The Family Tree Searcher

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Visit the website for Gloucester Genealogical Society of Virginia at
http://www.rootsweb.com/~vaggsv/
The Editor's Page—

I stopped by the Battle of the Hook the other day and got to see American and French soldiers push back the British and clear the way for victory in the American Revolutionary War.

You don’t get to say that every day. But thanks to a group of dedicated local history buffs, the people in Gloucester can say it this year.

The Battle of the Hook re-enactment held recently on the grounds of Warner Hall, relocated only a few miles from the site of the battle in Hayes, was the largest re-enactment of an American Revolutionary War battle held this year anywhere. It was intriguing to see the variety of people being portrayed, people who stood in Gloucester County over two centuries ago, some perhaps our own ancestors. We are all grateful to those who made this happen and those who participated.

We have a fascinating article in this issue of The Family Tree Searcher that describes a very different way to look back over the years at our ancestors – Sara Lewis’s readable case study of DNA analysis. If you have wanted to know more about how DNA can be used for genealogy, you have no better place to look than right here.

If you are a member of the Gloucester Genealogical Society of Virginia, you know that the society offers more than this journal to its members. There are occasional outings to local historic sites, and we meet on alternate months, each meeting featuring a presentation of interest on local history and genealogies.

It was at our last meeting that Sue Perrin and Tish Grant spoke about Ware Neck, including the landmark Nuttall’s Store.

I knew my grandfather, Joe Brown, had worked there, but I knew little about who worked with him and the complete history of the store. Prompted by our meeting, I sought to look deeper into the merchants and their family relationships. I have to say I was surprised at what I found out, which is reported within. Everybody is connected to everybody, and as I write those words and think about DNA and look across the river at Ware Neck, as people have done for centuries, I think that might just be a good slogan for our little band of genealogists.

Lee Brown, Editor
Applying Genetic Genealogy to Family History Research

By Sara E. Lewis

While working on two books between 2005 and 2007, I spent many days in Gloucester, the county where I grew up, and Mathews, the county where my parents, grandparents, and many of my ancestors lived (see Figures 1 and 2). As I collected photographs and stories for Images of America: Mathews County, I was particularly touched by the spirit of my ancestors. After completing the book, I resurrected my genealogical work.

I found that I was once again particularly interested in a puzzling branch of my family tree: my direct Lewis ancestry. My last known paternal ancestor is Robert T. Lewis (1828 - 1893) who married Diana F. Marchant in 1855 and lived on Queen's Creek in the Hallieford area of the county on what is today Lewis Lane. The 1860 census lists my 2nd great-grandparents as family number 611 in Mathews Magisterial District Number 3. Also in the household were my great-grandfather, then four-year-old Charles L. Lewis, his one-year-old brother John, and 11-year-old Roseline Shipley.

From an early age, when I first took an interest in local history, I thought that I might somehow be descended from the Lewises of Warner Hall. I had researched them and other early Lewises, but without finding a connection. (See List on next page.) While looking into the Warner Hall family, I came across the Lewis Surname DNA Project at Family Tree DNA. In late 2007, realizing that my 85 year old father was the last male Lewis in our line, I asked him to submit to DNA testing for the sake of our family tree. He did and we compared his DNA pattern (or haplotype) to nearly 300 others in the Lewis surname database.

We learned that we were not related to Councilor John Lewis of Warner Hall or any of the other lineages of Lewises in the surname group. We found ourselves included in a list...
of DNA results that could not be assigned to a known Lewis immigrant. While I certainly was angry with myself for wasting so much time looking for a connection where there was none, I was also excited because this reoriented me. I was anxious to learn more about why I genetically mismatched the Warner Hall Lewises yet more closely matched newfound cousins.

It is not the purpose of this article to explain DNA science because it is much too complex for a short article by a non-specialist. Most individuals new to the application of DNA science to genealogy read more as they want to learn while interpreting results. I used Family Tree DNA to analyze my father's DNA and their website and staff were very helpful. Recent advances have made the application of genetics to genealogy more affordable, useful, and easy to understand by those who are curious about proving or disproving earlier research and family lore. Books that I have enjoyed as I have learned more are *The Seven Daughters of Eve; Saxons, Vikings, and Celts*; and *Adam’s Curse* by Dr. Bryan Sykes.

It is important to note that DNA analysis applies ONLY to your direct paternal (your father, your father's father, your father's father's father, etc.) and direct maternal (your mother, her mother, your mother's mother's mother, etc.) lines. The DNA that is analyzed in each case is of a different type. For the paternal line, nuclear DNA is used. Nuclear DNA contains 23 pairs of chromosomes. Twenty-two are the same; they recombine the parents’ DNA. If a child is a boy, the 23rd is different because it pairs an X and a Y chromosome. Only males carry the Y, so scientists sequence a portion of it to prove or disprove relationships. The mother's DNA analysis has to do with the mitochondria, units outside the nucleus and within the cell that mothers pass on to all of their children. In human reproduction, sperm does not pass its mitochondria to the egg at conception, so mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) does not contain information about the father. Mitochondrial DNA can only be examined for information about the mother and her direct maternal

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**List - Some Lewises of Gloucester and Mathews**

- Land patents were issued to John Lewis, Jr. in 1655 and other John Lewises in 1667, 1711, and 1719.
- There were also patents made to Major William Lewis in 1654 and 1656 and Nicholas Lewis in 1773 and 1780.
- Lewises listed in the 1784 First Census of the United States for Gloucester County’s Kingston Parish which became Mathews include Thomas, John, Christopher, and Robert.
- The 1810 Federal Census for Mathews includes Chris T. and George Lewis.
- The 1820 Federal Census for Mathews includes Elizabeth, George, James, John R., Nancy, Samuel, Sarah, and Thomas Lewis.
- A land book at the Mathews Clerks Office shows several Lewises with small lots near a headwater of Queen’s Creek where my father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and 2nd great-grandfather lived: George W. Lewis’s property abuts land marked "Shipley and Others." (see photo)

**Lewises, Meriwethers and Their Kin**, by Sarah Travers Lewis (Scott) Anderson, mentions that most Lewis families of Virginia trace their ancestry to one of six Lewis families who did not claim to be kin. One of the six she listed is Zachary Lewis, who emigrated from Wales in 1694. A descendant of Zachary, the Reverend Iverson Lewis, came to Mathews to preach in the area where his cousins lived. His visit led to the founding of Mathews Baptist Church where my Lewis ancestors were active church members.
DNA analysis can’t help you trace your father’s mother’s father or your mother’s father’s mother. To help with the in-between branches, you can ask a cousin who is a direct descendant to have his or her DNA tested, as Bill Lawrence did to trace his mother’s family (see his article in this issue).

Of the two types of DNA, Y-DNA passed by the father yields results that can supplement genealogical work within a historic time frame. The mother’s mtDNA is only useful to explain if you descend from the same family or not within the last 20,000 years or so. It is most useful to prove that you are definitely NOT related or that you possibly COULD BE related to another person within a historically meaningful time frame.

When examining DNA, scientists look for differences in particular sections of the Y-DNA or mtDNA to assign individuals to haplogroups. There are separate haplogroups for males and females. Haplogroups (from the Greek word haplo for simple or single) were developed after analyzing thousands of samples and looking for patterns in the mutations.

My father’s Y-DNA told us that we were not related to the Lewises of Warner Hall, because our DNA shows that we are not of the same haplogroup. My father’s DNA belongs to haplogroup I1. Most of the Lewises in the Lewis Surname Group, including the Lewises of Warner Hall, are in the R1b haplogroup. The hierarchy of haplogroups (Figure 3) uses the letters of the alphabet in sequential order with A and B, the oldest haplogroups, originating only in Africa. The C through R haplogroups were carried in three migrations to other parts of the world. Later haplogroups mutated from haplogroups that evolved earlier; therefore, haplogroup I is older than haplogroup R. The Sykes book *Saxons, Vikings, and Celts* notes that the relatively youthful R haplogroup is the most abundant group today, and their group makes up about 70 to 90 percent of the population of modern England, Scotland, and Wales. (Figure 4) The I group makes up about 10 to 20 percent, and other haplogroups make up less than 3 percent of modern England, Scotland, and Wales. These percentages probably hold true for the haplogroups of descendants of early emigrants from England, Wales, and Scotland from *Saxons, Vikings, and Celts*.
these Old World regions to the Chesapeake Bay region of America.

Haplogroups are further subdivided by a sequence of letters, then a sequence of numbers, then letters again and so forth. Within the I haplogroup, my father’s DNA was further subdivided into the I1 haplogroup.

I sorted our I1 haplogroup subdivision and compared the various haplotypes in it with our haplotype. A haplotype is a particular pattern of coding called Short Tandem Repeats (STRs). At certain points, called markers, a value is recorded for the number of STRs. Family Tree DNA offers haplotype tests for 12, 25, 37, and more markers. A 12-marker haplotype is a series of 12 STR values recorded at each of 12 locations on the chromosome. A 25-marker haplotype includes results from 25 locations and a 37 marker test from 37. More locations allow an individual to hone in on how closely he is related to other people in a test group.

Looking at the 12 marker results only, we see in Figure 5 that our haplotype, listed as the top row of 12 numbers, matched no more than 10 of the 12 markers with other Lewises in the I1 haplogroup. Family Tree DNA is able to calculate the probability of how closely we are related to a common ancestor given that we mismatch on 2 of the 12 markers. There are probably at least 1,000 years between my father and the most recent ancestor he shares with another Lewis Group I1 member.

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Figure 5 - Lewis Haplotypes in I1 Haplogroup

Family Tree DNA categorizes the Lewis project as a group for a common surname that shows some defined clusters representing older branches of the family. These Lewis groups developed when surnames first arose largely to deal with heredity matters and feudal tenant management. The Lewis group also includes many single haplotypes, like ours, and others that represent younger Lewis surname branches that developed as surnames became common. The Lewis group may also include haplotypes that represent non-paternity events like illegitimacy and adoption. In addition, the sample of nearly 300 names really isn't very large. Again, Dr. Bryan Sykes explains this phenomenon in _Adam’s_
Curse.

Luckily for me, Family Tree DNA has a total database of more than 13,700 Y-DNA samples, and I checked the box that allowed Dad's sample to be compared to the entire database. I discovered that we were an exact match on 12 markers with four other people—whose last names were Poppe, Webb, Evans, and Baldwin! On 25 markers, we were still an exact match with one of them. I corresponded with that person and found that his family emigrated from Wales and settled in the coal mining area of Tennessee.

