LINVILLE ROOTS

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Dec 1994

ANN IS A WIFE OF JOHN LINVILL, IMMIGRANT
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE REST OF THEIR 200 CONESTOGA ACRES;
THE IDENTIFICATION OF THREE OF JOHN'S DAUGHTERS;
AND PETER LINVILL'S PARENTS

It has been a very busy, but quite productive two years since the third national Linville Reunion at Linvilla Orchards in Media, PA in August, 1992. Shortly after the reunion ended I returned from sabbatical to my work at Vermont College of Norwich University and was plunged into some major restructuring challenges - including moving my office twice - once for renovation and then once again, and hopefully for the last time. During that time I had limited access to my major collection of Linville material, so I decided to concentrate on the five generation project more concertedly.

While several of you volunteered and carried (very successfully) smaller pieces of the Linville research, I focused on what happened to John Linvill's land in Conestoga when his sons Thomas and William moved to Virginia about 1733. And then, as fate would have it, a colleague, Dr. John Scott Davenport, began working on the Hendricks family of Chester and Conestoga. I had corresponded with him seven years earlier on the Yount lines in North Carolina (my Richard Linville married Molly Yount). He happened upon my chart of the early Linville generations, which many of you have, and some of Aubrey Baldwin's work both of which were in the Lancaster County Historical Society family upright files. Aubrey Baldwin had worked on updating the original Baldwin Family by C. C. Baldwin, including the descendants of Thomas Baldwin and Mary (Hart) Linville Baldwin. He and I had corresponded frequently, especially after Linville research in England unearthed Mary's roots. After all, she was the progenitor of a very large number of Linville and Baldwin descendants, including all of us. Now it appears she was also progenitor of a good number of Hendricks descendants, too!

I tell all this to you as a good example of 1) the serendipity in family research, and 2) the problem with using correspondence as a source of documentation! Aubrey Baldwin used some speculation I mentioned to him in my letters in his final version of the revised Baldwin Family. In my letters, I was trying to account for who "Ann" was of "John and Ann Linvill" who sold 126 acres of the 200 acre lot that John Linvill obtained as part of the 1100 acres surveyed in

Conestoga to James Hendricks. I had wondered if she could be an "Ann Hendricks." I didn't have anything indicating that there even was an Ann Hendricks, but in the mimeographed update of the *Baldwin Family*, Mr. Baldwin ended up naming her as John Linvill's probable wife when talking about the descendants of Thomas and Mary (Hart) Linvill Baldwin, and citing me as the authority. That is the problem with speculation. Some people take it as authority!

Here is where Dr. Davenport enters the picture. He had been commissioned by the Hendricks family to trace some of the lines of Albertus Hendricks, one of the original Dutch settlers of Upland (Chester), Pennsylvania. Naturally, when he saw this reference in the Baldwin material to 'Ann Hendricks' being the wife of John Linvill and me as the source of that information, he contacted me. He had forgotten about our earlier correspondence on the Younts but was eager to take up the "conversations" again, this time concerning the Hendricks and Linvilles.

Through Dr. Davenport's extensive work on the Hendricks family and his contacts with numerous Hendricks researchers, he has done, I believe, the now definitive work on the Hendricks family and there is no proof that there was an Ann Hendricks born early enough to be the wife of John Linville! BUT (and here is the part that both he and I were excited about) we now know exactly what happened to the 74 acres unaccounted for in the land sale in Conestoga in Oct 1733. We can identify two more of John Linvill's daughters and have been able to develop at least a plausible theory for how Peter Linville fits into the Linvilles in South Carolina! In this double issue of "Linville Roots" I am going to cover all of that new insight [Aug 1999 - An addendum explains the third daughter, the distinction between John Linvill the father and John Linville the son, and the documentation for Peter Linville's parents.]

The massive amount of work that Dr. Davenport did came in lengthy installments sent to a number of Hendricks researchers, and some interested onlookers like myself. While all installments didn't apply directly to our Linvilles, between the work he did and the directions it sent me scouting for Linville material when I Hendricks material cropping up in the same geographic locations as the Linvilles, bells would ring in my head. The good news is that using some of the Hendricks material that Dr. Davenport provided when read with "Linville" eyes, as opposed to "Hendricks" eyes, evinced some very interesting additions to both families' histories. The bad news is this engagement with the research along with all my other responsibilities left little time to take a break and let you all know what was happening. When I am in the throes of trying to figure out how things fit together, it is just very difficult to stop and write about where I am at in the research. I also do not like making some support from speculations without at least documentation. Otherwise, it tends to mislead people into thinking there

connections (i.e., "Ann Hendricks") when there aren't any. So I am hoping this report will make up for my lack of attentiveness to the always welcomed correspondence that some of you have sent me.

So on to the GOOD Stuff. Let's start with the land, because as I have come to learn through many years of research, just like in the real estate business, the three most important principles of success in family history research are "location, location and location"!

JOHN LINVILL'S CONESTOGA LAND

How one obtained land in Penn's Colony required a very specific step-by-step process. First, an application was required, then a warrant was issued for a survey, a survey conducted and, finally, a patent or clear title issued, with fees each step along the way. patented, annual quit rents were due. Linville's, like the Hendricks, seemed to have an aversion to paying quit rents and had figured out a way around it. When John Linvill obtained his 200 acre parcel as part of James Hendricks' 1100 acre warrant, a survey was filed, but no patent was issued. In other words, the title had never been perfected, so no rents needed to be collected. Since this was a relatively sparse area, and no one else was claiming the land, this problem wasn't a big obstacle. But, according to Dr. Davenport, under English Common law, a title could be perfected and a patent granted if the land was passed on to a third party. As a result, although John Linvill clearly lived on the 200 acres of land in Conestoga beginning in 1715/6, the title to that land for both Hendricks' larger portion and John's smaller wasn't perfected until they both passed deeds onto John Postlethwait in 1733.

