

**Family History – Living in Virginia’s Piedmont and Southside Regions in the 1600s and
1700s – Bollings, Cockes, Eubanks, Robertsons, Shepherds, Torians, Wingfields, and
Others**

By Richard Torian
2024

dedicated to my beloved son, Maxwell Lansing Torian

Table of Contents

	page
I. Introduction	6
II. Ancestors' Genealogy	11
1. Introduction	11
2. Chesterfield, Hanover, and Henrico County Area	12
3. West Area - Albemarle, Amherst, Buckingham, Cumberland, Fluvanna, Goochland, Louisa, and Powhatan Counties	12
4. South Area - Amelia, Brunswick, Dinwiddie, Lunenburg, Mecklenburg, and Prince Edward Counties	14
5. Southwest Area – Campbell and Halifax Counties	15
6. DNA Discussion	16
III. Ancestors' Histories	21
1. Introduction	21
Chesterfield, Hanover, and Henrico County Area	21
Cocke, Johnson, and Pleasants	21
Robertson	23
Bolling, Gay, Blair, Randolph, Meade, Archer, and Kennon	27
2. West Area - Albemarle, Amherst, Buckingham, Cumberland, Fluvanna, Goochland, Louisa, and Powhatan Counties	31
Cocke	31
Eubank	32
Johnson	35
Shepherd and Lilly	36
Wingfield	38
3. South Area - Amelia, Brunswick, Dinwiddie, Lunenburg, Mecklenburg, and Prince Edward Counties	41
Noble, Williams, and Wright	41
Ransone and Hicks	43
Young	44

4. Southwest Area – Campbell and Halifax Counties	45
Crawley, Brandon, Irvine, and Young	45
Torian, Comer, Singleton, and Atkinson	48
IV. Topics of Interest Related to Ancestors – Areas and Counties, Immigration and Migration, Settlements, Religious Denominations, and Economics	52
1. Introduction	52
2. Areas and Counties	52
a. Areas	53
Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover	53
West Area	53
South Area	54
Southwest Area	55
b. Area Comparisons and Interactions	55
c. Counties	58
Chesterfield	58
Hanover	59
Henrico (including Richmond)	60
Albemarle	62
Amherst	65
Buckingham	66
Cumberland	68
Fluvanna	69
Goochland	71
Louisa	72
Powhatan	75
Amelia	76
Brunswick	78
Dinwiddie (including Petersburg)	80
Lunenburg	82
Mecklenburg	83
Prince Edward	84
Campbell (including Lynchburg)	85
Halifax	87
d. Tables Summarizing County Data	87

e. Counties - General Conclusions	92
3. Immigration and Migration	93
a. Immigration	93
b. Migration Reasons	97
c. Migration Patterns	98
d. Migration Infrastructure	104
4. Settlements	107
5. Religious Denominations	116
a. Anglican	118
b. Baptist	120
c. Methodist	122
d. Presbyterian	123
e. Quaker	125
f. General Conclusions on Religious Denominations	128
6. Economics	129
a. Speculative Investments	129
b. Tobacco, Grain – Agriculture	130
c. Merchant Activities	132
d. Other Economic Activities	134
V. Conclusions	140

I. Introduction

This family history is about my known ancestors who lived in Virginia's Piedmont and Southside Regions in the 1600s and 1700s. Ancestors' names that I write about in this family history include:

Atkinson	Comer	Noble	Torian
Bolling	Eubank	Perrin	Williams
Brandon	Johnson	Robertson	Wingfield
Cocke	Lilly	Shepherd	Young

These 1600s and 1700s ancestors that I am able to identify through research lived, at least for a period, in one or more of the following counties:

Albemarle	Campbell	Goochland	Lunenburg
Amelia	Chesterfield	Halifax	Mecklenburg
Amherst	Cumberland	Hanover	Powhatan
Brunswick	Dinwiddie	Henrico	Prince Edward
Buckingham	Fluvanna	Louisa	

For this family history study, I have divided the Virginia's Piedmont and Southside Regions, where ancestors lived at some time in the 1600s and 1700s, into four areas: the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover (CHH) Area; the West Area; the South Area; and the Southwest Area. A major objective of this family history is understanding what the lives of 1600s and 1700s ancestors living in these four areas (Henrico – Chesterfield – Hanover, West, South, and Southwest) might have been like. For example, what migration, settlement, religious, economic, and other histories existed and how might these histories impacted the ancestor lives.

Three counties in the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area are Chesterfield, Henrico, and Hanover. I had ancestors who lived in these counties.

Eight counties in the West Area where ancestors lived are: Albemarle, Amherst, Buckingham, Cumberland, Fluvanna, Goochland, Louisa, and Powhatan.

Six counties in the South Area where ancestors lived are: Amelia, Brunswick, Dinwiddie, Lunenburg, Mecklenburg, and Prince Edward.

Two counties in the Southwest Area where ancestors lived are: Campbell and Halifax.

By emphasizing these areas and the counties, I am hoping to better understand and present histories that might help to better understand ancestor experiences and lives.

Although the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover, West, South, and Southwest Areas are the main focus of this family history study, two other Virginia Colony areas referred to in the study are the Eastern Area and the Northern Area.

For the purposes of this study, the Eastern Area includes those counties east of the fall line (except Chesterfield, Henrico, and Hanover, which straddle the fall line, and also except for those counties in the Northern Neck – the Northern Area).

The Northern Area is the counties in the Northern Neck and extending west to the sources of the Potomac and Rappahannock Rivers.

Section II provides genealogy data, for example, ancestor names and birth and death information.

Section III provides ancestor histories based on information found in historical records. Section III also includes a discussion on DNA information that I have used in supporting a conclusion that someone was an ancestor based on DNA analysis, especially where strong historical records showing that someone was an ancestor is lacking.

Section IV provides information and analysis on history and developments in several topics relevant to my 1600s and 1700s ancestors' lives and times. These topics include areas and counties, immigration and migration, settlements, religious denominations, and economics.

A separate, previously prepared family history (titled: "Family History – Living in Virginia's Northern Neck During the 1600s and 1700s – Balls, Carters, Champes, Claughtons, Cralles, Garners, and Washingtons) focuses on Virginia's Northern Neck area.

Another previously prepared family history (titled: Family History – Living Along Virginia Colony's Waterways in the 1600s and 1700s – Lukes, Dales, Etheridges, Veales, Hills, Lewises, Wormeleys, and Others) focuses on counties bordering the Chesapeake Bay and rivers flowing into the Bay.

This family history focuses in an analogous way as the two previous family histories, except this family history is about ancestors who lived in Virginia's Piedmont and Southside regions in the 1600s and 1700s.

Also, a previous family history that I wrote (a family history of my great grandparents Richard W. Robertson, Mary A. Eubank, Dale Delafield Luke, Martha F. Shepherd, George Torian, Amelia Blanche Crawley, Charles Augustus Jenkins, and Lillie Shepherd Cocke) provides information on 1800s and 1900s descendants of my 1600s and 1700s ancestors.

These three previous family histories are available on Amazon, as is this one.

Some of the conclusions that the next sections might suggest to present day travelers to the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover, West, South, and Southwest Areas are:

- Travelers would find in the West, South, and Southwest Areas by the mid-1700s the beginnings of new religious communities, separate from the Anglican Church, communities known as Presbyterians and Baptists. These communities would become known as dissenters and their emergence correlated with what have become known as the Great Awakening.
- Travelers would find that these communities would become in the West, South, and Southwest Areas more numerous and influential than the Anglican church communities in those areas.
- Travelers would encounter communities of the religious group Quakers, in greater numbers than might have been expected, and a group that would be distinguished from the Presbyterian and Baptist groups. Travelers would observe that Quakers would begin by the late 1700s to do something that was unique for the times – the freedom of their slaves.
- Travelers would observe that within the Anglican community groups began questioning and seeking changes in Anglicanism and these groups would be the beginning of a separate religious body known as Methodism.
- Travelers would encounter that large tracks of land (thousands of acres) were own in the West, South, and Southwest Areas by wealthy Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover gentry class families, who had the opportunities and wherewithal to purchase the land due to their privileged positions in the hierarchy and would purchase the land primarily as an investment.
- Travelers would encounter that in addition to owning the land as investments, the wealthy Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover gentry class families would grant land ownership to descendants who would live on the land.
- Travelers would notice a clear class separation between so called “gentry families” and the rest of the population.
- Travelers would see, as they travel up and down the James River, several large plantation houses facing the river; not so common today. Most of these homes were owned by the gentry class families.
- Travelers would notice the much greater number of yeoman farmers, owning up to 300, 500, a 1,000 acres of land, in the West, South, and Southwest Areas, compared to the number of yeoman farmers in the Eastern and Northern Areas.
- Travelers would notice overall a much greater percentage of all workers being farmers (working in agriculture) compared to the percentage today.
- Travelers would notice that marriages between the same two families living in the same area often occurred over several generations.
- Travelers would notice substantial numbers of non-English migrants, such as Scotch Irish, French, and German, in the West, South, and Southwest Areas.
- Travelers would notice more mining, such as for coal, west of the fall line compared to east of the fall line.
- Travelers would notice that land purchases in the West, South, and Southwest Areas were from other citizens, rather than from the state (the English monarchy), because substantial

amounts of land were now owned by land speculators (for example, the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover gentry class), rather than the monarchy.

- Travelers would notice many different topographical characteristics of the land in the West, South, and Southwest Areas compared to land in the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover, Eastern, and Northern Areas.
- Travelers would notice in the later 1700s a large number of stores operating by Scottish business agents in the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover, West, South, and Southwest Areas.
- Travelers in the West, South, and Southwest Areas would notice the presence of large numbers of Scottish business agents (also referred to as merchants and factors) serving as interfaces between the farmers in these areas and the English and other European buyers and sellers of products.
- Travelers would notice from the mid-1700s a significant increase of road, bridge, and ferry construction and maintenance.
- Travelers would notice by the mid to late 1700s, the large numbers of ferries across the major rivers.
- Travelers would notice the large numbers of mills along the rivers, streams, and creeks.
- Travelers would notice the heavy use of workforce maintenance on the rivers, creeks, and streams to keep them clear for transporting products to market and for traveling, compared to today.
- Travelers would notice that by the later 1700s more people were living west of the fall line than east of the fall line.
- Travelers would notice the scarcity of towns, that the existing towns had few residents, and that towns were mostly along rivers or at stagecoach crossroads.
- Travelers would find that in the 1700s a much larger percentage of the total Virginia Colony population lived in remote situations, away from towns, whereas today a much larger percentage of the population lives in towns and cities.
- Travelers would see in the later 1700s many churches under construction, whereas today would see very few, if any.
- Travelers would notice an entirely different landscape without telephone poles and wires, without street and stop lights, and with much fewer highway and store signs.
- Travelers would see over the course of the 1700s, a significant increase in the numbers of slaves and free African Americans.
- Travelers would notice, compared to today, the lack of the written word, in such places as along routes travel, in towns, and in private locations.
- Travelers would notice how long it took to get to places, compared to today's travel times.
- Travelers would notice how towns such as Richmond, Petersburg, and Lynchburg are small compared to their present sizes.
- Travelers would notice, due to the length of travel time and of the lack of present-day communication technologies, feelings of separations from others, much different from the present day.
- Travelers would often notice in the late 1700s groups in the county courthouses listening to speeches related to relations with England and related to signing petitions and proclamations.

- Travelers would notice from the mid-1700s much activity by county militia such as practicing and in organizing.
- Travelers would notice an economic activity (the plantation) of critical importance that has no equivalent economic activity today.

II. Ancestor's Genealogy

1. Introduction.

In this Section II, I provide known names, birth dates and birth locations, and death dates and death locations for who I believe are 1600s and 1700s ancestors who lived in the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover, West, South, and Southwest Areas. These names have been identified by using historical records that I have examined and on information others have discovered.

Throughout this family history, I make a distinction between “direct line ancestors” and “indirect ancestors.” By direct line ancestors, I mean those ancestors that are along a direct descendant line from the immigrant ancestor to one of my great grandparents. By indirect ancestors, I mean descendants of the immigrant ancestor that are not on a direct descendant line to one of my great grandparents but are descendants of the immigrant ancestor.

Although there is either certainty or a good probability that most of the names identified are ancestors, there is uncertainty for some of the names based on the historical records.

Using Ancestry.com DNA's program, DNA connections to other individuals who also identified my ancestor names as their ancestors has been used by me both to access the probability of names as my ancestors and to lessen the uncertainty of names as ancestors where uncertainty exists. Section II 6 (DNA Discussion) below provides more on my use of DNA data and conclusions.

In **Section III Ancestor's Histories**, I provide histories that I was able to find for many of the names identified this Section II. **Section IV** also provides ancestor histories.

2. Chesterfield, Hanover, and Henrico County Area

The following ancestors were born, died, and/or lived in the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area (Chesterfield, Henrico, and Hanover Counties) during the 1600s and/or 1700s:

ancestor	birth date and place	death date and place
Blair, Mary Elizabeth	1708 Charles City	1775 Chesterfield
Bolling, Archibald Blair	1748 Buckingham	1827 Campbell
Bolling, Elizabeth Gay	1758 Chesterfield	1830 Petersburg
Bolling, Elizabeth Meade	1749 Campbell	1823 Richmond City
Bolling, John II	Henrico	1757 Chesterfield
Bolling, Thomas	1735, Henrico	1804, Chesterfield

Buck, Frances	1726 Hanover	1795 Wilkes, Georgia
Eubank, George I	1735 Henrico	1802 Albemarle
Fitzgerald, Elizabeth	1720 ?	1773 ?
Gay, Elizabeth Betty	1738 Henrico	1813 Chesterfield
Gay, Elizabeth Betty	1738 Henrico	1813 Chesterfield
Hudson, Mary	1710 Hanover	1779 Hanover
Langford, Edward	1717 Hanover	1787 ?
Lewis, Sarah	1698 Henrico	1736 Henrico
Lewis, William	1660 Henrico	1706 Henrico
Meade, Nancy Anne	1731 Henrico	1786 Henrico
Randolph, Elizabeth Jane	1755 Chesterfield	1796 Chesterfield
Randolph, Richard II	1725 Henrico	1786 Chesterfield
Robertson, Archibald I	1715 Scotland	1768 Amelia
Robertson, William	1750 Prince George	1829 Petersburg
Robertson, Archibald II	1776 Petersburg	1835 Amherst
Wingfield, John	1695 Hanover	1759 ?

3. West Area - Albemarle, Amherst, Buckingham, Cumberland, Fluvanna, Goochland, Louisa, and Powhatan Counties

The following ancestors were born, died, and/or lived in the West Area (Albemarle, Amherst, Buckingham, Cumberland, Fluvanna, Goochland, Louisa, and Powhatan Counties) during the 1600s and/or 1700s:

ancestor	birth date and place	death date and place
Bailey, Ann	1713 New Kent	1787 Louisa
Cocke, Benjamin	1747 Goochland	1828 Goochland
Cocke, John Shepherd	1798 Goochland	1877 Albemarle
Cocke, Samuel	1771 Goochland	1844 Goochland
Cocke, Thomas	1715 Goochland	1797 Goochland
Eubank, George I	1735 Henrico	1802 Albemarle
Eubank, George II	1764 Albemarle	1827 Amherst
Eubank, George III	1796 Amherst	1851 Chesterfield
Eubank, John	1680 Talbot County, Maryland	1732 ?

Flippen, Thomas	1675 Ireland	1755 Cumberland
Harris, Sarah	1729 Albemarle	1826 Goochland
Hines, Sarah Garland	1754 Goochland	1823?
Johnson, Ann	1725 Goochland	1798 Goochland
Johnson, John	1697 New Kent	1750 Goochland
Johnson, Joseph	1724 Goochland	1781 Goochland
Johnson, Mary	1752 Goochland	1826 Goochland
Johnson, Susannah	1779 Culpepper	1850 Amherst
Lilly, Edmund	1700?	1780 Fluvanna
Lilly, Mary Ann	1737 Fluvanna	1838 Fluvanna
Lilly, Mary Jane	1712 Gloucester	1778 Goochland
Majors, Mary	1739 Henrico	1802 Amherst
Melton, Mary	1739 Henrico	1802 Albemarle
Pledge, Mary	1710 Goochland	1782 Cumberland
Rugg, Elizabeth	1675 Gloucestershire, England	1758 Cumberland
Shepherd, Christopher	1709 Albemarle	1776 Albemarle
Shepherd, Elizabeth Lilly	1773 Fluvanna	1853 Fluvanna
Shepherd, John W	1738 Goochland	1796 Fluvanna
Wingfield, Charles	1728 New Kent	1803 Albemarle
Wingfield, Elizabeth	1740 Hanover	? Nelson
Wingfield, John	1742 ?	1812 Amherst
Wingfield, Joseph	1775 Louisa	1850 Nelson
Wingfield, Josiah	1739 Louisa	1819 Nelson
Wingfield, Matthew	1734 Louisa	1778 Amherst
Wingfield, Nancy	1776 Amherst	1849 Albemarle
Wingfield, Robert	1697 New Kent	1769 Louisa
Wingfield, Sarah	1754 Goochland	1823 ?
Wingfield, Susannah	1779 Culpepper	1850 Amherst

4. South Area - Amelia, Brunswick, Dinwiddie, Lunenburg, Mecklenburg, and Prince Edward County Counties

The following ancestors were born, died, and/or lived in the South Area (Amelia, Brunswick, Dinwiddie, Lunenburg, Mecklenburg, and Prince Edward Counties) during the 1600s and/or 1700s:

ancestor	birth date and place	death date and place
Brandon, William B	1729 Brunswick	1778 Halifax
Claiborne, Catherine	1725 King William	1788 Amelia
Comer, John	1675 Lunenburg	1762 Lunenburg
Curtis, Mary	1720 Surrey England	1800 Amelia
Freeman, Rachel	1718 Virginia	1746 Dinwiddie
Greenhill, Catherine	1749 Amelia	1838 ?
Greenhill, David	1700 Amelia	1772 Amelia
Hicks, Francis	1705 Surry	1748 Brunswick
Hicks, Robert	1658?	1739 Brunswick
Hubbard, Martha	? 1740	1820 Campbell
Irvine, Elizabeth	1728 Lunenburg	1799?
Luten, Frances	1673 Charles City	1744 Brunswick
Miller, Ann	1750 Prince Edward	1788 Mecklenburg
Moore, Frances	1723 Lunenburg	1801 Halifax
Noble, John	1762 Amelia	1818 Amelia
Noble, Joseph	1740 England	1826 Amelia
Noble, Mary Polly	1790 Amelia	1847 Chesterfield
Perrin, Amelia Pamela	1805 Prince Edward	1824 Halifax
Perrin, John	??	? Prince Edward
Ransone, Richard I	1700 Gloucester	1748 Brunswick
Ransone, Robert Hicks	1737 Brunswick	1765?
Sadler, Temperance	1712 Brunswick	1782 Wilkes County NC
Wheeler, Mary	1745 Amelia	1816 Amelia
Williams, Samuel	1785 Amelia	1823 Amelia
Williams, Thomas I	? Richmond County	? Amelia
Williams, Thomas II	1745 Amelia	1798 Amelia
Wright, John	1729?	1788 Amelia
Wright, Susannah	1770 Amelia	1820 Amelia
Wright, Thomas I	??	? Amelia
Wright, Thomas II	??	1767 Amelia

Young, Michael Cadet	1700 London	1770 Brunswick
Young, William	1745 Brunswick	1830 Campbell

5. Southwest Area – Campbell and Halifax Counties

The following ancestors were born, died, and/or lived in the Southwest Area (Campbell and Halifax Counties) during the 1600s and/or 1700s:

ancestor	birth date and place	death date and place
Atkinson, John	1771 Virginia	1829 Halifax
Atkinson, Nancy	1805 Halifax	1876 Halifax
Atkinson, William S	1740 Henrico	1801 Halifax
Brandon, Irvine	1752 Halifax	1791 Halifax
Brandon, James	1714 London	1748 Halifax
Brandon, Nancy Ann	1790 Halifax	1848 Halifax
Brandon, William B	1729 Brunswick	1778 Halifax
Claughton, Elizabeth M	1766 Northumberland	1808 Halifax
Comer, Sarah	1752 Halifax	1797 Halifax
Comer, Thomas R	1710 Lunenburg	1793 Halifax
Crawley (Cralle), Thomas Hull	1766 Northumberland	1815 Halifax
Crawley, Thomas Garner	1787 Northumberland	1841 Halifax
Fanning, Judith	1771 Carswell County, NC	1843 Halifax
Holtzclaw, Elizabeth	1725 Fauquier	1793 Halifax
Irvine, Elizabeth	1728 Lunenburg	1799 Halifax
Mattingley, Susanna	1735 St. Mary's, MD	? Halifax
Moore, Frances	1723 Lunenburg	1801 Halifax
Mueller, Harman	1716 Germany	1772 Halifax
Palmer, Susanna	1730?	1810 Halifax
Perrin, Pamela	1805 Prince Edward	1874 Halifax
Singleton, James L	1769 Virginia	1861 Halifax
Torian, Andrew	1727 Switzerland	1793 Halifax
Torian, Mary Polly	1774 Halifax	1820 Halifax
Torian, Peter	1727 Switzerland	1812 Halifax

Torian, Scher	1695 Switzerland	1748 Halifax
Torian, Thomas Sr	1773 Halifax	1862 Carswell County, NC
Watkins, Sarah	1774 Halifax	1854 Tennessee
Young, Matthew Hubbard	1785 Campbell	1849 Halifax

6. DNA Discussion

The following three tables provide the number of times that segments on my DNA matched segments on the DNA of other Ancestry.com DNA participants, who claim the same ancestors on their family trees.

The following three tables show five of my great grandparents (George Torian, Amelia B Crawley, Richard W Robertson, Mary Ann Eubank, and Lillie Shepherd Cocke) who had ancestors living, at least for a period of time, in one of the counties of the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover, West, South, and Southwest Areas. Those ancestors are named and the number of links that match my DNA segments with the DNA of other Ancestry.com DNA participants are shown. These other Ancestry.com DNA participants also claim the persons named in the tables on their Ancestry.com family tree. Question marks in the tables indicate that for that ancestor place on my family tree an ancestor has not been identified.

Table 1. My Great Grandparents George Torian (1854-1923) and Amelia B Crawley (1859-1937) and Their Ancestors

1st Great Grandparents				
George Torian (1854-1923) and Amelia B Crawley (1859-1937)				
2nd Great Grandparents				
	DNA links			DNA links
Elijah Torian	13	and	Sarah F Singleton	13
Richard H Crawley	14	and	Mary Ann Young	14
3rd Great Grandparents				
	DNA links			DNA links
Thomas Torian	25	and	Mary Polly Torian	20

James Singleton	19	and	Nancy Atkinson	17
Thomas Garner Crawley	32	and	Nancy Ann Brandon	32
Matthew Hubbard Young	44	and	Amelia Pamela Perrin	24
4th Great Grandparents				
	DNA links			DNA links
Andrew Torian	47	and	Sarah Comer	47
Peter Torian	43	and	Susanna Palmer	47
Robert Singleton	1	and	Dorothy Ransone	17
John Atkinson	25	and	Sarah Watkins	22
Thomas Hull Crawley	57	and	Elizabeth Mary Claughton	54
Irvine Brandon	32	and	Judith Fanning	52
William Young	61	and	Martha Hubbard	61
John Perrin	20	and	?	
5th Great Grandparents				
	DNA links			DNA links
Scher Torian	24	and	Luna Giocinalli	23
Thomas R Comer	73	and	Frances Moore	75
Edward Palmer	13	and	Martha Yearsley	0
Joshua Singleton	5	and	Anne Samford	7
Robert H Ransone	9	and	Letitia Armistead	25
William S Atkinson	30	and	Susanna Mattingley	27
William Watkins	0	and	Ann Miller	28
John Cralle	32	and	Spelman Garner	28
Richard Claughton	0	and	Priscilla Lewis	25
William B Brandon	29	and	Elizabeth Irvine	29
Hezekiah M Fanning	34	and	Chloe Jackson	34
Michael Cadet Young	56	and	Temperance Sadler	58
?			?	
?			?	
?			?	

Table 2. My Great Grandparents Richard W Robertson (1931-1918) and Mary Ann Eubank (1825-1916) and Their Ancestors

1st Great Grandparents				
Richard W. Robertson (1831-1918) and Mary Ann Eubank (1825-1916)				
2nd Great Grandparents				
	DNA links			DNA links
Alexander Robertson	1	and	Sally Ann Williams	1
George Eubank I	18	and	Elizabeth H. Wingfield	17
3rd Great Grandparents				
	DNA links			DNA links
Archibald B Robertson	0	and	Elizabeth M Bolling	1
Samuel Williams	15	and	Mary Polly Noble	17
George Eubank II	59	and	Nancy Wingfield	59
Joseph Wingfield	86	and	Susannah Wingfield	79
4th Great Grandparents				
	DNA links			DNA links
William Robertson	10	and	Elizabeth Gay Bolling	15
Archibald Blair Bolling	17	and	Elizabeth R Randolph	10
Thomas Williams	14	and	Greenhill, Catherine	8
John Noble	30	and	Susannah Wright	30
George Eubank I	67	and	Mary Majors	67
Matthew Wingfield	36	and	Sarah Wingfield	36
Josiah Wingfield	78	and	Elizabeth Wingfield	79
John M Wingfield	146	and	Robina Langford	144
5th Great Grandparents				
	DNA links			DNA links
Archibald Robertson	2	and	Elizabeth Fitzgerald	2

Thomas Bolling	51	and	Elizabeth Betty Gay	38
John Kennon Bolling	66	and	Mary Elizabeth Blair	62
Richard Randolph II	27	and	Nancy Anne Meade	25
John Eubank	0	and	Elizabeth Raines	23
John Majors	8	and	Mary Stevens Riggs	8
Joseph Noble	44	and	Mary Wheeler	44
John Wright	23	and	Sarah Powell	19
?	-	and	?	-
?	-	and	?	-
Robert Wingfield	85	and	Ann Bailey	78
John S Wingfield	33	and	Francis Oliver Buck	34
John Wingfield	66	and	Mary Hudson	61
Charles Wingfield	89	and	Rachel Joyner	89
Edward W Langford	36	and	Elizabetha Gillam	36

Table 3 My Great Grandparent Lillie Shepherd Cocke and Her Ancestors

1st Great Grandparent	
Lillie Shepherd Cocke (1854-1922)	
2nd Great Grandparent	
	DNA links
John Shepherd Cocke	6
3rd Great Grandparent	
	DNA links
Samuel Cocke	38
Elizabeth L Shepherd	22
4th Great Grandparent	
	DNA links
Benjamin Cocke	35
Mary Johnson	35

John W Shepherd	103
Mary Ann Lilly	72
5th Great Grandparent	
	DNA links
Thomas Cocke	10
Ann Johnson	10
Joseph Johnson	36
Sarah Harris	42
Christopher Shepherd	43
Mary Jane Lilly	43
Edmund Lilly	37
Ann Flippin	48

In the tables above, the DNA links column show the number of matches of my DNA with the DNA of other Ancestry.com customers who have submitted their DNA to Ancestry.com. These customers also maintain a family tree accessible to Ancestry, as I do. Each row in the tables above show one of my ancestors and the number of Ancestry.com customers (the DNA links column numbers) who also identified the same ancestor (on their family tree) as I do on my family tree.

My understanding is that the above DNA links data shows that I have DNA matching to others who also claim the same ancestors that I do. This increases the likelihood that the documentary evidence that I am using to claim those ancestors is correct.

I do not feel that I adequately comprehend DNA measurements and analysis to be sufficiently confident about what the numbers in the above tables, provided by Ancestry.com, mean.

Section III. Ancestors' Histories

1. Introduction

While the previous Section II provided genealogical data (ancestor names, birth and date dates and places), in this Section III, ancestors histories are provided, based on information and data found in the historical records,. Through these histories, I am trying to recognize, learned more about, and remember these ancestors and the lives they lived.

Section IV – Topics of Interest Related to Ancestors – Areas and Counties, Immigration and Migration, Settlements, Religious Denominations, and Economics also has historical information on several ancestors when that information relates to topics discussed in **Section IV**.

Histories were not found for some of the names in the genealogical tables in **Section II**, and therefore those names are not written about below.

2. Chesterfield, Henrico, and Hanover County Area

Cocke, Johnson, and Pleasants

Richard Cocke (1600-1665) was the first ancestor Cocke immigrant, arriving in the Virginia Colony in the mid-1630s from Shropshire, England. (In this family history, I use the terms immigrant and immigration to refer to relocation from outside the colonies to within the colonies. I use the terms migrant and migration to refer to relocation within the colonies.) My great, great grandfather, John Shepherds Cocke (1798-1877; born Goochland County, died Albemarle County) was a fifth great grandson of Richard Cocke. Richard Cocke died in Henrico County, as well as his son Thomas (1638-1696); grandson James Powell Cocke I (1666-1721); and great grandson James Powell Cocke II (1691-1775). Richard Cocke settled in an area on the James River, which eventually became known as Curles.

Thomas Cocke (1638-1696) produced linen cloth as a business. In 1695, he received eight hundred pounds of tobacco to produce linen cloth. Thomas was the son of Richard Cocke (1600-1665), the ancestor Cocke immigrant. The estate of Thomas Cocke, whose will was recorded in Henrico County Court in 1697, included a tan yard. Thomas Cocke in his will left 1,000 pounds of tobacco to pay for installing a bell at the Henrico Parish church.

James Powell Cocke II's descendants (son Thomas Cocke, 1715-1797; grandson Benjamin Cocke, 1747-1808; and great grandson Samuel Cocke, 1771-1844) are found in Goochland County, reflecting a pattern I have found with Henrico ancestors – many of the ancestor descendants migrated from the Henrico area west into the Virginia Piedmont region.

Henrico Cockes lived on a plantation known as Bremono (and sometimes Malvern Hill). The plantation reflects the economic status level of the Henrico Cockes – well-off, gentleman, gentry class. Members of this class in Henrico County often purchased land west of Henrico County, for

example, in Goochland County. This accounts for why Thomas Cocke, 1715-1797, and his descendants, are living in Goochland County, as Thomas' inheritance from his father, James Powell Cocke II, was Goochland County land.

Thomas Cocke (1715-1797), and his son and grandson, married women from Goochland County: Thomas to Ann Johnson (1725-1788); Benjamin to Mary Johnson (1748-1826); and Samuel to Elizabeth Lilly Shepherd (1773-1853).

Mary Johnson (1748-1826; born, died Goochland County) was the daughter of Joseph Johnson (1724-1781; born, died Goochland County). Joseph was the son of John Johnson (1697-1750; born New Kent County, died Goochland County) and Mary Pledge (1710-1782; born Goochland County, died Cumberland County). John was the son of Michael Johnson (1670-1719; born, died New Kent County) and Sarah Watson. Michael was the son of Edward Johnson (1649-1704; born Scotland, died New Kent County). Sarah Watson's father, John, lived along the Chickahominy River that separated New Kent and Henrico Counties.

Ann Johnson (1725-1826) was related to Mary Johnson (1748-1826). The Johnsons were likely Quakers. This suggests that Thomas Cocke, who married Ann Johnson, might have been a Quaker (and other Cockes as well Quakers), but conclusive evidence about Cockes being Quakers is needed. That Cockes lived on an area called Curles near the Pleasants family, a well-known Quaker family. Records indicate the marriages of several Cockes with Pleasants, suggesting that, at least in the 1700s, Cocke family members were Quakers.

John Johnson (1697-1750) left hundreds of acres to his several sons, with many of the acres in Goochland County. This is another example of a theme of this family history – well-to-do families in the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area invested in land in the West, South, and Southwest Areas. Buying this land enhanced migration into the West, South, and Southwest Areas, as sons of these land owners would migrate to available land.

The Cocke Bremo Plantation was on land along the James River, southeast of present Richmond City. This land, which has come to be called Curles Neck on present day maps, included other plantations besides the Cocke Plantation. The term neck came from the James River forming a “neck” (curving) around the land. The area called Curles Neck covers more than four square miles, accounting for being able to accommodate several substantial plantations on the land.

Another family with a Curles land plantation was the Pleasants family. John Pleasants I (1644-1698), an immigrant from Norfolk County, England (he arrives in the Virginia Colony in the 1660s), and an ancestor, dies in Henrico, on his plantation on the Curles land. The daughter (Elizabeth Pleasants, 1676-1751) of John Pleasants I's son, John Pleasants II (1644-1698), married James Powell Cocke I (1666-1721) in the early 1690s at St. John's Church, near the Curles land. It is likely that the Cocke and Pleasants plantations being in close vicinity to one another accounted for James Powell Cocke I and Elizabeth Pleasants meeting and marrying. Another marriage between a Pleasants and a Cocke was Joseph Pleasants marrying Martha Cocke.

Elizabeth Pleasants (1676-1751) was the great, great grandmother of Samuel Cocke (1771-1844). Samuel was a grandparent of one of my great grandparents, Lillie Shepherd Cocke (1854-1922). Elizabeth was a great-grand-aunt of Robert Pleasants (1723-1801). Robert Pleasants was a driving force in transforming the Virginia Society of Friends (a Quaker association), especially on the subject of slavery. He founded the Virginia Society for Promoting the Abolition of Slavery. Robert lived at Gravelly Hills in Henrico County.

A third family with a plantation on the Curles land was the Randolph family. Randolph descendants are believed to be ancestors. Richard Randolph (1686-1748), a close neighbor of James Powell Cocke II (1691-1775), was the builder of the first sustentive church building in Henrico County, where the current well-known historical church, St. John's, is located. See the section **Bolling, Gay, Blair, Randolph, Meade, Archer, and Kennon**, below, on the possible ancestral relationship of the Randolph family.

James Powell Cocke II is believed to have inherited the land where the first Henrico County Courthouse was built in Varian, about five miles north from Cooke's Curles Plantation. Gentlemen justices met at this site beginning in 1640 (the courthouse building came much later) and county meetings would continue to be held there until Henrico County courthouse activities were moved to Richmond City.

John Pleasants I (1644-1698), who immigrated from Norfolk County, England by the middle of the 1660s and acquired land in the Curles Neck area, was a Quaker leader. A Quaker Meeting House, known as Curles Meeting House, was on land donated by John. John had accumulated more than 11,000 acers by the time of his death, making him one of the largest landowners in the Virginia Colony. In the 1730s, some Pleasants family members attended the Cedar Creek Meeting House in Hanover County.

That Norfolk County in England had a large Quaker Community in the 1600s (and still does), and that many Quakers immigrated in the middle 1600s to the Virginia Colony and settled along the James River, supports the conclusion that John Pleasants I was a Quaker when he immigrated to the Virginia Colony.

Robertson

Robertson ancestors, from my great grandfather Richard W Robertson (1831-1918; born Amelia County, died Richmond City) to Richard's great, great grandfather, Archibald Robertson (1715-1768; born Edinburgh, Scotland, died Amelia County), lived and died within a 40-mile radius of the center of Henrico County.

Archibald Robertson I (1715-1768) immigrated from Edinburg, Scotland in the 1740s. Archibald's wife was Elizabeth Fitzgerald (1720-1773). Archibald died in Amelia County. Descendants of Archibald were his son, William Robertson (1750—1829; born, Prince George County, and died in Dinwiddie County) and his grandson, Archibald Robertson II (1776-1835; born in Chesterfield County, died Lunenburg County).

Archibald I's father was William (1675-1740), and his brother was Arthur who was a Chamberlain of Glasgow. A Chamberlain was a government official with responsibilities in making appointments to governmental posts and establishing various regulations. Archibald's father and his brother, Arthur, are not known to have lived anywhere other than Scotland.

William Robertson (1750-1829), Archibald's son, was in Col James Wood's Virginia's Regiment, as a corporal during the American Revolution. William Robertson, who was married to Elizabeth Gay Bolling (1758-1830; born, died Petersburg), was an attorney, merchant, and furniture manufacturer, and for a while was quite prosperous. However, unfortunately, towards the end of his life, he had serious financial problems, dying poor.

The William Robertson story is interesting. William Robertson, and his father Archibald (1715-1768), would not, it seems to me, be considered to be long-term gentry families of the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area (for example, such families as Bollings, Pleasants, Randolphs, Kennons, Meades, and Blairs). Yet, William Robertson, and his son Archibald Robertson II (1776-1835), both married Bollings - William married Elizabeth Gay Bolling (1758-1838) in 1775 and Archibald married Elizabeth Meade Bolling (1779-1823) in 1801. I suggest that by the time of these marriages at least some of the Bollings were, especially the women, facing a challenging financial situation, and, as prosperous Scottish merchants, William Robertson (and his son) offered financial well-being needed by the Bolling women.

One of my great grandfathers, Richard W. Robertson (1831-1918; born Amelia County, died Richmond City), worked at a furniture manufacturer in Manchester, Virginia in the mid-1800s. In the mid-1800s, Manchester was a center of furniture manufacturers. At the time, Manchester was in Chesterfield County, about thirty miles from the center of Petersburg (in the early 1900s, Manchester was annexed by Richmond City).

Richard W. Robertson, one of my great grandfathers, was possibly William Robertson (1750-18/29)'s great grandson (see the following paragraphs on the possibility that William Robertson was Robert W. Robertson's great grandfather).

