

**THE GARDNER FAMILY  
OF  
ISLE OF WIGHT - SOUTHAMPTON  
AND  
NANSEMOND COUNTY, VA.  
Written By - Norman L. Gardner  
Year 2000**

**TO BE A VIRGINIAN  
EITHER BY  
BIRTH, MARRIAGE, ADOPTION,  
OR  
ON ONE'S MOTHER'S SIDE  
IS AN INTRODUCTION TO ANY STATE IN THE UNION,  
A PASSPORT TO ANY FOREIGN COUNTRY,  
AND A BENEDICTION FROM ABOVE.**

## Preface

I started this work with the idea of tracing my own family line as far back as I could. There was no plan to write and publish a book on the GARDNER family, but I have accumulated such a volume of material that I feel I should try to put it in book form for future generations.

Due to the fact that our family has been in Virginia since 1650 it has been difficult to put the children of each family with the correct parents. This time period also encompasses many wars, some of which were controversial and in which our ancestors were soldiers. The war which stands out in my mind was the Civil War. Many of our ancestors fought in this conflict and believed in it's cause.

Some of them served in the Revolution, the War of 1812, First World War, Second World War, and other conflicts this nation has found itself engaged in during the history of our family and nation. I have tried to present the facts as I have found them and will leave the guess work to the reader.

From the year 1619 through early 1900 there were many people named GARDNER who immigrated to North America. Therefore there are a lot of different Gardner families in the United States. There is no way to know how many of these families may be related.

This book is about just one of these families, beginning with a John Gardner who arrived in Virginia during the summer of 1650.

He sailed from Bristol, England as an indentured servant, as were so many others. Jamestown, Virginia had been settled just 43 years before and this country was still a wilderness in 1650. The people had carved out foot holds all along the east coast, but the rest of North America remained a wilderness.

Many of the family lines are not complete. I have not been able to find information on every person in the family as some of the family members moved to other parts of the country. Therefore this history is not complete.

Norman L. Gardner, Sr.

## Dedication

This book is dedicated to the many brave and courageous ancestors in this family who came to America and helped mold this great nation of ours. Just think for a moment in how short a period of time this task has been accomplished. From a tiny settlement at Jamestown, Virginia in 1607 to one of the greatest nations on earth in 1993. The United States of America has problems which are paramount but I am sure that we will solve these problems and move on to greater accomplishments in the future.

I also want to thank my wife and help mate, Emma H. Gardner, for her love, understanding, and help in this endeavor. I have spent many hours in court houses, libraries, and relatives homes researching the information contained in this book. The task has been difficult and time consuming to say nothing of the expense. Considering all this, the knowledge obtained about our family is far more valuable than can be measured.

I sincerely hope I can convey to each person who reads this book the same deep feeling of admiration I have for the courage and accomplishments of our ancestors. It is impossible for us to know the trials and tribulations suffered and endured by them. They contributed to the development of this nation, not only with material things but also with their lives. Some of them were in the

Revolution which freed us from British rule. Others were leaders in the religious and medical fields. Also, many were soldiers in the Civil War. One of which was Lemuel Gardner, my great grandfather. He enlisted in the 13th. Virginia Cavalry March 1, 1862 and served with honor until the war ended in 1865. When he returned after the war, he had to start over as did so many others.

Norman L. Gardner, Sr.

CHAPTER 1  
JOHN GARDNER  
EMIGRATES TO AMERICA

John Gardner (see chart 1 page 2) arrived in Virginia during the summer of 1650 from England. His transportation was paid for by a Hump. Lyster (merchant). The following is a land grant to Hump. Lyster for the transportation of twenty people, one of which was John Gardner.

Hump. Lyster merchant, 1,000 acres within 2 miles of the falls of James River on the E. side thereof, bounded S. upon a gut dividing this from land of James Place, dec'd, and opposite to the lower end of Princes Folly. 31 August 1650.

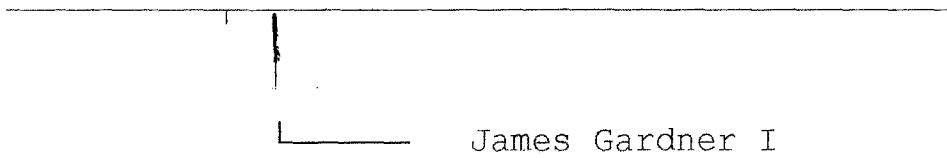
John was indentured to Mr. Lyster for the price of his passage. It usually took eight or nine years to work off an indenture. John made a deposition at Isle of Wight Court House in 1664 against one John Graves. This deposition was an action brought by John Gardner for money owed to him for the sale of carpenter tools. He had sold these tools five years before, in 1659, and had not been paid. He also stated that he was forty years old at that time. Therefore this establishes that John Gardner was twenty six when he arrived in Virginia in 1650 as well as placing his birth in 1624.

I also believe he worked as a carpenter in order to pay his indenture to Mr. Lyster. The sale of the tools in 1659 would

CHART 1

JOHN GARDNER - BORN: ENGLAND 1624 - DIED FEB. 21, 1683

WIFE: MARY



James Gardner I

B.

D. 1754

Married:

Elizabeth

indicate he no longer needed them and was turning to another vocation. If this is true, it would account for the first seven or eight years he was in Virginia. John was assigned part of a land grant by one Frances Roberts, March 11, 1663.

I found a land grant made to Christopher Wade, which establishes the area of John Gardner's land. The following is the land grant to Christopher Wade.

Christopher Wade, 300 acres, Isle of Wight Co., 12 May, 1665. Beginning near John Nevill's land, running E. by Robert Coleman, then E. by John Gardner's marked trees to a white oak in a meadow. Transportation of six persons.

This land was on the heads of the branches of the Western Branch of the Nansemond River. This area is a little south east of Isle of Wight County Court House as you will see in the following land grant.

Thomas Joyner, 290 acres, on the branches of the western branch of the Nansemond River. 29 May 1683, beginning at Mr. William Bodie's corner, in Mr. Coleman's line; to a main branch of Elme Swamp: to John Gardner's line, then by Gardner's line, &c. Transportation of six persons.

John Gardner's wife was named Mary. There was a Mary Gardner who came to Virginia in the summer of 1650 and I suspect her to have been John Gardner's wife. They both sailed from Bristol, England and arrived here at the same time but were not listed as husband and wife. I know his wife's name was Mary because Mary was



listed as his widow when he died, Feb. 21, 1683. I have not been able to establish if John and Mary had any children other than James. John Gardner was a planter from at least 1663 until his death in 1683. I established this from an administration of his estate at his death (Wills and Administrations Book #1 page 56, Isle of Wight Court House). James Gardner was appointed surity of the estate (Wills and Deeds Book #2 part 2 page 56, Isle of Wight Court House).

