

# **The Knight Family, from England to Amherst, Virginia**

**Research by Wanda Tucker and Sue Ward**

## **FOREWARD**

I began my research on the Knight family of Virginia at the request of my co-author Sue Ward. The Knights are a branch of her family, beginning with Elizabeth Knight, who married Jared Hotchkiss in 1791. The first mystery Sue asked me to consider was Elizabeth's parentage. The resolution of that led me to look further, and with Sue's help I began a quest for more documentation, and the origins of this family in England.

English research is one of my favorites. There are fairly comprehensive birth records there, unlike in early America, where they are virtually non-existent. There were two Peter Knights in early Virginia, who have been the most researched members of this family. But there are many Peter Knights born in England in the appropriate timeframe to be these men, so those names were not particularly helpful in understanding where the family originated. However, in studying the Knight given names throughout Virginia, two were less common. Captain Peter Knight had a son named Leonard. There was also a Joseph Knight very early in the Colonial records. Searching these names in English birth records led me to a revelation about the origins of the Virginia Knight family there.

One thing that must be considered in the study of the Knight families in the American colonies is the fact that there are *many* Knight families in various parts of England. Far back in history in England, I suppose all of them could be related. But those connections will not be apparent in 1600. It is my conclusion that some of the Knights who came to Virginia early on confuse the issue of who is part of the family of the Peter Knights. Some of them are unrelated, and attempting to tie them to the family has caused consternation among researchers. They are attempting to shoehorn-in people who just won't fit.

I believe there are three main groups of Knights in the earliest days in the Colonies, with the Peter the Merchant group in Southern Virginia, i.e. Upper and Lower Norfolk, Nansemond, Surry, and Gloucester, the Peter the Captain group in Northumberland, and the Joseph and John Knight lines in James City County and Surry. This line didn't cross the James River to the south into Surry (well, not much), but migrated north and west into Henrico, Goochland, and eventually Amherst. This last line was the focus of the beginning of this research, but the other two lines are related, and so will be addressed as we go along.

This is a complicated story. These families use many of the same given names throughout generations. The basic story is this; four men, all from the same market town in England, come to the colonies in about the same timeframe. They are Peter the Merchant, John, Joseph, and Peter the Captain. Peter the Merchant generally settles in the Isle of Wight, Upper and Lower New Norfolk area, at the mouth of the James River. This makes perfect sense, as we will see he continues as a tobacco merchant in England. Access to the sea would be important to him. Peter the Captain, the younger man, settles on Northumberland. His uncles and his father settle there, too. Captain Peter remains there until his death in 1702.

Brothers Joseph and John Knight settled in James City and Henrico Counties. Some of their progeny moved into Surry County in the 1660s. Others remained in Henrico, and eventually made their way into Goochland and west to Amherst.

There are many records and connections required to follow the families. Direct evidence such as birth and marriage records this early is scarce. Many of the available records overlap in time, and *where* the family is tells the story. Collateral families and their associations with each other are often the only way to differentiate who belongs to which group. Two tools are provided here to help you as you read; a basic family group research tree, and a more extensive family tree with notes. Use these to help you navigate through the records.

### **THE KNIGHT FAMILY, RINGWOOD, HAMPSHIRE, ENGLAND**

There is a family group of Knights in Ringwood, Hampshire, England, which includes ALL of the family names both common and uncommon in the Virginia/Peter Knight lines. The earliest Knight in the record set I found in Ringwood was John Knight born 1573. His father was Edward:

**Name: John Knight**

Gender: Male

Christening Date: 31 Mar 1573

Christening Date (Original): 31 MAR 1573

Christening Place: RINGWOOD, HAMPSHIRE, ENGLAND

**Father's Name: Edward Knight**

Indexing Project (Batch) Number: C15056-1

System Origin: England-ODM

GS Film number: 0994051 IT 3-5

"England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975," database, *FamilySearch*

(<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:NY7Q-6LN> : 11 February 2018, Edward Knight in entry for John Knight, 31 Mar 1573); citing , index based upon data collected by the Genealogical Society of Utah, Salt Lake City; FHL microfilm 0994051 IT 3-5.

John married in Ringwood in 1597:

**Name: John Knight**

**Spouse's Name: Joan Waldon**

Event Date: 04 Apr 1597

Event Place: Ringwood, Hampshire, England

Indexing Project (Batch) Number: M15056-1

System Origin: England-ODM

GS Film number: 0994051 IT 3-5

"England Marriages, 1538–1973 ," database, *FamilySearch*  
(<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:N26H-GMS> : 10 February 2018), John Knight and Joan Waldon, 04 Apr 1597; citing Ringwood,Hampshire,England, reference , index based upon data collected by the Genealogical Society of Utah, Salt Lake City; FHL microfilm 0994051 IT 3-5.

This John had many children in Ringwood, beginning in 1597:

**Name: John Knight**

Gender: Male

Christening Date: 22 May 1597

Christening Date (Original): 22 MAY 1597

Christening Place: RINGWOOD, HAMPSHIRE, ENGLAND

**Father's Name: John Knight**

Indexing Project (Batch) Number: C15056-1

System Origin: England-ODM

GS Film number: 0994051 IT 3-5

"England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975," database, *FamilySearch*  
(<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:J71X-HQL> : 11 February 2018, John Knight in entry for John Knight, 22 May 1597); citing , index based upon data collected by the Genealogical Society of Utah, Salt Lake City; FHL microfilm 0994051 IT 3-5.

**Name: Lynard Knight**

Gender: Male

Christening Date: 21 Aug 1603

Christening Date (Original): 21 AUG 1603

Christening Place: RINGWOOD, HAMPSHIRE, ENGLAND

**Father's Name: John Knight**

Indexing Project (Batch) Number: C15056-1

System Origin: England-ODM

GS Film number: 0994051 IT 3-5

"England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975," database, *FamilySearch*  
(<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:N15H-485> : 11 February 2018, John Knight in entry for Lynard Knight, 21 Aug 1603); citing , index based upon data collected by the Genealogical Society of Utah, Salt Lake City; FHL microfilm 0994051 IT 3-5.

**Name: William Knight**

Gender: Male

Christening Date: 01 Mar 1606

Christening Date (Original): 01 MAR 1606

Christening Place: RINGWOOD, HAMPSHIRE, ENGLAND

**Father's Name: John Knight**

Indexing Project (Batch) Number: C15056-1

System Origin: England-ODM

GS Film number: 0994051 IT 3-5

"England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975," database, *FamilySearch*

(<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:N154-Y8N> : 11 February 2018, John Knight in entry for William Knight, 01 Mar 1606); citing , index based upon data collected by the Genealogical Society of Utah, Salt Lake City; FHL microfilm 0994051 IT 3-5.

**Name: Thomas Knight**

Gender: Male

Christening Date: 21 Mar 1601

Christening Date (Original): 21 MAR 1601

Christening Place: RINGWOOD, HAMPSHIRE, ENGLAND

**Father's Name: John Knight**

Indexing Project (Batch) Number: C15056-1

System Origin: England-ODM

GS Film number: 0994051 IT 3-5

"England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975," database, *FamilySearch*

(<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:JQX6-JPD> : 11 February 2018, John Knight in entry for Thomas Knight, 21 Mar 1601); citing , index based upon data collected by the Genealogical Society of Utah, Salt Lake City; FHL microfilm 0994051 IT 3-5.

**Name: Christofer Knight**

Gender: Male

Christening Date: 20 Jan 1604

Christening Date (Original): 20 JAN 1604

Christening Place: RINGWOOD, HAMPSHIRE, ENGLAND

**Father's Name: John Knight**

Indexing Project (Batch) Number: C15056-1

System Origin: England-ODM

GS Film number: 0994051 IT 3-5

"England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975," database, *FamilySearch*

(<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:NK66-32H> : 11 February 2018, John Knight in entry for Christofer Knight, 20 Jan 1604); citing , index based upon data collected by the Genealogical Society of Utah, Salt Lake City; FHL microfilm 0994051 IT 3-5.

There was another family of Knights in Ringwood, which contained another familiar name:

**Name: Peter Knight**

Gender: Male

Christening Date: 10 Feb 1604

Christening Date (Original): 10 FEB 1604

Christening Place: RINGWOOD, HAMPSHIRE, ENGLAND

**Father's Name: William Knight**

Indexing Project (Batch) Number: C15056-1

System Origin: England-ODM

GS Film number: 0994051 IT 3-5

"England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975," database, *FamilySearch*

(<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:N154-BQ2> : 11 February 2018, William Knight in entry for Peter Knight, 10 Feb 1604); citing , index based upon data collected by the Genealogical Society of Utah, Salt Lake City; FHL microfilm 0994051 IT 3-5.

And a third family, headed by Edmond Knight, whose marriage record was also found:

**Name: Edmond Knight**

**Spouse's Name: Christena Davis**

Event Date: 14 Oct 1602

Event Place: RINGWOOD, HAMPSHIRE, ENGLAND

Indexing Project (Batch) Number: M15056-1

System Origin: England-ODM

GS Film number: 0994051 IT 3-5

"England Marriages, 1538–1973 ," database, *FamilySearch*

(<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:N26H-7XZ> : 10 February 2018), Edmond Knight and Christena Davis, 14 Oct 1602; citing RINGWOOD, HAMPSHIRE, ENGLAND, reference , index based upon data collected by the Genealogical Society of Utah, Salt Lake City; FHL microfilm 0994051 IT 3-5.

I also located Christena/Christian's probable birth record:

**Name: Christian Davyes**

Gender: Female

Christening Date: 1575

Christening Date (Original): 1575

Christening Place: ROCKBOURNE, HAMPSHIRE, ENGLAND

Father's Name: John Davyes

Indexing Project (Batch) Number: C14653-1

System Origin: England-ODM

GS Film number: 1041287

"England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975," database, *FamilySearch*

(<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:JQF8-F7W> : 11 February 2018, John Davyes in entry for Christian Davyes, 1575); citing , index based upon data collected by the Genealogical Society of Utah, Salt Lake City; FHL microfilm 1,041,287.

Edmond and Christena had two sons:

**Name: Joseph Knight**

Gender: Male

Christening Date: 14 Aug 1603

Christening Date (Original): 14 AUG 1603

Christening Place: RINGWOOD, HAMPSHIRE, ENGLAND

**Father's Name: Edmond Knight**

Indexing Project (Batch) Number: C15056-1

System Origin: England-ODM

GS Film number: 0994051 IT 3-5

"England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975," database, *FamilySearch*  
(<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:NK8T-1XD> : 11 February 2018, Edmond Knight in entry for Joseph Knight, 14 Aug 1603); citing , index based upon data collected by the Genealogical Society of Utah, Salt Lake City; FHL microfilm 0994051 IT 3-5.

**Name: John Knight**

Gender: Male

Christening Date: 15 May 1608

Christening Date (Original): 15 MAY 1608

Christening Place: RINGWOOD, HAMPSHIRE, ENGLAND

**Father's Name: Edmond Knight**

Indexing Project (Batch) Number: C15056-1

System Origin: England-ODM

GS Film number: 0994051 IT 3-5

"England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975," database, *FamilySearch*  
(<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:JSL4-TF7> : 11 February 2018, Edmond Knight in entry for John Knight, 15 May 1608); citing , index based upon data collected by the Genealogical Society of Utah, Salt Lake City; FHL microfilm 0994051 IT 3-5.

The last of the Ringwood Knight families, father Edward Knight:

**Name: Henry Knight**

Gender: Male

Christening Date: 16 Dec 1604

Christening Date (Original): 16 DEC 1604

Christening Place: RINGWOOD, HAMPSHIRE, ENGLAND

**Father's Name: Edward Knight**

Indexing Project (Batch) Number: C15056-1

System Origin: England-ODM  
GS Film number: 0994051 IT 3-5

"England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975," database, *FamilySearch*  
(<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:J71X-H6P> : 11 February 2018, Edward Knight in entry for Henry Knight, 16 Dec 1604); citing , index based upon data collected by the Genealogical Society of Utah, Salt Lake City; FHL microfilm 0994051 IT 3-5.

Twin boys born to a John Knight in Ringwood in 1613 seem to be children of John christened 1597. John christened 1573 already had boys named John and William, and the odds that both of them died and he named subsequent sons the same names are very slim. John would only be about 16 years old, but that is old enough. The age of children at christening can vary depending on circumstance, so he could be a bit older:

**Name: William Knight**

Gender: Male

Christening Date: 25 Aug 1613

Christening Date (Original): 25 AUG 1613

Christening Place: RINGWOOD, HAMPSHIRE, ENGLAND

**Father's Name: John Knight**

Indexing Project (Batch) Number: C15056-1

System Origin: England-ODM

GS Film number: 0994051 IT 3-5

"England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975," database, *FamilySearch*  
(<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:NK66-SHF> : 11 February 2018, John Knight in entry for William Knight, 25 Aug 1613); citing , index based upon data collected by the Genealogical Society of Utah, Salt Lake City; FHL microfilm 0994051 IT 3-5.

**Name: John Knight**

Gender: Male

Christening Date: 25 Aug 1613

Christening Date (Original): 25 AUG 1613

Christening Place: RINGWOOD, HAMPSHIRE, ENGLAND

**Father's Name: John Knight**

Indexing Project (Batch) Number: C15056-1

System Origin: England-ODM

GS Film number: 0994051 IT 3-5

"England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975," database, *FamilySearch*

(<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:NK6D-LJ6> : 11 February 2018, John Knight in entry for John Knight, 25 Aug 1613); citing , index based upon data collected by the Genealogical Society of Utah, Salt Lake City; FHL microfilm 0994051 IT 3-5.

As you will see, virtually ALL of the names in the records above are found in Colonial American records, associated with each other.

### **THE FIRST KNIGHTS IN THE COLONIES**

Peter Knight the Merchant came to the Colonies in 1638:

**13 Mar 1638 - VA Isle of Wight - Admin - Peter Knight, Merchant -** Land patent for 200 acs... S.W. into the woods upon land of Leift. John Upton. Sly., & upon the Batchelors plantation Nly. Due by assignment & exchange to & with sd. Leift. Upton to & with Mr. Thomas Hill for 200 acs. in any other place ungranted & by sd. Hill sold to sd Knight for a valuable consideration.

Cavaliers and Pioneers: Abstracts of Virginia Land Patents and Grants, 1623-1666. Vol. 1, Nell Marion Nugent, Richmond, VA: Dietz Printing Co., 1934, 767 p. Reprinted by Genealogical Publishing Co., Baltimore, 1983, p.105

**15 Mar 1638 - Upper New Norfolk County, Virginia - Admin - Epaphroditus Lawson –** Land patent for 250 acs. N. side of Chuckatuck Riv., adj. His own land ... Due for trans. Of 5 pers: Incl. **Mary Peirce, Edmund Knight.**

Cavaliers and Pioneers, Vol. 1, p. 106

Isle of Wight and Upper New Norfolk counties were adjacent in 1638.

Also in 1638, Peter Knight applied for a license to sell tobacco in England:

**23 Apr 1638 - UK England Southampton - Admin - Peter Knight, Merchant -** 60 shillings for a license to retail tobacco in the **Twyford** and **Hursley**, Southampton.

*Library of Virginia; Richmond, Virginia; Chancery Patent Rolls.* 14 Charles I, Part 16; Public Record Office Class: C 66/2811; Survey Report 10943

Southampton, England is a large port city. Ship building was an important industry there starting in the Middle Ages. The Mayflower sailed from Southampton in 1620.

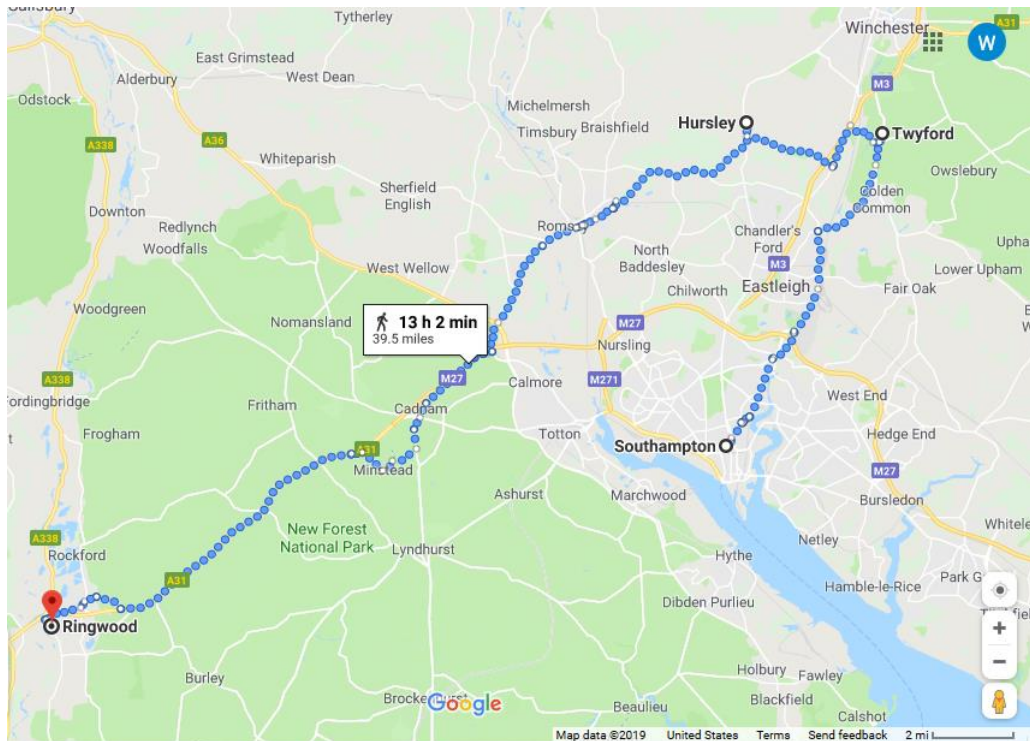
The River Itchen runs from Twyford to Southampton. This river was important for trade from as early as 983. A staithe for unloading boats was recorded at Bishopstoke in 960, and stone for Winchester Cathedral, built in 1079 when Winchester was the capital city of England, was probably transported by



water from the quarries of Caen in France. The first recorded improvements to the river were made by Godfrey de Lucy, who was Bishop of Winchester between 1189 and 1204. (Wiki)

Hursley is a small village about four miles to the west of Twyford, and was likely accessed by wagon from there.

See the map below for the proximity of these areas to Ringwood, England:



Map courtesy Googlemaps.com

Peter Knight was a factor for Joseph Sanders, named as the chief merchant for a sailing of the Flower de Luce of Weymouth, which sailed from Newfoundland on 11 Oct 1638. A factor was a broker authorized to sell goods, in this case tobacco. We know about this sailing because there was some controversy over some goods valued at £200 embezzled by Hugh Weston, the Master of the Flower de Luce. There are some interesting names mentioned in this document.

Reference: Chancery Patent Rolls. 14 Charles I, Part 16. N.p., 1638. Print. Located at the Library of Virginia.

Weymouth, the city from which the Flower de Luce sailed, is a port about 38 miles to the west of Ringwood, England. Melcombe Regis, which was absorbed into Weymouth in later years, is thought to be the town through which the Black Death first arrived in England in June 1348. (Wiki)

The name Pearce is from the preceding 15 Mar 1638 deed in which Epaphroditus Lawson transported **Mary Pierce** and **Edmund Knight** reappears in 1648. A Capt. William Pierce appears in a 1648 land

transaction with the names **John Knight** and **Anthony Coleman**, whose significance will become clear. **William Pierce** also is named as being transported in 1648 with a **Robert Knight**. Robert could be a relative of the Knights of Ringwood, but I have as yet been unable to place him in the family. There are numerous Pierce families in Hampshire, though no records for them appear specifically in Ringwood.

This may be the birth record for Robert Knight in Essex in 1621:

**Name: Robert Knight**

Event Type: Christening

Event Date: 14 Oct 1621

Event Place: Chelmsford, Essex, England

Gender: Male

**Father's Name: Robert Knight**

**Mother's Name: Tomazin**

GS Film Number: 001472064

Digital Folder Number: 004139960

Image Number: 00841

Citing this Record

"England, Essex Parish Registers, 1538-1997," database, *FamilySearch*

(<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QJD7-YV3L> : 6 November 2017), Tomazin in entry for Robert Knight, 14 Oct 1621, Christening; citing , Chelmsford, Essex, England, Essex Record Office, England; FHL microfilm 1,472,064.

A Thomasin Knight was transported to the colonies in 1643:

**10 Aug 1643 - York County, Virginia** - Admin – **Roland Burnham** - Gent. - \_\_ acs. upon the N side of Yorke R. SE on Burnhams Crk. and along the river NW upon John Bayles, NE on Thos. Wilkinson & Robert Norrice. For trans of: himself, **Thomasin Knight**, James Uteley, Martin Baker, Walter Wood, Thomas Wooldrige, John Mason, William Heward, William Peach.

Records of Colonial Gloucester County Virginia, Vol. 1, Polly Cary Mason. Southern Historical Press, Greenville 1946

This may well be Robert Knight's mother. And that would lead us to conclude that this is a different family of Knights, unrelated to the Peters, Joseph, and John.

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The Peter Knight of the Flower de Luce, Peter the Merchant, was born 10 Feb 1604 in Ringwood, Hampshire, the son of William. There is another Peter Knight in Virginia (the Captain) a bit later, and we will come to him in due time. That Peter is a member of this family, but he is not a son of Peter the Merchant. The relationship between these two men has confounded researchers, as they appear to be

related, but evidence proves they are not father and son. Henceforth, I will separate them by title. Peter born 1604 will be referred to as “the Merchant,” and Peter born around 1620 is “the Captain.”

When Peter Knight the Merchant and Edmund Knight patented land in Virginia in 1638, they were followed along by other members of the Ringwood group. In 1640, Thomas Knight born 1601 arrives on the scene in the Colonies:

**11 Jan 1640 - VA Accomack / Northampton** – Admin - **Thomas Knight** - Court: Land Certificates: A certificate was granted to **Thomas Knight** for the following: Thomas Adderston, Richard Jones, Thomas Harrison, John Roberts, Percy Terry.

Virginia Land Records : from the Virginia magazine of history and biography, the William and Mary College quarterly, and Tyler’s quarterly. Gary Parks. Genealogical Publishing Co, Baltimore

Then, two John Knights are transported:

**17 Jan 1642 – Gloucester, Virginia** - Admin – **Hugh Gwynn** – Land patent for 1700 acs.: “Near the mouth of the Pyankatanke R. Beginning at a sandy point on Chisopeiake Bay up Milford Haven Bay to the narroe bounded by a great bay called Stengra Bay being due E from said River mouth, parallel to Rappahannocke Bay & S’ly parallel to Chisopeike. 200 acs. marsh.” Trans of: ... William Parker, Richard Bennett, Thomas Taylor, **John Knight, twice**, Nicholas Reynolds, etc. (Mason 1946, p. 35)

Records of colonial Gloucester County, Virginia : a collection of abstracts from original documents concerning the lands and people of colonial Gloucester County. Polly Cary Mason. Newport News, Va. Mrs. G.C. Mason, 1946-1948.

I believe one of the John Knights in the deed above to be John born 1597. The other could be his son born 1613, or his probable cousin, the son of Edmond, born 1608. If it is John born 1608, this is when Joseph’s brother makes his appearance in the Colonies.

This is a good time to address the relationship between Joseph and John Knight, the sons of Edmond Knight, and Peter, the son of John Knight. John Knight’s father was Edward Knight; we have the birth record for John 1573. I have been unable to locate birth records for Edmond Knight, William Knight, or Edward Knight in Hampshire, but these men were all in Ringwood with John in the early 1600s, fathering children. Joseph Knight named his first son Edward. It is impossible to know for certain, but it seems reasonable to assume that Edward Knight, born 1573, was the parent of these men.

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John Knight sold land to Ambrose Cobbs in Henrico in 1639, but it was not recorded until 1656. This deed is incredibly important in tracing the origins of the Amherst Knights. It, along with other land owned by John Knight, allows us to tie together John and Joseph Knight and others in the story:

At a court holden at Fort Henry 15 Jul 1656

**John (Harris) Knight** give and grant unto **Ambrose Cobb** three hundred and fifty acres situate lying upon Appamattock River in county of Henrico...westerly upon land of **Mr. John Baugh**...easterly upon land of **Mr. Abraham Wood**...15<sup>th</sup> of July 1639...Thos. Brereton. Entered amongst the records of this County of Henrico this first day of February 1683 att request of Tho. Burton

Henrico County, Virginia, Deed Book 1, p. 266

Abstracted by Wanda Tucker. Original included in the Documents section.

The land here would have been, from land descriptions found, near what is still called "Cobb's Island," almost due south of Richmond, Virginia.

Since this deed was not entered into the court record until 1683, this leads me to believe that the death of John Knight, brother of Joseph, the date of which is proven by a deed we will get to, might have been the instigating factor in the recording of this document in 1683. At any rate, he doesn't appear to be in the area, as this transaction was recorded without him. This deed is included in Cavaliers and Pioneers, Vol. I, but Nugent makes no mention of John Knight as the original owner of this land:

**Ambrose Cobbs**, 350 acs. Henrico Co., July 25, 1639, page 658. Upon Appamattuck Riv., adj. land of **Mr. John Baugh & Mr. Abraham Wood**. Trans. of 7 pers: **Ambrose Cobbs, Ann, his wife**, Robert his son, Margaret his daughter, Richard Barker, Hugh Barker, Thomas Harding.

Cavaliers and Pioneers, Vol. 1, p. 111

The inclusion of the middle name Harris suggests that Edmond Knight, the father of John and Joseph, may have married a Harris. There are quite a few Harrises in Ringwood, England in the correct timeframe, including a Thomas Harris, born 1608 to father Thomas.