As of the date of this study, Ancestry.com's DNA Match Application shows DNA matching links on my DNA to DNA submitted by nine other Ancestry.com DNA Application participants, who also claim William Robertson (1750-1829) on their family tree. However, only one match exists for Archibald Robertson II (1776-1861) (William's son), as of the date of this study, for my DNA to other Ancestry.com DNA participants claiming Archibald Robertson II as an ancestor. Although good documentary evidence exists for indicating that Alexander Robertson (1807-1882; born Cumberland County, died Richmond City) as being one of my great, great grandfathers, documentary evidence showing that Alexander Robertson (1807-1882) is the son of Archibald Robertson II (1776-1861) has not been found. However, because of the DNA results related to Archibald's father, William (1750-1829), showing nine DNA matching links to my DNA and one DNA matching link to Archibald Robertson II (1776-1861), I am assuming that Archibald Robertson II, William's son, is the possible father of Alexander Robertson (1776-1861), one of my great, great grandfathers.

There are other reasons for believing that Alexander Robertson (1807-1882) could be the son of Archibald Robertson II (1776-1861) and the grandson William Robertson (1750-1829). For one reason, William Robertson was reportedly a furniture manufacturer and that Richard W. Robertson (1831-1918), Alexander Robertson's son, worked for a furniture manufacturer. Both Richard W. Robertson and William Robertson connections to furniture manufacturing might suggest a link between the Robertsons.

Also, geography suggests a connection between William Robertson (1750-1829), his son Archibald Robertson II (1776-1861), and Archibald's possible son Alexander Robertson (1807-1882). For example, William's son Archibald II died in Lunenburg County. Alexander Robertson, possibly Archibald's son, was born in Cumberland County, which is close to Lunenburg County. Both Lunenburg and Cumberland Counties would be counties where a successful Scottish Agent, such as William Robertson, would be active in and visiting, and living in, and explaining Archibald and Alexander death and birth in those counties.

Alexander Robertson's birth in Cumberland County might be related to his grandmother (Elizabeth Gay Bolling, 1758-1830) being a member of the Gay family. The Gay family is known to have own land in Cumberland County. Archibald Robertson II (1776-1861) and his wife, Elizabeth Meade Bolling (1779-1823) (a Gay descendant) were living on Gay land in Cumberland County when Alexander was born.

Another reason is the number of DNA links between my DNA and other Ancestry.com DNA participants who claim Bolling ancestors. This would not be possible without Alexander Robertson being a descendant of these Bolling ancestors. See **Section II 6 Ancestor's Genealogy DNA Discussion**, above, for more on these DNA results.

And finally, related to whether Alexander Robertson (1807-1882) might have been Archibald Robertson II (1776-1861)'s son, is that turmoil existed in the Virginia Colony, as it was forming a new government and the formation of new relationships as the colonies was separating from Great Britain. Such turmoil suggests that it may not be surprising that records related to Archibald and his children are not available today for providing the needed records relating Alexander Robertson to his Robertson ancestors. Another complication is the considerable number of Robertsons that lived at the time and in the area, and that William and Archibald were common names used by Robertson families in naming their sons.

Documentary evidence shows that Archibald Robertson II (1776-1835) was the son of William Robertson (1750-1829). However, documentary evidence does not indicate that Archibald Robertson had a son named Alexander. Documentary evidence also shows that Archibald Robertsons's father William Robertson (1750-1829) had another son, William Robertson II (1783-1855; born Prince George County, died Surry County). Documentary evidence shows that in 1809 William Robertson II married Christiana Williams. Christiana Williams' father was Frederick Williams of Petersburg and her mother's name was Ann. Both William and Christiana Robertson are buried in Blandford Cemetery in Petersburg. Documentary evidence shows that William and Christiana had several sons, but none named Alexander.

Was one of William and Christiana's son, Alexander Robertson, who was one of my great, great grandfathers? It is interesting that Alexander Robertson married a Williams (Sally Ann Willimas, born in Amelia County). William Robertson II's wife Christiana's birth name was Williams. Did Alexander Robertson marry a Williams, Sally Ann Williams, who was in the same Christiana Williams family that William Robertson II married into? During the 1700s, multiple marriages between two families were often frequent.

Sally Ann Williams was the daughter of Samuel Williams (1785-1823). In **Section III 4 Ancestors' Histories, Noble, Williams, and Wright**, information is provided indicating that Samuel Williams was very well off at the time of his death. Was Christina Williams and her father Frederick Williams descendants of Samuel Williams? Samuel wealth came from tobacco farming, and he used the Appomattox River for transport of his tobacco to Petersburg. His tobacco farming and connections with Petersburg could quite possibly led him to connections with the Petersburg Robertson family, and through these connections Christina Williams meeting and marrying William Robertson II.

William Robertson II's father, William Robertson I, was having financial difficulties during this period and a marriage of one of his sons, William II, to a descendant of the well-off Samuel Williams likely would be of interest.

Documentary evidence has not been found that shows that Archibald Robertson II or William Robertson II (brothers) was the father of Alexander Robertson ((1807-1882). However, DNA evidence does seem to support that my DNA has links to William Robertson (1750-1829) (the father of Archibald and William Robertson) and also to Bolling and Randolph family members. And if the DNA evidence is correct, these links would seem necessary to be through Alexander Robertson, one of my great, great grandfathers.

The turmoil of the period (late 1700s, early 1800s) due to the break with Great Britain might have been particularly adverse on Scottish-related merchants, such as Archibald Robertson II, causing them to become poor, and could account for Archibald Robertson II's son, Alexander Robertson, becoming a carpenter, and not in the same social class that William and Archibald Robertson II were once in. Scottish merchants had loyalist feelings not easily hidden causing discrimination against them in many ways in the larger community, hindering their economic opportunities. Also, after the revolution, amounts owed Scottish merchants in Virginia might have been difficult to collect.

Archibald Robertson II (1776-1861) married Elizabeth Meade Bolling (1779-1823; born Campbell County, died Wise County), his second cousin, in 1801. Archibald's mother was Elizabeth Gay Bolling (1758-1830), whose grandfather was John Kennon Bolling (1700-1757; born Henrico, died Chesterfield County). Elizabeth Meade Bolling was the granddaughter of John Kennon Bolling (1700-1757; born Henrico, died Chesterfield). We have here, as elsewhere in this family history, cousins marrying cousins. Reasons accounting for this were how closely these families lived together geographically and socially, the economic advantages of interfamily marriages, and the absence of more suitable partners.

The Encyclopedia of American Quaker Genealogy shows that an Archibald Robertson and Elizabeth Bolling marriage in 1801 was a Quaker marriage and that the marriage took place in Campbell County, Virginia. This seems likely to be referring to ancestors Archibald Robertson II (1776-1861) and Elizabeth Meade Bolling (1779-1823).

A William Bolling of Cobbs diary indicates that William identifies an Archibald Robertson as his nephew. The diary indicates that in 1794, William was seventeen and that Archibald married Elizabeth Bolling in 1801. Interesting, the diary indicated that William went to many dinners and dances, had visited Petersburg, and that he and his friends were very aware and supporters of what was going on in France. William Bolling would move to Goochland County and live at Bolling Hall, where he established a school for deaf children (several Bolling family children were deaf)

Elizabeth Meade Bolling (1779-1823) (Archibald Robertson II's wife) had prominent Virginia Colony family names as ancestors including Randolph, Blair, Meade, Kennon, and Archer.

Bolling, Gay, Blair, Randolph, Meade, Archer, and Kennon

The known first Bolling family male immigrant to the Virginia Colony was Robert Bolling (1646-1708; born London, died Henrico). Robert Bolling's wife was Jane Rolfe (1650-1676; born England, died Henrico). Jane was the granddaughter of the Powhatan Indigenous American Tribe princess, Pocahontas Rolfe.

Five miles down the James River from the Curles Neck Plantation area, the Appomattox River flows into the James River from the southwest. Succeeding Bolling family generations, from the later 1600s to the 1800s, would live on land, a few miles up the Appomattox River from the James River in plantations that became known as Cubbs and Kippax.

Bollings owned substantial amounts of the land from which Petersburg grew. An early Petersburg plot, from the late 1600s, early 1700s, emphasizes the size of one of the Bolling plots as well as a Bolling warehouse on the Appomattox River. The Bolling family's Petersburg land ownership, in what became a growing Petersburg, contributed significantly to the Bolling family's wealth, as they sold the land as Petersburg grew.

The multiple marriages of the Robertsons and Bollings, for example, Archibald Robertson II (1776-1835) to Elizabeth M Bolling (1779-1823) and William Robertson (1750-1829) to Elizabeth Gay Bolling (1758-1830), indicate that the Robertsons lived near the Bollings, along the Appomattox River.

Elizabeth Gay Bolling (1758-1830; born Chesterfield County, died Petersburg) was a great, great granddaughter of the immigrant Robert Bolling (1646-1708). Elizabeth's father was Thomas Bolling (1735-1804; born Henrico County, died Chesterfield County) and her mother was Elizabeth Betty Gay (1738-1813; born Henrico County, died Chesterfield County). Elizabeth Gay's father, Thomas, because he had deaf children, help establish a school for deaf children in the Virginia Colony, perhaps the first such school.

Elizabeth Gay Bolling's great grandfather, Thomas Gay (1689-1749), immigrated from Ireland. Gays were another family living in the areas where the Robertsons and Bollings lived and intermarried with them. William Gay (1705-1749; born Henrico, died Chesterfield County), Thomas Gay's son, was a justice and sheriff in Chesterfield County in the mid-1700s. William Gay owned land in Chesterfield and Cumberland Counties.

Elizabeth Gay Bolling's grandfather, John Kennon Bolling (1700-1757; born Henrico County, died Chesterfield County; and grandson of the immigrant Robert Bolling), married Mary Elizabeth Blair (1708-1775). Mary Elizabeth was the daughter of Archibald Blair (1657-1736) and Sarah Archer (1669-1710). Archibald Blair was the brother of James Blair (1655-1743). James was the founding president of William and Mary College, rector at Bruton Parish Church, and the commissary Bishop of London. The commissary Bishop of London was appointed by the Bishop of London to represent the Church of England in the Virginia Colony. The commissary Bishop also had important influence of "political" decisions, such as immigration decisions (for example, when and where). The Bishop of London had responsibility for the Anglican churches in the colonies. Both Archibald and James immigrated from Scotland.

Another ancestor name connected with the Robertsons and Bollings was William Randolph (1651-1711), who was the great grandfather of Elizabeth Jane Randolph (1755-1796). William Randolph immigrated from Warwickshire, England by the 1670s, arriving with little, but by the time of his death, was the owner of over 10,000 acres. William acquired much land by importing dozens of indentured servants. Besides being a tobacco farmer and merchant, he owned several ships that served his planting and merchant activities. He served at various times in Henrico County as a justice, sheriff, and coroner. Consistent with other well-off Henrico-Chesterfield-Hanover Area gentry, he purchased thousands of acres in the West Area, especially along the James River. William was the Virginia Colony patriarch of succeeding generations of Randolphs, many of whom rose to important political, economic, and public service positions in Virginia.

Elizabeth Jane Randolph (1755-1796), was the daughter of Richard Randolph II (1725-1768; born Henrico, died Chesterfield) and Nancy Anne Meade (1731-1786; born, died Henrico). Elizabeth Jane was a member of the Randolph family, whose home site was a plantation on the Curles Neck land area on the James River. Elizabeth Jane was born on Curles Neck.

Randolphs also owned Petersburg town plots in the 1700s, an indication that Bollings and Randolphs were Petersburg neighbors, helping to account for marriages between Bollings and Randolphs. Other ancestor names who owned Petersburg plots in the 1740s were Robertson, Kennon, and Archer. Living in the same vicinity (Petersburg) accounts for the fairly frequent marriages of these families with one another.

Elizabeth Jane Randolph (1755-1796) (the immigrant William Randolph's great granddaughter) could be a great grandmother of one of my great grandparents, Richard W Robertson (1831-1918). In 1774, Elizabeth Jane married Archibald Blair Bolling (1748-1827), and they had Elizabeth Meade Bolling (1779-1823), who in 1801 married Archibald Robertson II (1776-1861). See the **Robertson Section** above for information on the Elizabeth Meade Bolling-Archibald Robertson II descendants.

Elizabeth Jane Randolph's mother was Nancy Anne Meade (1731-1786; born, died Henrico County). The ancestor Meade immigrant was Andrew Meade (? – 1745; born Cork, Ireland, died Nansemond County). Andrew initially immigrated to the New Netherland Colony (later New Amsterdam and eventually New York). After a few years there, he migrated to Nansemond County in the Virginia Colony, where he prospered in the lumber trade. His wife, who he met in the New Netherland Colony, was Mary Latham (1680-1739; born Ireland, died Henrico County). Mary Latham was possibly a. It is interesting that Mary might have been a Quaker. This suggests that Andrew Meade was also, or possibly became, a Quaker. Was Andrew and Mary's migration to Nansemond County related to Nansemond County being, from the mid-1600s, a location of many Quakers? It seems possible.

Andrew and Mary Meade had David Meade (1710-1757; born?, died Nansemond County), who married Susanna Everard (1710-1757; born, died?). Susanna's father was Richard Everard, who was the fourth governor of North Carolina (from 1725 to 1731). An accomplishment of Richard Everard as North Carolina governor led to finalizing the Virginia-North Carolina border. Andrew Meade was a member of the Virginia House of Burgesses, a judge, and a colonel in the local militia.

David and Susanna Everard Meade had Nancy Anne Meade (1731-1786; born, died, Henrico County), who married Richard Randolph II (1725-1786; born Henrico County died Chesterfield County). Besides Nancy Anne Meade, David and Susanna Meade also had Richard Kidder Meade, who was an aide-de-camp to George Washington.

Sarah Archer (1669-1710; born, died James City County), the wife of Archibald Blair (1657-1736; born Scotland; died Williamsburg) (see above for information on the Blairs) was the daughter of John Archer (1644-1717; born, died Chesterfield County) and Elizabeth Royall (1648-1704; born Chesterfield County, died?). The first immigrant ancestor Archer (John's father) was George Archer (1618-1675), who immigrated from Essex, England around 1635 as an indentured servant to Francis Eppes. George died in Henrico County. By the time of his death, John Archer was a large landowner.

George Archer (1618-1675) was a member of the Essex, England Archer family. This family included Gabriel Archer. In 1602, Gabriel explored what today is called New England. Gabriel returned to England prior to 1607 and became a participant in the Virginia Company of London, including going with the 1607 expedition to Virginia. As a writer, Gabriel had the task of recording events and observations during the expedition. He had also recorded events and observations while on his 1602 expedition to New England. His written comments, both from the 1602 and 1607 expeditions, have survived. Gabriel Archer died in 1610 in Jamestown.

In the 1690s, George Archer, Richard Kennon II, and Joseph Royall patented land along Swift Creek, below the fall line, in present day Chesterfield County. So, it is not surprising to find marriages between Archers, Kennons, and Royalls, as these families were neighbors.

Sarah Archer (1669-1710)'s grandmother was Elizabeth Sarah Wood (1631-?; born, died Henrico County). Was Elizabeth Sarah Wood related to Abraham Wood (1610-1681; born England, died Henrico County)? It seems likely that they were related given the last names being

the same, that they lived in the same period - early 1600s, and that both lived and died near the confluence of the James and Appomattox Rivers in what was then Henrico County.

As a trader with the Indigenous Americans, military officer, and explorer, Abraham Wood was a significant figure in early Virginia Colony development of the area around the James River fall line and further west. He immigrated to the Virginia Colony, at age 10 in 1620, as an indentured servant, and by 1625 was working for Samuel Matthews in Jamestown. He obtained land along the Appomattox River. In the 1650s, he explored the upper reaches of the James and Roanoke Rivers. He led the building of Ft. Henry on the Appomattox River that helped in the settlement of that area. By the time of his death in 1681, he was recognized for his accomplishments by receiving the rank of general.

Another ancestor name, Richard Kennon II (1650-1696; born died, Henrico) in the 1670s acquired land along the Appomattox River in the vicinity of the Bolling land. This land has become known as Conjurer's Neck and has been the site of archaeological research and has a mid-1700s brick house, built by Kennons, still standing on the land. Mary Elizabeth Kennon (1679-1727), Richard Kennon II and Elizabeth Worsham (1656-1743; born, died Henrico)'s daughter, married a Bolling - John Fairfax Bolling (1676-1729; born Prince George County, died Henrico County). This is another example of neighboring families marrying into each other's families, common then and later into the 1700s and 1800s. Richard Kennon II was a merchant and a House of Burgesses member. In 1685, Richard Kennon II was a factor for William Paggen, a London merchant. As a factor, Richard would receive goods from a merchant, and sell those goods, receiving a commission for the sale.

Richard Kennon II was buried in Chase City, Mecklenburg County, although he died in Henrico County. If correct, how did Richard come to be buried in Mecklenburg County, about ninety miles to the south of Henrico? One possibility is that Richard owned land in Mecklenburg, which one of his children lived on and that child arranged for Richard to be buried in Mecklenburg County. This would represent another example of the gentry, well-off residents of Henrico County purchasing land in the West, South, and Southwest Areas.

The Kennon and Worsham families were neighbors, accounting for Richard Kennon II (1650-1696) marriage to Elizabeth Worsham (1656-1743). Elizabeth Worsham was the daughter of William Worsham (1625-1660; born Charles City County, died Bermuda Hundred, Henrico) and Elizabeth Littleberry (1620-1675; born Essex, England, died Bermuda Hundred, Henrico). Richard Kennon II's father was Richard Kennon I (born 1625), who married Elizabeth Bolling (1626-1705). Richard Kennon I's father was Robert Kennon (1600-?), who immigrated from Scotland

The above families – especially Cockes, Pleasants, Bollings, and Randolphs – were large landowners beyond Henrico and Chesterfield Counties, especially along the James and Appomattox Rivers. For example, Richard Randolph I (1686-1748) owned thousands of acres along the James.

Based on what I have found, later generations of Cockes and Pleasants are more likely to be found in counties in the West Area, for example, Albemarle and Goochland, whereas later

generations of Bollings are more likely to be found in counties in the South Area, for example, Amelia and Brunswick. A suggested explanation for this has to do with economics and location. The Cocks and Pleasants families viewed investments along the James River (many West Area counties lie along the James River) as more interesting and potentially more economically rewarding, whereas the Bolling families, because they lived along the Appomattox, believed investments along the Appomattox River were more interesting and relevant. Several South Area counties lie along the Appomattox River, and for this reason, more Bolling descendants are found connected to South Area countries.

Also, investments along the James River might have been more costly, possibly because the land was in greater demand than along the Appomattox River. This suggests that the Cocks and Pleasants families were more well-off and could better afford buying land along the James River. Another possibility is that the Cocks and Pleasants lived on the north side of the James River, while the Bollings lived on the south side. Difficulties in crossing the James River in the 1700s, when exploration was being conducted and investment decisions made, might have been a factor in Cocks and Pleasants going west and staying, for the most part, north of the James River. Also, roads leading west (into the West Area) was more common from the north of the James River (where Cocks and Pleasants lived), whereas roads from the Appomattox River (where Bollings lived) lead south and southwestwardly (into the South Area counties).

3. West Area - Albemarle, Amherst, Buckingham, Cumberland, Fluvanna, Goochland, Louisa, and Powhatan Counties

Cocks

Thomas Cocks (1715-1797) and his son (Benjamin) and grandson (Samuel), married women from Goochland County: Thomas to Ann Johnson (1725-1788); Benjamin to Mary Johnson (1752-1826); and Samuel to Elizabeth Lilly Shepherd (1773-1853). (Thomas Cocks was the son of the Henrico John Powell Cocks II; see **Section III 2 Cocks, Johnson, and Pleasants**, above, for more on the Henrico Cocks.)

Benjamin Cocks (1747-1828; born, died Goochland) and his father, Thomas Cocks (1715-1777; born, died Goochland) settled and lived on land in Goochland County that was owned by James Powell Cocks II (1691-1775), who lived in Henrico County.

Benjamin Cocks married Mary Johnson (1752-1826; born, died Goochland County), who was the daughter of Joseph and Sarah Harris Johnson, likely Quakers. The Cocks land where Benjamin lived was close to the Quaker's Cedar Creek Meeting House, around which many Quakers lived. That Benjamin lived in an area where Mary Johnson also lived could account for their meeting. Another reason might also be that Benjamin attended Cedar Creek. See the **Johnson Section**, below, for more on the Cedar Creek Meeting House and ancestors who are believed to have attended Cedar Creek.

Supporting evidence that early Cokes were associated with Quakers is that James Powell Coker I (1666-1721; born, died Henrico County) married a Pleasants (Elizabeth Pleasants, 1676-1751; born, died Henrico County). Pleasants family members were well known Quakers.

Also supporting that early Cokes were Quakers is that Sarah Lewis (1698-1736; born, died Henrico County) was the daughter of Elizabeth Ferris Woodson Lewis (1662-1740; born Henrico County, died Goochland County). Elizabeth was a member of the Woodson family, a prominent early 1700s Henrico County gentry family, known to be Quakers. Sarah Lewis was the wife of James Powel Coker II (1691-1775; born, died Henrico County).

Thomas Cooke (1715-1797) operated a tavern in Goochland County, near the present-day community of Crozier, and close to the Cedar Creek Meeting House. A Samuel Coker (1771-1844; born, died Goochland County) also operated a tavern in Goochland County in the mid-1820s. Samuel is likely Thomas's grandson. Also, a Samuel Coker was a postmaster in the mid-1820s in Beaverdam, Hanover County.

A James Powell Coker III (1748-1829), possibly James Powell Coker II's son or grandson (and therefore a brother or nephew of ancestor Thomas Coker (1715-1797), or even possibly Thomas's son), moved to Albemarle County from Henrico County after the 1750s, where he built a plantation house named Edgemont. In the 1900s, agricultural historians concluded that Edgemont was designed by Thomas Jefferson. Thomas Jefferson knew James Powell Coker III through Jefferson's involvement in a trial in which Coker was being sued by an Indigenous American (a Coker slave) for the Indigenous American's freedom. Edgemont still stands and has been extensively renovated.

Edgemont is in the southern part of Albemarle County about fifteen miles southwest of Charlottesville along the Hardware River, in an area where Henrico County ancestor Charles Hudson had purchased hundreds of acres, perhaps from the Coker family. The Coker family, like other Henrico gentry families, had purchased thousands of acres along the James River for speculative investments, including land in what became Albemarle County. James Powell Coker III inherited, or was given, some of this land; land that he built Edgemont on.

More can be read below, under **Wingfield**, about ancestor Charles Hudson and his purchase of land in Albemarle County, and his daughter and her husband living in Albemarle County.

Eubank

More evidence is needed to show that George Eubank I (1732-1802; born Henrico County, died Amherst County)'s father was John Eubank (1680-1732; born Talbot County, died uncertain, but possibly Henrico County). John Eubank's father, Thomas Eubank II (1648-1732), immigrated by 1675 from England and died in Talbot County, Maryland, where John was born. Talbot County is on Maryland's Eastern Shore, near Kent Island, where many immigrants from England went in the 1600s. Thomas Eubank II's father, Thomas Eubank I (1610-1685), may have also immigrated to Talbot County.

A 1717 will for Marmaduke Harrison (died in Maryland) indicates that Marmaduke left his entire estate to the husband of his daughter (Martha), Thomas Eubank, who was Thomas Eubank II identified in the paragraph above.

Thomas Eubank II left in his 1732 will his plantation and land to his wife Martha (the Martha who was Marmaduke Harrison's daughter identified in the above paragraph). In his will, Thomas refers to a son John as previously living on one of his plantations. It is unclear whether this means John has died or that he has left the area or that he both has left the area and has died. This John may be the John Eubank (1680-1732; born Talbot County, died uncertain but possibly Henrico County) refer to above as being George Eubank I's father.

Thomas Eubank II left land along the Miles River, between Easton and St. Michaels in present day Talbot County, Maryland. That Thomas settled on land close to the Miles River that flows into the Chesapeake Bay suggests that Thomas grew tobacco. Tobacco farmers all along the Chesapeake Bay waterways benefited by being able to grow tobacco close to the waterways, where tobacco could be easily loaded on ships for the English market. (See my study: Family History – Living Along Virginia Colony's Waterways in the 1600s and 1700s – Lukes, Dales, Etheridges, Veales, Hills, Lewises, Wormeleys, and Others – for more on tobacco growing along the Chesapeake Bay waterways.)

A Thomas Eubank is listed in Quakers Meeting Records that indicated that in 1717 a Thomas Eubank of Talbot County married Jean Clother. Witnesses to the marriage (it was common for Quakers to have several witnesses sign meeting records at marriages) included at least five Eubank names including a Tho. Eubank and Martha Eubank. Martha Harrison was the wife of Thomas Eubank II (1648-1732) so that the 1717 Quaker Meetings Record certainly is identifying Thomas Eubank II and his son Thomas who was marrying Jane Clother. So, if Thomas Eubank II of Talbot County is the grandfather of ancestor George Eubank I (1732-1802), this is interesting in that my Eubank ancestors were Quakers.

Quakers are known to have immigrated in the 1600s in large numbers to Maryland and Virginia Eastern Shore Counties.

A 1702 Maryland Census Index record indicates that a Thomas Eubank might have been an overseer of roads in Talbot County. Maryland Colony roads were being developed by the early 1700s, and overseers were used. Wooden bridges were being built in the early 1700s. Ferry service existed between Kent Island (near Talbot County) and Annapolis. By 1739, Prince George's County had a network of more than fifty roads.

If John Eubank (1680-1732) was Thomas Eubank's son (the John that Thomas refers to in his will as previously living on one of his plantations; discussed above) and George Eubank I father, why did John Eubank migrate to Henrico County? Reasons include land, for example, land availability in Talbot County was not sufficient for John, while substantial amounts of land were becoming available for purchases in the Piedmont region of the Virginia Colony at affordable prices. Also, migration was for personal reasons, for example, there was an emerging Quaker community in Henrico County and there were connections between the Quakers in Talbot County and the Henrico County Quaker community. Migrating from Talbot County to Henrico

County may just reflect what was a frequent practice among Quakers – the tendency to migrate, from more built-up, complex surroundings to less developed, simpler life choices.

My great grandmother, Mary Ann Eubank (1825-1916; born Amherst County, died Richmond City, Henrico), had a father and a grandfather who married Wingfields. Her father, George Eubank III (1796-1851; born Amherst County, died Chesterfield County) in 1823, in Nelson County, married Elizabeth H Wingfield (1804-1851; born Nelson County, died Chesterfield County). In 1790, in Albemarle County, her grandfather, George Eubank II (1764-1827; born Albemarle County, died Amherst County) married Nancy Wingfield (1776-1849; born Amherst County, died Albemarle County).

Eubank and Wingfield families migrated to the West Area by the middle of the 1700s where they lived close to one another. This is another example of families living in the same vicinity marrying into each other's families. I have seen this in other ancestors, for example, Cockes marrying Pleasants and Bollings marrying Kennons.

For some of the counties the Eubanks and Wingfields are identified with, ranging from Albemarle to Louisa to Amherst to Nelson, a conclusion is that often the families did not relocate between these counties but rather the county names changed, as new counties were formed when splitting off from the older counties. For example, records show that Eubanks lived in Albemarle County, which later, when Amherst was split off from Albemarle County, these Eubanks now lived in Amherst County (where they died), without moving.

The first ancestor Eubank (George Eubank I, 1735-1802) found in the West Area migrated from Henrico County, where he was born, to Albemarle County, where he died. George Eubank I is a descendant of Thomas Eubank (1648;1732; born Westmoreland, England, died Talbot, Maryland) and a Quaker (see the earlier paragraphs above for more on George Eubank I's ancestors).

In 1758, George Eubank I purchased three hundred acres on Beaverdam near the Soapstone Quarries, which today is along the Albemarle-Nelson County border, close to Rockfish River. Rockfish River flows into the James River. The purchase of this land along Rockfish River is an indication of the desire of farmers to have land along waterways for ease of taking products to markets. George also owned land along the South Fork of Hardware River that flows east of Scottsville, Albemarle County into the James River. George in his 1802 will identify nine slaves that he owned.

George and his brother, John, had a reputation in Albemarle County for being industrious and prosperous farmers. George and his wife, Mary Majors (1739-1802; born Henrico, died Albemarle) are buried in the Eubank Harris Marshall Burying Ground near Scottsville.

George Eubank I's son was George Eubank II (1764-1827; born Albemarle County, died Amherst County). (Amherst County split off from Albemarle, so likely George II never moved although he was born and died in different counties. I have found this to be the case for several of my ancestors who immigrated to the West, South, and Southwest Areas.) George Eubank II's

wife was Nancy Wingfield (1776-1849; born Amherst County, died Albemarle). George and Nancy are also buried in the Eubank Harris Marshall Burying Ground near Scottsville.

George Eubank II's marriage to a Wingfield (Nancy Wingfield (1776-1849) relates to their living close to one another. As mentioned above, George's father (George Eubank I) purchased land along the Hardware River, where Wingfields also owned land, and likely this was the connection (living close to one another) that led to George Eubank II and Nancy Wingfield's marriage.

Several Eubanks are identified in later 1700s/early 1800s Albemarle County land orders and survey documents (records of residents who participated in road maintenance). The areas they are associated with in the documents correlate with areas where ancestor Eubanks are believed to have lived (southern Albemarle County). A Eubank tavern is identified in the documents.

Documents refer to an 1800s-era Eubank store, located in the Hardware River area of southern Albemarle County. Eubanks, who were associated with this store, were descendants of the 1700s Albemarle County Eubank ancestors.

Johnson

John Johnson (1697-1750; born New Kent County, died Goochland County) migrated from Henrico County to Goochland County. In Goochland, he married Mary Pledge (1710-1782; born, died Goochland County). John's grandfather, Edward Johnson (1649-1704), immigrated from Scotland. Mary Pledge's father, John Pledge (1672-1720; born, died Henrico) had his will witness by Joseph Pleasants. The Pleasants family was well-known Quakers, so Joseph Pleasants witnessing John Pledge's will suggests that John and Mary Pledge Johnson were Quakers.

John and Mary Pledge Johnson's son Joseph Johnson (1724-1781; born, died Goochland County) and his wife, Sarah Harris (1729-1826; born Albemarle County, died Goochland County) had a daughter, Mary Johnson (1752-1826; born, died Goochland County), who in 1768 married Benjamin Cocke (1747-1828; born, died Goochland County). Benjamin Cooke's great grandmother was Elizabeth Pleasants (1676-1751; born, died Henrico County), a member of the Pleasants Quaker family.

Joseph was a Goochland County land processor in the Maidens area.

In the 1700s, Quakers had a meeting house, Cedar Creek, in Hanover County near the Goochland County line. Such a meeting house indicates a community of Quakers in the area. Cedar Creek Meeting House records indicate that from 1721 to 1770, members surnames included Harris, Johnson (including John Johnson, the ancestor John Johnson, 1697-1750, written about above), and William Henry Pleasants.

Joseph Johnson (1724-1781; born, died Goochland County), John's son, and therefore likely a Quaker, married Sarah Harris (1729-1826; born Albemarle County, died Goochland County). That Harris was a known surname of members who attended Cedar Creek Meeting House

suggests that Sarah Harris may have been a member of one of these Harris families. A John Harris, along with a Thomas Stanley, played an important role in establishing Cedar Creek in the early 1720s. Whether Sarah Harris is related to John Harris has not been determined.

Shepherd and Lilly

In 1796, Samuel Cocke (1771-1844; born, died Goochland County) married Elizabeth Lilly Shepherd (1773-1853; born, died in Fluvanna County) in Fluvanna County, which previously was a part of Goochland County before a Goochland County area was broken off to form Fluvanna County. Elizabeth is believed to be a descendant of John Lilly I (1607-1645; born England, died York County), an immigrant from England who settled in York County by 1645.

John Lilly I descendants also included: John Lilly II (1642-1690; born York County, died?); John Lilly III (1665-1710; born?, died?); and Edmund Lilly (1700-1780; born?, died Fluvanna County). These Lillys would migrate further west from York County until Edmund arrives in the western part of Goochland County that becomes Fluvanna County.

Elizabeth Lilly Shepherd's mother was Mary Ann Lilly (1737-1838; born, died Fluvanna County). Edmund Lilly (1700-1780), Mary Ann's father, settled along Byrd Creek in Fluvanna County, within a few miles of Lyles Church. After moving to Fluvanna, Edmund served for a time duty in maintaining roads.

Edward Lilly's settling on land along Byrd Creek relates to an objective of this family history, which is to examine how waterways influenced settlement decision-making in the 1700s. For example, was a reason for settling on land along streams, creeks, and rivers for ease of transporting products to market. One way of doing this might be identifying how often ancestors had land along streams, creeks, or rivers. **Section IV 4 Settlements**, below, provides a list of ancestors settling along streams, creeks, and rivers, discusses settlement decisions, and concludes that settling along streams, creeks, and rivers was important for transporting products to market.

The first West Area Shepherd ancestor is believed to be Christopher Shepherd (1709-1776; born, in what was then Albemarle County, died Fluvanna County). Christopher was the son of John Shepherd II (1681-1740; born, died Hanover County) and Isabella Warner (1687-?; born Hanover County, died?). His grandparents may have been John Shepherd I (1646-1683; born Jamestown, died Middlesex County) and Francis Robinson (1656-1693; born London, died Middlesex County).

Christopher's son, John W Shepherd (1738-1796; born Goochland County, died Fluvanna County), lived in the same area as Christopher. John W Shepherd (1738-1796)'s mother was Mary Jane Lilly (1712-1778; born Gloucester County, died Goochland). Mary Jane Lilly (1712-1778)'s father is believed to be John Lilly IV (1690-1781; born, died Gloucester County).

John W. Shephard married Mary Ann Lilly (1737-1838; born died Fluvanna County) and they had Elizabeth Lilly Shepherd (1773-1853; born, died Fluvanna County). This is another example of cousins marrying cousins (John W. Shephard marrying Mary Ann Lilly) seen at various times in this family history. Such marriages are believed to have often happened in the 1600s and 1700s, compared to later times.

John W Shepherd and Mary Ann Lilly are believed to have been neighbors, accounting for their meeting and marrying. Many Lillys and Shepherds are believed to have lived near one another along the Fluvanna/Goochland County line. This would account for the various marriages seen between Lillys and Shepherds. During the Revolutionary War, John and Mary Ann provided rations and other support to the soldiers. John left about a \$3,000 estate when he died in 1796, which is judged to be a substantial amount. In his will, he refers to his wife, Mary; to his residence as a plantation; to slaves; and to horses, hogs, and sheep. Several children are identified, including Elizabeth Cocke (1773-1853), likely Samuel Cocke (1771-1844)'s wife. John seems to have been a higher-level yeoman farmer.

Mary Ann Lilly Shepherd (1737-1838) attended Lyles Church in Fluvanna County. Lyles, established in the 1760s, currently a Baptist Church, is reported to be the first church in Fluvanna County. Mary Ann lived to be 101, leaving behind several children. Many of her children migrated to Kentucky.

A recently placed burial stone in the Parrish Cemetery in Fluvanna County indicates that John Shepherd (1738-1796) was married to Mary Ann Lilly (1737-1838). The Parrish Cemetery is behind or near the property upon which John and Mary Ann lived. Although information on John indicates he was born in Goochland County and died in Fluvanna County, his birth and death was in the same area as Fluvanna County was formed from part of Goochland County in 1744.

A Muster Roll, dated February 1778, shows that a John Shepherd was a corporal in Capt. William Cherry's Company in the Fourth Virginia Regiment, commanded by Major Isaac Bealle. The Fourth Virginia Regiment participated in several Revolutionary War engagements, including being at Valley Forge. Whether this John Shepherd is the John Shepherd, who is buried in the Parrish Cemetery, is not known, but John's age and place of birth is consistent with information associated with Corporal John Shepherd.

John W (1738-1796) and Mary Lilly (1737-1838) Shepherd were the parents of Elizabeth L Shepherd (1773-1853; born, died Fluvanna County), who married Samuel Cocke (1771-1844; born, died Goochland County). Elizabeth L Shepherd and Samuel Cocke were the parents of John Shepherd Cocke (1778-1877; born Goochland County, died Albemarle County), one of my great, great grandparents. John Shepherd Cocke (1778- 1877) was the father of Lilly Shepherd Cocke (1854-1922; born Albemarle County, died Clayton, North Carolina), one of my great grandparents. Likely Lilly Shepherd Cocke's first name came from her Lilly ancestors' family name.

Learning of the pattern of migration from counties closer to the Chesapeake Bay into the Piedmont, as demonstrated by the Shepherd and Lilly ancestors discussed above, is one of the goals of this family history. **Section IV 3c Immigration and Migration, Migration Patterns**, below, discusses migration patterns.

Wingfield

Mary Ann Eubank (1825-1916; born Amherst County, died Richmond City), one of my great grandmothers, represents well those ancestor families who migrated west from the Chesterfield - Henrico – Hanover Area. Whereas Mary Ann would return to the Henrico County area by the end of her life (she died in Richmond City), she was born in Amherst County. Mary Ann's great, great, great grandfather, Thomas Wingfield (1664-1720), believed to be the first Wingfield immigrant ancestor, was born in Rutland, England and died in New Kent County. Thomas was from a gentry-class family; peerages were awarded by the monarchy to such families.