The land grants in the preceding pages were taken from the book "Cavaliers and Pioneers" Abstracts of Virginia Land Patents and Grants 1623 - 1666 and 1667 - 1700 by Nell Marion Nugent.

The picture below is of a house known as the Jimmy Gardner place. I believe it to be on part of what was the James Gardner estate in Southampton County, Virginia.



Jimmy Gardner house just off Pretlow St. in Franklin, Virginia.

## CHAPTER 2

### JAMES GARDNER I

#### AND HIS FAMILY

James Gardner I was the son of John and Mary Gardner (see chart 1 page 2). I do not know the year of James I birth but I do know he was married by 1685. His wife, Elizabeth, made her mark on a deed for fifty acres which they sold to Alexander Chestnut (8 August 1685, page 573 and 574 Indentures, Isle of Wight County Court House). This fifty acres was part of a land grant James I received 20 April 1684 for the transportation of four persons (Deed Book 1 page 51, Isle of Wight County Court House). The following is the said land grant.

James Gardner, 200 acres, Lower Parish of Isle of Wight County on the heads of the branches of the western branch of the Nansemond River. Adj. Christopher Wade and Mr. Coleman. 20 April 1684.

James I land and John Gardner's land were in close proximity to each other and may have joined. James I did not receive his land until after his father's death, but his mother was still living at the time.

He and his wife sold the remaining 150 acres Nov. 10, 1692 to a Walter Walton (Deed Book 1 page 51, Isle of Wight County Court House). I believe that his mother had passed away at this time, but I have no proof of this.

He and Elizabeth then moved to what is now the southeast

corner of Southampton County. In 1692 this area was still Isle of Wight and Nansemond County. Southampton County was not formed until 1749 and even then the extreme south east corner remained Nansemond County until 1785. Tax records, which are on file at the Morgan Library in Suffolk, Virginia, show that James I paid taxes in both Nansemond and Isle of Wight County as well as Southampton County, after it was formed in 1749.

I have not been able to account for all the land owned by James I at his death. I did find two land grants to him and they are as follows.

1. James Gardner, 100 acres in the upper parish of Nansemond County, on the south side of the Blackwater River (SW), 16 June 1714. Transportation of two persons: Jane Jenkins and Dorothy Bucket.

2. James Gardner, 97 acres, in the upper parish of Nansemond County on the south side of the Blackwater River, beginning at his own corner, 15 July 1717. Transportation of two persons: Sarah Ashmore and Anne Hearce.

These two grants were taken from the book "Cavaliers and Pioneers" Abstracts of Virginia Land Patents and Grants 1695 - 1732 Vol. 3 by Nugent.

I do know from the records at Southampton County Court House and from James I Will that he owned several hundred acres of land at his death. Part of this land was in Southampton County and part in Nansemond County. He also owned quite a few slaves when he died.

# CHART 2

JAMES GARDNER I - DIED: 1754

WIFE: ELIZABETH

James II	Matthew	John
B. 1720	B.	B.
D. 1792	D. 1797	D. 1778
Married:	Married:	Married:
Sarah	Mary (1st. wife)	Ann
	Elizabeth Daughtrey	
	(2nd. wife)	
Juda	Penelope	Joshua
B.	B.	B.
D.	D.	D.
Married:	Married:	Married:
James Vick	John Lawrence	Ann

These slaves were divided between his heirs as was the rest of his estate. He and Elizabeth had six children (see chart 2). Their names were: James II, Matthew, John, Juda, Penelope, and Joshua.

There are a lot of records in Isle of Wight and Southampton Counties, but there are none in Nansemond County. The court house in Nansemond County was burned during the Revolution and again during the Civil War. Therefore all the records were destroyed.

There is a story handed down in my family that one of our ancestors married an Indian woman. I have not been able to prove or disprove this story, therefore I will relate it to you now. The story goes that one of our great grandfather's married an Indian maiden and his children were by this woman. They raised the children and then his wife died first. Soon after his wife died, he was found dead at his hog pen and everyone thought the Indians from his wife's tribe killed him after she passed away. My father told me that his father had told him this story and his father before him. I have heard the same story from another branch of the family too. If the story is true, I believe it to have been James I who married an Indian. I do know his first wife's name was Elizabeth, which is a Christian name. I also realize some Indians took Christian names and this could have been the case. Elizabeth could have also died young and then her husband may have married an Indian. James I had a wife living when he wrote his Will in 1747 but did not call her by name. He only said "to my beloved wife I leave" thus and so. There is no mention of her after his death and she may have died between the time his Will was written and the

time he died. Anyway this makes a good story and the reader can choose to either believe it or not.

James Gardner I was not the first person to settle in the south east corner of Southampton County, but it is safe to say he was among the first. One other family in the area at that time was the Cobb family, of which the author is also descended. One will find in the book, "Cobbs of The Tidewater" by Bruce Montgomery Edwards, the Gardner Family mentioned many times. These two families intermarried back and forth several times during their history.

There was a Nottoway Parish under the Church of England. This Parish was located between the Blackwater and Nottoway Rivers and is the Parish to which James I and his family belonged. His name and the names of his children are found many times in the vestry records.

James I became a successful planter and had extensive land holdings at his death. He and many other people helped carve a nation out of a wilderness.

On the following page there is a copy of the first land grant which James I received from Lord Effingham, Governor Gen. of Virginia. Pages 11 and 12 will contain James Gardner's Last Will and Testament.

[illegible]

LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT

OF

JAMES GARDNER I

In the name of God Amen, the 9th. day of October in the year of our Lord 1747. I James Gardner being weak in body but of perfect mind and memory thanks be given unto God, therefore calling unto mind the mortality of my body and knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die do make and ordain this my last will and testament and first of all I give and recommend my Soul into the hands of God that gave it and for my body I recommend it to the earth to be buried in a Christian like and decent manner at the discretion of my executors nothing doubting but at the General Resurrection I shall receive the same again by the mighty power of God and as touching such worldly estate wherewith it hath pleased God to help me with in this life I give and dispose of the same in following manner and form.

