

Family Group Sheet		Husband's Full Name William Ruffin – Gulielmus Ruthvin					
	Date of:	Day	Month	Year	Town County State or Country	Additional Info.	
Information Obtained From:	Birth:	Abt. 1617				Emigration:	
	Marriage:					23 July 1635	
	Death:	Bef 9 January 1674			Isle of Wight, VA	Gravesend, Kent	
	Burial:					England	
Places of Residence:		Will probated: 9 January 1675, Isle of Wight, VA					
Occupation:		Religion:		Military Record:			
Other wives							
His Father:		His Mother:					
Wife's Full Maiden Name		Possibly Elizabeth Jewry					
	Date of:	Day	Month	Year	Town County State or Country	Additional Info.	
	Birth:						
	Marriage:						
Compiler: ailambert.com	Death:						
Audrey J. Lambert	Burial:						
Address: 39721 Timberlane Dr.	Places of Residence:						
City: Sterling Hts.	Occupation:		Religion:		Military Record:		
State: MI	Other husbands:						
Date: 13 June 2006	Her Father:	William Jewry		Her Mother:			
Sex:	Children's Full Names:	Date of:	Day	Month	Year	Town County State or Country	Additional Info.
M	1. Robert Ruffin	Birth:	ca. 1646			Isle of Wight, VA	Elizabeth Prime
		Marriage:	ca. 1675				md 1 st to George Watkins
	Full Name of Spouse: Elizabeth Prime	Death:	ca. 1693			Surry Co., VA	Will probated
		Burial:					18 May 1693 Surry Co., VA
	2.	Birth:					
		Marriage:					
	Full Name of Spouse:	Death:					
		Burial:					

Source: *The Book of Jared by Eleanor McAllister Hall*

(p. 674): Through **WILLIAM RUFFIN** we claim ancestry back to Jamestown, Va. Whether he is numbered among the first settler is not known. He is definitely planed in that community after 1650. He signed the will of **EDWARD CHETWINE** 27 September 1649 and signed the will of **WILLIAM JEWRY** 1 January 1651.

WILLIAM RUFFIN bought land in Isle of Wight Co., Va., 10 May 1653.

In a deposition, **JOHN SMYTH**, aged 50 years said **WILLIAM RUFFIN** covenanted with **JOHN GROVES** to build him a house for three hundred pounds of tobacco. Ruffin's son to help for twenty days. It was not built so the tobacco was buried in the ground for want of housing. 9 June 1664.

7 February 1667 **WILLIAM RUFFIN** empowered his son **ROBERT RUFFIN** to defend in court the suit of **NICHOLAS BOON**. On June 9, 1670 **WILLIAM RUFFIN** made over to **KATHERINE THORNTON** 200 acres of land in case of her death to be equally divided between her two children.

ROBERT RUFFIN, the son of **WILLIAM RUFFIN** died in Isle of Wight Co., Va., in 1693. He married **ELIZABETH**, the wealthy widow of **JOSEPH WATKINS**. Their children were:

1. Elizabeth Ruffin married William Kinchin
2. Robert Ruffin married Elizabeth
3. William Ruffin

Source: *Surry County Records: Surry County Virginia 1652-1684: Books I and II Abstracted by Elizabeth T. Davis.*

(p. 106): Book II - March 1671 to July 5, 1684:

Page 2. Feby 26, 1679, **ROBERT RUFFIN** Qual. As Admr. **JNO. GERING** deced. with **FRA. MASON & WM. EDWARDS** Security – Bond, 80,000 lbs. legal tob. Wit. **THOS. BINNS & THOS. SENIOR**.

(p. 137): **ROBERT RUFFIN** to **THOS. GILES**, of Nansemond County, my plantation that my late deceased father, **WM. RUFFIN**, of Isle of Wight County, lived on at the Cypvass & another patent not out of land Office to Giles, exempting 200 acres, formerly deceased of father's, to **KATHERING THORNTON**, 25 July, 1675. Wit. Edm, Prime, Wm. Ploie?, **ROBERT RUFFIN** & **ELIZA. RUFFIN**.

Source: Surry County, Virginia Court Records 1691-1700 Book V by Weynette Parks Haun, 1991.

(p. 14 #33): It appearing by Mr. **ROBERT RUFFINS** Certificate dated Janry. The 3d. 1690 that THO. DAVIS did take up in the Isle of Wight County an Indian man belonging to **ROGER TILMAN** of Cha. Citty County which said Certificate was by the Committee of Claims the 22th. of Aprill 1691 referred to next Assembly for proof, and the said **DAVIS** having now made Oath he took up the said Indian in the Isle of Wight County, which being above tenn miles from the above said **TILMANS**, the same is Certified to the Genll. Assembly for allowance according to Law.

(p. 15 #37): **MR. ROBERT RUFFIN** by his petition setting forth that he hath been at the Charge of Stones Ironworke and frame Timber, for the building of a Corn Mill but having Land onely on one side the Swamp, **Wm. NEWETT** who owns the Land on the other side refuseth to sell him an acre for the makeing and repaireing a Dam, without which he cannot possibly proceede, and therefore prayed that according to the 3d. Act of Assembly made at Jas. Citty Ao. 1667 two P:sons might be appointed to veiw, lay out, and value one Acre of Land and pcess him therewith for his aforesaid use and purpose, On Consideration whereof Major **ARTHUR ALLEN** and Capt. **HENRY TOOKER** are Ordered and Impowered (to veiw the place) and if it doth not take from the said **NEWETT** the Convenience mentioned in the aforesaid Law) to value one acre of the Land and put the said **RUFFIN** in the possession thereof as the before recited Law directs.

(p. 19 #45): **ROBERT CRAFORD** by his petition setting forth that he is desirous to build a Grist Mill upon **CARTERS** Runn for the Conveniency of himselfe & other Neighbours thereto adjoyneing, but having land onely on one side, and the Land on the otherside belong to an Orphan of **ANSELINES BALY** deced. for severall yeares the Reversion being in Major **AR. ALLEN**, the said Orphan nor the said **ALLEN** can made him any sale thereof he therefore prayed that according to ye. 3d. Act of Assembly Ao: 1667 one Acre of Land on the other side ye. Run may be laid out and valued and he put in the possession thereof being ready to pay what it shall be valued at to the said Orphan & **ALLEN** as the Court shall Order, On Consideration whereof Mr. **ROBERT RUFFIN** and Capt. **HENRY TOOKER** are Ordered and Impowered to veiw the place, and if it doth not take from the Owners the convenience mentioned in the aforesaid Law to value one Acre of the Land and put the said **CRAFORD** in the possession thereof as the before recited Law directs.

(p. 33 #73): The last Will of **Mr. ROBERT RUFFIN** proved in Court by the Oaths of **WM. CHAMBERS**, **WILL. NEWSUM** and **ROBR. RAWLINS**, and a Probate thereof Granted **Mrs. ELIZA. RUFFIN** the Exx. Therein named.

(p. 33 #74): Major **ARTHUR ALLEN** and Mr. **FRANCES MASON** presenting themselves security for Mrs. **ELIZA. RUFFINS** performance of the Will of Mr. **ROBERT RUFFIN** they are accepted and Ordered to give bond accordingly.

Source: Colonial Surry By John B. Boddie, Baltimore Southern Book Company 1959:

(p. 177): Surry Land Grants 1676-1714:

(p. 178):

Grant

Bk	Page	Name	Year	Acres
7	439	Ruffin, Robert	1685	2250
7	569	Ruffin, Robert	1687	422

(p.188): Surry County Tithables (White) In 1678: (p. 190): **MR. ROBT. RUFFIN**

(p. 190):

A list of tithables belonging to Lawnes Creeke Parish in Surry County taken 12th of June, 1683 by **ROBERT CAUFIELD**.

A list of tithables taken the 9th of June 1683 within the precincts of Lower Chipcoaks and Blackwater in Lawnes Creeke Parish by **ROBERT RUFFIN**.

A list of tithables above Upper Sunken Marsh taken June 10th, 1683 by **BENJAMIN HARRISON**.

A list of titables taken June 9, 1683 by **SAMUEL SWANN**.

A list of titables taken by order of Court by **JAMES DYKES** June 9, 1683.

Taken by ROBERT CAUFIELD	122
Taken by ROBERT RUFFIN	90
Taken by BENJAMIN HARRISON	115
Taken by SAMUEL SWANN	110
Taken by JAMES DYKES	71
Total	508

Source: Old Surry: Thumb-Nail Sketches of Places of Historic Interest in Surry County, Virginia by A. W. Bohannon:

(p. 41): Chapter V. – Old Churches – Parishes and Old Churches:

As previously stated, Surry was originally in the same parish as Jamestown, but in 1639 a parish was established on the southside and was named “**Lawne’s Creeke Parish**”. It was bounded as follows: “To begin from the mouth of Hogg Island creeke along the river to Lane’s (Lawne’s) Creeke, and from Lane’s Creeke to the head of the upper-most branches of the said creeke, and from the head of the branches of Lane’s Creeke to the head of the branches of Chipcoaks Creeke, and from thence to Hogg Island Creeke.” We find that later its boundaries had been enlarged, as it was said to have been ten miles wide and to have extended one hundred and twenty miles back from the river. In March, 1642-43, another parish was created, “the bounds of the said parish to be southeast upon the parish of Lane’s (Lawne’s) creek and northwest upon the Sunken Marish and northeast upon James River.” This was known as “**Chipcoaks Parish**”.

Southwark Parish was established in November, 1647, and extended from “the Colledge” to the “Upper Chipcoakes” including “the said Upper Chipcoakes”. This parish was twenty miles wide and extended in a southerly direction one hundred and twenty miles.

In 1724 there were one church and one chapel in [Lawne's Creek Parish](#) and one church and two chapels in Southwark. Rev. John Worden was the minister for Lawne's Creek and Rev. John Cargill for Southwark. Rev. Cargill's salary was from thirty to forty pounds. Both ministers reported their glebe houses in poor condition.

(pp.41-42) In 1738 all of the parishes of [Lawne's Creek](#) and Southwark lying south of the Blackwater were "united and erected into one distinct parish" to be called "Albemarle"; and all of Lawne's Creek and Southwark lying north of this river were united under the name of "Southwark Parish". Thus Lawne's Creek Parish passed out of existence. There is very little mention of Chippoaks Parish and it is very probable that it was added to Lawne's Creek at an early date.

Rev. John Clough, active supporter of Sir Wm. Berkeley during Bacon's Rebellion was minister in Southwark Parish in 1680. He is buried at Jamestown. Rev. Peter Davis was minister in Southwark Parish in 1758, Rev. Benj. Blagrove, 1774 and 1776, Rev. John Henry Burgess in 1785, and Rev. Samuel Butler in 1790 and 1792.

In 1836 the principal denominations in the County were Episcopalians, Methodist and Baptist, the Methodist predominating. There were four large Episcopal Churches, but they were said to be in a ruinous condition. The Methodist had five churches and the Baptist one. There was also a Quaker Meeting House.

(p. 63) **LAWNE'S CREEK:** Lawne's Creek divides Surry from Isle of Wight. It received its name from Capt. Christopher Lawne, one of the early settlers on the Isle of Wight side of the creek.

We find that Willam Spencer of "James Island" was in 1632 granted 250 acres of land on the westerly side (the Surry side) of the creek called "Lawne's Creek" at the mouth of said "creeke". In 1663 Roger Delke patented 1000 acres on this creek, also on the Surry side.

We learn from the County records that a public landing was established on this creek, Sept. 19, 1749.