Thomas Wingfield (1664-1720) sons are believed to be John Wingfield (1695-1759; born New Kent County, died uncertain location, possibly Hanover after splitting off from New Kent County) and Robert Wingfield (1697-1769; born New Kent County, died Louisa County).

A Thomas Wingfield is in New Kent County's St. Paul's Church Vestry Books in the late 1690s, early 1700s.

Thomas Wingfield (1664-1720)'s son, John Wingfield (1695-1759), was a surveyor and a county procession agent. A John Wingfield is identified in the St. Paul's Church Vestry Books in the 1740s, as involved in "processioning" activities. A county/parish procession agent had responsibilities related to verifying land ownership boundaries. The St. Paul's Church Vestry Books from the late 1690s and early 1700s and the 1740s support that John Wingfield was Thomas Wingfield's son.

In the **Section IV 4 Settlements**, below, dealing with factors related to the promotion and development of settlements in the West, South, and Southwest Areas, one factor discussed is how well-off Virginians in the Chesterfield - Henrico – Hanover Area purchased land in the West, South, and Southwest Areas at attractive prices. They would then try to sell the land at a profit, or, in some cases, their descendants were given or inherited and lived on the land. An example of this (others are written about elsewhere in this family history) is with ancestor Charles Hudson (1691-1748; born, died Hanover County). Charles Hudson was the Hanover County sheriff in 1729-30. He helped in the building of Hanover County's Slash Church, still in existence as a Disciples of Christ church. So, he should be considered a well-off Virginian.

As early as the 1730s, Charles Hudson purchased hundreds of acres of land in what became Louisa and Albemarle Counties. A lot of the Albemarle land that Charles purchased was in southern Albemarle County along the Hardware River. In his 1748 will, Charles left a 540-acre plantation (named Prospect) in Albemarle County to his daughter Mary Hudson (1710-1759; born/died Hanover County). In 1720, Mary married John Wingfield (1695-1759; born New Kent County, died Hanover County, after Hanover split off from New Kent County). A John Wingfield (likely Mary's husband) was the executor for Charles Hudson's will.

In 1716, Charles Hudson received land on Mechumps Creek in Hanover County. A deed with this information indicates that the land abuts the land of the Wingfields.

An early mention of the Wingfield name in Albemarle County records was in the 1760s. This could have been ancestor Charles Wingfield I (1728-1803; born New Kent County, died Albemarle County). Charles was a son of John and Mary Hudson Wingfield. Charles lived on what would be referred to as Prospect Plantation. Charles was a lieutenant during the Revolutionary War. Prospect Plantation was in the Biscuit Run Valley area of Albemarle County, near the North Fork of the Hardware River. The Albemarle County land that Charles Wingfield I lived on is the land that Charles Hudson left to Charles Wingfield's mother and Charles Hudson's daughter, Mary Hudson Wingfield (1710-1759).

Charles Wingfield I had a son, Charles Wingfield II (1752-1819), who became a Presbyterian pastor, and served at the funeral of Thomas Jefferson's sister Martha Jefferson Carr (1746-1811). Charles II conducted the funeral at noon on September 13, 1811, at the Monticello Graveyard. Charles II attended Hampden-Sydney College. Charles II was a county magistrate and a sheriff. He continued to live on the land that his father lived on, in the Biscuit Run Valley area of Albemarle County, building a plantation house called Bellair that still stands. Bellair is about fifteen miles from Monticello. Bellair was owned by Wingfields until the early 1820s.

Another believed to be son of Thomas Wingfield (1664-1720) was Robert Wingfield (1697-1769; born New Kent County, died Louisa County). Robert migrates west, ending up in Louisa County, where he died. Robert had several children (with his wife, Ann Bailey, 1713-1787; born New Kent County, died Louisa County), including Josiah Wingfield (1739-1819; born Louisa County, died Nelson County) and Matthew Wingfield (1734-1778; born, Louisa County, died, Amherst County). Josiah's son Joseph B Wingfield (1775-1850; born Louisa County, died Nelson County) and John's daughter Susannah Wingfield (1779-1850; born Culpepper County, died Amherst County) married one another in 1795 (an example of cousins marrying cousins).

Children of John Wingfield (1695-1759) and his brother, Robert Wingfield (1697-1769) would marry one another. Also, children of Robert's sons would marry one another, such that there are numerous examples of "Wingfield cousins marrying Wingfield cousins," resulting in a very interrelated family. Apparently, cousins marrying one another was not that uncommon during 1600s and 1700s; it has occurred elsewhere in my family history; it seems especially common with the Wingfields.

Several Wingfields are identified in later 1700s/early 1800s Albemarle County land orders and survey documents (records of residents who participated in road maintenance). The areas they are associated with in the documents correlate with areas where ancestor Wingfields are believed to have lived (southern Albemarle County).

Joseph B and Susannah Wingfield had Elizabeth H Winfield (1804-1851; born Amherst County, died Chesterfield County), who was the mother of Mary Ann Wingfield Eubank (1825-1916; born Amherst, died Richmond City). Elizabeth H Wingfield, like her daughter, Mary Ann, would return (migrate back) to the Henrico County area (from Nelson County, dying in Chesterfield County in 1851). Mary Ann Wingfield Eubank was one of my great grandmothers.

The above shows a history of migration of ancestors from the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area west to the West Area counties of Albemarle, Amherst, Fluvanna, Goochland, and Louisa

Counties. Later in the 1700s, the migration pattern will include, as indicated above for Mary Ann Wingfield Eubank (1825-1916), a return east, for example, to Henrico County, Richmond City, and Chesterfield County, reflecting changing times (especially changing economic conditions). One of my objectives in this family history is to write about ancestor migration decisions and patterns, for example, why would some go directly west (into the West Area), and others go south and southwest (into the South and Southwest Areas). Migration reasons and patterns are discussed below in **Section IV 3, Immigration and Migration**.

John Wingfield (1742-1812) (son of Charles Wingfield I, 1728-1803) purchased one hundred acres in the Hardware River Valley area near Carter's Bridge in the St. Ann's Parish section of Albemarle County. As indicated in the Eubank section above, Eubanks also settled in the Hardware River area of Albemarle County. The close vicinity of the Wingfields and Eubanks account for marriages between ancestor Wingfields and ancestor Eubanks. This area of Albemarle County became a part of Amherst County, when Amherst County was formed from part of Albemarle County. Then when Nelson County was formed between Albemarle and Amherst Counties, taken land from both counties, the Eubanks and Wingfields would be living in Nelson County, explaining differences in county birth and death locations, without actually moving.

A Charles Wingfield, possibly John Wingfield (1742-1812)'s brother, Charles, in 1776, signed "The Ten Thousand Name Petition", which was in support of greater religious toleration in the Virginia Colony. The Ten Thousand Name Petition sought greater toleration for dissenter religious groups, such as Quakers, Baptists, and Presbyterians. Baptists were leaders in the creation and acceptance of the petition. Charles Wingfield was a Presbyterian pastor (discussed above). Many members of these dissenter religious groups migrated into the West Area counties.

The Ten Thousand Name Petition, issued in 1776, was in support of a declaration of rights and lead to the Virginia Government declaring that all men are equally entitled to the free exercise of religion according to the dictates of conscience. Such developments were happening at a time when there was strong recognition of a need for a convergence of support among various groups in Virginia for the fight for freedom from English rules. Most of Virginia's governmental elite was strongly behind Virginia's fight for freedom from English rules, which led to passage of the "Ten Thousand Name Petition."

Also, several Wingfields, including John Wingfield (1747-1812) signed, along with dozens of other Albemarle citizens, a "Declaration of Independence" document, indicating their feelings towards the rebellion against Great Britain. A John Wingfield is on lists of Albemarle citizens fighting in the Revolutionary War. This is likely John Wingfield (1747-1812).

Wingfields are believed to have been in the 14th Virginia Regiment, which was formed with men from Albemarle, Goochland, Louisa, Lunenburg, and other counties for service in the Continental Army. The regiment would see action at the Battle of Brandywine, Battle of Germantown, Battle of Monmouth, and the Siege of Charleston. Most of the regiment was captured at Charleston, South Carolina, in 1780. No verification based on pension requests due to American Revolution War service could be found for the above Wingfields being soldiers in

the American War of Independence, but by the time requests could be submitted (mid 1800s), the above Wingfields and their widows had died.

Although there is suggestive evidence that ancestor Eubanks were Quakers, no evidence suggest ancestor Wingfields were. But rather, evidence suggest that at least some Wingfields were Presbyterians (Charles Winfield, 1752-1819, was a Presbyterian pastor). Service in the Continental Army would be against Quaker principles, although many Quakers did serve in the Continental Army and militias.

Elizabeth H. Wingfield (1804-1851) (daughter of Joseph B Wingfield, 1775-1850, a descendant of Robert Wingfield, 1697-1769, and Susannah Wingfield, 1779-1850, a descendant of Charles Wingfield I, 1728-1803) married George Eubank III (1796-1851) (son of George Eubank II, 1764-1827 and Nancy Wingfield, 1776-1849) and they would have Mary Ann Eubank (1825-1916). Mary Ann Eubank was one of my great grandmothers.

4. South Area - Amelia, Brunswick, Dinwiddie, Lunenburg, Mecklenburg, and Prince Edward Counties

The above **Section III 2 (Ancestors in the Chesterfield, Hanover, and Henrico County Area)** and **Section III 3 (Ancestors in the West Area)** provide information on ancestors living in the counties in those areas. This **Section III 4** provides information on ancestors who lived in Amelia, Brunswick, Dinwiddie, Lunenburg, Mecklenburg, and Prince Edward counties. I refer to the area of these counties as the South Area.

Noble, Williams, and Wright

In 1760, Joseph Noble (1740-1826) immigrated from Surrey, England and died in Amelia County. According to Amelia County deeds, in 1762 Joseph Noble buys 117 acres of land on both sides of Little Saylor Creek. Little Saylor Creek flows into Saylor Creek, and Saylor Creek flows north into the Appomattox River. In 1780, a Joseph Noble is recognized by the Amelia County court for service as an ensign in Captain Edmund Booker's Company.

John Noble (1762-1818; born, died Amelia County) was Joseph Noble's son. John Noble in his will identified his house as a plantation at Sandy Creek, which is about twelve miles west of Amelia Courthouse and five miles north of Joseph Noble's land along Little Saylor Creek. Sandy Creek flows into the Appomattox River. The will indicated that John inherited land from his father, Joseph Noble.

John Noble was a yeoman farmer. His land was close to the Appomattox River. His "plantation" house consisted of three floors and twelve rooms. Unfortunately, John was murdered by a slave. John's father, Joseph, and mother Mary Wheeler (1745-1816; born and died Amelia County) lived close to John. Joseph married Mary in 1759 shortly after his arrival in Amelia County.

John Noble's wife was Savannah Wright (1770-1820; born, died Amelia). They married in 1787. Savannah's father was John Wright (1729-1788; born?, died Amelia County) and mother,

possibly Sarah Powell (1733-1784; born Isle of Wight County, died Surry County). John Wright farmed land close to John Noble's land. There is some evidence (an existing survey record) that both John Noble and John Wright had "mission houses" on their land, possibly places for worship. Mission houses were used in various dissenter religious groups as a place to worship.

The Amelia County court order records from the second half of the 1700s identify a John Noble in 1791 – he was ordered to explain why he did not provide taxable property information. Also, a John Wright was identified as an executor for the will of a Thomas Wright. A Thomas Wright was appointed as an Amelia County surveyor. John Noble, John Wright, and Thomas Wright are ancestors John Noble (1762-1818), John Wright (1729-1788), and Thomas Wright (?-1767). In 1761, a Thomas Wright gives 100 acres to a Thomas Wright, his son, out of love. The land is between Sandy Creek and Spring Branch. Therefore, the Nobles and Wrights were neighbors, which would account for why John Noble would marry Savannah Wright.

John Noble's 1818 will indicated that John had some kind of disagreement and dislike with his daughter's husband Samuel Williams (1785-1823; born, died Amelia County). John Noble's daughter was Mary Polly Noble (1790-1847; born Amelia Count, died Chesterfield County).

A Samuel Williams will, dated 1823, is the will of ancestor Samuel Williams (1785-1823). Reasons for believing that this might be ancestor's Samuel Williams will are: 1) the will identifies Samuel's wife as Mary. Ancestor Samuel Williams' wife was Mary (Polly) Noble; 2) the will identifies a daughter name Polly, possibly named Polly because of her mother being called Polly; 3) ancestor Samuel Williams died in 1823, a date associated with the will; and 4) an executor identified on the will is Phillip Wright. A Wright family was associated with the family of ancestor's Samuel William's wife - Mary (Polly) Noble. If this is ancestor Samuel Williams' will, it provides information that Samuel had accumulated substantial land and other assets. This is indicated in the amount of land and money that Samuel leaves to his wife and many children. Another interesting aspect of the will is that Samuel states that he wants his slaves, those not able to care for themselves, to be provided for by Samuel's assets. That in the Samuel Williams' will, Samuel requests that his slaves be provided for could indicate that Samuel was a Quaker or a Methodist.

Although a problem with the will is it is made out in Cumberland County, and ancestor Samuel Williams is believed to have died in Amelia County, it is likely that the Samuel Williams' will, dated 1823, is ancestor Samuel Williams' will. Cumberland County is close to the land that the Nobles owned in Amelia County.

A Thomas Williams appeared on Amelia County road order records from the 1730s to the 1750s. In the 1780s, a Thomas Williams appears on several Amelia County documents. This 1780s Thomas Williams is the son of the Thomas Williams who appeared on the Amelia County road order records from the 1730s to the 1750s. The 1780s Thomas Williams is believed to be the father of Samuel Willimas (1785-1825; born, died Amelia County). Samuel Williams and his wife Mary Polly Noble (1790-1847) is the father of Sally Ann Willliams (1812-1880; born Amelia County, died Richmond City), one of my great, great grandmothers.

In 1760, an Amelia County deed shows that a Thomas Williams buys two hundred acres on Celler Creek Fork of Deep Creek. This is the Thomas Williams appearing on the road order records from the 1730s to the 1750s.

In a paragraph above, it is suggested that John Noble and John Wright, who were connected to ancestor Samuel Williams through John Noble's daughter's marriage to Samuels Williams, had "mission houses" on their property. If this is correct (about mission houses), and these mission houses were used for religious purposes, it might suggest that the Noble and Wright families were in a Quaker or Methodist Community, communities believed to be associated with "mission house" use. Did Samuel Williams request in his will (see above) that some of his slaves be cared for out his assets suggest that Samuel was a Quaker or Methodist (two denominations known to have "progressive views" related to caring for and freeing slaves)? Was the disagreement and dislike that John Noble had with his son-in-law, Samuel Williams (married to John Noble's daughter Mary Polly Noble) related to religious differences? It would be interesting to know more about answers to these questions.

Ransone and Hicks

Peter Ransone (1615-1663) is believed to be the first ancestor Ransone immigrant to the Virginia Colony (from England). Peter's son was James (1642-1710; born Elizabeth City County, died Gloucester County). James's son, George Ransone (1674-1748), was born and died in Gloucester County. George's son was Richard Ransone (1700-1748; born Gloucester County, died Brunswick County). Executors on Richard Ransone's 1748 will were Col John Wall and Col Nathaniel Edmonds (Brunswick County militia). These executors suggests that Richard Ransone had a good reputation in Brunswick County. Richard married Frances Hicks (1705-1748; born Surry County, died Brunswick County). In Richard's will, he refers to his wife, Francis, to whom he leaves his "plantation." He also refers to a son Robert.

Richard and Frances Ransone's son Robert is believed to be Robert Ransone (1737-1765; born Brunswick County, died?), who married Letitia Armistead (1720-1754; born, died Gloucester County). Robert and Letitia Ransone's daughter, Dorethy (1751-1770; born?, died?) married James Singleton (1750-1861, born?, died Halifax County). James Singleton was a grandfather of George Torian (1854-1923; born Halifax County, died Campbell County), one of my great grandfathers.

Richard Ransone (1700-1748)'s wife, Francis, was the daughter of Robert Hicks II. (The spelling of the family name Hicks initially was Hix.)

Robert Hicks II (1658-1738; born?, died Brunswick County) was the son of Robert Hicks I (1630-?). Robert Hicks I is believed to be the first ancestor Hicks immigrating to the Virginia Colony (from England, dying location unknown). Robert Hicks I was an indentured servant, a tailor, and settled along the Appomattox River, in the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area.

Robert Hicks II was one of the original explorers from the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area traveling south into what became Brunswick County. Robert was a military man and in

1714 became the commander of a settlement called Fort Christiana, established by the Virginia Colony government as a settlement attempting to pacify, trade, and educate the Indigenous tribes in the area. A school for the Indigenous tribes was established at Fort Christiana. At times, Robert represented the Virginia Colony in treaty negotiations with Indigenous Americans.

Fort Christiana survived only four years. Its existence indicates the Virginia Colony attitudes (positive, progressive attitudes) at the time about trying to pacify, co-exist, and trade (profit) with the Indigenous American populations. Fort Christiana was on the Meherrin River, near present-day Emporia, which is in Greenville County, Virginia's smallest county.

In 1722, Robert Hicks II helped Lt. Gov. Spotswood conclude, in New York, a peace treaty with the Iroquois. Hicks in 1728 joined William Byrd II surveying the Virginia – North Carolina colonies' border.

Robert Hicks II's 1738 will identify his sons and daughter and that he had slaves, sheep, cows, horses, a mill, and was a gentleman.

During this period beginning with Robert Hicks II (1658-1738) and continuing to Dorothy Ransone (1751-1770), the South Area was undergoing exploration and initial development and settlement.

Young

Michael Cadet Young (1700-1770; born London, died Brunswick County) died in St. Andrews Parish in Brunswick County. He is believed to be a French Huguenot immigrant from England. Around 1730, he married Temperance Sadler (1712-1782; born Brunswick, died North Carolina).

Michael Cadet Young is believed to have arrived in the Richmond area of Virginia, from England, around 1722, as an indentured servant. Michael Cadet Young is believed to have worked as an attorney, after his arrival in Virginia. (Attorneys did not have the same status and earning power then as they do in the current era.) He also owned land.

Matthew was a witness to several Brunswick County deeds in the middle 1700s. Thomas Sadler, who was possibly Mathew's wife Temperance's brother, was included as a witness in a few of the deeds that Matthew was also a witness to. That Matthew was a witness to so many deeds suggests that Mathew was well known and respected in Brunswick County. One of the Brunswick County deeds shows Michael acquiring land from Thomas Sadler.

Michael Cadet Young was associated with Robert "King" Carter in the development of land in southern Virginia Colony. In 1730, Michael became the Brunswick County surveyor, a critical job in the 1700s that would be especially useful in land purchases and development. During this period of being a surveyor, and later, Michael acquires thousands of acres and at one time had five separate farms (plantations) on his land.

Sometime in the 1750s, Michael Cadet had serious financial problems losing most everything and remained poor the rest of this life (he died around 1770).

Michael Cadet Young is buried in the St. Andrews Episcopal Church graveyard in Lawrenceville, Brunswick County. That Michael is buried in the St. Andrews Episcopal Church graveyard and his wife Temperance is not suggests that Temperance death date of 1780, ten years after Michael's death, and that she may have died in North Carolina, is reasonable.

Temperance Sadler Young's name Temperance was an unusual name for a girl in the 1700s, except for a Quaker daughter. Quakers were living in Brunswick County in the 1700s. A Brunswick Quaker Meeting House was, for a time, referred to as the Sadler Meeting House. Possibly Temperance Sadler was related to the Brunswick County Sadler Quakers.

Ancestor William Young (1745-1830; born Brunswick County, died Campbell County) was one of the sons of Michael Cadet and Temperance Young. Michael and Temperance had at least seven children, six of whom were male. William Young married Martha Hubbard (1740-1874; born possibly Lunenburg County, died Campbell County). William and Martha had Matthew Hubbard Young (1785-1849; born Campbell County; died Halifax County).

In 1824, Matthew Hubbard Young (1785-1849) married Amelia Pamela Perrin (1805-1874; born Prince Edward County, died Halifax County). Matthew and Amelia had Mary Ann Young (1824-?; born Halifax County, died?). Mary Ann Young was the mother of one of my great grandparents, Amelia B Crawley (1859-1937; born Halifax Count, died Campbell County).

5. Southwest Area – Campbell and Halifax Counties

Crawley, Brandon, Irvine, and Young

In 1806 Thomas Garner Crawley (1787-1841; born, died Halifax County) married Nancy Ann Brandon (1790-1848; born, died Halifax County).

Thomas was born in Northumberland County (Northumberland County is in Virginia's Northern Neck). His parents, Thomas Hull (1766-1815; born Northumberland County, died Halifax County) and Elizabeth Claughton Cralle (1766-1808; born Northumberland Count, died Halifax County), migrated from Northumberland County to Halifax County sometime after 1787 (Thomas Garner's birthdate in Northumberland County). Thomas Garner Crawley (1787-1841) had Cralle ancestors living in the Northern Neck going back to the middle 1600s: Thomas Hull Cralle (1766-1815); John Cralle (1724-1778); Thomas Cralle (1695-1726); John Cralle (1660-1728); and Thomas Cralle (1637-1726). The Cralles (a French name) were the descendants of French Huguenots who immigrated to the Northern Neck in the 1600s. Crawley is an Americanized version of Cralle.

Elizabeth Claughton Cralle was also descended from a French immigrant, James Foushee (1669-1729; born France, died Lancaster County). James's son was John Foushee (1697-1769; born Richmond County, died Halifax County). John and his first wife, Elizabeth Dawson (1700-1724;

born Northumberland County, died Westmoreland County) had Mary Foushee (1719-1771; born, died Northumberland County). Mary was the grandmother of Elizabeth Claughton Cralle. It is interesting to note that John Foushee was also the father of William Foushee (1749-1824; born Northumberland County, died Richmond City) with John's third wife, Winnifred Yeates. Willima Foushee was Richmond City's first mayor and then its first Postmaster. More can be read about William Foushee in **Section IV 2 c Counties Henrico (including Richmond)**, below.

John Foushee (1697-1769, born Northumberland County, died Halifax County) was among other things in Richmond County an overseer of roads, a church warden at St. Stephens Church, a sheriff, and a Captain in the militia. Apparently, John in 1766 resigned from his positions in Richmond County and migrated south to Halifax County where he died in 1769. John's migration to Halifax County was related to his granddaughter (Elizabeth Claughton Cralle; born 1766, Northumberland County, died, 1808, Halifax County) and grandson-in-law (Thomas Hull Cralle; born, 1766, Northumberland County, died, 1815, Halifax County) migration to Halifax County.

Nancy Ann Brandon Crawley, born 1790 and died 1848 in Halifax County, was the daughter of Irvin Brandon (1752-1791; born, died Halifax County) and Judith Fanning (1771-1843; born Caswell County, North Carolina, died Halifax County). Nancy Ann's parents are identified on her 1806 marriage certificate (marriage to Thomas G. Crawley, born 1787, Northumberland County, died 1841, Halifax County). Nancy Ann's father Irvin Brandon (1752-1791, born, died Halifax County) dies in 1791, just around the time of Nancy Ann's birth. At the time of Irvin's death, his wife, Judith, was pregnant, and the child was Nancy Ann Brandon.

In 1788 in Caswell County, North Carolina, Irvine Brandon (1752-1791) married Judith Fanning (1771 – 1843). Irvine's will identify Judith as his wife, that she was twenty when they were married, and that she is pregnant. The will indicates that he had slaves.

Irvine Brandon's parents were William B Brandon (1729-1788, born, Brunswick County, died Halifax County) and Elizabeth Irvine (1728-1799, born Lunenburg County, died Halifax County). William dies around 1778 and leaves a substantive estate. In his 1778 will, William leaves one hundred acres to his son Irvine. Besides Irvine. William and Elizabeth had several other children. One of these, Lucy, who was Irvine Brandon's sister, becomes Nancy Ann Brandon's guardian (after Irvine Brandon dies), and is required to give her permission for Nancy Ann, who is about 15 or 16 at the time of the marriage, to marry Thomas G. Crawley in 1806. This is documented on the Nancy Ann Brandon – Thomas G. Crawley marriage certificate.

What has happened to Judith Fanning, Nancy Ann Brandon's mother, and why was a guardian needed when Judith was still alive? Judith, who was from Caswell County, North Carolina, marries soon after Irvine's death in 1792, and moves from the area. The Brandon guardians can better care for Nancy Ann with the inheritance from William and Elizabeth Brandon

William and Elizabeth Irvine Brandon, as well as Irvine and Judith Brandon, lived in Antrim Parish in Halifax County. William Brandon is buried in the Brandon-Turner Cemetery in Alton, Halifax County.

By the 1750s, several Brandons had purchased land from the William Byrd II estate. These Brandons were William, David, and Francis. The purchased land was between the Dan River and the present-day Virginia-North Carolian state line, in the vicinity of Alton, about ten miles from present day South Boston. One of the many creeks in the Alton area is Brandon Creek. A James Brandon (1714-1748; born London, died Halifax County) immigrated from England, and possibly was William, David, and Francis's father.

The Brandons were large tobacco growers and owned many slaves. They certainly would be considered well-off yeomen farmers.

Irvine Brandon's mother is believed to have been Elizabeth Irvine (1728-1799; born Lunenburg County, died Halifax County). Elizabeth Irvine's father was John Irvine (1700-1788; born Larne, Northern Ireland; died Hat Creek, Campbell County). Her mother was Mary Boyd (1707-1770; born Ulster, Ireland, died Hot Creek, Campbell County). John and Mary Boyd Irvine immigrated from Ireland to Pennsylvania around 1730. They then migrated south into the Virginia Colony.

In the 1730s, John and Mary Boyd Irvine were some of the first settlers in the Hat Creek area, which will be in Campbell County after Campbell County is formed. Hat Creek Presbyterian Church was founded by John Irvine, and others, around 1742. Establishing a Presbyterian Church is consistent with John and Mary being Scotch-Irish, immigrating from Northern Ireland, first to Pennsylvania, and then to Campbell County. In the early 1700s, large numbers of Scots immigrated from Scotland to Northern Ireland, because of conflicts with the English. These Scots were referred to as Scotch Irish. Subsequently to migrating to Northern Ireland, large numbers of these Scotch Irish immigrated to the English Colonies, and many of those settled along the Appalachian Mountains in the Piedmont and Southwest sections of the Virginia Colony.

Ferries named Irvin and Boyd were used in 1781 during the American Revolution War for transporting General Nathaniel Green's Army across the Dan River, escaping from General Cornwallis's close pursuit. This escape is considered an important turning point in the later part of the war. The relationship of these ferry names to John and Mary Boyd Irvine would be interesting to know. No evidence has been found of a direct relationship between Irvin and Boyd names and my ancestor Irvine and Boyd names.

William Young (1745-1830) was the son of Michael Cadet Young (1700-1770; born London, died Brunswick County) and Temperance Sadler (1712-1782; born Brunswick, died Wilkes County, North Carolina. (See "**Section III 4, South Area Young**", above, for more on Michael and Temperance Young.)

Michael Cadet and Temperance Young were residents of Brunswick County for most of their lives, but William, who was born in Brunswick, migrated to Campbell County, where he died. What accounted for this migration is not known, but perhaps it was for economic reasons, which is behind many migrations. Michael Cadet Young had financial problems late in his life (after being well-off earlier) and was not able to leave William much, if anything.

William married Martha Hubbard (1740-1820; born?, died Campbell County) and they had Matthew Hubbard Young (1785-1849; born Campbell County, died Halifax County). In 1824, in Prince Edward County, close to Campbell County, Matthew married Amelia Pamela Perrin (1805-1874; born Price Edward, died Halifax County).

Matthew Hubbard Young was a farmer. Matthew had land along the Hyco River in Halifax County. The Hyco River flows into the Dan River. Deed records indicate that the land was close to ancestors' Torian and Crawley land.

Mathew Hubbard Young and Amelia Pamela Perrin Young had Mary Ann Young (1824- ?; born Halifax County, died?). Mary Ann Young was the mother of one of my great grandparents, Amelia Blance Young Crawley (1859-1937; born Halifax County, died Campbell County).

Torian, Comer, Singleton, and Atkinson

The immigrant ancestor Torian was Scher Torian { 1695-1748; born Soglio Grisons (present day Switzerland), died Halifax County }.

In 1735, William Byrd II petitioned the Virginia Council to set aside 100,000 acres along the Roanoke River between Birch Creek and Irwin River, where Byrd planned to settle a number of "Switzer" immigrants he was expecting to be arriving in the Virginia Colony. Scher Torian was certainly one of these immigrants.

In 1740, entries were made in the Brunswick County, Virginia deed book that identified a Schertorio de Toriano. Later county records in Virginia clearly indicate that Schertorio de Toriano becomes Scher Torian, and that Scher Torian has children named Peter, Andrew, Scare (also Scher), and Mary.

Schertorio de Toriano was baptized in 1695 in Soglio, located in what was at the time an independent republic called Grisons (using the Romansh language). A marriage record shows that Schertorio de Toriano married Luna Gioanalli in 1722. Birth and baptism records indicate that Schertorio and Luna's children born in Grisons included: Petrus; Anna; Maria; and Luna.

Why did Schertorio de Toriano come to the Virginia Colony? What is known about the 1730s settlers from the area around present-day Switzerland, and the history of that area at that time, suggests that the reasons for coming to Virginia had more to do with economic reasons than religious or political reasons. Religious persecution and lack of freedom probably were not a common problem in Grisons. (In the 1730s, the area would be Protestant.) However, economic development could very well have been a problem due to the area being in the Alps, with limited available land.

Although Luna Gioanalli (1701-1734; born Soglio, Grisons, died at sea) accompanied Schertorio de Toriano on the voyage to the Virginia Colony, unfortunately their ship wrecked as it approached the Virginia Colony land and Luna drawn.

In 1746, Peter and Scher Torian submitted naturalization papers. Perhaps Andrew, Scher's younger son, did not because he was young enough when arriving in the Virginia Colony to not have to submit naturalization papers.

In 1773, Scher and Luna Torian's son, Andrew Torian (1727-1793; born Soglio, Switzerland, died Halifax County) married Sarah Comer (1752-1797; born, died Halifax County). Sarah's father, Thomas R Comer (1710-1793; born Lunenburg County, died Halifax County), in his will, left five hundred acres, houses, cattle, sheep, and hogs to his descendants. He grew tobacco and had slaves. Thomas might have been a soldier in the Revolutionary War. Based on his will, Thomas should be considered a yeoman farmer.

The first ancestor Comer immigrant is believed to be Thomas Comer (1645-1710; born Ireland, died Lunenburg County). Thomas is believed to have immigrated from Ireland by the 1660s and is in New Kent County in 1685, where he sells 2,000 acres. He then seems to have migrated to Lunenburg County and bought land in that portion of Lunenburg that splits off in 1752 to form Halifax County. This land likely remained in the Comer family passing down to Thomas' son John (1675-1762; born, died Lunenburg/Halifax) and then to Thomas' grandson, Thomas R Comer (1710-1793).

John Comer (1675-1762)'s wife, Annis Anderson (1680-1765), was born in Sweden and died in the Virginia Colony.

Andrew Torian (1727-1793) signed the "Thousand Name Petition". This petition was in support of a declaration of rights and led to the Virginia Government declaring that all men are equally entitled to the free exercise of religion according to the dictates of conscience.

Andrew Torian left land on the north side of the Dan River to Thomas and Scher, two of his sons, with the upper half going to Scher and the lower half to Thomas. Land on the south side of the Dan, belonging to Andrew, was given to Peter and Nathaniel, his other two sons, with the upper half going to Peter and the lower half going to Nathaniel. It is not clear what upper and lower refer to, but it may refer to the flow of the river.

The land that Andrew Torian leaves to his sons lies on both sides of the Dan River. Documentation shows a Torian's Mill, close to the point on the Dan River where modern-day Route 360 crosses the Dan. Documentation also shows that near the juncture of the Hyco and the Dan, a ferry was operated called Torian's Ferry. Local mapping of the Dan River indicates that Torian's Mill was at mile point 19.9 and that Torian's Ferry was at mile point 12.6, a distance of 7.3 miles between the two points. So, if the Torian land extended a mile either side of the Dan (Andrew left land on both sides of the Dan), the Torian land could have covered 14.6 square miles (7.3 miles times two miles), or 9,344 acres.

Peter Torian (1722-1812; born Soglio, Switzerland, died Halifax County), another of Scher (1695-1748) sons, married Susana Palmer (1730-1810; born?, died Halifax County). Peter and Susanna had Mary Polly Torian (1774-1820; born, died Halifax County), who married her cousin, Thomas Torian (1773-1862; born Halifax County, died Carswell County, North

Carolina). Thomas was the son of Andrew Torian (1727-1793), Peter's brother. This is another example of cousins marrying cousins, seen in several of my ancestors in this family history.

Thomas Torian was visiting (or living with) Sidney Lea in Carswell County, North Carolina, where he died in 1862 at age 88,. One of Thomas's daughters, Frances Elizabeth Torian, who he had with his second wife Elizabeth, married Sidney Lea. Sidney Lea was the first president of Greensboro College in Greensboro, North Carolina. The 1860 Carswell, North Carolina Census shows Tho. Torian, age 86, in the household of Sidney Lea. Both are identified as farmers, and Sidney Lea's total real and personal estate was listed as \$116,700, a considerable amount in 1860. An obituary for Thomas Torian indicated he was a consistent member of the Baptist Church for 53 years.

Thomas Torian (1773-1862), as indicated by deeds associated with him in the 1840s, had complex business affairs. We know that he inherited from his father, Andrew, land along the Dan River in Halifax.

Late 1840 deeds indicate that Thomas had several debtors, including the Farmers Bank in Lynchburg and such companies as Carpenter & Crump and Brooks & Hudson in Richmond. During this period, Thomas is selling off hundreds of acres (acre prices in Halifax County at the time ranged from \$2 to \$3 an acre to as much as \$10 an acre). Thomas is selling this land to raise cash to pay debts.

Eventually, in March 1847, Thomas files a deed, which is a statement of bankruptcy, and turns over his assets to a trustee, whose purpose will be to sell off Thomas's assets to satisfy Thomas's debts. Assets listed in the deed included: slaves; 20,000 pounds of tobacco (price per pound not known); a mill; a ferry operation on the Dan River; 111 cattle; and hundreds and hundreds of acres of land. The total acreage is difficult to determine because of the un-clarity of the listings – tracks of land was listed separately, and numbers given are not always clear. The total is between 2,000 and 5,000 acres. Also listed are interests in several estates, for example, the (looks like) Chandlers estate. It is not clear what this "interest" would be. Thomas's land lies along the Dan River; the ferry that he owns runs across the Dan River; and the mill is on Grassy Creek that flows into the Dan River. A canal was built along the Grassy Creek. Some of the land that is sold by Thomas, through his bankruptcy trustee, is purchased by Elijah, Thomas's son.

It is not clear how Thomas gets into this financial difficulty. One situation causing Thomas's problems was a severe drop in the price of tobacco in the 1840s. Also, farming then required substantial amounts of capital, for example, to purchase slaves that were critical at that time to farming operations. (Farming still requires large amount of capital, but rather than slaves, who then served the purpose of machinery, now the required capital is for the purchase of machinery.) Thomas had to borrow heavily to finance his farming, mill, and ferry operations. He expected and required future cash flows, which did not meet expectations and needs. Therefore, he was not able to repay his debts. Whether cash flow deficiencies were due to macro-economic events that Thomas would have difficulty predicting, for example, a depression, a major drop in farm prices, and an unexpected rise in farm operational costs; or whether Thomas's financial difficulties were more due to Thomas's poor planning, knowledge, and execution would be interesting to know.

James Singleton (1769-1861; born?, died Halifax County)'s second wife was Nancy Atkinson (1805-1876; born, died Halifax County). Nancy, who James married in 1825, when Nancy was twenty and James was fifty-six, was James' second wife. His first wife was Martha W Ragland, who he had several children with. In 1853, James and Nancy's daughter, Sarah Francis Singleton (1827-1902; born, died Halifax County) married Elijah Torian (? – 1871; born, died Halifax County). Elijah and Sarah were the parents of George Torian (1854-1923; born Halifax County, died Campbell County), one of my great grandparents.

Another daughter of James Singleton, Rebecca Singleton (1842-1925) married John T Torian, who was a brother of Elijah Torian.

James Singleton's father is uncertain. It could be Robert Singleton, a member of the Singleton family who lived in Richmond County. Perhaps James (a physician) migrated to Halifax County after receiving his medical degree. The Singleton ancestor name has not been found in Halifax County records before the 1780s.

Nancy Atkinson (1805-1876) is a descendant of Louise Orange (1670-1734; born Picardie, France, died Henrico County). Louise was one of about four hundred French Huguenots who immigrated together from England arriving in 1700 in the Virginia Colony. Many settled, at least for a while, in Henrico County, along the James River, in an area named Manakin. Louise Orange's wife was Mary Ann Faure (1675-1735; born France, died Henrico County), also one of the French Huguenots arriving in 1700. In Louise Orange's 1734 will, he identifies Magdalene as a daughter and three sons, and three other daughters.

