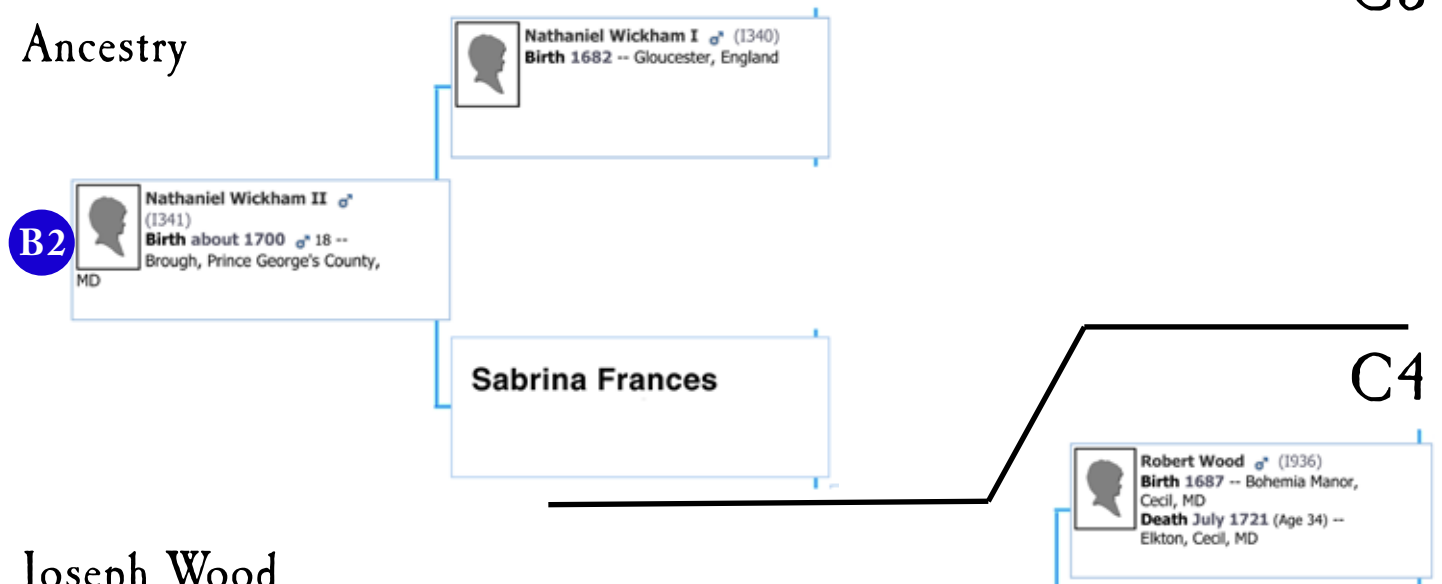
John Shelor Sallie Shelor Ancestry

B2



Nathaniel Wickham II Ancestry

C3



Joseph Wood Ancestry

B2



Notes for the individuals on Chart B2

Daniel Shelor

served as Captain in the Revolutionary War. His obituary:

Another Revolutionary Soldier gone

Capt. Daniel Shelor breathed his last at the residence of George Shelor, Esq., in the County of Floyd, on the 12th day of February, 1847, in the 97th year of his age. He served in the struggle for American Independence, first as a Lieutenant, and secondly as a Captain. His spirit has gone (it is believed,) where the bellowing of the cannons, the clamor of the drum, and the shrill voice of the fife are known and heard no more—but,

“Where anthems of rapture unceasingly roll,
And the smile of the Lord is the feast of the soul.”

The Lynchburg Virginian, April 12, 1847

Daniel was either born in Bavaria or Maryland. Several online trees list Bavaria; a genealogical index lists Maryland. If he was born in Bavaria, he came to the New World at a very young age. According to A.S. Dennison, Daniel's father “came to America some twenty-five years before the revolutionary war”, which would have been right around Daniel's birth date.

Captain Daniel Shelor, from Maryland, came to the banks of Furnace Stack Creek in Floyd County and opened an iron mine and smelter in the early 1790's. He mined the ore, refined it and made cooking utensils which he then hauled by wagon to Lynchburg, the closest town, to sell.

It is said that when he hauled his first load of pots and pans into Lynchburg, he could not find buyers



Ruins of the old Shelor Furnace

and out of sheer frustration, or perhaps good salesmanship, he threw one of his pots against a rock in the unpaved street. To the dismay of those who witnessed his act, the pot didn't break as most of the brittle iron of the day would have normally done. It seems that the ore that Captain Shelor was mining contained just enough copper to create an alloy which made his wares more durable than others available.

After seeing Captain Shelor's pot didn't shatter when thrown against a rock, he quickly sold the entire load to the merchants and townspeople of Lynchburg. He then returned to Floyd County where he continued to operate the smelter and mine until once again, the nation he had fought to help create needed volunteers and Captain Shelor, already in his sixties, walked to Norfolk, Virginia to offer his assistance in the War of 1812.

With **Mary Wickham**, he had 8 kids:

Elizabeth Shelor (1777 - 1850)

George Shelor (1778 - 1856)

William Shelor (1781 - 1847)

Sarah “Sallie” Shelor (1795 - 1860)

Daniel Shelor II (1785 - 1840)

Jacob Shelor (1787 - 1857)

John Shelor (1791 - 1877)

Mary Polly Shelor (1793 - 1863)



Isham Barnard Shelor (1837–1882). On his father's side, he was Daniel Shelor's great grandson through Daniel Shelor II and Thomas Bonaparte Shelor. His mother was Mary Polly Barnard, daughter of Isham Barnard.

Nathaniel Wickham II

is mentioned a few times in *The History of Western Maryland* by John Thomas Scharf. At the June 1750 term of the Frederick Court, it was ordered "that a pillory be erected on the court-house lot in Frederick Town, and Nathaniel Wickham, Jr., and Thomas Beatty were appointed to attend to the building of the same."

Nathaniel was also mentioned as one of the men building the "hull of a court house in 1749.

"Fellowship was surveyed for Nathan Wickham and Samuel Pottinger, March 10, 1723, and contained 400 acres, and lies on the waters of Whetstone Branch"

On May 14, 1739, the inhabitants about Monocacy and to the northward of the Blue Ridge petitioned that a road might be cleared up through the country to Annapolis, to enable them to bring their grain and other commodities to market. It was referred to the next session, and granted.

Upon the petition of **Joseph Wood** and other inhabitants between Monocacy and the mountains towards Pennsylvania, a road was by the County Court ordered at March court, 1749, to be laid out from Frederick Town by Abraham Miller's mill, and from thence by Ambrose's mill to ye temporary line. **Nathaniel Wickham, Jr.**, and Joseph Ogle appointed to lay it out. This was the first road laid out in Frederick County after its erection.

A road was ordered to be laid out from Capt. Joseph Ogle's to John Biggs' ford on Monocacy, and from thence to Frederick Town.

Joseph Wood

In *History of Frederick County, Maryland*, page 326, it states that he was a native of Gloucestershire, England, and emigrated to Maryland, settling first in Bohemia Manor in Cecil County, 1755 he moved to Hauaver's district in Frederic County. Notwithstanding his English he was strong for the American cause and loaned \$8,000 to Congress.

He served as foreman of the Grand Jury and then became a Justice of the Frederick Court, serving through 1763.

In *The History of Western Maryland* we learn this about Joseph:

Woodsborough District and town both take their name from Col. Joseph Wood. There he married his first wife, in January, 1734 or 1735, by whom he had five children:

1. Robert, born Aug. 12, 1736, and married Oct. 13, 1763, to Catharine, daughter of Nicholas Dorsey.
2. **Sarah**, born Jan. 10, 1739, married Nathaniel Wickham, and died July 11, 1777.
3. Joseph Wood (the colonel, from whom the name was given to district and town), born Sept. 17, 1743.
4. Mary, born Aug. 7, 1746, married Moses Hedges.
5. Catharine, born April 9, 1749.

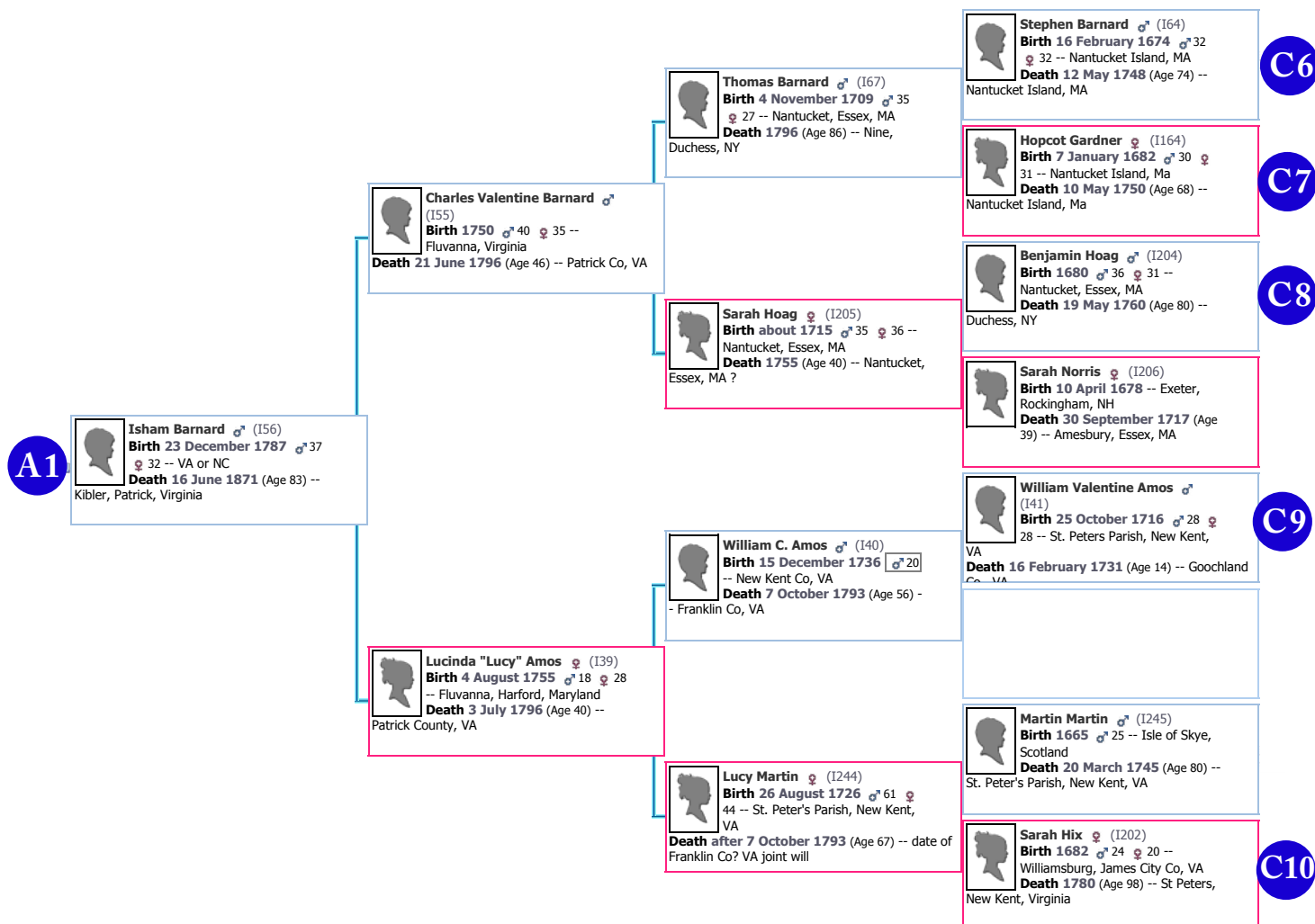
Prior to the Revolution of 1776, Col. Joseph Wood [the son of our Joseph Wood] built what is known as the stone mills at Woodsborough, and erected a mansion of brick imported from England. This fine dwelling is still standing, and is occupied by David Albaugh. Another house of brick which Col. Wood erected is still standing, and is occupied by George M. Shaw. Col. Wood owned some fifteen hundred acres of land, a part of "Monocacy Manor," on a portion of which, near the northern boundary, the town was laid out. Joseph Wood, the emigrant, had his fourteen hundred and fifty acres surveyed Jan. 10, 1748, and received his patent June 1, 1750.



Jug Bridge over the Monocacy River

Isham Barnard Ancestry

B3



*Loch Coruisk, Isle of Skye painted in
1874 by Sidney Richard Percy*

Notes for the individuals on Chart B3

Charles Valentine Barnard

Authors of various online trees speculate that CVB was killed by Indians. He did die at a fairly young age, but I have not found any contemporary reports supporting the idea that Indians had anything to do with it. Regardless of the cause, his death led to Isham Barnard being “bound out” and to **Lucy Amos Barnard** signing Mary Molly Barnard’s wedding consent papers.

CVB and **Lucy Amos** had four kids:

Valentine Barnard (1774-1814)

Archibald “Archie” Barnard (1780-1855)

Mary Molly Barnard (1782-1800)

Isham Barnard (1787-1871)

CVB removed from Nantucket 1773, came with family to Guilford County NC, later to Carroll County & Patrick County, Virginia.

Thomas Barnard

There seems to have been two contemporaneous Thomas Barnards in Massachusetts during this time period; some trees get them mixed up. The other TB was born in Yorkshire, England. One of the TBs married Martha Hender (1720-1750). Some of the trees list an early (1735) death date for **Sarah Hoag**, so it’s possible that Martha Hender was CVB’s mother.

William C. Amos

was probably a Revolutionary War veteran. One tree lists U.S., Revolutionary War Rolls, 1775-1783. Will Amos, Virginia, Continental Troops, rank of private. I haven’t found specifics.

Benjamin Hoag and Sarah Norris

The children of the first wife [Sarah] are recorded on the books of the Hampton-Seabrook Monthly Meeting of Friends and are followed by this entry: “The mother of these children departed this life on the 30th day of 9th month 1717, having desire them to live in fear of the Lord and in obedience to their father, etc.”; the children by the second wife appear both on the Friends’ records and on the town books of Amesbury, Mass., but it is probable that all but the two youngest were born in New Hampshire. Rockingham County deeds show Benjamin living in Exeter in 1707, 1709 and 1713; in Stratham in 1716, in Dover, 1721 and 1722, in Stratham again in 1723, 1724, 1728, and 1731, and in Amesbury, Mass., in 1732, 1733, 1734 and 1739, and other records show that he continued to reside there until 1760. He received a certificate of removal from the Amesbury Monthly Meeting March 20, 1760 to the Oblong Monthly Meeting in Dutchess County where it was accepted May 19, 1760. His wife was provided for by the Society at Oblong in 1780. (taken from *Boston Transcript* genealogy column, 18 January 1934)

Martin Martin

is a processioner at St Peter’s in 1689. He apparently moved to Henrico Co. prior to 1735, where he patented 358 acres on the south side of the James. He owned land in New Kent Co., VA, in 1689 along with Henry, Thomas, and William Martin. (Vestry Book, St Peter’s Church.) Last mention in Vestry Book of Martin Martin is 1698. The Parish Register contains the marriage of Martin Martin to Sarah Hix.

There was another contemporaneous individual, also from the Isle of Skye, sharing the curiously repetitive Martin name. The other Martin Martin was a Scottish writer best known for his work *A Description of the Western Islands of Scotland* (1703). I can find no evidence that the writer ever set foot in the New World.

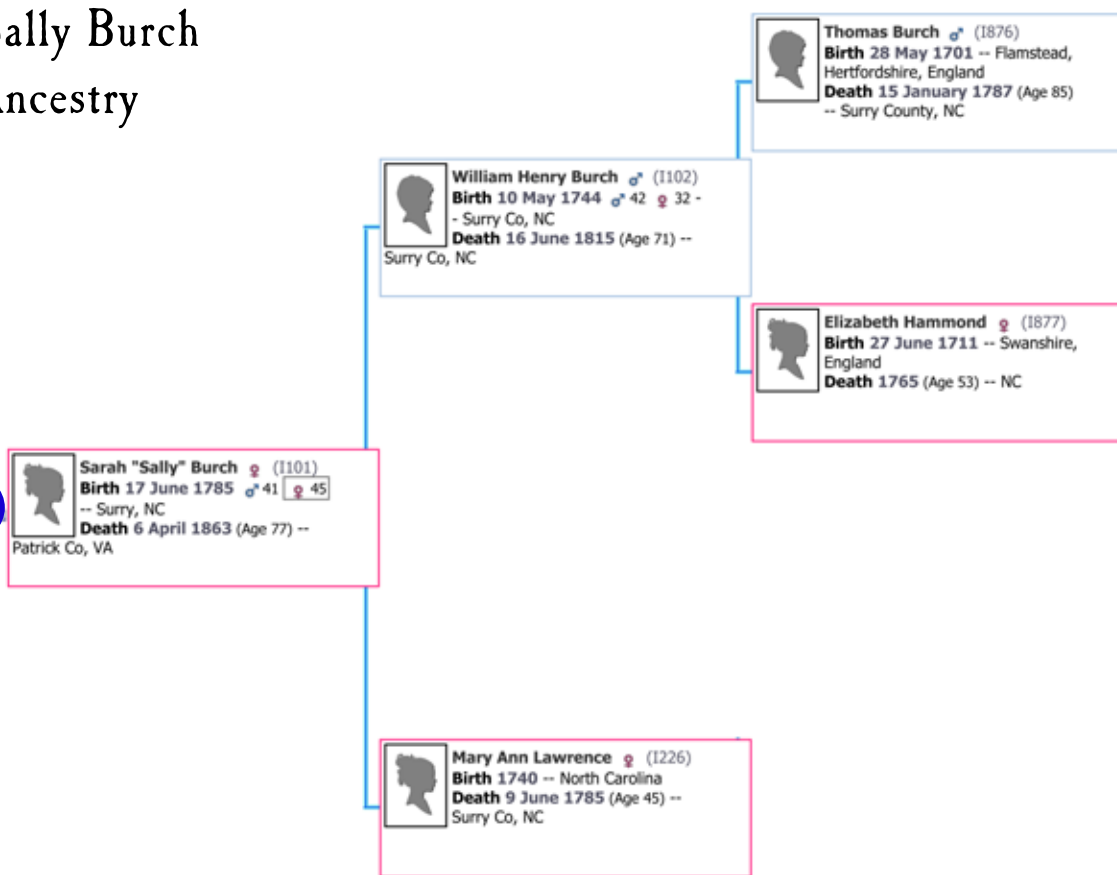


Dusk at Crater Lake, Oregon. Photo by Garth Hagerman

Sally Burch Ancestry

B4

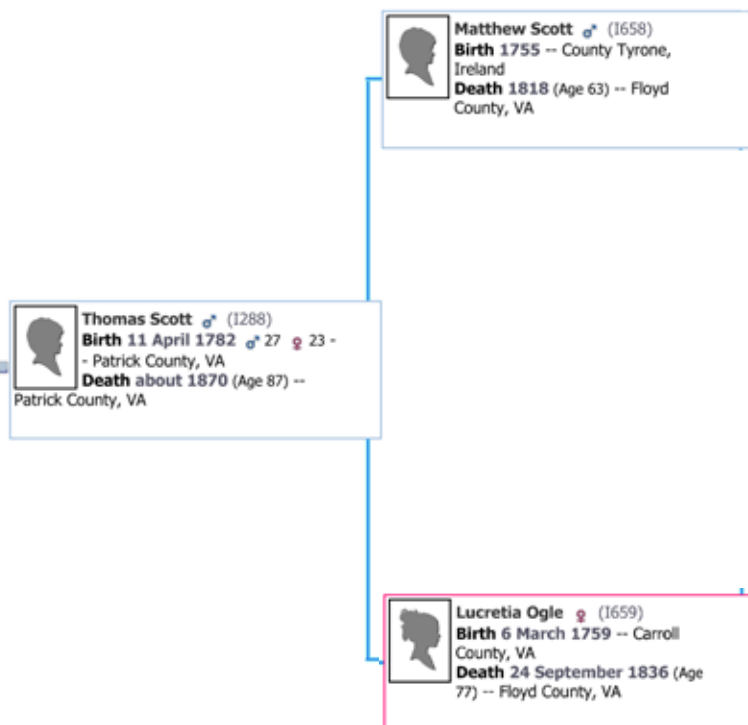
A1



Thomas Scott Ancestry

B5

A1



Notes for the individuals on Chart B4 & B5

William Henry Burch

served in the Kingsbury Regiment in the Revolutionary War. He was a Corporal.

WHB and **Mary Ann Lawrence** had the following kids:

William Burch Jr b: 10 MAY 1764 in Rowan Co, NC

Elizabeth Burch b: APR 1766 in Rowan Co, NC

Margaret Burch b: 9 FEB 1768 in ?Rowan Co, NC

Delilah Burch Edwards b: MAY 1770 in prob NC

Henry Burch b: 7 OCT 1772 in NC

Mary Burch b: 7 OCT 1772 in NC

John Lawrence Burch b: 7 AUG 1774 in Rowan, or
Surry Co, NC

George Burch b: 14 OCT 1776 in Surry Co, NC

James Burch b: 14 OCT 1777 in Surry Co, NC

Joseph Burch b: 8 NOV 1780 in Surry Co, NC

Charles Burch b: 10 MAR 1783 in Surry Co, NC

Sarah 'Sally' Burch Barnard b: 19 JUN 1785 in Surry
Co, NC

Thomas Burch

arrived in Mayland from England around 1720.
His father was Thomas Burch Sr. (1681-1720). The
elder Burch married Anna Hammond. He died in

England. Some trees claim that the younger Thomas
Burch returned to England in his later years and died
there.

Elizabeth Hammond's

parents were William Hammond, b. 1685, and Mary
Shot, b. 1688. Both of them lived their lives in Eng-
land.

Thomas Scott

Unsurprisingly for such a common name, there was
more than one person named Thomas Scott in the
right part of Virginia at that time. The other Thomas
Scott is notable for having a son named Nimrod.

Matthew Scott,

the original settler, came from County Tyrone, Ire-
land, and, according to family tradition, settled in the
eastern portion of what is now Floyd County about
the year 1770. He is buried near his old home, in Sa-
lem Primitive Baptist Churchyard, and his tombstone
bears the following inscription: "Mathew Scott, died
1818". With Lucretia Ogle, he had two sons, John
Scott and **Thomas Scott**, both of whom married
girls of German descent. They also, possibly, had two
daughters.

Matthew served in the Revolutionary War as a Pri-
vate.

Lucretia Ogle's

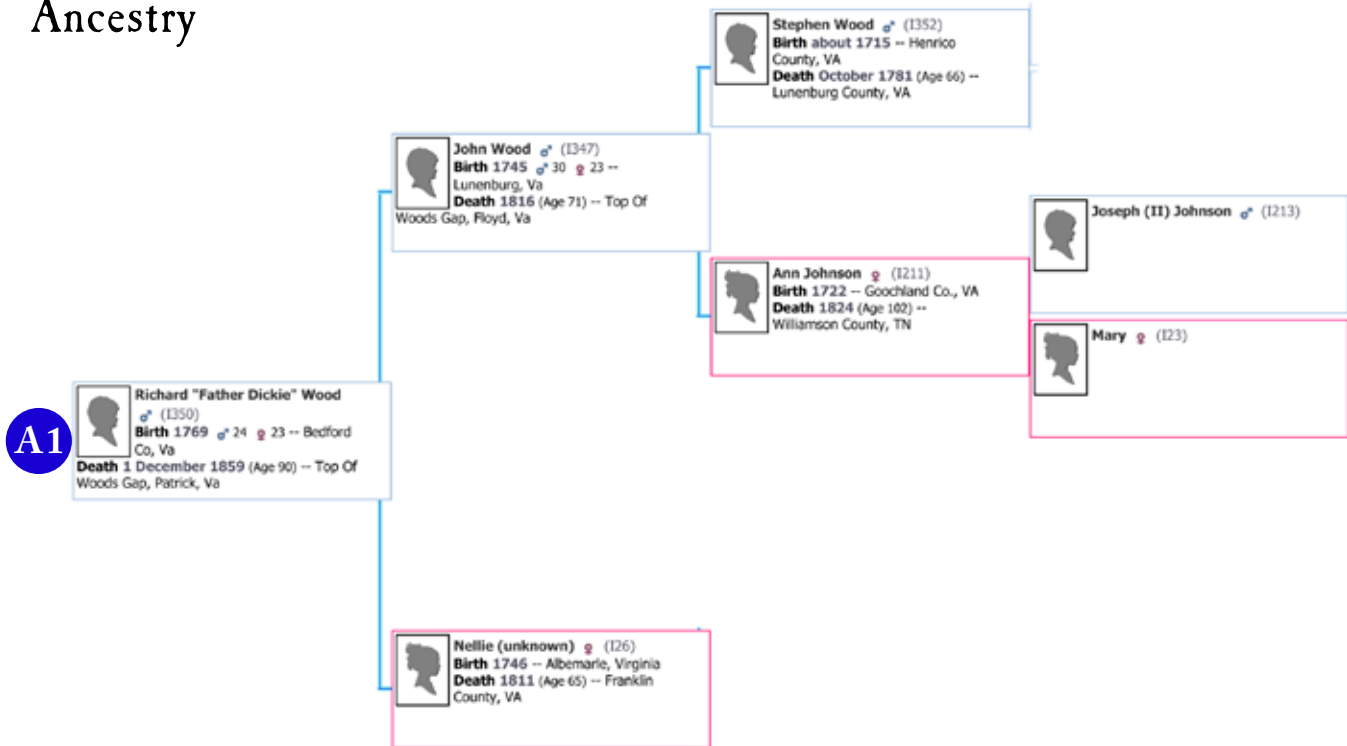
parents were Hercules Ogle (1731-1804) and Mary
Carson (1739-1825)



County Tyrone, Ireland

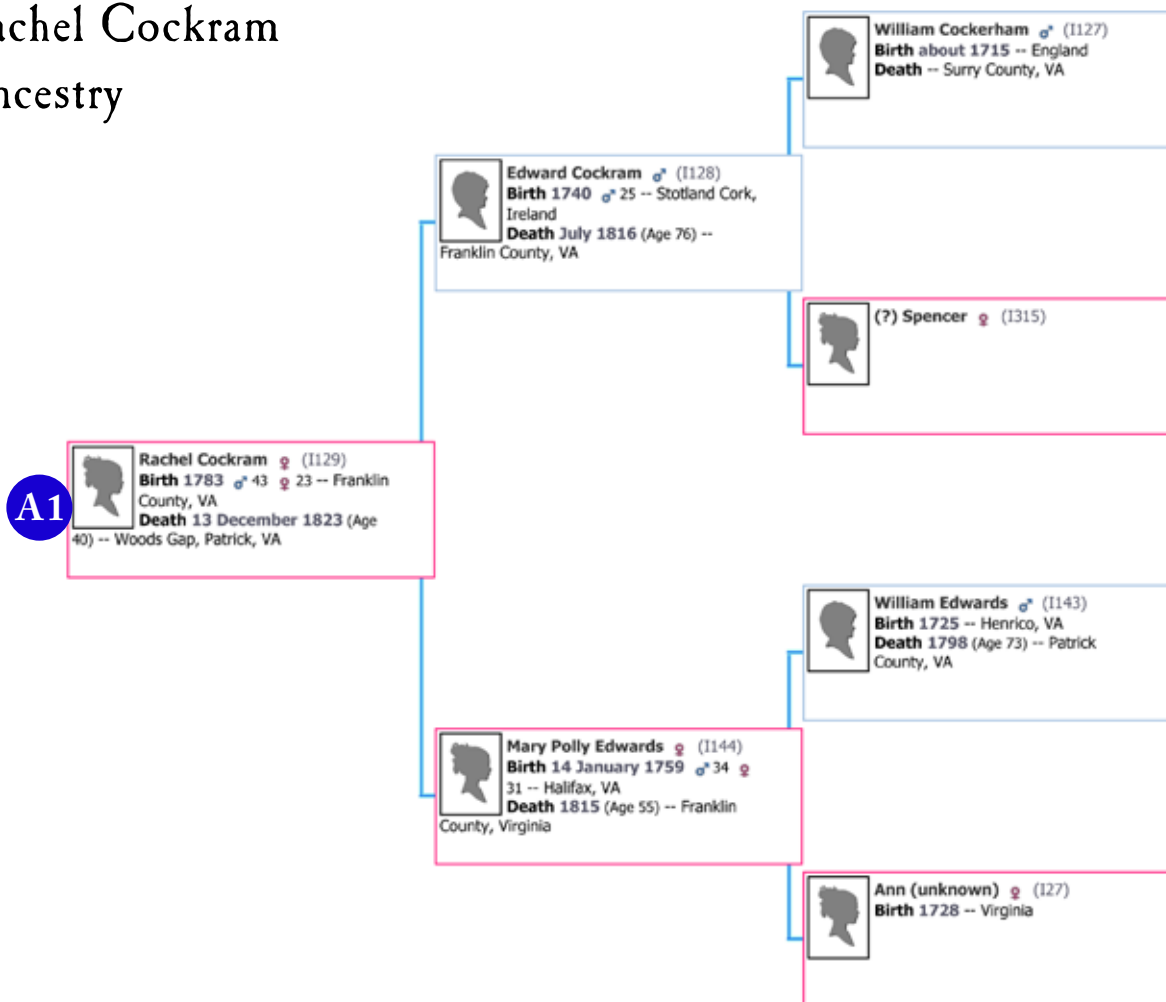
Dickie Wood Ancestry

B6



Rachel Cockram Ancestry

B7



Notes for the individuals on Chart B6 & B7

John Wood

served in Clark's Illinois Regiment, Virginia State Troops in the Revolutionary War.

Edward Cockram

There's a lot of confusing and conflicting information online regarding Edward. Where was he born? Some trees list Cork, Ireland. Some say Virginia. I haven't found documentation of either.

Was he a Revolutionary War veteran? Some trees assign a gravemarker for "Edward Cochran" to this Edward. The grave marker says
"1 VA REGT

Revolutionary War
1748 1816"

I'm not so sure that's our Edward.

"The tax records of Henry County give us a few clues to the Cockrams and their property during the

time of the revolution. In 1779 both Sarah Cockram and Edward Cockrams names appear sequentially on the tax list followed by numbers indicating their holdings and the amount of tax they owed. A notation by Edward Cockrams name indicated he was to be taxed double, an apparent indication of his refusal to take the oath of allegiance to Virginia. The 1780 list of John Fontaine lists Edward Cockram with one tithable, along with Preston Kendrick, Thomas Edwards, Jr., William Edwards, Sr., William Edwards, Jr., Isham Edwards and John Hall..."

~Ancestry.com user teresaabell135

So the Revolutionary War veteran Cochran was probably a different person.

Mary Polly Edwards

Some online trees list her parents as Isham Edwards (1755-1828) and Peggy, others list William Edwards (1725-1798) and Ann. No sources are given other than more trees, but Isham doesn't work by chronology (he's only four years older than his daughter) if the dates are right.

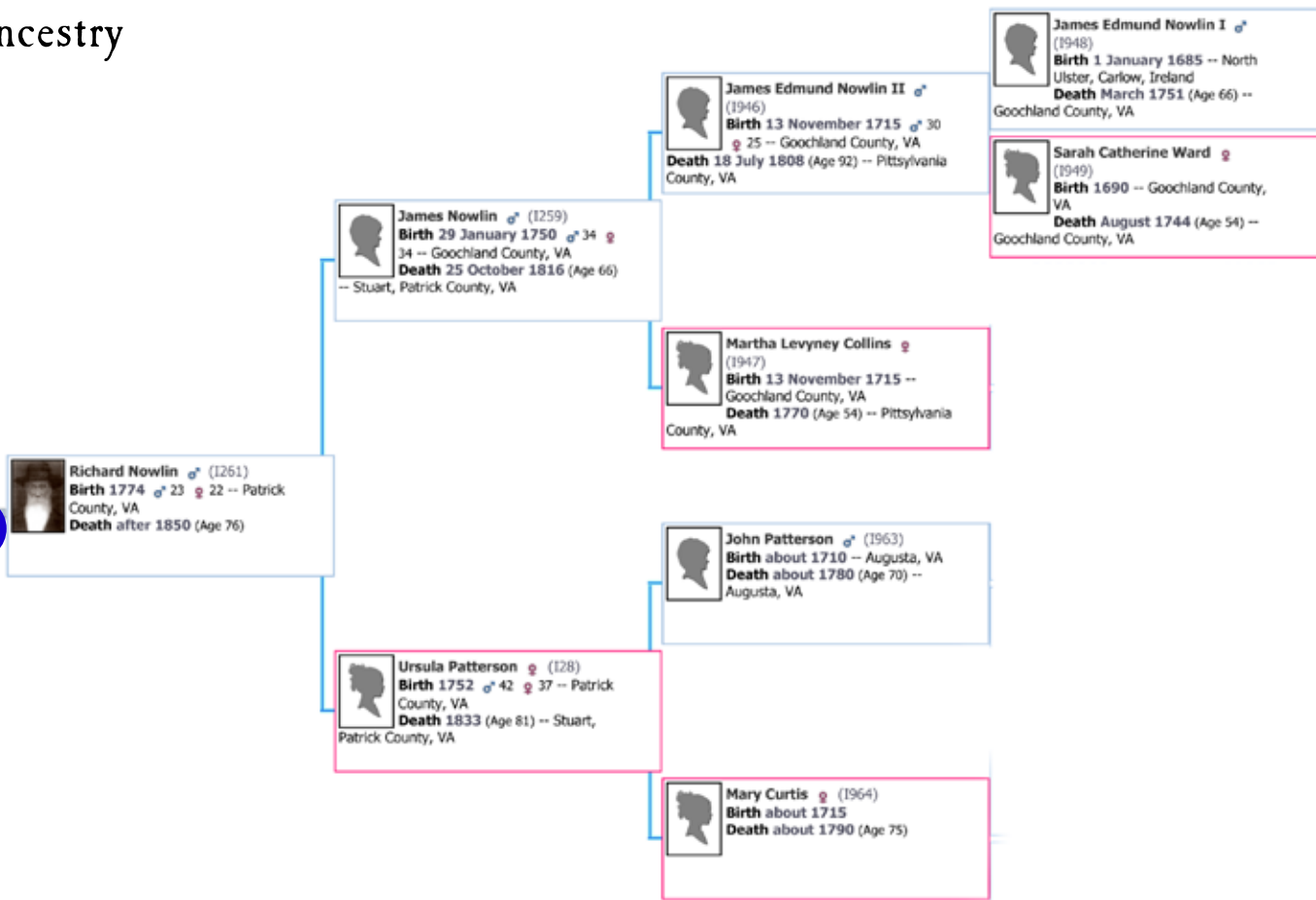


Lt Governor Henry Hamilton surrenders to Col George Rogers Clark, 24 February 1779

Richard Nowlin
Ancestry

B8

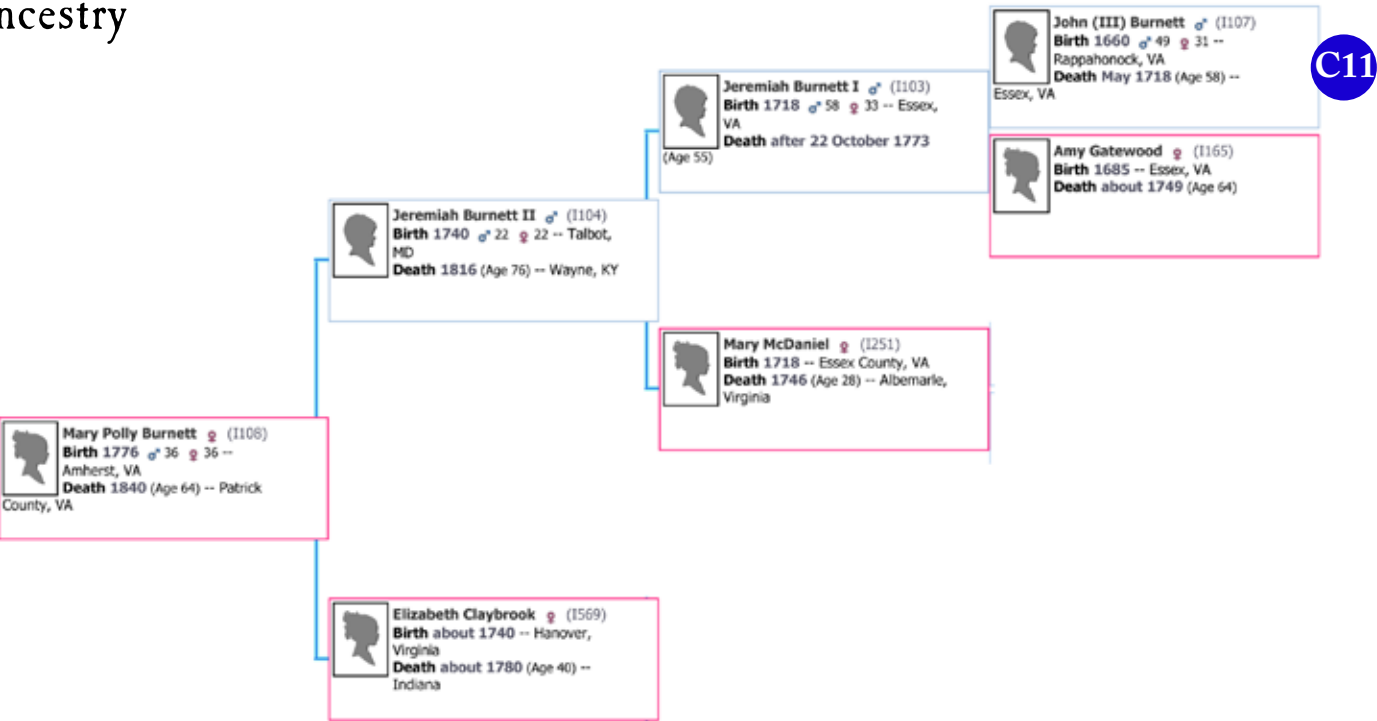
A1



Mary Polly Burnett
Ancestry

B9

A1



Notes for the individuals on Chart B8 & B9

James Nowlin and Ursula Patterson

had nine kids (or thereabouts): Francis, John Whitt, Richard, Sarah, Rhoda, Bridget, Samuel, Lucinda, and Conah.