First of all I give and bequeath unto my dearly beloved son James Gardner five shillings. Secondly I give and bequeath unto my dearly beloved son Joshua 97 acres of land being a patent granted by His Honorable Alexander Spotswood on the west side of the foxtrot branch in Nansemond County and my Negro fellow, Cesar, to him and his heirs forever. Thirdly I give and bequeath unto my dearly beloved son, John, all the lands that is of the north west side of the Indian branch to the middle of the spanish oak land and Negro, Rose, to him and his heirs forever. Fourthly I give and



bequeath unto my beloved son, Matthew, the plantation that I now live upon and all the lands within the Indian branch adjoining to Joshua's. Fifthly I give unto my son in-law John Lawrence five shillings. Sixthly I give unto my daughter, Penelope, my little Negro, Jupiter, to her and her heirs. Seventhly I give unto my son in-law, James Vick, my little Negro, Tate, to him and his heirs. To my Dearly beloved wife I leave her the work of my Negro fellow Cesar and Rose and Jupiter to her as long as she lives a widow and after death or marriage for my children aforesaid for to take them and all the rest of my whole estate for to be equally divided after their Mother's death or marriage only letting her have the use of it till then and at the day of death or marriage then to be equally divided between Joshua, Matthew, Penelope, and Juda. I leave my son in-law, James Vick, and my son, Joshua Gardner, my whole executors to act and to do as they think fit for to everyone alike and I do hereby utterly disallow, revoke all and every former testament by me in any ways before this time named Wills and Bequeaths and confirming this and no other to be my Last Will and Testament in witness whereof I have set my hand and seal the day and year above written.

Signed, sealed, published, and declared by the said as my Last Will and Testament in the presence of;

Thomas Sharp

Carr Darden

John Gardner

James Gardner

Probated 1754

Written 1747

Southampton County Court House, Will Book 1 pages 152 and 153.

The next few pages will be devoted to four of the six children of James Gardner I. The reason I am grouping these four together is that their descendants are not followed to present time. These four children are: Penelope, Juda, Joshua, and John Gardner. I will conclude this chapter with a short sketch of South Quay Baptist Church.

1. PENELOPE GARDNER was the daughter of James Gardner I. See chart 2 page 7 for Penelope Gardner, daughter of James Gardner I. I do not have the date of birth, death, or marriage. Her husband's name was John Lawrence. He was named in the Will of James I. He is also mentioned in the early history of South Quay Baptist Church. At conference 27 May 1775 John Lawrence was received by letter of dismission from the church in Bertie County, North Carolina.

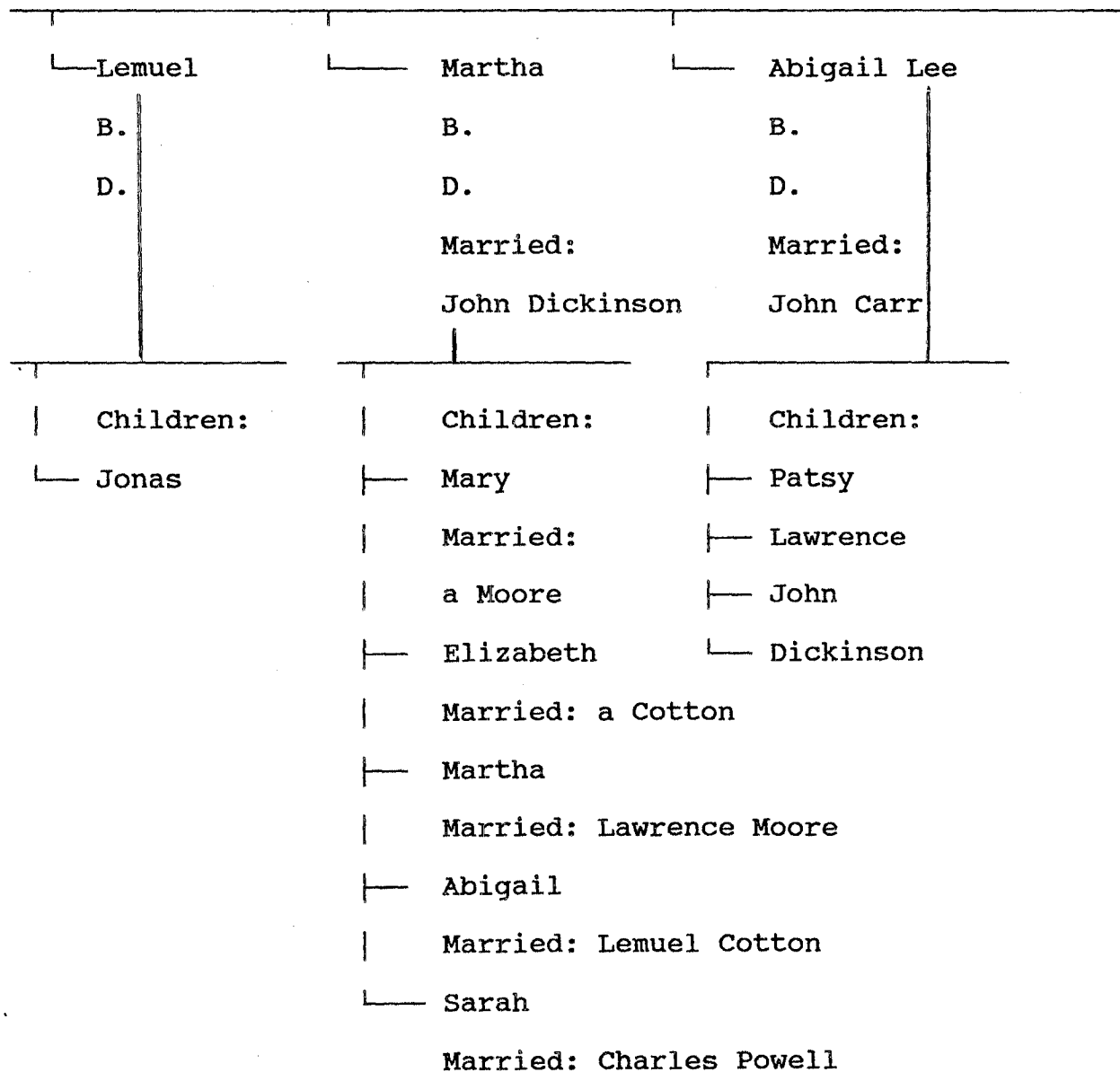
John and Penelope Lawrence must have lived in Bertie County, North Carolina for a period of time and may have been living there when Penelope's father, James I, died, but moved back to Southampton County, Virginia in or about 1775. John Lawrence was active in the church and his name appears many times from 1775 to May 5, 1798. After this date he is never mentioned again. I have recently found a Will for John Lawrence which was dated May 27, 1795 and recorded Jan. 12, 1796. This Will was found among some loose papers of Southampton County. He left his wife, Pheribe, part of his land, the use of part of the house, the use of part of a warehouse, live stock, and six slaves. To his son, Lemuel, he left five pounds cash, his cloths, a trunk, his note dated April 27, 1789 and one slave. To his daughter, Abigail Lee, furniture, a note

