



GENEALOGY RECORD

Jamestown Rediscovery

Thank you for purchasing a Jamestown genealogy record. Today millions of people can trace their ancestry to this historic place. This record provides a summary of documented sources pertaining to an individual's life, which we hope will be useful as you trace your family roots.

In the seventeenth century, Jamestown Island was the arrival point for thousands of colonists first setting foot on soil in English North America. When James Fort was established in May 1607, tens of thousands of native Virginians were already living in the Chesapeake region as part of the Powhatan paramount chiefdom. In August 1619, the first documented Africans were brought to Jamestown. This confluence of cultures helped shape the foundations of modern American society.

Since 1994 the *Jamestown Rediscovery* project has sought to tell the stories of Jamestown's seventeenth-century residents—both known and unknown—through the material culture they left behind. The excavations have revealed evidence of James Fort's palisades, buildings, and landscape features as well as more than three-million artifacts.

Today visitors to the island can walk in the footsteps of these early ancestors, exploring the James Fort site and seeing thousands of artifacts in the Voorhees Archaearium Museum. And the archaeological team is often at work, weather permitting, so it is even possible to be lucky enough to witness the "moment of discovery" as an object is pulled from the ground after four-hundred years.

The Jamestown Rediscovery Foundation is a private not-for-profit organization dedicated to supporting preservation, education, and the archaeological investigation of Historic Jamestowne. Your purchase helps to support this critical mission as well as our ongoing research about this significant place. Thank you!

Notes about the Genealogy Records

Each genealogy record presents a summary of documented information about one of Jamestown's seventeenth-century residents. The data presented are based on confirmed sources, but other information could be available at smaller repositories and in private holdings.

Names

A person's name might seem like the simplest piece of genealogical information, but even determining how best to refer to someone from the seventeenth century can be complicated. At the time, spelling was phonetic, so a name could be written in multiple ways across different documents. For consistency, we have adopted a standard spelling for each name, except when directly quoting a primary source. However common spelling variations in first and last names are included in parentheses in the name fields.

The genealogy records generally refer to individuals by their name at birth, if known. Consequently married women are listed by their maiden name, but they would have assumed their husband's last name at the time of their wedding, so additional surnames are recorded under marriages. If a woman's maiden name is unknown, then that is noted and she is listed with the surname most commonly associated with her.

Another convention that can cause confusion is that some seventeenth-century families repeated given, or first, names generation to generation (and even within the same generation). Superscript numerals have been added to help distinguish between individuals with the same first name. These numbers are only an aid within a specific record and do not necessarily indicate anything about a family's generations nor lineage. For clarity, superscripts may also be applied to first names, even if the individuals' last names may have been different. The numbering also may not match across records within the same family.

Dates

Prior to 1752, England and its colonies recognized March 25, or Lady Day, as the start of the New Year. This means that dates recorded in the seventeenth century between January 1 and March 24 were part of the previous year (old style) when compared to the modern calendar (new style). To remove any ambiguity about dates falling within this range, the year is often written with a slash between the old style and new style. For instance, January 25, 1624/5, would indicate that the

year was 1624 in the old-style calendar, but 1625 when modernized to reflect January 1 as the start of the year. The one exception is the commonly-known date of the Powhatan attack of March 22, 1621/2, which has been standardized to 1622.

Sources

Seventeenth-century genealogical research can be challenging for many reasons from incomplete information and difficulties accessing records around the world to deciphering seventeenth-century language and writing. Most of the primary subjects of the genealogy records can be found in one or more of these three commonly used secondary sources for this period:

John Frederick Dorman [editor], *Adventurers of Purse and Person Virginia 1607-1624/5*, 3 Volumes, 4th edition (Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Company, 2004)

Martha W. McCartney, *Virginia Immigrants and Adventurers 1607-1635: A Biographical Dictionary*. (Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Company, 2007)

Nell Marion Nugent, *Cavaliers and Pioneers Abstracts of Virginia Land Patents and Grants 1623-1666, Volume One*. (Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1963)

Some of the genealogy records may also note additional relevant sources at the end. When available, we have included current links to these resources when published online as a courtesy. However we cannot guarantee that these pages will be maintained or accessible in the future.

As interest in the European settlement of Virginia has grown over the past century, many genealogists and historians have combed through surviving county records, publishing books on land patents, deeds, and wills for specific areas. These volumes can be valuable for learning more about individuals through their land holdings and personal property, but they are often harder to access than the more commonly-used resources.

More Information

For more tips on researching Jamestown's seventeenth-century residents as well as to learn more about Jamestown's history and how to visit the island, please see the genealogy resource page at: <https://historicjamestowne.org/history/genealogy-resources/>.

Isabell Smyth

Last Name: Smyth

First Name: Isabell (Isabella, Izabella)

Marriages: **1:** Richard¹ Pace; **2:** William Perry; **3:** George Menefie

Marriage Dates: **1:** October 5, 1608; **2:** By January 21, 1627/8 **3:** After August 6, 1637

Children: *by 1:* George Pace; *by 2:* Henry Perry

Arrival Date: by 1616

Locations Settled: Pace's Paines, Buckland

Biographical Abstract:

Isabell Smyth married Richard Pace on October 5, 1608, at St. Dunstan's, Stepney, Middlesex. They came to Virginia by 1616 and were considered Ancient Planters.

On December 5, 1620, 200 acres on the southside of the James River were jointly granted to Richard Pace and his wife. Lying directly across the River from Jamestown Island, the plantation was known as "Pace's Paines." On the eve of March 22, 1622, Chauco, a Christian Indian told Richard Pace of the imminent attack by the Powhatans the next day.