Louise and Mary Ann Orange had Madeline Orange (1705-1754; born Henrico County, died Virginia Colony), who married David Atkinson (1688-1780; born, died Virginia Colony). David and Mary Ann Atkinson were great grandparents of Nancy Atkinson (1805-1876).

David and Madeline Orange Atkinson's son was William Shadrack Atkinson (1740-1801; born Henrico County; died Halifax County). William was married to Susanna Mattingley (1735-1805; born St. Mary's County, Maryland, died Halifax County). William was a "processioner" (surveyor) appointed by the parish to verify land boundaries.

William and Susanna Atkinson's son was John Atkinson (1771-1829; born Virginia, died Halifax County). John Atkinson married Sarah Watkins (1774-1854; born Halifax County, died Tennessee), and they had Nancy Atkinson (1805-1876; born, died Halifax County). Nancy Atkinson married James L Singleton (1769-1961; born Virginia, died Halifax County). James and Nancy Singleton were grandparents of George Torian (1854-1923), one of my great grandparents.

Sarah Watkins' father was William Watkins (?-1799; born?, died Halifax County). William owned land in Tennessee, which would explain Sarah's death in Tennessee.

IV. Topics of Interest Related to Ancestors: Areas and Counties; Immigration and Migration; Settlements; Religious Denominations; and Economics

1. Introduction

In this **Section IV**, I explore five topics usually important to ancestors – influences of the larger areas that are lived in (for example counties); relocations influences (immigration and migration); settlement influences; religious influences; and economic influences.

Section IV includes ancestor information supplementing ancestor histories provided in **Section III**, above. More information on the ancestors identified in this Section can be found in **Section III**, above.

2. Areas and Counties

In this section, I try to relate area and county information to impacts on ancestor experiences and lives.

For this family history study on my ancestors who lived in the Virginia Colony's Piedmont and Southwest in the 1600s and 1700s, I have divided the Piedmont and Southwest that I am studying into four areas: the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area; the West Area; the South Area; and the Southwest Area. I had 1600s and 1700s ancestors who lived in counties in these four areas.

Three counties in the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area where ancestors lived are: Chesterfield, Henrico, and Hanover.

Eight counties in the West area where ancestors lived are: Albemarle, Amherst, Buckingham, Cumberland, Fluvanna, Goochland, Louisa, and Powhatan.

Six counties in the South Area where ancestors lived are: Amelia, Brunswick, Dinwiddie, Lunenburg, Mecklenburg, and Prince Edward.

Two counties in the Southwest Area where ancestors lived are: Campbell and Halifax.

By characterizing and looking at histories from the perspectives of the four areas and then the counties in these areas, I am hoping to better understand impacts on ancestor experiences and histories.

a. Areas

I am interested in whether by late 1700s, each of the four Areas (Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover, West, South, and Southwest) might have begun to acquire distinctive regional characteristics impacting ancestor lives and experiences.

Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area

This area was extensively settled by the end of the 1600s, long before the West, South, and Southwest Areas were settled. By the middle 1700s, several large, financially successful farming plantations existed which were passed on to descendants, creating several families with gentry class status. The development and longevity of such a group of gentry class families stand out compared to the West, South, and Southwest Areas. In this regard, in the 1700s, the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area had much more in common with the Virginia Colony Eastern and Northern Areas, than the West, South, and Southwest Areas. (**Section I Introduction**, above, defines what I refer to as the Eastern and the Northern Areas.)

Another meaningful Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover difference was the 1700s development of two major commercial centers – Petersburg and Richmond City. The West, South, and Southwest Areas did not develop in the 1700s any commercial centers comparable to Richmond City and Petersburg, with the exception of Lynchburg.

West Area

The majority of farmers in West Area were of middling rank, owning from 200 to 500 acres and less than ten slaves. Plantation-size farms that existed were mostly owned by the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover gentry family elites of the 1700s, who purchased land in the West Area for speculative investment.

Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover gentry family land purchases for speculative investment seemed to be higher in the West Area compared to the South and Southwest Areas. Possibly this was because the gentry families favored the West Area, for such reasons as:

- easier accessed to the West Area than to the South and Southwest Areas because of the James River
- better-developed roads in the West Area
- the land characteristics were more acceptable, than land characteristics in the South and Southwest Areas
- earlier surveying and migration was greater in the West Area making the area an easier accessible area and a better investment opportunity
- higher levels of civility existed in the West Area compared to the South and Southwest Areas, and
- Indigenous American threats were less in the West Area.

In the West Area, population growth that accelerated up to the 1770s began to decline in the 1770s until the early 1800s. This led to possible economic stagnation in the area, leading to migration from the area to the south of the James River.

The French and Indian War had impacts on the West Area, and to a lesser extent in the South and Southwest Areas, which differed from impacts in the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area.

A tax on buying slaves was enacted on the small farmers in the West Area, South, and Southwest Areas to support the French and Indian War expenses. This tax was more burdensome on the small farmers in these areas than on the large plantation growers in the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Areas. Slaves were necessary for farming success – the large plantations of the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area had slave families, producing new slaves, whereas the predominantly small farmers of the West, South, and Southwest Areas had to buy the slaves, so a tax on slave purchases placed a burden on the West, South, and Southwest Area small farmers that did not exist for the Chesterfield – Henrico - Hanover Area plantation owners.

Also, compared to the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area, in response to the French and Indian War, the sons of small farmers in the West, South, and Southwest Areas were drafted in larger numbers (many of whom were needed to build the series of forts that were planned in the areas). Loss of these men adversely affected the farming operations in the West, South, and Southwest Areas, compared to the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area.

However, a negative impact on the Chesterfield – Henrico - Hanover Area plantation owners was the disruption in obtaining credit from England due to the impact of the French and Indian War on financial conditions in England.

The French and Indian War did have a positive impact – it developed an increased ability within the population to manage wartime needs, for example, individuals with experience in fighting and individuals better able to command. This increased ability would be put to use during the American War for Independence. This impact was most noticeable among the citizens in the West, South, and Southwest Areas, and may have accounted for a greater contribution of soldiers from these areas compared to soldiers from the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area.

South Area

Like the farmers in the West and Southwest Areas, the majority of farmers in South Area were of middling rank, owning from 200 to 500 acres and less than ten slaves. Like in the West Area, Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover gentry families brought land in the South Area. The purchased land for speculation was less than in the West Area but more than in the Southwest Area. A possible reason might be differences in land prices due to river transportation and roads were not as good as in the West Area and migration to the South Area was at a slower rate than migration to the West Area (representing a lower demand for land).

Surviving records indicate that up to the mid-1750s, civility, law-in-order, and certain moral standards were problems in some of the areas of the South Area, for example, in Lunenburg County. Not until further civic development will these problems be addressed.

Southwest Area

As in the West and South Areas, the majority of farmers in the Southwest Area were of middling rank, owning from 200 to 500 acres and less than ten slaves.

The few plantation-size farms were mostly owned by the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover gentry families, who, as in the West and South Areas, purchased land for speculative investment.

The Virginia Colony border with the North Carolina Colony was beginning to be determined in the 1720s. The Southwest Area extends to this border. However, the border was not officially recognized until the 1790s. The Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover genteel William Byrd II surveyed the border area in the early 1700s, which helped the process of determining a border. Subsequent to Byrd's surveying, he purchased thousands of acres in the vicinity of the eventually accepted Virginia – North Carolina border. With respect to my family history, ancestors purchased land from Byrd, and his estate, land that he had speculatively purchased earlier. Byrd's speculative purchase of these acres is one of many examples of the gentry that lived in the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area buying substantial amounts of acres in West, South, and Southwest Areas for speculative investment. Ancestors who purchased land from Byrd include: Scher Torian (1695-1748), Peter Torian (1722-1812), and James Brandon (1714-1748).

b. Area Comparisons and Interactions

The following are the approximate square mile sizes for the five areas referred to in this family history (based on current county sizes):

Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area (Henrico, Chesterfield, and Hanover counties)

1,190 square miles

West Area (Albemarle, Amherst, Buckingham, Cumberland, Fluvanna, Goochland, Louisa, and Powhatan Counties)

3,660 square miles

South Area (Amelia, Brunswick, Dinwiddie, Lunenburg, Mecklenburg, and Prince Edward counties)

3,130 square miles

Southwest Area (Campbell and Halifax counties)

1,340 square miles

Eastern Area (includes those counties east of the fall line - except Chesterfield, Henrico, and Hanover counties but excluding the Northern Area counties).

5,630 square miles

Northern Area (the counties in the Northern Neck plus the area extending west from the Northern Neck to the sources of the Potomac and Rappahannock Rivers).

4,350 square miles

These square mile numbers suggest that migrants from the Eastern, Northern, and Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover areas had approximately 8,130 square miles (the West, South, and Southwest Areas) to migrate to – a considerable area, especially given the small potential number of migrants from the Eastern, Northern, and Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Areas. It is likely migration did not involve the lack of land to choose to buy and to settle on.

The following table presents the total 1790 populations (includes slaves) (US Census data) for the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover, West, South, and Southwest Areas. (CHH represents the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area.) The table also presents the area’s population densities based on the square mile areas shown above.

Area	Population	Area in Square Miles	Population Densities (population/area)
CHH	41,914	1190	35
West	72,760	3660	20
South	76,567	3130	24
Southwest	22,407	1340	17
Total	213,648	9,320	23

The data in the table above suggests that those living in the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area would experience the presence of more people than those living in the other areas, and those living the Southwest Area would experience the presence of fewer people than in the other areas. Those living in the West and South Area would have similar experiences with respect to the population densities in their areas.

One major difference between the three areas (West, South, and Southwest Areas), affecting 1700s area commercial success (based mostly on tobacco growing), is the access that the three

areas have to good river transportation for transporting products to Petersburg and Richmond City. The West Area has the most access to the James River, which suggests it was the area with the best capability of transporting products to Richmond City. The South Area was next best, and the Southwest Area poorest. Although the South Area has some access to the James River, it is less than the West Area. The primary river for the South Area is the Appomattox River, which flowed to Petersburg. The Appomattox River is a poorer river than the James River for shipping because of its winding nature and smaller size. The Southwest Area is poor with respect to being able to use rivers to transport products to Petersburg (most of the rivers in the Southwest Area flow southeast into North Carolina). Although the Southwest Area is close to Lynchburg (and the James River that flowed by Lynchburg), the distance on the James River to Richmond is approximately 165 miles, much more than for most of the other counties on the James River.

The James River is a major dividing line in the Piedmont region, between those counties north of the James and those counties south. Such a dividing line might led to certain cultural/social perspectives developing differently north of the James compared to cultural/social perspectives developing south of the James. And because of this, cultural/social perspectives in 1700s Richmond might have been different than those in 1700s Petersburg, because Richmond was more of a James River (West Area influenced) community and Petersburg was more of an Appomattox River (South/Southwest Area influenced) community.

One conflict between the West, South, and Southwest Areas and the Eastern and Northern Areas was on where the Colony’s capital should be. As the West, South, and Southwest Areas grew economically, they wanted to be closer to the capital, and they got what they wanted in 1780 with the capital being moved from Williamsburg to Richmond City.

During the French and Indian War period (the mid-1750s), most of the counties in the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover, West, South, and Southwest Areas had militia. The Virginia Colony government requested that colonies establish militias. Having counties establish militia became a high and county-willing priority because of the French and Indian War. County militia became important county organizations, serving as a source of pride for the county. Being a member brought prestige to individuals. Militia membership was likely in high demand. Many well-regarded, popular events were centered on the militia.

These counties had militia that included ancestor names:

County	Ancestor Name
Brunswick	John Hix
Chesterfield	Richard Kennon II
Cumberland	Singleton
Hanover	Hudson
Lunenburg	John Worsham john Perrin

In the 1750s and early 1760s, during the French and Indian War, settlers were killed by Indigenous Americans in the West, South, and Southwest Area counties.

c. Counties

In this section, I am concentrating on identifying and providing information on the individual counties in the four areas (the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover; West; South; and Southwest Areas) where ancestors lived. I am trying to provide county-related information that I consider to be of interest in better understanding the lives of my ancestors who lived in the counties.

I also include for each county, when available, miscellaneous information that I have come across related to ancestor families having lived in the county. For specific information on individual direct ancestors, please see **Section III, Ancestor Histories**, above.

At the end of this section, I provide tables summarizing data for each county.

Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area Counties (Chesterfield, Henrico, and Hanover)

Chesterfield

Ancestors who lived, at least a period of their 1700s lives in Chesterfield County, include:

name	birth place	death place
Blair, Mary Elizabeth	Charles City	Chesterfield
Bolling, Elizabeth Gay	Chesterfield	Petersburg
Bolling, Thomas	Henrico	Chesterfield
Gay, Elizabeth Betty	Henrico	Chesterfield
Noble, Mary Polly	Amelia	Chesterfield
Randolph, Elizabeth Jane	Chesterfield	Chesterfield
Randolph, Elizabeth Jane	Chesterfield	Chesterfield
Randolph, Richard II	Henrico	Chesterfield

The first Chesterfield Court in 1749 included as justices William Kennon, William Gay, John Bolling, and Henry Randolph, ancestor last names.

Chesterfield County, which is bordered by the James and Appomattox Rivers on the north, south and east, and by Powhatan County on the west, was formed in 1749 from Henrico County land south of the James River. Part of Chesterfield County is in the Piedmont region – that part west of the Fall Line.

The first Chesterfield courthouse, which no longer exists, was built in the early 1750s. The county seat is in the community of Chesterfield.

An important 1700s Chesterfield County commercial activity was coal mining. Coal mined from Chesterfield is believed to be the first use of a fossil fuel in the colonies. More information on coal mining is provided in **Section IV 6d, Economics, Other Economic Activities**, below.

In the 1700s, two Chesterfield County towns developed to serve the tobacco industry as port towns, Port Walthell and Warwick, no longer exist. The same pattern is seen in Hanover County, where two towns, Hanover Town and Newcastle, evolved and then disappeared. Warwick was at the confluence of Falling Creek and the James River, and Port Walthell was on the Port Walthell Channel at the Appomattox River.

On the basis of licenses issued, at least ten ordinaries (taverns) existed in Chesterfield County during the 1749 to 1762 period.

Hanover

Ancestors who lived, at least a period of their 1700s lives in Hanover County, include:

name	birth place	death place
Buck, Frances	Hanover	Wilkes, Georgia
Hudson, Mary	Hanover	Hanover
Langford, Edward	Hanover	?
Wingfield, Elizabeth	Hanover	Nelson
Wingfield, John	Hanover	?

In 1720, Hanover County was formed out of New Kent County. Hanover is bordered on the north by the North Anna and Pamunkey Rivers, the Chickahominy River on the south, New Kent County (from which Hanover was formed) on the east, and Louisa County on the west.

A still standing brick courthouse was built in the early 1740s and is located, along with currently used Hanover County government buildings, about seven miles east of Ashland. The courthouse was built along a stagecoach road adjacent to an ordinary (also still standing, but renovated, and now referred to as Hanover Tavern).

By the 1740s, two towns existed on the Pamunkey River in Hanover County (Hanover Town and Newcastle). Lots were marked off in both towns and some lots sold with houses being built on the lots. Both had tobacco warehouses, which were a primary function of the towns – a destination for tobacco farmers to transport their tobacco to for further shipping on the Pamunkey River to the York River. At the time, Hanover County had a substantive tobacco

production, as well as nearby Louise County, whose farmers may have used the Pamunkey River for transport. By the middle 1800s both towns had disappeared.

In the middle 1700s, more tobacco was transported on the Pamunkey River to the York River, than can be easily documented. With appropriate clearing and dredging, rivers such as the Pamunkey might have been much more capable of transporting tobacco on vessels than such rivers are judged today for being able to do.

In 1774, Hanover County citizens met at the Hanover Courthouse and passed what has come to be known as the Hanover Resolves; sent to Virginia’s first Revolutionary Convention. The Resolves’ statements include the desire for citizens to be treated freely, with all the privileges of Englishmen, to not be taxed without representation, and, surprising, a statement that the African slave trade was “considered as most dangerous to virtue, and the welfare of the County.” This African slave trade statement was likely influenced by the strong Presbyterian and Quaker communities in Hanover County; both communities had positions against slavery.

In 1775, the Hanover Presbytery petition the Speaker and the House of Burgesses for free exercise of religions for all protestant dissenters.

Hanover County population in the late 1700s was approximately 14,000.

Henrico (including Richmond)

Ancestors who lived, at least a period of their 1700s lives in Henrico County, include:

name	birth place	death place
Atkinson, William S	Henrico	Halifax
Bolling, John II	Henrico	Chesterfield
Bolling, Thomas	Henrico	Chesterfield
Eubank, George I	Henrico	Albemarle
Eubank, George I	Henrico	Albemarle
Gay, Elizabeth Betty	Henrico	Chesterfield
Gay, Elizabeth Betty	Henrico	Chesterfield
Lewis, Sarah	Henrico	Henrico
Lewis, William	Henrico	Henrico
Majors, Mary	Henrico	Amherst
Meade, Nancy Anne	Henrico	Henrico
Melton, Mary	Henrico	Albemarle
Randolph, Richard II	Henrico	Chesterfield

The name Henrico was first used in the early 1600s for a site intended for a settlement of the earliest Virginia Colony settlers. This site is close to the confluence of the James and Appomattox Rivers, near to an area eventually to be called Curles, where several ancestor families lived. Eventually, this Henrico site, plus additional near-by land, is recognized in the 1630s as one of the first eight Virginia Colony counties (initially called shires after English practice).

A 1675 Virginia Colony document shows the following names as Henrico residents owing taxes:

Jos. Royall	Rich Cocke
Att M Ishams	Cap W Randolph
M Kennon	Thomas Cocke
Jn. Worsham	W. Cocke
Abrah Wormecke	Rob Woodson
George Archer	Jn Woodson
George Worsham	Jn Pleasants
	Lewis Watkins

Jos. (Joseph) Royall, George Archer, W (William) Randolph, Thomas Cocke, Rob (Robert) Woodson, and Jn (John) Pleasants are direct line ancestors, meaning that they are descendants of immigrant ancestors, and their descendants are believed to be ancestors of two of my great grandparents, Lillie Shepherd Cocke (1854-1922) and Richard W Robertson (1831-1918). (Indirect line ancestors are descendants of immigrant ancestors but not ancestors of my great grandparents.)

Eventually the initial Henrico County area was expanded to include present day Albemarle, Amherst, Buckingham, Chesterfield, Cumberland, Fluvanna, Goochland, and Nelson Counties. Out of what was initially Henrico County land, Goochland was formed in 1727, Albemarle was formed in 1744; Chesterfield in 1749, Cumberland in 1749; Buckingham in 1761; Amherst in 1761; Fluvanna in 1777; and Nelson in 1808. Once these counties were formed, the remaining Henrico County was bordered on the north by Hanover County and the Chickahominy River, on the west by Goochland County, on the east by Charles City County, and on the south by the James River.

That so much of the West Area came out of Henrico County land might explain why much of the 1600s and early 1700s speculative land investments by Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover gentry families were in what I am calling the West Area. The explanation might be that during the investment period much of the West Area was considered to be part of Henrico County. Perhaps because the gentry families lived in Henrico County they were inclined to make their purchases in what was considered at the time Henrico County land.

Henrico's first courthouse was in the town of Varina, in the eastern part of the county. Justices were meeting in Varina by the 1680s. In 1752, the county seat was relocated from Varina to

Richmond Town, where a new courthouse was built. Richmond, on land owned by William Byrd II, was recognized as a town in 1733 by the General Assembly. The land was along the James River and already had a warehouse, a tavern, a chapel, and a ferry when recognized by the General Assembly as a town. By 1742, Richmond had an estimated population of 250.

Like Chesterfield and Hanover Counties, Henrico County also had 1700s towns that eventually disappeared. One of these was named Osborne, along the south shore of the James River, about ten miles south of Richmond City center. Thomas Jefferson's father, Peter, lived for a time in Osborne. One of the first Virginia turnpikes ran along the north shore of the James from Richmond City as far as Osborne (which was on the other side of the James River and accessible by ferry).

Another town, no longer existing, was Westham, at the beginning of the James River rapids, where tobacco hogsheads were unloaded off river vessels, for land transport to the other side of the rapids, for further river shipping. Another 1600s town that no longer exists as a town is Henrico County's first county seat, Varina.

In the 1770s, Richmond's population was about 1,000. In 1790, Henrico County's population was 6,695 whites and 6,961 blacks: total 13,656.

The town of Richmond was recognized with a "charter" in the 1740s, having a population of approximately 250 at the time. By the 1760s, the town had tobacco warehouses and port activities.

William Foushee (1749-1824; born Northumberland County, died Richmond City) was the first mayor of Richmond. William was a son of John Foushee (1691-1773) and John's third wife Winnifred Yeates. John Foushee and his first wife, Elizabeth Dawson (1700-1724), had Mary Foushee (1719-1771). One of my great grandfathers, George Torian (1854-1923; born, died Halifax County), was descended from John, Elizabeth, and Mary. More can be read about George Torian's ancestors in **Section III 5, Southwest - Torian, Comer, Singleton, and Atkinson**, above. William Foushee went on to become Richmond's first postmaster and the first president of the Mutual Assurance Society (serving as president from 1795 to 1804), a company offering fire insurance to builder owners. The company continues to exist (with headquarters in Richmond) and is Virginia's oldest incorporated business (it was incorporated in 1794). William was also a physician and had a medical practice in Richmond that advertised in Richmond newspapers that he provided smallpox inoculations.

A Samuel Pleasants was a successful printer operating in Richmond at the end of the 1700s and beginning of the 1800s. He advertised his printing services frequently in Richmond newspapers. He was a printer of the "Virginia Almanac" during this time. Pleasants is a 1700s ancestor name.

The Virginia Colony capital was moved in 1779 from Williamsburg to Richmond, primarily due to decreasing the risk of a British attack in the expected upcoming American Revolutionary War.

West Area Counties (Albemarle, Amherst, Buckingham, Cumberland, Fluvanna, Goochland, Louisa, and Powhatan)

Albemarle

Ancestors who lived, at least a period of their lives in Albemarle County, include:

name	birth place	death place
Cocke, John Shepherd	Goochland	Albemarle
Eubank, George I	Henrico	Albemarle
Eubank, George I	Henrico	Albemarle
Eubank, George II	Albemarle	Amherst
Harris, Sarah	Albemarle	Goochland
Melton, Mary	Henrico	Albemarle
Shepherd, Christopher	Albemarle	Albemarle
Wingfield, Charles	New Kent	Albemarle
Wingfield, Nancy	Amherst	Albemarle

Ancestors Eubanks and Wingfields settled in Albemarle County west from Scottsville to areas along the Rockfish River. When Amherst County was formed out of Albemarle County in 1761, many of these ancestors were then living in Amherst County, and then when Nelson County was formed in 1808 out of the northern part of Amherst County, Eubank and Wingfield descendants were living in Nelson County. Eubanks and Wingfields will continue to live in Nelson County in the 1800s.

Albemarle was formed from Goochland territory in 1744. Residents living in that part of Goochland would be annexed into Albemarle County. A western part of Louisa County became part of Albemarle County in 1761.

Current Albemarle County is bordered on the southwest by Nelson County, the Appalachian Mountains and Augusta County on the west, Green County to the north, Louisa and Fluvanna Counties to the east, and Buckingham County to the south.

First settlers starting appearing in the area in the 1730s.

Wealthy gentry families in the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area bought substantial amounts of land in the West and South Area, especially along the James and Appomattox Areas. Several examples of Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area ancestors doing this are provided in this family history. An ancestor who purchased 10,000 acres in Albemarle County was John Carter (1690-1743). Eventually his son Edward Hill Carter ((1726-1792) would live on some of the land that John Carter purchased in Albemarle County. John Carter never lived in Albemarle County. You can read more about the Carter ancestors in my family history “Family History –

Living Along Virginia Colony's Waterways in the 1600s and 1700s – Lukes, Dales, Etheridges, Veales, Hills, Lewises, Wormeleys, and Others”.

Roads on land that Carter purchased that date back to his land ownership (1730s), such as Secretary's Road, Carter's Mountain Road, and Rolling Road (roads that still are in use) were developed in support of the commercial use of the land, for example, in moving tobacco to the James River. The Secretary in Secretary's Road refers to John Carter being the Secretary of the Virginia Colony Council during his ownership period of Albemarle land. These roads would become important in Albemarle County commerce and settlement development.

Albemarle's population in 1790 was 12,585 and in 1800, approximately 16,000.

One of the first areas of Albemarle County where settlement appeared was what would become the town of Scottsville, along the James River. Needed support for such a settlement as the one that developed on the James River at Scottsville was the purchase of land in southern Albemarle County for growing tobacco and using the James River for transporting the tobacco to market, which started to occur by the 1740s.

By the mid-1700s, Scottsville on the James River, was the commercial center and the most important community in Albemarle County. This was because of it being on the James River and serving area farmers needing to transport their products to markets using river transportation. This suggests that land in southern Albemarle County (some of which became Amherst County in 1761), where ancestors Eubanks and Wingfields purchased land, was in the highest demand. Scottsville as the commercial center led to a road being developed from Staunton in the Shenandoah Valley across the Appalachian Mountains and then on to Scottsville (to serve the Shenandoah Valley farmers in getting their products to river transport).

Scottsville was Albemarle County's first county seat and had a courthouse, an ordinary, and a ferry across the James River by 1745. In 1761, the county seat was moved to Charlottesville, likely because Charlottesville was the town closest to the county's center.

Like many Virginia Colony counties in the 1770s, Albemarle in 1774 published a resolution protesting certain British practices, especially pertaining to commerce and trade. The Albemarle resolution, called “Freeholders of Albemarle County Resolutions,” was possibly written by Thomas Jefferson. Jefferson and John Walker were to take the resolutions to Williamsburg in 1775 to submit it at a Virginia Colony-wide assembly addressing the situation with Britain. No list could be found identifying who the freeholders were, but freeholders met land property owners of a certain status.

1777 Albemarle County residents who took an oath of allegiance to the Virginia government against Britain included William Wingfield, Charles Wingfield, Joseph Wingfield, and Charles Hudson, ancestor last names.

By the 1800s, various fruit orchards had become an important, successful agricultural business in Albemarle County. The town of Colesville in southern Albemarle County developed in the 1800s, but since then should no longer be considered as a town.

The Albemarle County center is approximately eighty-five miles from Petersburg.

Amherst

Ancestors who lived, at least a period of their lives in Amherst County, include:

name	birth place	death place
Eubank, George II	Albemarle	Amherst
Johnson, Susannah	1779 Culpepper	Amherst
Majors, Mary	Henrico	Amherst
Robertson, Archibald II	Petersburg	Amherst
Wingfield, John	?	Amherst
Wingfield, Matthew	Louisa	Amherst
Wingfield, Nancy	Amherst	Albemarle
Wingfield, Susannah	Culpepper	Amherst

Ancestor Eubanks and Wingfields lived in northern Amherst County, after Amherst County was formed out of Albemarle County in 1761. Then, when Nelson County was formed out of Albemarle and Amherst Counties, some ancestors lived in Nelson County.

Nelson County was formed out of the northern part of Amherst County in 1806.

Many Eubanks not closely related, or not related at all, have lived in Amherst County from the 1700s.

Amherst County separated from a southern part of Albemarle County in 1761. The county seat, since 1807, is in Amherst town. The first courthouse was built in 1809; the current one in 1870.

The area that became Amherst County was explored as early as the late 1600s. Trading posts appeared in the 1710s and a few settlements in the 1730s.

Amherst County's population in 1780 was approximately 8,000. Amherst population in 1790 was about 14,000 and in 1800, about 17,000.

In 1855, one of my great grandmothers, Mary Ann Eubank (1825-1916; born Amherst County, died Richmond City), married one of my great grandfathers, Richard W Robertson (1831-1918; born Amelia County, died Richmond City). How did these two meet? One explanation is Richard's grandfather, Archibald Robertson (1776-1835; born Petersburg, died Amherst County) is believed to have been the owner of the company, Archibald Robertson and Company. (See **Section IV 5c, Economics – Merchant Activities**, below, for more on Archibald Robertson and Company.)

Archibald Robertson and Company sold merchandise along the James River. The company was active sellers in the Lynchburg and Amherst County areas. A competitor of Archibald Robertson and Company was Ellis and Company, owned by the Ellis family who lived in Amherst County. It is possible (likely) that Archibald Robertson knew members of the Ellis family.

In 1825, Mary Ann Eubank, as indicated above, was born in Amherst County, during the time that Ellis and Company was active, and the Ellis family was well known in Amherst County, including associating with many of the residents. Did Richard W. Robertson, Mary Ann's husband, and grandson of Archibald Robertson, owner of Archibald Robertson and Company, competitors of Ellis and Company, get to meet Mary Ann Eubank by visits to the Lynchburg/Amherst County area, where his grandfather had both business activity and personal connections in Amherst County?

One of the personal connections is that Archibald Robertson married Elizabeth Bolling (1779-1823), who was born in Campbell County, adjacent to Lynchburg and Amherst County. That Richard W Robertson's possible grandmother, Elizabeth Bolling Robertson (1779-1823), was born in Campbell County supports the idea that Richard might be a Lynchburg/Amherst County area visitor, and possibly meeting Mary Ann Eubank. Another supporting element connecting Archibald Robertson with the Giles family is that Archibald's wife, Elizabeth Bolling, was a member of the Petersburg Bolling family, who traced their ancestors back to John and Pocahontas Rolfe. The Ellis family also traced their ancestors back to John and Pocahontas Rolfe. The Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Bolling gentry family owned large tracks of land in Amherst County.

In Amherst County, during the 1700s, tobacco was the major commercial product. Later apple orchards, timber, mining, and milling supported the economy. Amherst County, before losing land to Nelson County in the early 1800s, had the Piney and Buffalo Rivers that first flow into the Tye River, which then flows into the James River. Amherst County also has several creeks that flow into the James River. Such waterways are important assets for a successful 1700s tobacco farming enterprise.

The Amherst County center is approximately one hundred miles from Petersburg.

Buckingham

An ancestor who lived in Buckingham County, at least for a period of time, is Archibald Blair Bolling (1748-1827; born Buckingham County, died Campbell County). Archibald was the son of John Bolling II (1700-1757; born Henrico County, died Chesterfield County) and the husband of Elizabeth Jane Randolph (1755-1796; born, died Chesterfield County). Archibald and Elizabeth Jane are believed to be possible great grandparents of one of my great grandfathers (Richard W Robertson, 1831-1978, born Amelia County, died Richmond City).

Archibald's brother was Robert Bolling (1738-1775). Robert was a large landowner in Buckingham County thanks to being a descendant of the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area gentry Bolling family. Robert was the defendant in a well-known 1771 trial with his brother

Archibald, the plaintiff. The issue was over which brother had the inheritance rights to crops grown on the recently deceased brother Edward's land. Thomas Jefferson represented Robert. The result of the trial was that it was referred to arbitration. The issue and the result are unique at the time with respect to legal precedent since the trial has subsequently been well-known and written about.

Robert Bolling lived in Buckingham County on a plantation called Chellowe, which continued to be lived on by Bollings, one of whom built, in 1820, a house on the plantation land that is still standing. Robert published much poetry and other writings, gaining a reputation in the Virginia Colony as a poet and writer. One of his published poems, titled "Occlusion," seems quite good to me. It is autobiographical, dealing with the pressures of trying to be a good poet.

Another Bolling, Leneus Bolling, was one of several Buckingham County residents who signed a document stressing their support for their new country and the hopes that they had for it. What they wrote appeared in a 1798 edition of the Richmond newspaper Argus.

What became Buckingham County was explored by immigrant Robert Bolling I (1646-1709; born London, died Henrico County). This is based on that initials R.B. was found on a broken ledge on Willis Mountain (in present day Buckingham County) and that Robert Bolling I was known to have explored the James River west of the fall line. Robert Bolling I was Robert Bolling (1738-1775) and Archibald Bolling (1748-1827)'s great grandfather.

The Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Cocke gentry family also owned land in Buckingham County.

Buckingham County was formed from the southeast portion of Albemarle County in 1761.

Buckingham County is bordered by Nelson County to the West; Albemarle and Fluvanna Counties to the north; Cumberland County to the east; and Prince Edward and Appomattox Counties to the south. Along the northern border is the James River and along the southern border the Appomattox River. Being bordered by the two major rivers in Piedmont Virginia was a valuable asset in the 1700s when farmers depended on the James and Appomattox Rivers to transport their products to Richmond and Petersburg.

A major road from Chesterfield County in the east, passing through Buckingham County, ran to Lynchburg in the west. This road would become known as the Buckingham Road. {See **Section IV 6d, Other Economic Activities**, below, for more on the commercial importance of Buckingham Road and the possible involvement of ancestor Archibald Robertson (1776-1835) with taverns along the Buckingham Road. }

The county seat is in the town of Buckingham. A courthouse was built there in the 1820s, designed by Thomas Jefferson, which unfortunately burned down in the 1860s, after which the present courthouse was built.

Buckingham County has an example of an early, planned town, where the planners hoped that the town would blossom. In 1793, the Virginia General Assembly decreed that New Canton

would be established along the James River. Several lots were laid out and offered for sale, and roads were planned. By the early 1800s, a few houses were built, even a church, and while the James River and Kanawha Canal along the James was successfully operating through the mid-1800s, providing commerce for New Canton, today nothing remains from New Canton. The area where New Canton existed is along Route 15, just across the James River.

Buckingham County's population in 1790 was 9,779.

The Buckingham County center is approximately 70 miles from Petersburg.

Cumberland

Ancestors who lived, at least a period of their lives in Cumberland County, include:

name	birth place	death place
Flippen, Thomas	Ireland	Cumberland
Pledge, Mary	Goochland	Cumberland
Rugg, Elizabeth	Gloucestershire, England	Cumberland

A Thomas Flippen is found in Cumberland County mid-1700s documents living along the Willis River. The Willis River runs north and south through Cumberland County, flowing into the James River. A Ralph Flippen is found in Cumberland County's 1738 order book. Ralph Flippen is possibly Thomas's father or brother. This indicates that at least one Flippen was in Cumberland County by the 1730s. A John Flippen is found in the 1786 order book. A Robert Flippen participated in the American Revolution.

Another spelling for Flippen is Flipping, a spelling found in some Cumberland County-related documents.

Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area gentry ancestor families who owned land in Cumberland County include Bollings, Cockes, Pleasants, and Randolphs.

Cockes were large land owners just south of Cartersville, along the Cumberland and Powhatan Counties' line. In the early 1800s, Cocke family members were living in two plantations, Oakland and Derwent, along Muddy Creek. Interestingly, following the spring 1865 Northern Army of Virginia's surrender at Appomattox, General Lee and his family spent the summer living at Derwent. Derwent is in present day Powhatan County.

Cumberland County was formed from Goochland County in 1749. Current Cumberland County is bordered on the north by the James River and Goochland and Fluvanna Counties; on the west

by Buckingham County; on the south by the Appomattox River and Prince Edward County, and on the east by Powhatan and Amelia Counties.

A brick courthouse was built in 1818 along route 60 in a community called Cumberland and is still being used as an administrative building.

In 1776, like in many of the Virginia Colony counties, Cumberland County created a resolution for submission at the upcoming Virginia Convention supporting rebellion against Britain.

Like other Virginia counties, Cumberland had a 1790s planned community, to be called Felixville, that never evolved as a town. Two late 1700s/1800s not planned towns that prosper, but no longer exist, were Clinton and Ca Ira.

Like other counties along the James River, tobacco was the 1700s important product.

The county's population in 1790 was 8,153.

The Cumberland County center is approximately fifty-five miles from Petersburg.

Fluvanna

Ancestors who lived, at least a period of their lives in Fluvanna County, include:

name	birth place	death place
Lilly, Edmund	?	Fluvanna
Lilly, Mary Ann	Fluvanna	Fluvanna
Shepherd, Elizabeth Lilly	Fluvanna	Fluvanna
Shepherd, John W	Goochland	Fluvanna

The Shepherd name appears in Fluvanna County by the later 1700s and many Shepherds continued to live in Fluvanna County in the 1800s and perhaps 1900s. At least three cemeteries exist in Fluvanna County with numerous Shepherd names: along the Laughton Road, near Route 623; in the area of one of the two Route 15-Main Road junctions in Palmyra; and near the William Shepherd 1830 residence.

A house called Laughton, which was built in 1785 by David Shepherd (1760-1823), and which has survived, with many renovations, is close to Venable Creek and Stagecoach Road. (See **Section IV 3d Immigration and Migration, Migration Infrastructure**, below, for details on the route that Stagecoach Road takes through Fluvanna County.) David was the son of ancestor John W Shepherd (1738-1796; born Goochland County, died Fluvanna County). David's sister was ancestor Elizabeth Lilly Shepherd Cocke (1773-1853; born, died Fluvanna County). David was the father of Benjamin Armistead Shepherd (1814-1891), well-known for being wealthy enough by the time he died in Houston, Texas to leave a sufficient fortune to his descendants

such that his granddaughter was able to establish in the mid-1950s, in honor of Benjamin, the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University.