against John Carr, live stock, and one slave. John Carr was Abigail's deceased husband. He also named another daughter, Martha Dickinson, and her husband, John Dickinson, both deceased. Others named were: Lemuel Lawrence's son, Jonas Lawrence. Mary Moore and Elizabeth Cotton, daughters of John Dickinson. John Carr's children: Patsy, Lawrence, John, and Dickinson Carr. Martha Lawrence and her husband, John Dickinson, children were: Mary (who married a Moore), Elizabeth (who married a Cotton), Martha (who married Lawrence Moore), Abigail ( who married Lemuel Cotton), and Sarah (who married Charles Powell). There was also a niece who was named: Mourning Lawrence. He named eleven slaves: Bob, Mingo, Doll, Hannah, Buck, Rachel, Jim, Locke, Pierce, Dinah, and Rose. See chart 3E on the next page for Penelope and John Lawrence.

CHART 3E

PENELOPE GARDNER

HUSBAND: JOHN LAWRENCE



2. JUDA GARDNER was the daughter of James Gardner I, (see chart 2 on page 7). Her husband was James Vick. He was named in the Will of James Gardner I.

In the book "Cobbs Of The Tidewater", by Bruce M. Edwards, James Vick is mentioned on pages 134 and 544. On Nov. 7, 1747 James Gardner I, Thomas Sharp, and Nicholas Cobb sold three tracts of land in one deed to James Gardner II. James Vick and his brother in-law, Joshua Gardner, witnessed the deed. This will be found on pages 134 of the said book. James Vick is mentioned again with the Vick family on page 544.

There is no mention of James Vick or Juda in the South Quay Baptist Church History. They could have lived at or near the town of Vicksville, which is located a few miles north of Courtland, Virginia on State Highway 616.

3. JOSHUA GARDNER was the son of James Gardner I (see chart 2 on page 7). I do not know his wife's maiden name but her first name was Ann. We know this from his Will. I have not been able to find his date of birth but he died in 1793. His Will was probated Dec. 12, 1793. His children were named in his Will. They are as follows: Henry, John (married Betsey Pepworth), James, Ann (married Matthew Jones), Betsey (married a Carr), Rhoda (married Elias Lawrence), Polly (married Daniel Webb), and Peggy (married George Connely). The above husbands and wives of these children were taken from the book "Marriage Bonds and Ministers Returns of Southampton County, Virginia 1750 - 1810. This book is in the Morgan Library in Suffolk, Virginia. Most of these marriages were reported by Rev. D.

C. Barrow, pastor of South Quay Baptist Church.

Rhoda's husband, Elias Lawrence, was probably a relative of John Lawrence, husband of Penelope Gardner Lawrence. See chart 3F on page 18 for Joshua and Ann Gardner and their children.

At his death Joshua possessed over 600 acres and several slaves plus other personnel property, which he divided between his wife and children. This would be a large estate even today.

His Will is in Will Book 4 part 2 pages 585 - 587 at Southampton County Court House in Courtland, Virginia. In his Will he gave his wife, Ann, six slaves and they were named as follows: Ceasar, Peter, Lam, Pat, Hannah, and Lucy. They were given to her during her life to raise and school his children. To his son, Henry, he gave 217 acres and one slave named Arthur. To John he gave 312 acres and one slave named Andrew. John was to also construct a house 28 X 15 feet, for what reason, I could not determine. To James he gave the plantation on which Joshua was then living and one slave named Wili. To Jesse he gave 40 acres and one slave named Pompey and one slave named Amy. To his daughter, Ann, he gave one slave named Rose. To his daughter, Betsey, he gave one slave named Patience. To Rhoda he gave one slave named Liby. To Polly he gave one slave named Milly. To Peggy he left one slave named China. He also gave each son and daughter part of the furniture and divided the livestock too.

# CHART 3F

JOSHUA GARDNER - DIED: 1793

WIFE: ANN

Henry	John	James	Jesse
B.	B.	B.	B.
D.	D.	D.	D.
Married:			
Betsey Pepworth			
Ann	Betsey	Rhoda	Polly
B.	B.	B.	B.
D.	D.	D.	D.
Married:		Married:	Married:
Matthew Jones		Elias	Daniel Webb
July 21, 1785		Lawrence	
		Feb. 11, 1791	Jan. 10, 1793
Peggy			
B.			
D.			
Married:			
George Connelly			
Aug. 30, 1796			

From the little which I have learned about Joshua and his family I know they were well off and prominent in the county. I said he had more than 600 acres of land at his death. If you add the acres up in this Will the total comes to 569 acres plus the plantation where he lived. Therefore if the plantation contained more than 49 acres, which I am sure it did, the total was well in excess of 600 acres. His Will also listed a total of 16 slaves.

Joshua and his wife, Ann, raised their family during the years before and during the Revolutionary War. I am sure Joshua was involved in this war, one way or another, just as was his brother Matthew. I have not tried to verify this but most men were soldiers in the army or helped supply the army with food and provisions. I have not tried to trace this family line any farther.

I have recently found that Joshua's son, Henry Gardner, was a Second Lieutenant in Co. 2, Nansemond County Militia of Virginia in the Revolutionary Army. Benjamin Baker was a Colonel, Elisha Darden was Captain, and John Carr was 1st. Lieutenant. This unit was made up of men in the South Quay area of Virginia. The above information was found in "The Southside Virginian" Vol. VII No. 1 on page 5 under the heading Nansemond County Militia Officers 1783 - 1789.

4. JOHN GARDNER I was the son of James Gardner I (see chart 2 on page 7). I do not have the date of his birth but from his Will we learn he died in 1778. His Will gives his wife's name as Ann. He was either married twice or his wife's name also had Elizabeth in it. I found where he and his wife, Elizabeth, sold her part of her grandfather's estate to a Lamuel Garland. This was found in deed



book 1 page 242 at Isle of Wight Court House. Her grandfather's name was Eesor Garland and the deed was dated September 8, 1712. Therefore I believe he was married twice because I do not think he would have given his wife's name as Elizabeth on one document and Ann on another.

John's children were named: Lydia (married a Joyner), Milly (married Jacob Bradshaw), John II (married Martha Joyner), Ann (married a Wellons), James (married Sally Joyner), Mary (married a Kelb), Phebg, Amos (married Patsy Davis), and Jesse (married Elizabeth).

John I like the rest of his brothers and sisters, was a planter. He had a large family and also owned a sizable amount of land.