As described by John Smith in his history of Virginia: "Pace upon this, securing his house, before day rowed to James Towne, and told the Governor of it, whereby they were prevented, and at such other Plantations as possibly intelligence could be given: and where they saw us upon our guard, at the sight of a peece they ranne away; but the rest were most slaine, their houses burnt, such Armes and Munition as they found they tooke away, and some cattell also they destroyed."

Following the 1622 Powhatan attack, surviving settlers from the area were brought to Jamestown. Richard Pace and his wife were living at Jamestown when between October 1622 and January 1622/23, he petitioned Governor Wyatt and the Council for permission to return to his plantation "on tother side of the water" where he hath bestowed great cost and charges upon building there and clearing ground, but at length was enforced to leave the same by savage cruelty on the Indians," and

asked that he “now proposes to fortify and straighten the place with a good company of able men and desires to inhabit there again.”

Isabell Pace and her son George were not listed in either the 1623/4 census or the 1624/5 muster and possibly had returned to England.

By January 21, 1627/8, Isabell had married the widowed William Perry. On August 26, 1629, she stated in a deposition that she was aged 40.

On September 20, 1628, Isabell Perry, wife of William Perry, was granted 200 acres within the corporation of James City, at the south side of the plantation called Paces Paines granted to herself and her late husband Richard Pace, bounded on the east by land granted to her son George Pace. This was for her personal adventure, being an Ancient Planter, and the other 100 acres was the dividend of Francis Chapman, having been granted to him December 5, 1620, and by him made over to Isabell at court at James City, January 21, 1620/1.

On March 7, 1628/9, the Court renewed Perry’s commission as Commander of “Pace’s Paines” and “Smyth’s Mount.” As Lieut. Perry, he was the burgess in 1628 and 1629 representing “Pace’s Paines.” In 1630 and 1632 he represented Pace’s Paines and Smyth’s Mount. In 1632 he was appointed to the Council and served until 1635.

Isabell and William Perry had one son Henry. William Perry died August 6, 1637. and Isabell married the widower George Menefie. Her son Henry Perry would marry George Menefie’s daughter Elizabeth.

Menefie gained a reputation for his enterprise as a merchant and had obtained a large grant of land near Archer’s Hope where he established his seat. His plantation of 1,200 acres was on a neck of land “Littleton” and was well known for its gardens and orchards of apple, pear, cherry, and for the first time in North America, peaches.

Shortly after becoming a member of the Council, Menefie became associated with a group of colonists determined to get rid of Governor Sir John Harvey. He was sent to England to answer charges and was resident in St. Helen’s, London, from 1637-39. On July 17, 1637, he petitioned the King to return to Virginia and his request was granted September 29, 1637.

Upon his return to Virginia, he assigned the headrights of thirty persons to Henry Perry, who used them to expand his plantation “Buckland” by an additional 1,500

acres. On March 9, 1639/40, George Menefie patented 3,000 acres on the north side of Charles (later named York) River “opposite Queen’s Creek and down the river to Timberneck Creek.”

The date of Isabell’s death is unknown. However Menefie’s will dated December 31, 1645, mentioned that he was married to a woman named Mary, indicating that Isabell must have died before then.

Children of Isabell Smyth Pace Perry Menefie were:

Isabell and Richard Pace had one son George. George was still in his minority when on September 1, 1628, as “son and heir apparent of Richard Pace, dec’d,” was granted 400 acres that was called Pace’s Paines, granted to his father December 5, 1620, bounded on the west on land of his mother Isabell Perry, east on land of Francis Chapman, “now in the tenure of William Perry. Gent., his father-in- law (stepfather)....”

George married Sarah Macock, daughter of Samuel Macock. On August 1, 1650, after their marriage, George Pace was granted 1700 acres in Charles City County on the south side of the James River, commonly called Matocks (Macocks) for transporting 34 persons. They had a son named Richard². On October 12, 1650, George Pace sold “Macocks” to Thomas Drew as recorded in a quit claim deed February 25, 1658/9, when his son obtained his majority. “I, Richard² Pace, sonne and heire apparent of Mr. Geo. Pace of the Com. Of Charles City att Mount March in Virginia, and sonne and heire as the first issue by my mother Mrs. Sara Macocke wife unto my aforesd. father (being both dec’d) Do hereby by these presents...allow the sale of eight or nine hundred acres of land being neere unto Peirseys’ hundred, als Flowerdew Hundred, sold by my dec’d father Mr. George Pace unto Mr. Thomas Drew as per bill of sale bearing the date the 12th of October Anno. 1650....”

Isabell and William Perry had a son Henry, who was named son-in-law (stepson) in the will of George Menefie in 1645. He received title to “Buckland” while in his minority on December 18, 1637. At that time the Plantation had grown to 2,000 acres and was located in Charles City County, extending from Herring Creek, the site of the original Westover Parish Church. Henry Perry renewed the 1642 patent on May 10, 1654, adding 1,500 acres due to the assignment of headrights from George Menefie for 30 persons.

Henry Perry was a justice in Charles City 1655; Member of the House of Burgesses 1652 and 1654-55; and was appointed to the Council 1655-1661. On June 28, 1655, he was commissioned to go with volunteers “to discover the mountains.” On February 7, 1658/9, he gave his friend Stephen Hamelin power of attorney, as he was traveling to England. He had returned by 1661, as he appraised the estate of Judith Parsons. He was dead by April 24, 1663, when the court ordered Robert Rouse to pay “the orphans or trustees of Capt. Henry Pery Esq.” 800 pounds of tobacco.

Henry Perry married three times: He and his first wife Elizabeth¹ Menefie, daughter of his stepfather George Menefie, had two daughters, Elizabeth² and Mary. After Elizabeth Menefie’s death, he married Elizabeth Clements, daughter of Jeffrey and Elizabeth (Fuller) Clement. His third wife Anna’s maiden name is unknown. There were no children from the later two marriages.