John Hartwell Cocke (1780-1866; born Surrey County, died Fluvanna County) is Fluvanna County's most well-known historical person. John Hartwell moved to Fluvanna from Surry County after inheriting 3,000 acres of Cocke family land along the James River.

John Hartwell Cocke had many accomplishments. As an architect, he had a role in designing the 1830 Fluvanna County courthouse, the county's jail (also in Palmyra), and the Fort Union Baptist Church, as well as his plantation along the James River. Cocke promoted antislavery views and promoted temperance, becoming President of the Virginia Society of Temperance and the American Temperance Union. He investigated and found innovative technologies for agricultural improvements. He supported and worked with Thomas Jefferson in developing what became the University of Virginia. John Hartwell Cocke deserves his good reputation.

John Hartwell Cocke was a descendant of Richard Cocke II (1639-1706; born, died Henrico County). Richard Cocke II and was a member of the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover gentry Cocke family. Richard Cocke II's brother was Thomas Cocke (1638-1696; born, died Henrico County). Richard II and Thomas were sons of the immigrant Cocke to the Virginia Colony, Richard Cocke I (1600-1665; born Shropshire England, died Henrico County). So, John Hartwell Cocke was a descendant of Richard Cocke I. My great grandfather, John Shepherd Cocke (1798-1877; born Goochland County, died Albemarle County) was a descendant of Thomas Cocke, and so a descendant of Richard Cocke I, as John Hartwell Cocke was.

As far I as can determined from the records, John Hartwell Cocke and John Shepherd Cocke had little, if any interactions, although they lived in adjacent counties (Fluvanna and Albemarle). A reason might be that they appeared to be quite different individuals with different backgrounds; for example, John Hartwell was ardently pro temperance (he was a president of the American Temperance Society) and John Shepherd ran for many years a tavern (Cocke's Tavern) along the Three Chop Road, west of Charlottesville.

Details are provided on ancestor John Shepherd Cocke in one of my earlier family histories (Family History - Richard W. Robertson, Mary A. Eubank, Dale Delafield Luke, Martha F. Shepherd, George Torian, Amelia Blanche Crawley, Charles Augustus Jenkins, and Lillie Shepherd Cocke), available on Amazon. Information on John Shepherd Cocke's ancestors can be found above in **Section III, 2 and 3**.

Fluvanna County was formed in 1777 (late compared to other Virginia counties) out of part of Albemarle County. The James River forms the southern border of Fluvanna County. The Fluvanna River runs across Fluvanna County from northwest corner to the southeast corner, where it flows into the James River. Both the James and Fluvanna Rivers were important in the 1700s for commercial activities.

Fluvanna County is bordered on the west by Albemarle County, on the north by Louisa County, on the east by Goochland County, and on the south by Buckingham and Cumberland Counties. Fluvanna County is small compared to other Virginia counties.

Beginning in 1777 the county seat was along the Fluvanna River and then in 1828 was moved to Palmyra. The current courthouse was built in 1830.

Two towns, which developed in the 1700s and became prosperous in the 1800s, but no longer exist as towns, are Columbia and Wilmington. Columbia developed as an important town on the James River, at the confluence of the James and Fluvanna Rivers, and prospered due to serving commerce based on river use. Wilmington was at the crossroads of two important stagecoach roads, one north and south and the other east and west. Once the rivers were no longer essential for commerce and stagecoaches were no longer extensively used both towns could not survive commercially.

The 1790 Fluvanna population was 3,921 and the 1782 population was about 4,500. The decrease in population might reflect the decline in commerce in Fluvanna County during the 1780s.

The Fluvanna County center is approximately sixty-five miles from Petersburg.

Goochland

Ancestors who lived, at least a period of their lives in Goochland County, include:

name	birth place	death place
Cocke, Benjamin	Goochland	Goochland
Cocke, John Shepherd	Goochland	Albemarle
Cocke, Samuel	Goochland	Goochland
Cocke, Thomas	Goochland	Goochland
Harris, Sarah	Albemarle	Goochland
Hines, Sarah Garland	Goochland	?
Johnson, Ann	Goochland	Goochland
Johnson, John	New Kent	Goochland
Johnson, Joseph	Goochland	Goochland
Johnson, Mary	1752 Goochland	Goochland
Lilly, Mary Jane	Gloucester	Goochland
Pledge, Mary	Goochland	Cumberland
Shepherd, John W	Goochland	Fluvanna
Wingfield, Sarah	Goochland	?

Goochland County marriages occurred between Cockes and Johnsons. These marriages provide support that Cocke family members were Quakers. Johnson families were well documented Quakers. That Cockes would many into Johnson Quaker families likely would not have

happened given the strong Quaker norms of Quakers only marrying other Quakers. Examples of Cockes and Johnsons marrying are Thomas Cocke marrying Ann Johnson in 1754 and James Cocke marrying Jane Johnson in 1775.

In the 1700s, Bolling, Pleasants, and Randolph gentry family members owned land in Goochland County. Some Bollings, Pleasants, and Randolphs were ancestors.

Members of the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover gentry Randolph family purchased thousands of acres along the James River, west of the fall line. About fifteen miles west of the fall line, in present day Goochland County, Randolph family members built a plantation, on the north side of the James, a plantation named Tuckahoe, and Randolphs continued to live at Tuckahoe into the 1800s. The plantation house still stands.

Thomas Jefferson (the president) lived at Tuckahoe for a while in his youth. Jefferson's mother was a Randolph - Jane Randolph (1720-1776). Jane was the daughter of Isham Randolph (1687-1742), who was the son of the Randolph immigrant to the Virginia Colony (William Randolph; 1651-1711; born England, died Henrico County). Isham's brother was Richard Randolph I (1686-1748; born, died Henrico County). Richard Randolph I was the grandfather of Elizabeth Jane Randolph (1755-1796; born, died Chesterfield County). Elicabeth Jane Randolph is a great grandmother of one of my great grandfathers (Richard W Robertson; 1831-1918, born Amelia County, died Richmond City).

Goochland County was formed in 1728 from Henrico County. Goochland County initially covered Virginia Colony land west from Henrico County to beyond the Appalachian Mountains. Several counties were formed out of Goochland County. Migrants going west from Henrico might die in Goochland County and their children died in Fluvanna, Goochland, or Albemarle Counties, without the children leaving the area where the Henrico County migrant parents lived. The Goochland County that has remained is bordered on the east by Henrico County, on the north by Hanover and Louisa Counties, on the west by Cumberland and Fluvanna County, and on the south by Powhatan County.

Ancestor names migrating early from Henrico County to Goochland County include: Cocke, Eubank, Johnson, Shepherd, and Wingfield.

A ferry went across the James River from Benjamin Cocke's Goochland County land.

Goochland County had a monthly courthouse meeting as early as 1728. Gentry family member names associated with the early courthouse meetings include Cocke, Randolph, and Woodson.

The first courthouse was built in 1728 at Maidens, and subsequent ones built in 1749, and in 1763 (at Beaverdam), until the current courthouse was built in 1826 in the community called Goochland.

Goochland County's population in 1790 was 9,000 and in 1800, 9,500.

Several streams and creeks flow from Goochland County land into the James River. Streams and creeks flowing into larger rivers were important in the 1700s for their use in transporting agricultural products to market. Land along streams, creeks, and rivers usually would be more expensive because of their usefulness in transporting agricultural products.

Goochland County was an unloading point along the James River, where tobacco hogsheads would be moved from James River vessels to land, and then put on wagons for transport to the other side of the fall line, from where the hogsheads could be moved to large ocean-going ships. The Goochland County center is approximately forty miles from Petersburg.

Louisa

Ancestors who lived, at least a period of their lives in Louisa County, include:

name	birth place	death place
Bailey, Ann	New Kent	Louisa
Wingfield, Joseph	Louisa	Nelson
Wingfield, Josiah	Louisa	Nelson
Wingfield, Matthew	Louisa	Amherst
Wingfield, Robert	New Kent	Louisa

During the 1700s, Louisa County was a frequent destination for migrants leaving New Kent and Hanover Counties. The distance from Hanover County's approximate center to Louisa County's approximate center is about thirty miles.

In 1724, before Louisa County was formed from Hanover County, ancestor Charles Hudson (1691-1748; born, died Hanover County) was granted about 2,000 acres along the south side of the South Anna River. This area became part of Louisa County when Louisa was formed in 1742. Hudson had a close connection with my Wingfield ancestor family (see **Section III 3 Wingfield**, above, for more on this connection and the Wingfield ancestor family). Wingfield ancestor Robert (1697-1769; born New Kent County, died Louisa County) migrated to Louisa County, where he died. Perhaps Robert migrated to Louisa County to live on land that Charles Hudson owned. Other Wingfields, with connections to Charles Hudson, migrated to Albemarle County to live on land owned by Hudson in Albemarle County.

In the southwest section of Louisa County are Hudson and Camp Creek. The creek named Hudson indicates that this was the area where Charles Hudson owned land. This area is close to Albemarle County. The area attracted vacationers in the 1800s due to water springs, considered to be health enhancing.

In the same southwest section of Louisa County is an area known as Quaker Hill. A Quaker community existed in Louisa County in the 1700s and met at what is known as the Camp Creek

Meeting House. The present day area known as Quaker Hill comes from it being in the area where the Quakers met in the 1700s. The Camp Creek Meeting House is known to have had connections with Henrico County Quakers. Likely Quaker migrants from Henrico County to Louisa County were important in starting the Quaker meetings in Louisa County. See **Section IV5e Quakers**, below, for more on the Camp Creek Meeting House and its connection with other Quakers.

Louisa County ancestor Wingfields (Josiah Wingfield, 1739-1819, born Louisa County, died Nelson County and Matthew Wingfield, 1734-1778, born Louies County, died Amherst County) would leave Louisa County and migrate to Albemarle County (the part that will become Amherst and Nelson Counties), where their Wingfield relatives lived, so that no Wingfield ancestors could be identified living in Louisa County in the 1800s. Josiah and Matthew were the sons of Robert Wingfield (1697-1769; born New Kent Couty, died Louisa County), who was the ancestor Wingfield migrant to Louisa County.

When Louisa County was formed in 1742, it stretched west to the Appalachian Mountains before part of Albemarle County was carved out of Louisa. The town Louisa is the Louisa County's county seat and has been since the 1700s. The present courthouse was built in 1905 at the location where at least three courthouses previously existed.

Louisa County is bordered on the west by Albemarle and Orange Counties; on the north by Orange and Spotsylvania Counties; on the east by Hanover County; and on the south by Fluvanna and Goochland Counties.

Louisa population in 1790 was about 8,500 and in 1800 about 12,000.

Because Louisa County does not have land along the James or Appomattox Rivers, the County could have been viewed as a poor investment for tobacco growing. For this reason, no Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area gentry families have been identified that owned land in Louisa County. Being a county viewed as providing a poorer investment return from tobacco could lead to an expectation that migration levels to the county in the 1700s would be lower than migration levels for those counties viewed as better investments. This could account for (based on my limited research) fewer Louisa County 1700s plantations, fewer churches starting in the 1700s, and a much later substantive courthouse being built (in 1905) versus by the mid-1800s for those counties that would be considered to be better investments.

Fewer migrants (a lower population density) could also lead to poorer roads, since good roads in the 1700s depending on the residents (a lower resident density could mean fewer workers available, and less maintenance done). Poorer roads could be a reason for migrants not staying in the county.

Without direct access to the James and Appomattox Rivers, roads were important to Louisa County farmers for taking their products to market. The Louisa County center is approximately thirty-five miles from Fredericksburg and sixty miles from Petersburg. This suggests that Louisa farmers might have been more connected to Fredericksburg than Petersburg.

The smaller North and South Anna Rivers (which come together at the Hanover County border with Carroll County to form the Pamunkey River) flow from Louisa County. The Pamunkey River flows into the York River. These Anna Rivers might have served the Louisa County farmers. Thinking from the perspective of today, such small rivers, running a long ways to major rivers, do not seem very useful for transportation. However, the perspectives during the 1700s, with the lack of sufficient roads and difficulties in transporting hogsheads over roads, could have been much different.

Powhatan

Because Powhatan County has excellent access to both the James and Appomattox Rivers, and its close vicinity to the towns of Petersburg and Richmond, important transshipment towns, Powhatan County was in an important strategic economic location. For this reason, it would be expected that the late 1600s and early 1700s gentry speculative land investors living in the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area would purchase land in what would become Powhatan County. This turns out to be supported when examining the names on 1783 and 1810 Powhatan County censuses. The following Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area gentry ancestor names are found on these Powhatan County census lists: Cocke, Gay, Meade, Pleasants, Randolph, and Woodson. Although these are ancestor names, the names are not believed to be individuals that are direct ancestors, but members of families that those direct ancestors belong to.

An indirect ancestor who lived at least a period of his life in Powhatan County was John Pleasants III (1697-1771). (By indirect ancestors, I mean that my great grandparents do not have a direct line to those ancestors, but those ancestors are descendants of an immigrant ancestor. By direct ancestors, I mean I have great grandparents who had grandparent ancestor descendant from an immigrant individual.)

By the mid-1700s, Quakers had a strong presence in Powhatan County (near to Hanover County). Monthly meetings were held at the Fine Creek Meeting, in an area near to the James River where Quaker John Pleasants III (1697-1771) had established a gristmill. Fine Creek Meeting existed from 1746 until 1780.

Indirect ancestor Cockes were large land owners just south of Cartersville, along the Cumberland and Powhatan County line. In the early 1800s, Cocke family members were living in two plantations, Oakland and Derwent, along Muddy Creek. Interestingly, following the spring 1865 Northern Army of Virginia's surrender at Appomattox, General Lee and his family spent the summer living at Derwent. Derwent is in present day Powhatan County.

More than five hundred French immigrants from England, referred to as Huguenots, in the early 1700s settled on approximately 10,000 acres along the James River west of fall line in an area that eventually became part of Powhatan County. By the middle 1700s, most of the Huguenots migrated beyond the initial settlement area. And although French was used on Huguenots documents into the middle 1700s, French was not believed to be widely spoken by the middle 1700s. Huguenots tended to be tradesmen, skilled craftsmen, which likely helped increased the Powhatan economy.

A ferry crossed the James River along where the Huguenot's settlement was located. Another ferry crossed the James while what became Powhatan County was still a part of Goochland County. The ferry was used to take residents south of the James to the Goochland County courthouse. A bridge crossed the Appomattox River at Genito.

Powhatan County was created out of Cumberland County in 1777. And in 1850, a small unit of Chesterfield County was added to Powhatan County. Powhatan County is bordered on the north by Goochland County, on the east by Chesterfield and Henrico Counties, on the south by Amelia County, and on the west by Cumberland County. The James River flows along Powhatan County's northern border and the Appomattox River along the southern border.

Powhatan's initially county seat and location of the courthouse was in a community called Scottville. A second, replacement courthouse was built in an area that became known as Powhatan, which is close to Scottville.

In 1777, approximately one hundred ordinaries were licensed in Powhatan County.

Powhatan County's population in 1790 was 6,822.

The Powhatan County center is approximately forty miles from Petersburg.

South Area Counties (Amelia, Brunswick, Dinwiddie, Lunenburg, Mecklenburg, and Prince Edward)

Amelia

Ancestors who lived, at least a period of their lives, in Amelia County include:

name	birth place	death place
Curtis, Mary	Surrey England	Amelia
Greenhill, Catherine	Amelia	?
Greenhill, David	Amelia	Amelia
Noble, John	Amelia	Amelia
Noble, Joseph	England	Amelia
Noble, Mary Polly	Amelia	Chesterfield
Robertson, Archibald I	Scotland	Amelia
Wheeler, Mary	Amelia	Amelia
Williams, Samuel	Amelia	Amelia
Williams, Thomas I	Richmond County	Amelia
Williams, Thomas II	Amelia	Amelia
Wright, John	?	Amelia

Wright, Susannah	Amelia	Amelia
------------------	--------	--------

According to Amelia County deeds, in 1762 Joseph Noble buys 117 acres of land on both sides of Little Saylor Creek. Little Saylor Creek flows into Saylor Creek, and Saylor Creek flows north into the Appomattox River. It is quite possible that this land that Joseph Noble purchased was some of the land that the last battle of the Civil War took place – a battle known as the Battle of Sailor’s Creek. A Union map used in the battle, with the title “The Pursuit of the Rebel Army, April 6th to 8th, 1865, and Battle of Sailor’s Creek Va” is at the Library of Congress. This map identifies farms in the area where engagements took place. One of the farms, identified as “M Noble,” is along a creek and adjacent to another farm identified as Lockett. The Lockett Farm is known to be the site of one of the major engagements during the two-day Battle of Sailors Creek, and that this engagement took place along Sailor’s Creek. (In the 1762 deed, Saylor is used as the spelling. Later the spelling Sailor started to be used.)

John and Thomas Wright were listed in the 1790 census and a John Wright was on 1780s Amelia County records. A John Noble and a Joseph Noble appear on Amilia County deed documents.

In the 1700s, wealthy Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area gentry families purchased large amounts of land in Amelia, including ancestors James Powell Cocke II and Richard Randolph I. In the 1730s, Richard Randolph I (1686-1748) was a landowner in Amelia County – his land there was along the Appomattox River. In 1740, he built a bridge in Amelia County.

The Appomattox River, which flows along Amelia County’s southern border, culminates in Petersburg, increasing ties between Amelia County and Petersburg, including connections that ancestors had both to Petersburg and Amelia County. An ancestor who had both Petersburg and Amelia connections is Archibald Robertson (1715-1768; born Scotland, died Amelia County). As a Scottish merchant, for Archibald Robertson to have connections both in Petersburg (a center for exporting tobacco to Europe) and in a large tobacco growing county, like Amelia, made a lot of sense. Several Roberston names appear in 1700s Amelia County documents. Section III2 Robertson has more on the Robertson ancestor family connections with Amelia County.

In 1735, Amelia County was formed from portions of Brunswick and Prince George Counties. In 1754, Prince Edward County and in 1789 Nottoway County were carved out of Amelia County.

Amelia County is bordered on the north by Powhatan County; on the east by Chesterfield and Dinwiddie Counties; on the south by Nottoway and Prince Edward Counties; and on the west by Cumberland County.

Amelia County is bordered by the Appomattox River to the north and west and by Namozine Creek to the east. Amelia County has several tributaries flowing into the Appomattox River. Two large creeks, Flat and Deep, flow into the Appomattox River.

The town of Amelia Courthouse is the county’s seat, selected after the formation of Nottoway County from Amelia County land. The current courthouse was built in 1923, replacing an 1850 predecessor.

Land in what became Amelia County was beginning to be settled and farmed in the 1730s and 1740s. By the 1780s most of the suitable land had been acquired.

Tobacco was the predominant income sources in the 1700s when the county became one of the biggest grower of tobacco. Amelia County has been mined productively for various mineral deposits such as amazonite. In the 1700s, mineral springs were in use for improving health.

A high percentage of mid-1700s migrants to Amelia County came from the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area.

In response to the French and Indian War, Amelia County was asked by the Virginia Colony government to establish a militia, which they did in 1758.

Amelia County’s 1790 population was approximately 18,000 (which included what became Nottoway County at about the same time). Slaves were about 60% of this 18,000 total.

The Amelia County center is approximately forty miles from Petersburg.

Brunswick

Ancestors who lived, at least a period of their lives, in Brunswick County include:

name	birth place	death place
Brandon, William B	Brunswick	Halifax
Hicks, Francis	Surry	Brunswick
Hicks, Robert	?	Brunswick
Luten, Frances	Charles City	Brunswick
Ransone, Richard I	Gloucester	Brunswick
Ransone, Robert Hicks	Brunswick	?
Sadler, Temperance	Brunswick	Wilkes County NC
Young, Michael Cadet	London	Brunswick
Young, William	Brunswick	Campbell

In 1733, Robert Hicks was a surveyor (responsible for road maintenance) along the Meherrin River in 1733. He voted in a 1748 election. Hicks families were living in Brunswick County in the 1800s. A main street in Lawrenceville, Brunswick County’s seat, is name Hicks Street, possibly because at some time in the past the street (road) led to a Hicks resident. In the 1700s,

Lawrenceville was a stagecoach route crossing. Stagecoach route crossings were often tipping points for settlement development.

In 1745, Richard Ransone was a surveyor in the Sappony Creek area. Richard voted in a late 1740s election.

Michael Cadet Young was on a 1761 Brunswick County deed as a witness.

Unlike counties in the West Area and some other counties in the South Area, Brunswick County did not have large tracts of land purchased by the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area well-off gentry families. A reason might include the lack of waterway connections between Brunswick County and the James and Appomattox Rivers.

In 1720, Brunswick County was carved out from Isle of Wright, Price George, and Surrey Counties. Initially Brunswick covered a huge area extending from the fall line westward to the Appalachian Mountains. Eventually the following counties were formed out of Brunswick County: Amelia (part of Amelia); Bedford; Campbell; Charlotte; Franklin; Halifax; Henry; Lunenburg; Mecklenburg; Patrick; Pittsylvania; and Prince Edward. In 1781, Greenville County was carved off from Brunswick County.

Brunswick County is bordered on the west by Lunenburg and Mecklenburg Counties; on the north by Dinwiddie and Nottoway Counties; on the east by Greenville County; and on the south by North Carolina.

The first courthouse was built in 1732 near Lawrenceville, in an area called Cochran. In 1746, near Cochran, Lawrenceville became the county seat, where a new courthouse was built. That courthouse was succeeded by replacement courthouses until the present one was built in 1854.

Although the first settlers to the Brunswick County area was as early as the 1710s, migrants were slow in settling in the area. This resulted in the first courthouse not being built until 1732. To boost settlement to Brunswick County, the Virginia Colony government reduced taxes and had limitations on the land tract sizes that could be purchased.

The Nottoway River separates Brunswick County from Dinwiddie County. The Meherrin River crosses Brunswick County in an east to west direction, flowing into North Carolina. A ferry named Hicks Ferry was on the Meherrin River. A problem for Brunswick County, and other nearby counties, was that rivers through them flowed southeast into North Carolina versus flowing northeast to the James and Appomattox Rivers. Farmers had economic disadvantages shipping their products on rivers to North Carolina versus on the James and Appomattox Rivers.

Brunswick County was in what was known as the Brunswick Circuit, which had a large number of Methodist preachers traveling a circuit of communities preaching. Methodism was an offshoot from the official Anglican Church, the official church of England. This might explain why at the Revolution, Brunswick County tended to be more loyalist than pro-revolution. See **Section IV5c** for more on the Methodism and the Brunswick Circuit.

Brunswick County seems to be different from many other counties studied in this family history. Differences include more of its citizens tended to be pro-loyalist than pro rebellion; a strong, predominant Methodist connection appears in the later 1700s; and population (and subsequent economic) growth was less in the later 1700s compared to many other counties.

Brunswick County population in 1790 was approximately 12,800.

The Brunswick County center is approximately fifty miles from Petersburg.

Dinwiddie (including Petersburg)

Ancestors who lived, at least a period of their lives in Dinwiddie County, include William Robertson (1750-1829; born Prince George County, died Petersburg) and Elizabeth Gay Bolling (1758-1803; born Chesterfield County, died Dinwiddie County).

Apparently, in the later 1700s, a Scottish/Irish community existed in Prince George County, along the confluence of the Appomattox and James Rivers, at present day Hopewell/City Point. This accounts for why William Robertson (1750-1829), as well as William's grandparents, John Fitzgerald (?-1738; born Ireland, died Prince George County) and Christian Poythress (1689-?; born Charles City County, died Prince George County) have Prince George County birth and/or death locations. Also, William's other set of grandparents (William Robertson, 1675-1740, and Christine Ferguson, 1671-1730) were born and died in Scotland. And William Robertson's father, Archibald Robertson I (1715-1768; born Scotland, died Amelia County) and mother (Elizabeth Fitzgerald, 1720-1773; born, death locations unknown) settled in the Hopewell/City Point area in what became known as Belfield.

Associated with this community was a Thomas Epes (Eppes), who in his 1779 will leaves to his godson, Archibald Robertson (likely Archibald Robertson II, 1776-1835), a slave and 200 British pounds. Thomas had a large estate at the time of his death. City Point is mentioned in his will. Thomas Epes apparently was married to a Poythress. In Thomas's 1779 will, William Poythress was the principle beneficiary of Thomas's will.

An area around present-day Petersburg was an important meeting/gathering/trading area for Indigenous tribes. This caught the attention of the early colonists who wanted to profit by trading with the Indigenous tribes. To facilitate this trading, the Virginia Colony built Fort Henry in the Petersburg area. Eventually the fort was torn down, and the area developed into Petersburg. Many of my early ancestors settled in the Petersburg area, and at the confluence of the James and Appomattox Rivers, hoping to succeed at trading with Indigenous tribes.

Dinwiddie County's several stream, creeks, and rivers (for example, the Appomattox and Nottoway Rivers) provided good opportunities for using these waterways to power mills and the production of products, such as grain, that then were shipped from the Petersburg port. Such exports became an important source of revenue by the 1800s.

Dinwiddie County was separated from Prince George County in 1752.

Dinwiddie is surrounded on the north by Chesterfield County and Petersburg; on the east by Prince George and Sussex Counties; on the south by Greenville and Brunswick Counties; and on the west by Amelia and Nottoway Counties.

A Dinwiddie County courthouse was built in 1851 and is located in the community of Dinwiddie, the county's seat. Previous courthouses had been destroyed by fire. A newer courthouse has replaced the 1851 courthouse. (The 1851 courthouse is still being used for other purposes).

Dinwiddie County's population in 1790 was 13,934, which included the 1790 population of the town Petersburg (2,828).

In the late 1700s, Dinwiddie had one of the largest populations of slaves in the Virginia Colony. In 1790, the slave population was about 7,300.

The Dinwiddie County center is approximately twenty-five miles from Petersburg.

Petersburg

The Bolling ancestor family had a long history as residents of Petersburg. At various times, Bollings owned a lot of land and operated tobacco warehouses in Petersburg. Bollingbrook is a street in Petersburg. In the late 1700s, early 1800s a corner in Petersburg was known as Bolling Corner.

Ancestor William Robertson (1750-1829) was born in Prince George County and died in Petersburg. In 1775, William married a Petersburg Bolling, Elizabeth Gay Bolling (1758-1830). Their son, Archibald Robertson (1776-1835), also married a Bolling, Elizabeth Meade Bolling (1779-1827). (See **Section III2 Robertson**, above, for more on Robertson ancestors.)

William Robertson apparently went from prosperity to poverty during his life time. He started as a merchant and got involved in the Manchester coal industry. By the early 1800s, he ran into serious financial troubles in these activities. (See **Section IV6d, Economics, Other Economic Activities**, below, for more on William's involvement in the Manchester coal industry.) Information indicates that he then turned to law, went to work for a bank in Richmond, and became Clerk of the Council of State. He died in 1829 leaving twelve children.

In the 1780s, during the period of the American Revolution, a William Robertson took over the management of Scottish merchant businesses in Petersburg, when Scottish employees returned to Scotland. Also in the 1780s, a William Robertson was a partner with a Robert Fitzgerald. Ancestor William Robertson's mother was a Fitzgerald, Elicabeth Fitzgerald (1720-1773). Likely, the William Robertson referenced in this paragraph is ancestor William Robertson.

Petersburg had significant development as a town by the late 1600s and became a destination for farmers to ship their tobacco to and for loading on ships. Petersburg development as a prosperous town help to develop Dinwiddie County. Lying along the Appomattox River at the river's

confluence with the James River allowed Petersburg to develop as a successful port. The Appomattox River flows west from Petersburg into several strong tobacco growing counties. The river flows along the northern border of Dinwiddie County. Petersburg was more of a commercial center for farmers and residents living in the South and Southwest Areas than it was for farmers and residents living in the West Area.

Petersburg was incorporated in 1748. In the 1700s, Petersburg was one of the largest towns in the Virginia Colony. Petersburg population in 1776 is estimated to have been 2,000.

Petersburg was designated a major tobacco inspection location in 1748.

By the 1790s, one third of the tobacco shipped from Virginia went from the port of Petersburg. Petersburg became the main destination for tobacco and other agricultural products produced in the Southwest counties. Road running from Petersburg to Halifax County became known as the Halifax Road.

Lunenburg

Ancestors who lived, at least a period of their lives in Lunenburg County, include:

name	birth place	death place
Irvine, Elizabeth	Lunenburg	Halifax
Irvine, Elizabeth	Lunenburg	?
Moore, Frances	Lunenburg	Halifax
Moore, Frances	Lunenburg	Halifax

In 1751, Halifax County was split off from Lunenburg County so that Lunenburg residents born in Lunenburg, such as ancestor Frances Moore (1723-1801), died in Halifax County without relocating.

Several Moores (for example, George and Thomas) are identified in Lunenburg road orders issued in the mid-1700s. A Moore ordinary and Moore Road are identified in the road orders. Frances Moore (1723-1801) might be related to one or more of these Moores.

A 1755 deed shows a John Comer with 1,000 acres along the Meherrin River. Road orders identify Comer Road close to the Prince Edward County line.

Surviving 1700s Lunenburg road order records show the following names: Atkinson, Bolling, Cocke, Perrin, Pleasants, Randolph, and Robertson. These are ancestor names but not necessarily direct-line ancestors. The road order records connect roads, ferries, and bridges with individual names required to do work related to the roads, ferries, and bridges. The road order records also identified appointed surveyors. About forty plantations are referred to in the Lunenburg County road records.

Lunenburg County land patents were issued in the mid-1700s to Atkinson, Cocke, Eubank, Robertson, and Singleton, ancestor names (not necessarily direct-line ancestors). Abraham Cocke, related to Cocke ancestors, received Lunenburg patents for thousands of acres in the mid-1700s. Abraham Cocke is an example of 1600s/1700s Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover gentry families buying land in the West, South, and Southwest Areas for speculation and benefiting from that speculation. See **Section III 2 Cocke, Johnson, and Pleasants**, above, for more on 1600s/1700s Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area gentry ancestor families.

Lunenburg County was formed in 1746 from Brunswick County land. The Nottoway River forms the Lunenburg County border on the north and the Meherrin River forms the border on the south. When first formed, Lunenburg County covered a huge area. By 1764, Campbell, Halifax, Mecklenburg, Pittsylvania, and other countries were carved out of Lunenburg County and Lunenburg County became its present size.

Land in what became Lunenburg County was beginning to be settled and farmed in the 1730s and 1740s. By the 1780s, most of the suitable land had been acquired. Farms in Lunenburg County were small, for example, less than 1,000 acres. Many of the first settlers in Lunenburg County (including the larger pre-1764 Lunenburg County size) were Scotch Irish who had migrated from areas further north such as the Pennsylvania Colony.

Lunenburg County experienced levels of crude, rough, lawless behavior by its residents early in its existence.

Lunenburg County seat is the town of Lunenburg where early courthouses were replaced by an 1827-built one.

Lunenburg County population in 1790 was about 9,000; half the population being slaves.

By the late 1700s, Lunenburg County became the top tobacco producer in Virginia.

The Lunenburg County center is approximately fifty-five miles from Petersburg.

Mecklenburg

Ancestors who lived, at least a period of their lives in Mecklenburg County, include:

ancestor	birth place	death place
Miller, Ann	Prince Edward	Mecklenburg

Mecklenburg County was created out of Lunenburg County in 1764. The Meherrin River borders the north. The Roanoke River runs through its southern portions. That Mecklenburg Rivers runs east and south into North Carolina and not east and north towards the James and Appomattox

Rivers was a problem for farmers needing to transport products to ports serving ocean-going ships. This river flow problem existed for other counties in the South and Southwest Areas.

The success of Mecklenburg farmers depended on relationships with Petersburg merchants. A major road developed between Mecklenburg and Petersburg in support of this relationship.

The first African American Church is believed to have been established in 1758 in Mecklenburg County. The church was known as Bluestone Church.

Mecklenburg's 1790 population was approximately 15,000.

The Mecklenburg County center is approximately seventy miles from Petersburg.

Prince Edward

Ancestors who lived, at least a period of their lives in Prince Edward County, include:

name	birth place	death place
Miller, Ann	Prince Edward	Mecklenburg
Perrin, Amelia Pamela	Prince Edward	Halifax
Perrin, John	?	Prince Edward

A John Perrin is identified as being in the Lunenburg County militia during the French and Indian War. A Jeremiah Perrin appears on a 1754-1758 Prince Edward County election result list. In 1824, in Prince Edward County, close to Campbell County, a Matthew Hubbard Young (1785-1848; born Campbell County, died Halifax County) married Amelia Pamela Perrin (1805-1874; born Price Edward County, died Halifax County). In the same 1754-1758 Prince Edward County election result list referred to in the previous paragraph, a John Young and a William Young are listed. Perhaps Matthew Hubbard Young was a descendent of one, or both, of these Youngs, accounting for Matthew marrying someone born in Prince Edward County.

According to deeds, members of the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover gentry family Kennon, Pleasants, and Randolph owned land in Prince Edward County.

Prince Edward County separated from Amelia County in 1754.

The county seat was in an area referred to as Worsham, which became a part of Farmville when Farmville became the county seat. A courthouse was built in Worsham as early as 1776 (no longer standing). Being on the Appomattox River helped Farmville grow and prosper, becoming Prince Edward County's largest city, with current population of approximately 7,000. The current courthouse was built in 1874.

Farmville became a major tobacco port – where tobacco hogsheads were loaded on bateaux for shipping on the Appomattox River to Petersburg.

In 1790, Prince Edward had a population of 8,100.

The Prince Edward County center is approximately sixty-five miles from Petersburg.

Southwest Area Counties (Campbell and Halifax)

Gentry families from the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area began buying large land tracks in the Southwest Area by the 1760s. They were using their properties in the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area as collateral for loans to buy the Southwest Area land. This would eventually create problems for these families, as the collateral decreased in value by the end of the 1700s.

Campbell (including Lynchburg)

Ancestors who lived, at least a period of their lives in Campbell County, include:

name	birth place	death place
Bolling, Archibald Blair	Buckingham	Campbell
Bolling, Elizabeth Meade	Campbell	Richmond City
Hubbard, Martha	1740	Campbell
Young, Matthew Hubbard	Campbell	Halifax
Young, William	Brunswick	Campbell

John Bolling II (of the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area gentry Bolling family) patented thousands of acres along the James River, close to where Lynchburg developed as a town. An area that Bolling patented became known as Buffalo Lick Plantation. John Bolling II may have never lived on this land.

John Bolling II's son, Archibald Blair Bolling (1748-1827; born Buckingham County, died Campbell County), inherited John Bolling II's land and built a plantation that became known as Mt. Athos, where he is believed to have died. Archibald Blair Bolling's daughter, Elizabeth Meade Bolling (1779-1823), married Archibald Robertson II (1776-1835). Archibald Robertson II is believed to be the Archibald Robertson in Archibald Robertson and Company, which had substantial business in the Lynchburg area as a seller of merchandise. More can be read about Archibald Robertson and Company in **Section IV 6c Merchant Activities**, below.

Records show that an Elizabeth Bolling and an Archibald Robertson II married in 1801 in Campbell County. This is probably Elizabeth Meade Bolling (1779-1823) and Archibald

Robertson II (1776-1835). A Campbell County Bolling – Robertson marriage is listed in Quaker records as a Quaker marriage. Assuming that the Bolling and Robertson named in the Quaker records are Elisabeth Bolling and Archibald Robertson, this is the only known indication that members of the ancestor Roberson and Bolling families had a Quaker connection. By the mid-1750s, Quakers had settled in an area that eventually became Lynchburg. That a Quaker community was present in the Lynchburg/Campbell area by the 1800s supports that Quaker marriages there would be found in Quaker records.

Archibald Robertson II (1750-1829) owned various properties in Lynchburg, including in 1812 lot number 140 at the corner of Court and 10th Street. In 1804, an Archibald Robertson represented Campbell County in the Virginia General Assembly.

More about the Robertsons and Bollings can be found in **Section III 2, Robertson and Bolling, Gay, Blair, Randolph, Meade, Archer, and Kennon**, above.

By the 1730s, settlers were in the area that would become Campbell County. In the mid-1730s, a group of Scotch-Irish settled in the Hat Creek area. The group migrated from Pennsylvania. The group included John and Mary Boyd Irvine. John was one of the founders of Hat Creek Presbyterian Church in the Hat Creek area.

Campbell County separated from Bedford County in 1782. Rustburg was selected as the county seat for Campbell County.

Before the split of Bedford County into two counties, the county seat was at New London. In the late 1700s, New London had developed a prosperous commercial community. But after losing its county seat status, it also lost most of its prosperous commercial activities, and eventually lost being a town, becoming a part of Lynchburg.

In the 1700s, tobacco was the main revenue producer. Staunton River (on Campbell County's southern border) played a significant role in the tobacco industry. A tobacco warehouse helped to establish the town of Brookneal on the Staunton. By the late 1700s, iron was being produced in substantive quantities along the James River close to Lynchburg.

Campbell County is bordered on the north by Amherst County and Lynchburg; on the east by Appomattox and Charlotte Counties; on the south by Halifax and Pittsylvania Counties; and on the west by Bedford County. The Staunton River runs along the southern border.