The timing becomes important here, but I will save all that explanation for the larger five generation manuscript I am working on now. For the time being, it is enough to note that perfecting deeds for each other in this way is usually evidence of familial relationships — or, at least, a long term association. John and Helchey (Hendricks) Postlethwait's descendants are well documented and don't include a relationship to the Linvilles directly, but both Dr. Davenport and I suspected a Linvill-Hendricks relationship, which turns out to be the case, although not in the way we expected. Back to the land.

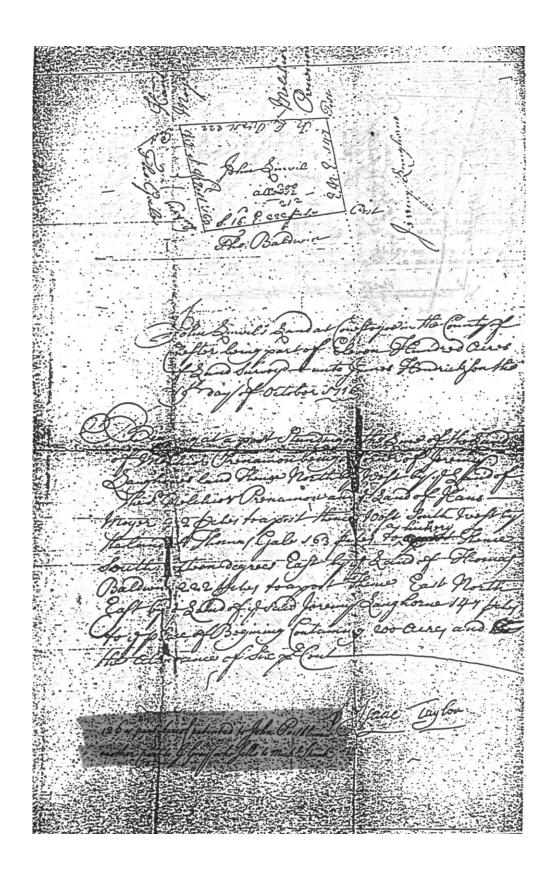
Many years ago I obtained copies of the John Linvill survey from the Taylor Papers at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania which indicated his 200 acres and neighbors. The surveys were included in the 300th anniversary edition of *The Linville Family in America*. The Linvill deeds went unrecorded in Chester (later Lancaster) County (it seems that this branch of the family, along with many of its neighbors, tended to avoid emerging bureaucracies). But when John and Ann Linvill's land, previously sold to Postlethwait, was passed on to a fourth party in 1751, the deed chain clearly identified John and Ann as

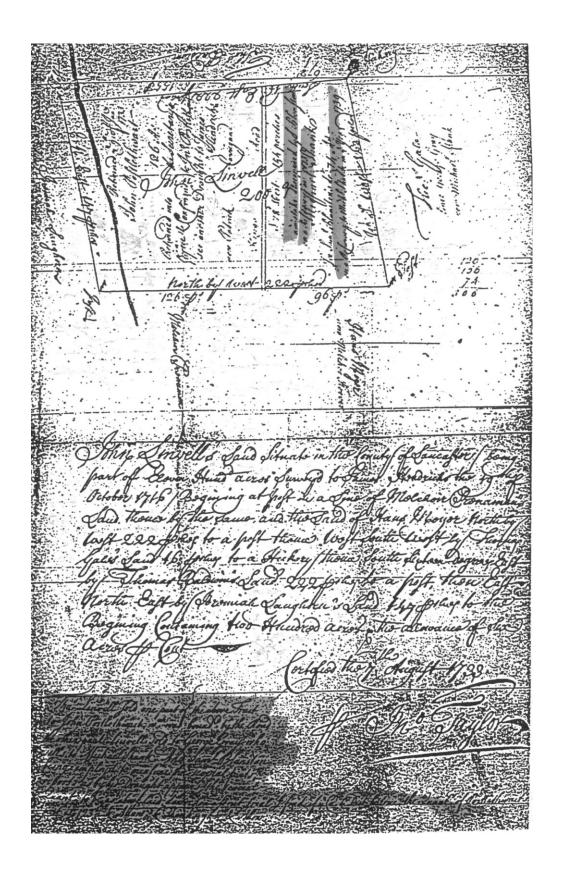
holders of the original 200 acre survey and tells us what happened to at least 126 of the 200 acres of that survey. By plotting out the metes and bounds of the survey, I could tell the 126 acres involved the land to the south side of the King's highway in Conestoga. That left 74 acres north of the highway unaccounted for and although I searched all the deed records for surrounding neighbors, I was unable to determine what happened to the other 74 acres. My reason for wanting to know what happened to the rest of the land was that it might tell us more about John or (more importantly) Ann. Perhaps another child of theirs stayed in Conestoga on the 74 acres after sons Thomas and William moved west across the Susquehanna and then south to Virginia. Knowing what happened to those acres might account for a third son John Linvill, Jr., identifying him as the John Linvill who appears in Shenandoah in 1737 and South Carolina in 1749. Or, it might give us a potential time of John Linvill, Sr.'s, death.

So on 15-18 October 1733 when John and Ann Linvill sold 126 acres to John Postlethwait, we can be reasonably assured that this was the original John and not a son John. Otherwise some other transaction between father and son should have been indicated in the deed chains articulated in the 1751 deed when Postlethwait sold that land. As a result, we can also be certain that John, the immigrant, had at least one wife named Ann. However, since Ann doesn't appear with John in any earlier deed chains or deeds recorded in Chester County, we can't be sure that she was his only wife.