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:NK66-QPR>).

The odd thing about marriages in Ringwood is there are often no records which correlate to the births of children there. It seems that many people in Ringwood earlier than about 1600 may have married elsewhere. A Thomas Harris married Christian Basing in 1592 in Winchester. This is the only marriage in Hampshire for a man named Thomas Harris from 1590 to 1610:

**Name: Thomas Harris**

**Spouse's Name: Christian Basing**

Event Date: 18 Nov 1592

Event Place: Saint Swithun Over Kingsgate, Winchester, Hampshire, England

Indexing Project (Batch) Number: M01490-1  
System Origin: England-ODM  
GS Film number: 496686

"England Marriages, 1538–1973 ," database, *FamilySearch*  
(<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:NVPH-H5N> : 10 February 2018), Thomas Harris and  
Christian Basing, 18 Nov 1592; citing Saint Swithun Over  
Kingsgate, Winchester, Hampshire, England, reference , index based upon data collected by the  
Genealogical Society of Utah, Salt Lake City; FHL microfilm 496,686.

The younger Thomas may be the man transported by Peter Knight to Isle of Wight in 1643, along with a  
**Thomas Cobb:**

**10 May 1643 - Isle of Wight, Virginia - Admin - Peeter Knight** - Land patent for 255 acs. ...  
called Basses Choice.... Near Pagan Bay & Dawsons Cr. & land of Mr. Peter Hall. Trans. Of 6  
pers: **Peter Knight, Thomas Harris**, James Foster, Edward Wells, William Nicholas, **Thomas  
Cobb**.

Cavaliers and Pioneers, Vol. 1, p.166

The elder Thomas Harris may be this man:

**Capt. Thomas Harris.** Aged 38, in the Prosperous in May ----. "An Ancient Planter and  
Adventurer in the time of Sir Thomas Dale his Government." Burgess, Henrico, 1623/4, 1639.  
1646, 1652, 1653, 1656/7.

Cavaliers and Pioneers, Vol. 1, p. xxxiv

The only date I find for sailings of the Prosperous in May is 1610, mentioned in Cavaliers and Pioneers,  
Vol. 1. The father of Thomas born 1608 would be of the correct age to be this man. Sir Thomas Dale's  
stockade was built in 1611:

"The Kenecock with the large rock cliffs of Point of Rocks and next to it the land, later  
known as Cobb's Plantation were ...."part of the land encompassed by Sir Thomas Dale's  
stockade built in 1611. The stockade ran from the James River to the Appomattox for  
purposes of protecting settlers from marauding Indian bands" (and to keep in livestock  
and giving them some protection from prowling wild animals.) "Dale's plantation, known  
as Bermuda, included both the Kenecock and Cobb's and were among the first to be  
sought for private ownership."

<http://hestories.info/the-history-of-point-of-rocks.html>

**Ambrose Cobb/Cobbs** in the deed above is the brother of **Thomas Cobb** from the list of people transported by Peter Knight to the Colonies in 1643. Thomas's marriage is recorded in 1619 in Canterbury marriages:

**Cobb, Thomas**, of Willesborough, yeom., ba., about 29, and **Susan White** of Hinxhill, maiden, about 19, d. of Robert White, late of Waltham, dec., and now dwelling with Susan White her mother at Hinxhill, who consents. At S. Andrew's, Cant. Oct. 8, 1619.

Canterbury Marriage Licenses, Second Series, 1619-1660. Edited by Joseph Meadows Cowper. Cross and Jackman, Printers & Publishers, Canterbury, 1894.

It is very interesting to me that based on the information above, Thomas Cobb and Susan White travelled *forty miles* to marry in Canterbury.

Thomas's brother Ambrose married Susan's sister in 1625:

**Cobb, Ambrose** of Willesborough, yeom., ba., about 22, at his own govt., and **Ann White**, late s. p., and now of Norton, maiden, about 17, whose father and mother are both long since dead, and she is now under the govt. of Thomas Cob (sic) her brother, who consents, as is testified by Edward Cobb of Cant., mercer. At Norton, April 11, 1625.

Canterbury Marriage Licenses, Second Series, 1619-1660

Both of these women were later used as headrights in Virginia:

Capt. Robt. Priddy, 500 acs. New Kent Co., 7 June 1665, p. 193, (85). N. side of Mattapony Riv., upon S.E. dise of Arratico Cr. &c. to white oake that stands by Tassiopumps &c. Trans. of 10 pers: Robert Dixon, Jno. Andrewes, **Ann Cobb**, Thomas Blake, Mary Jnoson, Edward, Mills, Wm. Skill, Wm. Toffy, Jno. Morry, Jno. Morgan.

Cavaliers and Pioneers, Vol. 1, p. 457

Nicholas Cobb, 202 acs. Isle of Wight Co., 21 Feb. 1663, p. 363, (392). Beg. on Swd. Side of Floyds Cr. issuing out of Pagan Cr.&c. to Galcknie Sw., thence along Jno. Crews Sw. &c. adj. Mr. Nich. Smith &c. & from Major Jno. Bond N. W. along a path &c. Trans. of 5 pers: **Susan Cobb, Sr.**, Mary Cobb, Susan Cobb, Jr., Jane Cobb, Jane Howard.

Cavaliers and Pioneers, Vol. 1, p. 512

Thomas Cobb reappears in another Peter Knight deed in 1652, which we will come to.

The Baugh family, will continue to be associated with the Knights and other collateral families in Henrico until the 1740s.

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In 1643, Joseph Knight, John's brother, patented land in James City County.

**1 July 1643** - Land grant, **James City County, Virginia - Knight, Joseph**. grantee. Description: 2000 acres on the East side of Chickahominy River 1600 acres lying **between ye branches of Jones Creek, Morgans Creek and Warrany**.

Reference: Land Office Patents No. 3, 1652-1655, p. 5 (Reel 2). Part of the index to the recorded copies of patents for land issued by the Secretary of the Colony serving as the colonial Land Office. The collection is housed in the Archives at the Library of Virginia.

The modern spelling of "Warrany" is Wahrani. It is a swamp/creek near Lanexa, Virginia. I have plotted this land using modern maps. For reference, I will use Lanexa as a place name for this deed going forward. My reason for attempting to plot the deeds on modern maps is to show the proximity of these deeds to each other. Deeds may appear to have been in different counties, but often with boundary changes, etc., what appears to be people living far apart, or a family moving all over is actually a matter of a few miles.

In 1644, John Knight is a witness to a transaction in Elizabeth City, Virginia:

**1 Mar 1644 - Elizabeth City, Virginia - John Knight** - witnesses a sales transaction of 1200 lbs tobacco sold by Daniel Tanner of Elizabeth City, carpenter, and Cornelius Lloyd (Loide), of Elizabeth River, merchant, to John Flower, of London.

Surry County Records 1652-1684, Eliza Timberlake Davis. Clearfield, Baltimore, 2010, p. 23

In 1648, there is a land transaction notes that the land in question was once owned by John Knight, adjacent land owned by **Anthony Coleman**:

**9 Sept 1648 - James City, Virginia** - Admin - Mrs. Jane Pirkins - Patent for 27 acs. ... Adj. land of **Anthony Coleman** & near John Fitchett. This land was given to Alexander Stoner by Capt. William Peirce in open court and forfeited by sd. Stoner unto **John Knight**, who assigned to William Edwards, who assigned it to Edward Prince, who assigned it to Robert Miles, who assigned it to the sd. Mrs. Perkins.

Cavaliers and Pioneers, Vol. 1, p. 177

Noting the chain of custody of the above land, either John acquired it years earlier, or it changed hands very quickly. The name Anthony Coleman is bolded because he is very significant to our story later on.

John Knight patented more land in Virginia in 1657, near where Joseph Knight patented land in 1643:

**John Knight**, 300 acs. James City Co., 20 Mar. 1657, p. 167, (248). On N. side of James Riv. & S. E. side of Chichohominy, beg. on the head of a path leading to Capt. Bennett Freeman & Edward Harrison, N. to Thomas Young, to Delonies marked trees, thence to Sir William Berkelyes &c. Trans. of 6 pers.\*

Cavaliers and Pioneers, Vol. 1, p. 364

This deed gives a somewhat better land description of the land above:

Thomas Younge, 250 acs. James City Co., **15 Jan. 1657**, p. 168 (250). On N. side of James Riv. & E. side of Chichohominy Riv., N. on land formerly Mr. James & **now in possession of John Knight, E. on Pagan Cr.**, S. towards **Thomas Harvyes** land and Wly. On Capt. Bennett Freeman's land formerly Col. Bridges Freeman's. Trans. of 5 pers: Isabell Neale, Hen. Shiply, Jno. Cobb, Martha Homes. Renewed 18 Mar. 1662.

Cavaliers and Pioneers, Vol. 1, p. 364

To have an even better understanding of where exactly this land is, we find this patent:

Edward Travis, 300 acs. in Chichahominy Riv., James City Co., 25 Apr. 1639, p. 642. **In Warranty Cr.**, W. upon land of Bennett Freeman, N. upon land of William Wigg, a Cr. betweene & S. upon the mouth of sd. Cr. Due for trans. of 6 pers: Edward Johnson, Luke Bromly (first written *Barnaby*), Tho. Croutch, May Jackson, Jonathan Addington, Bridgett Osborne.

Same. 800 acs. Same Co. & date, p. 643. In Chichahominy Riv., being **a neck of land called pease hill**, one side butting downe the maine river Ely., & the head of the neck upon the Ely. Side adj. land of William Beard &c. Due for his own per. adv. & trans. of 15 pers: Ambrose Poyner....

Cavaliers and Pioneers, Vol. 1, p. 108

Peace Hill, Wahrani Swamp, and Lanexa, Virginia are only 5-10 miles away from each other, when plotted on a modern map.

All of this information shows that John Knight's land in Virginia in 1657 is in the same area as his brother Joseph and his sons. The brothers stuck close by each other in the strange new land.

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The number of Knights in the Colonies rapidly increased from 1638 to 1650. In March of 1642, Thomas Knight patented land in Accomack, just across the Chesapeake Bay from Gloucester:

**Mar 1642 - VA Northampton** – Admin – **Thomas Knight** - Accomack County Court: A certificate for taking up land in Northampton County was granted to Thomas Knight for the following persons: Thomas Adderston, Richard Jones, Thomas Harrison, John Roberts, Percy



Terry. A cert. was granted to William Andrews for: Alexander Harrison, Thomas Gaskins, John Lee, etc.

VA Hist. Mag. Vol. XXVIII, p. 143

Notice that the same people are being transported by Thomas in 1642 as were in 1640. This appears to have been common practice. These people traveled the sea in much the same way as we travel the roads. There is also the likelihood of some “fudging” by men hungry for land. Sometimes it appears family members also used the same people’s names for different grants of land, using them as a means of acquiring more property than actually deserved.

In 1643, Merchant Peter Knight patented land in Isle of Wight, at Basse’s Choice, in the deed shown above. Peter’s inclusion of himself as a headright in this transaction is due to a “debt” owed to him from a previous trip:

**10 Apr 1638 - Upper New Norfolk, Virginia - Admin - Peter Knight, Merchant - Land patent for 14 acs., being an island in Nansamund Riv., ... S. side the Riv. Opposite land of Oliver Sprye & adj. Land of Robert Newman and Randolph Crew. Sd. 14 acs. & 36 acs. not yet taken up, due for his own per. Adv.**

Cavaliers and Pioneers, Vol. 1, p. 83

Why he wanted a fourteen-acre island in the middle of the Nansemond is unknown, but intriguing. This deed does lead to an interesting part of the Peter Knight myth, however. The land he patented, Basse’s Choice, originally belonged to Nathaniel Basse. Many genealogists have asserted that Peter married Genevieve Basse, a daughter of Nathaniel. The following deposition in *The Complete Book of Emigrants 1607-1660* by Peter Wilson Coldham, was given at the Lord Mayors Court of London:

**1654 - Aug 30 - London - Admin - Nathaniel Basse - Lord Mayors Court of London: Major Edward Basse, citizen and merchant of London aged 60, and Dame Mary Poole (signs Pole) wife of Sir John Poole of Bromley, Middlesex, age 62, depose that Hester Hobson of Bromley, widow, Abigail Thorpe of Chelsea Hampton, Oxon, widow, and Sarah wife of Thomas Hastler, citizen and barber surgeon of London, are sisters and are daughters of Humphrey Basse of London, Merchant, and Mary his wife, both long since deceased. The sisters are co-heirs of Luke Basse who died a bachelor and was brother of Nathaniel Basse lately deceased without issue in Virginia.** Thomas Hastler is appointed attorney.

The Complete Book of Immigrants, 1607-1660, Peter Wilson Coldham, Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, 1987

This means that there would have been no Basse daughter for Peter to marry.

**Captain Peter Knight Arrives in the Colonies**

More of the Knights were immigrating, enabling others to acquire land. This is the first land record for Peter Knight the Captain, although he had been in the colonies for some time. A rabid Puritan, he was involved in an episode when Puritans took over Kent Island in Maryland in 1646, where he is said to have arrived "from Virginia." More information on this can be found in *The Flowering of the Maryland Palatinate* by Harry Wright Newman.

*The Flowering of the Maryland Palatinate*, Harry Wright Newman. Genealogical Publishing Co., Baltimore, 1961. Pp. 142-144

Peter the Captain's land acquisitions were all around Northumberland, Virginia:

**24 May 1650 – Northumberland County, Virginia - Admin - Peter Knight, William Knight - Court:** According to sufficient prooffe made to this Court, there is due to **Mr. Peter Knight** One hundred & Fifty acres of Land for the transportation of these persons into this Colony, Viz his own transportation, **William Knight**, John Claborry.

*Northumberland County Virginia Apprenticeships 1650-1750*. W. Preston Haynie, Heritage Books, 2007, p. 11

Also in May 1650, William Knight begins to build a reputation for himself in Northumberland. It's not necessarily a good one:

**May 1650 – Northumberland, Virginia - Admin - Capt. William Knight - Court:** Whereas it appears to this Court that **Capt. William. Knight** hath abused William Cooke by strikinge the said Cooke and rasinge him to fight in the presents of the Court, the Court hath therefore ordered that the said Capt. Knight shall by the last day of November next satisfie and pay the quantity of Three hundred pounds of tobacco to Publique Use or else Execucon.

*Northumberland County Virginia Deed and Will Abstracts 1650 – 1655*, Ruth and Sam Sparacio, Colonial Roots, Millsboro, 2016, pp. 12-13

I believe the William transported in 1650 by Peter Knight was his brother, one of the twins born 1613 to John Knight born 1597. I believe this John is Peter Knight's father. John himself shows up in coming documents, associated with James Hawley, who is very significant to this family. Hawley's daughter Anne married Captain Peter Knight. John is the correct age (proven by a document we will come to), and his other sons also make appearances in Northumberland.

Like Peter, William Knight above is a captain. My speculation is the money in this family came from John born 1573, who I suspect was the son of a prosperous merchant in Ringwood. But who knows, it could be that his sons made it on their own, purchasing ships with their own earnings, or were commanding ships owned by others. It is also possible that William became captain of the ship owned by Peter Knight when he settled himself in Northumberland.

John Knight, born 1613, twin brother of William, showed up in Northumberland in 1655 as a witness to a deed. We know this not John Knight the elder, because he made his mark instead of signing his name. This John is illiterate; on earlier documents the elder John signs his name:

2 Apr 1655 - **Westmoreland County, Virginia**– Admin – **Nicholas Meriwether** - sells James Hare 200 acres out of a patent of 1350 acres... Wit: Abraham Moone, **John Knight, his marke**.  
Rec. 20 Jul 1655.

Virginia Colonial Abstracts, Vol I, Beverley Fleet, Reprinted for Clearfield Company, Inc. by Genealogical Publishing Co, Baltimore, 1988. p. 659

I found a birth record in Hampshire, England for Peter, father John, in 1615. It is possible this is Captain Peter, though the record makes him five years older than his estimated age from court records.

**Name: Peter Knight**

Residence Place: Kingsclere, Hampshire, England

Gender: Male

Christening Date: 1615

Christening Date (Original): 17 AUG 1615

Christening Place: KINGSCLERE, HAMPSHIRE, ENGLAND

**Father's Name: John Knight**

Indexing Project (Batch) Number: C13576-5

System Origin: England-VR

GS Film number: 1041209

Reference ID: - 2:2RDPMCB

"England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975," database, *FamilySearch*

(<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:J7C8-VM7> : 10 February 2018, John Knight in entry for Peter Knight, ); citing - 2:2RDPMCB, index based upon data collected by the Genealogical Society of Utah, Salt Lake City; FHL microfilm 1,041,209.

There is also a birth record for a Peter Knight, christened in London in 1620, son of Peeter and Sisseley:

**Name: Peeter Knight**

Gender: Male

Christening Date: 02 Jul 1620

Christening Date (Original): 02 JUL 1620

Christening Place: ST BRIDE FLEET ST ,LONDON,LONDON,ENGLAND

Father's Name: Peeter Knight

Mother's Name: Sisseley

Indexing Project (Batch) Number: C02242-2

System Origin: England-ODM  
GS Film number: 380154

"England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975," database, *FamilySearch*  
(<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:JWQB-9J3> : 11 February 2018, Sisseley in entry for Peeter Knight, 02 Jul 1620); citing , index based upon data collected by the Genealogical Society of Utah, Salt Lake City; FHL microfilm 380,154.

The father Peeter died and was buried in London in 1629. He was a haberdasher by trade. It is possible this is Captain Peter, but all of the connections to the Knights from Ringwood lead me to conclude that he is probably not the correct man. If he is, then the only apparent family connection between Captain Peter, Merchant Peter, Joseph Knight, Leonard Knight, and all the other family names in the Colonies is a shared surname, which seems unlikely to me. It is more likely that Peter's birth was unrecorded, has not been located, or was lost.

In one deed in Virginia, Captain Peter Knight is referred to as "Jr." on 15 Mar 1663. Captain Peter's father would be deceased if he was the son of Peeter, above, and he wouldn't be a junior if his father was John, as I contend. The 1663 deed, however, occurred *after* both Peter Knights, captain and merchant, were members of the House of Burgesses, so it would not be unlikely that the younger man would be referred to as Jr. to distinguish him from the older man. Captain Peter served the Burgesses for Northumberland in 1658 and Merchant Peter for Gloucester in 1659. Captain Peter represented Northumberland again in 1684.

Journals of the House of Burgesses of Virginia, 1659/60-1693. By Virginia General Assembly. House of Burgesses. Edited by H. R. McIlwaine. Richmond, Virginia

Peter Knight the Merchant died by 1674, leaving no children. We know this is the case, because one of the headrights for his land in 1652 inherited the land when he died. If he had children or grandchildren, they would certainly have protested:

**25 Aug 1652 - VA Gloucester - Admin - Mr. Peter Knight** - Land patent for 700 acs. ... Upon Easternmost side of Poropotank Cr. towards the head of same, beg. at a branch dividing this & land of Mr. Blunt &c. Trans. Of 14 pers: John Ball, Alexander and Richard Weston, John Henton, **Thomas Cobb**, Thomas Taberer, Richard Lathberry, James Clarke, **Samuel Clarke**, Margery Chamber, Thomas Miller, Katherine Huse, Arthur Carpenter, John Simpson (Simson).

Cavaliers and Pioneers, Vol. 1, p. 277

**8 Apr 1674 - VA Gloucester - Admin - Samll. Clerke** - Land patent for 700 acs.... E. side Poropotanck Cr. & maine Sw; p. 511. Granted **Mr. Peter Knight, dec'd.**, 25. Aug. 1652 & *due sd. Clerke as heire & next of Kinne.*

Cavaliers and Pioneers, Vol. 1, p. 147

There are a few ways in which Clarke could have become Knight's heir. He could have been a son-in-law, meaning Merchant Peter at least had a daughter; a nephew if Peter had a sister; or a step-son, if Peter married Clarke's mother as a widow. That one is possible, as Samuel Clarke is shown in the following document as an "orphan" in 1647:

**26 Jan 1647 - York County, Virginia - Admin - Samuel Clarke - Court:** That Nicholas Clarke is bound for paymt of 1500 lb tobo for John Coleman to Augustine Warner...Committee of administration on estate of Walter Pitchfork to John Hartwell "**in the behalf of Samuel Clarke orphan**".

Virginia Colonial Abstracts, Volume III, York County, Charles City County, Henrico County, Lower Norfolk County, Washington County Marriage Register. Beverley Fleet, Huntington Library Data; Clearfield, 1988. p. 69

Captain Peter Knight's will is dated 28 Nov 1702. He named children Leonard, James, Elizabeth and Mary.

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At this point in the story of the Knights of England who are eventually found in Amherst, Virginia, we leave Peter the Captain and Peter the Merchant behind. Armed with the family names from England and the fact that Peter the Captain stayed mostly in Northumberland, Virginia, it is fairly easy to sort out who is who. I do believe that John christened in 1597 in England is the best candidate to be the father of Peter the Captain. He appears as an older man in documents in Northumberland, associated with James Hawley, whose daughter, Anne, Peter married. Thomas born 1601 and William born 1606, who would be Peter's uncles, both appear there, too, as does Thomas's son, Thomas. Peter eventually named a son after his English uncle Leonard, who it appears didn't immigrate to Virginia.

As a final note on the Northumberland branch of the Knight family, and as further confirmation that John born in Ringwood Hampshire is the John who appears in Northumberland associated with Peter, consider this entry in the Journal of the Burgesses of the House of Virginia, 1659/60-1693, where both Peter the Merchant and Peter the Captain served as Burgesses at different times:

26 Oct 1666 – John Knight petitioning for Exemption from Levies as being Seventy Years Old the Assembly have ordered that if the County Clerk think him fit to be exempted from the payment of Levies his petition be granted. 26 October.

Journals of the House of Burgesses of Virginia, 1659/60-1693

John in the above case, being 70 years old in 1666, would have been *born* in 1596. John Knight was *christened* in Ringwood in 1597.

## **THE KNIGHTS OF JAMES CITY COUNTY, VIRGINIA AND COLLATERAL FAMILIES**

## The Coleman Family

In order to trace the Knight families in Henrico and Surry, it was necessary to trace collateral family's records in addition to the records for the Knights. This is often the case, as records can be scarce, and because the people associated with one family group may tie back to another family group, as is the case here. By locating the people *around* the families, we can better follow where they went.

In 1642, **Anthony Coleman** patented land in Virginia:

**21 Sept 1642 - James City County, Virginia** - Admin - **Anthony Coleman** – Land patent for 82 ½ acs. In Pasbyhaies .... By order of Court, Dec. 3, 1639, "For the better strengthening and securing of James Cittie," &c. Adj. Sir Francis Wyatt, Alexander Stoner, his own land & Mr. White's. 21 yr. Lease from the feast of St. Michael the Arch Angell 1649. Annuall Rent: 3 bbls. & a bushel of Ner. Indian corne sheld at the State Howse in James Citty." Note: Renewed in the name of Thomas Ludwell, 11 July 1651.

Cavaliers and Pioneers, Vol. 1, p. 145

The place name in the above deed should read Pasbehegh's. There is a Lake Pasbehegh near Jamestown, Virginia. That is important, as it places this land very near the area where Joseph Knight and his three sons are found. Documentation makes clear that two of Joseph's sons likely married Coleman daughters, and I believe a third may have as well. Remember also the deed referenced earlier, involving land of a Jane Pirkins in 1648, which showed that John Knight previously owned said land, which was adjacent Anthony Coleman. I believe this John would be Joseph's brother, born 1608 in Ringwood, Hampshire, England.

Almost simultaneously with the deed above, Henry Coleman, probably Anthony's brother transported William Knight. This William is probably Joseph Knight's cousin from Ringwood, Hampshire, England:

**17 Oct 1642 - Elizabeth City, Virginia** - Admin - **Henry Coleman** - Land patent for 104 acs.... Bounded W. upon Hampton River, S. by land of Mr. Henry Poole & N. by land of Mr. Robert Speed. Formerly lease land. For trans of 2 pers: Robert Peltriman & **William Knight**.

Cavaliers and Pioneers, Vol. 1, p. 137

Joseph Knight, the progenitor of the Amherst Knight line, received a land grant in James City County 1650.

**25 Sept 1650** - Land Grant, **James City County, Virginia** - **Joseph Knight**, grantee. 1600 acres **between the branches of Jones Creek. Morgans Creek and Warrany**, on the East side of Chicahominy River.

Land Office Patents No. 2, 1643-1651, p. 264 (Reel 2). Located at Library of Virginia

On the same day, Joseph's son Edward, probably born about 1629 or so, patented land nearby:

**25 Sept 1650 - James City County, Virginia - Admin - Edward Knight** – Land patent for 140 acs. ...Lying at the head of Chiskroes Cr. On the e. side of Chickahominy Riv., bounded N. upon land of **Mr. Robert Holt**, S. upon Mr. Samuel Abbott, W. upon the head of the Cr. & E. upon Mr. Robert Witherall. Being part of 560 acs. Granted to Mr. Richard Bell, who by will bequeathed same to his sonn in Law Thomas Morecock, and due sd. Knight by purchase from Morecock.

Cavaliers and Pioneers, Vol. 1, p. 202

**25 Sept 1650 - Edward Knight** - Land patent for 400 acs. ... Lyeing neare the Southermost br. of Warreny Cr. On the E. side of Chickohamony Riv., beg. At the extreame of **Joseph Knight, his father**, running N. thence E. to Richahock Path. Trans. Of 8 pers.

