Hill Family
Volume II a

Research Papers

of

Jane Smith Hill

Mrs. Jane Smith Hill
P. O. Box Z, Salem Station
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1 January 1997

Dear Cousin Wade,

Happy New Year to you!

Thank you for your letter of 23 December 1996 which arrived yesterday, and for the check. I do sincerely hope that you will not be disappointed in the papers I will send separately.

I also hope your new contacts will put your vision back on track, because you have a deal of looking to do. One piece of advice from Aunt Jane; don't, under any circumstances, put your hands anywhere near your eyes, ever. Especially not something with copy ink on it. I even tell my genealogy students about this.

You'uns are ahead of we'uns because we are just now getting the HISTORY CHANNEL, and I haven't had time to test it out. Coats of arms are a misunderstood subject to so many genealogists, and some of the purists have a fit about them. Me; I don't believe any of my ancestors ever had a coat, much less arms, and certainly no helmets, plumes, mantles or crests. However, many things are changing; it is now possible for us to qualify for a Scottish Tartan, even if we belong to no clan at all. I can see my old Adam Coble, proper German that he was, rising up and saying that he was a Deutschman, not a dammed skirt-wearing Scot.

Speaking of folk talk, my maternal aunt, Ruth Fields Heath, has always used the word "juberous" instead of dubious. As near as I can remember she is the only one among the aunts to do so. Aunt Hattie, who was a holy terror to her husband and the hired hands, always used "how so" rather than "why".

"Shot your wad"; I love it!

Now for the bad news. The DAR Application Papers are only in the DAR Archives in Washington, DC, and are not easily available to us. These are the forms used to establish a Patriot and prove legitimate descent from him. It is these papers that show personal information about the Patriot. Tim can check the Revolutionary Pay Vouchers and any other

data on Richard in both Surry and Rowan counties that may be housed in the Archives.

Since I have long wanted to purchase the Surry County census records done by Carol Snow and Agnes Wells I now have a good reason for doing so. Working from a book in the comfort of my own home does help me; if I find anything interesting then a copy from the reel of microfilm is warranted.

What I need to know is this:

Which census years in book form do you want/need? 1880, 1870, 1860, 1850, 1840, 1830?

The 1850 Surry County Census included Yadkin County, which was taken from Surry in 1850/51, and I do own that one already.

I believe our modus operandi for 1850 should be as follows: you send me the name/s of those persons whom you seek and I will check my book and make copies from the book, along with the neighbors. Then if you want microfilm copies I can get them for you. If you prefer a different approach let me know.

Now, for some explanations of the Estates Papers you will soon receive.

As you are aware, not all loose papers have survived, especially in Surry county. Those that did were gathered up by the Archives, taken to Raleigh, fumigated, restored in so far as possible, and placed in acid-free folders and boxes.

None of the staff doing this word knew the ancestors involved, so they had to make the best determination possible when same name people were involved or there were no dates on the papers. It was better to make a separate file, as in John Hill, than to lump all together. My own Peter Fields' records are mixed with those of his namesake grandson, but those of us who have worked on the families know whose is whose. Staff are not allowed to make any changes in the contents of these folders except through a specific process, which I have never attempted, although the Randolph County Genealogical Society officers have been very successful in clarifying some files.

The Administration of an estate was very much the same then as now; an inventory of the estate; a sale of the perishable

estate; the widow, if living, petitions the court for her dower rights in real estate of her husband. She also petitions the court for her year's provisions, especially when there are children still at home. It usually took about a year to settle the estate; sometimes longer, rarely any sooner.

Are you familiar with the term, Administrator with the will annexed? If so, then you know the decedent left a will which for some reason was set aside. Maybe it was not properly witnessed; maybe he forgot to name an Executor; maybe the named Executor was ineligible to serve in that capacity. My old Jeffrey Beck named a minor infant son under 21 years as his Executor, and that played merry hell with the settlement. We are still looking for all the papers!

An infant is anyone under 21 years of age. It took me a while to get that through my noggin, but it is a red flag for us.

Back to the photocopies; on some there will be just a bit of data, usually naming the decedent and saying something about the settlement. This is called the Endorsement and George Stevens taught us to always get a copy of it. In the case of a will it will say "Will of Richard Hill". Estates papers may have several types of endorsements, and are like a title page or cover letter, usually done for the convenience of the county clerk.

Another thought; if the decedent owned property in another county (as in the papers of Zephaniah Hill) some papers probably would have been generated in this other county. Same for a will. Moral: we need to remember that county boundaries were not fences.

I have gone through each set of papers and noted some names and dates, but have not yet worked in depth. One of the most valuable sets of papers names the articles and buyers at the sale, and this can be used in conjunction with census and tax records.

Speaking of taxes, which tax years have I sent you? Agnes Wells may still working on them so far as I know, and I can sent copies as they are published.

One other thing; if you have trouble deciphering the writing in these papers let me know. I have achieved a certain degree of proficiency in reading the old writing and Robert

says it is because I was a county clerk in one of my former lives. He doesn't know the half of it.

My printer is on strike; don't know what you will receive with this letter.

AKA1. Doc

28 Feb 97

Dear Jane Smith Hill,

As you will observe, I have recovered from my bout with damnitials. If I survive my foray into amateur genealogy I shall eschew initials forever and ever.

I inquired some time ago of a cousin about a kinsman named John Ashburn. Cousin said he knew five Johns at the same time - Big John, Little John, Long-Chin John, Lying John, Broomstraw John. I wonder if that is not a better system. And in the Bakers, I found two Williams - Long Billy and Fat Billy. It works, better than initials.

I have been taking a break from the Hills and Brays, and for respite I've been shuffling the Cooks. The blessing is that there were fewer of them. I confirm that Ursula (Cook) Baker was the daughter of William and Amy Cook, of the Neatman's Creek vicinity in Stokes County. The papers you sent recently confirm that William had a brother Thomas who named sister Martha in his will.

Best evidence *at this time* points toward the brothers William and Thomas and sister Martha as sons and daughter of Robert and Mary, also of Neatman's Creek in Stokes as early as the 1780's. This trail leads to the large family of Cooks in the Westfield community of Surry as descending from John, son of Robert and Mary. I have more work to do, but I am cautiously optimistic that Robert and Mary were the probable progenitors of the Cooks of Stokes and Surry.

I am sending a sheet of items that should tie some of the Cooks together. Perhaps you could persuade Tim to run this through the Archives. If he be willing, send me the bill.

Herewith, remittance of half of Tim's bill for his earlier work, $37.50

Also, reimbursement of $4.75, your mailing cost for the loan of the 1850 Surry Census. I have copied what I need, and I thank you for the loan. It's a good thing you loaned it to me; I ended up copying purt near half of the pages. I took an oath a long time ago never to lend another book, but your generosity in my time of need prompts me - not to break my oath - but to make another. I promise to lend you a book, anytime you ask. The census arrived with the little black cloth edging detached. I have glued it back.

I have copied the sheets, herewith returned.

Yes, ma'am, you did lend me the Bray family sheets. I remember copying, and herewith copies of copies. I certainly intended to return the originals. Sorry! I will look some more for your originals.

You may have seen the query re Littleberry Bray, March Yadkin journal. I am writing to Mr. Bayer in the prospect of swapping the little I know of Littleberry for what he might know of Sarah Bray and Richard Hill.

Louis D. Bayer
1907 Carbonton Road
Sanford, NC 27330

Small world. Mr. Bayer can't be more than a mile from my Baker kin of Lee County.

Your advice is good, that I should be able to keep the Bray estates in the order filed in the Archives. Good point. I haven't yet disturbed the sequence, and I think there are but a very few that I would take out of order. I will let you know how I rearrange, if I do.

I haven't heard back from Denney of Washington, to whom I wrote about our mutual kin of Surry. Numbed him, I suppose, but I didn't send him all that much. Just enough so he would know whether we are into the same Dennys.

About East Goes West, I have heard from a Hill descendant in Kansas. She has beguiled her local library into inter-netting 50 free pages of the book. She has located the book in Tennessee, and I have sent her my copy of the index. So, perhaps she can lay hands on 50 pages of Hills. I suggested that she conspire with somebody to get another 50 pages, and if she can swing that deal we should get all or most of the Hill pages. I'll let you know. I still hope to buy the book, if I ever learn the publisher.

You might want to locate Old New Kent County, by Malcolm H. Harris. I have six pages of Volume I, sent by a cousin descendant of the Poindexters. The edges of some pages were missed by the copier, but my guess is this, from Pages 146-147.

The Brays had a large quantity of land in the counties of Charles and James City and New Kent - - After the death of Thomas Bray the elder, last will 21 May 1700 , devised to Thomas Bray the younger, his lands on Black Creek --

Sometime after this John Custis became owner of the Brick House tract, which passed to Daniel ParkeCustis, and in 1758 was in the tenure of Martha Custis - -

In 1810 George Washington Parke Custis sold 1040 acres which was part of the Mount Prospect tract and part of Brickhouse - -.

All of these are Virginia. I wonder whether our Virginia Brays might have been the earlier owners of Martha Custis' Brickhouse Tract, she being the wife of George Washington. 'Twould be an interesting story, and there may be some Bray biography in the book. Cousin found Old New Kent County in the NC Archives. Perhaps Tim might find our first known Bray, Peter and his kin in the pages preceding 146.

In Betty Camin's notes to you I find some sheets for William Hill of Stokes, with a sticker giving the name and address of Mrs. Dressler. I can't tell whether the sheets were done by Camin or by Dressler, so I don't know which of them to write to. I'd like to ask the preparer whether she might have met our William while working with William of Stokes, and whether she might have notes on our William. Would you ask Camin which of them made the sheets?

In this regard, the Camin-Dressler sheets have William of Stokes as a Baptist chaplain at the battle of Guilford Court House. Do you suppose that the adjutants and clerks of the Continental Army may have transposed the records of two William Hills? A Ms. Simons, who has done a mountain of work on William of Stokes, doubts that he was the minister. She is convinced that the records and published accounts are full of errors, this being but one of many.

We have the one account, from Ohio, that our William was a Baptist minister. We know from son Richard's pension claim that our William was at Guilford Court House, and Ms. Simons is not persuaded that William of Stokes was in the war at all. Even assuming that both Williams served, I know the military well enough from sad experience to know that a paper of one soldier can be misfiled with the papers of another.

I do not doubt that there was **A** William Hill who served at Guilford as a chaplain. I would expect the records to say as much. But I wonder whether this was our William, and whether researchers might, in haste or by mis-direction, have taken from the record of our William, Baptist of Surry, and applied it to that other William also of Surry. I still hold that the will of Stokes William "elder" does not prove that he was of the clergy, and could as well prove only that he was older than his son William.

And another incidentally - in your experience, have you found the occupation or profession of a maker of will to be appended to his name? As in "I William Hill, Elder" (Stokes) do declare this my will. In deeds, yes indeed. As in "I William Hill, Planter" (Surry) deed to my son Richard. I cannot recall ever seeing the testator's profession stated in a will. I never say never, but what do you opine?

Wade

Mrs. Jane Smith Hill
P. O. Box Z, Salem Station
Winston-Salem, NC 27108-0450

12 March 1997

Mr. Wade Baker
1715 Bartlett Drive
Anchorage, AK 99507

Dear Cousin Wade:

So glad you have recovered with your bout of damnitials; wouldn't you just love to have those clerks to yourself for a few minutes? At least a few minutes is all I would need!

The identifiers you used of the John Ashburn group is exactly the way many early surnames came into being, hundreds of years ago. But they do help us in this time of difficult identification when there were so many same named people in the area. (My previously excellent spelling has been confounded by the 18th century clerks who wrote the wills and court minutes I am in process of transcribing, and who spelled as they thought fit. And because this is a transcription, I must use their spelling and words. There were no standards of spelling until old Daniel Webster brought out his dictionary circa 1828. What is also amusing [read frustrating] is that the spell checker in WORD is very limited for my needs.)

Don't never say never! It will come home to haunt you! Interesting that you should mention the occupations of testators; they abound in the earlier records in wills, but are rarely found in later ones. I am in process of digesting [less than a transcription but more than an abstract!] the first Will Book of Guilford county, NC and we have come across many occupations therein. Apparently it was not required, but was added by the testator for whatever reason. So far, we have planter, yeoman, blacksmith, & farmer; more of the latter. Therefore, Elder may be a designator for William Hill to separate him from all the other William Hill men. I had read it Elder as in a church-related manner. My experience has been that Deacon was used in the Baptist Churches rather than Elder. Who knows? Which denominations used the term Elder?

Thank you for the check; maybe the costs of this research will decelerate somewhat from now on in.

My JOURNAL from the SCGA came today and I saw that you are also a member. You might want to make a note that in the 1996 Membership List the name of Gerald W. Cook of Fancy Gap, VA should be stricken. Jerry died unexpectedly in hospital last year; I believe in late Spring or early Summer. I was out of town at the time and learned about it too late for any details. He was a regular patron of the NC Room when I was still there and we not only shared a zodiac sign in common, but the same attitude toward genealogy. He was both an author and a compiler, but we never could connect his and Robert's Cook family. He is missed!

I agree with you about lending my books, but I do make exceptions: would you like to borrow the 1860 and/or 1870 and/or 1880 Surry County census abstracts; maybe one at a time? Let me know. Thanks for the repair on the 1850; it has been well used and needed some help.

You are taking a respite from Hills and Braes [Scotland?] by working on the Cooks, which family I have neglected. I am working on the wills and court minutes of Guilford via the microfilm, and since there is no problem about being interrupted at it, have made good progress. There have been too many of the above interruptions whilst concentrating on the families and have laid them aside for awhile. When things improve here I will get back to them again. Speaking of Brays, there are some in the eastern counties of NC. Many families came down from VA into eastern NC and then migrated west along the tier of counties on the VA/NC border. This was their way of thwarting their descendants. I will seek the book OLD NEW KENT COUNTY, by Malcolm H. Harris. Wish me luck.

Thank you for the family sheets copies. I work better from them than any other method, and can add data to them with footnotes, etc.

I don't receive the Yadkin JOURNAL, so would appreciate any gems you can share from it. Let me know if Mr. Bayer is of help.

Congrats on the success of getting some of the HILL pages from EAST GOES WEST! I do hope you can get more of it. My, my, are you and Robert distant neighbors of the Virginia elite?

Answer: Betty Camin sent me copies of Mrs. Dressler's family sheets, done by Dressler herself. Sorry that it was unclear.

I have an ancestor, Christopher Vickery, who "was a Baptist Minister at the Battle of Guilford Courthouse". Christopher was not an ordained minister; I have proof positive of that. There are no official records of his being at the Battle in any capacity, although I was told his name is in the cardfile maintained there. BUT THAT CARDFILE IS NOT OFFICIAL; IT WAS MADE FROM NAMES SENT IN by descendants!!!!! Yes, in my opinion records can be confused by the military; just imagine the era with nothing anywhere near the resources we have now. Paper was scarce as hen's teeth, and preserving any records was a challenge. They had to move from location to location, dragging the paperwork along. We are lucky any of it survived. This Baptist minister thing may be correct, but it may also be a product of layers of and additions to family history that has come down to us; and if put into print becomes "gospel".

My NCGS NEWSLETTER also came today and there was a HILL query from Mrs. Winifred Jacobs, with whom I corresponded many years ago, and who did not at that time seem to realize the enormity of the HILL problem. Her present query is thus:
HILL, SHROPSHIRE. ROYALTY, LANE, GIBBONS.
Wish to contact researchers of William Hill (d. 1792) Surry Co. (not the Baptist Minister). Ch: Thomas/Catherine Shropshire; Jacob; John (not "Big John" HILL of eastern TN); James (b. 1763)/Nancy Royalty; and purported son and dau: John (b. 1775 NC, d. 1847 MO)/Elizabeth Lane and

Polly (Hill) Gibbons. Believe Joab and Polly to be ch. of Jacob Hill. Where did this William Hill live in Rowan, Guilford, and Surry Cos., NC? Contact: Winifred Jacob, 5200 S. W. Colony Ct. Beaverton, OR 97005.

You may or may not wish to take up a correspondence with her.

Will send your wish list to Tim and get back to you the results. It may be a while, as Tim has a heavy case load at the moment.

What did you think of "relict"? Isn't that neat? Women's Lib was needed but has gone way too far in the opposite direction. From where I see it, moderation would be so much better for everyone.

You have done some clear thinking on the Cook family; I hope Tim's research will pay off.

Also, when Helen Leary gave her lecture to Guilford in January, she used a census time line similar to the one enclosed. One of these was generated for each member of the family she was showing us how to follow. It is especially good for same name and for migrating people. See what you think.

Must run; friend husband is hungry!

Arrived 10 April

03 April 1997

Dear Jane,

I've just received about 30 pages of East Goes West, internetted from the Dallas Public Library, 1515 Young Street, Dallas TX, 75201. I've been holding my breath, and we can breathe again. My apprehensions were justified - it's William of Town Fork and his bunch. Nary one of our'n, unless by accident we spring from an undocumented earlier generation of that William's tribe. Did Robert ever say he might be "undocumented"?

The writer comments, to her credit, on several of the accounts and their differences and errors, and then proceeds as best she can to set the record straight. Wouldn't you just know, she makes her own errors and borrows younguns and puts them under other fathers, like my granny used to take baby chicks and put them with a better hen to be their mammy. I have real praise for East Goes West, but a bit of disappointment too. I will send the pages if you want, but it ain't our Hills. Drat old William Elder, he's all over everybody's pages. If ever I write down my Hills, I aim to say not one word about that bunch from Town Fork just for spite. Maybe I'll just say, "And then, there's them other pesky Hills that everybody talks about but never did amount to much." Everybody will know who I mean.

Put on your Professional's Hat for a jiffy, if you please, and think "Elder", as in the will of "I William Hill Elder". In the 1800 will of Abraham Cook, Wilkes County, Abraham makes a point of identifying the children of his first wife as "my elder children". They were, of course, older than the children of his second wife and perhaps that's all he meant to say. But I wonder whether you might have encountered this connotation in enough wills to conclude that "elder" was a common means of distinguishing the first batch of children from a later batch. Have I been overlooking a clue? Were all children of the first batch "elders"? Was William Hill Elder making the statement that he was the product of his father's first marriage to his mother and not to be confused with his father's second batch and thereby mistaken as a son of the second wife?

Per East Goes West, this William's father was indeed twice married, and this William was indeed a son of the first wife. East Goes West also says that this William was an Episcopalian, who disowned his son for becoming a Baptist. I called some Episcopal churches, and they tell me that their clergy are "Father" not Elder.

You can take off the hat.

I will now tell you more than I know about Elders amongst the Baptists. My old Pa was raised in the Primitive Baptist Church, by his grandpa Elder A. M. Denny. Most of the old Dennys were Elders of that church. Ma was raised Methodist, but late in life she was baptized into the Primitive Baptist Church, so I have learned what I could of the Primitive Baptists, beginning with how come they call themselves "Primidy Babdis"? They said it that way, and I thought that was how it was.

As 'splained to me, the Baptist Church in the American Colonies was "an arm" of the Baptist Church in London, and the early churches in America were "arms" of the Baptist Church in Boston. All Baptists were Baptists, and their preachers were Elders. Then in the 1800's, the Baptists split. Over Sunday School and foreign missions and musical instruments in the church. Those who adopted the new called themselves, or came to be called, The Missionary Baptists, and they called their preachers Reverend and their pastors Pastor. Those who stuck with the old ways were, and are, Primitive Baptists, and they call their preachers Elders and the pastors Moderators. Many churches other than Baptist have Elders, in the notch below Pastor and above Deacon.

I wrote to "Louis Bayer" as I mentioned last time. The Yadkin Journal had it wrong. It's Lois Bayer, as correctly listed in the Surry Journal. She descends from Elizabeth Bray (married Thomas Raper), born 1776 / 1778, daughter of Littleberry Bray. She has Littleberry born c1745 Brunswick VA, died 1813 Pulaski Co KY. I have suggested that she make contact with James Cockerham for his Bray knowledge.

Oh, yes, dear Cousin. I would much appreciate the borry of the Surry censuses. If you can spare 1860 for a few days, I will hasten it back to you.

Well, I dunno about Robert and me sharing kinship with the aristocracy, but nothing surprises me. I aim to someday take up General Ambrose Powell (A.P.) Hill, cousin of Robert E. Lee. Maybe they were not kin to us, but 'their hearts was good'.

I swapped a couple of letters with Winifred Jacob of Oregon, your former pen-pal. She is a mine of information on the Hills in general, and her emphasis is on the William and family of Fisher's River. Ms. Jacob has lost much of her sight, and she does a lot of her corresponding by phone. It was she who disputes much of what is written about William Elder of Town Fork. I think she has little that would help with our William of Tararat. And isn't that a peculiar thing - that you and I are the only specimens in captivity with an interest in our William? As much as has been written about the Hills, you'd think there would be something about our Hills.

I will be writing to Mrs. Dressler, in hope that she might have met our Hills while looking for her own.

I have a dozen or so letters in the mail, looking for Irvin Marion and Nancy Hill. And one looking for the McGlaughins (or whatever it is), Elizabeth who witnessed William's deed to son Richard, and the orphan children who were bound to William and Richard.

Yes, I am entertained by "Relict". I've seen it several times without knowing exactly what it meant. I wish they had used it more, it would certainly help sort things out. I have only seen it applied to widows, but I think it might apply to husbands. I've been reading some old case law, where relict is taken to mean the survivor of a union of marriage, distinct from one who survives a spouse. (Mary is the widow of John; Mary is the relict of the marriage to John.) It must be a fine point of distinction, and the drift is that the survivor of a spouse has one set of rights, and the survivor of a marriage union has another. Perhaps that's why we usually see the combinative form "widow *and* relict". I suppose the new husband marries the *widow's rights* and marries the *relict's rights* and by mere coincidence takes a wife. Probably had its origins in royal marriages, where the new husband of the widowed queen might succeed to the dead king's sword but had no claim to the kingdom.

I like the timeline for trailing a name through the censuses. It is a helpful tool. Uses a lot of paper, and I have a few accordion-folds a yard wide.

When convenient, would you please ask Tim to look for two Grants in Surry.
(1) William Hill and Isaac Haines, about 1780, on waters of the Tararat River.
(2) Jonathan Haines (and possibly William Hill), about 1780, on waters of the Tararat River.

We have the ore lands grant (Warrant 676, surveyed 1802) to (Iron William) Hill and Jonathan Haines "on waters of the Yadkin River" near Elkin, on the Surry-Wilkes line. We have the (Iron William) Hill and Jonathan Haines grant "on the north side of the Yadkin" (No. 2240, dated 1794, Surveyed 1802). Don't need these again, they are not near our William on the Tararat.

This is Iron William, not our William, but the Jonathan Haines grant I am looking for was very near our William Hill on the Tararat.

This Jonathan Haines grant was mentioned in 1783, when a grant to William Denny on the Tararat joined the "Jonathan Haines Bounty Land". The Warrant may have been dated earlier, and the Grant later, but it was probably about 1780.

In 1822, Thomas Word deeded land on the Tararat to Richard Hill, with three lines of the tract running with Jonathan Haines, and three lines running with our William Hill. Later, our William deeded his to son Richard, and later still, Richard deeded part to William (I believe Chickie) Hill. I can't make our William and Richard and William (Chickie) fit the plats, and I need the Jonathan Haines grant to anchor our Hills in place.

The Hughes map shows a William Hill - Isaac Haines forge farther up the Tararat, dated 1780. From about then to 1802 or later, Iron William Hill and Jonathan Haines were moving their business west toward Mitchell's River and Wilkes County.

I would like to have this 1780 William Hill - Isaac Haines grant on the upper Tararat also. It may help to anchor those other Richard Hills, Senior and Junior, and help us separate their lands from those of our William and his son Richard. I have tons of deeds to and from the three Richards, and I am be-drat if I can sort them out. Beside myself, is what I am, and nonplussed, too. Whew! If you think that won't wreck a body's infrastructure!

Oh. Put your Professional's Hat back on. I find not one word of whatever happened to the Hill and Haines ore grants. I had someone scan the Surry grantor indexes for dispositions by William Hill (Iron William), and none were found. These were "bounty" lands. Do you know what the rules were for bounty lands? Could they have reverted to the State and been re-granted in after years?

I do hope you found all of the Easter eggs you hid. I don't dye eggs, and you had ought to try finding white eggs in a snowdrift. Be mid-summer ere I find everything I hid and lost during the winter.

And so it goes, pluggin' along.

Wade

Cousin Wade

Mrs. Jane Smith Hill
P. O. Box Z, Salem Station
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3 April 1997

Mr. Wade Baker
1715 Bartlett Drive
Anchorage, AK 99507

Dear Cousin Wade:

Enclosed herewith are the photocopies from Tim's research at the NCSA; his letter to me; your list of items to be sought; and some comments from Mama Jane (my newest daughter-in-law calls me that) pertaining to the legalese found in some of these papers.

My big dictionary gave me a patched up definition of *pendent lite*; NC RESEARCH gave me *de bonis non*. If your library has a copy of Black,s Law Dictionary, you may get better clarity from it than what I have here, and it should be consulted because therein may lie the answer to the question "were there two Thomas Cook men?".

Also, if you study these papers in chronological order, they may also furnish more clues; possibly answers.

The Stokes County Court Minutes of the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions have been abstracted for the years 1818 - 1823, but my library has only two of them, which I will consult asap. I like to know the qualifications of the abstractor before I place too much reliance on their work. I say this because of my transcribing of the Guilford Court Minutes; I am learning things I never knew, and how they relate to other actions, and where to search next. Thank God I am not too ancient to learn. Anyway, I will check those asap and let you know the results.

It may be that a suite [sic] was referred to the Superior Court for settlement, and that can be pursued if needed. This depended upon the value in money of the estate. The amount of the bond gives an indication of the value of the estate.

The book, OLD NEW KENT COUNTY, Volume I, is not in our library, but I seem to remember that there is a copy of Volume II. If so, would you like me to make photocopies of Bray, etc. entries?

Going back to William Hill, Elder, I wonder if he styled himself that way to differentiate between himself and all the other Hills named William? Also, I know modern Baptists use Deacon and modern Presbyterians use Elder. So far as I know, at that time there were no Presbyterian Churches anywhere closer that Guilford County, with its large population of Scots-Irish. Surry/Stokes seem to have been populated mostly by those with English background, along with some 18th century Germans. So many of these English were Baptists of whatever style, although not all had church buildings that early. The congregations met in homes for many years.

Cousin Wade, if I seem more mentally disjointed that usual; I am. Three years ago we learned that Robert has prostate cancer. At his age (he was 71 then), they would not have him undergo any surgery and he decided to avoid radiation and hormone therapy. We are using some homeopathic aids like vitamin supplements, a low fat diet and other helps, in an effort to help his immune system fight the cancer cells. But now he is losing weight and beginning to feel unwell, so we are taking things a day at a time, and I am finding it difficult to concentrate of anything other than his well-being.

I will still work on our family history and do as much research as possible, partly for him and his family, and partly because he wants me to get out of the house and refresh my mind. I may miss seeing vital clues in the records, so please bear with me.

Spring has finally come to stay here and the trees and flowers are really bursting out all over. One of the prettiest spring we have had in a long while.

Will look forward to your assessment of the enclosed papers and be thankful to have your participation in this effort.

Sincerely,

Jane Smith Hill

Mrs. Jane Smith Hill
P. O. Box Z, Salem Station
Winston-Salem, NC 27108-0450

4 April 1997

Mr. Wade Baker
1715 Bartlett Drive
Anchorage, AK 99507

Dear Cousin:

I had a rare opportunity to spend some time in our NC Room this afternoon, with some good results.

1. We have OLD NEW KENT COUNTY...**VOLUME II** and I have enclosed the title page and Bray page of the index. I would have gone ahead and photocopied all these entries, but there is only one copier on the whole floor and it was being heavily used. Let me know which ones you would like next installment and I will get them.

2. NC Room has four volumes of Stokes County Court Minutes; 1819, 1820, 1821 & 1822. Following are my extrapolations of Cook/Baker/Beasely entries:

1819 - Henry Baker an election judge for Snow Creek Assembly. [I do not know the meaning of Assembly in the context of elections.]

1819 - Henry Baker a juror. [he owned land]

Richard Beeson support for a bastard child.

Ed/Edmund/Edward Beesley, & variants - juror

Abel Cook - a deed of gift to John Carson, proved in Open Court by Joshua Cox, Esquire [the type of gift was not listed]

Isaac Cook, to be brought to next Court to be bound out

Jacob Cook, a juror

1820 - Henry Baker listed 1 entry and Ed Beasely 3 entries. did not get them.

1820 - Thomas Cook - "Friday June 16th Court Met"
"A bill of sale from John James to Thomas Cook was duly proven in Open Court by the oath of Wm. C. James & ordered recorded".

No Baker; large # of Beaselys not copied; no Martha.

1822 - photocopied all entries which are enclosed.

I am pleasantly pleased with the quality of these minutes; the transcriber had done a very good job with them and the format she has used is almost like that which appears on the microfilmed books. Just wish there were more years, but it is slow work; I know!

The NC Room Librarian gives me special treatment and this afternoon he kept bringing out brand new books not even catalogued yet. I had quite a good time, but will have to return soon to make copies of some of the gems in these books.

Will get this off and away to you in Monday's mail.

As ever,

Jane Smith Hill

Mrs. Jane Smith Hill
P. O. Box Z, Salem Station
Winston-Salem, NC 27108-0450

17 April 1997,

Dear Wade,

The words of comfort and good advice contained in your 9 April 1997 letter mean so very much to me. I shall post them in a prominent place in my office where I can refer to them when in need. Thank you so much.

My last mailing should have arrived by now. As an addition to that data, my library does have the Hawaii, Maui telephone directories, but a careful search produced no Alta D. or George Craft, I stopped short of looking for telephone numbers of all the nursing homes.

You have done a GREAT job on these papers. Thank you. Well done!

In my initial reading of your Cook workup I found no red flags, except "heirs at law" and "next of kin". NC RESEARCH says...

HEIR. 1) At common law, the person(s) entitled by law to inherit the estate of an INTESTATE. 2) One who inherits by provision of a WILL. Technically, persons who inherit land under the provisions of a will are DEVISEES. If only personal property is inherited, they are LEGATEES. The three terms are often used interchangeably.

HEIR-AT-LAW. 1) At common law, the person (commonly the eldest son) to whom all of an INTESTATE'S REAL PROPERTY was due under the system of PRIMOGENITURE. 2) Term also sometimes used to designate "legal heirs, i.e., those entitled by inheritance laws to the estate of an intestate, both real property and PERSONALTY.

HEIRS AND ASSIGNS. Essential words, at common law, for the transfer of FEE SIMPLE estate in land by WILL or DEED.

HEIRS OF [HIS/HER] BODY. Essential words at common law for establishment a FEE TAIL estate in land.

Webster's Encyclopedic Unabridged Dictionary of the English Language says...

NEXT OF KIN 1. a person's nearest relative or relative. 2. *Law.* the nearest relative or relatives who share in the estate, especially the personal property, of a person who dies intestate.

This may be nit-picking on my part, but it might be helpful in our research to know any differences in these terms. The other thing I want to locate is a legal kinship chart, i.e., the degree of relationship and who takes precedence over whom. If you think it worthwhile. Current NC law has undergone some important changes over the years, so it is not always helpful for olden times, but we are still a common law state as inherited from Mother England, and so much of the law still applies.

These things may resolve themselves when I get the other data you suggested and you incorporate them into the current draft.

The Thomas Cook of Wilkes County, NC who died in 1819 may be part of our Cook family. Have I sent you a copy of his will? Do you want it? If so, let me know; do we want any of his estates papers?

Thank you again for your words; they have already made a difference!

Jane Smith Hill

Mrs. Jane Smith Hill
P. O. Box Z, Salem Station
Winston-Salem, NC 27108-0450

24 April 1997

Dear Cousin,

Rather than photocopy all the HILL deeds, I have enclosed herewith the title pages and pertinent index pages for two books of deed abstracts of Northampton County, NC, done by Dr. Bradley, who has a good reputation in the genealogical community. Also, some abstracts of estates records, too.

Maybe you can sift through the data I have sent recently and select those persons whom you think would be the most productive to our search. If they fail, then we can widen the search.

I searched the June 1822 Term of Stokes County Court without finding any more about the suit, and will check September Term 1829 ASAP. Incidentally, the pages of this term of court are not numbered! Fun, fun. At least my favorite copier was functioning well, but beware the black residue of ink; it will get on your fingers and clothes.

Enclosed are photocopies of pages of the minutes of June 1822 for your evaluation and input. They concern Elisabeth & George Cook, and probably will just confuse the research, but I could not bear to leave them alone.

I do hope your 20 letters will produce some positive results!

Your 09 April letter, last paragraph; was Thomas Cook ever married? If so, who was his wife? If so, did they have any children? Surmise: Thomas may have been single, and therefore should have been able to do pretty much as he pleased with his property, but... next of kin should have been his wife (if living) & children; then his parents; then his siblings, or their children; and so on. In an intestate estate sister Martha's children would have inherited only if she were dead and her children would have "stood in her shoes". Maybe Thomas though his siblings had all the land and money they needed when he wrote the will; or he may have devised land that was not completely his to will away. We need more records, especially land.

Still have not heard from Tim.

As ever,

28 Sep 96

Dane,

A composite plat of William Hill, Tararat River at Pilot Creek, Surry.

We are still in the preliminaries, work to be done. Call it a working copy.

The lines are platted according to the grants and deeds, N-S-E-W, and West was somewhere off toward sunset, and East was someplace close to sunrise. Not even close to precise, those old surveys.

Platted at 660 feet to the inch. 1 Chain = 66 feet. 1" = 10 chains.

In 5, 1836 grant to Wm Ashburn Jr, a William Hill was chaincarrier. Old William was by then close to a hundred years old, so probably "Chickie".

Also, I've put the lines on tracing paper for overlay with the aerial photograph, both 1" = 660 ft. The tax map was originally 1" = 400 ft, and my reductions bring it pretty close to 1" = 660. Little difference, so no close fit.

I have fitted several adjoining deeds to William and Richard, and here we have William's deeded lines with neighbors'lines, all laid approximately to the river for a notion of where our Hills were situated.

In the tax map, I've redlined the still existing lines of the 1784 grant to Charles Denny, which carried through William and Richard. Two-hundred years, and some of the lines are still in place.

In the tracing, I've put in a dotted line where Richard deeded to William (Chickie?). The lines run well with No. 4, but the east line is a mystery. They used "the orchard" and "a path" as landmarks, and of course these do not show in later times. I cannot bring (Chickie's?) dotted line back to the river and I wonder if a line was left out of the deed. But this is where that William was, the west end of the old William and Richard lands, along the river.

I much regret that I don't have anything at all on the settlement of Richard and Sally's estate(s). I doubt that William made a will, for he deeded everything he owned to son Richard. As for Richard, surely there was an estate, but I have not found any papers.

Wade

06 April 1997

Cousin Jane,

I seek printer paper made of fruits and vegetables, so that when I have to eat my words they may be palatable. Banana, please, if you have it. Zucchini kraut, OK.

I have spoken too soon and dismissed too peremptorily, the pages of East Goes West. My too brief scan did not present an obvious tie between William of Town Fork and our William of Tararat, and my too hasty reading did not show me any clues to a family connection. I still do not find positive evidence, but I find names which cannot be dismissed out-of-hand. We do not descend from William of Town Fork, but *possibly* we *might* connect with that William's earlier family.

I send pages 87 - 93 of East Goes West, which follow the early generations down to William of Town Fork. The other pages I have then track the writer's descent from this William, and do not pertain to our own descent. If we have any tie to William of Town Fork, as gleaned from East Goes West, it would be an earlier tie to his earlier generations and thence through uncle(s).

Town Fork William is presented as son of Sion, Jr., son of Sion, Sr., son of Robert, son of Robert.

Page 93, the sons of Sion, Senior.

Robert	1678 VA - 1765 Halifax Co NC (borders Northampton Co NC)	Age 62 in 1740
Sion Jr.	1682 Surry Co VA - 1762+ Edgecombe Co NC (borders Halifax Co NC)	
Richard	1684 - 1722/23	Deceased 17 years before 1740
Capt. Thomas	1686 - 1737	Age 54 in 1740
Michael	1688 - 1755	Age 52 in 1740
William	1690 -	Age 50 in 1740

In 1733 William granted land joining brother Robert in Northampton Co NC, sold it 1745 after buying other land 1742.

Our William was born (before) 1740 on the Meherrin River in Southampton Co VA. The Meherrin River runs as the west border of Southampton Co VA, then into Northampton Co NC, back into Southampton, then back into Northampton. This puts our William's birthplace very near to Sion Senior's sons Robert and William in Northampton Co NC. So near that I reach out to the sons of Sion Senior possibly for the father of our William. Surmise and conjecture, but I have spent time and money following scantier clues.

Not to quibble, but William is shown with a grant in Northampton, joining his brother Robert. This does not prove that Robert's land was all in Northampton, and leaves to speculate whether Robert might have been on both sides of the Northampton line, and - or on both sides of the state line. If brothers Robert and William had lands in Northampton NC on the Meherrin River, some of their acres might have extended into Southampton VA on the Meherrin River.

Of the above sons, I place on my less-likely list Sion Jr., for he was father of his own William of Town Fork, and Richard who is shown deceased by 1722 / 23, and I think before our William was born. On my more-likely list, I place Robert, Thomas, Michael, and William. Since we know from East Goes West that brothers Robert and William were in Northampton at the right time, and since we do not know where brothers Thomas and Michael were, the brothers Robert and William rise to the top of my list. I give priority to William, only because of the custom of passing the father's name to a son.

These Hills of Northampton, Halifax, and Edgecombe were too close to Southampton Co VA for me to pass them up. And the two brothers Richard and William are too like the Richard and William of Tararat to be ignored.

The writer, Alta Deshazer Craft, is a resident of Hawaii, married in 1931 to a husband born 1906. That would make her probably eighty-plus. I do not know how to make contact. I can envision her notes cluttered with "our" Hills and no place to put them, just as our notes are cluttered with William of Town Fork and no place to put him. Suggestions?

I think Tim wants to do some archives work for us. The Hills of Northampton and Halifax. Grants, deeds, wills, estates, the usual. Suggest emphasis on brothers William and Thomas. Looking for the parents and earlier, of William Hill born 1740 or before, on the Meherrin River in Southampton Co VA, married perhaps twice (?), latest 1776 probably wife Sarah (Sally). In Surry Co NC c1780. Looking also for Richard, same census age groupings as William, this Richard also in Surry Co NC in 1770's, possibly brother of William. Remotely, son of William and a first wife.

So, if you will un-open and un-read my letter of a few days ago. I take it back. We may, after all and indeed, have some kinship with William of Town Fork by way of his uncles William, Robert, Michael, and Thomas.

Wade

Cousin Wade

ps We may yet "document" your Chickie and my Jesse. Green Cards, at least.

09 April 97

Cousin Jane.

Yours with Tim's Cook sheets received.

And the news of Robert's discomfiture. Thoughts and prayers are with you both, and confident hope. You owe me no explanation for distracted thinking. Been there. I know what it's like to borrow attention from one place and carry it in a leaky sieve to another. And I've scolded myself, as I hope you will not, for not being able to think of everything for everybody all of the time. It is a gift of nature, a preserving defense, that we cannot hold one thought eternally, or hold all thoughts simultaneously. Count your blessings. And do allow yourself, and I mean your SELF, some time and some energy for a fun project or pleasant distraction of your own. The Self requires it, diminishes without it, and there is nothing selfish about it. This, too, is nature's way. Sorry 'bout the sermon; don't forget the collection plate on your way out.

I've put close to twenty letters in the mail, and we will hope something comes of them. As I learn about Hills, you will know when learnt.

I send for your entertainment my workup of the Cook sheets most recently received. Read my mess at your leisure, respond as the spirit moveth. I tasked myself to identify family, not to sort out law-suits, but I found the lawsuits so helpful that I went a bit deep. I conclude one Thomas Cook, one estate, two - call it three - lawsuits.

Best guess is that in his 1822 will, Thomas Cook left nearly everything he owned - 360 acres, 14 negros - to non-relatives, and left some odds-n-ends to his near kin. A lawsuit came two months later, evidently to overturn the will. The heirs who were his "next of kin" won, unseated his executors and unrelated heirs, and inherited Thomas' estate. Peace and bliss from 1822 to 1828, when two old unpaid debts came up, and the claimants sued Thomas' estate and "heirs and next of kin". The papers bring us up to the September term of court, 1829, and say nothing about how the case turned out.

Ironic that had it not been for the two old debts, $30 or $40 each, we might never have known who Thomas' next of kin were. I am moved to pay the old debts myself. The next of kin are named in the Summonses issued by the court in 1828 - 1829.

If you get a whack at it, see what the abstracted minutes of P's & Q's have to say about the June Term 1822. It was about then that the suit got under way. And the September Term 1829. Hopefully, the court record might tell us how these heirs were Thomas' "next of kin". Some of his own children, left out of his will? Children of his brother William? How come no children of his sister Martha Beasley?

Did you keep copies of Tim's latest? I can send copies. Check for $23, reimbursing your pay Tim.

I wish you good news, great cheer, a smiley face.

Cousin Wade

A:\ANK.1

Mrs. Jane Smith Hill
P. O. Box Z, Salem Station
Winston-Salem, NC 21708-0450

12 April 1997

Mr. Wade Baker
1715 Bartlett Drive
Anchorage, AK 99507

Dear Coz:

I'm confessing my ignorance; what are "green cards"?

Personally, I prefer chocolate ink on the words I must eat; they taste better and I am an almost reformed chocoholic.

Are you amazed that our letters continue to nod in passing? Are we on the same wave length, but 5 days apart?

To business:

Tim must be on vacation; he owes me some work on another subject and is later than usual with the results, although he knows I am in no hurry for it.

When your first "East Goes West" letter arrived I put it aside because of your negative view and my mental state, but when your second letter arrived, I went to the file and pulled some old HILL material for comparison. Winifred Jacobs had shared some material as had Jerry Reid Hill of Siler City, NC. At that time Jerry's address was ~~Rt. 1, Box~~ 68 RED TERRY Rd., Siler City, NC 27344. (919) 742-4589. North Carolina is changing the Routes to street addresses for ease in implementing the new 911 emergency numbers and directions to homes in need. So, I doubt if mail will be delivered to the address. However, I hope to get to the library and although there are several hours of work that must be done, I will try to find the Siler City telephone book for his address and telephone number, and will try to check for Alta Deshazer Craft (Mrs. George) for a phone and address in Hawaii, probably Maui, and hope she is still with us.

The single sheet bearing HILL data was taken from the NGS Quarterly, but the sender failed to cite the volume, date & number. My library does not have any of the back issues and my personal subscription does not begin until 1990, so finding this source will be a job of work.

The photocopy from the NC State Library, Genealogical Serivces Section's Vertial File, (whew!) can be seen by Tim if you want more of it and if it is still there.

"Families of HILL and LYNN, A History", was sent by Winifred Jacobs, I think. LPH was a client as you can see from the enclosed file copies of our correspondence. All this will give you something to do until the snow melts.

If you would be interested in putting your brain to work on this mish mash and sharing with me the results, I will be your devil's advocate, and between the two of us and Tim, we just might achieve something good.

With our HILL family almost certainly being from Virginia, I believe the following from my reading of social history:

1. They were mostly from S & SW England.
2. The naming patterns for that group was often, (but not written in stone) as follows: first-born children were named for their grandparents; and second-born named for their parents. Third-born children were named after other relatives. This is the reason we see so very many of the same given names, and why there is often so much confusion about which generation is being studied. The habit of modern researchers to use Junior/Senior to distinguish between same-names adds fuel to the confusion. A good numbering system should be used to clarify.
3. The Virginians preferred to name their sons after Teutonic warriors, Frankish knights and English kings. Daughters were named for Christian saints who did not appear in the Bible and also traditional English folk names and probably English queens.
4. If a named child died in infancy, a second child of the same sex would be given the name of the dead child in order to perpetuate the name. This is also the beginning of the use of the mother's surname as a first or second given name or as the called name. Thomas Smithers Hill comes to mind. Almost certainly either his mother or grandmother was a Smithers. Thus that surname is perpetuated at least for one generation.
5. The erection dates of the Virginia counties must be studied and kept in mind when researching; just as in NC.

I am also enclosing my only copies of this old HILL material for your perusal, copy if so desired, and return. I simply could not make head or tail from it or how Robert's Hills might fit into the lineage when I first received it, but I never throw away anything genealogical. Voila!

At this point I have formed no opinion about the Sion Hill family except for one niggling item; our Hills were almost certainly from VA or eastern NC because so may clues point in that direction, and why not the family of Sion, since it is continually mentioned in sourced and unsourced material? If the HILLs did migrate from VA and then west along the upper tier of NC counties, they won't be the first I have tried to follow. The other families I followed were for clients, so I have had a little practice in the methods they adopted of trying to deceive their descendants.

I really wish I had bought a photocopier when I had the chance, but hand copying does help me learn better than just reading. Ergo -

Thornton W. Mitchell, NORTH CAROLINA WILLS: A TESTATOR INDEX, 1665-1900. 2 Volumes. Raleigh: 1987. [reprinted in 1 volume by Genealogical Pub. Co., Inc. 199-?]

I have the older, 2-volume set. The HILL testators occupy 7 pages, so I will furnish you with the Hill Testators from only the two counties you mentioned; Halifax and Northampton. The NC State Archives has assigned a number to each county for purposes of classification and retrieval of documents. The counties are listed alpha, with Alamance as 001, so on. Halifax is 047 and Northampton in 071.

HALIFAX COUNTY 047

HILL, Benjamin	1820	WB-3/657	[no original]
Calyer	1799	WB-3/330	[no original] Calyer=Collier?
John	1854	WB-4/372	ditto
John	1830	WB-4/59	do
Joseph J.	1809	WB-3/524	do
Mary E.	1881	WB-6/246	AR
Rebecca	1845	WB-4/248	[no original]
Robert	1765	WB-1/159	do
Sarah	1793	WB-3/213	do
Thomas	1789	WB-3/173	do
Thomas	1769	WB-1/236	do
Whitmel J.	1873	WB-6/82	do
William	1798	WB-3/300	do
William C.	1803	WB-3/398	do

Halifax established in 1758 from Edgecombe County. Many Court records are missing; reason unknown. This is quite obvious from the number of missing original wills. We must make do with the clerk's copy from the Will Books and they are on microfilm, which will make Tim's task a lot more difficult. AR indicates the original is in the Archives.

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY 071

HILL, Green	1769	WB-1/172	[no original in Archives]
Green	1831	WB-4/74 AR	[original in Archives]
Harmon	1777	WB-1/20	AR
Henry	1840	WB-4/296	AR
Henry J.	1875	WB-6/170	AR
Hermon	1823	WB-3/277	AR
James	1819	WB-3/223	AR
John	1747	Original Only SS/AR	[Sec. of State/Archives]
Joseph	1801	WB-3/11	[no original...]
Merritt	1846	WB-5/56	AR
Robert C.	1894	WB-7/208	AR
Roland	1900	WB-7-454	AR
William	1748	Orig. Only SS/AR	

Northampton County established in 1741 from Bertie County; a few records are missing; reason unknown. SS/AR = Secretary of State records in Archives.

