

# Verifying Your Jamestowne Lineage

*Breaking Down Brick Walls in Jamestowne Research*

Bonnie Hofmeyer, Executive Director of the Jamestowne Society  
March 2024

THE BRUE FAMILY LEARNING CENTER



American Ancestors®  
by NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

# Meet today's presenter



**Bonnie Hofmeyer**

Executive Director of the Jamestowne Society

# OVERVIEW

- **Presentation** (60 mins.)
- **Q&A** (30 mins.)

# Overview

## Useful Strategies

Common pitfalls  
Key resources

## Case Studies

Seven case studies demonstrating key strategies and resources

## Writing a Proof Argument

Records to include  
What not to include



*Voice of*  
Bonnie Hofmeyer  
Executive Director  
Jamestowne Society

**Virginia's Smith/Wicks Family Tree**  
Owner: [Dapalumbo](#)

**James Ransom Coppage**  
**BIRTH** 1825 Fauquier County, Virginia, USA  
**DEATH** Sep 1862 Sharpsburg, Washington, Maryland, USA  
**DIFFERENT**  
sources (3) records (2)

**Family Info**

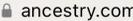
Father	Thomas Coppage (1785–1864)
Mother	Dicy Luttrell (1794–1863)
Spouse	Harriet Ann Price (1827–) <i>Married 1848</i>

**Brooks Family Tree**  
Owner: [Janet Brooks](#)

**James Ransom Coppage**  
**BIRTH** 1825 Fauquier County, Virginia, USA  
**DEATH** Sep 1862 Sharpsburg, Washington, Maryland, USA  
**DIFFERENT**  
sources (1) records (1)

**Family Info**

Father	Thomas Coppage Jr. (1785–1864)
--------	--------------------------------



www.Ancestry.com

Tip

Don't use the  
"Surround and Drown"  
Method!

(Listing every source you can find  
mentioning the connection)

# Sources to Check

# Tax Records

- Land Tax Records
  - Shows transfer of property
- Personal Property Tax Records
  - Can show death dates and names

# Unrecorded Wills & Deeds

- Kept in a separate file
- Usually not discarded
- Contact the local courthouse



## Chancery Records Index

### [Close Case Details](#)

Locality	Index Number	Original Case Number
SOUTHAMPTON CO	1834-054	1113
Plaintiff(s)	Defendant(s)	
Abraham L Gardner	Bittha Lawrence WIDOW ETC WIDOW OF Honor Lawrence ETC	

### Surname(s)

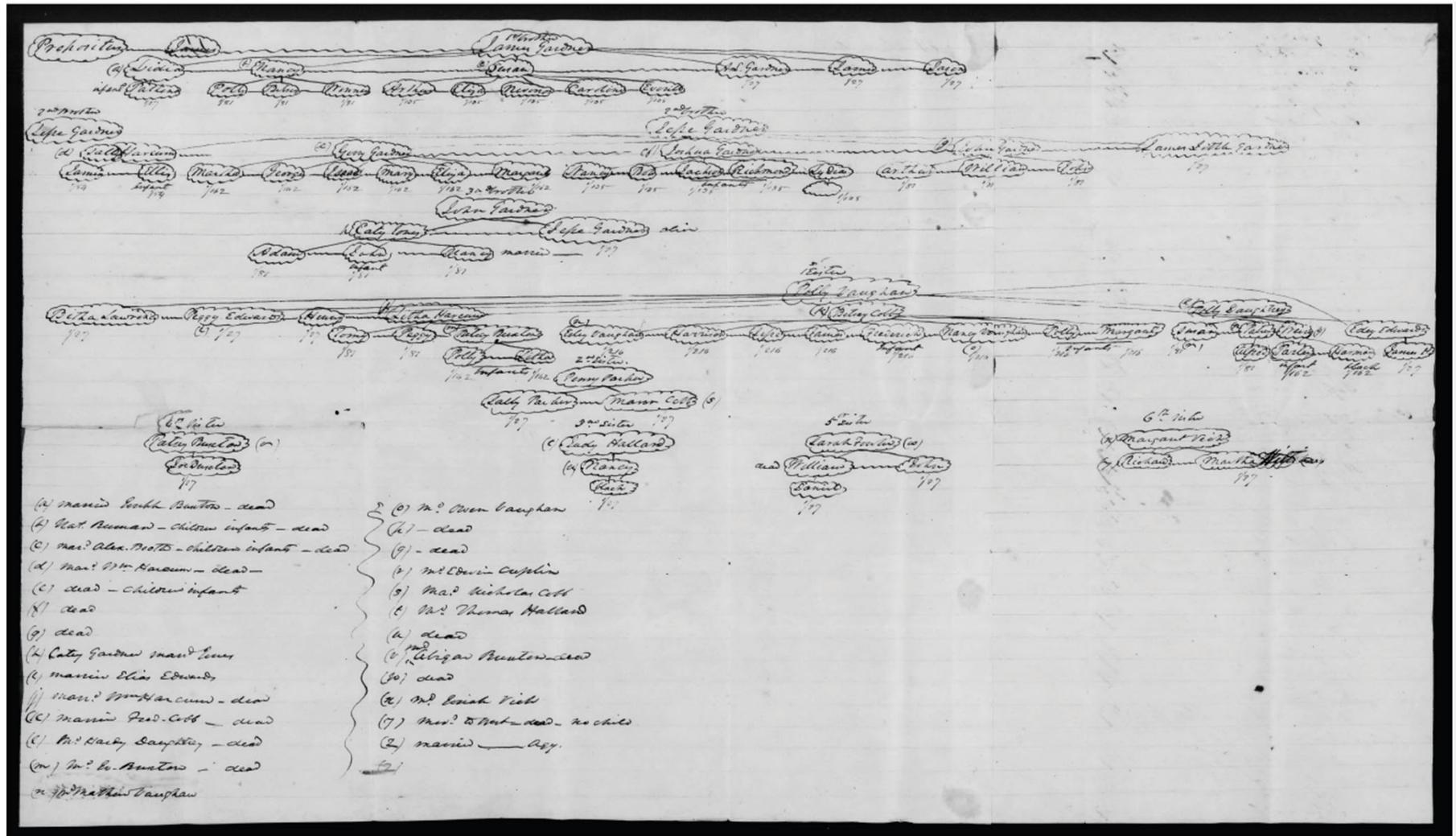
Allison  
 Beaman  
 Beeman  
 Booth  
 Buxton  
 Cobb  
 Cogsdale  
 Cogsill  
 Crosslin  
 Daughtrey  
 Edwards  
 Fowler  
 Gardner  
 Harcum  
 Holland  
 Jones  
 Lawrence  
 Parker  
 Vaughan  
 Vick  
 Williams

Wills	Plat?
	NO

### Format

Scanned

<https://www.virginiamemory.com/collections/chancery/>



# 1834 Chancery Record

# Vital Records

- Virginia kept vital statistics from 1853-1896, then starting again in 1912
- Vital records include birth, marriage, and death records

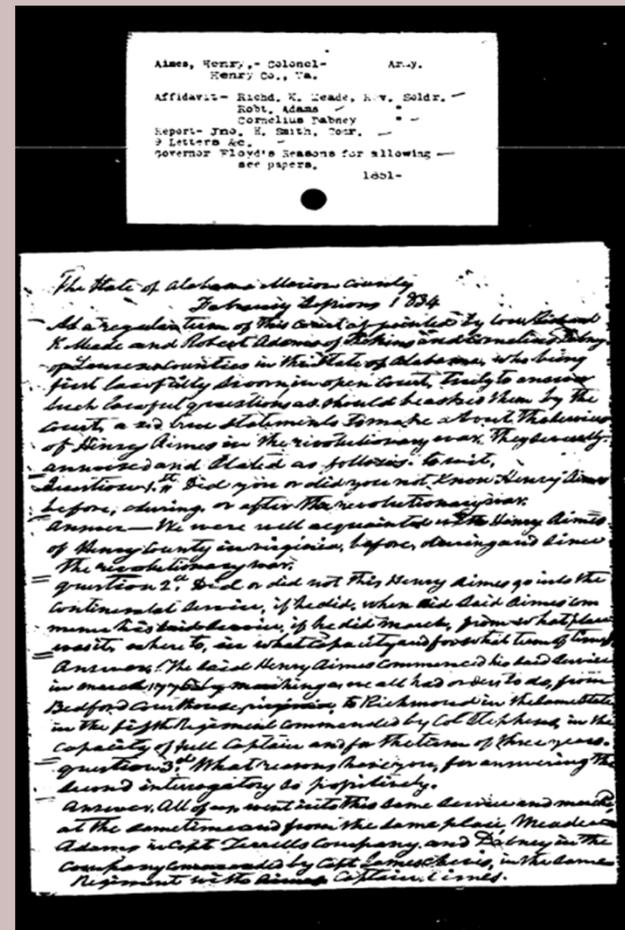
# Land Office Military Certificates (LOMC)