(p. 64): Chapter VIII: Miscellaneous Notes: BRANCHES BRIDGES are mentioned in an order of Court in 1692, Capt. Thomas Swann having taken up tow runaway slaves here.

The following are some of the swamps mentioned in early land grants. Arroee Reed Swamp in Hog Island Main, 1636; Green Swamp, 1638; Reedy, 1656; Indian Springs, 164; Cypress, 1666; Beaver Dam, 1666; Otter Dam, 1682; Pokatink, 1683; Piegeon, 1684; Johnchecohunk, 1684. [In the will of ROBERT RUFFIN, 1693, he refers to Pokatink swamp as "Pokatink or Bowleing Greene Swamp".](#)

APPENDIX: In the preparation of these sketches information has been obtained from the following sources:

Surry County Records; Records of the Register of the Land Office, Richmond; The Cradle of the Republic by Lyon G. Tyler; William and Mary Historical Quarterlies, Lyon G. Tyler, Editor; Bishop Meade's Old Churches and Families of Virginia; Travels and Works of Capt. John Smith; Virginia County Names by Charles Massie Long; Howes History of Virginia; Martin's Gazeteer of Virginia; Hardesty's Encyclopedia; Beverly's History of Virginia; Virginia Under the Stuarts by Wertebaker; Hening's Statutes at Large; Colonial Virginia by Chandler and Thames; Life in Old Virginia by McDaniel; Handbook of American Indians, Bulletin 30, Bureau of American Ethnology; Phi Beta Kappa Key; Memoirs of the War (Revolution) in the Southern Department of the United States by Henry Lee; Burk's History of Virginia; The First American Republic by Brown; Historical Register and Dictionary of U. S. Army by Heitman; Virginia Militia in the Revolutionary War by McAllister; The Conquest of Virginia, The Forest Primeval, by Sams.

Source: *Wills and Administrations of Isle of Wight County Virginia 1647-1800 Book 1-3: Abstracted and Compiled by Blanche Adams Chapman 1938.*

Wills and Administrations Book A: pg. 1:

JEWRY, WILLIAM: Leg: **ELIZABETH PENNY** daughter of **RICHARD PENNY**: **ROBERT RUFFIN**, son of **WILLIAM RUFFIN**: **JOHN ARRAM**, son of **JOHN ARRAM**.

Ex. friend **JOHN ARRAM**. January 1, 1651.

Wit: **RICHARD PENNY**, **WILLIAM RUFFIN**, **WILLIAM WESTRAY**.

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Wills and Administrations Book A: pg. 3:

CHETWINE, EDWARD: Leg. To **JAMES HOUSE** and **THOMAS ARWILL** one year of their time; to former what is mine at Mr. Aldreds; Christopher Holmes; John Young; Mr. Robert Watson; Henry Pitt; John English; Nicholas Aldred; Mrs. Ann Jones and all her children; to my brother all my lands etc. with thanks that he hath supplied me, notwithstanding he hither sent me for a sacrifice. Exs., Mr. Robert Watson and Henry Pitt. September 27, 1649.

Wit: **WILLIAM RUFFIN**, **THOMAS BROCK**.

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Wills and Deed Book #1: pg. 11:

Appraisal of the estate of **MR. JOHN BREWER** taken June 14, 1662, by **RICHARD PENNY**, Thomas Parker, Thomas Clark. Presented by Mrs. Ann Holladay, relict and admrx of said Brewer. R. Oct. 19, 1671.

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MORRIS, WILLIAM: Leg. – son Morgan 100 acres on Blackwater that I bought of Christopher Holleman; son John; son William; daughter Elizabeth; wife Elizabeth.

Wife extx D. ---, R. April 9, 1672

Wit. **WILLIAM OLDIS**, **ROBERT RUFFIN**, **ANDRE---**(?).

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Wills and Deed Book #1: pg. 13:

CROSBY, JOHN: according to my late deceased wife Elizabeth's request on her death bed to Mrs. Jane Oldis, my said wife's daughter Margaret Davis my estate. D. Jan. 9, 1674.

Wills and Deed Book: pg. 55:

BAYLEY, JOHN: Appraisal by William West, **WILLIAM KINCHIN**, Thomas Williams and John Joyner.

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Wills Book #4: pg. 70:

WILLIAM RUFFIN: Dying intestate, administration requested by **ROBERT RUFFIN**, his son and heir. Jan. 9, 1674. R. March 22, 1674. Security, Captain William Oldis, Mr. William Body.

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Wills Book #4: pg. 121:

JAMES MERCER: Leg. – wife Mary; daughter Mary; son John; daughter Ann; daughter Martha; son Robert; son James; son Thomas; to my unnamed son; daughter Elizabeth; daughter patience; daughter Sarah; son-in-law Robert Williamson. Wife Mary, Extx. D. Dec. 11, 1720. R. June 24, 1734.

Wit: **WILLIAM KINCHIN**, Arthur Purcell.

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Wills and Administrations Book: pg. 127:

MATHEW KINCHEN: Leg.- mother Elizabeth; brother William; wife Elizabeth; to unborn child, with reversion of bequest to William, the son of Etheldred Taylor and to William Jones, the son of Elizabeth Exum; to **WILLIAM JARELL**, if he performs an agreement, which I had with Gilbert Mackinnie; to William, the son of my brother **WILLIAM KINCHIN**; my uncle Thomas; friend John Dunkley; sister Elizabeth; sister Martha; sister Patience; to James Godwin's children, James, Martha and Mathew Godwin. Exs., brothers-in-law, **THOMAS JARRELL** and Etheldred Taylor. D. March 4, 1735/36. R. May 24, 1736.

Wit: John Dunkley, **THOMAS JOYNER**, Edward Buxton.

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MATHEW KINCHEN GENT.: Appraised by Francis Williamson, **THOMAS JOYNER**, John Dunkley R. Aug. 23, 1736.

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Source: *Wills and Administrations of Surry County, Virginia 1671-1750 By Eliza Timberlake Davis, 1980.*

Note: **Surry County, as it now is, was originally the part of James City County that lay on the south side of the James River.** Surry County was formed out of James City County in 1652, and some of the settlers at Jamestown owned land on the Surry side and some of the colonists at Surry owned land at Jamestown. Most of these people were from England, adventurers seeking their fortune in a strange land. Eliza Timberlake Davis, Smithfield, Virginia, 1955.

Wills and Administrations of Surry County, Virginia 1671-1750:

(p. 113): **RUFFIN, ELIZABETH:** Leg. – To daughter, **JANE RUFFIN**, one negro, new feather bed with curtains, vallace etc. which my son, **ROBERT**, promised me to find her by our agreement over the house and other goods to him, also a small table, chest, looking glass, pewter dishes and plates. If no heir to sons, **WILLIAM RUFFIN** and son, **ROBERT RUFFIN**. Makes daughter, **JANE**, Exerx. Wit: **WILLIAM GRAY, JR., OLIVE CHAMBERS**. Made: 29 July, 1711. Prob.: 18 Aug., 1714. Book 6, p. 207.

(pp. 113-114): **RUFFIN, ROBERT:** Leg. – To my wife the Plantation I now live on for her life, and at her death to my son, **ROBERT RUFFIN**, and for want of heirs, to my son, **WILLIAM RUFFIN**. All the rest of my estate to my two sons, **ROBERT** and **WILLIAM**, in the land at Pokotink, or Bowling Green Swamp...to **WM. ROLAND'S** path...to Sunken Marsh path, eastward to son, **ROBERT**, and the other part to son, **WILLIAM**. Gives negro, and silver tumbler to **ROBERT**, when he is 21 years old. To son, **WILLIAN**, a negro and a silver porringer, when 21 years old. Bequest to daughter, Elizabeth's first born child. Wife to give to daughters as they come of age, or marry. **FRA. MASON** and **ARTHUR ALLEN** overseers of will. Wife made Exerx. Made: 8 May, 1693. Prob.: 4 July, 1693. Wit: **WM. CHAMBERS, WM. NEWSUM, ROGER ROWLINS**. Book 4, p. 310.

(p. 114): **RUFFIN, ROBERT:** Leg. – Wife to have the labor of certain slaves for life then to son, **JOHN RUFFIN**. Estate to be equally divided with sons **JOSEPH** and **BENJAMIN**, and **EDMUND**, daus. **MARY, MARTHA** and **ELIZABETH** or survivors of them. To wife, **ELIZABETH**, the remainder of the est, and makes her Exerx. Made: 13 April, 1720. Prob.: 15 Feb., 1720. Wit: **JOHN NEWSUM, JAMES WILLSON**. Book 7, p. 296.

Source: *Seventeenth Century Isle of Wight County Virginia: A history of the County of Isle of Wight, Virginia, during the Seventeenth Century, including abstracts of the county records by John Bennett Boddie.*

(pp. 230-232): **KINCHEN: WILLIAM KINCHEN** was residing in Isle of Wight County, Virginia before 1700. He patented 170 acres in that county in 1702. He also patented 100 acres in 1715, another 100 acres in 1724 and 140 acres in 1726.

He was a member of the vestry of the old brick church near Smithfield from 1724 to his death.

He was sheriff of Isle of Wight County in 1729. (Va. Mag. 34, p. 201).

He was also a Justice of Peace in the County as William Byrd when he was surveying the line between Carolina and Virginia, stayed at William Kinchen's home, and spoke of him as a worthy magistrate living in much affluence.

WILLIAM KINCHEN married **ELIZABETH RUFFIN**, daughter of **ROBERT RUFFIN** of Surry County. He made his will August 13, 1734 and the same was probated July 28, 1735. After his death his wife married **RICHARD COCKE** of Surry. (See Va. Mag. 5, p. 73). He may have married twice as he is said to have married **ELIZABETH**, dau. of **THOMAS JOYNER**. (See Chapman's I. of W. Marriages).

Children:

I. Matthew, died unmarried about 1737. He made his will and after several legacies left all the rest of his goods and chattels to his brother, William Kinchen and his sisters, Elizabeth, Martha, Patience and to his brother-in-law, James Godwin's three children, James, Martha and Matthew. (Barton's Col. Decision, Godwin v. Kinchen in chancery, April 1737 – Tylers Q. July, 1919, p. 67).

II. William, m. Elizabeth Dawson, dau. Col. John Dawson and his wife, who was formerly Mrs. Elizabeth (Thomas) Boddie, widow of John Boddie. It was probably this William Kinchen, instead of his father, the Colonel Byrd mentioned.

William Kinchen was sheriff of Northampton 1745-48 and moved to Edgecombe. He represented Edgecombe in General Assembly at Newbern 1754 and died 1758. (For will see Alston history, p. 521).

Children:

1. William, md Sarah..... David Fanning, the Tory leader, made a raid on Hillsboro and among others captured Gov. Burke and William Kinchen. He took them to the prison ships at Charleston. On his way back home when exchanged William Kinchen died from weakness incurred from confinement on the ship. His widow married Col. James Mebane.
2. John was a member of the Provincial Council which first met in 1775 and he was sent to Charleston to confer with Committee of Safety for South Carolina. He was also a member of the Provincial Congress which met at Halifax 4th April 1776 and was from Orange County where he died 1793.
3. Martha.
4. Elizabeth, m. Phillip Kearney. (For his descendants see Alston History, p. 494). One of his sisters-in-law married Blake Baker.
5. Mary.
6. Temperance.