HILL, Wylie 1844 Georgia 013 WB-C/340 AR 013 [this will probated in Buncombe County, NC. he must have owned property there, also]

This seems to be our choice in wills. Would you like to make a list of the ones you want Tim to photocopy or otherwise reproduce? There is one microfilm copier in the microfilm room. Depending on the quality of the original document, one may get fine reproductions and one may not. He may need to hand-copy or abstract.

After you review the wills you may find some clues as to the most likely Estates Papers to have Tim seek. Be prepared that there may be few surviving papers as per above.

William Hill, elder... may be "written on my heart". With those old reprobates, anything was possible for them if in doing so they could confuse us. You have a valid point about elder indicating son of a first marriage. I can't recall having seen one so indicated, but as I said... However, I still believe he was indicating that he was the eldest William Hill in the area, rather than Elder in the Baptist Church. Let me know if I am wrong, but please provide chocolate ink.

I do thank you for the information about the Primitive Baptist Church and the Baptists in general. Isn't it amazing how important it is to know about such things?

"The only specimens in captivity"... is a apt description of us. I have felt like a wanderer in the desert for so long; now you bring water and hope.

About the Surry grants; I will try to put these requests in order and get them to Tim.

My Professional Hat is perched atop my head and I am having a brain storm about the "Bounty Lands".

Have you checked the HERITAGE OF SURRY COUNTY for data on this? Somewhere in my brain is the idea that Fred Hughes told me something about them, but I will have to go into a trance or seance to remember the source and how to learn more. Off the top of my head, (there is a hole in the top of the hat for data to emerge) I seem to remember that the new State of NC needed iron for the war effort and "granted" the ore lands to Hill, Haines, et. al. for that purpose, and they then reverted to the "powers that be", i.e. the State, when the need was less and the industry faltered for a time. It revived on private land and continued for years until more modern "Yankee" factories turned out better and cheaper iron tools and utensils and put us out of business. I believe it revived during the War, but ended shortly thereafter. Please do not quote me on this, for it must be verified if possible. I will check into this for us.

The new State of NC confiscated all ungranted land in the colony, plus the lands of known Loyalists and suspected sympathizers to their cause. This has left a difficult land trail to follow at times, and may be the causitive factor here. Land fraud was also a problem at the same time. The worthy Patriots were not above grabbing any land they could and profiting from the sale of it.

Good heavens; my computer clock is an hour slow; it's nearly midnight! See you tomorrow.

It is tomorrow and I have interjected about two pages of thoughts for you to mull over. Wouldn't some mulled wine taste good? I just love words.

Ha! I have found the reference to "bounty land" on Fred's SURRY COUNTY MAP. I wish to heaven he had given sources for all his statements, but he was adament in refusing to do so. If one does not give sources from the very beginning of the research it is a daunting task to go back and find them. I know!

While seeking Fred's little Guilford History; I found Olds" NORTH CAROLINA WILLS, and antique book of abstracts. It value lies in the fact that Olds was a state employee of some sort and an amateur genealogist who made tha abstracts in 1925.

Under Halifax County, NC wills for HILL are as follows:
1765 Robert Hill - Tabitha (wife), Green, Sion, Abner, & Milory. [?]
1769 Thomas Hill - George, James, Nancy, Comfort, Anas, Moses, & Slaughter. [Slaughter Hill? that's as bad as Ice, Hail, & Storm Snow]
1789 Thomas - Sarah (wife) Thomas, Benjamin, Robert & Richard
1793 Sarah - McNeill, Fannie, [this might be Fannie McNeill] Long, Nanny, [this may be Nanny Long] Lassiter, Christian [Christian Lassiter ?] Christian can be a feminine name, too.]
1799 Collier - Robert, Thomas, & Benjamin.

Under Northampton, are:
1777 Harmon - Henry
1769 Green - Bennett [is this Bennett's mother's surname?]

Must get ready for my trip to the library. Will mail this Monday.

Jane Smith Hill

SOME STILL NEEDS ANSWER –

File Copy
A:\ WADE.13

Mrs. Jane Smith Hill
P. O. Box Z, Salem Station
Winston-Salem, NC 27108-0450

12 May 1997

Mr. Wade Baker
1715 Bartlett Drive
Anchorage, Alaska 99507

Your most welcome epistle arrived today and I will begin the process of answering as many of your questions as possible.

First, please do keep HILL, BAKER, and COOK separate in so far as possible, both for my physical filing system and my mental one, and I thank you for that offer.

Second, enclosed is a handout from a genealogical conference that was shared with my by an attendee. She knew I would welcome the maps, but said the notes she took at the lecture were unintelligible, even to her. So I don't have them. The bibliography may be of some help, too.

Robert was most interested in the migration path as shown in the VA/NC map you enclosed, and he sends his thanks for all your help. I am impressed also.

A HORNBOOK OF VIRGINIA HISTORY, 3rd ed., Emily J. Salmon, ed. [Richmond: Virginia State Library]. 1983. This is a very simple book about the erection dates of the counties and some brief history of the colony/state. The following are from this book:

GREENSVILLE COUNTY, VA was erected from Brunswick in 1780. Parts of Brunswick and Sussex were added later. [they don't give a date] The county seat is Emporia.

BRUNSWICK COUNTY, VA was erected from Prince George County in 1720, but, because of the sparse population, county government was not organized until 1732. In the latter year Brunswick County was enlarged by the addition of parts of Surry and Isle of Wight counties. The county seat is Lawrenceville.

SOUTHAMPTON COUNTY, VA was formed in 1749 from Isle of Wight County and part of Nansemond County was added later. [the book does not give a date]. The county set if Courtland.

SUSSEX COUNTY, VA was erected from Surry County in 1753. The county seat is Sussex.

SURRY COUNTY, VA was erected from James City County about 1652. The county seat is Surry.

ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY, VA was named for the Isle of Wight off the coast of southern England. It was first known as Warrosquyoake [honest] and was one of the first shires established in 1634. The present name was

given in 1637. Part of Nansemond County was added in 1769. The county seat is Isle of Wight.

By now, Virginia may have generated a better history of her counties than the HORNBOOK. Will try to remember to ask Tim to check at NCSLGSS in my next letter to him. Lee Albright will know about that.

I will check for more VA county details when I can get to the library, but don't hold your breath.

David Leroy Corbitt, THE FORMATION OF THE NORTH CAROLINA COUNTIES 1663-1943. [Raleigh: Dept. of Archives and History] 1950. [NC Historical Commission] 1975. still available from A&H, and worth the modest cost.

BERTIE COUNTY, NC was formed in 1722 from Chowan County. Windsor is the county seat, or as the English would say, "county town". Tyrrell was formed in 1729 from Chowan, Bertie, Currituck and Pasquotank.
Edgecombe was formed in 1741 from Bertie.
Northampton was formed in 1741 from Bertie.
Hertford was formed in 1759 from Bertie, Chowan and Northampton.

HALIFAX COUNTY, NC was formed in 1758 from Edgecombe. Halifax is the county seat.
Martin was formed in 1774 from Halifax and Tyrrell.
Part of Halifax was annexed to Edgecombe in 1779.

Ain't you sorry you axed?

Precincts are the names used for the first land divisions instead of counties. I believe this was used in the time when North and South Carolina was one; before it was divided. If you can get your hands on a copy of Corbitt, read the INTRODUCTION for a brief history of the early settlement and the problems involved. If not, let me know and I will make copies of it for you.

While seeking a map to share with you, I found a copy of the Premier issue of the NCGS JOURNAL, with an article by Robert Clay about the counties of Virginia from notes taken during a lecture. I believe Robert has now retired from the Virginia State Library/Archives, but he is a walking encyclopedia about the records of that state, and a real southern gentlemen. Please return this copy of the JOURNAL when you have finished with it.

Other states do not have such excellent gazetteers, Corbitt, and other such helps as North Carolina has. Or at least I have not located any. Is chocolate ink needed here?

I found my page of NC development maps, which you may want to photocopy and then return to me. These maps, when used with Corbitt, have been very helpful to me. They are still available from the Dept. of A&H.

13 May 1997

For an excellent example; the 1850 Forsyth County census was taken by one man, who signed and dated each page of his enumeration. It required almost the full 6 months for him to complete the thing. He was a local man. At the end of the enumeration sheets are his comments and signature, with a notary's seal. Forsyth was small enough in area and population to enable one man to do the job. Other counties were too much for one man, and again, if he signed his name on the line, we should know where he was on a given day.

The next step was for the Federal Marshall to make copies of the enumeration for the county, the state, and for the FEDS. It is my understanding that there were three copies of each census, as above. The county copy was to be retained therein. The state census was to be forwarded to Raleigh, and the 3rd was to go to Washington.

It is the Federal copy that was microfilmed for our use. Some of the county and state copies are in the Archives in Raleigh, but not all of them; another case of careless clerks and courthouse fires. Mea culpa; I need to go back and get these heading from every census page I have ever used.

The hand-copying of the field notes or even from the original book (if the enumerator took it with him) into another one or two books must have caused quite a few errors, which we have all seen. In Randolph County the enumerator numbered in order not only the inhabited houses but also the houses that were vacant; something that I have never seem elsewhere, and which is of great help. If the copy you see does not have the name of the enumerator or the date, it was probably omitted during the copying. It's a shame photocopiers had not been invented then.

I believe it was during the hand copying of the field notes and other books that the dispersal of portions of districts came about, for I have seen it in other counties. I know the census taker did not jump around as the pages would indicate.

1870 was apparently taken by Federal strangers who knew not the area or the people, for not only in NC but also in other states, many persons were not enumerated at all, even though they do appear in 1860 and 1880. We think the War may have been responsible for this eccentricity. Guess those "nuts" (thank you) didn't know as much as they thought they did, and we do know that many men were "not at home" in 1870 in the South, reasons not known for certain. To recap; there were written guidelines for each census year and the boys were to follow those guidelines. Alas, the spirit of independence or just plain contrariness caused so many to "do their own thing", and shows up as inconsistencies in every county.

You bring up a nice point about taxing and polls. The census takers were paid by the number of people they counted, but in such a small amount that they would not be inclined to pad the figures, especially after 1850. The census was used to apportion taxes and representation, so you can just about be certain that most men were very modest about the value of their real and personal property.

In my opinion, the early precincts in NC will not impinge upon our research. They are an anomaly that generates confusion in all of us, even me! They belong to the very earliest settlements on the NC & SC coast and thus, I don't think they will intervene in our problem.

Now to your analysis of the printed family histories read so far. I am the original doubting Thomasina. Over the years it has become apparent through my genealogical work that insufficient evidence and same names cause dreadful errors in printed works. One of the difficulties is the distance of the researcher from the original records. Another is the lack of knowledge of other record types. Another is the reliance upon wills only, rather than all the records generated by the person/family, another is accepting anything sent from another researcher regardless of its accuracy, and last but not least is the failure to research the whole family and even the whole tribe when necessary. One more; history, history, history! The "burned counties" problem has contributed to this, but with some digging, many of those burned counties will still produce some help.

In other words I don't believe anything in print, especially when the material is not documented with footnotes and sources. Spot-checking of the text will usually verify or refute the statements.

If this sounds harsh, it is, but I learned the hard way; known as the School of Experience. Even Boddie's series of books contain errors of omission and commission and disputes. Reliance on the original records of every type and used first will give a more accurate understanding of the family. Then the printed material can be used to compare and possibly fill in gaps. End of that part of the sermon.

Now for the census.

Enclosed are my original copies of a lecture handout; can't find any more copies so will need these back.

The 1790 through 1820 were to begin 1 August of each year, but with transportation and communications being what they were, we know they began later. Note the cut-off date for each one.

1830 began the 1 June census day which continued through 1900.

If you will check the headings of the census on microfilm, there is a place for the current date, which was to be filled in each day by the census taker. Some did; some didn't. But it should let us know where he was each day. Again, my understanding is that the actual enumerations were done by locals, at least until 1870. The answer to this is to look at the name of the enumerator on each page and see if he was a local man. (I should add here that some censuses were taken by only one man; others were taken by two or more, and I believe that depended upon the area to be covered and the population density.) If so, he must have known approximately were he was each day of the enumeration; was he in Bundy's District or Siloam District? If he was a furriner, he may have strayed over an indistinct dividing line.

A comment about the Joel/Talitha Hill Bray census evaluation, excellent in style; could dear Talitha have been from a Hill family that did NOT come to Surry County? Could she have been born in one of the eastern counties of NC? It will behoove us to watch for her name in any wills and estates records thereof. [between transcribing the court minutes and wills of Guilford County (1771 -] my modern English is giving way to what I consider to be more beautiful prose]

I wonder if Jerry Hill is still actively working on the family or if he has given up. Maybe your letter will produce some good results.

Will make a stab at obtaining the pages of the NGS quarterly; Lee may possibly have issues that old at NCSLGSS in Raleigh. [North Carolina State Library, Genealogical Services Section] If not, she may know where to get them.

16 May

NC/VA Boundary Line. This will require a trip to the library; my own history books are too vague on this subject. I do know that dear Governor Byrd was not impressed with the North Carolina members of the crew who did the actual work, and had a good deal to say about it in his private journal, which may be available. Will check.

Wills in "odd" places. If a testator owned property [slaves or real estate] in a county or state in addition to the county/state of residence; his will would have been probated in each of those places in order to satisfy the requirements thereof. Is this what you are seeing? Remember the Georgia will of Wylie Hill in the list I sent? He obviously owned something in NC and in GA.

Your last question in that paragraph is a stunner! The will would have been the instrument of conveyance if they were acquired by inheritance, so I would think the owners would have had a copy of it. As to the purchased Negroes, there would definitely have been a bill of sale in order to prove ownership, most especially in cases of migration. Slaves were fair game to unscrupulous persons who would take them away from their owners by any manner. Bills of sale were sometimes registered at the courthouse or at the term of court, but not everyone was foresighted enough to protect themselves in that manner. If I learn anything else about this stunner, will let you know.

The Hill Doctor in Wilmington would do better with Tim as his researcher in that neck of the woods. He has access to so many more records than I have here, but thank you very much for the offer.

Tobacco is becoming a touchy subject. Robert is addicted, and so are 2 sons and 1 daughter-in-law. At least they are courteous with their smoke around the rest of us, but I still don't like it one little bit. Having grown up in Greensboro, I don't have the all-fired reverence for RJR as the locals here, and for the tobacco industry to pay out big money for a habit people chose to do to themselves is idiotic. Too many people here depend on RJR for their retirement money promised to them for work performed under hard conditions, as well as those currently employed. If RJR folds, it will just about kill this town.

As to the drunk driver, he deserved what he got. It's past time for firm measures against mixing alcohol and driving.

Do please watch out for moose; I had no idea they were mean enough to kill, although I know several people who get mean as a snake when they are hungry.

I planted 3 tomatoes on the 7th when the signs were right; and will plant 4 more the 18th or 19th. Our neighbors trees are growing so tall the branches cut off almost too much sun for tomatoes to thrive, but she has promised to DO SOMETHING about them, and this old country girl will plant tomatoes in the back yard as long as she can manage a garden fork and a spade.

Must stop and cook for friend husband. He gets mean when he is hungry. Will answer [read attempt to answer] the rest of your letter soon. Will also send 1870 in the next mailing.

As ever,

04 May 07

Cousin Jane,

Put on your apron. These pages are sticky. Chocolate does that, and the butterscotch syrup gets gooey. I am remiss in responding to your last three letters, and lest I get remisser I will try to get responder.

I'd better do a little touch-up repair to my letter of 06 April, last paragraph, first page. I said that I would put Sion Junior on my less-likely list as the possible father of our William, since Sion had his own son William of Town Fork. This was from my reading of East Goes West. But that was before I saw your pages from Winifred Jacob. She disputes Sion Junior as the father of Town Fork William, and credits (I discredit) Sion Junior's brother William as the father of Town Fork William. At present, leave it open, one as likely - or unlikely - as the other.

There being a dispute, I am as inclined to one disputant as another, which is tact for saying I don't believe any of them until I know more. I now have in hand at least four accounts of the Hills of the VA - NC line at Southampton-Northampton-Halifax-Edgecomb-Nash, and I will soon do a side-by-side analysis to see whether in my own mind <u>any</u> of the accounts answer our own questions. I doubt that you and I will ever satisfy all of the several Hills (who disagree among themselves) and I will be content if we can just find our William's thread in the Hill fabric.

Your package received, 1860 census, etc. I've been a-stydying same, but I want to look closely at these materials, so I will make that the subject of a later epistle. I will answer yours of recent date, and write more when I know more - or when the questions o'erwhelm my answers as is usually the case. I gotta get me a hat with a hole in the top.

"Green Card". This is issued by the Immigration & Naturalization Service for temporary aliens. Migrant workers temporarily in the US carry the green card. There's a Blue Card, I think for resident aliens. With a card, the alien is "documented", without a card, "undocumented".

I've been amusing myself with the 1860 census, comparing it to 1850, in an attempt to position Joel Bray and wife Telitha Hill. I thought it peculiar that Joel is not listed among the other Brays, except for son Allison, and I wondered whether these might be living near Telitha's Hills, as a possible clue to Telitha's family. Joel Bray was, by the evidence, son of Hanan, and the evidence points to Hanan's daughter Sarah as the wife of our Richard Hill, son of William. Hanan witnessed some of our Hill land deeds. So we infer a closeness between our Hills and the family of Hanan Bray. If, as we believe, Hanan's daughter Sarah married "our" Richard Hill, could not Hanan's son Joel have also married into "our" Hills? Perhaps brother Joel and sister Sarah Bray marrying brother Richard and sister Telitha Hill?

Well, no such luck, but the censuses tell me where Joel and Telitha probably lived, amongst our Whitakers and my Keys and Bakers, west of the Ararat, and near the old crossing of the Rockford Road and Hogan's and Skin Cabin creeks, a mile and a half south of Pine Hill.

In 1850, Page 207, the census of Bundy's district ends and the census of Siloam district begins, with Joel Bray the second family in <u>Siloam</u> district. In 1860, Page 96, Siloam ends and Bundy's begins, with Joel Bray the first family in <u>Bundy's</u> district. In both censuses, Joel's neighbors are the same, Whitakers, Keys, Bakers.

I believe this tells us that Joel Bray was very near the dividing line between Bundy's and Siloam, he

being listed south of the line in 1850, and north of the line in 1860. Joel Bray had $500 worth of real estate in 1850, and $1100 worth in 1860. That argues that he was probably living on some part of his sizeable land holdings. A fair guess would be that the district line ran through his property, or that he had farms in both districts. He inherited land from Hanan on Bull Run (his $500 land?), so he must have bought his $600 land down by Skin Cabin or Hogan's.

With the census abstract of 1850, Agnes Wells offers an approximate map of the census districts, which I attach. Bundy's and Siloam districts follow the west bank of the Ararat River, Bundy's on the north, Siloam on the south. About where Agnes shows these joining, there was in those times the Rockford Road, from Rockford on the south, northeasterly across Hogan's and Skin Cabin creeks, and on to Westfield on the north. The Rockford Road passed through what would later be the Hills Grove lands of the Chickie Hill family, and crossed the Ararat at the Douglas Ford just below the present Power Dam Road.

Joel's estate papers show that Joel gave or sold land to his son Allison. In 1860, Allison was living in Rockford district, with the same neighbors as Joel. In Agnes Wells' map, Rockford-Siloam-Bundy's all share a common corner which I would place at or near where the Rockford Road crossed Skin Cabin Creek or Hogan's Creek, a mile and a half south of Pine Hill.

Here's where you put on yout hat with the hole in the top. You are more familier with censuses than I am. Nut-shell for me the censusing procedure. Just from reading a few abstracts I surmise (at great peril) that around census time the Feds came in and used the County's District Captains to do the actual work. I guess that the Feds commissioned a Census Marshal and his Assistants to superintend the census, but I am unsure whether the Feds took the census themselves or relied upon the District Captains to do the actual head-count. It may be that the Captains did the traveling and the counting, and then turned in their sheets to the Marshal. Perhaps the Marshal then transcribed the Captain's sheets to the official record and perhaps the transcription is what we are looking at.

I would guess that the District Captains had more than one axe to grind. They needed a tally of land and polls for taxing. They needed men for the musters, especially in June 1860 when there was war talk on the wind. And in 1860, the Unionists had heard the war talk too, and I would bet that the Feds wanted to know about iron works and industry and agriculture and the age of the menfolk who might soon be under arms. What a wealth of intelligence for the Union! Drat them pesky Feds! That it worked equally well for the South is commendable. Hooraw for the Confederates!

(You know how come yankees is like granola? Take away the fruits and flakes, and all that's left is the nuts.)

I wonder why the record skips about among the Districts. We have a few pages of this District, then a half page of another, then back to the former or on to another. It would seem to me that if the Captains censused their own districts, then the record would have all of one district together. I would hope that the census-taker did work both sides of the line, for it we could be sure of this we could follow his line of march and better discern where people lived. Now, take off the hat.

Allison Bray, age 35, and wife Ruth and 2-year old daughter "R" (Rejoyner or Regina) are at Page 88 of the 1860 census. In the May term of court, 1866, papers were filed in Allison's estate. Widow Ruth had by then married Gunter. Owing to Allison's estate was one ten-dollar bond of Jesse Hill, due 1859, with partial payments made. I do not know of another Jesse Hill in Surry at that time other than my gg-grandpa Jesse, who lived and died on the William and Richard Hill plantation. Again, that closeness between the family of Hanan Bray and the family of our William Hill.

There ought to be a Surry deed to Joel Bray before 1860, probably mentioning Hogan's or Skin Cabin creeks or the Rockford Road.

Well, so what? I see nothing more in this hoopty-do than suggesting a look to the descendants of Joel and Telitha (Hill) Bray for the Hill family of Telitha. Was she a daughter of our William, a sister of our Richard? And was it Joel's sister Sarah Bray who married our Richard Hill? And were Joel and Sarah son and daughter of Hanan Bray? Who was their mother? Who was Richard Hill's mother?

1850		1860		1876 Joel Bray's estate
Joel Bray	55	Joel	64	Joel deceased
Telitha (Hill)	50	Telitha	55	Widow Litha Bray
Henrietta	30	Henrietta	40	Rhittie Bray
Louisa	28	Louisa	38	Louisa Bray
Allison	26			Married Ruth, daughter Regina (or Rejoyner) Bray
Sethitha	24	Matilda	36	Matilda Bray
Sally	20	Sarah	34	Sally Bray
Hiram	18			
Stacy	15	Stacy	31	
Clarissa	15	Claracy	31	Claicy Bray
Julina	07	Julia	29	Julia and husband Watson Whitaker

(1860, Stacy Bray 25, servant,
with family of Benj. Nutt)

Joel's daughters did not marry unless after 1876, except Julia who married Watson Whitaker. By 1876, son Allison was deceased. Did his daughter Regina - Rejoyner marry? In 1876, son Hiram and daughter Stacy not listed as heirs. Did they move away? A pretty slim trail to follow to Telitha Hill's descendants. Maybe some of Watson Whitaker's descendants might know.

Joel's widow "Litha" was awarded dower in Joel's lands on Bull Run "including the dwelling house". Maybe she and Joel moved back to Bull Run before Joel died. This 1876 dower might indicate her return to Bull Run, or might be no more than the acreage and house on Bull Run was more valuable to her than the land and house down by Skin Cabin. I think that Joel's original home was on Bull Run, and if so he was nearer to those "other" Richard Hills, Senior and Junior. So I am no closer to identifying Telitha's Hills. She's another pesky, all that traipsing around.

We discoursed earlier about Banana Bray - Barnn Bray, transcribed as Brag from the censuses. There is indication that this was Lebanon Bray, husband of Martha Smith, parents of David and Calvin T. Bray who are biographed by Hester Jackson in her book Surry County Soldiers in the Civil War. Hester's and the censuses are compatible if we convert Banana Brag to Lebanon Bray.

You sent "The Families of Hill and Lynn" by Jessie Lynn Bell, 1976. Hers is remarkably like Craft's East Goes West in that they both follow the patriarch Robert and Mary and their children, then diverge to follow separate lines from Robert's sons. They are so alike that one might wonder whether the early generations are the product of separate and independent research, or whether one may have relied upon the other. It seems certain that Bell and Craft were looking at the same materials. I wish we could know whether Bell and Craft offer two separate views from two separate efforts, thus independently confirming each other's work.

Would your resources give you access to Jessie Lynn Bell? From Craft and from Bell, I think that our William may very well have come from a son or grandson of their Robert and Mary Hill. At the time of the book, Jessie Lynn Bell was retired and living at Vicksburg, Mississippi. Her biographer and Copyrighter was Carmine Banks Bell. In her research notes, might we find our William Hill?

The pages of Winifred Jacob attack East Goes West and all others who have William of Town Fork as a son of Sion. She has Town Fork William as son of William. This arouseth not mine ire, for we do not descend from Town Fork William. I am somewhere near elevating Town Fork William to cousin status, but have not quite got there. Ms. Jacob does not go into Craft's and Bell's generation of Robert and Mary, and so does not dispute that generation.

Your correspondence with L P Hill of Harrisonburg is of interest. I note that you sent him the marriage bond of Isaac Hill and Mary Barnes of Rowan, with the comment that this is not his Isaac. There was an Isaac Hill among our Surry Hills in a couple of the early censuses, close neighbors and possibly kin of our William or Richard Senior. Do you know more, or could L P Hill tell us more, about his Isaac and any relation to William or Richard? If hit's OK with you'ns, I'll write to L P Hill and ax him.

I have written to Jerry Hill at Siler City, sending him a note on his William of Bertie who married a Clanton in Chatham County, possibly the parents of his William Clanton Hill who was born in Chatham. I have just received this information, but a first glance tells me that Jerry's line is parallel to our own, coming out of the Hills of Bertie-Northampton-Halifax. Betcha his William and our William were kin.

You sent Page 68 of NGS Quarterly, with your note that it is a "lost" page with no citation of Volume. You also sent a "Memorandum" from David B. Hill, June 22, 1981, where in his last paragraph on Page 2 and continuing on Page 3 he cites the "Line of Descent from Robert Hill" etc. from the December 1928 Issue, Vol 16, NGS Quarterly. I bet this Page 68 is from his cited Pages 66-68.

I would like to see Pages 66 and 67 of Vol 16 (1928), and the continuation which Page 68 says will be in the "next issue : Ch(ildren). 7, 8, 9 and affidavit of C K Hill".

I read in these materials that some Virginia families were made NC families when the dividing line was settled and VA ceded some territory to NC. It intrigues that our William was born before 1740 on the Meherrin River in Southampton Co VA (son Richard's pension Affidavit). If William was born in the "loop" of the Meherrin which is now in Northampton NC, maybe he went to sleep one night in Southampton VA and without getting out of bed woke up in Northampton NC. Reckon our William was the first of them dratted pesky Hills? It's such carrying-ons that do make it hard to trace. As my ole pard usta say, them Hills "is like the Chinaman's flea - can't put your finger on 'em."

I have heard from your correspondent Doyle Baker of Kentucky. He comes from a line I do not connect to mine, and he does not believe he descends from any of the Surry or Stokes families known to me. He offers to watch for mine, as I have promised to watch for his.

Let me ax as regards your convenience. Our correspondence has broadened to Hill - Cook - Bray, etc. Would it be easier for your filing and retrieval system if I do Hill pages and Bray pages etc? Or would you prefer everything in one continuing letter as before? I will send this one as 'tis, and do the next as suits your preference.

I attach a sheet which which looks like Archives work, so I have prepared it in form passable to Tim, but I'd like you to run your practiced eye over it first. I trust this will impress you that I have been busy lookin' even if I haven't accomplished much findin'. Before you pass to Tim, you might want to scan for answers you already have.

Before you look, shut one eye and set down. I wouldn't want you to go completely blind or fall in a faint. Are you ready to be kin to Sion Hill, whom we have cussed and discussed for seems like forever? And to be a cousin of William of Town Fork? And that gaggle of Green Hills?

You will discern that 1-William Hill, son of Sion Senior, married Ann DeLoach, parents of 2-William DeLoach Hill. From the papers you sent and some hours with the old maps, I have put these two Williams at or very near our 3-William's birthplace, in the right place, at the right time. I am a-twitter. We don't have him in the sack yet, but we've got the old rascal treed. Mosey down to where NC-186 - VA-186 crosses the Meherrin River between Northampton NC and Greensville VA, stand on the river bridge and holler "Hill", and William's kin will rise and come a-running. (I will smear some elderberry wine on these sheets, for my dining pleasure at some later occasion.)

Do these separate sheets help you send work to Tim? Want me to add a copy that you can mail to him?

Oops! Put your hat back on. I send Page 95 from Craft's East Goes West, the affidavit of Thomas Bain. No doubt you've seen it and been as tempted as I to throw it down and stomp it. I've seen it so often I'm tired of Bain and tireder of his affy-davy. In the goodness of your heart, will you Puleeeaze sort this thing out for me? I've worn it to a frazz and I still don't understand it. Can you chart it in such exquisite order that any ordinary fool can understand ? I come up with an unidentified great uncle William and damfino who his pappy was. Craft had trouble with it and wound up guessing and pleading for help. Now I know how you earned THE HAT and the right to chop a hole in it.

And I shall ever be in your debt if you can lay hands on the origin of Greensville County VA. I have a patched-up county outline map of VA, showing Greensville 1781. From what counties was it formed? Please say Southampton and Brunswick, south of the Meherrin River.

I have spent many hours, a-siftin' and a-sortin' the package you sent., and am now lost in the swamps of NC and VA, but among good company. If I could find a spot of dry ground, I believe I could put my foot down on William Hill's birthplace among his kindred Hills. I have to work on this, as you may well imagine, and I want to study your package painstakingly. I will copy the papers and return the originals recently. And I may be sending you a d-r-a-f-t analysis for your Hat-On look-see. It's one amazing maze, and aggravating me til Billy laid the rails. Drat!

Wade

Your EX-asperated Cousin

Answer: Wade. DP

21 Aug 97

Dear Mrs. Jane Smith Hill,

How do you do? My name is Wade Baker, and I seem to recall having corresponded with you in times past.. (I thought it appropriate to re-introduce myself, since it has been so long since I last wrote.)

I am being sued for the first time in my eventful life, and for these many weeks past I have been doing naught but defense work. A scallywag in Surry bought an 800-acre Duke Power tract along the Ararat River, and he is suing every adjoining neighbor for roads to his property, two suits each - one before the Clerk of Court, and one in the Superior Court. I have engaged an attorney in your city, and she has had me gathering paper, so that's all I have had time to do. We met our deadline for filing a response, so hopefully I can get some rest and catch up on my delinquent correspondence. That is, if you will accept correspondence from a defendant of ill repute.

By necessity, I became so involved in preparing a defense that I often worked through the night and well into the next day ere becoming so fatigued that I had to stop. This foolishness continued from June to mid-August, and now my sleep pattern is so habitually erratic that I do not sleep by night or rest by day, and I am exhausted. Used up all of my meager reserves I expect. It will accordingly be take me a while to get my head on straight enough to do some work a la Hill.

Returned, 1870 census and assorted papers. With my thanks.

Bray / Hill.

On Page 96 of the 1860 census, Joel Bray and family, with wife Telitha (Hill). And in 1870, Page 40, T. L. Bray female age 69 and same children. This is the Telitha Hill we tried to place, and in 1870 we find her listed next to Noah Hill in Eldora Township. The neighbors identify the area as the vicinity of Eldora-Blackwater-Union area. Telitha's being listed next to Noah, and Noah known to be son of Richard Senior and half-brother of Richard Junior, I am persuaded to place Telitha with those "other" Hills of the upper Tararat and not with our Richard son of William of lower Tararat.

Bray / Whitaker.

We earlier worked with Bray estate papers, and had some questions about the estate of Polly Bray. This was Mary (Polly) Whitaker (1804-before 1870), daughter of Isaac Sr and Nancy, which makes Mary the sister of my ggg-grandmother Levisa Whitaker Ashburn. Mary married 1821 Artha Bray.

Nancy - Mark Laffoon - To Missouri
Oliver - Polly Butcher
King Hiram - Jerusha Alberty
Sarah - Isaac Perkins
Calvin - To Missouri, Union soldier, not findable when Artha Bray's estate was settled.
Artha Jr. - Confederate Soldier, died of wounds.
Mary - Tom Perkins

This per Hester Jackson's Whitaker book, borrowing from The Brays of Fisher River.

On Page 31, 1870. George Gunter and wife Ruth and Rejoyner Bray. Ruth was the widow of Allison Bray and Rejoyner / Regina was their daughter, this also from the estate papers.

Part of my work for the lawyer was to find a public road already in possession of the plaintiff, to shut him off from suing for another one. In the old deeds and new plats, I found that he has roads aplenty and is not entitled to more. I'm sending an aerial photo and plat, showing some Hills and Pattersons and Whitakers of bygone times. In the photo I've marked what I believe my old Pa knew as the Sam Henry Hill place in the early 1920's, and my guess is that in the 1800's the main road from Westfield to Rockford ran through the Sam Henry Hill place, which was later at or near the site of the Chickie Hill sons and daughters, perhaps the Chickie and Ella Doshia homeplace.

I believe a predecessor deed of the Hill land describes its southeast corner as on the Ararat River bank "below the ford". In yellow I have marked what I believe was deeded in 1924 by "Etta Welch, guardian for W G Hill."

I find in a deed of 1869 that my ggg-grandma Levisa (Whitaker) Ashburn deeded a half-acre lot to Peasant Walton, which she described as "the old Whitaker store house lot on the Rockford and Dobson Road, near the old Howard's Ford on the Ararat River". I suspect that Levisa inherited this from her parents Isaac Senior and Nancy Whitaker. Her brother Isaac Junior is buried near where I suspect the old store to have been, with a dozen or so graves marked by field rocks.

In 1850, ggg-grandpa John Ashburn deeded nineteen acres, I believe in the same vicinity, to Silas Whitaker, Levisa's brother. Silas had their elderly parents Isaac and Nancy in his household in the 1850 census. My copy of the deed is very poor, but I think I see in the blur that John mentions his dower right in the land. Nowhere else have I seen a husband mention a dower right in his wife's property. Either I misread the deed or John presents a dower situation entirely new to me.

Plaintiff's predecessor deeds and old Whitaker deeds have William Henry Harrison Patterson nearby, and in 1924 J L and Martha Patterson deeded to plaintiff's predecessor. I believe this was Joseph Lucas Patterson, son of Harrison.

In your Whitaker search, have you found mention of a Whitaker's Store? I have not. The meager evidence points to Isaac Whitaker Senior, and that the store was very near to the intersection of the road between Westfield and Rockford, and the road between Shoals Township and Dobson, but I have nothing more than here given.

I will here cease, and allow the buzzing in my ears to quiet and my poor eyes to close. I intend to mend, and hopefully before long I will return to the broken thread or our earlier thoughts and get back to the Hills.

Wade

17 November 97

Cousin Jane,

Time flies, the seasons changeth, but cousin-ness endureth forever. My family searching has been simmering, but I have not stirred it for too long.

Another two of life's little mysteries solved, and by unexpected help from an unexpected source. I have a cousin (who I've never met) at Olivia, NC, who has been helping with my Cooks. Cousin has an acquaintance by correspondence in Indiana. The Indianaian wrote to ask whether I could help with her Surry family Peele and she sent me a Peele deed. And thus unravels the mystery.

The Surry deed, dated 1851, was to Timothy Peele from Evan Davis, "attorney and agent" for the heirs at law of Richard Hill, deceased, deeding Richard Hill's estate on Flat Shoal Creek at the Ararat River. I platted the deed, and it fits to three tracts deeded to Richard Hill in 1807. Two of the deeds in the three-deed series of 1807 were to "Richard", and one deed was to "Richard Hill, Junior".

All of this ties to the 1845 will (probated 1847) of the Richard Hill whose wife was Elizabeth, and who had the daughter Nancy Harrison of Indiana, who filed papers with the Surry court naming Evan Davis as her attorney-agent to dispose of her Surry inheritance from father Richard Hill. Thus in round-about way we have the identity of the mysterious Richard Hill of the 1845 will and 1847 estate. He was Richard Junior, husband of Elizabeth, and father of Nancy (Hill) Harrison and Sarah (Hill) Brassfield. Whether Richard Junior had sons is still unknown; none are named in his will or estate papers.

Also from Indiana, a paper from the estate papers of Jesse Peele, deceased, naming his widow Priscilla as Administratrix. So it was Priscilla (maiden name unknown) Peele, widow of Jesse, who married Richard Hill Senior, his second or later wife. Richard Senior and first or earlier wife (probably Elizabeth Gordon), were parents of Richard Junior. Richard Senior and Priscilla (widow Peele) were parents of Noah Hill.

Thus we put to rest the identity of Priscilla Peele; she was Jesse Peele's widow. And we put to rest the Richard Hill of the 1845 will and 1847 estate; he was Richard Junior.

It all comes of casting one's bread upon the waters. It returneth from some amazing currents. Now if only some crust will come floating back with the message proving that our Richard Hill was the son of William of Tararat.

No ma'am, I do not know of the Brayville Gazette or James Bray of Wisconsin. He might be from the Brays who migrated out of Surry into Ohio along with the Hill wives of Dennys. Please do write to him. I betcha he's one of our'n.

Also in the Surry Genealogical Journal, Summer '97, Thomas C Bray, 5200 Old Avent Ferry Road, Raleigh, 27606, is searching the Surry Brays. You might want to write him, too.

Also from the same Journal, Erik & Barbara Nillson, 3635 W 226th Street, Torrance, CA 90505, are searching Alfred Smith and Matilda (Smith) Marsh.

I am delighted to hear that Robert is on the mend. Several acquaintances have prostate cancer, some have had surgery, some treatment, and all are doing quite well. That branch of science has

made some remarkable progress, for which I and my generation are grateful.

You and I have both survived printer surgery. I had the old one removed, and a new one implanted. I am pleased with mine, and yours does an excellent job too. Even my bad eyes can read yours and mine both. It's more better than having to memorize and remember every word I write. I think I am pushing the limits of computor memory, and the dealer's shop man tells me a frightening story about adding memory. Says he probably won't have to destroy *everything* I have in it. He makes it sound like brain surgery, which in a way I suppose it is.

My lawsuit is stalled. Plaintiff is having prostate cancer therapy and out of business until the first of the year. It's his move, and the game will resume at a later time. He is quite surprised, and grossly annoyed, that the several defendants have all fired in a similar response - stuff it! He thought we would all fold and give up easy. Oh, incidentally, plaintiff mentioned to my lawyer that he was going to Seattle to meet with the doctors about a treatment which is neither surgery nor radiation, something I had not heard of for prostate cancer. Brachiotherapy or something like that, I forget the exact word. Know anything about that?

Looks like my time will not be my own for the rest of the year. Some of it will belong to the IRS while I get my tax clutter in order, and I have some insurance claims I've got to work up before year's end. I can do paper stuff for a while, and then I have to break. I usually get my rest by doing something different, and good mental exercise is to wrestle with them dratted Hills. So, I will not be idle til you hear from me again soon.

And I shall oft think of thee.

Wade

Mrs. Jane Smith Hill
P. O. Box Z, Salem Station
Winston-Salem, NC 27108-0450

30 October 1997

Mr. Wade Baker
1715 Bartlett Drive
Anchorage, AK 99507

Dear Cousin Wade,

You came into my thoughts today, so I will send you a "hope you are O.K. letter", and that the land problem in Surry County has been settled to your satisfaction and to the discomfiture of the other party!

Also, while reading my last *NCGS NEWSLETTER*, my eye was drawn to the name BRAY, actually *BRAYVILLE GAZETTE*. It is a periodical covering the history and genealogy of the Bray families of NC. For subscription information, contact Editor James Bray, 910 Westfield Lane, Neenah, WI 54956 or e-mail *jimbray@vbe.com*. Who he? This is the total of the data contained in the *NEWSLETTER*.

If you are already acquainted with him, I will not write, but if you are not I will write. How is that for a clear sentence?

Friend husband has had some treatment for his prostate cancer, from which he is recovering, and is in better health and spirits, thank goodness.

My Bray/Hill/Cook/Baker research has been on hold since summer, due to Robert's health. I simply could not concentrate on much or analyze genealogical problems. About all I have done is to perform mindless tasks such as transcribe court minutes, wills and census. When I want to escape the 20th century I crank up the computer and retreat to the 18th and 19th centuries for a while.

Do notice the new printer; my existing RAM would not support it so more memory had to be added to the pitiful 4, (which I was told would be enough for anything I ever wanted to do.) Ha! The adventure of installing the new memory is a tale for the fireside some long winter night.

Will stop blathering and hope all is well with you.

Most sincerely,

31 December 1997

Jane,

This is a composite reconstruction of papers you sent several months ago, with some papers I already had. I have waited until receiving some early maps so that I could get my geography better in mind.

Flip it up, nit-pick it at your leisure. I have identified it as a draft, and I call it far from finished. We will build on it as new discoveries - and old errors - come to light.

Happy New Year.

Wade

primogeniture
Headrights - Nugent
"precincts"
parishes
"cousin"

Buke: County North Carolina

This Bond was Acknowledged in Open Court & Ordered to be Recorded Test Benj M. Culloch Cl Cur.

Sarah Stills } Guard. Bond.

Nov. 1772

R. L. 2 f. 253

(I)

Know all men by these presents that We Henry Hill, Esq.r John
Goodmans Junr. & Benjamin Shumbell
of Bute County are held and firmly bound unto William Johnson
Mr. Lamond and Nathaniel Peebles
Justices of the Court of Bute County now sitting in the Sum of
Thousand Pounds Proc. money To the payment whereof
well and truly to be made to the said Justices their heirs & Successors
bind our Selves and each of us our and each of our heirs Executors
& Adm.rs Jointly and Severally firmly by these presents Sealed with
our Seals and Dated this 18. day of Nov.r 1772

The Condition of the above Obligation is such that if the
above bound Henry Hill Esq.r his Ex.rs or Adm.rs shall well
& truly pay and Deliver or cause to be paid and Delivered unto
Sarah Hill Orphan of Green Hill
all such Estate or Estates as now is or are or hereafter shall
appear to be due to the said orphan when and as soon as she
shall attain to Lawfull age, or when thereto Required by the Justices
of the said County Court as also keep harmless and Indemnified the
above named Justices their and every of their heirs Executors and
Adm.rs from all trouble and Damages that Shall or may ~~arise~~
grow about the said Estate, Then the above Obligation to be Void
otherwise to be and remain in full force power & Vertue
Sealed & delivered
in presence of }

Henry Hill (Seal)
John Goodmans (Seal)
Benj.a Kin (Seal)
(Seal)

Hills 10

Guardian Bond

Feb^r 1773

Rec^d Lib^r 1. fo. 161

(I)

North Carolina

Know all men by these presents that We Green Hill Edward Jones &
Isaac Hunter
of Bute County are held and firmly bound unto William Johnson, Henry
Hill & William Tabb
Esqrs Justices of the Court of Bute County now sitting in the Sum of two
thousand pounds proc money to the Payment
whereof well and truly to be made to the said Justices and their Succesors
We bind our selves and Each of us our and Each of our heirs Exors & Admors
Jointly and severally firmly by these presents Sealed with our Seals and
Dated this 13th day of February in the XIII. Year of our Reign A Dom.
1773

The Condition of this Obligation is such that if the above
bound Green Hill his Exrs & Admrs shall well & truly
pay and Deliver or cause to be paid and Delivered unto Mary & Temperance
Hills Orphans of Green Hill
Deed and such Estate or Estates as now is or are or hereafter shall appear
to be due to the said Orphan when and as soon as they shall attain to lawful
Age or when thereto required by the Justices of the said County Court as also
keep harmless and Indemnified the above named Justices their and every
of their heirs Exrs and Admrs from all trouble and Damages that shall or
may Arise about the said Estate then the above Obligation to be Void other-
wise to remain in full force and Virtue

Green Hill Seal
Edwd Jones Seal
Isaac Hunter Seal
Seal

Sealed & Delivered
in the presence of
Thos. Hatchon

Bute County February Court 1773
This Bond was Acknowledged in Open Court & Ordered to be Recorded
Test. Benj. Mc Culloch C.C.

13 May 98

Cousin Jane,

really appreciate the article about the still. That feller holding onto the lantern in broad daylight next to the chair he's just kicked over looks like he's 'stuck his bill in the fixins'.

've talked with many a moonshiner who said their father and grandfather "made liquor for the government", as this article says. The liquor wasn't made for the government at all, but it was made legally under government supervision. There were circuit-riding revenue officers who inspected the stills, tallied up the mash, counted the liquor storehoused, guaged the proof (alcohol content) and collected the revenue at the still. There was a tax on each still (each cooker) and a separate tax on spirits produced, measured in "proof gallons" = one US gallon of 100-proof or 50% alcohol. One man might have several cookers or "stills" on the same stillyard, maybe one for making whisky and another for making brandy. Before Prohibition, the revenuer sent word ahead and the still owners chained up the dogs and met with the revenuers cordially, even had them stay to supper and spend the night. During and after Prohibition the revenuers snuck in by the shine of the moon, and the moonshiners let the dogs run loose and took a loaded shotgun to the still.

You raise a very interesting point about the elusiveness of the old records, and I think I would like to help you look into that. I would expect the old records to be in the National Archives, such records as were made and such as survive. How to locate them? Certainly they were records of the Department of the Treasury, almost as certain records of the old Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR). More difficult to guess, what were the records called? It was an excise tax, possibly called that, possibly called a tax on the production of spirits. The actual collection was done, or at least supervised, by Deputy Collectors in the BIR, who likely had employees or "fee-deputies" doing the work in the field. Deputy US Marshals collected the revenue as well, but for the BIR. In more recent times, both in BIR and its successor IRS, Storekeeper-Guagers did the on-site inspections and collected the revenues.

As for what period, the records might date back to 1791 when the congress put the first tax on spirits to pay off the Revolutionary War debt. The tax was repealed in 1802, and levied again to pay for the War of 1812, and it has been with us ever since. Except for the brief period of Prohibition, when the stills were not collecting liquor revenue, there ought to be records. The records we would be interested in are pre-Prohibition, say from 1812 to 1920, a hundred years give or take. Should be a lot of old grandpas in the records.

As for content, these were essentially in-the-field records, handwritten on the spot. No doubt the forms evolved into printed and numbered forms, and likely the stiller was issued a handwritten record book. Probably the stiller's name, perhaps such addresses as were then used, quantity and description of articles taxed, the amount collected, and the revenuer's signature. The record might have been by book-entry, a book which the collector carried with him and turned in when it was full or when a report came due, such as quarterly or annually, etc.

Most likely, the stiller was required to post his copy at the still, or keep it in possession while hauling liquor to the place of sale, as evidence that the tax had been paid. I've never seen such records, but they probably found their way into grandpappy's old trunk.

As for place of origin, these were federal records so it is probable they originated in a federal revenue district rather than having a county origin. I find Salisbury often mentioned as the place where federal matters of early Surry were transacted, such as prisoners taken there for federal

times, jurors summoned there for court, etc. Possibly the Collector of Revenue for the Surry area was headquartered at Salisbury.

I'm not internetted, so let me know if you come across a website that looks productive. I'll have to give it some thought and ask around for how to get into the Archives' index or lists. The Anchorage office of the Archives likes patrons to ask for records by name and only the office personnel can use the computer, which limits my ability to keep asking silly questions until I get an answer.

I find in old deeds where the grantor mentioned his stillhouse, either conveyed or excepted from the deed. Old wills bequeath the stillhouse. Old estate sales show the sale of stills and worms (condensers) and jugs and 'kags' of whisky. At one sale (Jacob Fulk of Surry), my ggg-grandpa Flinchum bought a bar'l of whisky, 33-1/3 gallons, and ggg-grandpa Ashburn bought the still. No wonder the old footpath betwixt the Ashburns and Flinchums was so crookedy. You'd think a sober man would walk a straighter line.