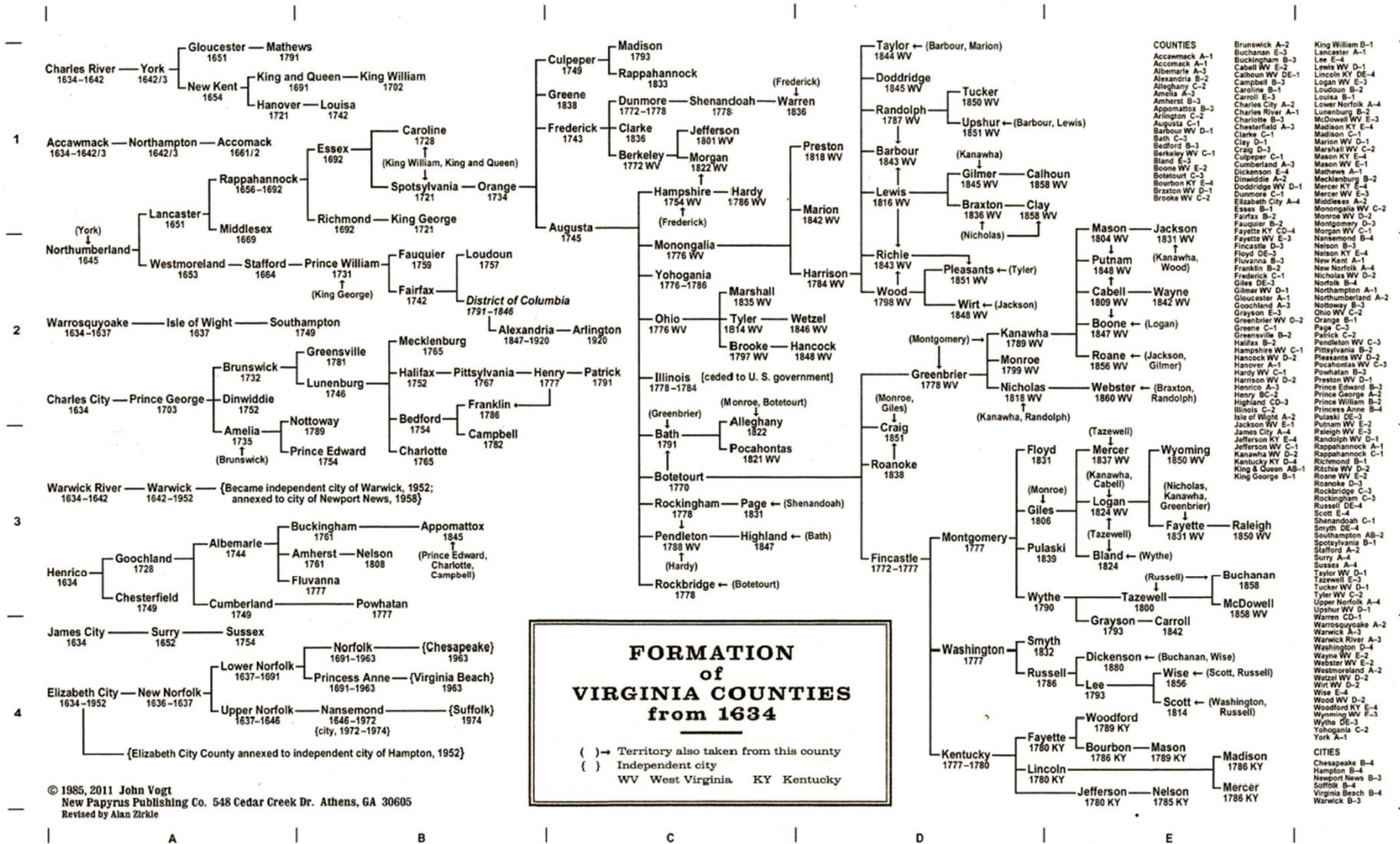
- Certificate for land provided to serviceman for their service during the Revolutionary War.
- Land for Virginia soldiers was located in Kentucky and Ohio
- Sometimes include names and relations of heirs



# Bounty Warrants

- Document Revolutionary War Service
- Sometimes include list of heirs
- Bounty Warrants are available on the Library of Virginia website.







# QUESTIONS?

# Case Study 1

**CERTIFICATE OF DEATH**  
COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS

22793

1 PLACE OF DEATH  
COUNTY OF Fauquier  
MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT OF Lee  
OR  
INC. TOWN OF \_\_\_\_\_  
OR  
CITY OF \_\_\_\_\_ (If death occurred in a hospital or other institution, give its NAME instead of street and number)

REGISTRATION DISTRICT No. 3038 REGISTERED No. 3  
(TO BE INSERTED BY REGISTRAR) (FOR USE OF LOCAL REGISTRAR)

Length of residence in city or town where death occurred ..... yrs. .... mos. .... ds. .... How long in U. S., if of foreign birth? ..... yrs. .... mos. .... ds.

2 FULL NAME Mary M. Brown  
(A) RESIDENCE. No. Lee ST. \_\_\_\_\_ WARD \_\_\_\_\_  
(Usual place of abode) (If nonresident give city or town and State)

**PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS**

3. SEX Female 4. COLOR OR RACE white 5. SINGLE, MARRIED, WIDOWED, OR DIVORCED (write the word) widowed

5A. IF MARRIED, WIDOWED, OR DIVORCED HUSBAND OF (OR) WIFE OF James M. Brown

6. DATE OF BIRTH (month, day, and year) Dec 13, 1852

7. AGE Years 84 Months 9 Days 10 IF LESS THAN 1 DAY, HRS. OR MIN.

8. TRADE, PROFESSION, OR PARTICULAR KIND OF WORK DONE, AS SPINNER, SAWYER, BOOKKEEPER, ETC. Housewife

9. INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS IN WHICH WORK WAS DONE, AS SILK MILL, SAW MILL, BANK, ETC.

10. DATE DECEASED LAST WORKED AT THIS OCCUPATION (month and year) 7-6-2 11. TOTAL TIME (YEARS) SPENT IN THIS OCCUPATION Life

12. BIRTHPLACE (city or town) (State or country) Fauquier

**FATHER**

13. NAME James R. Coppage

14. BIRTHPLACE (city or town) (State or country) Fauquier

**MOTHER**

15. MAIDEN NAME Harriet A. Price

16. BIRTHPLACE (city or town) (State or country) Fauquier

17. INFORMANT W. B. Brown  
(ADDRESS) Midland R & A No 2

18. BURIAL, CREMATION, OR REMOVAL PLACE Int. Carmel DATE Sept. 24, 1936

19. UNDERTAKER L. C. Embrey  
(ADDRESS) Summerdale

20. FILED Oct 8 1936 L. C. Embrey Registrar

**MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH**

21. DATE OF DEATH (month, day, and year) Sept 23, 1936

22. I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I ATTENDED DECEASED FROM Aug 30, 1936 TO Sept 20, 1936

I LAST SAW HIM ALIVE ON \_\_\_\_\_, I DEATH IS SAID TO HAVE OCCURRED ON THE DATE STATED ABOVE, AT \_\_\_\_\_ P. M.

THE PRINCIPAL CAUSE OF DEATH AND RELATED CAUSES OF IMPORTANCE IN ORDER OF ONSET WERE AS FOLLOWS:

Suppurating infection with Bradenton Aug 25

CONTRIBUTORY CAUSES OF IMPORTANCE NOT RELATED TO PRINCIPAL CAUSE:

110

NAME OF OPERATION None DATE OF \_\_\_\_\_

WHAT TEST CONFIRMED DIAGNOSIS? \_\_\_\_\_ WAS THERE AN AUTOPSY? no

23. IF DEATH WAS DUE TO EXTERNAL CAUSES (VIOLENCE) FILL IN ALSO THE FOLLOWING: DATE OF ACCIDENT, SUICIDE, OR HOMICIDE? \_\_\_\_\_ INJURY? \_\_\_\_\_

WHERE DID INJURY OCCUR? \_\_\_\_\_ (Specify city or town, county, and State)

SPECIFY WHETHER INJURY OCCURRED IN INDUSTRY, IN HOME, OR IN PUBLIC PLACE.