On 37 markers, this gentleman mismatched with us on 3 more markers bringing the match total to 33 out of 37. But another person rose to the top of the list because he mismatched with us on only 1 additional marker, bringing the total to 35 out of 37 matches. (Figure 6) I wrote to our new closest genetic relative and found that his earliest known ancestor is Evan E. Evans born in 1771 in Montgomeryshire, Wales. Family Tree DNA’s probability calculator calculated that there is about an 80 percent chance that we share a common ancestor around the year 1700. There is more than a 90 percent chance that we share a common ancestor between 1500 and 1600, perhaps during the reign of Queen Elizabeth I!

I compared our DNA to other Evanses and found that we appeared to be as close to them as we were to other Lewises. (Figure 7) I then looked back at my Lewis data. Interestingly, I discovered that there are two other Lewis-Evans 12-marker pairs in Family Tree’s database. (Figure 8)

Now that I know this, I am looking into a trip to Wales! Of course, with the strong Welsh tradition in Mathews, I had suspicions about this earlier. In the Montgomeryshire area, there are many references to individuals named Evan ap Lewis and Lewis ap Evan. ("Ap" is a Welsh word meaning "son of.")
Bob Plummer of Gloucester also got a boost in his genealogical research by using DNA analysis. He ran across a Plummer surname project on the Web. Since he didn’t know which of the established family patterns was his, he invested $100 in the 12-marker test. Because he was the first match on the site, the group administrator asked him to consider upgrading to a test on more markers to hone in on one of the patterns. He did. He matched with another participant on 36 out of 37 markers which revealed that he and that man had more than 90 percent probability of sharing a common ancestor within 300 years. The other gentleman’s ancestor is Thomas Plummer who arrived in Maryland in 1667. He was born about 1642 in Ringmer, Essex, England, and was transported to the colony by William Stanley.

Unfortunately, there are still some blanks for Bob to fill in. The immigrant, Thomas Plummer, had a son named Thomas who had nine sons born between 1690 and about 1717. Bob’s father was born in 1925 and is probably descended from one of the nine sons. Bob has a hypothesis, but is still looking for the documentation.

I have become very interested in the DNA of Mathews and Gloucester families. Because I know that we are sometimes related to families on the Eastern Shore or in Middlesex or elsewhere around the Chesapeake Bay, I have formed a geographic DNA project on Family Tree DNA to look for genetic cousins among ancestors who settled in the counties around the Chesapeake Bay.

In James Horn’s book, *Adapting to the New World: English Society in the Seventeenth-Century Chesapeake*, he notes that merchants loaded ships with food, manufactured wares, and indentured servants. The ship captains would sell or consign them to planters over the next few months as they traded around the bay. Hundreds of merchantmen engaged in this business through the 17th century. Horn points out that the transfer of English society to the area is something that is little understood. Historians have dealt with the American colonial story with little attention paid to the transatlantic connection; it hasn’t been easy to make the connection because so many arrived in the region as indentured servants and records are scarce. The fact that so many genealogists have trouble making the transatlantic leap illustrates his point.

For example, Mathews’ families like the Gwynns have general references or family lore that connects them to the Welsh. However, historians and genealogists cannot usually document the link across the Atlantic back to England. There were many reasons why people left the old world for the new. But the fact that most were coming from England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland to escape persecution or because they were among the poor and landless who came here as indentured servants doesn’t help genealogists! There are
few records because some didn’t want to tell why they were here and others were illiterate. English histories stress politics, religion, the enclosure movement, and other reasons for what is described as one of the great human diasporas. Many references describe the bleak conditions for many during the 18th and 19th centuries. Up to the mid-19th century, emigrant ships from London and Liverpool arrived in New York filled with the poor listed simply as laborers and servants.

Currently, in the Family Tree DNA that I am administering (Early Chesapeake), I have several members who have traced their earliest known ancestor to an indentured servant. I have two men with the surname Hagen who didn’t know each other before they had their DNA analyzed. They found each other because they are 37 out of 37 marker matches, closer than my father is to Mr. Evans at 35 out of 37 or Bob Plummer to his relative at 36 out of 37. One has records of his ancestors back to Thomas Hagen, the Immigrant of Charles County, Maryland. The other had documented his earliest known ancestor as Francis Hagen who appears in Frederick County, Maryland about 1780. They hope that other Hagens will join the group to help them connect the dots.

Fred Hagen said, “The more we can get men’s DNA tested, the more unknown cousins we can locate. Prior to my DNA test, I did not know about Richard, nor about Dan [Hagen] or Don [Hagen]. After my test, there they were. For years I struggled... thinking I must be the only one searching for my family roots. Now I know there are a lot of us doing just that...the money I spent on my DNA test was the best investment in my genealogy searching I had spent to date, and it advanced my research years ahead of going to courthouses and archives... Since Richard, Dan and Don were located, several more DNA cousins have been found. Our family keeps growing.”

Another member of the group knows that his ancestor is William Thornton who emigrated in 1641 to what would become Gloucester County. He was sponsored by Richard Lee of York County and provided animal husbandry services. Mr. Thornton, four other Thorntons, an Addison, a Harris, a Goodall, a Harvey, and my father are all in the I haplogroup. Though there are a fair number of mismatches, we are closest to Mr. Goodall. Forrest Morgan of Mathews is in subdivision I2b of our I haplogroup. He has found six Morgan matches that were unknown to him before DNA analysis. All of this illustrates the type of exciting connections that are in store for us as we begin to build a DNA database of immigrants to the Chesapeake Bay region.

DNA genealogy tools will help those of us who feel certain that our ancestors came from England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland connect to others with paper trails and to others in the old world who share our DNA. Genetic genealogy may provide a way to make the transatlantic leap to our ancestors’ English communities. In Adapting to the New World, James Horn says “… the likelihood of recovering the local English origins of large numbers of settlers of particular Chesapeake counties is remote …” Perhaps in the case of the Chesapeake Bay immigrants, genetic genealogy can do what traditional paper research cannot.

Of my eight great-grandparents, all but two were born in Mathews (one unknown, one North Carolina). The remaining six lines and branches trace through Mathews County. They include the surnames Lewis (Figure 1), Marchant, Forrest, Davis, Winder, Hudgins, Peed, Dawson, Mitchem (or Machen) and Jones (Figure 2), Foster, Smith, Armistead, Williams, and Hall. An article that included information gathered at that time appeared in the June 2007 issue of Family Tree Searcher.
Figure 1 - Lewis Pedigrees
Figure 2 - Jones Pedigrees
Two Examples of Using DNA Results in Genealogy

By William L. Lawrence

When I started studying my family’s history in the early 1990s, I knew my mother’s people were from Gloucester Co., VA, and my father’s from Floyd Co., VA. I was able to trace the Lawrences back to Elder John Lawrence from Dutchess Co., NY. John was the minister of a Primitive Baptist Church there. He and two of his sons fought in the Revolutionary War in a NY militia unit. Around 1785, he brought his family and many others to Meadow Creek near Christiansburg, Montgomery Co., VA. When one is heading south, his farm is on the left of I-81 just before the first exit to Radford, VA.

I was unsuccessful in finding his parents, but all the circumstantial evidence pointed to a Lawrence family from Canaan, CT. This family was very well documented and traced its origin to a John Lawrence of Wisset, England, who immigrated to Watertown, MA, just outside of Boston in 1630. I figured DNA would be the only way to either prove or disprove this conclusion.

I ordered my DNA test kit through familytreedna.com under the Lawrence project. The test kit consisted of two q-tips which you used to scrape the inside of your cheeks. I sent them off, and my results came back in April of 2005. They showed that I did not match with any of the descendants of John Lawrence of Wisset, England. While disappointed in the results, it showed there was no connection to this Lawrence family. I’m still searching.

My great grandmother, Lessie Williams Lindsay, on my mother’s side had parents who were both Williams. Her grandfather was James Williams, overseer at Timberneck farm in the early 1800s, and her mother was Victoria Anne Williams whose grandfather was Carter Williams of Middlesex Co. One of Carter’s grandsons had moved to Gloucester and settled near Carmines Island on a place called Frying Pan Farm. His descendants still live there. Family tradition said these two Williams lines were related, but there was no proof.

Cabot Hayes Williams of the Timberneck line and I compared notes and had many discussions over the past years. We came to the conclusion that if we could get his DNA tested and compared to a male from the Middlesex line, this would either confirm or deny the connection. He was finally able to convince Wallace Wellington Williams, Jr., of the

<table>
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<th>Connecting Two Williams Lines</th>
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<tr>
<td>James William</td>
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<tr>
<td>b. bet 1790-1794, d. abt 1838</td>
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<td>William Hunter Williams</td>
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<td>William Preston Williams</td>
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<td>Cabot Hayes Williams</td>
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Frying Pan Farm line to have his checked. The results came in recently, and there is a perfect 37 out of 37 marker match between the two. This means the two families are related, but more specifically there is a 90% probability of MRCA within 5 generations and a 95% probability of MRCA within 7 generations. MRCA stands for most recent common ancestor.

Hayes and I are searching for the common ancestor. Someday, we also hope to be able to compare these results with the Williams of Guinea and the Williams of Mathews Co., VA.

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**Ware Neck Preservation Company**

The program for the September meeting of the Gloucester Genealogical Society of Virginia drew a large crowd of Ware Neck supporters. The Ware Neck Preservation Company, with over a dozen investors, purchased the Ware Neck Store with the aim of keeping the store operational after the retirement of Rudy Nuttall in 2002. The program theme was the effort of the group to promote the Ware Neck heritage, and the speakers were Sue Perrin and Letitia “Tish” Grant. Sue spoke about the store history and the current store operation. The history of Ware Neck Stores is described later by Lee Brown in this journal issue.

Sue Perrin (center-left) holds a framed picture composite that featured Rudy Nuttall, her subject of the GGSV program for September 2008. Tish Grant (center-right) spoke about her Taliaferro family. Everett Nuttall on the left and Bill Nuttall represented their brother, Rudy Nuttall, who operated Ware Neck Store and Post Office for many years.
Plummer DNA Genealogy Search

By Robert W. Plummer

One day while wandering around the internet hunting for information on the Plummer family, I found a Plummer DNA site. They only had about half a dozen people that had submitted their DNA, and none of them were related. But each of these men had already tracked their family through documents back to a certain point in time, in most cases back to the emigrant.

Since I had no idea which Plummer family I was related to, I decided to pay the $100 or so to take the test that would compare 12 points with those men that had already submitted their DNA. It was thought that there were three Plummer families that came to America in the 1600s— one to Virginia, one to Maryland, and one to Massachusetts.

As it turned out, I became the first match on the Plummer DNA site. Because of the match, I was asked if I would please consider expanding the match to 37 points to get a better idea of how closely we were related. I agreed and sent another $50 or so. With the 37 point test we were still one number apart which says there is a 90 something percent chance that we have a common relative about 300 years back. That relative turns out to be Thomas Plummer who arrived in Maryland in 1667 from England. He was born about 1642 in Ringmer, Essex, England, emigrated in 1667 (transported by William Stanley), and married (Elizabeth) about 1685. His will is dated July 12, 1694, Anne Arundel Co., MD. He died between July 12, 1694 - February 26, 1694/95 in Anne Arundel Co., MD.

