

Willis Generations in America

WILLIS GENERATIONS IN AMERICA ONE THRU NINE

Absalom Graves Willis descended from WILLIAM WILLIS (son of Francis Willis) who came from England and died in 1663 in Gloucester County, Virginia.

The line of descent of this family, which follows, is merely intended to trace, briefly, the generations in America from 1663 to 1970. It is taken from a chart - The Willis Family of Virginia compiled by Catesby Willis Stewart who used as reference:- A Sketch of the Willis Family of Virginia by Byrd Charles and Richard Henry Willis; and court records. A facsimile of the Willis book is offered by the Virginia Book Company, Berryville, Virginia (\$17.50).

- 1 WILLIAM WILLIS, who died in 1663, resided on Craney Creek, Gloucester County, Virginia. This William had three sons: William, Thomas, JOHN.
- 2 JOHN WILLIS (1648-1715) m 1st, _____, the mother of his seven children;
2nd, Mathilda Thacker, of record, July 1693.

John patented land: October 7, 1669 - 261 acres: February 27, 1690 - 185 acres. (King George Co. Deed Book II p. 398)
Children of John and 1st wife: John, WILLIAM, Charles, Mary, Susannah, Catherine, _____ a daughter.

- 3 WILLIAM WILLIS (--1717) m ca. 1709/10 Sarah Turberville who died 1760/61 (Orange County Will Book II p. 310, 6/28/61)

Three children: JOHN, William, Sarah.

- 4 JOHN WILLIS (ca, 1700-1762) m 1734/35 King George County, Elizabeth Plunkett. Will of John Willis - Orange County. Book II p. 323. Children: WILLIAM, John, Joshua, Benjamin, Reuben, James, Frances, Moses, Lewis, Mary, Sarah, Margaret.

- 5 WILLIAM WILLIS (1743-1833) m Elizabeth Garnett, daughter of Anthony Garnett of Culpeper County, Virginia. William Willis received Revolutionary War Lands in Kentucky; where he and Elizabeth died. Children: Alexander ("Sandy"), ISAAC, Benjamin, William, - are given in the Catesby Willis Stewart Chart.

(Other researchers working with Kentucky deeds and marriage records name 10 children.)

- 6 ISAAC WILLIS (1774-1866/67) m his first cousin Ann Garnett (1777-1840) daughter of Reuben Garnett of "Quiet Shade". Isaac Willis was born and died at Locust Grove, his home in Culpeper, County, Virginia. Children: LARKIN, James, Arabella, Mary ("Polly"), Robert, Benjamin, Sarah, Elizabeth.

- 7 LARKIN WILLIS (1801-1856) m 1st (1820) Susan Emily Fry who died (1821) leaving one son: Edward Jefferson Willis.
m 2nd (1823) Mary Gordon (1807-1881) daughter of John Churchill Gordon and Lucy Herndon.

The 20 children of the second marriage were: John Churchill, James Addison, Mary Elizabeth, Lucy Herndon, Anne Elizabeth, ABSALOM GRAVES, William, Larkin, Isaac, Joseph Gordon, Reuben Garnett, Isabella Herndon, Ella Jane, Charles Augustine, Eugene Harrison, Benjamin Rush, Walter Lewis, two unnamed infants, Nora Fry.

- 8 ABSALOM GRAVES WILLIS (1831-1903) m SARAH LEE GORDON (1838-1929)