

Who is the father of Joseph Taylor Sr.? Gayle Hix finds another candidate

If you have been studying our Taylor Association's database, you recall that we don't officially accept the parentage of Joseph Taylor Sr., husband of Nancy _____, as proven. Several theories exist. *The one with ties to Zachary Taylor has been debunked.* (Sorry about that.) The theory that Joseph descends from three generations of Richards has a lot of support, but is nevertheless circumstantial. (See <http://www.taylorassociation.com> for the Thorndale Reports.) The second edition of the Taylor family history book being prepared by Shari Franke has much additional detail about the Taylor's but doesn't endorse any candidates for the position of missing ancestor. She deals with the history that's *known* to be connected.

If you've been a subscriber to our newsletter you are aware that we have a Taylor Clearing House where questions about Joseph and other early North Carolina and Virginia Taylors are being studied. Our leading researcher for the project is Gayle Dean Hix, CLS. He is presently going through materials from Ancestral Research Center, the company who hired William Thorndale, A.G., C.G. to do the 1978 research commissioned by the Taylor family organization as it existed then. We have posted the reports on the Web, but Gayle has been studying:

180 pages on North Carolina Taylor families

He lists 38 sources where the citations came from.

110 pages on Norfolk County, Virginia Taylor families

There are 51 sources on this list

Seven pages on Hardy families in London (part of the lineage of the 3 Richards)

Eight sources are given here

26 pages of notes made at the NC division of Archives & Historian, Raleigh.

26 sources are listed here

Then he states that Sections A and B of the research notes have still not been found in the boxes of Thorndale papers given to our present Taylor Association. *[Does anyone know where these are?]*

The ARC company suggested further research in all VA and NC counties enclosed in a 90-mile circle drawn from the mouth of the Roanoke River in Mecklenburg county, VA. They also recommended that the data be put on the back of family group records to facilitate analysis of the vast collection of data. Gayle says the recommendations were apparently never followed for two reasons *[summarized here by TT editor]*:

The Taylor organization had other questions, involving Kentucky, Nauvoo, London, and the Zachary Taylor "bogey."

They ran out of time and money. The project was over budget. *[Some six thousand dollars had been spent.]*

Subject: Fw: Edward Taylor Will - Isle of Wight County

Date: Thu, 24 Oct 2002 14:37:17 -0700

From: "Gayle Dean Hix, CLS" <gdhix@cablone.net>

To: "Gayle Hix" <gdhix@cablone.net>, "Eileen Phelps" <eileenph@xmission.com>, "Noel Taylor" <NoelCO2@aol.com>, "Shari Franke" <DWFranke@aol.com>, "Veldon Hix" <vhix@snackteam.com>, "Brian L. Taylor" <brijeat@juno.com>

Oops!

----- Original Message -----

From: Gayle Dean Hix, CLS


To: Gayle Hix ; Eileen Phelps ; Noel Taylor ; Shari Franke ; Veldon Hix ; Brian L. Taylor

Sent: Thursday, October 24, 2002 2:33 PM

Subject: Edward Taylor Will - Isle of Wight County

Here is a copy and a transcription of the will of Edward Taylor of Isle of Wight County, Virginia. It appears that neither Joseph and his heirs nor Edward JR and his heirs returned for the inheritance. George got the plantation.

Gayle Dean Hix, CLS
Idaho Falls, Idaho

 <u>Taylor Scans.doc</u>	Name: Taylor Scans.doc Type: Microsoft Word Document (application/msword) Encoding: base64
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Edward Taylor Will. 81

Edward Taylor Will - Isle of Wight County
Gayle Dean Hix, CLS

Here is a copy and a transcription of the will of Edward Taylor of Isle of Wight County, Virginia. It appears that neither Joseph and his heirs nor Edward Jr. and his heirs returned for the inheritance. George got the plantation. *[Is one missing son, Joseph Taylor, our Joseph Sr.?)*

Will of Edward Taylor

In The Name of God Amen. I Edward Taylor of the Isle of Wight County being very sick & weak in Body Yet of a sound Mind and perfect Memory do make this my last Will and Testament. First I commit my Soul to God that gave it and my Body to be buried in a Christian manner and the rest of my Estate as followeth. Item, I Give unto my Son Joseph Taylor my Plantation and all the Land belonging to it, to him and his Heirs lawfully begotten of his Body and if such Heirs fail to return to my Son Edward and his heirs lawfully begotten of his Body and if such Heirs fail to return to my Son George and his Heirs forever. Item, I Give to my loving Wife Mary Taylor liberty of my Plantation, Horses and Land during her Widow Life. Item, I Give to my Son Edward my Gun and a 2 Year Old Heifer and her Increase. Item, I Give to my Son George, one Year Old Heifer and her Increase and my Sword I give to my Son George. Item, I Give to my Daughter Elizabeth, a Three Year Old Cow and Cows' Calf and their Increase. Item: I Give all the remainder part of my Estate to my loving wife Mary Taylor who I do Appoint my whole Executor to see this my Will done and performed. As Witness my Hand and Seal this Twenty Ninth day of June 1734.

Edward Taylor

Signed, Sealed and Delivered
in the Presence of Us, Robert Ely Jr., Ambrose Sanders, Sarah Osburn
As a Court held for Isle of Wight County, May 26, 1735

The last Will and Testament of Edward Taylor, deceased, was presented in Court by Mary Taylor his Relict & Executrix who made Oath thereto according to Law and being Proved by the Oaths of the Witnesses thereto it is admitted to Record

Teste James Baker Clerk of Court
???? Recordsture Teste Jas. Baker Clerk Court

FHL Film #0032023 Item 1, Isle of Wight County, Virginia, Wills & Accounts, Vol 4 Page 63.