The county's population in 1790 was 7,685.

The Campbell County center is approximately one hundred miles from Petersburg and fifteen miles from Lynchburg.

A town, eventually called Lynchburg, was formed around a ferry across the James River that was owned by a John Lynch (for whom the town was named). As seen in research related to this study, a ferry could trigger a settlement around the ferry, which led to the development of a town. Other examples of this are Scottsville in Albemarle County that had a ferry across the

James River and Maidens in Goochland County, which also had a ferry across the James. The towns did not always survive as in the case of Maidens. Some of the land that the John Lynch ferry connected to was once owned by John Bolling II.

The counties in the Southwest Area started to use Lynchburg as a shipping destination for their products, due to Lynchburg's location on the James River. This was a major reason for Lynchburg's development. Using Lynchburg as a destination related to the rivers in the Southwest not flowing east and north to Petersburg and Richmond but east and south into North Carolina. Transporting products to Lynchburg allowed the farmers to use the James River to get products to Petersburg and Richmond commercial/shipping assets. Shipping products to North Carolina ports was not profitable.

By the early 1800s, Lynchburg has become an important tobacco center. In 1805, Lynchburg had several tobacco warehouses.

Halifax

Ancestors who lived, at least a period of their lives in Halifax County, include:

name	birth place	death place
Atkinson, John	Virginia	Halifax
Atkinson, Nancy	Halifax	Halifax
Atkinson, William S	Henrico	Halifax
Brandon, Irvine	Halifax	Halifax
Brandon, James	London	Halifax
Brandon, Nancy Ann	Halifax	Halifax
Brandon, William B	Brunswick	Halifax
Cloughton, Elizabeth M	Northumberland	Halifax
Comer, Sarah	Halifax	Halifax
Comer, Thomas R	Lunenburg	Halifax
Crawley (Cralle), Thomas Hull	Northumberland	Halifax
Crawley, Thomas Garner	Northumberland	Halifax
Fanning, Judith	Carswell County, NC	Halifax
Holtzclaw, Elizabeth	Fauquier	Halifax
Irvine, Elizabeth	Lunenburg	Halifax
Mattingley, Susanna	St. Mary's, MD	Halifax
Moore, Frances	Lunenburg	Halifax
Mueller, Harman	Germany	Halifax
Palmer, Susanna	?	Halifax

Perrin, Amelia Pamela	Prince Edward	Halifax
Perrin, Pamela	Prince Edward	Halifax
Singleton, James L	Virginia	Halifax
Torian, Andrew	Switzerland	Halifax
Torian, Mary Polly	Halifax	Halifax
Torian, Peter	Switzerland	Halifax
Torian, Scher	Switzerland	Halifax
Torian, Thomas Sr	Halifax	Carswell County, NC
Watkins, Sarah	Halifax	Tennessee
Young, Matthew Hubbard	Campbell	Halifax

The Halifax County Anglican Parish was named Antrim. Antrim was also a parish in northern Ireland. This suggests that early Halifax migrants might have been Scotch Irish. This is consistent with the Scotch Irish migration to Charlotte and Campbell Counties in the first half of the 1700s (see Campbell County in **Section IV 2c Counties**, above, for more on the Scotch Irish migration). Many mid-1700s last names in Halifax County, such as Atkisson (also spelled Atkinson), Boyd, Comer, Lawson, Irvine, and Moore were Irish names. Quite possibly some of the Scotch Irish (and/or their descendants), who migrated in the early 1700s from Pennsylvania to Charlotte and Campbell Counties, continued migrating south into what became Halifax County. Boyd, Comer, Irvine, and Moore are Halifax County ancestor names.

By the 1750s, eighty percent of the land in Halifax County had been patented (purchased). Ancestor Scher Torian, who arrived by the 1750s in what became Halifax County, was one of the first land purchasers in what became Halifax County.

Peter Torian purchased land from the William Byrd II estate after the 1750s. In a 1756 deed document dealing with the appointment of a sheriff, Peter Torian is referred to as “Gent.”; used in documents of that period to signify a higher social position.

In the 1740s, William, David, and Francis Brandon, believed to be brothers, purchased land from the William Byrd II estate. The land is south of the Dan River, near the current Virginia-North Carolina border, in the area of Alton. A still-standing Brandon House, initially built in the late 1700s, and renovated since, is at the intersection of Henderson Road and Coleman Drive, near Alton. Ancestor William Brandon (1729-1778; born Brunswick County, died Halifax County) is believed to be related to these brothers.

In 1775, a David Brandon petition the Speaker and House of Burgesses for the establishment of a public ferry from his land on the south side of the Dan River to land on the other side.

Beside Brandon and Torian ancestors, who were in the first group of settlers in Halifax County, other early ancestors were Atkinson and Comer ancestors. Atkinson also appears in the records with Adkisson as the spelling.

Thomas R Comer is an example of someone who migrated further south (to Halifax County) from a county (Lunenburg) further north. See **Section IV3b, Migration Patterns**, below, for more on such migration patterns.

The Singleton ancestor name has not been found in the Halifax County records before the 1780s. The Singleton name was present in counties further north, but no ancestral connection for the Singletons have been found.

These Halifax County ancestor families are assessed as being yeoman farming families:

Atkinson, Brandon, Comer, Crawley, and Torian

In William Atkinson 1801's will, he refers to his "plantation", which he leaves to his son Thomas. He also refers to a "still" that he is leaving to Thomas.

1700s and 1800s Brandon, Crawley, and Torian Halifax County families are known to have lived south of the Dan River, close to one another. This would account for why several marriages occurred between these families. Brandons had close connections (names appearing together on late 1700s Halifax documents such as wills and deeds) with Irvines and Lawsons. Irvine and Lawson family members also lived south of the Dan River. The close connections included several marriages.

Two 1700s Dan River ferries, well known for their 1781 use by the retreating Nathanael Green-commanded American southern Army, being chased by the British Army, commanded by George Cornwallis, are Boyd and Irvine ferries. These ferries were named after George Boyd and John Irvine. Two ancestor names from Campbell County are John Irvine (1700-1788) and his wife, Mary Boyd (1707-1770), who were Scotch Irish migrants from Pennsylvania to Campbell County (see **Section III5 Crawley, Brandon, Irvine, and Young**, above, for more on John and Mary Boyd Irvine). George Boyd and John Irvine, the ferry owners and operators, are believed to have been Scotch Irish. The ties between the Campbell County John Irvine and his wife, Mary Boyd, and the Boyd and Irvine ferry owners have not been discovered, but it is possible there are ties. Records show that George Boyd and John Irvine were operating ferries on the Dan River in the 1780s.

The number of my 1700s ancestors who lived in Halifax County, as well as Halifax's 1790s population (14,722), is unusually high, compared to other counties in the West, South, and Southwest Areas. I am wondering if this might be due to William Byrd II's success as a land promoter and selling his land at reasonable prices. William Byrd II was unique for the 1700s as a land promoter and salesperson. He may rank as one of the most successful of 1700s land entrepreneurs.

As in several other counties discussed above, well-off Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover gentry families purchased large numbers of acres in Halifax County. Direct ancestors names from this group of families are Bolling, Cocke, and Randolph. Indirect ancestor names from this group of

families include Kennon and Pleasants. (By direct ancestors, I mean I have great grandparents who had grandparent ancestors descendant from an immigrant individual. By indirect ancestors, I mean that my great grandparents do not have a direct line to those to those ancestors, but those ancestors are descendants of the immigrant ancestor.)

Halifax County was formed in 1752 from Lunenburg County. Eventually Pittsylvania, Henry, Franklin, and Patrick Counties would be carved out of the 1752 Halifax County. Modern day Halifax County has Campbell and Charlotte Counties on the north; Mecklenburg on the east; the North Carolina state line on the south; and Pittsylvania County on the west.

By the 1800s, many Halifax ancestors owned numerous slaves. Having large numbers of slaves would indicate that Halifax County became an important producer of tobacco in the 1800s. Tobacco production was labor intensive, and slaves were necessary for providing the needed labor.

The county is bordered on the north and northeast by the Roanoke River. The Dan and Banister Rivers, which has several branches and creeks flowing into them, run through the county. One of the creeks that flows into the Dan River is Brandon Creek, along which ancestor Brandons owned land and lived.

The current Halifax County seat is Halifax Town, and the current courthouse was built in 1838.

Halifax County population in 1790 was 14,722.

The Halifax County center is approximately ninety-five miles from Petersburg and forty-five miles from Lynchburg.

d. Tables Summarizing County Data

The following table presents information on the counties that my 1700s ancestors lived in. The information in the columns represents county aspects that might have influenced ancestors, at least in general, and therefore hopefully help us to get a better understanding of what the ancestors might have been experiencing. Under Area are the five areas that I have put the counties into. See **Section I Introduction** for an explanations of using these areas. CHH is the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area.

County	Area	Year County Formed	First Settled	1790 Pop.	Present Land Area (Sq Miles)	Number of 1700s Ancestors Living at Some Time in County	County's Center's Distance From Petersburg (miles)
Henrico	CHH	1634	1620s	12,000	234	13	25

Hanover	CHH	1720	1690s	14,754	469	5	40
Chesterfield	CHH	1749	1610s	14,214	425	8	15
Goochland	West	1724	1710s	9,000	281	14	40
Louisa	West	1742	1730s	8,467	496	5	60
Albemarle	West	1744	1730s	12,585	721	9	85
Cumberland	West	1749	1730s	8,153	298	3	55
Amherst	West	1761	1730s	13,703	474	8	100
Buckingham	West	1761	1730s	9,779	580	1	70
Fluvanna	West	1777	1730s	3,921	286	4	65
Brunswick	South	1720	1710s	12,827	566	9	50
Amelia	South	1734	1730s	18,097	355	13	40
Lunenburg	South	1746	1710s	10,381	432	4	55
Dinwiddie	South	1752	1690s	13,934	504	2	25
Prince Edward	South	1753	1710s	8,100	350	3	65
Mecklenburg	South	1765	1710s	14,733	625	1	70
Halifax	SW	1752	1740s	14,722	818	29	95
Campbell	SW	1781	1730s	7,685	504	5	100

County	Area	1790 Pop.	Present Land Area (Sq Miles)	Population Density (people per square mile: 1790 population divided by present land area in square miles)
Fluvanna	West	3,921	286	14
Campbell	SW	7,685	504	15
Buckingham	West	9,779	580	17
Louisa	West	8,467	496	17
Albemarle	West	12,585	721	17
Halifax	SW	14,722	818	18
Brunswick	South	12,827	566	23
Prince Edward	South	8,100	350	23
Mecklenburg	South	14,733	625	24
Lunenburg	South	10,381	432	24
Powhatan	West	6,822	260	26

Cumberland	West	8,153	298	27
Dinwiddie	South	13,934	504	28
Amherst	West	13,703	474	29
Hanover	CHH	14,754	469	31
Goochland	West	9,000	281	32
Chesterfield	CHH	14,214	425	33
Amelia	South	18,097	355	51
Henrico	CHH	12,000	234	51
	Averages	11,257	457	26

e. Counties - General Conclusions

What I hope to accomplish with these general conclusions is to suggest some insights on what my ancestors might have experienced.

Seventeenth Century population growth, earlier in the Virginia Colony's Eastern and Northern Areas and the Henrico-Chesterfield-Hanover Area, did not start in the West, South, and Southwest Areas until the 1730s. To accommodate the management of this growth, new counties were formed as needed, based on population growth.

A county formation date usually indicates that the area in which a new county is being formed has reached a population tipping point to justify a need to have a separate, unique ability (for example, a separate courthouse system) to manage the population and its needs, and therefore the creation of a new, smaller county.

By the end of the colonial period, sixty-one counties existed in Virginia. Commentators have noted on how county formation in Virginia was such that county sizes allowed for needed services to be well provided across the county. Apparently, in comparison to other southern states, Virginia was a leader in well-planned and successful county formation.

The timing of county formation in the West, South, and Southwest Areas correlate well with population growth from migration, for example settlement growth from beginning in the 1730s correlate with greater migration beginning around the 1730s.

Higher population densities shown in the table above suggest that counties forming earlier, e.g., Henrico, Hannover, Chesterfield, and Goochland have higher population densities. Although earlier formation might account for more people later in the century, another explanation, a better one, relates to economics. Counties that offered greater economic opportunities were attracting more people.

By the 1740s, all the counties identified in the tables above were having settlements.

In 1790, a significant difference existed in the population densities between the lower and the higher densities, providing information that these higher density counties likely had more urban, town, and non-farm commerce development.

By the middle 1800s, the area from Richmond and Petersburg, west, along the James and Appomattox Rivers, had become the economic and social “heart” of the state, based on the economic development in the area. This could relate to this area ending up being where the Confederacy took its “last stand.”

3. Immigration and Migration

In this section I provide information on ancestor immigration and migration experiences, and how those experiences can inform about the ancestors and their times and lives.

The term immigration is used when discussing people coming into the Virginia Colony from Europe. The term migration is used when discussing people moving within or from Virginia Colony counties or other colonies.

a. Immigration

In the late 1600s, early 1700s migration into the South Area was prompted by trying to increase trade with the Indigenous Americans who lived in the South Area. In support of this migration, forts were built to provide protection. Abraham Wood was a leading figure in pursuing the means to conduct trade with the Indigenous Americans. (Wood was an ancestor - see **Section III 2 Bolling, Gay, Blair, Randolph, Meade, Archer, and Kennon**, above, for Wood’s relationship as an ancestor.) As this was happening, more land opened for migration. This in turn led to the gentry families in the Chesterfield-Henrico-Hanover Area to pay for indentured servants passage from England, for which the gentry families received title to even more land beyond the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area. Obtaining such land ownership was a primary objective of these gentry families. This process proved to be essential for increasing immigration and the population growth of the Virginia Colony.

The following table shows ancestor immigrants to the Virginia and Maryland Colonies:

Ancestor Name	Birth Death Dates	Birth Place	Death Place
Anderson, Annis	1680-1765	Sweden	Virginia

Archer, George	1618-1675	England	Chesterfield County
Banks, Katherine	1627-1686	Kent England	Henrico County
Blair, Archibald	1657-1736	Scotland	Williamsburg
Bolling, Robert	1696-1708	London	Henrico County
Boyd, Mary	1707-1770	Ulster, Ireland	Campbell County
Boyes, Janet	1598-1654	England or Scotland	Henrico County
Brandon, James	1714-1748	London	Halifax County
Brett, Mary Elizabeth	1603-1682	Bedford England	Henrico County
Brewer, Elwin	1637-1676	Belgium	St. Mary's County Maryland
Buck, Thomas	1618-1659	Kent England	York County
Claughton, James	1629-1698	England	Richmond County
Cocke, Richard	1600-1665	Shropshire England	Henrico County
Comer, Thomas I	1645-1710	Ireland	Virginia
Curtis, Mary	1720-1800	England	Amelia County
Eubank, Thomas	1648-1732	Westmoreland England	Talbot County Maryland
Faure, Mary	1665-1735	France	Henrico County
Fitzgerald, John	?-1738	Ireland	Prince George County
Flippen, Thomas	1675-1755	Ireland	Cumberland County
Gay, Thomas	1689-1749	Ireland	Virginia

Hall, Florence	1600-1640	England	Henrico County
Hudson, Richard	1600-1660	Staffordshire England	Northampton County
Irvine, John	1700-1789	Larne Northern Ireland	Campbell County
Isham, Henry	1628-1670	Northamptonshire England	Henrico County
Isham, William	1578-1628	Northamptonshire England	Henrico County
Johnson, Edward	1649-1704	Scotland	New Kent County
Kenyon, Robert	1602-1666	Yorkshire England	Henrico County
Littlebury, Elizabeth	1620-1678	Essex England	Henrico County
Mattingly, Thomas	1623-1716	Sussex England	Charles County Maryland
Meade, Andrew	?-1745	Cork Ireland	Nansemond County
Mueller, Hermann	1716-1772	Nordrhein- Westfalen, Germany	Halifax County
Noble, Joseph	1740-1826	Surrey England	Amelia County
Orange, Louise	1670-1734	France	Henrico County
Pleasants, John I	1644-1698	Norfolk England	Henrico County
Pledge, Nicholas	1600-1679	Surrey England	Dorchester County Maryland
Raines, Thomas	1677-1757	Yorkshire England	Prince George County
Randolph, William	?-?	Warwickshire England	Henrico County
Ransone, Peter	1615-1663	England	Virginia

Robertson, Archibald	1715-1768	Edinburg Scotland	Amelia County
Rolfe, Jane	1650-1676	England	Henrico County
Rugg, Elizabeth	1675-1758	Gloucestershire England	Cumberland County
Torian, Scher	1695-1748	Grisons (present day Switzerland)	Halifax County
Wingfield, Thomas	1664-1720	Rutland England	New Kent
Wood, Abraham	1610-1681	Lancashire England	Henrico County
Worsham, William	1619-1660	England	Henrico County
Young, Michael Cadet	1700-1770	London	Brunswick County

The table above indicates that prior to the 1700s, there was no immigration beyond the fall line. 1700s immigrants went mostly to the South and Southwest Areas. A possible explanation for this is that land was more available in the South and Southwest Areas to those coming from outside the Virginia Colony. Land sales infrastructure might have favored selling land in the South and Southwest Areas. See **Section IV 4**, below, for more on land sales promotion in the Southwest Area.

The Virginia Colony had an estimated 200,000 immigrants from Scotland and Northern Ireland in the 1700s. 1700s Scottish immigrant ancestors included Edward Johnson (1649-1704) and Archibald Robertson (1715-1768). Irish immigrant ancestors were Mary Boyd (1707-1748), Thomas Comer I (1645-1710), John Fitzgerald (?-1738), Thomas Flippen (1675-1755), Thomas Gay (1689-1749), John Irvine (1700-1772), and Andrew Meade (?-1745).

AncestryDNA.com analysis of my DNA suggests my DNA has characteristics that compare to the DNA of people who have a long history of living in specific geographical areas.

AncestryDNA.com indicates I have DNA characteristics to people with a family history in the following areas:

Belgium and vicinity	Ireland	Luxenberg and vicinity
England	Ireland	Scotland

Estonia	Latvia	Switzerland and vicinity
France	Lithuania	Wales

In my family history research, I have identified ancestors who lived in all the countries in the table above, except Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania. These AncestryDNA.com results seem to agree quite well with what I have found about my ancestors using genealogy research and analysis.

Because the Virginia Colony was one of the larger colonies, and for other reasons, it received a high percentage of the immigrants to the colonies. Many of these immigrants would settle in Virginia, and then a large number of the descendants of these initial Virginia immigrants would migrate from Virginia. This has led to a disproportionate number of Americans, with 1600s and 1700s immigrant ancestors, who trace their ancestry back to Virginians.

b. Migration Reasons

Reasons for migration included:

- To acquire land, leading to economic benefits, was the primary reason for most migration in the 1700s.
- To escape debts and trying to escape from paying these debts.
- To maintain and promote family and cultural cohesion. This is seen in the migration patterns of many of my ancestors, where marriages occurred within families and between closely, netted families, who intentionally migrated to the same areas to be together with other family members.
- To establish and maintain religious communities.
- To escape religious conflict and suppression.

c. Migration Patterns

The following table shows ancestor migrants from the Eastern or Northern Areas to the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover, West, South, and Southwest Areas:

Ancestor Name	Birth Death Dates	Birth Place	Death place	Death Place Area
Blair, Mary Elizabeth	1708-1775	Charles City County	Chesterfield County	CHH
Robertson, William	1750-1829	Prince George County	Chesterfield County	CHH
Ransone, Richard	1700-1748	Gloucester County	Brunswick County	South
Hicks, Frances	1705-1748	Surry County	Brunswick County	South
Claughton, Elizabeth Mary	1766-1808	Northumberland	Halifax County	Southwest
Cralle, Thomas Hull	1766-1815	Northumberland	Halifax County	Southwest
Crawley, Thomas Garner	1787-1841	Northumberland	Halifax County	Southwest
Luten, Frances	1673-1744	Charles City County	Goochland County	West
Lilly, Mary Jane	1712-1778	Gloucester County	Goochland County	West
Claiborne, Catherine	1725-1788	King William County	Amelia County	West
Johnson, John	1697-1750	New Kent County	Goochland County	West
Wingfield, Charles	1728-1803	New Kent County	Albemarle County	West
Wingfield, Robert	1697-1769	New Kent County	Louisa County	West
Williams, Thomas	?	Richmond County	Amelia County	West

The table above suggests that ancestor migrants from the Northern and Eastern Areas were more likely to go to counties in the West Area.

The following table shows ancestor migration from one county to another county (all counties are within one of the four areas (Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover, West, South, and Southwest Area) used in this study:

Ancestor Name	Birth Death Dates	County Migrated From	Area From	County Migrated To	Area To
Bolling, John	1700-1757	Henrico	CHH	Chesterfield	CHH
Bolling, John II	1700-1757	Henrico	CHH	Chesterfield	CHH
Bolling, Thomas	1735-1804	Henrico	CHH	Chesterfield	CHH
Gay, Elizabeth Betty	1738-1813	Henrico	CHH	Chesterfield	CHH
Randolph, Richard	1725-1786	Henrico	CHH	Chesterfield	CHH
Bolling, Elizabeth Gay	1758-1830	Chesterfield	CHH	Dinwiddie	South
Atkinson, William S	1740-1801	Henrico	CHH	Halifax	Southwest
Bailey, Ann	1713-1787	Hanover	CHH	Louisa	West
Eubank, George I	1735-1802	Henrico	CHH	Amherst	West
Majors, Mary	1739-1802	Henrico	CHH	Amherst	West
Melton, Mary	1739-1802	Henrico	CHH	Albemarle	West
Robertson, Archibald II	1776-1835	Chesterfield	CHH	Amherst	West
Wingfield, Elizabeth	1740-?	Hanover	CHH	Nelson	West
Noble, Mary	1790-1847	Amelia	South	Chesterfield	CHH
Miller, Anna	1750-1788	Prince Edward	South	Mecklenburg	South
Brandon, William B	1729-1778	Brunswick	South	Halifax	Southwest
Comer, Thomas R	1710-1793	Lunenberg	South	Halifax	Southwest
Irvine, Elizabeth	1728-1799	Lunenberg	South	Halifax	Southwest

Moore, Frances	1723-1801	Lunenburg	South	Halifax	Southwest
Perrin, Amelia	1805-1874	Prince Edward	South	Halifax	Southwest
Young, William	1745-1830	Brunswick	South	Campbell	Southwest
Bolling, Elizabeth Meade	1749-1823	Campbell	Southwest	Henrico	CHH
Young, Matthew Hubbard	1785-1849	Campbell	Southwest	Halifax	Southwest
Eubank, George III	1796-1851	Amherst	West	Chesterfield	CHH
Watkins, John	1708-1770	Goochland	West	Prince Edward	South
Bolling, Archibald B	1748-1827	Buckingham	West	Campbell	Southwest
Cocke, John Sheperd	1778-1877	Goochland	West	Albemarle	West
Eubank, George II	1764-1827	Albemarle	West	Amherst	West
Harris, Sarah	1729-1826	Albemarle	West	Goochland	West
Shepherd, John W	1738-1796	Goochland	West	Fluvanna	West
Wingfield, Joseph B	1775-1850	Louisa	West	Nelson	West
Wingfield, Josiah	1739-1819	Louisa	West	Nelson	West
Wingfield, Matthew	1734-1778	Louisa	West	Amherst	West
Wingfield, Nancy	1776-1884	Amherst	West	Albemarle	West

The table above suggests that ancestor migrants in the CHH Area fairly equally migrated mostly either to another county in the CHH Area or to a county in the West Area. The table indicates that those migrating from a county in the South Area overwhelming migrated to a county in the Southwest Area. The table suggests that few ancestors migrated out of the Southwest Area. And the table shows that ancestors in the West Area who migrated to another county overwhelming preferred migrating to another county in the West Area.

The two tables above gives indication of the attractiveness of the West Area for ancestors migrating into or within the four areas.

In my 1700s ancestor families, I find the following migration patterns:

- For Brandon, from Pennsylvania to the Southwest Area (Halifax County)
- For Bolling, from England to the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area
- For Cocke and Shepherd, from the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area to the West Area
- For Crawley, from the Northern Area to the Southwest Area (Halifax County)
- For Eubank and Wingfield, from the Eastern Area and Hanover County to the West Area
- For Hicks and Ransone, from the Eastern Area to the South Area
- For Irvine, from Ireland to Pennsylvania and then to the Southwest Area (Campbell County)
- For Noble, from England to the South Area (Amelia County)
- For Robertson, from Scotland to the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area
- For Singleton and Young, within the West, South, and Southwest Areas
- For Torian, from Grisons (in present day Switzerland) to the Southwest Area (Halifax County)

An ancestor, Scher Torian (1695-1748; born Grisons, died Halifax County) immigrated to the Virginia Colony and likely came up the James River. It is possible that Scher made his way to Petersburg and from there he traveled from Petersburg to the Southwest Area on Cocke's Road. Cocke's Road went from Petersburg through counties in the South Area to the Southwest Area, ending in Halifax County, where he settled and died.

A lot of migration occurred from one county in the West, South, or Southwest Areas to another county further south. This occurred when sons were ready to move on from parents' land and establish their own farms and desirable land in the parents' county was not available. Because of these migrations south by sons, ancestor last names found in the West and upper South Areas are also found in the lower South and Southwest Areas and further south, for example, in North Carolina and Kentucky. Ancestor examples of this are the following names: Archer, Atkinson, Cocke, Comer, Lilly, Perrin, Ransone, and Torian.

In general, the patterns of migration of my ancestors were, in the 1600s to the early 1700s, from the Eastern and Northern Areas of the Virginia Colony to the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area. Then, from the early 1700s to the 1740s, the migration pattern was mostly from the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area to the West and South Areas. And from the 1740s to the 1790s, migration continued from the Eastern, Northern, and Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Areas, but also from Virginia counties north of the West Area and from colonies north, such as Pennsylvania and Maryland. The post 1740s migrants tended to migrate to south of the James River.

Hanover County was a major starting point for many migrants going into the West and South Areas. Although some of these migrants went to the South Area, most went to the West Area counties north of the James River.

Some migration also occurred down the Maryland and Virginia Eastern Shore, across the Chesapeake Bay to Norfolk and Portsmouth, and then west to the South and Southwest Areas and to North Carolina.

In the mid-1750s, as land in the West Area and in the upper regions of the South Area began to become more unavailable, sons of the landowners there started to migrate south in the South Area, into the Southwest Area, into North Carolina, and further south. Many today, who are tracing their ancestors back to the 1600s and 1700s, find their first American ancestors were Virginians, whose descendants continued migration south and west in pursuit of land. During the 1700s, the Georgia colony offered special incentives to potential migrants. As a result of these incentives, groups left Virginia and migrated to what became Wilkes County in Georgia. This is example of how groups would migrate together.

By the late 1700s, most of the good land was settled in the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover, West, South, and Southwest Areas, resulting in increased migration further south and southwest into North Carolina and Kentucky.

Most migrants to Amelia and Lunenburg Counties were from Henrico, Hanover, and Goochland Counties.

Several Scotch-Irish families migrated from the Shenandoah Valley across the Appalachian Mountains and also north from Pennsylvania Colony into the western part of the West and South Areas. Significant Scotch-Irish settlements appeared along Cub Creek in Lunenburg County (now Charlotte County) and along Buffalo Creek in Amelia County (now Prince Edward County). These communities helped in the establishment of Hampden-Sydney College. Later, after the mid-1700s, Scotch-Irish, Swiss, and German settlers appeared, to some extent in the West Area, but more in in the Southwest Area, as land in the West Area become increasingly unavailable. Scotch-Irish, Swiss, and German settlers migrated from the north to the south, from Pennsylvania, Maryland, and the Northern Area of the Virginia Colony.

Some residents of German descent living in Germanna in Fauquier County (considered to be part of the Northern Area) migrated to Virginia's Southwest Area.

Counties in the 1700s may have had unique characteristics due to the characteristics of the migrants who settled in the county. For example, some counties may have been more anti-Quaker than other counties.

In the 1720s, an assumption is that not more than 10 percent of the Virginia Colony population lived in the West, South, and Southwest Areas. 1720s estimates of the total Virginia Colony population often are in the 100,000 range. Based on 100,000 total and 10 percent living in the West, South, and Southwest Areas, the population in the West, South, and Southwest Areas was 10,000. In 1790, the total Virginia population, based on United States census data, was 747,610 (includes slaves), with 171,734 of these living in the West, South, and Southwest Areas (see the table above in **Section IV 2b** for the 1790 populations in the West, South, and Southwest Areas). This suggests that approximately 160,000 people migrated during the 1700s (from 1720 to 1790) into the West, South, and Southwest Areas (171,734 less 10,000).

One estimate suggests that by the mid-1700s, counties in the Eastern and Northern Areas of the Virginia Colony were losing 10 to 20% of their population by migration.

By 1770, estimates are that in the West Area three quarters of the land had been patented, less so in the South and Southwest Areas.

Total people migrating south into the South and Southwest Areas of Virginia and further south during the 1700s has been estimated to be in the 120,000 to 150,000 range. This compares with an estimated migration of 250,000 to 500,000 people migrating to America's west coast in the middle 1800s. This suggests that migration in Virginia was significant.

During periods of the 1700s, estimates are that English settlers represented about 32%; Scotch-Irish 35%; German 15%; Welsh 15%; and French 3%. The counties in the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover, West, South, and Southwest Areas had a higher percentage of Scotch, Irish, German, Welsh, and French settlers than the counties in the Eastern and Northern Areas. An 1800s analysis of Virginia citizens last names concluded that 36% were English; German 20%; Scottish 18%; Irish 9%; Welsh 8%; and French 6%.

The French and Indian War, in the mid-1750s, caused less migration into the West Area, due to increased threats to migrants' safety. The Virginia Colony established a "defensive line" as far south as Halifax County. Forts were planned and several built along this defensive line. A Halifax militia was established in the 1750s as part of this plan. One fear was that Indigenous Americans aligned with the French would cross over the Appalachian Mountains and attack settlers. Such attacks did happen, and a few thousand colonists were killed.

In the 1770s, Baptist citizens migrated from Caroline County (considered to be in the Eastern Area; see **Section I Introduction**, above, for an Eastern Area definition) to the West Area to escape the persecution and violence against Baptists. The persecution and violence was being perpetrated by Anglican Church supporters and British loyalists, who viewed disruption of the status quo Anglican Church hegemony a rebellious threat themselves and against Britain.

Most of the North Carolina settlers in the mid-1700s migrated from (or through) Virginia.

Citizen petitions were used extensively in the late 1700s to the mid-1800s as a principle method to communicate requests to the Virginia Government. Petitions were used to request public improvements, town incorporation, religious freedoms, divisions of counties, and many other wants. Petitions were often signed by dozens, sometimes hundreds of citizens. Petitions were made from West, South, and Southwest residents to Virginia Colony government officials to provide more security.

Migration patterns were influenced by government provisions of security and other government actions such as building new roads and improving existing ones.

By the 1800s, some of my ancestors would reverse the strong east to west (from the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area to the West, South, and Southwest Areas) migration pattern of the 1700s (such migration related to the need of land for making a living), and migrate in the reverse

direction from west to east (back to the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area), because of the employment opportunities that were developed in Richmond and Petersburg after they became successful commercial hubs (due to their growth as important tobacco transport centers). Ancestors who would reverse the east to west pattern were Alexander Robertson (1807-1882; born Cumberland County, died Richmond City); Sally Williams (1812-1880; born Amelia County, died Richmond City); George Eubank III (1796-1851; born Amherst County, died Chesterfield County); and Elizabeth Wingfield (1804-1851; born Amherst County, died Chesterfield County).

d. Migration Infrastructure

A factor related to promoting migration into the West, South, and Southwest Areas was the well-off, rich gentry class in the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area. Individuals in this class were interested in buying large amounts of land in the West, South, and Southwest Areas at cheap prices so that they could later sell this land to potential migrants for profit. To achieve this objective, individuals in the gentry class lobbied for and supported exploration and surveying missions into the West, South, and Southwest Areas and beyond. See **Section IV 6, Economics**, below, for more on economics related to migration.

Road development was critical for enhancing migration. Beginning in the late 1600s, the area along the Appomattox River, where present-day Peterburg is located, was a starting-off point for explorers, and later migrants, for traveling into the South and Southwest Areas. One road went south for approximately forty miles to present day Emporia, near to the Virginia-North Carolina border. This road, which often was the case for 1600s roads, follow an Indigenous American path, called the Occaneechi Trail. Present day Route 1 goes along a path that the Occaneechi Trail did. Knowledge and use of the roads were critical for migration.

A major program within counties was developing and maintaining roads, bridges, and ferries. This program included insuring that streams, creeks, and rivers could be used successfully for transporting products and for travel. Counties had the authority to direct residents to participate in this maintenance program. Beginning in the mid-1700s, a major road went from Petersburg southwest for about eighty miles to Mecklenburg County, and then to North Carolina. This road was called Cocke's Road. The road was named for Abraham Cocke (1687-1750), who own large number of acres in Amelia County, where he lived. Abraham was the son of Stephen Cocke, who was the brother of James Powell Cocke I (1666-1721). James Powell Cocke was the great, great, great grandfather of one of my great grandfathers, John Shepherd Cocke, 1798-1877. Other roads from Petersburg included the Halifax Road (to Halifax County) and the Nottoway Road (to Nottoway County). These roads were critical for the welfare of the counties that were served by them. The roads were important in helping Petersburg develop as a commercial center in the 1700s

Other roads for promoting migration to the West, South, and Southwest Areas were the roads down the Shenandoah Valley (such as the Great Wagon Road), when migrants going down these roads from Maryland and Pennsylvania crossed over the Appalachian Mountain range into the West, South, and Southwest Areas.

A major road, starting to be used by migrants in the 1740s, was known as the Carolina Road. This road started in central Maryland, crossing the Potomac River, from Frederick County, Maryland, then crossing the James River at Goochland County, and going on to the Virginia-North Carolina border. The current Route 15 is closely aligned with the 1700s Carolina Road.

In the 1750s, Goochland County, with support from the Virginia Colony government, embarked on establishing a road from Hanover County west to the Shenandoah Valley. This road became a major, crucially important road for migration into and settlement of the West Area. It became known as Three Chop Road (the path of the road was initially used by Indigenous Americans and marked by them along the path with three chops on trees, hence the name of the road). The road was also known as the King's Highway. The road ran from a point in Hanover County west through Goochland County into Albemarle County, and on through the Appalachian Mountains. Upkeep of the Three Chop Road was a major project involving the work of five counties through which the road passed. As the case for all Virginia Colony counties, each county was responsible for the roads that ran through it, using county residents (probably dozens of residents per county) for the creation and upkeep work needed. An objective was to maintain the Three Chop Road as an all-weather wagon road. The current Virginia Route 250 is closely aligned with the original Three Chop Road path.

Another important, widely used road was one that ran southwest (for about forty-five miles) from Fredericksburg to the 1700s-existing Maidens Ferry that crossed the James River, where the present-day Maidens Bridge is located.

A road from Fredericksburg (the Fall Line Road) followed the fall line south into North Carolina.

A road went from Fredericksburg to Spotsylvania Courthouse, then through Louisa County, and ended at Fluvanna County's Columbia settlement on the James River, a distance of about sixty-five miles. Fredericksburg, being on the Rappahannock River, was an important destination for farmers to take their products to for further shipping on the Rappahannock River.

Fluvanna County roads included Cocke Road (named after John Hartwell Cocke, who was a resident of Fluvanna County) and Stagecoach Road. Cocke Road ran from the James River to Palmyra (currently Fluvanna County's seat), a distance of about ten miles. Stagecoach Road had stagecoach service from Columbia on the James River to Charlottesville, carrying passengers and mail. Stagecoach Road follow a path from Columbia along current Route 659 (Stage Junction Road) to Route 608 (Wilmington Road and then Rising Sun Road) to Route 613 (Bybees Church Road) to Route 15 and finally to Route 616 (Union Mills Road), ending at Keswick, near present-day Charlottesville. From Columbia to Charlottesville on Stagecoach Road is a distance of about twenty-five miles. Fluvanna ancestors Lillys and Shepherds lived along Stagecoach Road, near one another, which doubtless accounted for frequent marriages between the Lillys and Shepherds. Three Chop Road (the major road that ran from Hanover County west to the Shenandoah Valley) crossed Fluvanna County.

A road referred to as the Buckingham Road ran through Buckingham County, starting further east in the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area. This road ran along a path near where current Route 60 runs. Route 60 runs from the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area west to the James

River, and crosses into Nelson County near Lynchburg. Lynchburg was an emerging commerce center interacting with the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area, and a need for a stagecoach road connecting the two areas would be understandable.

In the 1700s, in addition to the Buckingham Road, a stagecoach road ran from Petersburg to Lynchburg, and beyond, quite possibly following present day Route 460.

These roads were critical not only because they were needed for migrants to travel to their migration destinations but also for migrant use once settled. Roads and streams, creeks, and rivers were principal factors in migrant decisions about where to settle.

Although roads were critical for promoting migration, travelling on the roads could be extremely difficult due to such factors as poorly developed roads, difficulty in finding supplies along the route, and the roads being subject to inclement weather. Road conditions varied from county to county.