About them eyes. The tests are completed so far as I know, and I will know the results when Doc gets back from a seminar. Doc found some "bumps" on the retina of my right eye, which she says is the early sign for macular degeneration. Seems you and I have more in common. I told her I thought she couldn't be right, for I've been a degenerate for years and nobody ever diagnosed it before. But she thinks I am of an age where it's apt to show up. Tell me what "yarbs" you're using and I will try the same.

Thanks for the brief on sequential naming. Your English formula fits very well with some known families, and might fit with our Hills too. William for "The Conqueror" and "The Lion", Richard for he of the Round Table, etc. As in Robert, First Duke of Normandy, who until he took the Christian name Robert, was Rollo, a Viking warrior chief, given his title of office as a bribe to quit terrorizing the Normandy countryside.

Short of living for a while along the Meherrin and buying a house near the Virginia and NC Archives, I don't rightly know how best to proceed with finding the Southampton family of our William. I suspect that if we could live with the records long enough we might find William and his kin, but if that goes the way of most of my searches we won't even know when we've found him. I usually have to thresh and winnow several times, sort out the impossibles from the possibles, and at some later time in some other place realize that I've had it all along but didn't know it.

Bear me just this once, but not too much. Jerk my chain if I get too far off the track. I have this feeling. The feeling is that our William and the Richard up the Tararat from him were close kin. Any speck of evidence do I have, just enough of an instinct to play that card to win. It could be that we will find William by looking for Richard. The skimpy census information is about the same as no info at all, but on the other hand it does not rule out that Richard might have been William's brother. We know from Surry records that William named a son Richard, there being at the same time Richard Senior and Junior living nearby, so I am presuming that Richard Senior was not William's son. My thinking is that a William and a Richard in the same Virginia family would certainly run the risque.

Note in the Surry journal that Velpo Robertson of Sandston VA, a suburb of Richmond, will do Archives and library work, and travel to nearby counties. It's good to know there is someone on the staff at Richmond, but there are still some things I need to do myself before calling in the Virginia cavalry. I know there are records available that I haven't seen yet. Besides, we ain't doing too bad, you and me. We're getting closer all the time. If I decide to ask Mr. Robertson for help, I'll get you to help me draft some instructions.

I thought over your suggestion that I put rings in my nose and navel. I've decided not to. See, rings is a status thing, a making-a-statement thing, the sort of thing you have to show off for it to have meaning. Persons only put a ring in their navel after everybody else on the planet has put a ring in their nose. If I ring my ears, then ring my nose, then ring my navel, all I've really accomplished is just catching up with the herd. Then I'd have to press on beyond that, and that only leaves a place or two I can go. Not hardly, thank you very much. Besides, if I ring some place "new", I'll just discover that somebody has already rung it.

I have decided that I will be the onliest person in the world not to have nary ring atall, and that will get me in the record book right alongside the only woman in Arkansas and D C not harassed by Billie Clinton. Nope, no rings for me. I'm looking into tattoos, but my local fence for stolen motorcycles and hand grenades says the good tattoos are already took. Says he can graft me a second nose or a third ear, some he took in trade for a dynamite bomb, but they have rings in them. It's depressing, trying to be a hippy and can't.

Love

Dude

Mrs. Jane Smith Hill
P. O. Box Z, Salem Station
Winston-Salem, NC 27108-0450

13 May 1998

Dear Cousin Wade,

This will be an inadequate thank-you for the information about the legal still records. I will share this with some of the genealogists who were interested in those records and they will be very pleased.

I enjoyed reading that article very much, and like you I have seen mention of the still and the worm. There is one will in Guilford in which the Devisor mentions the liquid in the barrels, but I forgot whether it was brandy or what. My reply does not do justice to the excellent and interesting information you have provided. Thank you.

This will also be brief; the target date for moving is upon us: May 22 and 23. I am tossing out all I can but there are still many boxes to be filled. Not too much problem with bedrooms and such, but my office may just get its first reorganization in years. How it do accumulate.

I am not internetted either, but may be able to use the Library's equipment after it has been installed.

Have you seen or read about Dr. Andrew Weil? He is a physician who has studied both allopathic and naturopathic medicine, and uses them to work for the whole good of the patient. He is nationally recognized, with several very good books out. It was from his books that I began taking his regimen for stress: **Vitamin E, 400 International Units as D-Alpha Tocopherol plus D-Beta Tocopherol, D-Delta Tocopherol and D-Gamma Tocopherol, 1 capsule per day.**

Vitamin C, which should be **Ascorbate C**, it is a powder which contains several minerals, and above all else they are from Organic sources such as rose hips. Take some twice a day in water, with meals, and build up as much as your system will tolerate.

Selenium is a pill (I use Solgar **Seleno-6 200**) micrograms once a day, with meals along with the Vitamin E. Selenium and Vitamin C do different things, so they should be taken at separate times.

The last vitamin is Beta-carotene as mixed carotenoids; my present brand is **COUNTRY LIFE**, and contains Lutein and Lycopene, as well as a long list of other good things. This is also good for the eyes.

The above items have made a big difference in my overall health. This is not "nervous breakdown stress" but the kind that modern life bombards us with. Following the advice of Dr. Weil, I no longer watch the mayhem of news casts, especially just before retiring, and read only the obituaries and good news in the paper.

For the other specifics for my eyes, I use **Lutein** 20 MG., **Bilberry** 100:1 with Grapeskin Polyphenols, 280 mg. each. I don't usually take combinations of herbs, but do if the ingredients will work together. **Eyebright** from **Nature's Sunshine** is one of the few mixtures I use. Follow the instructions on the bottles for dosage. If you have a good health store, the staff will be well trained and knowledgeable. Incidentally, I have run this list past my two eye doctors and my internist and they all say it won't hurt me.

You should have a health food store/s in Anchorage where you can have a choice of brands. Some that have been around a long time are Solgar, Nature's Sunshine, Twin Lab, Solaray and others. No General Nutrition.
You want Organic all the way.

I sent on this plethora of information because I want it to help you, too.

I will humor your all you want. Never, never, deny your gut feelings about genealogy or anything else. The book I have enclosed is for you to
keep or donate to your library or use for whatever. Hunches, feelings and gut feelings are nationally recognized and accepted!

Must run, too many things to take care of and time's a-wasting!

As ever,

I Sion hill of Wake County in the State of North Carolina being Sick and of a disposed mine distribute of my Estate unto my several heirs in order to pervent all disputings hearafter their four I do in the Name of almight god and by these presents give and bequeth unto my wife Sarah hill All of my Cattle and hoggs and household furniture Indureing her life or widowhood then to be Equally Devided between all of my Children also Item I give to Shadrick hill the Consideration of twenty Shilings Item I give to green hill a Son of sion hill Senr Deceas'd five Shilings Item I give to Jebe wall five Shilings Item I give to william hill five Shilings Ito I give to thomas hill five Shilings Item I give to Marry hill five Shilings Item I give to green hill five Shiling further this is to Certify that this my last will and testanet being in my proper Sences at this time in witness Wherof I have hear unto Set my hand and fixed my Seal this twenty ninth day of March one thousand seven hondred And Eighty

Sion hill his (Seal)

Test

James Gilbert (Jurat)

Amy Davis

Sarah hill Executor

Wake County December Term 1780 There was the Last Will
of the within Will proved in Open Court by the Oath
of James Gilbert a Witness thereto and Ordered to be
Recorded

J. Rice Clk

Recorded in the Clerks Office of the County of Wake in
Book A and page (155) this 15th Sept. 1783

J. Rice Clk

Jam 19 80

Last Will
Rec'd

rom WAKE County Wills 1771 to 1966

Name SION HILL, 1780

XEROGRAPHIC COPY BY

JAN 19 2005

NORTH CAROLINA
STATE ARCHIVES

[illegible] 07

Cousin Jane,

Says to myself, says I, gotta take time off from sorting Hills and get Jane's papers back to her and answer some of her correspondence. If I keep your papers any longer, I'll owe rent.

Be pleased to learn that I am making what I hope is some real progress with our William's early generations. I have thrashed the papers you sent, and I believe some grains are found amongst the chaff. Have I found William's descent? No, I ain't. But you sent links enough to add to some I've picked up along the way, to build a pretty good chain, and if nothing else we know where to look. It's more than we had. Be encouraged, Cousin.

And among his neighbor kin on the Meherrin River we may also find where to look for William's Surry neighbor Richard Hill. There are few Williams, and more Richards. Best guess is that William and Richard were close kin, probably as close as first cousins, and perhaps even brothers. A bunch of work to do before we know anything, but with the sources cited we know where to put our productive time. I call it a good day's work that has taken me several weeks.

Now, be unpleased and unencouraged. I will shortly be sending you a d-r-a-f-t. Little more than a working guide, full of unanswered questions. I expect you have learned, as I have, that a good question beats a poor answer, that enlightened ignorance beats false knowledge. Well, that's where we're at, Cousin, in the dark and fumbling for the light switch. I will be asking you to take a sharp axe to the project. I need your practiced eye. Truth is, I've taken this thing about as far as I can go with it.. But I do think that with The Hat on and a sharp pencil in hand, you can take the pages from my faltering hand and go go go.

Now, be re-encouraged, even agog. Show me William's father and mother, and I will show you his earlier seven or eight generations, commencing 1500's in England. I think.

An addendum to the note I sent about the survey by Col. William Byrd. I found in a book on Carolina Indians (of all places) that Byrd surveyed from Currituck Sound west, came to the Chowan River 2 April 1728 around our Meherrin River, then took his break until September., then crossed the Roanoke River, and thence west to "Surry County", where the survey ended 26 October 1728.

Byrd and party turned around "in Surry", then returned the same way, east to the Meherrin and the Chowan, and to Currituck Sound. So Byrd passed twice through our Hills along the Meherrin. The book does not say when he reached Currituck, but probably mid-November 1728. If you find Byrd's journal, I would like to read his pages April through September while he was along the Meherrin, and late October to mid-November when he was there again.

The book cites Byrd, William. *Dividing Line Histories* Edited by William K. Boyd, Raleigh, 1929. Permission, the NC Department of Archives and History. The book mentions "other versions".

On his way back, around the Roanoke River, presumably at Roanoke Rapids since he mentions the Falls, Byrd writes "About three Miles from our Camp we passed Great Creek, and then after traversing very barren ground for 5 Miles together, we crost the Trading Path, and soon had the pleasure of reaching the uppermost Inhabitant . . ."

Would you be surprised if the "uppermost inhabitant" was a Hill? I will be disappointed if Byrd fails to mention a Hill, for I believe he surveyed the VA-NC line between the brothers Robert and William Hill, a generation about right for our William's grandpa.

Addendum second. I underestimated the help I need with the Virginia counties, and asked about the make-up of Greensville VA. I now discover of equal importance the make-up and break-up of Greensville's neighbors. Naturally, the local libraries have nothing that helps. If you can locate same, I need Isle of Wight, Southampton, Surry, Sussex, Brunswick, Greensville.

I am dragged and bedraggled to the belief that some Hills very meaningful to us show up in six counties of VA and two in NC, without ever leaving home by the Meherrin River. I don't doubt that our William was born in Southampton. I bet he was. But I think he may have grown to young manhood in two states and a terrible number of counties and still have lived in the house where he was born. Now, I ax you - You call that fair? Pesk, you William! Drat! (But can you tell that that I am enjoying this better than a hawg loves slop?)

Addendum third. I suggested a hunt for Jessie Lynn Bell of Mississippi. I still think she might be of help, but I believe I have citations of most of her sources. I will shortly be sending these citations to you, and we might get more help from her sources than from her. I think these papers you sent tell me that these searchers were focused on their own lines, and may even have seen our William, but as a line not of much interest to them. William might, in some probability, be well reported in the things not said by these searchers.

Returned herewith, your assorted papers and the 1860 Census which I'd love to swap for the borrow of 1870. I've stuck some "stickies" in the 1860 census for you. Incidentally, in the early Hills I find a Hill who married a Whitaker, and the names of the Whitaker children.

Much thanks for the comments - heirs, at-laws, of-bodies, etc. Jurisprudential persons speak their own language. Preachers too. And auto mechanics. I think they don't want us to know anything about their specialties. Fie on them, as Shakespeare says, and forsooth. Literary folk have a language too. Me and thee? Our technical terms Drat and Pesk do very nicely, and are not easily misunderstood.

Yes, you did send Thomas Cook's Wilkes Will. I don't fit that Thomas to our tree. Maybe he's the one-too-many Cook who spoiled the broth. And I got the Cook court papers. I will work with them shortly.

In the Northampton Estates, 1781-1801, a few look apt, a few we put on the back of the stove. Let's look at Richard-381, Wm-423, John 561, 574.

Northampton Deeds, 1759-1774, William 49, 154, 1222. Let's try these before we get into the nine deeds of John.

Northampton Deeds, 1774-1787, William 123, Wm 12, 196.
Same, under "Hills", scan for William, Richard, Robert, and Ann - at 88, 89, 580, 956.

Your typed list of Northampton Wills, Harmon 1777 Book 1-20, John 1747 original, William 1748 original.

In all Northampton, looking for landmarks Meherrin River, Cypress Swamp or Creek, Fountain's or Fontaine Crk and the VA line. And anything joining William, Richard, Robert, Ann.

Halifax Wills, Calyer / Collier 1799 Book 3-330, Thomas 1769 1-236, William 1798 3-300.

Re Thomas Cook and marriage. I find none, and no children. The lawsuits confuse. Thomas' brother William was an heir in Thomas' estate, and William said in his will that there was a lawsuit involving the heirs. I sense that this suit was settled, and that probably brother William's side won.

Then a few years later there was another suit, and a whole different bunch of next-of-kin heirs at law. I don't place any of the heirs, the old bunch or the new bunch, as issue of Thomas Cook.

Maybe somebody claimed Thomas was incompetent to make a will. Or somebody claimed he willed to the wrong people, or duress and trickery. Maybe they said he didn't own the property he willed. I do not know.

In your experience, have you found wills in counties where they "obviously didn't belong" but were there anyway? I find one only that was recorded in a far county many years after it was dated. It bequeathed Negroes, and I am wondering if perhaps it was recorded afar and later to prove ownership of Negroes and their increase. I don't observe it as a common occurrence, and wonder if you have insight into this phenomenal phenomenon. Incidentally, just how did one prove ownership of inherited or purchased Negroes while migrating place to place? Carry the will or bill of sale in one's pocket?

The good news is that the snow is all gone. The bad news is that I am out of excuses for not doing some yard work. I aim to sculpt a big pile of white styrofoam in the backyard so next summer I can look out the window and shiver and put off the yard work. But making a big styrofoam snowbank is more work than raking, so I'll take my lumps and get out there and do it. I can see in the grass where the moose(s) walked across the snow, always leaves a trail of hoof-size dead spots. We had one particularly ornery moose this winter. I watched him eat the bark off the neighbor's tree and break off limbs six inches through. Then it charged into the side of another neighbor's house. Twice. And then took desert from my apple tree. I don't mess with no moose. One killed an elderly gentleman a couple of years ago at the university, a mile away. I've eaten so many moose I keep thinking it's their turn.

I've just received a note that a Doctor in Wilmington is plowing in our Hill patch. He seems to be looking at the same Hills I've just been chasing, Northampton-Halifax. I have a letter ready to mail, and will let you know what he's up to. Do you want him as a client, if he needs help?

Of my twenty letters recently sent, I have two answers. Neither knows more than we do. Still no word from your correspondent Jerry Hill at Siler City. Oh yes, and about my goof for this year. I wrote that I had heard from your correspondent Baker about Bakers. Not your correspondent, somebody else's. Sorry. Now I can relax, I've made my one-per-annum mistake. I do like to get my mistake over with early in the year.

Your town is making the Alaska news. The Twin City has one less drunk driver and folks are wondering why we don't send ours down there to be tried. And when there's a tobacco lawsuit or some ridiculous pontification by the tobacco industry, Reynolds and Winston Salem get prominent mention. I believe if I had tobacco stock I'd be talking to my broker. If I had a tobacco farm I might turn to growing grits bushes.

Let's try a small experiment. I'm going to put this letter on a disk. Let me know if it works with your machine. If we are compatible, I will disk the draft since my printer is making ugly noises at me.

And about my promise to show you the generations. I smear that promise with essence of macaroon for my dining pleasure at some future occasion. One grows obtuse from ingesting too many chocolate- covered words.

Mrs. Jane Smith Hill
P. O. Box Z, Salem Station
Winston-Salem, NC 27108-0450

16 April 1998

Dear Cousin Wade,

You should add rings in your nose and navel. Honest! Saw my first ones at the hair salon when the daughter of the owner showed her newly placed rings. Cool or what?

I am sincerely sorry to learn about your eye problem and I pray that it can be fixed quickly and completely. Eyes ain't nothing to fool around with; life would be hell if I couldn't see to read and play with genealogy. When I was diagnosed with macular degeneration sixteen months ago, I was told it was inevitable and there was no cure, and that I was about ten years early in developing the problem. So helpful to know that fact.

That was like a matador waving a red cape in front of el toro. So I headed to the best health food store in town and have begun taking a group of herbal supplements known to be specifically favorable to the problem of M D. Also, a great deal of reading on the subject. It may be wishful thinking, but I do believe there may be a slight improvement in my vision.

My love affair with trucks began when my daddy taught me to drive on his old Ford pickup truck; the one with the gear lever in the floor and a clutch to struggle with. It's a good thing I have big feet or I would never have been able to work three pedals on the rolling back roads of Guilford County. Daddy turned me loose with that truck, even before I got my license to drive, and that accounts for my addiction to trucks; they also fit me better than most cars.

Back to those pesky Hills. My first trip to the NC Room overwhelmed me with the amount of material from which to choose and it ranges from old, poorly transcribed abstracts to the latest Stephen Bradley works. As you well know, the quality of genealogical material being abstracted has improved greatly but some of the material I will check has no source citations and is not from primary sources. Like some of the previous works concerning the HILLS, about which you were so right. If it was named William Hill, ergo, it must be the same.

The first book is: Torrence, VA WILLS & ADMINISTRATIONS, 1652-1800. It is alpha by surname and covers all of VA.

W = will I = inventory

1. **Brunswick County**, Robert Hill, 1740, Will book 2, p.20 [and possibly more pages]

2. **Isle of Wight County**, Nicholas Hill, 1675 w; 1678 i; 1679 I. Silvestra Hill 1796-7 w; Thos. 1720 w; Jos. 1776 w; Frances 1791 w.

3. **Surry County**, Wm. 1675 w; Herman 1679 I; Benj. 1719 I; Richd. 1722 I; Thos. 1737 I; Matthew 1752 i; Moses 1782 w.

4. **Sussex County**, Michael 1755 I; Matthew 1760 I; Jno. 1765 w; Lucy 1765 I; Michael 1766 I; Amy 1768 w; Michael 1768 I; Benj. 1772 I; Wm. 1773 I; Richd. 1775 w; Michael 1778 w; Mildred 1798 w.

That's a bunch of Hills and there could have been some who fell between the cracks.

Also, I see that I must go back and check Southampton County.

Next is a set of 5 volumes titled VIRGINIA, then each is given a sub-title, as in the two enclosed photocopies and you will note that they do not match Torrence. The data contained within is taken from old published periodicals, and the sources not noted.

In VIRGINIA VITAL RECORDS we find a Richard Hill et. Al. [My computer insists on making capital letters! It thinks I have made a mistake. Ha.]
This Richard is in the Albemarle Parish Register in Sussex County, VA. The entry is "Mary, d/o Richard Hill & Margery his wife, born April 16, 1760."

"Capt. Richard Hill d. 9 July 1775"

ibid., Hungars Parish Records 1660-1661 in Northampton County VA, Richard Hill s/o Robert & Jane Hill [born] Aug. 12. [Have I been married to Robert in a previous life?]

In this series of books there are still LAND and TAX and one more the title of which I don't remember. This is what is known as a "Senior moment", or maybe just a slack researcher.

I have begun a Time Line of Hills in the Virginia counties of Isle of Wight, Brunswick, Surry, and Sussex to use as I pursue the other sources.

Photocopy of a legal still may be of interest; the TRIBUNE may have been a Yadkin County newspaper. We genealogists have never been able to locate the Federal records concerning legal stills, although they were quite prevalent before Prohibition.

One of the few advantages of our move into a smaller house is the fact that I cannot take it all with me, so have been going through all my genealogy files and accumulating a lot of scratch paper by tossing out what is irrelevant and retaining only those items necessary to my happiness. In the process I have located the notes from a seminar on Virginia records given by Robert Young Clay, who at that time was State Archivist in charge of the Virginia State Library and Archives. Bob is a walking encyclopedia of knowledge and has the ability to impart it so well that the notes I took then still recall to mind the things he told us that day. At any rate, I hope this will help us with the Virginia research.

NAMING PATTERNS/TRADITIONS. Not written in stone; can of worms; there were at least three patterns used by the ancestors, and the thing to keep in mind is that they were not set in stone and that people did not always adhere to traditions. [See Fischer, ALBION'S SEED, from which the following is excerpted] It's a lot more complicated than most folks realize.

1. Virginia. It's heritage was with the English and most of the names given were of Teutonic warriors, Frankish knights and English kings. They also named sons for fathers and grandfathers, even to the extent of using a name for a second or third son if the previous ones died. They wanted the name to be perpetuated. The girls were given the names of Christian saints who did not appear in the Bible and also traditional English folk names.

In general, first-born children were named for their grandparents, second-born named for the parents, with the first-born son named for his paternal grandfather, and the second-born son named for his father.
Also, the use of a surname as a given name tended to spoil the pattern for us, although it is a good clue to a previous generation.

2. Puritan New England. Most first-born children were named for the parents. They used necronyms. When a child died, its name

was usually given to the next child of that sex. [I hope we won't have to search in New England.] No christening.

3. Delaware Valley [mostly Quakers]; no saints names here. Used mostly biblical names. The eldest son was named after the mother's father; and eldest daughter after the father's mother. Second son named after the father's father; the second daughter after the mother's mother. After that they used their own names and those of aunts and uncles. No christening.

4. Back County as in Scots-Irish; used a mixture of Celtic, biblical, Teutonic and border saints names. Usually, eldest sons tended to be named after grandfathers, second and third sons for the father. They tended to have a "name such as John" every other generation.

5. 18th century German, source: my own research into extant German-speaking baptismal records. The main thing I have noticed is that the child was often given the same Christian name as one of the sponsors. They did not adhere to the same patterns as the English-speakers. For example, my George Coble bore the same name as his father, but it was three or four sons down the line before another George appeared. They were very independent in many of their ways.

This is more than you wanted to know about the subject, but is does make a difference in researching if one knows the general patterns of the people, and that the area from whence they came and the religion of choice made a big difference in naming ways.

Enough for now. I hope that by the time I send the next installment your eyes will be WELL!

As ever,

A:\ DRAFT on WADE.AK

Mrs. Jane Smith Hill
P. O. Box Z, Salem Station
Winston-Salem, NC 27108-0450

13 January 1998 22 January 1998

Dear Amicus Curiosi, [I had to look that one up!]

WOW! You certainly have not been idle, have you? A masterful disquisition, and the maps illustrate your narrative so well. It's a pity more writers do not include land and maps as you have done. I hope other readers will understand the value of such a unique problem as the Hill locations and I believe you are right on track.

In the nit-pick department the following "jumped out at me":

In Nell Marion Nugent, *CAVALIERS AND PIONEERS Abstracts of Virginia Land Patents and Grants 1623-1800 In Five Volumes, VOLUME ONE Abstracted and Indexed by* Nell Marion Nugent Virginia Land Office Richmond, VA; Richmond:VA, 1934, page 140:

FRANCIS ENGLAND, 746 acs. Isle of Wight Co., June 20, 1642, Page 857. Adj. Capt. Pierce. Trans.[portation] of 15 pers[ons]: Robert Hill, Mary his wife, John Powell, Eliza Webb [my underline], Sarah England, Jon. Lippett, Jon. Sykes, Robert Davis, Hugh Brent, Edward Palmer, Jon. Acton, Thomas Coggin, James Piland, Alexandra his wife.

ibid.; page 525 FRANCIS ENGLAND, 2366 acs. Isle of Wight Co., 29 Sept. 1664, p. 402, (462)[?] 946 by former patent and 120 acs. by another patent, both dated 13 Jan. 1661. 400 acs. of the residue beg. at his own land, running S. &c. & adj. 200 acs. he purchased of Jno. White, both of these beg. in the mouth of Hills branch &c 700 acs. beg. at his 120 ac. patent...to Robt. Elys corner tree...Tabers branch...Xtopher. Lewis branch, then to beginning...Trans. of 26 persons, Francis England, Joyce his wife...[other persons named, but none familiar]

ibid. page xxiv Headrights
"The term headrights in connection with a patent for land has been subject to no little misunderstanding. Elucidation is therefore in order.
For the purpose of stimulating immigration and the settlement of the Colony the London Company ordained that any person who paid his own way to Virginia should be assigned 50 acres of land for 'his own personal adventure', and if he transported 'at his owne [sic] cost' one or more persons he should, for each person whose passage he paid, be awarded fifty acres of land..."

My understanding of the above is that Francis England paid the passage for the "headrights" who names are listed in the passage above, and he received 50 acres of land for each person whose passage he paid.

If you have access to these volumes they are worth serious study.

The maps in Nugent are very clear as to early settlement around the western shore of the Chesapeake Bay and show Isle of Wight and Surry counties as they touch the James River, but they are not carried any further forward in this first volume, which I happen to have at home.

Francis England would be a man (or are these two men?) to follow in English records if we ever get that far] as a potential clue to the English origins of our Hills. If you cannot find the little folk, try the bigger ones, who often generated more records.

Speaking of English origins, a red flag went up at the mention of Robert Hill of Northumberland, England marrying Mary Webb of Kent, England. The only things those two locations have in common are the language (and there would have been at least two different dialects) and their placement on the eastern coastal region of England. Kent is on the south (the location of the White Cliffs of Dover) and Northumberland is as far north as you can go in England before crossing into Scotland. My opinion, for what it is worth, is that their marriage is possible but not probable, unless Robert Hill made his way from Northumberland to Kent. Why?

Why did Robert and Mary come to Virginia? Were they friends or acquaintances of Francis England? Were they related to him? Were they servants of England? Did they have the wherewithal to purchase their own land at some later time? Were they indentured servants? If the latter, they would have been given some land after their period of indenture was over. Length of indenture and amount of land varied at different times. A whole new can of worms.

Another red flag that flew is the issue of primogeniture. **N C RESEARCH**, defines it as 1) the state of being the first born. 2) A common-law system of inheritance under which all real property of an INTESTATE fell to the eldest son to the exclusion of younger sons; it was in effect in North Carolina until 1784 but was not uniformly observed.

For Virginia, see Fischer, below.

In David Hackett Fischer, *ALBION'S SEED Four British Folkways in America*, Oxford University Press, 1989. page 380 in the section on Virginia folkways, "Another part of Virginia's wealth ways was its system of inheritance. From an early date the laws of the colony insisted that primogeniture and entail must apply in all intestate estates. Whenever a Virginian died without a valid will, the eldest son inherited the homestead and all the lands, in fee tail rather than fee simple. This law had a genuine impact upon inheritance practices, for ***many Virginians died intestate.*** [my italics]

Planters who prepared their own testaments were permitted to do as they pleased. In the early and mid-seventeenth century, few of them observed the rules of primogeniture. Most divided their lands and chattels amongst their several children. The greater abundance of land in the New World allowed parents more latitude in that respect. As late as 1724, Hugh Jones wrote that this practice was customary in Virginia,

'the tracts being divided every age among several children not unlike gavelkind in Kent'...

But these divisions were not equal and the eldest son tended to be specially favored..."

The reason the red flags went up is that they are (like the calendar change) not widely known as well as not being understood, and thus are not taken into consideration by researchers. As Fischer says, not everyone wrote wills, so we need to see the records that dealt with intestate estates. There may be Hills out there who are not included in any family history. Could Benjamin and Henry Hill come under this?

Another problem is that in a workshop given by NCGS years ago, Virginia Livingston Pope (a recognized authority on Virginia) spoke about the perils of researching the records of that colony, and told us that even when a father made a will, the eldest son might not be mentioned because primogeniture would have given that son the estate in fee tail. The will would have been primarily devoted to seeing that the younger sons/children have something. This something could often be money/land brought into the marriage from the mother's side of the family. Confused? That makes two of us. I mention the above just in case it may be needed.

Referring to ALBION'S SEED above, I learned more from that book than from many years of research. It is a splendid social history of four groups of people in America: Quakers, Puritans, Virginia Cavaliers, and the ubiquitous Scots-Irish.

Parishes. A misunderstood word in America. The parish was an ecclesiastical, not a political boundary. The Anglican Church, also known as the Church of England, was the state religion of England, and this state religion was carried over to America, especially Virginia, and to a lesser extent in North Carolina.

Each parish was to have a parish priest, a vestry, and glebe land. The Glebe land was to be worked by the parishioners for the support of the priest. You can imagine how well the independent-minded North Carolinians obeyed that rule. In Virginia with its older, more methodical settlement patterns, the parish was laid out, the vestrymen elected, churches built, and some ministers/priests sent to serve. If the vestry minutes and/or parish registers have survived, they contain a wealth of genealogical material, which can be found nowhere else. Many of these books have been abstracted and printed.

As settlement reached farther from the coast into the wilderness, so the need for parishes and churches to be founded for the cure of the souls of the inhabitants. For priest read minister or pastor, or think of John Wesley, who was an ordained Anglican priest.

In North Carolina, the optimistic officials organized the parishes; Dobbs Parish being the one farthest west and which contained Surry County. However, the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel could not find enough priests who were willing to emigrate to the wilds of NC

and America, so most of the parishes were in name only. Competing with the Anglican Church in NC were so many dissenters of varying denominations who had no use for that kind of state church. Quakers, Lutherans, German Reformed, Presbyterian, Baptists of all types, etc.

In North Carolina, NO PARISH REGISTERS SURVIVE FOR THE COLONIAL PERIOD.

Incidentally, in December I wrote to the two BRAY men mentioned in an earlier letter, but have had no return from either. Wonder what I did wrong?

Now to the body of your dissertation on Ye HILLS of MEHERRIN. It is a clear and reasonable assessment of the data known to date. Thank goodness you used a clear numbering system that made following it so much easier. Again, I believe you may be on the right track. Now we need some original records to prove or disprove it.

TO DO LIST. Do you have access to any abstracts of the Virginia counties of interest? My few Virginia ancestors were so much later in time, plus being in Frederick County in the Shenandoah Valley, so my personal library will not help us. You might try writing to the Virginia State Library and Archives asking about the territory Brunswick received from Isle of Wight and from Surry. I don't know how much help they will give a request or what their procedure is now, but it might be worth a try. My motto is 'Go the source when possible'. If you do write to them, you might ask about any extant Parish Registers or Vestry Minutes for the counties of interest.

Time lines are so helpful, especially when dealing with the same name problem, and your Time Line is a good one.

Will close with admiration for a difficult job very well done.

As ever,

Cousin Jane

WADE2.DOC for reply O.K.

07 April 98

Cousin Jane,

Yours of 31 March received, reminding (as though I needed reminding) that I am far behind with my correspondence. Around Christmas, I began having a problem with the light. Couldn't look out the window without squinting, and the computer screen would give me eyestrain and headaches in a matter of minutes. That was followed by a pulse in my vision; when my heart beats the printed page jumps. Following that, a swirling slosh of my ocular fluid when I move my eyes. Doc says probably a pressure problem, ocular pressure or blood pressure. We've done a bunch of tests, and will repeat some this week for comparison. Meantime, I stay indoors out of the light and wear dark glasses. Just like the other hippies and addicts and Hollywood personages. Cool, man. Just you wait til I grow my ponytail and put rings in my ears.

Bad-mouth not my cousin Robert. He has lost but half of his mind. The half which disposed him to buy the pickup is functioning normally. I am a pickup kind of person. Mine is also a Dodge Ram, of 1986 vintage. But, alas, the half which deluded him into moving wants fixing. I'd druther be whupped with a bramblebush than to move. But I do applaud having it all on one floor. My next move will be to a blimp hangar or very large warehouse, so that when my treasures pile up around me I can just pick up and move a hundred yards down the floor. Maybe a circus tent.

Another Sarah Bray heard from, or at least a new identity for one of our old Sarahs. Do you have a time frame for the Sarah who married John Shelton? I am reluctant to deny that Hanon's daughter Sarah married John Shelton, maybe so. All I have going for Hanon's daughter Sarah as the wife of Richard Hill is that Sarah Bray married Richard in 1814 and Hanon witnessed William Hill's deed to Richard in 1820. I say we match wits with Thomas C. Bray in hope that one of us may prove the other wrong. I love being proved wrong, for it frees me from wrong notions and opens up the pursuit of right ones.

Incidentally, what was the tradition for naming? First son named for father's father, first daughter named for mother's mother? Something like that. I"ve heard that there was a tradition, but have not seen it in print. Might point us toward the original Sarah among the Brays.

Be encouraged that your sons take even a mild interest in identifying the old ones. Son and daughter listen to my recitation of history with interest, even remember some of it, but their interest is more in the tale being told now than in the before or the after. They are attentive to William Hill's experiences in the Revolution, but I think they are not set on fire by the quest for William's descent. I take no offense, and accept that rambling the old family trails is not a trip for everyone. It suits me, but I would not inflict it upon the less curious.

You ask where to apply your efforts. I'd say the Virginia Counties, yes, Granville County, not just yet. My sense is that we have William's place of birth, prior to 1740, Southampton VA or its predecessor/successor counties, and the years of his later life by the Tararat in Surry, where he arrived in 1780. Missing are the 40 years between 1740 and 1780. During these 40 years, William (a) married (Sarah), (b) fathered the two children who accompanied him to the Tararat, (c) served in the Revolution, (d) perhaps preached in and for the Baptist Church.

William is lost in the tidewater, somewhere betwixt Northampton-Bertie NC and Isle of Wight-Southampton-Brunswick VA. If your strength and patience dissipate as rapidly as mine, you are probably attracted, as am I, to the more likely place first. It infuriates me that after a few hours among the books it all begins to run off me like water on a duck. My attention span narroweth, my

sharpness of wit dwindleth, and after my allotted span I make more errors than progress.

William RE-enlisted in Surry 1780, so in Southampton or between there and the Tararat William could have been in another part of Surry before 1780. I think old Rowan might hold something for us.

I have not seen anything to indicate sojourn in Granville, but William was lost at the same time that Green was in Bute - Granville. Balancing the little we know against the much we don't know, I sense that the more fertile ground for plowing up William's lost 40 years is Isle of Wight-Southampton-Brunswick VA and Bertie-Northampton NC. And I would look up William DeLoach Hill at the VA - NC line and ax him Where's William of Tararat?

It nags my mind that the searchers who went ahead of us may have left in their wake a taking from one William and a giving to another. I am wary that when they found a William they made their notes accordingly, and when they found a later mention of a William they took him to be the one about whom they had previously written and wrongly assigned the vitae of one to another. Drat them pesky Hills, nohow. Shucks on every one of them. Unless they drive a pickup. Show me a feller driving a pickup and I'll show you a feller who is just what he appears to be. Unless he's hauling a load from one house to another, then I'd say watch out.

Good luck with your move. As for forty years of accumulation, I say of yours as daughter says of mine. Toss in a match, shut the door, don't look back. Once I was transferred to a new duty station and I was totally unable to comprehend my predecessor's filing system, so I asked. Says he, I stuffed everything in a box. If I didn't need to get into the box for six months, I pitched box and contents. Words to live by. I'll probably have mine cremated with me, since it would take an acre of ground to bury it all.

Spring ain't sprung, but hit's a-springing. Got some ground showing where the sun shines. We thaw a little in the daytime, freeze a little at night. No leaves yet, but the buds are swelling. The neighborhood squirrel was out today, running the electric wire between the poles. The local, non-migrating, ducks are up and about, but still too early for the geese to return from down south. The Fish & Game people warn to watch for bears coming out of hibernation early. Maybe the bears will come and run the moose out of my yard. Ornery critters have et up my berry bushes again.

Enjoy Spring!



Wade

Deceased

Mrs. Jane Smith Hill
P. O. Box Z, Salem Station
Winston-Salem, NC 27108-0450

29 July 1996

Mr. Robert R. Hill
631 South Echo Drive
Brandon, FL 33511

Dear Mr. Hill,

This is a belated thank you for your letter of 5 June 1996. I am impressed with your grasp of the HILL "problem", and I thank you for helping me make contact with Wade Baker of Anchorage, Alaska. He is closely related to my husband on at least 4 lines; Baker, Cook, Hill, and Whitaker! He is also one of the few persons who had any knowledge of William "Chickie" Hill, my husband's great-grandfather. Last, but not least, he has more personal knowledge of the places and people involved that we do; my father-in-law left Surry County in the 1890s for Winston-Salem, and to a certain extent lost touch with collateral kin.

Wade and I have been corresponding steadily and this has stimulated me to make another attempt at solving the HILL mystery; I can only call it that because of the lack of surviving records, the prevalence of same-name characters in the drama, the erroneous conclusions drawn by some researchers, and my lack of knowledge of any family history.

So, after delving again into the accumulation of research notes on these HILLs and checking into wills and deeds, I have reached the tentative conclusion that William "Chickie" [thank God for that nickname!] IS the son of Richard Hill and Sarah Bray. I believe their children may have been: William, b. c. 1818; Nancy, b.c. 1820; Jesse, b.c. 1827; Sally, b. c. 1830. There is a 7-year gap between the births of these last two children, yet a Sally is living with Richard and Sally in 1850 and a landless Jesse resides next door.

These 4 children fit the 1840 Surry County census but the 1830 is inconclusive. I will have to recheck the original.

One item that has driven us astray is the two marriage bonds for Richard Hill to two different brides. I now believe we are dealing with TWO men, but who is the Richard who married Priscilla Peel/Peal/Pell?

My husband's family has been of the Methodist persuasion as far back as anyone can remember and Dosha Whitaker Hill also came of strong Methodist stock.

Another William Hill wrote his will in Surry County, NC in 1777. It was probated in Surry in 1787. He resided in the area that became Stokes County in 1789. He had a very large family of sons, but none named Richard. I cannot locate my copy of it, so won't quote, bit if I do locate it, will send you a photocopy if you want.

There is a most interesting deed in Surry County Deed Book N, page 435 in which William Hill deeds to Richard Hill for love and affection some livestock. The inventory names on [one] sorrel mare, one head of cattle, one head of sheep four sows and pigs. To me the wording of the deed of gift is ambiguous regarding a tract of land mentioned. No description of it is included. The deed is dated nine February 1818; the same year in which I calculate Chickie was born. I begin to believe this may be the only will that can be located. Surry's original wills appear to be lost and gone. Only those copied into the Will Books in the Court House have survived and the microfilm made of them is very poor.

I meant no slight to you when I did not send you a copy of my HILL MEMO, but am so glad Jerry Hill shared with you. As you probably realize, I had thrown the HILLS into the file drawer in hope that they would sort themselves and I could stop getting so frustrated. It didn't happen.

You have a masterful grasp of the HILL family as per your letter, and I believe your logic is leading you in the right direction.

Wade had mentioned the Rev. War Pension application, which I had not seen, but gave me no details. Thank you.

Although I am not as far back as your material indicates to be possible, I am very happy to think that I may have Chickie's parents, i.e. Richard Hill and Sarah Bray. At this time I intend to follow Sarah Bray to see where she will lead me. There may be clues, leads, and possibly some gold there.

Thank you again for your letter and good material; will share anything that looks likely.

Most sincerely,

Jane Smith Hill

27 April 1998

Dear Cousin Wade,

I deserve 40 lashes with a wet noodle for lack of using my brain.

When my last NGS NEWSLETTER arrived, I checked the list of new book acquisitions and found a BRAY book by Virginia Bray Stevenson. As a member I have interlibrary loan privileges, which I used to get that book, plus they sent me another Bray book.

BOTH WERE SEVERE DISAPPOINTMENTS! Virginia Bray Stevenson, wrote *THE FAMILY BRAY*, but she confined herself mostly to her immediate family. However, she shows some NC Brays in Onslow and Jones counties, but none that appear to connect with ours.

The second one is *THE BRAY BUNCH* and they too, wrote of only their own family and listed descendants instead of ancestors. The maternal side of that family is Canadian and Indian. Most interesting.

However,... I asked for other book listings on our Virginia counties of interest (which they sent, and which my library will probably have most of), but one family history book in this list is EAST GOES WEST: HISTORY OF THE CRAFT-HILL-HARRIS... families. I apologize for not remembering about NGS interlibrary loan and for not checking to see if they had a copy. I shall request it next. There are several books listed that contain HILL as one of the families therein. At $10 per order plus postage, I will have to be very selective in my ordering. Will let you know of any progress I make.

Am going to Greensboro tomorrow to help my cousin dispose of Aunt Ruth's genealogical material. Ruth was my genealogical other half for so many years and we worked so well together and I miss her so.

How are the eyes? I do hope they are improving.

Watch out for bears, moose and other ornery critters. Am enjoying spring, thank you. Our azaleas have outdone themselves this year; people drive by and stop to look. Isn't that nice?

(H)

Bucks County } Orphans Court 1773
This Inventory of the estate of Grace Hilldrup late of
Returned into Court by Evan Phillips & William Hilldrup
Executors with Oath & Affirmation & to be recorded

Test Ben Pr. Fullerton Reg.

An Inventory of
the Estate of Mrs.
Grace Hilldrup,
(4)

Rec. 1. fo. 257.

(H)

Dec.

An Inventory of the Estate of Grace Hill's

Dec.

Six Negroes Toldin, York, Nan, Jenny Joffrey, Ned & Peter; One hundred and Eighty five Pounds Seventeen Shillings & six Pence, Gold.

One horse, One Riding Chair & harness, 8 head Cattle 21 head Sheep; One Bed & furniture, 1 Walnut Table, 6 Chairs, 8 Walnut Chairs, 1 Looking Glass, 1 Pine Table 2 large Iron pots, 1 Pair fire tongs, 1 Ir. large Handiron 1 Case bottles, 3 Pewter dishes, 3 Basons, 6 Plates, 1 Porringer 1 tin funnell, 1 Soop Spoon; 1 Iron Pot, 1 Cart Saddle 1 old Gun, 1 hand Mill, 1 Loom & Gears, 2 sides Leather 1½ doz.ⁿ Table Spoons, 1 Skillet, 1 Chocolate pot, 1 Skimmer 1 Saucepan, 1 Ir. Kettle, 3 Chairs, 1 Trigger, 1 Wheat Sieve 1 Griddle, 1 Candle Stand, 1 Ir. Fleshforks ½ doz.ⁿ China tea Cups & Saucers, 1 China Bowl, ½ doz.ⁿ Silver tea Spoons & 1 Pr. tea Tongs, 1 Glass Cream Pot, 2 Jugs, 1 Butter Pot 1 Saucepan, 1 Tea Pot, 2 Chamber Pots, 1 Linnen Wheel a Parcel Beer Bottles, Some Cash standing debts & her wearing Apparell, &c.

10th Dec.r 1772

J. Grimball

J. [illegible]

Wm. Hill

12

(H)

Division of
the Estate of Mrs.
Grace Tilden,

R. L. 1. fo. 250 5

(H)

Pursuant to the Last Will & Testament of Mrs. Grace Hill dec'd. We have divided the Estate of the Testatrix as follows viz. (Toldish)

To Henry Hill for his Share, One Negroe Boy Named Peter, 1 Large Iron Pot, 1 Old Gun, 1 Cart & Wheels 1 hand Mill, 1 Loom & Gear, 2 Sides Leather and Fifty-nine Pounds Ten Shillings Cash Money

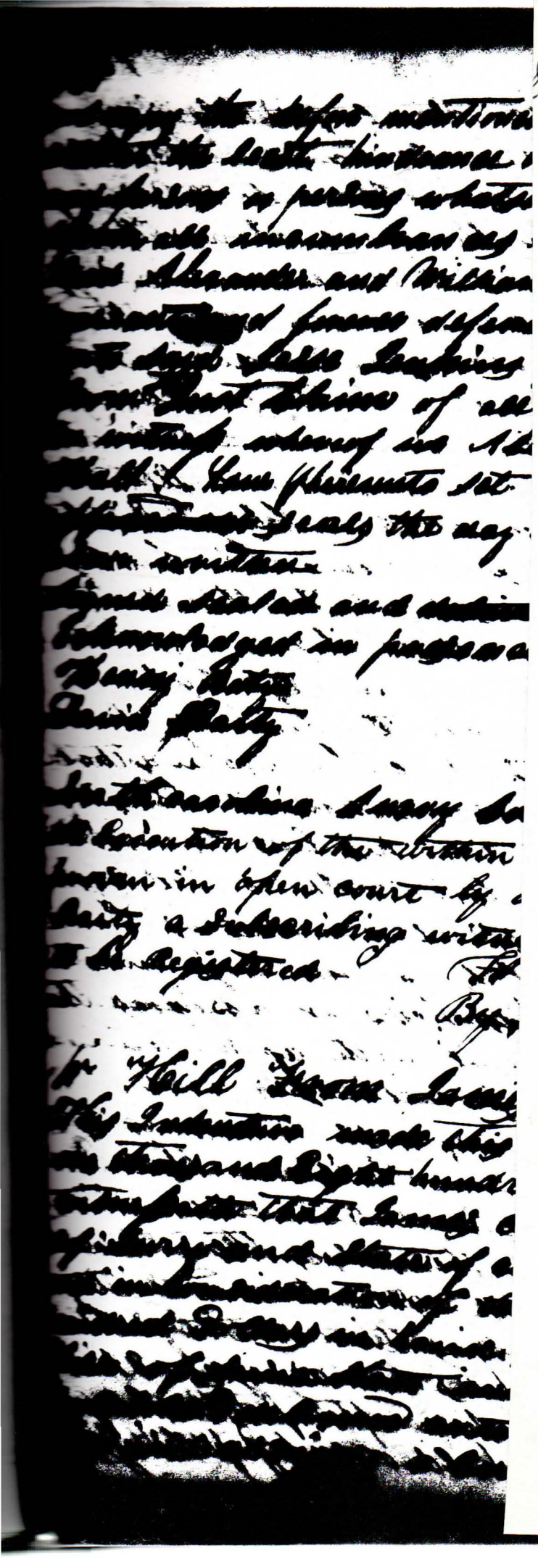
To Green Hill for his Share One Negroe Man Named York & One Negroe Woman Named Nan

To Benja. Hill for his Share, One Bed & Furniture, Six head Cattle, 21 head Sheep; and Fifty Pounds Three Shillings & four Pence Proc. Money.

To William Hill for his Share 1 ½ doz. Spoons 1 Skillet, 1 Pewter Platter, 1 Hammer, 1 Gun, 1 Bell Metal Skillet, ½ doz. China Cups & Saucers, 1 China Bowl, ½ doz. Stone Tea Cups & Saucers, 1 Glass Decanter, 1 Candle Stand, 1 Pr. Steel forks and Seventy four Pounds Ten Shillings Proc. Money.