This problem of possible confusion between father John and son John and their wives becomes more apparent when we look at the <u>other</u> copies of the John Linvill 200 acre survey. Dr. Davenport found these not at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, but in the Land Records Office at the Pennsylvania State Archives in Harrisburg, a place I still need to personally visit. Those two copies happen to have added notations, apparently entered by Samuel Blunston, surveyor for the proprietors. Because of their importance, I have included them here.

The first one appears at first glance to be the same as the one I had seen years before, with no date. However, the notation added on the copy at the Pennsylvania State Archives reads: "126 ac part hereof patented to John Postlethwait - another part to G. Gray who sells to Michl Shenk." So, for the first time, there is some indication what happened to the rest of the land. Postlethwait got the major portion south of the road and G. Gray, another neighbor, got the 74 acres.





The second document is a completely new survey that I had not seen and even shows how the 200 acres were divided between Postlethwait and George Gray on 7 August 1733. It notes that this is John Linvill's land and does not say that he is either deceased or "late of Conestoga." As a result, we can be reasonably sure that John Linvill, the immigrant, was still alive in August and Oct 1733, which means that it is he who has the wife named Ann (surname still not known) and not his son John. But there are two other notations that are also important.

First, Samuel Blunston noticed an error in the original survey and apparently recalculated the division in 1739. So we know that by 1739, both Postlethwait and Michael Shenk owned the land. Second, in the bottom left-hand corner is the following: "Thoms Linvill sold one part of the above Tract to John Postlethwait the other part Linvill sold to George Gray ... " followed by Samuel Blunston's indication that his survey discovered an error. Although this section of the document doesn't have a date, the first section discussed indicates 1739 as the year the error in survey was discovered. It seems clear that Blunston is the one who added the references on both documents, and in the 1739 notation mistakenly named Thomas (the eldest of John's sons) as the one who sold the land to Postlethwait and Gray. This might indicate that John Sr. must have died between 1733 and 1739. But we can get even closer to a death date than that. In all likelihood it occurred between the time when the 74 acres were sold to Gray, and when this document was amended to correct the acreage in 1739 in order Blunston to make this mental slip of naming the eldest son as grantor instead of the father.

But when did Gray buy the land? With no deeds between Linville and Gray in either Lancaster or Chester, I turned to the list of patents for George Gray in the Pennsylvania State Archives. Book A-10 p. 130, dated 21 July 1740 is the patent for George Gray's 74 + acres. the deed chain is abundantly clear: The Penns survey to James Hendricks 1100 acres 16 Feb 1714; Hendricks by deed sells 200 acres dated 15 Oct 1733 to John Linvill, the greater part of which was deeded by John Linvill to Postlethwait (no date given); John Linvill of Lancaster County to George Gray by deed 16 Jan 1735 - 84 acres. For the moment forget that there are ten additional acres, and notice that John Linvill - the same one who got the deed for 200 acres from James Hendricks and sold 126 acres to John Postlethwait was still alive and apparently living in Conestoga as of 16 Jan 1735. If it were the son, John, we would expect some distinction to be made between the two Johns in this deed chain. Also notice that none of the wives are mentioned in the deed chain although we know Ann was involved in the original sale. I mention this only because a 1714 deed chain in Chester County only mentions a John Linvill and no wife. I had assumed before that she might have died by that date, but clearly lack of wives in deed chains can't be assumed as an indication that they were not living at the time.

Now, how to account for the Blunston's notation on the survey about Thomas Linvill being the one who sold the two parts of John's 200 acres. My guess is that since the notation seems to be made AFTER 16 Jan 1735 and before 1739 when Blunston noticed the error in the amount of land in each section of the survey, that John Linvill, the immigrant, had died between those dates. Perhaps son Thomas came back to Conestoga, from the Shenandoah Valley, to either settle the remainder of the personal estate or to make arrangements for John's wife (probably Thomas' step-mother). There were, as we shall see, at least two other siblings of Thomas's living not far away, but I am getting ahead of myself. Blunston would have been quite familiar with this family since Thomas Linvill was one of a very few first Europeans living on the western side of the Susquehanna when Blunston was seeking guidance from the Penns about what to do with claims beyond the Susquehanna.

The year 1733 must have been an important one in the Linvill family - one marking the breaking of ties in one location and moving to another new frontier. It was also the start of the infamous border war between Maryland and Pennsylvania in which the Linvill's and Hendricks's were central. The trouble began at least by Feb 1733/4 when Thomas Cresap and others complained to Maryland authorities about being attacked at their homestead west of the Susquehanna by a group of 20-50 men from the Conestoga settlement including William Linvill, totting a gun and painted as an Indian. But, that is another story and will take us a bit off-track from this one.

So now that we know for sure that at least one wife of John Linvill's was an Ann (surname still not known) and that they sold the major portion of their holdings in October 1733, the rest two years later, let's turn to the evidence of the sisters of Thomas, William and brother John Linvill (Jr.).

ADD ANN AND LYDIA TO THE LINVILLE FAMILY ROSTER

Several years ago I had found the marriage record of a Lydia Linvill to a Samuel Richey 10 Aug 1736 in the Register of the Holy Trinity ("Old Swedes") Church, Wilmington, DE. Clearly she would have to have been born at least no later than 1716-1720 to marry in 1736. Since the two immigrant brothers, John and Thomas, were both married by that time and having children, she could have potentially been the daughter of either of them. Geography might have suggested Thomas because he was living closer to Wilmington. His marriage date occurred fairly close to a potential birth date for Lydia, especially when we consider that at least two male children were born to Thomas during that time although "early" births (before or right after marriage) were not that uncommon on the frontier.