Ursula applied for a Revolutionary War veteran's widow pension, but was denied due to insufficient documentation. I do not know what James' service actually was.

Will of James Nowlin, being in a low state... Legatees: My wife Ursula is to receive the whole of my estate, and after her death the estate is to go to my grandson David Nowlin, son of my son Samuel Nowlin. Samuel Nowlin is to care for his mother and not let her suffer from the want of anything.

~October, 1816

"James Nowlin II

was a first class carpenter and made good money at this trade. It is said that there are some of his buildings in a fine state of preservation today, built as far back as 1760. He lived to enjoy the fruits of his labors, and even more. When his grandchildren asked him why he did not save some of his money his laconic reply was: 'I did not think I would live so long.' He possessed much Irish wit, which is proverbial, never wanting for a quick, cutting reply to all sarcastic questions put to him.

James Nowlin II married **Martha Collins** about 1738, and to this union were added a large family of daughters and one son."

~from *The Nowlin-Stone Genealogy by James Edmund Nowlin, A.B., M. A.*

John Patterson

Some online trees claim John's father was John William Patterson of Craigie Par, Wigtown, Ayre, Scotland. Other trees make no such claim. There seems to be little in the way of documentation, and the name is so gosh-darned common, so I remain unconvinced.

"James Nowlan

of Carlow County, Ireland, became known as James Nowlin of Virginia, the "L-A-N" being the Irish termination. Only one family is mentioned in Ireland with the

termination "L-I-N," and they were of Wexford.

James Nowlin was sold to a man by the name of Ward, who was a man of great natural ability and fatherly kindness. James Nowlin, through his nobility of character, afterwards became a favorite of Ward and married his daughter.

There is a tradition that the brother-in-law of James Nowlin was the builder of Ward's Bridge, which served to transfer so many across Stanton River on the Danville and Lynchburg road and was the main old wooden bridge for Pittsylvania County, Virginia, for so many years.

~from *The Nowlin-Stone Genealogy*

Jeremiah Burnett II

may have had several wives, names unknown. He enlisted on 26 December 1776 from Amherst Co., Virginia for six months in the Revolutionary War as a private in the 10th Virginia Regulars under Capt. James Franklin.

The company muster roll of 31 May 1777 shows that he and his brother, John, deserted on 15 March 1777.

Bork indicates that Mr. Ray Blevins had related to her and that she had heard the same story while in Wayne Co., Kentucky on several trips, that Jeremiah of Wayne was called "Big Jerry." and was a champion bare-fist fighter. He is said to have bitten a finger from an opponent when the opponent played dirty.

In the war, Jerry had captured two British officers. To humiliate them, he made them drink whiskey from his hands until they became drunk. Realizing the difficulty he faced due to his conduct, he went AWOL from the Army.

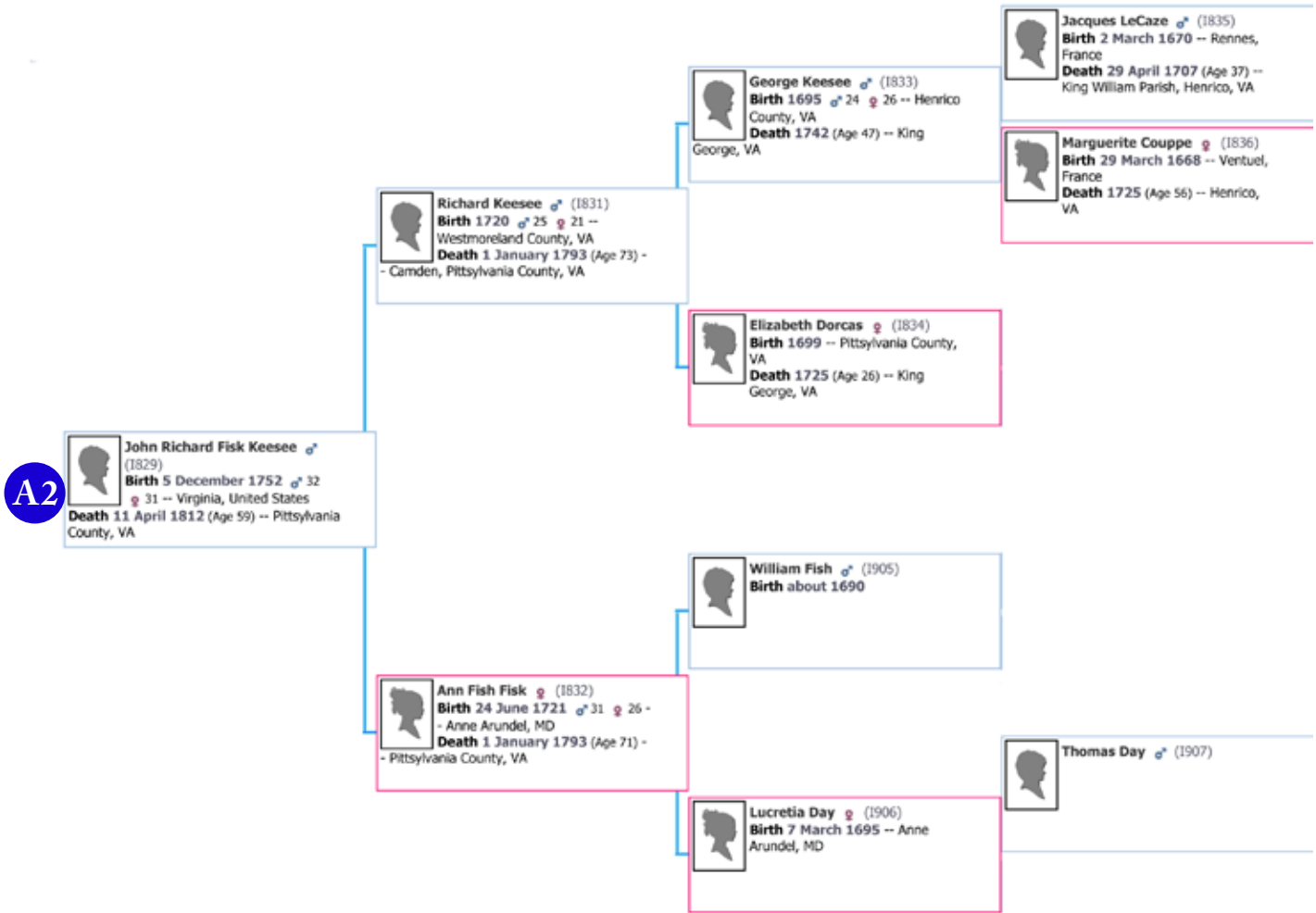
The Burnetts and Their Connections by June Baldwin Bork



*Dover Mills, on the James River in Goochland County, Virginia
Wood engraving by J. R. Hamilton - Published in Harper's Weekly*

John Richard Fisk Keesee Ancestry

B10



The Mordelles Gates (Portes mordelaises), built in 1440, served as the principal entry to Rennes during the Middle Ages.

“Porte Modelaise” by Andre Lage Freitas - Own work. Licensed under CC BY-SA 3.0 via Commons - https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Porte_Modelaise.jpg#/media/File:Porte_Modelaise.jpg

Notes for the individuals on Chart B10

Richard Keesee

is a DAR certified revolutionary. He took the Oath of Allegiance in 1777. He furnished supplies to the army.

Ann Fish Fisk

There are several alternate sets of parents for Ann referenced by various trees. Most of them do not provide documentation. There is a birth record, though:

Maryland, Births and Christenings Index, 1662-1911
View Record

Name Ann Fish

Gender Female

Birth Date 24 Jun 1721

Birth Place Saint James Parish, Anne Arundel,
Maryland

Father's Name William Fish

Mother's Name Lucy

FHL Film Number 13280

George Keesee

There is considerable debate as to whether the Keesee line came from Germany or France. Here are some notes from a researcher claiming German descent for the line:

To encourage new settlers, the Virginia Company offered them "headrights" to come to Virginia. This meant that everyone who paid for his own passage was entitled to 50 acres, but if another man paid the passage cost, he could claim the 50 acres. Most of the German settlers were young and poor and had their headright claimed by others. Some were also bound over as indentured servants for several years until they had worked out their passage fee.

Everyone who has written about the Keesees, agrees that the founder of the family in America was George Keesey who arrived about 1700. My own research bears this out. While I have not located his name among the passenger lists to Virginia, I have found that of another Keesey, which helps to establish the name as German.

George Keesee, arrived Virginia ca. 1700, died 1742. There are four documents on George Keesey or Keesee in Virginia. The first two were in Westmoreland County and the second two were in King George County.

(From the Westmoreland Co. Ordinance Book, June 29, 1721). "George Keesee for 1000 lbs. tobacco. Conditional order passes against Samuel

Johnson(received?) security."

I am not sure of the meaning of this court order, but it does establish his existence in Westmoreland County and indicates that he had become of legal age. On Sept. 6, 1721, he is listed as both executor and a legatee in the will of Susannah Baker, widow.

"....I give and bequeath unto John Steel all that tract of land I now dwell on lying and being on the head of Pope's Creek to him and his heirs forever; I give and bequeath to George Keesee 50 acres of land which I came by my husband John Baker, now in possession of Robert Turner to him and his heirs forever and to John Gannock 50 acres of land being of the same tract of that of George Keesee's to him and his heirs forever; also I free John McClanan from all service of mine my heirs and executors...I further constitute and appoint my well beloved friends John Steel and George Keesee my whole and sole executors of this my last will and testament as witness.."

In 1721, Westmoreland County was divided and George Keesee's property fell within newly formed King George County.

*from Vincent Keesee's book, A History of the
Keesee Family"*

Jacques Lecaze

"It has been suggested that the name was an anglicized corruption of the French name LeCaze. The article Le was early dropped and it was written to be pronounced as Ca-ZEE with spelling variations of CASSE, CAYCE, CASSY and KEESEY. Now I agree with those who propose that LeCAZE is the original spelling of our family name.

Other KEESEE researchers and authors have written that Jacques LeCAZE, a French Huguenot, was the progenitor of the KEESEEs into Virginia. Information also indicates that he arrived aboard the Nassau on March 5, 1701. He is named in the ship's roster as 31 years old and unmarried (perhaps a widower), traveling with minor children, who are not listed. He was born in 1670 and his will is recorded June 1, 1708 (Henrico County, VA. Will and Deed Bk. 1707, p. 92).

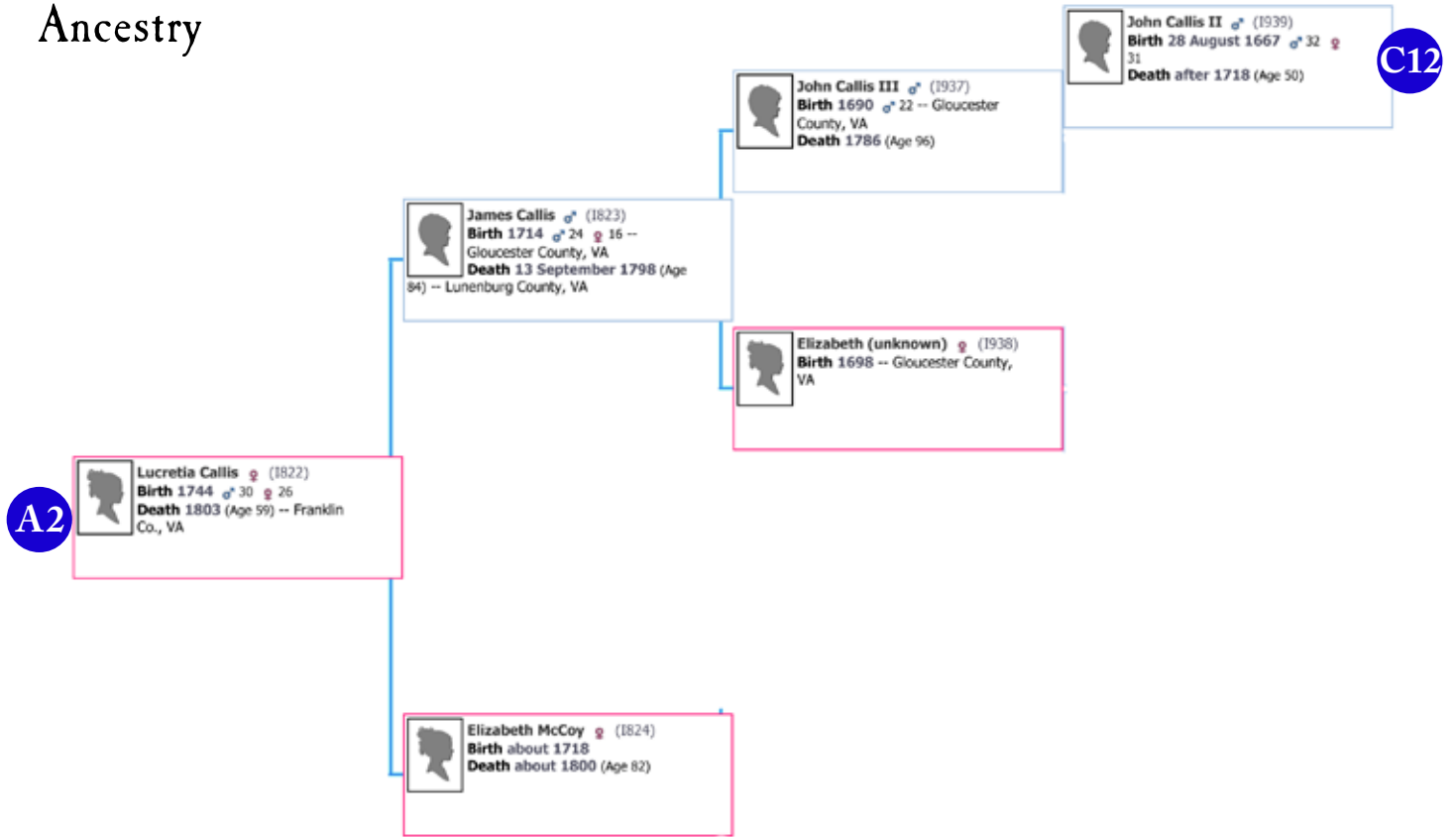
He had a daughter, Mary MARTIN and it is believed at least one son, George KEESEE, who is first documented in 1721 in Westmoreland County, Virginia, with links to Henrico County, Virginia. George KEESEE was born about 1695.

Dr. Vincent A. KEESEE states he would like to verify the LeCAZE/KEESEE connections, but the 18th century documents no longer exist. Therefore, he offers his findings on the origins based on a calculated opinion.

~ genealogy.com user Normajeane Stevens

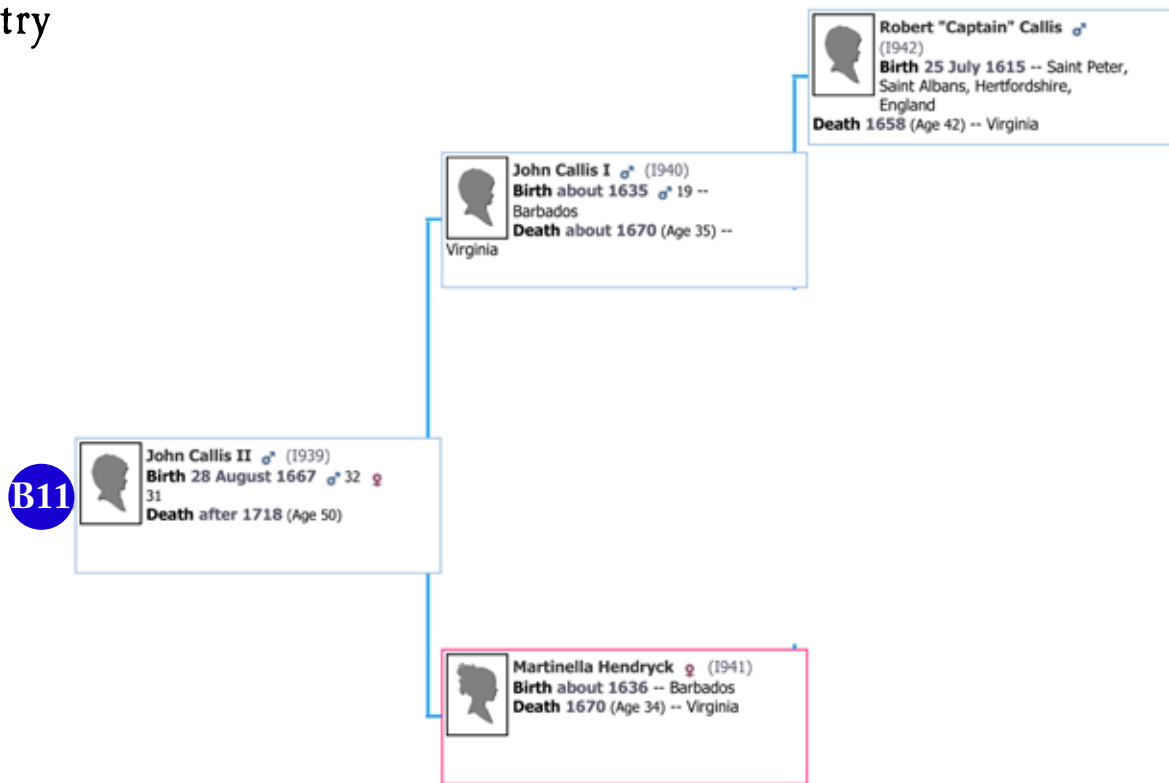
Lucretia Callis Ancestry

B11



John Callis II Ancestry

C12



Notes for the individuals on Charts B11 & C12

James Callis and Elizabeth McCoy
seem to have had a rather large family. Online trees list up to 13 kids.

John Callis(es) and Captain Robert Callis
The Callis family seems to have been involved in trade between Barbados, Virginia, and England for several generations. More research is needed to learn the nature of their business. But there are several sketchy reports from around the web.

Robert Callis (b.1615) was the son of Henrie Callice/Callis of St. Alban, St. Peter's Parish, Hertfordshire, England. His transportation was paid to Northampton County, Virginia, in 1637 and settled in Petsworth Parish, Gloucester County, Virginia. His son, John Callis, married Martinella Hendryck of Barbados and they settled in Gloucester County, also. They were the parents of five children: Fenwick, Alexander, Ann, Margaret and John Callis.

~ **The Callis Family in England and the USA 1086-1998** by *H.C. McGinnis*,

Robert sailed to the island of Barbados in 1637 and later settled in Petsworth Parish, Gloucester Co., VA.

Robert was a vestryman in a church in VA and responsible for collection of Tobacco tithes throughout the parish.

1659 - Henry Noble of Frome, Somerset, England, indentured servant, was bound to Robert Collis I, mariner, for years in Barbados (Peter Wilson Cold-

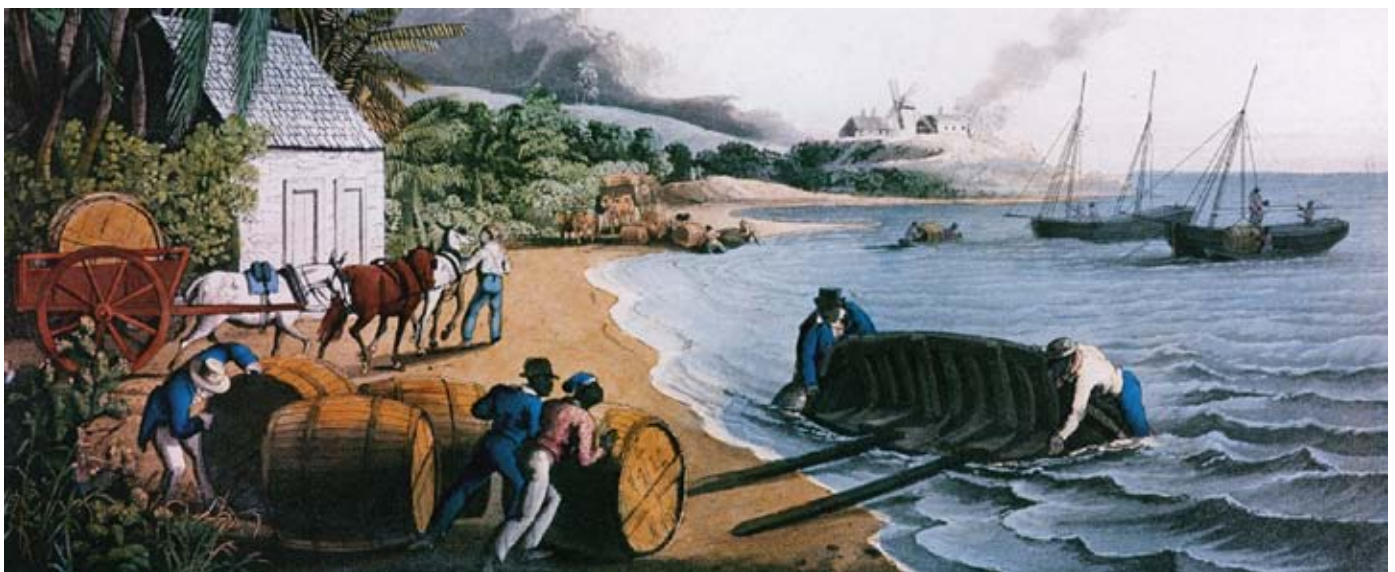
ham, *Complete Book of Emigrants, 1607-1660*)

There was a John Callis who died in 1576 and was a notorious Welsh pirate. I wonder if there's a connection.

There was also a John Benton Callis (1828-1898), who was a businessman, Union Civil War officer, and Alabama Congressman. Like the pirate, I wonder if there's a family connection.



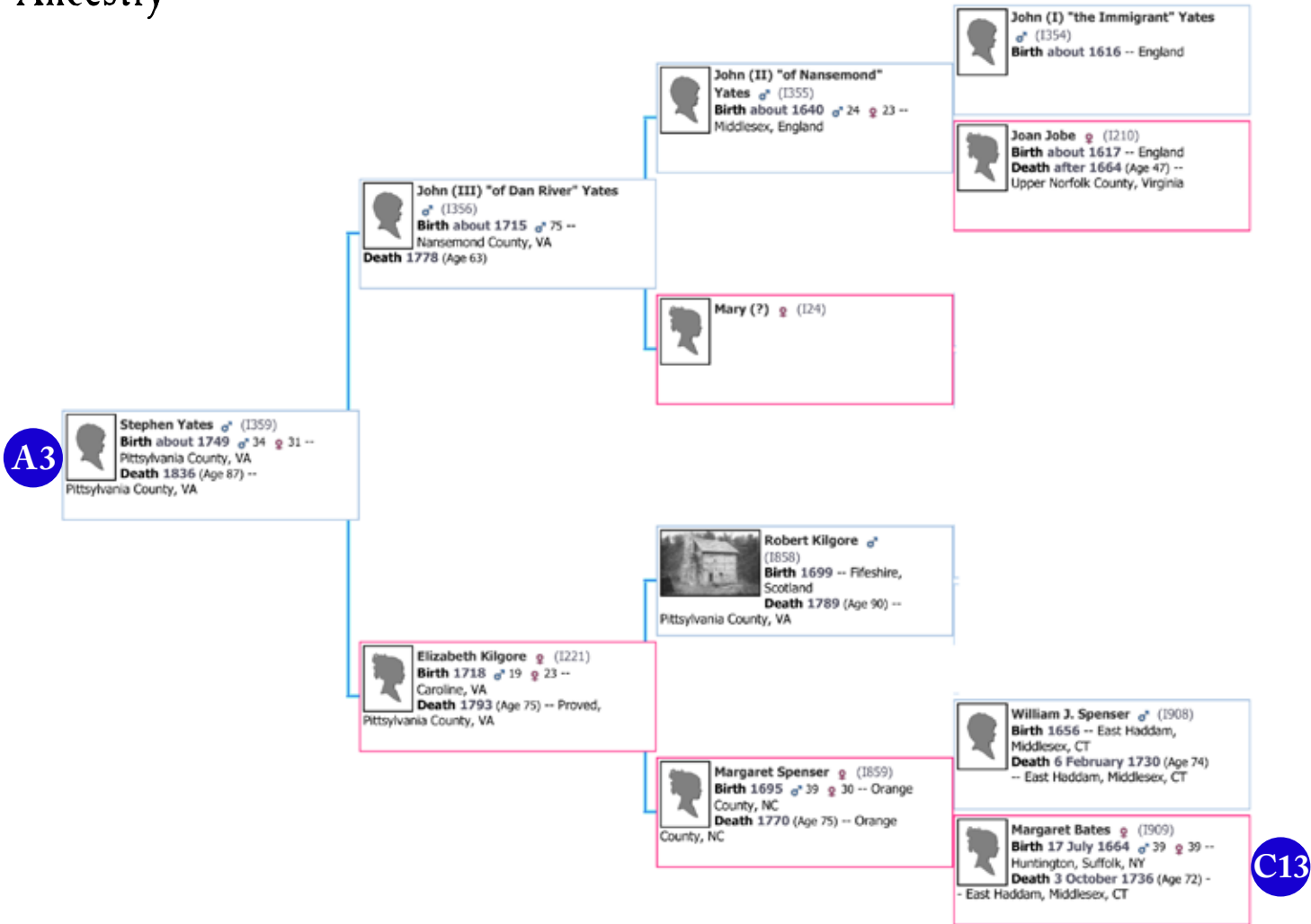
John Callis, the Welsh pirate



The rum trade in Barbados

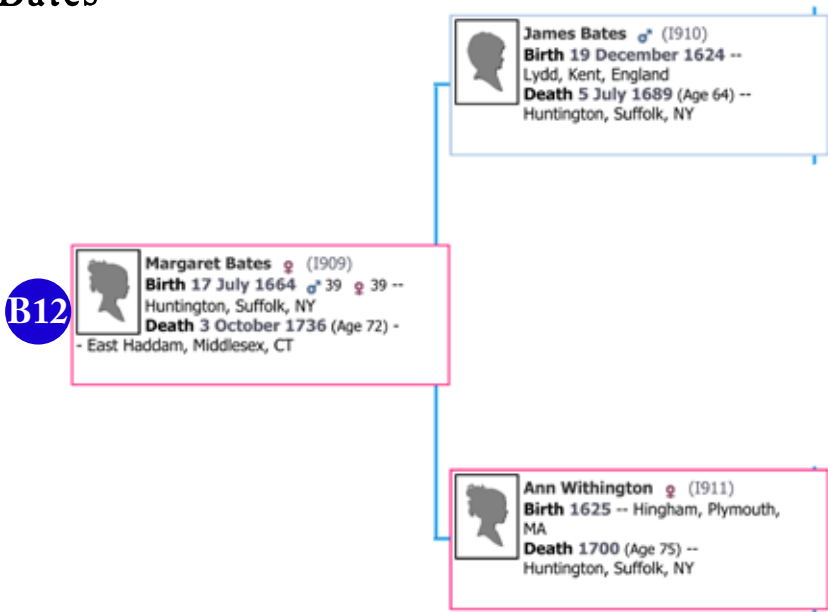
Stephen Yates
Ancestry

B12



Margaret Bates
Ancestry

C13



Notes for the individuals on Charts B12 & C13

John Yates of Dan River

is the earliest patriarch of our Yates line that we're really sure of. Connections to earlier Yates men are sketchy and speculative.

Scott Shaffer's (one of the leading researchers of this line) genealogy lists JYDR's dad as **John Yates "of Nansemond"** (1640-?) But dad would have been 75 when junior was born. He's unsure of JYN's wife.

Maybe there was just another generation in between, maybe JYN isn't really JYDR's dad, maybe JYN had a much younger wife.

Donald Panther Yates (another leading researcher) is on board with the missing generation hypothesis:

"There seems to be a generation missing between John of Pittsylvania and John of Nansemond/Chowan. The latter had two known sons, William and Thomas. Perhaps one of them was the younger John's father." He also wrote "...many descendants tell of the connection going back to John the Emigrant, and that part seems authentic"

An alternative hypothesis is put forth on McKeand Family Tree on Ancestry.com. It has a different John II Yates, and the chronology works a little better. Their II was born in 1694 in Anne Arundel, MD. By this reckoning, JYDR's mother was Elizabeth Tucker (1695-1719). Other trees have an earlier (pre 1715) death date for ET, which would make things even messier. Other trees list ET as JYN's much younger wife, but still show her death well before JYDR's birth.

The McKeand line continues back in time to George Yates, b 1640 in Buckland, England; d 6 JUN 1691 in Anne Arundel. George's wife was Mary Wells (1631-1698). She would have been 63 when that John II was born. And there's little or no documentation provided for any of this. Sigh.

It looks like the missing generation between JYN and JYDR is most likely true.

Bottom Family Tree on ancestry.com lists 15 kids from JYDR and **Elizabeth Kilgore**. I'm not sure about a few of them.

John L. Yates (1737-1798)

Elizabeth Yates (1741-?)

Lewis Yates (1741-?)

Elijah Yates (1741-?)

Hannah Yates (1743-1812)

John Yates (1746-?) Two kids named John? Really?

Martha Yates (1747-?)

George Yates (1748-1793)

Thomas Yates (1752-1834)

Lydia Yates (1752-?)

Stephen Yates (1756-1836)

another Elijah Yates (1757-1816) ?!?

Joyce Yates (1761-?)

Ann Yates (1762-1794)

James Yates (1762-1844) Elizabeth would have been 44-ish at his birth.

Elizabeth Kilgore

has some problems with chronolgy and documentation, too. Holdman/Knight Family Tree on ancestry.com lists Elizabeth's birthdate as 1730. That works better for her Irish parents, whose birthdates are sometimes listed as 1712/1713. But it doesn't work so well for all of those kids she supposedly had, starting in 1730.

There is documentation of her getting married in 1740. Ten was kinda young even then.

John Yates of Nansemond

established two free schools in what is now Suffolk, Virginia. A school that bears his name, John Yeates Middle School, is built on the land that he gave to the school. He was a Vestryman in the Glebe Episcopal Church. The building still stands and is in use as a place of worship.



Glebe Episcopal Church

Reverend Robert Kilgore

"The Kilgore Fort House is a historic site located in Scott County, Virginia at 190 West Jackson Street, Gate City, Virginia. Fort houses were built to provide protection for individual families during the period from 1773 to about 1795 when attacks by Native Americans on the pioneer settlers were common. The Kilgore Fort House was built about 1790 by the Reverend Robert Kilgore, and is the only surviving example of its type in southwest Virginia."

from Wikipedia

There is no record of the Fort House ever having been attacked. It was restored in the 1970s.

I haven't found details of Robert's journey to the New World from Scotland. The earliest record of him in



Kilgore Fort House.

Licensed under PD-US via Wikipedia

America I've found is a land grant from 1753.

John "the Immigrant" Yates

arrived in America from Gravesend, England on the ship *America* on Jun 23, 1635. The ship was captained by William Blake.

1636 - Mariner and settler.

1642 - Churchwarden of Lynhaven Parish.

August 1648 wife made administrator of his estate.

A John Yates is listed as having entered the US in 1635, imported by William Barber (a mariner), to Charles City County, Virginia. John may have imported a Thomas Leager, Mary Yates, and several others.

On May 4, 1636, John Yates received a grant of 150 acres in Elizabeth City County on a neck of land on

the east side of the Elizabeth (Nansemond) River for transporting himself, wife Joan and son Richard to New England from England. (In other words, he was returning.) He received another 200 acres on the north side of the Elizabeth River for transporting four persons to New England, including his daughter Mary, in 1636. Thus, apparently, he made three voyages in one year.

He is probably also the John Yates, 19, transported in the *Hopewell* to Barbados, Feb. 17, 1634/5 and identical with the John Yates, ship's carpenter, listed in the crew of the *Foxe* in 1646. He also received a grant of 600 acres in Lower Norfolk county on March 10, 1638.

An Epaphroditus Lawson sued him for a debt in 1639, prosecuting the affair for ten years. He lived in what became Dorchester in Norfolk County on a neck of land bounded by the creek called Dun out of the Mire. His grants were on the Nansemond River in a place called Kicoughtan by the Nansemond Indians. Most of the land grantees were from Dorsetshire and surrounding area in southern England.

Taken from Donald Panther-Yates web site.

James Bates

On 17 April 1635, "James Bate," aged 53, and family members including "James Bate," aged 9, were enrolled at London as passengers for New England on the *Elizabeth*.

James Bates (1624-1689) and **Ann Withington** (1625-1700) were two of the first 28 European settlers of Haddam Island located in the Connecticut River near the southern coast of Connecticut. The 104 square miles of land, including adjoining lands on both sides of the river were bought from the local Indians for 30 coats (\$100).

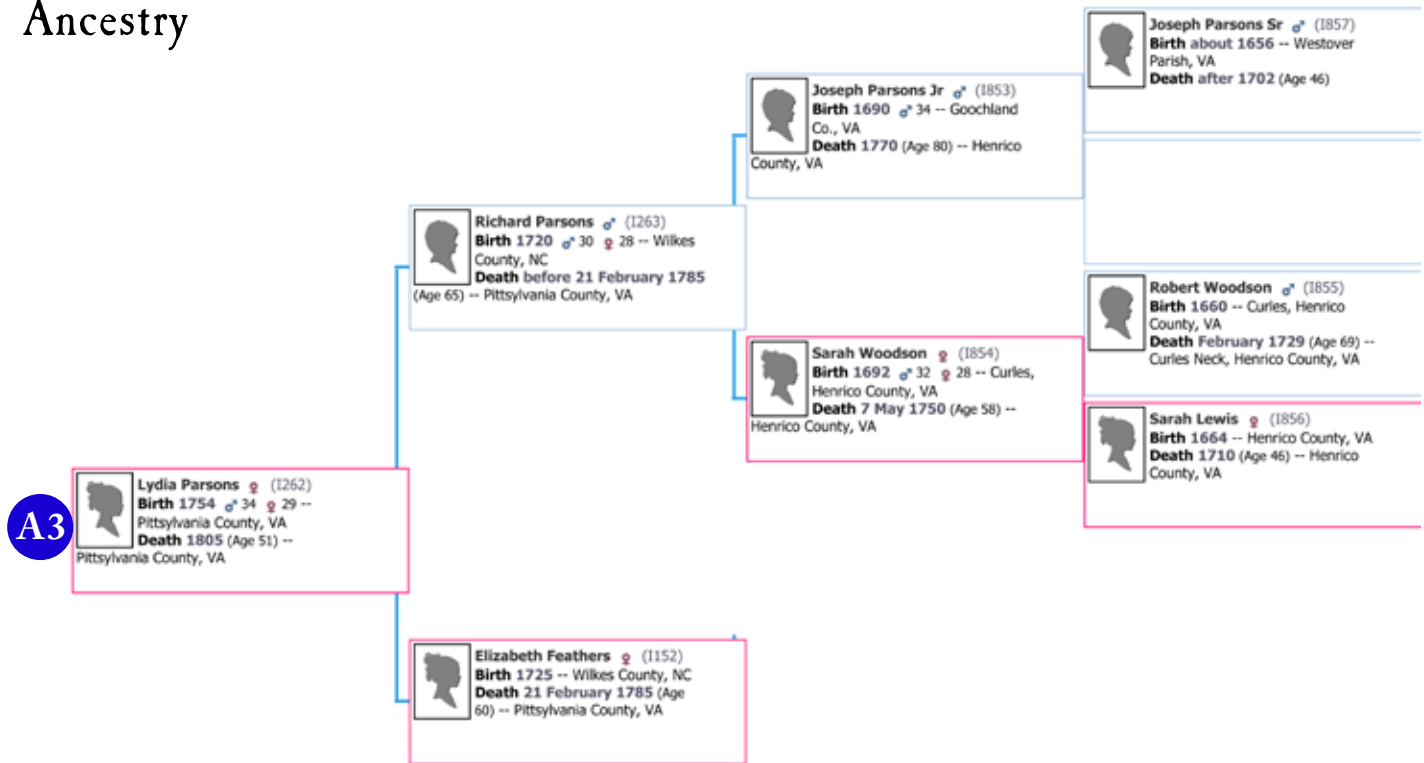
"James Bates. was born December 19. 1624, at Lydd, county Kent. England, and came to America with his parents. He settled at Haddam, CT, with other Dorchester men, and married Ann Withington, daughter of Henry Withington, of Dorchester. one of the founders of Dorchester.