III. Elizabeth, m. (1) Joseph Jones. (2) Joseph Exum.

IV. Martha, m. Thomas Jarrett.

V. Patience, m. William Taylor. (See Va. Mag. 23, p. 105).

VI. Sarah, m. James Godwin (See Godwin).

(p. 517) Isle of Wight Book A: **WILLIAM (X) JEWRY**, will, of Isle of Wight County, my body to be decently buried at discretion of my executor in **PARISH CHURCH OF ABOVE COUNTY**, to Elizabeth Penny dau. of Richard Penny 1 calf, to Robert Ruffin son of William Ruffin 1 heifer, to John Arran son of John Aaran of the county 1 heifer, rest of my estate to John Arran, Sr., he to be Exr. 1 Jan. 1651. Teste, Richard (R. P.) Penny, William (W. R.) Ruffin, William Westwray. Pro. 9 April 1651.

(p. 535) Dep. of **JOHN SMYTH**, aged 50 years said **WM. RUFFIN** covenanted with JOHN GROVES to build him a house for 300 lbs. of tbco., Ruffin's son to help 20 days, not built so tbco. Was buried in ground for want of housing. 9 June, 1664. Dep. of Katherine Thornton, aged 30 years, in regard to Jno. Grove's house, said same. Dr. Robert Williamson came to hire Grove but **RUFFIN** would not let him off. John Groves, aged 23, deposed. Dorothy Grantlyn, aged 32, deposed about this. 9 June 1664.

(p. 548): **WM. RUFFIN** empowers his son **ROBERT** to defend in court suit of Nich. Boon. 7 Feb. 1667.

Source: *Isle of Wight County, Virginia Deeds 1720 – 1736 and Deeds 1741 – 1749 by William Lindsay Hopkins.*

Isle of Wight Deeds – Great Book Vol. 2 1715-1726:

(p. 463) 26 Feb 1721.... **WILLIAM WEST** and his wife **MARTHA WEST**, of the lower parish to **DANNELL HERRING** of the same...130 acres adjoining Maj. Bridger, Peter Blake and Anthony Herring (being part of patent for 2050 acres granted William Oldiss and **ROBERT RUFFIN** on 21 Sept 1674).

Wit: John Johnston, Thomas Summerell and Christopher Reynolds.

William West

Rec: 26 Mar 1722

Martha West

(p.474) 25 Apr 1722...**THOMAS WALTON** and **WILLIAM KINCHIN**, Churchwardens, acknowledge the gift of Mrs. Silvestra Hill through Mr. Henry Baker, Gent., of Nansemond County, and Alexander Forbis, Clerk of the upper parish of Isle of Wight County.

Thomas Walton

Source: *Colonial Families of Surry and Isle of Wight Counties, Virginia Volume 5: Isle of Wight County, Virginia, Deeds, Wills, Conveyances, Book A, compiled by John Anderson Brayton, Memphis, Tennessee, sponsored by The Order of First Families of North Carolina.*

Page x: Isle of Wight County, Virginia, Deeds, Wills, Conveyances, Book A:

Date:	Item#	Instrument	Grantor/Brantee or Testator
1 Jan 1651	26	Will	William Jewry

Pages 19 (#26) & 20 (#27) In the Name of God Amen. / I **WILLIAM JEWRY** of the Isle of Wight County being / very Sick & Weak but of perfect Mind & Memory / praised by God do hereby make my last Will & / Testament in manner & form following (Viz) / First I commit my Soul into the Hands of Almighty / God my Maker & Creator hoping & assuredly believing / thro' ye Mercies & Merits of Jesus Xt. My Saviour and / Redeemer to receive free Pardon & Remission of all / my Sins and my Body to the Earth from whence it / came to be decently Buried at the Discretion of / my Executor hereafter named in **Parish Church** of / this county aboves^d. But as concerning all such / Worldly Estate wherewith it hath pleased God to / endue me I give & bequeath in fform Following

Page 20 (#27) After my Debts which I Justly owe unto any Man being first / paid and my ffuneral Expences Satisfied imprimis I Give / and Bequeath unto **ELIZABETH PENNY** the daughter of **RICHARD PENNY** / of the County afores^d One Yearling cow Calf. Item I Give / and Bequeath unto **ROBERT RUFFIN** Son of **WILLIAM RUFFIN** of / the Isle of Wight County af^d one black Heifer with two / white ffeet behind of two Years old of the proper makr / of me the s^d **WILLIAM JEWRY**. Item I Give & Bequath / unto **JOHN ARRAN** Son of **JOHN ARRAN** of the County / at^d the Calf the my red heifer now

goeth withal / all & singular the rest of my Estate I Give & bequeath / unto my dear and Loving friend y^e at^d **JNO ARRAM** for / and of this my last Will & Testament do make & ordain / him full & Sole Executor In Witness whereof I / the said **WILLIAM JEWRY** Renouncing all former Wills / to this my last Will & Testament have set my hand / the **ffirst of January Anno Domini 1651**.

Signed and Delivers in the Presence of Us

WILLIAM O JEWRY

RICHARD R:P:PENNY WILLIAM WR RUFFIN WILLIAM WESTWRAY

This Will was proved in County the ixth of April / p Sacrament of **RICHARD PENNY & WILLIAM RUFFIN**
Examind^d & truly Transcribed / Test JA^S : BAKER ClCur

Page 53 (#79) On the backside of a Conveyance for Land from **AMBROSE BENNET** to **JOHN MONTLEY & THOMAS TURNER** dated the **25th / day June in the Twenty fifth Year of the Reign of Kin / Charles,**⁹ And Recorded the Isle of Wight County the / 20th September 1643 (sic). Which s^d Conveyance was Assigned / by **JOHN MOTELY & MARY** his Wife to **HENRY MOORES** and / **THOMAS TURNER** the 17th April 1655 and recorded in y^e / Isle of Wight County y^e 10th March 1655. These Words / are Endorsed (viz) may: 10 1658. **Mr . ARTHUR / SKYNNER & WILLIAM ANDREWS** Attorney of **HENRY / MOORES** on his Part and **THOMAS TURNER** for himself / did in Open Court make over all their Right unto / The Land and other particular mentioned in this / Conveyance unto **M. WILLIAM RUFFIN** and his Heirs / or Assigns for ever
Teste **THOS WOODWARD** ClCur

⁹The English had a tendency to count the first year of the Commonwealth as 25th year of the reign of Charles I. This would technically be the year 27 Mar 1649-1650.

Page 77 (#113) **GULELMS RUFFIN 27^o die Sepr: 1649**

Nomen caret¹²

Examined and truly Transcribed / Test **JAS . BAKER** ClCur

12”The name is lacking.”

Source: Colonial Families of Surry and Isle of Wight Counties, Virginia Volume 11: Transcription of Isle of Wight, Virginia Deed Book 1 1688-1705. Compiled by John Anderson Brayton, Memphis, Tennessee.

Page 45 (#22): Know all Men by these present that wee **JOHN SMITH** and **ANNE SMITH** his wife of the Isle / of Weight County doe give and bequeath from us and from our heyres Executors or assignes Unto / **JOHN MICKMIHALL** his heyres Executors or assignes for Ever a parcel of land beinge about twen / ty acres More of lesse, the Sayd parcel of Land; beinge part of the land which I Bought of Cap / **WILLIAM OLDIS** laste of Nansamund & **ROBERT RUFFIN** of Surry which foresaid parcel of land lyeth / in the Westerne Corner of my land one Side there of Joyneinge upon Cap **GEORGE NORSWORTHY** / late of the County of Nansamund and the other Side Joyneinge on **MATHEW TOMLINSs** land & / the Inward Side bounded with a Branch and the other Side with a broad path; the aforesaid / **JOHN MICKMIHALL** his hayres Executors or assignes Shall not Sett out: or Sell any part of pcell / of the aforeSaid land In witness whereof wee have hereunto Sett our hands & Seale this **9th day / of december in the yeare of our Lord God one thousand Six hundred Eighty nine.**

JOHN BROWNE

ROBERT RL LAURENCE

His marke

JOHN SMITH Seale

ANNE + SMITH Seale

her marke & seale

Page 229 (#236): This Indenture made y^e Second day of may in y^e yeare of our lord god / **one thousand six hundred ninty Eight & in y^e tenth yeare of the Reign / of our Sovereigne Lord William by y^e grace of god King of England / Scotland france and Ireland** &^c: Between **JOHN SMITH** of y^e Isle weight / County of y^e on part and **GEORGE NOSWORTHY** of of Nanzemond County / Gentleman of y^e other part wittneseth y^e said **JOHN SMITH** for & in / Consideration of y^e sune of thirty pounds of good and Currant mony of / Virginia to him in hand, at and before the sealing and delivery of / these presents by y^e said **GEORGE NORSWORTHY** Gent, well and truly paid y^e zec^t (sic) / whereof he y^e **JOHN SMITH** doth hereby acknowledge and him self / therewith fully exonerate, and discharge, the said **GEORGE / NORSWORTHY**, his heires executors and administrators for ever, by these / Presents, hath given and granted Aliened bargained sold Enfeoffed and Confer / by these presents doth fully Clearly and absolutely give grant bergaine / Sell Allein enfeoff and confirm unto y^e said **GEORGE NORSWORTHY** / Gent his heires and Assigns for ever one percell or trace of land lying y^e Isle of / Wight County being part of a patent of two thousand and fiftie Acrs / granted unto **WILLIAM OLDIS** and **ROBERT RUFFIN** / dated y^e of **September 1694** Containing one hundred Acres wich I y^e said / **JOHN SMITH** did purchase of y^e said **WILLIAM OLDIS** and **ROBERT RUFFIN** / by deed bearing date y^e **Eight day of June 1677** it being now in y^e tenture and / occupation of the said **JOHN SMITH**, y^e said one hundred Acers of land being / bounded as followeth (Viz) beginning at a marked poplar being.

Page 327 & 328 (#350) This indenture made y^e **2d day of Aprill Anno Domini 1701** betweene / **REBECKA MACKRISTY** of one pty & **W^M. JOLLY** of y^e Other part Witness / That I y^e foresaid **REBECKAH MACKRISTOE** doe sell, demise & firmly make / over from me, my heires, Ex^{rs}. Adm^{rs}. Or Assgs a certaine pcell of Land/Containing one hundred Acres, or thereabout, scittuate, Lyeing & / being att y^e Cyprus, in y^e Lower pish of y^e Isle of Wight County wich / lands was given to y^e foresd **REBECKAH** by one **Mr . WM . RUFFIN** & I y^e / fords **REBECKAH** doe make over all my Right, title & Interest of y^e / foresd Lands to **W^M. JOLLY**, his heires, Ex^{rs}. Adm^{rs}. or Assgs, / wth all priviledges of hawking, hunting & fishing with all woods, wat^{rs}: & heriditaments w^{soever} to me belonging, & from any Clayme / whatsoever^r & I y^e foresd **REBECKAH MACKRISTY** Doe acknowledge I have / Received a Consideracon already in hand for y^e same: as Wittness my hand & Seal y^e year abovewritten.

Signed, Sealed & delivered in y^e p^sents of us

JAMES BAGNALL:

THOS PITT

her m^rke

RECEBKAH w MACKRISTOE O

Source: William and Mary College Quarterly Historical Magazine, Volume VI. 1897-1898. Editor: Lyon G. Tyler, A. Ma. LL. D., President of William and Mary College, Williamsburg, VA.

(p. 219): Abstracts of Important Deeds, Wills and Orders, on Record in Clerk's Office or Isle of Wight County.

Deed and Will Book, transcribed from the old records in 1733 by James Baker, Clerk.