The proof that she is John's daughter comes from another source. Riding thirty miles to get married in the closest church wasn't unheard of either. A classic bit of genealogical detective work in seeing the Hendricks material with "Linville" eyes produced the documentation that Lydia was John's daughter.

Dr. Davenport provided the following in his report [Vol. 2 #9] dated 20 April 1994:

Will of William Mearns, yeoman, of Windsor Township, York County

Written 18 Feb 1762. Probated 13 March 1762. Daus. Agnes, Martha to have L3/10/0 each to school them; Samuel Richey to have as much of estate as his Mother made unto him as well as a coat and jacket; rest divided into five equal shares and Elizabeth to get the big pot, bed and bedstead in her share. Ex. John Barns and Michael Bogle. Signed William "X" Mearns. Wit: Jos Bogel, Robert Clark, John Barns, Jr. [York Wills A: 244 - transcribed by Dr. Davenport]

YORK COUNTY ORPHANS COURT MINUTES

- 31 Aug 1762 Ann Hendrix, wife of Henry Hendrix, appeared in person and prayed the Court appoint a Guardian for Jannet Mearns, Agnes Mearns, and Martha Mearns, minor children of her brother-in-law William Mearns, late of Windsor Township, Fuller, Deceased. Peter Shugart, Esquire, appointed. Whereupon Elizabeth Mearns, age 17, and Lydia Mearns, age 14 appeared and chose Peter Shugart also [Book A: 228 transcribed by Davenport]
- 26 Mar 1763 Peter Shugart, guardian of Lydia Mearns, orphan daughter of John [sic] Mearns of Windsor Township, Deceased, aged 15 years "sometime in March," requests Court to approve Lydia's being bound and apprenticed to Mary Pitts of York Town, manteau maker, until she attains age 18. The Court approved [B: 11]
- 30 Nov 1763 John Barns, executor of William Mearns, late of Windsor Township, Fuller, Deceased, renders accounting of Estate, make distribution approved by Court of L3/12/11.5 each to Elizabeth, Lydia, Jannet, Agnes, and Martha as full and equal shares of their Father's estate. [B: 25]
- 26 Nov 1766 Ann Hendricks of North Carolina, by petition, in behalf of Lydia, Jennet, and Agnes Mearns, orphan children of William Mearns, late of York County, Deceased, all under age 21, claims that Peter Shugart, Guardian to said children, is not capable of performing guardianship, prays that Lydia and Jennet, now above age 14, be permitted to choose a Guardian. The Court granting Ann Hendricks's petition, Lydia and Jennet chose John McCoy of Windsor

Township. Whereupon the Court appointed John McCoy to be Guardian to Agnes Mearns also [B: 132]

From the above we learn that William Mearn's wife, was not only sister to Ann Hendricks of York, PA and later North Carolina, but had been married previously to a Richey and had a son Samuel. But who was formerly of York County, PA and by 1766 of North Ann Hendricks, Dr. Davenport's extensive work and documentation clearly Carolina? places her as the wife of "North" Henry Hendricks, so identified to distinguish him from a cousin "South" Henry Hendricks both of whom lived in York County at different ends of Shrewsbury (now Springfield) "North" Henry and his sons migrated from York County in 1763-4, son Henry locating on a section northeast of the Moravian Tract in what is now Forsyth County and the others adjacent to Eleanor (Bryan) Linville in Rowan County. These should be a familiar places to those who have followed the Linville family research down the Great Wagon Road.

"North" Henry Hendricks was bapt 14 March 1708 in St. Paul's Church, Chester, (now Delaware County), the son of Tobias Hendricks and Catherine (Tyler?) Hendricks. Tobias was heir to his father Albertus' estate, justice of peace in both Chester and Lancaster counties, and an associate judge in Lancaster until his death c. Nov 1739.

"North" Henry's wife Ann kept her vigil about her brother-in-law's children even after her move to North Carolina, but her sister's name is not mentioned. It is the notation in William Mearns' will about Samuel Richey and the implication that Richey's mother was his late wife which set Linville bells ringing for me. If we could prove that Samuel Richey, the heir to William Mearns' wife's unrecorded estate was the son of Samuel and Lydia (Linvill) Richey who married in 1736, we would then know the identity of "North" Henry Hendricks' wife Ann - as sister to Lydia Linvill. The added bonus would be identifying both as the daughters of John Linvill of Conestoga and not Thomas Linvill of Chichester.

A visit with Peg and Paul Linvill at the farm in Media this past August and some financial assistance from Marc Linville in California, provided the opportunity for another trip to Lancaster to see if I could document Lydia (Linvill) Richey as the one who had a son Samuel (old enough to be on his own in 1762) and who had second married to William Mearns at least by 1745 for the birth of daughter Elizabeth.

WILL OF SAMUEL RICHEY, HEMPFIELD TOWNSHIP, LANCASTER

Although the original is no longer extant, a typed copy of Samuel Richey's will was found at the Lancaster County Archives and the

original copy of his estate inventory was located at the Lancaster County Historical Society. They provided all the additional documentation needed to place Ann (Linvill) Hendricks and Lydia (Linvill) Richey Mearns as the daughters of John and Ann(?) Linvill of Conestoga and consequently sisters to Thomas, William, and John Jr.

Lancaster Book A:42

14 Oct 1736 - Samuel Richie of Hempfield, Lancaster, yeoman "I give and Bequeath unto my Dearly beloved Wife Lydia an equall Share of all Goods and Chattels Which I and my Brethern Charles & Hugh are Possest of att this Present time and Likewise I Leave Her one Bed and the Furniture thereto belonging Likewise one Large Chest. And I Likewise ordaine that out of the Thirds that I have Bequeathed to my Wife She shall give the one half thereof to my son Samuel And I do Likewise Ordaine and Constitute my Dearly Beloved Wife and my two Brothers Hugh and Charles to be the Executors of this my Last Will and Testament"... Wit: Alexander Richie, Joseph Call, Charles Pippin.