Bates appears from the records to have gone to England in 1655, doubtless to settle matters connected with his father's estate. He soon returned. He was one of the founders of the church at Haddam. Later he was in the adjoining town of Saybrook, CT"

New England Families, Genealogical and Memorial, Vol 4, edited by William Richard Cutter

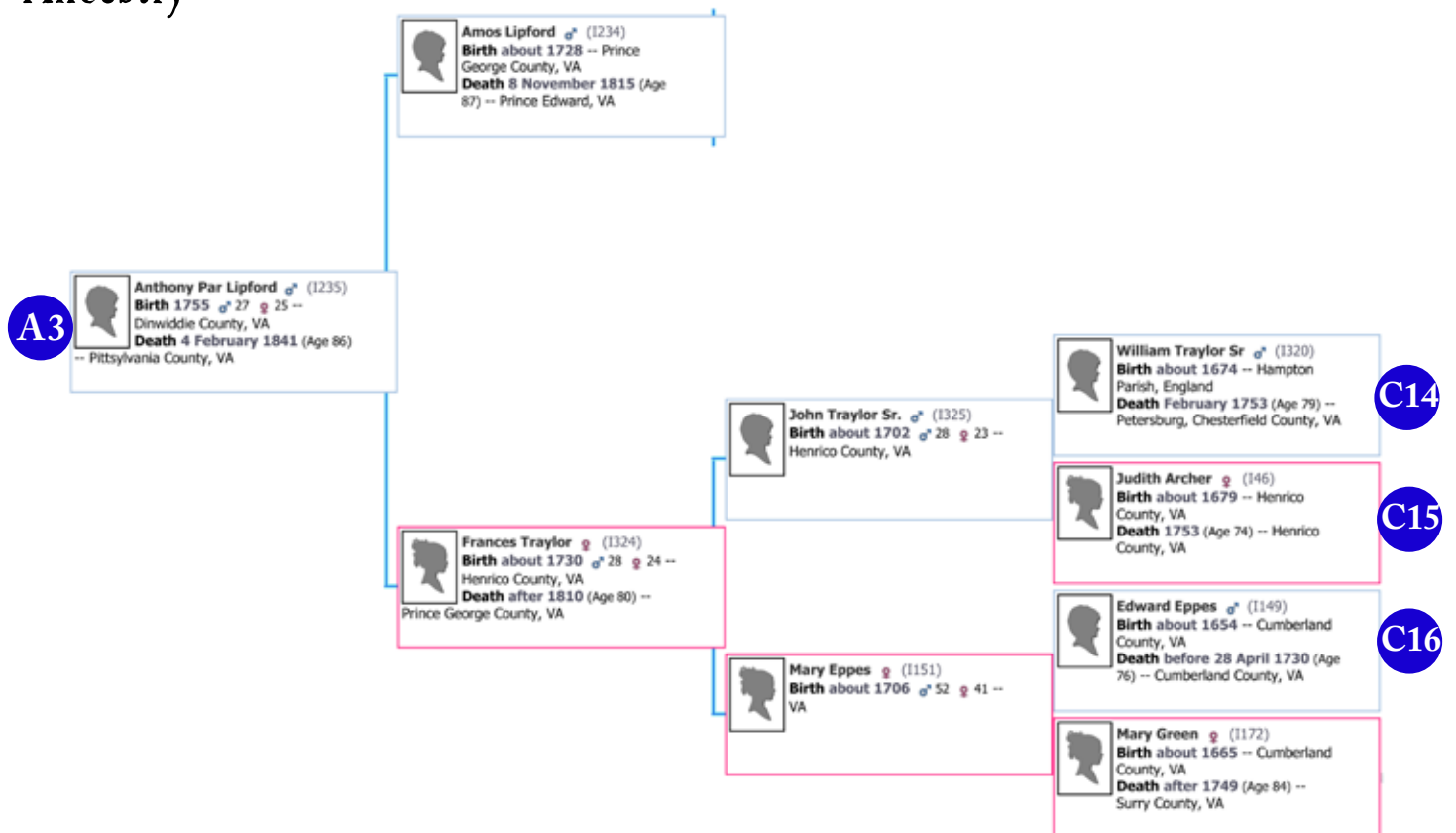
Lydia Parsons Ancestry

B13



Anthony Par Lipford Ancestry

B14



Notes for the individuals on Charts B13 & B14

Richard Parsons

From his will:

Eleventhly I give and bequeath to my well beloved daughter Lydia Yates and her husband Stephen Yates all my Blacksmith tools to her my said daughter Lydia Yates and her husband Stephen Yates to them and their heirs forever. Twelfthly and lastly as I and my wife is now living with my daughter Lydia Yates and her husband Stephen Yates and they using us with the greatest kindness my will and desire is that they the said Lydia and Stephen Yates to have all the remainder of my estate that is to say my cattle and my black mare and also all my household furniture which is now in their possession but not til after my decease and the decease of my Wife.

Richard may have had a wife prior to **Elizabeth Feathers**. At least somebody named Richard Parsons married Lydia Briggs (1720-1745). It's not entirely clear whether Richard married twice or there were two men with the same name.

"The Richard Parsons who married Lydia Briggs is documented from 1735 to about 1745 in Goochland County, Virginia. The Richard of Lunenburg/Halifax/Pittsylvania County is documented from 1748 to his death around 1785. He died testate in Pittsylvania County, Virginia naming his children and mentioning his wife only as 'my wife'. So far, I have not found a document that states Richard of Goochland and Richard of Pittsylvania are the same Richard. However, Richard sold his land in Goochland County and then a Richard appears in Lunenburg/Pittsylvania County shortly thereafter. Also, Christopher Parsons also appears in court records in Goochland and then appears in Lunenburg in the same year as Richard, as well as some other Pittsylvania families. The Richard Parsons of Surry County, North Carolina was married Elizabeth Feathers. He died 30 years after the Richard of Pittsylvania County also leaving a will. There is no documentation that links the two."

~ NBeck on Parsons discussion board, Ancestry.com

Elizabeth Feathers

There seems to be a consensus of researchers that Elizabeth was a full-blooded Cherokee. Her precise parentage is not so certain, however. Some trees list her parents as Lawrence Big Chief Feathers (1700-1787) and Sarah Sharett, but Lawrence supposedly was born and died in Oklahoma. I'm not sure how

that was supposed to work.

One researcher has John Lawrence, Chief Feathers (1765-1865) and Sarah Barbara Schereretz/Sharrett (1787-1850) as Elizabeth's parents.

Lawrence commuting from Oklahoma in the early 18th Century seems a little more credible than Elizabeth being born long before her parents.

Joseph Parsons, Jr.

is believed to be buried with family in a family cemetery now lost with no markers.

Joseph Parsons, Sr.

Most online trees claim that Joe Sr was born in Virginia, and they do not claim to know who his parents were. Howell's Tree on Ancestry.com claims he was born in Wiltshire, England, and has some supporting documentation. At least, they have documentation of somebody named Joseph Parsons being born and getting married in Wiltshire. It's a common enough name that it seems dubious to assume that there was only one person using it. The Wiltshire JP was born 22 AUG 1651 and married Sarah England 23 JUN 1672.

Debbie's Public Family Tree on Ancestry.com has some evidence pointing in a different direction. She has copies of legal notices documenting Judith Parsons (b. 1656) of Charles City, VA. settling some debts. Judith is described as an orphan of Joseph Parsons. Since JP Sr. and Judith were only a year apart in age and living in the same town, it's likely that they were siblings.

Debbie doesn't extend her tree beyond the older Joseph Parsons (1630-1656), but other trees, such as Walker Family Tree, say JP 1630 was born in Surry, England, and arrived in Virginia in 1657 with his wife Jane Aldredge.

Robert Woodson's

father was Colonel Robert "Tater Hole" Woodson (1634-1707).

Why they're called the Potato Hole Woodsons

According to Woodson family tradition, the two Woodson sons, John and Robert, were twelve and ten years old in 1644 when the Indian chief, Opechacanogh, led an uprising against the settlement. John Woodson, returning home after visiting a patient, was killed in sight of his house. The Indians then began attacking the cabin which was barred against them. It was defended by Sarah and Ligon, a friend who was visiting at the time. Using an old musket,

Ligon managed to kill nine of the Indians. Two others attempted to enter the house by the chimney, but Sarah scalded one to death with boiling water then seized the iron roasting spit with both hands and brained the other. The boys had been hidden away: one under a wash tub and the other in a pit used for storing potatoes. For several generations descendants of these boys were called either Tub Woodsons or Potato Hole Woodsons.

from Adventurers of Purse and Person: Virginia 1607-1624/5 by John Frederick Dorman

Several online trees track this line back through John Woodson, b. 1586 in Dorset, England to Sir Reginald Woodson, b 1516 Alaceford, Hampshire, England.

Amos Lipford

is one of the oddest deadends in the whole tree. There's a whole book written about his descendants, but nobody has much of a clue who his parents were. In one of the truly silly episodes in copy-and-paste "research", several online trees list Amos' parents as Alphonse Laporte and Célanire Ostigu. Laporte was born in 1841; his supposed son was born in 1728.

The LIPFORD surname is English, meaning a dweller near a ford crossed by leaping. (Source: *Encyclopedia of American Family Names* by Amanda Robb and Andrew Chesler)

Four of his Amos' sons with Frances Traylor: Edward Lipford, Henry S. Lipford, John Traylor Lipford, and Anthony Par Lipford served in the Revolutionary War. His son Edward Lipford was killed in the War in April of 1777, and Amos served as executor of his son's estate. Amos Lipford died 1815 in Prince Edward County, Virginia and left a will naming nine of his ten children.



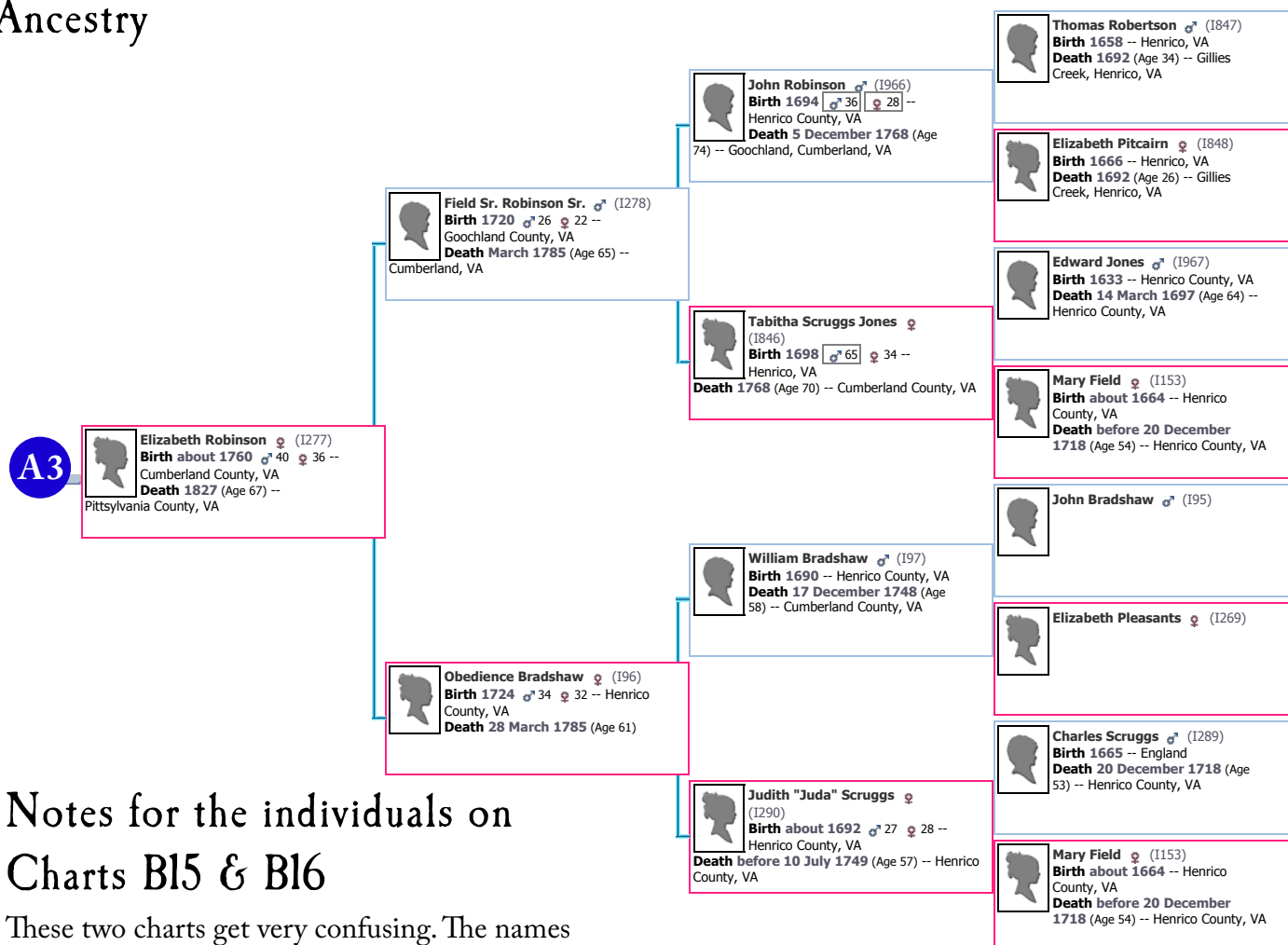
A 1585 painting of a Chesapeake Bay warrior by John White; this painting has been used to represent Opechancanough



*Sunset at Hidden Beach, Redwood National Park
photo by Garth Hagerman*

Elizabeth Robinson Ancestry

B15



Notes for the individuals on Charts B15 & B16

These two charts get very confusing. The names Robinson and Robertson are used more or less interchangeably; our Robinsons and Robertsons are actually the same family

Field Robinson Sr. and Obedience Bradshaw had a large family. One online tree lists twelve kids, with Elizabeth in the middle of the birth order.

Charles Scruggs

Some online trees say he was born in Virginia, others say England. Nobody seems to know much about this line.

Mary Field

was married to **Edward Jones** before she was married **Charles Scruggs**. **Tabitha Jones** and **Juda Scruggs** were half sisters. **Christopher Robertson** and **Field Robinson** were brothers.

“Thomas Robertson and Elizabeth [Pitcairn]

are our earliest known ancestors. They were settled on

Gilley's Creek in Henrico County, Virginia by 1690. Tradition holds that the Robertsons made their way from Scotland to Wales to England, then to America.

The name Robertson comes from Robert de Atholla, who apprehended the murderer of King James I of Scotland. For this deed, his lands were freed by the King and became known as the Barony of Struan. His descendants became Robertsons (sons of Robert) and they were known as the Struan Robertsons.

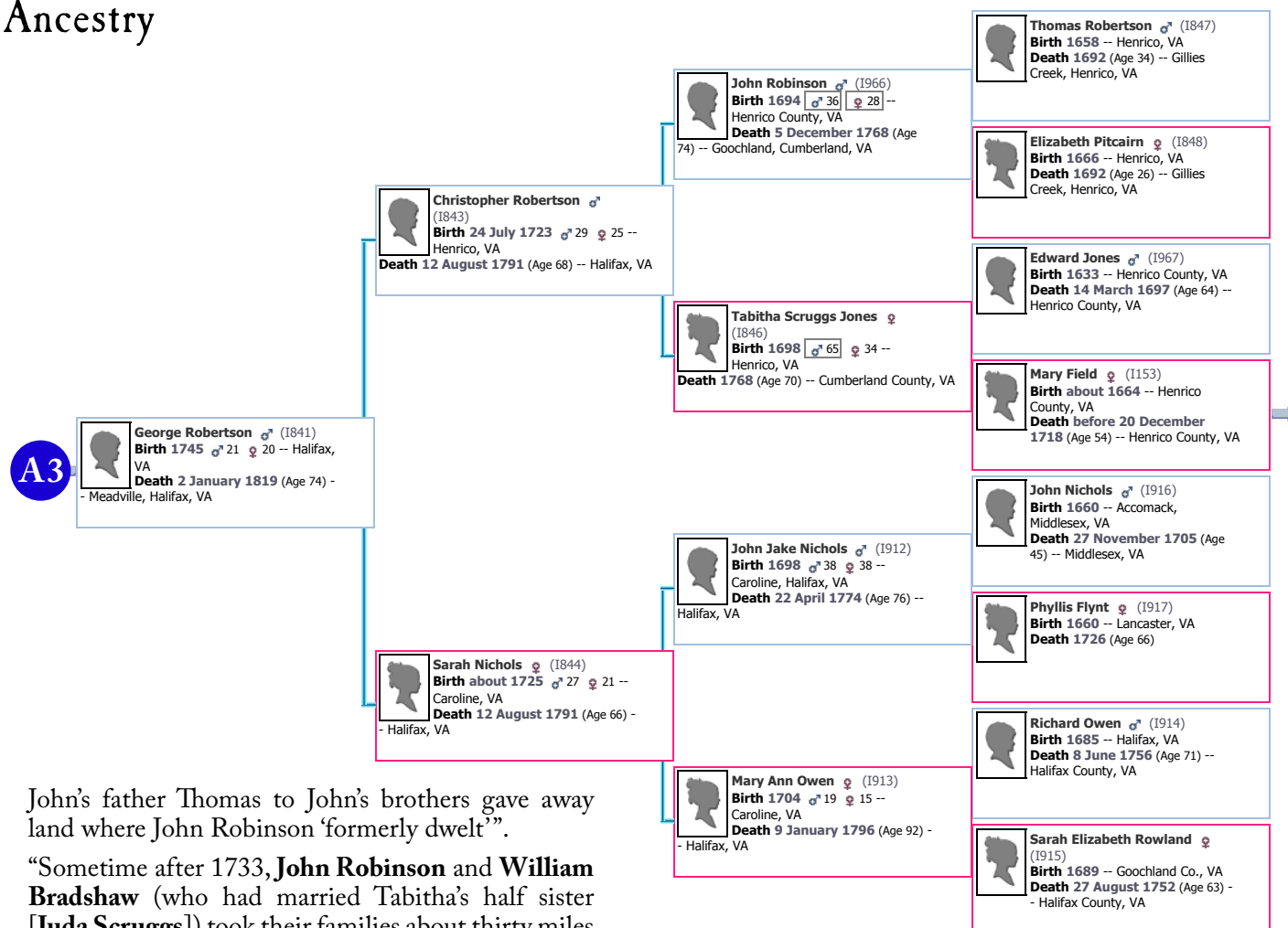
The historian Skene said, “The Robertsons are unquestionably one of the oldest and most eminent families in Scotland, being the sole remaining branch of that royal house which occupied the throne during the 11th, 12th and 13th centuries.”

...

“**John [Robertson]** and **Tabitha [Jones]** lived on his father's Gilley's Creek land (on the north side of the James river, near present day Richmond) at least through June of 1733, when **John Robinson**, **William Bradshaw**, and William Hudson presented the inventory of Joseph Wood's estate at court (Henrico Co. VA, W/D 1725-1737, p. 396). They were gone from this land by 1739/40 when a deed of land from

George Robertson Ancestry

B16



John's father Thomas to John's brothers gave away land where John Robinson 'formerly dwelt'".

"Sometime after 1733, **John Robinson** and **William Bradshaw** (who had married Tabitha's half sister [**Juda Scruggs**]) took their families about thirty miles west along the James River to the Muddy Creek, Deep Creek area in Goochland County, Virginia. On a present day map this would be about five miles east of Cartersville, Virginia. This land would become part of Cumberland County by 1748.

Their new land was on the south side of the James River, so they had to cross the river with all their possessions and cattle. These frontiersmen moved along the James River using it as a highway, so they may have loaded their barges on the north shore in Henrico County and unloaded on the south shore in Goochland County."

~Robertsons/Robinsons/Roberson/Robinson: Descendants of Thomas and Elizabeth - Henrico County, Virginia 1690-1999, by Betty Robertson Riley

Because of the area where Thomas Robinson is first found, it is quite possible that he descended from some of the original settlers of the Jamestown colony. One of those settlers was a "Gentleman John Robinson", and one can speculate that he might be an ancestor.

Another possibility is a James Robeson who was on

a list of men sent to the colonies under royal charter during the years 1609-1615. In 1618 and 1620 there were other candidates documented: Henry Robinson, Esq., Arthur Robinson, Robert Robinson, John Robinson, and Richard Robins. And there are many more candidates. Also is the possibility that Thomas Robinson was himself an immigrant, and that he was not born in Virginia.

~ [http://www.coffey.ws/FamilyTree/Docs/Robinsonfamily\(C\).htm](http://www.coffey.ws/FamilyTree/Docs/Robinsonfamily(C).htm)

Richard Owen

Some online trees track the Owen line back a few generations to William Owens, b. 1584 in Wales. While those specific links may be shaky, the name Owen is Welsh.

Sarah Elizabeth Rowland

Through another series of questionable linkages, researchers track this line back to John Rowland (1614-1653) b. Egham, Surrey, England; d. James City, VA Arrived in VA in 1635.

Richard Spencer Reynolds Ancestry

C1

B1

Richard Spencer Reynolds ♂ (1897)
Birth 1669 ♂ 28 ♀ 22 -- Lower
Parish, Isle of Wight, Virginia
Death September 1787 (Age 118) -- Tennessee

Richard Joshua Reynolds ♂ (1899)
Birth 1641 ♂ 30 ♀ 26 -- Isle of
Wight, Virginia
Death 27 July 1711 (Age 70) -- Newport, Giles,
Virginia

Christopher Reynolds ♂ (1901)
Birth 1611 -- Gravesend, Kent,
England
Death 1654 (Age 43) -- Cypress
Creek, Isle of Wight, Virginia

Elizabeth Rivers Matthews ♀ (1902)
Birth 1615 -- England
Death about 1658 (Age 43) -- Isle
of Wight, Virginia

Elizabeth Sharpe ♀ (1900)
Birth 1647 -- Isle of Wight,
Virginia

Edward Bright Ancestry

C2

B1

Edward Bright ♂ (1921)
Birth 1700 ♂ 40 ♀ 20 -- Russell
Parish, Bedford, VA
Death 25 October 1784 (Age 84)
-- Bedford, VA

Henry Bright ♂ (1922)
Birth 1660 ♂ 18 ♀ 11 -- Norfolk,
VA
Death 1734 (Age 74) -- Currituck,
NC

John Bright ♂ (1924)
Birth 1642 -- Kington, Wiltshire,
England
Death 1688 (Age 46) -- Norfolk,
VA

Eleanor Nicholas ♀ (1925)
Birth 1649 -- Norfolk, VA
Death 1719 (Age 70) -- Norfolk,
VA

Elizabeth (unknown) ♀ (1923)
Birth 1680 -- Norfolk, VA
Death 1743 (Age 63) --
Pasquotank, NC

Notes for the individuals on Charts C1 & C2

“Christopher Reynolds,

ancestor of this family, came over in the *John and Francis* in 1622. This may have been before the Indian Massacre at Edwards Bennett’s plantation in Isle of Wight, March 22, 1622, for at the Census taken in Warrascoyack (Isle of Wight) Feb. 16, 1623, he was shown as one of the survivors living on Bennett’s plantation called Bennett’s Welcome. There were fifty-three persons killed at his plantation, and the survivors, among whom was Christopher Reynolds, numbered only 33. He is shown in the muster at Edward Bennett’s plantation taken 7 February 1625, and it is stated he came on the *John & Francis* in 1622.

...

Christopher Reynolds is shown in a published Reynolds pedigree as son of George Reynolds and Tomasine Church, born in 1611 at Gravesend, England. No references are given. If Christopher was born in 1611 and came to Virginia in 1622, he would have been only 11 years of age at the time of his arrival. He testified as a witness in the General Court in 1626. He seems to have been a grown man at that time.

Historical Southern Families (Volume II) by John Bennett Boddie

One of the historical landmarks in Patrick County, Virginia is the Reynolds Homestead, the boyhood home of tobacco mogul R.J. Reynolds. I’d wondered if there might be a connection between this Reynolds

family and ours. I looked through online trees going back several generations, but could not find a link. Much later, I discovered that Christopher Reynolds has a Wikipedia page. Its first paragraph:

Christopher Reynolds was a member of the Virginia House of Burgesses and ancestor of R. J. Reynolds. Other notable descendants include Mark Twain and “Lonesome” Charley Reynolds. [Charley Reynolds was a scout for Custer. He died at Little Bighorn.]

More from Christopher’s Wikipedia page:

Reynolds was born in Gravesend, England in 1611, the son of George Reynolds and Thomasyn Church.

He arrived in the Virginia Colony along with several family members, including his brother Thomas, in 1622 aboard the *John & Francis*. His party settled in Warrascoyack County, Virginia, later named Isle of Wight County.

Eleven years old when he arrived, he was an indentured servant of Edward Bennett’s Plantation, where he was still living in 1625. In 1626 he was documented in a legal dispute concerning the contract of other servants on the Bennett homestead.

By 1636, he had settled on 450 acres in what had eventually become Isle of Wight County near Pagan Creek. He had married Elizabeth, a widow with two children. They raised seven children, several who were mentioned in his will in 1654: son Christopher, son John, son Richard, daughter Abbasha, daughter Elizabeth, daughter Jane, stepson George Rivers, unnamed (unborn son Thomas, born 1655).

In 1652, he was elected to the Virginia House of Burgesses.

John Bright

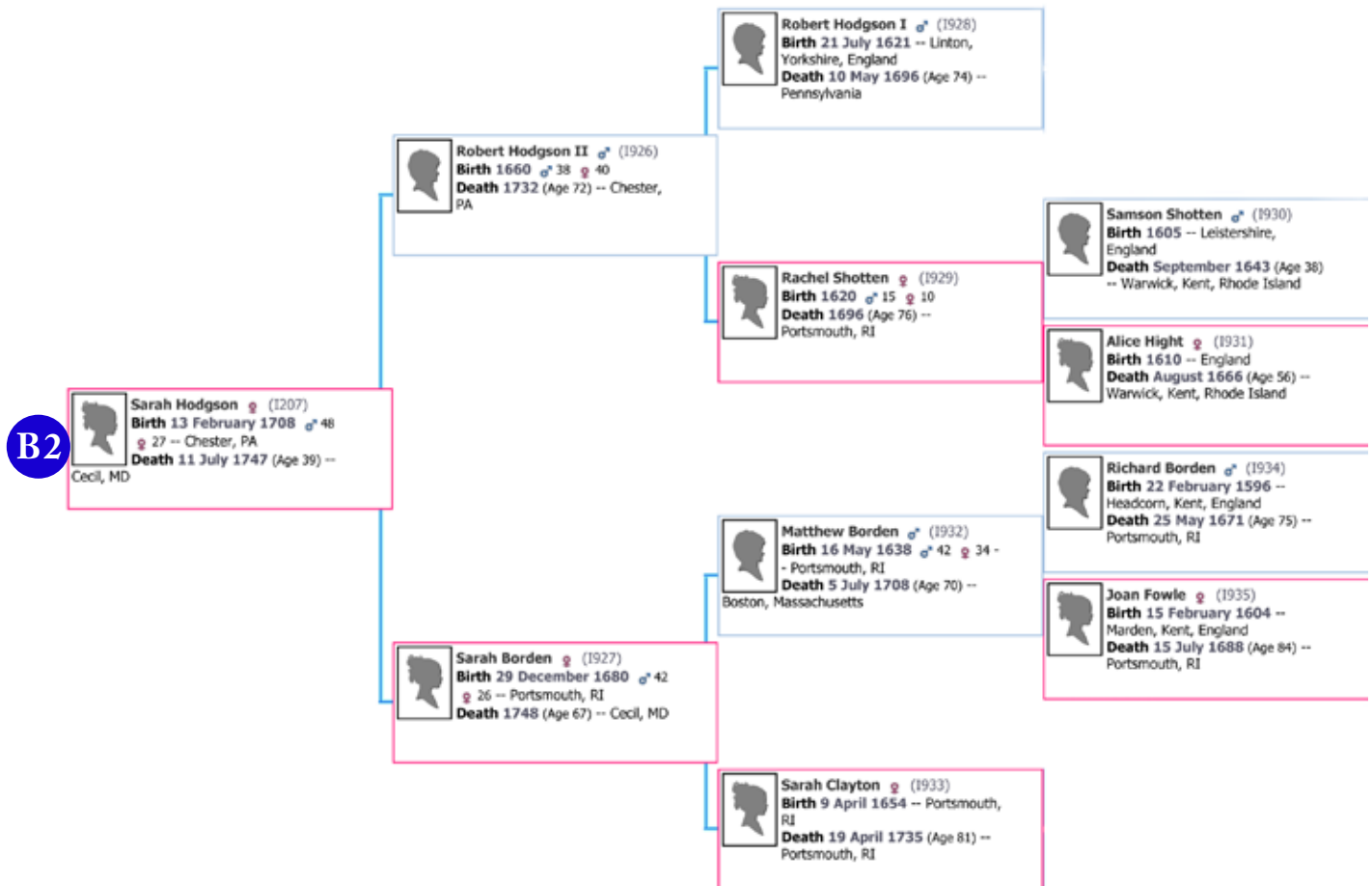
came from England to Norfolk Co., VA about 1658. He came with several others, transported by Anthony Stephens, probably as an indentured servant to work on plantations in Norfolk or other nearby counties. By the early 1660s, he was buying property in what then was called “Lower Norfolk Co.,” VA. This area now is the city of Chesapeake. He had at least three sons, named John, Richard and Henry. All three of them migrated down to NC by 1700 or a few years later. Henry went down to Pasquotank around that time.



Indian massacre of 1622, depicted as a woodcut by Matthaeus Merian, 1628.

Sarah Hodgson Ancestry

C5



Engraved print by J. C. Armytage depicting Roger Williams, founder of Rhode Island, meeting with the Narragansett Indians



Roger Williams in Rhode Island

Notes for the individuals on Chart C5

“Robert Hodgson I

born 1626, died May 10, 1696, who came to America, 1657, and first lived in New York, where he was persecuted for his Quakerism, and soon moved to Portsmouth, Rhode Island, where he was admitted a Freeman, 1673.

On April 4, 1676, the General Assembly appointed him one of the commissioners to procure and order the managing of boats for the defense of the colony, and on the same day was named as one of sixteen “of the most judicious inhabitants,” whose company and council were decided by the Assembly at its next sitting. On April 11, same year, he was appointed a commissioner to take charge of “the several watches and wards of this Island.”

He was a deputy from Portsmouth to General Assembly that met at Newport, May 4, 1686. His will was dated April 22, 1696, and proved May 19, 1696; an abstract of it is given in Austin’s *Genealogical Dictionary of Rhode Island*.

Robert Hodgson (1) married, August 3, 1665, **Rachel Shotten** (died after 1696), only child of **Samson and Alice [Hight] Shotten**, of Portsmouth and Warwick, Rhode Island.

On October 1, 1638, “**Sampson Shotton**” was one of those admitted to be inhabitants of the island called Aquidneck, and who afterwards organized the town of Portsmouth. In 1642 he became a founder of the new town of Warwick, and thereafter resided there. At Portsmouth, August 1, 1667, “Upon motion of Robert Hodgson, husband of Rachel, only child of Samson Shotten, of Portsmouth, some years since deceased, in regard to lands of Shotten, the Town Council examined and made diligent search and found Shotten had not made any will, but died intestate, and find Rachel sole heir to deceased, and administration was given Robert Hodgson and his wife, Rachel therefor.”

~ **Colonial and Revolutionary Families of Pennsylvania; Genealogical and Personal Memoirs by John Woolf Jordan**

Robert Hodgson born 21 Jul 1621 in Linton, Yorkshire, England. Robert seems to be a rebel Quaker and was detained in prison for 16 weeks at one point in 1655.

In June 1657 he landed at New Amsterdam in the company of 9 other Friends, five of whom had been formerly banished from New England. He went to Hempstead, Long Island and met with Friends there. He again ended up in prison and was beaten nearly

to death. The governors sister took pity on him and finally convinced her brother to set the poor man free.

The 1621 Robert had several children with his wife Rachel Shotlen, including 1660 Robert. In 1715 Robert Hodgson was taxed in Chester County Pennsylvania. He is shown with his wife Sarah Borden. He received a patent in 1715 for 250 acres in East Nottingham and called it Hodgson’s Choice and was likely where he and his family settled. Another patent was granted by the state of Maryland on May 24, 1728 for 660 acres and was called Pleasant Garden, principally in what is New London Township, Chester County. That patent was held by Maryland and held to be in Cecil County.

The will of Robert Hodgson of Cecil County, “being very sick” is dated 1 Dec 1732 and proven 26 Nov 1733. He mentions his wife Sarah and children, Joseph, John, David, Richard, Phineas, Matthew, Rachel Scott, Sarah Hodgson, Jonathan and Robert. It speaks to the distribution of property which mainly went to sons Phineas and Joseph.

~ **History of Chester County, Pennsylvania, with Genealogical and Biographical Sketches by J. Smith Futhy and Gilbert Cope**

Rachel Shotten

is listed in several online trees with a birthdate of 1620 in Rhode Island. I think that date is too early, but I have no documentaion to support my hunch. The Rhode Island Colony was founded in 1636. Her son was born in 1660.

Samson Shotten

was named in the will of his father, Thomas Shotten of Crapson, Leicester, England. Samson received the house and grounds in Leicester, for which he received “fourscore and ten pounds” from his brother Anthony.

Richard Borden

Richard Borden was born 22 February 1596 in the Parish of Hedcorn, County of Kent, England. Baptized 22 February 1595-6 He married **Joane Fowle** on 8 September 1625 in Hedcorn Church, Kent, England. Joane was born 15 February 1605, a daughter of Francis and Elizabeth Fowle of Cranbrooke in the County of Kent (Francis was a Clothier), and died 15 July 1688, in Portsmouth, Newport Co., Rhode Island.

In his will, Francis Fowle left to all his messuages, lands, etc., to his wife Elizabeth, to be passed on to his daughter Joane Fowle Borden, and then to Francis Borden.

Richard's brother John was the first to come to America aboard the *Elizabeth & Anne* in 1635. Then Richard and his family arrived in Boston, Massachusetts in 1635-1638.

Richard and Joan settled in Rhode Island. Borden was a surveyor and acquired large tracts of land in Rhode Island and East Jersey - Monmouth County. He was Freeman of Portsmouth, 16 March, 1611, of a Committee to treat with the Dutch, 18 May 1653, Assistant, town of Portsmouth 1653, 1654, Commissioner 1654, 1656, 1657, Treasurer, 1654, 1655, Freeman, 1655, and Deputy from Portsmouth to the General Assembly, 1667, 1670.

Biographical Sketch - Richard Borden

from familysearch.org

Richard BORDEN, the first of our BORDEN line to come to America, was born in Headcorn, County Kent, England, about 40 miles southeast of London and about 20 miles southwest of Canterbury.

The fourth of 10 children, he was christened on 4 March 1596. At Headcorn he married Joane FOWLE on 28 September 1625. The old stone church where they were married is still standing.

Joane was born 15 Feb 1604 at Headcorn in County Kent, England, the second of four children. Richard inherited land in Headcorn from his father, but he and Joane moved in 1628 to Cranbrook in County Kent where she had relatives.

His youngest brother, John BORDEN, emigrated to New England on the *Elizabeth & Ann* in May 1635. In the mid-1630's Richard and Joane sailed to America with five children and settled at Portsmouth, Rhode Island.

Richard was the nineteenth signer of the compact creating the government of Aquidneck (later Rhode Island). He was elected a member of a committee to

treat with the Dutch in 1653. He was elected Assistant at Portsmouth in 1653 and 1654, Treasurer of the United Colonies in 1654 and 1655, Commissioner in 1654, 1656, and 1657, and Deputy from Portsmouth to the Rhode Island General Assembly in 1667 and 1670.

As a surveyor he acquired large tracts of land in Rhode Island and Monmouth County, East Jersey (now New Jersey). He died on 25 May 1671 at Portsmouth, Rhode Island. He was buried in Portsmouth at the burial ground of the Society of Friends (i.e., Quaker).