It is nice to know what family I belong to, but it does not provide me with who my direct relatives are. I know Thomas was born about 1642. He had one son named Thomas born in 1690. Thomas II had nine sons born between 1690 and about 1717. One of these sons is my direct ancestor. My great-grandfather was born in 1825 in MD and died in MD in 1877. In the 1870 census, he is shown as being 45, married, with no children, and a farm laborer. As a farm laborer, he would not have owned land, most likely did not have a will, and so there is little written information about him. I have about 115 years between when Thomas II sons were born and my great-grandfather was born. That's about six generations. His bible indicates that his father’s name was Richard. If so, I have found one Richard. For now I am guessing it goes Thomas I, Thomas II, Yate I, Yate II, Richard, Richard, Edward, and Christopher of Gloucester, VA, then me. But it is just a guess.
Timberneck Farm

By Benjamin Borden

Upon learning of the sale of Timberneck Farm to Timberneck LLC for the purpose of development of the property, I immediately began to recall many fond memories of its former owners, the Catlett family.

I have known the Catlets, as we always spoke of them, as long as I can remember. This period of time now spans more than seventy-five years which needlessly to say takes us through youth, manhood, and old age.

Living in the big house from my earliest recollection was Mr. John Walker Carter Catlett and his wife, Mrs. Garnett Edwards Catlett. The children from oldest to youngest were Mary Armistead, John Jr., William, and Charles. I attended Hayes Store School with all except Charles.

Once while in the sixth grade we were discussing the subject of rural electrification. Most residences and farms on the west side of U.S. 17 did not have electricity at that time. How well I remember John Jr. saying that his father would object to the power-line poles being on the farm because it would hinder the farming operation.

From about that time and possibly earlier, I learned that the Catlets were a very independent people and also respected as having the highest degree of integrity. Their

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Descendents of Judge Charles Catlett</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Judg. Charles Catlett</strong>, b. 1845, d. 1917</td>
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<td><strong>Charles Catlett, Jr.</strong>, b. 1893, d. 1943</td>
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<tr>
<td>+m. <strong>Deborah Cockey</strong>, b. 1892, d. 1978</td>
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<td><strong>John R. Catlett</strong>, b. 1923</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Powell Burwell Catlett</strong>, b. 1895, d. 1981</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+m. <strong>Lucy Helen Sinclair</strong>, b. 1895, d. 1981</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mary Randolph Catlett</strong>, b. 1897</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+m. <strong>Kemper Lowry Kellogg</strong></td>
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</table>

Mary Armistead Catlett

John W. C. Catlett, Jr.

William Edward Catlett

Charles Catlett

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honesty and straightforwardness were related by my elders and especially my grandfather, P. E. Muse, who being a long time country store merchant, had dealt with them as far back as 1900. He (my grandfather) loved to quote sayings of Judge Charles Catlett (John W. C.’s father). My brother, Carter, has some ledgers from the store at Bridges where most of the dealing was done.

My first trip to Timberneck was with my dad on a cold winter day about 1932. We rode in a tumble cart pulled by a large white mule named Colraine. We had a car, but I imagine a gallon of gas was more precious then at about 18 cents a gallon than it is now at plus or minus $3.50. We loaded several heavy bags of corn. I can recall vividly Mr. John W. C. tying those bags with binder twine and throwing them into the cart and being impressed with his strength. The Catlett men were able men as Longfellow said, “a mighty man with large and sinewy hands.”

From that first trip and to this day, I have been greatly impressed with the size of Timberneck and its great variety of waterfront and terrain, fronting on the York River and reaching up Timberneck Creek on one side and Cedar Bush Creek on the other. On the perimeter, one can find cove points of land, marsh, islands, ponds, and all you can imagine in beauty. The farm has lots of open land with interesting names for each field. The forest land has pine and every kind of hardwood you may think of which includes lots of hickory and oak and at an earlier time chestnut.

There have been many anthropologists and other professionals who give many fancy and scientific names for what I have described but mine is from a lifetime of roaming almost every inch of Timberneck while just walking, hunting, fishing, and going to and fro for pleasure and business.

During my early years a trip to Timberneck would include opening and closing a gate, and seeing cattle and sheep and several people working on the farm with horses and mules. There were lots of buildings in addition to the large dwelling house. I guess the big bank barn and nearby pasture were the most fascinating. There were also cattle and sheep grazing on the large yard or pasture in front of the main dwelling facing the York River. This was indeed a beautiful sight to behold.

The milking parlor was the center of the Catlett Brothers Dairy. During the early thirties, and I don’t know how many years before, they produced and delivered door to door and some commercial sites both “white and chocolate milk” in bottles as small as one half pints. Lots of local people, who for the most part were young boys, performed various tasks including going on the delivery trucks always driven by “Mr. Powell” (Powell Burwell Catlett).
During the depression years, the living wasn’t easy and things were tough all over. There were not many cash crops because most of the grain and hay went to feed the animals on the farm. Once during Judge Catlett’s time a large quantity of large watermelons, some weighing up to 100 pounds, were grown and were known far and wide for their flavor. In later years, corn and soy beans were the main crops. Many acres could be cultivated with one or two men, a tractor, and combine.
I can well remember 10 to 12 people who worked on the farm at Timberneck walking past my home and returning when it was dark. This was of course during the days of all cultivation being done by horses, mules, and men. The fact of the matter in this case is that most of the crops were used to feed the horses, mules, and cattle. Mr. Catlett always had a fair size herd of Jersey cows and large sheep. These, I believe, are the most vivid of our memories in that it was a sight to behold the cattle and sheep grazing on those rolling hills with the York River and Timberneck Creek in the background. Many times the cattle would come down and wade out into the Timberneck Creek to cool off. They would stay awhile and then go back to grazing. There are many of us who can still see these beautiful sights in our vivid recollections of the farm.

At this point hogs have not been mentioned, but a large number were raised and taken to Richmond stockyards by farm truck loads. These were during the years that farmers could get more for their corn by feeding it to the hogs.

While on the subject of livestock, I want to describe some trips I made to Richmond with Mr. J. W. C. Catlett. When I was about sixteen years old, my father let me drive his 1940 Chevrolet ten-wheeler to haul cattle and sheep to the Kingham & Co. stockyards off Hermitage Road in Richmond. This is how the day would go. The first thing in the morning we would go to the farm where Mr. Catlett would have the livestock in a pen. I would back the truck up to a ramp which provided a way for cattle to get up into the truck body. Even with this plan and these facilities, it took a lot of man power which Mr. Catlett had and gladly provided at this time. Sometimes it would be late morning before we departed for Richmond. On the way to Richmond, between Mr. Catlett’s naps, I would listen to stories about Timberneck and his father, Judge Charles Catlett. Upon entering Richmond on Williamsburg Road, Mr. Catlett would say, “After we pull Broad Street hill, go west on Broad Street to Hermitage Road and take a right turn. When you get to the stockyards, ask for Mr. Hardesty.” That was the routine. At the stockyard and packing plant I had a chance to see livestock go from the truck to the finished product.

After the previous story, I become fully aware that time and space will not permit the relating of all the stories I remember about the Catletts and Timberneck Farm. Much has passed on into scenes of the past which are very clear to me. I would only say that the Catletts were people of high ideals and their word was their bond. They were loyal to their church, family, neighbors, and the farm they clearly loved. Although many have faded into the past, their memory still lingers.

The open land on the farm is now being farmed by Mr. Clem Horsley and his son, Keith. They are great people with a true love for the property and their occupation. All modern equipment is being used and the no till method is practiced. Corn and soy beans are the major products produced along with some small grain such as wheat and barley. All fields now have a border between the crop and the woods which make a very neat and orderly arrangement.

Nothing has been said up to this point concerning the plans for a farm by its new owners. From my acquaintance with them, I have found that a low density development is being planned. There will only be 45 to 50 lots down the Timberneck Creek side, fronting on the islands and the York River, and fronting on Cedar Bush Creek. Approximately 300 acres in the midst of the property will be used for farming and forestry. Of course, the most beautiful lot is where the Catlett family home is located. At this time it is uncertain what will be the outcome of this historic home. There will be lots ranging mostly from 5 to 15 acres and over 3 miles of new road and fences. It is also expected to be a gated community with large expensive homes. At present, Timberneck LLC plans for its...
subdivision of the farm are being studied by the Gloucester County Planning Commission before being presented to the county board of supervisors. All this is being considered with respect to the Code of Virginia, Gloucester Codes and Compliances, and Gloucester Comprehensive Plan. The islands and the vast marshes and coves will be protected wildlife preserves in perpetuity. I consider the plan to be one of Gloucester's finest developments and its highest and best use if it could not stay as an operating farm. I have not seen a plan that is truly a preservation development with proper respect for forestry, wetlands, agriculture, and residential homes at the same time.

Most of what I consider the quality hours of my life on the farm concerning walking, talking, hunting, fishing, and just plain enjoying the environment have been spent with my brother, Carter Borden, and my friend for life, Homer Buck. Homer lives on what was formerly part of Timberneck Farm in a fine home built by Powell B. Catlett and occupied by Powell till he died.
We often talk of our knowledge of the farm and woodland almost down to the trees like the big poplars or large gum just to name a couple. Going down Timberneck Creek we would pass Mary Armistead’s house, Pea Patch Point, and then on out in the York River past Creek Point, Northwest Harbor, Poplar Creek, Broad Cove, by Pollard’s Point just as we enter Cedar Bush Creek and then Olivers Landing, Pear Tree Point, the causeway, on up stream to Homer Buck’s place. Then there were the Persimmon Trees, the old Judges Road, Uncle Davis’ Lot, the Race Field, Outer Field, Upper Field, and more not recalled at this moment. We could describe a place to meet each other by day or night including out on the islands which included Thompsons, Carter B. Williams, the Long Island, cut over by a sawmill man named McGinis around 1950. Each duck blind had its name which was on a cove on the point. This is incomplete as time and space will not permit the coverage of our more than 60 years of roaming this land.

The History of Timberneck Farm

The latter portion of this article is an excerpt from a special report about the Timberneck Farm. It is the genealogy portion of that report.

Title: A Cultural Resources overview and Preservation Plan for the Timberneck Farm Property and Catlett Islands, Gloucester County, Virginia.

Submitted to: Chesapeake Bay National Estuarine Research in Virginia, Virginia Institute for Marine Science, The College of William and Mary, P.O. Box 1346, Gloucester Point, Virginia 23062-1346.