(p. 219): **Will of Edward Chetwyne, dated Sept. 7, 1649**: Legatees James House, Thomas Attwell, Christopher Holms, John Young, Robert Watson, Henry Pitt, John Inghlish, Nicholas Aldred, Mrs. Anne Jones, all her children; Robert Watson and Henry Pitt, exors. Witnesses: Thomas Brook, and **GULIELM. RUFFIN**.

Will of Wm. Jewry, dated, June 1, 1651: Legatees, Elizabeth Penny, dau. of Richard Penny, Robert Ruffin, son of Wm. Ruffin, John Arran, son of John Arran. Witnesses, Richard Penny, R. P. (his mark), William Ruffin (mark), William Westray (mark).

(p. 225): **William Ruffin's power to his son Robert Ruffin. 22 August 1667.**

(p. 225): Assignment of William Oldis and wife Jane, 1665.

(p. 230): **Robert Ruffin (and Elizabeth his wife) of Surry county, apparent heir and admr. of William Ruffin dec'd. 6 June, 1677.**

Source: *Historical Southern Families Volume I by John Bennett Boddie, Pacific Coast Publishers, Redwood City, CA 1957:*

WHITEHEAD OF ISLE OF WIGHT: pp. 240 – 241.

ARTHUR WHITEHEAD¹ was probably born in England about 1625, and came to Virginia sometime before 1643. He died about 1655, presumably in Isle of Wight County. His place of birth in England is not known at this time.

On 22 March 1643, he was listed as one of the Head Rights of Obedience Robins, who on that day received a patent for 450 acres in Northampton County, Virginia, bounded by a former devisee of the said Robins for the transportation of nine persons: John Coleman, Henry Edwards, **ARTHUR WHITEHEAD¹**, Nicholas Every, John Ellis, Henry Baston, Stephen Horse (probably Horsefield), Thomas Chapman, and John Carter. Of these it is interesting to note that all but two of the family names are subsequently found in the records of Isle of Wight County, which supports the conclusion that **ARTHUR WHITEHEAD¹** settled there. (C.P. 225).

The name of his first wife if not known, but they were probably not long married at the time of her death, as only one child, a son **ARTHUR WHITEHEAD²**, is known to have resulted.

ARTHUR WHITEHEAD¹ then married a Katherine, whose last name is also not known. They had no children, and **ARTHUR WHITEHEAD¹** died about 1655.

In 1670, **WILLIAM RUFFIN** assigned 200 acres of land to **KATHERINE THORNTON**, with reversion to her two children, **ARTHUR WHITEHEAD²** and **REBECCA THORNTON**. Three facts indicate that Katherine was not his daughter. First, the year of her birth is given as 1634, the year before **WILLIAM RUFFIN** arrived in Virginia from England, as a boy of 18. Second, he does not designate her as his daughter in this land assignment. Third, his son **ROBERT RUFFIN** "of the County of Surry", on 21 January 1675/76, in a deed to **THOMAS GILES** of Nansemond County, speaks of "my plantation on which my decd. father **WILLIAM RUFFIN** of Isle of Wight lived, except 200 acres which my decd. father made over to Katherine as his sister. Some close relationship evidently existed, but what this was is not known. (V.H. G. 262-263).

On 11 August 1673, **ARTHUR WHITEHEAD²**, in consideration of affection for his sister **REBECCA HORSEFIELD**, then wife to **STEVEN HORSEFIELD**, gave her some cows. Possibly this was his wedding present to his half sister. At any rate, it does show that **REBECCA THORNTON** was born about 1655, assuming her to have been about 18 at the time of her marriage to **STEPHEN HORSEFIELD**. This would further indicate that Katherine married her second husband no later than 1655 and possibly earlier, so that **ARTHUR WHITEHEAD¹** must have died before that year, and, of course, his son **ARTHUR WHITEHEAD²** also was born before then. (17C. 565).

Sometime between 1676 and 1687, the year in which Katherine died, her second husband died, and she married for the third time. Her third husband's name was **BATHE (BYTHESEA)**, and he also predeceased her. On 11 October 1687, the nuncupative will of **KATHERINE BATHE** was recorded in Isle of Wight County, by which she left legacies to her son-in-law **STEPHEN HORSEFIELD**, his wife and children; and to son **ARTHUR WHITEHEAD²** "whom she declared was unnatural to her", thus showing him to have been her step-son by her first marriage to **ARTHUR WHITEHEAD¹**. This **STEPHEN HORSEFIELD** was undoubtedly the son of **STEPEHN HORSE (FIELD)** who was one of the emigrants with the first **ARTHUR WHITEHEAD¹**, listed with the head rights of the **OBEDIENCE ROBINS** patent in 1643, above mentioned.

Source: *Genealogies of Virginia Families from the William and Mary College Quarterly, Vol. IV.*

(p. 305): **William Roane** (Will Recorded Essex Co. Ct/; 20 December 1757 – Will Book No. 11 p. 29) married **Sarah Upshaw**. Their children were:

1. ***Thomas Roane** married **Mary Ann Hipkins** and had 15 children.
2. John Roane married 1st Miss Jones, 2nd Betsy Taylor.
3. William Roane married Judith C. Ball.
4. Molly Roane married Archibald Ritchie.
5. Sarah Roane married Dr. John Brockenbrough.
6. Lucy Roane married 1st Richard Barnes and had one son.

Thomas Roane & Mary Ann Hipkins daughter was **Alice Roane** who married **Sterling Ruffin**, father of Chief Justice **Thomas Ruffin** of North Carolina – a distinguished jurist and great man.

Thomas Roane & Mary Ann Hipkins daughter **Catherine Roane** married **Archibald Ruffin**.

John Roane, son of **William Roane** and **Sarah Upshaw**, married 1st **Miss Jones**, of Middlesex Co., Va. This children were:

1. John Roane who was for a long time in U. S. Congress.
2. **Molly Roane**, who married **James Ruffin**, brother of **Sterling**.

(pp. 334-341): **RUFFIN FAMILY**: Ruffin Family, from 1st Series, Vol. XVIII (1910), 251-258.

This family begins with 1. **WILLIAM¹ RUFFIN**, who appears in the records of Isle of Wight at a very early period.

WILLIAM JEWRY in his will dated June 1, 1651, left a legacy to “**ROBERT RUFFIN**, son of **WILLIAM RUFFIN**.” In June, 1677, 2. **ROBERT² RUFFIN**, of Surry County is mentioned as heir and administrator of **WILLIAM RUFFIN** deceased.

2. **ROBERT² RUFFIN** (William¹) lived in Surry County, where he married about 1675, **Elizabeth widow of Capt. George Watkins**, Clerk of Surry County. His will, dated May 18, 1693, was proved July 4, 1693. It names **sons Robert and William, wife Elizabeth**, and **Francis Masson and Arthur Allen**, “who are to have the education of my children.” **The will of his wife, Elizabeth Ruffin, proved in Surry County, August 18, 1714, names sons Robert and William and daughter Jane.** Issue: 3. *Robert*; 4. *William*; 5. *Elizabeth*; 6. *Jane*.
3. **ROBERT³ RUFFIN** (Robert², William¹) lived in Surry County, where he married **Elizabeth** _____ and died. His will, dated April 13, 1720, was proved February 15, 1720-21, and names wife Elizabeth, children: 7. *John*; 8. *Edmund*; 9. *Joseph*; 10. *Benjamin*; 11. *Mary*; 12. *Martha*; 13. *Elizabeth*
7. **Col. JOHN⁴ RUFFIN** (Robert³, Robert², William¹) married **Patty Hamlin**, (chart) and died in Mecklenburg County. His will, dated August 10, 1774, was proved August 14, 1775. It names children: 14. *Robert*; 15. *William*; 16. *Anne*, who married Hartwell Cocke, of Surry; 17. *Elizabeth*, married J. N. Nicholas, of Dinwiddie; 18. *John*, to whom he gives a plantation in Southampton called Unota on the north side of Meherrin River; 19. *Martha*, who married Robert Newsom; 20. *Thomas*; 21. *Francis*. The two last, Thomas and Francis, are made executors. Witnesses: Henry Delony, Stephen Edward Brodnax.
14. **ROBERT⁵ RUFFIN** (John⁴, Robert³, Robert², William¹) of “Mayfield,” Dinwiddie County, and “Sweet Hall,” King William County, married **Mary Clack**, daughter of John and Mary Clack and widow of Col. John Lightfoot, of Brunswick County (chart and Brunswick Records), and had issue: 22. John, vestryman of Bristol Parish; 23. James, died 1802, married Mary Roane, who had (a) Robert, married I. Lucy Roane; married II. _____ Hoskins; (b) John; (c) James, of King William County, married Agnes Dandridge; (d) Lucy, married _____ Hoskins; (e) Thomas; (f) Sterling; 24. Patsy, married Buller Claiborne, of Dinwiddie and had (a) William Presley; 25. daughter, married William Claiborne, of Dinwiddie and had (a) William Presley; (b) Lucy Herbert, married John Goode, and had Hon. William O. Goode; (c) Elizabeth, married William Burnet Browne; 26. William, born 1785, died 1825, of Brunswick County, VA, and North Carolina, married Margaret Ritchie, sister of Thomas Ritchie, of the Richmon Enquirer, and had (a) Archibald, married Catherine Roane; (b) Robert, of Milledgeville, Georgia; (c) William, married Frances Gildart, and had Col. Frank G., born 1816, State Auditor of Virginia; (d) Thomas; (e) Frederick; (f) John S.; (g) Albert G.; (h) Caroline (chart); 27. Judge Sterling Ruffin (1767-1822), of Brunswick County, Va., married Alice Roane and had (a) Judge Thomas, of the Supreme Court of North Carolina; (b) Minerva; (c) Mary; (d) James, of North Carolina and Alabama; (e) William S.
15. **WILLIAM⁵ RUFFIN** (John⁴, Robert³, Robert², William¹) of “Rick Neck,” Surry County, married (I) **Jane Bland**, daughter of Theodorick Bland; (II) **Lucy Cocke**, of “Shoal Bay.” His will, dated May 1, 1773, was proved April 26, 1774. He had issue by his first wife: 28. Theodorick Bland, and by his second, 29. Elizabeth, married Col. William Browne, of “Four Mile Tree,” Surry County; 30. William, who married Nancy Edwards.
21. **FRANCIS⁵ RUFFIN** (John⁴, Robert³, Robert², William¹) married I. **Hannah Cocke**; II. **Susan Harris**. By first wife he had (a) John; (b) Thomas; (c) Robert; (d) Hannah, married C. Seward.
8. **CAPTAIN⁴ EDMUND RUFFIN** (Robert³, Robert², William¹) was born 1713, and died in 1790. He was of “Evergreen,” Prince George County. He married **Anne Simmons**, widow of _____ Edmunds. She died October 26, 1749, in Sussex County; 31. *Edmund*; 32. Elizabeth, who married Nathaniel Harrison, of Prince George County.
32. **HON. EDMUND⁴ RUFFIN** (Edmund⁴, Robert², William¹) born 1745, died 1807, member of House of Delegates 1777-1787, of “Coggins Point,” and “Evergreen,” Prince George County, married **Jane Skipwith**, sister of Sir. William Skipwith, baronet, of Prestwold, Mecklenburg County. Issue: 33. *George*.
33. **HON. GEORGE RUFFIN** (Edmund⁵, Edmund⁴, Robert³, Robert², William¹) born 1765, died 1810, member of the State Legislature from 1803-1806, married I. **Jane Lucas**; II. **Rebecca Cocke**, of Surry. Issue by first marriage: (a) Hon. Edmund Ruffin, born 1794, died 1865, of “Coggins Point,” Prince George County, and “Marlbourne,” Hanover County, member of State Senate, President Agricultural Society, Editor Farmer’s Register. Fired first gun at Fort Sumter in the war for Southern Independence, married Susan H. Travis. Hon. George Ruffin had issue by second marriage: (b) Jane, married Dr. William Dupuy, of Dinwiddie County; (c) George R.; (d) Rebecca S.; (e) Juliana, married Carter Coupland, of “Vernon Borsay;” (f) Elizabeth, married Commodore Harrison H. Cocke, of “Montpelier,” Surry County, and “Evergreen,” Prince George County; (h) George.
9. **BENJAMIN⁴ RUFFIN** (Robert³, Robert², William¹) lived in Southampton County, where he married and had (chart): 34. Joseph; 35. Benjamin; 36. Lucy, married Dr. Irvine; 37. Polly.
13. **ELIZABETH⁴ RUFFIN** (Robert³, Robert², William¹) married (chart) I. _____ Kinchin, II., Richard Cocke, 1707-1787, of “Swann Point: or “Shoal Bay” in Surry County, and had issue by second marriage: 38. Nancy, married Col. William Browne, of “Four Mile Tree;” 39. Richard, married I. Nancy Claiborne; II. Mrs. White nee Crowley; 40. Lucy, married William Ruffin, and had William, married Miss Edwards and Elizabeth, married William Browne; 41. Nathaniel, of Georgia, married Rebecca Thompson; 42. Col. John, who married Lucy Herbert Claiborne.
4. **WILLIAM³ RUFFIN** (Robert², William¹) married and (chart) 43. Samuel, born 1716, of Edgecomb, N. C., and 44. Ethelred, of Edgecomb, N. C., married Mary Hayward, and had (a) Samuel; (b) Sarah; (c) Henry J.; (d) James; (e) Charity Anne; (f) Margaret E.