Cavaliers and Pioneers, Vol. 1, p. 202

These are the pieces of land which are close by Pasbehegh Lake, the same "Pasbyhaies" mentioned in the Anthony Coleman deed in 1642. These are the earliest records which name Joseph and his sons.

In 1654, we find the sons of Joseph Knight in further land transactions. Edward and Joseph Knight inherited land from what appears to be their father-in-law:

**1 Jun 1654 - James City - Admin - Majr. Francis Morrison** - Land patent for 24 acs. Commonly knowne by the name of the Glasse House, James City Co., ...The sd. Land being formerly by Sr. **John Harvey, Knt.** by bill of sale assigned to **Anthony Coleman**, & by **Edward Knight & Joseph Knight the heires of sd. Coleman**, assigned to John Senior etc...

Cavaliers and Pioneers, Vol. 1, p. 240

This land is about 2 miles from Pasbyhegh Lake, quite a ways south of the land owned by Joseph Knight and his sons. It is home of a famous landmark, the Jamestown Glasshouse.

"America's first English industrial manufacture began here with a "*trial of glass*".

Jamestown was established by the Virginia Company of London in May 1607. Their 1606 charter, granted by King James I, outlined the many purposes and goals of the Company. But like all good companies, its primary duty was to provide a profitable return to the investors.

One of the first English attempts at industrialization and manufacturing in America was glassblowing. The Company hoped glass production might provide the profit that it was looking for. The New World abounded with raw materials -wood for fuel and ash, and sand (silica) for the glass. All that was needed were artisans and various laborers to produce the glass.

Arriving with Captain Christopher Newport on the second resupply in early October 1608, the Virginia Company of London sent eight Dutchmen (Germans) and Poles to produce glass, pitch, tar, and soap ash. By early December, Newport departed for England with "*trials of Pitch, Tarre, Glass, Frankincense, Sope ashes, with what Clapboard and Waynscot that could be provided.*" However, what type or form of glass and how much was actually produced is unknown. This first attempt at a full glass production facility in the New World would not be successful.

The glasshouse may still have been active in 1610 when William Strachey, secretary for the Virginia Company of London wrote from Jamestown that the glasshouse was "a goodly house ... with all offices and furnaces thereto belonging."

<https://www.nps.gov/jame/planyourvisit/glasshouse.htm>

When Morrison renewed his patent on 6 Sept. 1655, Joseph Knight was stated as functioning as attorney for William Coleman, another heir of Anthony Coleman.

“Formerly by **Sir John Harvey** by bill of sale made over unto Anthony Coleman, & by **Edward Knight** his heir & **Joseph Knight, Att. Of William Coleman, joynt heir to sd. Anthony Coleman**, assigned to John Senior” etc.

Cavaliers and Pioneers, Vol. 1, p. 313

Possibly William Coleman was underage, and Joseph was his guardian, but the fact that Edward and Joseph Knight were both earlier referred to as heirs of Anthony Coleman clearly points to the possibility that both men married Coleman daughters. There were actually three girls born to Coleman, all in London, England:

**Name: Elsabeth Coleman**

Gender: Female

Christening Date: 03 Dec 1637

Christening Date (Original): 03 DEC 1637

Christening Place: ST BRIDE FLEET ST ,LONDON,LONDON,ENGLAND

**Father's Name: Anthony Coleman**

Mother's Name: An

Indexing Project (Batch) Number: C02242-3

System Origin: England-ODM

GS Film number: 380154

"England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:NLNV-QMD> : 11 February 2018, An in entry for Elsabeth Coleman, 03 Dec 1637); citing , index based upon data collected by the Genealogical Society of Utah, Salt Lake City; FHL microfilm 380,154.



**Name: Barbery Colman**

Gender: Female

Christening Date: 08 Mar 1639

Christening Date (Original): 08 MAR 1639

Christening Place: ST BRIDE FLEET ST ,LONDON,LONDON,ENGLAND

**Father's Name: Anthoney Colman**

Mother's Name: Ann

Indexing Project (Batch) Number: C02242-3

System Origin: England-ODM

GS Film number: 380154

"England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975," database, *FamilySearch*

(<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:NLNV-L7J> : 11 February 2018, Ann in entry for Barbery Colman, 08 Mar 1639); citing , index based upon data collected by the Genealogical Society of Utah, Salt Lake City; FHL microfilm 380,154.

**Name: Alice Colman**

Gender: Female

Christening Date: 12 Sep 1641

Christening Date (Original): 12 SEP 1641

Christening Place: ST BRIDE FLEET ST ,LONDON,LONDON,ENGLAND

**Father's Name: Anthoney Colman**

Mother's Name: Ann

Indexing Project (Batch) Number: C02242-3

System Origin: England-ODM

GS Film number: 380154

"England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975," database, *FamilySearch*

(<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:JQ2J-YLX> : 11 February 2018, Ann in entry for Alice Colman, 12 Sep 1641); citing , index based upon data collected by the Genealogical Society of Utah, Salt Lake City; FHL microfilm 380,154.

If the boys married the girls in birth order, then Edward, likely the oldest, would have married Elisabeth, and Joseph, Barbery. The youngest daughter, Alice, was only thirteen when the above deed intimated the Knight brothers married her sisters. I can't prove it, but she may have married the third son of Joseph Knight, William. She also could have married John's son, John, born 1632 in Ringwood, England. I think this latter is the more likely case, as shown by John's relationship to Anthony Knight, explored later.

That William was a son of Joseph is proven by these deeds:

**Wm. Knight**, 809 acs. 16 chs. 5 dec. pt., James City Co., **14 Sept. 1665**, p. 452, (545). Beg. on N. side of the old Rockahoc path to James Citty, thence by a line of marked trees running W. &c.

to corner stake nere Mr. Bush his fence, being the end of an deviding line **between sd. Knight & his brother Joseph Knight**, along same &c. to line deviding this from Ellen Bush thence E. &c. to W. side of the greate marked road, downe the same severall courses 92 chs. to the sd. Path, down same S.S.E. to the old path tending toward James Citty, down same several courses 70 ch. on a forke of Arrow reade Sw., along sd. Path S. by W. to the greate cart Road to Yorke, over the same & along sd. path S. 1/3 Wly. 21 ch. to beg. **Part of 2000 acs. granted unto Mr. Joseph Knight, dec'd, 1 July 1653, who gave by will to his son Will.**

**Joseph Knight**, 809 acs. 16 ch. 5 pt., **James Citty Co.**, 14 Sept. 1665, p. 453, (547). Beg. nere Mr. Bush his fence, running W. &c. to W. side of a branch of Morgans Cr., N. &c. to hickory on S. side of the Southernmost br. of Warrany Cr., thence E. &c. to red oake at the Northernmost end **of line dividing this & land of his brother Wm. Knight**, along same So. &c. **Part of 2000 acs. granted to Joseph Knight, dec;d., 1 July 1653 & given by will to his son, the sd. Joseph.**

Cavaliers and Pioneers, Vol. 1, p. 540

The land would be close to Lanexa, Virginia on a modern map.

There is a deed adjoining land of William Knight in James City County in 1659. This land is farther north, bordering on New Kent County, as shown by other deeds:

**William Smith**, 400 acs. **James City Co.**, 6 Apr. 1659, p. 267, (368). On E. side of Chickahiminy Riv., S.Ely. **on Maj. Holts land, Nly. on Mathewe Williams**, E. & Nly. on **Wm. Knights land**, Wly. on branch of Morgans Cr. & Sly. on Mr. Manings land. 200 acs. by patent dated 8 Aug. 1654 & residue for trans. of 4 pers: his wife, Wm. Holliday.

Cavaliers and Pioneers, Vol. 1, p. 389

It appears William was the youngest of Joseph Knight's sons. The above deeds suggest to me that William came of age and received his land at this time, meaning he was born about 1638.

More evidence of the location of this land and the relatively young age of William Knight in this time period is found in the following deeds. We know his father is deceased, so this is a reference to his age only, not an identifier to differentiate him from his father.

**John Adams**, 220 acs. **New Kent Co.**, **16 Feb. 1662**, p. 308, (285). 50 acs. adj. devdt. of **John Basbies (or Busbies)** of 350 acs., running W. by N. to Arrow Reed Sw., thence N.N.E. &c. 170 acs. N.C. on sd. Basbies land, E. & S.E. on Stephen Pettus land, S.W. on Mathew Williams land & N.W. on Rickahock pathe and **the young Knights land** & N. Ely. On the reedy swamp. 50 acs. granted to Jno. Barsby 28 Dec. 1657 & 170 acs. for trans. of 4 pers: Wm. Young, Jno. Taylor, Mary Ward, Wm. Hart.

Cavaliers and Pioneers, Volume 1, p. 494

John Basby's land was in New Kent County:

**John Basby**, 50 ac. **New Kent Co.**, 28 Nov. 1657, p. 164, (243). Adj. his own land, running W. by N. to Arrow Reed Swamp. Trans. of Edward Taylor.

Cavaliers and Pioneers, Vol. 1, p. 363

The name Busby will reappear in Surry County in association with John Knight, probably William's first cousin.

So, we know the William Knight land was at the northern end of James City County, bordering (or in) New Kent County. This will become an important fact later on, in proving the connection of the Amherst Knights to this William.

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Also in 1653, Henry Soanes transported several Knights into the Colonies:

Mr. Hen. Soanes, 1200 acs. On the N. E. side of Mattapony Riv., beneath the land of Mr. Wm. Wyat, beg. At the mouth of a creek & running S. S. W. down the river to an ancient Indian Ferry on the upper side a marsh, soe S. S. E. & S. E. by S. along the back og the marsh to the river &c. 10 Mar. 1653, p. 26. 700 acs. Granted to Hen. Soanes last of July 1653 & 500 acs. For trans. Of 10 pers: Negro woman; Kath. Yorkshire, Marv. Wms., **Tho. Knight**, **Mary Knight**, Richd. Lathbury, **Jon. Knight 3 times**; assigned by Mr. Robert Ellyson.

Cavaliers and Pioneers, Vol. 1, p. 240

Also, there is another grant that mentions Henry Soanes which would appear from the land description to be near the land owned by Joseph and his sons:

Philip Charles, 140 acs. Upon the Southernmost branch of **Warreny Cr.**, on the E. side of Chichohominy Riv., bounded from corner tree of Mr. Wm. Strong, to marked trees of **Mr. Soanes**. 8 Apr. 1656, p. 18, (28). Trans, of 3 pers: Tho. Beggon, Eliz. Marin, (or Mavin), Hugh Hemecegga (?).

Cavaliers and Pioneers, Vol. 1, p. 327

Note that in the first Soanes deed above, *three* John Knights are listed. John Knight born in 1608 had a son born 1632 in Ringwood, England. One of the men above could be that John, just come of age:

**Name: John Knight**

Gender: Male

Christening Date: 30 Dec 1632

Christening Date (Original): 30 DEC 1632

Christening Place: RINGWOOD, HAMPSHIRE, ENGLAND

**Father's Name: John Knight**

Indexing Project (Batch) Number: C15056-1

System Origin: England-ODM

GS Film number: 0994051 IT 3-5

"England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975," database, *FamilySearch*

(<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:JQX6-FNB> : 11 February 2018, John Knight in entry for John Knight, 30 Dec 1632); citing , index based upon data collected by the Genealogical Society of Utah, Salt Lake City; FHL microfilm 0994051 IT 3-5.

John Knight the elder married Elizabeth Cleuerley/Cleverly in 1631:

**Name: John Knight**

**Spouse's Name: Elizabeth Cleuerley**

**Event Date: 30 May 1631**

Event Place: Fareham, Hampshire, England

Indexing Project (Batch) Number: M06306-2

System Origin: England-ODM

GS Film number: 918892

"England Marriages, 1538–1973 ," database, *FamilySearch*

(<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:N2GL-V2T> : 10 February 2018), John Knight and Elizabeth Cleuerley, 30 May 1631; citing Fareham,Hampshire,England, reference , index based upon data collected by the Genealogical Society of Utah, Salt Lake City; FHL microfilm 918,892.

\*\*\*

Sometime before 1680, John Knight born 1608, brother of Joseph, died. This is proven by his mention in a deed for Thomas Warberton:

**10 Jul 1680 - James City County, Virginia - Admin - Thomas Warberton, SR** – Land patent for 430 acs.... beg. At the mouth of a small slash of Pagan Cr. Sw; **including 40 acs. purchased of John Knight, dec'd**; Formerly granted & now new surveyed, &c.

Cavaliers and Pioneers: Abstracts of Virginia Land Patents and Grants, Vol. 2, 1666-1695. Nell Marion Nugent, Virginia State Library and Archives, 1977, p. 211

The land referred to above was probably a part of the land patented to John Knight 20 May 1657, referenced earlier.

Cavaliers and Pioneers, Vol. 1, p. 364

The death of John triggered the recording of the sale of land originally granted to him, that he transferred to Ambrose Cobb in 1639. The sale was finalized at a court held at Fort Henry in 1656, but not recorded in Henrico records until 1683. I believe that the Henrico land is in the area where Anthony Knight, grandson of John or Joseph Knight, is later found. John Gilliam, whose granddaughter is goddaughter to Anthony Knight per his will, had land in this area as well, in 1663. The Gilliam family had a long history with the Knights which we will address when we come to Anthony's will.

### **The Gregory Family**

The Gregory family is also found among the patents for land surrounding Joseph Knight's land patent in 1643.

In 1653 Alex. Gregory and a son Alex were transported into the area of Warrany Creek. This land is 3-5 miles from the Joseph Knight land near Lanexa, Virginia.

Richard Jackson, 400 acs. Upon Yorke Riv., in a bay next beyond land of Wm. Hockaday, **bounded E. by S. upon Warrany Cr. &c.** 5 Apr. 1653, p. 31. Due by purchase of a survey & rights for trans. of 8 pers: Martin Wseterlinckes his wife & child, Hum. Wms. (Williams), **Alex. Gregory twice**, the said Alexander again, Timothy Turton.

Cavalier and Pioneers, Vol. 1, p 243

In 1658, Alexander Gregory is a headright for John Pigge, in the area north of the Mattaponi River. These Gregorys were migrating northeast. This land is within 10-20 miles of the Knight land at Lanexa.

Cavaliers and Pioneers, Vol. 1, p 370

Some Gregorys were in the Henrico area quite early. Thomas Gregory was transported to Herring Creek by Thomas Paulett in Jan 1637. (Cavaliers and Pioneers, Vol. 1, p 79). He acquired land nearby in 1641:

Capt. Richard Popeley of Va., Gent., to **Thomas Gregory** & Tho. Lucas, Planters, of Va., one plantation called by the name of the Middle House. Feb. 1, 1641. Page 58. Witness: John Shephard.

Cavaliers and Pioneers, Vol. 1, p 161

In August of the same year, Gregory and Lucas assigned the land to Thomas Heath. By 1645, Richard Popeley had died, and his wife Elizabeth was administering his estate. This land, also referred to as Middle Plantation, is also very near Lanexa, and today the town is the famous landmark, Williamsburg.

Cavaliers and Pioneers, Vol. 1 p 167

In 1663, a Jos. Gregory appears in this same area as a headright for Tho. Hanckes.

Cavaliers and Pioneers, Vol. 1, p 490.

Thomas Gregory continued to be used as a headright in the area surrounding the Knight land. He was used by Peter Gill and Henry White on 15 Feb 1663, and by Col. Robt. Abrall on 26 Apr 1664. All this headright activity leads me to conjecture that Thomas was traveling back and forth to England selling tobacco, as a factor or merchant in his own right.

Thomas Gregory was cited for nonappearance in court in Henrico in 1684:

Upon the nonappearance of **Thomas Gregory** Order for attachm<sup>t</sup> is granted unto Cap<sup>t</sup> Tho Cocke high Sherr:<sup>f</sup> of this County

Virginia Genealogical Society Quarterly, Vol. 30 No. 4

Note the name Thomas Cocke. This name reappears later on. On the same date in this court, the names Howard, Childers, and Woodson appear. All of these names were later associated with the Knights in Henrico, Goochland, and Amherst Counties.

By 1695, Richard Gregory had land on Arracaico Creek, later known as Burnt Mill Creek. This land is right in the middle of all the previous activity, and about ten miles from the land at Lanexa:

“It is known that Richard Gregory had possession of the land along the Mattapony River in 1695, and that it was part of the Fenton patent lands, extending along the Mattapony River from Mr. Gregory’s Creek up to Arracaico Creek, for a few years later, Francis Gregory, widow (of Richard Gregory), was charged with 700 acres of land in the tithe lists.”

Old New Kent County [Virginia]: Some Account of the Planters, Plantations and Places in New Kent County, Volume 1, Malcolm Harris, p. 298

From all of the information above, it is certain that the Joseph Knight line, which included sons Edward, Joseph and William, would have been closely associated with the Gregorys for at least 70 years prior to the sale of land by Samuel Gregory to William Knight, which was witnessed by John Knight in 1727.

### **The Chamberlayne Family**

The **Chamberlayne** family is associated with the Knights from 1652, when Peter Knight, the Merchant transported William Chamberlin to the Colonies:

**16 Jul 1652 - Gloucester County, Virginia** - Admin - **Peter Knight** - Land patent for 1,000 acs. ... On S. side of Poropotank Cr., on N. side of York Riv., & bounded from the head of gutt issueing out of sd. Cr. Dividing this from land formerly surveyed by Mr. Richard Lee &c. Trans. Of 20 pers: William Vert (or Uert), Robert Young, Godfrid Niren (or Nixen), **William Evans**, Lawrence Evans, Humphrey Hawoods, John Fulcher, John Nighthill, John Farmer,

**William Chamberlin**, Mathew Bradford, John Lastly, James Foster, Ursela Smith, William Right, John Smith, Thomas Jervis, Stephen Collin, Thomas Powell, Elizabeth Monke (or Mouke).

Cavaliers and Pioneers, Vol. 1, pp. 258-9

There are actually two names contained in this land patent which are significant in our search for the origins of the Knight family in Amherst, Virginia. We will begin with Chamberlayne, but we will return to the name Evans.

The land patented by Peter Knight at Poropotank Creek, when William Chamberlin was included as a headright, lies across the York River, but only about 12 miles east of the lands patented by Joseph and John Knight.

It may be that the association between the Knights and at least some of the Chamberlaynes actually began in England. A Robert Chamberlayine was christened in Cheriton, Hampshire, England in 1582:

**Name: Robert Chamberlayine**

Gender: Male

Christening Date: 10 Nov 1582

Christening Date (Original): 10 NOV 1582

Christening Place: CHERITON,HAMPSHIRE,ENGLAND

Father's Name: Georg Chamberlayine

Indexing Project (Batch) Number: C13690-1

System Origin: England-ODM

GS Film number: 1041251

"England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975," database, *FamilySearch*

(<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:NKPW-6DH> : 11 February 2018, Georg Chamberlayine in entry for Robert Chamberlayine, 10 Nov 1582); citing , index based upon data collected by the Genealogical Society of Utah, Salt Lake City; FHL microfilm 1,041,251.

This Robert had a daughter born in Ringwood, Hampshire, England in 1605:

**Name: Dorothe Chamberleyn**

Gender: Female

Christening Date: 29 Sep 1605

Christening Date (Original): 29 SEP 1605

Christening Place: RINGWOOD, HAMPSHIRE, ENGLAND

**Father's Name: Robert Chamberleyn**

Indexing Project (Batch) Number: C15056-1

System Origin: England-ODM

GS Film number: 0994051 IT 3-5

"England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975," database, *FamilySearch*  
(<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:J71L-R4W> : 11 February 2018, Robert Chamberleyn in entry for Dorothe Chamberleyn, 29 Sep 1605); citing , index based upon data collected by the Genealogical Society of Utah, Salt Lake City; FHL microfilm 0994051 IT 3-5.

In the terrible and trying conditions under which people lived during these times, even a familiar name was probably enough to form a bond between people. If they originated in the same place, they must have been even closer.

In 1699, Thomas Chamberlayne is found in Henrico County. Thomas is an immigrant from Gloucester, England. This deed is witnessed by Anthony Knight:

**23 Aug 1699 – Henrico County, Virginia - Admin - Thomas Chamberlayne - Of Henrico sells Martha Jones daughter of Philip Jones of Henrico, a mare named Peggy Wit: Anthony Knight, Charles Roberts.**

Henrico County Virginia Colonial Deeds 1677-1705, Benjamin B. Weisiger, III. Iberian Publishing, Athens, Georgia, 1996, p. 111

The 1683 Visitation of Gloucestershire gives as the second son of Edmund Chamberlayne of Mangersbury “Thomas, of Virginia, who married Mary, daughter of Abraham Wood of Virginia. This Thomas settled in Henrico County...”

Virginia Gleanings in England, *The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, Vol. 23, No. 2 (Apr., 1915), pp. 156-161

Recall the name Abraham Wood. His land was named as adjacent to the land sold by John Knight to Ambrose Cobbs in 1639. This strongly suggests Anthony Knight is related to John. Thomas Chamberlayne was the executor of Anthony Knight’s will.

In another twist, the Visitation names Thomas’s brother Edmund, born 1645, who married Mary, daughter of Sir John Knight, of Temple Street in Bristol. I can find no link between this John Knight and the Knight family already in Virginia since the 1640s.

### **THE JOHN KNIGHT LINE IN HENRICO AND SURRY**

John Knight born 1632 in Ringwood, England, was indentured to William Farrar in Henrico County, and when Farrar died, he had five years left in his service:

**21 Feb 1677 – Henrico County, Virginia – Inventory of Col. William Farrar –** In the possessions of Col. William Farrar made for probate of his will, the following is included: ... one man servt by name Thomas Davis, twenty months to serve; a boy servt named George Crooker, 5 years to serve, **a man servt named John Knight, 5 years to serve.**



Virginia Genealogical Society Quarterly, Vol. 29, No. 3, p. 168

William Farrar owned land which would have been very near the land owned by John Knight born 1608, and assigned to Ambrose Cobbs in 1639:

Tho. Ligon & **Capt. Wm. Farrar**, 375 acs. **Henrico Co.**, 3 Oct. 1664, p. 376, (416). **N. side of James Riv.**, beg. at the Round aboute slash, adj. Morgan Price & running through another br. Of sd. Slash W.N.W. &c. Trans. of 8 pers: Walter Felkes, Sam. Rigot, Ellinor Wallis, James Hickton, Ann Armstrong, Jone Davis, Tho. Peldon, Wm. Dodson.

Cavaliers and Pioneers, Vol. 1, p. 516

**Capt. Wm. Farrar** & Thomas Ligon (Liggon), 335 acs. 25 po. **Henrico Co.**, 3 Oct. 1664, p. 377, (417). S. side of James Riv., beg. at a white oake upon the River in Mont Malada (Mount my lady) field, against a place where an old Oven had stood, running N. W. by W. to the red Water Slash &c. downe the **falling ground of Proctors** &c. Trans. of 7 pers: Phillis (a ?) Servant, Robt. Winter, Danll. Fishes, Tho. Morsey, Jane Holmes, Wm. Young, Mary Worts.

Cavaliers and Pioneers, Vol. 1, p. 516

William Farrar transported a long list of people into Virginia in 1737. The list of names is further evidence that the John Knight above is definitely related to John the brother of Joseph, and to the John Knight who ends up in Surry:

**William Farrar**, sonne & heire to Willim Farrar, late of Henrico, dec'd., 2000 acs. Henrico Co., 11 June 1737, p. 436 Abutting Ely. Upon the Gleab land of Varina, extending Wly. To the bottome of \_\_\_\_ Island, Sly. Upon the maine river & Nly. Into the woods. Trans. at his own cost of 40 pers: ...Eliz. Foster...**Hen. Gyllom**... Jon. Price... **Robert Coleman**.

Cavaliers and Pioneers, Vol. 1, p. 60

I believe the Hen. Gyllom named above to be Henshaw, the son of Henshia Gilliam or his brother John, and the Colemans, as we know, are very close to the Knight family.

Sometime in his years in Henrico, I believe John Knight had sons John and Anthony. Anthony Knight left a will in Henrico County in 1700. From connections between a John Knight who appears in Surry in 1690 and Anthony in Henrico, I conclude that both men, Anthony and John, are the sons of John born 1632. It is also possible that Anthony is a grandson of Joseph Knight, and he and John are only first cousins. There are just not enough records to be 100% sure. We will explore Anthony Knight's will extensively later, as there are many important family connections to be gained from it.

Five years after the will of William Farrar, at the end of his service, John Knight born 1632 was used as a headright in Surry County:

Thomas Blunt & Richard Washington, 330 acs., Up. Par. Of Surry Co; ½ mile from the main Black Water; 29 Apr. 1682, p. 165. Beg. at Richard Parker. Trans. of 7 pers: Rose Aldridge, Mary Trott, Giles, Harman, Tho. Porter, Richd. Hawkins, John Knight, Joseph Townly.

John born about 1669 appears in Surry as a titheable for Thos. Busby in 1690, but he is not there from 1691 to 1692. The following deed, in which he is a headright, may be his “coming of age:”

**Mr. James Cock**, John Butler & Wm. Low, 1684 acs., Chas. City Co., at a place known as *Moncuseneck* (Monk’s Neck); 21 Apr. 1690, p. 71 Beg. at **Jno. Evans** & Roger Tillman; crossing Cattail Br; & upper Nottaway Path; to Moncuseneck main Sw. Imp. of 34 pers: **Wm. Barker**, Joan Barker, Benja. Lucas, ....**Jno. Knight**. ...

Cavaliers and Pioneers, Vol. 2, p. 347

The land above when plotted on a map is in *Surry County*. William Barker and other surnames from this list appear in the tithables lists in Surry County in the 1680s-90s.