Many ordinaries appeared along these roads. Ordinaries varied in quality and the services provided, such as meals, overnight accommodation, and horse care. Some ordinaries served as meeting places for the locals. Rather than ordinary, in some locations the term tavern was used to refer to facilities where overnight accommodation and meals could be obtained, and ordinary referred to where only food and drink could be obtained. Eventually many facilities referred to as taverns would start to use the term hotel.

Ordinaries usually appeared near county courthouses, as county residents, needing to do business at the courthouse, might need to eat and perhaps stayover. Along with ordinaries, stores usually would appear, as courthouse visitors and users were potential customers.

Stagecoach services were provided on roads such as Cocks' and Carolina Road, beginning by the mid-1700s. Where roads crossed, especially if the roads had stagecoach services on them, ordinaries might appear at the crossroads due to stagecoach customers needing a place to layover waiting to change to another stagecoach.

Providing distances from Petersburg to the approximate centers of counties in the West, South, and Southwest Areas can be useful to better understand what migrating ancestors from Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area might have faced in terms of trip time and other issues in migrating to these counties.

From Petersburg to:

Counties in the West Area

Albemarle – 85 miles
Amherst – 100 miles
Buckingham – 70 miles
Cumberland – 55 miles
Fluvanna – 65 miles

Goochland County – 40 miles
Louisa County – 60 miles
Powhatan – 40 miles
(Average 64)

Counties in the South Area

Amelia – 40 miles
Brunswick – 50 miles
Dinwiddie – 25 miles
Lunenburg – 55 miles
Mecklenburg – 70 miles
Prince Edward – 65 miles
(Average 51)

Counties in the Southwest Area

Campbell – 95 miles
Halifax – 100 miles
(average 98)

The average distance from Petersburg to counties in the South Area (51 miles) being less than the average distances to counties in the West Area (64 miles) and to counties in the Southwest Area (98 miles) suggests that Petersburg to the South Area interactions might have been greater than interactions with the West and Southwest Areas.

4. Settlements

The focus in this subsection is on settlements and towns and what might have been ancestor experiences related to settlements and towns. As is true for other subsections in Section IV, ancestor lives were impacted by what is discussed in this subsection.

Settling the land west of the Virginia Colony fall line was of high interest early on. An expedition exploring the Appalachian Mountains occurred as early as the 1670s. A possible ancestor, Abraham Wood, participated in 1600s exploration expeditions west of the fall line. Ancestor Robert Hicks (1658-1739) was involved with William Byrd II in surveying land along the future Virginia – North Carolina border.

During the first half of the 1700s, great interest developed among the well-to-do, eastern gentry families in buying land west of the Henrico-Chesterfield-Hanover Area. This led to the Virginia Colony supporting several surveying missions, for the purpose of bringing order and procedure and reducing risk for the buying of land in the west. Surveying missions were implemented and included: New River (to survey 100,000 acres); Greenbrier (to survey 100,000 acres); Loyal Company; and others.

Settling the West, South and Southwest Areas was influenced by many factors. One of these factors was settlement promotion by promoters, developers, and the gentry. Settlement promoters included William Byrd II, the Loyal Land Company, Woods River Grant, and others.

William Byrd II participated in promoting settlements in vast amount of land south and west of Henrico County (where he lived). Up to the mid-1700s, land in the Southwest Area, which includes Halifax County, was being promoted as available by at least two land developers, William Byrd II and Robert “King” Carter. They bought up large tracts of land (or were awarded the tracks for their services to England) and then enacted programs to recruit families to the land.

William Byrd II had great success as a land promoter and selling his land at reasonable prices. He was unique for the 1700s as a promoter and salesperson. William Byrd II may rank as one of the most successful 1700s land entrepreneurs.

One of my ancestors immigrated from Europe to the Southwest Area because of what he saw in Europe promoting immigration to land in Virginia. William Byrd II was behind this promotion. In a previous family history that I wrote on my great grandparents (A Family History of My Great Grandparents Richard W. Robertson, Mary A. Eubank, Dale Delafield Luke, Martha F. Shepherd, George Torian, Amelia Blanche Crawley, Charles Augustus Jenkins, and Lillie Shepherd Cocke – available on Amazon), the section on George Torian has information on how Byrd’s land development efforts probably accounted for attracting Scher Torian from Europe to Halifax County. Scher Torian was the great, great grandfather of one of my great grandfathers, Geroge Torian. Byrd was not the only wealthy Virginian developing land in the Southwest Area and Torians were not the only ancestors impacted by this land development.

Many of my ancestors settled in land that was being promoted for settlement. Ancestors were: Scher Torian (Halifax County); Thomas Hull Cralle (Crawley) (Halifax County); William B Brandon (Brunswick County); Christopher Shepherd (Albemarle County); Edmund Lilly (Fluvanna County); George Eubank I (Albemarle County); and Robert Wingfield (Louisa County).

The Loyal Land Company of Virginia was a land speculation company formed in 1749 with a purpose of recruiting settlers to western Virginia. The company was granted the right to survey 800,000 acres along the Appalachian Mountains to the North Carolina border. Loyal Land ceased to operate when Virginia declared independence from England.

The Northern Area gentry also pursued surveying initiatives; one was called the Ohio Company. These two surveying thrusts, one by the gentry in the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area and the other by the Northern Area gentry created divisions between the two areas. Northern Area initiatives, supported to some extent by the Northern Area Virginia Colony Council members, attempted to gain competitive advantages with respect to land speculation efforts. Interesting, tensions between the areas seem to have evaporated during the French and Indian War period, when the areas’ interests converged. This is a good example of how competitive tendencies can be overcome by a larger threat to both sides.

One of the eventual outcomes of the French and Indian War, related to the surveying missions and the colonists' desires for land acquisition in the west, was the English government imposing a ban on land acquisition beyond the Appalachian Mountains. This ban was imposed as part of the peace treaty with France that ended the French and Indian War. The ban would be one of the contentious English policies for the colonists that led to the colonists' rebellion.

A positive outcome of the French and Indian War was the development of skills and abilities in individuals, who would go on to use those skills and abilities in successful exploration and settlement of the frontier areas. The skills and abilities would also be used in the American Revolutionary War.

Land purchases in western Chesterfield County started to increase by the late 1600s, as migrants went into the area. The Chesterfield - Hanover – Henrico Area gentry families purchased substantial amounts of land further west, south, and southwest for leaving land to their many sons, as well as potentially selling the land for profit. The land speculators who made large purchases of land in the West, South and Southwest Areas in the early to mid-1700s are believed to have sold substantial amount of this land by the early 1800s.

Beginning in the late 1600s, early 1700s, the West Area (west of the fall line) began to be settled. The first settlers in the 1600s and early 1700s came mostly from the Virginia Colony's Eastern and Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Areas and were from England or were descendants of English immigrants. Settlement in the South Area also started not long later by settlers coming from the Virginia Colony's Eastern and the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Areas.

Following the mid-1700s, population increases in the West, South, and Southwest Areas began to increase substantially. Appreciable settlements in the West Area, for example, Goochland County, occurred in the 1730s; initial settlements in the South Area by the 1740s, for example, Lunenburg County; followed later by settlements in the Southwest Area Counties, for example, Halifax County. Population growth in the West Area included migration from eastern Virginia (the Eastern Area) and the Virginia Colony's Northern Neck (the Northern Area). Population growth in the Southwest Area came more from the South and West Areas, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and the Shenandoah Valley.

The building of a courthouse usually resulted in a settlement around the courthouse, with ordinaries, stores, and a church being established. In the 1700s, most social interactions that occurred, besides between family members, took place around the courthouse and at a church.

The construction date of an initial courthouse should be a good indication of settlement growth in a county, when sufficient population called for the need of a courthouse. The following table shows dates when first court proceedings (meetings) are believed to have taken place and when the first courthouse is believed to have been built in the counties. These dates suggest how far along the counties were in settlement development.

County	Area	Year County Formed	First Known Court Meeting	Earliest Known Court House	First County Seat	Present County Seat
Henrico	CHH	1634	1634	1680	Varina	Richmond
Hanover	CHH	1720	1721	1740	Hanover	Hanover
Chesterfield	CHH	1749	1750	1750	Chesterfield Courthouse	Chesterfield Courthouse
Goochland	West	1724	1728	1730s	Beaverdam	Goochland
Louisa	West	1742	1742	1740s	Louisa	Louisa
Albemarle	West	1744	1748	1762	Scott's Ferry	Charlottesville
Cumberland	West	1749	1750	1777	Cumberland	Cumberland
Amherst	West	1761	1760s	1761	Cablesville	Amherst
Buckingham	West	1761	1761	1780s	Maysville	Buckingham
Fluvanna	West	1777	1777	1831	Fluvanna River	Palmyra
Powhatan	West	1777	1770s	1783	Scottville	Powhatan
Brunswick	South	1720	1732	1732	Cochran	Lawrenceville
Amelia	South	1734	1736	late 1730s	Pridesville	Amelia Courthouse
Lunenburg	South	1746	1765	1827	Chase City	Lauenburg Courthouse
Dinwiddie	South	1752	1752	1851	Dinwiddie Courthouse	Dinwiddie
Prince Edward	South	1753	1754	1832	Worsham	Farmville
Mecklenburg	South	1765	1765	1838	Mecklenburg Courthouse	Boydton
Halifax	SW	1752	1752	1803	Crystal Hill	Halifax
Campbell	SW	1781	1782	1848	Rustburg	Rustburg

Another factor that would led to the development of settlements is a location on a river that would serve well for shipping tobacco and other agricultural products. Good examples of this are Richmond and Lynchburg on the James River and Petersburg on the Appomattox River.

The following table identifies settlements on rivers that went on to develop into prosperous towns:

County	Area	1700s Prosperous Town on a River	River
Henrico	CHH	Richmond	James
Chesterfield	CHH	Petersburg	Appomattox
Goochland	West	Maidens	James
Albemarle	West	Scottsville	James
Albemarle	West	Charlottesville	Rivanna
Fluvanna	West	Bremo Bluff	James
Fluvanna	West	Columbia	James
Dinwiddie	South	West Petersburg	James
Prince Edward	South	Farmville	Appomattox
Mecklenburg	South	Clarksville	Roanoke
Halifax	SW	South Boston	Dan
Campbell	SW	Brookneal	Stanton
Campbell	SW	Lynchburg	James

Because of the importance of waterways for transporting tobacco and other agriculture products, the most expensive land was along the James and Appomattox Rivers. Next would be land prices on streams and creeks that could transport products to the James and Appomattox Rivers.

The Dan River running through Halifax County is also a good example of migrants seeking streams, creeks, and rivers to settle along to support their transporting products to market. Many of my ancestors settled along the Dan River and streams and creeks that flow into the Dan River. These ancestors included the Brandon, Crawley, and Torian families.

The following table shows ancestors known to settle along streams, creeks, and rivers:

Family	Stream, Creek, River	County
Bolling	James	Campbell
Brandon	Brandon Creek - Dan River	Halifax
Cocke	James River	Henrico Goochland
Comer	Meherrin	Lunenburg
Eubank	Rockfish, Hardware Rivers	Albemarle
Flippen	Willis Creek	Cumberland
Hudson	South Anna River Mechumps Creek	Louise Hanover
Irvin	Hat Creek - Roanoke River	Campbell
Kennon, Royall, and Archer	Swift Creek - Appomattox River	Chesterfield
Lilly	Byrd Creek - James River	Fluvanna
Noble	Sandy Creek - Appomattox River	Amelia
Pleasants	James River	several
Randolph	James and Appomattox River	several
Robertson	James and Appomattox River	Chesterfield
Shepherd	Venable Creek - James River	Albemarle
Torian	Grassy Creek - Dan River	Halifax
Wingfield	Rockfish, Hardware Rivers	Albemarle
Young	Hyco River	Halifax

The importance of creeks being the location of settlements is reflected in the number of Quaker Meeting Houses that have been named after creeks, for example, Cedar Creek Meeting House (in Hanover County) and Camp Creek Meeting House (in Louisa County).

North-south roads usually ended at a ferry on the James or Appomattox Rivers and often then a settlement (town) would developed where the ferry crossed the river. Examples of this are Lynchburg (an incorporated town) that grew around a ferry across the James River, Scottsville in Albemarle County that had a ferry across the James River, and Maidens in Goochland County, which also had a ferry across the James. The towns did not always survived as in the case of Maidens.

In the 1600s and 1700s, the Virginia Government did much planning hoping to develop towns. Many of the planned towns existed for a period of time, but eventually disappeared, for various reasons, such as the lack of continued economic growth around the town.

Settlements that grew into towns and cities and still exist primarily did so because economic reasons allowed for sufficient numbers of residents to prosper. A tipping point for settlement longevity is economic prosperity for sufficient numbers of those living in the settlement. Although government can provide aid for economic success, such as in the 1700s building of tobacco warehouses along streams and rivers, which helped bring commerce to a town, planning cannot overcome unknown, unanticipated events, and lack of autonomous commercial growth.

Many initial settlements grew and would be recognized as towns, but no longer exist. Examples of towns that were prosperous in the 1700s, but no longer are towns are:

County	Town
Albemarle	Colesville
Buckingham	New Canton
Campbell	New London
Chesterfield	Port Walthell, Warwick
Cumberland	Ca Ira, Cartersville, Clinton, Felixville
Fluvanna	Columbia, Wilmington
Goochland	Maidens
Hanover	Hanover Town, Newcastle
Henrico	Osborne, Varina, Westham

Roads, bridges, and ferries, as well as streams, creeks, and rivers, were principal factors in migrant decisions about where to settle. As settlements grew, and new counties were formed out of a much larger county, in order to better serve the needs of the settlements, a high priority of the new counties was to have well-functioning roads, bridges, and ferries. Streams, creeks, and rivers were often in poor shape for navigation without human intervention improving them. This led to a system of county authorities (for example, justices) being able to direct (order) residents to provide services that would better ensure the needed well-functioning roads, bridges, and

ferries. Residents would be given “orders” as to what was needed. Records of these orders exist for many counties and these order records serve as excellent sources for identifying residents in the counties and other useful information related to the county and the residents.

Creek names, often using the name of a first owner of land along the creek, were used as an important location reference, for example, in newspaper land for sale advertisements, on maps, in county documents, and in other important ways. These names have continued to be used on today maps, so that a high percentage of Virginia creek names are the first settlers along the creeks.

Settlements often tended to consist of settlers who had much in common with the others in the settlement, such as religious affiliation, nationality, inter family marriages, and previous connections. For example, many of my ancestors had two or more marriages between the same families who lived in the same settlement area:

**Pleasants - Cocke
Henrico County**

James Powell Cocke I (1666-1721) and Elizabeth Pleasants (1676-1751)
Marriage 1691

Joseph Pleasants (1674-1725) and Martha Cocke (1676-1757)
Marriage 1699

**Cocke - Johnson
Goochland County**

Thamas Cocke (1715-1797) – Ann Johnson (1725-1798)
Marriage 1754

Benjamin Cocke (1747-1828) – Mary Johnson (1748-1826)
Marriage 1768

**Shepherd - Lilly
Fluvanna County**

Chritopher Shepherd (1709-1776) – Mary Jane Lilly (1712-1778)
Marriage?

John W Shepherd (1738-1796) – Mary Ann Lilly (1712-1778)
Marriage 1759

**Robertson - Bolling
Chesterfield County**

William Robertson (1750-1829) and Elizabeth Gay Bolling (1758-1823)
Marriage 1775

Archibald Robertson (1776-1835) and Elizabeth Meade Bolling (1779-1823)

Marriage 1801

**Eubank – Wingfield
Amherst County**

George Eubank II (1764-1827) and Nancy Wingfield (1776-1848)

Marriage 1790

George Eubank III (1796-1851) and Elizabeth H Wingfield (1804-1851)

Marriage 1823

Another example of settlements forming because residents had much in common is a Scotch-Irish group from Pennsylvania settling in the Campbell County area in the 1730s. An ancestor (John Irvine, 1700-1788; born Northern Ireland, died Campbell County) was in the initial Scotch-Irish group from Pennsylvania. Hat Creek Presbyterian Church (still in existence) in Campbell County was founded around 1742 by John Irvin and others who connected by being in the Scotch-Irish group from Pennsylvania.

Settlements could be assisted by outside groups. A good example of this are several Quaker settlements, for example, Quaker settlements in Louisa Colony (Camp Creek) and in Lynchburg (South River). These Quaker settlements were helped by a more sustained Quaker community (Cedar Creek) in Henrico County. In the mid-1700s, a Cedar Creek group (that included Robert Pleasants, who wrote about it in his dairy) made a 14-day trip to the South River Quaker community in Lynchburg to provide help. This trip was in response to interactions between members of the Lynchburg, Louisa, and Henrico Quaker communities.

As migrants began to populate counties where the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hannover, Eastern, and Northern Area gentry families had purchased large tracks of land, conflict began to appear between the large land owners and the migrants. An example of this was the debate in the mid-1700s over whether some counties could have courthouse days only quarterly or needed to have monthly courthouse days. The gentry families could have benefited from quarterly court meetings (less regulations leading to less taxes, restrictions) versus the migrants favoring monthly meetings (more opportunities to surface their grievances and to obtain resolutions).

Settlers in the West, South, and Southwest Areas in the mid-1700s could be very course, crude, rough, lacking in social graces, and with immoral behavior. An explanation for this might be the lack of the Anglican Church gaining a foothold in these areas and exerting the influences that it did in the Eastern and Northern Areas (east of the fall line). Another explanation might be local government being insufficiently established to counter the distasteful behavior with sufficient rules and orders. Such behavior became much less of a problem with more migration into the areas, the establishment of smaller and stronger counties (a better functioning court system), and the emergence of dissenter churches gaining influence. Lunenburg County early in its history is an example of a county with course, crude, criminal behavior. A table above in this section shows the first known Lunenburg County court meeting was 1765, although the county was formed in 1746. The difference of about 19 years before a court was operating might be an

explanation for why Lunenburg County early in its history is an example of a county that had course, crude, criminal behavior.

Conclusions about 1700s settlement development in the Virginia Colony's Piedmont Region are:

- Successful settlements were based on economic factors. When positive economic factors went away, settlements did not thrive.
- Government planned settlements was not a successful policy. Although some locations where government hoped-for-settlements succeeded, the success was not based on planning/intentions but on economics.
- Government providing law and order to the community was essential for successful settlements. Information on Lunenburg County (provided above) about the lapse in time between the county's formation and the creation of a county court and the lawlessness in the lapsed time supports this conclusion.
- People interactions and interventions were often present in successful settlement development. Such interactions and interventions are family associations, including intermarriages; outside help from vested interests; and similar ethnicities and beliefs. Examples of these three are:
 - For family associations, the Eubank-Wingfield associations (see **Section III 3 Eubank and Section III 3 Wingfield**, above, for more on this);
 - For help from vested interests, Henrico Quakers helping Lynchburg-area Quakers, who then were able to go on to help the settlement that became Lynchburg (See **Section IV 5e Quakers**, below, for more on this); and
 - For similar ethnicities and beliefs, the role that dissenter religions (churches) played in settlement support (See the next section **IV 5 Religious Denominations** for more on this).
- Areas where travel and movement are enhanced by good, well-maintained roads; roads that intersected and created "corners" where ordinaries and other services could thrive due to stage coach travel as well as the successful use of rivers and streams for travel are critical for economic development, necessary for settlement development.

5. Religious Denominations

In this subsection, I try to access the developments of various religious denominations in the 1700s Virginia Colony; looking for developments that would be related to my ancestors. As is true for each of the subsections in **Section IV**, ancestor lives could have been impacted by what is discussed in this subsection.

With the arrival of increasing number of migrants into the West, South, and Southwest Areas, discussed above in **Section IV 3 Immigration and Migration** and **Section IV 4 Settlements**, Baptists, Methodist, Presbyterian, and Quakers religious denominations started appearing along

with the migrants. These migrants were not tied to the Anglican Church and Anglican churches in the West, South, and Southwest Areas had a challenging time attracting these migrants.

Whereas a high percentage of my Eastern and Northern Area ancestors were Anglicans, a much lower percentage of my West, South, and Southwest Area ancestors were Anglican. These West, South, and Southwest Area ancestors were becoming members of the dissenter denominations (Baptists, Methodists, Presbyterians, and Quakers).

Hanover County was a center of groups who were taking issue with some aspects of the Church of England (the Anglican Church). Anglican church members in the 1740s began to read George Whitehead's sermons. (Goerge Whitehead, 1636-1723, was an English Quaker leader). Such individuals were being primed for moving away from Anglicanism and help to account for the growth of the Presbyterian denomination in Hanover County. Members of this group of individuals would refer to England's 1689 Act of Toleration, which promoted religious toleration in England, in their development.

The strong Hanover County Presbyterian denomination movement in the 1700s influenced and help to propel the dissenter Baptist denomination growth.

The following table shows the number of 1700s churches for each denomination in each ancestor county found in my research (these numbers are likely not exact, but likely relative magnitudes and comparisons between counties relate well to the exact numbers):

County	Area	Number Anglican Churches (only churches, not also parishes)	Number Baptist Churches	Number Methodist Churches	Number Presbyterian Churches	Number Quaker Meeting Houses	Total County Churches
Chesterfield	CHH	1	2	1	0	0	4
Hanover	CHH	2	3	1	1	1	8
Henrico	CHH	6	6	0	0	3	15
Albemarle	West	5	8	2	0	1	16
Amherst	West	2	2	0	0	0	4
Buckingham	West	1	4	0	0	0	5
Cumberland	West	0	1	0	0	0	1
Fluvanna	West	0	0	1	0	0	1
Goochland	West	3	4	0	1	1	9
Louisa	West	3	2	0	1	2	8
Powhatan	West	1	4	1	0	1	7
Amelia	South	1	2	0	0	1	4

Brunswick	South	3	0	3	0	1	7
Dinwiddie	South	4	0	2	0	1	7
Lunenburg	South	0	5	0	0	0	5
Mecklenburg	South	0	0	0	0	1	1
Prince Edward	South	2	0	1	2	0	5
Campbell	SW	0	0	0	1	1	2
Halifax	SW	0	3	0	0	1	4
	Totals	34	46	12	6	15	

The numbers in the table do not include all the 1700s churches existing in the counties. However, the totals likely show the relative proportions of churches for each denomination. For example, the number of 1700s Anglican and Baptist churches were the highest, with the number of Methodist churches next. Another conclusion from the totals is how successful the Baptist denomination was in attracting members. And the totals suggest a picture of the magnitude of the dissenter (the Great Awakening) movement in Piedmont Virginia.

The following provides some details related to the above table and religious denominations:

a. Anglican

Most of the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover gentry family member ancestors were probably Anglican. A noticeable exception to this was the Pleasants family members who were Quakers.

Generally, whereas in the Eastern Area, social characteristics enabled the Anglican Church to be successful, social characteristics in the West, South, and Southwest Areas were different in such a way, that dissident churches would be more successful in those areas, whereas Anglican Churches would have a more challenging time in those areas.

The Church of England would view new counties formed in the West, South, and Southwest Areas as Anglican Parishes, initially, and as the county population grew, the county might be split into two or more parishes. These parishes found it difficult to function and succeed and to attract migrants as members, who were, for various reasons, not interested in Anglicanism. Because of this difficulty, many parishes were delayed in, or never started, building churches.

The Church of England established a parish (named Fredericksville Parrish) in what became Albemarle County as early as the 1730s. 1700s Albemarle Anglican churches were Ballenger (1745), Broken-Back (no longer existing), Buck Mountain (1747), Forge (no longer existing), Middle Church, and North Garden (no longer existing).

Beginning in the mid-1700s, an Amelia County Anglican church is referred to as Grub Hill.

Other Amherst County Anglican churches were Rucker's Chapel (1750s) and St. Mark's (1740s).

In Brunswick County, in the 1730s, St. Andrews Parish was established. Apparently in at least three separate locations "chapel/meeting houses" were built, none of which survived.

In what became Buckingham County, an Anglican church (referred to as Old Buckingham Church) existed from the 1750s.

A 1700s Anglican church in Chesterfield County was at Blandford (church no longer exists).

Dinwiddie County had Anglicans present as early as the 1720s with a "chapel" at Sappony. Other chapels were at Butterwood (1760s) and Hatchers (1740s). St. Paul's in Petersburg dates back to the mid-1700s.

The much larger Goochland County of the 1720s (before other counties were formed out of Goochland) had at least three Anglican communities that were served by the circuit-riding Anglican pastor Anthony Gavin. Gavin left descriptions of his travels including that during his visits he would encounter Quakers communities, and that he had baptized dozens of Quakers. An early Anglican church in Goochland County was named Dover Church. Others were Beaverdam and Lickinghole.

Early, like for many other locations west of the fall line, Halifax County became an Anglican Parish, before church buildings were constructed. The Halifax County Anglican Parish was named Antrim. No actual 1700s Anglican church building has been identified.

An early (1741) Henrico Anglican church was St. Johns. Ancestor names who attended St John's included Randolph and Cocke. Ancestor Richard Randolph (1686-1748; born, died Henrico County) contributed to the building of St John's. Other 1700s Henrico County Anglican churches were Antioch (1773), Boar Swamp, Curle's, Deep Run, and Fell's Chapel. Thomas Cocke, an ancestor, in his 1696 will, donated 1,000 pounds of tobacco for installing a bell at the parish church in Varina.

Early Hanover County Anglican churches were Slash, dating to 1729 (still in use, but not as an Episcopal Church) and Fork Church, a brick building dating from the 1736 and still standing.

Louisa had at least three Anglican churches during the 1700s.

A 1700s Anglican church in Powhatan County was Petersville.

Anglican churches in Prince Edward included a chapel called French and the church Sandy River (1765).

b. Baptist

Ancestor families who are believed to have at least some members who were Baptists are Lilly and Torian family members.

In the last half of the 1700s, Baptist church numbers and membership in the Virginia Colony grew a lot. In the late 1750s, at least ten, or so, Baptist churches existed in the Virginia Colony. By 1790s, there were more than two hundred Baptist churches and 20,000 members. Most of the growth was in the West, South, and Southwest Areas, reflecting migrating increases to those areas. Many of these 20,000 Baptists migrated from the colonies north of Virginia to the West, South, and Southwest Areas, due to a greater availability of cheaper, but good, land in the Virginia Colony. And they were also attempting to seek religious freedoms. Some of the Baptists immigrated from England, mostly to the South Area.

In the 1700s, Baptists frequently met in individual houses (meeting houses) before church buildings were constructed.

Baptist churches in Albemarle County in the 1700s included Albemarle Baptist, Ballenger Creek (1775), Batesville (1780s), Preddy's Creek (1784), Totier (1775), and Whitesides (1788). The first Baptist Church was Chestnut Grove Baptist (1773), which becomes Buck Mountain. A Baptist church was established in the town of Colesville in the 1700s.

In Amelia County, Sandy Creek Baptist Church (in Deatonville) (1771) and Nottoway Baptist (1765) existed.

Early 1700s Baptist churches in Amherst County were Ebenezer (1771) and Mount Moriah (1770).

Baptist churches in Buckingham County by the late 1700s were Buckingham, Providence, Union, and Wreck Island. Buckingham Baptist was built in 1771.

Early Baptist churches in Chesterfield County were Chesterfield Baptist (1733; also known as Clay's Church) and Skinquarter Church (1778).

In the late 1700s, Cartersville Baptist was in Cumberland County.

1700s Baptist churches in Dinwiddie County included Dinwiddie, Cut Bank, and Harper's. 1700s Baptist churches in Petersburg included First Baptist (1774) and Gillfield (1797).

Baptist churches in Fluvanna County in the 1700s were Lyles, Fork, and Wilmington. Lyles Church was established in the mid-1770s and is believed to be the first Baptist church in Fluvanna County. Members of my Fluvanna Lilly family ancestors attended Lyles Baptist Church. A Lilly family member, Robert Lilly, was a pastor at Lyles Baptist Church for 35 years in the first half of the 1800s. Bybee's Road Baptist Church was formed in 1795, with the help of Lyles Baptist Church.

Baptist churches in the 1700s in Goochland County included Goochland Baptist (also known as Nuckols Meeting House) (1771), Dover (1773), Lickinghole (1776), and Smyrna (1776).

Baptist churches appeared in Halifax County after the 1750s. Apparently Dan River Baptist (possibly the first Baptist Church in the Virginia Colony) appeared in 1760. The early appearance of the Dan River Baptist Church was due to it being started by North Carolina Baptists, who apparently at the time were larger in number compared to the Virginia Colony. Other Baptist churches included Arbor (1785), Catawba (1773), Childreys (1783), Hunting Creek (1775), Millstone (1787), Musterfield (1779), Polecat (1790), South River, Sandy Creek (1771), which became County Line Baptist, and Wynn's Creek (1773).

Baptist churches in Hanover County included Black Creek (1777), First Baptist, dating back to 1776, and Winn Baptist, dating back to 1776.

Henrico County Baptist churches in the 1700s were: Antioch (1772); Boar Swamp (1777, later to become Richmond Baptist); First Baptist (1780); Chickahominy (1792); Deep Run (1742) (later to be renamed Hungry); and Four Mile Creek (1781).

Several Baptist churches were in Louisa County in the 1700s. These included Goldmine (formerly Thompson's) and Little River Baptist.

Baptists were active in Lunenburg County by the 1770s. Meherrin Baptist Church was formed in the 1770s. Other Baptist churches were Bluestone, Cedar Creek, Ready Creek, and Tussekiah.

1700s Baptist churches in Powhatan County were Fine, Muddy Creek, and Powhatan (1771). In 1785, the Baptists, meeting as a Baptist Association at Dupuy's Meeting House in Powhatan County, issued a protest to Virginia's General Assembly requesting the banishment of state support of religious institutions. Such a meeting reflects the growth of the Baptist church in Virginia in the late 1700s.

Some of the Baptist preachers at the West, South, and Southwest Area churches migrated from the New England Colonies.

Baptist preachers tended to be less formally educated compared to Presbyterian and Methodist preachers. Baptist preachers also tended to be more rebellious, more confrontation towards the Anglican (Church of England) establishment. And, in this regard, Baptist preachers tended to be more prosecuted, more harassed, than preachers from other denominations.

The significant increase in Baptist churches led to the "official" Anglican Church attempting to suppress, intimidate, and punish Baptists. This Baptist (dissenter) growth just before and during the American rebellion against the English led to a recognition by the rebellious Virginians that because the dissident churches had grown in considerable membership numbers, efforts were needed to get these members on board in a rebellion against England. One result of this was the Virginia Colony support of "The Ten Thousand Name Petition," which argued for greater religious toleration in the Virginia Colony.

c. **Methodist**

Ancestor families who are believed to have at least some members who were Methodists are Noble and Williams families.

By the 1770s, perhaps a few thousand Methodists lived in the Virginia Colony.

Whereas the Baptist tended to be rebellious, confrontational towards the Anglican Church, the Methodists were more focused on reforming the Anglican Church in ways that better suited the Methodists perspectives on religious practices.

Like the Quakers, Methodists also pushed, later in the 1700s, to free their slaves.

An ancestor, Issac Luke (1729-1784), participated in the 1770s and 1780s in starting a Methodist church in Portsmouth, Virginia. You can read more about Issac in my “Family History – Living Along Virginia Colony’s Waterways in the 1600s and 1700s – Lukes, Dales, Etheridges, Veales, Hills, Lewises, Wormeleys, and Others”, available on Amazon.

Methodists churches in Albemarle County were Bingham’s (1795) and Mt. Moriah (1788).

No 1700s Amherst County Methodist church could be identified.

The area south of Petersburg became a center of Methodism beginning by the 1770s. The area, which became known in Methodist circles as the Brunswick Circuit, was one of the first, if not the first, to popularize and use Methodist circuit preachers – preachers who had a circuit of communities they would travel to and pastor at. Robert Williams was instrumental in establishing the Brunswick Circuit. Well-known Methodist leaders, such as Francis Asbury, were visitors to the Brunswick Circuit and at least one Methodist Virginia Colony-wide annual meeting was held in the Brunswick Circuit. This period was the beginning of a growth in the Methodist Church.

Late 1700s Brunswick Methodist churches were Marby’s Chapel and Mason Chapel. By the 1780s, Methodists were beginning to establish a “Methodist Episcopal Church” denomination and in 1785 a Methodist Episcopal Church was built at Rock Hill in Brunswick County.

The “Brunswick Circuit” described above included Dinwiddie County. Dinwiddie County Methodist churches by 1800 included Rocky Run and White Oak.

Methodists were in Buckingham by the late 1700s.

A Methodist church in Chesterfield County was Pine Grove.

Methodist churches are not believed to be in Fluvanna County until the 1770s. In 1779, an annual meeting of Virginia Methodist pastors was held in Fluvanna County. A main topic concerned how to react to the changes taking place due to the break with Methodism in England as the colonies were pursuing freedom from English rule. Apparently a Methodist Church, Broken Back, appeared in Fluvanna County in 1779.

Methodists were in Halifax County by the late 1700s.

The Methodist Rouzie's Chapel was in Hanover County by the 1790s.

Methodists used the Henrico Count House for meetings beginning by the late 1700s.

Charity Chapel (1793) existed in Powhatan County.

Mount Pleasant (1788) was a 1700s Prince Edward County Methodist church.

Methodists were in Richmond City by the late 1790s and in Lynchburg by the early 1800s.

d. Presbyterian

Ancestor families who are believed to have at least some members who were Presbyterians are Boyd, Irvine, Wingfield, and Woodson families.

Unlike the Baptists, Quakers, and Methodists, who were mostly descended from Englishmen, Presbyterians were mostly descended from Scots and Scotch Irish. Presbyterian churches started to be formed after sufficient numbers of Scotch-Irish started arriving in the West, South, and Southwest Areas in the 1730s. Presbyterians were in Amelia, Brunswick, Lunenburg, and Prince Edward Counties and Petersburg City by the 1730s.

By the 1730s, Presbyterians were granted by the Virginia Colony governor rights to have services and to practice their beliefs without punishments. Up to that time, the Church of England was recognized as the official and only allowed denomination. A principal reason for the governor granting the rights to the Presbyterians was to increase migrations to areas west of the fall line. The Presbyterians were the first denomination granted these rights. The results were favorable when groups of Presbyterian Scotch Irish migrated to the Lunenburg - Prince Edward - Campbell County area, where they established Presbyterian churches such as Hat Creek Presbyterian Church.

Presbyterians were in Albemarle County by the 1740s. A group of Scotch Irish Presbyterians had migrated east across the Appalachian Mountains into Albemarle County, where they established Presbyterian churches. Albemarle County 1700s Presbyterian Churches included Cove (1747), Dissenter (1741), Lebanon (1755), Mountain Plains (1740), North Garden (1756), and Tabor (1747). Rockfish Presbyterian Church was established in the mid-1700s in the Rockfish Valley area. Because of the migration of Scotch Irish from the Shenandoah Valley into Albemarle County from the early 1700s, Albemarle County had more 1700s Presbyterian churches than most, if not all, other counties. Estimates are that from 5 to 10% of Albemarle residents went to Presbyterian churches.

By the 1700s, Hat Creek Presbyterian Church is in Campbell County. Ancestor John Irvin (1700-1788; born Northern Ireland, died Campbell County) helped form this church.

Cumberland Presbyterian in Cumberland County dates back to the 1750s.

No 1700s Fluvanna County Presbyterian church could be identified.

Byrd Presbyterian Church (on Byrd Creek) was established in 1748 in Goochland County. The current building was built in the 1830s.

A Presbyterian Church, called Halifax Presbyterian (also called Old Providence Presbyterian), appears in Halifax County in the 1800s. The Hat Creek Presbyterian Church in Campbell County helped form Halifax Presbyterian.

One of the first Virginia Colony Presbyterian-related churches (Polegreen), if not the first, dating to 1748, was in Hanover County (Polegreen no longer exists). In the 1700s, Hanover County was at the center in the development of the Presbyterian denomination in the Virginia Colony. The high number of Scottish immigrants to the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover and West Areas could have been a significant contributor to the growth of the Presbyterian movement in Hanover County in the 1700s.

In the late 1700s, Henrico County also had a significant Presbyterian movement.

Providence Presbyterian Church in Louisa County dates to the late 1740s.

Prince Edward County has a strong Presbyterian community, primarily due to a large Scotch Irish settlement (a settlement referred to as the Buffalo Settlement) in the mid-1700s along the Buffalo Creek in the county's western part. Most of these Scotch Irish settlers migrated from Pennsylvania.

1700s Prince Edward County Presbyterian churches included Buffalo and Cumberland Presbyterian. Prince Edward Presbyterian churches, like churches in other Virginia counties, purchased and own slaves for the purpose of earning income by renting the slaves out to community citizens. Presbyterian church slave ownership will split churches up between those for and against the slave ownership policy. By the 1800s, national Presbyterian organizations came out for abolition of slaves but overlooked that individual southern Presbyterian churches owned slaves.

e. **Quaker**

Ancestor families who are believed to have at least some members, at least in the 1700s, were Quakers, or married Quakers, are Cocke, Eubank, Harris, Johnson, Pleasants, Sadler, and Woodson families.