The following is an extract from a letter of the late Col. Frank G. Ruffin to Hon. Paul Cameron, Hillsboro, N. C.:

I have seen Edmund Ruffin, Sr.'s Genealogical chart* (This chart was used in compiling the pedigree in the text), that I found myself the seventh in descent from the head of the family in Virginia, William Ruffin who settled in Isle of Wight in 1660, who accumulated immense landed property on the south side of James River by importing laborers into the country, that sort of service being at that time remunerative by a grant of so much land per capita.

As early as 1743 "Capt. John Ruffin" of Surry was a large planter. The family have generally remained on the south side of James River, but Judge Ruffin's grandfather, Col. Robert Ruffin, who in 1762 was appointed along with Robert Bolling, Roger Atkinson, William Easton, John Bannister, Thomas Jones, Henry Walker, George Turnbull and James Field, all represented by Virginia and North Carolina families to this day, to lay off the town of Petersburg and he was designated by the act as a "gentleman," at the time when that term had sense and meaning in it.

Col. Robert, after the marriage of his daughters to Claibornes, removed to King William County, and occupied the brick mansion Sweet Hall on the Pamunkey, about ten miles above – not West Point, but West's Point, named after one of our earliest settlers. Sweet Hall, as I knew it in its decay forty years ago had still enough left of its grounds and surroundings to argue the means, tastes, and habits of a gentleman once its owner; as a ruined but distinct dyke which had once reclaimed a very extensive marsh on his large tract of land on the opposite shore of New Kent, showed what must have been his energy and enterprise.

Besides these he also owned another large tract in the immediate neighborhood of Sweet Hall in King William, called "Turcoman," which subsequently became the property of his son Sterling (father of Judge Thomas Ruffin) and a very large body of very fine land in the county of Brunswick.

He married the widow Lightfoot of the Sandy Point Lightfoots, who was born a "clack," and was, as old Mr. John Roane, who knew her, has frequently told me, a very beautiful woman, and who had consumption for fifty years, as I learned from Judge Ruffin, who spent much of his childhood with her.

They had five children, two daughters (who married Claibornes, one of our oldest colonial named, and one left a son, Sterling Claiborne, who was probably as able a lawyer as the Judge himself, and altogether a very remarkable man.) and three sons, James, William, and Sterling. James was a captain of cavalry throughout the War of the Revolution. He settled in King William, married Mary, the daughter of John Roane, Maximus *Natu*, of "Uppowoc" on the Mattaponi in the same county, and died at a comparatively early age, having a large family of children. He was a man of parts and very high courage, but extremely lazy habits. Most of his children died in early manhood, and only one of them was a really prosperous man, he migrated early to Tennessee, and thence to Mississippi, and dying bequeathed to his children very large property.

Of Mr. Sterling Ruffin I can tell you not half as much as you probably know. He had been dead some years before I came from Mississippi to Raleigh in 1824. His wife Alice was the daughter of Margaret Roane, sister of the two brothers above named engaged in commerce at Fredericksburg with Hugh Campbell, who had married a daughter of Thomas Roane, and who was so crippled in business that he had to draw out. He and his brother, Sterling subsequently left that part of Virginia and moved to Brunswick, where, joining the Methodist church, they became most intimate with the fathers respectively of George A. Dromgoole and the Gholsons, and continued so until death.

From Brunswick they moved to North Carolina, as you know. They had both been gay men, but they became very devout, and gave up as many of this world's vanities as most persons of their persuasion; through neither of them could surrender blooded horses as entirely as Bishop Ravenscroft did – possibly because they had obtained a dispensation from the circuit riders; - and my uncle Sterling bequeathed his to his son, the Judge, in whose family I hope they still remain.

These two brothers were, as you know, devotedly attached to each other, and Judge Ruffin once told me, in proof of fact, that his father, when dying, grasped my grandfather's hand exclaiming: "Twin brothers; brothers by nature, and brothers in faith." They were both in earnest. The late Governor Morehead of your State told me that he had heard my uncle Sterling "exhort," with the usual gesticulations of his sect, until he would sit down thoroughly exhausted, panting and wet with perspiration.

"He was a powerful man very much of the figure and face of my brother, James, bowlegs included," Judge Ruffin once said to me. My grandfather, from a defective physique perhaps, he was never robust, and for many years suffered greatly from rheumatism- or possibly from other causes, was less demonstrative and exhortatory. He died when I was in my ninth year, so I remember but very little of him. But I have always heard, and from several sources, that he had fine conversational powers. At a dinner given to Mr. Thomas Ritchie in Essex, his native county, in 1840, I heard that gentleman declare that whether his political principles were good or bad, he was more indebted for them, both in depth and clearness of conviction, to his brother-in-law, William Ruffin, than to any other man. Judge Ruffin told me he was a man of fine intellect and excellent business capacity, who would have prospered in life, but for the uncontrollable extravagance of his wife.

Like many, or rather, most youths of his period, his education was defective, owing to the derangements of the war; but at the age of sixty-six he retained enough of his Latin to superintend the preparation of my daily tasks for Dr. McPheeters; always preceded by the Lord's Prayer, repeated between his knees; and to him and the late Wm. Bingham, of Orange, I owed such proficiency that I took my Latin degree at the University of Virginia when I was but little over sixteen years old.

Of another branch of the family, the founder of this country, was Edmund Ruffin, also a son of William, Isle of Wight, great-grandfather of the distinguished agriculturist of that name. He was a carpenter and made a large fortune, more, as his great-grandson used to say, than his son and grandson could spend in their short lives – they each died of gout at forty-three. I do not suppose him to have lost caste by his trade; for in the manners of that time, arbitrary and capricious there as always, a gentleman no more came to be such by following a trade, than did a Scotch Cameron by stealing cattle, or a Ruthven by attempting to kidnap a kin. Archibald Harwood, of King and Queen, a first cousin of Judge Ruffin, through his mother, was made a coach maker "because," as the old lady told me, "he would not learn his book," and she was resolved he should not grow up in idleness. And Arthur Brockenborough, son of Dr. Brockenborough who married a *Roane*, aunt of Judge Ruffin, was a carpenter – made such because he was not bright at letters – and was the superintendent of all the carpenters' work done upon the University of Virginia. All honor to their sensible parents.

It was the son of that Ruffin, the carpenter, and the grandfather of Ed. Ruffin, Sr., as we knew him, who was a member of the convention called to consider the adoption of the Federal Constitution, who on the 25th of June, 1798, voted *against* the ratification of that instrument along with Patrick Henry, the orator of Virginia, and with Theodorick Bland, his own colleague, Stephens Thompson Mason, William Grayson, George Mason, James Moore, Benjamin Harrison, John Tyler, Thomas *Roane*, and others.

This gentleman and his descendants resided on the south side of James River below the head of tide, and had all the characteristics of the people among whom they were brought up. There are other branches of the same family in the same region, of whom I knew but little; though they are not remotely allied to me. They all, however, occupy the status of gentlemen in their respective communities.

The traditions of our settlement here vary. One account is that our first ancestor was a parson of the English Establishment. Another, somewhat more ambitious, it that we are a part of the family of the Ruthvens of Perthshire in Scotland, who attained and driven into exile in France, returned to England on the revocation of the Dict of Nantes, whence some members of the family migrated to this country. I have no means to decide this point, not to tell whether we are of the Noble or Scullion branch of the family – whether we are descended from gentlemen, or whether

“Our ancient but ignoble blood
Has crept through scoundrels ever since the flood.”

Your request that I will state the characteristics of the family involves me in some difficulty and more delicacy, as the people were of my own blood, and from what I knew of them, somewhat mixed in their characteristics. They have been within my range of observation, pretty through-going men, whether their learning was to business or pleasure; and I have seen a good many instances of these extremes. They were almost universally high spirited, high tempered, quick to take and resent offense, but placable, except when their personal dignity was invaded or even threatened; when, through not relentless, they were unforgiving.

They have not generally been obtrusive of their opinions, though tenacious of them, and have been too independent and outspoken to make politicians, through they have generally possessed that manliness of bearing and that geniality of manner which have given them the sort of popularity which is based on respect and good will. They have always relished rural pursuits; and my father (who went to Mississippi by the advice of Judge Ruffin, very early in the present century, and landed at Fort Adams with his forty dollars and two shirts in his saddle bags), is the only one of the name I have ever heard of, who had made a fortune by trade. He got out of it as soon as he could, and went to planting cotton and raising horses and cattle in Wilkinson county. Further than this I do not know that they have peculiarities which separate them very widely from their fellow citizens.

Source: *Virginia Historical Genealogies By John Bennett Boddie, 1954.*

(pp. 262-264) **RUFFIN OF SURRY:**

WILLIAM¹ RUFFIN, who at the age of 18, embarked for Virginia at Gravesend, England, July 24, 1635, on the ship “Assurance”; Master, **ISSAC BROMWELL** (Hotten p. 113) and died in Isle of Wight County, Virginia, in 1674, was the progenitor of the **RUFFINS** of Virginia and North Carolina. He left no will, but his death in 1674 is indicated by the fact that on January 9, 1674/5, administration on his estate was requested by **ROBERT RUFFIN** as son and heir, with Capt. **WILLIAM OLDIS** and Mr. **WILLIAM BODDIE** as sureties. (Isle of Wight Will & Deed Book 2, page 34, reverse.) The earliest record of him in this country appears to be his signature as a witness to the will of **EDWARD CHETWYNE** in Isle of Wight County Sept. 7, 1649. This first signature was “**GULIELM RUFFIN**”. According to family tradition, his name was originally **WILLIAM RUFFIN**. Apparently he had Latinized it, in accordance with the fad in those days, especially among the University graduates; some weight is given to his surmise from the fact that the name “**RUFFIN**” has not been found abroad. “**GULIELMUS**” soon reverted to “**WILLIAM**” but the “**RUFFIN**” stuck. In 1666, **WILLIAM RUFFIN** sold to **THOMAS POPE** 450 acres out of 900 acres patented by him and **ROBERT COLEMAN**. In 1670, **WILLIAM RUFFIN** assigned 200 to Mrs. **KATHERINE THORNTON** (b. 1634), with reversion to her two children, Arthur Whitehead and Rebecca Thornton.