He lived through the Revolution as did his children. I do not know what part, if any, he or his family played in the War but if he was of the same belief as was his brother, Matthew, he supported the colonies. Some of his sons may have served with the army and he may have helped with provisions also.

He and his brothers lived in the same general area as did all but one of his sisters. Three of his children married Joyners, Lydia married a Joyner, John II married Martha Joyner, and James married Sally Joyner. The Joyner family is a family which the author is also closely related. My grandfather on my mother's side of the family was William Leonard Joyner and he married Effie Julia Cobb. William was the son of James Amos Joyner and Martha G. Taylor, his wife. Leonard's, he was called by his middle name,

second wife was Effie Julia Cobb. She was the daughter of Benjamin Evans Cobb, Jr. and Nancy Buck, his wife. Evans Cobb's wife was from North Carolina and they met and were married while he was in Hampton, Virginia during the Civil War. I am straying from the subject now and will refer to the reason Evans was in Hampton, Virginia later in the book. In researching this material I have found marriages between the Gardner's, Joyner's, Cobb's, Vaughan's, and many other families. Most of these families can trace their ancestors back to the 1600's. As I have stated before, for the most part, these families have lived in the same general area for over 300 years. They cleared the land and their children did the same, moving farther west as they went, all the while pushing the Indians ahead of them.

Where did they settle? In nearly every Will and deed which I have seen a river, gut, or swamp was mentioned. They settled the land along the rivers first because water was the easiest form of transportation. The area of Southampton County in which the Gardner family settled was ideal in this respect. The Blackwater River was on the east and the Nottoway River was on the west. It is not a great distance between the two rivers in the south east corner of Southampton County. This feature attracted many people to settle and cultivate the fertile land in the said area.

I have not tried to trace the family of John Gardner and his wife, Ann, beyond his children as I do not want to spend several more years on research. For John Gardner and Ann, his wife, see chart 3C on page 24.

The following is John Gardner's Will which is in will book 3 page 363 at Southampton County Court House in Courtland, Virginia.

LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF JOHN GARDNER

In the name of God Amen, I John Gardner of the Parish of Nottoway and County of Southampton being in perfect health and memory, thanks be to Almighty God for the same do constitute and establish this to be my last Will and Testament in manor as follows.

Item. I give and bequeath unto my son Jesse Gardner one Negro boy named Pompy, one gray mare, thirty pounds cash unto him and his heirs forever.

Item, I give and bequeath unto my daughter Lydia Joyner five shillings unto her and her heirs forever.

Item, I lend unto my beloved wife, Ann Gardner, all the remainder part of my whole estate during her life or widowhood to raise and bring up the children upon.

Item, I give unto my daughter Milly Gardner one Negro boy named Charles unto her and her heirs forever.

Item, I give and bequeath unto my son John Gardner one hundred acres of land bought of Wm. Worrel lying the south side of the prong of Nottoway and one Negro girl named Edy unto him and his heirs forever.

Item, I give and bequeath unto my daughter, Ann Gardner, one Negro girl named Sylvia unto her and her heirs forever.

Item, I give and bequeath unto my son James Gardner one Negro man

named Jupiter unto him and his heirs forever.

Item, I give and bequeath unto my daughter, Mary Gardner, one Negro woman named Rose unto her and her heirs forever.

Item, I give and bequeath unto Phebg Gardner one Negro woman named Jude unto her and her heirs forever.

Item, I give and bequeath unto my son, Amos Gardner, my manor plantation unto him and his heirs forever.

Item, and after the decease or marriage of my beloved wife, Ann Gardner, the remainder part of my whole estate to be equally divided between the children as namely Jesse, Milly, John, Ann, Mary, Phebg, James, and Amos unto them and their heirs forever.

Oct. 21, 1778

Signed, John Gardner

5. JAMES GARDNER II and his descendants make up a major family in this book. Therefore the next few chapters will be devoted entirely to them. He was born in 1720 and was the son of James Gardner I and Elizabeth, his wife.

6. MATTHEW GARDNER, SR. and his descendants make up another major family in this book. Therefore there will be several chapters devoted to him and his descendants. He was born before 1750 and was the son of Elizabeth and James Gardner I.

CHART 3C

JOHN GARDNER - DIED 1778

WIFE: ANN

Lydia	Milly	John II	Ann
B.	B.	B.	B.
D.	D.	D.	D.
Married:	Married:	Married:	Married:
a Joyner	Jacob Bradshaw	Martha Joyner	a Wellons

James	Mary	Phebg	Amos
B.	B.	B.	B.
D.	D.	D.	D.
Married:	Married:	Married:	Married:
Sally Joyner	a Kelb		Patsy Davis

Jesse  
 B.  
 D.  
 Married:  
 Elizabeth  
 Feb. 17, 1809

SOUTH QUAY  
BAPTIST CHURCH

South Quay Baptist Church came into being March 1, 1775 at a conference held at South Quay, Southampton County, Virginia. Holland Darden and Soloman King were chosen Deacons and Elisha Darden chosen clerk of the Church. Elder, David Barrow, was the first pastor. Rev. Barrow was only twenty one years old at the time. The charter membership consisted of nineteen Blacks and twenty three Whites, male and female. The mother church was Mill Swamp Baptist Church. Rev. Barrow would soon have five churches to pastor and they were Mill Swamp, Black Creek, South Quay, Western Branch, and Sleepy Hole, which was on the Nansemond River.

South Quay Baptist Church was formed at a time of upheaval in our history. Patrick Henry aroused the country with his dramatic eloquence March 23, 1775 on the subject of religious freedom. The colonies looked to their churches for strength during the difficult times through which they were passing. South Quay Baptist Church took it's place in providing this strength, both moral and spiritual.

When this church was formed, it was located on what is now Bethany School Road, between state route 258 and South Quay Road in the south east corner of Southampton County, Virginia. In 1775 this area was in Nansemond County and remained so until 1785. The Nansemond County line was moved back to the Blackwater River at that time.

Many of our ancestors were members of this church and played vital roles in it's formation and success. There are family members who remain a part of this church today.

In the mid 1830's the church split over a disagreement of to have or not to have Sunday School before worship service on Sunday morning. The group which wanted to have Sunday School moved to the east side of the Blackwater River and the present site of the church. This site is on state route 189 in the city of Suffolk, Virginia (formerly Nansemond County). There have been two church buildings on this site. The church out grew the first building and the present building was constructed to accommodate this growth. The present building has been remodeled several times over the years and still serves the people of the area.

Eventually most of the people who had remained with the former church moved their membership to the new church and the original church and site were abandoned.