Proved 1 Jan 1739/40 in front of Samuel Blunton, Deputy Registrar.

Clearly, Samuel Richey shared a third of a family business with his brothers Hugh and Charles. This is supported by the nature of the inventory that follows. His land, according to the surveys at the Lancaster County Historical Society, was positioned on the northwest side of the Conestoga, across from the Postlethwait Tavern. For those of you with A Second Visit with the Linvilles this land is identified as Lot # 26 in the Conestoga settlement and misidentified in the source I used for that map as the land of Alexander and Christian Richey. I have examined the original survey in the Lancaster County Historical Society and it clearly lists Alexander and Samuel Richey as the owners of that lot.

Although it was in very poor shape, a copy of Samuel Richey's original inventory is presented here for two reasons. First, this is the earliest such document of any Linvilles in the 18th century and, as such, provides a sense of what the internal composition of a household was - one in which there seems to be some prosperity. The family seems to have been engaged in some form of textile (wool and linen) Second, the very last entry in the inventory taken Jan production. Mar 1740 provides the strong documentation that we are dealing with John Linvill of Conestoga and not Thomas Linvill of Chichester as the father of Ann and Lydia, for Samuel Richey and his brothers Hugh and Charles held a 45 shilling note of John Linvill's. Whether this is the father or the son John is not clear. I have not pursued anything further about the Richey's at this point, but the records of brothers Hugh and charles and their probable father Alexander may shed some light on this. As always, there seem to be never ending stones to overturn -- even in a family that left few written records!

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John Linvill, the immigrant, was the father and Ann (_____) probably the mother of at least the youngest of the following children. The order of the male children is fairly certain, but not of the female children:

Ann Linville b.c. 1708 m. "North" Henry Hendricks, son of Tobias, grandson of Albertus, original Dutch settler at Marcus Hook; lived in Chester until about 1724 and then moved to Conestoga. At some point (perhaps around the death of her father in 1735-39 and Henry's in 1739, they moved across the Susquehanna to Springfield Twp in what is now Adams County, PA until about 1765 and then migrated down the wagon road, stopping first in Augusta County for a short while and then locating in the forks of the Yadkin about 1766. One son lived in Guilford County, the others were adjacent to widow Eleanor (Bryan) Linvill on the Yadkin. There is much more about this family which will have to wait for another time. Children (Hendricks) James, Tobias, David, John, Peter, Henry, Susannah, Joan (?), George and Catherine and perhaps other daughters.

William Linvill b.c. 1710 m. Ellender Bryan

Lived in Conestoga until about 1728-30, then across the Susquehanna and is referred to as a planter in "Baltimore County," and also as a "rioter" from Conestoga during the border wars. Then he moved to the Shenandoah Valley until about 1747 when he moved to the forks of the Yadkin River on Linville Creek in what is now Davie County, NC. Killed by Cherokees in 1766.

Jobn Linvill b.c. 1712 [Aug 1999 correction] m. Maria Christina Stephens in May 1737. Lived in Shenandoah Valley in 1737 (see discussion under Peter Linville, below and in Addendum)

Lydia Linvill b.c. 1714-16 m. Samuel Richey 10 Aug 1736 in Old Swede's Church, Wilmington, DE 2nd m. William Mearns, and died before 1762. Had at least one son, Samuel Richey and five daughters (Mearns) Elizabeth b. 1745; Lydia b. March 1748; Jannet b. 1752; Agnes; and Martha (who probably died about 1766).

Alice Linvill b.c. 1720 m. Joseph Bryan and lived in Linville, VA until 1755 when they moved south to the Linville/Bryan community on the Yadkin in NC.

Before moving on to the evidence for Peter Linville's parents, let's take notice of another Peter - Peter Shugart, Esq., who was the first guardian of the Mearns minors. Dr. Davenport has identified him as sheriff and justice of peace for both Lancaster and York counties in the late 1750s, and husband to Mary Worley, daughter of Francis Worley. This makes Shugart a brother-in-law to John Hendricks (wife Rebecca Worley) and son-in-law to Francis Worley. Remember that John Hendricks is also a brother-in-law to Thomas Baldwin (wife Helchey Hendricks) who in turn is half-brother of John Linvill. While I am still working on the assumption that there must be a Linvill/Worley connection to account for all the Worley Linvills in North Carolina, I have not been able to find out anything more about Brace Worley's son William Worley (grandson of Francis). This added connection between Shugart and John Linvill's grandchildren only adds more to my resolve to determine what the connection is between the Worleys and the Linvills.

I have another reason as well. Francis Worley, Sr. who knew the Linvill benefactor, Humphrey Killingbeck, who was likely responsible for the Linvill's passage to Penn's Colony in 1682-3.

PETER LINVILLE'S PARENTS

The evidence seems incontrovertible [Aug 1999] that Peter Linville of Washington County, Pennsylvania was the son of John and Maria Christina (Stephens) Linvill. She was the daughter of Peter Stephens (Peter Linville's namesake) and sister to Lewis Stephens Linville's namesake. This would support Peter Linville as brother to Lewis Linville whose family owned a large plot of land on the Newbury/Laurens county border in South Carolina. Peter Stephens, an (1730s) settler with Jost Hite around Springdale Stephenstown in Virginia. Dr. Davenport's work in South Carolina has been of enormous assistance in piecing together the evidence. addition, through the assistance of Dr. Daniel Bly, of Bridgewater College, Virginia, who provided a better translation of Rev. Stoever baptisms and marriage records (See "Linville Roots," Vol. 5, No. 2) and some additional information on the Stephens family, we now have the documentation needed to be clear about John's wife and in-laws. is discussed in the Addendum to this issue.