WILLIAM¹ RUFFIN married _____ before 1651, probably about 1645, and had one son –

ROBERT² RUFFIN (ca. 1646-1693) who died in Surry County, Virginia. He was born in Isle of Wight County before January 1, 1651, when “**ROBERT RUFFIN** son of **WILLIAM RUFFIN**” was a legatee in the will of **WILLIAM JEWRY** which was witnessed by his father **WILLIAM RUFFIN**. The fact that his father gave him a power of attorney on February 8, 1667/8, indicates that he was then of age and therefore was born in 1646 or before. (Isle of Wight Book 1, p. 107). On June 7, 1669, **WILLIAM OLDIS** and **ROBERT RUFFIN** patented 2050 acres of land between the branches of the Blackwater adjoining the land of Col. Pitt”. On January 21, 1675/6, **ROBERT RUFFIN** “of the County of Surry” deeded to **THOMAS GILES** of Nansemond county “my plantation on which my decd. father **WILLIAM RUFFIN** of Isle of Wight lived, except 200 acres which my decd. father made over to **KATHERINE THORNTON**”. This consented to by MRS. **ELIZABETH RUFFIN**. (Surry County Book 2, p. 99). In 1677, **ROBERT RUFFIN** confirmed this sale as “sole heir and administrator of **WILLIAM RUFFIN**”. (Isle of Wight Book 1, p. 355). In May, 1678, the Court appointed MR. **ROBERT RUFFIN** by order of the Governor was sworn in as Sheriff of Surry County. He was a Justice of the Peace from 1680 on. In 1687 the Surry County Justices of the Peace were MR. **ROBERT RUFFIN**, MAJOR **SAMUEL SWANN**, MR. **FRANCIS MASON**, and MR. **ROBERT RANDALL**.

ROBERT² RUFFIN married, 1675, the widow of **CAPT. GEORGE WATKINS**, nee **ELIZABETH PRIME**, daughter of **EDMOND PRIME** and his wife (name unknown but probably a **RIDLEY**). They had five children, apparently in the following order:

1. Olive Ruffin (ca. 1676-1722), m. ca. 1693, William Chambers (d. 1718)...6 (?) children.
2. Elizabeth Ruffin.
3. Robert Ruffin (1681-1720), m. 170_, Elizabeth _____...7 children.
4. William Ruffin (ca. 1683-1739). (See below)
5. Jane Ruffin.

“**WILLIAM RIDLEY** (d. 1671), Mrs. Charles Barham, Mrs. Edmond Prime, and possibly Nathaniel Ridley (d. 1719), may have been children of **PETER RIDLEY** of James City County who was granted land in Martins Hundred in 1639 and served as Burgess from James City County 1644-48.

EDMOND PRYME, aged 16, embarked July 4, 1635, at Gravesend, England, on the ship “Transport” of London, master, Edward Walker. (Hotten p. 103).

ROBERT² RUFFIN in his will dated May 8, 1693 and proved July 4, 1693, (witnessed by Wm. Chambers, Wm. Newsum, and Roger Rawlins) left legacies to his wife **ELIZABETH**, to his sons **ROBERT** and **WILLIAM**, and to “my daughter **ELIZABETH’S** first borne child”. That he had more than one daughter is shown by instructions to his wife to bestow portions on his daughters as they come to age or are married. MRS. **ELIZABETH RUFFIN** in her will dated

July 29, 1711, and proved August 18, 1714, (witnessed by William Gray, Jr. and Olive Chambers) left legacies to her unmarried daughter **JANE RUFFIN** (named as executrix) and to her sons **WILLIAM** and **ROBERT RUFFIN**. The omission of specific mention of **JANE** in her father's will was probably due to her being very young at the time., and the omission of **ELIZABETH** from her mother's will was probably due to her having wither married or died. The omission of **OLIVE** from both wills was probably due to her having received her share of the estate when she married. That she was a daughter is proved by the wording of a deed recorded in Surry County Book 1694-1709, page 408, as follows: "indenture between **ROBERT** and **WILLIAM RUFFIN** of Surry to **WILL EDWARDS**, March 1, 1708 – for divers good causes and considerations and 61s. by sd. **EDWARDS** to **WILLIAM CHAMBERS** we release all our claim or right to our sister **OLIVE CHAMBERS** to a tract on the mill dam for 6 acres to build a mill".

OLIVE³ RUFFIN married WILLIAM CHAMBERS probably before May 8, 1693, when he was a witness to her father's will. She was a second wife, the first having been ROSAMUND BEIGHTON. In his 1718 will, WILLIAM CHAMBERS mentions, without stating by which wife, six children:

1. John Chambers (d. 1727)
2. William Chambers
3. Elizabeth Chambers
4. Mary Chambers (m. Richard Hardy who died 1756 in Isle of Wight County leaving two children: Richard Hardy who married Marcella Davis, and Sarah Hardy).
5. Olive Chambers
6. Martha Chambers.

This will was proved by WILLIAM EDWARDS (age 39) and ROBERT RUFFIN (age 37).

ROBERT³ RUFFIN (1681-1720), of Surry County, Virginia, married 170_, ELIZABETH _____ and had seven children:

1. John Ruffin
2. Joseph Ruffin
3. Benjamin Ruffin
4. Edmond Ruffin
5. Mary Ruffin
6. Martha Ruffin
7. Elizabeth Ruffin

John Ruffin (170_ -1775), of Surry and Mecklenburg Counties, Virginia, married Patty Hamlin; a son was Robert Ruffin who married Mrs. Mary (Clack) Lightfoot; a son was Sterling Ruffin who married Alice Roane; and their son was Thomas Ruffin (1787-1870), born in King & Queen County, Va., who moved across the border in 1807, married Anne Kirkland, and was Chief Justice of the Supreme County of North Carolina from 1833 to 1852.

WILLIAM³ RUFFIN (ca. 1683-1739) was born in Surry County, Virginia, but settled in Bertie County, NC (then known as Bertie Precinct of Albemarle County) in the section which in 1741 (after his death) became Northhampton County. In Bertie County Deed Book E, p. 329, there is recorded a deed from William Ruffin and Sarah his wife to Robert Ruffin; this is dated Nov. 14, 1738. In the NC Historical Commission at Raleigh, NC, there is filed the inventory of the estate of "William Ruffin, late of Bertie County decd. Feb. 10, 1738/9" (showing 11 negroes, 78 head of cattle, 61 head of hogs, 11 sheep, etc). The executors were his sons William and Robert Ruffin.

WILLIAM³ RUFFIN married 1st, ca. 1707, FAITH GRAY (ca. 1688-ca. 1720), daughter of William Gray and his wife Elizabeth _____. They had at least four children, apparently in the following order:

1. William Ruffin (ca. 1708-1781), of Northampton Co., NC, md. _____4 children.
2. Ethelred Ruffin (ca. 1710-1777), of Northampton Co., NC, md Martha _____4 children.
3. Robert Ruffin (ca. 1712-1767). (See below).
4. Samuel Ruffin (1761-ca. 1779), of Edgecombe Co., NC, m. ___Lamon. (See later).

William³ Ruffin married 2nd, 1725, Mrs. John Newsum (nee Sarah Crafford)...No children.

Will of WILLIAM GRAY, of Surry County, Va., dated June 3, 1719, proved Nov. 18, 1719:

Sons: William Gray, Gilbert Gray.

Daughters: Mary Gray, Priscilla Gray, **Faith Ruffin**.

Grandchildren: Wm. Andrews, Elizabeth Edwards, **Wilm. Ruffin**, and William, Robert, Joseph, and Thomas Gray.

Capt. William³ Gray (1661-1719) was the son of Capt. Francis² Gray (d. 1679; wife Mary), who was the son of Thomas¹ Gray (1593-1658) emigrant to Virginia in 1608, and his wife Annis (i.e. Agnes).

In the "North Carolina Colonial Records" we find in Vol. 22, p. 243, the William Ruffin Junr. (note the "junior") paid quit rents in Bertie County, N.C. in 1735 (which rents were in arrears for 1729-1732); in Vol. 4, p. 521-2 that William, Robert, and Samuel Ruffin were jurymen, in the list for Bertie and Edgecombe counties, in February, 1740; that Robert Ruffin had land grants in 1741, 1742, and 1743, and that Samuel Ruffin had land grants in 1743 and 1745; the William Ruffin was a witness in Northampton County in the General Assembly in 1762, also sheriff and justice of the peace for Edgecombe County; that Ethelred Ruffin was a justice of the peace and contested an election in 1776; etc. In "Grimes" Abstracts of N. C. Wills, 1690-1760" we find:

- (a) Robert Ruffin a witness to the will of James Moore of Bertie Precinct in 1735 (executor was John Dawson; a witness was John Brown).
- (b) Ethelred Ruffin and Robert Ruffin were executors of the will of John Hart of Bertie Precinct dated 1741, proved 1746 (John Lamon and Howell Browne were witnesses).
- (c) Samuel Ruffin was an executor (with Col. John Dawson and others) of the will of Joseph Howell of Edgecombe County dated 1749, proved 1750.

Robert⁴ Ruffin (ca. 1712 (?) – 1767) lived in Northampton County, N.C. His will, dated March 28, 1767, proved at August Court 1767, was witnessed by Henry Dawson, Mary Cotton, and John Hull. He married, 1733, Anne Bennett, daughter of Capt. William Bennett and his wife Grace____. (See 17c).

Children:

1. Faith Ruffin (1733-1733)

2. William Ruffin (1735-1781) (See below.)
3. Anne Ruffin (1737-1801), m. 1753, Arthur Smith (d. 1789) of Halifax Co., N. C. ... 11 children.
4. Olivia Ruffin (1739-1781), m. 1760, William Barrow (d. 1787) of Edgecombe Co., N.C. ... 8 children.

William⁵ Ruffin (1735-1781), of Bertie County, N. C. , married, 1762, Sarah "Sallie" Hill, (1743 – ca. 1813), daughter of Capt. Richard Hill, of Sussex County, Va., and his wife Margery Gilliam (daughter of William Gilliam and his wife Susanna Green).

Children:

1. Robert Ruffin (1763-1786)...d.s.p.
2. Thomas Ruffin (ca. 1764-17)...died young.
3. Sallie Ruffin (ca. 176-17), m. 17 , William Rhodes,... 2 daughters.
4. Hannah Ruffin (1768-1818) q. v. , married, 2nd, 1820, James Gee (d. 1834)...No children.
5. Rebecca Ruffin (ca. 1770-17)...died young.

Mrs. Sarah (Hill) Ruffin married 2nd., 17--., Capt. James Smith (d. 1811) of Halifax County, N. C., but had no children by him.

That this first born was named "Faith" after her grandmother has been inferred from the mother's mourning ring that has been handed down in the family (and is now, 1945, in the possession of W. A. Graham Clark) inscribed "F. R. ob 9 Decm. 1733 AE 14 days". (See first line above).