South Quay Baptist Church remained constant through the Revolutionary War, The War of 1812, and the Civil War as well as all the other wars our country has found itself involved in through the years. This church sent it's sons off to war and it sent it's sons and daughters farther west to help settle and build our great nation.

Throughout this book you will find South Quay Baptist Church mentioned. It is not the only church in the area but it has been the church of our family from it's beginning.

The information on South Quay Baptist Church was taken from

the "History Of South Quay Baptist Church" which was researched and written by Rev. Donald E. Trump, retired pastor of South Quay Baptist Church. This history has not been published at present. Rev. Trump researched the church records both at the church and the State Library in Richmond, Virginia for the material contained in the history.

The picture below is a picture of South Quay Baptist Church as it appears today. You will notice that the cemetery is at the front of the church.



South Quay Baptist Church

Summer of 1992



## CHAPTER 3

### JAMES GARDNER II

This chapter will address James Gardner II and his descendants to the present. I will divide the branches of several of his descendants into separate chapters and will try to give the different branches family headings. Hopefully this will enable the reader to follow this family line without too much trouble. Many of the descendants used the same names for their children and I know this may make it difficult to follow.

James Gardner II was born in 1720, the son of James Gardner I and his wife, Elizabeth. James II wife's name was Sarah. I do not have her maiden name. From the best I can determine there were eleven children born from this marriage (see chart 3B on page 29). Their names are as follows: Honour, Jesse, Sarah, Martha (Patsy), John, Margaret (Peggy), James III, Mary (Polly), Joseph, Penelope, and Judah (Judy).

I will start with the children whom I have the least information about. I will also try to have the family chart for each of these children following his or her section. Therefore you should be able to keep each family line straight in your mind. At least I hope this will be the case. Please understand that most of these people used the same names when naming their children and this fact makes it difficult to follow the family lines. To say nothing about how difficult it was to trace them in the first place.

CHART 3B

JAMES GARDNER II - 1720 - 1792

WIFE: SARAH

Honour	Jesse	Sarah	Martha
B.	B.	B.	B.
D. 1833	D. 1802	D.	D.
Married:	Married:	Married:	Married:
Benjamin	Elizabeth	William	Elijah
Lawrence	Vaughan	Fowler	Buxton
Aug. 23, 1787			Jan. 11 1781
John	Margaret	James III	Mary
B.	B.	B.	B.
D.	D.	D.	D.
Married:	Married:	Married:	Married:
Ann	Joseph Vick	Ann	James Vaughan 1780
Penelope	Joseph	Judah	
B.	B.	B.	
D.	D.	D.	
Married:	Married:	Married:	
Ivey Parker		Thomas Holland	
Feb. 19, 1789			

The following is the last Will and Testament of James Gardner II as recorded at Southampton County Court House in Courtland, Virginia. He died in 1792 and his Will was probated Dec. 12, 1793.

LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT

OF JAMES GARDNER II

In the name of God Amen. I James Gardner of Southampton County being very sick and weak of body but of sound and disposing mind and memory thanks be to Almighty God for the same and calling to mind the uncertainty of this life and knowing that it is appointed once for all men to die do make and ordain this last will and testament in manner following. First and principally I recommend my soul into the hands of Almighty God and my body to the ground from whence it was taken, hoping at the last day to receive blessed sentence, Come ye blessed children of My Father inherit the Kingdom prepared for you before the beginning. And also what worldly estate it hath pleased God to bestow on me I give and bequeath in manner and form following.

item: I give and bequeath unto my son James Gardner ninety seven acres of woodland being part of survey executed by myself and James Daughtrey, decd. Bounded by the land of Col. Benjamin Baker, Matthew Gardner, the County line, and his own land that he bought of John Daughtrey to him, his heirs, and aligns forever.

Item: I give and bequeath unto three of my grand children. Sons of my son, John Gardner, decd. (To wit) Jesse, David, and John, the land and plantation that I bought of Thomas Sharp containing three hundred acres adjoining the land I now live on, Nicholas Cobb, and

the tract I give my son Jesse Gardner binding by a dividing line made between him and this tract by myself and Nicholas Cobb. To them, their heirs, and aligns forever equally.

Item: I give and bequeath unto my son Jesse Gardner the land and plantation he now lives on bounded by a dividing line between this tract and the tract given to my grand children, Natt. Darden, and the County line. Thence by that line to the Cedar Swamp, thence up the swamp to aforesaid dividing line to the beginning. Containing three hundred acres the residue be and also one hundred seventy four acres, land purchased of Thomas Sharp, agreeable to a patent granted Robert Bryant called and known by the name "Gale Berry" to him, his heirs, and aligns forever.

Item: I give and bequeath unto my son Joseph Gardner the land and plantation I now live on provided he shall at any time before his mother's death come and enjoy the same and on his non appearance I give and bequeath the land and plantation as is hereafter expressed to him, his heirs, and aligns forever.

Item: I give and bequeath unto my daughter, Juda Holland, wife of Thomas Holland, one Negro fellow called Jake - had in possession several years to her and to her heirs forever.

Item: I give and bequeath unto my daughter, Mary Vaughan, wife of James Vaughan, one Negro woman and her increase called Phebe had in her possession several years to her and her aligns forever.

Item: I give and bequeath unto my daughter, Sarah, wife of William Fowler, one Negro fellow called Ceaser - had in possession many years to her and her heirs and aligns forever.

Item: I give and bequeath unto my daughter, Margaret, wife of Joseph Vick, one Negro fellow called Old Ceaser - had in possession a few years to her and her heirs and aligns forever.

Item: I give and bequeath unto Martha my daughter, wife of Elijah Buxton, five shillings current money for her part of my estate to her and to her heirs and aligns forever saving the lent of a small Negro boy called Jupiter until Joseph Buxton, her son, shall arrive to lawful age or marriage or otherwise as hereafter expressed and that she shall possess him immediately after my death.

Item: I give and bequeath unto my daughter, Penelope Gardner, one Negro girl called Eady to her together with her increase to her heirs and aligns forever.

Item: I give and bequeath unto my daughter, Honour Gardner, one Negro girl called Hager to her together with her increase to her heirs and aligns forever.

Item: I give and bequeath unto my grand child the aforesaid Joseph Buxton son of Martha Buxton the aforesaid Negro boy called Jupiter that I lend to Martha his mother until Joseph shall arrive to lawful age or marriage and at the expiration of either time he shall possess and enjoy the said Negro boy Jupiter to him, his heirs, and aligns forever. But in case Joseph Buxton should die before either time or without lawful heir of his body that then the said Negro boy Jupiter shall descend and come into my estate again and be divided between the same of my children as the other of my estate is to be divided amongst as hereafter expressed.