MANNER OF INJURY \_\_\_\_\_

NATURE OF INJURY \_\_\_\_\_

24. WAS DISEASE OR INJURY IN ANY WAY RELATED TO OCCUPATION OF DECEASED? no

IF SO, SPECIFY \_\_\_\_\_

(SIGNED) W. O. Patton M. D.  
(ADDRESS) Harlemwood

# Death Certificate

Issue: [COPPAGE] 401. Elizabeth<sup>6</sup>, died 1839, married, (bond 11) Dec. 1767,<sup>437</sup> John Leewright, Jr., who died by 10 Nov. 1785 when the inventory of his estate was ordered;<sup>438</sup> 402. William<sup>6</sup>, left will [ ] 1801-27 Oct. 1806,<sup>439</sup> of Fauquier County, married (1) \_\_\_ Chichester, (2) Mary Whitledge, (3), (bond 17) Sept. 1783,<sup>440</sup> Sarah Railey, and (4), (bond 13) July 1791,<sup>441</sup> Mary Triplett, who died 1807; 403. Sally<sup>6</sup>; 404. John<sup>6</sup>, left will 8 Oct. 1780-7 March 1781,<sup>442</sup> married Susannah [Harrison?].

176. HANNAH<sup>5</sup> BASYE (Josias<sup>4</sup>, Elisher<sup>3</sup> Taylor, Alice<sup>2</sup> Gaskins, Thomas<sup>1</sup>) married, (bond 26) Jan. 1789,<sup>443</sup> Louis Kemper of Fauquier County.<sup>444</sup>

Issue: [KEMPER]<sup>445</sup> 404A. Matilda<sup>6</sup>; 404B. Wesley<sup>6</sup>, married Sophia McElhanna, perhaps the Westley Kemper who lived in Bullitt Co., Ky.;<sup>446</sup> 404C. Lucy<sup>6</sup>; 404D. David [Daniel?]<sup>6</sup>.

179. JOHN<sup>5</sup> EVERETT (Thomas<sup>4</sup>, Mary<sup>3</sup> Taylor, Alice<sup>2</sup> Gaskins, Thomas<sup>1</sup>) left will 8 Nov. 1757-21 July 1758.<sup>447</sup> He married Betty Craven.

Issue: [EVERETT] 405. Thomas<sup>6</sup>, died by 16 April 1772 when his estate was appraised,<sup>448</sup> married, (license 13) April 1767,<sup>449</sup> Ruth Denny, who married (2), (bond 17) Nov. 1777,<sup>450</sup> William Griggs; 406. Craven<sup>6</sup>, married, (license 8) Dec. 1766,<sup>451</sup> Nancy Lunsford.

180. THOMAS<sup>5</sup> EVERETT (Thomas<sup>4</sup>, Mary<sup>3</sup> Taylor, Alice<sup>2</sup> Gaskins, Thomas<sup>1</sup>) left will 13 April 1769-12 June 1769.<sup>452</sup> He married 169. Hannah<sup>5</sup> Basye.

<sup>437</sup> Gott, *op. cit.*, p. 216, as John Lee Wright.

<sup>438</sup> Prince William Co. Will Bk. H, p. 28.

<sup>439</sup> Fauquier Co. Will Bk. 4, pp. 283-85.

<sup>440</sup> Gott, *op. cit.*, p. 40.

<sup>441</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 39.

<sup>442</sup> Jefferson Co., Ky., Minute Bk. A, p. 1.

<sup>443</sup> Gott, *op. cit.*, p. 112, as Lewis Kamper.

<sup>444</sup> He last paid personal property tax there in 1800.

<sup>445</sup> Willis Miller Kemper, *Genealogy of the Kemper Family in the United States* (Chicago, 1899), pp. 76, 104, apparently in error in stating Lucy<sup>6</sup> married Jesse Kemper.

<sup>446</sup> Bullitt Co., Ky., 1820 census, p. 172.

<sup>447</sup> Lancaster Co. Will Bk. 16, p. 35.

<sup>448</sup> Lancaster Co. Will Bk. 20, p. 55.

<sup>449</sup> Northumberland Co. Marriage license, in V XLVII, p. 44.

<sup>450</sup> Nottingham, *The Marriage License Bonds of Lancaster County*, p. 34.

<sup>451</sup> Northumberland Co. Marriage license, in V XLVII, p. 44.

<sup>452</sup> Northumberland Co. Record Bk. 7, 1766-70, p. 366.

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In the name of God Amen, I William Coppedge of Henrico County,  
 and State of Virginia, considering the inevitability of this mortal life, and  
 being of sound and perfect mind and memory, do give to, bequeath and  
 give the same, do make and publish this my last will and testament  
 in manner and form following, that is to say:

Item, I do my dearly beloved wife Mary Coppedge, I give and bequeath  
 two hundred, and thirty acres of my tract of land, on which I live  
 at present, to be laid off in one body, so as to take in my dwelling  
 house and offices, during her natural life, and at her death to be  
 equally divided among my children, I had by the said, Mary, Cop-  
pedge, namely Olly, James, Olly, Wesley, Wally and Bartholomew, etc.  
Wesley intend, to them and their heirs forever.

I should the said Mary Coppedge survive me after my decease,  
 and allow the said tract to be compelled in part, her share, and  
 thirty acres of land, then and in that case, she must give  
 up the said land, immediately to the above heirs, and take  
 a choice part of the same, during her natural life.

Item, I do my beloved wife Mary Coppedge, I give and bequeath  
 the following negroes, namely, Mary, Jack, Willy and Copsy,  
 and their increase during her natural life, and at her death  
 to be equally divided, among Olly, James, Olly, Wesley, Wally and  
Bartholomew, also to them and their heirs forever.

Item, by my beloved wife Mary Coppedge, I give and bequeath all  
 my household furniture, stock, all different kinds and plantation  
 utensils, during her natural life, and at her death to be equally  
 divided among my children, namely, Olly, James, Olly, Wesley, Wally  
 and Bartholomew, also to them and their heirs  
 forever.

Item, I do my son John Coppedge of Wentworth give and bequeath twenty  
 shillings, I should have him more, but I having amply provided for  
 him several years ago.

Item, I do my son Walden Coppedge, I give and bequeath twenty  
 shillings, I having a lot provided for him before.

Item, I do my daughter Frances Coppedge, I give and bequeath  
 twenty shillings, having provided for her twice this date.

Item, I do my children Reis, William, Sandy, Thomas, Belony and  
Solly, I give and bequeath the balance of my tract of land, on  
 which I reside, supposing it to be two hundred and thirty acres, but  
 more or less, and their heirs forever. This part of the tract is to be  
 immediately after my death, sold either for cash, or on a credit, among  
 the said the majority of the heirs, and the amount to be equally  
 divided between the above named children or their heirs. (Unless  
 excepted, he is to have a guardian and put his part at interest  
 to the best advantage. The interest, he may draw annually during  
 his life, and at his death the principal is to be divided equally

# Will of William Coppedge

	Generation 05	8370B
James Marshall Brown	b: 1857	in: Fauquier County, VA
	d: 30 AUG 1934	in: Charlottesville, VA
MARY M. COPPAGE	b: 13 DEC 1852	in: Fauquier County, VA
	d: 23 SEP 1936	in: Fauquier County, VA
References, Gen.05	m: 26 DEC 1878	in: Fauquier County, VA
death certificates, marriage certificate, 1910 US Fauquier County, VA Census		
	Generation 06	
JAMES RANSON COPPAGE	b: 1825	in: Fauquier County, VA
	d: 19 OCT 1864	in: Battle of Cedar Creek in Virginia
Harriet Ann Price	b: c.1824	in: Fauquier County, VA
	d: Aft. APR 1888	in: Fauquier County, VA
References, Gen.06	m: 15 NOV 1848	in: Fauquier County, VA
Marriage record, 1850, 1860 US Fauquier County, VA Census, 1880 US Fauquier County, VA census, Application of a widow for Confederate Pension. Fauquier County Personal Property Tax Records 1845, 1846, 1847. Analysis of parentage of James Ranson, The Coppage-Coppedge Family 1542-1955 by A. Maxim Coppage p.43		
	Generation 07	
THOMAS COPPAGE	b: 1785	in: Fauquier County, VA
	d: 6 FEB 1864	in: Fauquier County, VA
Dacey Luttrell	b: 1800	in: Fauquier County, VA
	d:	in:
References, Gen.07	m: 25 FEB 1822	in: Fauquier County, VA
Will of William Coppage, Marriage record, 1840, 1850, 1860 US Fauquier County, VA Census. Fauquier County Personal Property Tax Records 1845, 1846, 1847. The Coppage-Coppedge Family 1542-1955, pp. 39, 42		
	Generation 08	
WILLIAM COPPAGE	b: 1740	in: Fauquier County, VA
	d: w.p. 27 OCT 1806	in: Fauquier County, VA
Sarah Railey	b:	in:
	d:	in:
References, Gen.08	m:	in:
Adventurers of Purse and Person Virginia 4th edition by Dorman, Vol. 2 pp. 89-90, The Coppage-Coppedge Family 1542-1955		

Page from Jamestowne Society application

lived Pulaski Co., Ga., 1850; Saul Coppedge (1815-70); James T.; John W.; Anna BROWN; & Martha C. BROWN.