We have four [Aug 1999] births of Linville males that occur connected to Frederick County, Virginia. I have now [Aug 1999] been through all the court, deed, probate records and fee books in the county searching for any clues as to the whereabouts of a Linville couple who could account for all three births. I was hoping to find a record like the Mearns/Hendricks ones which would at least tell me that their mother and/or father were no longer living. Instead, two land records emerged which cemented the details (See Aug 1999 Addendum).

The first birth comes from the records of Rev. Stoever as he traveled through the outer reaches of frontier settlements in the second quarter of the 18th century.

Lewis Leenwill, son of John Leenwill, was baptized in the Shenandoah settlement 20 Feb 1737. Lewis Stephan(Stephens) was the witness who, in German tradition, would have been responsible for the religious upbringing and education of the child if the parents were unable. Lewis Stephens was the oldest son of Peter Stephens and wife Maria Christina Rittenhouse and the founder of Stephens City, Virginia. In May of 1737, John Leevill and his "Spousa" "Anna" Christina Stephan served the same role for Emma (Anna) Maria Bauman (Bowman) who later became the wife of Lawrence Stephens, a younger son of Peter Stephens.

Peter Linville, b. 25 April 1750 and served in the American Revolution in a company of men who lived around Stephenstown, VA.

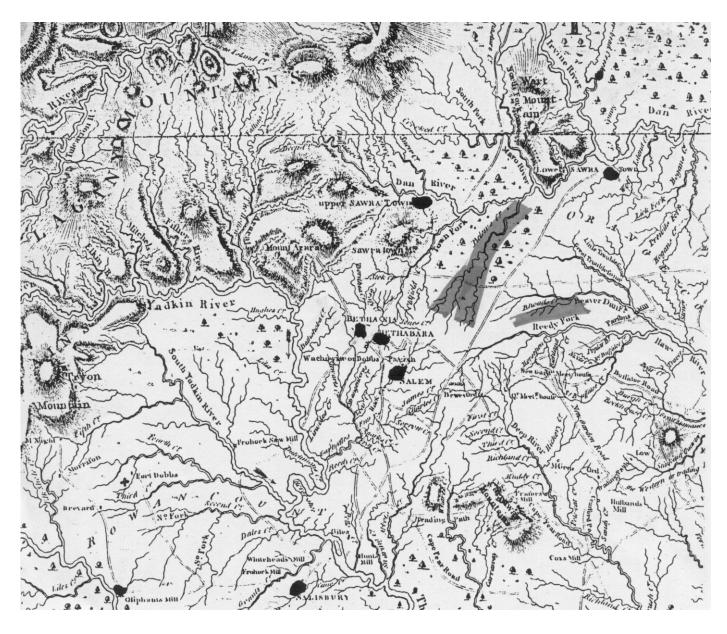
William Linville, b. 27 Nov 1757 in Frederick County and lived there until he enlisted in 1777 when the Georgia recruiters came looking with money in their pockets for men to fill their militia. He marched to Georgia and never returned to Virginia.

John Linville, b. about 1760 (but at least before 1765, according to census records) and married Elizabeth Shivertaker 23 Oct 1792 in Frederick County, VA. The Shivertakers, including a Jacob and Philip owned land adjacent to the Stephens family in Frederick County.

William never had any children. Lewis had a large family and later (at least following the Revolutionary War) lived in South Carolina in what had long been a Hendricks settlement. And yes, from given and middle names in some of these South Carolina records, there are marriages between the Hendricks and Linvilles in South Carolina, too. Peter, from whom a large number of Linville are descended, moved to Washington County, PA about 1778. John Linville moved to Harrison County, WV and some of his grandchildren to Missouri. All three men who had children are the only branches of the Linville family who have children and descendants in the next generation named Lewis, Peter, Jacob. John also is the only Linville to use the name Philip.

What happened to the John, the husband of Maria Christina Stephens is not clear, but her name was NOT "Anna" Christina and she is NOT the Ann Linvill [see Addendum] whose estate was probated by (?son-in-law) Elisha Rhodes (Rhoads) in South Carolina. As it happens, the Rhodes family had previously lived on Rhoads Creek, a branch of the next major waterway east of Belews Creek in North Carolina (see map). This is located in what is now Rockingham and Guilford counties (originally Orange County), North Carolina and I have not looked at Orange county records yet (would someone like to volunteer??) to learn more about the

Rhodes family and why it is that he would have been involved in Ann Linville's estate.



I am now working on a chronology which would help to present the evidence for the probable connection between these three births in Frederick County. It shows that John Linville and wife Maria Christina Stephens first lived in Shenandoah Valley between at least 1737 and 1748; then along the Tiger (first called "Linville") River in what is now Newberry County, South Carolina in at least 1749-51, if not later; then returned to Stephens settlements back up the wagon road in Virginia where John was definitely no longer living by 1777. This is the work is covered in brief in the Addendum.

MARY LINVILLE, WIFE OF EZEKIEL MORRIS

All of the above discussion has concerned the descendants of John Linvill, the immigrant. Here is a new item concerning immigrant Thomas Linvill's descendants. In addition to the files of the DAR membership applications, Marie Linville in Russell, Iowa found some material on the Morris family in Howard Leckey's *The Tenmile Country IPA] and its Pioneer Families* (Knightstown, IN: The Bookmark, 1977). The book presents some information about Ezekiel Morris and wife Mary, but says that it has been proven she is NOT Mary Linvill. The DAR applications called her Mary Linvill and says she was married to Ezekiel Morris in 1769, but no place is given and no exact date.

