

reunions in Nelson County. It was essential
itons for inclusion in this book.

ched in vain for a Walton's Mountain in
rmore, the name Walton was not found in
truth is that the Waltons were a fictitious
l life of the Hamner family.²⁵ The family was
er in Hamner's books. The Walton name
rary selection for the TV series.

Wal-Mart

that many people have asked the compiler:
re "Sam" Walton, 1918-1992, the founder of
Wal-Mart? Is he one of our Virginia Waltons?
tors came out of Virginia. Sam was born in
degree in economics at the University of
and started his career with a management
enny Company Store in Iowa. We know that
mas Gibson Walton and his wife Nancy Lee
of Cooper County, Missouri. It is reported
J. S. census that Sam's grandfather was Sam
and his wife was Laura H., who lived in
Counties, Missouri. The 1860 and 1870
County shows Sam's great-grandparents as
a J. Walton. William was born in Virginia
1820, as reported by the census records. It
Walton went to Missouri about 1840, where
shed himself as a farmer. In 1860 and 1870,
er County, where he presumably died. There
P. Walton in Lafayette County, Missouri
onward, but he has been traced back to
James, 1786-1861, and Jane (Parr) Walton.
rmined to which branch of Virginia Waltons
elong.

ms <william.atkins@verizon.net> on Oct. 6, 2002.

U. S. Censuses for Cooper County, Missouri, Family
vely.

Chapter 1

First Generation

Edward Walton Jr. (1)

The earliest proven ancestor in our direct Walton lineage is Edward Walton Jr. (ca 1672-1720) of New Kent County, Virginia.¹ Edward's wife was named Elizabeth² but could not have been a daughter of Lemuel and Ann (Seawell) Mason, as often accepted by Walton researchers. Depending on who is estimating the dates, Elizabeth Mason would have been almost a generation older than Edward Walton Jr., and would have commenced bearing children in her 40s. A marriage year of 1671 is given, which cites Edward Walton paying 5,000 pounds of tobacco to marry Elizabeth.³ If so, she was childless for twenty-three years before her first child was born in 1694. It doesn't fit. Also, the Masons and Waltons lived in different cultural and geographic bands of Virginia, that is, the James River versus the York River water basins. In Colonial Virginia, intermarriage usually occurred within the same geo-cultural band. New Kent was a long distance from Norfolk. We conclude that Elizabeth's maiden name was not Mason. There is no direct evidence, and the circumstantial evidence is not sufficient to build a case. We concur that Elizabeth Mason of Lemuel married a Walton, but his given name is not in the records.

On March 7, 1701/02, Edward Jr. was commissioned an ensign in the New Kent County Militia.⁴

¹ One Edward Walton Sr. allegedly died in 1688, but the compiler has not seen the documentation. It is possible that Edward Walton Jr. was not a son of an Edward Sr. During early times, Jr. was given to the younger of two persons with the same name, regardless of relationship.

² *The Register of St. Peter's Parish*, New Kent County, Virginia, says that "Elizabeth, wife of Edw^d Walton, Departed this Life April 5th, 1717."

³ Margaret Bickel Adams, *Old Burke County (NC) Relatives*, (Privately Printed), Margaret Bickel Adams, 301 Broad Street, Marion, NC 28752-4515, 2000

⁴ Lloyd DeWitt Bockstruck, *Virginia's Colonial Soldier's*, (Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Publishing Company, Inc.), p. 217.

The father of Edward Walton Jr. may or may not have been named Edward Sr. In seventeenth and eighteenth century Virginia, the titles junior and senior were given to show relationships between ages of persons, and not necessarily to show a father-son relationship or other kinship. For example, Virginia County land and tax records sometimes designated a person as "John Doe of John" or "John Doe of Edward." The designation John Doe Jr. meant something different; that this John Doe was younger than the other John Doe who lived in the same political jurisdiction.

Children of Edward Jr. and Elizabeth Walton:

1. Robert Walton was born circa 1694, probably in New Kent County, and died after 1734. Robert married Frances Sherwood, 1697-1780. (2)
2. Mary Walton was baptized in St. Peter's Parish, Dec. 4, 1698. Nothing more is known about her. (3)
3. William Walton was baptized on Dec. 25, 1700 in St. Peter's Parish, New Kent County, and died in Cumberland County, Virginia in 1747. He married Susannah Cobb. (4)
4. Thomas Walton Sr. was baptized Feb. 20, 1703/1704 in St. Peter's Parish, New Kent County, and died in 1772 in Cumberland County, Virginia.⁵ In 1734, Thomas married Martha Cox, daughter of George and Martha Cox of Henrico County, Virginia. (5)
5. Elizabeth Walton was baptized at St. Peter's on Feb. 4, 1707; she may have married Peter Rowlett, son of William and Frances (Worsham) Rowlett, although this is unproven. Peter Rowlett died in Lunenburg County, Virginia in 1754. His widow Elizabeth was given a letter of administration, which a George Walton (presumably her nephew) was the security for the administration bond.⁶ (6)
6. John Walton Sr. was born in St. Peter's Parish, New Kent County, on Aug. 7, 1709, and died in Henrico County in 1772. John married Mary Sims, and settled on land in Henrico County that is now in Louisa County. (7)

⁵ Cumberland County, Virginia *Will Book 2*, pp. 54-55.

⁶ Lunenburg County, Virginia *Will Book 1*, p. 131.

Robert Walton

Robert Walton Sr., probable son of Walton, was born circa 1694 and died Robert Walton "Jr." in the St. Peter's Parish, New Kent County, where he served as Clerk of the County. The designation "Jr." does not necessarily mean that a Robert Walton lived in the same locality. It is believed that Robert Walton Sr. died in New Kent County, where he, as eldest son, managed his father's estate in 1720. William and Robert, younger brothers of Robert "Jr.," resettled in Cumberland County that became, in 1747, Cumberland County—George and Robert Jr.—settled in Goochland and/or Cumberland County records and other courthouse documents. Sherwood who was born on Jan. 17, 1780.¹ One of Robert's great-grandsons, Robert Walton, 1805-1884, that he possessed and that they were of the same bloodline. A grandson of Thomas Walton who would define the two men as second cousins. This information is valuable, coming from the

Children of Robert Sr. and Frances (Sherwood) Walton:

1. Robert Walton Jr. was born on Jan. 17, 1780, in New Kent County, Virginia and died circa 1750. Robert Jr. married Mary Hughes, daughter of (Morton) Hughes. (8)

¹ George Edward Pankey, *John Pankey of Tennessee: A Genealogical Study*, (Kingsport, Tennessee: Kingsport Press, 1968), p. 10.

² *The Richmond Standard*, "Notes and Queries," No. 2, col. 5. The genealogical information in this article was communicated to me by Womack Walton, 1803-1880, a resident of Nashville, Tennessee, who communicated with his first-cousin, Josiah N. Thompson, Esq. of Nashville, Tennessee.