In 1693-94, John Knight reappears as a tithable for Tho. Cotton in Surry, apparently working for him if not actually indentured to him. In those years, Hintia Gillam, Anthony Evans, and Francis Grigory/Gregory all are listed. In 1695, John Knight is his own tithable in the tithables list.

In 1696, **John Knight** and **John Oliver** appear one right after the other on the list. Considering that Surry was a hotspot for tobacco trading throughout the 1690s, and that it seems John Oliver might have been a factor for the Anthony Knight plantation in Henrico as we will see from Anthony’s will, John Oliver may have been in Surry to explore the tobacco trade there on behalf of Knight. John Oliver is on the tithables list until 1699, and John Knight is there until 1703. The intersection and obvious connection between these two men is further evidence of the connection between the Henrico and Surry Knight families.

The children of John Knight born about 1669 are found in Surry County in the 1740s-50s, founding the Surry line of Knights. The first deed below is for John born about 1690. In the second he gives the land to his son William, born about 1720.

**25 Jul 1741 – Surry County, Virginia - Admin - John Knight** – Land patent for 540 acres S side of Nottaway Riv., S side of Lee’s br., adj. Richard Avery & Abraham Evans.

Cavaliers and Pioneers Vol. 4, Abstracts of Virginia Land Patents and Grants, 1732-1741, Nell Marion Nugent. Virginia Genealogical Society, 1994, p. 248

**11 Mar 1752 – Surry County, Virginia – Admin – John Knight** of Albemarle Parish to his son **William Knight** for Love and Affection....150 acres on south side of Lees Branch (being a part of a tract granted said John Knight on 25 Jul 1741). Wit: Samuel Bennett, William Avery, and John Stevens, Jr. Rec: 26 Sep 1752. John (X) Knight

Surry County, Virginia, Deed Book 6, p. 500

William Knight named in the deed above had numerous children with wife Mary recorded in Albemarle Parish during this time period:

**Name: Charles Knight**

Gender: Male

Christening Date: 07 Nov 1742

Christening Place: ALBEMARLE PARISH, SURRY, VIRGINIA

Birth Date: 07 Oct 1742

**Father's Name: Wm Knight**

**Mother's Name: Mary**

Indexing Project (Batch) Number: C50464-1

System Origin: Virginia-ODM

GS Film number: 30161

"Virginia Births and Christenings, 1584-1917," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:VRPP-9VF> : 10 February 2018), Mary in entry for Charles Knight, 07 Oct 1742; citing , reference ; FHL microfilm 30,161.

**Name: John Knight**

Gender: Male

Christening Date: 03 Nov 1745

Christening Place: ALBEMARLE PARISH, SURRY, VIRGINIA

Birth Date: 17 Sep 1745

**Father's Name: William Knight**

**Mother's Name: Mary**

Indexing Project (Batch) Number: C50464-1

System Origin: Virginia-ODM

GS Film number: 30161

"Virginia Births and Christenings, 1584-1917," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:VRP2-K6V> : 10 February 2018), Mary in entry for John Knight, 17 Sep 1745; citing , reference ; FHL microfilm 30,161.

**Name: Elizabeth Knight**

Gender: Female

Christening Date: 24 May 1747

Christening Place: ALBEMARLE PARISH, SURRY, VIRGINIA

Birth Date: 19 Apr 1747

**Father's Name: Wm Knight**

Mother's Name: Mary

Indexing Project (Batch) Number: C50464-1

System Origin: Virginia-ODM  
GS Film number: 30161

"Virginia Births and Christenings, 1584-1917," database, *FamilySearch*  
(<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:VRPP-72Y> : 10 February 2018), Mary in entry for Elizabeth Knight, 19 Apr 1747; citing , reference ; FHL microfilm 30,161.

**Name: Sarah Knight**

Gender: Female  
Christening Date: 24 Mar 1748  
Christening Place: ALBEMARLE PARISH, SURRY, VIRGINIA  
Birth Date: 19 Jan 1748  
**Father's Name: William Knight**  
Mother's Name: Mary

Indexing Project (Batch) Number: C50464-1  
System Origin: Virginia-ODM  
GS Film number: 30161

"Virginia Births and Christenings, 1584-1917," database, *FamilySearch*  
(<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:VRP2-Y2R> : 10 February 2018), Mary in entry for Sarah Knight, 19 Jan 1748; citing , reference ; FHL microfilm 30,161.

**Name: Archibald Knight**

Gender: Male  
Christening Date: 05 Apr 1751  
Christening Place: ALBEMARLE PARISH, SURRY, VIRGINIA  
Birth Date: 10 Jan 1750  
**Father's Name: William Knight**  
Mother's Name: Mary

Indexing Project (Batch) Number: C50464-1  
System Origin: Virginia-ODM  
GS Film number: 30161

"Virginia Births and Christenings, 1584-1917," database, *FamilySearch*  
(<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:VRPL-KM9> : 10 February 2018), Mary in entry for Archibald Knight, 10 Jan 1750; citing , reference ; FHL microfilm 30,161.

**Name: William Knight**

Gender: Male  
Christening Date: 03 Jun 1753  
Christening Place: ALBEMARLE PARISH, SURRY, VIRGINIA  
Birth Date: 18 Mar 1753

**Father's Name: Wm Knight**

Mother's Name: Mary

Indexing Project (Batch) Number: C50464-1

System Origin: Virginia-ODM

GS Film number: 30161

"Virginia Births and Christenings, 1584-1917," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:VRPG-YH2> : 10 February 2018), Mary in entry for William Knight, 18 Mar 1753; citing , reference ; FHL microfilm 30,161.

In 1752, an account of the estate of Col. Thomas Cocke in Surry includes John Knight, a grandson son of John Knight from the Surry tithables list, among others of interest to us. This John would have been born about 1720:

**20 Mar 1752** - Account of Estate of **Col. Thomas Cocke**, decd. Lists...Col. Richard Cocke, **Howell Briggs**, Mrs. Frances Simmons, Col. Benjamin Harrison, Mr. Benjamin Cocke, Richard Cocke, Thomas Avent, William Avent, Capt. Thomas Avent, William Cocke, John Cocke, **John Evans**, John Avery, John Hill, William , Jordan, **Richard Evans**, Peter Avent, **John Knight**, Lemuel Cocke, and "to be distributed to Lemuel Cocke, **Thomas Cocke** and John Cocke equally.

Surry County, Virginia Deed Book 9, p. 849

The name Thomas Cocke appears as a witness to the 1743 deed when John and William Knight sell the Samuel Gregory land in Henrico to James Cocke. It is unknown whether that man is related to one of those listed here in Surry in 1752. The Evans and Briggs names appear yet again. These families clearly knew each other, and the various branches of them were associated for decades.

John Knight, Sr. born about 1690 in Surry, was married first to Elizabeth Jordan, and second to Elizabeth Eppes. John Knight died in Sussex County, Virginia in 1762, leaving a will:

**18 Feb 1762 - Sussex County, Virginia - Will - John Knight** - I, John Knight of Sussex County, being in perfect health of body and of sound mind memory and understanding (thanks be to Almighty God) do constitute, ordain and appoint this to be my true last Will and Testament hereby Revoking and disannulling all former Wills or Testaments by me heretofore made in manner or form following, that is to say,

IMPRIMIS I give and Devise to my loving son **William** and to his heirs forever one moiety of the tract of land I live upon to be laid off adjoining to Lee's Branch, provided always and upon condition that he pay or cause to be paid to each of my loving sons **John, Joel, Edward, Peter & Richard**, fifty shillings Current money of Virginia within three months after my decease.

ITEM I give and Devise to my loving son **Jordan** and to his heirs forever, the other moiety of my tract of land to be laid off on that part whereon the houses now stand, provided always and upon Condition the he pay or cause to be paid to each of my loving sons **John, Joel, Edward, Peter &**

**Richard** fifty shillings current money of Virginia within three months after my decease. I also give to my son **Jordan** one Bed and furniture, six Pewter Plates and two Pewter Dishes, and two Cows and Calves.

ITEM I give and Devise all and every part of the Residue of my Estate whatsoever to be equally Divided amongs my loving children, **William, John, Jordan, Edward, Joel, Peter, Richard, Sara, Anne and Mary**, and my **Grandson John Knight**, share and share alike to them and their Heirs forever.

ITEM My Will and Desire is that my Estate may not be Appraised.

Lastly I hereby constitute and appoint my loving **sons William and Jordan** my true and Lawful Executors of all and every part of this my last Will and Testament.

In WITNESS whereof I have hereunto set my Hand and affixed my Seal this seventh Day of February 1760.

Signed Sealed and Delivered by the Testator to be his John Knight (L.S.) last Will in Present of us: Nicholas Massenburg, John Cargill, Edmund Hass (his mark)

At a court held for Sussex County the 18th Day of February 1762. The aforewritten last Will and Testament of John Knight deceased was presented in Court by William and Jordan Knight the Executors therein named who made Oath thereto as the Same directs, and the same was proved by the Oaths of [the witnesses].. and by the Court ordered to be recorded... the motion is granted them for obtaining a Probate thereof in due form. A. Claiborne, Esq.

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For the last note of the Knight family in Surry, we have an example of how an error can confuse researchers for years. In 1669 a Wm Knit [Knight?] appeared on the list of tithables in Surry County.

Virginia Genealogical Society Quarterly, Volume 22, Number 1

But later, a correction of this appeared in an article titled *Misreadings of Surry Tithables in this Magazine*:

“A serious omission in our 1668 transcription occurs on page 17...On page 18, same issue, in the first list for 1669, the name given as “Wm Knit [Knight?]” should be Wm Nuit, later rendered as Newett.”

Virginia Genealogical Society Quarterly, Vol. 24, Number 4

There was no William Knight in Surry in 1669.

## Early Surry County, Virginia

A bit of the history of Surry County is illuminating. Surry appears to have produced less wealth than elsewhere in the Virginia colony. The tobacco grown there was not of the highest quality, although it was exported all over Europe. The county was depressed economically both before and after a brief boom between 1696 and 1702. But, a majority of its inhabitants in 1704, about 60%, farmed land they owned, as opposed to rented. The “poorer sort” of people in Surry were most likely tenant farmers, judging from the inventories made when they died.

In 1699, the population was about 2000 people in 361 households. There were 1350 “untithables,” meaning women and children, leaving only about 650 men. I think it is highly probable that most of those men were known to each other, as the stresses and necessities of daily life would cause them to depend on each other a great deal.

Structures of daily life: the material culture of Surry County, Virginia, 1690-1715, Anna Louise Hawley, Portland State University, 1986

Some of the people appearing as tithables for others in Surry in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century were indentured servants. In 1699, it has been estimated that more “unfree” immigrants arrived than in any other year of the century. But some of these men were likely working on their own behalf for wages, in order to save money to purchase their own land. The practice in England was to contract for one year, and studying the tithables lists in Surry over a couple of decades indicates that they had reverted to the practice, as men went from household to household for work.

“In England, an indenture, or contract for labor, was known as a "covenant merely personal," and could apply either to farm laborers or apprentices learning a trade. Contracts generally lasted a year, after which terms were renegotiated. As the merchant and adventurer Sir George Peckham noted in 1583, many English men and women willingly became servants "in hope thereby to amend theyr estates," and young children were sometimes bound to service by parents who might not otherwise be able to afford their upbringing. While there was not necessarily a strong stigma attached to indentured servitude, the institution—first in England and then in Virginia—temporarily transformed free men and women into chattel, or property to be bought and sold.”

Wolfe, B., & McCartney, M. Indentured Servants in Colonial Virginia. (2015, October 28). *Encyclopedia Virginia*. Accessed 09/02/2019  
[http://www.EncyclopediaVirginia.org/Indentured\\_Servants\\_in\\_Colonial\\_Virginia](http://www.EncyclopediaVirginia.org/Indentured_Servants_in_Colonial_Virginia).

If the man were indentured, he didn't get much for it, other than his passage to America and years of hard work.

“Servants would work 3-7 years clearing new land, moving the edge of English settlement further west into the North American continent and increasing the volume of tobacco exports. At the end of their term of indenture, the contracts usually required that the freed servant be given some basic clothing and farming equipment.

There was no automatic grant of land to immigrants. If an indentured servant had been transported by an investor who claimed the 50-acre headright, then that servant did not acquire title to any land despite their term of service.

Without land of their own, the freed servants had four choices. The first three were to return to England, negotiate a deal to work for someone else in exchange for support and wages, or find unclaimed land on the edge of settlement and become a squatter.

The fourth option was to purchase low-cost land (typically on credit), then "improve" it by cutting down the trees and preparing fields suitable for growing crops such as corn and tobacco. That was the dream of many of those who signed indentures, trading up to seven years of labor for the chance to become a landowner. Those who lived through their period of indenture struggled to become landowners, but the potential in Virginia was greater than that in England until the 1660's."

How Colonists Acquired Title to Land in Virginia. Accessed 09/02/2019.  
<http://www.virginiaplaces.org/settleland/headright.html>

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After dropping from sight after 1703 in Surry when the tithables lists end, John Knight appears in Prince George County in 1711 as an appraiser for a will. The Val. Willson also listed as an appraiser, is probably Valentine Williamson, who was listed as a tithable for John Knight in 1703 in Surry.

Prince George County Wills and Deeds 1710-1713, p. 35. Inventory of Edward Richardson, dec'd, value £29/6/10, appraised by Richard Adkins, James Fletcher, Val. (W) Willson and Jno. (X) Knight, who were sworn before John Poythres. On 13 March 1710/11 inventory was presented by Francis Mallory, Adm'r, and ordered recorded.

Virginia Genealogical Society Quarterly, Volume 29, Number 1

There is also a record of John Knight in a court held in Prince George in 1716:

Court Orders and Executions, 1714-1720, Prince George County, p. 61. Action of debt between Matthew Marks and John Knight dismiss.

Virginia Genealogical Society Quarterly, Volume 20, Number 3

Many of the names from the tithables lists in Surry appear in Prince George County. There is more about them in the section regarding the will of Anthony Knight.

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There is one other Knight on the tithables lists in Surry County, Virginia, beginning in 1668. In that year a Nathaniel Knight appears. He is named as a doctor in 1669, and remains on the lists until his death before 1679, when tithes are noted for several men at “the plantacon of Na. Knight deced.” It is unknown how or if Nathaniel Knight is related to this family line, however many names that are important in the Knight story are found in Surry throughout this time period, including Evans, Gillam/Gilliam, Gregory, and Cotton.

## THE WILL OF ANTHONY KNIGHT, 1700

### The Gilliam and Greene Families

Anthony Knight died in Henrico in 1700. From his will it appears he had no children. An abstract of this document, previously published, omits information and contains errors which have obstructed the correct interpretation of the document. The full will of Anthony Knight is included in the Documents section, and the following abstract is more accurate:

**1 May 1700 - Henrico County, Virginia - Will - Anthony Knight** – I give and bequeath unto **Major Thomas Chamberlayne** my \_\_\_\_\_ (first letter of the blank appears to be ‘I’) named George to serve to the age of thirty years and no longer. To god daughter **Margery Gillam** t\_\_\_\_\_ (twenty?) shillings. To god son **Burrell Green** twenty shillings. My will is that **John Oliver** live upon the plantation I \_\_\_\_\_ ...six years...paying yearly four hundred pds. of good tobc. Thomas Chamberlayne, Executor.

Henrico County, Virginia Wills, Book 1697-1714, p 176

Abstracted by Wanda Tucker

Parts of the will are damaged, with some areas completely missing, but all of the information it contains allows us to make some previously unknown and very revealing family connections.

Bear in mind, possibly two or even three sons of Joseph Knight, or maybe the son of John Knight married daughters of Anthony Coleman. It stands to reason one of these men had a son named after his father-in-law. Anthony Knight is the son of one of these men and is the first Knight noted in Henrico County since John Knight the elder, Joseph Knight’s brother, sold his land grant in 1639 to Ambrose Cobbs. All of the connections to follow lead me to conclude that the *most likely* father of Anthony Knight is John born 1632 in Ringwood. Record loss for James City County is extreme, and no will exists for any of the sons of Joseph or John, so it is unlikely to ever be determined for certain exactly whom Anthony’s father was.

The name George in Anthony’s will appears to be that of an indentured person. The language around his name is different than the bequests to the god children. “My \_\_\_\_\_ named George” sounds like naming property more than a family member, and “to serve to the age of thirty years” definitely sounds like servitude. I believe this is conclusive evidence that Anthony Knight died without issue.

It appears that **John Oliver** was to make an accounting to the executor of the will regarding the plantation. It reads like John Oliver may have been a factor or manager for Knight. Remember, this is important, as he appears in Surry County with John Knight in 1695, providing a connection between the Knight family in Henrico, and the John Knight line in Surry.

The two god children who appear in Anthony Knight's will are from families which lived very near the Knight family in Henrico, and also appear in Surry County. We will first address **Margery Gillam/Gilliam**, who descends from John Gilliam and Margery, who may have been a Henshaw. John had patented land in on **Swift Creek** in Henrico in 1663. This land was very near the land sold by John Knight to Ambrose Cobbs in 1639. John Gilliam abandoned this land, which was then granted to Henry Randolph in 1671. John Gilliam died in 1673, probably in Henrico, at which point Randolph decided to return the land to Gillam's widow. Randolph died before this was accomplished, but by his will the land returned to Margery Gilliam, who had by then remarried to Henry Briggs. All of this was finally resolved in 1687. See original document in that section.

21 Sep 1671

To all to whom these presents shall come Greetings:

Whereas Henry Randolph, late of this county of Henrico, deceased, did, by virtue of the General Court bearing date ye 21 of September 1671, make out and patent a tract formerly deserted by **Mr. John GILLIAM** as by ye patent for ye same dated at James Citty ye May 17, 1673 may plainly appear; and the said Randolph did assign over ye said land unto **Mrs. Margery Guyllam**, relict of ye said John, her heirs and assigns forever on 16 July 1673, but before ye same was acknowledged in Court or ratified according did depart this life.

Now I, Henry Randolph, son and heir of ye before mentioned deceased Henry Randolph, out of filial duty and reverence I bear to ye memory of my said deceased father, do grant unto **Margery Briggs**, late relict of ye aforesaid **John Guilliam** and assignee of Mr. Henry Randolph and assign forever that piece, parcel and tract of land situated, lying or being in Bristol Parish in ye county of Charles Citty on ye southside of Appomattox River as in contained herein ye bounds in ye before mentioned patent granted ye said Henry Randolph.

Henrico County Deed Book 1677-1692, p. 462

Recall in 1639, John Knight born in 1608 in Ringwood, Hampshire, England, assigned Ambrose Cobb 350 acres of land on the Appomattox River in Surry County. It was adjacent the land of **John Baugh** and Abraham Wood. This land would have been near **Swift Creek**, which intersects the Appomattox River near Conjuror's Neck shown on modern maps. Swift Creek is where **John Gilliam** originally patented land in 1663. This deed shows the land description necessary to place John Baugh's land. The maps are also helpful:

William Hayward, 780 acs., Oct. 16, 1642, p. 835. In Appamatucke River. 650 acs. bordering E. upon sd. River, W. upon the main land, S. upon Appamattucke Town & N. **upon Swift Cr.** The residue being marsh befor the plantation of sd. Hayward & commonly called the Conjurers Field, **beg. where land of Mr. John Baugh endeth.** Swift Cr. parts this from land formerly belonging



As early as 1682, Hinchea Gilliam appears on the tithables list in Surry. In that year, he was a tithable for **Henry Briggs, Sr.**, whom his mother married, along with Henry, Jr. and Charles Briggs. Charles Gilliam appears as a tithable in Surry with Henry Briggs in 1685. In 1686, Charles appears as a tithable for **Mrs. Briggs**, undoubtedly his mother, Margery, whose husband has died. In 1687, both Charles and Hintia Gilliam appear as tithables with Mrs. Briggs. This is the year when Henry Randolph's transfer of land to Margery Gilliam Briggs was finally accomplished. In 1688, Charles and his mother Margery no longer appear on the tithables list at Surry. Margery died, and Charles returned to Henrico, to the land she had been given. Hintia Gilliam remains on the tithables list in Surry, where he continues to be found until 1703. His presence intersects with that of John Knight, Anthony's brother (or cousin) in 1690, and in 1693-1703.

There is evidence to support that Margery the god child in Anthony's will belonged to Charles and not another of the Gilliam children. John Gilliam and Margery had three sons, John, Hinchea, and Charles, as determined by available records. There was also a daughter Elizabeth.

John Gilliam married Sarah and had many children, named in his will in 1738 in Surry. They included John, Hinche, Burrell, Levi, Sarah, Amy, Mary, Milley, Osom, Hansille, Tabith, and Leada. Since there is no Margery, we know the god daughter from Anthony Knight's will did not belong to John, Jr.

Reference: Surry County Will Book 8, p. 902. Will Book 9, p. 133.

Hinchea Gilliam married Fortune Flood. He also had many children, named in his will in 1736. They included Hinchea, John, Walter, Thomas, William, Charles, Priscilla, and Lydia. No Margery here, either.

Reference : Surry County Will Book 8, p. 696, Will Book 9, p. 149.

Charles Gilliam either left no will, or more likely, it has been lost. But the process of elimination proves that Margery must have been his daughter. Charles was in Henrico in close proximity to Anthony Knight. The land his mother inherited was right by where Anthony's land should have been, in proximity to the land John Knight sold to Ambrose Cobb in 1639, and he was deposed in court in Henrico in 1693:

**1 Feb 1693 - Surry County, Virginia** - John West, age 20 and **Charles Gillom, age 26** - swear that Doctor Irby was to charge no more than 1400 lbs tobacco for curing Elizabeth Maybery and her daughter and that if he didn't cure them he would take nothing.

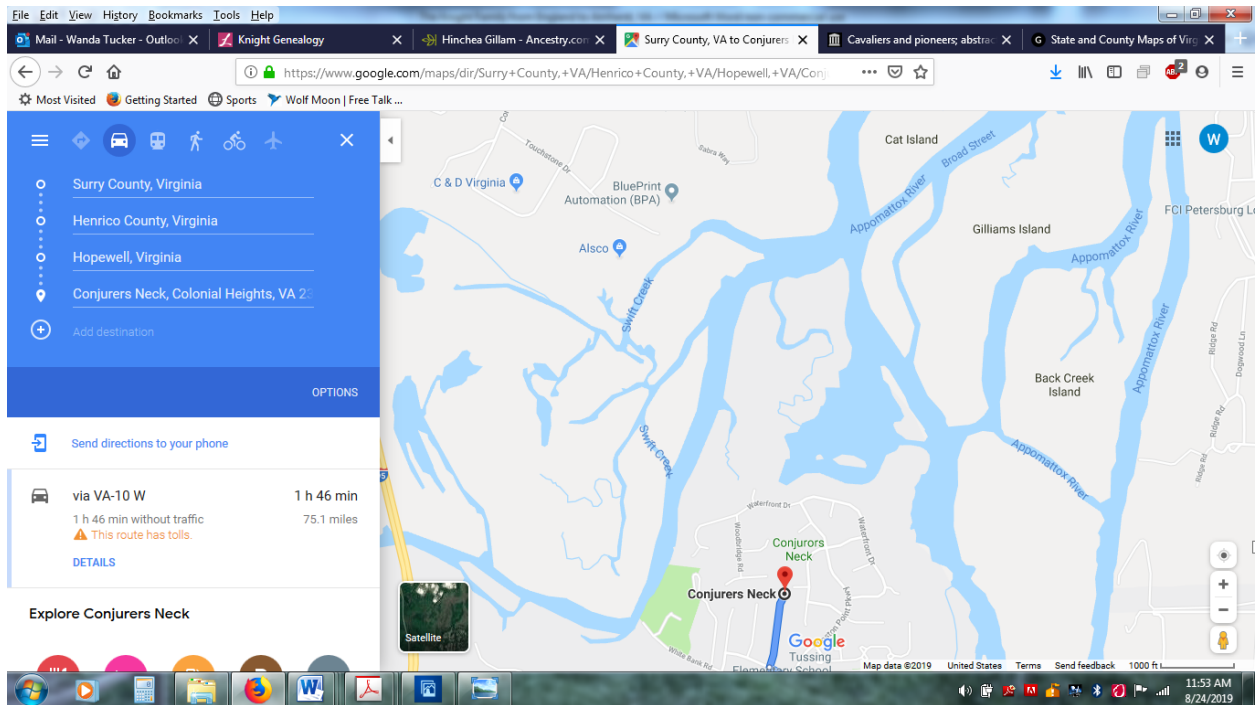
Henrico County, VA, Deed Book 1677-1692, page 455

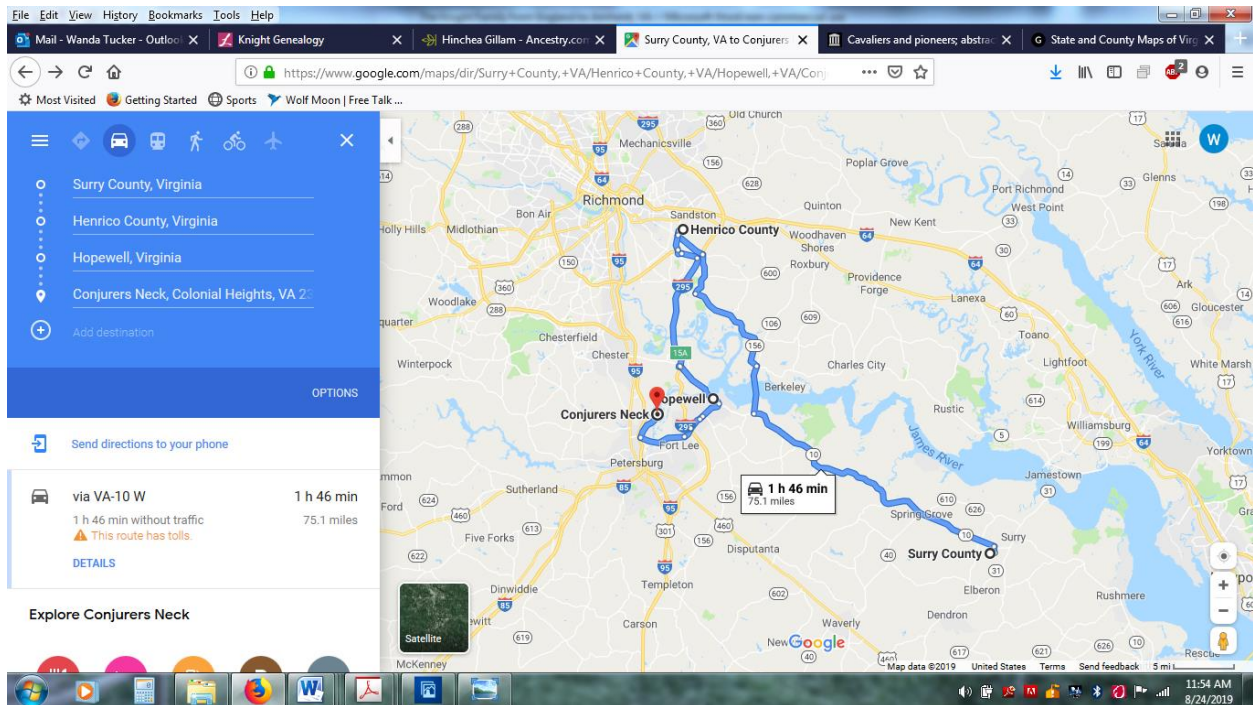
When Charles had a daughter, he named her Margery for his mother, and made Anthony Knight her godfather. From the deposition above we know Charles was born about 1667. Anthony was probably born about 1655-60, making him a bit older and more experienced than Charles. Recall in 1639, John Knight born in 1608 in Ringwood, Hampshire, England, assigned Ambrose Cobb 350 acres of land on the Appomattox River in Surry County. It was adjacent the land of **John Baugh** and Abraham Wood. This land would have been near **Swift Creek**, which intersects the Appomattox River near Conjuror's Neck

shown on modern maps. Swift Creek is where **John Gilliam** originally patented land in 1663. This deed shows the land description necessary to place John Baugh's land. The maps are also helpful:

William Hayward, 780 acs., Oct. 16, 1642, p. 835. In Appamatucke River. 650 acs. bordering E. upon sd. River, W. upon the main land, S. upon Appamattucke Town & N. **upon Swift Cr.** The residue being marsh before the plantation of sd. Hayward & commonly called the Conjurors Field, **beg. where land of Mr. John Baugh endeth.** Swift Cr. parts this from land formerly belonging to Samuell Sharp. 650 acs. due by deed of sale from Charles Magnor, Feb. 8, 1634, to whom it was granted Dec. 1, 1620. 100 acs. for the per. adv. of himself, wife Ellin & trans. of 1 servt.\*

Cavaliers and Pioneers, Vol. 1, p. 87





In 1704, **Charles Gilliam**, along with **John Gilliam** and **Lewis Green**, are found on the Quit Rent Rolls of newly formed Prince Georges, formed from Charles City County. **Thomas Busby**, with whom **John Knight** appeared as a tithable at Surry in 1690, and his son Thomas are also on this list, as are **Peter and John Evans**, Frances Maberry (he married Elizabeth Gilliam, daughter of John and Margery), and many other names from the 1668-1703 tithables lists at Surry. Hinche Gilliam is still listed at Surry County in 1704.