But, in F. Edward Wright's volume 1, Berks County Church Records, covering the eastern part of Berks County, there is a marriage recorded for Ezekiel Morris and Mary Linvill of Cumru township, Berks County 25 June 1769 in St. Gabriel's Church. DAR applications #496648 and #488863 list Mary's birth date as 11 Feb 1747 and death date as 25 Nov 1836. She is buried with Ezekiel Morris in Morris Evans Cemetery in Pickaway County, Ohio.

Given her birthdate and place of residence when she married in 1769, it seems highly probable that she was a daughter of Joseph Linville of Cumru township in Berks County. She and Ezekiel had a number of children but there are many inconsistencies between the DAR applications and the Leckey accounting. Leckey's account also wants to call her Mary O'Neal, a sister to Barnet and Henry O'Neal. Perhaps Ezekiel had two wives named Mary, but certainly the one he married in 1769 was Mary Linville. If anyone wants to follow-up on the identification of her children, please let me know.

THOMAS LINVILLE OF BERKS COUNTY

In Vol. 2 of the church record transcriptions cited above I also found reference to a Thomas Linvill who transferred Quaker membership from Sadsbury Meeting in 1796 to Exeter Meeting, Berks County, and then was cleared for marrying, although I didn't find a marriage record. This seems undoubtedly to be the Thomas Linville, son of William of Darby, who married Martha Wiggins and then moved to Northumberland County, Pennsylvania.

ADDENDUM

In the past year, I visited Frederick County, VA court house and local history collection at the library in Winchester and corresponded and consulted with Dr. Daniel W. Bly, history professor at Bridgewater College in Virginia. Between the two of us we came up with solid documentation which fills in a number of gaps in what we know about Thomas and William Linville's brother John who also went to Shenandoah with him but appears in South Carolina on the Tyger River (originally called "Linville River").

The following chronology emerges from the documentation:

- 3 May 1736 John Linville likely married Maria Christina Stephens on this day in Shenandoah Valley, VA. Dr. Bly, an astute reader of both German and Latin, noticed that in his Baptism and Marriage records, Rev. Johann Casper Stoever used the Latin term "Spousa" when referring to Anna (sic) Christina Stephens' relationship to John "Lenvill" their sponsorship at baptism of Anna Maria Baumann 2 May 1736. term "Spousa" is comparable to our term "financee" which means that she was espoused to Linville, but not yet married. Stoever also recorded German family records in German and English family records in English. In his notes following the day, 3 May 1736, he indicates, in English, that he married two couples at "Opekon." Stoever was in error in naming the bride "Anna" Christina, unless her German baptismal name had been Anna Maria Christina. Note that the name of the child baptized It is not uncommon for children to receive the names was Anna Maria. of sponsors. Maria Christina is the way her father Peter referred to her in his 1757 will and Christina is the name she used herself (see below) in later documents, one in which she names Lewis Stephens as her brother.
- 20 Feb 1737 Lewis "Lenwill" was born, the son of John Lenwill. Lewis was baptized 7 June 1737 at North "Shanado, when Rev. Stoever returned the following summer. Lewis' birth would have been just nine months after John and Christina's probable marriage date.
- 17 July 1744 Frederick County Order Book "1", p. 161. Lewis Stephens sued John Linwill in a case of slander. The suit was dismissed.

Year 1744 - John Linville paid court fees to the secretary of the court [711THL - James Wood Collection - Handley Library, Winchester, VA]. Interestingly enough, in addition to the Bryan, Bowman, Chrisman and Stephens names on the list for that year, the following names appear:

Richard and John Morgan and William Richey (associated with the Linvilles in Conestoga before the move to Virginia)

Mary McDowell, Abraham Vanderpool and Abraham Job (associated with the Linvilles in Belews Creek, NC after the move from Virginia.

6 Aug 1747 - Frederick County Order Book "2," p. 274. Lawrence Snap, was an assignee of John Linwell, assignee of Nathaniel Page vs. William Harman in debt.

[Clearly, John had left Frederick County since he sold an "IOU" he had purchased from Nathaniel Page and then sold it to Snap, who was his wife's brother-in-law. Snap is the one who went to court to collect. He does not appear in any of the extant county fee books or order books after this date.

7 Aug 1750 John Linvil's Path is marked on a 1750 map in South Carolina outlining neighbor John Heigler's property on the north side of Collins' River(SC Colonial Plats, Vol. 5, p. 179 - South Carolina Archives).

14 May 1750 - according to his gravestone in Cross Creek Cemetery, Washington County, PA, Peter Linville was born. This means he would have been born in South Carolina.

1750-57 - no further records of the family found in VA or SC.

25 Nov 1757 - William Linville is born, according to his Revolutionary War pension records. Interestingly enough, the abstract of the record suggests he was born in Frederick County, VA and had lived there until 8 Feb 1777 when he was recruited at that location by Georgia which was paying for recruits. However, the original files (W5321) are specific only in saying that William was born in Frederick County, Virginia and lived at the place of recruitment (Frederick County) on the day of the recruitment. It doesn't say he had lived in Frederick County for all of the twenty years. It says, also, that he will be age 75 years "the 23rd day of November next [1832], according to the information handed to him (he having no family record [of the birth]) by his parents..."

by at least 1760 - John Linville was born - location not known and parents are assumed by the fact that John married in 1792 a woman who lived "next door" to John's in-laws, the Stephens. Because he would have been over 30 when he married, it is possible that this was a second marriage and his first wife died. Prof. Bly has done a study of the span of reproductive years for women in the Shenandoah families with the typical span between 23-42 years of age for women. Since Maria Christina, was likely born about 1712-15 (to fit with the chronology of her family), she would have been between 25 and 48 during

her childbearing years if John were the last child born. It is actually more conceivable that John was born BEFORE William (given German naming patterns) making him about 37 at the time of his marriage in 1792. He died shortly after 1810, so it is entirely possible that either this was a late or second marriage for him. But his location seems to place him squarely in the John and Maria Christina (Stephens) Linville family.