Submitted by: William and Mary Center for Archaeological Research, Department of Anthropology, The College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia 23185, Project Directors: Dennis B. Blanton and Donald W. Linebaugh.

Authors: Dennis B. Blanton, Charles M. Downing, and Donald W. Linebaugh, August 9, 1993.

In 1645, Richard Richards acquired a patent that included “all the islands to sd. [Timberneck] Creek’s mouth.” (Presumably these were the Catlett Islands, which currently constitute part of the Timberneck property). A 1682 survey of Richards’s former 1,000-acre patent also included the islands. The mainland portion of the tract was described as beginning at the mouth of Timberneck Creek and extending to a 100-acre tract that had been “sold to Mr. Booker” (Nugent 1934:11:238). According to two later patents, Richard Booker’s land lay further up Timberneck Neck Creek near its swampy headwaters (Nugent 1934:11:275, 373). Neither the 1645 nor the 1682 patent clearly indicates on which side of the creek the Richards patent was situated. This may indicate that the eastern portion of the current project area as well as the islands were added to the Mann family holdings sometime after John Mann acquired his Timberneck property in the late seventeenth century.

It is not known exactly when and how John Mann acquired the Timberneck property. There is no record of his having received a patent. The destruction of most (but not all) of the county’s colonial records makes it impossible to determine when and if Mann purchased the Timberneck tract. A resurvey of a patent located on the west side of Rosewell Creek may offer some suggestions as to how Mann acquired Timberneck.

In 1686, a survey was conducted on a land patent that had been initially granted to one Stephen Gill in 1646. The property was described as “beginning at the creekside
[Rosewell Creek] and adjoining land formerly belonging to Mr. Minifree, but now belonging to Mr. John Man” (Mason 1965: 1:32). As noted above, the Timberneck property was first patented by George Minifye. The mention of only two names associated with the Minifye patent in the 1686 document may suggest that Mann was only its second owner. If that is the case, then Mann either bought the property directly from Minifye or acquired it by patent after Minifye’s claim lapsed.

In a 1940 thesis, Francis L. Berkeley determined that sometime before 1672 Mary Kemp Berkeley married “John Mann of Timber Neck” (Berkeley 1940:14). The date of Mann’s marriage seems reliable, but it is not certain whether he owned the Timberneck tract by this time. While mentioning a 1674 lease agreement, Berkeley again describes him as “John Mann of Timber Neck” (Berkeley 1940:17). It is not made clear whether it is the twentieth century author or the seventeenth century document that associates John Mann with Timberneck in 1674.

As late as 1680, the boundary of Major Lewis Burwell’s Timberneck Creek patent ran “along Minifreed’s [Minifye’s] line” (Nugent 1934:II:215). John Mann did not purchase the nearby Rosewell plantation tract from George Minifye’s granddaughters until 1680 (Noel Hume 1962:156). In Nugent’s Cavaliers and Pioneers, the earliest reference to John Mann as a landowner on Timberneck Creek was recorded in 1684 (Nugent 1934:II:275). The earliest marked family grave on the property, that of Elizabeth Page (John Mann’s granddaughter), dates to 1693 (William and Mary Quarterly [WMQ] 1893:II:267; Gloucester County 1973:15). There is no conclusive documentary evidence to support John Mann’s ownership of Timberneck prior to 1684. Yet, given the Timberneck property’s desirable location, it would be more than reasonable to assume that Minifye, his heirs, or perhaps Mann occupied the property well before 1684. Augustine Herrman’s 1673 map of Virginia strongly suggests the existence of a building at Timberneck. Although largely schematic, the map shows what appears to be the Catlett Islands at the mouth of Timberneck Creek. A structure is shown on the edge of the peninsula formed by Cedarbush and Timberneck creeks and directly “behind” the larger of the two islands (Herrman 1966) (Figure 6).

Before 1672, John Mann married Mary Kemp Berkeley, the young widow of Edmund Berkeley of Middlesex County. She had two children by her first marriage, Edmund and Sarah, who may have lived for a time at Timberneck, the home of their stepfather. Sarah Berkeley married Joseph Ring of Ringfield, a York County plantation situated directly across the York River from Timberneck. John and Mary (Kemp Berkeley) Mann also had children of their own. Their eldest was a daughter named Mary, who married Matthew Page of Rosewell (Berkeley 1940:14).

In 1694, John Mann died and was buried at Timberneck. In his will, Mann neither mentioned by name nor described any of his real estate holdings. He left his wife, Mary Mann, one-third of his “estate both reall and personall” and the remainder to his daughter,
Mary Page (WMQ 1893:VI:137). Apparently, Mary Mann’s one-third share of her second husband’s estate entitled her to only a life interest. In his 1940 thesis, Francis L. Berkeley suggested that Edmund Berkeley, the stepson of John Mann, lived at Timberneck and managed the portion of the estate that had been left to his mother (Berkeley 1940:18).

In March 1704, Mary Mann died and in her will distributed her personal property among her children and grandchildren (WMQ 1893:VI:138-140). During 1703, both of Edmund Berkeley’s brothers-in-law, Joseph Ring and Matthew Page, had died. Berkeley was named administrator and trustee of both the Ringfield and Rosewell plantations and suddenly found himself responsible for “two of the largest estates in Virginia and the guardian of several nieces and nephews.” In December of 1703, Berkeley married Lucy Burwell, the daughter of Lewis Burwell of Carter’s Creek. Lewis Burwell owned land adjacent to Timberneck (Berkeley 1940:22).

In 1705, Mary Page, the widow of Matthew Page, became engaged to marry John Page of York County (Berkeley 1940:24). Shortly thereafter, a prenuptial settlement was drawn up between John Page and Edmund Berkeley, the latter acting in the capacity of administrator of Matthew Page’s estate. One of the provisions of the agreement dealt with the Timberneck plantation. John Page agreed that when Mann Page, the son and heir of Matthew Page, reached 21 years of age he was to be given possession of Timberneck plantation. In 1705, Timberneck consisted of 400 acres and was bounded “on the creek [presumably Timberneck Creek] and by a ditch.” The agreement also mentioned the existence of “houses” on the property (WMQ 1893:VI:141).

Berkeley had extensive landholdings in Middlesex County. It would seem likely that the reason he continued to live at Timberneck after his mother’s death and his own marriage was to supervise the Ringfield and Rosewell plantations, which had been placed in his trust. Berkeley continued to live at Timberneck until 1712 when Mann Page reached his majority. He then moved his wife and four children to his inherited lands in Middlesex County where he supervised the construction of his “Barn Elms” estate (Berkeley 1940:27-28).

By all indications Mann Page continued to reside at Rosewell after he took possession of Timberneck. Presumably, Timberneck was still operated as a plantation and the house there may have been used by an overseer. In March 1721, Mann Page’s house at Rosewell burned to the ground. Soon after the fire, he began construction of the great mansion at Rosewell, which stood until 1916. At the time of Mann Page’s death in 1730, Rosewell was not yet completed (Noel Hume 1962:156). It is not known where Page and his family lived while the building was under construction. No documentary sources suggest that the Mann Page family ever resided at Timberneck, but that possibility should not be discounted, especially during the period immediately after the fire.

In 1730, Ralph Page succeeded his father, Mann Page, as the owner of Rosewell as well as most of the family property. In 1743, Ralph Page died and the family inheritance passed to his younger brother, Mann Page II. When Mann Page II came into his inheritance, the family fortune was burdened with immense debt. In 1744, Mann Page II petitioned the Assembly to end the entail on 27,000 acres of the family’s land so that he could begin selling some of it off to lessen the debt on the estate. In the 1760s, he moved to Mannsfeld, a large home that he had recently built in Spotsylvania County. About 1765 his son, John Page, became the master of Rosewell (Noel Hume 1962:156-157).

Timberneck remained in the Page family until the final decade of the eighteenth century. In 1792, John Page sold the Timberneck plantation, which was now a 600-acre
tract, to John Catlett of King William County. Page then held a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives, and Catlett was a prominent attorney in both King William and Gloucester counties. In 1797, Catlett purchased an additional 109 acres from Page, and it was on this tract that the current house at Timberneck was built (Stubbs and Carter 1918:37; VDHR 1979). The late seventeenth-century house in which John and Mary Mann and Edmund Berkeley lived disappeared sometime during the middle decades of the eighteenth century. A 1781 sketch map appears to confirm that there were no buildings on the Timberneck property at this time. The map shows a small portion of the county surrounding Gloucester Point and depicts most of the larger buildings in the area. No buildings are shown within the bounds of the current project area. The structure nearest the project area was a sawmill near the headwaters of Timberneck Creek (Lafayette-Leclerc Papers 1781) (Figure 7).

In 1925, Mary Armistead Catlett Jones, a granddaughter of John Catlett, recorded some of her family’s recollections of Timberneck as well her own. Mrs. Jones, who was born at Timberneck in 1850, had been told that “there were no buildings whatsoever” on the property when her grandfather bought the property and that “the kitchen was the first habitable place of abode” (Jones 1925a). The current house at Timberneck was constructed sometime between 1797, when John Catlett purchased the 109-acre tract, and 1808 when he mentioned the “mansion house” in his will (Stubbs and Carter 1918:39; VDHR 1979).

John W. C. Catlett, the son and heir of John Catlett, inherited not only his father’s Timberneck property, but a 1,000-acre plantation at Wilson’s Creek as well. African-American slaves lived and worked at both plantations, but the Wilson’s Creek operation was apparently less productive. Provisions for the slaves at Wilson’s Creek were transported from Timberneck “six or

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**Descendents of John Catlett**

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<th>Death</th>
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<tr>
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<td>1760</td>
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<tr>
<td>Henrietta Catlett</td>
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<tr>
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<td>+m. Bartholomew Yates</td>
<td>1780</td>
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**Descendents of John Walker Carter Catlett**

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<td>Landon Carter Catlett</td>
<td>1857</td>
<td>1933</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+m. Letita Rebecca Nelson Page</td>
<td>1869</td>
<td>1934</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
eight" miles away. In the mid-1820s, when John W. C. Catlett reached his majority, he sold the Wilson's Creek property and "concentrated his forces at Timberneck" (Jones 1925b). Like his father, John W. C. Catlett was a prominent member of the bar in Gloucester County. He also served several terms in the Virginia State Senate (Stubbs and Carter 1918:41).

In the late 1850s, John W. C. Catlett added a wing to the house at Timberneck. In January 1858, he wrote home to his wife from his senate office in Richmond: "I hope they are getting on well with the building; do let me know all about it when you write" (Catlett 1858). Unfortunately, Mrs. Catlett’s reply has not survived, but her husband’s letter does document the time period when the addition was being completed. In 1854 the buildings on the Timberneck property were valued at $1,772. An additional assessment of $503 was added in 1856. By 1858, the building assessment on the tract had increased to $4,250 (VDHR 1979). It seems probable that other improvements were made on the property in addition to the new wing on the house. It seems unlikely that the construction of the new wing would have taken two years to complete and that it would have nearly tripled the building assessment on the Timberneck property.