Joane died on 15 July 1688 at Portsmouth. Their children were: Richard BORDEN (b. 1626), Thomas BORDEN (1627-1676), Francis BORDEN (1628-1705/6), Mary (BORDEN) COOKE (1632/3-1690), Elizabeth BORDEN (b. 1634), Matthew BORDEN (1638-1708), John BORDEN (1640-1716), Joseph BORDEN (1643-prob. by 1702), Sarah (BORDEN) HOLMES (1644-after 1705), Samuel BORDEN (1645-1716), Benjamin BORDEN (1649-c.1728), Amey (BORDEN) RICHARDSON (1653/4-1683/4).

Son Matthew (born at Portsmouth on 16 May 1638) was "the first English child born on Rhode Island," according to Quaker records.

Son John's (b. 1640) great-great-great-grandson, Gail BORDEN, III, was the inventor of condensed milk in the early 1850's and founder of the Borden Milk Company. He was also the original surveyor of Galveston, Texas. The west Texas town of Gail in Borden County were both named for him.

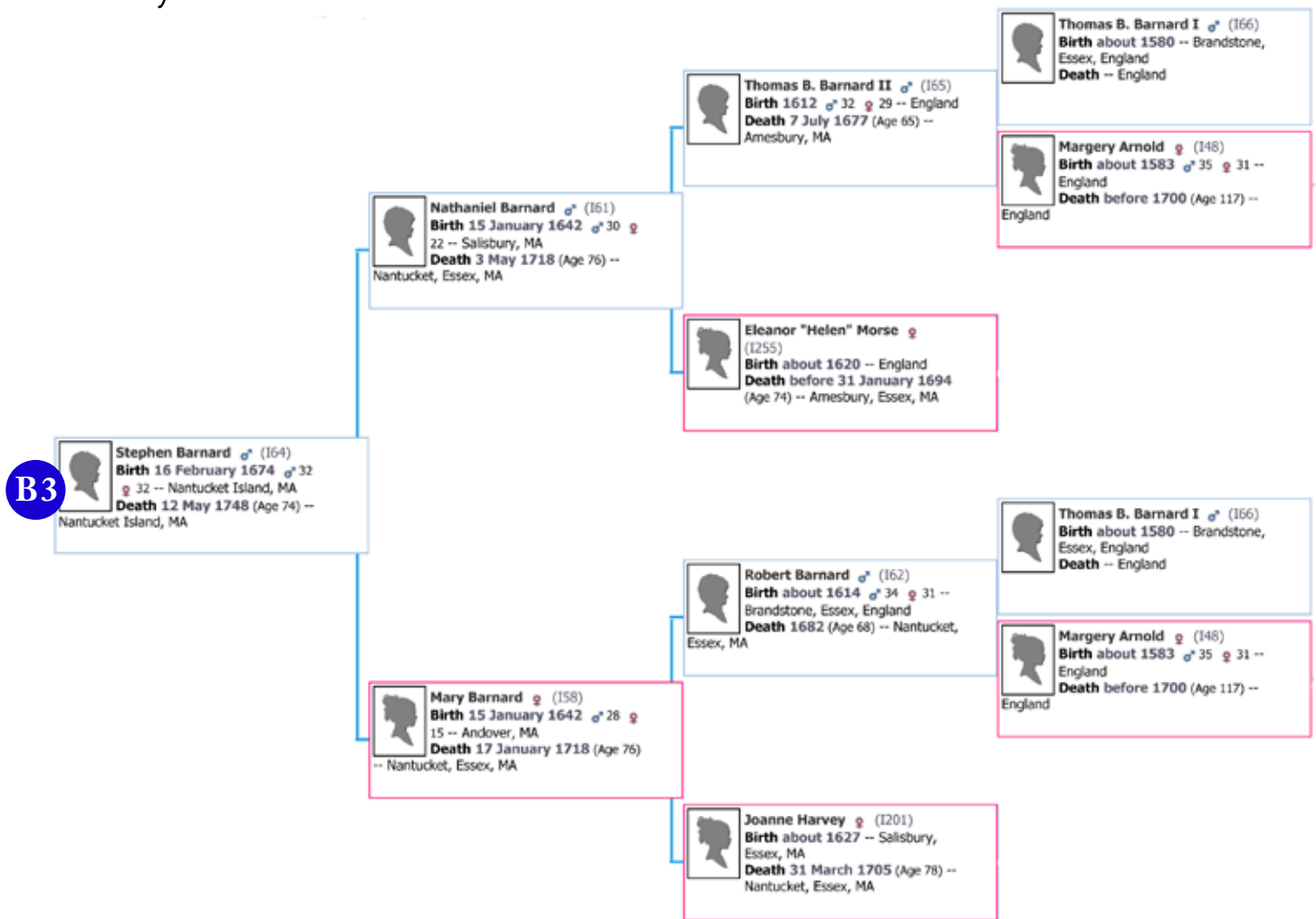
John's (b. 1640) great-great-great-great-granddaughter, through a different line, was the famous Lizzie BORDEN, who was charged [and found innocent] with killing her father and step-mother with an ax in 1892 in Fall River, Massachusetts.



The church at Headcorn, Kent, England

Stephen Barnard Ancestry

C6



*Jethro Coffin House, built in 1686 for Jethro Coffin, now the oldest house on Nantucket
By Cortlandt V. D. Hubbard, Photographer [Public domain], via Wikimedia Commons*

Notes for the individuals on Chart C6

Stephen Barnard

Nathaniel was born at Salisbury, Massachusetts on January 15, 1642/3. He was in Amesbury, MA during April 1665, but soon after his marriage to Mary Barnard in 1666, he removed to Nantucket. Mary Barnard was Nathaniel's first cousin. Mary was born in Andover, Massachusetts on April 8, 1648.

Nathaniel was highly esteemed among the early inhabitants and was very prominent in Town and public affairs. He was chosen many times to serve in all the important offices. He was a trader, and the court records show that he was fined in 1709 for selling liquor to the Indians.

In 1695, Nathaniel released his claim on his portion of his father's estate to his brother, John:

Acquittance of Nathaniell Barnard, sr. of Nantucket to his brother John Barnard of Amesbury, administrator to the estates of their mother Elener Little of Amesbury, deceased, who was administratrix to the estate of their father Thomas Barnard of Amesbury, of all portions due unto him from said estates. Dated August 29, 1695. Witness: Tho. Currier, Samll. Weed. Acknowledged Aug. 29, 1695 by Nathaniell Barnard before Robert Pike, Just. of Peace.

The Town Records of Nantucket show he departed "this liffe in great peace" 3d 4 mo. of 1718. His estate, as reported December 28, 1718, totaled £2460. Mary died at Nantucket on March 17, 1717/18.

~*Sam Behling*

Thomas Barnard II

Thomas was the elder of the two brothers. He was born about 1608-1610 in Lowesoft, Suffolk, England. Some sources hint he was from Brandstone Parish in either Suffolk or Essex. However, researchers have not been able to find any proof in the registers of either parish. We may assume he and his brother were English, but as of now I do not know exactly where they lived.

Again many sources state the brothers came to America in 1650. Yet Thomas is shown on an old map as being a landholder in Salisbury, Massachusetts in 1639. Later the family also bought land a few miles away in neighboring Amesbury, Massachusetts.

Thomas Barnard married a woman named **Eleanor or Helen [Morse]** sometime about 1640 in Salisbury. Their first child, Thomas junior, was born there in May of 1641. Their second son, Nathaniel,

was born there in 1642.

Thomas seems to have had lands in both Salisbury and Amesbury. The children were all born in Salisbury, but he appears in early Amesbury records by 1660 and then in the records of both towns. Perhaps all the lands lay on the border and spilled over into both towns.

Thomas was one of the original purchasers of Nantucket Island in 1659. He gave a half interest to his brother Robert. It does not appear that he ever went to the island, but Robert did in 1663.

Thomas was killed by Indians in Amesbury in October of 1677. His estate was settled in 1679.

Eleanor [Morse] Barnard remained in the area and on July 19, 1681 she married George Little of Newbury. She died on November 27, 1694.

~ *Bill Putman*

Robert Barnard

Robert was the younger brother and was born in England in 1614. He, like his brother, settled first in Salisbury about 1640. By about 1645 he had moved further inland to Andover, Massachusetts.

He married Joanna Harvey, daughter of William Harvey, about 1641. The Harvey family came from Somersetshire in England. Joanna was born there about 1617. Robert and Joanna were married in Salisbury, Massachusetts.

The family remained in the Andover area until 1663, when Robert and most of his family moved to Nantucket Island. One son, Stephen, remained on the land in Andover.

Robert and his family were early settlers and planters on Nantucket. He remained there until his death in 1682. He apparently still had claims in Andover when he died intestate.

In 1714 his grandson Robert was appointed as administrator in some claim action the state had against his estate in Andover. Joanna Barnard lived on many years and died on Nantucket on March 31, 1705.

Thomas Barnard I

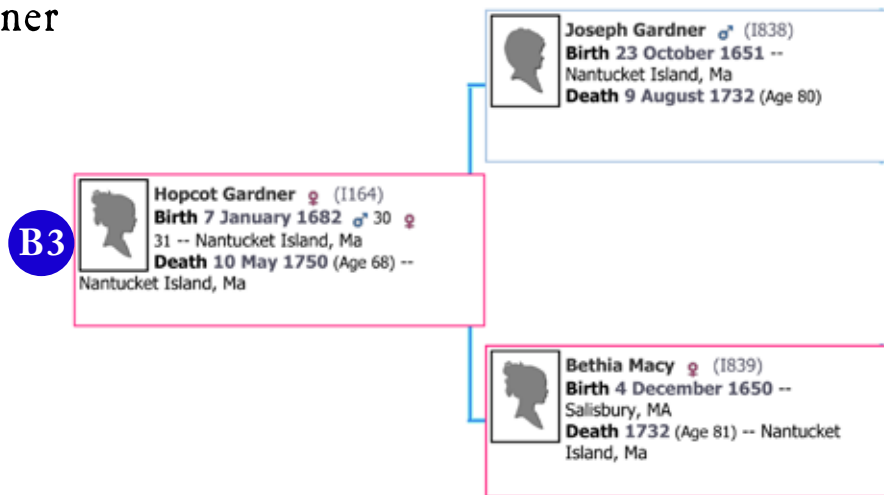
was a shipwright. There's some question about the name of his wife: some trees list her as Anne Cooke, one says Phebe Whiting, and many list **Margery Arnold**. Perhaps he was married more than once; perhaps there were multiple men with the same name in that part of England at that time.

Margery Arnold

was the 2nd great Grand Aunt of Benedict Arnold IV, American Rev War General & Traitor.

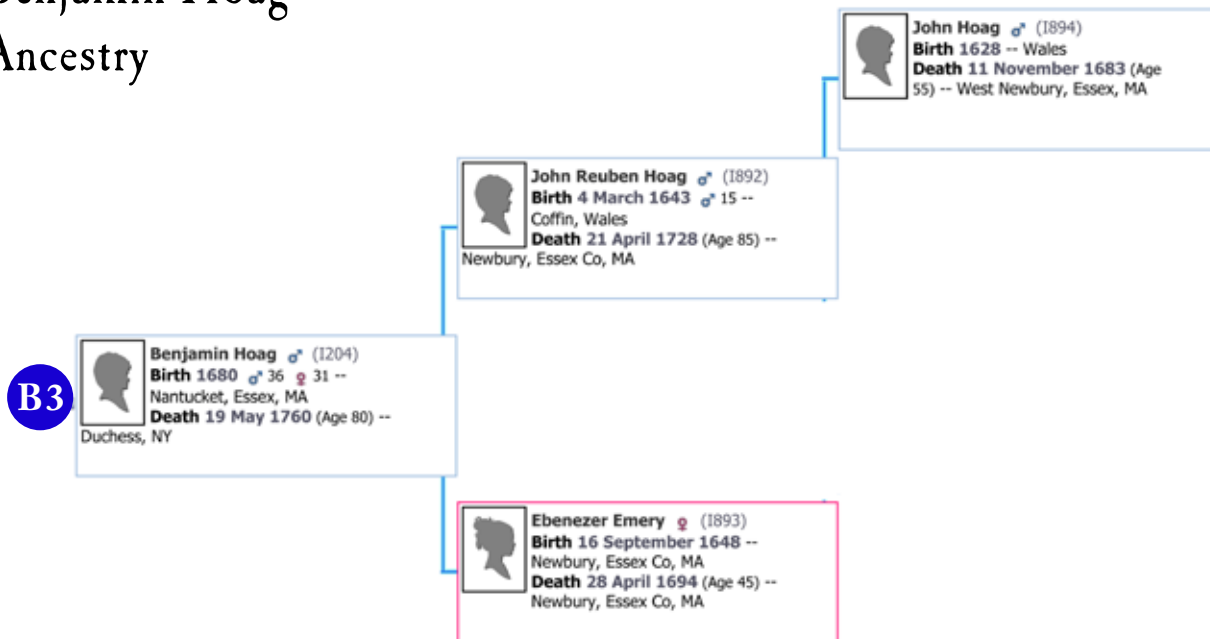
Hopcot Gardner Ancestry

C7



Benjamin Hoag Ancestry

C8



Notes for the individuals on Charts C7 & C8

Joseph Gardner

In memoranda of William C. Folger, published in *Nantucket Inquirer and Mirror*, in 1862, is the following:

“Joseph Gardner the eldest son of Mr Richard Gardner had half a share of land on Nantucket Granted him 15th of February 1667. In consideration of which he was to supply the occasions of the Island in the way of a Shoe Maker and not leave the island for the space of four years,”

The same account says: “Richard Gardner’s Will gave to Joseph, eldest son, twice as much as to his other children who were left share and share alike.”

~ *The Early Settlers of Nantucket, 1659-1850*
by Lydia Hinchman

John Rueben Hoag

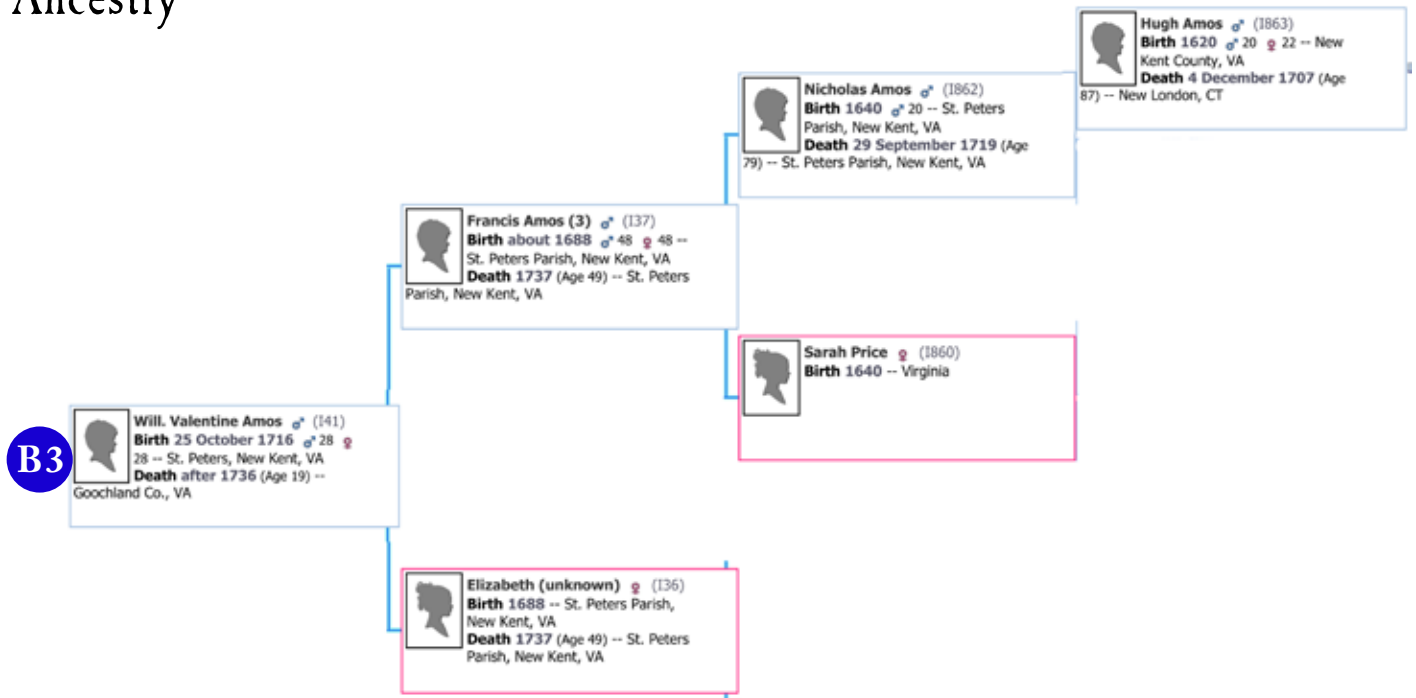
arrived in Boston with his father from Wales in 1650

Ebenezer Emery

Yes, Ebenezer was sometimes used as a girl’s name back then.

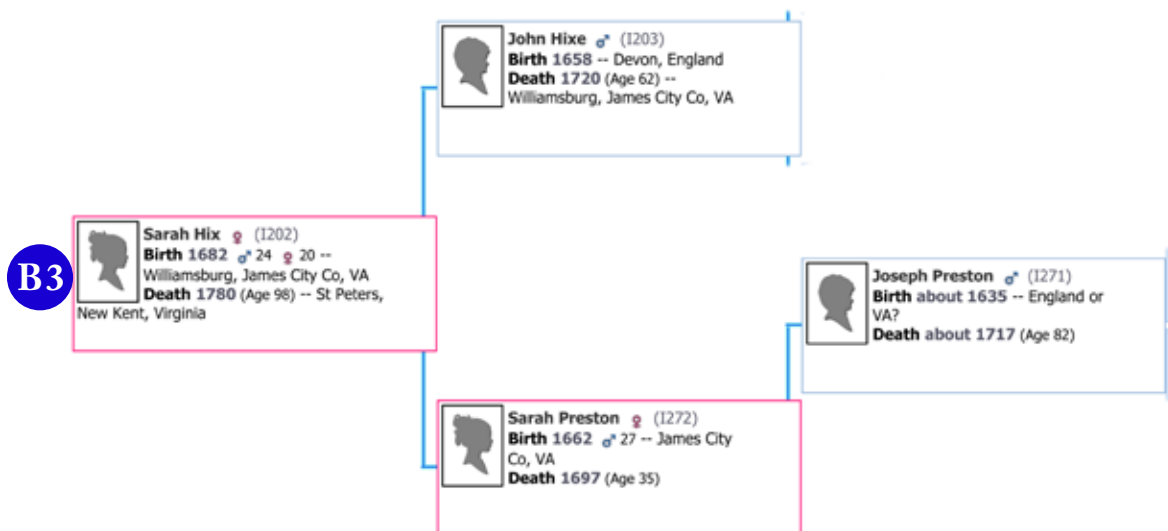
William Valentine Amos Ancestry

C9



Sarah Hix Ancestry

C10



Notes for the individuals on Charts C9 & C10

Anna Button (mother of Hugh Amos)

According to an online tree, Anna's parents, Etheldreda Clayton (1610-1641) and William Button (1600-1660) were from Harrold, Bedfordshire, England. But Anna was born in 1597.

John Hixe

John was born in England in 1658. Information about John's early life indicated that he had at least two brothers, and that around 1680, when they became adults, the three young men immigrated to the new English colony of Virginia.

We've all heard the stories of the difficulties faced by the first colonists in Jamestown, Roanoke, and Plymouth in just staying alive. The hard life of our early Americans may have been the reason that John's two brothers changed their minds about living in the New World. Whatever the case, not too long after they had arrived, they boarded a ship bound for England and returned home.

Rather than going back home with his brothers, 22-year-old John prepared to set down roots in Virginia. By making this decision to remain in Virginia, John Hixe became "The Immigrant" for our branch of the Hixe family.

Early in his life in the colonies John dropped the "e" from his last name. All of his children used the spelling Hix.

John was not alone for long in his new homeland. Soon he found a young lady, and she became his wife. Her name was **Sarah Preston** (1662-1697); she was 19 years old, and she was the daughter of **Joseph Preston** (c1635-?). John and Sarah were wed in James City County, VA in 1681, and the next year they acquired land in that same county. The VA Patent book shows the acquisition as: "Patent to John Hicks, ... October 22, 1682, for 183 acres, James City County, beginning on the South side of South swamp over against the mouth of Preston's [S]pring [B] ranch." Other sources mention land he owned along the Chickahominy River and in Henrico County, but these descriptions usually mention Preston's Spring Branch and may be speaking of the same 1682 land purchase in James City County.

John and Sarah made their home in Virginia during a difficult time. In addition to the trials of living in a new land, there were also problems with Indians. One early Virginia document discusses a dispute between the Pamunkey Indians and some of the settlers of

the Diascund Creek area in James City County. This is the area where our John and Sarah lived. The John Hixe mentioned in that document may very likely be our John. He is called, "a Great Man of the Pau-maunk." (On the other hand, the John in this document could have been an Indian since he is described as "of the Paumaunk," [could either name the region or the tribe] and since there were colonists who had married into Indian tribes of the area.)

Records from the House of Burgesses mention in 1698 that a committee of both houses was appointed to "settle the controversies arising from claims to lands in Pomunkey [sic] Neck and on that side of the Blackwater Swamp." If our John lived in the area and was also part of this committee appointed by the House of Burgesses, he might indeed be called a "Great Man of the Paumaunk," or these may have been two totally different land controversies.

In the late Seventeenth Century John was appointed to the position of Doorkeeper of the Virginia House of Burgesses. For us this is both good and bad news. The good is that it gives him a mark of distinction; the bad is that House of Burgesses' doorkeepers were not taxed. Although seemingly good, that fact keeps John off tax records and makes researching him more difficult. In addition, tradition has it that some of John's sons and grandsons filled the same post or office; thus, they, too, were tax exempt and not listed on tax records.

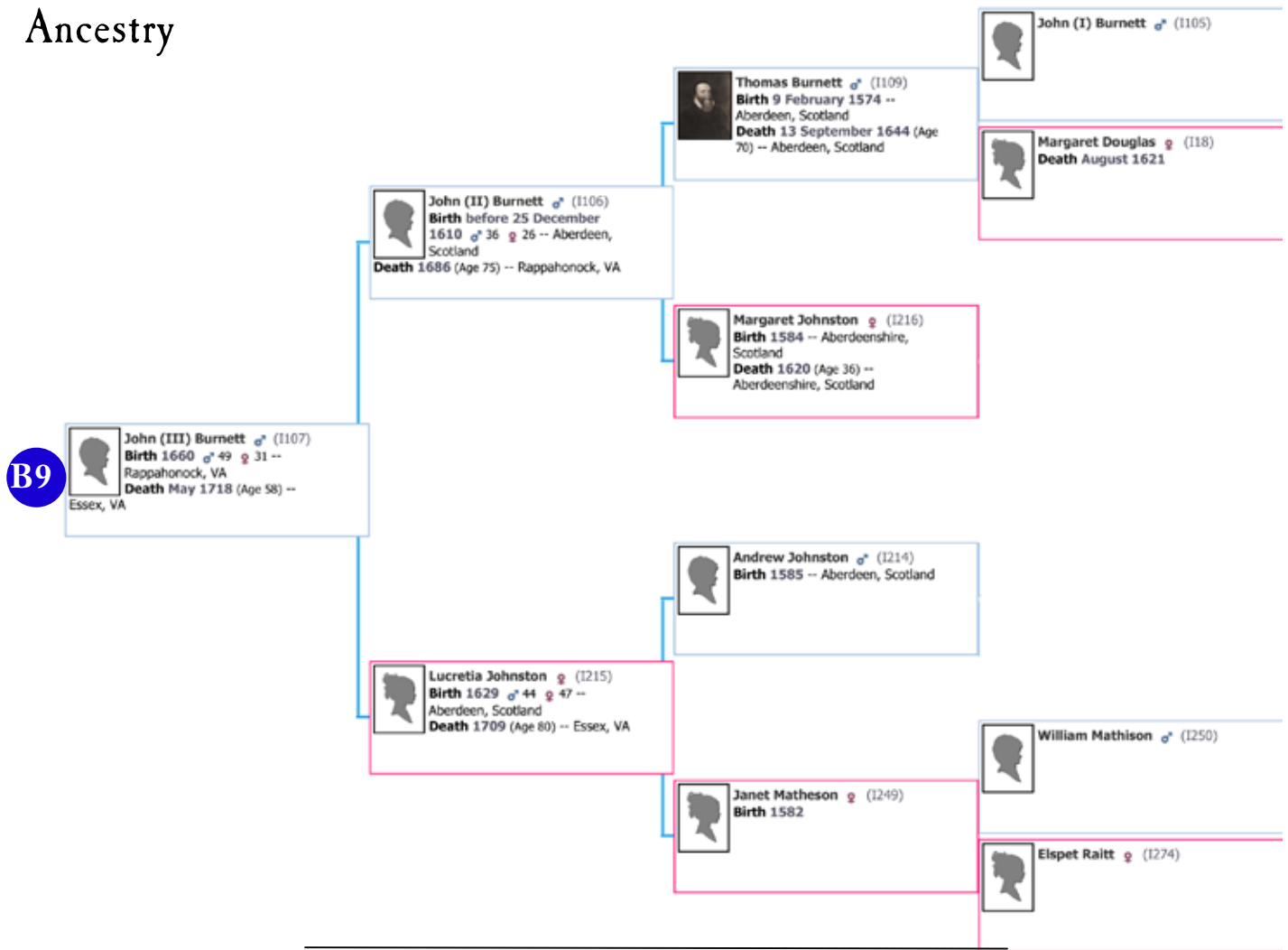
Being associated with the Virginia House of Burgesses was no doubt a feather in John's cap. The House of Burgesses was the first elected political body in the colonies and turned out to be the longest-lived of all the colonial governments. It had been in operation since 1619—39 years before John was born and 61 years before he came to the colonies.

John, Sarah, and their family were in all probability members of the Church of England (Anglican Church). We can be fairly sure that they attended church regularly. One of the first laws enacted by the House of Burgesses in Jamestown in 1619 was that everyone attend church or suffer a fine or punishment. During the time John and Sarah lived in Jamestown and Williamsburg (1681-1720), all public officials in the royal colony of Virginia were required by law to attend church. As a Doorkeeper of the House of Burgesses, John would have been not only expected but also required to attend. The logical church for them to attend in a royal colony would have been the Church of England. In addition, when he died, John was buried in the cemetery of an Anglican church. Hence, John and Sarah were probably Anglican.

<http://huskey-ogle-family.tripod.com/ancestorararchives/id37.html>

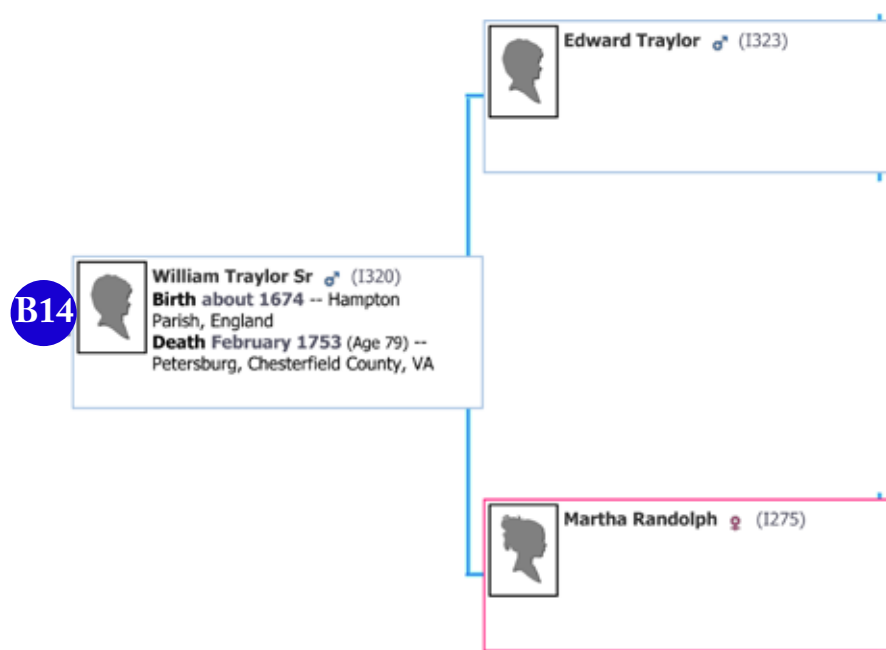
John Burnett III Ancestry

C11



William Traylor Sr. Ancestry

C14



Notes for the individuals on Charts C11 & C14

John Burnett II

John Burnett is listed among "Persons of Quality" at age 24 aboard the ship *Abraham* of London, Mr. John Barker, Master, bound for Virginia, arriving 24 October 1635. This may have been a first visit to Virginia to survey the situation prior to bringing his own ship with supplies from England and Scotland prior to receiving the warrant from the King. The earliest known land patent to John was on 23 May 1637 to John Burnett, Merchant of Edinborough, 150 acres in the upper county of New Norfolk.²⁰

On 2 July 1638, King Charles I granted a license from Greenwich, England to John Burnett, a warrant in trade in Virginia, to wit: "Warrant from the King to the Governor of Virginia ... for John Burnett of Aberdeen, the sole merchant of our Kingdom of Scotland, that hath supplied the plantations of Virginia ... to have free commerce and traffic between Scotland and Virginia" upon paying the usual customs and entering into bond to unlade anywhere other than in the Ports of Scotland. The cargo, which John arranged to ship to Scotland, was primarily tobacco. No doubt the Burnett ships returning home to Virginia carried a variety of Scottish goods as well as those of the European countries with which Aberdeen had strong trading links.

It would appear that John Burnett did quite well and could be considered among the upper class of the Colony. The will of his wife, Lucretia, contained many luxury items that would be used by a lady of the upper class.

John's sons, John III and Thomas II, also took part in the importing and exporting of goods, primarily tobacco.

It appears that John became ill, perhaps even wounded by Indians, in the later part of 1685. By 3 March 1686, he had died and his estate was ordered inventoried.

http://www.zia.com/CallZia/Family_Friends/Before_JohnBurnett/z/j/u/John_Burnett_Sr.html

Sir Thomas Burnett, 1st Baronet of Leys

was a feudal baron and leading Covenanter who had represented Kincardineshire in the Scottish Parliament in 1621.

The eldest surviving son of Alexander Burnett of Leys and Katherine, eldest daughter of Alexander Gordon of Lesmoir, "Thomas Burnaetus de Leyes" appears in the records of King's College, Aberdeen

and Aberdeen University, as a student who matriculated in 1603. In 1604 and 1606 when he was a witness to sasines he is designed as his father's "son and heir apparent", whom he succeeded in 1619 in the feudal barony of Leys and a range of other lands and rights. .

In 1619, prior to his father's death, Thomas Burnett younger of Leys was one of a body of Commissioners named by King James VI of Scotland, at the instance of Bishop Patrick Forbes, to visit the universities of Aberdeen. The same year he was made an honorary Burgess of Aberdeen, and in 1620 he was knighted. He was one of the earliest recipients of the dignity of Baronet of Nova Scotia, his patent dated at Holyroodhouse on 21 April 1626.

The religious strife of the 1620s found Sir Thomas a decided opponent of the Episcopalian Court party and he became a supporter of the Solemn League and Covenant.

...

Following the Proclamation of Charles II as King in Scotland, the Scottish Parliament adopted the most uncompromisingly covenanting character and its records for 1649 contain a complaint from Sir Thomas Burnett of Leys to the effect that he was owed £67,000 for supporting their cause. The result was an Act of Parliament in favour of Sir Thomas exempting him from further levies and recommending he be repaid, although it is unclear he ever was.

Charles II summoned Sir Thomas to support him in a letter dictated to the Earl Marischal dated 5 October 1650. The King wrote again to Sir Thomas on 12 April 1651, granting him an exemption from the quartering of soldiers. There followed Charles's defeat at the battle of Worcester after which there were widespread persecutions. However, Sir Thomas Burnett appears to have again trod a diplomatic course as General Monck wrote to him from Dundee on 26 December 1651, assuring him of protection.

Sir Thomas was twice married with issue from both. He married (1) Margaret (d. before August 1621), eldest daughter of Sir Robert Douglas of Glenbervie, second son of William Douglas, 9th Earl of Angus. They had two sons and two daughters,

He remarried by contract dated 9 August 1621 (2) Jean, daughter of Sir John Moncrieff.

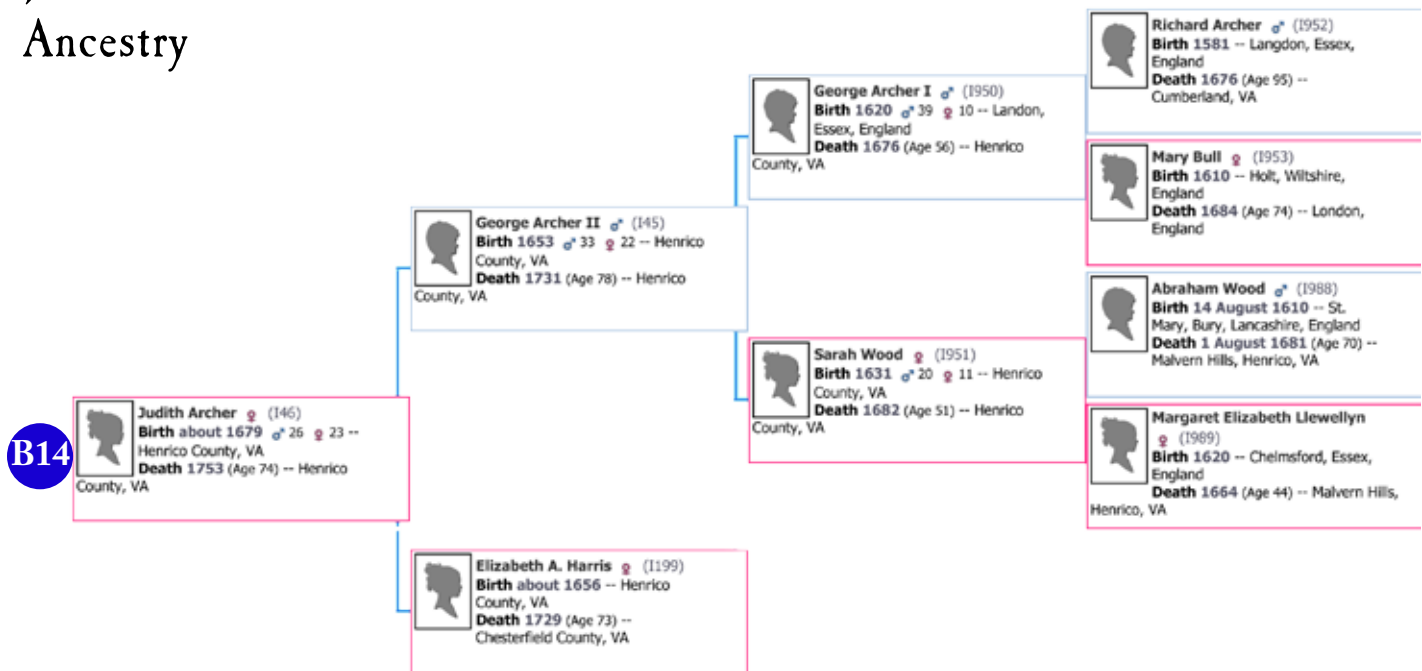
~from Wikipedia

Edward Traylor

The European origin of the Traylor line is a matter of some dispute. Some researchers claim our Edward's father was Edouard Traillour (1596-1672 of Nouzon, Ardennes, Champagne-Ardenne, France. Others claim the family is from Hampton Parish, England.