Knights on Virginia tithables lists are scarce; only John Knight in Northampton, Henry Knight in Gloucester, and James Knight in Nansemond are listed. Valentine Williamson, the man listed as a tithable for John Knight in 1703 in Surry, appears on Prince George tithables in 1704, but Knight does not. Why this would be is unknown, unless John was in Henrico with John Oliver, on the land left by Anthony Knight. But remember, he reappeared in Prince George in 1711, so maybe he was there all along.

Charles Gilliam would eventually return to Surry, where he is found in many deeds from 1719 onwards.

Other Gilliams and the Baughs (associated with John Knights land transferred to Ambrose Cobb in 1639) are found in deeds in Henrico from the 1710s into the 1740s:

\_\_\_ **Dec 1717 – Henrico County, Virginia** - Robert Napier of Henrico County to Nicholas Cox of Charles City County, for £25, a tract bounded by Peter's branch of Tuckahoe Creek, Ellises line, Hardings branch and land of Francis Chumley bought of Thomas Harding; being land said Napier bought of John Ellis of Henrico County.

Wit: **Jones Gilliam**, Michall Thomas, Sam'l (S) Hix, John Spear, James (I) Spear.

Signed R. Napier  
Rec: 7 apr 1718

Henrico County, VA, Deed Book 1714-1737, page 240

It is unclear who Jones Gilliam is, as I have found this name nowhere else. The original document is included in Documents, so the reader can judge whether this is a correct transcription of the name.

The Baugh family had been in Henrico since the earliest days of the Colonies, and in the 1730s were found in newly formed Goochland County:

**28 Feb. 1733 - Thomas Baugh**, 400a, NL, Goochland Co., on Swift Cr.; **Joseph Baugh**; crosses Harrison's Br. to Edward Watkins (p.175); James Akin.

Virginia Land Patent Book 15. Virginia Genealogical Society Quarterly, Volume 24, Number 1

**12 Mar 1739 - Joseph Baugh**, 400a, Goochland Co., on brs. of Swift Cr., bounded by a c. (p.571) of **Thomas Baugh, Joseph Baugh**, & the Henrico Co. line.

Virginia Land Patent Book 19, 1739/40-1741. Virginia Genealogical Society Quarterly, Volume 25, Number 4

**18 Mar 1744** - Thomas Nibb of Henrico County and **William Baugh, Jr.** of Goochland County to William Pride of Henrico County for £50, 104 acres bounded by north side of main road along Peter Ashbrook's line. Tanner's line and Joseph Wilkinson.

Wit: Mary (X) Baugh, Peter Ashbrook, **John Gilliam**, Peter Ashbrook, Jr., **John Baugh**, Joseph Ashbrook. Signed: Thomas Knibb, **William Baugh**. Recorded 1 Monday of July 1745. Ann wife of Thomas relinquished her dower right.

Henrico County, VA, Deed Book 1744-1750, page 51

### **The Green Family**

The other god child of Anthony Knight was Burrell GREEN. I am emphasizing his last name, as another published transcription of this will has the Burrell's surname as Gordon, which is incorrect. The entire will is here as Attachment \_\_\_\_, if you would like to take a look. There are NO records found for Burrell Gordon, but *many* records for Burrell Green closely associated with the Knights, Gilliams and other families around them. Burrell Green's father was Lewis Green.

P. 42 - Prince George Wills and Deeds 1710-1713 - I, Susan Grigg, appoint **Mr. Edmund Chamberlayne** to be my attorney. 11 June 1711. Signed: Susan Grigg. Witn. **Lewis Green, Jr. Burrell Green**. Recorded 11 June 1711

Deed, 4 June 1711, William Grigg of Bristol Parish, Prince George Co, to **Lewis Green** of same, for 5 shillings, and in above parish, 50 acres, bound by Walter Nunnally, Thomas Lewis and the river, with all houses, etc, leased for three years. Signed: William Grigg. Witn: Robt. Munford, Tho. Wynne, **Edm'd Chamberlayne**. Recorded 11 June 1711

P. 44 [Same deed, price £10.] Susan Grigg released her dower right.

Virginia Genealogical Society Quarterly, Vol. 29, Number 1

p. 95 - Prince George Wills and Deeds 1710-1713 - Inventory of Walter Nunnally, dec'd, Jan 7, 1711/12 [2 1/3 pages] Value £60/14/4. Appraised by Nath. (N) Tatem Sr, **Cha.** (✓) **Gillam, Lewis Green, Jr.** Presented by the administratrix and recorded 11 Jan 1711.

Virginia Genealogical Society Quarterly, Vol. 29, Number 2

In 1714, Lewis Green and Ephraim Parram acknowledged their deed to Lewis Green, Jr. in Prince George's County, Virginia.

Virginia Genealogical Society Quarterly, Vol.

In 1715, Lewis Green appears as a Justice in Prince Georges. In 1717, he appears as "Jr." I think it is likely that the Justice was Lewis, Jr. all along. He continued to serve as a Justice in Prince Georges in 1717-1720. Lewis, Sr. is still living in 1720, when Jack, a slave child he owned, was adjudged to be age 10 by the court.

Virginia Genealogical Society Quarterly, Vol. 25, Number 3

Lewis Green patented land on the Nottoway in 1734:

**Lewis Green**, 300a, NL Pr. George Co., between Blackwater and the Second Sw, lower side of Nottoway R. rd. to a c. on the upperside of Huckleberry Br. (p.247) 1 Aug 1734. Virginia Land Patent Book 15

Virginia Genealogical Society Quarterly, Vol. 24, Number 1

The Baughs also appear in Prince George with the Greens, along with Colemans and Gregorys:

At a Court Held at Merchants Hope for Prince George County 12 August 1718. Present: John Hamlin, John Poythres, Randle Platt, Robt. Hall, Samson Merrideth, John Hardyman and **Lewis Green, Jr.**, Gent. Justices.

On petition of Hugh Lee it is ordered that **James Bough** by Overeer of Nottoway River Road from John Coleman's on Appomattox River to south end of Blackwater Bridge and that Capt. Hames Thweatt's, Henry Thweatt's, John Thweatt's, David Crawley's, **Thomas Gregory's**,



Edward Burchett's, James Anderson's, Edward Browder's, Daniel Vaughn's and Thomas Spain's mail laboring tithable persons assist in clearing the road.

Virginia Genealogical Society Quarterly, Vol. 23, Number 4

P. 299 Prince George County Court Orders - At a court held at Merchants Hope for Prince George County 8 December 1719 - Henry Mayes's deed to **James Baugh** was proved by **Lewis Green, Jr.**, Roger Taylor and Cornelius Fox.

Virginia Genealogical Society Quarterly, Vol. 25, Number 1

**1 Aug 1735 - James Baugh**, 640a, (p.108) in Pr. George Co., on N. side of Second Sw. of Blackwater; bounded by old L. of James Baugh, Peter Mitchel's path & **Lewis Green**. (p.109)

Land Patent Book 16. Virginia Genealogical Society Quarterly, Vol. 24, Number 3

The Greens continued to own land in Surry County, however.

Patents not found in Nugent – Patent Book 11, p. 57 – Nugent lists three patents to Lewis Green from pages 57-8 (see Volume 3, p.227); she fails to list a fourth patent:

**Lewis Green** of Prince George County 195 acres on south side of the Nottoway River in Surry County; for the Importation of four persons whose names are John Canney/Canary, Mary Moss, Eliza Mott/Moss and George Baldwin. 21 February 1720/21

Virginia Genealogical Society Quarterly, Vol. 37, Number 2

(p. 169) **5 Sep 1739**...**Lewis Green** of Prince George County to **William Gilliam** of Surry County...200 acres which Lewis Green, decd., willed to his daughter Susana Green (being part of 400 acres patented on 22 Feb 1724) on the north side of Nottoway River and bounded by Stoney Creek. Lewis Green is selling the land as Heir-at-law of Lewis Green, decd. Lewis Green. Wit: **Charles Gilliam**, John Sturdivant and William Sturdivant. Rec: 21 May 1740

(p.428) **20 Apr 1743**...Account of Estate of **Burwell Green**, decd., lists Mary Burton, Edward David, Joun Underhill, Alexander Dickens, William Parham, John Steagall, Christopher Tatum, William Lindsay, John Painter, Joun Raney, William Roberts, Francis Mabry, John Eppes, William Wppes, Mr. Thomas Eldridge, Col. John Allen, Capt. Nicholas Cocke, Francis Eppes, William Abbott, William Smith, John Hill, Thomas Cate and Cornelius Gibbs. Ann Green, administratrix.

(p.44) **1 May 1747**...**Lewis Green, Jr.** of **Albemarle Parish** to Edward Pettway of the same for 35 pounds current money...50 acres and a water grist mill on the south side of Jones Hole Swamp (being a moiety of 100 acres devised by the will of Lewis Green, decd., of Prince George County who was grandfather to his grandsons, the present Lewis Green, Jr. and Burrell Green). Land is

bounded by Peter Hawthorne, William Moore and James Mason. Lewis Green, Jr. Wit: Thomas Eldridge, Sloman Wynne, William Dunne and Thomas Griffis. Rec: 17 May 1747

(p.450) **28 Jul 1749**...**Burrell Green** of **Albemarle Parish** to Edward Pettway of the same of 35 pounds current money...100 acres in Albemarle Parish on both side of Jones Hole Swamp (100 acres devised by the will of Lewis Green, decd., of Prince George County to his grandsons, the brothers Burrell Green and Lewis Green). Land includes a water grist mill and is bounded by Peter Hawthorne, William Moore and James Mason. Burrell (X) Green, Edward Pettway. Wit: William Anderson, Nathaniel Meachum, John Rivers and James Claiborne. Rec: 15 Aug 1749

Surry County Deeds and Estate Accounts, 1734-1755, William Lindsay Hopkins. W.L. Hopkins, Richmond, Virginia, 1991.

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All of the preceding information has cemented the connection between Anthony Knight in Henrico County, a grandson of Joseph Knight born 1603, and John Knight, born about 1669 in Virginia, and found in Surry County beginning about 1690. This John is the son of John born 1632.

We now know John Knight born about 1669 was the founder of a long line of Knights in Surry and later Sussex, first married Elizabeth Jordan, had several children including a son Jordan, and when she died, married Elizabeth Eppes, and had several more children. We know that John is a descendant of the same family from which Peter Knight the Merchant, Captain Peter Knight, Joseph Knight and his brother John all come. That is as much as the records can prove.

We will leave the John Knight family of Surry here, and continue to pursue the line of his cousin, William, into Amherst.

### **THE KNIGHTS IN HENRICO COUNTY VIRGINIA**

William Knight, grandson of Joseph Knight, purchased land in 1727 in Goochland, a year before that county officially existed, and the deed was recorded in 1730. It is unknown how long he had been in the area. This land on the Tuckahoe lies about sixty miles west of the land owned by William on the border of James City and New Kent counties. I believe that sometime between the William Smith deed showing land adjoining William Knight in 1659 and the deed below, William had moved farther into the back country in what would become Goochland.

This land transaction has led to some confusion, as Goochland County hadn't yet formed when the land changed hands. The entire document is included in the Documents section to eliminate some of the questions. Be sure to see the second page, a separate document:

**19 May 1730 - Samuel Gregory** of Charles City County to **William Knight** of the **County of Goochland**...consideration of twenty pounds of current money...being in **the County of Goochland**...on the head of the Westernmost branch of the Tukaho...formerly taken up by

**Charles Evans and Joseph Woodson**...Easternmost branch of **Horsepen Creek**...130 acres.  
Signed: Samuel Gregory (Seal). Wit: **Allen Howard, John Knight, Andrew Moreman** (his  
mark)

Memorandum that on the **first day of March 1727**... lands within mentioned to be granted ...  
taken by the within named Samuel Gregory and by him was delivered into the said **William  
Knight**... Wit: **Allen Howard, John Knight, Andrew Moreman**

At a court held for the County of Goochland May the 19<sup>th</sup> 1730.

Goochland County, Virginia, Deed Book 1, p 179-180

Abstracted by Wanda Tucker

The names in this transaction are very revealing, as many of the families are intertwined, and will help us trace the Knight family further. The deed was witnessed by John Knight. I believe this John to be William's son, born about 1710. William's cousin, John is in Surry beginning in 1690, in Prince George County in 1711-14, and would be unlikely to have witnessed the Henrico deed.

William Knight shows up in court documents in Goochland in 1728 with another familiar name:

**18 Sept 1728 - Goochland County, Virginia - Admin - William Knight - Court: Suits: Edward Moore vs John Taylor; Edward Moore vs John Stubblefield; Joseph Woodson vs John Micheaux; William Chamberlaine vs George Marchbanks.**

Ordered that a road be cleared from the Widow Johnsons by the race paths on the South side of **William Knights**...

Goochland County Virginia Court Order Books 1&2 1728-1731, Anna K. Blomquist.  
Heritage Books, 2007, p. 27

There's the Chamberlaine name again. As we know that **Thomas Chamberlaine**, found in Anthony Knight's will, was prominent in Henrico, it seems reasonable to assume that William is related, even though, due to record loss, we have no will for Thomas to know if William might be his son.

The surnames Evans and Gregory are familiar from the Surry Tithables lists, but it is unknown if the families in Surry are related to the ones here in Henrico.

**Allen Howard** would become a Justice in Albemarle County, formed from Goochland in 1744. He owned land directly by the land in the deed above, which he would sell in 1741. That sale involved a Knight family member, so we will come back to it.

**Charles Evans** had acquired several pieces of land in Henrico in the early 1700s:

Land grant **20 October 1704.**

**Evans, Charles. grantee.**

Location: Henrico County

Description: 383 acres on the north side of the great main branch of **Procters.**

Source: Land Office Patents No. 9, 1697-1706 (v.1 & 2 p.1-742), p. 621 (Reel 9).

Part of the index to the recorded copies of patents for land issued by the Secretary of the Colony serving as the colonial Land Office. The collection is housed in the Archives at the Library of Virginia. Available on microfilm. Virginia State Land Office. Patents 1-42, reels 1-41.

**Proctor's Creek** is where John Knight's original land grant, sold to Ambrose Cobbs, was located, and where William Farrar, the man to who Knight's son John was indentured, owned land.

On 2 May 1705, a 140 acre patent in Henrico labeled as "deserted" by Thomas Perrin was forfeited to Charles Evans.

Virginia Genealogical Society Quarterly, Volume 20, Number 2

There are more grants in 1713 and 1714:

Land grant **2 May 1713.**

**Evans, Charles. grantee.**

Location: Henrico County.

Description: 200 acres on the north side of James River, begg. at Colo. Byrds blaysed pine aruneth &c. to the great branch of **Ufnum Brooke.** (Upham Brook)

Source: Land Office Patents No. 10, 1710-1719, p. 74 (Reel 10).

Part of the index to the recorded copies of patents for land issued by the Secretary of the Colony serving as the colonial Land Office. The collection is housed in the Archives at the Library of Virginia

Land grant **16 June 1714.**

**Evans, Charles. grantee.**

Location: Henrico County.

Description: 577 acres on the north side of James River, on the head of Mill Creek.

Source: Land Office Patents No. 10, 1710-1719, p. 161 (Reel 10).

Part of the index to the recorded copies of patents for land issued by the Secretary of the Colony serving as the colonial Land Office. The collection is housed in the Archives at the Library of Virginia.

Available on microfilm. Virginia State Land Office. Patents 1-42, reels 1-41.

The 1713 grant would appear to be the closest land owned by Charles Evans to the Tuckahoe Creek land. It is about 10 miles to the head of Upham Brook from Tuckahoe Creek. Interestingly, Upham Brook terminates into the Chickahominy River at its other end.

## The Woodson Family

There are many Woodsons in Henrico, Albemarle, and later Amherst counties, and the Knight family is closely associated with them. The earliest land record I located for a Woodson in Virginia was in 1670, but clearly there is an earlier land acquisition, as John Woodson is listed as having land adjacent to this parcel:

**1670 - Jun 26 – VA Henrico – Admin - Mr. Robert Woodson** – Land patent for 1192 Acs. ... N. side James Riv., Adj. Thomas Ludwell, Esqr., Thomas Ligon, **John Woodson**, Col. Stegg & Mr. Ballard. Trans. Of 24 pers: Names include Ambrose Bennett, Thomas Hughes (Hewes).

Cavaliers and Pioneers Vol. 2, p. 73

The Woodsons acquired several land grants in Henrico in the 1680s.

Land grant **28 September 1681**.

**Woodson, John**. grantee.

Description

Location: **Henrico County**.

Grantee(s): Woodson, Robert; Woodson, John; East, Thomas; Clarke, Robert; and Porter, Wm.

Description: 531 acres 1r. 4po.

Source: Land Office Patents No. 7, 1679-1689 (v.1 & 2 p.1-719), p. 102 (Reel 7).

Part of the index to the recorded copies of patents for land issued by the Secretary of the Colony serving as the colonial Land Office. The collection is housed in the Archives at the Library of Virginia.

This Woodson deed is next-door to Thomas Cocke, whose name comes up frequently in association with the Knight family:

Land grant **28 September 1681**.

**Woodson, Robert**. grantee.

Description

Location: Henrico County.

Grantee(s): **Woodson, Robert; Woodson, John**; East, Thomas; Clarke, Robert; and Porter, Wm.

Description: 531 acres 1r. 4po. on the south side of the White Oak Swamp, in the Parish of Verina and runeth vizt. from a corner black oak of **Mr. Thomas Cocke**.

Source: Land Office Patents No. 7, 1679-1689 (v.1 & 2 p.1-719), p. 102 (Reel 7).

Part of the index to the recorded copies of patents for land issued by the Secretary of the Colony serving as the colonial Land Office. The collection is housed in the Archives at the Library of Virginia.

This deed is for John Woodson, Sr., indicating that there is a John, Jr. Also, since Robert Woodson, Sr. is mentioned, we can infer that there is a Robert, Jr.:

Land grant **21 October 1687.**

**Woodson, John, Sr.** grantee.

Description

Location: Henrico County.

Grantee(s): **Woodson, Robt., senr.; Woodson, John, senr.; Lewis, Wm.;** and Charles, Thomas.

Description: 470 acres.

Source: Land Office Patents No. 7, 1679-1689 (v.1 & 2 p.1-719), p. 602 (Reel 7).

Part of the index to the recorded copies of patents for land issued by the Secretary of the Colony serving as the colonial Land Office. The collection is housed in the Archives at the Library of Virginia.

This deed for Thomas Cocke, Sr. bordering John Woodson implies the existence of Thomas, Jr.:

Land grant **20 October 1688.**

**Cock, Thomas, Sr.** grantee.

Location: Henrico County.

Description: 1650 acres in the parish of Varina, on the south side of Chickahominy Main Swamp, **adjoining the land of John Woodson.**

Source: Land Office Patents No. 7, 1679-1689 (v.1 & 2 p.1-719), p. 668 (Reel 7).

Part of the index to the recorded copies of patents for land issued by the Secretary of the Colony serving as the colonial Land Office. The collection is housed in the Archives at the Library of Virginia.

A court record in 1688 names John Woodson Quaker. That many of the Woodsons were Quakers is proved by records. It is of course unknown if all the Woodsons in the Henrico area were Quakers, and in reading Quaker records, it quickly becomes apparent that people went in and out of Quakerism with frequency, depending on whether they were following the rules or not.

Henrico County Record Book Number 2, Virginia Genealogical Society Quarterly, Volume 31, Number 4

A 1689 deed for John Woodson contains other names that are important to the story:

**30 Mar 1689 - Henrico County, Virginia - Admin - John Woodson Sr - Sells 400 acres to William Randolph, Gent,** being part of 1800 acres bounded by Chickahominy River, Boar Swamp. Wit: John Mackmiell, **James Cocke** and Judith, wife of John, relinquishes her dower right. Another sale, same day, next page, to Benjamin Hatcher, part of same parcel, Judith Woodson relinquishes her rights.

Henrico County Virginia Colonial Deeds 1677-1705, p. 49

John Woodson, Jr. acquired land in 1690. He was probably about 21 years old, making him born about 1669. He would be about the same age as William Knight who purchased the Samuel Gregory land:

Land grant **23 October 1690.**

**Woodson, John, Jr.** grantee.

Location: Henrico County.

Description: 1385 acres in the Parish of Varina, on the north side of James River, begg. &c. belongg. to the land of Henry Price.

Source: Land Office Patents No. 8, 1689-1695, p. 83 (Reel 8).

Part of the index to the recorded copies of patents for land issued by the Secretary of the Colony serving as the colonial Land Office. The collection is housed in the Archives at the Library of Virginia.

The Evans family is also tied to the Woodsons. John Woodson, Jr. used John Evans as a headright in Henrico in 1690, in Varina Parish in the area of Four Mile Creek:

**Mr. John Woodson, Junr.**, 1385 acs., Henrico Co., in Varina Par; N. side of James Riv., 23 Oct. 1690, p. 83. Beg. at land of Henry Pue; crossing the main br. of 4 Mi. Cr; on Cornelius' Cr; to Mr. Bleare (?); down the main riad; &c. Trans. of 28 pers: (list includes **John Evans**)

Cavaliers and Pioneers, Volume II, p. 350

Thomas Evans was used as a headright in the same area, near Falling Creek, on the same date:

Mr. Charles Douglas, 435 acs., Henrico Co., in Verina Par; S. side of James Riv., & N. side if Falling Cr; crossing Grindall's Run; 23 Oct 1690, p. 84. Imp. of 9 pers: **Tho. Evans**...

Cavaliers and Pioneers, Volume II, p. 350

John Woodson, Jr. also acquired land at Stony Point, which is only about ten miles from Tuckahoe Creek, also on the same date:

**Jno. Woodson, Junr.**, 732 acs, upon brs. of Chickahomony Sw. at a place called *Half Sink*: upon Stoney Point; 23 Oct 1690. P. 84. Imp. of 15 pers\*

Cavaliers and Pioneers, Volume II, p. 350

The Genito Creek location mentioned in this deed is very near Tuckahoe Creek, and might adjoin the Samuel Gregory land.