WILLIAM COPPEDGE, who may have been WILLIAM AUGUSTA COPPAGE, Confederate Color Bearer for Culpeper. Great-uncle "Gus" was the only bro. of her gdfather known to Annie Elvira Coppage Hansbrough of Midland, Va., interviewed at the age of 92 by the authors. He was killed at 1st Manassas and claimed to have been born in Mo. Served under Stuart and Fitz Lee; left wife, a Fox (Vogts?) 1 son, 3 daus. His son George William, 1860- ) left Coppage and WESTWATER desc. Wm.'s dau. was Mrs. JACOB of Albemarle and Orange.

NANCY COPPEDGE (25 Sept. 1776-1864); d. Harrison Co., Ky. leaving Bible still preserved by Barton Coppage, R.R. 1, Coweta, Okla. She and Betsy inherited featherbeds from their gdfather, Thos. Railey. Neither married.

THOMAS COPPEDGE (1785-1864) of Fauquier, ancestor of the present Coppages of lower Fauquier and Stafford; m. (1) 1808 Philadelphia Luttrell; (2) 1822 Dicey Luttrell, her 1st cousin. Their uncles were in Revoln. Thos. l. on Coppedge's Field at Coppedge's Takeup at the Franklin Mine, now in a pine woods where a clump of dead heaven trees stand. Named for gdfather, Thos. Raley (Raleigh), Fauquier Revolnry. Soldier, d. 1811.

Edward Coppage (1808- ) m. Harriet Embrey. Their desc. are named TIMMONS, JAMES, HUFFMAN, COPPAGE, FOSTER, CLARENDON, GREEN, FRANKS, BROWN, & MARTIN.

Richard Peyton Coppage (1849- ) of Rout's Hill; m. Sally, dau. James and Susan Huffman.

James Wesley Coppage (ca. 1877-1910) m. 1900 Anna Theodosia Campbell of Warrenton.

Anna Coppage Brown and Catherine Coppage Martin of Vienna, Va.

John Coppage; m. 1833 Jinsey Barber, dau. Wm. and moved to Ohio.

Dick Coppage (1810- ) to Tuscarawas Co., Ohio; m. Martha; 8 c.

Emma C. Coppage (1857-1922) m. Henry Wm. KNISELY (1848-1927) of New Phila., O.

Ralph Coppage Knisely (1885-1943) m. 1912 Ruth L. Hubbard

Alton Wm. Knisely (1914- ) of Ravenna, O., m. Va. Lee Gilmore

Susan Lee (1942- ) and Caroline Gilmore Knisely (1947- )

Sally Coppage (1814-1890) m. Wm. J. BROOKS, son of Capt. Thos. Brooks (1772-1849) of War of 1812; 8 c.

Wm. Edw. Brooks (1854- ) m. 1875 Mary O. England, dau. Patrick & Emily Baker England. Their desc. are named WHEELER, MORRISON, SUMMERHILL, RICHARDSON, NELSON, RESIO, QUESINBERRY, HINTON, ROLAND, BROOKS, FORBUSH, WERTZ, CHRISTY, and BRICKERT.

Elliott England Brooks m. Ethel Embrey of Fredericksburg, Va.; 2 c.

Barbara Embrey Brooks m. Warren FORBUSH Sarah Coppage Forbush (7 Oct. 1953- )

Isabel Herminia Brooks m. J. E. BRICKERT of 10 W. Bellefonte St., Alexandria, Va. Mrs. Brickert was President of the Coppage Family Assn. in 1952 and is a member of the D.A.R. and U.D.C.

Mary Anna Brickert (5 May 1931- ) Charles Wm. Brickert (26 Feb. 1936- )

Susan M. Coppage m. Pitman HEFLIN; their desc. are the HEFLINS of Stafford.

James Ransom Coppage (1826-1862) of Co. C, 49th Va. Inf., CSA; k. at Sharpsburg; m. Harriet Ann Price of N. J. and lived in the hollow of Morrisville. Their desc. are named COPPAGE, BROWN, and EDWARDS in Fauquier and Alexandria.

Annie Elvira Coppage (27 Feb. 1856- ) m. Wm. HANSBROUGH; no c. She was interviewed on 4 Sept. 1948 by the authors at Midland, Va.

Eliza Coppage m. 1839 John VOGTS or FOX, a Switzer from Bezerk, Brugg, Aargau. 7 c. Their desc. are named MAWHINNEY, VOGT, HEFLIN, DAY, PIERSON, STEPHENS, and NALLS, had G. Washington Wm. Tell Vogt.

Carl Lewis Vogt. m. Hattie Coppage, dau. Dick Coppage of Ohio.

Ellen Vogt m. James MAWHINNEY

Margaret Mawhinney m. Andrew Jackson DAY of Catlett, Va.

Herbert Day (who has Herb, Jr.), Roy, James, and George Day

Isabella Vogt. m. Bernard Wm. HEFLIN

George Wm. Heflin

Hazel Heflin STEPHENS of Nokesville, Va.

Mary Heflin NALLS of Alexandria, Va.

William Thomas Coppage ( -8 July 1862) of Co. I, 11th Va. Inf., CSA. Enlisted 25 May 1862 from Richmond and d. in Lynchburg Hospital of typhoid.

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	d: 30 AUG 1934	in: Charlottesville, VA	
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death certificates, marriage certificate, 1910 US Fauquier County, VA Census			
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References, Gen.08	m:	in:	
Adventurers of Purse and Person Virginia 4th edition by Dorman, Vol. 2 pp. 89-90, The Coppage-Coppedge Family 1542-1955			



Lewis Joseph Coppage (1833- ) Co. I, 11th Va. Inf., CSA at Manassas; captured at White Ridge in a tree and again at Gettysburg, 1863; m. (1) Louisa, dau. Pitman Heflin; (2) Elizabeth Oliver, the widow Eskridge. 7 c. They have numerous descs. named COPPAGE, COOPER, CORBIN, WILSON, SUTHARD, BROWN, DODD, JAMES, HARDY, HUGHES, HEFLIN, ALMOND, AND THORNE.

BETSY COPPAGE (1780-1854) b. according to old Bible at Coweta, Okla. on 28 June 1780; d. 27 Aug. 1854; unm. Lived in Ky. with sister Catherine and her husband, Rodham Coppage. She was incapable of handling her own affairs and inherited Polly's house in Woodford under trusteeship.

OLLY COPPEDGE inherited 1/8 of 230 acres under his father's will of 1801-6. In 1819 "Awalough" Coppage, over 21, had 1 house and 25 acres on Newell's Run, Harrison Co., Ky. m. Nancy.

JAMES COPPEDGE ( -1818); Wm. Peters of Woodford Co., Ky. certified that on 30 July, when lying on his death bed at Mrs. Elizabeth Railey's house, James Coppedge desired that his property should be equally divided among his bros. and sis., not to include all of the half blood, but his own blood and half-sisters Nancy, Polly, and Eliz.

ELZY or ALEXANDER COPPEDGE; by 1818 he was assessed for 75 acres and 2 horses at Curry Run, Harrison Co., Ky.; m. Nancy. Because of the persistence of the name Alexander Coppage in Stafford Co., Va. he is believed to be progenitor of Eastham Coppage, Confederate Soldier, Alexander Mason Coppage, George Garland Coppage, James Wilford Coppage, Mrs. W. J. BELL of Hartwood and Berea, Mrs. Alvin MYERS, Mrs. J. E. BUCKLE of Oahu and Mass., and Mrs. V. E. SNELLINGS.

WESLEY COPPEDGE, under age in 1817; m. 1825 Mary Tippet, dau. Wm. Their descs. are in Brown Co., Ill.

Major Joseph William Coppage (1827-1916) of Naples, Ill.; veteran of Mexican, Mormon, and Civil Wars; m. Mary Ann Finney; no c.