A 1906 USGS topographic quadrangle depicts approximately 13 buildings on the Timberneck property (USGS 1906) (Figure 8). As Timberneck has been continuously operated as a commercial farm during the two centuries it has been owned by the Catlett family, these structures are likely agricultural buildings and possibly small tenant house sites. These post-Civil War resources will benefit from additional historical research, as the Gloucester County records should provide a more detailed account of the postbellum period.
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William and Mary Quarterly  
Eagle Scouts in Troop 111 before 1980

By Lee Brown

The rank of Eagle Scout is the highest achievement that a boy can attain in the scouting program. In the first 60 or so years of Troop 111 in Gloucester, only a few local boys reached that level.

The first Eagle Scout in Gloucester County was James Vincent Morgan (7/31/1927 – 10/16/1997), awarded that rank on July 19, 1945. Jimmy was the first child of local pharmacist Dr. Loran Vincent “Happy” Morgan (5/25/1901 – 2/20/1999) and Mary Louise Bland (1903-2006). Happy Morgan’s family was originally from Mathews, but he grew up on the waterfront of Portsmouth where his father was a pilot or harbor master in Hampton Roads. He graduated in 1922 from the Medical College of Virginia and then joined Dr. Wolf in a pharmacy in Gloucester Courthouse, later operating his own pharmacy. Louise was from King and Queen County at Cologne, where her father kept the store and post office. They raised their family on DuVal Avenue, a short walk from the pharmacy.

Jimmy married Violet Patricia Ritchie (4/16/1928 – 2004). He joined with his father and brother, Harvey Bland Morgan, operating Morgan’s Drug Store and participated in a number of conservation projects – notably the Red Cross

swimming program and Friends of Dragon Run of which he was a charter member. An act of the General Assembly designated the twin bridges carrying U.S. Route 17 over the Dragon Run, where local scouts have canoed for generations, as the “James Vincent Morgan Bridges” in honor of his preservation work.

Throughout his life he maintained an association with the Boy Scouts as assistant scoutmaster, scoutmaster, Explorer Post advisor, and troop committee member. He was awarded the Silver Beaver on April 11, 1973. Two of his sons and a grandson have also earned the Eagle rank. As a scoutmaster and Explorer Post advisor his scouts included, among others, Andy James, Jr., John Newcomb, Lester Sterling, Jr., V. C. Sutton, Jr., and the troop’s second Eagle Scout, Al Knapp.

Alphus Newman “Al” Knapp, Jr. was on the troop roster from 1954-57. His father’s parents and family immigrated from Germany to King and Queen County. Al and his sister, Becky, were raised in Gloucester Courthouse on Lewis Avenue by their mother, Annette Lowry, and step-father, Martin Duncan. Martin was one of the original troop members profiled in the June 2008 issue.

When Al received his Eagle award, he was described in a newspaper article as being the fourth Gloucester Eagle Scout after Morgan, Butch Streagle, and Woody Haynes. Butch (Arthur William Streagle) and Woody (Cecil Woodford Haynes, Jr.) were first cousins, the sons of Ruth and Lorraine Carmine, respectively. They lived in Wicomico, and their troop met at Providence Baptist Church. At Al’s presentation was another Eagle, Burton M. (Buddy) Bland who attained the rank in 1953 in Newport News.

In the 1960s, John T. Deal, Jr., son of scoutmaster John Deal and Virginia Deal, was the third Eagle Scout in the troop. He joined scouts in 1959 and served as assistant Scoutmaster with his father in 1964-67. John and Virginia Deal were profiled in the December 2007 issue.

In the 1970s and 1980s, several local scouts of Troop 111 achieved the rank of Eagle. The first two were Richard R. DeBolt, member of the troop from 1971-73, and James V. Morgan, Jr., scout from 1965-72. Then, George Sweeney, who served as assistant scoutmaster in 1977, and Joseph Knight Morgan, youngest son of Jimmy Morgan and a scout from 1972-78, followed (Joe’s son Taylor became a third-generation Eagle Scout in 2008.) Other Eagle Scouts of the 1970s were Shawn Wyke (on the roster in 1979), William Fletcher (1974-79), and John Crawford (1978-79).
Boy Scout Troop 111
1935—1943
Gloucester County, Virginia

By L. Roane Hunt and Lee Brown

1935
Troop 111 Charter Application
Richmond Area Council (Region 3, Council 602), to March 1, 1936
Sponsor: Ware Episcopal Church, by H. S. Osburn, rector, May 23, 1935
Troop meeting place: Masonic Building, Tuesdays
Council representative: W. E. Corr, Jr.
Troop leaders:
W. Fairfax Griffith, Gloucester, scoutmaster (age 23)
Troop committee:
W. E. Corr, Jr. (age 47, 7 years in scouts)
J. B. Farinholt (age 28)
B. T. Harrop (age 29, 3 years in scouts)
D. D. Forrest (age 32, 3 years in scouts)
T. W. Cooke (age 43)
L. C. Pulley, Jr. (age 28)
Catesby G. Jones (age 47)
James B. Martin (age 28, 3 years in scouts)
George R. Brothers, Ware Neck (age 46)
J. M. Lewis (age 39)

Troop Members
Scoutmaster - W. Fairfax Griffith, b. 1912, Scoutmaster.
Marvin Theron Ball, b. 1920, Parents, Marvin Theron Ball Sr. & Margery Louise Phillips, Married, Frances Corrine Faris. He was a General in the Marine Corps.
Addison Campbell, Parents, Irvin Campbell & Pearl Peyton Oakley.
Irvin Ernest Dischinger Jr., b. 4/26/1917, d. 3/19/1967, Parents, Irvin Ernest Sr. & Evelyn Bender Dischinger, Married, Bertha Herr.
James Bender Dischinger, b. 1921, Parents, Irvin Ernest Sr. & Evelyn Bender Dischinger, Married, Regina Fabbri.
Boy Scout Troop 111—1935-1943

George Paul DeHardit, b. 9/3/1922, d. 1/15/1938, Parents, George Paul DeHardit Sr. & Cornelia Hogg. He died young from accident.

Edward Graham Field, b. 4/22/1921, d. 10/9/1965, Parents, William Stephen Field & Mary Eleanor Benson. He practiced medicine in Glen Burnie, MD.


John A. Mawhinney, b. 1919, Parents, John Alexander & Sally Harris Mawhinney.

Roger Moorman, b. 1922, Parents, William Elliott Moorman & Dorothy Dunn Smith, Married, 1st Alfraretta Friend, 2nd Louise Deloss Powell. He was a boat builder in Gloucester.

Herbert Scott Osburn, Parents, Rev. Herbert Stabler Osburn & Fannie Scott Beverley.

Donald Edward Scott, unable to identify.

Lee Montague Shrader, unable to identify.

Augustine Smith, b. 1922, d. 1990, Parents, Peter William Smith & Nettie Virginia Rowe, Married, Glendyn Greig.

Wilton Spencer, b. 1923, Parents, Wilton Powell Spencer & Mary Selma Farinholt.

Charles Graham Wiatt, b. 2/1/1920, d. 6/30/1976, Parents, Dr. Robert Graham Wiatt & Nannie May Rudd, Married, Margaret Lee Peters.

1938
Troop 111 Charter Application

Peninsula Council (Region 3, Council 595), to Oct 31, 1939
Sponsor: Gloucester Rotary Club by Jas. W. Clements, President, on July 15, 1939
Troop meeting place: First Presbyterian Church Hall, Fridays
Troop leaders:
R. F. Hutcheson, Gloucester, scoutmaster (age 21, 4 years in scouts)
J. W. ?ullen, Jr., First Presbyterian Church, ass’t scoutmaster (age 27, 4 years in scouts)
Troop committee:
H. S. Osburn (age 56, 24 years in scouts)
Lloyd C. Pulley, Jr. (age 31)
Stanley Gray (age 41)
Geo. E. Lawson (age 44, 1 year in scouts)
J. Brown Farinholt (age 31, 3 years in scouts)
T. W. Cooke (age 47, 3 years in scouts)

Troop Members


Marion Richardson Chapman J., b. 4/17/1924, d. 2/5/1992, Parents, Marion Richardson Chapman Sr. & Helen McCoy Gray, Married, Helga von Judex.

Thomas Alex Chapman, b. 7/1/1925, d. 4/16/1988, Parents, Woodford Russell Chapman & Julia Eliza
Foster, Married, Madeline Ransone.

John Wooten Corr, b. 7/13/1924, d. 4/10/1944, Parents, William Ellis Corr II & Ruth Wootten. “Wootie” was killed in action in WWII.


Catesby Graham Jones Jr., b. 1925, Parents, Catesby Graham Jones Sr. & Rosa Montague Folkes, Married, Spotswood Hunnicutt. He practice law and also served as Commissioner of Revenue in Gloucester.

Franklin L. Kerns, b. 1925, d. 9/7/2003, Parents, William Vernon Kerns Sr. & Annie Ruth Minor. He served as Commissioner of Revenue in Gloucester.


1942

Troop 111 Charter Application

Peninsula Council, to Sep 30, 1943
Sponsor: Gloucester Rotary Club, by John D., President on Sept. 14, 1942
Troop meeting place: Scout Cabin, Fridays
Activities: airplane watching, scrap salvage
Troop leader:
Reginald W. Eastman, Gloucester, scoutmaster (age 39, 10 years in scouts)
Troop committee:
Stanley Gray (age 45, 5 years in scouts)
L. C. Pulley (age 35, 1 year in scouts)
J. B. Shackleford (age 40)

Troop Members

Scoutmaster - Reginald Wells Eastman: Scoutmaster, b. 8/23/1903, d. 9/28/1992, Parents, Edward L. & Annie Eastman, Married, Isabella Hoffler. He was rector of Ware Church.

James Vincent Morgan, b. 7/31/1927, d. 10/16/1997, Parents, Loran Vincent Morgan & Mary Louise Bland, Married, Violet Patricia Ritchie. He was a local pharmacist.