When John Woodson, Jr. died, the will is witnessed by Charles Evans:

**1 Dec 1699 - VA Henrico - Will - John Woodson, Jr.** - To loving wife Mary, ½ plantation I love on, for life, various slaves, furniture, all of the English goods in my storehouse and other items. To loving daughter Jane Woodson, my eldest and *sole* daughter, one negro girl Matt,

livestock, and 1/5 part of my money, tobacco and merchandize. To **son Joseph**, 120 acres next to my brother John Pleasants, and 1/5 part of money, etc. also 100 acres at a place called Claytons in Henrico Col, a negro named Billy, and various items. To second son Samuel Tucker Woodson, the remaining part of the land where I live, 60 acres, 1/5 of the money, etc., a negro girl Betty, 150 acres on south side of Four Mile Creek, part of greater dividend of land granted to me by patent and all my land in Bermuda Hundred. To third son Benjamin Woodson, 200 acres of land on the River adjoining Giles Well, which I purchased of William Giles, my negro boy, Joe, items, and 1/5 of money, etc. To the child my wife goes with, 100 acres, formerly purchased of William Giles, my negro boy Peter, and 1/5 of money, etc. Daughter Jane is to get her portion at age 21 or marriage. Others to have theirs at 21. To cozen John Woodson Sr., 600 acres of land adjoining Cornelius's. To loving brother John Pleasants, 400 acres on south side of Four Mile Creek. Cozen John Woodson Sr. to manage my affairs and make accounts with John Marsh & Co and act in that office as if I were present. My brother and well-beloved friends John Pleasants and John Woodson, SR. to be executors. Dated 1 Dec 1699 Wit: Matthew Payson, Edward Hughs, Nathan Jordan, **Charles Evans**, Recorded 1 May 1700.

Henrico County Virginia Colonial Wills & Deeds 1677-1737, Benjamin B. Weisiger, III. Iberian Publishing, Athens, Georgia, 1998, pp. 63-64

This deed must be for John Woodson, Jr., but he is not named that way, because John, Sr. has died:

Land grant **24 April 1703**.

**Woodson, John**. grantee.

Location: Henrico County.

Description: 2700 acres on the north side of James River, begg. at the mouth of **Gennutoe Bridge**.

Source: Land Office Patents No. 9, 1697-1706 (v.1 & 2 p.1-742), p. 525 (Reel 9).

Part of the index to the recorded copies of patents for land issued by the Secretary of the Colony serving as the colonial Land Office. The collection is housed in the Archives at the Library of Virginia.

Joseph Woodson patented land in Henrico in 1722. The list of names in this deed is very helpful in joining the family members together:

Land grant **18 February 1722**.

**Woodson, Joseph**. grantee.

Location: Henrico County.

Grantee(s): Blaws, Robert; **Woodson, Joseph; Woodson, John; and Woodson, John, Junr.**

Description: 400 acres.

Source: Land Office Patents No. 11, 1719-1724, p. 158 (Reel 10).

Part of the index to the recorded copies of patents for land issued by the Secretary of the Colony serving as the colonial Land Office. The collection is housed in the Archives at the Library of Virginia.



There were many Woodsons who lived on Genito Creek. The area is frequently mentioned in their deeds and in the Quaker records:

Land grant **9 February 1724.**

**Woodson, William.** grantee.

Location: Henrico County.

Grantee(s): **Woodson, William** and **Woodson, Benjamin, Jr.**

Description: 400 acres on the north side of James River, begg. &c. standing on the south side **Jineto Creek.**

Source: Land Office Patents No. 12, 1724-1726, p. 126 (Reel 11).

Part of the index to the recorded copies of patents for land issued by the Secretary of the Colony serving as the colonial Land Office. The collection is housed in the Archives at the Library of Virginia.

The Woodsons began acquiring land in what would become Amherst County in the 1720s. This land was in Henrico when it was granted, but was in Amherst when that county was formed in 1761:

Land grant **24 March 1725.**

**Woodson, John.** grantee.

Location: Henrico County.

Description: 300 acres on the south side of James River, and on the east side **Stovalls Creek.**

Source: Land Office Patents No. 12, 1724-1726, p. 393 (Reel 11).

Part of the index to the recorded copies of patents for land issued by the Secretary of the Colony serving as the colonial Land Office. The collection is housed in the Archives at the Library of Virginia.

**Joseph Woodson Sr.**'s will was recorded in Goochland in 1734.

Will of Joseph Woodson: **Joseph Woodson. Jan. 23, 1733.** Oct. 15, 1734. D. B. 2, p. 14-15. To my wife, Jean, 4 Negroes, Sampson, Matt, Stephen and Frank. Any issue of the Negro woman, Matt, to be divided between my daughters, Judith and Martha. To grand-children, Elizabeth and Mary Woodson, 1 Negro boy. to son, **Tucker Woodson**, the 4 Negroes mentioned after my wife's decease, also 1 Negro, Judith, and the Tract of land whereon I now reside. Should Tucker Woodson die without heirs, my personal and real estate to be divided equally between my daughters, Judith and Martha Woodson. To dau. Martha Woodson, 2 Negroes, Aggy and Sam, and a gray mare. To dau. Judith Woodson, a Negro wench, 1 Negro boy, and a sorrel mare. My wife to have the remainder of my property while she lives, then 1/2 goes to Tucker and the remainder to Judith and Martha. Should all my children die without heirs, Mary Woodson to have their whole estate. Ex: Tarlton Woodson, Stephen Woodson, John Pleasant. Wit: Thomas Carter, **Joseph Woodson**, Alexander Cunningham, Richard Curd."

From Adventurers of Purse and Person, Virginia 1607-1624/5, 1987: BYU F225.A7: pg 708-716: Wills of Goochland, Virginia, 1727-1777, p. 5

Joseph Woodson, Jr. was still in Goochland in 1735:

Peter Fore, 125a, both sides of Manaran Cr. in Goochland Co.; bounded by Peter Fore's old bounds. James Robinson, Peter Soublett, **Joseph Woodson & William Randolph**. (p.43 & 44)  
**19 Jul 1735**

Virginia Land Patent Book 16, Virginia Genealogical Society Quarterly, Volume 24, Number 3

John Woodson is shown as a neighbor in this land record in Goochland in 1735:

George Payne, 200a, in Goochland Co., N. side of James R. on branches of Stony Cr. & of Tuckahoe Cr.; by **John Woodson, William Farrar & Robert Burton**. (p.424) 10 Jan 1735

Virginia Land Patent Book 16, Virginia Genealogical Society Quarterly, Volume 24, Number 3

A **William Farrar** is shown as John Woodson's neighbor in this record. His father, William Farrar, was a Justice of the Peace at Varina in Henrico County in 1692, along with William Randolph.

Henrico County Record Book Number 2, 1678-1693, Virginia Genealogical Society Quarterly, Volume 34, Number 1

The Justice was the son of the William Farrar to whom **John Knight** was shown as indentured in his 1677 will. The man in the deed above is the son of the Justice, who died about 1721. The evidence for his death is a court suit in May of 1721 in Henrico, within which Mary Farrar, administratrix of William Farrar, deceased, presented an inventory of his estate, for record. This makes three generations of this family associated with the Knights and those around them.

<https://www.geni.com/people/Maj-William-Farrar/6000000002773697628>

Joseph Woodson, Jr. acquired land in Goochland in 1741 and 1748 on Green Creek. This land was further west towards Amherst:

Land grant **6 July 1741**.

**Woodson, Joseph**. grantee.

Location: Goochland County.

Description: 423 acres on both sides of Green Creek of Appomattox River.

Source: Land Office Patents No. 19, 1739-1741, p. 1019 (Reel 17).

Part of the index to the recorded copies of patents for land issued by the Secretary of the Colony serving as the colonial Land Office. The collection is housed in the Archives at the Library of Virginia.

Land grant **20 August 1748**.

**Woodson, Joseph**. grantee.

Location: Goochland County.

Description: 63 acres on Green Creek.

Source: Land Office Patents No. 26, 1747-1748 (v.1 & 2 p.1-730), p. 571 (Reel 24).

Part of the index to the recorded copies of patents for land issued by the Secretary of the Colony serving as the colonial Land Office. The collection is housed in the Archives at the Library of Virginia.

The land in the original Gregory purchase was bounded by Joseph Woodson and Charles Evans. It is probable that the Woodsons in the following deed are related:

**17 Mar 1767 - Thos. Mann Randolph** and wife, Anne, Goochland, to Jno. Depricat, Amherst County -- consideration of 270 a. in Amherst County -- have sold 265 a. pat. and lying in Amherst County -- head of N. fk of Nassau ck. at a place called Indian Cove --Wit.: **Chas. Ballow**; Wm. Kitchen; Thos. Hooper; Sam Jordan; **Jos. Cabell**; **Wm. Cabell, Jr.** P. 190 Order to **Jos. Woodson and John Woodson, Gent. J.P.'s of Goochland**, to examine Anne Randolph.; done July 11, 1767.

Amherst County, Virginia Deed Book B, p 188

### WILLIAM KNIGHT IN GOOCHLAND

According to mapofus.org, Goochland County, Virginia covered an enormous area of land until it began to be broken up in 1744. William Knight is shown on deeds with the names from his original land patent throughout the 1730s in Goochland:

(p.36) Deed **30 Sept. 1732. Col. William Randolph, Esq.** of county and parish of Henrico, to **Stephen Woodson, Sr.** of same, land in Goochland Co., which **John Lewis** now lives on, bounded by William Finney, 200 acres, being the south bounds of a patent, next to **William Knight, Joseph Woodson, Charles Evans, on line of Allen Howard**, next to John Gunn, being part of a patent to **Charles Evans** and by him defected and granted to Col. William Randolph. Wit: Robt. Payne, Benja. Alfriend, Jos. Woodson, Robert Maddox Signed: William Randolph. Recorded 16 Jan. 1732

Goochland County, Virginia Wills and Deeds, 1728 to 1736. Abstracted and Compiled by Benjamin B. Weisiger III. 1983, p. 38

(p. 139) Deed **21 June 1735. Charles Evans** of Province of North Carolina, to **Stephen Woodson** of Parish and County of Henrico, for £10, 200 acres on north side of James River, **bounded by Horsepen branch of Beaverdam Creek**, William Finney, John Gunn, **Allen Howard** and **William Knight**, being land whereon **John Lewis** now dwells, with all houses. Wit: Stephen Floyd, John (+) Fuqua, Morris Floyd, Charles Woodson, Israel Winphrey. Signed: C. Evans. Recorded 19 Aug. 1735

Goochland County, Virginia Wills and Deeds, 1728 to 1736, p. 70

In 1741, Allen Howard sold at least some of the land he owned that was adjacent to William Knight's purchase from Samuel Gregory:

(P 418) Deed **18 May 1741 Capt. Allen Howard** of St. James Parish, Goochland Co., to Joseph Peace of St. Pauls Parish, Hanover Co., for £175, land mostly in Goochland Co., with a small part in Hanover, on the north side of James River, bounded by **Nolun's** corner, **Horsepen Branch of Beverdam Creek, William Knight**. Wit: Wm Nugent, John Curd, Nicholas Perkins. Signed: Allen Howard. Recorded 16 June 1741. 20 Sept 1743 Elizabeth, wife of Howard, relinquished her dower right.

Goochland County, Virginia Wills and Deeds, 1736 to 1742. Abstracted and Compiled by Benjamin B. Weisiger III. 1984, p. 58

He then purchased this land:

Land grant 25 July 1741. **Howard, Allen**. grantee.

Location: Goochland County.

Description: 69 acres on the south side the Fluvanna adjoining **Leonard Ballowe**.

Reference: Land Office Patents No. 19, 1739-1741, p. 1064 (Reel 17).

Part of the index to the recorded copies of patents for land issued by the Secretary of the Colony serving as the colonial Land Office. The collection is housed in the Archives at the Library of Virginia. Available on microfilm. Virginia State Land Office. Patents 1-42, reels 1-41.

Leonard Ballow will eventually be found in Amherst, witnessing a deed with Allen Howard's son Benjamin. The following deed helps us place the land above. It is in what will eventually become Albemarle County, adjacent Amherst, near **Howardsville** today (I imagine the name of the town comes from the Allen Howard family):

Charles Ballow, 150a (p.255) Albemarle Co, on the S Side of Fluvanna R, bounded by **Leonard Ballow's** c at the Mouth of Ballow's Cr, 12 Jul 1750a

Virginia Land Patent Book Number 29, Virginia Genealogical Society Quarterly, Volume 30, Number 3

In 1743, William and John Knight, the sons of William, sold the Gregory land to James Cocke. Thomas Cocke was a witness, and Allen Howard is still listed as a neighbor. Since the deed above for Allen Howard names only William Knight as a bounding land holder, I believe this suggests that William Knight, Sr., who originally acquired the land in 1727, was still living. Sometime between June of 1741 and June of 1743, his sons inherited the land, which they then sold to James Cocke. The original document can be found in the Documents section (two pages):

**23 Jun 1743 – Goochland County, Virginia - John Knight and William Knight to James Cocke** – Consideration of 50 pounds current money – 130 a. situate north side of James River,

northernmost branch of **Tuckahoe Creek**, bounded by **Allen Howard, Joseph Woodson, Charles Evans. Wit.; Jos. Lewis; Thos. Cocke**; William Wade; Abill A Clarkston

Goochland County, Virginia, Deed Book 4, p 297-298

Abstracted by Wanda Tucker

The sale of this land was shortly preceded by this deed in Brunswick, which would eventually become Lunenburg. This is when John Knight moved south:

**12 Feb 1742 - VA Brunswick – Admin - John Knight** - Land patent for 383 acs. on **S. side of Nottoway Riv.** bounded by Fishers Corner on **dry Cr.**

Virginia Genealogical Society Quarterly, Vol. 26, No. 3, p. 217

I believe this Brunswick deed further narrows down the timeline for William Knight, Sr.'s death. John most likely made this patent after his father died which means he died between June 1741, and February 1742.

As further evidence that the John Knight who went to Brunswick is the man from the sale of the Gregory, there is this deed for Andrew Moreman, a witness from the original land purchase in 1727, in 1743 in Brunswick. Lunenburg formed from Brunswick in 1746:

Land grant 1 March 1743.

**Moorman, Andrew. grantee.**

Location: **Brunswick County.**

Description: **190 acres on both sides of Stoney Creek.**

Source: Land Office Patents No. 22, 1743-1745 (v.1 & 2 p.1-631), p. 39 (Reel 20).

Part of the index to the recorded copies of patents for land issued by the Secretary of the Colony serving as the colonial Land Office. The collection is housed in the Archives at the Library of Virginia.

Another confirmation that John of Lunenburg is the man in the 1743 land sale is this deed is found in Brunswick in 1748, in the name of James Cocke, Jr. James Jr. apparently went to Lunenburg with John. This land would appear to be fairly near to the land purchased by John Knight:

**James Cocke, Jr, 1022a, Lunenburgh Co,** on S side of Stanton R, at the mouth of the Great Br on Stanton R, King's line, 418a part formerly g to John Russell by p. dated 1 Feb 1738 the right and title of which is vested in the sd James Cocke, 604a never before g, (p.511) **10 Jan 1748**

Virginia Land Patent Book 28, Virginia Genealogical Society Quarterly, Volume 30, Number 2

This land at Clover Creek is only about 20 miles from Dry Creek, where John Knight's land was located:

Land grant **15 December 1749.**

**Cocke, James. grantee.**

Location: **Lunenburg County.**

Description: 400 acres on a branch of **Clover Creek** adjoining John Owen.

Source: Land Office Patents No. 29, 1749-1751 (v.1 & 2 p.1-532), p. 28 (Reel 27).

Part of the index to the recorded copies of patents for land issued by the Secretary of the Colony serving as the colonial Land Office. The collection is housed in the Archives at the Library of Virginia.

**James, Jr.** purchased more land in Lunenburg in 1753:

**James Cocke**, 800 acs. **Lunenburg Co.** near the Path adj. Owen, sd Cockes old line & Nicholas; **22 Aug 1753**, p. 363. £4

Virginia Land Patent Book 31, Virginia Genealogical Society Quarterly, Volume 31, Number 2

**James Cocke, Sr.** continued to purchase land in Albemarle until 1761. His 1761 deed is on the Hardware River in Albemarle:

**James Cocke**, 67 acs. **Albemarle Co.** on both side a br. of Hardware Riv.; adj. John Leek, Jacob Moon & Thomas Fitzpatrick; **11 Jul 1761**, p. 1024. 10 Shill.

Virginia Land Patent Book 33, Virginia Genealogical Society Quarterly, Volume 33, Number 2

John Knight of Lunenburg married Elizabeth Woodson. They had many children, as named in John's will in Lunenburg in 1772, including Woodson, Joseph, and Peter. Elizabeth was the Knight's next-door-neighbor Joseph Woodson's sister, the daughter of Robert Woodson. She was named in her father's will in Henrico in 1729.

*The William and Mary Quarterly*, Vol. 10, No. 1 (Jul., 1901), pp. 44-48 (5 pages)

I won't delve deeply into the John Knight line in Lunenburg, as it is fairly well documented, and I have explained the most important, and most often incorrect, facts of the story; that is the lineage from the Peter Knights down to John Knight. Instead, I will move on to the line of William Knight, John's brother, who began the line in Amherst. However, as one last connection between the families who remained in Goochland, and the family who moved to Lunenburg, there is this marriage recorded in 1757 at St. James Northam Parish:

Name:	Jonathan Knight
Gender:	Male
Marriage Date:	24 Feb 1757
Marriage Place:	St James Northam Parish, Goochland, Virginia
Spouse:	Judith Woodson
FHL Film Number:	975.5 V2D

Ancestry.com. *Virginia, Select Marriages, 1785-1940* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc, 2014.

Jonathan Knight was the son of John Knight of Lunenburg. Judith Woodson was the daughter of Joseph Woodson who married Elizabeth Parsons. That Joseph was the son of Joseph Woodson who married Elizabeth Mattox. He was the son of Robert, and so was the brother of Elizabeth Woodson who married John Knight and moved to Lunenburg. So Jonathan Knight married his first cousin once-removed. But they married in Goochland, where she was born.

### **WILLIAM KNIGHT MOVES TOWARDS AMHERST**

The sale of the land at Tuckahoe Creek marked the departure of John Knight for Brunswick (eventually Lunenburg), and William Knight towards Amherst. William almost certainly accompanied the people all around him who were moving west. There were many as we will see.

In Amherst County deeds, we find the following:

Howard to Turner, June 9, 1762, **John Howard**, Goochland, to Stephen Turner, AC, 100 pds for 178 acres on north side of Fluvanna River. Lines: **William Cabell's corner. Part of 2380 acres granted by patent to Allen Howard, July 30, 1742.** Witnesses: Moses Sweeny; Joseph Upton; John Hampton; Samuel Parker; (X's for Upton, Hampton, and Parker).

Amherst County, Virginia Deed Book A, p 66

Later deeds in Amherst include the sons of Allen Howard:

July 19, 1764, John Leak and wife, Ann, Amherst County, to Neill Campbell, Albermarle, 110 pds for 410 acres. Lines: Bear Branch; **South fork of Rockfish.** X of Ann Leak, Witnesses: **Ben Howard**; Joseph Childers; William Hix; Charles Irving. Memorandum: 60 feet square excepted' as a burying place ... when the said Leak's wife is buried.

Amherst County, Virginia Deed Book A, p 257

July 1, 1765, Stephen Turner, Amherst County, to Chas. Patterson and wife, Mary, for love borne by Turner for them -- 37a **N. side of Fluvanna** and joining it. Pt. of land bought and recorded by Stephen Turner from **John Howard**.

Amherst County, Virginia Deed Book B, p 31

When Amherst and Buckingham Counties were formed from Albemarle in 1761, the Fluvanna, aka the James River, became their boundary, with land on the north side of James in Amherst, and south of the river in Buckingham. It appears the Howard family chose the south side and Buckingham, but prior to that, their lands would have been in Amherst. All of the Rockfish River, noted in the deed above, is to the north of the James River.

William Cabell, later associated with the Knights in Amherst, is noted in the above 1762 **John Howard** deed. In 1761, Cabell is noted as a gentleman "of Amherst."

Page 2. Margin: John Reid et al. to King George III John Reid, **William Cabell**, and James Nevil, Gentlemen of Amherst County bound to King George III for one thousand pounds. Reid's appointment is set forth as in the as in the two items above and he is bound to collect taxes. Court held at Henry Key's, September 7, 1761.

Amherst County Deed Book A, 1761-1765, Abstracted by Bailey Fulton Davis, 1960

### **The Nowland Family**

There is one family that appears to be very connected to William Knight and his family. The Nowlands were neighbors at Tuckahoe, and continue to be seen with Knights all the way into Amherst. I suspect, but can't yet prove, that William may have lived on their land. I can find no land record for William Knight after his sale of the Samuel Gregory property, and the next record of a Knight found is for his son John. We find the following in 1764, a deed for Patrick Nowland, witnessed by **John and Anne Knight**:

Page 239. Margin: Nowlin to Checke. January 26, 1764, **Patrick Nowlin**, AC, to William Checke, AC ... 25 pds 18 sh. for 156 acres ... branch of Routledge's creek ... "Runeth" into Mr. Braxton's line ... 156 acres i n a l l , but one tract of 48 acres mentioned. Witnesses: **John Knight; Anne Knight (X); Joseph Magarm. Nowlin's X.**

Amherst County Deed Book A, 1761-1765, p 239; Abstracted by Bailey Fulton Davis, 1960

Rutledge Creek is about one mile directly south of the town of Amherst (modern map).

This deed is very important. Remember, we know that the John Knight who sold the Samuel Gregory land with his brother William in 1743 married **Elizabeth Woodson** and went to Brunswick/ Lunenburg. He is well-accounted for there, and is on the Lunenburg tithables list in 1764, with son John, Jr. The John Knight in 1764 Patrick Nowland deed *has to be* a son of **William** who sold the Gregory land in 1743. He should be at least 21 years old at the time of witnessing this deed. Later information contained in Amherst tithables lists addressed later makes me believe he was born before 1740.

Also importantly, the deed above includes yet another of the families whose land bordered the Gregory land sold by William and John Knight (see Allen Howard deed 18 May 1741). The **Nowland** family was associated with the Knight family all the way to Amherst. The **Nolun/Nowland** who was the neighbor in the Allen Howard deed was Thomas, as this transaction with Charles Evans proves:

**1 Nov. 1717 - Charles Evans** of Charles City Co., to **Thomas Nolin** of James City Co., for 8/6/8, 100 acres on north side of James River on Beaver Dam Creek, being part of a grant to Evans 16 June 1714, 577 acres. Wit: Michael Cantepie, Jean Ponvielle Signed: **C. Evans** Recorded 4 Nov. 1717

Henrico County, Virginia, Deeds 1706-1737, Benjamin B. Weisiger III. Richmond, 1973, p. 63



Beaverdam Creek is near Crozier, Virginia on modern maps. This land is adjacent to the Samuel Gregory land. James Nowland was an appraiser on an estate in the area in 1720:

**1 August 1720** - Sarah Hughes is granted administration of estate of John Hughes; Nicholas Cox and **Benjamin Woodson**, Security; Amos Lead, **James Nowlin**, John Pledge, and John Johnson to appraise his estate.

Colonial Wills of Henrico County, Virginia, Part 2, 1737-1781, Benjamin B. Weisiger, Richmond, 1973, p. 122

The land in this next deed is a bit further west than the land at Beaverdam Creek. It is about 12 miles away:

**19 Aug. 1728** - John Quin and Susanna his wife of Goochland Co. to **Thomas Nolun** of Hanover Co., for 100 [pounds], 350 acres on south side of James River at **Mahook Creek**, bounded by Bolling, Mahook Creek, line of Michaux, dec'd, with all houses, etc. Wit: James Skelton, Fra. Hamilton Recorded 20 Aug. 1728 Susanna Quin, wife of John, acknowledged her deed

Goochland County Deed Book 1, p. 32

As near as I can determine, based on location information in multiple deeds in this area, the correct spelling for Mahook Creek is Mohawk Creek. It is on maps today.

In 1729, Thomas Nowland died, and his widow appeared in court and was named administratrix. Thomas did not leave a will, but the group of Nowlands who are in the same area began to migrate toward what will become Amherst, as shown by this series of records:

February 1729 - **Agnes Nolun** made oath in court that **Thomas Nolun** deceased died without any will, giving security as Administratrix of his Estate. Certificate was granted for obtaining Letter of Administration. Security: John Woodall and Nicholas Wilkinson. Appraisers of his Estate appointed by the court were Jacob Michaux, Robert Hughes, Frederick Cox and Thomas Walker. February Court, 1729.

Goochland County Order Book I, p.201.

Inventory of **Thomas Nolun** of St. James Parish, Goochland Co., dec'd, taken by court order of May 1730 by Thomas Walker, Frederick Cox, Robert Hughes Recorded 19 May 1730

Goochland County Order Book I, p.190

May 1730 - **Agnes Nolun** presented the Inventory and Appraisal of the Estate of **Thomas Nolun**, dec'd in Court. May Court, 1730.

Goochland County Order Book I, p.247

Land grant 28 September 1730.

**Noland, Agnes. grantee.**

Description: 400 acres on the south side James River, **on Mahook Creek**.

Source: Land Office Patents No. 13, 1725-1730 (v.1 & 2 p.1-540), p. 537 (Reel 12).

Part of the index to the recorded copies of patents for land issued by the Secretary of the Colony serving as the colonial Land Office. The collection is housed in the Archives at the Library of Virginia.

