

Newspaper, Rocky Mount Telegram, Robert Bryan, 1958 Oct 26

Williford Family
BY AN OLD REPORTER

ROBERT BRYANT

On March 26, 1725, Robert Bryant patented acres north of Moratock (Roanoke) River in Bertie County adjoining William Bennet, Thomas Bryan, and Cullen Pollock. On November 15, 1732, the will of Thomas Gale of Isle of Wight County named wife Alice Gale, daughter Mary Bryant, etc. On September 20, 1745, Robert (RB) Bryant of Isle of Wight County sold Thomas Bryant 40 acres north of Tarraro Creek. on Miry Branch (a grant to John Lawhon on August 7, 1725), witnessed by Joseph Garner, Sr. ,and Joseph Garner, Jr. On November 7, 1747, Robert (RB) and Mary Bryant sold Lewis Bryant for 31 pounds current Virginia money \$25 acres (from a grant to John Pope on July 22, 1738) north of Meherrin River and east of Tarraro Creek on Spring Branch and joining Simon Everett and John McMiall, witnessed by Joseph Garner, Thomas (T) Bryant, and Jacob Simon.

Robert Bryan made his will in Southampton County on August 28, 1750, probated on November 8, 1750:

- (1) wife and executrix Mary Bryan;
- (2) son and executor William Bryan, land on Tarraro Creek;
- (3) daughter Morning Bryan;
- (4) daughter Ann Bryan;
- (5) granddaughter Elizabeth [Bryan] Garner;
- (6) son and executor Thomas Bryan;
- (7) son Robert Bryan;
- (8) son John Bryan;
- (9) daughter Alice Bryan;
- (10) daughter Rebecca Bryan;
- (11) daughter Mary Garner;
- (12) son Gail Bryan;
- (13) daughter Sarah Bryan;
- (14) daughter Elizabeth Bryan, and
- (15) witnesses Lewis Bryan, Andrew Mackmial, and Robert Gilllam.

The account of the estate of Robert Bryant was examined on April 9, 1752, by Howell Edmunds, Henry Crafford, and Chaplain Williams, and was signed by administratrix Mary Bryant.

Children of Robert Bryant and wife Mary Gale Bryan:

1. William Bryant
2. Morning Bryant
3. Ann Bryant
4. Thomas Bryant
5. Robert Bryant, Jr. On September 3, 1756, Robert Bryant, John Hinton, William Hinton, and George Wimberly of Johnston County gave a power of attorney to Joseph. Wimberly, Merchant, of Bertie County, to receive from Elizabeth Hinton, administratrix of William Hinton, all sums due them in Chowan County, witnessed by Hardy Hinton and Zachariah Wimberly.
6. John Bryant
7. Alice Bryant
8. Sarah Bryant
9. Rebecca Bryant

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10. Mary Bryant married Joseph Garner
11. Gale Bryant
12. Elizabeth Bryant

On April 20, 1731, Walter (W) and Sarah (S) Bryant of the Lower Parish of Isle of Wight County, Yeomen, sold Edward Taylor for 4,000 pounds of tobacco 200 acres (from a patent to John Bryan on April 20, 1682) S. W. of the head of a Branch of the Southern Branch of Nansemond River adjoining Thomas Mason and Robert Johnson; also, 30 acres adjoining, west of the Southern Branch, being the land given to Walter Bryan by his brother Samuel Bryant, adjoining John Bryant and the land "William Bryan gave to his brother Walter Bryan," witnessed by James (1) Bryant, Joan (D Bryant, and John Britten.

On November 19, 1736, Walter (W) Bryant of the Lower Parish deeded for love to his brother Samuel Bryant 200 acres (from a patent of 941-acres to Hodges Council, Sr., in 1677, and bequeathed by said Council to 'his daughter Christian, wife of Edward Bryant, on August 9, 1699, whose son and heir conveyed it to James Bryant who deeded it to Walter Bryant), witnessed by Joseph (1) Horton, John Lee, and Augustin Simon. In November, 1737, Walter (W) Bryant of the Lower Parish deeded to his brother-in-law Richard Gay, of the same Parish, for love, 200 acres (from Mason's patent of 1,000 acres on March 29, 1666-67, "less ten, foot Square Excepted for a burying place – the place where lyeth buried Sarah Bryant my Mother near the Southern Branch of Nansemond." On November 20, 1737, Hardy Council sold Walter Bryant of Newport Parish for 10 founds current Virginia money 100 acres on Beaver Dam Swamp and Watering Place Branch. On November 28, 1843, Walter (X) Bryant of Isle of Wight County sold John Bryant for 25 pounds current money 78 acres north of Meherrin River excepting a lot "Ten foot Square as a Burial Plate," east of Swet House Swamp on Long Branch, witnessed by Robert Carr and William Watkins.

WILLIAM BRYAN William Bryan of Craven County was probably a son of William Bryan of Edgecombe County. He made his will in Craven County on December 12, 1746, probated on June 16, 1747:

- (1) wife and executrix Ann Bryan, half the slaves, one-third the movable estate, use of half the home: plantation; rest of slaves and movables equally to all six children;
- (2) son and executor William Bryan, reversion of 125 acres of the home plantation;
- (3) daughter Elizabeth Bryan;
- (4) son Lewis Bryan, 100 acres called "Holley Neck" bought from Gunstun Allen at the head of Smith Creek;
- (5) son John Bryan, 125 acres called = "Kit Neck";
- (6) daughter Anne Bryan;
- (7) son Jesse Bryan, land "had of John Bryan" on Goose Creek and "Cohoon's Savannah";
- (8) brother and executor Joseph Bryan; and
- (9) witnesses Lazarus Pearse, James Carraway, and William Carraway, Jr.

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Anne Bryan signed her will in Craven County on October 15, 1767 probated on March 9, 1773:

- (1) son and executor William Bryan, slave, horse, large looking glass, silver spoon, large oval table, safe half the cattle on Hatteras Banks
- (2) son and executor John Bryan, slave, 40 acres north of Neuse River and west of Island Creek. (bought from John Starkey and called 'Fort Neck'), mare, cow and calf, spice mortar and pestle silver table spoon, half the cattle on Hatteras Banks, labor of free black boy Asa, until his indenture expires;
- (3) son and executor Jesse. Bryan, 150 acres bought from Thomas Carraway north of Neuse River and east of Smith Creek, 10 acres bought from Samuel an Isaac Easlick north of Neuse River and the head of Orchard Creek 4 slaves, labor of two free black boys until their indentures are out 2 horses, and residue of the estate
- (4) daughter Mary Cook, one shilling sterling money;
- (5) daughter Elizabeth Dawson, ditto;
- (6) grandson Joseph Stockley, ditto;
- (7) grandson John Dawson, ditto;
- (8) witnesses James Carraway, Ann Carraway, Gideon Carraway, and Elias Justes.

Children of William and Anne Bryan:

1. William Bryan
2. John Bryan
3. Jesse Bryan
4. Mary Bryan married a Cook.
5. Elizabeth Bryan married a Dawson.
6. Lewis Bryan
7. Anne Bryan

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