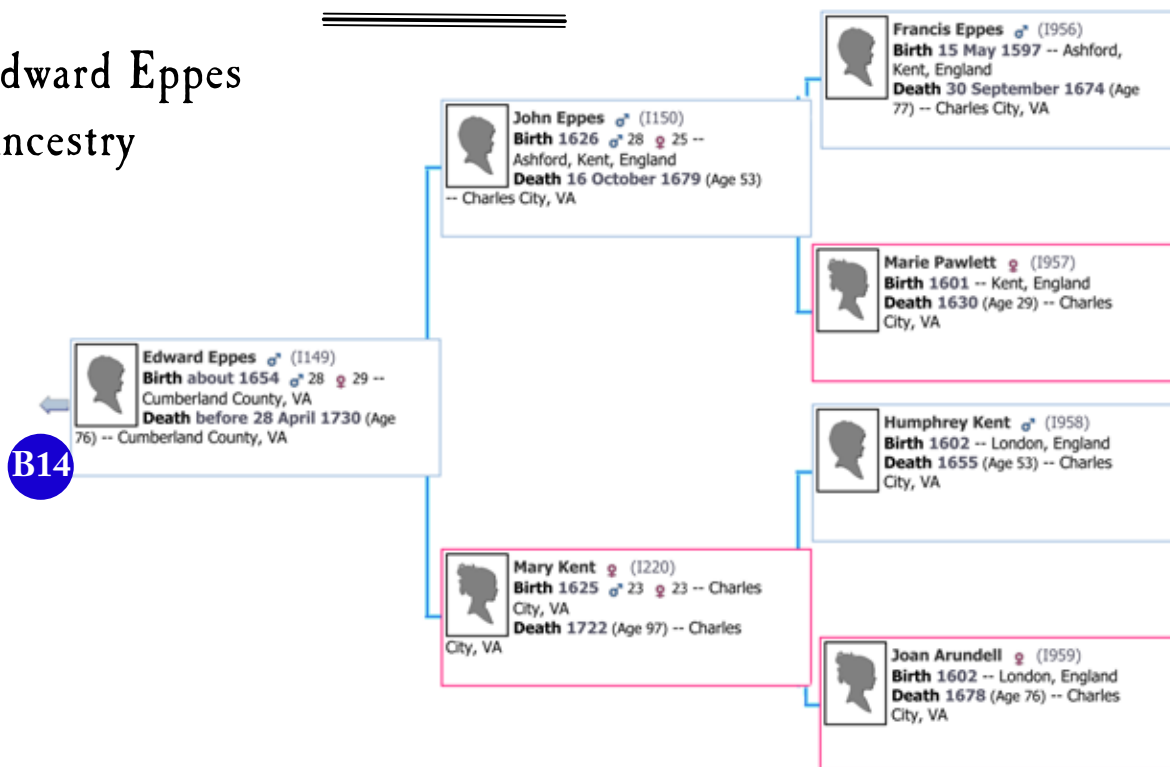
Judith Archer Ancestry

C15



Edward Eppes Ancestry

C16



Notes for the individuals on Charts C15 & C16

George Archer I

arrived in Virginia in 1629; he purchased 550 acres on north side of Appamattox River in Henrico County in 1665.

Several online trees claim the Archer line has a direct link to ancient kings of Scotland.

Also, they're (supposedly) direct descendants of Stephen, King of England from 1141-1154.

George Archer - Elizabeth Sarah Wood

George was born about 1620 in Langdon, Sussex, England, the son of Richard Archer and Mary Bull.

He married Elizabeth Sarah about 1653 in Henrico, Virginia. She apparently was born in Virginia about 1635, the daughter of Abraham and Elizabeth Wood, early settlers of Virginia.

George Archer was brought to Virginia by Justinian Cooper in 1636. He was apparently an indentured servant, as he is referred to as a headright of Justinian Cooper. Justinian Cooper was a prominent immigrant that had thousands of acres of land. The headright system in Virginia worked as follows:

The most common method of obtaining land during the 17th and early 18th century was the "headright". This was designed so as to encourage emigration. Each individual who paid for the transportation costs of an emigrant received 50 acres of land. For someone to receive a patent through the headright system they would have to petition the county court for a "certificate of importation". The certificates were then recorded in the county court minute books. These certificates establish relationships, approximate arrival time in the Colony and the locality in which the emigrant settled. Once the individual had obtained the certificate of importation he took it to the Secretary of the Colony who then issued a "right" of 50 acres per headright. The right was then taken to a county surveyor where a plat and map was drawn along with the measurements. Once the survey was completed, the papers were returned to the Secretary of the Colony and a patent was issued.

The issuance of the patent however was conditional:

Condition 1: Annual payment to the Crown of 1 shilling for each 50 acres owned

Condition 2: Within a three year period a house to be built and tock to be kept or the cultivation of at least 1 acre of land.

George would have been a young man when he came to the colonies in 1636. It wasn't until 20 years later that he was able to obtain the minimum 50 acres that designated a person as a freeman of the community. "He settled in Warrasquenock (now Isle of Wight County). About 1655 George was granted 50 acres on Tunstall's Creek, Bermuda Hundred, in Henrico County (now Chesterfield County), Virginia. His home, Archer's Hall, was erected on this land. He later was granted patents for other land in the vicinity.

George Archer, 550 acs. Henrico Co., 2 June 1665, p. 180 (69). In Bristol Parish on N. side of Appamatox River ... to where Mudgett formerly and Archer now liveth.

Will located in Henrico County dated 24 Nov 1675 appointed George Jr as administrator 16 Mar 1675/76.

~ <https://familysearch.org/photos/stories/6017896>

Abraham Wood

A last minute addition to this volume, Abraham had an amazing, compelling biography. He arrived in the New World in 1620 as a ten year old indentured servant. The ship he sailed on was attacked by Spaniards. He became a colonel, a general, a member of the House of Burgesses, a prominent trader, and a famous explorer. Yet details of his family are cloudy. Was his mother on board the *Margaret and John* when it was attacked, or was Abraham already an orphan? Did he have one wife, two, or three? How many children did his marriage(s) produce? These questions and more are hot topics of debate, with much speculation and tantalizing tidbits of documentation.

I've included Abraham's Wikipedia biography and a contemporary account of the attack on the *Margaret and John* at the end of this book.

Richard Archer

Some online researchers claim Richard is the brother of Capt. Gabriel Archer of Jamestown, a leader of the Jamestown colony and whose skeleton was discovered and verified in July 2015 in what was the remains of the Jamestown Anglican Church.

A July, 2015 article in *Atlantic* magazine (available online <http://www.theatlantic.com/national/archive/2015/07/a-skeleton-a-catholic-relic-and-a-mystery-about-americas-origins/399743/>) notes that Gabriel was buried with a Catholic reliquary; apparently he was a secret Catholic.

It's unclear if Richard came to the new world or not. Some researchers claim he died in Cumberland, Virginia; others claim he died in England.

John Eppes

born about 1626, was the eldest son of his father. He married about 1645, Mary Kent, daughter of Humphrey Kent and his wife Joane. On 3 August 1653 they sold 60 acres at Weyanoke where Humphrey Kent had resided. By 1657 John Epes was living on Shirley Hundred Island, now known as Eppes Island.

Col. John Epes was sheriff of Charles City County, February 1675/6 and on 26 May 1677 was appointed one of the four officials in Charles City County to examine witnesses concerning grievances in the aftermath of Bacon's Rebellion. He was a justice as early as 1655 and was appointed one of the justices of the quorum by Lieutenant Governor Herbert Jeffreys on 5 November 1677. He was alive 4 August 1679 but died by 16 October 1679 when John Epes was mentioned as administrator of his father's estate.

Offspring of Caron Boswell Yeatts & Henry F. Yeatts

The marriage of Caron Boswell and Henry F. Yeatts is the star at the center of our little genealogical solar system. We've already travelled back in time to look at their roots, now we'll look forward from their marriage into the middle of the Twentieth Century.

Alfred T Yeatts (1859 - 1862)

Caron and Henry's first child died as an infant.

Henrietta "Etta" Yeatts (1861 - 1950)

had two children: Oregon Alphonzo Yeatts (1879 - 1937) and Priscilla R. Yeatts (1881 - 1962). Oregon is mentioned in "The Move to Mayberry". Priscilla has a memorial page later in this book. Etta married Jackson Childress in 1920.

George Oliver Preston Yeatts (1864 - 1898)

I haven't learned much about George. He had some sort of a handicap. He attended Roanoke College. He died of measles. He's a significant character in "The Move to Mayberry".

Stuart T Yeatts (1867 - 1869)

another reminder of how difficult life was before antibiotics, vaccines, and other aspects of modern medicine.

John Henry "Dump" Yeatts (1870 - 1967)

was a postmaster and shopkeeper in Mayberry. He's a major character in "The Move to Mayberry", "The Second Emigration" and many other stories by Aaron McAlexander. He married **Edna Roena Reynolds**, bringing the Reynolds and Barnard lines into our tale. Dump and Edna had nine kids (I think I've got that right):

Coy Oliver Yeatts (1899 - 1984)

Flora Della Yeatts (1900 - 1977)

Clarice Aquila Yeatts (1902 - 1907)

Lora Ruth Yeatts (1904 - 2001)

Vera Liberta Yeatts (1906 - 2000)

Edna Eunice Yeatts (1909 - 1990)

Essie May Yeatts (1912 - 1995)

John Hassel Yeatts (1916 - 2000)

Virginia Eileen Yeatts (1918 - 2002)

Coy ran the Mayberry store for many years. He mar-

ried Mary Lee Agee. He's featured in "The Mayberry Willows Weep."

Flora married James Archer. Lora married Marlin King. Vera married Cornelius Stanley. Edna married Elkanah McAlexander. Essie married Bud Hopkins. John Hassel was the author of several books. Virginia married Henry Horton.

Charles Thomas "Tobe" Yeatts (1875 - 1918)

Technically, Henry Yeatts wasn't Tobe's father. That issue is discussed in "The Move to Mayberry". Tobe's move to Montana is detailed in "The Second Emigration". He married **Stella Susan Ann Barnard** in 1899. This union produced:

Roy Oliver Yeatts (1900 - 1989)

Foy Osborn Yeatts (1902 - 1972)

May Agnes "Mary" Yeatts (1904 - 1989)

Amy Maude Yeatts (1905 - 1981)

Evy Venus Yeatts (1907 - 1910)

baby boy Yeatts (1910 - 1910)

Ray Alexander Yeatts (1910 - 1958)

Fey Ellen Yeatts (1913 - 2005)

Imy Mildred "Micky" Yeatts (1914 - ?)

Notice that for each of these kids, their first names are also their initials. Since this is my line, I've got lots of pictures (see pages 77-78) and know more details about these people.

Roy was a medical doctor and a Seventh Day Adventist missionary. He married Helen Hambly. They had a son, Francis Oliver Yeatts, and a daughter, Merna Lenore Yeatts. Roy moved back to Virginia when he retired. His life is discussed in "The Second Emigration"

Foy served in the Seabees in the Pacific in WWII and worked as a lumberman in Idaho.

Mary married Arne Fosdal. They had a daughter, Susan Fosdal. They lived for many years in Hamilton, Montana.

Amy, my grandmother, earned a Master's Degree from the University of Oregon. She married James Dorman Searle. They had three daughters: Nancy, Evelyn, and Elizabeth. They lived for many years in Chehalis, Washington.

Ray married Sylvia Nielsen. They had three kids: Raymond, Merilyn Ann, and Dan. Ray was killed in a farm accident when his tractor overturned.

Ellen (Fey) married Julius Hardy. They had two daughters, Ruth and Alice.

Micky married Lawrence Thompson. She was living in Eugene, Oregon fairly recently.



Edna and Dump



The ladies in the front row are four of Dump and Edna's daughters. They are Vera, Eunice, Lora and Della. The ladies in the back row are Lois Barnard and the taller lady is Ruth (nee Wood) Harris.

A fish fry circa 1910, Following the letting-off of a large pond on Round Meadow Creek, Patrick County, Virginia.



The people were residents of Meadows of Dan. Identification beginning with lower level left: Car Spence, Alma Reynolds, Nancy Reynolds, Carrice Reynolds, (small girl seated), Mrs S.C. Scott, Clarence Spence (seated on ground in shadow), Jim Benton Reynolds, Winona Smith (behind Reynolds), Josie Gray, Lizzie Spangler, Empress Spangler, (behind with hat), Una Scott (with rifle), Myrtle Shelor, Virgie Scott, Arazetta Smith,. The two young gentlemen behind Arazetta are unidentified. Upper level: Boys with horse are unidentified, Frank Spangler, (Unidentified), Pet Spence, Vol Reynolds, S.C. Scott, Taylor Scott (in front of C.S.), Prentiss Reynolds, Garver Reynolds, Burton Scott, Oregon Yeatts, Len Reynolds.

Picture belonged to Wilma Yeatts Cockram

A Lady In Waiting - Roeana Pendleton Yeatts

by

John Hassell Yeatts

Mountain Laurel, September 1984

Her has been a lifetime of waiting. And on this particular morning in late July, she was waiting for the nurse's aid to tidy up her room at the Blue Ridge Nursing Home in Stuart, Virginia. But of greater importance, perhaps, she was also waiting for August 1, 1984 when she would celebrate her 100th birthday. Her memory would come and go, ebb and flow. And when it would go, she still talked with intelligence. Only her time frame was wrong.



She hadn't waited long, however, to marry Oregon Yeatts also of Mayberry, Virginia. Only 15 years and 16 days from her time of birth on August 1, 1884. She recalled the wedding and that the Reverend Billy Shelor had tied the knot. She remembered that "Pap" (Mr. Daniel Pendleton) had given her away, "When he should have given me a good switching instead," she commented, referring to being still an almost child. She recalled as well, that about 5 years before her wedding that she had attended school in the top of Mayberry Store, and that Jehu Barnard, survivor of the great fight at



Gettysburg had been her teacher. She remembered, as well that one of his strapping boys, Wynn, had married her sister Annie and coaxed her off to the land of The Big Sky in Montana. Replying to the question of why she and Oregon hadn't also gone, she said, "Mammy just wouldn't let me. Wynn and Annie were here to see me awhile back," she said. But that was a visit only

in her memory, of course, since they both expired several years ago,

Roeana's life of waiting has included some 72 months of pregnancy that brought her and Oregon 4 sons and 4 daughters. But now only three of these daughters and one son remain to help her celebrate her century of life on August first. Much of her waiting has included the death watch of those too young to die and other relatives who almost lived as long as she had lived.

Her long nights of waiting for her husband to return from his various lumber and timber enterprises were ended one foggy night when his truck rammed another loaded with steel rods. He couldn't survive the mangled hip and damaged torso and she was soon left a widow at 53. The Great Depression had not dealt kindly with the family enterprises and it was to be a tough road ahead. She didn't complain, lament or whimper. She just waited. And her surviving daughters and sons helped her to wait with grace and dignity.

As we talked, she wished Uncle Dave Robertson would come to the nursing home and treat her. "He's a fine doctor," she allowed. And some who listened remembered that she spoke the truth. Only Dr. Dave couldn't come now.

His time ran out many years ago. When we conjectured that she might be the oldest person in Patrick County she quickly said, "No. Pappy and Mammy are older, of course."

Then we reluctantly departed. Her tired, but still pretty, face relaxed into a faint smile and she called, "Y'all come back now."





Roeana, Annie, and their kids. Back row: Wilma, Selma, Nancy Verne. The baby in Roeana's lap is Connie, Alan is by Annie. The other two boys are Preston and Alfred, but which is which?

The Pendleton family, circa 1888. Roeana is front and center, Annie is in the back, Daniel "Pap" to the left, Mary Robertson Pendleton on the right



*"Annie's Trip Home" June 1929 Mayberry, Patrick County, Virginia
Bottom Front Row Left to Right: Wilma Iris Hardison, Leo Chatham Second Row Left to Right: Selma Yeatts Hardison Mary Frances Yeatts Poteet, Durham Lloyd Hardison, Gene Cordale Hardison. Back Row Left to right: Roeana Pendleton Yeatts, Vern Barnard Tverberg, Wilma Yeatts Cockrum, and Connie Yeatts holding Joyce Tverberg Coil.*

“The Move to Mayberry”

from

The Last One Leaving Mayberry

by

Aaron McAlexander

“We were just sitting down for supper when I heard the wagon coming up the road. I could tell that Muh was real upset, but she just said, ‘Oh, Lordy Mercy! Children, just go on and eat.’ Then she walked out and met the wagon as it pulled to a stop in front of the house.”

“We could hear that Muh and the man driving the wagon talking real seriously about something, and finally Muh says, ‘Well, come on then, and let’s get started.’ That’s when she came back into the house and announced that we were going to have to leave this house and that were going to move to Mayberry. While the man unhitched the horses Muh sat back down at the table, but she just couldn’t eat. Then the man came on into the house.”

“I had never seen the man before, but Muh told us that he was our Uncle Cab and that he was here to help us move. Little Muh, all upset, started flitting around the room, giving everybody orders. ‘Etta, clear off the table. George, you and Dump pull the drawers out of the big chest. George, help Cab tote the chest out to the wagon.’ I had never seen her like that.”

“Muh made it clear that we were going to pack everything into the wagon now and we would be leaving before daylight. Later she told us why she wanted for us to leave so early. She said, ‘I was afraid that if I looked back and could see the home place, sitting there beside the river, my heart just might break right then.’ Anyway, she knew that the trip to Mayberry was going to take all of a very long day, and we needed an early start.” Although Grandpa was only eight at the time, he always said that he could remember the day they moved “up the mountain” as clearly as any day of his life.

John Henry Yeatts, the chubby little boy who would one day become my grandfather, was born to Henry and Caron Yeatts of Taylorsville, Virginia in eighteen seventy. His mother, who was called “Muh” by her children, called him her “little dumpling.” His older siblings soon shortened it to “Dump,” and it became the nickname he would be stuck with for the remain-

der of his ninety-seven years.

When first told that they would have to leave, Caron Yeatts had no idea what her family was going to do. Muh knew her father owned some land in Mayberry and in her distraught state, she began talking about borrowing the neighbor’s ox cart and hitching it to the cow to move their few belongings to Mayberry. Fortunately, Muh found someone with a horse and wagon who was willing to move the family and their belongings up the mountain to Mayberry. When he was in his nineties, Grandpa could still describe in detail how the man, Grandpa thought he was an uncle — either a Cab or a Cal Boswell* — brought his horse and wagon down from Floyd the day before the move, and had spent the night so they could leave really early the next morning.

Little Muh was a tiny woman who made up in energy and determination what she lacked in size. She got up long before daybreak on that late June morning in 1878, and was soon bustling around getting everyone else moving. Most of the few pieces of furniture had been loaded into the wagon the night before, so they spent the night sleeping on pallets on the floor. In the morning, they sat in a circle around the lamp on the floor eating from a bowl of cornmeal mush, and while Muh and the man drank black coffee, the children drank the last of the fresh milk. Muh carefully packed all of the food they had left for the long day’s journey into the wagon: a few flour biscuits, a crock of buttermilk, and a wooden bucket filled with June apples. Henrietta, the oldest child, rinsed out the coffee pot and the bowls in the spring, then packed them away. The last of their belongings were piled into the wagon, and they were on their way.

“We were a sad little procession,” described Grandpa, “plodding through Taylorsville in the dark, past the stores and the bank, and out onto the Trot Valley Road. There was not one light to be seen anywhere until just before the sun began to rise. The man sat on the front of the wagon driving the horse, but the rest

of us all started out walking. The wagon led the way, with the cow trailing along behind it, led by a short rope. Muh and Tobe followed, then Etta and George, while I was left tagging along at the rear. Whenever anyone spoke, it was in a hushed voice, as though we wished to not attract attention to the fact that we had to leave our home. It felt like we were being banished."

There wasn't enough room in the wagon for everybody. "Tobe was just a little feller, and George was kind of lame, so Muh, Tobe and George all climbed up into the wagon soon as we got onto the Trot Valley Road. By that time we had already walked about three miles. Some of us took turns riding in the wagon through the valley, but when we turned up the Rye Cove Road, the way got really steep. We had to make it easier on the horse, so everybody but little Tobe and Uncle Cab got out and walked. Before long, we were all feeling tired and getting hungry, but Muh announced that there wouldn't be anything to eat until we got to the top of the mountain. That sounded pretty discouraging to me, since it was still morning, and I knew we wouldn't get to the top of the mountain for a long time. When I asked how much farther it was to Mayberry, I was told "about

twenty miles." Lucky for me, I had no idea how far that really was."

In the years following the American Civil War, thousands of Southern families, their sons and fathers having lost their lives or their health in defense of the Confederate Cause, also lost their farms and homes. For many of the traditional Southern aristocracy, converting from the old plantation system using slave labor to a similar system using sharecropper labor seemed like nothing more than a sound economic plan. When a farm was lost to foreclosure, the lender would usually soon sell it to a planter for a fraction of its pre-war value. The farm family was often allowed to remain on the land, with the farmer working as a sharecropper for the new owner. If a sharecropping family lacked the manpower to operate the farm profitably, then they would soon be moved out, and this is what happened to the family of Henry and Caron Yeatts.

Henry Faison Yeatts, originally from Pittsylvania County, had married Caron Boswell from Franklin County, Virginia in 1860. The couple was living in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains of south-



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western Virginia, just southeast of what was then Taylorsville, near the Mayo River. Henry was successfully farming a “nice piece” of fertile bottomland, when the Civil War began. Unlike many of the young men in the region, Henry Yeatts did not immediately volunteer for the Confederate Army. The household in which he was raised belonged to the Church of the Brethren. That faith, an offshoot of the Methodist Church and although not actively abolitionist, was basically opposed to slavery. His wife, Caron, was of the same faith, so it is unlikely that Henry ever had any aspirations to become a slave holder. Later in the war, with the Southern Cause in decline, Henry Yeatts felt compelled by his loyalty to Virginia to join the Confederate Army and was assigned to the 34th Virginia Militia. Because Henry was a farmer, skilled in working with horses and mules, he spent most of his time in the Confederate Army as a “mule skinner” and Wagoner. He was never injured in battle, but he did contract one of the many illnesses which pervaded the military camps in the war, and he very nearly died. (About twice as many Confederate soldiers died in service from disease as died from enemy action.) At the end of the war, Henry Yeatts returned to his Southwestern Virginia farm a “broken man,” to use

a common phrase of the day. Although he lived on for several more years, he was chronically ill and was never able to work hard enough to make the farm prosper, even with the help of his hard-working wife and older children.

In April of 1870, five months before the birth of his son John Henry, Henry F. Yeatts died, leaving his widow with three young children and a burden of debt. Caron was able to earn a little money by taking in boarders, as she and the older children continued to try growing corn and tobacco on the farm. Even in the dismal economy of the reconstruction, Muh and the children managed to hold on to the farm for a few more years, but the South was in an economic depression throughout most of the eighteen seventies, and in 1878, the inevitable occurred. The bank sold the house and the land, forcing the destitute family out of their home.

Caron Yeatts and her family moving to Mayberry may have partially been associated with Caron's having given birth to another child, Charles Tobias, in eighteen seventy-five. The standards of that time and place would have meant that any widow having a child several years after her husband's death would



From a modern real estate ad showing land for sale near Ararat, VA.

have been branded an immoral woman. Grandpa thought that the father of the child was probably a doctor who had boarded with the family for an extended period of time and who possibly had helped to support them. My own mother, who could be very judgmental about some things, always defended Muh, declaring that "she did what she had to do to feed her hungry children." Muh may have hoped they could start a new life in Mayberry, but she probably didn't expect much beyond their bare survival.

Early in June of 1878, Muh and her four children left the bottomland farm beside the Mayo River and headed up and into the Blue Ridge Mountains to the remote community of Mayberry, Virginia. Muh's parents, Jane and Mark Boswell, had moved to Mayberry from Franklin County several years before, and it would have doubtlessly been helpful for her to be near them, but Muh probably had no idea of the primitive conditions they would face in the place to which they were moving. When Mark and Jane Boswell first moved to Mayberry, they had built a tiny cabin on Mayberry Creek. They lived on a parcel of land to which no one had officially laid claim for over seven years, allowing them to homestead land which had once belonged to an earlier settler, probably Step-toe Langhorne. When Mark Boswell petitioned the state and no one came forth to object, he was granted the land under the Virginia Homestead Act. Muh's folks had later moved on to a better farm and with a more comfortable cabin. Now Muh and her family were told that they could move into the old one.

The one small, horse-drawn wagon held everything Muh and her family owned. There was the large round-top steamer trunk which Henry and Caron had been given on their wedding day. It now held every stitch of their clothing that Muh or the children were not wearing, plus several bed quilts. A Wooden box contained their a few cooking pots and the coal-oil lantern, which was surely precious to them. Grandpa Henry's squirrel rifle, wrapped up in an old quilt, was carefully stashed in the bottom of the wagon. But it was the contents of the wooden rain barrel that was truly essential to the family's survival. It held their few farming implements and Henry Yeatts's blacksmithing tools.

Carefully wrapped in a wet tow sack and stuffed in the barrel among the tools were sprouts that Muh had cut from the Yellow Transparent and Virginia Beauty apple trees. Wherever they went, if Muh could find a volunteer apple tree on which to graft those sprouts, they would someday maybe have their

favorite apples.

Their furniture consisted of one large and very old maple chest of drawers, a home-built table with its four cane bottomed chairs, a three-legged stool, and an old church bench. There was also the bedstead, along with its trundle bed and three straw-filled ticks. A bucket, initially filled with water, was hung from a stanchion on the side of the wagon, but it soon had sloshed out most of its contents. A coop containing their few chickens was tied onto the tailgate, with the bony heifer pulled along behind the wagon completing the inventory.

It was dark when the exhausted family finally arrived at the cabin on Mayberry Creek, leaving little that could be done that evening except for watering the cow and the horse and staking them out where they could get some grass, and feeding and watering the chickens in their coop. Finally, they unrolled the straw ticks onto the dirt floor of the cabin, where they collapsed into sleep in a strange and total darkness.

The Mayberry cabin was built of rough, unhewn logs chinked with mud. It consisted of but a single room with a dirt floor, a sleeping loft overhead, and a lean-to expansion tacked onto one side. The original builder had used the only really level spot in the narrow valley, placing the cabin about twenty feet from the creek. Except for narrow strips of bottom land running along either side of the creek, the land surrounding the cabin was steep and rocky, extending upwards on both sides away from the creek bottom. Grandpa once described how, the morning after they arrived, he walked outside and looked around at his new home. Even at his young age, he concluded that they would probably starve there.

There were only a few acres of barely farmable land in the place where they found themselves, and soon there were only Muh and the children to farm that rocky hollow. The oldest child, Henrietta, called "Etta," had turned seventeen and left to work at the cotton mills in Danville. But George Preston was fourteen and, in spite of being somewhat physically handicapped from birth, he was a hard and intelligent worker. The youngest child, Charles Tobias or "Tobe," was just three and in addition to everything else, Muh had to watch over him.

Grandpa didn't talk much about his early life on Mayberry Creek, but it was clear that they began their new life in Mayberry with virtually no resources.

The few stories he told portrayed frightening images of their desperation that first year in Mayberry, including how they nearly starved that before they were able to get a garden growing. He described how, near the end of that first summer, he and his brother George literally crawled around over the banks of the Mayberry Creek, cutting grass and weeds with a kitchen knife, trying to gather enough forage to keep their one cow alive through the coming winter. It is amazing, but they were able to cut and stack enough hay for the poor cow to survive, an essential contribution to their survival.

Grandpa also described his excitement when, not long after they arrived, he found some apple trees up the creek from the cabin, including one loaded with ripening yellow apples. Another tree nearby was loaded with sour, late-ripening, Ben Davis apples, not yet good for eating, but apples that would be good for keeping through the winter. He thought that those apple trees were truly a Godsend. He also told how dejected he felt a few days later, when he returned to gather more of the yellow apples and found they were all gone.

Details are sketchy about the family's next few years of living on Mayberry Creek, but at some point, Muh began receiving an eight-dollar-per-month Confederate widow's pension. That's a small amount of money today, but then it was enough to substantially improve the family's situation and help the boys get some education. For a period of a few years, George

stayed with his uncle in Floyd in the winter months so that he could finish high school. George also attended two years at the new Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College in Blacksburg, qualifying him for a job teaching school in Floyd.

After attending elementary school in Mayberry, Dump was somehow able to attend school at the Blue Ridge Academy in Vesta, Virginia. The school was about five miles from Mayberry, so his attendance was somewhat irregular, but he studied hard at home and appeared to have obtained a pretty good high school education. Tobe received a diploma from the same school a few years later. For many years, according to Grandpa, the boys had only one pair of overalls each. He described how, after they went to bed at night, Muh would wash their dirty overalls and dry them in front of the fireplace, so they would always have clean clothes to wear to school.

Muh, Dump, and Tobe continued to live in the little house on Mayberry Creek for almost twenty years. During that time, the cabin was improved; the lean-to was replaced with a real room and the dirt floor was covered with pine boards. A tract of about twenty acres of adjacent, more farmable land was also purchased and added to the farm that came with the cabin. While still a very young man, Dump Yeatts was known for his outstanding physical strength, and even while still in his teens, he was able to earn money by blacksmithing and by trading and train-



The Blue Ridge Mountains near Mayberry

ing horses. He later made a mail-order purchase of a book on veterinary medicine and became the local animal "doctor."

Brother Tobe got the job of Mayberry Mail Carrier sometime around 1895, and Grandpa began serving as a substitute mail carrier for Mayberry and Meadows of Dan. While he was working as substitute mail-carrier, Dump was invited to a barn raising and dance in the adjoining community of Tobax. It was there that he was introduced to a young woman whom he been admiring from a distance for some time, occasionally glimpsing her while carrying the mail. In March of 1898, John Henry Yeatts wrote a very formal letter to Edna Rowena Reynolds in which he proposed marriage, even going so far as to suggest that sometime in August might be an appropriate time for the wedding.

Dump Yeatts was twenty-eight at the time, ten years older than the woman he hoped to make his bride, but that, apparently, was not the problem. The problem was that Edna Reynolds already had a suitor, a handsome young man named Oregon Yeatts, who was only two years older than Edna. He also happened to be Dump Yeatts's nephew and the owner of a prospering lumber business. Grandma recalled years later how the choice between the two came down to the single factor that had defined much of her life. Oregon Yeatts was not much of a drinker, but he professed no particular objections to liquor. John Henry Yeatts, on the other hand, was a sworn tee-totaler, or at least he assured Edna Reynolds that he was. Based on her childhood experiences with an alcoholic father, Edna Reynolds was not about to risk her future with a man who would even consider taking a drink. She quickly wrote back to John Henry Yeatts, accepting his proposal on the condition that the marriage date be moved up a month or two. That way, she would not have to spend all summer hoeing corn for her father.

The marriage was solemnized at the home of the bride on June 23, 1898. Grandma was an ardent Missionary Baptist and Grandpa still considered himself to be of the Church of the Brethren, but Reverend Billy Shelor, a Missionary Baptist minister from Meadows of Dan, a friend of both of them, was chosen to officiate. Grandpa and his new bride moved into the little cabin on Mayberry Creek, beginning their new life together in the two room cabin along with Muh and Tobe.

The same summer that Dump and Edna married, Dump and his brother George were able to scrape

together enough money to buy "The Moore Place." Mayberry resident Aubrey Moore decided to move to Indiana, and he sold them sixty acres of land connected to the place on Mayberry Creek, and a three-room house located right beside the Mayberry Road. In December of that same year, the family suffered a terrible blow when an outbreak of measles in Floyd took George Yeatts's life.

Tobe Yeatts married Stella Barnard in 1899 and shortly afterwards bought about forty acres of land in Kettle Hollow. This land, about a mile up Mayberry Creek from Muh's little cabin, was adjacent to the land purchased by Dump and George. Tobe built his new bride a sturdy little two-room house in the Kettle Hollow, where it still is in use today.

About a year later, Dump Yeatts moved everyone; his wife Edna, their new infant son Coy, and his mother Muh, into "The Moore House" on Mayberry Road. Grandma Edna wrote in her own memoirs about how thrilled she was with the house, which was so much larger and more accessible than either the cabin on Mayberry Creek or the home in which she was raised. They had moved "right out there on the road, where they could keep up with everybody and everything going on in Mayberry."

Dump got busy with improvements to their new home right away, one of the first being the installation of a small wood-fired cooking range in the kitchen. Grandma wrote that one of the happiest days in her life was the day she got that first cook stove and no longer had to use the fireplace for cooking. The precise order in which the many eclectic additions to the house were made is not known to any living person, but by nineteen twenty-five, the house had ten rooms and two stories and presented a rather stately appearance, sitting there near the foot of a hill above the Mayberry Road.

Tobe Yeatts and his family moved to Montana in 1910, and since his brother Dump was already an experienced substitute, he took over Tobe's job as the Mayberry Mail Carrier. This opportunity greatly increased the security and well-being of my grandparent's growing family. Grandpa eventually bought the house and land that Tobe's family left behind.

"Dump" and Edna Yeatts lived in the house on The Mayberry Road from 1900 until 1967. As the family grew to eight children and the house gained its added assortment of rooms, the farm expanded as well, eventually to over two hundred acres. However, much of the land was really not very productive, and after

the children were grown and the Blue Ridge Parkway had split the farm in half, Grandpa scaled back his farming and began giving away the accumulated acreage to his children.

Dump Yeatts was not one who easily shared his complaints, but he did remark that he once thought that his family's early days in Mayberry were filled with hardship. But he later realized that the pioneers moving westward suffered similar difficulties, and most experienced them daily and for a very long time. Dump was an avid reader, and he was often at odds with prevalent local political opinions. He was an early supporter of women's suffrage, and a skeptic about the righteousness of our cause in the First World War, which he thought was the disastrous result of rivalry among royal cousins. Although he lost most of his hearing and the sight in one eye



Tobe Yeatts & Stella Barnard at their wedding. The chain worn by Tobe was made by Stella of black horse hair

when he was in his eighties, he maintained an interest in politics and world affairs, continued to read his newspaper every day. He retained a sound mind until the very end.

If Grandpa knew the financial details about the loss of the family's home on the Mayo River, he never shared them. The only thing I ever knew about his business dealings was that he never banked in Stuart (formerly Taylorsville). He did most of his banking either in Floyd, Virginia, or in Mt. Airy, North Carolina. When a bank was opened at nearby Laurel Fork, Grandpa made some small deposits there, but he continued to do most of his banking elsewhere. That was a good thing, because that Laurel Fork Bank went bankrupt in 1937 and he lost whatever money he had deposited there. Some of his neighbors lost all their savings.

By today's standards, my grandparents were far from wealthy. But they were able to educate their children and help them out by giving each of them a parcel of land. After Edna died in 1966 and John Henry died in 1967, there was little left; just enough to pay their medical bills and funeral expenses. They left this world owing money to no one, and to Grandpa, that was a very important thing.

I often think of the fantastic historical and technological changes my grandfather observed over the course of his long life. He was born only five years after the end of the Civil War and one year after the completion of the transcontinental railroad. He was six years old when Bell invented the telephone, age thirty-three when the Wright Brothers took flight, and thirty-eight when Henry Ford began building the Model-T. He was forty-two years old when the Titanic sank and forty-four when World War I began. He retired from carrying the mail at sixty-five and watched as the Blue Ridge Parkway split his farm asunder, all in the midst of the Great Depression. He was seventy-one when the United States entered the Second World War, and was eighty-one when, in spite of his objections, Grandma used her butter and egg money to buy a television set which could receive but a single channel in Mayberry.

*** Note:** I'm not sure who Uncle Cab Boswell was. Little Muh was an only child. Her father had a brother, James S. Boswell, who married Polly Yates (daughter of Samuel Yates [A3]) and had several sons. As best as I've been able to determine, none of those sons were named Cal or Cab, but there was a Jabe.

Mountain Lady of Love

by John Hassel Yeatts



What kept this great lady going? Religious Faith? Heritage? Maybe. Spirit and a will to live, determination and grit? Possibly. Or perhaps the combination of all these things, and even more...

Born in abject poverty in a cabin on the lower Round Creek during one of the worst depressions of the nineteenth century, just staying alive was a daily challenge. Her mother finally made it to the city where she boarded and housed factory workers. Soon the pretty daughter was stricken by an unknown illness, possibly polio, that kept her lame the rest of her life.

Back to the mountains and a promising marriage through poverty still stalked them in their simple, but clean cottage.

Five daughters and sons were added to their union. But in the midst of her sixth pregnancy, a mysterious ailment struck her husband and she watched him waste away and die. There

was little money for a doctor and none for hospitalization. The family wept together at the family cemetery and heard her vow that they would "stick together".

There was no aid to dependent children in those days. No Social Security. No welfare, as such. Orphanages and poor farms were the only solutions for those in similar circumstances. But not for this great lady. Honor and love were also residents of her humble cottage. A nobility of character sent her limping with her walking stick and her children to her cornfields and her gardens, to her hog pen and to her cow lot. Then on Sunday, she limped two miles to church to thank her Lord for her blessings.

There was no delinquency, no dope, no lawlessness and jails for her family; no run-away daughters, and no drunken sons. They loved together, they prayed together and they stayed together until marriages took them to their own homes. And when she expired in 1954, those who were privileged to know her knew that the likes of her might never be seen again.

She was Priscilla (Mrs Jasper) Hensley of Mayberry. And she left a legacy of love for us all.

Note: Priscilla Yeatts Hensley (1881-1962) was the daughter of Henrietta "Etta" Yeatts (1861-1950). Etta was a daughter of HFY & CAB.

*Oregon Alphonzo Yeatts (Priscilla's brother)
with John Henry "Dump" Yeatts*



“The Second Emigration”

from

The Last One Leaving Mayberry

by

Aaron McAlexander

“*H*ere they come! I can hear them coming now! Three year old Vera had been assigned the task of watching for Uncle Tobe and his family coming down the lane. It was an early morning in April of 1910 when Tobias Yeatts, his wife Stella, and their five children, Roy, Foy, May, Amy, and Evy, came riding the wagon down the lane from Kettle Hollow. As she listen to the sound of the approaching wagon, Vera strained her eyes for the first glimpse of the horses emerging from the morning mist.