Stanley Taylor Gray, b. 1/15/1929, d. 8/22/1956, Parents, Stanley Taylor Gray Sr. & Nellie
Coleman Davidson, Married, Barbara Delores Maria Sanchez
Charles Joshua Kerns, b. 1926, Parents, William Vernon Kerns Sr. & Annie Ruth Minor, Married, Dolores Veronica Wharton. He serves as the Gloucester County Surveyor.
Norman Daniel Groh, b. 1929, Parents, Louis Groh & Freida Meyer, Married, Laura Barbara Clements.
Richard Martin Bridges Jr., b. 8/12/1929, d. 5/12/1978, Parents, Richard Martin Bridges Sr. & Elva Elizabeth Moore, Married, Katherine Hasty Council
Raymond L. Moore, Father, Raymond L. Moore Sr., pastor at Bellamy Methodist Church.
Joseph Pointer, b. 1930, Parents, Michael Harvey Pointer & Emma Lee Kemp, Married, Nan Jose Riley.
Lloyd “Sonny” Pulley Jr., b. 1930, Parents, Lloyd C. & M. Elizabeth Pulley.
Augustine Smith Trevilian, b. 1928, d. 1989, Parents, Augustine Smith Trevilian Sr. & Mary E. Coates, Married, Patricia Turner Inge.
James Pointer, Parents, Edwin W. Pointer & Lucy Minor.
Isaac Leon West, b. 1928, Parents, Isaac Leon West Sr. & Gertrude Macon Roane, Married,
Barbara Shackelford.


William Elliott Moorman, b. 1930, Parents, William Elliott Moorman Sr. & Dorothy Dunn Smith, Married, Shirley Logan Jones.


Emmett Samuel Healy Jr., Parents, Emmett Samuel Healy Sr. & Mary Esther Walker.

1943

**Boy Scout Troop 111—1935-1943**

Peninsula Council, to Sep 30, 1944
Sponsor: Ware Episcopal Church, by Reginald W. Eastman, rector, September 12, 1943
Council representative: David A. Lassiter
Troop meeting place: Scout Cabin, Wednesdays
Activities: War Stamp Sales, Aeroplane spotters; members of troop have helped Red Cross ambulance corps, gathered metal for scrap pile

Troop leaders:
Reginald W. Eastman, Gloucester, scoutmaster (age 40, 11 years in scouts)
James B. Farinholt, ass’t scoutmaster (age 37, 1 year in scouts)

Troop committee:
Stanley Gray (age 46, 4 years in scouts)
T. W. Cooke (age 51, 1 year in scouts)
Lloyd C. Pulley (age 37, 2 years in scouts)
A. C. Wiatt (age 41, 1 year in scouts)
D. A. Lassiter (age 56)
W. E. Corr, Jr. (age 56, 3 years in scouts)
Raymond L. Moore (age 45, 8 years in scouts) — Rev. Raymond Ledbetter Moore (1898-1981)

**Troop Members**

Scoutmaster - Reginald Wells Eastman: Scoutmaster, b. 8/23/1903, d. 9/28/1992, Parents, Edward L. & Annie Eastman, Married, Isabella Hoffler. He was rector of Ware Church.


Harry Norman Clements, Parents, Harry Norman Clements Sr. & Jennie Rounds.


Emmett Samuel Healy Jr., Parents, Emmett Samuel Healy Sr. & Mary Esther Walker.
Boy Scout Troop 111—1935-1943

Lloyd “Sonny” Pulley Jr., b. 1930, Parents, Lloyd C. & M. Elizabeth Pulley.


Carl R. Ambrose, unable to identify.

George “Buddy” Heinig, unable to identify.


Horace Wellington Carmine, b. 5/25/1933, Parents, Powell Horace Carmine & Helen Ruth Hogg, Married, Shirley Bonneville.


1943—(Front Row, L-R) Fayette Wiatt, Harvey Morgan, Raymond L. Moore, (Back Row, new members) Bernard Hall, Billie Brown, & Harry Clements
The Croswell Home on Carmines Island

By Lucy Forrest
December 27, 1999

My daughter, Glenda Jean Forrest McFarland, painted this little house located on “Carmines Island” as a Christmas gift for me in 1999. I always enjoyed looking at it whenever I had the chance. I think it’s owned by someone as a summer home now.

This little house is more than 100 years old, and it’s still the same outside as I remember it 75 years ago. I haven’t been inside since I was 5 years old, and I am nearly 78 years old now.

There was a mock orange tree to the left and back of the house near the woods. It had a thick green skin and was about three inches in diameter. I don’t think the fruit was good to eat.

My grandmother, Susanna Jordan, married Joel Thomas Teagle August 13, 1882. They had five children. My mother, Martha Annie Teagle, was one of them. My grandmother’s husband, Joel Thomas Teagle, was drowned in the York River leaving her with five children: Willie - 9, Rosetta- 5, twins, Mary Jane and Martha Annie - 3, and James- 18 months. They lived on Jordan Road, Gloucester Point, VA.

In the early 1900s, my grandmother married Willie T. Croswell and moved to this little house on “Carmines Island” in the Wicomico area of Gloucester County, VA. I remember walking down with my mother and sometimes my brothers to see her about 3/4 of a mile from where we lived. I now have the pie safe that was hers. It was in her little entrance room at the back of the house off the kitchen. She kept an oatmeal box on the shelf and saved me a few cookies, peanuts, or other little things she knew I would like in it. Also, I remember a milk glass hen for jewelry or trinkets she kept on her dresser (bureau) in her room. It was white hobnail.

Sometimes my Aunt Mary would be there with her children, and we would play near the gate with “penny winkers” in a tin plate. As they crawled, they would appear to write on the plate. We also thought the fiddler crabs were nice to watch. There were different colors on their shells, and we didn’t have them at our homes.
Now I’ll tell a little about my grandmother’s husband, Willie T. Croswell, and his children. She was his third wife. I do not know his first wife’s name, but they had one daughter, Jeanette Croswell, who married Franklin Ambrose. I know her well.

His second marriage at age 38 was to Josephine Croswell who was 18 years old when they married November 9, 1887. They had three daughters: Virgie [Virginia] Croswell Nuttall, Mettie Croswell Hogge, and Leo [Leontyne] Croswell Ambrose. I knew all the children of these daughters and played with them. The last daughter, Leo, lived right across the road (now Williams Landing Road) from my home. She married Alonzo T. Ambrose. I played with and enjoyed the company of all of them. I was especially close to their fifth child, Lolita, who was a few weeks younger than I am. We did everything together and still love every minute we have with each other.

Many stories come to mind about events that took place there, such as ice skating on the cove in the winter and ice cream parties on July 4th. Sometimes they ran out of freezer space and turned the ice cream custard in a lard tin filled with ice and salt. It seems like a lot of work, but according to the stories, they enjoyed the fellowship and the “end results.”

Also, Mr. Croswell, as everyone called him, had a widowed sister named Margaret Croswell Diggs who would come and spend some time with them. She could read tea leaves and kept the interest of those around her by telling their fortunes. As one story goes, Mr. Croswell had gone to Norfolk, and my grandmother was wondering if he would bring her a gift back. Her sister-in-law, Margaret, said: “Drink your tea and turn your cup and I will see what he is going to bring.” My grandmother drank her tea and turned her cup over to drain off the liquid and Margaret looked at the leaves left in the cup a long time. After a while she said: “He is going to bring back two objects just alike and he is going to put them on this table, but neither one is going to be for you.” Sure enough, when he came, he put two bottles of whiskey exactly alike on the table, but of course, neither one was for my grandmother.

There is a lot more about “Carmines Island” that relates to the folks around, but for now, I’ll just stop for a while.
Map showing Carmines Island and the Catlett Islands located on the southwestern coast of Gloucester County on the York River. The map is a section of the 1904 US Coast and Geodetic Survey. Also, some of the roads and paths near the shore are shown. Location A was the home of Capt. Clev Seawell (father of Lucy) and location B was the home of Willie Croswell (husband of Lucy’s grandmother). Lucy wrote that the walk from her home to her grandmother’s home was about 0.75 miles. However, the straight-line distance over land scaled from a modern map indicated a little more than one mile. Lucy’s estimate was conservative. This 1904 map indicates a road or path from location A toward Carmines Island that does not exist on modern maps. This path would pass through Frying Pan Farm to reach the island.

Today, location A is at the end of Capt. Clev Road off Williams Landing Road that intersects Carmines Island Road that passes by the Wicomico Post Office to reach location B. The home of Willie Croswell, location B, was removed and replaced by a new home at 2372 Carmines Island Road.
Merchants of Ware Neck Stores

by Lee Brown

The Ware Neck store and post office has been a prosperous business for well over a century. Most of the people in Gloucester today will always think of the store as Rudy Nuttall's Ware Neck Store. Rudy bought the store in 1944 [1] and ran it until he retired in 2002.

A store on Ware Neck Road was there long before Rudy. It was built about 1875 by Arthur Wilson Tabb [2] and owned by Richard P. Taliaferro and then Richard’s son, Earl Taliaferro, before it was purchased by the Nuttalls.

Arthur Tabb’s store was not even the first store in the area. Arthur built his store across Dunham Massie Lane from another store built, we think, before 1850 by Tazewell Thompson. [3] Thompson’s Store was later known as Dutton’s Store and still later used for other businesses. Both buildings are still standing, though only Tabb’s store, now Nuttall & Co., operates as a store and post office.

Ware Neck had other stores too. For a while, E. B. Brown and his son, Claude Brown, ran a store right across Ware Neck Road from Ware Neck Store. Farther down the road, in Schley, E. B. Brown and his brother, Samuel J. Brown, each had stores, and a few others sprang up in the area for shorter periods of time.

Taliaferro, Thompson, and Tabb

Much of the land around the Ware Neck stores passed at some time through the hands of members of the Taliaferro family. Alexander Galt Taliaferro, son of Dr. William Taliaferro, Sr., acquired the “Lowland Cottage” property on the Ware River in 1831 from the Jones family and built “Cowslip Green” on the eastern part of that tract. Other Taliaferro family properties included, at times, “Belleville” and “Dunham Massie” on the North River side of Ware Neck. Together these properties nearly surrounded the site of the store. [4]

In 1853, Alexander Taliaferro sold his holdings and moved to Culpeper. The new owners were Charles Godfrey of New York and his son, William. The elder inhabited the new house; the younger took the cottage and remodeled it. In 1855, they sold “Lowland Cottage” and other properties to Warner Throckmorton Taliaferro. In 1856, they sold “Cowslip Green” to William H. Thompson of Norfolk. Also in 1856, Warner Taliaferro gave “Lowland Cottage” to his son, Thomas Seddon Taliaferro. [4]
William H. Thompson (b. abt. 1777, d. aft. 1850) came from Ireland to Norfolk sometime before 1830. The 1850 census lists him in the city of Norfolk along with Mary, age 52 and presumably his wife, sons Henry, age 17, and Tazewell, age 15, both students, and Imogene, age 11, attending school. Henry and Tazewell are also listed in the census that year as students in Washington County, Maryland.