James Lemuel Coppage ( -1889) of Mt. Sterling, Ill.; widow Margaret Jane

Mary E. Coppage m. Calvin BARLOW of Springfield, Ill. Eliza Catherine Coppage m. Ethan Allen MOORE; Maria DAVIS; Martha AUSMUS

BARTHOLOMEW DAMERON COPPAGE, witnessed m. Eliz. Tippet to Thomas Holmes, 1823; m. Patsy Scott.

PEYTON COPPAGE (1799/1800- ) inherited 1/8 of 230 acres on Dorrell's-Run in Fauquier with dwelling house and offices (Deed Book 30, 41; Will Book 4, 283-5); sold his interest to Wm. Shropshire, whose heirs Moses, Squire, and Mary Foster released it to Wm. Tippet. In 1823 he had 100 acres on Curry's Run, Ky. and bought another 100 a. in 1824; m. Jane, dau Eliphalet and Mildred Barlow Barlow from Wilkes Co., N. C. Their descs. are named COPPAGE, FULLER, HAMM, ORR, BUTLER, DORSEY, HICKMAN, HARKER, YOUNG, MCADAMS, KNUTTER, TICE, FOSTER, SAMS, KNIGHT, BRONSON, MULKEY, WATKINS, MOORE, FORD, MILLION, TREGO, WOOD, CARTWRIGHT, STICKNEY, SYBRANT, ATHEN, ACKLEY, COWGER, ARBUCKLE, SCHOONOVER, TUCKER, STAMBAUGH, CREWS, BROWN, FARLEY, LIESS, AISTROPE, HOUTS, COX, FARRELL, GREEN, MITCHELL, MCCARNEY, SEARL, JUNEAU, RYAN, YOUNG, FORKNER, MEANS, LISINBY, STANFORD, MORRIS, LYNCH, BROTT, FLETCHER, HOSMAN, MCDONALD, EIKERT, SHEPHERD, FORRESTER, PIPER, TURNER, SELLMAN, WILLIAMS, ROBERTS, KISTLER, LITTLE, CAREY, STACY, SAUERS, HIENZE, BRUNO, EICHER, LOGAN, and FOSTER. Peyton and Jane had 8 c. All left descs. Lawrence of Tenafly, N. J., is Lemuel A.'s nephew.

John Coppage (1824-1902) m. (1) 1848 Dorinda Cox; (2) 1860 Phoebe A. Clark; 13 c.; Ben F. had Lawrence.

Lemuel Alexander Coppage (1861- ), 1st child by 2d wife; rode in on the Cherokee Strip in 1893 and staked his claim; m. 1890 Cora Alice Beeler, dau. Christopher and Sarah Waymire Beeler. When over 85 years of age he attended several Coppedge Family reunions, delivering a fine speech at Irvington.

Willard Beeler Coppage (7 Feb. 1904- ) m. Bonnie Whitt of Fort Worth.

Eddie Beeler Coppage (1929- )

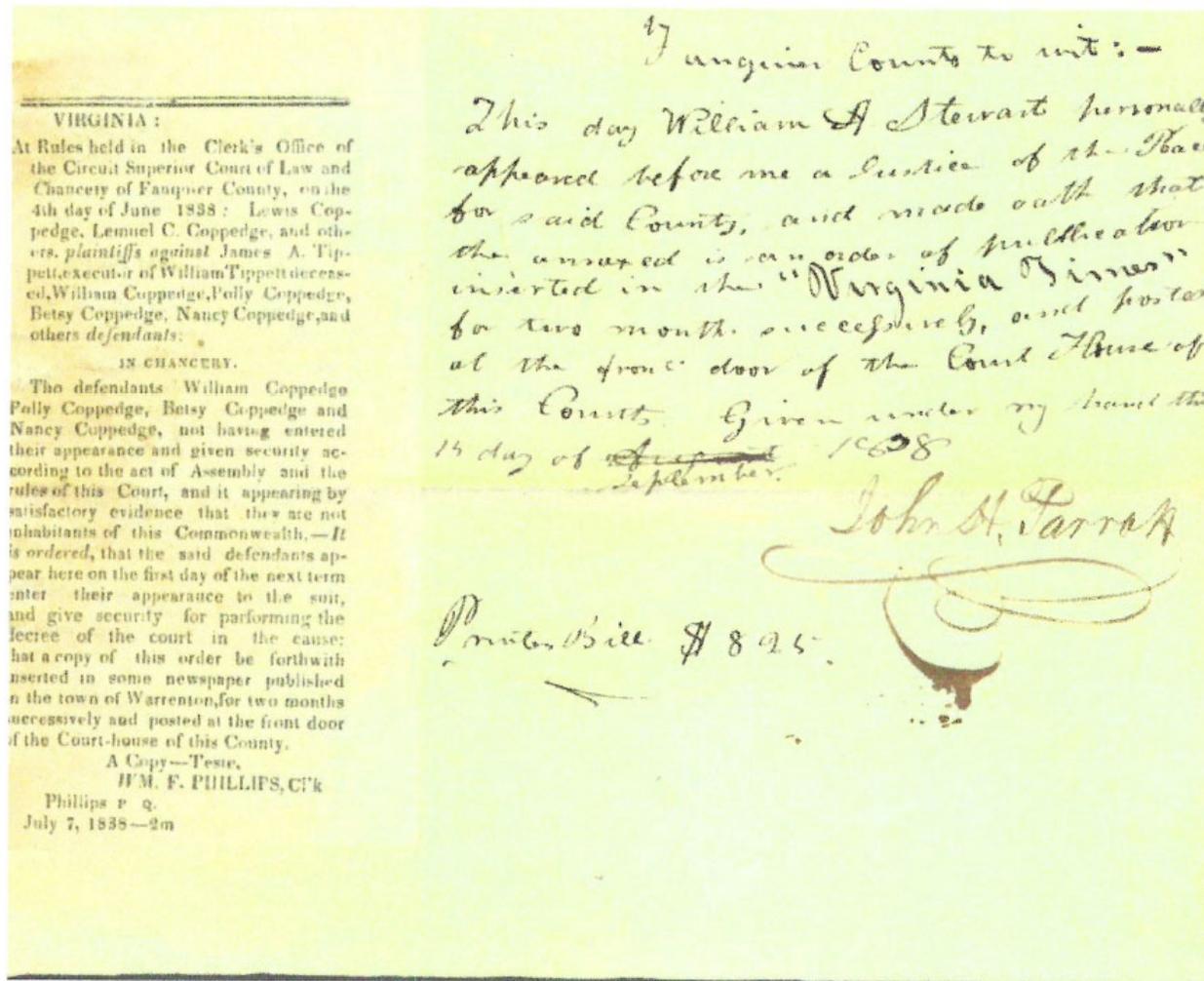
William Aubrey Coppage (1935- )

Rachel Philena Coppage (1 Oct. 1865- ) m. James Henry WATKINS; 7 c.

Roland Martin Watkins of Calif. and Kansas City; 4 c.

William Edward Coppage (1839-1922) m. 1848 Pernita Ann Martin; l. Ft. Madison, Ia.; 8 c.

Charles Orson Coppage (1867-1932) of St. Joseph, Mo.; m. Mattie Stephenson, d. 1955, dau. Wm. and Sophia Spriggs Stephenson; 9 c. Keith, Rex, Victor, Percy E. and



Chancery record listing William's heirs

# Case Study 2

## Henry Batte-Burgess from Charles City County

- Charles City is a “burned county”—a term used in Virginia research for counties that had records destroyed in courthouse fires or during the Civil War
- Missing will
- Surviving Land deed



# Charles City Record Book 1690-1702

with all the appurtenances therunto belonging to him the  
Henry Katte his Heires and assignes forever  
Item I give unto my sone Henry Katte my negroe Called Roger  
Item I give and bequeath unto my two sons William and John Katte all  
my lands between the easerlie and southerlie branches of baihes-  
Creek and all my lands lying between the lands of Coll William -  
Byrd and Edward Birchett to be Equallie divided between them accor-  
ding to quantitie and qualitie to them and their heires forever.  
Item I give and bequeath unto my five Daughters Mary Elizabeth Anne  
Rachel and Sarah Katte all my Lands lying upon the second Swamp  
of the Black water being twelve hundred acres to be as Equallie de-  
vided amongst them as may be according to quantitie and qualitie to  
them their heires and assignes forever  
Item I give unto My Daughter Peterson my Mare Runing at the gilantarons  
with her Increase forever  
Item I give unto my sone William Katte my Negroe Wooman Called Hannah  
to be delivered him when he is twentie one years of Age  
Item I give unto my Daughter Mary Katte my Negroe Wooman Called bis  
to be deliver to her when she is twentie one yeares of age  
Item I give unto my sone John Katte my negroe boy peter to be delivered  
to him when he is twentie one yeares of age