“Here they come! They’re coming down the lane,” Vera ran into the kitchen where her mother, Edna, was cleaning up from breakfast.

Edna sighed and dried her hands on her apron. “Oh, Lordy, I was still hoping that Tobe and Stella would come to their senses.”

“They’re here Dump,” Edna called to her husband. Dump Yeatts had taken the day off from carrying the mail so he could say a proper goodbye to his brother and his family, who were bound for Montana.

“I heard.” Dump’s terse response reflected the sadness of his entire family on this foggy morning. This was the moment they had been dreading since that evening last winter, when Tobe and Stella had announced, out of the blue, that they were selling the farm and moving Out West.

Tobe Yeatts moving his young family to Montana simply did not make sense to his brother, Dump. Tobe had a secure job as the Mayberry mail carrier, and they owned about eighty acres of pretty good farm land and their own house. Tobe and Stella had built the sturdy little two-room house the first year they were married, and it had at least kept them

warm and dry for eleven years, but it was crowded now, with five children and another on the way. Dump and Edna had known for years that Tobe and Stella had been squirreling away every penny, but they just wrote it off as their frugality. Then, just last winter, they learned that the money was being saved toward the dream of owning a ranch Out West.

No question, there was limited opportunity in a mountain community such as Mayberry at the turn of the twentieth century. Many families living on the steep mountain farms around Mayberry, Virginia were



Tobe and Stella’s kids: Roy, Foy, May, Evy, and Amy. Shortly before the family left Virginia

now into their third or fourth generation, and all of the good farm land there had long been taken. The splitting up of family farms to be divided among the children of large families meant smaller and smaller acreages, generation upon generation. The availability of land was reaching its limit, and lots of folks in the East were moving west.

Two of Stella's older brothers had moved to north-eastern Montana several years earlier, and they wrote back glowing reports of the vast tracts of fertile farm land which could be bought from the Black Foot or the Assiniboiné Indians for just a few dollars an acre. One of Edna Yeatts's cousins and his family had emigrated to Montana just two years before. Edna's older sister, Flora, married to another one of Stella's brothers, had moved to Colorado. Everyone who had moved Out West reported back to Maybeiry that they were far more prosperous there than they could have ever been, had they stayed back East.

Life in the Western Plains may have been rugged, but to these determined mountain people, trying to build a ranch in the untamed west was more appealing than to continue trying to wrest a living from a rocky hillside farm or, even less desirable, going to work in the stifling cotton mills of Danville, Virginia.

By the time Tobe and Stella revealed their intentions to emigrate, they had already planned their move in minute detail. But the reality that they were moving came like a bolt from the blue to Dump and Edna. Tobe and Stella were their nearest neighbors, and the two families were very close in their daily lives. For years, brothers Dump and Tobe had been helping each other with the farm work, borrowing horses, cutting wood, killing hogs, and building barns. Tobe wanted to sell everything to Dump. Though crushed by the thought of his brother leaving, Dump agreed to buy their place, and the price he paid Tobe was more than he could have gotten from anyone else.

Stella was Edna's closest friend, and for years they had depended on each other for support. Now the reality had dawned that they were going to be separated, perhaps forever. The two women helped each other daily, looking after each other's children as they shared routine tasks such as caring for their gardens and preparing and storing food for the harsh mountain winters. Just the year before, Dump and Edna's five-year-old daughter, Clarice, had suddenly become frightfully sick. Dump had ridden to get the doctor and Edna was at the child's side, tending to her when she realized that her daughter was dying. She scooped the small body up in her arms and ran



Tobe and Stella with Foy and Roy

screaming up the lane to Stella's house, pleading for someone to please save her child. Clarice passed away, but Stella's strong support had been indispensable to Edna's survival through her ordeal of awful grief. And now the two women were going to be separated by a distance of two thousand miles. In 1910, that seemed to Edna as though Stella and her family were moving to the dark side of the moon.

As the wagon pulled up beside the house, a forlorn and weeping family filed out through the door and down the steps to greet and say good bye to the travelers. One by one, Tobe's family climbed down from the wagon, and silently, except for the sobbing and an occasional "God bless you," everyone in the one family hugged everyone in the other. Then Tobe firmly announced that they had to get going, and one by one, they all climbed back into the wagon and they were on their way. As the horses pulled the wagon onto the Mayberry Road, Tobe called back over his shoulder, with a bit of bravado, "We'll write — let you know how we're doin'. You'll be comin' West yourselves in a few years, I'd bet." And with everyone weeping and waving, they disappeared into the mist from Mayberry Creek that still shrouded the road.

About five minutes up the road, almost to the Mayberry Store, Tobe and Stella heard a faint, breathless call, over clatter of the horses' hoofs and the creaking of the wagon.

"Wait! Please wait up." Tobe pulled back on the reins and called "whoa, whoa" to the horses, quickly bringing the wagon to a halt. Five year-old Lora came breathlessly running up beside the wagon and stretched up, handing a small rectangular object to Stella. It was a small, metal framed, tintype photograph of Edna, Dump, and the five children.

"Mama said to give you this, so you-all won't forget us." That was all that Lora said, as she turned and ran back down the road and into the mist. As Stella looked closely at the picture, her eyes filled with tears. Little Clarice was in that picture, and now she was



Lucien Reynolds, Foy, Ray, Roy, Amy, May Yeatts, Sallie Reynolds and other cousins in Montana, circa 1914

gone. Stella wondered out loud if she would ever see any of these dear people again, and if her own family would all survive their new adventure. She opened her carpet bag and slipped the picture inside, thankfully unaware that her youngest daughter, Evy, would also be gone in less than a year. Stella also knew that she was pregnant with a sixth child, but she had not yet told Tobe, for fear he might back out of their westward move.

Tobe and Stella had planned well for their move to Montana. All the large items they were taking had already been crated up and sent ahead. The farm and the house had been sold to Dump and Edna, and most of the furniture and the livestock had been sold to other family members. Tobe already had an agreement to sell the horse and wagon to a livery stable in Christiansburg, where they would board the train to Charleston, West Virginia. If the price of land was really as low as they had been told, they had enough money to buy a thousand, maybe two thousand acres. They planned to stay with Stella's brother, Eck, while searching for just the right land to buy.

From Charleston, West Virginia, they took the train to Cincinnati, and from there, another train across Indiana and on up to Chicago. When they left Chicago, Tobe thought, they would really be heading out and into the Wild West of North America, out across Minnesota and North Dakota and into Montana. Fifty years earlier, a move from Virginia to Montana would have been by wagon all the way and would

have taken about three months. But by 1910, thanks to the wonders of America's railroads, this trip was going to take only one week.

Two months after their departure, Edna received a letter from Stella telling everyone back east that they had all arrived in Montana safely. Later, Stella wrote that she and the children were in the railroad town of Saco, where they would stay over the winter. Tobe had purchased a thousand acres of land north of the Missouri River near Fort Peck, and he was out there now, building a house so they could all move out there next summer. When Edna and Dump read about the amount of land that they had purchased, they were astounded. Dump allowed that he couldn't imagine how one family could farm that much land.

For the next few years, the letters to the folks back east were few and far between, as Dump and Edna wondered and worried about how Tobe, Stella, and family were doing. Apparently, the farming and ranching efforts in Montana were not going all that well. The growing season in northern Montana was really short for corn and oats, and it was proving really difficult to plow the buffalo grass sod. Stella's brothers were apparently doing pretty well with their cattle ranching, though, as they now had over six thousand acres. That sounds like a lot of land, but in Northern Montana, that would sustain about six hundred head of cattle.

Not doing so well at ranching, Tobe purchased a well drilling rig, and was soon doing a good business drilling for water on the neighboring ranches. Then, in a story that sounds like a B-grade western movie, Tobe got into a serious altercation with a big-time cattleman. For a number of years, it seems that the cattleman had been buying up cattle from the small ranchers along a trail he had established near the Milk River, and driving the accumulated herd to the stockyards in Saco for shipment to Chicago. The land which Tobe bought had officially belonged to the Blackfoot Indians in the region, but it was range land



Win Barnard, Jim Barnard, and others branding a horse

across which the drover was accustomed to moving the cattle unimpeded, with the cattle foraging and grazing along the way. Now Tobe had fenced a part of that range.

The first year after Tobe had fenced the land, the cattleman and his drovers just cut the fence and drove the cattle through and right across Tobe's land. The next year, Tobe was waiting for the cattle drive at the fence when they arrived, and he warned the drovers to not bring the cattle across his property. When they tried to drive the cattle right through the fence, Tobe shot the cattleman who was heading the drive, though not wounding him seriously.

A couple of months later, the cattleman sent word to Tobe that he was again getting ready to drive his herd across the land, and if he laid eyes on him, Tobe would be a dead man. When the threat was reported



Melon harvest with Sallie Reynolds, Jim Barnard, Annie Barnard, and others

to the local sheriff, the sheriff sided with the cattlemen, telling Tobe that he had no business fencing in that land and if Tobe got shot interfering with a cattle drive, it would be his own fault. The sheriff added that, with a great world war going on and the army needing beef, and it was downright unpatriotic to interfere with the movement of cattle across the range.

Tobe was the newcomer to the area and was on his own, while the cattleman had several ranch hands working for him. Many of the neighboring ranchers also wanted to maintain their easy access across the range to the stockyards at Saco. Almost out of money, Tobe sold the land for what little he could get, while Stella and the children moved back into town. Tobe took the train all the way to Nitro, West Virginia, where he knew he could get a good-paying job at the munitions plant. He had been in Nitro only a few months, when he caught the influenza and died. Tobe's body was shipped to Mayberry for burial, but the family was still in Montana. They could not even attend the funeral.

The only one of Tobe and Stella's children that maintained much of a connection with the folks Back East was the oldest son, Roy. He would bring his family back to Mayberry every few years to visit with his Aunt Edna and Uncle Dump, whom he always remembered with great fondness. But for all those years, Roy could never bring himself to travel the half mile trip up the lane to Kettle Hollow to visit the home place. Roy Yeatts was ten years old when his family left Virginia, and he was twelve or thirteen years old before he officially started school. Stella taught all of her children to read and do arithmetic when they were quite young, and Tobe and Stella always encouraged the children to read. Apparently Roy was an especially bright boy: when he was nineteen, he graduated from high school and promptly married one of his teachers.

As Roy's wife, Helen, continued to teach school, Roy attended the University of Montana in Missoula, graduating in just three years. Helen was a devout



Roy Yeatts

Seventh Day Adventist, and Roy converted to his wife's faith. This church affiliation may have been helpful in his getting accepted to medical school at Loma Linda University in California.

Upon graduation from Medical School, Roy accepted a residency at a hospital in New Orleans,

where he gained a lot of experience in the treatment of Leprosy. Helen, in the meantime, became a registered nurse. After practicing medicine in New Orleans for some years, Roy and Helen accepted a mission call to work with lepers in New Guinea. They worked as a medical team in remote regions of New Guinea for many years. When they were in their mid-seventies, the church which was sponsoring their work required that they retire.

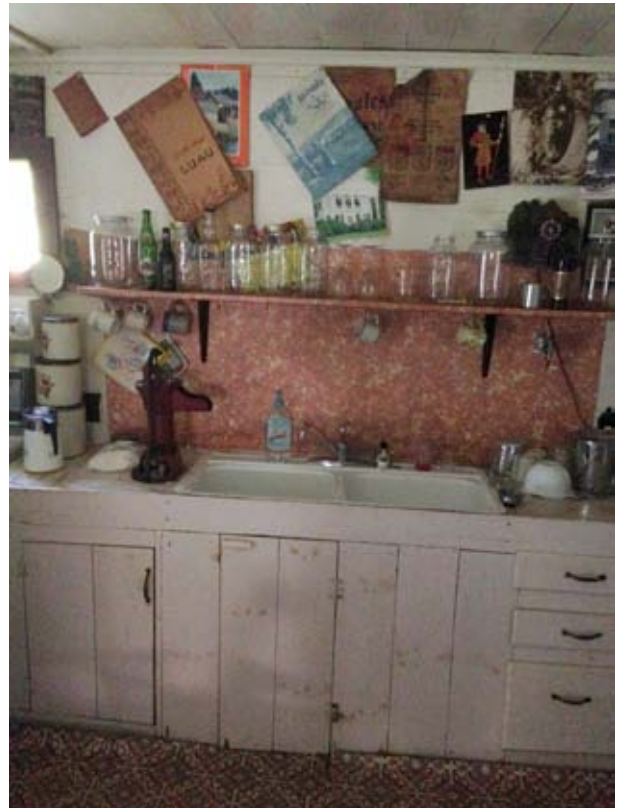
Roy and Helen Yeatts retired to Meadows of Dan, a community near Roy's childhood home of Mayberry. Shortly after his arrival in Meadows of Dan, Roy drove to Mayberry and parked his car in front of the old house where his dear Uncle Dump and Aunt Edna had lived when he was a child. From there, he walked the half-mile pilgrimage up the lane to Kettle Hollow. There he stood, for the first time in seventy years, in front of the little two-room house in which he was born. "You know," Roy said softly, tears welling in his eyes, "I believe I must have taken the long way home."



Nitro, WV and its WW I munitions plant



1. Tobe Yeatts, 2. Sallie Barnard Reynolds, 3. Talmadge Reynolds 4. John T. Winifred Barnard, 5. Annie Barnard, 6. Roy Yeatts, 7. May Yeatts 8. Verne B. ??, 9. Lucien Reynolds, 10. Foy Yeatts, 11. Tom ??, 12. Amy Yeatts 13. Anice Reynolds



Three views of Tobe's house in Virginia

Roy Yeatts and Topsy an exchange on Facebook

In March of 2013, I posted the photo on the right to Facebook with this introduction: “Roy Yeatts and Topsy. Beaverton, MT, circa 1912. My grandmother [Amy Maude Yeatts] and their palatial mansion in the background. Roy Yeatts was one of my grandmother’s brothers. What is Topsy?” The replies are interesting and, ultimately, informative. At the time, I had no idea what Topsy really was.

Patti Bremer: Looks like a weird fish ?

Christopher Cisper: chicken or a hawk?

Rachel Craig: I dunno but I wouldn’t want to get too close to it (him? her?)

Sally Stenehjem-Amunrud: OMG..This looks like Eastern Montana! I think “Topsy” is their pet “horny toad” with a little radiation exposure?

Garth Hagerman: Maybe my aunt Evelyn Hess actually knows the answer. She’s on FB, but only checks in every once in a while...

Rachel Craig: I think it’s more fun to speculate....

Evelyn Hess: Topsy was an injured young eagle that they rescued and raised. After it (I don’t remember gender) was mature and healthy enough to return to the wild, it would come back and visit until a neighbor shot it.

Garth Hagerman: wow. The real story is way better than anything we’d speculated.

Erika Hess: Why in the world did the neighbor shoot it?

Evelyn Hess: Oh, you know how scary those predators are. Just like wolves.



The Milk River in Montana



Annie Pendleton's 1929 visit to Virginia. Donald Barnard, Vern Barnard Tverberg, Mary Frances Robertson Pendleton, Leo Chatam, Daniel Pentleton. Back Row left to right: John Tverberg, Rowena Pendleton Yeatts, Annie Pendleton Barnard, Lomer Chatham, Sena Pendleton Chatham and Winn Barnard holding Joyce Tverberg Coil.



Daniel Pendleton (1857-1939) and Mary Robertson Pendleton (1858-1952)



Annie Pendleton Barnard



Pap Barnard



Isham B. Barnard

A group of Barnards moved to Colorado shortly after the Civil War. Isham B. Barnard (1831-1916), his wife Elitha Mankins, Isham's brother Thomas Amos "Pap" Barnard (1833-1891), and his wife Caroline Thompson settled in the area near Pueblo. Isham and Pap were sons of Tirea Barnard and Lucinda Scott (A1). Isham and Elitha had three sons; Pap and Caroline had a large family. Caroline's mother was Elizabeth Lily Shelor, who was a granddaughter of Daniel Shelor (B2). Caroline spent her later years in San Diego, CA.



Caroline Thompson Barnard



Caroline Barnard with six of her grownup children



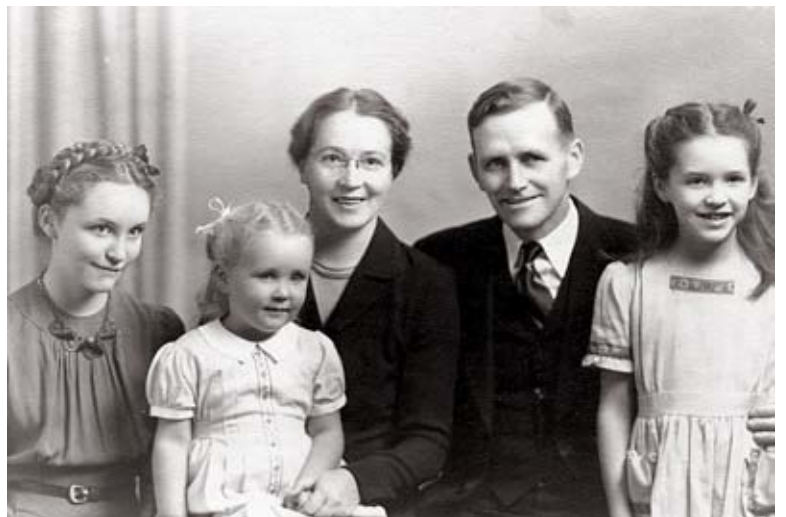
This picture was "retro" in 1917, when it was taken. Caroline made the pilgrimage back to Patrick County and posed with this already 100 year old spinning wheel to demonstrate how spinning used to be done.



Foy Osborn Yeatts



Foy logging in Idaho with a partner



Amy with J. Dorman Searle and their three daughters: Nancy, Beth, and Evelyn



Amy Maude Yeatts



Nancy and Evelyn Searle



Stella Barnard with her grand-daughter, Nancy Searle



Ray Yeatts



(Fey) Ellen Yeatts



*Danny and
Raymond Yeatts,
Ray & Sylvia
Nielsen's sons*



Ellen with Julius Hardy plus daughters Ruth and Alice



Susan Fosdal



*May Agnes "Mary"
Yeatts Fosdal*

Death on the Scaffold

A Wedding Followed by Murder

Deserting His Bride of a Day to Take the Life of His Best Friend

Asking That His Body Be Allowed to Lie in State.

Special Dispatch to The Times [of Philadelphia].

Chatham, VA, August 4. [1882]

W.H. Yeatts* was hanged to-day. His crime was cool, premeditated murder. He deserted his bride of one day to take the life of a man, P.E. Adkerson, who had been his best friend and who was a groomsman at his wedding the very evening previous. He was to have been hanged a week ago, but a respite came. This enraged a certain element and on Sunday morning last a mob gathered for the purpose of lynching him. A reconnoitering party was sent ahead to ascertain whether the prison was well guarded and the chance of successfully executing their project. They reported that the officials were on duty and watchful, whereupon the would-be lynchers dispersed. They declared that had circumstances been favorable the condemned man would have been quickly dispatched.

The crime was committed near the village of Sycamore, on the 2nd of February. Both of the men, up to the hour of the tragedy, were on the most friendly terms. Adkerson was a young man of about twenty-two, who by his industry and frugality had been able to commence business for himself in the little village of Sycamore, in this county. At the time of the murder he was a prosperous merchant of that place and enjoyed the reputation of an upright and honorable business man.

A WEDDING AND A MURDER

Several months before the murder, Yeatts became very intimate with young Adkerson. His new acquaintance frequently invited him to lodge with him at his store and partake of his hospitality in other ways, offers which he rarely ever declined to accept. During this intimacy Yeatts became acquainted with Miss Fannie Rorer*, a young lady of good family connections in the county. On the night of February 1—the night before the murder—Yeatts was married to that lady. The murderer and his hapless victim drove from the village to the house of the bride's parents, a few miles from Sycamore, in the same buggy, a vehicle furnished by Adkerson's liberality. After the wedding Adkerson spent the evening with the newly-

married pair and a pleasant time was passed. One of the most jovial and entertaining participants was the man who to-day expiated his crime upon the scaffold here.

On the day following the wedding the two friends were together for a short while in the morning. Later in the day the groom returned to his bride. In the evening he again made his appearance in the village, and at his solicitation Adkerson accompanied him on a walk down the railroad. Before starting the two men stopped at a bar room in the place and took a drink and each lighted a cigar. They then walked off in the darkness toward the railroad, chatting pleasantly of the bright scenes of the night before. No one dreamed for a moment, as the two men walked down the only street of the village, what dark thoughts were entertained toward the other by one of the pair. Adkerson never returned again. The next morning his dead body was found near the railroad, within a few hundred yard of his store. A bullet hole was in the head, and the dead boy's hat and stump of cigar which he had lighted upon starting out on the fatal walk were found by his side.

THE MURDERER'S CONFESSION

Suspicious of the murder at once pointed to Yeatts. He had fled from the neighborhood, however, and could not be found. Thirty-six hours later he was arrested in Bristol, Tenn., and brought back. Upon the person of the prisoner were found the purse, pocket-knife, rings and several other articles known to have belonged to the murdered man. Yeatts was committed to jail. He pretended to look with unconcern upon all the preparations for his trial.

The case came up at the may term of the County Court of Pittsylvania. The prisoner was convicted and sentenced. Yeatts made numerous confessions in which he admitted his guilt. In the last of these he claims to have discovered on the night of his marriage that his bride had been criminally intimate with the murdered man before her marriage. He says in that that she admitted Adkerson advised her against marrying him and declared that if she did she would

have cause to regret it. In this confession the murderer says that at the time the marriage ceremony was performed he was so much under the influence of liquor that he did not know what was going on and that the only words of the ceremony he heard was the request for him to take the bride's hand.

A few days ago the father of the condemned man appealed to the Governor for a respite upon the ground that his son was driven to the act by the discovery that his bride of a day had been intimate with the murdered man. To substantiate this charge the elder Yeatts submitted to the Executive a letter received by the woman from Adkerson a few days before the marriage. They claimed that these facts were not brought out in the trial because of the prisoner's inability to make a defense and the illness of the father. On the strength of this a respite was granted until to-day, but the new evidence was not deemed sufficient to grant a further delay of justice.

PREPARING FOR THE EXECUTION

Yeatts was informed yesterday that there was no hope for him. He received the news without flinching. He requested that he be buried in a blue flannel suit and that his body be encased in a metallic coffin with a glass face and placed in an upright position in a cemented grave, with steps leading down to it, so that those who wished to see him "lying in state" could do so. He desired, also, that a handkerchief be tied around his neck to hide the traces of the rope, and that a cross of flowers be placed on his breast. He requested that the funeral sermon be preached from the twenty-first and twenty-second verses of the twenty-third chapter of Luke*.

During his entire confinement his demeanor was calm and composed. He never displayed emotion of any sort. He said that he would prefer death to confinement in the penitentiary. Yesterday evening he made quite an elaborate toilet. He took a bath and had a barber to shave him. He then donned his funeral suit. His father, brother and brother-in-law visited him last night, and, after spending about an hour in his cell, took their final leave of him. He assured them he was prepared to die. This morning, when visited, the condemned man was found seated at a small table reading the Bible, as he had been in the habit of doing daily for a month past. He said he had rested well during the night, having slept five hours and a half. During the morning hours he was visited by a number of people, with all of whom he had something to say.

About ten o'clock Re. W.A. Ulrich, of the Episcopal Church, went into his cell and spent some time with Yeatts, praying and administering religious consolation.

THE FINAL SCENE

At a few minutes after eleven o'clock he was taken from the jail to the scaffold, which was in an enclosure about one hundred yards in the rear of the Court House. The march to the scaffold was somewhat impeded by the crowd which blocked the way, all eager to get a sight of the prisoner. Yeatts was escorted by Sheriff Overby and his assistants. He ascended to the platform and in a few minutes everything was in readiness for the final act of the tragedy. In reply to the question if he had anything to say he answered distinctly: "No, sir; nothing at all." A white cloth was then tied over his face and the rope adjusted, after which Overby asked if he was ready and the prisoner said: "Give me a minute to think." This was done, Yeatts meanwhile standing erect, with his head slightly bowed, seemingly engaged in prayer. At 12.21 o'clock the Sheriff pulled the lever attached to the bolts of the trap and in an instant Yeatts' body was swinging five and a half feet below where he had previously stood. His struggles were not violent, but the spasmodic contractions were visible for several minutes. Pulsation ceased in ten minutes and at the end of sixteen minutes Dr. R.W. Martin pronounced life extinct. At 11.40 the body was taken down and placed in a neat imitation rosewood coffin, with white metal handles and neat interior trimmings. An examination showed that he had died from strangulation.

About an hour after the remains were turned over to a brother-in-law of the deceased, who took them to a family burying place, some miles distant. After the execution the crowd turned their attention to the circus, which had just entered the town, and Yeatts and his crime were for the time forgotten.

The wife of Yeatts was a Miss Fannie Rorer, the daughter of a highly respected citizen of this county. She is about twenty years old, of medium size, attractive in person and exceedingly modest and unassuming in her manners. She is well connected and quite popular in the community. Before her marriage Miss Rorer was quite a belle in the little village of Sycamore and had any number of admirers. At almost any time after she became grown this young lady could have had her pick of a dozen or more young fellows who were ready to accept her hand.

Yeatts was a bold, dashing fellow, and laid siege for

the heart of the village belle with such determination that it was hard to resist him. It seems, though, that Miss Rorer refused once or twice; but, undismayed, he renewed his suit and pressed his claims. Finally she accepted him. For fear that she might change her mind for some other admirer equally as persistent as himself, Yeatts prevailed upon his affianced to allow the marriage to take place at once. The girl's parents were opposed to the marriage, but the daughter intimated that if she could not marry under the old house-roof she could elsewhere. This sort of argument was unanswerable, and the old folks permitted the girl to have her way.

During her husband's imprisonment the bride manifested the deepest solicitude for his welfare. It is believed that the story circulated by the prisoner of his wife's shame was gotten up by him for the purpose of securing executive clemency, and to save her husband from an ignominious death the wife has aided in the delusion. Certainly her heroic devotion to the man who has forfeited all claims upon her respect might have carried her that far.

ROBBERY THE CAUSE

The evidence adduced at the trial of the prisoner left no doubt but that his crime was committed for the purpose of robbery. Yeatts was about 27 years of age, tall, handsome and dark, and paid a great deal of attention to dress. In some respects he was an imitator of Guiteau*. It was developed that the accused had not long before the commission of his crime sold a paste ring to his victim, pretending that it was a diamond, and receiving for it a very considerable sum. In order to better deceive the young man the murderer forged a certificate, purporting to have been given by a well-known jeweler of the county, declaring that the ring palmed off by Yeatts upon his friend was a very valuable diamond.

Before his trial and conviction and most of the time since Yeatts was engaged in writing a book*, which he gave to his father for publication. It embraces a sketch of his career, to be entitled "Life and history of W.H. Yeatts or the step to ruin." In it he attributes his fall to liquor and women, and asserts that three young ladies in the county, whose names he gives, have fallen victims to his seductive arts. This morning he retracted that assertion about two of the young ladies, but of the third he would say nothing.

Notes

* Walter Hamilton "Ham" Yeatts (1857-1882) was the grandson of Polly Boswell. Polly was Mark Boswell's (A2) sister. He was also the great-grandson of Samuel Yates (A3).

* Mary Francis "Franny" Rorer later married Charles Pickeral. The two had several children.

* Charles J. Guiteau was the assassin of President Garfield.

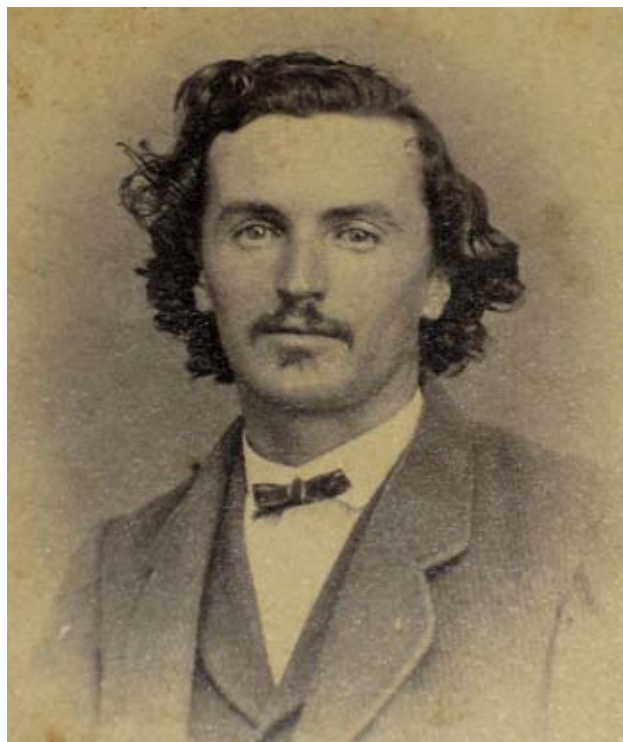
* The 22nd and 23rd verses of Luke 23 are:

"And he said unto them the third time, Why, what evil hath he done? I have found no cause of death in him: I will therefore chastise him, and let him go."

"And they were instant with loud voices, requiring that he might be crucified. And the voices of them and of the chief priests prevailed."

* Helen D. Melton has written a play, titled *The Last Man Hanged*, about the Yeatts-Adkerson-Rorer drama. The thoroughly-researched drama's plot differs from this newspaper account in several respects. For example, in the play Frannie's parents encourage her to marry Ham. I cannot find any record of this play being produced or commercially published.

* I can find no record of Ham's book ever being published or transcribed into a digital format.



Ham's father, Charles William Yeatts (1820-1900), son of Polly Boswell and Thomas W. Yeatts



Jubal Davis Yeatts (1825–1905) is connected to our lines on both sides of his family. His mother was Polly Boswell, sister of Mark Boswell (A2). His father was Thomas W. Yates (1801–1884), brother of John Yardley Yates (A3). Jubal and his family moved to Texas after the Civil War



Jubal Yeatts, Stella Moore, and one of their daughters



Five generations of Yeatts cousins. I'm not sure of the IDs exactly, but I believe the middle-aged woman is Stella Moore (1825–1913) and I think the old woman is Stella's mother Susannah Sigmon (1788–?) I'm not sure which of Stella's daughters and granddaughters are in the pic.

Jesse David Reynolds

in the

American Revolution

Corporal Jesse David Reynolds served in the Revolutionary War and fought in the battles of Trenton, Princeton and Saratoga. He was wounded in the hand which also broke his gun at the Battle of Saratoga. He ended his tour at Valley Forge, PA.

At 22 yrs old, Jesse (name spelled Runalds), enlisted as Private in Captains Gross Scruggs under Colonel Morgan's 5th Va. Regiment of Foot (aka of Continental Establishment).

After the American Revolutionary War began at the Battle of Lexington and Concord in 1775, the Continental Congress created the Continental Army. They called for the formation of ten rifle companies from the middle colonies to support the Siege of Boston, and late in June of 1775 Virginia agreed to send two. The Virginia House of Burgesses chose Daniel Morgan to form one of these, and serve as its captain.

He recruited ninety-six men in ten days and assembled them at Winchester on July 14, 1775. He led an outstanding group of snipers nicknamed

"Morgan's Sharpshooters".

Colonel Daniel Morgan's special unit of 500 riflemen were selected based on men well accustomed to the use of a rifle, the woods and the methods of fighting on the American frontier. These sharpshooters had 1 additional requirement: they should be men that were rangy and stood at least six feet tall. Col. Morgan wanted "men over six feet tall who could shoot out the eye of a wild turkey."

The weapon of choice was the "Kentucky long rifle" and skilled marksmen could hit targets up to 400 yards. Colonel Morgan's Battalion of Riflemen did not wear regular uniforms but were clad in green hunting shirts and pants with leggings and moccasins which blended into a forest background. Their clothing was the common dress of a frontiersman or ranger.

Jesse was promoted to Corporal while listed as "sick in Black River". Black River Military Hospital existed in Black River, New Jersey for at least part of the spring and summer of 1777.

Corporal Reynolds was detached to a special corps



Daniel Morgan's men were specialized snipers and excelled in gorilla warfare. Most of his men learned tactics such as stealth, camouflage and ambush from fighting indians, some even served in the French and Indian War.



Col. Daniel Morgan

known as the rifle regiment. He was assigned to Captain William Henderson's company. Jesse served under Captain William Henderson effective July 1777.

The Battle of Trenton took place on December 26, 1776, after Washington's crossing of the Delaware River.

The Battle of Princeton was a battle fought near Princeton, New Jersey, on January 3, 1777.

The Battle of Saratoga in September and October 1777 was a decisive American victory resulting in the surrender of an entire British army of 9,000 men invading New York from Canada. The Battle of Saratoga was actually two battles (the Battle of Freeman's Farm and the Battle of Bemis Heights) about 9 miles south of Saratoga, New York, as well as the Battle of Bennington about 15 miles east of Saratoga.

Jesse was discharged from the military Feb 10, and allowed 20 days for his travel home.

After Jesse's 2-year tour in the Revolutionary War, he then served 2 separate tours in the Virginia Militia, one of 6 months and one of 3 months.

Later, he applied for a pension on September 25, 1832. He received \$80 a year commencing March 4, 1831 with payment semi-annually of \$40 in March and September of each year. He did receive a lump sum payment of \$140 for arrears for the interval between granting his claim and his initial payment.

After Jesse's death, his wife, Mary, applied for and received a widow's pension for the same \$80 a year (claim #W5683).



The Battle of Saratoga was an important turning point in the Revolutionary War

The Yates Tavern

by

Dail Yeatts

The Yates Tavern was built about 1750. Historians have written that this location was considered frontier territory at that point in time. Indians were a menace to the settlers which some people believed to be the reason for building the tavern with its architecture that is different from other buildings.

In the Court Order Book of 1778 it is referred to as "A Yates Old House." Early records show that the owner, Stephen Yates, paid taxes to keep a tavern or "ordinary" as it was called at that time.

During at least a part of Stephen Yates' life he served as a Captain in the Virginia Militia. It is not known if he served in an active military way in defense of the new nation.

Up until the mid-1970's, local writers had been referring to the tavern as the Yates Blockhouse. It was believed the overhangs were the same feature used in pioneer log structures to provide a protected slit above the first story for firing down on attackers.

This description was disputed by the architects in the landmark's office in Richmond when the landmark status was sought in 1976. The architects pointed out that in this case the tavern is a frame structure, not log, and the overhang is technically a jetty, such as was used in London to overhang the sidewalk and thus provide a little extra room on the second floor of a townhouse. In effect, this is a fashionable little London townhouse, built out in the very rural landscape of Pittsylvania County.

The architects thought it likely was a stylish house rather than a crude frontier fortified house.

THE REVOLUTION

The Yates Tavern was located on a much traveled road that led from Peytonsburg, the county seat of Halifax County, Virginia to other communities. It was also a stopping place for men who traveled by wagons throughout the area seeking materials to be taken to the supply depot at Peytonsburg to be distributed to the Virginia Militia and to the Continental Army.

Peytonsburg was designated as one of nine supply depots in Virginia during the Revolutionary War. It was here that factories made horseshoes, canteens,



and other items for soldiers were manufactured along with shops for smiths to shoe horses, repair wagons, and other equipment needed for war. It was from Peytonsburg that wagons and team drivers spread throughout the communities seeking supplies for the desperate soldiers serving on active duty in the Continental Army and in the Virginia Militia.

Peytonsburg, a town established in 1759, was laid out on one hundred acres of land that is located just across the Halifax County line on Highway 832. It was the county seat for Halifax County. Now, Peytonsburg is no more. There is not a trace to be found of this once thriving town that contributed so much to winning the independence of people who believed that America could rule itself better and fairer than England.

In 1767 Pittsylvania County was formed out of Halifax and its county seat became Callands, due to a large land area west of what is now Pittsylvania County. When counties such as Henry County west of Callands were formed, the county seat was moved to Chatham since that would place the county seat more in the center of the county.

It was in this setting that Stephen Yates was declared a Patriot of the Revolutionary War. He contributed as a citizen soldier toward winning the war by providing shelter, food, and other essentials to wagon masters and teams of horses and mules that traveled by his place carrying wagon after wagon loads of food, clothing, and equipment to war weary soldiers.

The Stephen Yates' contribution to the Revolutionary War is recognized by the United States of America and is a matter of record in the State Auditor's Office in Richmond, Virginia.