To Mary Hill for her Share, One Negroe Woman Named Jenney, 1 Pr. Fire Tongs, 1 Pr. Large Hand Iron 1 Case Bottles, 3 Pewter dishes, 3 Basons, Six Plates & 1 Porringer, 1 Tin funnell, 1 Soop Spoon, 1 Iron Skillet and Fifty four Pounds Seventeen Shillings & Eight pence Proc. Money

To Sarah Hill for her Share, One Negroe Boy Named Ned



Book 2

167 & 168

Deed Book 2
Pg 167 & 168

State of NORTH-CAROLINA, }
Nash County, } ss.

KNOW all Men by these Presents, That Drucilla Hill Lane
William Jackson & Jeremiah Threadgill
are held and firmly bound unto Edwd Nicholson Esquire,
Chairman of said court, in the sum of Two hundred & fifty
pounds, current money, to be paid to the said Edwd Nicholson
or his successors: To the which payment well and truly
to be made, we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors, and administrators, jointly and severally, firmly by these presents. Sealed with our seals, and dated this Eleventh
day of February Anno Dom. 1795

THE CONDITION of this Obligation is such, That if the above bounden Drucilla Lane Hill administratrix of all and singular the goods and chattels, rights and credits of Lion Hill deceased, do make or cause to be made, a true and perfect inventory of all and singular the goods and chattels, rights and credits of the deceased, which have or shall come to the hands, knowledge or possession of the said Drucilla Lane Hill or into the hands or possession of any person or persons for h ; and the same so made, do exhibit, or cause to be exhibited into Nash county court, within the time prescribed by law, after the date of these presents: And the same goods, chattels and credits, and all other the goods, chattels and credits of the deceased, at the time of h death, or which at any time hereafter shall come into the hands or possession of the said Drucilla Lane Hill or into the hands or possession of any other person or persons for her do well and truly administer according to law; and further do make, or cause to be made, a true and just account of her said administration, agreeable to law, after the date of these presents: And all the rest and residue of the said goods, chattels and credits, which shall be found remaining upon the said administratrix account (the same being first allowed by the Governor and Council, superior or county court) shall deliver and pay unto such person or persons respectively as the same shall become due, pursuant to the true intent and meaning of the act in that case made and provided. And if it shall appear that any will or testament was made by the deceased, and the executor or executors therein named do exhibit the same in court, making request to have it allowed and approved of accordingly, if the said Drucilla Lane Hill above-bounden, being thereunto required, do render and deliver the said letters on administration (approbation of such testament being first had and made in the said court) then this obligation to be void, otherwise to remain in full force and virtue.

Signed, Sealed and Delivered in the Presence of

her
Drucilla Hill (Seal.)
mark

William Jackson (Seal.)
mark

Jeremiah Threadgill (Seal.)

Abell admr.
Bond.

1795-

Dr Priscilar Hill Admx to the Estate of Sion Hill Dec'd an act — Cr

To the total amt of Sale —	£ 8 : 2 : 7	1	By Pd William Arrington an act	£ 2 : 7 : 6
To Cash Recd of Wm Hamrons —	30 : 0 : 0	2	By Pd Matthew Dial's act —	1 : 14 : 4
	38 : 2 : 7	3	By Pd do — do note & Interest	5 : 16 : 0
		4	By Pd Henry Vick act —	10 : 19 : 6
		5	By Pd Robert Hobbs act —	4 : 19 : 4
		6	By Pd Crathan Boddie note & Interest —	2 : 9 : 0
		7	By Pd do — do act —	0 : 12 : 0
		8	By Pd Jeremiah Ethridge act	1 : 1 : 0
		9	By Pd Jesse Ethridge act —	0 : 10 : 0
		10	By Pd William Buntin act —	1 : 2 : 6
		11	By Pd Parson Rackley act —	0 : 13 : 4
		12	By Pd Jacob Joyner act —	1 : 0 : 10
		13	By Pd Jesse Rhodes act —	1 : 5 : 0
		14	By Pd William Hamrons act	1 : 7 : 11
		15	By Pd the tax of the Estate for the year 92 & 93 —	12 : 0
		16	By Pd do — do for the year 1794 —	6 : 11

to the Estate of Lion Hill Decd an acct — 6d

£ 8..2..7 1 By Pd William Arrington on £1..3..6 — £2..7..6
30..10..0 2 By Pd Matthew Drake's acct — 1..0..7 — 1..14..4
38..2..7 3 By Pd do — do Note & Intrest 3..9..6 — 5..16..0
4 By Pd Henry Vick acct — 6..11..8 10..19..6
5 By Pd Robert Hobbs acct — 2..19..7 — 4..19..4
6 By Pd Crathan Boddie Note & Intrest — 2..9..0
7 By Pd do — do acct — 0..12..0
8 By Pd Jeremiah Etheridge acct 0..12..2 — 1..1..0
9 By Pd Jesse Etheridge acct — — 0..10..0
10 By Pd William Burton acct — 0..13..6 — 1..2..6
11 By Pd Parson Rackley acct — 0..8..0 — 0..13..4
12 By Pd Jacob Joyner acct — 0..12..6 — 1..0..10
13 By Pd Lucia Sherrod acct — 0..15..0 — 1..5..0
14 By Pd William Hammons acct 0..16..9 — 1..7..11
15 By Pd the tax of the Estate for the year 92 & 93 — 12..0
16 By Pd do — do for the year 1794 — 6..11
17 By Pd William Hall for administrations on the Estate of said Decd — 36..17..2 — 10
allowd by the Court for my trouble in settling the Estate — £3..20 — 0..17..2
30..2..7
Remb Due the Admrtx — 1..14..7

a true acct Returnd by me Janry Court 1797 —

E Excepted —

Drusila her Hill Hill

The Estate of Dion Hill Decd Sold February the 26th 1795

			£	s	d
1 Bed & Furniture	to	Drusila Hill	1	1	
1 Ditto Ditto	to	Drus. Hill		16	7
1 Chest	to	D. de Deeds		15	
1 Bason	to	John Lane		4	
1 Pott 7 Spoons 2 Bayons 1 Dish	to	Drusila Hill	1	0	6
1 Sheare	to	Drusila Hill		5	
1 Wooling Wheal	to	Drusila Hill		2	6
1 Flax Wheel	to	Drusila Hill		10	6
1 Share of Cards	to	Drusila Hill		5	
1 Pott & Hooks 1 Dutch oven	to	Drusila Hill		2	
1 Jug & Bottle	to	Wm Brunton		5	3
1 Flat Iron	to	Elizabeth Hill		1	6
1 Coffee & 1 Grubing Hoe	to	Drusila Hill		3	6
1 Swingle Axe & 1 plow Axe	to	Drusila Hill		2	6
1 Drawing Nife	to	Micha Lane		3	6
1 Chissel & 1 Gimlet	to	John Graves		1	1
1 Shoe Hammer Nippers & all to		Robert Benton		4	6
1 Share of Sheals & Nivas forks	to	Drusila Hill		1	6
1 Tray 1 Sale 1 Piggin 1 Pail & 2 Baskets	to	Drusila Hill		5	6
3 Books & Tax to	to	Wm Brunton		0	6
1 Testament & 1 Table	to	Drusila Hill		1	6
1 Share & Coulter & sheet	to				
1 Head of Hogs	to	Drusila Hill		10	
			£	0	2

Exact account of Sale ~~Dion Hill Executrix~~ sold by the

Admx and Returned to Surry Court 1795

Drusila Hill
her
mark

(J)

February 16th Day 1790
A Just and True Inventary of the Estate of
Simon Hill Decest

to one Mair
to one Pot and Hooks
to one Kettle oven
to one chist
to one Dish & Tub Dish
to Three Pewter Basons and seven puter plates
to Two Pewter Spoons
to Two Beads and Bedsteads
to Three Chears and [illegible] puter Spoons
to one Tub and four Vifes and five forkes
to one pail
to one Frigain and two Beasketts
to one Tray and Sheare
to one Stoster
to one Barrel one axe
to one Gimblin Hoe and two Heading Hoes
and [illegible] plow Hoes and one [illegible]
to one Linsin Wheal
to one Woling Wheal and three peare of Cards
to one Jug and one Bottle and pint Cup
one Table
Foule Jours and one Sheat and peare hamers and three Spoons
to parsel of Wheat and [illegible]
to parsel of Cotten and foder and plow Lines &c
to a parsel of Tater plantins and a Bridle and two Sadles
to Drawing Vife and Chizzel and Shu hamer and pinch
1 Razor 1 Pair Hand

Duness her } adm[inistra]
mark } tix

NC Archives
Feb 3 2005

No. 191

[illegible] a

[illegible] these presents shall Come, Gre

[illegible] for and in Consideration of the sum

[illegible] hundred acres hereby granted, Said grantee

[illegible] William Hill have given and granted and by these

[illegible] and grant unto the Said William Hill a tra

[illegible] containing One hundred acres lying & being in the Coun

Beginning at a White Oak in Wilkins line running South

~~Beech pin~~ 33 links to a white Oak thence thirty ~~chains to a stake.~~

thirty Chains to a Stake. North Crossing Neal at Sixty

Chains and thirty three links to a stake in Haines' line West

Line or Haines' line to the beginning. Entered 1st Jan

the plat hereunto annexed doth appear, together with

Water, Mines, Minerals, hereditaments and appurten

Said Land belonging or appertaining. To Hold to

Hill his heirs and assigns forever. Yielding and pay

such sums of Money yearly or otherwise as the Gen

from time to time may direct. Provided always

Grantee shall cause this Grant to be registered in the

Office of the Said County of Surry within twelve mo

the date hereof otherwise the same shall be void an

In testimony whereof we have Caused these Letters

patent and the Great Seal to be hereunto affixed. W

Williams esquire Our Governor Capt. Gen'l and

in Chief at Raleigh the sixteenth day of December in the

of Our Independence And in the year of Our Lord One th

hundred and Ninety nine

By Command. B. Willia

Will White Secretary

Recorded in the Secretary's Office. P Malone Pd

Thomas Wilcox

Jon

Reply to Wade dated 5 Nov '04 letter

Dear Cousin Wade,

I will start this with a discourse of what I do know about DNA.

When I sent in my research along with my son's cheek swabs, I gave them only what we had proven. That is from my husband Robert back to old William Hill (1740-1840), and there I stopped.

In turn, Bob's DNA matched as RELATED to Green Berry Hill (c. 1775 VA – 1856/58 AL). It is my belief that Green Berry Hill is closely related to our old William Hill, no proof but just a gut feeling.

This Green B. Hill married Lott Ivey's daughter Martha and moved from Surry County, NC south through SC, GA, to AL. The family group left before the 1790 Census, so we have nothing to compare them to. All of this Green B Hill's descendants have been located from him to the present, and I have a copy of the book sent me by Byron Hill of TN. All those descendants indicate that they are descended from Green B. Hill and the DNA proves it.

My son Bob is matched as RELATED which indicates a 50% probability that you share a common ancestor within 17.5 generations. That sounds like a lot of generations, but the other participants in this DNA exercise are very much more remote than Bob.

The DNA test used 25 places from the big DNA strand as markers, but I don't know which ones they use. My son's 391 marker was a 10 instead of an eleven, but that was the ONLY difference. Five others (all males) in this same study had one different marker, but were still Related or Descended. Interesting.

Yes, now for the most interesting part. LaVerne Bunting Hayes is directly descended from ROBERT HILL AND TABITHA GREENE, THROUGH THEIR SON SION & SARAH ( ) HILL, THROUGH GREEN HILL, THROUGH SION HILL, THROUGH RILEY HILL THROUGH JASON C. HILL, THROUGH JAMES MILTON HILL, THROUGH HAZEL EDITH HILL, who was LaVerne's mother.

She has proof of her descent, and used her HILL nephew for his DNA, thus making us and her related. She can prove back to Robert Hill, son of Robert and Mary (Webb) Hill, and the DNA of her nephew seems to prove it. At this time that is the best I can do for you on DNA.

I missed photo copying one section of the report and it is included herein. Am also sending you a chart of the HILLS in the report that I made. Using 25 as the male legal age (it might have been 21 but I decided to use 25) I subtracted 25 from the date of each

been at least 25 years of age to engage in the transactions in the report. This gave me either some long lived HILLS or there were 2 or more men in these records. This may or may not help but should give us an approximate starting point and separate the more than one names in these records. Please bear in mind that the man had to have been age 25 or more at each of the transactions in these reports.

The researcher agrees with me that is it best to research the whole tribe and is to continue the previous work. She will get the will of Robert Hill who came in 1642 and see what it tells us. I expect her report in late December or in January.

Now to the report:

In the ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY, VIRGININA DEEDS 1647 –1719, COURT ORDERS 1693 – 1695 and GUARDIAN ACCOUNTS 1740 – 1767 by William Lindsay Hopkins. These are abstracted from the original records and the researcher used them because the original records are not indexed.

This group of records shows several HILLs among whom were Major Nicholas Hill, (also as Lt. Col. Nicholas Hill), his widow, Mrs. Silvestra Hill, Thomas Hill, Ralph Hill, Joseph Hill, Bethiall Hill, Robert Hill, Sion Hill, Nicholas Hill.

Thomas Hill has 8 entries in all these records 1638-1734. Using age 25 as the age of majority (it was probably 21), I subtracted 25 from the earliest date in the records for a possible birth date of 1613. So he is an older man. The latest deed with Thomas Hill is 1734. Therefore I believe there were 2 or even 3 men named Thomas Hill.

Major Nicholas Hill may have been born about 1630 or so. He seems to have died circa 1695.

Mrs. Silvestra Hill, widow of Nicholas Hill.

Matthew Hill born circa 1631.

Joseph Hill born circa 1610.

William Hill born circa 1646. He shows in records 1678, 1671, 1672, 1673, 1674. WHO HE?

Richard Hill, whom I believe may have been 2 men. One was born circa 1630 but the name show up in the years 1655, 1660, 1671, 1674, 1675, 1676 & 1677.

Sion Hill born circa 1652. The name also show in 1675, 1677, 1679, 1683, 1696, 1700, 1702, 1739.

Robert Hill born circa 1630. The name is also in the records 1655, 1694, 1704, 1735, 1741. There may be two men here.

Edward Hill born circa 1630. Shows in 1655 and 1660.

Nicholas Hill born circa 1685.

Richard Hill (a merchant) shows in 1749.

Joseph Hill born circa 1710. Shows 1735, 1741/42, 1746.

John Hill born circa 1699.

The immigrant ancestors, Robert and Mary (Webb) Hill came to Virginia in 1642. No children are listed in the item, so they may not yet have started a family. Any children should have been listed as being part of the cargo that gave Francis England his acres.

So, we will assume that Robert and Mary started their family after landing at Isle of Wight in Virginia. We do not know how long they served (if at all), but at some point Robert would have received some land from Virginia. We do not know where this land might have been located. It might have been in Isle of Wight County, it might have been in another county and so we are searching all those early counties for Hills and particularly for the immigrant Robert Hill.

Again, I am using age 25 as the basis for my calculations, so if Robert wed at age 25 he would have been born circa 1617 and possibly wed Mary Webb circa 1640.

A Robert Hill died in Accomack County, VA about 1678 and we are getting his will. Accomack County is on the DelMarVa Peninsula, just a short boat ride from the mainland, so it is quite possible this might be our Robert. We will just have to wait for the next report.

Going back to your letter of 5 November 04 all I know is that the DNA tests DO NOT SHOW JERRY HILL AS A DESCENDANT OF ROBERT AND MARY (WEBB) HILL. As of now, Jerry Hill's ancestors are not known.

The WILLIAM OF TOWN FORK IS ALSO NOT OF THE ROBERT AND MARY (WEBB) HILL LINE, ACCORDING TO THE DNA tests.

Wade, I have been looking at county lines for 35+ years without "seeing" how they may have been in the long, long ago. Your map of Nov. 5th is very enlightening and has opened up many new ideas for me. It also reminds me that some of the NC residents were actually in VA all along, but did not know it until the 1727/28 survey was completed. What we do have to remember is that the population was much smaller than we can imagine and houses were few and far between. I don't know just how that little item will help us, but there it is.

I sent you the only copy of FAIR's material, so I do not have that as a reference, but will hold judgment on what you have discovered until we learn more.

Your theories for my amusement are VERY interesting and should be kept at hand to see how they will fit into the overall pattern of the Hills. Especially the last theory in whole about how our William could have had records in all those other locations without ever setting his foot outside his own yard.

About the book of Surry Churches. I have enjoyed it but find it very disappointing that the church records are so very late in time. I suppose that with the Baptists being autonomous , there was no central authority to regulate the births and deaths and other vital records. There is not Holyfield Meeting House in the book. There is an Ararat-Cedar Hill Primitive Baptist Church just where you said it would be, but its earliest date in 1822. The only Bryant's is listed as Bryan's in use before 1800. It seems to me that there are no early church records, although I found the book very interesting and the photographs excellent.

Back to William "Chickie" and his father, Richard's deed. My father-in-law and all his children had a dislike of making wills! I believe it must have been handed down in their genetic code! Remember that old William deeded land to son Richard; then Richard deeded land to son William "Chickie". That same dislike came on down through the generations to my husband. I checked with the NC State Archives who informed me that Surry County had no separate Probate Court. Therefore, it will be necessary to check every one of the HILL deeds, and that necessitates either another trip to Dobson, or to send a list of needed deeds to the Register and ask for copies. The latter is a very poor option because the photocopying machines don't do a good job on the old deed books. Maybe I can get back to Dobson soon.

But that one deed did give us an approximate death date for "Chickie", and that is worth so much in this Surry County desert of lack of information. The deed of trust may have been recorded in the Surry County Court Records. There is another avenue to pursue. Don't yet know if Surry has a Commissioners Deed Book or a Sheriff's Sale Book. I will check Grantee index for Joel Denny and Cary Bird Denny circa 1868-1870.

How does a good old North Carolina boy comport himself in all that snow? I love our snows; here today and gone soon, but not to see the ground for months?

I am crepit, and gruntled, and had my five minutes of importance. Isn't it wonderful?

Will answer your letter of 19 Nov. soon.

Again, thank you for all your excellent help and education on these Hills. We will understand them all by and by. Just wait and see it we don't.

Jane

June 15th 1802

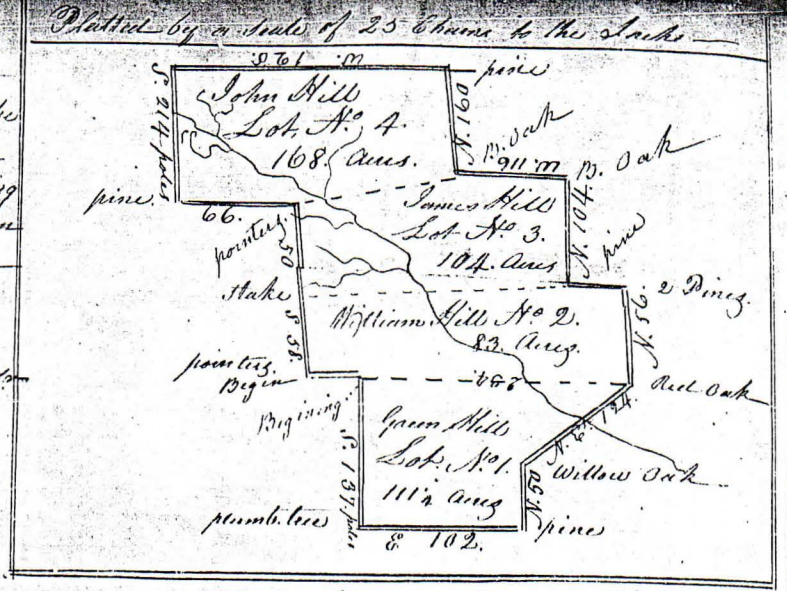
I Certify the platt hereunto affixed to be a true and plain Survey of the Land belonging to the Heirs of William Hill Deceased

Surveyed by me

Charles Bannee S.S.

N. Carolina

Stokes County



The above plan Represents a Tract of Land, the Estate of William Hill Deceased, lying in the County aforesaid, on both sides of Ash Camp Creek of Dan River, Which Land is divided into four distributive Shares as above described between the heirs of said William Hill Deceased, pursuant to an Order of the Worshipful Court of Stokes County, Lot No. 1 is bounded as follows, Viz. Beginning at pointers the Old Corner, and Runs South One hundred and thirty seven poles to a plumb Line, East One hundred and two poles to a pine, North fifty poles to a Willow Oak, in a Slash, North East One hundred and twenty four poles to a small Red oak, thence West to the Beginning, Containing One hundred & Eleven and one quarter Acres, Which Lot We Valued to three hundred and thirty three dollars and 75 Cents. — Lot No. 2. Begins at pointers and Runs East Jetting on the line of Lot No. 1. Two hundred and thirty four poles to a Red Oak, North on the Old line fifty six poles to two pines the Old Corner, thence West two hundred and thirty four poles to a Stake, in the Old line, Then South fifty eight poles to the beginning. Containing Eighty three Acres, Which Lot We Valued to One hundred and forty five dollars, and twenty five Cents. — Lot No. 3. Begins at pointers and Runs South fifty poles to a Stake, the N.W. Corner of Lot No. 2. Then East on the Line of said Lot One hundred and seventy eight poles to a pine the Old Corner North on the Old line One hundred and four poles to a Black Oak, West One hundred and sixteen poles to a Black Oak, thence a Straight Course to the beginning, Containing One hundred and four Acres, Which Lot We Valued to two hundred and Sixty dollars. Lot No. 4. Begins at a Black Oak the North West Corner of Lot No. 3. and Runs North on the Old line One hundred and Sixty poles to a pine, West One hundred and twenty eight poles to a White Oak, South two hundred and fourteen poles to a pine, East Sixty six poles to pointers, thence a Straight Course with Lot No. 3. to the beginning, Containing One hundred and Sixty eight Acres

PAGES

Which Lot was Valued to two hundred and fifty five Dollars. The Division being thus made, We proceeded to appraise the same, by Casting Lots (there being No Objection) Which was as follows. Viz. The Dividend No. 1. of Green Hill to Green Hill, one of the Legatees at the sum of ..... The Dividend No. 2. of Eighty three Acres, Hill to William Hill another of the Legatees, at the sum of ..... The Dividend No. 3. of 104. Acres Hill to James Hill another of the Legatees, at the sum of ..... The Dividend No. 4. of 165. Acres — Hill to John Hill another of the Legatees, at the sum of .....

	Dollars	Cents
	333.	75
	145.	25.
	260.	
	252.	
Total Amount	991	
To each Legatee	247.	25.

Which Sum of Nine hundred and Ninety one Dollars being Divided into 4 equal Shares Gives each Legatee the Sum of two hundred and forty seven Dollars, and twenty five Cents. ...

Therefore the More Valuable Dividends, are to pay to the Dividends of Inferior Value, a Sum sufficient to make each Dividend equal.

We Joseph Winston Gray Bynum Charles Bonner & Jacob Salmon Jones of the Commissioners, appointed by the County Court aforesaid for the express purpose of dividing the aforesaid tract of Land Do Certify that the foregoing proceedings are a true Statement of the Division & appropriation Made by us on Oath, this 14th day of June AD. 1802. Given under our hands and Seals.

Charles Bonner (L.S.)
Jacob Salmon (L.S.)
Joseph Winston (L.S.)
Gray Bynum (L.S.)

Stokes County Sept. term 1802.
The Commissioners appointed for the above purpose Made the foregoing Report. Which Was ordered to be Registered. Test Tho. J. Armstrong D.C.
Commissioners allowed 2 Dollars each.

John Hill 4th Ac. William Hill 2d Ac. Jas. Hill 3d No. Green Hill 3d No. 1

North Carolina
Rockingham County } This Certifies, that I am perfectly Satisfied with an Order of the County Court of Stokes County Made at the June in this present Month, appointing Joseph Winston, Gray Bynum, Charles Bonner, Charles McAnally, and Jacob Salmon, as Commissioners for the purpose of dividing a tract of Land lying On both sides of Ash Camp Creek, a branch of Towe fork, in Stokes County, belonging to the Estate of William Hill Deceased.

June 14th 1802.

Tho. Henderson Guardian To Green Hill, one of the Legatees to said Estate.

Stokes County June term 1802.
Ordered by the Court, that Joseph Winston Gray Bynum Charles Bonner, Charles McAnally, and Jacob Salmon be appointed Commissioners for the purpose of dividing of a tract of Land lying on both sides of Ash Camp Creek a branch of the Towe fork, belonging to the Estate of William Hill Deceased, and make Return thereof under their hands and Seals, according to Act of Assembly. Test Rob. Williams C.C.
& Tho. J. Armstrong D.C.

PAGES DISCOLORED

145 North Carolina } Pursuant to an Order of the Worshipful Court of the County
Stokes County } aforesaid Directed to the Sheriff of said County Authorizing him to Summon twelve Free holders To Set of to Elizabeth the Wife of Henry Ivy Deceased her Dower of the Lands said Henry died possessed of We the undersigned persons being Summoned by Virtue of said Order of Court and Sworn Agreable to Law, have Viewed and Examined the Land and premises Which said Henry died possessed of and have Laid off to the said Elizabeth her dower in the following Manner (to Wit) Beginning at a hickory tree, on the East bank of Buffaloe Creek, thence Running down the Various Meanders of said Creek to the Confluence of said Bank and Town fork, thence down the Meanders of said Town Fork to a broken Lost Sycamore, and pointers, a small distance above the Waggon Ford, Near the Lower end of the Old plantation of Henry Ivy Deceased, thence South thirty five Chains to five pointers, thence West seven and a half degrees North Eighteen & a half Chains to the first Station Containing Seventy and a half acres, and Twenty Six perches, Given under Our hands and Seals this 12th day of July — 1802.

William Crockett (Seal)
John Appleton (Seal)
Joseph Byrum (Seal)
Martin Flynt (Seal)
Newton Flynt (Seal)
J. Gibson (Seal)

William Davis (Seal)
William Waggoner (Seal)
Enoch Salmon (Seal)
Zachary Gosing (Seal)
Benn Jonny Jr (Seal)
William Gosing (Seal)

Stokes County Sept Term 1802.
The Same Summoned by the Sheriff
Made the foregoing Report
Ordered to be Registered.
Test Thos J Summerling D.C.

This Indenture Made the 28th day of October in the year of Our Lord One Thousand Eight hundred and One, Between Constantine Ladd of the County of Stokes State of North Carolina of the One part, and James Holbrook of the County and State aforesaid of the Other part Witnesseth, That the said Constantine Ladd for and in Consideration of the Sum of Fifty Dollars of the united States to him in hand paid by the said James Holbrook, the Receipt whereof the said Constantine Ladd doth hereby Acknowledge, Hath Given, Granted, Bargained, and Sold, aliened and Confirmed, and by these presents Doth give, Grant, Bargain and Sell, alien, and Confirm, unto the said James Holbrook his heirs and assigns forever, all that tract and parcel of Land situate lying and being in the County of Stokes, in the town of Germanton Containing by Estimation Two Acres be the same More or Less. Beginning at a post the South Corner of Lot No 17. fronting Salem Street Running With the line of the said Street South forty two degrees East to a small Sycamore, Jacob Salmons corner, thence With his line to the high Water Mark, at the Confluence of a Canal, thence down the high Water Mark of John Hall's Mill pond on Buffaloe Creek, With said Halls line to a post near an Ash, in Harrisons line Eighty Nine links from his South Corner of Lot No 14. thence South forty eight degrees West With the line of Lots No 14, 15, 16, & 17, to the first Station. Including almost the Whole of Lots, No 28, 29, 30, 31, & part of Lot No 27. To Have and to Hold the aforesaid land and premises, With all the appurtenances, unto the said James Holbrook his heirs and assigns, To the Only proper use and behoof of the said James Holbrook his Heirs and assigns forever; and the said Constantine Ladd for himself, and his heirs, the aforesaid land and premises, and every part thereof, against him and his heirs, and against the Claim or Claims of all and every other person or persons Whatsoever, unto the said James Holbrook his heirs and assigns shall and will forever Warrant and defend by these presents. In Witness Whereof said Constantine Ladd hereunto Set his hand and Seal the date above Written. Constantine Ladd (Seal)
Sealed and delivered before C Banner & William Holbrook.
Stokes County Sept Term 1802. The execution of the above deed was duly proved in Open Court by the Oath of Charles Banner. Ordered to be Registered
Test Thos J Summerling DC

It is believed that Wm Hill served longer than what was named in the Salisbury District if it could be come at one of the payments named in the Certificate was made in 1782 which Corroberates with some of the Declaration filed in the Department that Hill enlisted for 3 years or During the war for not very long after the Surrender of Cornwallis it was thought Necessary to Disband the Militia but the Regulars was kept in service until peace was concluded Cornwallises surrender was in 81

Very Respectfully Yours &c.

Hon. Commissioner of Pensions
Washington City
District of Columbia

Henry Smith

North Carolina
Surry County

Sept 13th 1857 –

I William Ashbourn of the above County & State, do certify that I was well acquainted with old Wm Hill as long as I can remember back and knew him to be an Exceeding old man when he died which took place whose Death took place some time in August in the year of Eighteen Hundred & forty

I have also heard him Swear a number of times (I cannot tell how often) of being in the Revolutionary Service and the hardships he underwent when in service the above Hill was a very Respectable citizen. I am neither in the Relation nor am I any ways interested. But I Believe that he stated the truth relative to his Services, I Believe he has shed Blood & Powder for his Country.

This day personally before me R E Marion JP one of the acting Justices of the peace in and for the county of Surry & State of North Carolina and made Oath in due form of law, the above statement relative to the Services of the old Hill is a true one R E Marion JP

I have been acquainted with W. Ashbourn Ever since I have known my self and know his Character to be Unimpeachable

R E Marion JP

1857 To the Commissioner
of Pensions
Sir I have recently had a letter from you
requesting me to try to procure more satisfactory
Evidence relative towards the Service of Wm Hill
in the Revolutionary War you also wanted to
know the date of the above Hills marriage
and also their Deaths. I send on to you the
Deaths of Hill and his wife but am not a-
ble to give any precise date of their marria
they were married in Spartanburg District in
the time of war that I do not expect
their marriage was Recorded they said
they had 2 Children when they came
to Surry N Carolina in the year 1780
which is the best information I
can obtain of their marriage if they
be correct married at all old Thos.
Ayres in his declaration said he
came to this Country with a wife
and 2 Children in 1780 Ayres is

P.S. There has been 2 Declarations of Thos Sykes sent to the Department authenticated by as good authority as any in the State which Justices have been name before as gentlemen honorable & Christian men & very pious men and the oldest acting Justice in Sunny County R.E. Reves Judge of our Special Court such men as they would not put their signature to the Character of a Dishonest man you seem'd to scruple at & Capt Ayers testimony by saying it was Too general when the news went to the old man he was hurt and said it was the first time his veracity was ever disputed he said he was neither Mistaken nor Imbruisted in the case and why should he in the last Stage of life be guilty of so heinous a crime he said he

There are more sheets not included

Jd. Stynes lived in this County at the time the Jones war so troublesome in this county & Lyons had a Brother and 2 Brothers here in the service of their country against the Tories he himself said he was often in the tents with his Brother and D. Hill and his own 2 Brothers before they were killed on the way to join Gen. Greens army. the said Battle dom took place you wanted me to further identify Hill as being the man that shot Brown the Jay spoken of in the Compilations Certificate I cannot identify him no better than the Compiler has done the said his name was on the Roll and that he drew his pay at Salisbury which is in in includes Surry in sd District also more says in former times Salisbury was Surry Courthouse this is as near

Work Copy dated July '96

HILL, timeline. Deeds, records, etc.

1740 or Before, Our **WILLIAM** born on Meherrin River, Southampton Co VA
Ours, known and suspected, in **bold** print
1761 William, Quaker & Iron - Hughes' Map (Rowan)(Surry incl Stokes, Yad, Forsyth)
1763 On Rockhouse Creek - Hughes' Map (Stokes, then Rowan)
(1776) **WILLIAM** served from begin of Rev War, Wagon man, fighting Tories
1776 **WILLIAM** married, **RICHARD's mother** possibly **Sarah (Sally)**
1776 & Rev War Wm Jr of Town Fork said Baptist Chaplain Lt in Rev
1779 William, grant by Moravian Lands (Stokes)
1779 Robert, grant Panther Creek (Stokes)
1779 (prob May 11) Richard Hill enters 100 acres on waters of Tarraratt adj Benjamin Cadle, Arthur Micks (Meeks?), including where Richard now lives. Richard already living here May 1779
1779 May 11, Richard Hill enters 200 acres on the Tarraratt River including his improvements. Also on May 11, Robert Harris enters 50 acres joining Thomas Ball's N & S lines (later joining neighbor)
1780 **WILLIAM** in Surry with two children, enlisted Rev., Rowan District
1780 William & Isaac Haines Forge, Ararat (Hughes) No Record Found
1783 William, grant Muddy Cr, Moravian Lands (Stokes)
1784 William, grant Ash Camp Cr (Stokes)
1784 **WILLIAM** 150 acres, Richard 1 Poll - tax 1st mention Richard Sr ? NO
1785 **WILLIAM** 150 acres, Richard 1 Poll - tax Richard Sr?
1786 **WILLIAM** 150 acres, Richard 1 poll - tax Richard Sr?
1786 William purchase on Fisher's River Hughes' Map
1786 William Hill of York County SC purchased Allen Iron Works, Surry & Wilkes
1788 Joseph from Blalock Miller's Creek (Yadkin)
unk Richard (Sr ?) marry (1)Elizabeth Gordon (Surry Heritage Book)
1789 William of Surry from J Bryson Witness Thomas Hill Fisher's Riv (at forks)
1789 (**WILLIAM** 150 acres, 1 poll ((No deed found prior to 1799))
1789 (Richard 150 acres, 1 poll ((No record found, to Richard before 1789))
1789 (William 1 poll 2 Williams, father & son ?
1790-1795 Richard and William in Court Minutes
1791 Hill's Bloomery Forge on Tom's Creek - Hughes Map
1791 Richard, grant. Whereon he lives. (sold 1794-Smith) Waters of Tararat
1792 Richard, deed from Burks Rocky Creek, branch of Stewart's Creek
1792 Sept. Wm Jr of Town Fork said died, Stokes Heritage. (Poss Fisher's Riv ?)
1792 Thomas of Wilkes Co GA to James of Surry, son of William, Dec'd Fisher's Riv
1792 Thomas of Wilkes Co GA to John of Surry, son of William, Dec'd Fisher's Riv
(John sold 1795 to Colby Creed)
1792 Thomas of Wilkes Co GA to Jacob of Surry, place where William d Little Fisher
1792 Thomas of Wilkes Co GA to Benjamin Cadle Bull Run
1792 Jacob purchased on Fisher's River - Hughes Map
1792 John purcased on Fisher's River - Hughes Map
1794 Richard to Daniel Smith, granted to Richard 1791 Join Benj Cadle Ararat Riv
1795 John (Son of Wm dec'd) to Colby Creed (from Thomas of GA 1792) Little Fish

Work Copy Not updated to July 96 bgb

1799 **WILLIAM**?, deed from Charles Denny — Ararat - Pilot Creek
1799 **WILLIAM**?, granted 100 acres — Adjoin Wall, on Ararat River
1799 Cornelius from Wm Arnold Wit Alwin Hill — S Deep Cr, N Hunting Cr
1799 Dan to E. Merrit — Wachovia-Town Fork (Stokes)
1800 John of Rowan fr A. Speer — (Yadkin) Haun Cr - Harris Cr (?)
1800 Richard, grant — Rocky Cr (branch of Stewart's Cr
1801 Hill & Haines ore banks Elkin, court- jury determine
1801 Richard Jr lay off road, court — 1st mention Richard Jr ?
1802 Richard Jr and Sr, court
1802 Hill & Haines Court - Issue warrants (title) Elkin (William)
1802 John, deed from Smith — Haun's Creek (near Turner's Creek)
1802 John, from Donnelly — Turner's and Elrod (Yadkin)
1802 Joseph, deed from Rutledge — Haun's and Elrod Creeks (sold 1806)
1802 Erasmus, from Donnely join John — Elrod's Creek
1803 Richard, security for Execr in Thomas Gordon estate, court
1803 **WILLIAM**? deed to Wooten (This granted to William 1799)
1804 Richard, court - road
1804 William, son of John, from John — Haun's Creek
1805 Thomas, granted — Hunting Creek (Yadkin)
1805 Leonard, from Hunt — Haun's & Elrod Creeks
1805 Leonard from Clampett — Turner's Creek
1806 William & wife Demaris (Colvard) to Eaton — Haun's Creek
1806 Richard, deeds from Watkins — Up Flat Shoal Creek east of Ararat
1806 Richard Jr from Watkins 100 acres — Mouth of Flat Shoal Creek (at Ararat)
1806 John to P. Eaton — Haun's Cr (Near Turner's)
1806 Joseph to Peter Mock (purch 1802) — Haun's & Elrod — John, witness
1807 Susanna, from Sweatt — The Georgia Road (Yadkin)
1807 Leonard to Crafford — Turner's & Elrod — Joseph, Witness
1807 Erasmus to Wm Howard — Elrod Creek
1807 John to Wm Howard — Elrod Creek
1807 **WILLIAM**?, granted 50 acres — Thomas Hill's corner
1808 Thomas, from Puckett — Stoney Cr & Little Rutledge Cr (Ararat)
1808 Thomas of Surry to Davis — Rocky Cr (Ararat)
1808 Thomas of Surry to Snow — Moore's Fork (Probably Mitchell Riv)
1810 William & Jno Haines, 2 IRON grants - Mitchell's River & North of Yadkin River
1810 Richard, grant from state
1810 **WILLIAM**? 1m 1f 45+ 1m 16-26 1f 0-10 b 1740
William 1m 1f 16-26 5m 0-10 2f 0-10 b 1774-1784
Richard Sr 1m 1f 45+ 1f 0-10 b before 1765
Richard 1m 1f 26-45 1m 0-10 1f 10-16 2f 0-10 b1765- 1774
1810 Joseph to Jones — Miller's Fork (Yadkin) ?
1810 Susannah to Athan — Turner's Creek and Georgia Road
1813 Thomas to Puckett — Rutledge and Stoney Cr
1814 Richard, deed from Henry Denny
1814 **RICHARD** married **SARAH (SALLY) BRAY**
1814 Clement from Simon Hadley — North Deep Creek (Yadkin)

1815 **WILLIAM**? 200 acres, no poll (a) Wm exempt from poll - Age ?
Richard 250 acres on Ararat, no poll) (b) Richard no poll - exempt, Age ?
Richard 1 poll same) - - (c) Richard 1 poll (Junior?)
Richard 1 poll (d) Richard 1 poll = 3 Richards
1815 Mary to Chappel N Fork Hunting Cr (Yadkin)
1817 **WILLIAM**? &/or **RICHARD** join William Ashburn
1817 William "Chickie" born circa
1818 **WILLIAM** to Son **RICHARD**, deed all lands & chattels **WM** then age 78+
1818 Leonard from Eaton Turner's Creek, Haun's Cr
1818 Leonard to T Chapman Haun's Creek
1818 Mary from Allen Hunting Cr, Brushy Mtns
1819 **JESSE** born Suspect son of **Richard Hill & Sarah Bray**
1819 Leonard to John Hill & wife Elizabeth
1819 Richard to Douglas, join Mendenhall W side Ararat Riv
1820 **WILLIAM**? to **RICHARD**, Charles Denny grant which Wm, which Richard
* No later Deed identifiable with **WILLIAM father of RICHARD**
1820 Richard (Sr ?) married (2) Priscilla Peele
1820 Census **WILLIAM** 1m 1f 45+ 2m 1f 16-26
William Jr
Richard Sr
Richard 1m 1f 16-26

John & Wife	45+	John of Rowan & family
Leonard & Wife	45+	
Edward	26-45	
John Jr	16-26	
Sarah	45+	

1822 **RICHARD** from Thos. Word NE bank of Ararat River, possibly join.
1824 Robert from Draughn (2) Charles Hill, wit.
1825 Erasmus, Joseph, William, Benjamin, Clemmon (Clement?), Ruth Long, Sarah Chapman. Paid for by Elizabeth, wife of John. Purch from N Chafin on Han's Cr (Haun's?) (Yadkin)
1826 Robert to Marshall Tom's Creek
1830 Leonard from Athon Tom's Creek (?)
1830 Richard from Portis E bank of Ararat at Wm Denny's
1831 Richard to Davis W side Flat Shoal Cr
1831 Richard to Davis W side Flat Shoal Cr
1833 Richard to Jesse Peel 50 acres, join Jesse Bump, Burcham (Tom's Cr near Riv)
1833 Richard Sr to sons Richard Jr and Noah half-bros (Except Peele)
1835 Richard 200a Tom's Creek join Haines (Richard Sr ?
Richard 290a Ararat, join J L Fulk (Richard Jr ?
1837 Richard from Davis, deed
1837 Zephaniah to David Hill, dower of Leonard's widow Sarah still living Turner's Cr
1838 David from Sarah, widow of Leonard Turner's Creek
1838 Jesse of Surry to D. Hodges, Trust

1840 Richard (Sr ?) 60-70 1770-1780 alone (Priscilla was still living)
Richard (Jr) 50-60 1780-1790
1f 40-50 1790-1800 Sarah Bray
1m 20-30 1810-1820 ?William (m Ella Doshia 1842)
1m 10-15 1825-1830 Jesse b 1829
1f 10-15 1825-1830
1f 90-100 1740-1750 (? WILLIAM'S widow (Sally?)
William 45+ before 1795 (Possibly William, Jr)
1f 45+ before 1795
1m 16-26 1814-1824
1m 16-26 1814-1824
1f 16-26 1814-1824

1840 **WILLIAM** died August, age 100+ - see **Richard**'s application for Rev Pension
Born on Meherrin River, Southampton Co VA

1841 William of Stokes, from James Cook - Mill & 50 acres, Tom's Cr., witnesses John T Hill, Letitia Green Hill

1841 Erasmus to Davis DOT

1842 William "Chickie" -m- Ella Doshia Whitaker

1842 Charles to Null Tom's Creek

1843 Robert to Charles Tom's Creek

1843 Noah & Priscilla (Mother) to Pell or Peel

1844 Elizabeth, Dower Widow of Robert join Charles County Line

+ in following is William of Wythe Co VA and family, Iron Works on Tom's Creek

1844 +William of Wythe Co VA from Howard, Haines Forge on Tom's Creek

1844 +William of Wythe Co to Wilson, DOT, Forge, Land, Iron Tom's Creek Paul C Hill

1846 +William to E. Banner, DOT. Negros. William owes Salem Mfg Co, Firm of Paul C and William Hill owes Salem Mfg Co, Firm ofJohn W Truslow & Co at Wytheville, William Hill Partner, owes Salem Mfg Co.

1846 +William to Jacob L Fulk, DOT. 7000 acres (Forge lands), wagons, teams. William and Lockett, Kent, Kent, Fisher owe $2000 Bank of Cape Fear.

1846 Joel to W Bitting Tom's Creek

1847 Richard, will - Widow Elizabeth, dau Sarah Brassfield, Nancy Harrison
Think this a different Richard. Sr's wife Priscilla living after

1847 Rachael from David Hill Fisher's River

1847 Noah & mother Priscilla deed to Flippin - suggests Richard Sr deceased

1847 +William of Surry to Lehman, DOT, Iron works. Mentions Sophrous Hill ad mr of Lat Hill, Jesse Hill, Benard Hill, Tyre Hill. Mentions debt in Wythe Co VA. Witness Costelo Hill. Possibly William of Wythe Co VA in 1844 purchase of Forge & lands on Tom's Creek.

1848 **RICHARD** to William. (Chickie?)deed 1st branch, old barn & orchard, Ararat

1848 Charles to J Hamlin 30 acres Tom's creek

1848 +William from Owen Trust

1849 William from Lucinda Vaughn, Henry Green estate, Mecklenburg Co VA

1849 +William from H P Gordon Trust

1849 +Olive from T. Price, proved by W. Hill Negro Girl

1849 +William of Surry to Job Worth, DOT. William owes 5 individuals plus Court Costs in suit & Sheriff Hampton. 3500 acres - Upper Forge on Tom's Cr (Null's Forge) Wm purchased from Chas McAnnally, crops, wagons, store goods. Due 01 Feb 1850.

1849 Elazarus, DOT to Prather. Corn crop on Prather's land.

1850 Census RICHARD & SALLY, both age 57 - census Richd Sr not in census
JESSE 23 1st mention Jesse ?

1850 Census + William age 48 b VA Farmer $11,786 (Wife Mary deceased)

Martha P	21	Cintha	13
Olive	19	Ruth A	10 (all b VA)
Robella	18	William C	07
Manerva	15	John T F	04

1850? William from J N Hill, witness Joseph Hill (Trust) Bank of Forge Pond

1850 +William (& dau) Martha P. Hill DOT to Owens, Martha owes J. Hinshaw $400. William is surety, 4 Negros.

1851 Robert to Charles, witness Sally Tom's Cr

1851 +William to Banner, DOT. Tract on Flat Shoal Creek & Chestnut Ridges, grant to Andrew Kincannon & Martin Armstrong. 1256 acres, less 555.

1853 +William to Starbuck, DOT. Wm owes Bank of Cape Fear $1950, Banner - Belo securities. Owes Firm of Reich & Co of Forsyth for renewing Bank Loan $1950. 3000 acres plus Negros. William's wife Mary deceased, their children and Mary's heirs - Martha P., Olive C., Arabella, Minerva, Cynthia, Ruthey Ann, William C., John T. F. (?) (see Census 1850 - 60)

1853 William, Chickie? to Joel Denny, deed (rec'd 1848 from RICHARD)

1853 Charles from J Hamlin Tom's Cr

1854 +Olive C. fr Wm Owen on Chinquapin, Tom's, Wolff on Hill's Forge Pond

1854 Charles W to son James M Tom's Cr

1856 **RICHARD** declaration in court - father **WILLIAM** in Revolution

1856 John from Charles W., wit J N (J H ?) Tom's Cr

1856 +William & I G Lash to Arabella (Hill) Davis, 250 acre Tom's Cr (Wm's dau)

1857 +William DOT to J Belo, debt to E Belo $3000 plus Belo security for William's debt to Bank of Cape Fear $2000. All of Wm's personal property, stock, tools, machinery of Hill's Forge not attached.

1857 +William to Hollinsworth, 200 acres. Kincannon Forge & Land. Banner, Lash, and Starbuck, securities in William's debts, relinquish to Holllinsworth.

1857 +William to Boyles, 11 acres, Tom's Creek, purch from heirs of Charles McAnnally. Lash, Banner, Starbuck - securities - relinquish.

1859 +William Hill and Nancy Ann Whittington - Marriage Contract with A Boyles. William intends marry Nancy, secures her from his debts. OK to put Nancy's properties in trust to Boyles. Household, Negros. Nancy is woman of properties, possibly a widow.

1859 +William to W. Boyles, 2 tracts 320 acres. Tom's Creek

1860 Census Richard Senior and Junior not in census

1860
70
b 1790

RICHARD 70 farmer 7000 / 150
SARAH 61

JESSE 33 farm laborer (no land owned) Born 1829 - Gravestone
NANCY 32
Emily 11
Sarah 07
Louisiana 06
Martha 04
ELLAN 02 - this **DOSHIA ELLEN**

1860
33
1827

1860 Census +William 59 b VA Farmer, 885/320 (b 1801 VA) No. 759
+Nancy 35 b NC (2d wife Nancy Ann Whittington)

No. 760 +Olive 30 b NC, Carries on Farm 3050/450
+Minerva 27
+Cinthia 25 William C 18
+Ruth 20 Jno 13 (all b NC)
+Olive is head of her house, with sisters and brothers children of William and first wife Mary (deceased). Most properties under her control.