Page from Charles City Record  
Book 1690-1702

whatsoever  
Item I give unto my son Henry Bratte all the before mentioned Lands after  
the death of his mother and all my Lands on the west side of the south  
-erly Run with all the apurtances therunto belonging to him the  
to Henry Bratte his Heires and assignes forever  
Item I give unto my lone henry Bratte my negroe Called Roger  
Item I give and bequeath unto my two sons William and John Bratte all  
my lands between the Easterlie and southerlie branches of baillies-  
Creek and all my lands lying between the lands of Coll William -  
Byrd and Edward Birchett to be Equallie divided between them accor-  
-ding to quantitie and qualitie to them and their heires forever.  
Item I give and bequeath unto my five daughters Mary Elizabeth Anne  
Rachell and Sarah Bratte all my Lands lying upon the second Swamp  
of the Black water being twelve hundred acres to be as Equallie de-  
vided amongst them as may be according to quantitie and qualitie to  
them their heires and assignes forever  
Item I Give unto My Daughter peterson my Mare Running at the gilanta roms  
with her Increase forever  
Item I give unto my lone William Bratte my Negroe Wooman Called Hannah

Page from Charles City Record  
Book 1690-1702

# Case Study 3

GRAY<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>1. THOMAS<sup>1</sup> GRAY, "an ancient planter at or before the time of Sir as Dale,"<sup>2</sup> 1616, was living at James City, 1623/4,<sup>3</sup> and was listed there in muster, 1624/5, with his wife Margaret, son William<sup>2</sup>, aged 3 years, and hter Joane, aged 6 years. He deposed 7 March 1653/4 that he was aged 60 or thereabouts.<sup>4</sup>

On 12 Oct. 1626 Thomas<sup>1</sup> Gray appeared as a witness before the General t at Jamestown.<sup>5</sup> His first patent, 27 Aug. 1635, for 550 acres on the south of James River, "over against James Citty" and on Rolfe's and Cross creeks, ded 100 acres as an Ancient Planter and 50 acres each for the transportation ; (1) wife Anis (Annis) Gray, his present wife Rebecca Gray and two sons am<sup>2</sup> and Thomas<sup>2</sup>, and adjoined a plantation already in his possession.<sup>6</sup> He 1400 acres of Grayes Creek by patent, 20 July 1639,<sup>7</sup> and an adjoining 100 on 7 June 1642.<sup>8</sup> Another 400 acres he had patented was lost for failure anting and seating and repatented by Samuel Abbott, 10 April 1644,<sup>9</sup> but this tract, by purchase from Abbott, and his July 1639 patent were included ew patent for 800 acres, 14 March 1652/3.<sup>10</sup>

Thomas<sup>1</sup> Gray was probably dead before 2 Nov. 1658<sup>11</sup> when Francis<sup>2</sup> Gray ferred a patent to his brother Thomas<sup>2</sup>. On 11 May 1659 Luke Mizell iced in court that while he was servant to Tho. Gray, Sr., deceased, he "did hear sd Gray and his wife say that [Thomas] Gates had given 50 acres to son Thomas and daughter Jane."<sup>12</sup>

He married (1), 29 March 1611 at St. Peter, Paul's Wharf, London,<sup>13</sup> Anis

<sup>1</sup> Benjamin C. Holtzclaw, "Thomas Gray, Ancient Planter of Surry County, Virginia, and ndants," *Historical Southern Families*, XVII (Baltimore, 1972), pp. 81-102; John Bennett e, *Virginia Historical Genealogies* (Redwood City, Calif., 1954), pp. 309-13.

<sup>2</sup> Patent Bk. 1, p. 283.

<sup>3</sup> Hotten, p. 176.

<sup>4</sup> Surry Co. Deeds, Wills & c 1, 1652-72, p. 41.

<sup>5</sup> MCGC, p. 119.

<sup>6</sup> Patent Bk. 1, pp. 283, 631 (repatent 26 May 1638).

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 669.

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 787.

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 950.

<sup>10</sup> Patent Bk. 3, p. 158.

<sup>11</sup> Surry Co. Deeds, Wills & c 1, 1652-72, p. 121.

<sup>12</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 131.

<sup>13</sup> Register, St. Peter, Paul's Wharf, London, MS 5721/1, Guild Hall, London.

## GRAY

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(Annis) Valentine, who apparently was deceased by 24 Jan. 1624/5 when his (2) wife <sup>2</sup>Margaret \_\_\_\_\_ was listed in the muster.<sup>14</sup> He married (3), by 11 Sept. 1626, Rebecca \_\_\_\_\_ who deposed before the General Court that "good wief Wright did tell her this deponent That by one Token w<sup>th</sup>: this deponent had in her forehed she should burye her Husbande."<sup>15</sup> This prediction did not come true since Thomas<sup>1</sup> Gray survived Rebecca and, by about 1645, married (4) \_\_\_\_\_ by whom he had young children, the orphans mentioned in a controversy about land with John Corker, 26 June 1662.<sup>16</sup>

Issue: (by 1) 2. JONE (Jane)<sup>2</sup>; 3. William<sup>2</sup>, born about 1622, named in his father's 1635 patent, apparently died young; (by 3) 4. Thomas<sup>2</sup>, sold 100 acres on Gray's Creek called Hollowing Point to Richard and Isabella Case, 3 Nov. 1667,<sup>17</sup> and about 80 acres on Gray's Creek and Cross Creek to Thomas and Joane Cruse, 5 Nov. 1667,<sup>18</sup> both tracts apparently inherited from his father, and died before 1 Jan. 1672/3 when Francis<sup>2</sup> Gray was appointed his administrator;<sup>19</sup> 5. REBECCA<sup>2</sup>; 6. FRANCIS<sup>2</sup>; (by 4) 7. WILLIAM<sup>2</sup>; 8. JOHN<sup>2</sup>; 9. Thomas<sup>2</sup>, deposed, 2 July 1672, he was near 21 years of age,<sup>20</sup> left will, 16 April 1676-2 May 1676,<sup>21</sup> making bequests to his brother Francis' three daughters and Francis' wife and leaving his land to his brothers John and William.

2. JONE<sup>2</sup> (Jane) GRAY (Thomas<sup>1</sup>), born about 1618, married John Hux who gave his age as 40 in a deposition, 7 Nov. 1652, and as 46 in a deposition, 9 May 1659.<sup>22</sup> He married (2) Mary \_\_\_\_\_ and died before 4 May 1668 when his widow appointed John Harlow, whom she subsequently married, as her attorney.<sup>23</sup>

Issue: [HUX] 10. MARY<sup>3</sup>; 11. William<sup>3</sup>, left will, 31 Oct. 1676-1 May 1677, giving his land to his nieces Susannah and Mary Ironmonger.<sup>24</sup>

5. REBECCA<sup>2</sup> GRAY (Thomas<sup>1</sup>), born probably 1628-30, married Daniel

<sup>14</sup> The name Margaret may have been an error of the recorder of the muster.

<sup>15</sup> MCGC, p. 111.

<sup>16</sup> Surry Co. Deeds, Wills & c 1, 1652-72, p. 192.

<sup>17</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 291.

<sup>18</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 292.

<sup>19</sup> Surry Co. Order Bk. 1671-91, p. 18.

<sup>20</sup> Surry Co. Deeds, Wills & c 2, 1671-84, p. 20.

<sup>21</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 113.

<sup>22</sup> Surry Co. Deeds, Wills & c 1, 1652-72, pp. 9, 131.

<sup>23</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 302.

<sup>24</sup> Surry Co. Deeds, Wills & c 2, 1671-84, p. 122.

**Lydia Gray, daughter of Thomas Gray Sr, Jamestown immigrant,  
wife of Samuel Judkins Sr and later Thomas Pitman Sr,  
mother of Samuel Judkins Jr, Robert Judkins, Charles Judkins, and Lydia Pitman,  
and grandmother of Catherine Judkins, wife of Henry Jones Sr d 1739 Bertie Co, NC**

It has long been believed that Lydia -- Judkins Pitman was a Gray, but no records had been found to actually prove this or to prove the identity of her father. Lydia has often been attributed to the wrong Gray father. She was NOT the daughter of William Gray Sr as suggested by Boddie and unfortunately recorded as fact in many family trees. William Gray Sr did have a daughter named Lidie as proven by the will of his son, John Gray, written and probated in 1708. John Gray (son of William Gray Sr) left household goods to his sister Lidie who was obviously still living in 1708. Lydia Gray, who married Samuel Judkins Sr and later Thomas Pitman Sr, had died by March of 1678/9, about 30 years prior to John Gray's 1708 will that named his living sister Lydia. Therefore Lydia Gray Judkins Pitman could not possibly be the the same as William Gray Sr's daughter Lidie Gray who was living in 1708 as suggested by Boddie.