The 1860 census listed W. H. Thompson still living in Norfolk, so he may have bought “Cowslip Green” for his son, Maj. Tazewell Thompson, C.S.A., (1834 -1914), who was the one who built the first store in the area. Tazewell married Susan Lewis Byrd (b. abt. 1835, d. bef. 1900) of “White Hall” in 1858, and they lived at “Cowslip Green” which was renamed
“Erin.” Tazewell Thompson returned sometime before 1900 (probably in the mid-1880s) to Norfolk and is buried there, but there is a memorial stone for him in Ware Church Cemetery.

The land around the stores was not all Taliaferro or Thompson land. To the northwest was a piece of the “Back Creek” property purchased by John Henry Tabb in 1856 from William Stephen Field. [4] John Henry Tabb (1807-1871) married Margaret Adams (1818-1886), and their son was Arthur Wilson Tabb [2] (1850-1888). Arthur built his store in the southeast corner of this piece of land. Arthur was married to Katherine “Kate” Kemp Anderson (1854-1927, daughter of William Hansford Anderson and Sarah B. L. Kemp) of King & Queen County.

Both Thompson’s Store and Tabb’s Store were served by Thompson’s Wharf on the Ware River [5] and, perhaps, also by Dixondale Wharf on the North River. [2] A local post office opened at Tabb’s store in 1876 [6], and there seems to have been enough business for two stores to thrive.

Country stores in those times would have had several clerks to fill the orders of customers, and Arthur Tabb had two of his clerks living with him in 1880 according to the census: R. P. Taliaferro, age 23, and H. E. Taliaferro, age 21. Richard Philip Taliaferro (1856-1928) and Hansford Edward Taliaferro (1858-1938) were sons of John Philip Taliaferro (1828-1869) of “Toddsbury” and his wife, Eleanora Whitfield Anderson (1831-1875). John was first cousin to Alexander Taliaferro.

John Taliaferro’s wife, Eleanora, was a sister of Arthur Tabb’s wife, Kate. A third sister, Cecilia, married Thomas Jones Clopton. These three sisters who all married Gloucester men had lived at “Hockley” on the York River in King & Queen County. [7]

Like many large landowners after the Civil War, John Taliaferro accumulated a large amount of debt. Thomas Clopton helped him get out of debt, but not before selling some pieces of “Toddsbury” – including a piece to Arthur Tabb where he and his wife, Kate, built “Newstead” and operated it as a guest home. “If a Richmond girl made her debut, she would have spent the summer at Newstead,” Elizabeth Clopton Brown said. [7]
Arthur Tabb sold his store to Richard Taliaferro, his wife’s nephew, in 1884 [1]. Richard also acquired and enlarged what had been Thompson’s “Cowslip Green” property on the Ware River, and in 1897 [4] he renamed it “Hockley” in honor of the Anderson homeplace. By 1901, Thompson’s Wharf was known as Hockley’s Wharf [5].

Richard Taliaferro married Fannie Johnson, the widow of Samuel Powell Byrd (1861 -1891), who was the nephew of Tazewell Thompson’s wife, Susan Lewis Byrd.

In 1886, Richard Taliaferro became the first official postmaster in Ware Neck. Prior to that, Alexander Coles Brown (1844-1924), who had joined William Shepard Miller (1833-1897) in Thompson’s store after the retirement of Tazewell Thompson, had been handling mail for the locals (Miller had been a partner with Thompson). [3]

Having the mail in Taliaferro’s store would have given that store an advantage over his competitor across the street. Sometime before 1907 that competitor became Frank Bland Dutton (1881-1964) who was married to India Garner Gayle.

Frank Dutton’s wife, India Garner Gayle, was the daughter of John Zelotes Gayle and Virginia Francis Brown. Alexander Coles Brown was brother of Virginia Francis Brown. The 1910 census lists Alexander C. Brown as head of household living with his sister, Frank and India, and India S. Bohannon. Shephard Miller may also have been a great-uncle of India Gayle. A W. S. Miller is listed in the 1880 census, age 45, a farmer — not a merchant. Alex C. Brown, W. Shephard Miller, and Virginia Miller share a memorial stone with members of the Gayle and Bohannan families in Singleton’s Church, Schley.

The Ware Neck Post Office advantage was lost in 1897 when Thomas C. Cooke of Dutton's store became postmaster. In 1909, Thomas’ son, James Benjamin “Benjie” Cooke (1880-1962), succeeded his father as postmaster, and Thomas’ daughter, Susan, described herself as assistant postmaster in the 1910 census. Thomas Cooke is probably the Thomas Cary Cooke (1833-1916) buried at Beulah Baptist Church.

Richard Taliaferro also ran a store on the Gloucester Court House circle next to the Hotel Botetourt. The R. P. Taliaferro & Co. store was later owned and operated by H. L. Vaughan who had probably worked in the store before Richard’s death in 1928.

Richard was not the only Taliaferro son to become a merchant. Hansford Taliaferro started a store on the south side of the Ware River. Zanoni store was built in 1885 [1] and a post office established in 1894. [6] The store is at the intersection of Zanoni Road and Crockett Road.

Zanoni store was served by Smith’s Wharf, started by Peter W. Smith, Sr., which became Bailey’s Wharf when it was sold in 1909. [5] P. W. Smith, Sr., and his brother, George W. Smith, bought the land for the wharf from Tazewell Thompson, perhaps land that Tazewell’s wife had brought to their marriage from the “White Hall” property. [8]

Another brother, Philip Taliaferro, operated a store at Ordinary. [7]

It is likely that all these stores were very active. Because Richard ceased to be postmaster in 1897, that might be the time when he shifted his attention to his store in Gloucester and began entrusting the Ware Neck store to other operators. To talk about them, we need to step back and introduce some Ware Neck families.

Anderton, Brown, Smith, Robins, and Nuttall

William Nuttall (1810-1878) and his wife, Emily Ann Haynes (1816-1889), had a number of children (and scores of grandchildren). Two of his children figure into this...
story: James Knox Polk Nuttall (1845-1923) and Pinkey Nuttall (1855-1903). James married Frances Elizabeth Acra (1851-1918), and of their 12 children we will mention the oldest, Nora Lee Nuttall (1871-1907) the third from youngest, Luther Monroe Nuttall (1888-1984), and youngest, Mary Emily Nuttall (1893-1963). [9]


About the turn of the century, Richard Taliaferro and, later, his son, John Earl Taliaferro (1896-1982), leased their store building rather than run the business themselves. [1] The first lessee was probably Charles Bernard Anderton, possibly together with Peter W. Smith, Jr. (1874-1954).

Bernard Anderton (1876-1962) was the son of Christopher Columbus Anderton and Lucy Alice Gayle (cousin by marriage to Alexander Coles Brown and Virginia Francis Brown Gayle). In 1900, he and Herbert Vaughan (b. April 1859) were both living in the household of Richard P. Taliaferro, and both listed their occupation for the census as clerk, presumably at the Ware Neck store.

### Descendents of James Knox Polk Nuttall & Frances Elizabeth Acra

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Birth Year</th>
<th>Death Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>James Knox Polk Nuttall</td>
<td>1845</td>
<td>1923</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nora Lee Nuttall</td>
<td>1871</td>
<td>1907</td>
</tr>
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<td>John William Nuttall</td>
<td>1873</td>
<td>1963</td>
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<td>James Madison Nuttall</td>
<td>1875</td>
<td>1955</td>
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<td>Edwin Ferdinand Nuttall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sadie A.?</td>
<td>1881</td>
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<td>Alvin Albion Nuttall</td>
<td>1879</td>
<td>1956</td>
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<td>Virginia M. Deal</td>
<td>1888</td>
<td>1932</td>
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<td>Charles Franklin Nuttall</td>
<td>1880</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maggie Acra Nuttall</td>
<td>1882</td>
<td>1886</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grover Cleveland Nuttall</td>
<td>1884</td>
<td>1886</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harry Taliaferro Nuttall</td>
<td>1886</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luther Monroe Nuttall</td>
<td>1888</td>
<td>1986</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edith Maude Robins</td>
<td>1895</td>
<td>1994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edwin Rudolph Nuttall</td>
<td>1915</td>
<td>2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Maude Nuttall</td>
<td>1919</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Thomas Nuttall</td>
<td>1924</td>
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<tr>
<td>Everett Nuttall</td>
<td>1934</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fannie Floyd Nuttall</td>
<td>1891</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Emily Nuttall</td>
<td>1893</td>
<td>1963</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Copeland Brown</td>
<td>1888</td>
<td>1981</td>
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<td>Josephine Copeland Brown</td>
<td>1916</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Andrew James</td>
<td>1914</td>
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### Descendents of Jefferson Andrew Brown & Hannah Frances Copeland

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Birth Year</th>
<th>Death Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jefferson Andrew Brown</td>
<td>1841</td>
<td>1902</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Ida Brown</td>
<td>1869</td>
<td>1943</td>
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<tr>
<td>Samuel Jefferson Brown</td>
<td>1871</td>
<td>1953</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frances “Fanny” Lee Brown</td>
<td>1884</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edward Guy Smith</td>
<td>1904</td>
<td>1994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mildred Hogge</td>
<td>1906</td>
<td>1905</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Copeland Brown</td>
<td>1888</td>
<td>1981</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Emily Nuttall</td>
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<td>1963</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew James</td>
<td>1914</td>
<td>2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joseph Walter Brown</td>
<td>1862</td>
<td>1934</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thelma Virginia Robins</td>
<td>1897</td>
<td>1992</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Bernard Anderton “kept store” at Ware Neck for many years, probably starting before 1900 as a clerk and later leasing the store himself. He married Fannie Lee Brown (a daughter of Jeff Brown) in 1906, but she died shortly after their wedding. Bernard then married Mary Lillian Robins (1887-1961) in 1908. Lillian was the daughter of James Severn Robins and Ida Belle Brushwood.

According to the 1910 census, Bernard was living with his wife, daughter, Mary V., age 2 months, and brother, Stanley G. [Gayle], age 18, who was also working in the store. The next household is the listing for Alexander Coles Brown and the Duttons (see above), suggesting the two families are living in their adjacent stores.

In 1914, Bernard became postmaster. In 1920, Bernard was still living in the Ware district and employed as a retail merchant at a general store (undoubtedly still the Ware Neck store), but about 1921 the Anderton’s moved to Bohannon in Mathews County and started a new store there. [10] “Bernard was always quick in mathematics and had a ‘good business head,’ both excellent qualifications for being a merchant.” [11]

P. W. Smith, Jr., was the son of John E. Smith and Grace Elizabeth Smith. Grace was the daughter of P. W. Smith, Sr. (1828-1909). P. W. was married to Annie Brown, daughter of Jeff Brown. We don’t know how long P. W. was associated with the store. After he left, he served for 50 years as treasurer of Gloucester County.