1860 +Sheriff Haymore to E Belo, property of William Hill, 337 acres. Writ of Court, owing to A J Gregory $418.65. Join Nathan Haines, Forge Pond. Tom's
1861 R. D. to Joel Hollow Road, Tom's Cr
1862 **JESSE** 1 poll (no acres)
William 90 acres & Doshia?
RICHARD 150 acres
1862 Charles W from A. Boyles on Rockford Road leading to - Hill
1862 John H. to Joel Tom's Creek
1863 C D Hill fr W Wilson Join Robert Hill Chinquapin Cr
1867 Sanford from J Gray Join Charles Hill Chinquapin Cr - Danbury Rd
1867 James S & wife Mary sold lot in Mt Airy
1870 +Nancy A (wife of William) to Ring. 78 acres. Join Charles Rockford Road
1871 +Olive C. (dau of William & Mary). She in Utah Co. Utah Power of Atty
1871 +Olive C. by Atty Stephens to Stephens 148.55 acres Hollow Road, Tom's Cr.
1871 +Nancy A. from E. Belo, William Hill lands in Trust to Belo
1872 +William & wife Nancy Ann to Wm and Mary's dau Cynthia M (Hill) Whitt Tom's
unk +Nancy A. from A. Boyles, trustee, William Hill lands in trust to Belo Tom's Cr
1873 +Nancy A and William, husband & wife, disagree with Job Worth in 20 acres. Three commrs award part to Worth, he to pay Hills.
1879 Sanford from D. Marion, Trust
1882 **JESSE** from C B Denny, deed (Pilot Cr at Ararat River) (Part of **Richard**'s)
1887 Joel J. from N. Stoltz Rockford Rd, Bull Run
1888 Wesley & wife Caroline to Joel J. (son of **Jesse**) On Ararat River

1913 Lee & Lu to **JESSE**'s heirs — **JESSE - NANCY** Cemetery
1919 Joel J to Charlie Dezern (son in law)

+ above. This is William and family, Wythe Co VA and Iron Works on Tom's Creek

unk William Denny (1777-1843) m Sally Hill, sis of **RICHARD** dau of **Wm, SALLY** lv Surry 1806 to Gallia Co OH = WM & SALLY parents of RICHARD
unk Harrell Denny m Nancy Hill
unk Henry Denny m Elizabeth Hill half-sis of Noah = dau Rich Sr & Eliz Gordon ?
unk William (Wall?) Baptist Minister, lived 115 Wife Sally lived 110, parents of Sally Hill who m Wm Denny, to Gallia Co Ohio 1806. Suspect misprint - think this meant to be **William and Sally Hill**, parents of Sally Hill Denny.

HILL Timeline ends. Follows, miscellaneous biography, Surry Hill land deeds.

? **WILLIAM & SALLY**
? William Jr **RICHARD & SARAH** BRAY Sally -m- William Denny
? **JESSE & NANCY** Wm Chickie Sally
DOSHIA ELLEN -m- James Madison Ashburn

same shall be void. In Testimony whereof we have caused
our Letters to be made patent, and our great Seal to be hereunto
affixed. Witness Benjamin Williams, Esquire, our Governor, Captain
General and Commander in Chief, at Raleigh the 10th day of May
in the twenty sixth Year of our Independence, and in the Year of our
Lord one thousand eight hundred and two.

By Command, Will. White Secretary. B. Williams

Recorded in the Secretary's office. Wm. Hill P. Sec.

Richard Hill ..... 100 Acres.

State of North Carolina. No. 2668.

Know ye, that we, for and in consideration of the sum of Four
shillings for every hundred acres hereby granted, paid into our Treas-
ury by Richard Hill have given and granted and by these pres-
ents do give and grant unto the said Richard Hill a tract of land
containing one hundred acres, lying and being in the County of
Surry on the waters of the Ararat, beginning at a pine Stamp
Watkins' corner running South thirteen chains and seventy five
links to a white Oak, West ten chains to a pine, South twenty
chains to a pine, West twenty five chains and seventy five
links to a white Oak, North thirty three chains and seventy five
links to a pine and then to the beginning. Entered 5th August
1802. as by the plat hereunto annexed doth appear, together with
all woods, waters, ways, minerals, hereditaments and appurtenances to
the said land belonging or appertaining: To hold to the said Richard
Hill his heirs and assigns forever: Yielding and paying to us
such Surveys fees as now are, yearly or otherwise, by our General Assembly
from time to time may be set: Provided always that the said
grantee shall cause this grant to be registered in the Register's
office of our said County of Surry within twelve months from the
date hereof, otherwise the same shall be void. In Testimony
whereof, we have caused these our Letters to be made patent, and
our great Seal to be hereunto affixed. Witness David Stone, Esq.
our Governor, Captain General and Commander in Chief, at
Raleigh, the 26th day of November in the thirty first Year
of our Independence, and in the Year of our Lord one thousand
eight hundred and two.

By Command, Will. White Sec. David Stone

Recorded in the Secretary's office. Wm. H. White P. Sec.

Laban Hicks ..... 100 Acres.

State of North Carolina. No. 2528.

Know ye, that we, for and in consideration of the sum of Four
shillings for every hundred acres hereby granted, paid into our
Treasury by Laban Hicks, have given and granted, and by these
presents do give and grant unto the said Laban Hicks a tract
of land containing one hundred acres lying and being in the
County of Surry, on the waters of Cobbs Creek, beginning at
a stake in the

Surry County Deed Book M. p 377

St Grant to Richard Hill 100 acres No 2553 or 8?
100 acres for 50s in Arrarat River
Beg. at a pine Stump Watkins Corner running S
— chains & 75 links to a white oak, W 10 chains to a
pine, S 20 ch to a pine, W 25 ch & 75 links to a white oak
N 3_ & 75 links to a pine & then to the Beg.

1800 1810 CENSUS — UNITED STATES

State NC County Surry City Call No.

Page	Alphabetized Head of Family	Free White Males: Under 10	10–16	16–26	26–45	45 & Over	Free White Females: Under 10	10–16	16–26	26–45	45 & Over	All Others	Slaves	Remarks
520	Hill, Barthett	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	1		0	0	
	" John	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	
	" William, Sr.	0	1	2	0	1	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	
	" Richard	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	
	" Richard, Jr.	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	
	" Joseph	0	0	1	2	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	
	" Thomas	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	
	" John	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	

VIRGINIA COLONIAL GRANTS

CROWN GRANT CHRONOLOGY:

1606 – 1616: London Company controlled land – Individual grants were promised but not actually made.

1616: London Company paid dividends of land at 50 acres/share. "Ancient planters" who arrived before 1616 received one share for their "personal adventure". A few individuals also received land as compensation for services to the Company.

1617: Joint-stock grants authorized to private associations at 100a per share (many of these associations were called "Hundreds") – 44 of these grants were made through 1625 to associations or individuals, perhaps half actually settled. The associations had authority to make their own internal grants.

1618: "The Greate Charter" proposed and adopted in 1618.[1] Several types of grants authorized, though only 184 were actually issued prior to dissolution of the company:

- Shareholders: 100a/share plus a second 100a when first 100a was planted.
- 100a to "Ancient Planters" (free of quitrent if transported at their own expense) and another 100a when first was planted. Half-shares to arrivals after 1616 (if transported at own expense).
- Arrivals after 1618 promised 50a if transported at their own expense.

1624: London Company dissolved. Royal Governors were instructed to follow the rules of the "late company". Former stockholders could still claim 100a per share. Some grants were made rewarding service to the company, and later the colony. 50 acres was still awarded for "every person transported thither".

1625-1699: Essentially all Crown grants were headright patents (except for proprietary grants.)

1699-1776: Fee-simple ("treasury right") grants allowed as of June 21, 1699 at five shillings per 50 acres, and quickly became the dominant form. Headright grants continued, but **headrights** were now limited *to "His Majesty's Christian subjects comeing to reside here"*, and their volume declined dramatically after about 1715.

NORTHERN NECK (between the Potomac and Rappahannock Rivers) was a special case.

1649 King Charles II gave the unclaimed lands in the Northern Neck to seven Proprietors. No grants were made by the Proprietors, but some grants continued to be made by the Crown.

1688 Culpeper, who had bought the rights to the Northern Neck charter, was granted an exclusive proprietorship by James II. He promptly died and Lord Fairfax inherited. Very few grants made until 1690.

1690 Fairfax began making grants under conditions similar to the Crown grants. The only differences were the absence of **headrights** and the "seating and planting" requirement.

Minor Numbers of Patents:

- Some Indian land was leased to white settlers, most later confirmed by patent.
- Minor numbers of patents were allowed for certain frontier defenders.
- French & Indian war veterans were given bounties, but not implemented until 1779.

LAND GRANT PROCESS

"Patent" and "Grant" are used interchangeably. Some people like to refer to "patents" as colonial grants and to "grants" as state grants.

TWO SOURCES OF COLONIAL GRANTS:

- Proprietary Grants: Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, North & South Carolina, Maine, New Hampshire, Virginia's Northern Neck.
- Crown Grants: Virginia, Massachusetts, North Carolina after 1729, South Carolina after 1719.
- Some other sources of land – e.g., leases from Indians – usually later formalized as patents.

GENERAL PROCESS:

Not all colonies followed precisely the same process, but patents generally involved several steps. These steps took time and money:

- Entry - also called a claim, application, or petition. This involved marking the proposed boundaries and notifying the granting authority of the desire to claim the land. Generally a fee was required.
- Waiting period – At some stage of the process, other claimants or neighbors could identify disputes (caveats). Some waiting periods were built-in, patents being processed in periodic batches rather than immediately after submission.
- Warrant - An order by the granting authority entitling the land to be surveyed. Sometimes an order directly to the surveyor.
- Survey – later called a plat. A fee was required to the surveyor. The survey was either copied into or attached to the final grant documents.
- Patent - the formal issuance & recording of the title. Always recorded in a central location and often also at the county level. Generally several fees were required.

As with nearly all old records, what exists today is a transcription of the patents rather than the original. Be alert for clerical errors.

SOURCES FOR VIRGINIA PATENTS

- Virginia colonial grants (both Crown and Northern Neck) are available online at http://www.lva.lib.va.us/dlp/land/
- Crown grants are available in abstracted form in Cavaliers and Pioneers.
  - 1623 to 1666 (Volume 1) First three volumes by Nell Marion Nugent
  - 1666 to 1695 (Volume 2
  - 1695 to 1732 (Volume 3)
  - 1733 to 1774 (Volumes 4-7) by Dennis Ray Hudgins and The Virginia Genealogical Society.
- Northern Neck Grants (between Potomac and Rappahannock) abstracted in Northern Neck, Virginia, Land Grants, by Gertrude E. Gray
  - 1694 to 1742 (Volume 1)
  - 1742 to 1775 (Volume 2) - Volumes 3 and 4 are state grants in the same geography
  - Earlier grants in Northern Neck Grants No. 1, 1690-1692

  (Note that not all these grants were preserved. There are patents recorded in county books that do not exist in the colonial books. How many are missing is unknown.)
- Several abstract books are organized by county – e.g. Early Virginia Families Along the James covers Henrico and Goochland counties.
- Some online transcripts available at: http://www.ultranet.com/~deeds/pool.htm

Two excellent books that can add historical and social context:

Albion's Seed, David Hackett Fischer (Oxford University Press, 1989)

Tobacco and Slaves: The Development of Southern Cultures in the Chesapeake 1680-1800, Allan Kulikoff (UNC Press, 1986)

HEADRIGHTS

Dominant form of Virginia grants until 1699. Origin was in The Greate Charter of 1618:

> *"That for all persons...which...shall go into Virginia with the intent there to inhabite. If they continue there three years or dye after they are shipped there shall be a grant made of fifty acres for every person ... which grants shall be made respectively to such persons...at whose charges the said persons going to inhabite in Virginia shall be transported..."*
>
> Subsequent commissions to Royal Governors instructed them to follow the rules of the former company. These instructions were quite vague. For example, the earliest reads:
>
> *"...50 acres of land for every person transported thither...until otherwise determined by His Majesty."*

No restrictions on point of origin

> Immigrants merely had to enter Virginia. Persons claimed as **headrights** could have come from another colony as well as Europe or Africa. The first restriction on point of origin was a 1699 instruction to disallow negroes, and later a restriction to English citizens.

No restrictions on age, gender, or race.

Imported person had to survive 3 years (or die) before the headright became usable.

Process for claiming **headrights**:

- Claim importation at county court or Council & obtain a "certificate of entitlement"
- Some of these are preserved in county court records
- The certificate was used to obtain the warrant, thus predated the patent itself
- No time limit imposed on use – a few were used 15-20 years after the fact

Headright certificates were property and could be bought or sold

- Certificates were commonly sold or traded
- The person filing the patent may not have been the importer
- Immigrants sometimes sold their own headright certificates
- Value of 50 acres was generally less than cost of importation

Misuse & corruption of the system increased over time, especially after about 1680:

- Duplicate claims - clerks seldom checked for duplicates
- Importation of the same person more than once
- Temporary importations - ship's captains often claimed the crew
- Fictitious names & reuse of names sold by clerks – common practice by 1690s
- Acquisition of large plots by speculators

[The headright system was also used in Maryland, North Carolina, and South Carolina, though relatively few persons were claimed in the Carolinas.]

TERMINOLOGY & OTHER GENEALOGICAL CLUES

Residency — Patents sometimes tell us where the patentee was living at the time. If not, we'd assume the patentee had been living on the land for a few years prior to the patent date – unless they were speculators.

Citizenship — Only an English citizen could own land, whether acquired by patent or purchase. Foreign- born residents became citizens by taking a loyalty oath. Before 1680, in Virginia, this required an act of the Council, which are preserved in Hening's Statutes at Large. After 1680, the Governor could bestow citizenship, and those records are mostly missing.

Age — Patentees had to be 21. Males had to be 21 to sell land, make a will, sue or be sued, make a bond, or marry. Males aged 14 or more could own land, serve on juries (if a freeholder), choose a guardian, or witness documents.

Seating & Planting — Virginia patents required "seating and planting" within three years to perfect the title. This wasn't defined until 1666, when the Assembly decided that "*building a house and keeping a stock one whole yeare upon the land shall be accounted seating, and that clearing, tending and planting an acre of ground shall be accounted planting.*" In theory, failure to seat or plant made the patent fair game for a subsequent patentee. In practice, the provision was often overlooked.

Escheats — When patentees died without heirs (or were convicted of a crime), the land was said to "escheat" and could be repatented by another person.

Renewals — Patents which lapsed by abandonment, failure to seat, or failure to pay quit rents could be patented, in whole or in part, by another person. Sometimes, however, land was repatented as a result of a sale of the land.

Processioning — Surveyors were appointed and not always competent. Inaccurate surveys caused many boundary disputes and lawsuits. In 1661 the Virginia Assembly required landowners to "goe in procession" once every four years to examine and agree upon the boundary lines of each tract. Responsibility was given to the parish vestries, which established precincts for the purpose. Selected landowners within each precinct plus two surveyors performed the task. Processioning occurred in the 50-day period after Easter from 1662-1691, thereafter in September-March. Processioning records, where they exist, verify ownership and neighbors.

Acreage — The acreage can be a rough clue to family size. One person could cultivate only about 50 acres, so grants larger than 100 acres usually meant male children or ownership of slaves or servants.

Freeholders — Only freeholders (normally a 50a minimum, but varied by county) were eligible to serve on juries, hold public office, or vote for Burgesses.

Quit Rents — Patents were technically long-term leases. A small annual rent was due to the Crown or Proprietor. If the land was sold, the new owner assumed the responsibility. In Virginia, only the 1704 lists of rent payers is preserved, but rent rolls also exist for other colonies. Some merchant accounts include references to rent payments. [No taxes were assessed on land.]

Calendar — Don't forget to adjust for Julian dates. (Jan 1 – Mar 25 were actually in the prior year until 1752.)

PLOTTING GRANTS

This can be very handy for identifying the precise location of land. It's helpful in identifying the county the land was in, which likely changed over time. Plus, you can often pinpoint occupation of the land by looking at the surrounding patents and their surveys for description of the boundaries. Plotting the immediate neighbors is also very helpful. The neighbors are important because they are clues to spouses and to extended families. They also help identify taxing districts.

Even if you're working with a deed or lease, the land was originally acquired by patent, and backing up to that patent is usually helpful.

Understanding Metes And Bounds

This system was used in all the original colonies, plus Tennessee, Kentucky, and Texas.
"Metes" (measurements) and "Bounds" (boundaries) describe a tract in terms of neighbor's boundaries, natural features, compass directions, and distances. Each boundary is defined as a distance and compass direction, resulting in a multi-sided figure. Compass directions have to be adjusted for the difference between true north and magnetic north - not all surveyors made the adjustment, which can result adjoining tracts not quite meeting. Magnetic north also moves over time, so you have to adjust for where it was at the time of the survey.

Distances were measured using a chain of 100 links. Each link was 2/3 foot, so the length of a chain was 66 feet. 10 square chains was one acre. Commonly, increments of 1/4 chain – interchangeably called a pole, rod, or perch – were used for distances.

Using Maps

Old maps are not very useful for plotting because they lack detail, except for local maps used by surveyors and entry takers. Modern topographical maps are much more useful – though names of watercourses may have changed. USGS maps are available free on the internet – try www.topozone.com. DeLorme has a series of state topographical atlases which are very useful - $16.95 in any bookstore. Gazetteers are helpful for identifying old landmarks, and some knowledge of county formations is needed to identify precise locations.

Spending Some Money

If you are really detail-oriented, DeedMapper is a software program for drawing old patents and deeds and placing them onto topographical maps. $99 from Direct Line Software – order from http://www.ultranet.com/~deeds/order.htm

GRANTS IN OTHER SOUTHERN COLONIES

NORTH CAROLINA

(settled 1653)

Some early grants recorded in Virginia, particularly near the border, which was not clearly established until 1732. In 1663 the general area that became North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia was split among eight Proprietors, each of whom had the right to grant land. North Carolina became a colony in 1729 after King George bought seven of the eight shares, with Granville (Lord Carteret) the only remaining Proprietor. Granville received a special grant in 1744 and sold his own patents. [Granville owned the land from the Virginia border to roughly the path of US 64.] Georgia and South Carolina were split off later. All grants are well preserved at the NC Archives.

1669-1729 Eight Proprietors granted land. Dispensed as both headright and fee simple grants, generally similar to the Virginia system. The land office was centralized, and those are well preserved. Grants in process continued to completion, so many are actually dated after 1729.

- Province of North Carolina 1663-1729 Abstracts of Land Patents, Margaret M. Hofman, 1979

1729-1776 Grants from the Crown and from Granville recorded with the colony or with Granville's agents. Very few headright patents.

- Two volumes of Crown Grants by Margaret M. Hofman:
  - Colony of NC 1735-1764 Abstract of Land Patents (Vol. I)
  - Colony of NC 1765-1775 Abstract of Land Patents (Vol. II)
- Five volumes of Granville grants by Margaret M. Hofman:
  - The Granville District of North Carolina 1748-1763 Abstracts of Land Grants
  - The Granville District of North Carolina 1748-1763 Abstracts of Land Grants
  - The Granville District of North Carolina 1748-1763 Abstracts of Land Grants
  - The Granville District of North Carolina 1748-1763 Abstracts of Miscellaneous Land Office Records
  - The Granville District of North Carolina 1748-1763 Abstracts of Miscellaneous Land Office Records
  - Granville territory encompassed: Anson, Bladen, Bertie, Beaufort, Currituck, Chowan, Cumberland, Dobbs, Edgecombe, Granville, Halifax, Hyde, Johnson, Northampton, Orange, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Pitt, Rowan, and Tyrrell counties.

Also see: Colonial Petitions for Land Resurveys and Caveats of Land Warrants, A. B. Pruitt (1993)

GEORGIA

(settled c1733)

Georgia's colonial records are sparse – all court and tax records are lost, as are many other records – and its population was quite small in colonial times. There were relatively few colonial grants. Many early patents no longer exist, but some patents and surveys are in loose papers at the Georgia Archives.

Sources:

- Best source is The Colonial Records of the State of Georgia, 39 vols., Allen D. Candler (Atlanta, Ga.: various printers, 1906–40)
- 1733-1755: Entry of Claims for Georgia Landholders, 1733–1755, Pat Bryant (Georgia State Printing Office, 1975)
- 1758-1776: Georgia Land Owners' Memorials, 1758–1776, Mary B. Warren (Danielsville, Ga.: Heritage Papers, 1988)

SOUTH CAROLINA

(settled 1671)

South Carolina was a sparsely settled part of North Carolina until 1713, though it was not recognized as a royal colony until 1719 and was not separately administered until 1723. The NC Proprietors made grants from 1670 through 1719. After 1719, some land remained in the hands of Proprietors, but most was granted by the royal colony. Many of these early land records are lost, but the South Carolina Archives has a single compilation of extant grant abstracts on microfilm: "Abstracts of South Carolina Land Grants 1664-1775". Surveys and warrants are also in the Archives. **SC** made some headright grants, listed in the South Carolina Council Journals (1749-1773).

Other Sources:

- Lists of Proprietary grants (generally without details) are found in
  - Records of the Secretary of the Province and the Register of the Province of South Carolina, 1671-1675, A.S. Salley (Columbia, **S.C.**: Historical Commission of South Carolina, 1944).
  - Warrants for Lands in South Carolina 1672-1711, A.S. Salley, (Columbia, **S.C.**: South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Reprinted 1973)
- Grants made by North Carolina are in North Carolina Grants in South Carolina, 2 vols., Brent H. Holcomb (Clinton, **S.C.**: B. Holcomb, 1975, 1976)
- Royal grants 1719-1775 exist in the **SC** Archives and are listed without details in:
  - South Carolina Deed Abstracts, 1719-1772, 4 vols., Clara A. Langley (Easley, **S.C.**: Southern Historical Press, 1983-84)
  - An Index to Deeds of the Province and State of South Carolina, 1719-1785, and Charlestown District, 1785-1800, Rev. Silas Emmett Lucas Jr., (Easley, **S.C.**: Southern Historical Press, 1977)
  - Petitions For Land From The South Carolina Council Journals, (5 vols. 1734-1765), Brent H. Holcomb.

Beginning in 1741, all persons who received land after 1719 were required to deliver "memorials" to the colony, describing their land and how it was acquired. Originals of these records are in the **SC** Archives. A few of these records are published in South Carolina Memorials, 1731-1776: Abstracts of Selected Land Records from a Collection in the Department of Archives and History..., 2 vols., Katie-Prince Ward Esker (Polyanthos Press, 1973-1977)

MARYLAND

(settled 1634)

All patents in Maryland came from the Lords Baltimore. The Charter of Maryland granted to Cecilus Calvert on June 20, 1632, gave the authority to "assign, alien, grante, demise, or enfeoff" land. The system was similar to that of Virginia. Headright grants similar to the Virginia system were made from 1634-1680. After 1680 all grants were fee-simple. Warrants, surveys, and patents exist in the Maryland Archives, as does an "Index to Patents".

Many early grants were large fiefdoms, in effect small Proprietorships. These lands were re-leased to individuals, records of which may or may not exist.

Sources:

- The Early Settlers Of Maryland: An Index of Names of Immigrants Compiled from Records of Land Patents, 1633-1689, Gust Skordas, (Reprint Genealogical Publishing Co., 1995)
- Above is supplemented by a multi-volume set by Peter Wilson Coldham, (Genealogical Publishing Co., 1996) containing essentially an index to patents:
  - Settlers of Maryland 1679-1700
  - Settlers Of Maryland 1701-1730
  - Settlers of Maryland 1731-1750
  - Settlers of Maryland; 1751-1765

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[1] A good source for text of a variety of colonial charters is: www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/states/statech.htm

This is G o o g l e's cache of http://home.nc.rr.com/rwbaird/Misc/Landgrants.htm as retrieved on May 8, 2005 16:14:39 GMT.
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SOUTHERN COLONIAL LAND GRANTS

and free and clear from all incumbrances whatsoever and the
Jesse Jones doth oblige himself his heirs executors and ad-
ministrators to warrant and defend the aforegranted land and premises
to him the said William Patterson his heirs and assigns forever
against all persons whatsoever. In Witness whereof I the said
Jesse Jones have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this
day and year above written. Signed, sealed and Delivered in
the presence of

A. Hardgrave
Joel Hunter

Jesse Jones (seal)

Surry County Feby. Term 1806 The execution of the
within Deed was duly proven in open Court by the
oath of Joel Hunter & ordered to be registered

Test Jo Williams Clk

George Watkins to Richard Hill, a Deed.

This Indenture made the thirteenth day of January in the Year of
our Lord one thousand eight hundred and six between George Watkins
of the County of Surry and State of North Carolina of the one part and
Richard Hill of the County and State aforesaid of the other part Wit-
nesseth that for and in consideration of the sum of fifty Dollars by the
said Richard Hill to the said George Watkins in hand paid the receipt
whereof is hereby fully acknowledged, hath given granted bargained &
sold and by these presents doth give grant bargain & sell unto the
said Richard Hill his heirs and assigns forever one certain tract or
parcel of land lying and being in the County of Surry & bounded
as follows to wit Beginning at William Dennys East corner and
runs West on said Lines to the West corner from thence to the North
and thence round as the branch runs to the outside line and thence
to the corner and thence to the beginning containing fifty acres
acres of land with the appurtenances and all rights and privileges
hereto belonging or appertaining, the said George Watkins for himself his heirs
and assigns doth hereby covenant himself with the said Richard Hill
that the said Richard Hill his heirs and assigns shall and may
forever hereafter peaceably and quietly have hold occupy & possess
and enjoy the aforegranted granted land and premises without the
least molestation of any person whatsoever and free and clear
from all manner of incumbrances whatsoever and the said George
Watkins doth oblige himself his executors and administrators to
warrant and forever defend the aforegranted granted land & premises
to the said Richard Hill his heirs and assigns forever against the
claim of all persons whatever. In Witness whereof I the said George
Watkins have hereunto set his hand and affixed his seal the Day
and Date above mentioned

his
Henry × Denny
mark

George + Watkins (seal)
his
mark

William Denny. Surry County Feby. Term 1806 The execution of
the within Deed was duly proven in open Court by the oath of William
Denny & ordered to be registered

Test Jo Williams Clk

Pages 157-159: ETHELRED JELKS and wife PHYLLIS of Brunswick County, Virginia to RICHARD JELKS dated 26 Feb 1757

150 acres on the south side of Hornet Swamp, S: ETHELRED ("X") JELKS, W: JAMES (signed) RIDLEY, BENJAMIN (z inside a circle) COOPER, and BENJAMIN (downward facing B) HALE. Wife PHILLIS JELKS did not come to court.

Pages 159-160: NOTTOWAY INDIANS to WILLIAM POPE JR dated 11 Jan 1757

? acres

Pages 160-161: AARON THORPE and wife PHOEBE to ABRAHAM JOHNSON dated 13 Apr 1757

100 acres on the north side of Purcells Branch, S: AARON (signed) THORPE and PHOEBY (signed) THORPE, W: TIMOTHY (signed) THORPE and MARY (signed) THORPE

Pages 161-162: AMOS JOHNSON of Johnston County, North Carolina to TIMOTHY THORPE dated 3 May 1757

50 acres on the south side of the Nottoway River, north side of Three Creeks, and north side of Little Plowman Swamp, S: AMOS (A) JOHNSON, W: AMOS (signed) HARRIS, JOSEPH (signed) COBB, and JOHN (sideways I) JOHNSON

Pages 163-164: NOTTOWAY INDIANS to THOMAS WILLIAMSON dated 11 Jan 1757

? acres

Pages 164-165: ARTHUR TAYLOR of Edgecombe County, North Carolina to THOMAS TURNER dated 9 May 1757

90 acres adj. sd. ARTHUR, S: ARTHUR (signed) TAYLOR, W: JOHN (signed) WILKINSON, WILLIAM (signed) BYNAM, and BENJAMIN (signed) BYNAM

Pages 165-166: BENJAMIN CROCKER and wife SARAH to SAMUEL BARLOW dated 3 Jun 1757

300 acres on the north side of Tarraroe Creek adj. ROBERT CROCKER, sd. BENJAMIN, JOHN BLACKBURN, and WILLIAM RUGLESSES (125 acres part of patent on 22 Feb 1724, 160 acres from a patent on 15 Dec 1749, 15 acres from patent on 12 Jun 1749), S: BENJAMIN (signed) CROCKER and SARAH (mark) CROCKER, W: no witnesses

Pages 166-167: RICHARD WILLIAMS and wife LYDIA to WILLIAM WESTRA dated 24 Sep 1755

100 acres (part of a tract of 380 acres to RICHARD WILLIAMS on 31 Oct 1726), S: RICHARD (signed) WILLIAMS, W: ROBERT (signed) DARDEN, JOSHUA (signed) GARDNER, JOHN (signed) POPE, JACOB (signed) DARDEN, and CHARLES (signed) DASDENY. LYDIA came to court to provide consent only.

Pages 167-168: ARTHUR WILLIAMS to THOMAS FISHER of Isle of Wight County

October 12, 2000

Dear Band Members:

The Reformation Service on Sunday, October 29, is fast approaching. Please be at First Lutheran Church (corner of West Friendly and Holden) by 3:15 p.m. We will play on the grass area in front of the main entrance to the sanctuary. If you use the Friendly Avenue entrance to the church, you will drive past the area where we will play. Please leave your instrument cases in your car for safekeeping.

I have had a positive response from about eight of you and no response from an equal number.

At the bottom of this letter I have listed chorales you should practice. What we don't play before the service outside we will play inside at the conclusion.

I look forward to seeing you on October 29 at 3:15 p.m. If you have any questions, please contact me at 292-3272. Thanks for your support for this meaningful endeavor.

Sincerely,

Sue Lioyes

Page 9 - 14R
Page 12 - 22H
Page 16 - 33C
Page 18 - 56A
Page 19 - 68A Thuringia
Page 20 - 82D
Page 25 - 146A
Page 27 - 151I
Page 28 - 151L
Page 29 - 151R
Page 29 - 151T
Page 30 - 159A
Page 30 - 159D
Page 31 - 166A
Page 34 - 199A
Page 34 - 205A
Page 35 - 225A
Page 41 - 581K
Page 42 - 581M
Page 45 - Austrian Hymn
Page 49 - Join We All
Page 50 - Hymn to Joy
Page 58 - Brightest and Best

Ye Hills of Meherrin

Herewith, a compendium of the Hills among whom we seek our William of Tararat. Let us say that at the time of his birth he was William of Meherrin, for we have it from his son Richard that our William was born on the Meherrin River in Southampton Co VA. We will accordingly see how the following Hills might have related to the Meherrin and Southampton, and consequently might have related to our William.

William's daughter Sarah "Sally" moved with her Surry NC husband William Denny (Denney after the move) to Gallia Co Ohio, where the Denney family is biographed. The Denney family of Sarah Hill Denny believe that Sarah's father William lived to be 115, and that his wife Sarah "Sally" lived to be 110. We know from William's Surry NC son Richard that William died in Surry 1840, at age "more than one hundred years". We thus date William's birth as 1725 to 1740, and this will help us, and hinder us, with the Hills following.

To look for the parents of William is to admit that we do not know his father and we do not know his <u>mother</u>. While it may be practical to look for his father as a Hill, our duty of objectivity includes considering that his mother might have been, could have been, an unmarried Hill. We will accordingly look to the Hill <u>daughters</u>, as we look to the Hill sons. And we will be watchful for first names and middle names to go with "William", for we know that sons, and daughters, born with one name are oft recorded by another.

We will be studying six works - we will call them, for reasons explained, RH, Jcb, Craft, Bell, Dts, and JH. When we are finished, ours will make seven. Ours will be a composite, and this necessarily involves the combining of material of one with the material of another. We find that we are dealing with a lot of repetitions but that each of the six offers material not found in the others. We will make it our objective to preserve the integrity of the materials reviewed, while attempting to keep it, or make it, simple. If in doubt, look to the original and give our interpretations no more weight than they deserve.

We view the project here as similar to a layer cake,
1, The *actual* life and times of these Hills, who-what-when-where,
2, What early sources say - and do not say - *about* Layer One,
3, What the six contributors here say - and do not say - *about* Layers One-Two,
4, What we say - and do not say - *about* Layers One, Two, Three.
5 The filling left out, the icing left off, are what is not said.

Sample this project the same way one samples any layer cake, a bite of every layer with a taste for the whole recipe.

We caution that the six contributors here were seeking their own lines. We think that each may have found lines in Layers One and Two which they do not pursue in Layer Three. We believe it very likely that we walk <u>with</u> these six through the earlier generations to the point where our separate lines diverge, and then walk <u>beside</u> these six, in good company, as we go our individual ways.

Ere proceding further, what follows is certainly a confusing hodge-podge of a too-great number of counties and "Precincts" in two colonies. In the time of these Hills, the NC - VA boundary was changed, large counties were broken into smaller ones, new counties by new names were created, and one, Bute NC, was abolished to create Warren and Franklin from its halves. A too-hasty glance would lead one to believe that these Hills moved often and great distances, and from colony to colony and county to county. We study the immigrants Robert and Mary Hill whose first residence was Isle of Wight Co VA, and we think that they and most of their family remained in and near Isle of Wight, though they are found in records of two colonies and a dozen counties.

In reality, the distances between these Hills were short, across a creek, across a colony line or county line, or a couple days' ride by horse or coach. When they did move, often as not they could load the wagon at sunrise in one colony or one county, and by nightfall unload in another colony or another county. We believe that, generically, the Hills stayed put while the colony line and the county lines changed around them - and through them.

We will see in the following that references are made to NC and VA counties before they were "erected" or established by act of the Assembly. It thus appears that in colonial times and after VA and NC became states, subdivisions - probably "precincts" - functioned as counties and registered landgrants and deeds and public records as if by "county" name.

We would think our analysis flawed, were we to ignore the history and the geography so essential to an understanding of the family Hill and their movements, or lack of movements, despite seeming to have been constantly moving in and to and from a confusing number of counties. To some, history and geography are to be endured; to others, enjoyed. To what we are attempting here, essential. We must confess that the geography work here is entirely our own, for we find in none of the six works here reviewed any study whatever of the changing boundaries of colonies or counties. And we caution that maybe the Hills did move, far and often, just as the six works say that they did. We are, after all and with trepidation, assuming facts not in evidence.

We attempt the precarious task of reconstructing old counties from new, rather like putting old counties back together from what we think were their pieces. We find evidence that these early Hills were in Isle of Wight, Surry and Brunswick when those counties were formed or broken up or severed by a new line between Virginia and North Carolina.

Were we to extend - by a little imagination and a lot of logic - the present and former boundaries of VA counties (1) Isle of Wight, (2) Surry, (3) Sussex, (4) Brunswick, (5) Greensville, (6) Southampton, we would make a reasonable case that *all six of these had in common the Meherrin River.* And if we similarly extend the present and former NC counties (7) Bertie, (8) Northampton, (9) Edgecombe, (10) Halifax, (11) Granville, (12) Bute, (13) Warren, we would find

that eleven of these thirteen counties would all have cornered at the same place - at the Roanoke River between VA and NC. We suspect that in the time of these Hills, and in later times, this was where these counties did corner. Old Bertie and its derivative Northampton likewise *have the Meherrin in common*. And what this means - or suggests - is that a short reach, no more than a few miles, of the Meherrin River is the tie that binds together the Hills of eight counties in two colonies.

It suggests that for good reason we seek our William among these Hills who peopled these thirteen counties and the eleven-county corner by the Roanoke River, and that for good and better reason we seek our William among the Hills of eight counties which have claim to the same small spot on the Meherrin River. As said of the scriptural tree planted by the waters and not to be moved, we truly suspect that in their time, any one of these early Hills could have planted his orchard by the waters of the Meherrin, and its fruit would have ripened among kin in two colonies and eight counties.

Maps follow, to illustrate the complexity of old and new boundaries between colonies and counties. In the maps we find enduring landmarks, such as rivers and streams which still run their ancient course and guide us to these Hills of bygone time, and their site as it might be in our own time.

In the following, it might be helpful to refer to the maps and to what is said above. It is not easy to follow these Hills in the several counties mentioned in their land records and marriage records and wills. Perhaps we can minimize the confusion by turning and returning to the maps.

TWO

A William other than ours is "William of Town Fork", to whom we thus refer because of his residence with his large family from the early 1770's to the late1780's on Town Fork Creek in Surry (Stokes) NC. This William of Town Fork is said by some and disputed by some as also having originated among the Hills of Meherrin, but he is *not* our William of Tararat, who was *also* of Surry NC, and one of our efforts here will be to distinguish between the two, since they both resided in Surry NC, some twenty miles apart, and because so many Surry and Stokes Hills descended from these two Williams.

Most of the literature we have read, including four of the six here, holds that William of Town Fork was the son of Sion Hill Junior, one of the Hills of Meherrin. The dissenters, two of them here, hold that the father of William of Town Fork was William Hill of Middlesex Co VA. It is not our task to arbitrate; our task is to separate. We look for the antecedents of our own William and in so doing have to consider whether - possibly - the ancestry of this William of Town Fork might have been mixed up with the ancestry of our William of Tararat.

We will first consider William of Middlesex, and for his biography we rely upon RH of Florida, and Jcb of Oregon, whose works are based upon documented sources and determined research. We have corresponded with RH and Jcb, and we are impressed with their sincerity and their objectivity. Both are adamant, both state their case with conviction. We use their material and add to the geography, we trust with their blessing, but their material not being in published form in the public domain, we use their initials that their privacy may be respected.

Middlesex Co is presently situated north of the James River, some twenty-five to thirty miles north of Isle of Wight and Surry counties which front on the south side of the James. This puts William of Middlesex within visiting distance of the other Hills here discussed.

From Jcb, Document VA.39 with commentary, relying upon the published reminiscences of Joshua Hill, son of William of Town Fork -

William Hill, of Middlesex, was born in Maryland, died 06 May 1720. Married Ann, who died in Middlesex Co VA 15 Jan 1726. Their eight children, born Middlesex VA -

1 Isabella, born 01 May 1696, married 20 May 1729 John Jones.
Son John Jones Jr born 29 Feb 1729 (1730)

2 William, born c1700 Middlesex VA, died c1787 Surry Co NC. Married 1st 1729 Bridget (Hearn) Mullinax, widow of John Mullinax. Married 2nd c1736 King George Co VA Susan Smither. Settled in Caroline Co VA where all children born.

(Per Jcb and RH this is he who we call William of Town Fork, one of whose

THREE

From *East Goes West*, by Alta Deshazer Craft, Maui, Hawaii. Much quoted and much used, and with some justification, as the authoritative source document, this book has been remarkably hard to find. It is in the Dallas, Texas, public library, and said to be in the Tennessee Archives and in the public library at Nashville. We identify Craft and her book, for her work is, we are happy to say, in print and in the public domain for all to share.

Craft has produced a well written book, splendidly documented, and she is due considerable praise for her thorough and pains-taking work. But that alone, we say with respect, does not make her right. We find in its pages that Jcb contributed, and our reading is that Jcb and Craft agree on much and disagree on little. Their contention, if that be the proper term, is over the descent of William of Town Fork, a small part, indeed, of Craft's work in whole. We do not find disagreement or criticism by anyone of the remainder of *East Goes West*. Craft appears to have a valid account of the Hills she has studied. Our question is whether she has studied our Hills. If she has, then she has either not reported our William of Tararat, or muddled him with other Williams.

Generations, per Craft - supplemented by the others here studied.

1 William Kinge of Wiveton, Norfolk, England. Conveyed land to his son John

2 John Kinge and his then wife Elizabeth. In John's will of 10 Nov 1622, John bequeathed to his daughter Anne Kinge now wife of Robert Hill.

3a Robert Hill and wife Anne Kinge, Wiveton, Norfolk, England

3b Stephen Webb, County Kent, England, father of Mary Webb, wife of Robert Hill 4-a.

4a Robert Hill born 1615 Northumberland, England, married in England Mary Webb, born 1621 County Kent, England, daughter of 3b Stephen. Robert and wife Mary immigrated in 1642 to Isle of Wight Co VA. Robert died before 09 Feb 1679-80 in Surry, VA. Mary died after 1684, Surry Co VA.

4b Nicholas Smith, probable father of Elizabeth Smith who married (1st) John Splitimber or Spiltimber, and (second) Sion Hill Sr., son of 4a Robert and Mary.

4c William Halleman, died c1704 when his estate was appraised, probable father of Elizabeth, wife of 5a Robert Hill Junior.

Fifth, The sons and daughters of 4a Robert and Mary (Webb) Hill, born Isle of Wight Co VA, two sons 5a and 5b and perhaps other children -

5a Robert Hill Junior, born c1667-70, married Elizabeth (Halleman?) probably daughter of William Halleman. Robert Junior made his will 10 Apr 1740 in Brunswick Co VA. Robert Junior's will mentions wife Elizabeth and five children -

6a John, 6b Margaret, 6c Elizabeth, 6d Amey, 6e Mary, son and daughters of 5a Robert Junior and Elizabeth.

5b Sion Hill Senior, born c1654 Isle of Wight VA, died c1705 Surry VA, married 1677 Elizabeth (Smith) Splitimber, widow of John. (Elizabeth was a Smith, born 1662, probably daughter of 4b Nicholas Smith)

Sixth, the sons and daughters of 5b Sion Senior and Elizabeth Smith.

6f Robert Hill, born 1678, died 1765 Halifax Co NC, married Tabitha 1721, Isle of Wight VA. (Dts: Tabitha (Green) Browne)
6g Sion Hill Junior, born 1682 Surry Co VA, died after 1762 Edgecombe Co NC Married 1st c1707-09 Elizabeth Marriott, 2d c1713 Miss Greene. (Others, including Bell, disagree about marriages)
6h Richard Hill, born 1684, died 1722-23 (?), married Hannah Briggs. Bell says Richard patented land 1728. sold by Sion Junior 1735.
6i Thomas Hill (Captain), born 1686, died 1737, married Priscilla Grey born 1692 died 1761.
6j Michael Hill, born 1688, died 1755, married Elizabeth R. Mitchell
6k William Hill, born c1690. On 28 Feb 1733 William was granted land in Northampton Co NC, joining his brother 6f Robert. William sold this in 1745 after acquiring other land 08 Nov 1742. (Dts: Three children)

Here, we ask whether it was the record, or whether it is Craft who says that the Robert Hill who joined William's land was "William's brother" It is an odd thing for a landgrant to say. Craft cites Fair's *Roach, Roberts, Ridgeway and Allied Families*, as does Bell when repeating. Our suspicion is that the adjoining Hills William and Robert were indeed brothers, as will later appear.

Before continuing, a word about the numbering system. We are reviewing six works, plus our own seventh, which repeat many of the same names and generations. We use one same number for the one same person, so that this person may be tracked through all seven works. Not all seven have the same sequence, and the numbers may be rearranged accordingly. But 5a Robert, for example, will be the same 5a Robert all the way through the seven works. The number will identify the generation, the letter will identify the person.

In light of what follows, we repeat the caution that in 1642, Isle of Wight VA was very different from its present appearance in current maps. We believe that Isle of Wight extended from the James River on its northeast to the Roanoke River on its southwest, taking in the Meherrin River site of the early Hills in Virginia, and including later counties Southampton, Brunswick and Greensville in Virginia, and a large part of Bertie / Northampton in North Carolina. We repeat also our belief that in the time of these Hills the Meherrin was common to all six of these counties.

Perhaps a refresher look at the maps would be in order as we consider the following.

Resuming Craft, with 4a Robert, born c1615 Northumberland, England, and wife Mary Webb born 1621 County Kent, England, migrants from England to Isle of Wight VA 1642, eight years after Isle of Wight was erected as a county.

4a Robert died before 09 Feb 1679-80 in Surry Co VA, the date when his son 5b Sion Senior confirmed to Edward Wickens land sold in Isle of Wight to Wickens by "my father Robert Hill, deceased". The land was assigned to Robert 1653 by George Archer or Arthur. 4a Mary (Webb) died after 1684, Surry VA. The double-dating here is possibly due to the changing of the calendar system.

We must ask more questions than we can presently answer - Did Robert and Mary remain in one place, while the county line changed? Did Robert and Mary die where they had lived, originally in Isle of Wight, later in Surry?

When Robert and Mary arrived in Isle of Wight in 1642, Surry had not been erected. The territory which in 1652 became Surry was earlier James City County. When Surry was erected from James City, Surry's south line ran its entire length with Isle of Wight's north line, and there is the possibility that the Surry - Isle of Wight line ran through Robert and Mary's plantation and placed their manor house in Surry, leaving part of the plantation in Isle of Wight. Theirs may have been a "move", or no "move" at all.

Was the site of their life and death along the Surry - Isle of Wight line by the Meherrin River, in what became Brunswick, Greensville, Southampton, Bertie, Northampton counties?

We mention here Surry County, Virginia, and caution that our William of Tararat resided in Surry County, North Carolina. We will mention the state when mentioning these counties.

Per Craft, the children of 4a Robert and Mary were born Isle of Wight or Surry VA, which means that they *might* have been born where we later find son 5a Robert living and dying, on Fountains Creek in old Isle of Wight, later Brunswick, later Greensville. 4a Robert and Mary's two sons, 5a Robert Junior and 5b Sion Senior, are found, and "there may have been others." This is a call for the identification of these "others", for we think this generation or the one following was the generation of our William's grandparents.

Craft: 5a Robert Junior, son of 4a Robert and Mary, was born c1667-70 in Isle of Wight or Surry VA. Robert Junior's will was dated 10 Apr 1740, Brunswick VA. Robert Junior married Elizabeth, probably daughter of 4c William Halleman, whose estate Robert Hill appraised in 1704. 5a Robert Junior's 1740 will named his wife Elizabeth and these children -

6a John, born 1692
6b Margaret
6c Elizabeth
6d Amey
6e Mary

Craft does not include biography of Robert Junior and Elizabeth's children. We believe that a search should be made for these Sixth Generation families, particularly since 6a John's 1692 birth places these in the generation of our William's parents or grandparents.

The timing is right, the Isle of Wight - Surry - Brunswick geography is right, for our William to fit with the families of these 6a to 6e children of 5a Robert Junior and Elizabeth. If our presumptions be correct in the break-up of Isle of Wight and the make-up of these counties, all three and Southampton would have had the Meherrin River in common.

Per Craft, 5a Robert Junior and Elizabeth "moved" from Isle of Wight to Brunswick VA, some time before 1740, the date of Robert's will. We question, as above, whether any "move" was involved. We compare with Bell.

Bell: 5a Robert Junior owned land in Surry Co VA, which he sold to Jos. Pettiway in 1725. In 1725, Surry included the territory along the Meherrin River and its tributary Fountains Creek, territory which in 1732 would become Brunswick. But if we take this sale as indicating Robert Junior and Elizabeth's "move" from Surry to Brunswick, we time their "move" as between 1725 and 1740, when Robert Junior died in Brunswick. This is the precise period during which our William was born, possibly in the portion of Surry which in 1732 became Brunswick, or the portion of Isle of Wight which in 1732 became Brunswick.