The well-known, gentry-level Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area Pleasants family was a Quaker family. By the later 1700s, many Pleasants family members, as well as other Quakers, were strongly in support of freeing their slaves. One Pleasants, Robert Pleasants (1723-1801), was a driving force in transforming the Virginia Society of Friends away from slavery. He

founded the Virginia Society for Promoting the Abolition of Slavery. Robert lived at Gravelly Hills in Henrico County. Direct line ancestor Elizabeth Pleasants (1676-1751) was a great-grand aunt of Robert Pleasants.

Quakers maintained a system of being in touch with other Quakers in other areas. For example, Virginia Quakers were in touch with Quakers on the eastern shore of Maryland and with Quakers in Philadelphia. I believe this might have played a role in one of my possible Quaker ancestors (John Eubank, 1680-1732, born Talbot County, died possibly Henrico County) migrating from Talbot, Maryland to Hanover County. (See **Section III 3**, above, for more on Eubank ancestors.) Another example of interconnections between Quaker groups is the migration of Sarah Lynch and her husband, Charles, from Louise County to land along the James River in what was then Bedford County (and then Campbell County, after Campbell County was formed out of Bedford County). Sarah was the daughter of a Quaker family in Louisa County and after Sarah and Charles's migration from Louise County, she went about establishing a Quaker community in Campbell County. In this process, because of her Louise County connections, she was help by Quakers in Louise and Hanover Counties. The Lynch in Lynchburg relates to Sarah's Lynch family name and the ferry that a family member established across the James River in the area that became Lynchburg.

By the late 1700s, members of the Hanover County Cedar Creek Meeting House were well known for developing strong antislavery views and for freeing their slaves. This view on slavery developed over time. Earlier in the 1700s, Quakers owned slaves without much, if any, Quaker objections.

The number of Quakers in the Virginia Colony by the middle and late 1700s may be much higher than has been recognized. Quaker communities (represented by meeting houses documentary evidence) were numerous in the Henrico-Chesterfield-Hanover, West, South, and Southwest Areas. Estimates are that as many as ninety Quaker Meeting Houses (representing Quaker communities) existed in the 1700s in the Virginia Colony. After the middle 1700s, information indicates that as many as four Quaker groups existed in Hanover and Henrico Counties.

Quaker families started migrating from the Eastern Area of the Virginia Colony to the Chesterfield-Henrico-Hanover Area by the 1730s. From there, they migrated into the West Area. Many Quakers who migrated from the Eastern Area immigrated from England as indenture servants.

A Quaker meeting house was established at Curles (Henrico County) as early as 1695 (with help from ancestor John Pleasants II, 1644-1698). Other Henrico County meeting houses were Bever Dam and White Oak Swamp. Beaver Dam operated from the 1750s to the 1780s. The Henrico Quaker community, which had more than one meeting house, had, at least for a time, a school. The community is known to have communicated with the London Quaker community. Members of the Henrico County Curles Meeting House help establish the Cedar Creek Meeting House in Hanover County.

Quakers were in Hanover County as early as the county formation in 1720. A meeting house was there by 1721 (Cedar Creek Meeting House). Apparently, Cedar Creek lasted until the first half of the 1800s. The Cedar Creek community was instrumental in helping other Quaker communities in counties in the West Area. Ancestors last names Harris, Johnson, and Pleasants are found in Cedar Creek Meeting House records. A John Harris (a possible ancestor, being the possible father of Quaker ancestor Sarah Harris, 1729-1826) was one of the first overseers in the 1720s of a new meeting house that would become Cedar Creek. Cedar Creek in Hanover County flows into the South Anna River, about six miles west of Ashland and five miles east of Montpelier.

Quakers migrated into the West Area, for example into Albemarle, Goochland, Louisa, and Powhatan Counties. The reason for the migration was probably economic – pursuing needed land for farming.

Sugar Loaf Mountain Meeting was active in Albemarle County in the mid-1700s.

In 1723, a Quaker meeting (probably at a private residence) began at Dover Creek (also known as Genito) in Goochland County. Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area gentry families' Pleasants, Cockes, and Woodson were associated by the mid-1700s with Quaker communities in Goochland County, either by practice or marriage.

In Louisa, monthly meetings were held at Camp Creek (1747 to 1790) and at Fort Creek (1746 to 1778). Cedar Creek Meeting in Hanover County played a role in helping Camp Creek and Fort Creek get started and succeed. Camp Creek Meeting House was in the area in Louisa County known as Green Spring. Fort Creek Meeting House was near the intersection of Louisa, Goochland, and Fluvanna Counties, along Route 605. The area that Camp Creek is in is about forty miles from the Goochland County area where Dover Creek is located. Camp Creek Meeting was under the supervision of Cedar Creek Meeting in Hanover County, as was many Meeting Houses in the West Area. Unfortunately, Louisa County residents apparently were very hostile to the Quakers in the middle 1700s, and many Quakers left Louisa County. Perhaps this could have been a reason Wingfield ancestors living in Louisa County moved to Albemarle County.

By the mid-170. Quakers had a strong presence in Powhatan County. Monthly meetings were held at Fine Creek, in an area close to the James River where Quaker John Pleasants III (1697-1771) had established a gristmill. Fine Creek Meeting existed from 1746 until 1780. Pleasants is an ancestor family name.

Quakers were in the South Area. Records indicate a Quaker meeting house, called Amelia, also known as Patterson's and Appomattox, existed, from the 1720s to the 1780s, in Amelia County.

Meeting houses existed by the late 1700s in Dinwiddie County (Gravelly Run House); Brunswick County (Sadler Meeting House); and Mecklenburg County (Ladds Meeting House).

Quakers were in the Southwest Area. In the middle 1700s, objections to the Quakers in Hanover and Louisa Counties areas led to Quakers migrating to the Southwest Area and to North Carolina.

In the Southwest Area, Lynchburg (formed from Campbell County land) had a Quaker community by the mid-1700s that met at South River Meeting House. Sarah Lynch, the mother of John Lynch, for whom Lynchburg was named, was a Quaker and was instrumental in organizing the Quaker community in the Lynchburg area. A stone building built in 1798 and used by the Quakers as their meeting house still stands (now owned by the Presbyterian Quaker Memorial Church, a Presbyterian Church). It is interesting that a Presbyterian Church now owns the still-standing Quaker Meeting House. During the 1700s, connections between Presbyterians and Quakers existed, more so than connections between Baptists and Methodists and Quakers. Reasons for this would be interesting to know more about. One reason for this might be that Baptists and Methodists were suspicious of the Quakers beliefs.

Quakers were present in Halifax County. A Banister Monthly Meeting existed from 1758 to 1811.

The term meeting house was used by Quakers to refer to a location where Quakers would meet for worship and is still the term used by Quakers at the present time for the same reason. The term meeting house began being used for worship being held in a private house (before separate dwellings for worship could be or were built). Quaker settlements tended to be close to where meeting houses were established. In the 1700s, other denominations, such as Baptists, used the term meeting house to refer to a place for their worshipping.

By the end of the 1700s and into the 1800s, before the Civil War, Quakers positions on slavery led to much Quaker ostracization in Virginia. This was a key factor in why many Quakers migrated out of Virginia. Much documentary evidence shows that Virginia Colony Quakers were freeing their slaves in substantial amounts by the late 1700s. What had changed? How did the Quakers come to free their slaves that they owned earlier? Did the ideas and goals of the American fight for freedom in the later 1700s influence the Quakers to free their slaves? What changed in Quaker beliefs that led them to free their slaves, but other religious groups did not?

Eventually, most Quakers left Virginia due to their positions, for example, on slavery and military service. Many went to North and South Carolina, Maryland, and Pennsylvania. By the 1840s, very few meeting houses remained in Virginia.

By the 1800s, in the northern states, Quakers became primary participants in the abolitionist movement that was sweeping the north.

f. General Conclusions on Religious Denominations

The emergence in a county of numerous churches reflects a tipping point with respect to the county's growth.

The appearance in the Virginia Colony of numerous dissenter churches in the mid-1700s (reflecting what has come to called the Great Awakening) no doubt had a profound influence on events later in the 1700s related to rebellion to English rule, and the creation of ideas, declarations, and goals associated with the founding of a new nation.

Although church attendance numbers during the 1700s are uncertain, one estimate is that by the 1750s as much as 75% of the Virginia Colony residents attended a church.

But another estimate is that from the mid-1700s to the 1770s the following Virginia Colony percentages of citizens were affiliated with various denominations:

Anglicans	30 to 40%
Baptists	5%
Quakers, Presbyterians	5%
Unchurched	50 to 60%

Migrants to the West, South, and Southwest Areas were often the second, third, and later generational sons of the landowners of the Virginia Colony Eastern and Northern Areas. This would be because of the norm of the family's first son inheriting the land owned by the father, with the later sons needing to seek land elsewhere. This first son inheritance norm was carried over from England, supported by the Anglican Church. The later sons migrants then might have a different view of such a norm, and the place of Anglican denomination norms in society. This might have made it more likely for these migrants (including my ancestors) to be interested in new norms that dissident denominations provided.

Conflict existed in the West, South and Southwest Areas between the "official" Church of England (the Anglican Church) and the dissenters denominations, especially on the legality of preachers and pastors in those dissenter denominations. This led to changes in the Virginia Colony perspectives reflected in proclamations such as the 1776 "Ten Thousand Name Petition". These proclamations provided the dissident denominations more official recognition. They helped in the growth of the strength of the dissident churches, and changes in what life was like.

With the colonies defeating England in the American Revolution, the Church of England (Anglican Church) became dormant in the Virginia Colony.

6. Economics

As is true for each of the subsections in this **Section IV**, ancestor lives could have been impacted by what is discussed in this **Section IV** subsection. In this subsection, I try to write about economic conditions and their relevance to 1700s ancestor lives.

a. Speculative Investments

William Byrd II, who surveyed land in the South and Southwest Areas, ended up buying, and also being granted, thousands of acres of land in these areas. He was heavily involved in promoting this land for sale. He was also involved in expediting the early 1700s immigration of approximately four hundred French Huguenots to Henrico County, which was consistent with his efforts to promote immigration such that the immigrants might buy land that he owned.

Byrd made substantial efforts to recruit immigrants from Europe, for example, from German-speaking areas that would become part of the nation of Switzerland. Byrd had pamphlets printed and distributed in those areas that promoted the desirability of living on land in the Southwest Area, land that he owned. Although the efforts resulted in few European immigrants to the Southwest Area, it was successful in attracting some, one of whom was one of my ancestors (Scher Torian, 1698-1748; born Grisons, future Switzerland, died Halifax County). Scher was the great, great grandfather of one of my great grandparents (George Torian, 1854-1923; born Halifax County, died Campbell County).

Another well-to-do Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover gentry family, the Randolphs, who owned thousands of acres in the West Area beyond the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area, participated in expediting the early 1700s French Huguenots immigration to western Henrico County. Richard Randolph I (1686-1748) purchased thousands of acres in what became Halifax County, while in connection with William Byrd II. One of the Randolphs was a direct line ancestor.

These efforts by William Byrd II and Randolph family members were more than for altruistic purposes, as they wanted to benefit from land sales. This is a good example, I suggest, of demonstrating what was always a primary objective of the Virginia Colony colonization by the English – increasing their wealth.

Land buying for speculation by Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover wealthy gentry families was not just limited to counties close to where they lived. Records indicate that at some point ancestors families Cockes, Bollings, Cockes, Kennons, and Randolphs owned thousands of acres in the Southwest Area. A 1785 Pittsylvania County census lists John Bolling.

The 1700s Virginia Gazette was a major source for 1700s sellers and buyers to learn about land that was for sale.

b. Tobacco, Grain – Agriculture

A conclusion in one of my previous family history studies (Family History – Living Along Virginia Colony’s Waterways in the 1600s and 1700s – Lukes, Dales, Etheridges, Veales, Hills, Lewises, Wormeleys, and Others, available on Amazon) is that waterways were essential in the 1600s and 1700s for economic development, especially in agriculture. This study also finds that waterways played a vital role in 1600s and 1700s in the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover, South, West, and Southwest Areas for economic development. Finding land locations where ancestors lived indicate these ancestor farmers lived on land along rivers as well as streams and creeks that led into major rivers, such as the James, the Appomattox, and the Dan Rivers.

The Chickahominy and Pamunkey Rivers, which are the north and south borders of Hanover County, flow into the York River. These rivers were important assets for the tobacco farmers of Hanover County, allowing for transport on the rivers to the York River, and then loading on larger sailing ships to the Chesapeake Bay. The Rivanna River, running through Albemarle County, was used to transport tobacco to the James River.

Land location was important for land buyers and sellers. This was evident by Virginia Gazette advertisements for land being sold emphasizing the location of the land when such location was judged to be of high interest to buyers. The one location that was most important was a river, creek, or stream location.

During the 1700s, the confluence of the Appomattox and James rivers, just past the fall line, was an important location for loading tobacco on to ships for export to England, Scotland, and Europe. During the 1700s (and 1800s), substantial amounts of tobacco was grown in the West, South, and Southwest Areas and most of this tobacco was transported on the western portions of the James and Appomattox Rivers to Petersburg and Richmond for loading on ocean-sailing ships. In 1748, Petersburg became a tobacco inspection site. Those who owned land in the Appomattox-James Rivers confluence area, such as ancestors Bollings, Cockes, Pleasants, and Randolphins, benefited economically from this tobacco trade.

Petersburg became a center of tobacco merchants, many of whom had strong connections to Scotland, especially Glasgow. Members of the Robertson ancestor family, who were Scottish and who lived in Petersburg, were merchants.

Identifiable factors and situations that were necessary for towns such as Petersburg to successfully grow and prosper economically exist. (My “Family History – Living Along Virginia Colony’s Waterways in the 1600s and 1700s – Lukes, Dales, Etheridges, Veales, Hills, Lewises, Wormeleys, and Others”, available on Amazon, suggests some of these factors and situations.) One factor is being on a river and at the fall line of the river. Besides Petersburg, Fredericksburg, Richmond, and Alexandria are examples of successful towns on rivers at the rivers’ fall line.

Lynchburg became an important commercial center due to its location along the James River. Counties, such as Amherst (in the West Area), adjacent to Lynchburg, started to produce significant amounts of tobacco in the later 1700s, which could only have been possible by

shipping the tobacco on the James River to Richmond, accounting for Lynchburg becoming an important commercial center.

Tobacco farmers in the West and South Areas relied on the James and Appomattox Rivers, and their tributaries, for getting their tobacco to exporting shippers at the fall line. The use of a specially designed watercraft, called a batteaux, that could navigate the shallow depths of the James and Appomattox Rivers, and their tributaries, became critical to growers of tobacco and other products. The success of using the batteaux was an important milestone in the economic development of the West and South Areas. Without the bateaux, the growers would have had a much more difficult time to get their products to markets. Using the batteaux on the James and Appomattox Rivers began in the 1740s. This is good example of the importance of new technology for economic development.

A problem for the tobacco industry development in the Southwest Area in the 1700s was that most, if not all, the rivers flow not to Virginia ports (Petersburg and Richmond), but southeast into North Carolina, which had insufficient port capabilities. Using the southeast flowing rivers and the North Carolina Colony ports that they lead to was an important disadvantage compared to being able to get products to the Virginia Colony ports.

Problems with road transportation and the lack of sufficient numbers of slaves critical for providing the needed labor were potentially critical impediments to the success of the tobacco industry in the West, South, and Southwest Areas. So, by the late 1700s, as roads improved and the number of slaves increased, the amount of tobacco production in the West, South, and the Southwest Areas began to exceed the Eastern and Northern Areas. By the middle of the 1800s (with the emergence of railroads and when no longer having to rely on less sufficient river transport), the Southwest Area started to dominate the tobacco industry in Virginia.

Slaves were essential to the success of both the large and small tobacco farmers, who depended on slave labor. By the late 1700s, about 50 percent of the population in the Southwest Area were slaves. Creeks and streams flowing into larger rivers were important in the 1700s for transporting agricultural products to market. After land along rivers, land along creeks and streams that flow into rivers usually would be the next expensive to purchase.

Tobacco farming in the West, South, and Southwest Areas were not profitable until the mid-1700s, because of problems transporting tobacco hogsheads to the eastern ports. Improved roads made a difference. The increase in profitability correlated with better roads, the use of batteaux on the rivers, with economies of scale on larger tobacco-growing plantations that became more numerous, and in Scottish merchants appearing in larger numbers, who helped expedite the sales process. By the 1770s, South and Southwest Area farmers were sending thousands of hogsheads on the Appomattox River.

The James River runs for about 110 miles from Lynchburg to the fall line at Richmond City. The Appomattox River, a much more winding river than the James River, runs for 160 miles, from its origin in Appomattox County to the fall line at Petersburg. The larger size of the James and that it is much straighter suggest that the James River was a better river for transporting goods on. Therefore, growing tobacco along the James and its tributaries might have been more profitable

than tobacco growing along the Appomattox and land prices on the James and its tributaries might have been higher.

In the 1700s, tobacco growing in the South, West, and Southwest Areas was not as profitable as in the Eastern, Northern, and Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Areas due to transportation costs. Smaller boats (for example, the bateaux) had to take the tobacco to the fall line, where the tobacco had to be unloaded, hauled across the fall line by wagons, and then reloaded on sea-faring ships for export to Europe. One result of these unloading and reloading efforts was the development of merchant and other service communities at the fall lines. This development led to building up Richmond City and Petersburg as commercial hubs by the late 1700s. This commercial hub development is a good example of how changes and developments in one economic activity can give rise to changes and developments in other economic activities.

Wheat and grain exports from the West, South, and Southwest Areas increased in the late 1700s. These increases corresponded with a decrease in tobacco prices. Early in the 1800s, in Eastern, Northern, Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover, West, South, and Southwest Areas, grain and other agricultural products began to rival tobacco as the largest agricultural export commodities. By the early 1800s, various fruit orchards had become an important, successful agricultural business in Albemarle and Amherst Counties.

In 1771, a “once in a lifetime” flood swept east from the Appalachian Mountains, causing the James River to rise to record levels, and affecting agriculture and other economic activities.

During the Revolution Period, a recession occurred in tobacco sales as exports to Britain declined. This created serious economic problems for many tobacco farmers and was likely a contributing factor to the economic difficulties of one of my ancestors, William Robertson (1750-1829; born Prince George County, died Petersburg). See **Section IV 6d**, below, for more on the economic difficulties of William Robertson.

c. Merchant Activities

The later 1700s was a period of the development of well-to-do merchants and professional classes in the Virginia Colony. This development was in response to the economic growth in the Colony. These merchant and professional classes would become competitors for political and other influences previously dominated by the wealthy plantation families that emerged in the Eastern, Northern, and Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Areas during the 1600s and early 1700s.

The development of a town such as Petersburg supported the development of merchants. In the early 1700s, towns such as Petersburg were plotted out into small lots that served well the business and living needs of merchants. Such a development was important in promoting the economy. A 1738 Petersburg plot shows a plot owned by Richard Randolph (the ancestor Richard Randolph, 1686-1748, known to be a successful merchant).

In the 1700s, a prosperous merchant class grew to support the need for intermediaries between product growers and product buyers as well as for importing products needed by the agriculture community. Ancestors who provided merchant services were possible ancestors Archibald Robertson I (1715-1768) and his son William Robertson (1750-1829), both who lived in the Petersburg area.

By the late 1700s, Petersburg became one of the leading centers of merchants, selling goods imported from Europe. Because of its reputation for having a wide selection of European merchandise, Petersburg attracted large numbers of customers from counties to the west and south.

By the mid-1700s, Scottish merchants, working in the West, South, and Southwest Areas, were important in managing the tobacco exports to Europe. Although the Virginia farmers grew the tobacco, the merchants, who were mostly Scottish, and who worked for Scottish merchant houses in Scotland, provided the needed credit and arranged for the processing and exporting of the tobacco to European markets. This put them in a position of influencing the tobacco industry in the West, South, and Southwest Areas. By the end of the 1700s, Scotland was probably a more important center of finance and influence for the Virginia Colony tobacco industry than London.

Transactions between farmers and Scottish merchants usually were on credit, such that payments by the merchants to the farmers would be delayed. This seem to work well until the latter part of the 1700s, with increasing conflict between the colonies and Britain emerging and payments starting to be delayed or not made. This led to problems for both the farmers and the merchants.

Many of the tobacco merchants worked out of Petersburg and the surrounding area, where tobacco would be loaded on ships going to Scotland and England. Possible ancestor William Robertson (1750-1829) is believed to be one of the Scottish agents. (See the **Section III 2 Robertson**, above, for more on William Robertson being a likely ancestor.) William's father, Archibald Robertson I (1715-1768; born Edinburg, Scotland, died Amelia County) immigrated to the Virginia Colony during the 1740s, and became a Scottish tobacco merchant agent. Archibald sent William to Scotland for schooling, where William studied law, qualifying to be an attorney.

William returned to Petersburg, where he became a Scottish merchant, as well as doing work as an attorney, and opening a furniture factory. Unfortunately, William had serious financial problems by the 1800s, dying poor in 1829. Possibly an explanation for William going bankrupt was the Revolutionary War, causing trade with England and Scotland to greatly diminish, and along with trade, payments delayed or cancelled and needed credit no longer available. Other Scottish merchant agents were also affected, and likely, after this period, the number of Scottish merchants in Virginia greatly decreased.

A company named Archibald Robertson and Company existed in the early 1800s. This company provided merchandise to farmers and other businesses. The company operated in the Petersburg and Lynchburg areas along the James and Appomattox Rivers. During this time, the James and Appomattox Rivers were critically important for the economic development of the West and

South Areas by transporting tobacco and other agriculture products to the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area, where the products could be loaded on larger ships for export. This economic development gave rise to companies like Archibald Robertson and Company. Similar companies were Ellis and Company and Higginbotham and Company. The success of Alexander Robertson and Company, and similar companies, depended on the success of the agriculture community.

Archibald Robertson and Company is believed to possibly have been owned by Archibald Robertson II (1776-1835), a possible Robertson ancestor (see **Section III 2 Robertson**, above, for more on possible ancestor Archibald Robertson II). Why the Archibald Robertson of the company Archibald Robertson and Company is possibly Archibald Robertson II includes the name of the company and the Robertson ancestor being the same; that ancestor Archibald Robertson II's father was William Robertson (1750-1829), a prosperous Scottish merchant who operated merchant and furniture production services in the Richmond City-Petersburg City area, as well as providing merchant services to tobacco farmers along the James and Appomattox Rivers; and that Archibald Robertson II married Elizabeth Meade Bolling (1779-1823), who was born in Campbell County near Lynchburg, and the marriage took place in Lynchburg, where Archibald Robertson and Company did substantial business.

Records indicate that in the late 1700s, early 1800s, Archibald Robertson and Company owned a building at 708 Fifth Street in Lynchburg (a building that still stands) and that Archibald Robertson was the owner of other Lynchburg properties. Also, records show that Archibald Robertson was the Robertson in a company named Brown Robertson. Brown died in a theatre fire in Richmond City. Robertson's connections with Brown indicates had Roberson had connections with the Richmond area.

In 1828, Archibald Robertson and Company sued the estate of former President Thomas Jefferson to collect a \$6,160 debt. Surviving Thomas Jefferson's accounts books has at least five referenced to amounts paid to a "Robertson" for goods. These references quite possibly were referring to merchandise purchased from Archibald Robertson and Company. Also surviving is a Thomas Jefferson letter to Archibald Robertson in Lynchburg requesting that Robertson charge purchases by Jefferson's granddaughter visiting Lynchburg to Jefferson's account.

d. Other Economic Activities

Development, surveying, building, upkeep, and other functions related to roads, bridges, and ferries were vital economic activities in the 1700s. These activities supported the economies in the counties that the roads ran through. In the 1750s, Goochland County, with support from the Colony government, embarked on establishing a road from Henrico County west to the Shenandoah County, the route closely shown by present day Route 250. Two Cocke ancestors, Thomas Cocke (1715-1797) and John Shepherd Cocke (1798-1877), operated ordinaries along this road for the Henrico to Shenandoah Valley Road's travelers; Thomas in Goochland County and John in Albemarle County. Within counties, roads were developed for connecting to the Henrico to Shenandoah Valley Road.

A major road running from Chesterfield County in the east to Lynchburg in the west would become known as the Buckingham Road. This road, which ran south of the James River, would become a major transportation route rivaling the Three Chop Road (from Hanover County to Albemarle County), which ran north of the James River. These three major transportation resources (the two roads and the James River) were instrumental in the economic development of the Piedmont Region, which occurred over time, in some correlation with the development of these three transportation resources.

As roads were developed and improved for travel, stagecoach services appeared. Such services were important for commercial growth in the areas that were being served by the stagecoaches. Ordinaries often appeared at stagecoach route crossings when travelers might have to wait a day or more for a stagecoach connection.

Ordinaries (taverns) were “other economic activities” that were important in 1700s economic development in the Piedmont Region. Documentation related to the Buckingham Road indicates that in 1824 an Archibald Robertson, who had been a merchant in Lynchburg, returned to Richmond and once again took charge of Washington Tavern. The Buckingham Road-related documentation, in addition to indicating that an Archibald Robertson returned to Richmond in 1824, also indicates that a John Robertson in 1815 insured a tavern in Powhatan County that was occupied (operated) by an Archibald Robertson. The Powhatan County tavern was on the Buckingham Road near the Powhatan County Courthouse (near Scottville), about 25 miles from downtown Richmond. The Buckingham Road-related documentation about an Archibald Robertson, who returned to Richmond, was a merchant in Lynchburg indicates that this Archibald Robertson is likely the possible ancestor Archibald Robertson II (1776-1835). (See **Section IV 2c Counties, West Area, Amherst; Section IV 2c Counties, Southwest Area, Campbell; and Section IV 6c. Merchant Activities**, above, for information on possible ancestor Archibald Robertson II and his connection to Lynchburg and being a merchant.)

With the increasing number of roads, greater use of wooden wheel vehicles would occur. And with many more wheels in use, likely more wheels would need repairs. Consequently, the need for wheelwrights (repairers of wheel) would grow. One of my great grandfathers, Alexander Robertson (1807-1882; born Cumberland County, died Richmond), was a wheelwright. Alexander was possible the son of Archibald Robertson II. If Alexander Robertson were Archibald Robertson II's son, would Archibald Robertson II being associated with taverns (for example, in 1815 and 1824), where wheelwrights would be needed and Alexander might see at work, be a reason that Alexander Robertson becomes a wheelwright? And does this add some weight to the conclusion that Alexander was Archibald's son?

Due to the importance of land purchasing and the lack of historical records, and for other reasons, surveyor was one of the most critical professions in the 1700s. Ancestors who had a role in the surveyor profession included William S Atkinson (1740-1801) – Henrico County; Robert Hicks (1650-1739) – Brunswick County; Richard Ransone (1700-1748) – Brunswick County; John Wingfield (1695-1759) – Hanover County; Thomas Wright (?-1767) – Amelia County; and Michael Cadet Young (1700-1770) – Brunswick County.

By the 1730s and 1740s, petitions were being submitted to county governments for bridges and ferries to cross rivers and streams. By the 1750s, thirty to forty ferries were operating on the James River, west of Henrico County. This was an increase from about twenty ferries operating in the early 1700s. In the mid-1700s, several ferries were operating east of the fall line along the James and Appomattox Rivers. These ferries not only supported employment needed in operating and maintaining the ferries but also were necessary for interconnections needed for economic development.

Streams, creeks, and rivers' importance to a region's economy may not be sufficiently well appreciated today. Special vessels (for example, the bateaux) were developed for use on low-depth streams, creeks, and rivers. Streams, creeks, and rivers were a primary method of transporting products. The proximity of land to streams, creeks, and rivers (which could be used for transporting products to market) was of utmost importance in making land purchase decisions. Streams, creeks, and rivers needed to be kept clear to use them for transporting products to market.

Besides the building and upkeep of roads, bridges, and ferries, an important mission was keeping streams, creeks, and rivers free of logs, snags, and other barriers preventing vessels from using the streams, creeks, and rivers to carry products to market. Individuals had responsibilities for this mission and may have been paid. Counties paid individuals for services, such as surveyors, ferry keepers, and bridge builders.

Smaller wooden bridges were plentiful, with such bridges being adequate for horse, wagon, and carriage crossing.

The number of bridges and ferries that existed in the 1700s, because of the considerable number of streams, creeks, and rivers, is likely a high number.

The free energy (waterpower) in the flows of streams, creeks, and rivers from higher to lower lands represent an important and underappreciated contribution to 1700s economic growth. The energy provided by the flows of the streams, creeks, and rivers could be used in providing needed energy (power) that could be used by mills, and other industrial operations. Such mills, and other industrial operations, powered by water might have been much higher in number than now estimated.

Water, wind, and tidal mills were numerous in the 1700s, representing a major economic endeavor in the Virginia Colony. Mills were used to produce flour, corn meal, and animal feed, all important products. Most plantation-size farms had one, or more, mills. Many Quakers operated mills. Doing so exempted them from the militia.

A significant early Hanover County industry was milling. Several commercial mills (outputs for sale to the public) and private mills (outputs for family use) existed in the 1700s in Hanover County. These large numbers relate to the many rivers and river tributaries in Hanover County. The county continued to have a large, successful milling industry into the 1800s.

Mining coal, iron ore, and other minerals during the 1700s in the Virginia Colony was substantial – in terms of comparing the amounts mined in other colonies. A lot of this mining occurred in the West, South, and Southwest Areas. Amelia County had significant amounts of coal and various minerals mined. Iron ore, zinc, gold, and pyrite were mined in Louisa County.

Iron ore mining started to occur in the 1600s along the Appomattox River at the fall line. Eventually tons of iron ore were exported to England. In the late 1700s, iron was produced in Hanover County. By the late 1700s, substantial amounts of iron were beginning to be produced by iron ore processing in the Lynchburg area.

Coal was first mined in the English Colonies in Virginia's Henrico County Area, which continued as the center of coal production in the Virginia Colony into the 1800s. The coal there was of excellent quality, and coal was sent to other colonies in the 1700s. Coal was mined in Goochland County along the James River as early as the 1600s and continued through the 1700s. By the 1800s, coal mining and exports from the area were significant. By the end of the 1800s, other coal mining areas outcompeted the Henrico area mining, and coal mining ended in the Henrico area.

In the 1700s and 1800s, the Amelia, Chesterfield, Goochland, Henrico, and Powhatan group of counties formed a 150 square mile area containing one of the most substantial deposits of coal in Virginia. The mining of coal in these counties in the 1700s and 1800s represents an excellent example of the importance of technology transfer in developing an industry. Much of the technology that was used in the early Virginia Colony mining industry was technology developed in England. The connections of the many Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area gentry families, such as the Randolphs, to England played a critical role in enabling the technology transfer. Because the Randolphs had land along the James River in Henrico, Goochland, and Powhatan Counties, where coal deposits existed, Randolphs would have an incentive to seek English coal mining technology. Randolphs (for example, Thomas Randolph in the 1780s and Beverly Randolph in the 1820s) were mining coal on land they owned in the Tuckahoe Area along the James River.

An important 1700s Chesterfield County commercial activity was coal mining. Coal mined from Chesterfield is believed to be the first use of a fossil fuel in the colonies.

A group of eight invested \$40,000 in 1801 to build a 15-mile-long turnpike (known as the Manchester Turnpike). The turnpike would run from the Midlothian area of Chesterfield County to Manchester on the James River and would have the purpose of expediting and making cheaper the transport of coal from the coal mining in the Midlothian area (where most of the coal mining took place in Chesterfield County) to Manchester, for loading on shipping for further transport.

Included in these eight investors was a William Robertson. It is possible (even likely) that this William Robertson was the possible ancestor William Robertson (1750-1829). Possible ancestor William Robertson was a Petersburg-based merchant and apparent entrepreneur who, besides merchant activities, engaged in furniture making and was believed to be quite prosperous for a time. William Robertson would know some of the other seven investors such as Benjamin

Hatcher and Henry Heath (Heth), as these men were associated with similar social circles as William Robetson is believed to have been.

More information is provided on possible ancestor William Robertson (1750-1829) above in **Section III 2 Robertson**. William Robertson information indicates that by the 1820s, William was having financial difficulties. This is consistent with information that by the 1820s the Manchester Turnpike was having financial difficulties due to the revenues from the turnpike not covering the cost of operating the turnpike and providing a return on the investment. Another problem for the turnpike was the emergence of railroads that would outcompete the turnpike. William might also have been experiencing financial difficulties because in the early 1800s the furniture market, like other markets, due to the break with England, was suffering a recession. This could have affected William and his furniture business.

Coal mining in counties along the James River contributed to road development. Roads were needed to transport the coal to towns such as Richmond and Petersburg for use and for exporting the coal. The first road for transporting coal to Richmond is believed to have been built in the 1730s

Buckingham County has a unique, world-class deposit of slate, first mined in the 1700s, and which continues to be supplied from Buckingham County to the market mostly for use as shingles. The mineral kyanite has been mined in Buckingham County.

In the 1700s, blacksmithing was a critically needed skill (for example, for use in wagon wheel repairs). Blacksmithing likely was much more needed in the 1700s on a per population basis than later as the advent of railroads decreased wagon use. The Virginia Colony's iron ore and coal industries were important resources for the blacksmithing industry.

Brick making became a more important economic activity from the early to mid-1700s as gentry families acquired sufficient wealth, and consequently the desire to build plantations using brick. Also, as counties became more developed and economically sufficient, more county courthouses were constructed with brick. Skilled brickmakers were recruited from England to meet the increasing demand of brick use in construction. Ancestor families who built brick plantations included the Bolling and Randolph families.

In the late 1700s and early 1800s, Petersburg developed a substantial furniture (cabinet) making industry. Many of the late 1700s, early 1800s furniture makers were immigrants from Scotland. By the 1800s, the Manchester area of present-day Richmond (then Manchester was in Chesterfield County) had many furniture manufacturers. That the area (the Chesterfield – Henrico – Hanover Area) had many well-off gentry families wanting to buy quality furniture aided the success of the local furniture making industry.

Furniture and cabinet making and production in the Petersburg and Richmond City areas in the late 1700s and early 1800s is considered by today antique furniture specialists to have been first class. Many furniture pieces from that period are highly valued antiques today.

Possible ancestor William Robertson (1750-1829) partnered with a William Fore in the early 1800s to form a cabinet-making company in Petersburg. This is consistent with the area being a furniture manufacturing center in the early 1800s. More can be read about the Robertson ancestors in **Section III 2 Robertson**, above.

By the early 1700s, significant quantities of clothes were being produced for non-export consumption. An ancestor involved in the clothing production industry was Thomas Cocke (1638-1696; born, died Henrico County). Linen was sent to the Virginia Colony from England and tailors in the Colony would make clothes. Ancestor Robert Hicks I (1630 -?) was a tailor.

Hanover County had a shoe manufacturing capacity in the late 1700s.

The need for attorneys and the resolution of conflicts in personal and business interactions was increasing at an exponential rate as the Virginia Colony was growing in the 1700s. The attorney profession was growing in size and importance as a result. Ancestors who were attorneys are: Michael Cadet Young (1700-1770) and William Robertson (1750-1829)

Many craftsmen, for example, tailors, blacksmiths, and carpenters, who were essential to the Colony's economic development, immigrated to the Virginia Colony as indentured servants. Ancestors who are believed to be indentured servants include: George Archer (1618-1675); Robert Hicks I (1630-?); Michael Cadet Young (1700-1770); and Abraham Wood (1610-1681).

V. Conclusions

In this section, I am presenting conclusions not about content that I present above (such conclusions are scattered throughout the above content), but conclusions about the process of finding family history and then writing about it. Here are conclusions about the process:

1. I could not have done the above without the support of Ancestry.com's family tree application that has been available to me. This application not only allows for the tracking, in family tree format, of the dozens of my 1600s and 1700s ancestors, but also makes recommendations on ancestors, unknown to me, based on my ancestor names already of the family tree. These recommendations are based on Ancestry.com searching its extensive genealogical-related databases. Trying to find these recommended names by my physical searching such databases would be an overwhelming task that I could not have accomplished. The suggested names are often correct.
2. The process of searching for and finding ancestor identities stimulates the desire to learn the history of the times, places, events, and other considerations relevant to the ancestors. This has extensively increased my interest in history and my historical knowledge and made the activity immensely more enjoyable. And it has prompted me to add much of this history that I found in the above narrative.
3. A huge amount of what I found in my research and included above could not have been possible without the excellent work of many genealogists, researchers, and historians. A lot of the above is dependent on their work, and without this work by others, the above would be much diminished.
4. The power of the Google search system has become imminently obvious as I have used it for searching. I am overwhelmed by the quantity of relevant results that are routinely returned by a well-worded search. The Google search system has been critical in finding a lot of the information provided above. This system is an important, critical resource.
5. Related to searching with Google is the extensiveness of the Internet in terms of what can be found and in how so many entities have digitized so much, and now the Internet provides access to such enormous amounts of information.
6. County and state historical societies; state and city historical libraries; and city, state, and university special collections are essential for the family historian.
7. Expectations are that some of the dates and other data provided in this study are not precise, which is a nature of genealogical information.
8. I believe this family history product, especially considering the above conclusions, represents an important field of history, which deserves recognition as such, providing important contributions to history.