Item: I give and bequeath unto my loving wife, Sarah Gardner, during

her natural life four Negros: Pompey, Harry, Nell, and Old Hannor, ten head, her choice of my flock of cattle, ten head, her choice, of the flock of hogs, / of what she may necessarily stand in need of for her meat years / provision / the use of one still this year rented to Matthew Gardner, one bay mare called Betsey, ten head, her choice, of sheep, all the household and kitchen furniture, all the plantation utensils, all the crop of every kind this year tilled and made by me, also the use of the plantation and land I now live on together with the use of the land and plantation that I purchased of John Lawrence, son of Henry Lawrence, called and known by the name of "South Quay Place" and after her death I give and bequeath the land and plantation called the "Giver Place", the Negros given her, Pompey, Harry, Nell, and Old Hannor together with the whole of the estate given her of what nature or kind soever be equally divided between Juda Holland, Mary Vaughan, Sarah Fowler, Margaret Vick, Penelope Gardner, James Gardner, Jesse Gardner, and three of my grand children, sons of John Gardner, decd. (to wit) Jesse, David, and John observing that the said three grand children Jesse, David, and John, is to be considered and it is the meaning and intent that they shall receive and be entitled to no more then one of my own children, share and taken as one legatee to them, their heirs, and aligns forever.

Item: I give and bequeath and it is my will and desire that the remainder of my estate of what nature or kind soever that I have not before divided away be after my death equally divided (to wit) Negros young Nann, Ned, Lam, Easter, and Patience and all the

residue between the same of my children and grand children and under the same directions and meaning as the estate given my wife after her death is to be divided amongst to them, their heirs, and aligns forever.

Lastly it is my will and desire that my three friends, Joshua Gardner, John Carr, and Henry Gardner, will after my death take so much upon themselves as to state, divide, and settle the whole of my estate. Whenever such division shall happen if the same within their power lies between the persons entitled to receive the same. And further I appoint my loving wife, Sarah Gardner, my brother, Joshua Gardner, and my son, Jesse Gardner, my whole and sole executors to this my last will and testament revoking and disannulling all former will or wills by me hitherto made allowing this and no other to be my last will and testament. In witness whereof I have set my hand and affixed my seal this 23 day of August 1784. Signed, sealed, published, and declared in presence of us.

Joshua Gardner

Signed,

John Carr

James Gardner

Matthew Gardner

Probated 12 Dec. 1793

Will Book 4 part 2 pages 588 - 600

Southampton County Court House

Courtland, Virginia

The Will of James Gardner II sheds more light on John Lawrence, husband of Penelope Gardner and brother in-law to James II. He gave his wife, Sarah Gardner, the home place and the use of the land and plantation which he purchased of John Lawrence, son of Henry Lawrence, called and known as "South Quay Place". This establishes Henry Lawrence as the father of John Lawrence. In the book "Cobbs Of The Tidewater" by Bruce M. Edwards the Lawrence family is mentioned on page 25, Mr. Edwards states that Robert Lawrence, Sr. patented 200 acres on Sept. 12, 1644 next to Bennett Plantation close to Lawnes Creek and the Joseph Cobb estate in Virginia. He later received a grant on the south side of the Chowan River in Bertie County, North Carolina in 1660. He lived there about twenty years and then returned to Nansemond County, Virginia where he was shown in Quaker records as an Elder in their church in 1688.

Robert Lawrence, Sr. had four sons: Robert Lawrence, Jr., George Lawrence, Henry Lawrence, and John Lawrence. He or his son, Robert, Jr., owned a 800 acre plantation in 1699, which was situated on the Nansemond - Isle of Wight County line.

Henry Lawrence was the son of Robert Lawrence, Sr. and Robert Lawrence, Sr. was an early settler in Isle of Wight County, Virginia. Henry's son, John Lawrence, was the husband of Penelope Gardner. Penelope was the daughter of James Gardner I. Therefore the Lawrence family can trace their ancestry back to 1644 in Virginia from this information.



1. JOSEPH GARDNER was the son of James Gardner II. I do not have much information on Joseph Gardner but the Will of his father, James Gardner II, gives some information about him. James Gardner II gave his son, Joseph, the home plantation, providing Joseph returned to enjoy the same before James's wife died. Joseph failing to return before his mother's death, would lose his inheritance. The Will does not say where Joseph was at the time and his father may not have known his whereabouts. It is clear though that Joseph was no longer in the area. He may have gone west seeking new land and frontiers, but we do not know. This is all the information I have on Joseph Gardner.

2. HONOUR GARDNER was born in the 1760's. She was the daughter of James Gardner II. She married Benjamin Lawrence August 23, 1787. There were no children born of this marriage. I do not have a date on the death of Benjamin but Honour died in 1833. I have no other information on this family.

3. SARAH GARDNER was a daughter of James Gardner II. I do not have any dates for Sarah Gardner. She married William Fowler. There were at least two children born to this union: John Fowler and William Fowler, Junior. William Fowler, Jr. had a son: Daniel Fowler. I have no other information about this family (see chart 4B7.

CHART 4B7

SARAH GARDNER

HUSBAND: WILLIAM FOWLER

William. Jr.	John
B.	B.
D.	D.
Married:	Married:
One son:	
Daniel	

CHART 4B8

MARGARET GARDNER

HUSBAND: JOSEPH VICK

Richard	Martha
B.	B.
D.	D.
Married:	Married:
	Aggy Williams

4. MARGARET GARDNER was also a daughter of James Gardner II. She married Joseph Vick. I have not found a marriage, birth, or death date for her or her husband. I know there were two children born to this marriage but I am not sure they were the only ones. The two which I have names for are Richard Vick and Martha Vick (see chart 4B8). Richard Vick moved west and there were no children born to him. Martha Vick married Aggy Williams. I have no other information on this family.

5. JUDAH GARDNER was also a daughter of James Gardner II. She married Thomas Holland (see chart 4B6). They had one child: Nancy Holland. Nancy Holland had one child that I know of. Her name was Clarricy Holland. From this I gather that Clarricy was born before Nancy was married. I have no other information on this family.

6. MARY (POLLY) GARDNER was another daughter of James Gardner II. I do not have a date of birth for her. Mary Gardner married James Vaughan in 1780. There were seven children born from this union. Their names were: Bitha Vaughan, Peggy Vaughan, Henry Vaughan, Litha Vaughan, Betsey Vaughan, Polly Vaughan, and Edy Vaughan (see chart 4B5).