Samuel Ruffin, (1716-1779), son of Elizabeth Gray and William Ruffin of Surry County, Va., had land grants in what is now Edgecombe Co., in N. C. in 1743-45. He represented Edgecombe in the General Assembly of 1762 and later was also sheriff and Justice of the Peace. He died in 1779, and he and his wife, said to have been a Miss Lamon, had children:

1. Lamon Ruffin
2. Ethelred, b. 174
3. (There may have been others).

Ethelred Ruffin, son of the above Samuel Ruffin, married Mary, daughter of Col. William Haywood, and his wife, Charity Hare. Col. Haywood was Colonel of the Edgecombe Militia in the Revolution and a member of the Halifax Convention which declared for Independence April 4, 1776. (Wheeler) The children of Ethelred and Mary Ruffin were:

1. Henry John Grey Ruffin, b. May 9, 1782 (see later)
2. William Haywood Ruffin
3. Samuel Ruffin
4. Sarah Ruffin , m. Henry Haywood
5. Charity Ann Ruffin, m. frist ---Ward; second, ---Henderson
6. Margaret Elizabeth Ruffin
7. James Ruffin m. Miss Staunton and had Wiley, who died unmarried.

Col. Henry John Grey Ruffin, b. May 9, 1782, at Louisburg, N.C., died March 8, 1854, md. Mary Tartt, b. April 29, 1791, died March 10, 1879. Col. Ruffin was a member of the House of Representatives in 1812 and was also State Senator in 1828. He served as an officer in the Militia in 1812. Henry John Grey and Mary (Tartt) Ruffin had children (not given in order of birth):

1. Pannah, m. Dr. John K. Ruffin
2. Lamon Grey, Confederate States Army, died in service.
3. Ethelred Grey, born 1832, Confederate States Army, d. in service, married 1853 Elizabeth Lee and had Mary Lee Woodward, who married Cushing B. Hassel of Wilson, N.C..
4. Sally Blount Grey
5. Patrick Henry Grey
6. Lafayette Grey
7. Dr. George W. Grey, Confederate States Army, died in service.
8. Thomas Grey, b. Sept. 9, 1820; member of Congress 1853-55, and of the provisional Congress of the Confederate Cavalry was mortally wounded near Bristow Station, Oct. 15, 1863
9. Mary Haywood Grey, m. Samuel G. Williams.
10. Samuel Grey, m. Ann, daughter of U. S. Senator William H. Haywood
11. William Haywood Grey, b. Feb. 22, 1817, m. Agnes K. Chadwick (see later).

Dr. William Haywood Ruffin, II, born at Louisburg, Feb. 22, 1817, d. April 25, 1879, m. Agnes Chadwick. Dr. Ruffin graduated in medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, rode twice to California on horseback during the gold rush period, bought a plantation in Alabama and served in the C.S.A. as a Brigade Surgeon.

His children were:

1. William Haywood Ruffin III, b. July 19, 1864 (see later).
2. Samuel Ruffin, m. Blanch Foster.
3. Chadwick Ruffin, unmarried.
4. Mary T. Ruffin, m. Mark Stamps.
5. James Ruffin
6. Thomas Ruffin
7. Sarah Drum Ruffin

William Haywood Ruffin III was born in Sheffield, Ala., July 19, 1864, and died at Louisburg, N. C. March 12, 1926. He married at Louisburg, June 28, 1893, Sally Johnson White, b. at Louisburg Oct. 13, 1866, died there Dec. 17, 1922. She was the daughter of Thomas White and his wife Mary Louise Shaw.

His children were:

1. Thomas White Ruffin, b. 1896, m. Leona Lamberton
2. Wm. Haywood Ruffin IV, b. Feb. 8, 1899 (see later).
3. Henry John Grey Ruffin, b. May 2, 1904, d. May 18, 1926.

William Haywood Ruffin IV was born at Louisburg, N. C., Feb. 8, 1899. He married Oct. 20, 1929, at Salisbury, Rowan Co., N. C., Josephine Craige Kluttz, born Oct. 14, 1908, at El Pasco, Texas, daughter of Wm. Clarence Kluttz and his wife Josephine Branch Craige.

Mr. Ruffin is President and Treasurer of the Erwin Cotton Mills Co., of Durham, N. C., and also a Director of the Durham Bank & Trust Co. He was educated at the University of North Carolina and served as an officer in World War I.

Children:

1. William Haywood Ruffin V, b. May 10, 1932.
2. Josephine Branch Craige, b. July 30, 1934.
3. Burton Craige, b. Nov. 5, 1939.

5. Edmund Ruffin, son of Elizabeth and Robert Ruffin, was born in 1713 in Surry and died in 1790 in Prince George County. He married Mrs. Anne Edmunds, widow of Thomas Edmunds and daughter of John Simmons, Burgess of Isle of Wight 1736-49. She died in Sussex in 1749.

Children from Albermarle Register:

- I. Mary Ruffin, b. Dec. 24, 1739.
- II. James Ruffin, b. July 23, 1741.
- III. Eliz. Ruffin, b. Sept. 22, 1742.
- IV. Edmund Ruffin, b. Jan. 2, 174.

IV): Edmund Ruffin of Prince George County, married (1) Jane Skipwith, daughter of Sir William Skipwith, born 1707, died 1764, 6th Bart.; married (2) 1733, Elizabeth Smith, dau. of John Smith, Sheriff of Middlesex Co., VA. Mr. Ruffin was a member of the House of Delegates 177-1787; member of Constitutional Conventions 1788, County Lieut. 1789; Sheriff 1797.

Children:

- I. George Ruffin, m. (1) Jane Lucas, (2) Rebecca Cocke. (See later).

D): George Ruffin of Evergreen, Prince George Co., VA., born Jan. 29, 1765, died May 12, 1810, married (1) Jane Lucas of Surry, (2) Rebecca Cocke, daughter of John Cocke of Surry. Mr. Ruffin was a planter in Prince George and a member of the house of Delegates, 1803-1806.

Children:

- I. Edmund Ruffin, m. Susan H. Travis. (See later)
- II. Elizabeth Ruffin, was the first wife of Lieut. Henry Harrison Cocke, U. S. N.

D): Edmund Ruffin was born January 5, 1794, died June 15, 1865. In 1823 he married Susan H. Travis of Williamsburg. He served as a private in camp at Norfolk during the War of 1812. He was a noted agriculturist. It was at the Coggin's Point farm which the recent death of his father had brought him "that he began the agricultural experiments which were to bring him fame and restore his section to prosperity." (Dictionary of American Biography).

He was one of the founders of the Prince George Society of Agriculturists and became famous for his writings and publications on agricultural subjects. In 1841 he was appointed to the first Virginia State Board of Agriculture. In 1842 he became agricultural surveyor of South Carolina and in the atmosphere of that belligerent state he became an early advocate of Secession.

In 1843 Mr. Ruffin moved to a new estate, "Malbourne", in three years in the Virginia Senate (1823-26). He originated the League of United Southerners, secured and presented one of the John Brown's pikes to the governor of each of the Southern States and volunteered to serve with the Palmetto Guard of Charleston. On account of his services to the cause of Secession he was selected to fire the first shot from Morris Island against Fort Sumter. He was served with this company at the first Battle of Bull Run. (Dictionary of American Biography).

Children:

- I. Edmund Ruffin, b. 1816, m. (1) Mary Cooke Smith, (2) Jane M. Ruffin.
- II. George Champion Ruffin, died young.
- III. Agnes Ruffin, m. Dr. Thomas S. Beckwith.
- IV. Jane Ruffin, died young.
- V. Julian Calx Ruffin, m. Charlotte Meade.
- VI. Rebecca Ruffin, m. John T. Bland.
- VII. Elizabeth Ruffin, m. William Sayre, of Kentucky.
- VIII. Mildred C. Ruffin, m. B. B. Sayre, brother of Wm.
- IX. Jane Ruffin, m. John J. Dupuy.
- X. Ella Ruffin.
- XI. Charles Lorraine Ruffin, b. Sept. 10, 1832, m. Henrietta Alice Harrison (see later).

I.): Edmund Ruffin, born 1816, died August 19, 1876, at "Marlbourne", Hanover County, married (1) Mary Cooke Smith, daughter of Anne (Dabney) and Thomas Gregory Smith; (2) Jane Ruffin, dau. of Judge Thomas Ruffin of N. C.

Mr. Ruffin was a Captain C.S.A. He wrote the editor of The Richmond Daily Dispatch: "Sir: Please have me put down as a subscriber to the iron-clad gunboat scheme, for the protection of the James River. I will give \$1,000 if the whole matter is put into the hands and under the control of the Confederate government, and the scheme be prosecuted without unnecessary delay. Very respectfully, etc., E. Ruffin Jr., April 4, 1862."

Children: (first wife)

- I. Virginia Ruffin, b. October 8, 1837, died 1844.
- II. Edmund Quintus Ruffin, b. March 25, 1839, d. 1853.
- III. Anne Ruffin, b. January 1, 1841, d. July 25, 1853.
- IV. Thomas Smith Ruffin, b. 1843, d. 1873, m. Alice Lorraine. He was a member of his father's cavalry company, enlisting at 18.
- V. George Champion Ruffin, b. March 3, 1845, d. 1913; m. Alice Cooke.
- VI. Susan Ruffin, b. June 30, 1846, d. 1931, m. (1) William Willcox, (2) E. C. Harrison.
- VII. Mary Smith Ruffin, b. 1848, d. 1942, m. Rev. E. V. Jones.
- VIII. John Augustine Ruffin, b. Feb. 25, 1853, m. Jane Cary Harrison.

VIII): John Augustine Ruffin was born February 25, 1853, at "Beachwood", Prince George County, and died November 3, 1926, at "Evelynton", Charles City County. He was married May 22, 1888, at Westover, to Jane Cary Harrison, born June 20, 1855, at "Riverside", Charles City County, died April 18, 1909, at Evelynton. Mr. Ruffin was a planter and resided at "Evelynton", which was named for Evelyn Byrd of "Westover".

Children:

- I. Susan Ruffin, b. Mary 5, 1889, m. Lyon G. Tyler.
- II. Carolina Kirkland Ruffin, b. May 7, 1891, m. R. B. Saunders.
- III. Mary Harrison Ruffin, b. Aug. 13, 1893, m. A. G. Copeland.
- IV. John Augustine Ruffin, b. August 17, 1895, m. Mary B. Saunders.

I.): Susan Ruffin, born May 5, 1889, at "Evelynton", married September 12, 1923, at Westover Church, Dr. Lyon Gardiner Tyler, born August, 1853, at "Sherwood Forest", Charles City County, died February 12, 1935, at "Lion's Den", Charles City County.

Dr. Tyler was a son of Julia (Gardiner) and John Tyler, tenth President of the United States. He was A. B. University of Virginia, 1874; President of the College of William and Mary 1888-1919; made president-emeritus, 1919.

Dr. Tyler was also noted for his authorship of historical writings dealing principally with Virginia; was editor and proprietor of the William and Mary Quarterly, founded 1902, and of Tyler's Quarterly, founded 1919; also wrote "Letters and Times of the Tylers", and "The Cradle of the Republic". Virginia is indebted to Dr. Tyler for the preservation of its early history more than to any other man.

Children of Susan (Ruffin) and Dr. Lyon Gardiner Tyler:

- I. Lyon Gardiner, b. January 3, 1925, entered Naval Reserve at age of 17, commissioned Ensign, Sept. 14, 194; served in World War II.
- II. Harrison Ruffin Gardiner, b. November 9, 1928.
- III. Henry Gardiner, b. January 18, 1930, d. January 26, 1930.