And as earlier mentioned, and as will be discussed, 5a Robert Junior's nephews 6f Robert and 6k William owned land in Northampton NC, when William's 1733 landgrant joined "his brother Robert". 6k William was then living in Bertie NC, by the evidence in the part of Isle of Wight which became Bertie, which became Northampton. By quirk of the changed VA - NC line and the break-up and make-up of counties, Northampton NC joins Brunswick. Greensville, and Southampton VA, and all four counties are on the Meherrin.

Robert 6f and 6k William had another brother, 6h Richard, who may have been in the same area. 6h Richard died in Sussex Co VA. Sussex County was erected in 1753 from Surry and joined Brunswick and Southampton at the Meherrin River near present Greensville. All of these brothers and their uncle 5a Robert could have been near neighbors, and may have been cast into various counties by the changing lines of the two colonies and their counties.

Brunswick VA (erected 1720 and1732) is now on the VA-NC line, with the Meherrin River flowing from west to east across its middle. In 1780, during or soon after the lifetime of these Hills, Greensville County was formed between Brunswick on the west and Southampton and Sussex on the east. The Meherrin likewise flows east from Brunswick across the middle of Greensville, then southerly where it forms the present boundary between Greensville and Southampton.

These early Hill "moves" may have been "moves", or they may instead be expressive of the changing lines. Robert Junior's only known brother 5b Sion Senior, father of 6f Robert, 6h Richard, and 6k William, lived and died in Surry VA, meaning only that he might have "moved" there from 4a Robert's plantation in Isle of Wight, or that he might have remained on or near 4a Robert's site, even on the Meherrin, while the county lines changed around him. We find nothing in the six works here reviewed that would disprove that this whole family, beginning with immigrants 4a Robert and Mary, may have resided by the banks of the Meherrin River. 6f Robert, 6g Sion Junior, and 6i Thomas later lived and died in nearby Edgecombe and Halifax, and 6k William evidently lived and died in Bertie - Northampton by quirk of the changed colony line, but the evidence is that the entire family may have first lived on or near the Meherrin River.

Craft: 5b Sion Senior, son of 4a Robert and Mary, was born 1654, one year after his father 4a Robert took lands in Isle of Wight, and died 1705 Surry Co VA, married 1677 Elizabeth Smith, widow of John Splitimber or Spiltimber, probably daughter of 4b Nicholas Smith.

5b Sion Senior administered the estate of John Splitimber, as Sion had married the relict of the deceased John Splitimber. In1678 Sion and wife "Eliza." confirmed to Edward or Edmund Wickens a plantation in Isle of Wight which had been assigned by George Archer in 1653 to Sion Senior's father 4a Robert. Wickens' purchase price was 4390 pounds of tobacco. So Isle of Wight appears to have been tobacco-farming country.

In 1681, Sion Hill patented a 420 acre landgrant in Upper Parish of Surry VA, for importing nine persons into the Colony. Sion and wife Elizabeth sold this to William Grey, planter, in 1685. Perhaps William Grey might have been one of the persons imported into the Colony of Virginia. We think that in 1681 Surry extended from the James to the Roanoke River, and we are thus unable to position the county's Upper (and perhaps middle and lower) Parish. It could be that the Upper Parish lay north of the Meherrin, or north of the Nottoway, or north of the Blackwater.

We will later encounter 6i Thomas Hill, son of 5b Sion Senior, who married Priscilla Grey. Craft does not mention the parents of Priscilla Grey.

A passing thought about "parishes". It is not an uncommon word in old grants and deeds, for it identified place with particularity, and we surmise that it came to the Colonies from earlier usage in England and elsewhere. In 1818, our William, then in Surry County NC, which had been a county for forty-seven years, gave a land deed to his son Richard, beginning with the words "I William Hill of the county and parish of Surry NC". We wonder whether our William might have brought the term "parish" with him from the parlance of his elders of the Meherrin country of old Virginia where "parishes" are here seen to have been divisions, probably ecclesiastical, within a county.

In 1680, 5b Sion Senior and 4b Nicholas Smith were among the titheables in Surry. In 1687, Sion Senior was listed with freeholders and inhabitants of Surry VA, and thus qualified to serve in the VA Militia. In 1689, Sion Senior gave a deposition that his age was 35, thus placing his birth as 1654. Craft documents Sion Senior in Surry VA through 1704, taxes, quitrent rolls, etc. In 1704, Sion Senior would have been fifty years of age. He died in Surry VA about 1705, evidently at age about fifty-one. We ponder whether Sion Senior might have lived and died at the same place, shown as evidently born in Isle of Wight and died in Surry. Perhaps, but unlikely, Sion Senior was cast into Surry when that county was erected along Isle of Wight's north line.

The children of 5b Sion Senior and Elizabeth Smith Splitimber are numbered as 6f through 6k, about whom more later as we review Bell. Bell offers information not found in Craft.

We pause to remind that the William Hill we seek was born before 1740, and during the probable period 1725 to 1740, "on the Meherrin River in Southampton County, Virginia" (son Richard's Revolutionary War pension affidavit). During this period, we have the short "move" - or no "move" - of 5a Robert and Elizabeth and their children, with nephews 6f Robert, 6h Richard, and 6k William into - or within- the area of Isle of Wight - Brunswick - Greensville - Southampton VA, and Northampton - Bertie counties NC. The counties and the Colonial line were all revised about this time, with the large Bertie County NC being divided into smaller counties, including Northampton, and with some territory in one colony becoming territory in the other as the colony line stabilized. Thus our guarded optimism that perhaps our "William of Meherrin", later William of Tararat, may have originated with these Hills of Isle of Wight VA, in particular the families of 5a Robert Junior, and his nephews the brothers 6f Robert, 6h Richard, and 6k William, sons of 5b Sion Senior.

We consider the Meherrin River to be our best clue and strongest anchor to the origins of our William. That river has followed for centuries its due course, though the colonies and the states and the counties along its banks have altered with the passing of time. That Old Man River crosses the present VA - NC line five times at or very near the place where these Hills took their seat.

While studying the Meherrin and its environs, we learn of two landmark creeks which flowed through the lands of these Hills. These are Fountains Creek and Cypress Creek, both mentioned with the Meherrin in Hill land records. The 1733 Moseley map has "Fontain's", the 1770 Collet map has "Fountain" as does the 1775 Mouzon map. The 1861 Colton map has it as "Fontaine", by whatever spelling all at the same place. Cypress Swamp or creek is seen entering the Meherrin just below Fountain Creek, just above the NC - VA line. No landmarks named "Hill" are found in the vicinity in 1733. The 1733 Moseley map has present Northampton County as then part of Bertie; the 1770 Collet map has "Northampton County" by that name.

The 1770 Collet map has "Crafford" Ferry at or near the confluence of Fountain Creek and Cypress Swamp at the Meherrin, and Folkstone's Ferry about three miles upnriver. The 1775 Mouzon map calls these "Folkstone" and "Crawford" ferries. Evidently, two roads and their commerce between Virginia and North Carolina crossed the Meherrin very near the site of the family Hill.

Fountains is essentially a Virginia creek, but its headwaters and some of its principal tributaries originate in - now - Northampton North Carolina. The current map of Northampton NC shows as a main tributary, Cypress Creek, which in the current VA map parallels Fountains Creek just before entering the south side of the Meherrin at the VA-NC state line between Northampton NC and Greensville VA. The creek named as Fountain in the 1775 map is named Fountains in the current maps of Brunswick and Greensville counties Virginia. We believe that Hills who are important to us lived near what was or became Folkstone and Crawford ferries, near the juncture of Fountains Creek, Cypress Creek, and the Meherrin River.

We find two other interesting landmarks in the maps of 1733 and 1775. One is "Hill's Ferry" on the Meherrin River, now the site of Murfreesboro NC. As later shown, in 1734 a Robert Hill paid "ferryage" 18 Pounds 53.0.d., perhaps a tax levied upon operators of ferries, certainly a large amount for using a ferry. The other is "Hill's Mill" at or near Bertie Court House, now the site of Windsor, NC.

We look again to History - The VA - NC line was surveyed in 1728. The line was straightened and moved, and severed Virginia ground to North Carolina.

Geography - The straightened line ignored the meanders of rivers and streams, cut straight across swamps and plantations, and in the process set two of the Hills in opposite colonies, brother on the north side of Fountains Creek but in NC, brother on the south of Fountains Creek but in VA. The creek continued its course as before,but now its southerly tributaries were in Bertie / Northampton NC, and its northerly tributaries in Brunswick / Greensville VA. This has importance to our understanding that 6k William Hill seems to have had land north of Fountains Creek but in Northampton NC, and his brother 6f Robert had land south of Fountains Creek but in Brunswick VA.

A look at the map, and some Hill land records, causes us to speculate that before the survey, Virginia and North Carolina possibly considered the Roanoke River as the dividing line only a few miles west and south of these Hills, and considered that Isle of Wight VA included present Northampton NC.

Proceding west with the 1728 NC - VA line and from the Chowan River, upstream of the Meherrin, as Colonel William Byrd and surveyors did in 1728, the straightened line crosses the loops of the Meherrin five times within ten miles, once at the Meherrin - Chowan "delta" (called in the 1833 Mac Rae - Brazier map "Nanney's Neck") and four times in the line between Northampton NC and Southampton VA.

Continuing upstream, the Meherrin leaves Northampton NC to become the dividing line between Southampton and Greensville counties VA, and an earlier cornering point between Southampton and Sussex VA. It then crosses midway through Greensville Co VA, continues across Brunswick Co VA, and on to its headwaters in Virginia. All of these crossings and meanderings within forty miles.

We resume, as Craft follows her own descent, and return to the family of 5b Sion Hill Senior, son of 4a Robert and Mary, and wife Elizabeth Smith, widow Splitimber.

6g Sion Hill Junior, son of 5b Sion Senior and Elizabeth, according to Craft married at least twice, perhaps thrice. She discusses the varying accounts of these wives - (1) 1707 Elizabeth Marriott, daughter of Alice Warren; (2) Elizabeth Browne, daughter of Capt. William Browne and Jane Meriwether Browne, and granddaughter of Lt Col William Browne.

The will of Matthias Marriott mentions daughter "Elizabeth Hill"; none of the others mention a daughter or granddaughter named Hill. Craft settles on Sion Junior's first wife as Marriott, and his second or third wife a Miss Greene, daughter or granddaughter of Peter Greene, and offers her evidence.

In her discussion of Sion Junior's wives and children, Craft names three children and a possible but questioned fourth, as will appear below. She first attempts to sort out the Green Hills, and the William who we know as William of Town Fork. We know of no more confusion and disagreement in and about the family Hill than surrounds the origins of this William of Town Fork and the several Green Hills. And Craft's own valiant effort ends with a plea for help.

Craft mentions that Green Hill transferred land in Surry VA to William Evans, part being from a grant to William Browne, and part being granted to Richard Hill in 1728. But she has 6h Richard's death 1722/23. She continues that one account has 6h Richard Hill and wife Hannah Briggs as the parents of Green Hill who married a Miss Bennett, contradicted by another which has 6f Robert and Tabitha Hill as the parents of the Green Hill Senior who married Grace Bennett. Craft leans toward 6g Sion Junior as the father of 7-c-f Green Hill who married Grace Bennett.

Craft quotes the affidavit of Reverend Thomas H. Bain, 1926, which is prolifically cited in the Hill literature. The Reverend Bain -

" . . my grandfather Green Hill and my great uncle William Hill were great-nephews of Green Hill, an officer in the Revolution. Green Hill lived in Franklin County NC which was founded in 1779 from Bute County. My grandfather was Green Hill, a son of Rev. William Hill and a grandson of William Hill, Elder of Surry County NC who was a brother of Green Hill."

Huh? Well, all we can do is try.

As we reconstruct the Reverend Bain -

William Hill Elder and his brother Green Hill the Revolutionary officer

|

Reverend William Hill (Junior) — Father unidentified

|

Bain's grandfather Green Hill and his brother(?) great uncle William Hill

Craft struggles with Reverend Bain's affidavit, as must anyone who tries to sort it out, and she offers her own chart, with a plea for help. We echo the plea. Oft cited as proving two of the many Williams, William Elder (of Town Fork) and his son Reverend William Junior, whatever else it may prove it does show that there were three William Hills in this family, and that one of them - Bain says son of William Elder (of Town Fork) - was a Reverend.

Here we remind that the Ohio family descended from our William's daughter Sarah "Sally" Hill who married in Surry NC William Denny and migrated to Ohio in the early 1800's, informed a biographer that Sarah's father, our William of Tararat, was a Baptist minister who preached for 80 years and died at the age of 115 years, whose wife Sarah died at age 110.

There may have been more than one Reverend William Hill, and we are impressed by the possibility that in the search of old records the clergical credentials of one might have been attributed to another, or that once a Reverend William was seen, the searchers ascribed to him all things reverendential. We strongly suspect that the Revolutionary War records of some William Hills, ours included, are intermixed, and there is the probability that in the course of time, wives of one may be recorded as wives of another, that sons of one may be said to be sons of another. We dispute not the good Reverend Bain, but we wonder - Who was his great uncle William? And who was great uncle William's father? Craft also wondered the same, and she attempts to sort out several opinions and offers her own. She charts the opinions that Green Hill was the son of Sion Junior and wife Marriott, but offers her own that the Green Hill who married Grace Bennett was the son of 6g Sion Junior and second wife Greene. Craft, to her credit, charts the opinions opposite to her own, thusly -

6g Sion Jr and Elizabeth Marriott

| |

Wm Sr (of Town Fork) — Green 1714-1769 -m- Grace Bennett

| | |

Wm Jr (Reverend) — Green 1741-1825 — William 1750-1776

| | |

Green born 1782 — Wm III 1773-1857 — Green 1774 -

|

Green's daughter -m- Bain

|

Rev. Thomas H. Bain

Not to quibble with those who have Marriott as the mother of Green Hill, but Craft being of the opinion that Sion Junior married for his second or third wife a Miss Greene, might we not consider this wife Greene to have been the mother of Green Hill?

None of these four Williams charted by Craft matches with our William of Tararat, born 1725 to 1740. We say, again, perhaps our William does not belong in these above families, or perhaps his vitae are attributed to another William.

Craft adds to the above, the children of 6g Sion Junior and his wives -

7-a The William above shown, (of Town Fork) b 1710 Surry Co VA, died c1787 Surry (Stokes) Co NC, married c1736 Susannah Smither. (Two other wives are attributed by others, with disagreements. One is Elizabeth Williams. RH and Jcb say he was married to Bridget (Hearn) Mullinax first, and to Susan Smither second.)

7-b Mary, born c1712, married Edward Jones Jr.

7-c-f Green, born 20 Nov 1714, died c1769 Northampton Co NC, married 1739 Grace Bennett

(7-d, not proved by Craft, Abner, born c1718 Surry VA, married Sarah. See the following by Bell, listing Abner as son of 6f Robert and Tabitha.

Craft here departs from the generations which we might questionably consider as ours, and follows her own descent from William (of Town Fork). We borrow the foregoing from Craft, and thank her for showing us these possibilities.

We take neither side in the question of the wives of William of Town Fork, but point out that somewhere, some time, there must have been a William Hill who married Elizabeth Williams, and a William Hill who married Bridget (Hearn) Mullinax. We are inclined to leave William of Town Fork in peace, but so long as there remain a William and wife Williams, and a William and wife (Hearn) Mullinax, and while our William is at large, our work in not finished.

The little we know of our own William is that he was born 1725 to 1740 and that he married in 1776, evidently to Sarah "Sally". We think that by 1776 our William was at least thirty-six years old, and possibly as old as fifty-one. We find no evidence of an earlier wife of our William, but neither rule out nor rule in Elizabeth Williams and/or Bridget (Hearn) Mullinax as a possibility.

Before leaving William of Town Fork, we refer to his will dated 1777 and probated in 1787, wherein he begins with "I William Hill Elder . .". Some have taken this to mean that he was an Elder of the church, a minister, and point out that the old records make frequent mention of the Reverend William Hill. True, the records do so state. But Craft says that William of Town Fork was

"an Episcopalian", and our inquiry to some Episcopal churches is answered that "Elder" is not a title applied to their clergy. William was elder in age to his son William and to some other William Hills of his day, and we read nothing into his use of Elder than that he was in age the senior William of his time and place.

Whereas, and however, our William of Tararat - if indeed he was a Baptist minister in those times - as his daughter's family believe - he would almost certainly have been an Elder in the ecclesiastical sense, for this was and remains the title of ministers of the Primitive Baptist Church. It does not escape our minds, or prove any point, that the Reverend Mr. Bain referred to his great-great-grandfather as "William Hill, Elder of Surry County, NC". It is a term one would expect one clergyman to mention of another - professional courtesy, familial affection.

Both our William of Tararat and William of Town Fork resided in Surry County NC, maybe twenty miles apart. It was after the time of William of Town Fork's will that Surry NC was divided, placing Town Fork in Stokes and retaining the Tararat in Surry. Our William, said to have been a minister, appears from census data to have had a son William, and whether he became a Reverend we do not know, but it would be a logical thing. William of Town Fork did have a son William, and that family knows or believes that he was a Reverend.

Our point here is - Have biographers taken from one William and given to another? Did the family of our William's daughter Sarah confuse him with the son of William of Town Fork? Such is possible, and indeed difficult to avoid, there being so many William Hills. In the literature, are we looking at our William of Tararat but unable to recognize him for the clutter? There are Williams here who by age and geography we might be drawn to consider but for the fact that they are identified otherwise or not identified at all.

We praise Alta Deshazer Craft for her fine work, and move on. A word of caution and alert - We do not here follow every line opened up by Craft. We are looking for our own line. Our caution and our alert is that probably Craft also was seeking her own line and did not pursue every line found in her source materials. This alerts us that in her sources, we may possibly find our own William, perhaps even neatly set out in exquisite detail.

FOUR

We admire the work of Jessie Lynn Bell of Vicksburg, Mississippi, in her publication *The Families of Hill and Lynn*, 1976. We are pleased that Bell's fine work is also in the public domain. Her account of the early generations is very like that of Craft, and she adds documentation which we find especially helpful and interesting. In addition to the foregoing Hills, Bell names as the earliest she found in the Colonies, Burrows Hill, immigrant in the ship *Elizabeth* in 1611, and adds these Hills of Virginia - Nicholas, Thomas, John and Edward, and believes them related to 4a Robert. She points out the similarity of names in the families and the proximity of their lands. We do not have Bell's data for these, but will at another time look to these also for more on our William.

We note that Bell and Craft both cite many of the same sources. Not surprising, then, that the proofs, facts, and conclusions offered by Bell and Craft are much the same, though each presents information not found in the other. If there be errors, these too are apt to be the same. We are unable to discern whether Bell and Craft offer two independent efforts, but we do not find that either mentions the other as a source. We will tentatively conclude that we have here two different efforts, both bottomed on a great deal of the same source material. We will not repeat for Bell all that Craft has already said, but will explore and compare Bell's additional information.

Bell begins with the immigrants 4a Robert Hill and wife Mary, whereas Craft presents earlier generations. This entitles Bell to our numbering of her generations as we did for Craft, but since we are doing a work of our own we will apply Bell's to the same generation numbering as shown for Craft.

Bell, like Craft, has the immigrants 4a Robert and Mary arriving in Isle of Wight VA in 1642. Bell cites land records in Isle of Wight, a portion of 746 acres, and a tract from George Archer in 1653, which Robert's son 5b Sion Hill Senior sold to Edmund Wickens in 1678. As in Craft, 4a Robert and Mary had two sons, 5b Sion Senior and 5a Robert Junior.

Bell: Robert Junior 5a, son of 4a Robert and Mary , was born c1667 in Isle of Wight Co VA. He married Elizabeth, probably the daughter of 4c William Halleman. 5a Robert Junior owned land in adjoining Surry Co VA, which he sold to Jos. Pettiway in 1725. (Same in Craft - same source?)

5a Robert Junior made his will in Brunswick Co VA 10 Apr 1740, eight years after that county was erected. In 1732, eight years before Robert Junior died, Brunswick received territory from Surry and from Isle of Wight, in the process apparently gaining virtually all of Fountains Creek and a long reach of the Meherrin. We do not find evidence that 5a Robert and Elizabeth "moved" from Surry to Brunswick, but think it more likely that the colony line and the county lines changed around them.

5a Robert Junior's age when he died was approximately 73. His will names wife Elizabeth, son John 6a, and daughters Margaret 6b, Elizabeth 6c, Amey 6d, and Mary 6e. Like Craft, Bell does not biograph these children of Robert Junior and Elizabeth, who we think valuable to our search. We believe 5a Robert and Elizabeth and their 6th generation children were proximate to our William's birthplace by the Meherrin in Southampton.

We suggest that though Robert died in Brunswick he may have lived in Surry without ever changing his place of residence. Robert Junior's 1740 will at age about 73 would suggest that his children were all of an age to have had families of their own, and we think these were very near to Southampton. Robert's will did not name a son William, and our William was born before that date, but evidently was no older than 15 when 5a Robert died.

Bell: 5b Sion Hill Senior married Elizabeth (Smith) Splitimber, relict of John. Elizabeth was probably the daughter of 4b Nicholas Smith. (Same in Craft)

Bell, not found in Craft: Sion Hill witnessed a deed in 1680, Ralph Hill sells to Samuel Swan of Surry Co VA land in Isle of Wight which Ralph's father Col. Nicholas Hill had bequeathed to Nicholas' son Richard Hill who died in infancy (before reaching 'legal' age).(Elsewhere, we find a Nicholas Hill who married Sylvestra Bennett. Any connection is unknown.)

Craft has 5b Sion Senior and 4b Nicholas Smith in Surry VA to 1674. Here, Bell has him there in 1680. Dts has Sion Senior's death in Surry VA, 1705.

This places Nicholas Hill proximate to these families, but does not prove kinship. We might risk inferring kinship, from 4c Nicholas Smith whose daughter married 5a Robert Hill.

Nicholas Hill, Colonel, Isle of Wight Co VA

Richard Hill, died a minor before 1680	Ralph Hill

We eliminate Nicholas and his son Richard as the father of our William, though Nicholas might be our earlier generation. We do not eliminate Ralph as our William's father or as an earlier generation. This is the only found mention of Ralph Hill who in 1680 was of legal age to sell land in Isle of Wight.

Bell: Sion Senior 5b and wife Elizabeth had four sons born in Surry Co VA. This varies from Craft who shows six sons. They both could be right, Craft finding two more than Bell. But this reminds how very easy it is when ascribing those of one generation to those of another, to mis-place parents with mis-placed children. We have no cause to doubt either Craft or Bell, our doubt is in our own ability to sort out the many differences found in the many Hills.

Bell believes Sion Senior's sons Richard 6h and Sion Junior 6g remained in VA., and that sons Robert 6f and William 6k "moved" to North Carolina. Her belief is based on NC land records regarding William, and by Richard's will in Sussex VA. But we think it possible, even probable, that brothers Robert and William may have been Virginians by residence who happened to find themselves in NC when the colony line was straightened and moved in 1728. Our reasoning appears earlier, and more will follow.

We compare with Craft: Sons of Sion Senior 5b - Robert 6f died Halifax NC. Sion Junior 6g died Edgecombe NC. We believe these were actual "moves". Richard 6h, not reported. Thomas 6i, not reported. Michael 6j, not reported. Dts says William 6k died Northampton Co NC, and we think this probably was not a "move". Craft and Dts thus place Sion Senior's sons Sion Junior and William in counties of NC, Northampton which joins our William's Southampton VA, and Edgecombe which joins Northampton, both of these formed from Bertie, 1741. We think that 6f Robert, 6g Sion Junior, and 6i Thomas removed from the Meherrin's environs, but that 6k William did not.

Bell's immediately following is to be taken seriously, for she is supported by documented proof. But we do not find that Bell took into consideration the changed NC-VA line and the break-up and make-up of counties. We remind that the VA - NC line was moved and straightened by survey in 1728. Dts: " A 25 mile strip along the border of Virginia and North Carolina was found to be in North Carolina and ceded by Virginia". One should keep this and the maps in mind when considering the following, for we think that before the 1728 survey, a very large part of Northampton, which was then in Bertie NC, was the southwest corner of Isle of Wight VA.

Bell: William Hill 6k, "fourth son of Sion Senior and Elizabeth" was born c1690 in Surry Co VA. Same in Craft. Incidentally, this makes 6k William the first of the several William Hills known in the families of the Meherrin.

Bell: On 28 Feb 1733, five years after the survey of 1728, and one year before Surry and Isle of Wight lost territory to Brunswick, 6k William was granted 100 acres in Northampton Co NC, joining "his brother Robert". Remember that we wondered whether it was record or opinion that the Robert was William's "brother". This repeat in Bell causes assumption that Craft and Bell were working from the same source, either the actual grant or a searcher's analysis. Craft and Bell both cite *Roach, Roberts, Ridgeway and Allied Families* by Marielou Roach Fair. We thus credit Fair and her source(s) with "brothers". Our opinion concurs - brothers.

Bell: 6k William's above land was on the south side of the Meherrin River and on the north side of Fountains Creek. 6k William kept the 100 acres seven years and sold in 1740 to Thomas Person of Brunswick Co VA. This was eight years after Brunswick was erected, and forty-one years before Greensville County was erected. We think that the land was possibly earlier in Surry, probably in Isle of Wight, then later in Brunswick and now in Greensville.

Here, we briefly comment that we are searching, even grasping, for clues. We have the name Thomas Person of Brunswick, nothing more. Could 6k William have sold to a son-in-law Person? We know nothing of the husband of 6k William's daughter Ann Hill. Daughter Celia married a Phillips. (Dts)

We reconstruct Bell, and this first of two lands of 6k William, and proffer that the date 1733 does not rule out that William may earlier have resided on, even patented the land in VA, which was granted - or regranted - to him in Northampton NC in that year. We consider two possibilities - (1) In those times, and for a century later, one ordinarily "entered", or "claimed", land on which one made improvements (clearing, planting, building, residing), and where one may have resided for years prior to receiving the grant. (2) As later discussed, William may have been on land originally granted to him in VA, when, if we presume rightly, the land was probably in old Surry or Isle of Wight, which probably included what later became Northampton NC following the 1728 survey of the NC-VA line. We think this 1733 grant may have been a re-granting by NC of land already owned by 6k William in former VA.

Fountains Creek begins in present Northampton NC, runs through Greensville, generally parallel with, and then into, the Meherrin River, site of our William's birthplace. A southerly tributary of Fountains Creek would have been on ground severed from VA and now in Northampton NC.

Bell: A second acquisition by 6k William Hill:

6k William was deeded (Craft says he "bought") 100 acres in Northampton NC by William DeLoach in 1742. The land record says this tract was patented 1718 by Nicholas Smith, and (re-patented) in 1736 by William DeLoach and the said William Hill, who at this time (1736) was living on land lying in Bertie County NC "on the north side of Cypress Swamp taken into the Colony (of NC) by the county line".

This wants a closer look. Taking into account the 1728 survey of the line between VA and NC, we reconstruct Bell, presumably from Fair -

1 1718 Nicholas Smith (probably 4b) patented the land, probably then in old Surry or Isle of Wight VA.
2 Nicholas Smith conveyed (?) the VA land to 6k William Hill and William DeLoach.
3 1728 VA - NC survey, VA cedes to NC, we presume the southwesterly ends of Surry and Isle of Wight, to Bertie / Northampton NC
4 1732 Brunswick gains the newly surveyed southwest ends of Surry and Isle of Wight, north of the new VA - NC colony line.
5 1736 Same 100 acres repatented by Wm. DeLoach and William Hill in Northampton NC, following cession to NC by VA. William was at this time living on this or his 1733 grant, now in Bertie after having been taken into NC and Bertie Co by the changed colony line. Bell says Northampton, which was not formed out of Bertie

until 1741, but which may have been a "precinct" of Bertie in 1736, as precursors to counties or divisions within counties were called in colonial times

6 1741 Northampton County formed from parent county Bertie

7 1742 DeLoach deeded his interest in 100 acres to William Hill, in Northampton Co NC.

The "north of Cypress Swamp" location in Bertie defines the site as in what in 1741 became Northampton NC, and lying between Cypress Creek and Fountains Creek where these enter the Meherrin River at or near the VA - NC line.

What seems to have happened is that some or all of the land was originally in Virginia, and after the survey some or all was in North Carolina, necessitating that a new patent be issued to legitimize NC title. It is a reasonable assumption that some part of the land was patented by Nicholas Smith in Virginia, some part of the land was ceded by VA to NC after the survey, the land was then re-patented by DeLoach and Hill in their new Colony of North Carolina, and DeLoach sold out to 6k William Hill.

We must here consider that *both* of 6k William's grants may have been re-patented. Perhaps both were all or part in Virginia prior to the 1728 survey, then all or part in Northampton NC (then still part of Bertie) following the survey. And because of the convergence of Fountains Creek, Cypress Swamp, the Meherrin River, and the VA-NC line at or near the southwest side of Southampton VA, we do not eliminate from this consideration that some part of 6k William's lands may have been on both sides of the Meherrin, some of it possibly in later Southampton VA.

In the second transaction above, we see the original owner Nicholas Smith, who may be 4b Nicholas Smith. And we see William DeLoach, who as we will see in Dts was possibly the father of Ann DeLoach, wife of 6k William Hill. 6k William and Ann named a son William DeLoach Hill. We will be giving this family close scrutiny, at least as close as our limited information permits.

We reasonably presume that 6k William wanted his lands close together, and when we look at the two transactions immediately preceding, we find that in 1733 William was granted 100 acres, joining his brother 6f Robert, in Northampton NC, between Fountain Creek and the Meherrin River. Three years later, 1736, William was living in Bertie on the north side of Cypress Swamp. We do not interpret this as a place-to-place "move" by 6k William, but think it more likely that he and his lands were in one place while the colony line and the county lines changed.

Just where would that be?

At the old Folkstone and Crawford ferries, where the VA - NC line divides Northampton Co NC from Southampton, Greensville, and Brunswick counties

in VA. On the Northampton side, Cypress Creek parallels the line between Northampton NC and Greensville VA. On the Greensville side, Fountains Creek parallels the line between Greensville VA and Northampton NC, where it is joined by the meandering Cypress Creek, which are not clearly distinct as one creek or the other in their meanders through the swamps on either side of the state line. Cypress Creek and Fountains Creek enter the south side of the Meherrin River. This is presently about midway of the Northampton line, at the southeast corner of Greensville and the southwest corner of Southampton.

We hazard the guess that when Brunswick was erected in 1732, it took the southwest corner of Isle of Wight which lay south of the Meherrin. We hazard that when Greensville was erected in 1780, it took from Brunswick the former southwest corner of Isle of Wight south of the Meherrin, and the southwest corner of Surry which lay on both sides of the Meherrin.

Southampton VA was not erected until 1749, at least nine years after our William's birth, from the new southwest end of Isle of Wight which lay north of the NC-VA line. A bit more was added to Southampton from the southwest corner of Nansemond VA.

What we presume from all of this, at admitted risk, is that our William Hill was very probably born in the southwest corner of Southampton VA, the portion that lay north and east of the Meherrin River, and very near to these Hills of adjoining counties old Surry - old Isle of Wight - Sussex - Brunswick - Greensville - Bertie - Northampton.

And what does all of this tell us? In summary, from Craft and Bell -

(1) It tells us that 5a Robert Hill Junior resided on or near the Meherrin, probably with one son and four daughters.
(2) William Hill 6k was born about 1690, his brother Robert 6f in 1678, his brother 6h Richard about1684.
(3) These three brothers and possibly the 6a to 6e son and daughters of 5a Robert were at or near the Meherrin River.
(4) Our William was born 1725 to 1740, when 5a Robert's children were of child-bearing age, when 6k William was between 35 and 50, and when 6f Robert was 47 to 62, and when 6h Richard was 41 to 56.
(5) It tells us that the 6a to 6e children of 5a Robert, and 6k William and his brother 6f Robert, and probably brother 6h Richard, were at the right place, at the precise time, of our William Hill later of Tararat.
(6) It tells us that these Hills knew our William of Tararat!
(7) And if these knew him, did not the others also?
(8) It tells us that if we stand on the Meherrin River bridge of NC-VA Highway 186, the former site of the Folkstone or Crawford Ferry, where Fountains Creek and Cypress Creek enter the Meherrin, we will be in sight and sound of Hills who could very well have been our own.

None of the contributors studied here follow the later life of the 6a to 6e children of 5a Robert, or of this William 6k, and for understandable reason: these were all adjunct to their lines. But were they not in ours? We have work to do, aided by slightly more from Dts, to follow.

We should note that Craft and Bell diverge about here, their lines being the same down to 5b Sion Senior. Craft leaves Sion Senior to follow her line from Sion Junior and thence to William of Town Fork. Bell leaves Sion Senior to follow her line from Robert 6f, and thence to Robert's son 7i Thomas. We have enjoyed their company, and will continue with Bell, since we are content that Craft's Town Fork William was not ancestral to our William, and in the hope that with Bell we might find our William of Tararat.

Bell and Craft: 5b Sion Hill Senior is thought to have married Elizabeth (Smith), widow Splitimber, daughter of 4b Nicholas Smith. Perhaps this same Nicholas Smith was the original patent holder of the grant which was re-patented by 6k William Hill and DeLoach. This Nicholas Smith was thus, probably, 4b Nicholas Smith, this 6k William Hill's grandfather.

Bell: 6f Robert, eldest son of 5b Sion Senior, was born c1682-83, probably in Isle of Wight VA. Bell cites reference to a land deed, probably quoting Fair, whom she cites at the end of that chapter.

We quote Bell, presumably quoting Fair, and recommend a close look, especially at the geography.

" ' In 1724 Robert Hill of Isle of Wight County, Virginia, was granted 145 acres of land in that county. January 23, 1724, Robert Hill deeded to Arthur Jordan 145 acres on south side of Fountain's Creek in Isle of Wight County - the plantation on which the said Hill is now living.' Tabitha, his wife, relinquished dower. Witnesses, Thomas Halleman, Senior and Junior."

Why the close look? This was 1724, four years before the survey of 1728, and eight years before Isle of Wight lost its southwest corner to Brunswick.. And where were Robert and Tabitha living? On 145 acres "on south side of Fountain's Creek *in Isle of Wight County*".

If we trust in the grant and deed, and if we trust in the 1775 map's and the current maps' location for Fountains Creek, and if we accept that in 1732 Brunswick acquired territory from Isle of Wight, we must accept that in 1724 Isle of Wight Virginia included land south of Fountain Creek in what is now Greensville VA or Northampton NC. If the grant and deed are correct, then our presumption is correct that Isle of Wight extended from the James River to the Roanoke River and included the home grounds of these Hills along the Meherrin River. And this strengthens our suspicion that these Hills "moved" seldom, if at all, but remained in one place as the boundary lines changed around them.

Even when boundary lines changed, the south side of Fountains Creek did not, and we reach no other conclusion than 6f Robert's land "on which the said Hill is now living" was in 1724 the part of Isle of Wight VA which in due course became Brunswick - Greensville VA or Bertie - Northampton NC. It still means that these Hills along the Meherrin and Fountains Creek and Cypress Swamp were in Isle of Wight, the original seat of the immigrants 4a Robert and Mary. We conclude that, in considerable probability, the whole family, from the time of immigrants 4a Robert and Mary to the time of their 7th and 8th generation great-grand- and great- great-grand-children, were at, or perhaps the width of the Meherrin distant from, the place where our William Hill was born.

A second reason for the close look is that 6f Robert received his grant "in 1724", and evidently within a matter of days, Robert deeded 145 acres, the exact amount granted to Robert and on which he was then living, "on the South side of Fountain's Creek" in Isle of Wight. We may thus conclude that as soon as Robert received his grant he immediately deeded the same land to Jordan. We know from the current map that Fountains Creek runs parallel with the VA-NC line between present Greensville VA and Northampton NC, and that this appears to be where above we found in 1733 the brothers 6f Robert and 6k William adjoining each other's lands in Northampton NC.

This persuades us that in 1724 6f Robert was living in the part of Isle of Wight which in 1732 became Brunswick, 6f Robert's plantation adjoining his brother 6k William. The 1728 survey severed the part of Isle of Wight in which 6f Robert and 6k William were living, left 6f Robert in Isle of Wight - Brunswick - Greensville VA, and cast 6k William into Bertie - Northampton NC. It persuades that neither of them "moved" but both were cast into various counties by quirk of the changing lines.

Bell: A second land transaction, presumed to be of 6f Robert - In 1725, "Robert Hill Junior" was granted 233 acres on North side of Fountain's Creek, "at Robert Hill's line". We draw from this three separate possibilities.

One, we interpret that 6f Robert and Tabitha sold their 1724 grant and residence south of Fountains Creek, acquired 233 acres north of Fountains Creek, and that Robert's new grant joined his own line of his old grant. Or, Two, that Robert sold on the south side of Fountains and moved to the north side, where his new grant joined the line of his uncle 5a Robert. Or, Three, that 6f Robert and Tabitha removed from the Meherrin, and took a new residence elsewhere. We find, below, that 6f Robert sold part of his 1725 grant in 1737, and that in 1738 he was granted lands on Blue Marsh in Halifax NC, where he and Tabitha were living when 6f Robert made his will in Halifax NC.

We see this latter as a real "move", from the Meherrin's Fountains Creek in VA to the Blue Marsh in Halifax NC. Precisely when Robert and Tabitha moved, we do not discern from the record. As earlier said, one might live on land for a number of years before filing for patent or grant. It is equally true that one might own lands for years before taking up residence upon them. Robert and

Tabitha are the first of the Hills of Meherrin to be shown as actually moving from the Meherrin. If there were earlier "moves", we think them to have been to or around the Meherrin.

We believe that we probably have here in the same person two references, Robert and Robert Junior, and are inclined to think this one person is 6f Robert who was at that time and place "junior" to his "senior" Uncle Robert 5a.

Bell lists the children of 6f Robert, son of 5b Sion Senior, and Robert's wife Tabitha, as these, named in Robert's will dated 18 Jun 1762, proved in Halifax Co NC April 1766, at Will Book I (or 1) Page 159 -

6f Wife Tabitha (Dts says Tabitha (Greene) Browne, born 1690 Halifax NC, married c1711 Edgecombe NC. Perhaps this might account for their move from VA to Edgecombe / Halifax. (At the time of Tabitha's birth, there was no Halifax Co NC. At the time of her marriage there was no Edgecombe NC. Edgecombe was created from Bertie 1741, Halifax was created from Edgecombe1758. Here, again, we may be dealing with "Precincts" which later became counties.)

7e William, born prior to 1714 (See Dts for 4 wives, Chatham NC, Greene GA, died Jasper GA) This is the second William found in the Hills of Meherrin, nephew of 6f Robert's brother 6k William.

7f-c Green born 1714. Bell says married 1739 Grace Bennett. Dts says the Green Hill (Jr) 7-f-c, son of 6f Robert, married Letitia Chapman.

7g Sion	married Sarah	
7h Abner	(JH says married Sarah, resided Chatham Co NC)	
7i Thomas	born 1725, married Sarah	(Dts: Sarah Etheridge)
7j Tabitha	married Chapman	(Dts: David Chapman)
7k Agnes	married Arrington	(Dts: Charles Arrington)
7L Lewrainey	married Arrington	(Dts: William Arrington)
7m Ann	married Steed	(Dts: John Steed)
7n Mary	married Bryant	(Dts: William Bryant)
7o Milibry Hill	unmarried 1762	(Dts: Matthew Gibbs)

See Dts, following Bell, for Dts' data on this 7e William Hill, who married (1) Lewis, (2) Clanton in Chatham NC, (3) Unknown, (4) (White) Jones in Greene GA, and died 1809 Jasper Co GA. Per Dts, this is not our William. Dts supplements these and others of the Hills in this family.

Note 7h, Abner, son of Robert and Tabitha. Craft lists Abner as 7d, tentatively and not proved, as son of Sion Junior. Evidence is that Abner was son of 6f Robert and Tabitha.

Bell believes (erroneously, we think) that 6f Robert and Tabitha "moved" from Isle of Wight VA in 1725 to Northampton NC, evidenced by the land records above and following. She therefore believes that the children born to Robert and Tabitha before 1725 were born in Isle of Wight VA, and those after 1725 were born in Northampton or Halifax NC. Maybe, at least possibly, but it may

also be that all of the children were born in Virginia, in the part of Isle of Wight which after the survey became Bertie / Northampton NC.

Bell's earliest record of Robert and Tabitha in "Halifax NC" is his 1738 grant. Robert and Tabitha also seem to be the first of these Hills to leave the Meherrin vicinity and take findable residence elsewhere. Our analysis is that it was a short move, some twenty-five miles or so, and probably to the homeland of Tabitha. Bell does not give the birth years of the younger children, leaving unclear where they might have been born. Our guess is that the children born before 1738 were born in Virginia, or by the quirk of the moved colony line, in the portion of Bertie NC that in 1741 becme Northampton NC. Virgi-linians? Car-o-ginians?

Bell uses similar logic of the evidence of "records", that 7c-f Green Hill was born in Isle of Wight 1714, and therefore that his brother 7e William was also born prior to 1714 in Isle of Wight. Maybe, at least possibly. But if Craft be right that 7c-f Green was a son of 6g Sion Junior, who lived in Surry VA and died in Edgecombe NC, what might this do to Bell's assumption? We decline to assume a place of Green's birthplace or his parents. We do point out that Bell appears to have as Green's brother William the 7e William who Craft and Dts have as the William who died 1809 in Georgia, entirely different from William of Town Fork. We say again, we believe that the contributors here and others before and since have commingled some of the William Hills and some of the Green Hills. We find it far easier to mingle than to unmingle.

Craft struggles with her 7c Green Hill who married Grace Bennett, Bell's 7f, as the son of Sion Jr., or of his brother Richard, or of Robert and Tabitha. Bell has Robert and Tabitha. Craft settles on Sion Junior and reconstructs Thomas Bain's affidavit accordingly, and this would further cloud the uncertainty of the parents or place of birth of 7-c-f Green Hill(s).

Bell cites several land records which give us an indication of 6f Robert's places of residence, Isle of Wight VA 1724, and Northampton NC (or adjacent Southampton - Brunswick - Greensville VA), also 1724. In both localities, Bell has Robert on Fountain's Creek, which means close proximity to the Meherrin, which suggests present Greensville VA - Northampton NC.

Per Bell, 6f Robert and Tabitha "moved" from Isle of Wight VA to NC in 1725. We think that (1) he might either have remained in Isle of Wight, or (2) been cast into NC by the 1728 survey and the cession of Isle of Wight ground to Bertie / Northampton NC, or (3) that their move was some few years later.

Bell's land records of 6f Robert and Tabitha, and repeating the above -

1 1724 Robert Hill granted 145 acres, Isle of Wight. (We think on Fountains Creek, now in present Greensville VA or Northampton NC)
2 1724 January, Robert Hill deeded (the same?)145 acres, Isle of Wight, south side of Fountain's Creek, to Arthur Jordan, where Robert and Tabitha

were then living. Witnesses - Thomas Halleman, Sr and Jr. We think at the time, possibly what became "Southampton Precinct" of Isle of Wight, later Brunswick VA / Northampton NC.

3 1725 Robert Hill granted 160 acres, Northampton Co NC, south side of Fountain's Creek. (Remarkably like Fountain's Creek in Isle of Wight. We think the same - Fountains Creek, in old Isle of Wight-Brunswick-Greensville, with territory on its south side in Bertie-Northampton NC, and possibly in what became Southampton Precinct")

4 1725 Robert Hill "Junior" granted 233 acres, north side of Fountain's Creek, at Robert Hill's line. (Bell believes "Junior" was 6f Robert, designated "Junior" because of his elder uncle 5a Robert living nearby.)

5 1737 Robert Hill deeded 80 acres of the above 1725 grant to Thomas DeLoach, who deeded the same to Thomas Tarver. (We find again the name DeLoach and remember that 6k William owned land with William DeLoach and married Ann DeLoach, and named a son William DeLoach Hill.)

Here, the evidence would indicate - but not prove - that 6f Robert sold 80 acres of his 233 acres in Northampton (Fountains Creek near the Meherrin) and moved directly about 1738 to the Blue Marsh in Edgecombe, later Halifax, where he died about 1762 - 1766.

6 1738 6f Robert Hill granted 200 acres, south side of Blue Marsh, Edgecombe Co NC. (Perhaps Edgecombe "precinct" of Bertie? Edgecombe did not become a county until 1741. Edgecombe then included later Bute, Hali-Fax and Nash counties NC.)

7 1740 Robert Hill deeded 75 acres of the Blue Marsh land to William Hickman, Witnesses - Abner Green and Thomas Hill.

8 1738 - 200 acres)
1742 - 300 acres)
1745 - 200 acres)
Robert Hill owned these lands in Edgecombe Co NC, part of which became Halifax in1758, then Nash in 1777.

9 1742 See Sion and Thomas Hill for 6f Robert's 1742 grant, Peach Tree Creek, Edgecombe.

In 1734, one Robert Hill paid "ferryage", evidently to NC since the record comes from "Clark's Records of NC". This was probably a tax paid by owners of ferries, and we are reminded of the Folkstone and Crawford ferries on the Meherrin at Fountains Creek, and Hill's Ferry on the Meherrin at the present site of Murfreesboro, NC. In 1734, the Folkstone Ferry, if it existed at that time, was still in VA. Crawford's Ferry, if it existed at that time, probably crossed the Meherrin between NC and VA, and hence would owe ferryage to NC.

We have no proof of the movements of the two Roberts, 5a and 6f, during the interval between the 1724 date that 6f Robert and Tabitha sold their residence plantation on Fountains Creek, and the 1738 date of 6f Robert's grant on Blue Marsh in Edgecombe. It could be that 6f Robert and Tabitha sold their home on Fountains Creek 1724, removed to Hill's Ferry lower down on the Meherrin, and lived around present Murfreesboro until taking up residence at Blue Marsh

in Edgecombe. It could as easily be that none of these Hills had anything to do with the Folkstone Ferry or Crawford Ferry or Hill's Ferry or any other ferry.

In his 1762 will, Halifax NC, 6f Robert bequeathed to son 7g Sion "the plantation and land whereon we now live on the south side of Blue Marsh". To daughter Mary Bryant, "a piece of land lying on both sides of Red Bud Creek below the mouth of Reedy Branch". To daughter Milibry, "my plantation and land lying on both sides of Red Bud Creek and all the land lying above the mouth of Crab Tree and the mouth of the Reedy Branch". Robert bequeathed his moneys in "pounds and shillings Virginia currency".

Regrettably, "Blue Marsh" "where we now live" is not found in the maps at hand, nor is Crab Tree branch. But Robert's will in Halifax, and a mention of his grant on Peech Tree Creek, argue that at the time of his death in 1762, Robert and family were residing on the south side of Blue Marsh, near Red Bud Creek and Peachtree Creek, in the part of Halifax which in 1777, fifteen years after Robert's death, became Nash County NC.

The Red Bud begins in present Franklin NC, formed from Bute, earlier part of Edgecombe, and briefly Granville, and flows east to present Nash County, earlier part of Edgecombe. Sandy Creek, later mentioned, begins in present Vance, earlier Franklin, crosses Franklin, then to Nash. A headwaters tributary of the Sandy is Buffalo Creek, and the "buffalow bottom" is later mentioned. Fishing Creek and Shocco head in Warren. and Shocco was the dividing line in old Bute County which separated Warren and Franklin. Shocco then flows to Halifax. So we have a present-day clue to the whereabouts of Robert and his family in their later years.