“Rachel Shotten, Daughter of Dissent”

by

Jnana Hodson

Rachel Shotten (1620-1696) [C5] was the only daughter of Sampson and Alice Shotten of New York and Portsmouth, Rhode Island. She eventually inherited her parents' lands in Portsmouth and Warwick. Alice Shotten took, as her second husband, Ralph Cowland. [Her first husband was Robert Hodgson I (C5).] Both men were active in the settlement of Portsmouth, Rhode Island.

Rachel Shotten's family had been involved in strident conflict with the Puritan authorities of Massachusetts even before Robert Hodgson came upon the scene. Whatever Rachel's mother's maiden name, the family nevertheless found itself a part of New England's tightly wound nest of dissent against Puritan theocracy. The reported New York linkage, whatever it may be, is beguiling: perhaps there is a strand of Dutch Mennonite here, or expatriate New Englander from a malcontent family such as the Scotts. “Shotten” may, in fact, be a Dutch version of “Scott.”

To understand dissident strands in colonial New England, one must be aware of events in Salem, Massachusetts, more than a half-century before its infamous witch trials of 1692. Some historians have, in fact, speculated that those trials were an indirect attempt to curtail Quaker influence, by threatening servants and neighbors rather than the more securely ensconced Friends. Salem and its environs would later be one of the few Quaker strongholds in the Massachusetts Bay colony, and would also provide a nucleus of families settling what would become the Friends stronghold on Nantucket Island. By the early 1630s, however, Salem had already become a center of controversy, spawning seeds that would emerge in the Americas as the Baptist denomination and the Society of Friends. After arriving in New England in 1631, Roger Williams accepted a position as minister in the Salem church. Events escalated, as Anne G. Myles explains in “Arguments in Milk, Arguments in Blood: Roger Williams, Persecution, and the Discourse of the Witness” in *Modern Philology* (November 1993):

By 1635 any solution to the tensions he provoked was becoming increasingly unlikely. In July Williams' application to the magistrates for a grant of unsettled

land near Marblehead was denied, apparently in reprisal for his having earlier accepted a position in the Salem church without the magistrates' approval. Williams and one of his supporters sent an angry letter to the Massachusetts churches, urging that the magistrates be censured as individual church members for their interference in religious affairs.

One month later, the court, which had already investigated the “divers dangerous opinions,” recalled Williams to answer for his final, radical step. He had announced to his Salem congregation his intention to “renounce communion with all the churches in the Bay, as full of anti-Christian pollution,” and informed them that unless they chose collectively to do likewise, he would renounce them too. . . . The court sentenced him to banishment from the colony in six weeks and then, since winter was approaching, granted him an extension until spring if he refrained from publicizing his views. Williams continued to hold forth, however, and when the authorities learned of this – and that he now planned with a group of followers “to erect a plantation about the Narragansett Bay, from whence the infection [of his opinions] would easily spread” – it was determined to send him back to England. But Williams refused to return to Boston, and shortly thereafter, Captain John Underhill went to Salem to apprehend him and ship him back under guard. However, in [Governor John] Winthrop's words, “when they came at his house, they found he had been gone three days before; but whither they could not learn.”

In 1636 Williams founded Providence, now in Rhode Island, where he was joined the next year by Richard and Catharine (Marbury) Scott and her sister, Anne (Marbury) Hutchinson, daughters of the Rev. Edward Marbury.

Before leaving Boston, however, several of their followers had gathered on March 7, 1637/8, to sign a compact to incorporate as a “Bodie Politick” upon their imminent removal to Aquidneck (Rhode) Island. Among them were Anne's husband, William Hutchinson; William Coddington, who had been a Massachusetts magistrate; Henry Bull; Richard Carder; John Coggeshall; Randall Holden (“Howl-

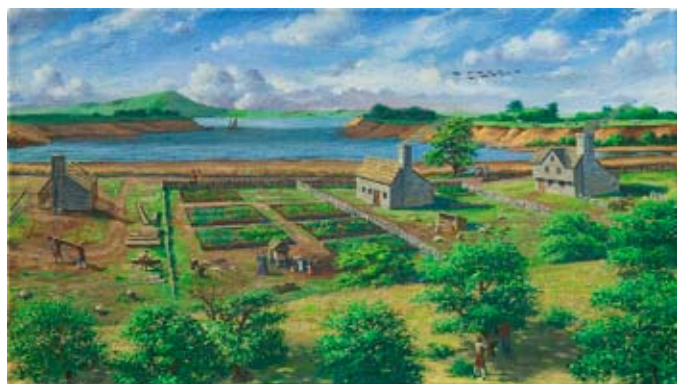
don”); and others. They and their families made the move in March and April. (Boston immigration dates include Williams, 1631; Hutchinsons, 1634; Scotts, 1634; Coddington, circa 1630; Dyers, summer 1635; Vane, 1635.)

Arthur J. Worrall observes:

In the 1630's a much larger number of dissidents, many of them of a mercantile orientation, organized themselves around a Boston housewife, Anne Hutchinson, against the original clerical and lay leadership. For a time it seemed that the ... Antinomian party led by Anne ... would control Massachusetts; but John Winthrop and the orthodox clergy won the struggle for power, and Anne, with most of her mercantile followers, departed to found Portsmouth, Rhode Island. ... To Massachusetts authorities the most threatening area was on Aquidneck Island in Rhode Island, settled by the Hutchinsons. Their gathering in that permissive colony meant that when Quaker missionaries appeared there almost two decades later, they found many people ready for Quakerism.

This section comes essentially from extensive research notes provided, with thorough documentation, by Sabron Reynolds Newton, like me, a descendent of the Guilford County Hodgsons. Her sources include Howard Chapin's *Documentary History of Rhode Island* (Preston & Rounds, 1919), *Early Records of the Town of Portsmouth* (Freeman, 1901), C.P.B. Jefferys' *Newport: A Short History* (Newport Historical Society, 1992), Oliver Payson Fuller, *History of Warwick* (Angell, 1875), Samuel Arnold, *History of the State of Rhode Island* (Appleton, 1859), and *History of Newport County, Rhode Island* (Preston, 1888).

On May 13, 1638, Judge William Coddington (who had been elected in Boston) presided over the first town meeting on Aquidneck. On July 16 of that year,



Rhode Island Colony, 1636

“Sampson Shatton” was recognized as an inhabitant of the island – a rank below that of freeman. On April 30 the next year, Sampson Shotten signed a document organizing the residents of Portsmouth (previously called Pocasset) into a “Civil body Politicke.” Other signers included the noted dissident Samuel Gorton, William and Samuel Hutchinson, plus George, Nathanyell, and Robert Potter. Portsmouth is at the northern end of the island. Newport, at the southern end, was then established by a group of separatists who took with them the official records and land titles from Pocasset. The “Newport Compact” was signed in April 1639 by John Clarke, a physician who had studied law and probably was the chief religious leader; William Coddington; William Dyer; Nicholas Easton, a farmer, miller, and tanner with something of a religious following; William Brenton; Henry Bull; Jeremy Clarke; John Coggeshall; and Thomas Hazard. Coddington was clearly the dominant political leader. Loyalty or opposition to Coddington was a dividing point between the two settlements. By late 1639, however, most of the Portsmouth leadership had reunited with Newport. Gorton was an exception, his followers reduced to an “unimportant minority.”

Also, in Tenth Month 1639, Portsmouth records make reference to the “house lotte next beyound Mr. (Ralph) Cowland ...”

In 1640 Sampson Shatton (C5) was one of eight “received as freemen by the General Court at Newport” on March 12. On August 6, Ralph Cowland was “admitted freeman.” Cowland then served on several juries between then and 1647, was taxed “1 yearlinge” in April 1642 and in court about a charge of trespass against him in December 1642. He was named Junior Sargeant in March 1641/2.

Meanwhile, on January 12, 1641/2, Samuel Gorton and eleven others, including Sampson Shotten, bought 60,000 acres beyond Providence – a strip about four miles wide, extending twenty miles back from shore – from Chief Miantonomi and then set about founding Shawomet, later known as Warwick.

A preacher and Biblical scholar, Gorton had unorthodox religious views and an abrasive manner. Although his most notable trial was for religious heresy, his apparent opposition to any form of government was seen as particularly troubling. He spoke out against self-authorized governments that had no English charters, and made no pretense of organizing a government in his own settlement until 1647, when the community came under Roger Williams’ charter.

In arriving at Shawomet, Gorton had few remaining options, having been expelled, successively, from the Massachusetts Bay colony, Plymouth colony, Aquidneck Island, and Providence – though never, it is pointed out, with charges of any “immoral conduct.”

Co-purchasers of Shawomet included Richard Carder and Randall Holden (“Howldon”), who had signed the 1637/8 compact in Boston, where Carder had been a freeman since 1636. Holden had been the sole other signer with Roger Williams of the deed to Rhode Island (Aquidneck), March 1637/8, and of a July 1638 agreement with Indians for grass and timber rights on the mainland. Others were John Greene, Gorton’s 1635 shipmate from England to Boston, an early settler at Salem and a surgeon who helped Gorton collect kindred spirits for Shawomet; John Wickes (Weeks), Gorton’s primary convert at Plymouth; and William Wuddall (Waddall), a Boston resident in 1637 who may be the William Wodell listed as a minor official at Portsmouth from the 1650s. Greene was the signer of the Shawomet deed, not Gorton.

On March 16, 1641/2, “At the Generall Court ... Nuport ... It is ordered that Richard Carder, Randall Holden, Sampson Shatton & Robert Potter are disenfranchised ... & that their names be cancelled out of the record.” (Potter was listed as a freeman in Massachusetts, 1631-1639). Furthermore, the next day: “It is ordered that if John Weeks, Randall Holden, Richard Carder, Sampson Shatton, or Robert Potter shall come upon the Island armed, they shall be by the Constable ... disarmed & carried before the magistrate and there find sureties for their good behavior, and further ... if that Course shall not regulate them or any of them then a further dew & lawfull course by the magistrates shall be taken in their Sessions.”

There was, apparently, a fear of armed invasion or insurrection.

Massachusetts, meanwhile, found some pretext to lay claim to the land at Shawomet and, in October 1643, sent an armed force that outnumbered men in the settlement four to one, holding the men together in a house under siege for several days. Upon their surrender, they were taken as prisoners to Boston and tried, except for John Greene and son, who escaped and were never captured. The men were kept prisoner over the winter, and then freed but banished. The settlement had by then been abandoned, their stock all confiscated and driven to Boston. At the beginning of the siege, the women and children had fled into the woods or by boat, and the wives of John

Greene and Robert Potter died of exposure. Reports said there were no fatalities during the siege, but there are conflicting reports about Shotten, who had died either of “hardships” before it began or after being taken prisoner. It is uncertain, therefore, whether Alice and young Rachel were among those who fled into the woods. It seems quite likely they were. At any rate, Rachel’s land rights at Warwick derived from this settlement venture.

Meanwhile, William Hutchinson had died at Portsmouth in 1642, and Anne – with eight children and seven neighbors – moved to Pelham Bay, a new settlement in Dutch territory, where she and some of her children were killed by Indians in August 1643; one daughter, Susannah, was kidnapped by the Indians and lived two years among them. A few of the neighbor women and children escaped and returned to Aquidneck Island.

Several subsequent political developments deserve notice. On March 13, 1644, the General Court for Portsmouth and Newport officially changed the name of Aquidneck Island to Rhode Island. That year Roger Williams obtained from the English Parliamentary Commission his charter for the Providence Plantations. In summer or fall of that year, Gorton, Greene, and Holden sailed from New York to England, seeking to have the ban on settlement at Shawomet overruled and to obtain an official charter. On May 15, 1646, the English Commissioners of Foreign Plantations issued an order to Massachusetts to permit the settlers “freely and quietly to live and plant upon Shawomet.” Holden delivered the order September 13 in Boston. On July 22, 1647, in receipt of a response from Massachusetts, the commissioners issued a further order, that inasmuch as people had moved to and settled at Shawomet “at great charge,” they be given “protection and assistance in all fit ways” – artfully sidestepping the question of jurisdiction. Also in 1647, with the Shawomet settlement now renamed in honor of the Earl of Warwick, who headed the foreign plantations commission, Warwick joined Providence, Portsmouth, and Newport as the fourth town included in the Providence Plantations under Roger Williams’ 1644 charter.

Gorton himself returned from England, 1648, armed with a safe-conduct letter from the Earl of Warwick. His opposition to government evaporated as he now found himself under an authority with a legitimate charter. He represented Warwick in the colonial legislature almost continuously from 1649 to 1666, and died about age 85 on December 10, 1677. He

apparently conducted weekly religious services as a branch of the First Church of Providence (Baptist), though in 1725 his followers would organize as an independent sect. Though he was like the Quakers in not observing outward sacraments, and was visited by George Fox in 1672, he nevertheless opposed Quaker doctrine and said Friends had come out of the world only a little way.

Back in Portsmouth, Ralph Cowland began to appear in civic activity. He was chosen constable on June 2, 1649; on January 19, 1651, he is included among “the desposers of lande” determining the status of previous land claims and establishing Common lands for the town. On June 9, 1652, “R(ichard) Burdin [Borden] and Ralph Couland” are “chosen overseers ... for the pore,” but on April 1, 1653, “Richard Bordin and Mr. Cowland are Chosen to gather up what is behind unpayde of all former rates exsept the last and are authorized to destraine upon the goods of those that refuse.” On June 2, 1656, Cowland is again chose constable at Portsmouth.

On October 1, 1661, Portsmouth “lotters” were asked to “Run the line at the upper End of” Edward Hutchinson’s land “to see if he hath not intrenched or inCroched upon that land that was laid out to Ralph Couland for the use of Sarah Gre(en)man.” The records do not explain Sarah’s situation; John Grinman was admitted an inhabitant at Newport in 1638, and there is a 1643 reference to his five acres.

On May 1, 1664, John Greene reported selling to his brother, James, a tract “bounded Northerly by a parcell of meddowe layd out for the Heires of Sampson Shotten, Southerly by the Sea ...”

In November 1664, this document was written: Know all men ... my husband Shottin dyinge, and makeinge no will, but left all to me, therefore, I, Alice Couland, with the approbation of my husband, Ralph Couland, do give and dispose as followeth: 1st, I doe take to my selfe the land where on the Stone howse Standeth with one Rod in bredth, from the uper End of the stone howse, on both sids the howse and land above said, is given and apointed for frinds in the minestrey Cauled Quakers ... I say for there use that thay may be Entertained therein, in all times to Come Even for Ever. Also, I do apointe Rachell Shottin and hur husband if shee marey to live in the said howse the time of there life if thay be free so to doe not Elce. Like wise to the said Stone howse I doe give and apointe for frinds use in the minestrey Cauled Quakers that is to say 1 fether bead and 2 pil-lows, 3 blankets, 1 Covered, 2 paire of sheits, 2 pil-

lowbers, 2 towels, 1 bason, 1 Candlstik, 1 Chamber-pott. More over I doe give unto Rachell the land tht wos hur ffather Samson Shottins, Namly the fearme which is 60 akres more or less and the 2 Akres of meddow, 1 the othere side the pond, all so the ould howse Next the stone howse and the Rest of the 3 Akres lott, from the ould howse to the Common Northwest, all so all hur ffather Right at Worwicke, who wos a twelfe purcher of the lands there. And if the said Rachell marey and have a Child or Children and hur husband then my will is that the said land and howses Returne to the stone howse after them for the use of frinds above said. Also my will is tht my husband Ralph Couland shall Equally Share with my daughter Rachell Shottin in the afforesaid lands and Rights for the tearme of his life in Consideration of the paines and Cost and Charge he hath bine at upon the said land and howses. My will allso is, tht John Hordon, Joseph Nicholson, Christopher Howlder, my husband Ralph Couland, Daniell Gould, Edward Perrey shall see this my will performed ...

This is to aQuainte the overseers of my will that since it was writ I ... have upon sume Consideration given freely up all hur fathers Right at Worwick, that is to say Rachell Shotten to do with it whot she will. The Marke of Alice Couland: [a kind of gull wings] Witnesses hereunto: Wm. Baulston; Richard Bulgar; Samwell Wilbor; Philip Sherman; John Albro.

Sabron Reynolds Newton raised the question: Was the property used for this purpose eventually, or did it stay in the family? Subsequent events, we learned, show that Rachel and her husband instead continued to live in the house. The present Friends meeting-house was erected about the time that Rachel’s son moved from Rhode Island.

Sabron notes, too, that the records almost always refer to William Coddington and Nicholas Easton as “Mr.,” unlike Henry Bull and Robert Hodgson.

In 1666 Ralph Couland’s cattle mark is registered.

On May 17, 1667, Warwick records mention “Lotts cast for ye smale Lotts in ye necke called Shawom-ett,” noting “that there is a hyghway 4 pole wide down to ye sea betwixt Richard Carders meadow & Mr. Samuell Gortons meadow in order to preserve a landing place for ye use of ye purchasers beginning from Shottens suthern stake on ye south side thereof 4 pole wide betwixt ye said Shottens lott & ye 17th share.”

On October 7, 1667, a finding is recorded in Portsmouth that Sampson Shotten died without a will,

and having no other offspring than his daughter Rachel, she was his “sole heir”; therefore, “said Robart Hodgson and Rachill his wife have hereby power to Administer on [or?] possess and injoy whatever to the said Rachill is apertaining as being heir.” This, presumably, results from Alice’s death sometime after the 1664 and indicates that Rachel and Robert Hodgson were married in that interim. (They married August 3, 1665.)

The next day, October 8, this testimony was recorded: Know all men ... that I Robert hodgson doe give full power to Ralph Couland to posses and injoy the percel of land at the farme, from the goinge in at the barrs which now is downe to the howse the bredth to hould downe to the Sea, and allso upward to the Common, with the howsinge and Barnes there standinge the said land and howsinge to injoy for the tearme of his life, in Consideration of the Expence and Charges the said Ralph Couland hath bine at, on the said lands and howses which was Samson Shottons, both here and Elce where. And I the said Robert Hodgson am to have Liberty to buld a howse on the said fearme land if I see Cause, and to have Egress and Regress from the said howse without mollestation from the said Ralph Couland, or any for him.”

Both men signed.

Town council recorded this agreement on November 10, reporting that the witnesses “have measured the bredth of ye said land, from the said barrs to ye lane of Adam Mott, and wee finde to be 3 by 30 Rods” – thus, 16½-by-165 yards.

In searching for the New York/New Amsterdam connection for Shotten, one factor should be considered: In Pennsylvania Dutch dialect, “Shotten” is a translation for “Scott” – a meaning that has shifted in modern German. Because of the family’s New Amsterdam connection, however, I find myself wondering if Rachel’s family name was originally Scott: some of that name, after all, became Friends or influenced the turbulent New England affairs. Scotts also have connections with later generations of Hodgsons. And, in the latter half of the seventeenth century, one of the notable Quaker captains plying between Cork and Barbadoes was Robert Scottin.

One source (Todd A. Johnson) has Sampson Shotten being born about 1605 in Leicestershire, England, and dying in September 1643 at Warwick, Rhode Island; with Alice being born about 1610 in England, and their marriage about 1637 in England. The date

of the marriage, however, comes after the events in Salem, Massachusetts. Another version estimates his birth in the 1590s in England, and notes a George Shotten born in the 1620s in Massachusetts, a Margery born in the 1620s, and a Nicholas arriving in Virginia, age 40, aboard the Ann, in the 1620s. Johnson lists Sampson as the son of Thomas Shotten (born circa 1575 in Leicestershire-died February 1632 in Cropson, Leicestershire) and Mary (unknown) (born circa 1578 and died after 1632). He places their marriage around 1600.

<https://jmunrohodson.wordpress.com/2013/03/15/rachel-shotten-daughter-of-dissent/>

Often we read stories of some recluse, with pictures, in the Press
And I dream the same thing and it gives me distress

Because I am walking from room to room
In a house of elegant though ancient style
And there is hardly room for one to pass
Through stacks of boxes, pile on pile.

What is in the boxes, I do not know but
Stacks of old newspapers have no worth.
Here is the collection of “material things”
Gathered by an Ancient from the time of his birth.

The dream is too true. A scavenger am I.
Each thing has “a purpose.” I could “use it again.”
Old dresses, pretty pictures, toys of my children,
Their books and my tokens. It would cause pain

To destroy such mementos. Memories of journeys
As a family to mountain or beach
And there is beauty in driftwood and branches;
Every stone has a sermon to preach.

These three dreams have come to me, the first one
in childhood

And the others came when times required. But
now the mood

Has changed. This new dream has no answer --

Or does it? Yes, I suppose. . . I see it there.
It frightens me and yet I’m not afraid.
I seek not the answer. Perhaps I do not care.

A crowd of voices press around me,
Each calls a question in a different tone
But each silent voice mouths the same words
And I am in the center -- all alone.

~ Amy Maude Yeatts Searle

The Mayberry Willows Weep

By Bob Heafner

published in *The Mountain Laurel*

The funeral director lined us up four to the side on the porch of the Meadows of Dan Baptist Church. The breeze sweeping across the porch didn't bring relief from the heat brought on by the unaccustomed suit and the collar made too tight by the seldom worn necktie and the lump in my throat. We were ushered inside the church and up the aisle past a capacity size gathering of those who had come from far and near to pay their last respects to a genuine mountain man, Mr. Coy Oliver Yeatts.



We were seated on the front pews, four on either side of the aisle. From my place on the end of the pew next to the aisle, the coffin lay barely an arm's reach away.

The coffin was made of polished oak and on each side was an arrangement of flowers. He would have thought they were pretty.

As the prayer was delivered and the minister spoke, I only caught an occasional word. Not out of any disrespect to the place or the speaker, but my thoughts were with the old man lying just a few feet away in wait of a grave. He was without doubt, one of the most remarkable people I've ever met. In his youth he was noted for his sheer brute strength and few around Mayberry could equal his power or his wit.

He often accompanied me when I was gathering information for BACKROAD tours or other articles and sometimes, we just went riding. Shortly before the stroke that led to his death, we went to Greensboro, North Carolina together and on the way, he told me of the mysterious illness that had struck him

when he was in his late 20's and left him bent nearly double for the rest of his life. He wasn't complaining, just explaining why he couldn't straighten his back when he walked.

He was a man that questioned everything in order to learn, and more than once he had been known to take the opposite side of his own views in an argument just to hear the other person's reasoning. He never closed his mind to new ideas or different viewpoints and his views and beliefs were always subject to change when new evidence was found or a different logical viewpoint was discovered.

For months after I discovered he had been recording his memories for years in an old notebook, I encouraged him to grant us permission to print them in *The Mountain Laurel*. Finally one Sunday morning as we sat in his kitchen by the stove, he relented, but only if his name would not be used. I had argued that his memories of mountain life during the early part of this century were important and unless people like him shared those memories, they would one day be lost forever and a way of life would soon be forgotten. When I encouraged him to sign his work, he said he wasn't a writer and his feelings were easily hurt and if people made fun of his stories, it would hurt.

Perhaps it began before that moment, at this point I am not sure, but then I knew that big, honest, tender-hearted Coy O. Yeatts was a friend I would always love and cherish. He could, and would, share his opinions with a friend, but he was man enough to share his fears as well. Response to his articles soon proved he had nothing to fear and he began signing his work, "Y.O.C.," which was his first name as well as his initials spelled backwards.

The first of his stories that he permitted us to print was, "The Half a Hundred Springs of Mayberry" and in it he told of the springs on Round Meadow and Mayberry Creeks surrounding the Mayberry Community where he had lived all his life. It was not written by a journalist but by experience and from it could be learned the importance of spring water to a mountain community. At most of the springs, he recalled a home being close by and more often than not, he recalled the folks that had lived in the long



disappeared log homes. From the article, an idea was inspired in the mind of Mr. Dorn Spangler, the retired superintendent of Patrick County Schools, to draw a map showing Mayberry as it was in 1915, complete with the location of homes as they were then and the names of those who occupied them.

Mr. Coy's first article not only provided an insight into the forming of a community around available water, but it inspired the Mayberry Map. Already maps of Meadows of Dan and Vesta are being planned by Mr. Spangler that will record for all time the activity and essence of this mountain area as it was circa 1915. Such an undertaking required a tremendous amount of work by Mr. Spangler and his son Larry; work inspired by a self educated old mountain man who never claimed to be a writer, but whose first published story inspired such a contribution to the preservation of the history of the place he loved so dearly. A copy of that map was in his room when he died.

During the funeral, my thoughts raced from episode to episode, some funny, some sad, but all a part of Mr. Coy's life that I had been fortunate to share or know of. He once shed tears while telling of cutting a tree that stood in his front yard. It was necessary, but necessity made it hurt no less. He loved trees and big old trees had a special place in his heart. His sense of humor was wry and he loved to pull your leg. On more than one occasion I realized Mr. Coy had done it again, caught me off guard with one of his sly practical jokes. We always laughed together when I finally caught on.

He made the comment to others that I was the "world's best driver" without ever explaining to them that he had come to that conclusion, not because of my safe driving traits, but because I could drive, read a speedometer and make notes for BACKROADS all at the same time, miraculously without hitting anything.

On one of those trips, we spotted a yellow finch lying in the road. I stopped the car to see if it was hurt and could be helped. Unfortunately, it was dead. As I held it in my hand, Mr. Coy leaned over the seat gazed gently at the beautiful small bird and said, "The poor little thing." His words of remorse at the death of a bird were not the kind of great quote any history book would bother to include, yet the waver in his voice and the tear on his cheek, along with his words demonstrated, to me at least, the greatness of the man.

He was labeled a maverick, which was true in the sense that he never ran with the herd. There was never any danger of him joining the crowd and blindly following the leader. He was a man who made his own decisions and blazed his own trails.

During the funeral service, the observation was made that had he been an educated man, what heights of greatness might he have achieved, and what contributions to society might he have made. No doubt Mr. Coy could have achieved academic success in most any field, had the opportunity and desire presented itself. He chose instead to spend his life in Mayberry where he was born and raised. He educated himself by reading and observing and intellectually, he could hold his own with anyone. And I personally tend to believe that Mr. Coy achieved great heights. Perhaps not by the standards set by our modern society and his name might not appear in any history books for contributions to the elevation or destruction of mankind, but his life exemplified the ideals upon which our nation was founded. He contemplated facts and made decisions independent of anyone else's prejudiced influence. He minded his own business and expected others to do likewise. He loved the land and the creatures on it. He was compassionate and caring and he believed in the right to debate differences of opinion in order to learn. What more can we ask of our fellow human beings than they live their lives in such a noble manner as Mr. Coy Yeatts?

On one occasion, we passed a roadside junkyard strewn with the wreckage of old cars. I allowed as how it should be illegal to mar nature's beauty in such a manner. His response was typical "Mr. Coy." He said, "I think they're good. Let's people see where their money goes." He didn't hold with pretenses and wasting money on fancy ways to impress others.

Once someone asked him what he thought of the TV program "Hee-Haw." He replied, "Terrible. They've run up the price of overalls up to \$14.95." His "hobby" was sitting in a straight back chair in



to final rest in the shade of a tall evergreen tree. It is a picturesque place on the side of Hurricane Hill, overlooking Kettle Hollow. It is a place where one needs only to close their eyes and imagine in order to see him now slowly walking down the ridge to his home in Mayberry.

Shortly before he died, he had given me a copy of the following poem which his father had written many years before.

The Weeping Willows

by: John Henry Yeatts

Will yon Mayberry continue to flow,
and vegetation upon your banks grow,
when the willows weep for me?
Will your sands continue their sift,
through the meadows and by the rift,
when the willows weep for me?
Will your bridge be as of yore,
or wait the footsteps that sound no more,
when the willows weep for me?
Will the old home upon the bank,
recall the days of childhood prank,
when the willows weep for me?
Are there some cherished memories still,
of this home and the water mill,
when the willows weep for me?
Or will the willows drop their leaf,
shed no tears and show no grief,
for they may not weep for me?

The willows will always weep for Mr. Coy.

Mayberry Trading Post and arguing with Miss Addie Wood. He always held, or pretended to, the opposite view of Miss Addie. On matters such as politics, he loved to debate with her simply because she could debate her beliefs and not back down. She always had a well reasoned counter response to his arguments and he respected anyone who would hold their own and stand their ground. He loved to argue with Miss Addie and he loved her for arguing back. Shortly before he died, Miss Addie visited him at the hospital and told him, "You gonna have to get out of here and back up on the mountain. We're getting behind in our arguing and we've got a lot of catching up to do." He silently wept, aware that those days in Mayberry would be no more.

I once made the remark to him that my dream would be to walk back in time, up Mayberry Creek and see it as it was before the settlers came, when virgin forest covered the land and chestnut tress towered above. He replied that I could do that "now" by just closing my eyes and imagining.

If Mr. Coy had an equal, it would be a mountain top tree standing alone on a high wind swept knoll. He had been buffeted by the winds of time and his trunk was bent by the continuous gusts of mountain wind and winters. Unlike the tree that grows in groves in sheltered hollows, the timber of his soul was not straight grained common boards, but the intricate curls and complex beauty of inlay from a tree whose fibers were constantly challenged to survive. Such timber and people are rare and when they do come along, they're cherished by all who know them.

From the church we carried his coffin to the small family cemetery at Mayberry. There in the fields he had roamed and worked all his life, he was laid

excerpts from

National Register of Historic Places

Registration Form for the Barnard Farm

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Barnard Farm, located in Patrick County, Virginia, has a diversity of historic resources spanning nearly two centuries of development. The farm was established in the early nineteenth century by Isham and Sally Barnard (A1) in the Kibler Valley at the point where the upper Dan River emerges from the Blue Ridge.

The Barnards' farmhouse was a two-story log dwelling, possibly built in 1829, that was enlarged and remodeled in the Greek Revival style in the mid-nineteenth century, possibly ca. 1851, and again in the Craftsman style in the 1930s. The interior features vibrant graining and a marbled mantel. Descendants of Isham and Sally, principally their grandson, James W. Barnard (a state legislator), and great-grandson, William Barnard, added farm buildings and log and frame tenant houses to the property.

Other resources include the small frame Kibler Post Office, the 1950s cinder block Barnard's Store, and the Barnard Cemetery, which contains gravemarkers ranging from fieldstones to a locally crafted soapstone headstone and professionally carved marble and granite monuments.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The Barnard Farm occupies the last large extent of level ground along the Dan River below where the river emerges from the Blue Ridge through the gorge of the Kibler Valley. As such the location was apparently recognized at an early date for its agricultural potential.

In 1804 John Preston of Washington County purchased 501 acres at the location from John Hanby. Preston was distantly related to the Smithfield Prestons of Montgomery County, one of the leading early families of Southwest Virginia, and he was himself one of the foremost citizens of Washington County. The deed noted that the tract was occupied by John Young, presumably a relation of the James Young whose property adjoined to the south.

In 1811 Isham Barnard (A1) acquired 150 acres on the "Big Dann river" near the Preston tract. Barnard (1787-1871), whose name was spelled Barnett in the deed, lived in Patrick County by the date of the purchase. He acquired the acreage from Charles Bolt, his brother-in-law. Barnard's wife was Sarah "Sally" Burch (A1)(1785-1863), whom he wed in Suny County, North Carolina, in 1805, and with whom he raised thirteen children.'



Barnard extended family, circa 1870

In 1829 John and Robert Preston, the latter probably John's son, sold 201 acres of their 501-acre tract to Isham Barnard for \$700. It is possible Barnard acquired an interest in the land earlier, although the 1830 land book has a marginal note explaining that the 201 acres were 'transferred from Robert & John Preston,' confirming that Barnard took formal possession in 1829. By the end of the antebellum period Barnard had amassed over 1,300 acres. He also owned slaves. The original version of his will, dated 1859, bequeathed a woman named Ruth, her two children, and a boy named Henderson to Sally Barnard and directed that the remaining slaves be sold at his death (a provision made null and void since Barnard died after the Civil War). Family tradition recalls that

a slave house stood somewhere in the vicinity of the present hay and stock barn.

The 1850 census provides a detailed look at the makeup of the Barnard household and farming operation. Isham, whose occupation was given as farmer, lived with his wife, Sally, his son, William (1828-92), and one Archibald Barnard [Isham's brother]. Isham Barnard owned a farm valued at \$2,000 as well as six slaves. The agricultural census described his farm as having 115 improved acres and 380 unimproved acres. Barnard grew large crops of corn and oats, and smaller crops of wheat and rye. He reported no tobacco production in 1850, although some of his neighbors grew the crop, and there were myriad small tobacco factories in Patrick County in 1850. A hundred swine were listed—hogs were well-suited to the forests that surrounded the farm—as were smaller herds of sheep, horses, cattle, and milk cows. By 1860 the Barnard household had been reduced to Isham, Sally, and William, although the value of the farm had increased substantially to \$6,776 and Barnard's slave holding, which had increased to nine people, contributed to the over \$9,000 listed for his personal estate. In 1870 Isham, then widowed, lived on the farm with William; his granddaughter Sarah A. Shelor (b. ca. 1837), who kept house for her uncle and grandfather; Elizabeth Shelor, possibly Sarah's sister; and a teenaged farm laborer named John Palmer. The farm at this time included a second dwelling, as noted in an 1868 codicil to Barnard's will which refers to "my new survey on Coxes branch and old house &c."



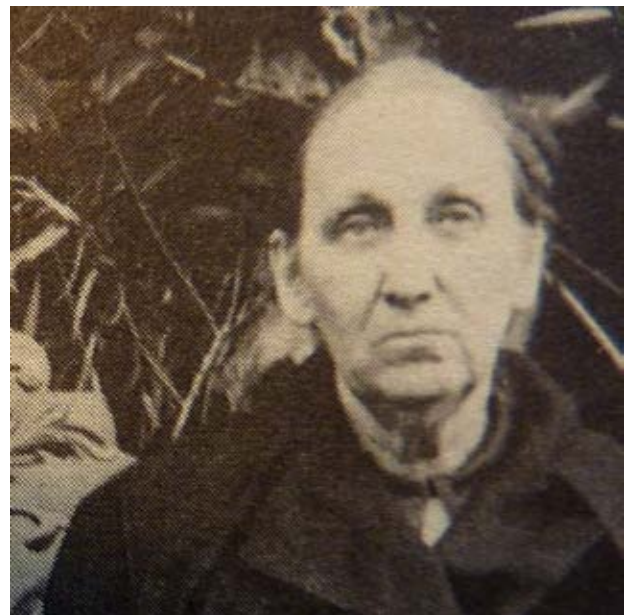
James W. Barnard (1844-1923)



Tenant house at Barnard Farm

William Barnard received the farm following his father's death in 1871. After William's death in 1892 the farm was acquired by his nephew, James William Barnard (1844-1923), who was the grandson of Isham and Sarah Barnard and the son of Tirea Barnard (1807-77)[A1] and Eliza Scott Barnard (b. 1807). Tirea, Eliza, and their family appear to have lived on a farm adjacent to the Barnard Farm in 1850, but they later moved to the Meadows of Dan vicinity of the county.

In 1863 James W. Barnard enlisted in the Confederate army (Company K, 50th Virginia Infantry) and served at the battles of Chancellorsville and Spotsylvania Courthouse before being captured and interned in Union prisoner of war camps in Maryland and



Susan Ruth Wood Barnard (1853-1931) In addition to being JWB's wife, she was also Nancy Adeline Wood's (A1) sister

New York. In 1870 James W. Barnard lived with Tirea Barnard, his father, and a year later he married Susan R. Wood (1853-1931). Eventually he entered politics, first serving as commissioner of the revenue for the Dan River district of Patrick County beginning in 1894 and later serving a term in the Virginia House of Delegates during 1906 and 1907 (he was a Republican).

James W. Barnard was also a Primitive Baptist minister ordained in 1877, and he was the first postmaster of the Kibler Post Office, which he opened in the Barnard Farm farmhouse in 1899. The opening of the post office coincided with the construction of the Mt. Airy and Eastern Railroad from Mt. Airy, North Carolina, to Kibler. According to a county history: "This narrow gauge railroad ran a daily round trip hauling lumber, cross ties, logs, and tanbark out of the area while bringing in fertilizer, flour, side meat, shoes, mail, and other commodities." The lumber shipped out on the railroad was cut at the sawmill of C. W. Kibler, who gave his name to the post office and community.

In 1915 James and Eliza's son, William (Will) Barnard (1894-1993), married Elitha Agnes Clement (1898-1960), who went by the nickname Cubie. Will Barnard was employed as a foreman by the Clark Brothers construction firm. One project he worked on was the Pinnacles Powerplant several miles upstream from the Barnard Farm. Both Will and his wife operated the Kibler Post Office. According to family tradition, Cubie opened a store in the oldest section of the granary. In the early 1930s she and her husband had a small store building that originally stood up Coxes Branch, said to have been operated by a Mr. Wilson, moved down to the road and remodeled to serve as the store and post office. According to one account, the post office closed in 1939.