30 Oct 1771 - South Carolina Colonial Plats (V. 17, p. 292, Item #1) cites "a small branch of Second Creek called Linvel's branch the waters of Broad River.." between the Broad and Saludy (sic) rivers. This is about 10 miles downstream of the "path to John Linvel's" in 1750. Is this where John Linville and his children had been living since the 1750s?

By 1774-7, the family is clearly back in Frederick County, VA.

2 Nov 1775 - Peter Lenville, Capt. Peter Helphrinstine's Roll of those who served in Lord Dunmore's War in fall of 1774. Others in the list come from Frederick County, VA, particularly around Middletown and Stephens City.

7 Feb 1777 - William Linville of Frederick County, VA enlisted in the revolution and marched to Georgia where he lived most of the rest of his life except for a short time after the war when he was in South Carolina.

In addition to Peter Linville serving with a group of Frederick County men who lived in and around his uncle Lewis Stephens in Lord Dunmore's War and William Linville enlisting from Frederick County, VA in early 1777, there are two additional documents concerning Christina (Stephens) Linville.

27 Aug 1777 - Christina Linville signed an affidavit indicating that Solomon Carpenter had a survey made on "capcapion [River] in Hampshire County commonly called Rough Bottom" adjacent to Thomas Hughes and Joseph Powell. Carpenter conveyed it to Thomas Taylor and Taylor sold it to Christina Linvill, according to her oath. A bond of agreement between Carpenter and Taylor was signed over to Christina as right and title to the land. She says that she cannot remember the exact sum, but says that she fully paid Taylor according to their agreement. She then sold the same land to her Christina Linville signed with an "X". [Northern Neck Warrants and Surveys - General Records #104 - Virginia State Archives]

There are no dates for any of the transactions and while the original Carpenter bond was in the same folder of the affidavit, it was folded and severely deteriorated. No date was evident on what can be seen. However, the land was also entered 8 Sept 1777 by John Young,

who bought it from Lewis Stephens, into the Northern Neck Grants which provides a bit more information [Northern Neck Grants Book Q-164]. The land was 260 acres and the original survey had been made by George Washington, Esq. 15 April 1751.

Several things can be suggested by the affidavit in addition to making it crystal clear that Christina Linvill and Lewis Stephens were siblings. First, it is likely that she had acquired the land as a widow otherwise her husband, John, should have been mentioned as an owner in either of the two documents. Second, she probably had had the land for a while since she didn't remember what she paid for it. And, third, she was giving up her land probably to be cared for by her brother Lewis' family. This would certainly bring son John right into the precise geographic area we would expect for him to marry a Shivertaker neighbor. By this date, he would be the only son still at home since Peter was in western PA, Lewis in South Carolina and William on his way to Georgia. It seems probable that there may have been a few daughters as well.

Most importantly, it also makes it clear that Ann, who was wife of John Linvill, the immigrant, and Christina, her daughter-in-law are two clearly, distinct people. Therefore, the Ann who died in the middle of Hendricks country in South Carolina in 1785, would have to have been John, Sr.'s widow, while Christina was John, Jr.'s widow.

It seems probable that Christina returned to Virginia with the children following John's death, probably in South Carolina some time in the 1760s. Tracking the land holdings for all the people mentioned in Christina's affidavit makes it possible to locate the land and narrow the range of time during which she may have held it. The term "Rough Bottom" doesn't appear in the others' land records, but the location is at the foot of Anderson Hill, along Waite's Run near present-day Wardensville, Hardy County, WV. Hardy wasn't formed from Hampshire County until 1786, nearly ten years after Christina sold the land. There are no land records in Hamsphire county indexes listed for any Linvill.

Adjacent land owners Thomas Hughes and wife Susanna had been there since 1759 [Hamsphire Deeds Bk 1, p. 13/19] at least until 1762 and Joseph Powell since 1754 [Northern Neck Grants H-444]. The Hughes family were large land owners and sold some of their land to the Fry family. Surveys for all three families up until 1762 do not mention either Christina or Thomas Taylor. In fact, except for the reference to Thomas Taylor and Solomon Carpenter in Christina's affidavit, I have not yet found any reference to either man.

Regardless, it seems clear that Christina (Stephens) Linvill bought the land after husband John died and that it would likely not have been before 1762-3. This means that unless other evidence emerges to dispute it, the John and Christina (Stephens) Linville family lived

on Rough Bottom in Hardy County, WV between about 1764-1777. John likely died, possibly in South Carolina, in the early 1760s and his widow and younger sons, Peter, William and John likely returned to greater Frederick County, VA to live near her family while son Lewis, already thirty years old, stayed in South Carolina.

Definitively, Ann Linville who died in Laurens/Newberry County, SC in 1785 [Estate misfiled in Abbeville District loose papers] is not the same person as "Anna" Maria Christina (Stephens) Linville who probably died in Frederick County, VA after 1777. Their relationship, however, would have been one of mother-in-law and daughter-in-law, both of them married of John Linvill, one father, one a son.

Subsequent errata from this original publication:

This issue and the Addendum that is at the end of it, significantly updates earlier work reported in LFA chapters 1-2.

p. 5-6, 13 - Highlighted passages are not easy to read in the pdf copy. Try magnifying with computer view.