Except for the early lands joining 6k William on Fountains Creek at the colony line, all of 6f Robert's lands appear to have been in Bertie until Bertie was divided to form Edgecombe, then in Edgecombe until this was divided to form Halifax, Bute, and Nash. Bute became Franklin and Warren. So, seemingly on the move and with lands in seven NC counties, in reality Robert probably remained in his locality while the county lines changed around him.

6f Robert made his will 18 Jun 1762, probated April 1766, in the style common to those times, "In the name of God Amen. I Robert Hill of Halifax County in his Magestys Providence (Province) of North Carolina . ." Words of a man of religious persuasion, and a loyal subject of his king. Robert was born the Virginia grandson of English grandparents, and he lived and died a subject of His Majesty the King of England. In 1775, the American Colonies, including his native Virginia and his adopted North Carolina, entered into the War For Independence, and his kin, our William too, took up arms against the English Crown. In his lifetime, his environs went from Indian to English, in his children's lifetime, from Indian to English to American. And the Meherrin flowed then as it flows now, unhindered by changing lines drawn on paper and invisible lines drawn across his swamps and marshes and fields.

Briefly, Robert's will - I 'lend' to my beloved wife Tabitha the use of Negroes and farm animals. To sons 7e William and 7f Green, Negroes. To son 7g Sion the plantation "whereon we now live" on the south side of Blue Marsh. To son 7h Abner, Negroes. To son 7i Thomas, 50 pounds Virginia currency. To daughter 7j Tabitha Chapman, a Negro. To daughter 7k Agnes Arrington, a Negro. To daughter 7L Lewraina Arrington, 2 pounds 10 VA currency. To daughter 7m Ann Steed, a Negro. To daughter 7n Mary Bryant, Negroes and a piece of land on both sides of Red Bud Creek below the mouth of Crab Tree and below the mouth of Reedy Branch. To daughter 7o Milibry Hill a plantation on both sides of Red Bud Creek at Reedy and Crab Tree. To grandson John Chapman half of the cattle on Red Bud.

Executors, sons Abner, Sion, and Green.
Witnesses, Jesse Lee, Thomas Thrower, Wilson Williams.

('Lend' - for Tabitha during her lifetime, then to pass to the children.)

We note that Dts has 6f Robert's wife as Tabitha (Green) Browne, and that son 7g Sion married a Browne. Abner Green witnessed Robert's 1740 deed of part of his Blue Marsh plantation. Robert and Tabitha named a son 7f Green Hill and a son Abner Hill 7h. We take this as indication of a family tie between Hill-Green-Browne, and that this might help with the elusive 7-c-f Green Hill who married Grace Bennett of nearby Bute County.

Bell, Craft, and Dts differ in their accounts of 6h Richard Hill, son of 5b Sion Senior and Elizabeth. Craft has him born 1684, married Hannah Briggs, died 1722-23, place not given. Dts has him born 1684, Surry VA, married 1713 Hannah Briggs, died August 1775 Sussex VA. We think there may be two Richards, here intermingled.

Bell has 6h Richard born c1686 Surry VA, and has no knowledge of his wife and children. He witnessed a deed 1721 from his brother 6f Robert and wife Tabitha to Henry Brown in VA. Received a 1728 grant of 200 acres, place not given, the same sold 1735 by Green Hill to William Evans. This 1728 grant is after the 1722-23 date given by Craft for Richard's death. We have Dts' account of 6h Richard and wife Hannah Briggs and children as follows -

7 Hill, Green (questioned by Dts) wife and children unknown
7 Hill, Mary married Malone, children unknown
7 Hill, John born 1718, married Mildred Gilliam
8th Mary b 1743 + Sturcavant
8th Sally b 1744 + Green
8th Nancy b1746 + Williams
8th Burrell b1748
8th Elizabeth b 1750 + Spane
8th John b 1752
8th Tabitha b 1754 + Webb
8th Susannah b 1756 + Horn, Richard
8th Lucy b 1763 + Newman, Joel
8th Rebecca b 1775 + Horn, Shadrach

We do not find our William among the sons and daughter, or the grandchildren of 6h Richard and Hannah.

Bell: 6g Sion Hill Junior, son of 5b Sion Senior, born c1687, married - (crossed through in the copy at hand) - Elizabeth Browne, daughter of Captain William Browne and his wife Jane Meriwether, and granddaughter of Lt Col William Browne. Written by hand next to the crossed out Brownes: "Marriott". Ours is a copy of Bell's publication, and may have passed through several hands before coming into ours. We do not attest to the authenticity of the handwritten notes.

Per Bell, Sion Junior and wife Browne had one son,

7a William, born c1710 in VA, married in VA 1736 Susanna Smithers.

This brings us back to the dilemma whether it was 6g Sion Junior's son William who married Susanna Smithers, said, and denied, to be the William of Town Fork in Surry (Stokes) NC, and for the solution we defer to searchers of that family. Bell and Craft have 6g Sion Junior as the father of William of Town Fork; Jcb and RH argue that William of Town Fork was the son of William of Middlesex. Craft and Bell citing some of the same sources, we suggest whatever sources were used in *Roach, Roberts, Ridgeway and Allied Families*, by Marielou Roach Fair.

We leave, willingly, William of Town Fork, and proceed, eagerly, to 6k William, son of 5b Sion Senior. Bell repeats, in part, Craft, and both may be repeating Fair. We repeat, to preserve the integrity of Bell's work, and for comparison with Craft.

Bell: 6k William Hill "the fourth son" (Dts lists him sixth) of 5b Sion Hill Senior, was born c1690. On 28 Feb 1733, he was granted 100 acres in Northhampton NC joining his brother 6f Robert Hill. This land was on the south side of the Meherrin River, and on the north side of Fountains Creek. William sold this 100 acres in 1745 to Thomas Person of Brunswick VA. We saw substantially the same in Craft and assume the same source. We are a bit skeptical about land being on the north side of Fountains and in Northampton but we do not have the record.

Bell: 6k William's second transaction, again as in Craft, was the 100 acres patented in 1718 by Nicholas Smith, conveyed (?) by Smith to William DeLoach and William Hill, repatented 1736 in Northampton NC by DeLoach and William Hill, DeLoach's interest sold to William Hill 1742. William was, in 1736, living in Bertie NC, on the north side of Cypress Swamp, on land "taken into the Colony (of NC) by the county line." Again, a same source. We repeat our belief that the locale of the 1733 grant to 6k William was on Fountains Creek at the Meherrin River, thus placing it in the portion of old Isle of Wight which became Brunswick - Greensville VA or Bertie - Northampton NC.

We repeat our belief that the 1718 grant to Nicholas Smith, and repatented by DeLoach and 6k William Hill, was between Cypress Swamp in Northampton NC and Fountains Creek in old Isle of Wight, and through its successions now in present Greensville VA or Northampton NC, and repeat our presumption that both grants were where Fountains and Cypress creeks enter the Meherrin River at the southwest corner of Southampton VA.

We repeat the observation that one Nicholas Smith was the first owner, in 1718. 4b Nicholas Smith is said to have been the father of Elizabeth Smith, widow Splitimber, who married 5b Sion Hill Senior, father of this 6k William Hill. This would suggest 4b Nicholas Smith as the grandfather of 6k William Hill.

Bell devotes some pages to the daughters of 6f Robert and Tabitha. Agnes 7k married 1747 Charles Arrington / Harrington and resided in Chatham Co NC. Agnes and sons Thomas and Philemon Harrington deeded land in Chatham joining the land where the courthouse then stood. In 1780, Agnes deeded to son Philemon land joining William Hill and William Bryant, evidently her brother 7e William and sister 7n Mary who married a Bryant, and indicating that these three of Robert and Tabitha's children moved from Halifax to Chatham.

In 1803, a William Hill of Halifax provided in his will for his aunt Lurancy (Lewraina) Arrington, Robert and Tabitha's daughter. Lurancy received property for her support and the support of William's three children, who Bell does not name. After Aunt Lurancy's death, William's three children were to receive the property left to Lurancy, suggesting perhaps that William was then a widower who placed his three children in Aunt Lurancy's keeping.

Bell believes this was 7a William, son of Sion Junior, but admits that she is not certain. But Craft has William, son of Sion Junior, as married to Susannah Smither, making him who we know as 7a William of Town Fork, and William of Town Fork died in Surry (Stokes) NC c1787 leaving a will which did not mention an Aunt Lurancy. This further adds to the controversy, of which William of Town fork - of whomever parents - is the prime ingredient. Our speculation, and JH's data on his William in Chatham Co NC, indicate that the William in Chatham Co, he of the four wives, was 7e William, the son of 6f Robert and Tabitha.

Bell, citing Boddie: 7k Agnes, daughter of 6f Robert and Tabitha, was born c1730, died Chatham NC c1797, married 1747 Fayette District NC Charles Harrington. 8th generation children -

8th	John		m Frances Bust
	Charles	b c1748	m Patience Braysdale
	Drury	b 1751	m Rachel Petty
	Mary	b before 1756	m Abner Landrum
	Philemon	b c1757	m Frances Harmon

	Thomas	b 1760	m Higdon
	Tabitha		m Robert Johnson
	Whitmel		m Sarah Rowe

Bell: Some of these above are in records of Hickman Co TN.

Philemon Arrington / Harrington, above, born 1757, died 1803 (Chatham NC will), married Fannie Harmon who died after 1822. Children, 9th generation -

9th	William	b c1782, age 67 in 1850 Hickman TN census	
	Nancy	b c1784	m William Maddox
	Larany	b c1786	m James McCaleb Jr
	Drury	b 1788	m Mary Maddox
	Dempsey	b c1790	
	Polly/Mary	b c1798	m Enos Coleman. Mary d c1840 Hickman TN

7j Tabitha married a Chapman (handwritten margin David).
8th generation son John Chapman mentioned in her father 6f Robert Hill's will.

7o Milibry was apparently not married (handwritten margin: Matthew Gibbs).

We do not vouch for the handwritten margin notes as those of Bell.

Bell believes that these named daughters were living near father 6f Robert in Halifax NC at the time of his death in 1762.

Bell combines three sons of 6f Robert in one paragraph, little being known of these. Dts and JH, following, add to these.

7e William, eldest son of 6f Robert and Tabitha, "born ante 1714". In 1789, he deeded land in Chatham NC to William Clanton Hill of Halifax NC. In 1790, William of Chatham conveyed land in Franklin NC to his son Richard. In 1793, William conveyed land in Chatham to John Bull, witnessed by Henry Hill and Gravis George.

Constructing from Dts and JH, we think Richard and William Clanton Hill were 8th generation sons of 7e William, and that Henry was 9th generation son of William Clanton Hill.

Bell: Other deeds of later dates in Chatham show a William C. Hill, whose 1803 will was in Halifax, as above, naming 7L Aunt Lurancy. This would appear to be William Clanton Hill, son of 7e William who Dts has as marrying Elizabeth Clanton in Chatham 1752, the year of William Clanton Hill's birth. There is some uncertainty, for 7e William *seems* to have journeyed from Halifax to Chatham to Georgia, where he died 1809, and William Clanton seems to have been born in Chatham and to have died in Halifax.

Bell has little on 6f Robert and Tabitha's son 7g Sion, except for his 1780 will in Wake Co NC, naming wife Sarah and children, who Bell does not list. Bell has nothing on 7h Abner. JH has Abner married Sarah, resided in Chatham.

Bell: 7f Green Hill, second son of 6f Robert and Tabitha, born 1714 Isle of Wight Va , died before 1769. Married 1739 Grace Bennett, born 26 Apr 1721, died 1772. Green and Grace lived in NC. Bell thus disagrees with Craft, who has 7c Green, who married Grace Bennett, as the son of 6g Sion Junior. We plead uncertainty, and assign the Green Hill who married Grace Bennett the double number 7-c-f.

1743 Green Hill granted 100 acres Bertie Co NC
1758 Green Hill, vestryman St George Parish, Northampton Co NC
1762 Green Hill of Edgecombe NC deeded to Sion Hill of Halifax.

7-f-c Green Hill's will 1766, proved Northampton NC 1769 (age 55), named wife Grace and seven 8th generation children -

8th Henry
Bennett
Green (II)
Mary
Sarah
Elizabeth

The 1766 date of Green's will, the dates of his marriage and death, indicate that his children were born 1739 to 1769. Accordingly, we do not look for our William among the progeny of 7-f-c Green and Grace. 7-c-f Green Hill and Grace could easily have been near neighbors to the Hills along the Meherrin, despite the several counties mentioned.

Bell goes into greater detail with her 7i Thomas, youngest son of 6f Robert and Tabitha. Thomas was born c1725, Bell believes in VA before his parents "moved" to NC, died 1789 "probably in Halifax" NC. He was a soldier and patriot, and "the Lord's Proprietor" for the Earle of Granville. A closer look is due here for more certainty of his standing with Granville who was, himself, one of His Majesty's Lords Proprietors. More likely, Thomas was an agent for Granville and empowered to execute grants in Granville's name.

Bell: 7i Thomas grew up in Edgecombe and Halifax NC. Edgecombe was formed from Bertie in 1741, and Halifax was formed from Edgecombe 1758. These cornered with VA counties at the eleven-county corner at the Roanoke River. Thomas and wife Sarah lived their lives near father 6f Robert and Thomas' brothers and sisters. Dts has Thomas' wife as Sarah Etheridge. Bell's land records of 7i Thomas -

1 1742 Entered land Edgecombe NC
2 1743 Entered 220 and 500 acres, Edgecombe
3 1752 Entered 640 acres Johnston Co NC, Swift Creek, near the purchase of Capt. James Wooten 1752. (Thomas' son Benjamin married Mary Wooten)
4 1763 Thomas sold 250 acres in Johnston Co to Day Wright

5 Per Deeds of Colonial Bute Co NC, Warren Co records,
a 1764 Joseph Montford to Thomas Hill, both of Halifax, 425 acres on Shocco and Fishing Creek and Maple Branch.
b Heseciah Terrell to Thomas Hill of Halifax, 422 acres on Sandy Creek, Witnesses Thomas Hill Junior, Beaumont Sutton.

In 1787, the NC courts awarded 7i Thomas 222 Pounds for services rendered. This was after the War For Independence, and may have been for military service, or for his aid with the former lands of the Earl of Granville, now confiscated by the new State of North Carolina.

Bell has 7i Thomas living near Scotland Neck in Halifax NC at the time of his death, and the father of nine 8th generation sons and daughters.

Thomas' will, in summary - "I Thomas Hill of Halifax County and State of North Carolina . 27 Nov 1787 . to wife Sarah,1,040 acres with manor plantation east side of Fishing Creek and 470 acres west side of Fishing Creek, the still, and chattels, to be divided after her death among sons Thomas, Benjamin, and Robert, and daughters Elizabeth Jones and Mary Jones. To grandsons James Long and Henry Hill Long, 850 acres plus 100 acres called the Buffalow Bottom. To granddaughter Sally Long, negroes. To these three, several negroes, livestock at daughter Anna Long's. To daughter Fanna MacNeal, negroes. To grandson Willace Alston, 200 acres on Fishing Creek joining Phillip Alston. To grandson Thos. Alston, 425 acres on Great Fishing Creek and Shoko Creek. To granddaughter Salley Mason Alston, negroes. To son Richard, five shillings. To grandson Hill Jones, 700 acres at Peech Tree on both sides of Bear Branch.
Executors wife Sarah, son Robert, and Edward Jones.
Witnesses James Heath, Thos. S. Hall, Jno. Hervey, Robert Jones.

These landmarks help us position Thomas and Sarah. Shocco Creek was the 1779 dividing line in old Bute County which separated the new counties Warren on the north and Franklin on the south. The Shocco begins in Warren, divides Warren from Franklin, picks up Maple Branch just before entering Fishing Creek at the southeast corner of Warren. Fishing Creek is the dividing line between Halifax on the north and Nash and Edgecombe on the south. Peachtree and Little Peachtree Creeks begin in Franklin (near Red Bud Creek earlier mentioned) and join just inside Nash County, west of Nashville NC.

Thomas and Sarah's 1,040-acre manor plantation was on the east side of Fishing Creek, in Halifax County per his will, with 470 acres on the west side of Fishing Creek. Using today's maps, this would indicate that Thomas and Sarah lived on Fishing Creek, the dividing line between present Halifax and Nash counties. Nash was formed from Halifax in 1777, twelve years before Thomas' death. We conclude that Thomas and Sarah lived and died on the east, actually the north side, of Fishing Creek in the southwest corner of Halifax, near the east corner of Warren and Franklin counties, about where Interstate Highway I-95 now crosses the Nash - Halifax county line. We

conclude that Fishing Creek ran through Sarah's plantation of two and a third square miles, the manor house and 1,040 acres in Halifax, 470 acres in Nash.

Sarah 7i, widow of Thomas, made her will 1791 in Halifax. She divided her estate among her three daughters Sally, Fanny, and Nanny, except for one colt left to Christian Lassiter. JH, in discussing the Provincial records of his Abner and Thomas Hill (presumably 7h and 7i) refers to a D.A.R. Roster which lists these and Abner and William Laseter, Sr. JH lists a land deed, William Hill of Edgecombe to William Harries, on Peachtree Creek, with William Larsiter and Abner Hill as witnesses.

Bell finds 7i Thomas and Sarah's son Richard and wife Frances in Johnston Co NC, on the Swift Creek land deeded to him by his father. Richard sold in 1770, and he and brother Thomas were still in Johnston 1782. Thomas Junior married Elizabeth Garner.

Jessie Lynn Bell descends from Benjamin, son of 6i Thomas and Sarah, and his wife Mary Wooten, born 1787 Johnston Co NC, thence -

Great-great-grandparents William Hill and John Hill, brothers
Great - grandparents John Calvin Hill and Samuel Shaw Hill Sr. brothers
Grandparents John Thomas Hill and Sarah Ida Hill Hill
Parents Susie Hill Lynn and Robert Hearsey

We leave Bell, after enjoying her company through the generations. She has not shown us our William, at least not sufficiently that we recognize him, but she has taken us among Hills who knew our William and his parents, whomever these might have been. We are grateful.

FIVE

We turn next to Dts. Dts' is an awesome piece of work, the finest catalog of Hills that we have seen - thirty-six pages of fine print, nearly 1,800 names arranged by generations. Dts has, by request, graciously shared this fine work with us, and it not being in published form in the public domain, we respect privacy and do not furnish an address. We hope to see Dts in print, that others engaged in the quest might benefit from a job of work well and truly done.

Dts has studied some of the same sources found in Craft and Bell, but adds data which we have not found in these. Our conclusion is that Dts has taken a broad and focused look, not only at the Craft and Bell sources, but at sources additional to these. Dts' is a listing of the generations, not intended as a biography. We will, as before, respect the integrity of Dts' work but not repeat everything said by Craft and Bell. We will attempt to identify the "new" data found in Dts. We use our own numbering, just as in Craft and Bell, for tracking the same people through all of these works.

Dts commences at Generation 3a Robert Hill Senior and wife Anne Kinge, 1500's A.D., in Wiveton, Norfolk, England, thence substantially as Craft and Bell to 5b Sion W. Hill Senior and wife Elizabeth Smith. Unless we have missed it, this is the sole mention of the middle initial of Sion W. Hill Senior. "W" for William? ?

Dts: 5b Sion W. Hill Senior was born 1654 Isle of Wight VA, died 1705 Lawnes Creek Parish Surry Co VA, married 1677 Surry VA Elizabeth Smith. Children, with a differing order from Bell -

6f Robert, born 1678 Surry VA, died 1765 Halifax NC, married c1711 Tabitha (Green) Browne, b 1690 Edgecombe NC, died 1765 Halifax NC.

++ This is the only found account of Tabitha's full name. Dts' parentheses are taken to indicate that Tabitha was a widow Browne, whose maiden name was Green. This would certainly add light - or further shadow - to the origins of Green Hill.

7th generation sons and daughters of 6f Robert and Tabitha, listed in Dts' order -

7g Sion Hill "Junior", born 1716 Isle of Wight VA, died 1782 Wake NC. married c1740 Sarah. "Junior" probably denotes status as younger than 5b Sion Senior and his son 6g Sion Junior. (An actual "move".)

7f Green, born c1718 Isle of Wight, married c1738 Letitia Chapman, born c1718. We note that Craft and Bell have this 7f Green, son of 6f Robert as the 7-c-f Green Hill who married Grace Bennett.

7h Abner, born 1719 Isle of Wight, nothing further. JH of Chatham Co NC has Abner married Sarah, and a prominent resident of Chatham - Captain of troops and a presiding Justice.

7j Tabitha, born 1721, married 1765 Halifax NC David Chapman.
7L Lewraina, born 1724, married c1750 William (Harrington) Arrington

++ Here, Dts begins the children "born in Bertie NC". Dts no doubt has sources upon which the Bertie births are based, but we remind that the survey of 1728 probably severed former Isle of Wight land to Bertie NC, and that the change in places of birth does not prove a change in places of residence. The probability is that these after 1728 were indeed born in the portion of Bertie which in 1741 became Northampton, and that these were born near the Meherrin River as probably were the earlier children.

7m Ann, born 1726 Bertie NC, married c1752 John Steed.
7n Mary, born 1728 Bertie NC, married c1748 William Bryant
7k Agnes, born 1730 Bertie NC, died c1797 Chatham NC, married c1747 Edgecombe NC Charles (Harrington) Arrington
7i Thomas, born 1730 Isle of Wight VA (??), died 1789 Halifax NC, married 1747 Sarah Etheridge, Fayetteville Dist NC, born c1730.
++ Craft and Bell did not give the name Etheridge.
7e William Sr born c1731 Bertie NC, died 1809 Jasper Co GA
wife 1 Charity Lewis born c1731
wife 2 Elizabeth Clanton born c1735, married 1752 Chatham NC
wife 3 Unknown born c1764, married c1784
wife 4 Lydia (White) Jones, born c1750, married1799 Greene Co GA
7o Milibry F. born c1735 Bertie NC, married c1755 Matthew Gibbs (J. Hill says John Williamson)

Dts follows these descendants of 6f Robert and Tabitha and their migrations, whereas we shall not, there being no obvious clue to our William. We will "adopt" Dts' 1,800 Hills as our kin, with some reasonable expectation that they are indeed so.

We follow Dts in 6g Sion Hill Junior, son of 5b Sion W. Senior, born 1682 Surry VA, died after 1762 Edgecombe NC. We caution that little is found other than his Surry Va birth to connect Sion Junior to the Meherrin area of his brothers 6f Robert, 6h Richard, and 6k William and their uncle 5a Robert. This does not prove his absence from the Meherrin, and more needs to be known of the period between his birth in Surry VA and his death in Edgecombe NC.

Dts has 6g Sion Junior's Wife 1 as Elizabeth Browne, born c1682, married 1707. As Wife 2 and the mother of Sion Junior's earlier children, Elizabeth Marriott, born c1687 Surry VA, died c1710 VA, married June 1707 Surry NC. (? We suspect Surry VA). As Wife 3, and mother of Sion Junior's later children, married after 1710 Wife Green, born c1690, died c1739, age about 49.

In Craft and Bell, we found confusion among their sources over two wives of Sion Junior, and which wife was the mother of which children. Here, Dts has three wives and the children of each.

Children of 6g Sion Junior and Wife 1 Browne -
None listed by Dts.

Children of Sion Junior and Wife 2 Marriott -

7a William Senior, born 1710 Isle of Wight VA, died Feb 1787 Surry, now Stokes, NC. Married 1736 Wife 1 and mother of William's children,
Susanah Smither, King George Co VA (Caroline Co VA) born c1710 died before 1777.
7a William's Wife 2, married after 1763, Elizabeth Williams.

Dts thus agrees with Craft and Bell that 7a William of Town Fork was the son of 6g Sion Junior, and disagrees with Jcb and RH. But Dts and Craft and Bell cite many of the same sources and presumably got their information from Fair or from Fair's sources, whereas Jcb and RH rely on other sources.

Children of Sion Junior and Wife 3 Green -

7b Mary, born 1712, married Edward Jones Jr, c1700 - c1724
Mary and Jones were parents of son Col. Sugar Jones and daughter Frances Elizabeth Jones who married Joel Halbert Sr., parents of Hanniniah Elizabeth Halbert who married William Hill Junior, son of Mary Hill Jones' half-brother William 7a of Town Fork.

The above 7a is William of Town Fork, who from the 1770's to the 1780's was a very near neighbor of Halberts on and near Town Fork in the part of Surry NC which became Stokes NC. Dts here interlinks the families Hill, Smither, Jones, Green, and Halbert, and points to 6g Sion Junior's third wife Green as the possible beginning of the generations of Green Hill(s).

7-c-f Green Hill Senior, son of Sion Junior's 3d Wife Green, born 21 Nov 1714 Bute Co NC, presently Franklin Co, died 1769 Northampton Co NC, married 1738-39 Bute NC Grace Bennett, born 26 Apr 1721 Bute, died 1772 Bute.

Dts disagrees with Craft and Bell's 7f Green as son of 6f Robert and Tabitha.

7d Abner Hill, born c1718 Surry VA, married c1740 Sarah, born c1720.
Craft and Bell do not follow Abner.

This 7d Abner, son of 6g Sion Junior, is separate from 7h Abner, son of 6f Robert and Tabitha.

The above showing 7-c-f Green's birth in Bute and death in Northampton suggests that perhaps his father 6g Sion Junior removed from the Meherrin and spent at least some time in Bute, and that Green returned to the land of his elders and kin by the Meherrin where he died.

Dts reports descent as from Green Hill Senior and wife Grace Bennett, by whatever number we assign and whomever his parents were, and we would

surmise careful and obvious attention to Green Hill and the several Green Hills who followed. But if Dts began the catalog with self first, as is the logical place to start, and then moved up the generations to William of Town Fork and thence to Sion Junior, Dts no doubt encountered the disputed links endemic to these generations. We will only say that Dts and Bell and Craft agree, and that Jcb and RH disagree. JH is silent.

The problem which this makes for us is this. If 6g Sion Junior did in fact have a son William, and if this was not in fact William of Town Fork, then who and where and when was this William? Is there an extra William? Does he belong to us?

From those above in Dts, we might look to the 7-c-f Green Senior, or the 7d Abner. For 7-c-f Green,the age is right, the geography is right, Bertie-Bute-Franklin-Northampton.

We do not know from the record where 7d Abner and Sarah were when they married about 1740, about when our William was born. Dts gives only the names and dates for Abner and Sarah, no mention of places other than his birthplace Surry VA. No mention of children. One compelling question is - Were Abner and Sarah by the Meherrin in Southampton VA when our William was born? Our William named a daughter Sarah. But he married Sarah. Was the daughter named for William's mother, or for his wife?

We look to Dts for a likely William in the descendants of 7-c-f Green Senior and Grace. Married 1738-39 is about right, Bute County is not far from Southampton VA. Green and Grace's children -

	Henry, born Feb 1739-40	
	Green, born Nov 1741	
	Hannah, born Aug 1745, Bute	
+	Benett, born Dec 1747, Bute.	
+	William, born Feb 1749/50.	All born later than our William
	Mary, born May 1754 Bute	
	Sarah, born Apr 1756 Bute	
	Temperance, born 1761 Bute	
	Elizabeth, born Jul 1763 Bute	

\+ See later Bennett and William and the Will of Green Hill's lands.

We turn to Dts' account of 6h Richard, son of 5b Sion W. Hill Senior. Richard 6h was born 1684 Surry VA, died Aug 1775 Sussex VA, married 1713 Hannah Briggs, children below. This after-1775 date of 6h Richard's death differs from the 1722-23 date earlier found, and might indicate two Richards.

Sussex was erected in 1753 from the westerly end of Surry, per Dts the home county of 6h Richard and his brothers and their father Sion Senior. Sussex may have been formed from the lower Parish of Surry, for we recall that for

importing persons into VA, Sion Senior was granted land in "Upper Parish" of Surry. Sussex now joins Southampton, and corners with former Brunswick and present Greensville on the Meherrin River. We thus believe that this 6h Richard was very near to the Southampton birthplace of our William, and we think it more than coincidence that years later our William and a Richard Hill were neighbors in Surry NC. We think it likely that our William and his Carolina neighbor Richard both came from these families by the Meherrin in VA.

Children of 6h Richard and Hannah Briggs

7 Green ? born 1714 (Dts' question, must have some doubt)
7 Mary born c1716, married c1725 Surry VA William Malone
7 John born 1718 Surry VA, died Jan 1765, married 1742 Mildred Gilliam
7 Richard, Captain, born 1720 Surry VA, died Jul 1795 Sussex VA, married 1742 Margery Gilliam, born c1726, died c1785.

The 8th generation children of John Hill and Mildred Gilliam -

Mary born c1743, married Sturcavant
Sally born c1744, married Green
Nancy born c1746, married Williams
Burrell born c1748
Elizabeth born c1750, married Spane
John born c1752
Tabitha born c1754, married Webb
Susannah born c1756, married Richard Horn
Lucy born c1763 died c1823 Person Co NC, m Joel Newman
Rebecca born c1775, married Sep 1795 Sussex VA Shadrach Horn

All born later than our William

The 8th generation children of Richard Hill and Margery Gilliam -

Sarah (Sallie) 1743-1813 m 1st William Ruffin, 2d James Smith
William Gilliam Hill born1746 - died 1764,
William Gilliam Hill, second, was born 1765, year following
Hannah born 1748 m Ephraim Parham
Green born 1752 Sussex, m Mary Booth
\+ Richard born 1754, died unknown
\+ Thomas born 1757, died unknown

\+ early censuses of Surry NC show a Richard and a Thomas of this age group (over 45) as near neighbors of our William of Tararat. They were all on the Tararat and its waters.

Mary 1760 - 1761
Henry 1762 - 1763
Howell 1762 - 1763
Rebecca born c1768, married 1788 Nicholas Long.

If these four seventh generation above are all of 6h Richard's children, and if the Eighth above are all of 6h Richard's grandchildren, and we have no controverting evidence, then we do not find our William in this family.

But Richard 6h, born in 1684, married Hannah in 1713 when he was age 29. Dts does not list an earlier wife, or any children born to Richard before his marriage to Hannah. But 29 is fairly late in life for a first marriage, and this raises a possibility that Richard might have been married before he married Hannah, and that there might have been children of an earlier marriage. The children listed by Dts were born during the first seven years of 6h Richard and Hannah's marriage, period 1714 to 1720, and we have to at least think about whether our William might fit as 6h Richard's grandson from an earlier marriage, or as a later-born son of 6h Richard and Hannah.

Could not Richard have had children born, say 21 years after he was born in 1684? A hypothetical chronology, with no sustaining evidence -

Richard born 1684, marry a first wife at age 21 1705
Children born 20-year period 1705 to 1725
Grandchildren born 1725 to 1745 = the period of our William's birth.

Were there half-brothers and half-sisters to the children of 6h Richard and Hannah? Dts lists none, and we know of none. Not having an answer is a good enough reason for asking.

So we do not find our William named in the family of 6h Richard and Hannah, or the families of children (? Green), Mary, John, or Richard.

It may be nothing more than coincidence that John married Mildred Gilliam, Richard married Margery Gilliam and named two sons William Gilliam Hill, and that a William Gilliam administered The Pilot Mountain and its lands along the Tararat River in Surry NC, joining the plantation of our William of Tararat and in sight of the Richard and Thomas Hill who lived on the Tararat near our William. We write nothing more than coincidence into it, and recommend reading nothing more than coincidence out of it.

6i Thomas Hill, Captain, son of 5b Sion Senior, was born 1686 Surry VA, died 1737 Surry VA, married c1710 Priscilla Grey, born 1692, died 1761, and their one son

7 Charles, born 1726 Surry VA, married c1746 Sarah Bell.

Dts does not list any other children for Thomas and Priscilla, and we cannot but wonder whether the list is complete. Thomas died a relatively young man, and son Charles was born 16 years after his marriage to Priscilla. Could there have been more children, one of them a William?

6j Michael, son of 5b Sion Senior, was born 1688 Surry VA, died 1755, married c1710 Elizabeth R. Mitchell, born c1690.

7 Son Michael born Feb 1720-21, married c1740 Susannah Cook, born c1722. Two daughters,
8th Elizabeth and 8th Ann

Is the list complete? We know nothing more of 6j Michael and son Michael.

In Dts we come next, and from Craft and Bell return to, 6k William, for in Craft and Bell we find him in the right place at the right time for our William of Tararat, born on the Meherrin River before 1740.

We believe that close attention is due to 6k William. The evidence available to us from Craft and Bell and Dts, and there being nothing further in hand, we would with reservation eliminate - no, we would subordinate - brothers 6f Robert and 6h Richard, for their families seem to be well reported and we do not find our William there. 6k William may, or may not, be equally well reported in the sources relied upon by these six contributors. We have in Craft and Bell no mention whatever of 6k William's wife and family, and in Dts we have only the name of his wife and three children, with no grandchildren mentioned. We think there might be more to this famly, and our interest is honed, perhaps to a too-keen edge. But of all the likely candidates, and based upon the little we know, this 6k William is a contender for our one vote.

Dts: 6k William, son of 5b Sion Senior and Elizabeth, was born 1690 Surry VA, died after 1745 Northampton Co NC. Married about 1710 Ann DeLoach, born c1690. Three children -

7th Celia, born c1712, married c1732 Phillips, born c1710
7th Ann, born c1715 - nothing further
7th William DeLoach Hill, born c1718 - nothing further.

Even with this little, Dts has more detail than do Craft and Bell, and therefore we believe there has to be a source for Dts' material. Only Dts has the wife of 6k William as Ann DeLoach, only Dts has the three children. This 6k William is adjunct to all of the contributors here studied, and we would therefore not expect to find full exploration of his life and times. But we are encouraged that Dts found him, found his wife, found his children. Perhaps so, too, can we.

Again, is the list complete? We know of no other name than William for ours, and we think this William DeLoach Hill and his sisters were the right age to have been the generation immediately preceding our William. Dts does not carry this line farther, and we have few clues.

In 1759, Northampton Deed of Gift 3-49(31), Francis DeLoach deeded 100 acres to "my cousin William Hill", on the south side of Cypress Swamp and Beaverdam, joining the county line, Thomas Williams, Thomas Brantley, and William Phillips.

In 1760, Thomas Williams Jr deeded 50 acres and 100 acres to Thomas Brantley, joining Cypress Swamp, the old county line, and William Hill.

In 1773, Northampton Deed 6-12(19), *William Hill and his wife Sarah* of Northampton deeded 100 acres to William Blunt of Southampton VA. The description is identical to the 1759 gift from William's cousin Francis Deloach.

In 1759, when Francis DeLoach gave the 100 acres to his cousin William Hill, 6k William, husband of Ann DeLoach, was age about 69 years, and would have been an in-law of the family DeLoach. In 1759, William DeLoach Hill, son of 6k William Hill and Ann DeLoach, was age about 41 years, and as son of Ann DeLoach Hill would have been a cousin of the family DeLoach.

In 1759, our William, born 1725 to 1740, was age about 19 to 34 years, and we would think a probable age to have been a recipient of such a gift. We know from our William's family that his wife was Sarah, and this coincidence fits with the 1774 sale of the gifted land by William Hill and his wife Sarah.

The evidence is too thin to support any conclusion that our William came from the family of 6k William Hill and Ann DeLoach, but the cumulative coincidence is deserving of further development.

We will suspend judgment of 6k William, pending JH, following.

SIX

We next look at the work of JH, of Chatham Co NC, also not published and whose privacy will be respected. JH believes (1986) that he is descended from the families here. He begins with 4a Robert and Mary, then 5b Sion Senior, then 6f Robert and Tabitha. We chart JH's generations, as he has charted them, and continuing our numbering system.

4a Robert Hill, from Northumberland, England, to Isle of Wight VA. Born 1620, died 1679, married 1642 Mary Webb of County Kent, England, born 1621, died c1684 Surry Co VA. Two sons, as in the foregoing -

5a Robert Junior, born 1660, married 1688 Elizabeth Halleman.

5b Sion (Senior) born 1654 Isle of Wight VA, died 1705, married 1677 Elizabeth Smith Splitimber. Five sons, same as Dts except omitting Dts' 6k William and wife Ann DeLoach.

6f Robert, born 1682 Surry VA, died 1765, married 1713 in Isle of Wight VA, Tabitha, born 1684, died 1762 Halifax NC. Eleven children, as heretofore.

7 William, b 1712, d 1793. Differs from Dts - William died 1809.
8th Lewis Hill, died c1795, married Rebecca Watkins, Nash Co NC
(Dts has this William's first wife as Charity Lewis).
8th Sion Hill, died c1795, married Drewsilla, Nash Co NC
8th Richard Hill, married Lydia Watkins of Nash and Franklin NC
8th William Clanton Hill, born c1752, died 1803, married
Sarah Branch, Halifax-Edgecombe-Nash NC.
(Dts has the father William's second wife as Elizabeth Clanton, married 1752, about when William Clanton Hill was born)

9th generation children of William Clanton Hill
James
Martha
Henry, born c1776, married Agnes Fike born 1773, of
Halifax and Chatham NC
10th Generation children of Henry and Agnes, and
following to JH.

JH lists a Chatham County family from the 1850 census, with a request for help.

Isaac Hill, born 1809, wife Nancy, born 1806, and family -

James R.	1836	(Civil War)
John J.	1841	(Died in Civil War)
Cella H.	1843	
Mary A.	1846	
Amanda E.	1847	
William H.	Infant in 1850.	

We find one Isaac, son of John, in the family of William of Middlesex, per Jcb and RH.

JH continues his Hills, as we will not, for we do not find a clue to our William. RH has some of JH's Hills in his database. We will borrow from JH some of his research.

7h Abner Hill born 1720, son of 6f Robert and Tabitha, married Sarah, Chatham Co NC. Abner was thus of an age to be among the possibilities as the father of our William. Abner and a Thomas Hill were appointed by the Provincial Congress as Captains in Revolutionary service. Abner later was a presiding Justice of Chatham County. A Richard Hill appears in the 1772 roster in Captain Cain's Company of militia of Chatham Co. An undated bill of sale of Richard Hill is found in the Chatham records of the 1800's,

This puts 7h Abner just about half-way between the Hills of the Meherrin area and Surry NC, where our William established himself by the Tararat. It is another coicidence, and we say nothing further except that our William is "lost" for the time between his birth in Southampton 1725 to 1740 and his appearance in Surry with wife and two children in 1780. Our William is said by son Richard to have served in the Revolution "from the beginning" and to have enlisted, or re-enlisted in Surry in 1780. Our William is reported by Richard's affiants to have returned to Surry after war's end, but William does not appear again in Surry records until the 1790's. We cannot "place" William during these lapses in the records, and cannot rule out Chatham County as a place of his presence.

JH has several land transactions in the counties earlier mentioned as the site(s) of the Hills, which we will here add to some already mentioned as a composite account - Book and Page where known.

1 28 Feb 1733, 6k William was granted 100 acres in Northampton Co NC, joining his brother 6f Robert Hill, on the south side of the Meherrin River and on the north side of Fountain's Creek. (In 1733 "Northampton" had not been formed, still part of Bertie. "Northampton Precinct"?

2 04 Mar 1718, 100 acres patented by Nicholas Smith (county not stated by JH, Craft or Bell)

3 20 Feb 1736, the same patented by William DeLoach and 6k William Hill 08 Nov 1742, William DeLoach deeded same to William Hill. "William Hill is mentioned as living at this time on land lying in Bertie County on the north side of Cypress Swamp taken into the Colony by the county line."

4 1725 6f Robert Hill granted 160 acres south side of Fountain's Creek Northampton Co NC

5 1737 Robert to Thomas DeLoach 80 acres. DeLoach deeded same to Thomas Tarver.

6 1738 6f Robert granted 200 acres south side of Blue Marsh Edgecombe

7 1740 6f Robert deeds 75 acres of same to William Hickman, witness Thomas Hill

8 1802 William Hill of Hancock Co Georgia, to Enoch Hill of Chatham NC, witness Henry Hill. Dts has William Hill who married Elizabeth Clanton of Chatham NC died Jasper Co GA 1809.

Nash Co, Book and Page

00-145 William of Edgecombe to C Williams part of Wm's 1760 grant 206 acres Swift Creek, granted to William by Earl of Granville 1760.

00-214 William Hill of Edgecombe to W Harris, part of Robert Hill's 200 acre grant Peachtree Cr.1745, William Larsiter and AbneRHl, witnesses

01-12 1778 Wm Hill of Nash to Sion and Lewis Hill, all of his lands in Nash William had already deeded to his sons Lewis and Sion on Red Bud Creek in Nash. Here he sells all of his lands in Nash.

01-101 Thomas Lewis of Halifax to Wm Hill of Edgecombe 100 acres on Swift Creek. Dts: William Hill's first wife was Charity Lewis.

01-124 1779 Wm Hill of Chatham Co to A Bass, witness Lewis Hill.

01-125 1779 Wm Hill of Chatham to T Lewis 160 acres join Sion and Lewis

01-213 1780 Sion & wife Drewsilla Hill to T Lewis, on Swift Creek

01-254 1779 Wm Hill of Chatham to J Walker 200 acres, part of grant' Witnesses Thomas Hill, Lewis Hill

01-264 1782 Wm Hill of Chatham to B Boothe of Edgecombe 340 acres Witness Sion Hill

01-372 1782 Wm Hill of Chatham Co to Lewis Hill of Nash 160 acres, Witnesses Richard and Lydia Hill.

02-173 1779 State to Wm Hill, Nash Co, 640 acres Red Bud Creek

04-64 1789 Lewis Hill and wife Rebecca of Nash, living on Red Bud Creek

929.3N8n.W339ab (Library No. for abstract?) William Hill to Sion and Lewis Hill, Sion to Lewis Hill, Lewis Hill to D Mann

Time may tell us whether JH tells us a lot, or tells us nothing, about our William of Tararat.

CONCLUSION

Thus, from the six works we identify Hills along the Meherrin River. We have sorted, or attempted to sort, the make-up and break-up of the several counties which have the Meherrin in common. We have tracked the Hills through the generations and found those most likely to have been on, at, or near the Meherrin, in the right place at the right time to have been the family of our William Hill.

We see that old Isle of Wight VA extended from the James River to the Roanoke River, and that it thus encompassed the Meherrin River - Southampton site of our William's birth. We see that old Isle of Wight was parent to Southampton County VA. We see that in 1728, the VA-NC line was straightened and moved, and that following the survey, VA ceded a 25-mile-wide strip of former VA to NC. We believe this cession included the part of old Isle of Wight VA which within twelve years became Northampton NC.

The survey and cession were during the time frame given us by our William's daughter Sarah and his son Richard, for our William's birth, 1725 -1740. This fifteen-year period and the old usage of "Precincts" for "Counties" and the 1749 erection of Southampton as a County after our William was born, all impede a factual determination of precisely where William was born, and what Hills were in that precise place.

Not once is "Southampton" mentioned in the six studies of the Hills of Meherrin and our mentions of Southampton arise from our William's son Richard, whose affidavit gave Southampton as William's birthplace. Our conclusion is that William was not - technically - born in Southampton "County", but was more likely born in Southampton "Precinct" of Isle of Wight. This, too, is imprecise and leaves undetermined whether William was -

(a) born in a part of Isle of Wight's "Southampton Precinct" severed to Bertie - Northampton NC by the 1728 survey, or

(b) born in a part of Isle of Wight's "Southampton Precinct" west of the Meherrin and north of the colony line and transferred to Brunswick in 1732, or

(c) born in a part of "Southampton Precinct" which remained with Isle of Wight after the survey and cession, and in 1749 became Southampton "County".

We ponder this What - If for two reasons. (1) We seek to find the precise place of William's birth as a means of identifying the Hills in the right place at the right time. (2) We think it logical to study these known Hills before searching for others.

We think it possible - even probable - that if our William was born between 1725 and 1728 in Southampton Precinct of Isle of Wight, he could very probably have been born to or among the Hills of Fountains Creek - Cypress Swamp - Meherrin River. and if so, he might have remained in Southampton

Precinct of Isle of Wight and been cast to Brunswick when Brunswick received Isle of Wight territory in 1732, or he might have been cast to Bertie-Northampton NC when the colony line was changed in 1728.

If our William was born in Southampton Precinct of Isle of Wight between 1728 and 1740, he likely was born north and east of the Meherrin and north of the colony line, in what became Southampton County in 1749. In such event, William was probably born in Southampton "Precinct" and grew up in Southampton "County".

This latter probability directs our attention to two Northampton NC land records, both dated 1759. (1) In Northampton Deed 3-48(30), Benjamin Clifton deeded to Thomas Davidson170 acres "on the north side of Meherrin River . . joining Benjamin Hill's former corner". (2) In Northampton Deed 3-53(33), John Thorn received a Granville Grant of 421 acres "in No. West Parish, joining the north side of Meherrin River and Henry Hill". These deeds place Benjamin and Henry Hill north of the Meherrin and proximate to Southampton VA, within 15 years following our William's birth. Nothing more that these two records is presently known of this Benjamin and this Henry, and we add these to our list for further exploration.

There being no mention of "Southampton" in these six studies, we cannot say with certainty what Hills were in actual Southampton "Precinct" / "County", before or after the 1728 survey and the cession following. This would help us narrow the prospects, but we are not possessed of this data.

We will mention, for the benefit of later search for our William and his kin, and refer to the maps herewith, that one of the Green Hills, probably 7-c-f Green the senior, evidently owned large tracts of land in the part of Northampton NC identified in the current map as "Urahaw Swamp". From land deeds, we are able to identify two Urahaw locations. In 1773, William Hill of Bute deeded to Jasper Parker, on both sides of Bear Swamp. Bear Swamp joins Urahaw Swamp south of the town of Lasker in Northampton. In 1773, Griffin deeded to Griffin, 200 acres on the south side of Bear Swamp, joining Barnes and Parker, the deed witnessed by Bennett Hill. In 1786, Caswell deeded to Gibson, joining Bear Swamp and "Hill".

The second Urahaw location, southwest of the town of Lasker, is the joining of Quarter Swamp and Urahaw Swamp. In 1777, William Hill of Bute deeded 230 acres to Thomas Knox, Northampton 6-196(221), devised by the will of Green Hill and including 130 acres deeded by John Bryan to Green Hill and 100 acres deeded by John Taylor to Green Hill. The land joined Urahaw Swamp and Hunting Quarter Swamp, Thomas Bryan deceased, Samuel Peet, BD Washington, and Bass. The deed was witnessed by Bennett Hill.

Also in 1777, William Hill of Bute deeded to Atherton, Northampton 6-123(156) 150 acres joining Pollock and Gum Pond, and 12 acres joining Pollock and Bennett, witnessed by Bennett Hill.

In 1777, Bennett Hill deeded to Atherton, Northampton Deed 6-134(164), 500 acres, all of the land bequeathed to Bennett Hill by William Bennett, except 10 acres sold to Benjamin Bryant and "the graveyard". There might still be a "graveyard" around the Quarter Swamp - Urahaw Swamp location, of interest to the descendants of this Green Hill and this William and Bennett Hill.

In 1777, John Bass deeded to Jethro Bass, Northampton 6-88(125), 200 acres joining "Youahow" Swamp and "Woolpitt" (Wolfpit?), Grady, Bryant, Alce Earp, and "Hill". In 1777, Jethro Bass, Northampton 6-89(126), deeded 120 acres to Alce Earp, joining the road, "Youahow" Swamp, Quarter Swamp, and "Hill".

We associate these, Green, William, and Bennett Hill, as probably father 7-c-f-Green and sons William and Bennett. Near these Urahaw locations, in the current map of Northampton, are Bryantown and Lassiter Crossroads, possibly named for the families Bryan and Lassiter associated with the Hills by marriage as earlier mentioned.