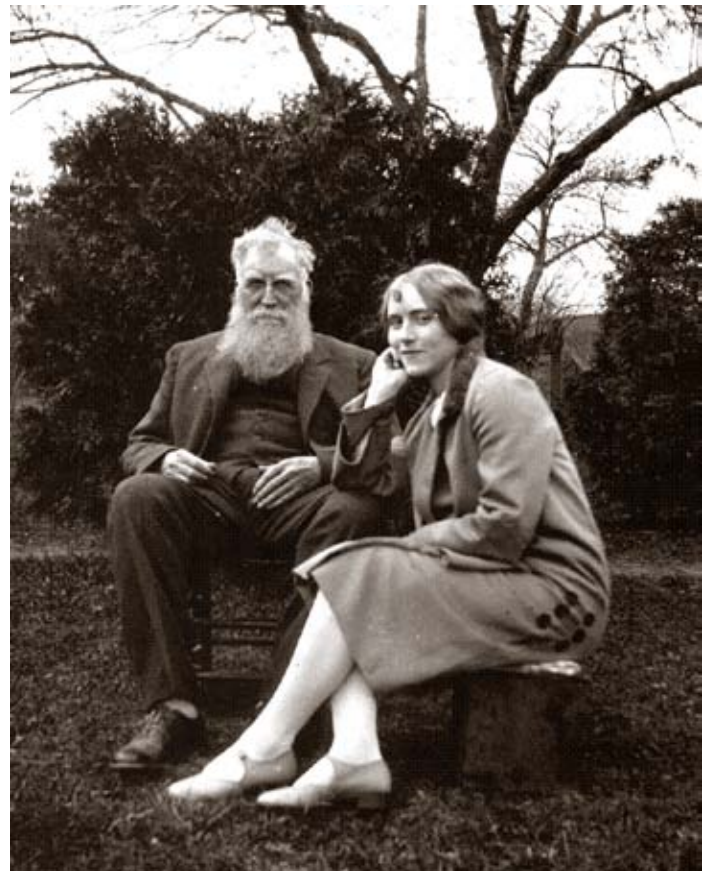
In a 1981 newspaper interview Will Barnard recalled the family-run post office service during the depression of the 1930s: "You know, people wanting to mail a letter... My wife was postmaster and stamps were 2 cents, and they'd bring an egg over and ask for a stamp. She'd buy the egg and stamp the letter."

Eventually the Barnards' son William (Bill) A. Barnard took over the family mercantile business. Before he did, in the early 1950s the Barnards had the cinder block building erected for their store business with an automobile repair shop in the basement and living quarters on the second floor. Bill Barnard operated the store into the 1990s. For most of the second half

of the twentieth century a junk yard associated with the automobile shop was located in the fields near the hay and livestock barn. The junk was removed in recent years and the affected area returned to an agricultural appearance.



Site (near Mayberry) of former farm owned by Tirea and Eliza (Scott) Barnard (A1). According to their granddaughter, Lois (Barnard) Harris, Tirea and Eliza owned most of the land in the valley in the picture—at least 350 acres. Their house used to stand just to the right of this picture. At the time this picture was taken on July 19, 1987, the farm was owned by Lois's nephew, Gene Barnard.



Jehu Barnard and Lois Barnard Harris



Vern Barnard and Annie Pendleton Barnard at the grave of Edwin Barnard. Edwin, Vern's brother and Annie's son, drowned at the age of 18.

Constant Dripping

Drip, drip, drip, by my window
And the sigh of wind in the eaves;
Drip, drip, drip, from the branches
And the tips of trembling leaves.

Drip, drip, drip, from the heavens --
A cloud laden, dull grey sky --
Drip, drip, drip everlasting --
There's no escape but to die.

And die I would, but I cannot;
I pray for release all in vain.
My heart is a rock from sorrow
Increased by this torturing rain.

Drip, drip, drip! It's eternal!
I lie on my bed and moan - - -
Ah! - my heart is a rock from sorrow,
And constant dripping wears away stone.

~ Amy Maude Yeatts Searle



Win Barnard, Annie Pendleton Barnard, and two of their kids: Nancy Vern and Donald



Annie Pendleton Barnard and John Barnard



DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY — Mr. and Mrs. Donald J. Barnard of Pasco, standing, were among hosts for a 75th wedding anniversary

party for his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John W. Barnard, at Walnut Grove Nursing home, Grandview.

John W. Barnards Observe 75th Wedding Anniversary

Tuesday was the diamond wedding anniversary of John W. and Annie C. Barnard, who presently are living at Walnut Grove Nursing Home, Grandview.

They were honored at a reception Sunday at the home, hosted by their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Donald J. Barnard, Pasco, and grandson and wife, Mr. and Mrs. John C. Tverberg, Richland.

Often called "Win," Barnard, 93, and the former Annie Pendleton, now 91, were born near the Blue Ridge Parkway in southern Virginia and were married Oct. 22, 1893, at Meadows of Dan, Va.

They moved to Saco, Mont., in 1910, where they led a varied life, braving rugged Montana winters on a homestead, later in a general store. In addition to raising three children, Mrs. Barnard is a retired postmistress, serving at Telegraph Creek and Beaver-ton, both Montana and now discontinued.

They moved to Astoria, Ore., in 1944 and in 1948 to Casa Grande, Ariz. In 1959 they moved to Williston, N.D. and have been residents of Walnut Grove the past year.

In addition to their son they have five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.



Roy Yeatts and Helen Hambly Yeatts on their mission in New Guinea

How the original Siamese twins had 21 children by two sisters... while sharing one (reinforced) bed

by Tom Leonard

published in *The Daily Mail*, November 7, 2014

- Chang and Eng Bunker were born in 1811 in Siam, now known as Thailand
- Pair triumphed over extraordinary odds and prejudice in 19th century
- Twins, who had condition named after them, toured with carnivals in U.S
- But they became U.S. citizens, opened a store and built a spacious home
- After being leased out as teenagers, they became slave-owners themselves
- The wedding [to two Yates girls] in 1843 provoked a national scandal, amid claims it was 'bestial'
- But they had 21 children with the sisters - ten by Chang and 11 by Eng

The walls in Chang and Eng Bunker's bedroom would have had some tales to tell, if walls could talk. Their marital bed was built for four — brothers Chang and Eng in the middle and their wives on either side. Between them, they conceived some 21 children in that bed.

For Chang and Eng were the original Siamese Twins, conjoined siblings who provided the name for all who suffer this accident of birth.

As a new biography reveals, the pair triumphed over extraordinary odds and appalling prejudice in 19th-century America and Britain. Brought to the West to be exhibited as freaks and probed by doctors, the enterprising Bunkers eventually became rich Southern gentlemen and plantation owners.

But, says U.S. academic Joseph Orser in *The Lives of Chang and Eng*, the pair were never allowed to forget that many considered them 'monsters' whose sexual urges and desire to pursue a normal family life were unnatural, even devilish, abominations.

Born in 1811 in a fishing village 60 miles from Bangkok, the twins really had their roots more in China than in Siam, later renamed Thailand. Their father was a Chinese fisherman and their 35-year-old mother was half-Chinese, half-Malay.

The two midwives who helped at the birth recoiled in superstitious horror at the thick ligament connecting the babies just above their waists. The twins' mother probably saved their lives by untwisting the ligament



Sarah, Chang, Eng, Adelaide, and two of their boys

— which had been connected to a single umbilical cord — and moving the babies so they lay staring into each other's eyes. She named them In and Jun (anglicised to Eng and Chang). Chang — on the left — was always slightly shorter and the upper half of his body arched away from his brother.

Their mother encouraged the boys to exercise, stretching their connecting ligament so that it gradually grew to more than five inches — enough for them to run, swim and handle a boat. Crucially, they were able to bow 18 times, as custom dictated, when they were presented to the king of Siam, Rama III.

Their life, helping their family to sell preserved ducks' eggs, might have passed in obscurity had they not been spotted by a British merchant when they were

adolescents.

Robert Hunter at first thought the twins were 'some strange animal' when he saw them swimming in

a river. But he recognised their commercial potential and easily persuaded their impoverished family that the twins should accompany him back to the West and be exhibited as a public curiosity. They agreed but the king, who wanted to show them off at court, was reluctant.

It took five years and the help of an American sea captain, Abel Coffin,



Chang and Eng

to win over the king, who was bribed with a telescope and a troupe of temple dancers. The twins' mother — whose husband had died when the boys were young — received \$500 for contracting her sons to Hunter and Coffin for 30 months.

On board Captain Coffin's ship as they sailed for Massachusetts with a translator in 1829, the 17-year-old twins showed that they were bright and extremely co-ordinated. They quickly picked up the rudiments of English and could scurry up the mast as fast as any sailor aboard.

In Boston they were exhibited as The Siamese Double Boys and were an immediate sensation.

In theatres and halls across the U.S. they performed for four hours a day, six days a week, entertaining thousands with somersaults, backflips, an uncanny ability at draughts and chess, and their prodigious strength — they could carry a 20-stone man.

Although Captain Coffin told some people that he and Hunter 'owned' the boys, the twins were actually paid well for their hard work.

Not many conjoined twins had survived for more than a few days, so doctors and scientists clamoured to see them too.

It suited their promoters that they were examined,

albeit often invasively, by some of America's finest doctors. Those doctors' conclusion — that women and children could view them safely 'without harm or offence' — was perfect titillation to include on the show's advertising posters.

Britain hankered to see them too, and the twins sailed there in 1830. In London, some of the world's leading physicians were waiting to examine them. At 5ft 2in tall, the twins were now fully grown and their connecting ligament was about the size and roundness of a child's arm.

Each one appeared to sense when the other was tickled or ate an unpleasant-tasting food, but he couldn't hear a whisper in the other's ear or feel a pinch on his arm. Although both were clearly intelligent, the hardier Chang was dominant and Eng would rarely speak out of turn.

The big question nagging the doctors — could the twins be separated and survive? — was something on which they couldn't agree.

Of one thing Sir Astley Cooper, the 'Great Lion of British Surgery', was sure. 'Depend on it, those boys will fetch a vast deal more money while they are together than when they are separate,' he said. 'Why separate them? The boys seem perfectly happy as they are.' But that was not always to be.

The pair went on to tour the Continent and returned to the U.S. in 1831, aged 20 years old, healthier, more educated, and richer.

Dispensing with Coffin and Hunter and hiring their own manager, they now insisted on being treated with respect. They were not above getting into fights with those who slighted them, especially anyone who suggested that their mother had sold them into slavery.

They might sound like the cruelly mistreated 'Elephant Man', but the pair were natural showmen who realised that their deformity was a path to a fortune. They spent the next seven years on the road, including three-month stints at the Museum of Curiosities in New York.

There they met and befriended James Calloway, a young doctor from Wilkesboro, a remote township in North Carolina. By this time the twins were tired of being continually stared at, even for money, and hankered for a quiet life. They accepted Calloway's invitation to return home with him.

North Carolina was a slave state but under U.S. law,

the twins counted as white. They became U.S. citizens, realising only when they got to the naturalisation office that they had no surname. They borrowed 'Bunker' from the man standing behind them in the queue.

Canny and industrious businessmen, they opened a store and, buying 200 acres, branched into farming and built a spacious home for themselves. The twins who had been leased out as teenagers themselves became slave-owners, buying dozens to work their new plantation.

But their thoughts turned increasingly to fulfilling more physical needs. Observers had long noticed that the pair loved discussing attractive women together, yet the outside world dismissed the idea that they could have a sex life as a joke.

Newspapers for years ran speculative stories about them and various women. A London woman claimed she had fallen madly in love with them but could not offer herself in marriage for fear of committing bigamy. There was similar sniggering over an American admirer who fell in love with Chang but realised a 'divorce' from Eng was out of the question.

There was even a joke that Chang had interfered in a 'love intrigue' of Eng's: the brothers wanted to fight a duel over it but couldn't agree on a distance from which to shoot at each other.

The twins were undeterred by the mockery. 'We enjoy ourselves pretty well but have not as yet married,' they wrote, aged 31, to Robert Hunter, the man who had 'discovered' them. 'But we are making love pretty fast and if we get a couple of nice wives we will be sure to let you know about it.'

In fact they were pursuing the daughters of a neighbouring farmer, David Yates. An unusual romantic conundrum had arisen.

Over several years, Chang and the slimmer, more attractive sister, Adelaide, had fallen in love. Eng and her sister, Sarah, had not.

Marrying two sisters made sense, however, as Victorian propriety would not have tolerated a woman sharing such intimacy with any other female.

It took the somewhat portly Sarah five years to agree to Eng's entreaties, but both couples were married by a Baptist preacher in Yates's living room in 1843.



A CHARACTERISTIC GROUP, REPRESENTING CHANG AND ENG, THE SIAMSE TWINS, WITH THEIR WIVES AND CHILDREN.

The Bunker Family

The foursome then returned chez Bunker, where the marital bed had been enlarged and strengthened.

Quite how they all envisaged their marriage working is not clear but, according to some reports, the twins had considered drastic measures.

Despite being warned by various doctors over the years that an operation to separate them could prove fatal, they had travelled to Philadelphia a few months before their wedding for just that purpose. They were waiting to go into surgery when the sisters, who had learnt of their quest, burst in and persuaded them not to go through with such a risky procedure.

Nonetheless, the wedding provoked a national scandal, with accusations that the marriage was 'bestial'.

When both wives rapidly produced daughters — proving that these were not platonic relationships — the outrage reached fever pitch. Abolitionists in the North blamed the 'depravity' on a Southern culture perverted by the 'sin of slavery'.

'The prospect of the twins engaging in sexual relations with women disturbed sensibilities,' says Oser, their biographer. When a Kentucky woman gave birth to stillborn conjoined twins, she blamed seeing pictures of the Bunkers at around the time she conceived.

Still, the brothers went on to father 21 children — 11 by Eng and ten by Chang.

The couples' bedroom etiquette remains unclear. It was certainly not considered a polite topic at the time, although a local newspaper noted that their wives' first children were born just six days apart in 1844. A later pair were separated by eight days.

Amid reports that the wives — who must have shown amazing forbearance over the years — finally began to argue, the twins set up separate homes and installed a wife and children in each. They agreed to split each week between the two.

But while the families might seem to have had all the trappings of gentry, with their estates, slaves and silverware, money was sometimes tight — especially after the South was ruined in the American Civil War.

So the brothers had to go back 'on tour' six times in later life, sometimes taking their children (none of whom was physically deformed, though two were deaf). It must have been humiliating, especially when — in their 50s — they signed up in New York with the infamous freak show proprietor P.T. Barnum.

The Prince of Wales was among guests who watched them perform alongside the midget General Tom Thumb, the Bearded Lady and the tiny-headed Zip the Man Monkey.

In 1868 they returned to Britain. The twins had fond memories of the country, but the public mood had turned against freak shows. Reporters doubted that their children could actually be theirs. 'For some, it was too "disgusting" to imagine these "human monsters" as husbands or fathers,' says Orser.

Meanwhile, the twins found they were cramping each other's style: Eng loved all-night poker, Chang's weakness was boozing.

In 1870, as they were returning from a tour of Europe and Russia, Chang suffered a stroke down the side closest to his brother. Eng nursed him as best he could, carrying around Chang's now useless leg in a sling as his ailing brother leant on a crutch.

In January 1874, when the twins were 62, Chang caught bronchitis but still insisted that they venture out in the cold to honour their twice-weekly house-moving ritual. Two days later, Eng awoke early and



called for help. His brother had died.

‘Then I am going!’ cried Eng, and began twisting in panic in bed. Sweating profusely and saying that he was in great pain, he told his wife: ‘I am dying.’ Drawing his brother to him, he uttered his final words: ‘May the Lord have mercy on my soul!’

By the time the doctor arrived, ready to cut the twins apart, Eng was dead, just two-and-a-half hours after his brother passed away.

A post-mortem examination, conducted by doctors who described the twins as ‘the monster now before us’, showed that Chang may have had a cerebral clot but Eng appeared literally to have died of fright, overcome by the realisation that he was attached to a dead man.

Even in death, the twins provided a spectacle when the post-mortem results were made public. Finally,

doctors were able to discover just how connected the twins were.

Not only did they share a liver, it transpired, but the make-up of their connecting ligament was so complex that they would never have survived being parted.

Article based on *The Lives of Chang and Eng: Siam’s Twins in Nineteenth Century America*, by Joseph Orser. Published by the University of North Carolina Press.

Notes

OK, I admit it. Including this story in this book is a bit of a stretch. Here’s the connection. Among John “of Dan River” Yates’ (B12) kids were Stephen Yates (1749-1846) and another John Yates (1754-1835). Our line is descended from Stephen; Adelaide and Sarah were granddaughters of John 1754.



Damnation Creek Redwoods. photo by Garth Hagerman

The Barnard Family

by

Bill Putnam

The Barnard Family were Anglican and became Quakers. They came from England in the late 1630s. Two brothers, Thomas and Robert, came and we are related to both.

The family was English. They began living in Andover and Amesbury, north of Boston, but soon moved to the island of Nantucket.

Robert Barnard

Recently several people have done research in England and I think we can get back this far. Robert was a shipwright and was from Lowestoft, Suffolk. I don't know when he was born, but he was buried there in 1602. He was married twice, first to an Anne and then to Elizabeth Hooker. He had three children by Anne: Robert, Allen and Mark. And with Elizabeth he had Margery baptized in 1562, Elizabeth in 1569 and Thomas in 1575. Thomas would be our line.

Thomas Barnard I

He was born or at least baptized in 1575 and was a shipwright like his father. He married Anne Cooke in 1602. They had these children: Sarah, Symon born about 1610, Thomas about 1612, Anne 1612 or 1613, Elizabeth 1614 and Robert 1617.

I don't know when he died, but Anne later married Thomas Daynes or more likely Haynes. I will begin with the two brothers, Thomas and Robert Barnard who came to America and began our Barnard lineage.

Thomas Barnard II

Thomas was the elder of the two brothers. He was born about 1608-1610 in Lowestoft, Suffolk, England. Some sources hint he was from Brandstone Parish in either Suffolk or Essex. However, researchers have not been able to find any proof in the registers of either parish. We may assume he and his brother were English, but as of now I do not know exactly where they lived.

Again many sources state the brothers came to America in 1650. Yet Thomas is shown on an old map as being a landholder in Salisbury, Massachu-

setts in 1639. Later the family also bought land a few miles away in neighboring Amesbury, Massachusetts.

Thomas Barnard married a woman named Eleanor or Helen sometime about 1640 in Salisbury. Their first child, Thomas junior, was born there in May of 1641. Their second son, Nathaniel, was born there in 1642. Nathaniel married his cousin, Mary Barnard, and this is our lineage.

Thomas seems to have had lands in both Salisbury and Amesbury. The children were all born in Salisbury, but he appears in early Amesbury records by 1660 and then in the records of both towns. Perhaps all the lands lay on the border and spilled over into both towns.

Thomas was one of the original purchasers of Nantucket Island in 1659. He gave a half interest to his brother Robert. It does not appear that he ever went to the island, but Robert did in 1663.

Thomas was killed by Indians in Amesbury in October of 1677. His estate was settled in 1679.

Eleanor Barnard remained in the area and on July 19, 1681 she married George Little of Newbury. She died on November 27, 1694.

The following is what I have on the children of Thomas and Eleanor Barnard. All the children were born in Salisbury, Massachusetts.

Thomas Barnard, III. was born May 10, 1641 and died before 1715. He married Sarah Peasley in 1662.



Nathaniel Barnard was born November 15, 1642 and died on Nantucket on January 17, 1717/18. He married Mary Barnard, his cousin, a daughter of his father's brother Robert. This is our line.

Martha Barnard a twin born on September 22, 1645. She married Thomas Hayes or Haynes on December 26, 1667. After he died, she married Samuel Breckman in 1686.

Mary Barnard the other twin. She married Anthony Morse on November 10, 1669 and then Philip Eastman on August 22, 1678. She died in January of 1712.

Sarah Barnard was born September 28, 1647. She married William Hackett on January 31, 1667.

Hannah Barnard was born November 25, 1649. She married Benjamin Stevens in Salisbury on October 28, 1673.

Ruth Barnard was born October 16, 1651. She married Joseph Peasley on January 21, 1671.

John Barnard was born January 16, 1655. He married a young widow, Francis (Hoyt) Colby on December 27, 1676. He died in Amesbury on July 15, 1718.

Abigail Barnard was born on January 20, 1657. She married Samuel Fellows on June 2, 1681.

Robert Barnard

Robert was the younger brother and was born in England in 1614. He, like his brother, settled first in Salisbury about 1640. By about 1645 he had moved further inland to Andover, Massachusetts.

He married Joanna Harvey, daughter of William Harvey, about 1641. The Harvey family came from Somersetshire in England. Joanna was born there about 1617. Robert and Joanna were married in Salisbury, Massachusetts.

The family remained in the Andover area until 1663, when Robert and most of his family moved to Nantucket Island. One son, Stephen, remained on the land in Andover.

Robert and his family were early settlers and planters on Nantucket. He remained there until his death in 1682. He apparently still had claims in Andover when he died intestate. In 1714 his grandson Robert was appointed as administrator in some claim action the state had against his estate in Andover. Joanna Harvey Barnard lived on many years and died on

Nantucket on March 31, 1705.

The following is what I know about the six children of Robert and Joanna Barnard.

John Barnard was born January 2, 1642 in Salisbury, Massachusetts. He moved to Nantucket and there married Bethia Folger on February 26, 1669. Bethia was a daughter of Peter Folger and Mary Morrill. Both were drowned when their canoe overturned on a trip from Martha's Vineyard to Nantucket on June 6, 1669. There were no children.

Hannah Barnard was born in about 1644 at Salisbury. She married John Stevens, Junior on June 13, 1662. She died on March 13, 1675.

Sarah Barnard was born about 1646. She married James Skiffe, Junior in March of 1676. James had divorced Elizabeth Neighbor in 1670. They lived on Martha's Vineyard. James died about 1720 and is buried on the Vineyard. Sarah died October 24, 1732.

Martha Barnard was born March 2, 1647. She married William Rogers and seems to have lived on Martha's Vineyard. He died and was buried there before 1714. Martha returned to Nantucket where she died on January 23, 1717.

Mary Barnard was born April 6, 1648. She married her cousin, Nathaniel Barnard. Their lives are covered in the next section.

Stephen Barnard was born in 1649 in Andover, Massachusetts. He married Rebecca Howe in Andover on May 1, 1671. Rebecca was a daughter of James Howe and Elizabeth Dane. She was born in Ipswich, Massachusetts in 1651. Stephen would have been only fourteen when the family moved to Nantucket. He probably went and then returned to Andover to claim his father's lands. He was to remain on these lands the rest of his life. He died in Andover on February 12, 1722. Rebecca died there three years later on April 5, 1725. Their children were: Stephen, John, Hannah, Nathaniel, James and Robert.

Nathaniel Barnard

Nathaniel was born November 16, 1641 in Salisbury, Massachusetts. He moved with his family to Nantucket Island. There he married his first cousin, Mary Barnard in 1666. It is through this union that our line descends from both brothers, Robert and Thomas, who came to America from England.

Nathaniel and Mary remained on Nantucket for the remainders of their lives. Mary died there on January

17, 1717/18 and Nathaniel died less than three months later on April 3, 1718.

They had eleven children all born and raised on Nantucket Island. These children were:

Mary Barnard was born February 24, 1667 and married John Folger, son of Peter and Mary Folger.

Hannah Barnard was born July 19, 1669 and died as a child.

John Barnard was born on February 24, 1670 and married Sarah Macy, daughter of John & Deborah Macy. Their children were Jemima, born November 14, 1699 and married to Elihu Coleman, Robert, born January 14, 1702 and married to Hepzibah Coffin, Matthew, born November 7, 1705 and married to Mary Tebbets, Samuel, born September 3, 1707 and Hannah born September 7, 1711 and died probably unmarried in 1784.

Nathaniel Barnard was born on November 24, 1672. He was married twice, first to Dorcas Manning and then to Judith Folger, daughter of Stephen Folger and Mary Coffin, on February 1, 1709. He died April 2, 1718. The children were: Dorcas, born December 10, 1707 and married to Jacob Barney, Elizabeth, born September 11, 1710 and married to Barnabas Coleman, Peter, born March 5, 1713 and married to Anna Starbuck, Nathaniel, born April 2, 1717 and died in 1743 and Eunice born August 2, 1714.

Stephen Barnard (C6, B3) was born on February 16, 1674 and married Hopcot Gardner. They had a son, Thomas, who married Sarah Hoag. [Our Barnard line descends from this Stephen and Thomas]

Sarah Barnard was born on March 23, 1677 and married Thomas Currier Jr.

Eleanor Barnard was born on June 18, 1679 and married Ebenezer Coffin, son of James and Mary Coffin.

Benjamin Barnard was born in 1681. He married Judith Gardner. This is [Putnam's] line.

Timothy Barnard was born in the 1680s.

Ebenezer Barnard was born in the 1690s. He married Mary (Hussey) Worth, a widow, on March 24, 1722. She was the widow of Jona-

than Worth and the daughter of Stephen and Martha Hussey. He died March 4, 1767 and she died on January 8, 1771. Their children were: Stephen born June 14, 1723 and married to Eunice Starbuck, William born September 23, 1724 and married to Mary Coffin, Jemima born January 19, 1726 and married to Tristram Coffin, Lydia born December 2, 1730 and married to Jonathan Folger and Martha born February 18, 1733 and died September 30, 1733.

Abigail Barnard married Abraham Chase of Martha's Vineyard.

Note

Putnam's genealogy diverges from ours at this point. I've only included the first part of a longer story.

Make Way !

"Make way for Progress," the Councilman cried.
"Amen," echoed the Mayor,
"Our streets must suddenly be more wide.
Go hence. Fetch me a surveyor !"

"These trees must go. They'll soon be dead.
They were planted when YOU were a boy,
So, of course they're not modern," the concilman said,
And to cut down a tree gives me joy."

They were planted fifty years ago
And have some hundreds more to grow,
But their lives must halt, give way to asphalt --
"Make way for Progress," you know.

Down this street so long ago,
At the time these trees were planted,
Came horses fast and horses slow;
At mud and dust we ranted.

Then came the cars and then concrete
For walks and pavement wide.
It was a pleasant shaded street
With trees on either side.

They were planted fifty years ago
And have some hundreds more to grow,
But their lives must halt, give way to asphalt --
"Make way for Progress," you know.

~ Amy Maude Yeatts Searle

an excerpt from

Voyage of Anthony Chester

Voyage of Anthony Chester is an account written by an unknown passenger of the ship *Margaret and John*, which left England in December 1620 bound for Virginia and was attacked by the Spanish in the West Indies in March of 1621. Anthony Chester was the Captain of the ship. Abraham Wood (C15) was onboard as a ten year old indentured servant.

In the beginning of February 1620 I left England in the ship *Margaret & John*, our ship was of 160 ton burden, our Captain was Anthony Chester a brave seaman. Besides the crew we had on board a good many passengers of whom I was one, our ship carried 8 cannon with a valconet, our destination was Virginia where we hoped to transact some profitable business.

About the 14th of March we came in about 20 miles off Mettalina; the next day we passed Dominica and neared Guadaloupe where we intended to take in fresh water. Nearing this place we observed two vessels lying at anchor which we took to be Hollanders, not only because the ships were built after the model of that nation, but more so because the Admiral had the Dutch flag flying from the mizzenmast.

Expecting no harm we kept straight on & anchored in their immediate vicinity; but so as not to be taken by surprise we sent some sailors in a boat towards the Admiral's ship to reconnoitre, who returned in a very short time with the report that they were two Spanish men of war. Notwithstanding this we sent the boat out a second time to make a more thorough investigation while we commenced busying ourselves to make things ready in case it should come to a fight. But our ship was so full of household goods that we could not place our cannon as we wanted to, and so we had to make out the best we could.

Upon our boat reaching the Vice Admiral's ship our men inquired from whence the ship, but instead of receiving a polite reply the Spaniards demanded their surrender which of course our men declined and rowed back to our ship as rapidly as possible.

Meanwhile several shots were fired at them striking and breaking some of their oars, but not a man of them was hurt. When within

about a musket shot from our ship, they were fired at from a big cannon, and as soon as our men were on board of our ship, the Spaniards hoisted sail preparatory to attack us. We on our part anticipated a bloody encounter and were much troubled by our inability to properly place our guns for reasons mentioned above.

The Vice Admiral approached us with great rapidity, and in passing greeted us with a broadside which we ignored altogether, as our aim was to save ourselves by flight rather than risk an unequal contest with two such powerful vessels.

The Spaniard however gave us no chance for flight, so that we found we had to choose between two evils,



"The Cannon Shot", painting by Willem van de Velde the Younger, circa 1680

either to fight desperately or to surrender ourselves into slavery. In this manner we were forced into a fight, and we attacked the Spaniard so bravely and fought as heroes or rather as madmen and played upon them with our muskets and 4 cannon so furiously that they were forced to leave us the victory, taking to flight and returning to their former anchorage.

As soon as the Spanish Admiral saw this he took down the Dutch flag and hoisted the Spanish colors weighed anchor and sailed towards us, but before firing upon us they spoke us enquiring what nationality we were, we replied we were English and had no intention of harming them unless we were forced to do so and that it was our desire to proceed peacefully on our voyage.

Hereupon, the Spaniard demanded that we take down our mainsail which according to him was required by the rights of the King of Spain and marine usage, whereupon our Captain replied that he could not subject himself to any such rights nor did he intend to harm the subjects of the King of Spain. While friendly relations existed between their respective sovereigns he wished the same to exist between their subjects.

After exchanging a few more words, our Captain went down in the cabin, tired of listening any longer to the unjust demands of this Spaniard, but at the request of the Admiral our Captain came again on deck and was ordered to come on board the Admiral's ship to show his papers, but this our Captain refused to do saying if they wished to see them they could come on board his ship and he would show them his papers.

But what happens? Instead of answering by word of mouth, they saluted us with two pieces of cannon and a hail storm of musket balls, drew their swords, threatened to cut us to pieces, and calling us dogs, grappled us and thought they had subdued us already, when, at a sign previously agreed upon, our men sprang forward with their muskets and received them so well, supported by our 4 pieces of cannon, that they had to retreat.

It was not long though before they returned attacking us with a loud noise, grappled us again, and began to come on board our ship but our men led by our brave and courageous Captain received them so well with their muskets, spears, and grappling axes that we drove them off a second time sending many of them to a watery grave.

This, however, did not satisfy the Spaniard, they at-

tacked and grappled us a third time and during the fierce hand to hand fight, which now ensued, we had the good luck to shoot their Admiral down upon which they raised such a hue and cry that it astonished all of us, and they immediately took to flight leaving us the victory.

In this fierce and bloody encounter we, for reasons mentioned before, could not bring but 4 of our 8 cannons into use, but these were handled so rapidly and skillfully that several times the Spaniard would have gotten away from us but for their ship being lashed to ours until finally one of our men, with orders from our Captain, cut the ropes with his grappling axe upon which they immediately took to flight giving us several volleys from their big and small guns as they retreated.

The Vice Admiral, seeing we did not pursue his Admiral, acted as if he wanted to fight us again, but we did not mind him much, and set to work to face them both if they were so inclined. But the admiral's ship held off and we now attacked the Vice Admiral so furiously that we disabled his ship to such an extent that the whole crew had to take to shore to save themselves from a watery grave.

The night following this battle, all on board our ship, passengers as well as crew, were busy filling cartridges, cleaning cannons and muskets repairing damages etc. so as to be ready in case the Spaniard should feel inclined to attack us again, and by dawn of day it looked as if we had not been working all night in vain, the Spaniards seemingly preparing to attack us again. However, after looking at each other for about two hours with frowning faces, the Spaniard hoisted sail and took their course towards the nearest island, their movements being such that it was plain that they must have a good many dead and wounded.

On our side we had 8 dead, and of the 16 wounded 2 died afterwards; how many of the Spaniards were killed we never knew but certain it is that during the encounters we saw many of them fall and not a few find their grave in the water which was actually red with their blood.

The Admiral's ship was of 300 ton burden, carried 22 big guns and was well supplied with men and ammunition; the Vice Admiral's ship was also of 300 ton burden and carried 16 big guns with a correspondingly ample supply of men and ammunition; on the other hand ours was a small ship, as stated before, with 8 big guns of which we could use only 4, notwithstanding which we were so fortunate as to come out victorious.

A Biography of Abraham Wood

from Wikipedia

Abraham Wood (1610–1682) [C15], sometimes referred to as “General” or “Colonel” Wood, was an English fur trader (specifically the beaver and deerskin trades) and explorer of 17th century colonial Virginia. Wood’s base of operations was Fort Henry at the falls of the Appomattox in present-day Petersburg. Wood also was a member of the Virginia House of Burgesses, a member of the Virginia Governor’s Council and a high-ranking militia officer.

Abraham Wood came to Virginia as a 10-year-old boy in 1620. As a passenger on the British ship *Margaret and John*, Abraham Wood was one of the few survivors when the ship was attacked by two Spanish vessels in the West Indies, and turned to the Virginia colonies. By 1625, he was employed by Captain Samuel Mathews (Governor) and was living at Jamestown.

Abraham Wood represented Henrico County in the House of Burgesses from 1644 to 1646 and Charles City County from 1652 and 1656. He was a justice of Charles City County in 1655. Also in 1655, he was appointed to a committee to review Virginia’s laws. He was elected to the Virginia Governor’s Council on March 13, 1657–68 and actively served until at least 1671, and according to correspondence, keeping his seat as late as 1676.

Fort Henry was built in 1646 to mark the legal fron-

tier between the white settlers and the Native Americans, and was near the Appomattoc Indian tribe with whom Abraham Wood traded. It was the only point in Virginia at which Indians could be authorized to cross eastward into white territory, or whites westward into Indian territory, from 1646 until around 1691. This circumstance gave Wood, who commanded the fort and privately owned the adjoining lands, a considerable advantage over his competitors in the “Indian trade”.

Several exploration parties were dispatched from Fort Henry by Wood during these years, including one undertaken by Wood himself in 1650, which explored the upper reaches of the James River and Roanoke River. In August 1650, Abraham Wood and Edward Bland used the Great Indian Warpath, penetrating the Carolina region southwest of the Roanoke River and discovering westward flowing rivers. Daniel Coxe mentions that “Parts of this Country were discovered by the English long before the French had the least knowledge... Colonel Wood of Virginia... from the years 1654 to 1664 discovered at several times several branches of the great rivers Ohio and Mesechaceba.”

The first English expeditions to reach the southern Appalachian Mountains were also sent out by Wood. In 1671, explorers Thomas Wood, Thomas Batts (Batte) and Robert Fallam reached the New River Valley and the New River. “Batts was a grandson of Robert Batts, vicar master of University College, Oxford, and possibly brother to Nathaniel Batts, first permanent settler in North Carolina and Governor of Roanoke Island. Nathaniel by 1655 had a busy Indian trade from his home on Albemarle Sound. Thomas Wood may have been Abraham’s son. Robert Fallam is a question mark. The journal he kept of their experience shows him to be a literate, educated man.” The New River was named Wood’s River after Abraham Wood, although in time it became better known as the New River. Batts and Fallam are generally credited with being the first Europeans to enter within the present-day borders of West Virginia.

In 1673, Wood sent his friend James Needham and his indentured servant Gabriel Arthur on an expedition to find an outlet to the Pacific Ocean. Shortly after their departure Needham and Arthur encountered a group of Tomahitan Indians, who offered



First Colonial Assembly in Virginia.

to conduct the men to their town across the mountains. After reaching the Tomahitan town Needham returned to Fort Henry to report to Wood. While en route back to the Tomahitan town Needham was killed by a member of the trading party with whom he was traveling.

Shortly thereafter, Arthur was almost killed by a mob in the Tomahitan settlement, but was saved and then adopted by the town's headman. Arthur lived with the Tomahitans for almost a year, accompanying them on war and trading expeditions as far south as Spanish Florida and as far north as the Ohio River.

Wood was appointed colonel of a militia regiment in Henrico and Charles City counties in 1655. Later, he was appointed major general but lost this position in 1676 after Bacon's Rebellion either because of infirmity or political differences with Governor William Berkeley.

By 1676, Wood had given his place as commander and chief trader to his son-in-law, Peter Jones, for whom Petersburg, Virginia was eventually named.

In 1676, Governor Berkeley wrote that Maj. Gen. Wood of the council kept to his house through infirmity. By March 1678-79, he was strong enough to negotiate with the Native Americans and to arrange for the chief men of hostile tribes to meet in Jamestown.

Wood retired to patent more plantation land in 1680 west of the fort, in what had been Appomattoc territory, notwithstanding it being disallowed by the House of Burgesses.

Abraham Wood died some time between 1681 and 1686, possibly in 1682.



The Burning of Jamestown by Howard Pyle. It depicts the burning of Jamestown, Virginia during Bacon's Rebellion (A.D. 1676-77)

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There's a complete version of my tree available online at garthhagerman.com. Corrections, additions, and other feedback is always welcome.

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