Charles Lorraine Ruffin, born Sept. 10, 1832, died January 9, 1870, at "Rose Cottage", Prince George, married April 28, 1864, Henrietta Alice Harrison, born June 29, 1843, died Sept., 14, 1925, at Richmond, Va., daughter of Mary (Boisseau) and Alexander Harrison.

Mr. Ruffin received a degree of C. E. at the V. M. I. and was in General Beauregard's command at Bull Run.

Children:

- I. Charles Lorraine Ruffin II, b. May 21, 1866 (see later).
- II. Mary Ruffin, b. 1868.

Charles Lorraine Ruffin II, born May 21, 1866, in Prince George, married April 24, 1895, at Baltimore, Maryland, Mary Levering, born Jan. 23, 1875, dau. of Nellie (Denmead) and Robert Levering of Baltimore. Mr. Ruffin was educated at the V. M. I. and is president of the Sand and Gravel Co., of Richmond, Va. He resides at 6314 Chopt Road.

Children:

- I. Mary Denmenad Ruffin, b. Aug. 8, 1896.
- II. Henrietta Harrison Ruffin, b. Feb. 2, 1899, m. Dr. W. R. Comthwarte.
- III. Charles Lorraine Ruffin, b. Feb. 20, 1901, m. Elizabeth Thornton.
- IV. Ella Levering, b. Feb. 6, 1902, m. Dec. 30, 1933, David Adam Wallace, son of Sophie Willis (Adam) and David Duncan Wallace, born Dec. 31, 1901, killed in action March 10, 1943, leaving one son, David Duncan Wallace, b. March 8, 1936.

Source: *1606-1888 Virginia and Virginians, Eminent Virginians, Executives of the Colony of Virginia from Sir Thomas Smyth to Lord Dunmore. Executives of the State of Virginia from Patrick Henry to Fitzhugh Lee. Sketches of Gens. Ambrose Powell Hill, Robert E. Lee, Thos. Jonathan Jackson, Commodore Maury. By Dr. R. A. Brock, Secretary of the Virginia Historical Society.*

Page 11: James City County: **LEONARD HENLEY: M. D.:** Dr. Henley was born in Williamsburg, April 11, 1821, and has always lived in that city. He was educated at William and Mary College, and graduated in medicine at the University of Pennsylvania in 1847. After that he practiced in Blockley Hospital for seven years, then came to Williamsburg where he has been in practice ever since, except when in military service. He entered the Confederate States army in 1861, sergeant in the 32d Virginian regiment, and in the same year was appointed assistant surgeon, serving after that most of the time in hospital at Petersburg, Virginia. In 1865 he was appointed superintendent of the Eastern Lunatic

Asylum, where he remained until the Federals took possession. In 1887 he was appointed assistant physician at the Asylum and is so serving now.

He is a son of Leonard Henley, who was born in James City county, Virginia, and died in 1831, aged forty-two years, and Harriet T. (Coke) Henley, also now deceased. The paternal grandfather of Dr. Henley was also named Leonard, and his great grandfather bore the same name. The latter came from England to Virginia. **The wife of Dr. Henley is Rebecca, daughter of Henry Harrison, Commodore United States Navy and Elizabeth (Ruffin) Cocke, both now deceased.** She was born in Prince George county, Virginia, and they were married in that county on November 29, 1855. They have one daughter, Elizabeth R., and one son, Leonard. Dr. Henley is a member of the Masonic fraternity.

Dr. Leonard Henley is a direct descendant of the old and honored family of Cokes, of Trusley, Derbyshire, England, which estate is now in their possession. The family history goes back to 1343. Among the representatives of this family were Lord Chesterfield; Lord Palmerston, Premier; Lord Melbourne, Premier; Lord Cowper, late of Ireland.

Source: *William Ruffin Family History by H. H. Daniel, 1977.*

THE RUFFIN NAME AND FAMILY:

(p. G): The Surname of Ruffin is derived from the French Ruffin or Rufin, Latin Ruffinus or Rufinus, which means Red Red-haired. In Scotland the name was spelled Ruthven. It was undoubtedly originally used as a nickname having reference to the appearance of its first bearers and was assumed as a patronymic by the sons of those so called. The name is found in France, Germany, Scotland, England and other parts of Continental Europe. In Germany, however, the name may have been, in some cases a variant of the occupative surname Rufer or Ruffer, also written Rufwin which means "Crier, Caller." The Italian form of the name is Ruffini, while Ruffinen is found in the Netherlands. However, the spelling of the names most frequently in evidence in American in modern times is Ruffin.

The first of the name in America was evidently William Ruffin, from Perthshire, Scotland. The first spelling of the name in Scotland was Ruthven. The historically famous family of Ruthven, Saxon by descent, took their name of Ruthven in Perthshire, Scotland, possessed by them from time of William, the Lion Hearted.

Lord William Ruthven of Perthshire, Scotland was Earl of Gowrie. He was executed for his enmity to Mary, Queen of Scotland. He had three sons William Patrick and John. After he was executed the King James of England ordered the three sons arrested and carried to Cambridge, England. William was three years old and Patrick was three weeks old. Failed to find any other record of the son John.

William was born in 1617 was imprisoned in 1620 and escaped in 1635. First, it is thought he went to France, and later to Virginia in the United States. William sailed from England instead aboard the ship "Assurance" for the United States. That was when the name was changed from Ruthven to Ruffin so the English Government could not find him.

The brother Patrick was imprisoned in the Tower of London, for nineteen years. He was released; he married and his daughter Mary became the wife of Van Dyke, the artist, who painted her as very beautiful. This family stayed in England.

William settled in the Isle of Wight County, Va. in 1635. Failed to find the name of William's wife but she must have been the daughter of William Jewry. William Jewry died and by his will dated Jan. 1, 1651 left Legacy to Robert Ruffin son of William Ruffin. The will was also witnessed by William Ruffin. William had a son Robert born in 1646 in Isle of Wight Co., Va. William died in Isle of Wight County va. on 9 Jan. 1674.

The son of Robert was born in 1646 in Isle of Wight county Va. made his home in Surry County Va. and married about 1675 to the Widow Elizabeth Watkins. Elizabeth was the daughter of Edmond Prime. She had been married to George Watkins. Robert and Elizabeth children were Robert, William, Elizabeth, Olive and Jane. Robert was the Sheriff and Justice of the Peace of Surry County Va. In 1678 Robert patented 250 acres of land in Lawne's Creek Parish. The land was on Rich Neck, near High City. This was the early home of the Ruffin family in Surry County. This land is about a quarter mile to the southward of the road that goes from Augustine Hunnicutt's to Sunken Marsh Mile. The Sunken Marsh referred to is the marsh on College Creek and that is where Robert had a grist mill in the vicinity that was mentioned in his Will dated in 1693.

Source: *William and Mary College Quarterly Historical Papers, Vol. 1, No. 1. (Jul., 1892), pp. 48-59.*

Abstracts of Marriage License Bonds (1772-1792) - York County, Virginia by Lyon G. Taylor.

Abstract of Marriage License bonds. On File in York County Clerk's Office: In the absence of regular statistics on the subject, probably there is no better way of arriving at a knowledge of the capacity of a people to read and write than is afforded by the old marriage license bonds, which the great and the low had equally to sign preparatory to an entrance on the marriage state. I give here the names of parties to such bonds in York County, from 1772 to 1792, and the witnesses, indicating by a mark those incapable of writing: (1):

8th Dec., '72. John Moreland to Fanny Stroud; security, Joseph Stroud; witness, **Ro. Ruffin, Jr.**

Source: *Isle of Wight County VA - Records; William and Mary College Qrtly, Vol. 7, No. 4, P. 205-249.*

Isle of Wright County Records, pg. 219: Abstracts of Important Deeds, Wills and Orders, on Record in Clerk's Office of Isle of Wight County: Deed and Will Book, transcribed from the old records in 1733 by James Baker, Clerk.

Will of **Anthony Jones**, dated Aug. 16, 1649: Legacy to brother William Jones, if he comes to this country; dau. in-law Ann Smith, the plantation I know live on; sister Catherine Jones 5L sterl.; Thomas and John Smith 2000 acres on The Blackwater, as recorded at Jamestown; wife Ann sole and whole exor.

Witnesses: Robert Watson, **Edwd Chetwyne**, Thomas Braser.

Will of **Edward Chetwyne**, dated Sept. 7, 1649: Legatees James House, Thomas Attwell, Christopher Holms, John Young, Robert Watson, Henry Pitt, John English, Nicholas Aldred, Mrs. Anne Jones, and all her children; Robert Watson and Henry Pitt, exors. Witnesses: Thomas Brook, and **Gulielm. Ruffin**.

Will of Wm. Jewry, dated June 1, 1651: Legatees, Elizabeth Penny, dau. of Richard Penny, Robert Ruffin, son of Wm. Ruffin, John Arran, son of John Arran. Witnesses, Richard Penny, R. P. [his mark], William Ruffin X R. [mark], William Westray [mark].

Pg. 225: William Ruffin's power to his son Robert Ruffin. 22 Aug. 1667.

Pg. 230: Robert Ruffin (and Elizabeth his wife) of Surry county, apparent heir and admr. of William Ruffin dec'd. 6 June, 1677.

Source: *Isle of Wight County VA - Records; William and Mary College Qrtly, Vol. 7, No. 4, P. 297-315.*

William and Mary College Quarterly Historical Magazine, Vol. 7, No. 4. (Apr., 1899), pp. 205-315.

Pg. 302: **William Oldis, Robert Ruffin**, June 7, 1669, 2050 acres Between the branches of the Blackwater adjoining the land of Colo. Pitt.

Source: *Sussex County, VA Marriage Bonds; Wm. and Mary College Quarterly, Vol. 12, No. 1.*

SUSSEX COUNTY MARRIAGE BONDS. Vol. 12, No. 1; Pages. 12-18 (Continued from page 270, Vol. XI, No. 4)

pg. 13: 9 April, 1762, **William Ruffin** and **Sarah Hill**, dau. of **Ricahrd Hill**.

Source: James City County, VA - Williamsburg, The Old Colonial Capital; Wm. & Mary Qrtly; Vol. 16, No.1.

Williamsburg -- The Old Colonial Capital

William and Mary College Quarterly Historical Magazine, Vol. 16, No. 1. (Jul., 1907), pp. 1-65.

Pg. 48: In contrast with the unpopularity of Dunmore were the honors extended to Peyton Randolph. After his return to Philadelphia he was against elected president by the continental congress, but when, soon after, the news arrived that the house of burgesses was to meet, he resigned and set out for Virginia. At **Ruffin's Ferry**, on the Pamunkey, he was met by a detachment of cavalry from Williamsburg, all in uniform, who formed an escort. Two miles from Williamsburg they were joined by a company of infantry, and at Williamsburg itself, where they arrived at sunset, they were welcomed with cheers and the ringing of bells. "There were illuminations in the evening, and the volunteers, with many other respectable gentlemen, assembled at the Raleigh, spent an hour or two in harmony and cheerfulness, and drank several patriotic toasts."

IV. COLLEGE VILLAGE.

In 1841 the town was the residence of a president of the United States, John Tyler, who lived at Bassett Hall. For sixty years after the Revolution the country about Williamsburg went backward, and there was much emigration southward and westward; but during the twenty years immediately preceding the war between the States, the vicinity, in common with all Tidewater Virginia, immensely improved, under the new system of farming, introduced by the noted agriculturist, **Edmund Ruffin**, a graduate of William and Mary College.

Source: *Wm. and Mary College Quarterly Vol. XVI April 1908: No. 4:*

Some Old Surry Families.

*See more about the Ruffin family and related families at: <http://www.ajalmbert.com>