**16 May 1732** – **Agnes Noland** of Goochland Co., to William Wilkison of same, carpenter, for 25 [pounds], 350 acres on South side of James River on Mahook Creek, bounded by Bolling, Michaux, dec'd, and granted to Agnes Noland 6 May 1732 Wit: **Allen Howard**, Nowell Burton, Henry Hampton (H), Signed: William Wilkison, Agnes (A) Noland Recorded: 16 May 1732

Goochland County, Virginia Deed Book 3, p. 321

**16 July 1733** - Amos Lead and Constant Lead, son of said Amos, of Goochland Co., to John Boiling of Henrico Co., for 50 [pounds] 216 acres bounded by the mill belonging to the said Boiling on **Horse Pen Creek**, a branch of **Beaver Dam Creek**, and next to **James Nowling**. Wit: John Fleming, **Leon'd Ballowe**, Jos. (+) Price, James (I) Westbrook Signed: Amos (AL) Lead, Constantine (L) Lead Recorded: 15 Jan 1733

Goochland County, Virginia Wills and Deeds, 1728-1736, p. 449

**20 March 1737** Amos Lead of Goochland Co., to John Pleasants of Henrico Co., for 50 [pounds] 250 acres on North side of James River next to Constant Lead, **James Nowland**, and **Buffalo Branch of Beaver Dam Creek**. Wit: **Stephen Woodson**, William Hatcher, Thomas Childrey, Henry Sharp Signed: Amos Lead Recorded: 22 March 1737

Virginia Land Office Patents 17, p. 391.

Patrick Nowland, whose deed was witnessed by John and Anne Knight in 1764, and who will be associated with John Knight in a land sale in Amherst in 1775, acquired land in Goochland in 1737. This land is in Albemarle County, Virginia today:

Land grant **15 August 1737**.

**Nowland, Patrick. grantee.**

Location: **Goochland County**.

Description: 400 acres on both sides of **Biskit Run** a branch of **Moors Creek** of the South side of Rivanna River.

Source: Land Office Patents No. 17, 1735-1738, p. 391 (Reel 15).

Part of the index to the recorded copies of patents for land issued by the Secretary of the Colony serving as the colonial Land Office. The collection is housed in the Archives at the Library of Virginia.

In 1739, James Nowland purchased land on Buffalo Creek near Amherst:

**James Nowland**, 300a, Goochland Co., **on brs. of Beaverdam Cr.**, N. side of James R., **bounded by N. side of Buffaloe Br.**, sd. James Nowland, John Bolling, Bollings Mill Pond, **Joseph Woodson**, Ebenezar Adams, decd., & **Benjamin Cocke**. (p. 603). **12 Mar 1739**

Virginia Land Patent Book 19, Virginia Genealogical Society Quarterly, Volume 25, Number 4

In 1758, Patrick Nowland sold the land on Moor's Creek:

**9 March 1758 - Patrick Nolen and Sarah his wife** of St. Ann's Parish, Albemarle County, for £40 sold John Moore of the same, 600 acres, 400 acres, a part thereof, was granted by letters patent 15 August 1737 and was located on both sides of a branch of Moor's Creek called in the patent Bisket Run. 200 acres lying on both sides of Bisket Run were known by the name of the Cow Branch, being the same that Nolen bought of Thomas Haynes & now known by the name of Plum Orchard. Wit: William Harris, John Bryant and Geo. Robinson. Signed Patrick Nowlin and Sarah [ S ] Nowlin.

Albemarle County Deed Book 2, p.28

In the same area, Patrick purchased another tract, but sold it the same day:

**11 Oct 1759 - Patrick Nowlin** bought 122 acres from John Daugherty of Albemarle County for £30. Located south side Rivanna on a small branch of Bisket Run. Wit: Chas. Lambert and Hugh Daugherty. Signed: John [Mark] Daugherty. Recorded 13 Dec. 1759. On the same day, 13 Dec 1759, Patrick Nowlin sold the 122 acres to Michael Daugherty.

Albemarle County Deed Book 2, p. 195, 201

More importantly, however, in between the two records above, Patrick purchased land on Rutledge Creek, located in modern-day Amherst County, some fifty miles away. The land at Rutledge Creek is where we later find Patrick Nowland listed as a neighbor to land sold by John Knight in Amherst in 1775:

Land grant **19 August 1758**.

**Nowlin, Patrick. grantee.**

Location: Albemarle County.

Description: 400 acres on the **branches of Harris's and Rutledges Creeks** on the Tobacco Row.

Source: Land Office Patents No. 33, 1756-1761 (v.1, 2, 3 & 4 p.1-1095), p. 452 (Reel 31-32).

Part of the index to the recorded copies of patents for land issued by the Secretary of the Colony serving as the colonial Land Office. The collection is housed in the Archives at the Library of Virginia.

In 1767, James Nowland sold a piece of land on Rutledge Creek to **Stephen Ham**. This James is the son of James Nowling who died in 1749, leaving his will in Goochland County. Patrick Nowland was not named in that will.

Goochland County Deed Book 6, pp. 34-35

Stephen Ham's daughter Elizabeth married **Orson/Austin Knight**, one of John Knight's sons. Orson was born about 1765, and Elizabeth was born about 1767:

Margin: Nowlin to Ham

Page 236., **Sept. 7, 1767, Jas. Nowling**, AC, to **Steven Ham**, AC, 3 pence 106 a.. Lines: Jas. Menees **on br of Rutledge**; Ambrose Rucker; **Jno. Harvie**.

Amherst County Virginia Courthouse Miniatures, An Abstract of all Items in Amherst County Deed Book B, Bailey Fulton Davis, 1961

Fourteen years after Patrick Nowland's original land grant at Rutledge Creek, a part of that land was sold by James Nowlin. These two men are clearly related to each other, but how is uncertain:

Page 365 **July 6, 1772, Jas. Nowlin** and ux, Bethineah, AC, to Wm. Mc Craw, AC, L80 200 a. Bought by Nowlin from Ambrose Gatewood and ux, Margaret--**br.of Harris ck. Part of 400a pat.to Patrick Nowling on Aug. 19, 1758**, and where Mccraw lives. Lines: Moses Swinney; **Jno. Harvie**; Jas. Wright; Jno. Davis; **Jno. Coleman**. Ambrose Gatewood and ux, Margaret, also sign.

Amherst County Virginia Courthouse Miniatures, An Abstract of all Items in Amherst County Deed Book C, Bailey Fulton Davis, 1963

It is amazing that of the families bordering the Samuel Gregory land, or witnessing the deeds, five (Woodson, Howard, Cocke, Ballow, and Nowland) appear in Amherst County by 1767, and two (Cocke and Moorman) appear with John Knight in Brunswick. It is not direct evidence that John Knight who appears in Amherst purchasing land in 1771 is the son of William Knight who sold the Gregory land in 1743, but taken in its totality, the evidence is overwhelming that this is the case. Thus, we follow the Knight family chain from Joseph b. 1603 in Ringwood, Hampshire, England, through his sons, Edward, Joseph, and William, down to the line of John Knight of Amherst County, Virginia.

### **The Colemans in Amherst**

The **Colemans** also migrated into Goochland, and then Amherst. We know that at least two, and possibly three, of the sons of Joseph Knight married the daughters of Anthony Coleman, way back in the mid-1600s. It is unknown whether the Colemans in Amherst are related to Anthony Coleman. There was a group of Colemans in Northumberland in the mid- 1600s, where Captain Peter Knight settled, but they don't appear to be closely related, if at all, to Anthony Coleman.

Virginia Genealogical Society Quarterly, Volume 6, Number 1

In 1765, **John Coleman** patented land on a branch of Huff's Creek:

April 13, 1765, John Moore, Parish of Fredericksville, Alb. co., to **John Coleman** of same parish and county. 50 pds for 370 a. on Tobacco Row Mt., **br. of Huff's ck**. Lines in pat. of Aug. 15, 176k. Wit.: Pettfield Trent; Thos. Dever(r)ix(X); Geo. Bourn; **John Harvie**.

Amherst County, Virginia Deed Book B, p 30

**John Coleman** witnessed another deed in Amherst in 1765:

Page 85, **Oct 2, 1765**, John Christian and Drury Christian, AC, to David Patteson, Buckingham, -  
- pursuant to deced of Gen. Ct. 400 a N. side and joining Fluvanna -- just below Buffalo Island;  
upper pt. of 1000 a pat. to Robt. Christian, Sept. 30, 1743 -- Drury and John Christian hold  
indefeasible estate of inheritance in fee simple. Wit.: Jas Dillard; **John Coleman**; Jas.  
Christian; Thos. Patteson; Saml. Weaver (X)

Amherst County Virginia Courthouse Miniatures, Deed Book B

In 1771, John Knight purchased land in Amherst, also on Huff's Creek:

Land grant **16 February 1771**.

**Nite, John. grantee.**

Location: Amherst County.

Description: 192 acres on both sides of the south fork of **Huffs Creek**.

Source: Land Office Patents No. 39, 1770-1771, p. 283 (Reel 39).

Part of the index to the recorded copies of patents for land issued by the Secretary of the Colony serving as the colonial Land Office. The collection is housed in the Archives at the Library of Virginia.

John didn't keep this land for very long. He sold his Amherst land to James Lively in 1775. His next-door neighbors are Patrick Nowland and John Coleman:

4 Dec 1775 – **John Knight to James Lively**. In consideration of forty pounds current money,  
192 a. South fork of Huffs Creek. Bounded by Benjamin Higginbotham, **Patrick Nowland, John  
Coleman**. Examined by Edm. Wilcox 4 Dec 1775

Amherst County Virginia Deed Book D, p 334

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Studying the tithables lists at Amherst helped me build the family tree included at the beginning of this book. It is very difficult to separate all of the children from the parent, and in some cases impossible, as brothers named their children the same names. I am including a synopsis below of the Knights listed on the tithables lists in Amherst from 1782 to 1798 for reference. The lists give information crucial to understanding who's who in the family, and also gave me the first clue as to the parentage of Elizabeth Knight who married Jared Hotchkiss.

On the tax list at Amherst in 1782, John Knight, Sr. is listed with two tithables. The second tithable appears to be William, John's brother. Also in that year appear John M. and William M. Knight. These two men are John Knight's sons. John's younger son Orson/Austin/Augustine appears in 1787 by name in his

father's household, and is presumably the 16-21 year old with John in 1786. In following the tithables lists, these men appear and disappear in the years between 1784 and 1791.

In 1791, Orson/Austin Knight makes his appearance as his own household, still with the name spelled Augustine. There are six Knights on the list in this year, more than any other in the period between 1782 and 1798.

As I studied the lists, I quickly realized that there was so much information in them, I needed to create a spreadsheet in order to analyze the information they contained. My original intent was only to attempt to discern who belonged to whom; in other words, who the fathers were, and who, the sons. The only technique I could see to do that was the dates upon which the tithes were paid. I assumed that the families would journey to the courthouse together to pay their tithes.

1782						
Date Reported	10 Jun	10 Jun	10 Jun			
Name (Knight) & Numbers	John M. 1-0-5-0	William M. 1-0-7-2	John 2-0-14-4			
1783						
Date Reported	No date	No date				
Name (Knight) & Numbers	John M. 1-0-0-0-6-0	William M. 1-0-0-1-8-(?)-0	John 2-0-0-7-10-0			
1784						
Date Reported	No date	No date				
Name (Knight) & Numbers	John M. 1-0-0-0-7					
1785						
Date Reported	No date	No date				
Name (Knight) & Numbers	John 2-0-2-1-11-10					
1786						
Date Reported	No date	No date				
Name (Knight) & Numbers	John 1-1-0-0-9-9	William M. 1-0-0-0-1-6				
1787						
Date Reported	7 April	31 March				
Name (Knight) & Numbers	John (w/Augustine) 1-2-0-0-4-14	William 1-1-0-0-3-3				
1788						
Date Reported	22 April	23 April	23 April			
Name (Knight) & Numbers	John 2-0-4	William 1-0-2	Jeffrey 1-0-1			
1789						
Date Reported	28 May	23 April				
Name (Knight) & Numbers	John 2-0-0-3	William 0-0-0-2				

1790						
Date Reported	30 March					
Name (Knight) & Numbers	John 2-0-0-5					
1791						
Date Reported	9 May	9 May	6 June	6 June	4 April	4 April
Name (Knight) & Numbers	John M. 1-0-0-2	Wm. M. 1-0-0-1	Wm. Sr. 1-0-0-1	Augustine 1-0-0-3	Wm. Jr. 1-0-0-2	John 1-0-0-1
1792						
Date Reported	2 Jun	26 May	26 May	June 18		
Name (Knight) & Numbers	Wm. 1-0-0-1	Austin 1-0-0-1	John 1-0-0-1	J. Hotchkiss 2-0-1-0		
1793						
Date Reported	15 April	9 May	9 May	9 May	April 20	
Name (Knight) & Numbers	John 1-0-0-3	John 1-0-0-2	Wm. 1-0-0-1	Austin 1-0-0-1	J. Hotchkiss 2-0-1-1	
1794						
Date Reported	21 April	21 April	21 April	19 May	April 22	
Name (Knight) & Numbers					J. Hotchkiss	
1795						
Date Reported	1 April	11 April	7 May	7 May	7 May	May 7
Name (Knight) & Numbers	Wm. 1-0-0-2	Wm. 1-0-0-1	John 1-0-0-3	Austin 1-1-0-1	John Wagon'm 1-0-0-2	J. Hotchkiss 1-1-0-1
1796						
Date Reported	2 April	13 June	5 July	5 July	May 3	
Name (Knight) & Numbers	Wm. 1-0-1-2	John Wagon'm 1-1-0-2	John 1-0-0-2	Austin 1-1-0-1	J. Hotchkiss 1-2-0-1	
1797						
Date Reported	29 April	29 April	29 April	6 May	7 July	May 13
Name (Knight) & Numbers	Wm. 1-1-0-2	John 1-0-0-1	Austin 1-0-0-1	George 1-0-0-1	John Wagon'm 1-0-0-1	J. Hotchkiss 1-1-0-2
1798						
Date Reported	28 April	28 April	28 April	27 June	27 June	29 June
Name (Knight) & Numbers	Wm. 1-0-1-2	Austin 1-0-0-1	John 1-0-0-2	George 1-0-0-0	John Wagon'm 1-0-0-1	Wm. Sadler 1-0-1-1

This is a key to the numbers listed above, by year. The people and items assessed for tithes changed year to year.

1782						
Tithes	Slaves	Cattle	Horses			
1783						
Whites over 21	Slaves over 16	Slaves total	Horses	Cattle	Wheels?	
1784						
Tithes	Slaves above 16	Slaves under 16	Horses	Cattle		
1785						

Tithes	Whites 16 to 21	Slaves above 16	Slaves under 16	Horses	Cattle	
1786						
Tithables over 21	Whites 16 to 21	Slaves above 16	Slaves under 16	Horses	Cattle	
1787						
Tithables over 21	Whites over 21	Whites above 16	Blacks above 16	Blacks under 16	Horses	Cattle
1788						
Tithes	Slaves	Horses				
1789						
White tithes	Slave tithes	Slaves 12-16	Horses			
1790						
White tithes	Slave tithes	Slaves 12-16	Horses			
1791						
White tithes	Slave tithes	Slaves 12-16	Horses			
1792						
White tithes	Negro tithes	Negro 12-16	Horses			
1793						
White tithes	Negro tithes	Negro 12-16	Horses			
1794						
White tithes	Negro tithes	Negro 12-16	Horses			
1795						
White tithes	Negro tithes	Negro 12-16	Horses			
1796						
White tithes	Negro tithes	Negro 12-16	Horses			
1797						
White tithes	Negro tithes	Negro 12-16	Horses			
1798						
White tithes	Negro tithes	Negro 12-16	Horses			

John Knight born about 1735 was the father of three sons; William M., John M., and Orson/Austin/Augustine. John's brother William born about 1740, who I believe doesn't appear on the tithables list as his own household until 1788 or 1789, had four children; John, William, Elizabeth, and George. This accounts for the three Williams on the 1791 tithables list.

In 1782, personal property taxes were established in addition to tithables. For several years, between 1784 and 1791, members of the Knight family appear and disappear from the extant lists. I believe this is mostly accounted for by missing lists. Not all years have available both personal property and tithables lists. I doubt that one or the other was not assessed in those years; rather, those lists are lost.

In 1783 and 1786, John Knight appears on a different list than either one or both of his sons, William M. and John M. This is the personal property tax list, so John, Sr. clearly owned property in Amherst other than the property he sold in 1775.



Then, in 1791, William M. and John M. appear on the personal property tax list, which implies something interesting. On this list in 1791, John M. and William M. Knight paid their tithes on 9 May. They are the sons of John Knight, Sr. who appeared on personal property tax lists in 1783 and 1786. A William Knight, Jr. and John Knight were listed paying tithes on 4 April in 1791. William Knight, Jr. is clearly William, Sr.'s son. This William had a brother John, so this is them together on the list. That leaves Augustine/Austin Knight, and William Knight, Sr. paying on the same date, 6 June, on the tithables list.

This is the first year Austin Knight paid tithes, although most researchers agree he was born about 1765, making him old enough in 1791 to have been on his own for about five years. However, he has been listed with his father John since 1787. But in 1791, he paid tithes on the same date as his uncle William Knight, Sr.

This leads me to conclude that John Knight, Sr. died between 1790, when Austin was taxed in his household, and 1791, when Austin first pays tithes alone. His older sons, John M. and William M. inherited his land, and thus were listed on the personal property tax list in this year. John, Sr. never appears to resurface on the tithables list in Amherst, supporting the theory that he has died.

On 7 Nov 1796, there was a deed involving William Knight, bordering the land of John Knight. This deed appears in the next section. It would appear that William and John may have divided the land left them by their father. With the missing property tax lists, it is impossible to be sure which of the Knights owned property unless it is shown by deeds, not all of which appear to exist.

### **BACK TO THE BEGINNING – ELIZABETH KNIGHT HOTCHKISS**

With a bit a research, and some help from Sue Ward, I realized that the property where William Knight (born 1740) and his family lived was about ten miles from the county courthouse, where the tithes would have been paid. The original county seat was at Cabelsville, now Colleen, and is in Nelson County today. The William Knight family lived in and around New Glasgow, ten miles south. Samuel Meredith, who appears in a very important deed involving William Knight, addressed later, lived at Winton Plantation, which is located in the Clifford-New Glasgow Historic District in Amherst County. A deed within which Jared Hotchkiss purchased land was also adjacent to Samuel Meredith, confirming where William and his family lived, as we will find.

William's brother John Knight (born 1735) and his children lived about fifteen miles south of New Glasgow, around Stovall's Creek, so they were about twenty-five miles from the county seat. John Knight's son William, born before 1761 (see family tree) witnessed several deeds in the area around Stovall's Creek beginning in 1796:

**17 November 1796** – Paul Wood of Amherst County and Frances Wood of Bedford County to Susanna Gilliland of Amherst 57 acres on Porrage Creek to Susanna Gilliland, consideration of forty seven pounds fifteen shillings. Wit: **William Knight**

Amherst County Deed Book H, page 119

**15 July 1797** -- Deed of trust - Edward Campbell of Amherst County to Galt Garland – livestock and household property. Wit: **Wm. Knight**

Amherst County Deed Book H, page 216

**7 November 1796** -- **Paul Wood** of Amherst County, **William Knight** of Amherst County, and **Francis Wood** of Bedford County to James Marr, 200 acres on Porrage Creek, **bordering John Knight** and Wilcox's fence. Property of John Wood, deceased.

Amherst County Deed Book H, page 247

In those days, a “trip to town” was surely at least a day-long affair, and any and all possible purposes for a trip would be planned together, so home chores wouldn’t suffer very often. Taxes would be paid, staples would be purchased, and any “business” would be transacted if possible in one trip.

You may recall that in the introduction to this book, my original “assignment” was to attempt to determine the parentage of Elizabeth Knight who married Jared Hotchkiss. I was able to do that, using her full marriage record and the tithables lists in Amherst County.

A trip to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah led to the discovery of a record of Elizabeth Knight’s marriage to Gerard (Jared) Hotchkiss, included in the Documents section. The marriage took place on 6 June 1791 at Amherst:

Name:	Gerard Hotchkiss
Spouse:	Betsy Knight
Marriage Date:	6 Jun 1791
Marriage Location:	Amherst County, Virginia

Dodd, Jordan. *Virginia, Compiled Marriages, 1660-1800* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 1997.

The full record found at the FHL named William Knight as security for the marriage. That begged the question, was William Elizabeth’s father, a brother, or even a cousin?

The date of the marriage rang a bell. Returning to the tithables lists, I found that in the 1791 tax year, William Knight, Sr. paid his taxes on 6 June! William Knight, Sr. went to town to pay taxes on the day Elizabeth married Jared Hotchkiss.

However, this still wasn’t proof that it was Elizabeth’s father who bonded her marriage. I continued to search for documents related to William Knight. When I found a deed abstract dated 1791, the year of Elizabeth’s marriage, within which William sold property to Samuel Meredith, I was intrigued enough to pursue the actual document. And was I ever glad I did.

This is a perfect example among many in this family story, of why finding original documentation can mean the difference between solving the mystery, or not.

In this case, the abstract of the William Knight document read as follows:

148 **Dec. 9, 1791 Wm. Knight**, AC, to Saml. Meredith, one horse and saddle; stock; crop etc. Wits.: Jas.McCaul; Sally Meredith; Sarah Meredith(sic).

Amherst County Virginia Courthouse Miniatures, An Abstract of all Items in Amherst County Deed Book G, Bailey Fulton Davis, 1964

But the document itself was a bombshell! This document was so important that I am including not only the original, but a typescript. The document is included in the Documents section:

Know all men by these presents that **William Knight** of the County of Amherst for and in consideration of twenty pounds lawful money of Virginia to me in hand paid at and before the sealing and delivery thereof by Samuel Meredith Esquire of the same county the receipt whereof I do hereby acknowledge have bargained and sold and by these presents do bargain and sell into the said Saml. Meredith the following stock of goods (Viz.) one horse and a mans saddle two sows and one boar and five shoats all marked with a half crop in the right ear and a hole and upper keel(?) in the left lale (?) my crop of corn and fodder now growing and all my household furniture and implements one Table Two chest two chairs one Iron pot and Tea Kettle Two flat Irons one dish and three Pewter plates one flax and one cotton wheel one plow and two hilling hoes one ax a hand saw and a drawing knife &c. now remaining and being in my possession. To have and to hold all and singular the said stock and goods household stuff and implements of household and every of them by these presents bargained and sold unto the said Samuel Meredith his Exos<sup>s</sup> admrs and assigns for ever. And I the said William Knight for myself my Exos<sup>s</sup> admrs and assigns all and singular the goods unto the said Samuel Meredith his Exos<sup>s</sup> admrs and assigns against me the said William Knight my Exos<sup>s</sup> admrs and assigns and against and every other persons and persons whatsoever shall and will warrant and forever defend by these presents of which goods I the said William Knight have put the said Samuel Meredith in full possession by delivering to him one pewter plate &c. at the sealing hereof In witness hereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this ninth day of December one thousand Seven hundred and ninety one William Knight (seal) Sealed and acknowledged in the presence of James McCaul, Sally Meredith, Sarah Meredith.

At a court for Amherst County the sixteenth day of July 1792 this bill of sale was acknowledged in open court by William Knight to be his act and ordered to be recorded. Test WS Crawford Clk

Amherst County, Virginia, Deed Book G, p. 148

Read in its entirety, this extraordinary document presents a whole different kettle of fish. William Knight sold *everything he owned* to Samuel Meredith in December 1791.

After discovering this document, I had to go back and re-examine all the information I had previously uncovered, to try to understand what had happened here. What reasons could there be to sell all your

possessions? Was William broke and in dire need of money? His very survival might depend on keeping his household goods. Was he dying? If so, wouldn't he make a will instead? What happened here?

Going back to the tithables lists for Amherst gave part of the answer. In 1791, William Knight, Sr. appears on the lists for the last time. In 1792, the year after he married Elizabeth Knight, Jared Hotchkiss appears, with *two* tithes listed. When Elizabeth married, her father sold all of his goods and moved in with his new son-in-law. Later evidence provided other clues into what may have prompted William Knight to sell off all of his property. This evidence is explored in the \_\_\_\_\_ chapter of this book.

In 1793, Jared Hotchkiss purchased land from Rush Hudson. The original deed is included in the Documents section:

p. 228 - **June 17, 1793 Rush Hudson** & ux, Lucy, AC, to **Gerard Hotchkiss** L90 130a part of Carter Braxton pat. and since conveyed to others. Joshua Hudson b it of Rich. Gatewood and by deed of gift to his son Rush Hudson. Lines: Joshua Hudson; Wm. Cabell; Saml. Meredith; Lindsey Coleman.

Amherst County Virginia Courthouse Miniatures, An Abstract of all Items in Amherst County Deed Book G, Bailey Fulton Davis, 1964

In 1796, Jared sold the land purchased above back to Hudson. The original deed is included in Documents:

p. 702 **Ap.18, 1796 Jarred Hotchkiss & ux** -- AC, to Rush Hudson, AC L100 130a B of grantee by grantor, June 17, 1793.

Amherst County Virginia Courthouse Miniatures, An Abstract of all Items in Amherst County Deed Book G, Bailey Fulton Davis, 1964

Jared Hotchkiss shows two tithes on the Amherst lists until 1796. In 1797, he appears on the list for the last time, with one tithe. William Knight has died. I believe that William's death triggered the sale of the land above in preparation for Jared and Elizabeth's departure from Amherst.