When Bernard Anderton left Ware Neck in 1921, Benjie Cooke once again became the Ware Neck postmaster, a position he held until 1950. By this time it is believed that he was working in the Ware Neck store.

Joseph W. Brown, Edward Guy Smith (1904-1994), and Charles F. Robins (1903-1993), in some combination (and possibly with Joe’s brother, Ed, as a business partner [12]), are thought to have leased the store from Earl Taliaferro after the Andertons moved. [3] Exactly when each of them started is unclear, as is whether Charlie was a partner or a clerk.

Joe Brown was the youngest son of Jeff Brown. In the 1920 census, he listed his occupation as salesman in a general store, and there seems to be general agreement that he was one of the group leasing the store upon the departure of Bernard Anderton.

Guy Smith, the grandson of Jeff Brown, was the son of Annie Brown and P. W. Smith, Jr., who had previously been involved in the store, making Guy Joe’s nephew. At the time of the 1920 census, at age 15, he was unemployed, but in the 1930 census he lists himself as a partner in a general merchandise store which would have been the Ware Neck store. Prior to joining the store, Guy was a principal in the Deltaville school system for a year. He probably did not become a partner in the business until about 1928. [13]

In the 1920 census, 16 year old Charles F. Robins is described as a farm laborer, but in 1930 he, like Guy, described himself as a partner in retail general merchandise, a single man living still in Ware Neck. The store could have been either the Ware Neck store or Hansford Taliaferro’s Zanoni store.

Charlie Robins was the son of William T. Robins (1865-1943) and his second wife, Nora Lee Nuttall. William Robins and his first wife, Eliza Maude Brushwood, were the parents of Joe Brown’s wife, Thelma Virginia Robins (1897-1992), and Luther Nuttall’s wife, Edith Maude Nuttall (1895-1994). William’s brother, James Severn Robins, and Eliza Maude’s sister, Ida Belle Brushwood, were the parents of Bernard Anderton’s wife, Lillian.

(William T. Robins’s third wife was Martha Ellen Acra, aunt of his second wife and sister to the wife of James Nuttall. Martha Ellen and Frances Elizabeth Acra were the daughters of John Hill Acra and Emily Margaret Nuttall. Emily Margaret Nuttall and her
sister, Frances Ann Nuttall, were children of Charles Scott Nuttall (d. 1837 [9]) and Frances Figg, but that family’s relationship with the William Nuttall family is unknown.)

Ed Brown started a store in Schley, in 1910, just a few miles farther down Ware Neck Road and not many feet beyond Ed’s and Joe’s brother Sam’s store across from Singleton’s Methodist Church. Ed Brown was married to Rosa Elizabeth Schissler (1881 - 1967) who was the daughter of John Schissler and Pinkey Nuttall.

Samuel J. Brown opened his store in 1898, and he became the first postmaster for Schley in 1902 and remained postmaster until 1941 when his daughter, Roberta Brown King, took over. Sam was married to Fannie Coleman Robins. It is unclear whether it was Sam’s mother-in-law who suggested the name “Schley” for Adm. Winfield Scott Schley [3] or the mother-in-law of Ed (Pinkey Nuttall). [6] Roberta ran the post office in the left side of an otherwise empty building after Sam’s store ceased operation, but eventually she moved it to Ed’s store and closed the building. Soon after that, she was succeeded as postmaster, in 1966, by Marjorie Tillage Brown, widow of John Wilbur “Noodie” Brown [14] who married an Anderton in 1969. Sam’s store exists no more, but Ed’s store still operates as the Schley post office.

The Schley stores both used Smith’s Wharf across the river in Zanoni off-loading the ships there into other boats that would ferry the cargo across the river. [3]

Jack Brown, brother to Sam, Ed, and Joe, and brother-in-law of P. W. Smith, Jr., had a long career operating the J. C. Brown Oil Company after starting a general store and Texaco station at Short Lane. He relocated his gas station to Gloucester Courthouse and supplied Texaco gasoline to all the stores in the area. Jack was married to Mary Emily Nuttall, and they lived at the “Brown home place” on the Ware River near the docks where he off-loaded his products from tankers.

About 1930, Charlie Robins, who had been helping an ailing Hansford Taliaferro in Zanoni, Descendents of William Thomas Robins

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Birth Year</th>
<th>Death Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>William Thomas Robins</td>
<td>1865</td>
<td>1942</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+1st m. Elizabeth Maude Brushwood</td>
<td>1870</td>
<td>1898</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fredrick Lee Robins</td>
<td>1892</td>
<td>1921</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edith Maude Robins</td>
<td>1896</td>
<td>1994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+m. Luther Monroe Nuttall</td>
<td>1888</td>
<td>1984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edwin Rudolph Nuttall</td>
<td>1915</td>
<td>2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+m. I. Louise Smith</td>
<td>1915</td>
<td>1998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thelma Virginia Robins</td>
<td>1897</td>
<td>1992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+m. Joseph Walter Brown</td>
<td>1862</td>
<td>1934</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fred Lee Brown, Sr.</td>
<td>1921</td>
<td>2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+m. Martha Parks Feild</td>
<td>1922</td>
<td>2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+2nd m. Nora Lee Nuttall</td>
<td>1871</td>
<td>1907</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Wiatt Robins</td>
<td>1901</td>
<td>1987</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Thomas Robins, Jr.</td>
<td>1902</td>
<td>1981</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+m. Helen Natalie Cooper</td>
<td>1909</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles Franklin Robins</td>
<td>1903</td>
<td>1993</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+m. Mary Lou Chandler</td>
<td>1912</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roland Clark Robins</td>
<td>1905</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Levi Nuttall Robins</td>
<td>1907</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+3rd m. Martha Ellen Acra</td>
<td>1855</td>
<td>1920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+4th m. Frances Ellen Seawell</td>
<td>1866</td>
<td>1943</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

E. B. Brown store and post office at Schley, now post office only
bought and operated Zanoni store and became the postmaster there in 1931. In 1944, he bought the Taliaferro house and almost 40 acres from Hansford’s widow, Fannie Perrin Taliaferro. Charlie also worked on the ferry. About 1948, he sold Zanoni store although he continued to work there, splitting time with his job on the ferry. Mrs. Florence H. Brown bought the store and became postmaster after Robert Stanley Hall served for about a year. In 1957, Charlie bought the store back and his wife, Mary Lou Chandler Robins, became postmaster for about a year. [15]

Guy Smith and his family lived in the back of the Ware Neck store, and his daughter, Peggy, was born while they lived there. After Joe Brown died in 1934, Guy continued to operate Ware Neck store for about another year before moving in 1935. Guy would later become the longtime postmaster at Gloucester Courthouse, and his wife, Mildred Hogg, had a long career as a teacher. [13]

Claude C. Brown (1904-1988) was the next operator of the Ware Neck store. Claude was the son of Ed Brown and Rosa Schissler and grandson of Pinkey Nuttall. He ran the store about 10 years until he and his father built the E. B. Brown & Son store across the road (that store has been demolished).

He is also responsible for modifying the interior of Ware Neck store to what it is today. A Gloucester-Mathews Gazette-Journal article reports, “The building is huge with the store inside it comparatively small. Rudy says that the store area used to be much larger with a counter running along all four walls and the middle opening up to a second story where stock was stored. It was then that the store was really a service store and it took 7-8 clerks to help wait on customers. They would tell the clerk what they needed and off he went around the store collecting the order. Many people still shop that way at Rudy’s though the majority pick up what they need off the shelves.” [3]

Claude moved to the new store about 1946. He was appointed acting postmaster in 1950 at Benjie Cooke’s retirement. So the post office went with him, but only for a year.

In 1944, as Claude was building his new store, Edwin Rudolph Nuttall (1914-2007) and his cousin, Walter Nuttall (1918-1997), just discharged from the Navy and Army, respectively, bought Ware Neck store from Earl Taliaferro. [14] They began running it themselves in 1947. [16]

Rudy was a son of Luther Nuttall and Edith Maude Robins (1895-1994). He married Ida Louise Smith (1914-1998), daughter of Peter William Smith, Jr., and Annie Brown and sister to Guy Smith.

Walter was the son of Albion Alvin Nuttall (1879-1956), brother to Luther, and Virginia “Jenny” Mackey Deal. [14] Walter left the business after only a couple of years.

Rudy became the postmaster in 1951 and held that position until 1988. [6] The post office continues to operate in “his” store to this day.

Country stores would have had plenty of employees. Richard and Hansford Taliaferro both worked for Arthur Tabb in 1880 [1], and I can imagine any number of clerks in later
years with the names Brown, or Nuttall, or Robins, or Smith. At least two of Joe Brown’s sons, my father, Fred Lee, and Joe, Jr., worked for their uncle, Charlie, at Zanoni store when they were boys. Joe says, “I worked Saturdays during the school year and full weeks during summers. I didn’t have a car, so I rode to work on Rudy Nuttall’s Bromm’s Bread route on Saturday mornings. Charlie would drive me to Edgehill Service Station late Saturday night, and I’d ride to Ware Neck with Charlie King, Sr., or Howard Brown when they closed the station. During the summer months, same routine: I’d stay at Zanoni store all week and return to Ware Neck on Saturday night. Those were the days!”[12]

Since the merchants, clerks, and customers would all regularly be cousins, aunts, uncles, or in-laws, all these stores would have been frequent gathering places for many a Ware Neck family.

References

[8] Lawrence, Bill, interview (October 2008).

Uncited information generally comes from my own genealogical notes, much of which can be traced to the research of Robert W. Robins, son of Charles Robins. I have not cited each place where data from the United States Federal Census was used. I also verified information using gravestones in Ware Episcopal Church, Beulah Baptist Church, and Singleton’s United Methodist cemeteries. Postmaster information was also confirmed using the Internet.

The Nuttall & Co. store keeps a scrapbook, “the Lore of the Store,” which contains newspaper accounts and photographs. There is also a good photograph taken about 1914 in *Gloucester’s Past in Pictures*, by Caroline Baytop Sinclair. I provided a photograph showing R. P. Taliaferro’s store in Gloucester Courthouse which is reproduced in *Images of America: Gloucester County*, by Sara E. Lewis.
Old Books Available On Line

By Robert W. Plummer

Google and Microsoft are going to libraries around the nation, copying books, and putting them on line. If you have high speed download access, you can download the books that are out of copyright protection. And if they have a book you want to read that is not out of copyright protection, you can download it to your library which you can set up at the Google web site, http://books.google.com/. Here are the books that I have downloaded:

History of the 17 VA Infantry, CSA, 1870 by George Wise
The Campaign in VA in 1781, 1888, England
A Bibliography of Virginia, "Virginia State Library, Earl Gregg Swem, Wilmer Lee Hall"
Historic Arlington (cemetery), by Decker and Mcsween, 1892
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