Lydia Gray Judkins Pitman was in fact a previously unknown and unproven daughter of Thomas Gray Sr the immigrant by his third wife Rebecca. You will not find Lydia mentioned in any of the old research concerning Thomas Gray Sr's descendents. The records to prove Lydia as another daughter have long been available, but their significance was not recognized until recently. These records were examined by the genealogists at the Jamestown Society in 2014, who were, of course, skeptical because none of the previous research mentioned a daughter Lydia, and previous research by Boddie and Purse & Person seemed to discount this possibility. Records were submitted to the Jamestown Society that disproved this old research, more records were submitted to prove that Thomas Gray Sr left a will leaving land to his children which must have included Lydia and her husband Samuel Judkins Sr, and still more records were submitted to prove that Lydia's share in this land was passed down to her descendants, James Judkins (Lydia's grandson through son Charles Judkins) and William Dennis (Lydia's great-grandson through son Samuel Judkins Jr), who sold their right to this inherited Gray land to William Gray Jr who had inherited another share of the same tract. Still more records were submitted to prove that the wife of Henry Jones Sr d 1739 Bertie Co was Catherine Judkins, daughter of Samuel Judkins Jr and wife Elizabeth Petway. After examining these records, the Jamestown Society was satisfied that the proof was solid in both cases. Lydia Gray is now recognized as a previously unknown daughter of Thomas Gray Sr and wife Rebecca, and Colonel Buck Jones was accepted as a member of the Jamestown Society based on his descent from Thomas Gray Sr through Henry Jones Sr and wife Catherine Judkins, granddaughter of Samuel Judkins Sr and Lydia Gray.

The proof revolves around the inheritance of two different tracts of land. One tract was an 800 acre tract (originally two 400 acre tracts) granted to Thomas Gray Sr and still in his possession at his death. Thomas Gray did leave a will that was executed but not recorded and couldn't be found later. There is a record that proves that this 800 acre tract was later in the possession of his 3 orphan sons, William Gray Sr, John Gray, Thomas Gray. However, this record does not mention that another share in this same 800 acre tract was left to Lydia Gray Judkins, wife of Samuel Judkins Sr. We know Samuel and Lydia Gray Judkins must have also inherited a share of this tract because two of their descendants later sold their rights to this 800 acre tract to William Gray Jr, son of William Gray Sr, one of the three orphan sons of Thomas Gray Sr.

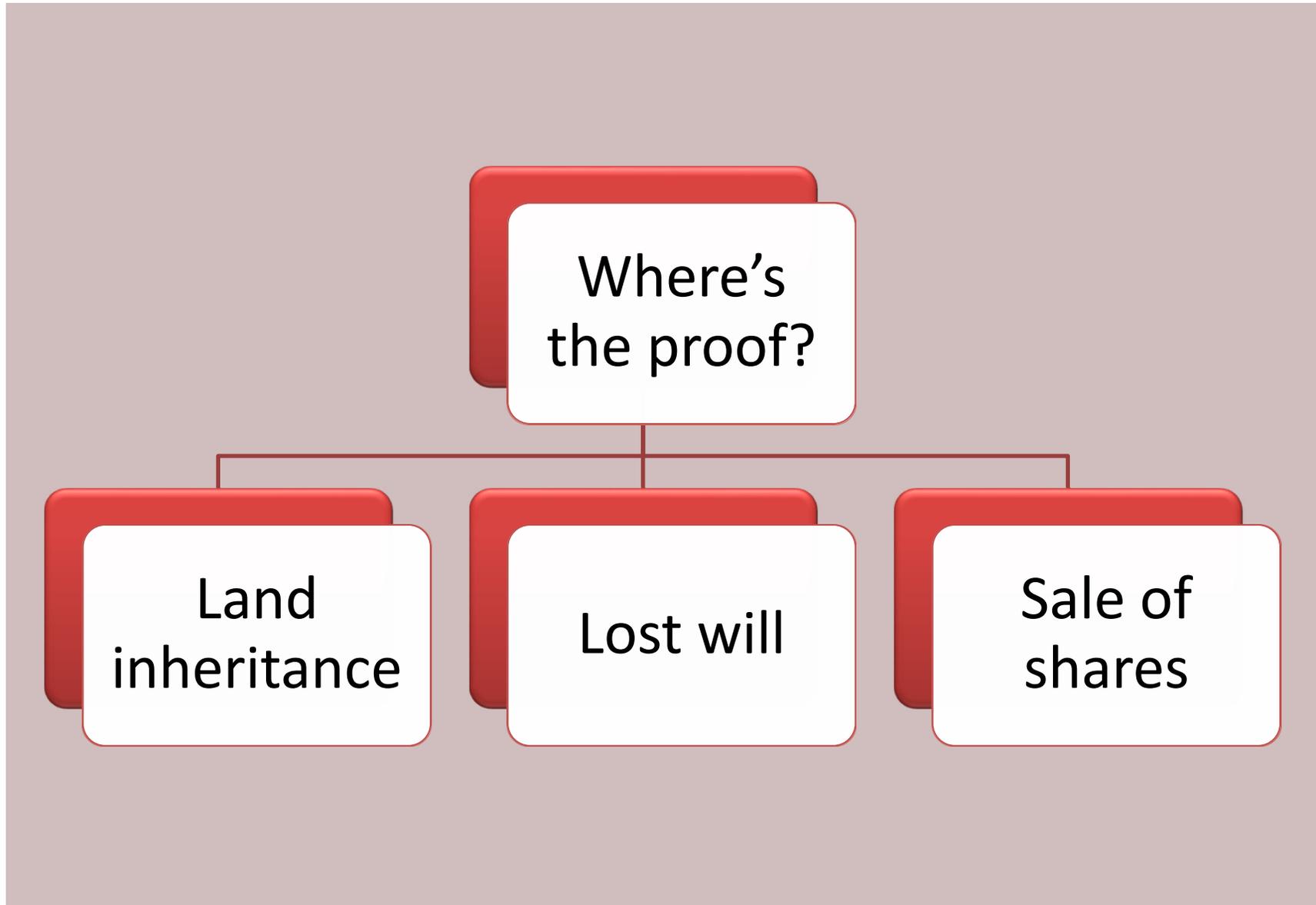
At his death, Samuel Judkins Sr owned another tract of 200 acres he had purchased from Thomas Barlow. This tract was called "Grays" in one record, apparently because it was located on the east side of Gray's Creek, not because it ever belonged to Thomas Gray or any other Gray. The will of Samuel Judkins Sr had left two tracts of land to his three sons to be divided equally between them. Two of the sons, Samuel Judkins Jr and Robert Judkins, took most (but not all) of their third of their father's land from this 200 acre tract called "Gray's", dividing it between them with each brother taking 100 acres. The third son, Charles Judkins, took his entire third of his father's land from the second tract, Samuel and Lydia Judkins' share of the 800 acre tract of Thomas Gray Sr's land. The Judkins' share must have contained more than 100 acres since Samuel Judkins Jr and Robert Judkins were also entitled to a small part of this 800 acre tract to make up the remainder of their third of their father's land over and above the 100 acres that each already held.

Son Samuel Judkins Jr was still in possession of his 100 acre share of the tract called "Gray's" (the Barlow land, not the Thomas Gray land) when he died in 1705. He too left a will mentioned in other records, but the actual will can't be found. There are records that prove that his son, Samuel Judkins III, was the executor named in the will. This 100 acre tract was sold to Thomas Crews in 1725 by Henry Jones and wife Catherine and William Dennis according to the deed. The 1727/8 will of Thomas Crews left to son John Crews "a tract of land called Gray's which he had bought from Henry and Catherine Jones, William Dennis, and Samuel Jenkins, being 100 acres." Samuel "Jenkins" that Crews

<https://freepages.rootsweb.com/~fcharper/genealogy/LydiaGray.html>

# Who is Lydia Judkins Pittman

- Attributed to William Gray Sr.
- Proof was Boddie and ancestry trees
- Will of John Gray 1708



# Case Study 4

# Connecting Father to Daughter

- Problems:
  - Esther not named in John Peak's will
  - Cited undocumented genealogical compilations & secondary sources
  - Proposed a theory without supporting documentation

# Strategies to Use

- Look for a marriage Bond
- Check land & personal property tax records
- Undocumented sources can provide clues

# QUESTIONS?

# Case Study 5

# Proving Descent from Thomas Miller

- Applicant had 1892 marriage certificate to Miller (first husband)
- 1910 census indicated marriage to second husband for five years, but children listed were older than five.
- Transcriber had indicated they were the second husband's children
- Children listed were in fact the children of Thomas Miller

# Tips for Census Records

- Beware of transcription errors in census records
- Examine the original census record
- Try variation of spellings and reverse first and last names

# Case Study 6

# Chancery Suits

- Contain important genealogical information including:
  - Copies of wills
  - records of descendants

SWANN FAMILY, Descendants of Thomas Swann.