Jared and Elizabeth Hotchkiss remained in Amherst until at least 1797, when Elizabeth was quizzed in court regarding the sale of land to Rush Hudson:

333 **Nov. 18, 1797** Order to ACJ.P.'s, Saml. Meredith & Thos. Moore, to quiz **Eliz., ux of Jared Hotchkiss**--Ap.18,1796,deed to Rush Hudson. **Done Nov. 18, 1797.** 130a.

Amherst County Virginia Courthouse Miniatures, An Abstract of all Items in Amherst County Deed Book H, Bailey Fulton Davis, 1965

According to his Revolutionary War pension application dated 12 Sept 1832, Jared and Elizabeth/Betsey Knight left Amherst County for Washington County, Tennessee, where they lived for about two years. They then moved on to Roane County, Tennessee, where they remained for the rest of their lives.

## INTERTWINED AMHERST FAMILIES

Jared and Betsy Knight had several children, including Hezekiah born 1798. Jared was quite a bit older than Elizabeth. He was christened in New Haven Connecticut in 1761:

Name: Jared Hotchkis  
Gender: Male  
Birth Date: 06 Mar 1761  
Birthplace: NEW HAVEN TWP, NEW HAVEN, CONNETICUT  
Father's Name: Hezekiah Hotchkis  
Mother's Name: Mary

Indexing Project (Batch) Number: 7450338  
System Origin: Connecticut-ODM  
GS Film number: unknown

### Citing this Record

"Connecticut Births and Christenings, 1649-1906," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:F749-P5T> : 11 February 2018), Mary in entry for Jared Hotchkis, 06 Mar 1761; citing ; FHL microfilm unknown.

We can see from this record that Jared and Betsy named their first child after Jared's father. Hezekiah Hotchkiss married Lydia Mead (born 1792 in Roane County, Tennessee) on 5 Jan. 1813 at Roane County, Tennessee. Census data states that Hezekiah was born in 1798, but his mother's Bible record states he was born 8 Dec 1793:

Name: **Hezekiah K Hotchkiss**  
Gender: Male  
Marriage Date: 5 Jan 1813  
Marriage Place: Roane, Tennessee, USA  
Spouse: **Lydia G Mead**

Ancestry.com. *Tennessee, Marriage Records, 1780-2002* [database on-line]. Lehi, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2008.

The Bible record states that Jared and Betsey were married 8 June 1791, which is two days off of the court record. The Bible record is included in Documents.

Lydia G. Mead was the daughter of Revolutionary War patriot Colonel William Mead born 1757, and Sarah Garland born 1760. Both were born in Hanover County, Virginia; both died in Roane County, Tennessee.

Since the exact place of death or burial is unknown, a memorial marker was placed at a nearby North Middle School close to the New Providence Baptist Church Cemetery in Loudon County, Tennessee.



A marker was placed by the Daughters of the American Revolution on October 23, 1991. Author Sue Ward is a recognized descendant of William Mead, Ancestor No. A076820.



Sarah Garland's parents, Nathaniel Garland born 1728 and Elizabeth Bibb born 1732 (both in Hanover County, Virginia) are on her headstone shown above.

A deed at Louisa County, Virginia shows the couple living near each other before they were married:

“October 28, 1776, D.B.E., p. 155, Louisa.

“Wm. Garrett, Jr. of Trinity Parish to daughter Elizabeth Gordon, 50 acres of the tract I live on adjoining **Elizabeth Bibb** and **Nathaniel Garland**.”

The William and Mary Quarterly, Lester Durand Gardner, Vol. 12, No. 1 (Jan., 1932), pp. 13-25.

Elizabeth was the daughter of Henry Bibb born 1690 and Eleanor Fleming born 1714; both died at Louisa County, Virginia. Eleanor was the daughter of William Fleming. His will states:

“I give and bequeath to my son-in-law Henry Bibb and my beloved daughter Eleanor the wife of the said Henry the use of two hundred fifty acres of land Beginning at the main road on the north side of the sedgy creek . . . “

Ancestry.com. *Tidewater Virginia Families: Generations Beyond* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2006, p.76.

Nathaniel Garland died 1783 in Louisa County, Virginia.

Ancestry.com, Virginia, Wills and Probate Records, 1652-1983 [database on-line]. Louisa County Will Book, Vol 5, 1801-1817, p. 246, image 155.

Elizabeth died 1809 in Louisa County.

Ancestry.com, Virginia, Wills and Probate Records, 1652-1983 [database on-line]. Louisa County Will Book, Vol 5, 1801-1817, p. 257, image 160

William M. Knight born before 1761 (son of John b.c.1735) married Temperance Bibb on 9 Nov 1783 at Amherst County, Virginia. She was the daughter of Thomas and Sarah (MNU) Bibb. Thomas was the brother of Henry named above. Temperance's widowed mother, Sarah Bibb, gave consent for the marriage:

Name:	<b>Temperance Bibb</b>
Gender:	Female
Marriage Date:	9 Nov 1783
Marriage Place:	Amherst County, Virginia
Mother:	Sarah Bibb
Spouse:	<b>William Knight</b>
FHL Film Number:	30273
Reference ID:	P 18

Ancestry.com. *Virginia, Select Marriages, 1785-1940* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc, 2014.

Thomas Bibb died in Amherst in 1781. His will names his daughter, Temperance:

“**Thomas Bibb** - Amherst Co., Va., Book 2, p. 229, Will prov. **Jan. 1781**, Wife, Sarah, Sons, William, Henry, James and Martin. Daughters, Elizabeth Newlass, Annie Key, Rachel Mays and Barbara Cobb. My oldest daughters, Mary Gray, Frances Harper and **Temperance Bibb**.”

Ancestry.com. *Key and allied families* [database on-line]. Provo, UT: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2005, p. 388

Revolutionary War patriot Colonel Samuel Garland Meredith, Jr. was born in 1732 in Hanover County, Virginia. He died 22 December 1808 in Amherst, and was buried at his Winton Planation in Amherst. Meredith's brother-in-law was the great patriot Patrick Henry. Buried next to Samuel Meredith is his wife, Mary "Jane" Henry.

Ancestry.com. *North America, Family Histories, 1500-2000* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2016, p. 265

Buried at her feet is their daughter, Jane Henry Meredith, who married David Shepherd Garland.

Ancestry.com. *North America, Family Histories, 1500-2000* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2016, p. 113.

Patrick Henry was born 29 May 1736, and died 6 June 1799. He is buried at the Henry Cemetery in Aspen, Charlotte County, Virginia. He married Mary Jane Henry Meredith, daughter of Samuel Meredith, Sr. She was born 19 June 1738 in Hanover County, Virginia and died 1819 in Amherst. She is buried at the Winton Planation.

Patrick Henry's namesake son married Elvira Cabell in Amherst on 6 February 1804:

Name:	<b>Patrick Henry</b>
Gender:	Male
Marriage Date:	6 Feb 1804
Marriage Place:	Amherst County, Virginia
Spouse:	<b>Elvira Cabell</b>
FHL Film Number:	30273
Reference ID:	173

Source: Ancestry.com. *Virginia, Select Marriages, 1785-1940* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2014.

The Cabells were a prominent and large family from Goochland County, Virginia, and later Amherst. These surnames often appear on records alongside Henry Bibb.

David Shepherd Garland was born 27 September 1769 at Clifford in Amherst County. He married Jane Henry Meredith on 4 March 1795 in Amherst.

Name:	<b>David S. Garland</b>
Spouse:	<b>Jane H Meredith</b>
Marriage Date:	4 Mar 1795
Marriage Location:	Amherst County, Virginia

Dodd, Jordan. *Virginia, Compiled Marriages, 1660-1800* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 1997.

David Shepherd Garland was a U.S. Congressman. He pursued academic courses, studied law, was admitted to the bar and commenced to practice law in Clifford, Virginia. He was a member of the Virginia State House of Delegates, (1799-1802, 05-09) and served in the Virginia State Senate, (1809-10). In 1810, he was elected as a Republican to the Eleventh Congress to fill the Virginia vacancy caused by the resignation of Wilson Cary Nicholas, serving until 1811. After leaving Congress, he was again a member of the Virginia State House of Delegates, (1814-15, 19-26, 32-36).

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/53825016/david-shepherd-garland>

Garland died 7 October 1841 in Clifford. He and his wife are buried at Winton Plantation of Amherst.

David Garland's daughter, Eliza Virginia Garland married George Cabell on 3 Sept. 1829 in Amherst:

Name:	<b>George K. Cabell</b>
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Gender: Male  
Marriage Date: 3 Sep 1829  
Marriage Place: Amherst, Virginia  
Spouse: **Eliza V. Garland**  
FHL Film Number: 30273

Ancestry.com. *Virginia, Select Marriages, 1785-1940* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA:  
Ancestry.com Operations, Inc, 2014

## WILLIAM KNIGHT'S SADDLERY AND OTHER HISTORIC BUILDINGS IN AMHERST

There are several places of interest on the National Register of Historic Places listings in Amherst County, Virginia. The **Brick House** aka King David's Palace was built 1803 by David S. Garland and wife Jane. **Winton** is a historic two-story late-Georgian frame structure with three bays on the main facade, several additions to the rear, and a prominent two-story portico. It is said to have been built by Colonel Joseph **Cabell** (1732-1798) in about 1770, who sold Winton to his friend Colonel Samuel Meredith, Jr. in 1779. He was a close friend of his near neighbor Patrick Henry, and married Patrick's sister, Jane Henry. Patrick Henry's mother, Sarah Winston Syme Henry, lived at Winton and is buried in the cemetery on the grounds. In 1967, an anonymous donor gave it to the County of Amherst to be leased to a corporation and run as a country club.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Winton\\_\(Clifford,\\_Virginia\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Winton_(Clifford,_Virginia)). Accessed 29 Sept. 2019.

**The Saddlery** is the most recognizable building in the Clifford/New Glasgow historic district. It was built by William Knight, born before 1761. The Amherst tax lists identify William Knight as a Saddler by trade. He lived in the town of Clifford and is counted as a man over 45 years old in the 1810 census of Amherst County.

Knight purchased lot number 5 in Amherst in 1804 from David Garland. The original deed is included in Documents:

p. 204 - 16 July 1804 - **David S. Garland**, AC, to **Wm. Knight**, AC L24 Lot 5 in New Glasgow - E side of new street. L: alley; No. 4. Wits.: Jas. Garland; Wm. G. Pendleton; H. M. Garland. To WK, 10 Apr. 1817

Amherst County Virginia Courthouse Miniatures, An Abstract of all Items in Amherst County Deed Book K, Bailey Fulton Davis, 1966

In 1812, he purchased Lot 6, presumably next-door. Original in Documents:

p. 288 - **21 Sept. 1812** – Peyton Keith, AC, to **Wm. Knight**, AC - \$40.00 – for one lot in New Glasgow – No. 6 – 34 yards in from and 70 yards deep – E. side Main and begins at an alley.

Amherst County Virginia Courthouse Miniatures, An Abstract of all Items in Amherst County Deed Book M, Bailey Fulton Davis, 1967

Then, in a deed in 1814, Knight purchased more land in town from David Garland. This deed refers to Knight's "improved Lot 5," and is included in Documents. The improvement must be the saddlery built by William Knight:

p. 569 - **25 Sept., 1814 – David S. Garland, AC, to Wm. Knight, AC \$100.00 for 3 lots in New Glasgow:** No. 22 N. side of Main St. – 35 yrd. by 49 yds. And **opposite Knight's improved lot No. 5;** also No. 4 on S. side Main St. and joining No. 5 on S. - 35 yds. On Main & 70 yds. Deep – on S. by Market st.; also No. 7 on S. side Main St. – 35 yds. By 70 yds. – alley on N. Wits.: Jno. Whitehead; Jere Yager; Jno. Mountcastle; Frederick Aldridge. Taken out by WK, 13 Apr., 1817.

The abstract of this deed is followed by a note from Bailey Fulton Davis about the town of New Glasgow, which includes the following:

"There was once a race track there and a thriving academy but today it is usually known as the village near the cemetery where Sarah Henry is buried at nearby Winton."

Amherst County Virginia Courthouse Miniatures, An Abstract of all Items in Amherst County Deed Book M, Bailey Fulton Davis, 1966

The race track at New Glasgow, and the history around it, is discussed at length in the \_\_\_\_\_ chapter of this book.

The National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for Clifford/New Glasgow states that The Saddlery, which still stands today, was built in 1814. If the preceding deed is the basis for that date, we can safely assume that it was built earlier than 1814.

From the application for inclusion of Clifford/New Glasgow on the National List of Historic Places, we learn the following:

"In 1811, the village included the New Glasgow Academy along with two ordinaries, a blacksmith shop, tan yard, church, stores, and dwellings. The new academy headmaster, Elijah Fletcher, described the village as having —about 50 houses. In another description, he stated that the village had several stores, mechanic shops, and dwellings but complained about the lack of a clothier. Fletcher was housed in the Headmaster's House (005-5042-0036) once located on the academy grounds, and described it as having two rooms at the time. The earliest section was a story and a half, double-pile frame dwelling with a steep gable roof. In the late nineteenth century, the house was expanded with a two-story frame addition to the west and a single story addition was added in the early twentieth century. The Saddlery (005-0175), built by William Knight in 1814, is perhaps the most recognized building in the village. It was built next to the road and is the only remaining nineteenth-century commercial building in the district. The first level, constructed of brick and stone, was the saddle maker's shop and the one-and-a-half-story frame section above was the saddler's dwelling. The building was used as a residence from the late nineteenth century into the late twentieth century and it is presently unoccupied."

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, Clifford-New Glasgow Historic District, Parrick Henry Highway and Fletchers Level Road, p. 10-11.

It appears that the void left when Jared Hotchkiss, a tailor, left the area about 1800, had not been filled by 1811.

The application is a wealth of information, and is available online at [https://www.dhr.virginia.gov/VLR\\_to\\_transfer/PDFNoms/005-5042\\_Clifford-New\\_Glasgow\\_HD\\_2011\\_NR\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.dhr.virginia.gov/VLR_to_transfer/PDFNoms/005-5042_Clifford-New_Glasgow_HD_2011_NR_FINAL.pdf)

Below is a photo of William Knight's Saddlery in the Clifford Historic District of Amherst:



[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National\\_Register\\_of\\_Historic\\_Places\\_listings\\_in\\_Amherst\\_County,\\_Virginia#/media/File:The\\_Saddlery\\_at\\_Clifford.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Register_of_Historic_Places_listings_in_Amherst_County,_Virginia#/media/File:The_Saddlery_at_Clifford.jpg).

### **HORSE RACING IN THE COLONIES**

After finding the document within which William Knight sold all of his goods, which I found to be extraordinary since I had never seen anything like it, I thought that its resolution of the mystery of Elizabeth Knight's parentage was all it had to offer. I continued to comb through documents mentioning the Knights and other families in hopes of fleshing out the story. Imagine my surprise when I found *another* document that looked very similar to the Knight record. The original is included in Documents, but I am transcribing it and others to follow, to tell the story:

This indenture made this 13<sup>th</sup> day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and five, between **James Ware** of the County of Amherst of the one part and **Adamson Berry** of said County of the other part, whereas the said Adamson Berry by his bond or obligation duly

executed bearing date 13<sup>th</sup> April eighteen hundred and five stands bound to David and James Garland, in the penal sum of eighteen pounds one shilling and ten pence current money of Virginia with a condition for the payment of nine pounds and ten pence like money with interest from this date paid at the rate of six p'cent p'anum, Now this indenture witnesseth that the said Adamson Berry in consideration of the debt or sum of money due as aforesaid by the said A. Berry to the said David and James Garland and for the letter securing the payment thereof to said D. and J. Garland and for and in consideration the further sum of one dollar paid by the said James Ware to the said Adamson Berry the receipt whereof he doth hereby acknowledge, hath bargained sold and confirmed unto the said James Ware his heirs and assigns **the following property Viz. two feather beds, two bedsteads and furniture six earthen plates. six cups and saucers. four chairs one large trunk one pine table one Grey Colt one Chestnut sorrel mare and nine head hogs.** To have and to hold the said bargain premises, to him the said James Ware, his heirs and assigns forever upon trust nevertheless that the said James Ware his heirs and assigns after the first day of September eighteen hundred and five, and after having given ten days notice previously of time and place of sale shall sell to the highest bidder for the best price that can be obtained in ready money the above bargained and sold premises, which the said A. Berry will deliver the purchaser or purchasers and doth covenant and agree to and with the said James Ware that he the said A. Berry will warrant and forever defend the said bargain'd premises against the claims of all and every person or persons whatsoever and out of the money arising from the sale in first place to pay to the said David and James Garland their executor administrator or assigns the debt above mentioned with interest as aforesaid together with expenses of drawing and recording this Indenture and all reasonable charges attending said sale and the residue of the money arising from said sale (if any) to pay to the said A. Berry his Ex<sup>rs</sup> or Administrators or such persons as he shall by writing appoint. In witness whereof the said parties hath hereunto subscribed their hands and affixed their seals this day and year first above written. Adamson Berry (seal) James Ware (seal) David and James Garland (seal). Signed sealed and delivered in presence of Alexander Maro, Wm. Knight, S. Garland. At a court held for Amherst County 17<sup>th</sup> day of June 1805. This deed was proven by the oaths of Wm. Knight & Spotswood Garland subscribing witnesses thereto, and ordered to be recorded. Teste.

Amherst Deed Book K, p 247.

Transcribed by Wanda Tucker

In this document, it appears that Adamson Berry is in debt to David and James Garland in the amount of eighteen pounds one shilling and ten pence, and is only able to pay nine pounds and ten pence. James Ware, a third party, paid one dollar for all of Berry's household items, and agreed that they would be sold to the highest bidder. All expenses from the sale were to be deducted from the money made from the sale, which is probably where James Ware got his take (fees). David and James Garland were to be paid off, and any remaining money reverted to Adamson Berry. There is also interest due on the money to the Garlands, implying that there was a loan of some kind, as opposed to a simple debt, as to a merchant.

The significance of this find to the story of William Knight was puzzling. When William's daughter Elizabeth married Jared Hotchkiss, it appeared that William sold his goods and moved into his new son-

in-law's home. But this new document implied there was more to the story. I set out to see if I could find other documents in this vein.

In the sixties, Bailey Fulton Davis produced abstracts of all the deeds in Amherst County in Amherst County Virginia Courthouse Miniatures. These books of abstracts are a great resource which I have used to locate many Knight original documents for this book. I went to the abstracts to attempt to uncover more instances in Amherst in which people appeared to be selling off all of their possessions due to debt. I tried a few search terms unsuccessfully, before I hit upon the one item that appeared in many of the abstracts. That item was "bed."

It seems strange to us now, but a feather bed was a luxury in earlier times. Many people slept on mattresses stuffed with straw or corn shucks. The creation of a feather bed took a lot of time and energy.

<https://www.revolutionarywarjournal.com/colonial-mattresses/>

And not only were the mattresses themselves included in the sales, but bedsteads themselves. Furniture in the late 1700s and 1800s, when these transactions were recorded, was built by hand. Mattresses and bedsteads were often bequeathed to family members as family heirlooms. I have seen many wills in which this occurred. Bedding and textiles were so important that beds were stripped and aired *daily*, with the featherbed flipped to keep things sanitary.

Poorer people didn't usually have beds:

"As you might imagine, there were no fancy featherbeds for servants or enslaved persons in 18th-century America. They often slept on the simplest straw or hay pallets on the floor. In New England, servants slumbered "in the hallways or even the unfinished cavities of the house or the attic space if there weren't rudimentary quarters provided for them."

<https://www.saatvamattress.com/blog/history-of-mattresses/>

Clearly, a featherbed was an item of great value.

In my search of the abstracts in Amherst, in Deed Books G-K, covering 1790-1807, I discovered more than *three dozen* instances where the sale of a bed or bedstead was mentioned.

This was fairly shocking to me, having seen so many estates in which beds were bequeathed to family members, but having never seen a sale like this before prior to the death of the owner of the goods.

I went back to the original documents to read some of them in full. Several of them are transcribed in full here. The original of the following deed is included in Documents:

This Indenture made and entered into this 30<sup>th</sup> day of October 1800 between **John Ware** of the County of Amherst the one part and **William Warwick** of the County of Campbell of the other part

Witnesseth that for and in consideration of six shillings of Virginia currency the receipt whereof I do hereby fully acknowledge for more especially to secure to Danl Warwick a debt due from him of one hundred eighty one pounds twelve shillings & 4.c. current money of Virginia is my note to

him of the 19<sup>th</sup> of July last and which the said John Ware Jnr. honestly desires to pay have granted bargained and sold & delivered and by these presents doth grant bargain and sell a lien \_\_\_ and confirm to the said William Warwick one tract or parcel of land whereon I now live containing one hundred acres more or less together with the following property Viz one negro man by the name of Charles one black mare and six head of cattle with all the appurtenances belonging or in any wise appertaining to the law hereby granted or intended to be granted of the reversion or reversions and all the benefits and profit of the said Land and premises together with a good title to the said property to the said William Warwick and his heirs for ever & the said John Ware Jnr. is for himself & his heirs the above described the premises together with the property named and described shall and will warrant & forever defend to the said William Warwick and his heirs for ever against him the said John Ware Jnr. & his heirs and against the claim or claims of any other person or persons whatsoever. Upon Trust nevertheless that if the said John Ware Jnr. Shall will and truly pay or cause to be paid to the said Daniel Warwick the sum of one hundred and eighty one pounds twelve shillings and four pence Current money of Virginia with interest \_ on or before the first day of December next then and in that case the said William Warwick to convey to the said John Ware Jnr. his heirs and assigns the above described land and property & in default of the said John Ware Jnr. paying the said sum of one hundred eighty one pounds twelve shillings and 4.c. on or before the first day of December next then and in that case for the said William Warwick to sell and dispose of the said land and property to the highest bidder after having advertised the same for three weeks before the day of sale at Amherst Courthouse and such other public places as he the said William Warwick shall think proper & right the sale for ready money and for him the said William Warwick to convey to the purchaser or purchasers a good title and fee simple to the above described land & property all of the money to be raised by the sale aforesaid to pay to the said Daniel Warwick the sum of one hundred and eighty one pounds 12/4 w. Int. and of the balance if any to the said John Ware Jnr. In witness whereof the said John Ware Jnr. & William Warwick have hereunto set their hands & affixed their seals the day and year above written.

Signed and delivered  
In presence of  
Charles L. Banett  
John Haysliss  
John Barker

John Ware, Jnr.  
W. Warwick

At a court held for Amherst County the 20<sup>th</sup> day of April 1800 this Deed of Trust was proven by oath of John Haysliss & John Barker witnesses thereto and to the personal property ordered to be recorded and ordered to him for further proof as to the \_\_\_\_ property.

Amherst County Deed Book I, p 214.

Transcribed by Sue Ward

A large debt with interest is owed by John Ware, Jr. to Daniel Warwick. A third party, William Warwick, is involved in the sale of property to pay off the debt.

The following indenture is a bit more straightforward and easier to follow. One David George owes money to Thomas Wiatt. The third party, James Bulloch, will sell property to pay off George's debt if it is not paid on time:

This Indenture made and concluded this **27 day July in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and four**, between **David George** of the County of Amherst, of the one part, and **James Bulloch** of Campbell of the town of Lynchburg of the other part Witnesseth that the said David George that in order to secure to **Thomas Wiatt** of Lynchburg, the sum of fifteen pounds & 5<sup>c</sup> due by bond bearing this date this the 27<sup>th</sup> day of July 1804, & payable the first day of October next & for & in consideration of the sum of one dollar, to me in hand paid the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged have bargained & sold & by these presents doth grant bargain, and sell unto the said James Bulloch his heirs or assigns forever, **the following property (to wit) two feather beds, bedsteads, and furniture, five chairs, one large Iron pot, one duch oven, one chest, and two tables;** - To have and to hold, the said above described property, unto him the said James Bulloch, his heirs or assigns & upon trust, & special confidence nevertheless, that in case the said David George, his heirs executors or administrators, shall fail to pay the said sum of fifteen pounds & 5<sup>c</sup> - current money of Virginia, due by bond as aforesaid unto the said Thos. Wiatt his heirs or assigns & or in case of any part may remain due and unpaid at the time aforesaid, being 1 day October next then in that case it may be lawful, for the said James Bulloch, or his lawful representatives to sell the above mentioned property, for ready money, to the highest bidder at the dwelling house of the said David George, or at some convenient public place near his residence, having advertised the time and place of sale, three weeks in same news paper, nearest the residence of the said George, & out of the monies arising from such sale, in the first place, to pay the said Thos. Wiatt amount of the aforementioned bond, with all interest & costs that may have accrued thereon, and pay the expenses of drawing and recording this Indenture, the surplus if any arising from said sale, to be paid to the said David George his heirs & the said David George himself, for himself and his heirs, doth covenant and agree to & with the said James Bulloch, that in case of the sale of the within described property that he will render peaceable possession of the same to the purchaser or purchasers, and that he will sign & execute any instrument of writing necessary forgiving & making complete the title to the s<sup>d</sup> property. In witness whereof the said parties have hereunto set their hand & seals, the day & year, first above written. David (his X mark) George (Seal) James Bulloch (Seal)

Signed sealed & acknowledged in the presence of John C. Lynch, B. W. Moseley

Amherst Deed Book K, p 138.

Transcribed by Wanda Tucker

It is impossible to know if any of these men were selling off property in order to pay off gambling debts, including William Knight, Elizabeth's father. But it is an interesting path of inquiry, as there is such a pattern in this area and time period of these kinds of sales.