A. BITHA VAUGHAN married Abram Lawrence.

B. PEGGY VAUGHAN married Elias Edwards.

C. LITHA VAUGHAN married Wm. Harcum (see chart 5B11). Litha and Wm. Harcum had three children: Tomy Harcum, Peggy Harcum, and Betsey Harcum. I have no birth or death dates for any of these children. Betsey Harcum married Joseph Buxton (see chart 6B2). There were two children born from this union: Polly and Litha

CHART 4B6

JUDAH (JUDY) GARDNER

HUSBAND: THOMAS HOLLAND

Nancy ————

B.

D.

Married:

—————

One daughter: |

Clarricy ————

B.

D.

CHART 4B5

MARY (POLLY) GARDNER

HUSBAND: JAMES VAUGHAN

— Bitha	— Peggy	— Henry	— Litha
B.	B.	B.	B.
D.	D.	D.	D.
Married:	Married:	Married:	Married:
Abram	Elias Edwards		Wm. Harcum
Lawrence			

— Betsy	— Polly	— Edy
B.	B.	B.
D.	D.	D.
Married:	Married:	Married:
Fred. Cobb	Hardy Daughtrey	Edwin Edwards

CHART 5B11

LITHA VAUGHAN

HUSBAND: WM. HARCUM

_____ Tomy	_____ Peggy	_____ Betsey
B.	B.	B.
D.	D.	D.
		Married:
		Joseph Buxton

CHART 6B2

BETSEY HARCUM

HUSBAND: JOSEPH BUXTON

Polly _____	_____ Litha
B.	B.
D.	D.
Married:	Married:

Buxton. I have no other information on this family.

D. HENRY VAUGHAN - no information.

E. BETSEY VAUGHAN married Fred. Cobb.

F. POLLY VAUGHAN married Hardy Daughtrey.

G. EDY VAUGHAN married Edwin Daughtrey.

7. MARTHA GARDNER was also a daughter of James Gardner II. She married Elijah Buxton Jan. 11, 1781 (see chart 4B3). They had one son, Joseph Buxton. He was born in 1782.

I. JOSEPH BUXTON was married three times. His first wife's name was Elizabeth (Betsey) Harcum. They were married Sept. 5, 1805. Elizabeth died in Feb. of 1849. He then married Lydia Gardner. I do not know when she died. Joseph's third wife was Nancy Moore.

Elizabeth Harcum and Lydia Gardner were both cousins of his. As far as I can tell he and Nancy Moore were not any kin.

Joseph had nine children: Elmina Buxton, Lydia Buxton, Margaret Buxton, Lithy Buxton, Mary Buxton, Em Buxton, Mildred Buxton, George Edward Buxton, and Johanna Buxton.

A. ELMINA BUXTON married Allen Henry Cotton. Allen Henry Cotton was the son of Henry P. Cotton and Belvidere Allen Cotton. Allen and Elmina's daughter, Margaret Cotton, married Jesse Dempsey Gardner. Jesse Dempsey Gardner was a descendant of John Gardner, another of James Gardner II's children. Therefore he was a distant cousin of his wife, Margaret Cotton Gardner.

CHART 4B3

MARTHA (PATSEY) GARDNER

HUSBAND: ELIJAH BUXTON

MARRIED: JAN. 11, 1781

<div> <div>Joseph</div> <div>B. 1782</div> <div>D.</div> <div>Married: Sept. 5, 1805</div> <div>1st. Wife: Elizabeth (Betsey) Harcum</div> <div>Elizabeth died: Feb. 1849</div> <div>2nd. Wife: Lydia Gardner</div> <div>3rd. Wife: Nancy Moore</div> </div>			
<div>Elmina</div> <div>B.</div> <div>D.</div> <div>Married:</div> <div>Allen Henry Cotton</div>	<div>Lydia</div> <div>B.</div> <div>D.</div> <div>Married:</div>	<div>Margaret</div> <div>B.</div> <div>D.</div> <div>Married:</div>	<div>Lithy</div> <div>B.</div> <div>D.</div> <div>Married:</div>
<div>Mary</div> <div>B.</div> <div>D.</div> <div>Married:</div>	<div>Em.</div> <div>B.</div> <div>D.</div> <div>Married:</div>	<div>Mildred</div> <div>B.</div> <div>D.</div> <div>Married:</div> <div>Jethro Cobb</div>	<div>George E.</div> <div>B.</div> <div>D.</div> <div>Married:</div>
<div>Johanna</div> <div>B.</div> <div>D.</div> <div>Married:</div>			

8. PENELOPE GARDNER was also a daughter of James Gardner II. She had two children before she married Ivey Parker. They were Sally Gardner and Mason Gardner and they retained the Gardner name after their mother and Ivey Parker were married (see chart 4B2).

A. MASON GARDNER married Nicholas Cobb Jan. 21, 1801. Nicholas Cobb was the son of Lazarus Cobb, Senior. Mason and Nicholas Cobb's son, Jethro (Jet) Cobb, married Martha Mildred Vaughan March 8, 1831.

Jethro and Martha Cobb's son, William Mills (Dilly) Cobb, married Mary Louise Darden. William Mills and Mary Cobb had a son named William Emmett Cobb.

William Emmett Cobb married Ada Gardner. Ada Gardner was the daughter of Jesse Dempsey Gardner and a descendant of John Gardner. John Gardner was the son of James Gardner II. John Gardner's other children will be referred to in his section of this book.

Again these were distant cousins who were married to each other. It was hard to find a person in the area at that time who was not a distant relative.

B. SALLY GARDNER - no information.

9. JESSE GARDNER was a son of James Gardner II. The next chapter will be devoted to him and his descendants.

10. JAMES GARDNER III was also a son of James Gardner II. Several chapters will also be devoted to him and his descendants. These chapters will follow the chapters on Jesse Gardner.

11. JOHN GARDNER was a son of James Gardner II. I will devote several chapters to John and his descendants.



CHART 4B2  
PENELOPE GARDNER  
HUSBAND: IVEY PARKER  
MARRIED: Feb. 19, 1789

Sally	Mason
B. Before 1789	B. Before 1789
D.	D.
Married:	Married:
	Nicholas Cobb
	Jan. 21, 1801

Jethro (Jet) (son of Mason and Nicholas Cobb)  
B. Dec. 1, 1806  
D. Dec. 27, 1884  
Married: Mar. 8, 1831  
Martha Mildred Vaughan

William Mills (Dilly) (Son of Jethro and Martha Cobb)  
B. May 20, 1851  
D. Jan. 7, 1945  
Married: Dec. 16, 1875  
Louise Darden

William Emmett (Son of William Mills and Louise Cobb)  
B. Dec. 29, 1879  
D. Jan. 20, 1951  
Married: May 6, 1916  
Ada Gardner