Chancery suits used for this information include Powhatan Co. 1802-009, 1879-005 and Petersburg 1860-003, 1869-018

ELIZABETH SWANN married \_\_\_ SPENCER dsp ca.1800. Her will is the subject of these suits. Estate accounts were filed at least through 1858 – basically rental of real estate.

List of heirs in 1852.

**THOMAS SWANN** married twice. His second wife was JUDITH LIGON, widow of THOMAS THOMPSON SWANN, son of THOMPSON SWANN

By 1<sup>st</sup> wife

ELIZABETH SWANN d.10 March 1808 married THOMAS STRATTON, living in Sumner Co., TN. He was remarried to Elizabeth Swann, daughter of Willis Swann

Child STRATTON d.9 March 1808.

HARRIETT SWANN married MARTIN BAUGH

THOMAS C. BAUGH, living in Giles Co., TN

WILLIAM M. BAUGH, living in Giles Co., TN

MARTIN BAUGH

ELIZABETH BAUGH married \_\_\_ ANDERSON, living in Lincoln Co., TN

EDWIN HARDAWAY BAUGH, living in Caddo Parish, LA

RICHARD BAUGH, living in Shelby Co., TN

MARY BAUGH, living in Giles Co., TN

ROBERT BAUGH

JOHN W./V. BAUGH, living in Shelby Co., TN

MARTHA BAUGH dec. married \_\_\_ TARPLEY

MARY TARPLEY, living Giles Co., TN

ARCHIBALD BOLLING BAUGH, living Shelby Co., TN

HARRIETT BAUGH, living in Tuscaloosa Co., AL

REBECCA BAUGH married \_\_\_ WILLIAMSON, living in Tuscaloosa Co., AL

NANCY SWANN married WILLIAM MCLAURINE, living in Giles Co., TN

MARY SWANN married THOMAS EASTLAND, living in White Co., TN

SAMUEL SWANN, living in AL and TX

JOHN SWANN, living in Powhatan Co., VA , d.April 1860; He was 63 in winter of 1859. He married 18 June 1818.

JOHN SWANN

WILLIAM SWANN

MARY SWANN

THOMAS J. SWANN

EDWARD C. SWANN

RICHARD J. SWANN

ANGELINA SWANN; married GEORGE W. TUCKER

By 2<sup>nd</sup> wife

THOMAS THOMPSON SWANN d.1852 MS. Children all living in MS.

NEWTON SWANN, living in Choctaw Co., MS

OTHELLA SWANN married THOMAS J. WIGGINS, living in Choctaw Co., MS

# Case Study 7

# Tracking a Person by Land & Personal Property

- Benjamin Blunt married to Priscilla \_\_\_\_\_
- John Person leaves enslaved people in his will to daughter Pricilla
- Benjamin Blunt dies testate a few months later
- None of the enslaved people given to Person were in Blunt's division
- William Blunt repatents John Sugars' land
- Enslaved people in John Sugars' possession are included in Blunt's division

crossing Woodsons Ferry Road, crossing the Byrd Road, crossing Cabells Br. (being a br. of lickinghole Cr.), crossing the Road that leads from Woodsons Ferry to the Church, crossing the Strawberry br.; adj. Thomas Carter, Capt. Isham Randolph, Tarlton Fleming, Cock, John Lee, John Hopkins, John Smith Junr., John Mimes, William McGuire & Colo. John Smith; 7 Aug 1761, p.1077. £4.S10. 864 acs. part being part of a Pat. for 2,320 acs. gtd. Arthur Hopkins 6 Aug 1753 [PB 31, p.353 which included part of 2,590 acs. to Philip Weber in PB 24, p.25 & to John Woodson in PB 18, p.550] the right and title of which sd 864 acs. afterwards became Vested in Philip Webber Junr. and he having failed to pay the Quitrents and Cultivate and Improve the same According to Law and the Conditions of the sd Pat. on the Petition Robert Pasley it was on the 9th day of April 1760 adjudged in General Court that part of the sd Pat. supposed to Contain 925 acs. but upon a Survey lately made is found to Contain only 864 acs. was become forfeited and Vested again in us the right and title to which the sd Robert Pasley hath Assigned unto the sd William Douglas and 270 acs. the Residue being part of a Pat. for 2,590 acs. gtd. Philip Webber 20 Sep 1745 the right and title whereof is since become Vested in the sd William Douglas.

EDWARD BUTT, 145 acs. Norfolk Co., Adj. his own Land and the Land of Maj. Willis Willson, to a Chincopin [tree]; 7 Aug 1761, p.1079. 15 Shill.

SAMUEL McCASTLETON, 469 acs. Pr. Anne Co. on the North River or Bay, near a Pocoson, adj. the Lands of Jonathan Jackson & John Berry Senr.; 7 Aug 1761, p.1080. £2.S10.

BENJAMIN HARRIS, 893 acs. Louisa Co. on both sides Long Cr. and the brs. of Negro run; adj. Jeremiah Dumas, David Anderson, William Todd Livingston, James Coleman, Ragland, & Dabney Pettus; 7 Aug 1761, p.1081. £4.S10.

WILLIAM BUSH, 370 acs. Amelia Co. on the head of Harricane Sw., by the Road; adj. Willis Tomlinson, Gamlin & Martin; 7 Aug 1761, p.1082. £2. Whereas by Pat. 1 Apr 1749 Gtd. John Ornsby [John Ornsby, Clerk in PB 28, p.560] And Whereas George Lewis in whom the right and title since become Vested hath failed to pay Quitrents and to make Cultiv. & Improv. and Mathew Ornsby hath made humble suit and obtained a G. for the same which he hath Assigned unto William Bush.

WILLIAM BLUNT, 1,235 acs. Southampton Co. on the bank of Me-herrin Riv., up the black Out, by the side of Persons Sw., adj. John Little; 7 Aug 1761, p.1083. £3. 265 acs. part Gtd. James Massingall [PB 11, p.252, Is. of Wight Co.] by Pat. 5 Sep 1723, 300 acs. other part Gtd. John Sugars [PB 12, p.88] by Pat. 9 Jul 1724, 70 acs. other part formerly Gtd. Priscible Sugars [Priscilla Sugars, PB 13, p.499] by Pat. 8 Sep 1730, the right and Title whereof is since become Vested in sd William Blunt and 600 acs. the Residue never bef. Gtd.

JOHN STEPHENSON, 190 acs. Augusta Co. on a br. of Stuarts Cr.; 7 Aug 1761, p.1084. *for the Considerations mentioned in an Order of William Gooch Esq. Late Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of our Colony and Dominion of Virginia in our Council of our said Colony Granted to John Robinson Esq. James Wood Henry*

# Writing a Proof Argument

# When You Can't Find a Will

- Check Personal property tax records
- Look for others with the same surname
- Review extended family wills & records

# Variant Spellings

- Look for different spellings
- Hayward, Heyward, Howard
- Spelling was fluid until 1750's

# Church/Parish Records

- Baptism: list the father and sometimes the mother
- Marriage: list the parents and marriage date
- Death: list the date and location of burial

# Obituaries

- Deceased parents' names
- Names of children
- Dates and burial information

# Writing a Proof Argument

- Include all the reasons that support
- Include primary source documents
- Contemporary family histories
- Research same name individual
  - Name Game or Naming Patterns

# What not to include in your proof argument

# What Not to Include in Your Proof Argument

- More than a suggestion
- It must include some type of **relevant** primary source documents

## What Not to State

- This is the only time this name appears
- Relations and neighbors if not proven
- They were left out of the will

# Family Associations

- Richard Pace, Thomas Owsley, John Gaither, & John Graves
- May have records & sources
- Useful printed genealogies

# QUESTIONS?

**Hire Research Services**

*research@nehgs.org*

**Chat with a Genealogist**

*AmericanAncestors.org/chat*



# THANK YOU!

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NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC  
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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