So, in all of this did we find our William? If so, we fail to recognize him. Did we find where to look for him? We think so. We do believe that we have gone among old kin by the Meherrin River, and met people who knew our William, and that is closer than we have earlier come.

Our William not being specifically identified, or inferred, we would put our talents to finding more on the families known and suspected to have resided by the Meherrin River and as near as we can place them to Southampton VA. There may very well be more, but we would begin with these-

(1) 5a Robert Junior and Elizabeth Halleman.
    6a John born 1692, age 33 to 48 in 1725 to 1740, a likely prospect.
(2) 6f Robert and Tabitha.
(3) 6h Richard and Hannah, or earlier wife.
(4) 6k William and Ann DeLoach
    7th William DeLoach Hill born c1718, age 22 in 1740, a likely prospect,
(5) Benjamin Hill, who owned land prior to 1759 north of the Meherrin and near the Southampton VA line,
(6) Henry Hill, who owned land in 1759 north of the Meherrin and near the Southampton VA line.

Of these, the families of 6f Robert and 6h Richard appear - questionably - to be well reported, and we do not find our William or substantial clues. We would give these lesser priority.

The son and daughters of 5a Robert Junior and Elizabeth are named, but no biography is given. These are 6a John, 6b Margaret, 6c Elizabeth, 6d Amey, and 6e Mary. We believe these would be of the generation immediately preceding our William, and that they were in a right place at the right time. We would give these higher priority, especially 6a John, about whom we know nothing more than his parents, his name, and the approximate year of his

birth and place of residence.

We know nothing more about Benjamin and Henry Hill than is said above, but would give attention to their 1759 location, north of the Meherrin and therefore possibly with lands in both Northampton NC and Southampton VA.

The family of 6k William Hill and Ann DeLoach has to be near the top of our list. We would give emphasis to son William DeLoach Hill, about whom we know little, except that he was a William Hill and son of the first William Hill known among these families, and that his father owned land with one William DeLoach. There being three Williams in this tie, we are drawn to the possibility that our own William might have descended from these two William Hill generations.

Dts has 6k William married to Ann DeLoach, with Seventh Generation daughters Celia and Ann, and son William DeLoach Hill born about 1718, and age 22 in 1740. Dts does not follow them further. These were of a right age, and in the right place, to have been the father, or the mother, of "William of Meherrin", better known to us as William of Tararat.

We know from Craft and Bell that 6k William was at, on, or near the Meherrin River on or about the VA-NC Colony line between Northampton NC and Southampton, Greensville and Brunswick counties VA. From his land transactions beginning in 1733, and the time of his death after 1745 in Northampton NC, we know that he was in approximately the right place at the right time for the birth of our William. From Dts, we know that he had two daughters and a son, of the right age and in the right place to have been a parent of our William.

From Craft and Bell, we know that 6k William owned land jointly with William DeLoach. From Dts, we know that 6k William married Ann DeLoach, and that they were parents of William DeLoach Hill, born c1718, the right age and in the right place to have been the father of our William.

We find in Northampton Deed 3-49(33) that in 1759 Francis DeLoach gave a "Deed of Gift" of 100 acres to "my cousin William Hill". We estimate that 6k William was in 1759 age about 69 years, and an "in-law" of the family DeLoach rather than a true "cousin". However, William DeLoach Hill, as son of Ann DeLoach Hill, would have been a true "cousin" of the family DeLoach. In 1759, his age would have been about 41 years. Our William, born 1725 to 1740. would in 1759 have been age 19 to 34 years.

The 100-acre tract given by Francis DeLoach to his cousin William Hill was on the south side of Cypress Swamp, site of 6k William Hill and Ann DeLoach. It joined Cypress Swamp, the County Line, Thomas Brantley, Thomas Williams, and William Phillips. 6k William and Ann's daughter Celia married in 1737 a Phillips.

In 1760, Northampton Deed 3-154(94), Thomas Williams Jr. deeded 150 acres to Thomas Brantley, joining Cypress Swamp, the old Co Line, and William Hill.

In 1773, Northampton Deed 5-1223(313), Richard Wall deeded to Hart 285 acres joining Cypress Swamp, Thomas Brantley, and William Blount. William DeLoach witnessed the deed.

On 26 Nov 1774, William Hill and his wife Sarah of Northampton, in Northampton Deed 6-12(19), deeded 100 acres to William Blunt, the description being exactly the same as for the gift of 100 acres from Francis DeLoach to his cousin William Hill in 1759. William and Sarah's deed was witnessed by William Phillips, Mark Phillips, and James Wasdin.

In 1776, Northampton Deed 6-128(161), William Blunt deeded 350 acres to James Ingram, on Cypress Swamp, which may or may not have included the 100 acres William Blount received from William and Sarah Hill.

If, and it can only be said as if, this 1759 gift of 100 acres from Francis DeLoach was to our William Hill, and if it was our William and wife Sarah "Sally" who sold this tract in 1774, then where were our William and Sarah from then until our William and Sarah appear in Surry NC in 1780 with two children? We know from son Richard's pension application that his father William served "from the beginning" of the War For Independence, so from 1775 or 1776 until he and Sarah and children arrived in Surry NC we might reasonably conclude that William was soldiering and that Sarah and children were at home, wherever that may have been.

From the family of Sarah Hill Denney, daughter of our William, we know that her mother, our William's wife, was Sarah "Sally". We have in the above a deed of gift in 1759 from Francis DeLoach to his cousin William Hill, and we have William Hill and his wife Sarah disposing of the same tract in 1774. We place this William and Sarah on Cypress Creek, site of 6k William and Ann DeLoach, and their son William DeLoach Hill. The circumstances oblige in-depth exploration of the William Hill - Ann DeLoach family.

In the six works here examined, and in voluminous Hill literature, there is widely reported biography of 5b Sion Hill Senior and wife Elizabeth Smith, widow Splitimber, cited by many of the family biographers. We believe that a logical trail to follow in search of our William might lead thusly -

5b Sion W. Hill Senior and wife Elizabeth Smith, widow Splitimber
5a Robert Hill and wife Elizabeth (Halleman ?)
6a John Hill, son of 5a Robert & Elizabeth
6k William Hill and wife Ann DeLoach, son of 5b Sion W. Senior
7 William DeLoach Hill, son of 6k William and Ann.

And we would add Benjamin and Henry, from the 1759 land records of the part of Northampton NC which lay north of the Meherrin and at Southampton VA.

Either, or neither, might or might not lead to our
William Hill, born before 1740 on the Meherrin River, Southampton "Precinct" or County VA, possibly in later Brunswick VA, or in Northampton NC, married about 1776 Sarah, maiden name unknown.

We close with the thought that these Hills married into families of other names. Surely there are searchers looking at these families, in the same way and by the same means that we are looking at ours. Perhaps someone looking at Smith or DeLoach, at Green or Briggs, or at the several others here named, could tell us of our William Hill of the Meherrin in Southampton Virginia, later of the Tararat in Surry County North Carolina.

MAPS

ye Hills of Meherrin

Map One Shows a probable position of Isle of Wight County Va, erected in 1634 as one of the earliest of VA's counties. This was eight years before the migration of 4a Robert and Mary (Webb) Hill. Assuming upon the evidence that Isle of Wight extended from the James River to the Roanoke River, the county was 50 to 60 miles long. The evidence at hand does not tell us in what part of Isle of Wight Robert and Mary settled. Isle of Wight included several miles of the Meherrin River, a few miles of Fountains Creek, and nearly all of Cypress Swamp. The evidence does not rule out that Robert and Mary resided in southwest Isle of Wight, on or near the Meherrin River - Fountain's Creek - Cypress Swamp, or north of a loop of the Meherrin later ceded to NC.

Map Two Shows the suspected configuration of Surry County VA, erected in 1652 from James City County, along the northern border of Isle of Wight. By the evidence, they were two separate counties, neither being a part of the other. We assume that Surry also extended from the James to the Roanoke, and at its longest dimension, Surry was 60 to 70 miles long. If our assumptions are correct, Surry also included several miles of the Meherrin, and a few miles of Fountains Creek. Thus, a resident of Surry could also have been on or near the Meherrin River or Fountains Creek.

Map Two shows a possible, speculative, unproved "Southampton Precinct", possible precursor of Southampton County. It is added only to show a possibility for our William Hill's birth "on the Meherrin River in Southampton County" before 1740, which was at least nine years before Southampton County was erected from Isle of Wight.

4a Robert and Mary arrived Isle of Wight 1642. He was assigned land in Isle of Wight 1653. Son 5b Sion Senior born Isle of Wight 1654. Sion Sr sold his father's Isle of Wight land 1678. 4a Robert died Surry 1678-1680, 4a Mary died Surry after 1684.

1615 4a Robert Hill born
1634 Isle of Wight erected.
1642 4a Robert and Mary Hill arrived Isle of Wight
1652 Surry erected
1653 Robert assigned land in Isle of Wight
1654 Son 5b Sion Senior born (Isle of Wight ?)
1654 to 1678 4a Robert and Mary moved (?) to Surry
1667 to 1670 5a Robert, son of 4a Robert, born Isle of Wight or Surry
1678-1680 Robert died Surry, age about 63, still owned his 1653 land in Isle of Wight
1678-1680 Sion Senior sold Robert's land in Isle of Wight

1684, after Mary died Surry.

Possibility Surry's south line with Isle of Wight's north line bisected 4a Robert's land, possibly severing his manor house to Surry where he and Mary died. Possibly moved to Surry, possibly did not move.

We know that 4a Robert and Mary died in Surry VA. This indicates, but does not prove, a "move" from Isle of Wight, and again we do not know why, when, or to what part of Surry they "moved". The evidence in hand does not rule out that they lived all or the latter part of their lives by the Meherrin River and Fountains Creek.

Maps One and Two show Isle of Wight as it probably was from 1634 to 1728, extending from the James to the Roanoke. If Isle of Wight had a Southampton Precinct, it was probably the southwest end, including the Meherrin, Fountains Creek and Cypress Swamp. If our William was born in Southampton Precinct during the period 1725 to 1728, he might have been born to or among the Hills west of the Meherrin, on Fountains Creek and Cypress Swamp, or to or among Benjamin and Henry Hill north of the Meherrin.

Map Three Shows the suspected configuration of Brunswick County VA, erected in two phases. Brunswick was created from Prince George County in 1720, but lacked sufficient population for an established county government. The evidence at hand does not give us the early boundaries of Brunswick, but it evidently lay north of Surry and also along the Roanoke River.

In 1724, 5a Robert Junior patented land on the south side of Fountains Creek in Isle of Wight VA. This persuades that Isle of Wight did indeed extend beyond the Meherrin and Fountains Creek and to the Roanoke River. This location, south of Fountains in Isle of Wight, places 5a Robert Junior in the portion of Isle of Wight evidently transferred to Brunswick in 1732 and would account for his death in Brunswick with no "move" involved.

The VA-NC colony line was surveyed in 1728, while Brunswick was in transition, thus leaving Surry to touch the Roanoke River only at its south-west corner, and severing all of Isle of Wight's frontage along the Roanoke.

In 1732, four years after the 1728 survey, Brunswick was given a portion of Surry, and a portion of Isle of Wight, and given its own county government. If we assume correctly, the new colony line was then in place and the portion of Surry added to Brunswick was possibly between the north line of Surry at its crossing of the Nottoway River, and the south line of Surry at its crossing of the Meherrin. We assume that the portion assigned in1732 from Isle of Wight was the new southwest corner, between the Meherrin and the new colony line, and including the lower reaches of Fountains Creek.

Hills formerly residing in the lower portions of Surry or Isle of Wight, along the Meherrin and Fountains Creek, might have remained in Surry or Isle of Wight,

or might have been cast from either county to Brunswick in 1732.

1667-1670 5a Robert, son of 4a Robert and Mary born Isle of Wight or Surry
1678 6f Robert born, son of 5a Robert, died Halifax NC
1684 6h Richard born, son of 5a Robert, died Sussex
1690 6k William, son of 5a Robert, born Surry, died Northampton NC
1725 5a Robert sold land owned in Surry
1728 VA - NC colony line changed, portions of Brunswick and Isle of Wight ceded to NC's Bertie County, Northampton "Precinct".
1732 Brunswick County acquired territory from Surry and Isle of Wight
1733 6k William and 6f Robert adjoining landowners on Fountains Creek, 6k William then living in Bertie NC
1740 5a Robert died Brunswick

That 5a Robert was born in Isle of Wight or Surry and died in Brunswick does not prove a "move". That he sold Surry land before he died in Brunswick does not prove a "move".

That 6h Richard was probably born in Surry and died in Sussex does not prove a "move". That 6k William was born in Surry and died in Northampton does not prove a "move". That 6k William was living in Bertie NC in 1736 does not prove a "move". That 6k William patented land in Northampton NC does not prove a "move". That 6f Robert died in Halifax NC proves a move.

Map Three is relevant to a possible time - and a possible circumstance - for our William's birth, 1725 to 1740 "in Southampton County". Southampton did not become a "county" until 1749, at least nine years after our William's birth. Map Two shows Isle of Wight as it was in 1725, the earliest date indicated for our William's birth. Isle of Wight then included the Meherrin River, Fountains Creek, and Cypress Swamp. We theoretically propose this area as "Southampton Precinct" of Isle of Wight.

Map Three shows the VA - NC colony line in place after the survey of 1728, and Brunswick's inclusion of portions of Surry and Isle of Wight in1732. From 1725 to 1732, the Fountains Creek area west of the Meherrin was still in a possible Southampton "Precinct" of Isle of Wight, but with Cypress Swamp ceded to Bertie-Northampton NC. If born in Southampton Precinct 1725 to 1732, our William could still have been on Fountains Creek and the Meherrin, but probably not on Cypress Swamp. Under these speculative circumstances, our William would fit the description given for 6k William's land patents of 1733 and 1736 - (1) between Cypress Swamp and the Meherrin River, (2) in Bertie NC on land taken into the Colony of NC by the county line.

Our William would likewise fit with the 1759 gift of land from Francis DeLoach and the sale of this tract by William and wife Sarah in 1774, south of Cypress Swamp and joining the county line. He would likewise fit with Benjamin and Henry in a Northampton loop of the Meherrin River at Southampton VA.

Map Four Shows the new colony line in place in 1728. The portions of Surry and Isle of Wight lying south of the new line were evidently ceded to North Carolina's Bertie County. Hills formerly residing along Fountains Creek, Cypress Swamp, or the Meherrin River - depending upon the meanders of these streams - might have remained in VA or been cast to NC by the new colony line. The loops of the Meherrin south of the new colony line, site of Benjamin and Henry Hill, would have been ceded to NC. In 1728, our William might have been age three, or might not yet have been born.

Map Five Shows the probable boundaries of Northampton County NC, erected from Bertie in 1741. Evidently before that date Northampton had been a "Precinct" of Bertie, for we find 6k William patenting land in "Northampton" in 1736 while living in Bertie. Northampton gained a small southwest corner of Surry and the southwest end of Isle of Wight, including several miles of the Meherrin and the southerly tributaries of Fountains Creek and nearly all of Cypress Swamp. Northampton NC likewise gained those Hills who formerly resided in VA but who were cast to NC by the new colony line.

Map Six Shows the 1749 erection of Southampton County VA from Isle of Wight, after Isle of Wight lost territory to Brunswick. Surry retained a small corner southwest of the Blackwater River, otherwise both Surry and Isle of Wight were reduced to their areas lying between the Blackwater and James Rivers.

We learn from the 1749 erection of Southampton that this "county" came into existence at least nine years after our William Hill was born (before 1740). In those times, it was common that the colonies and their counties established "precincts", rather like counties-in-waiting. It could be that our William was born in Southampton "Precinct" of Isle of Wight, the "precinct" which in 1733 lost territory to Brunswick, or in 1749 became Southampton County.

Southampton County gained any Hills residing along the northeast side of the Meherrin, including Hills in our proposed "Southampton Precinct" northeast of the Meherrin, in former Isle of Wight.

If born in Southampton Precinct from 1733 to 1740, our William was probably born east and north of the Meherrin, and not on Fountains Creek or Cypress Swamp.

Map Six also shows the 1753 erection of Sussex County VA, from the lower portion of Surry remaining after Surry lost territory to Brunswick. Sussex gained any Hills formerly residing in Surry between the Blackwater River and the east boundary of Brunswick.

Map Seven Shows the present configuration of Greensville County VA, there not being evidence in hand to confirm its early boundaries. Greensville was created from Brunswick in 1780, and later given more territory from Brunswick, and territory from Sussex. Greensville thus acquired several miles

of the Meherrin River, several miles of Fountains Creek, and a short reach of Cypress Swamp where the Cypress joins Fountains just before entering the Meherrin.

Greensville gained any Hills residing north of the Meherrin in east Brunswick and west Sussex, and those Hills residing south and west of the Meherrin along Fountains Creek north of the colony line.

Greensville therefore acquired the portion of Isle of Wight, and therefore any part of "Southampton Precinct" lying west of the Meherrin and along Fountains Creek, which Isle of Wight lost to Brunswick in 1732. Greensville could therefore have acquired the site of our William's birth forty to fifty-five years before. Greensville was erected in 1780, the same year that our William first appeared in Surry North Carolina with his wife and two children. We have no knowledge of the names of these two children, or where they were born.

Map Eight presumes a "Southampton 'Precinct'" of Isle of Wight County VA, and a "Northampton 'Precinct'" of Bertie County NC, at the time of the 1728 survey of the colony line. Whether such "Precincts" existed is speculative, but we do find in records of the time - and in the records of these Hills - that records were made in the names of counties which did not exist, or at least had not been officially erected, at the time the records were dated.

We thus presume, upon some evidence, that "Precincts" had standing to record in their names the affairs of the citizenry within their borders. We think this would account for our William Hill's birth in "Southampton County" some years before Southampton County was officially erected. We accordingly presume that the logical place for a "Southampton Precinct" would have been where later there was a Southampton County, and that a "Northampton Precinct" would logically have been where there was later a Northampton County. We show the presumed locations with dotted lines ending at the VA-NC colony line.

Map Eight is offered to account for our William's birth 1725 to 1740 "on the Meherrin River in Southampton County Virginia", and to show that during these years there were Hills "on the Meherrin" at Fountains Creek and Cypress Swamp, and that these Hills were, during some of those years, in "Southampton County", or a probable Southampton Precinct of Isle of Wight.

We know not whether there was a Southampton "Precinct" of Isle of Wight, or when such a "Precinct" might have come into being. We trust in our William's son Richard's affidavit that William was born in "Southampton", and we seek the elusive date when a "Southampton" might have been an accurate term. Our guidance is the 1724 land transaction of 5a Robert Hill, "of Isle of Wight County", whose patent was on "Fountains Creek in Isle of Wight County." This neither proves nor disproves whether there was a "Southampton" in 1724, but we take Robert's land record to indicate that his place of residence was, not in Southampton, but in Isle of Wight, that Fountains Creek was, not in South-

ampton, but in Isle of Wight, and that his patent was, not in Southampton, but in Isle of Wight. We accordingly presume that in 1724, the Meherrin was likewise, not in Southampton, but in Isle of Wight.

On this slim evidence, we slimly presume that our William had not yet been born when 5a Robert made his Isle of Wight land record in 1724, and that our William was born at some elusive date after "Southampton" became an officially recognized entity, probably a "Precinct" of Isle of Wight, but before Southampton County was officially erected in 1749.

And on the evidence in whole, we presume that our William might have been born in Southampton "Precinct" of Isle of Wight, among or to the Hills of Meherrin - Fountains Creek - Cypress Swamp.

Map Nine Shows what we presume as the common corner of eleven counties on the Roanoke River - the Virginia counties (1) Brunswick, (2) Greensville, (3) Surry and (4) Isle of Wight, and the North Carolina counties (5) Bertie, (6) Northampton, (7) Halifax, (8) Edgecombe, (9) Granville, (10) Bute, and (11) Warren. Hills are shown to have ties to all eleven of these counties, yet we believe these Hills were geographically near to one another and shared a common identity with our William's Meherrin River.

We would observe that being "born on the Meherrin River" is not a term limiting William's birthplace to the immediate banks of that stream. In old grants and old deeds, we commonly observe the term "on the waters of" a river or principal creek. And we note in the current maps of the area that swamplands extend outward along both sides of the Meherrin, and that its "waters of" extend as far as nine miles into Southampton before reaching the high ground which divides the "waters of" the Meherrin from the "waters of" the Nottoway. Thus, our William could have been born nine miles from the Meherrin and still have rightly claimed his birthplace as "on the Meherrin River".

Map Ten is a 1775 map of the relevant portion of the Colony of North Carolina and shows what we know of the distribution of the Hills of Meherrin. We identify four sites from land records. One is along Fountains Creek, Cypress Swamp and the "County Line" which was also the NC-VA line. The second is the 1759 site of Benjamin and Henry Hill, in Northampton NC records but north of the Meherrin River. The third is the Edgecombe-Halifax-Nash area to which 6f Robert and Tabitha moved from Fountains Creek. The fourth is the Quarter Swamp-Urahaw Swamp location, with its nearby Bear Swamp, site of one of the Green Hills and William and Bennett Hill, who we suspect was father Green and two of his sons. We know that 6g Sion Junior died in Edgecombe, but we have no information regarding his site.

Map Eleven is a composite of the current maps of Greensville, which in the time of these Hills was Brunswick VA, west of the Meherrin, and Southampton VA, east of the Meherrin, and Northampton County in North Carolina. Fountains Creek is seen flowing through its swamplands in Greensville,

parallel with and just north of the state line between Greensville and Northampton. Cypress Creek is seen in Northampton, running parallel with the Greensville county line. The Meherrin River is seen flowing southeasterly between Greensville and Southampton to the Northampton line, then crossing and recrossing the line between Northampton and Southampton. A circle is added to show the Fountains Creek-Cypress Swamp area of the Hills, another to show the 1759 site of Benjamin and Henry, another to show Bear Swamp, and another to show the Quarter Swamp-Urahaw Swamp, these latter two we believe the sites of father Green Hill and his sons Bennett and William.

Timeline - ***ye Hills of Meherrin***

4a	1615	4a Robert born Northumberland England
	1634	Isle of Wight VA erected
4a	1642	4a Robert and wife Mary (Webb) arrived Isle of Wight VA
	1652	Surry Co VA erected, south line joining north line of Isle of Wight
4a	1653	4a Robert assigned land in Isle of Wight
5b	1654	5b Sion Senior, son of 4a Robert and Mary, born (? Isle of Wight) ?
5a	1667-70	5a Robert, son of 4a Robert and Mary, born Isle of Wight, father 4a Robert then age 52 to 55
5b	1671	Sion Sr patents land in Upper Parish Surry VA. (sold 1685)
6f	1678	6f Robert born)
4a	1679-80	4a Robert died Surry
6g	1682	6g Sion Jr born Surry) sons of 5b Sion Senior
6h	1684	6h Richard born Surry)
5b	1685	5b Sion Sr sold his land patented 1671 Upper Parish Surry
6i	1686	6i Thomas born Surry)
5b	1687	5b Sion Sr in Surry records
6j	1688	6j Michael born Surry) sons of 5b Sion Senior
6k	1690	6k William born Surry)
5b	1705	5b Sion Senior died Surry (born ? Isle of Wight 1654, age 51) ?
	1718	Nicholas Smith (4b ?) patented land (Isle of Wight VA?)
	1718	William DeLoach Hill born, son of 6k William and Ann DeLoach
	1720	Brunswick County VA authorized
6f	1721	6f Robert married Tabitha, Isle of Wight
6h	1722/23	6h Richard died Sussex (No Sussex until 1753) ?
6f	1724	6f Robert granted 145 acres south side Fountain's Cr in Isle of W.
6f	1724	6f Robert sold 145 acres south side Fountain's Cr to Jordan, where Robert and Tabitha now living in Isle of Wight
6f	1725	6f Robert granted 233 acres north side Fountain's Cr (County ?)
	1728	VA - NC boundary moved, portions of Brunswick and Isle of Wight ceded to Bertie Co NC (Northampton Precinct)
	1732	Brunswick Co VA given part of Surry and Isle of Wight
6k	1733	6k William granted land in Northampton NC
6f-6k	1733	6f Robert land joined 6k William
6k	1736	6k William and Wm DeLoach patented Nicholas Smith's grant of 1718, in Northampton NC

6k 1736 6k William then living in Bertie NC, north of Cypress Swamp
6i 1737 6i Richard died Sussex ("Precinct" ?) (Sussex County erected 1753)
6f 1737 6f Robert sold part of 1725 grant 233 acres north side Fountains
6f 1738 6f Robert granted land on Blue Marsh Halifax NC (died there)
6k 1740 6k William acquired William DeLoach's part of their 1736 grant
5a 1740 5a Robert died Brunswick VA
++ 1740 - before. **William of Tararat** born Southampton VA (Died 1840 NC)
1741 Northampton Co NC erected from Bertie
6k 1742 6k William and William DeLoach re-patented Charles Smith grant Northampton NC
1749 Southampton Co VA erected from Isle of Wight, with part of Nansemond added later. Joins Surry, Brunswick VA and Northampton NC
1753 Sussex Co VA erected from Surry, joins Brunswick & Isle of Wight
6j 1755 6j Michael died
1759 Northampton Deed 3-49(31) *Francis DeLoach gift 100 acres to cousin William Hill*, both of Northampton, south of Cypress and Beaverdam, join Cypress, Co Line, Thomas Williams, Thomas Brantley, William Phillips
1759 Northampton Deed 3-48(30), Benjamin Clifton to Thomas Davidson,mentions the former corner of *Benjamin Hill*, north side of the Meherrin River.
1759 Northampton Deed 3-53(33), a Granville Grant to John Thorn, mentions joining *Henry Hill*, north side of Meherrin River
1760 Northampton Deed 3-154(94), Thomas Williams Jr deed to Thomas Brantley 50 + 100, join Cypress, Old Co Line, *William Hill*, probably William's gift from his cousin Francis DeLoach, 1759.
6i 1761 to 1766 6i Thomas died Halifax NC (Will made 1761, proved 1766)
6g 1762 6g Sion Junior died Edgecombe NC
6f 1765 6f Robert died Halifax NC
1773 Northampton Deed 5-1223(313),Richard Wall to Arthur Hart, join Cypress, Wm Blount, John Wall. Witness *William DeLoach*, Thomas Brantley, Henry Howell.
1773 Northampton Deed 5-1222(310), *William Hill* of Bute to Jacob Parker, land both sides of Bear Swamp
1773 Northampton Deed 5-1234(331), Griffin to Griffin, 200 south side Bare (Bear) Swamp, join Barnes and Parker, witness *Bennett Hill*.
++ 1774 *William Hill and wife Sarah* of Northampton, Northampton deed 6-12(19) to William Blunt of Southampton VA, 100 acres, south of Cypress Swamp, join Co Line, Thos Williams, Thos Brantley, Wm Phillips, same description as 1759 gift 100 acres from *Francis DeLoach to his cousin William Hill.*
1776 William Blunt, Northampton Deed 6-128(161) 350 to Ingram, join Cypress Swamp

1777 Northampton Deed 6-196(221), *William Hill* of Bute to Thos Knox, 230 acres devised by will of *Green Hill*, including 130 acres from John Bryan to *Green Hill* and 100 acres from John Taylor to *Green Hill* joining Hunting Quarter Swamp and Bass, Urahaw Swamp, Thos Bryan dec'd, Saml Peet, BD Washington, Bass, Witness *Bennett Hill*. Appears Green Hill possibly lived Urahaw and Quarter Swamps.

1777 Northampton Deed 6-123(456), *William Hill* of Bute to Atherton, 100 + 12 acres, join Cullen Pollock, Gum Pond. Witness *Bennett Hill*.

1777 Northampton Deed 6-131(164) *Bennett Hill* to Atherton, 500 acres including all bequeathed to *Bennett Hill* by William Bennett, except 10 acres sold to Benj Bryant, and the graveyard. Appears Bennett Hill possibly son of Green Hill and Grace Bennett dau of Wm Bennett -?-

1777 Northampton Deed 6-88(125), John Bass to Jethro Bass, 200 acres joining Youahow (Urahaw?) Swamp, Woolpitt (Wolfpit?) Branch, Grady, Bryant, *Hill*, Alce Earp.

1777 Northampton Deed 6-89(126), Jethro Bass to Alce Earp, 120 acres, join the road, *Hill*, Youahow (Urahaw) and Quarter Swamps.

1780 Greensville Co VA erected from Brunswick and later from Sussex

1780 Our William Hill and wife and two children arrived Surry Co NC. William's wife was Sarah "Sally".

Through Generation Six, births and deaths, and birth of William of Tararat.

ADDENDUM

Craft, Bell, Jcb, Dts, RH, JH - all cite sources which we list here in an effort to have at least some of the references in the same place at the same time.

Lawnes Creek Parish, Surry Co VA.
Craft, Alta Deshazer - East Goes West
Southwarke, Surry Co VA, records of administration
Same, Court records 03 Jul 1705
Wills and Deeds Vol I Part 2 Page 427, Isle of Wight Co VA, date 1678
Virginia Lands Office, Book 7 Page 11
Surry Co VA List of Freeholders and Inhabitants
Surry Co VA land record, Book 1715-1730, Page 391 (1721)
Tax Records 1699 - 1704, Surry Co VA
Boddie's Southside Virginia Families, Vol II +
Boddie's Historical Southern Families, Vol I p17 +
Byrd, William ,Colonel - Dividing Line Histories, edited by William K. Boyd, Raleigh NC, 1929. NC State Archives (Survey of VA - NC line, 1728)
Clark's Records NC, pp 619, 767, (Robert Hill Land Grants)
Halifax NC, Will Book I Page 159, will of Robert Hill.
Gookins, Richard N., Salem, OR - Hill research
Fair, Marielou Roach - Roach, Roberts, Ridgeway and Allied Families +
James Hunter Chapter, NSDAR, Madison, NC, 1977
Foster, Joshua Hill - papers, Alabama State Archives +
Parish Register, Christ Church, Middlesex Co VA 1653-1812
Amelia Co VA, Will Book 3 Pages 28-30
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Compendium of American Genealogy, Vol 6 +
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Stevens - Undaunted Pioneers, 1929
Gillette, Martha Hill, diary of - Overland to Oregon

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Bell, Jessie Lynn - The Families of Hill and Lynn, 1976
Hill, Stuart Hall - The Hill Family of North Carolina +
Ivey, Thomas Neal - Green Hill
Kerr, Mary Hinton - Warren County NC Records, Abstract of Bute Co,
Carroway, Mrs. J. E.- Title not given but containing "Hill compilation", Wake Forest Univ. Library, Winston-Salem NC +

+ Those we think apt in the search for our William +

The six studied here have contributed much to our knowledge and understanding. We have intentionally not identified those whose work is unpublished and therefore private, and hope we have shown them and their work a proper respect.

And since this is a work in progress and far from done, unverified and speculative, even doubted in part, we sign

- Amicus Curiosi

TO DO LIST, Hills of Meherrin

1653 Isle of Wight - George Archer or Arthur assigns land to Robert Hill. Arthur/Archer may have been a "Headright" who was granted land for bringing persons into the Colony of Virginia. Deed to Robert, with a description sufficient to find his location?
1678-1690 Isle of Wight - Sion Hill confirms same to Wickens. Deed?
1681 Surry - Sion Hill patents in Upper Parish Surry. Where was Upper Parish? Deed, with identifying location?
1685 Surry - Sion conveyed to Grey, Upper Parish Surry. Deed?
1725 Surry - Robert Hill conveys to Pettiway. Deed, location?
1728 Surry - Richard Hill granted in Surry and owned part of 746 acres. Deed?
Surry - Nicholas Hill's Will, Surry. Bequeathed to son Richard. Deed?
1780 Surry - Richard's inheritance from Nicholas sold by Ralph Hill to Swan. Deed, description?
1775 Sussex - Richard Hill's Will. Names, locations?
1733 Northampton NC - William Hill granted. This was before Northampton became a "county". Perhaps a 'precinct' of Bertie? Deed, description?
1740 Northampton NC - William Hill conveyed same to Thomas Person. Deed?

(1718 Isle of Wight or Surry - Nicholas Smith patented
(Isle of Wight or Surry - Nicholas Smith conveyed same to William
(Hill and William DeLoach
(1736 Northampton NC - William Hill and William DeLoach patented
(same, the Nicholas Smith grant
(1740 Northampton NC - William DeLoach conveyed same to William Hill.
(Deeds, descriptions, kinship? Nicholas Smith's Will?

1724 Isle of Wight - Robert Hill granted 145 acres. Deed, description?
1724 Isle of Wight - Robert Hill conveyed 145 acres to Arthur Jordan. Deed?
1725 Isle of Wight - Robert Hill granted 233 acres. Grant and survey, deed?
1725 Northampton NC - Robert Hill granted 160 acres. Grant, survey, deed?
1737 Northampton NC - Robert Hill conveyed 80 acres to Thos DeLoach. Deed.
Northampton NC - Thos DeLoach conveyed same to Thos Tarver. Deed?
c1740 Robert Hill's Brunswick VA Will. Description of lands?
c 1759 Benjamin and Henry Hill - any records? Northampton NC or Southampton VA. Seek location descriptions, family, wills, deeds, etc.
1725 to 1740, record of birth of our William Hill? Southampton VA? Parish records, etc.
1740 to 1780, any record of our William in Southampton, Brunswick, Greensville VA or Northampton NC? Marriage(s) - wife Sarah. Parish, land, etc.

1732 What territory did Brunswick receive from Isle of Wight?
1732 What territory did Brunswick receive from Surry?
Was there a 1731 list of titheables in Isle of Wight and Surry, and a 1733 list of titheables in Brunswick? Comparison, to show what Hills were taken into Brunswick?

Was there a Southampton "Precinct" of Isle of Wight before Southampton became a County in 1749? Where, When?

Was there a Northampton "Precinct" of Bertie before Northampton became a County in 1741? Where, When?

Did old Isle of Wight and old Surry extend to the Roanoke River?

Records of John Hill born 1692, VA & Bertie-Northampton NC
Records of William DeLoach Hill born 1718, VA & " "

Revolutionary War records, our William Hill, 1775 to 1779, VA.

Richard Hill, who lived in Surry NC, also on the Tararat River. Was this Richard also of Meherrin, and was he related to our William?

Same for Isaac, Thomas, Benjamin - Surry NC censuses show them near Richard and our William.

Anything on Michael, son of Sion Senior?

Craft comments on this account by Joshua Hill and quotes Gookins' analysis, wherein Gookins studies Joshua Hill's "family account" which he does not find convincing. Craft is also not convinced, and she is persuaded that William (of Town Fork) was a son of Sion Hill Junior.

We see in the above William of Middlesex several possibilities for the parent of our William, but no evidence. The sons and daughters were of child-bearing age when our William was born 1725 - 1740. No doubt, William of Middlesex had a son William, believed by Jcb and RH to be who we call William of Town Fork. Could this son instead have been ancestral to our William?

We quarrel not with Jcb or co-believer RH, but point out that others are equally convinced that William of Town Fork was the son of Sion Hill Junior of Isle of Wight and Surry VA, Hills of Meherrin.

Jcb and RH are silent whether this family was, or was not, connected to Southampton VA and the Meherrin River, birthplace of our William. Other Hills, those of Isle of Wight and Surry VA, do relate to Southampton and the Meherrin, and so we put our attention there first and hazard to move William of Middlesex lower on our list, with every willingness to move him higher should more evidence come to light.

The opposing opinion that William of Town Fork was the son of Sion Hill Junior has merit, just as the opinions of Jcb and RH have merit. We are constrained to say that the basis for crediting William of Town Fork to Sion Junior does have the appearance of later searchers repeating the work of earlier searchers - just as we are doing here. RH and Jcb suggest that early on somebody made a mistake, and the mistake was so oft repeated that it became accepted. We have seen it happen before, and since.

What does emerge, from the two opposite opinions, is that there was a William of Middlesex who had a son William, and a Sion Junior who had a son William, and that they could not both have been William of Town Fork. There appears to be an extra William gone astray in the literature. Our own William is likewise gone astray, and we must therefore wonder whether the extra William might be ancestral to our own. There were, in fact, several Williams, and our caution is that the vitae of one might have been attributed to another and another until the several Williams are a blur that may never be sorted out. This prompts what we are attempting here.

Again, we seek our "William of Meherrin" and later of Tararat, and must go among the many Williams in search of his almost-three-centuries-old trail. With this in mind, we turn now to Robert and Mary (Webb) Hill of Isle of Wight, with some cautious hope and restrained optimism. The family of Robert and Mary of Isle of Wight shows promise - if we may so presume, more promise for our own narrow search than does William of Middlesex.

sons was Joshua Hill. We highlight Susan / Susanna Smither(s), as she will be an identifying name associated with William of Town Fork in these pages.)

3 Ann, baptized 30 Mar 1701. Married 26 Jun 1720 John Dudley, perhaps son of John and Elizabeth Dudley.
Children Elizabeth, Ambrose, John, Ann, Mary.

4 Elizabeth, baptized 02 Mar 1706 (1707). Papers of Joshua Hill say that a daughter of William Hill married a Whitaker, possibly son of Charles and Margaret. Children Whitaker: Charles, Anne, Thomas, Elizabeth, Mary, Precilla.

5 John, baptized 01 Oct 1710, died Amelia Co VA 1779. Married Elizabeth. Children:
A William, "a calico printer" died before 1777 leaving children.
B John "a mechanic"
C Joel "moved a great distance from his father"
D Moses
E Isaac
F Precilla who married John Bell.
G Grandson Humphress (Humphreys?) Hill.

6 Mary, baptized 19 May 1713, married 1733 Richard Carter.

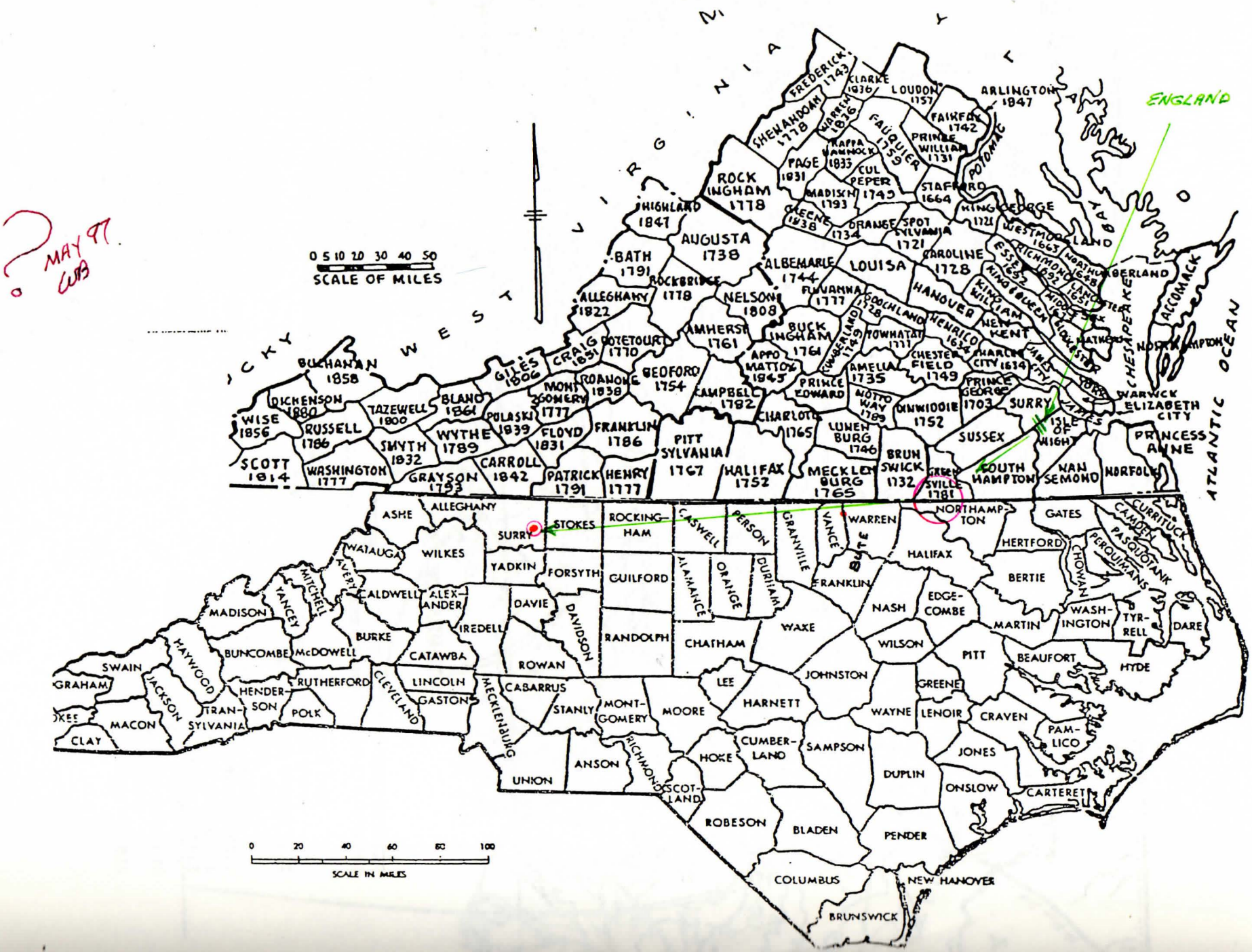
7 Dianah, born 25 Aug 1715, married 1734 David Barwick (Barrick).
Son George Barwick born 1736.

8 Priscilla, born 17 Sep 1718.

Here, we have a son William born to William and Ann of Middlesex, this son said by Jcb and co-believer RH to be the William known to us as of Town Fork in Surry (Stokes) NC. Perhaps so, but conflicting with others including three of six here discussed. We are convinced that the real William of Town Fork was not the same as, or ancestral to, our William of Tararat, but would not be surprised if they both might have a common ancestral tie.

This William, son of William of Middlesex, was born c1700, twenty-five to forty years before the birth of our William, who was born 1725 to 1740 about ninety miles south of Middlesex, in Southampton VA. If we agree with Jcb and RH, this William son of William of Middlesex was William of Town Fork. If we agree with others, he was not. This asks its own question - If William son of William of Middlesex was *not* William of Town Fork, then who was he? And the answer is that the William, son of William of Middlesex, *might* have been - *could* have been - ancestral to William of Tararat, but at present we doubt this.

Jcb and RH rely in great degree upon ". a family account by William's son Joshua Hill (Joshua Hill Foster papers) Alabama State Archives, as told by Joshua Hill to his grandson Joshua Hill Foster". This is, likely, Joshua, son of William Hill of Town Fork, speaking of his father and grandfather and their immediate families. We take no position other than that Joshua Hill was in position to know whereof he spoke. We are not told whether Joshua confined his comments to his own personal knowledge, or whether he narrated from what he had gleaned from the records, just as we are doing now.


? MAY 77
0 5 10 20 30 40 50
SCALE OF MILES
WEST VIRGINIA
VIRGINIA
ENGLAND
ATLANTIC OCEAN
CHESAPEAKE BAY
POTOMAC
ACCOMACK
NORTHAMPTON
ELIZABETH CITY
WARWICK
PRINCESS ANNE
NORFOLK
SUSSEX
SURRY
ISLE OF WIGHT
SOUTH HAMPTON
GREENSVILLE
BRUNSWICK
MECKLENBURG
HALIFAX
PITT
LUNENBURG
CHARLOTTE
AMELIA
PRINCE EDWARD
CAMPBELL
APPOMATTOX
BUCKINGHAM
AMHERST
NELSON
ALBEMARLE
AUGUSTA
ROCKBRIDGE
BATH
HIGHLAND
ROCKINGHAM
FREDERICK
CLARKE
LOUDON
FAIRFAX
ARLINGTON
PRINCE WILLIAM
FAUQUIER
CULPEPER
ORANGE
SPOTSYLVANIA
STAFFORD
KING GEORGE
WESTMORELAND
RICHMOND
ESSEX
KING & QUEEN
KING WILLIAM
HANOVER
CAROLINE
GOOCHLAND
FLUVANNA
HENRICO
CHESTERFIELD
PRINCE GEORGE
DINWIDDIE
JAMES CITY
YORK
NEW KENT
CHARLES CITY
GLOUCESTER
MATHEWS
MIDDLESEX
LANCASTER
NORTHUMBERLAND
ALLEGHANY
CRAIG
BOTETOURT
ROANOKE
MONTGOMERY
GILES
BLACKSBURG
BUCHANAN
DICKENSON
TAZEWELL
WISE
RUSSELL
BLAND
WYTHE
PULASKI
FLOYD
FRANKLIN
SMYTH
SCOTT
WASHINGTON
GRAYSON
CARROLL
PATRICK
HENRY
PITTSYLVANIA
ASHE
ALLEGHANY
WATAUGA
WILKES
YADKIN
SURRY
STOKES
ROCKINGHAM
CASWELL
PERSON
GRANVILLE
VANCE
WARREN
FORSYTH
GUILFORD
ALAMANCE
ORANGE
DURHAM
AVERY
MITCHELL
YANCEY
MADISON
CALDWELL
ALEXANDER
DAVIE
DAVIDSON
RANDOLPH
CHATHAM
WAKE
FRANKLIN
NASH
EDGECOMBE
HALIFAX
NORTHAMPTON
GATES
CURRITUCK
CAMDEN
PASQUOTANK
PERQUIMANS
HERTFORD
CHOWAN
BERTIE
MARTIN
WASHINGTON
TYRRELL
DARE
HYDE
BEAUFORT
PITT
WILSON
GREENE
LENOIR
WAYNE
JOHNSTON
LEE
HARNETT
MOORE
MONTGOMERY
STANLY
CABARRUS
ROWAN
IREDELL
BURKE
CATAWBA
LINCOLN
GASTON
CLEVELAND
RUTHERFORD
POLK
HENDERSON
TRANSYLVANIA
HAYWOOD
JACKSON
SWAIN
GRAHAM
MACON
CLAY
CHEROKEE
BUNCOMBE
McDOWELL
UNION
ANSON
RICHMOND
SCOTLAND
HOKE
CUMBERLAND
SAMPSON
DUPLIN
ONSLOW
JONES
CRAVEN
PAMLICO
CARTERET
ROBESON
BLADEN
PENDER
COLUMBUS
NEW HANOVER
0 20 40 60 80 100
SCALE IN MILES

DISTRIBUTION - *ye Hills of Meherrin*

1724 5a Robert Hill & Tabitha land.
Robert died Brunswick c1740.
6f Robert Hill & Tabitha
moved to Edgecombe-Halifax

1733 6k William Hill & Ann DeLoach
7 William DeLoach Hill b 1718
1759 Francis DeLoach Deed of Gift to "my cousin William Hill".
1774 William Hill and wife Sarah sold the DeLoach land gift of 1759.

Fountain's Creek, Cypress Swamp, Meherrin River, County Line.

1759 Benjamin Hill
1759 Henry Hill

North of Meherrin River.

1773 William Hill of Bute deeded land.
1773 Bennett Hill witnessed a neighbor's land deed.
1777 William Hill of Bute sold land devised by the will of Green Hill.
1777 Bennett Hill sold land bequeathed to him by William Bennett.
1777 William Hill of Bute sold land devised by the will of Green Hill.
1777 Bennett Hill sold land bequeathed to him by William Bennett.

Hunting Quarter Swamp, Urahaw Swamp, Woolpitt Branch, The Road, The Graveyard, Bear Swamp.