Taylor Research-1978

The Taylor research project in 1978 was handled by a Salt Lake City firm named Ancestral Research Center, Inc. The professional genealogist assigned to the Taylor project was William Thorndale who has the credentials of both AG and CG. He authored and co-authored several genealogy books. He was and still is a good genealogical researcher and writer. He personally told me that clients like lots of data and lots of reports. The Taylor family got lots of both.

The ARC is no longer in business, but it's high time that someone analyzed the data and the reports supplied by the company.

One hundred-eighty pages of research notes gives information on North Carolina Taylor families taken from the following books:

- Kinfolks of Edgecombe County, NC 1788-1855
- Abstracts of Early Deeds of Edgecombe County, NC 1772-1788
- The North Carolina Gazetteer
- Abstracts of Early Deeds of Edgecombe, NC 1759-1772
- Abstracts of Deeds: Edgecombe Precinct, Edgecombe, NC 1732-1758
- Southern Taylor Families 1607-1830
- Tyrell County, NC records (complete)
- Tyrell County, NC deeds
- Martin County, NC
- Martin County, NC grantor index 1772-1881
- Martin County, NC deeds
- Beaufort County, NC
- Beaufort County, NC grantor index 1696-1917
- Beaufort County, NC deeds
- Pitt County, NC records
- Pitt County, NC grantor index
- Pitt County, NC deeds
- Edgecombe County, NC general index
- Edgecombe County, NC deeds
- Nauvoo Baptisms for the Dead book A
- Abstracts: Granville grantees, Halifax County, NC, public registry
- Halifax, NC deeds, grantor index
- Halifax, NC (actually Edgecombe)
- Quarterly Review of the Eastern NC Genealogical Society
- Edgecombe, NC abstracts of court minutes
- Edgecombe, NC county court minutes
- Heads of Families 1790 North Carolina
- 1800 Census for Edgecombe-Martin-Pitt Counties, NC
- 1810 Census for Edgecombe-Martin-Pitt Counties, NC
- Tyrell, NC register of land 1747-1748
- Tyrell, NC cross index to wills 1750-1960

Tyrell, NC court minutes 1735-1770
Tyrell, NC guardian bonds 1739-1829
Tyrell, NC deeds
Martin, NC deeds
Tyrell, NC deed indexes
Tyrell, NC grantees
Conetoe Creek area deeds

One hundred-ten pages of research notes give information on Norfolk County, Virginia
Taylor families taken from:

Norfolk, VA index to deeds
Norfolk, VA deeds
Virginia Wills and Administrations 1632-1800
Brief Abstracts of Norfolk County Wills 1710-1753
Collection of Unrecorded Wills, Norfolk County, VA 1711-1800
Brief Abstract of Lower Norfolk County and Norfolk County Wills 1637-1710
Norfolk, VA deeds
Norfolk, VA general index to wills
Norfolk, VA order book 1742-1746
Norfolk, VA guardian bonds 1751-1761
The Bertie index for courthouse records of Bertie County, NC 1720-1875
Bertie, NC wills
Revolutionary War pension and bounty-land warrant application files
Edgecombe, NC inventories
Roster of soldiers from NC in the American Revolution
Revolutionary War pension and bounty-land warrant application files
1820 Edgecombe, NC census
1830 Edgecombe, NC census
1840 Edgecombe, NC census
1850 Edgecombe, NC census
Norfolk, VA minute book 1743-1746
Julians Creek deeds and patents
Norfolk, VA deeds
Marriage bonds of Norfolk, VA
Marriages of Norfolk, VA
Norfolk, VA wills and deeds
Norfolk, VA deeds
Cavalier and pioneers: Abstracts of Virginia land patents and grants
Elizabeth River parish, Norfolk, VA
Southern Taylor families 1607-1830
Heads of families in 1790
Norfolk, VA wills & deeds
Norfolk, VA deeds
Vestry book of Elizabeth River Parish 1749-1761
Lower Norfolk, VA antiquary

The Virginia Genealogist
Johnston, NC wills abstracts 1746-1825
Virginia antiquary volume 1: Princess Anne County loose papers 1700-1789
Genealogical abstracts of Princess Anne County, VA court records from deed books 6 & 7 and minute books 6 & 7 1740-1762
The colonial vestry book of Lynn haven Parish, Princess Anne, VA
VA land patents indexed by counties
Taylor to Theodore Taylor deeds
Norfolk, VA index to appraisements
Norfolk, VA general index to audits
Virginia colonial abstracts
Norfolk, VA appraisements
Norfolk, VA guardian bonds 1761-1769
History of Norfolk, VA and representative citizens
Princess Anne, VA guardian accounts
Norfolk City, Norfolk County extra-territorial unit
VA genealogist
Notes to tie up loose ends

Seven pages of research notes give information on Hardy families in London, England.

The Registers of Christ Church, Newgate, 538-1754
Archdeaconry Count of London-Calendar of Wills and Administration
Archdeaconry of London original wills box 36 1710-1712
The History of the Butchers Company
The guilds and companies of London
London marriage licenses, 1521-1869
A true register of all the christenings, marriages and burials in the parish of St. James, Clarkewell from the year of our Lorde God 1551

26 pages of research notes made at the NC division of Archives & Historian Raleigh, NC.

Colonial families of southern states
Genealogy of the Fitzburgh
Some colonial and revolutionary families of NC
Taylors of Virginia
Taylors of Tennessee
History of Southern families
Southside VA families
VA history genealogy
Family chronicles... Taylor et al
Carter of Tennessee
Southern Taylor Families 1607-1830
Edwards of Northampton
Genealogical and ancestral notes
Thomas Taylor, Nashville, Tennessee
VA genealogy
Some VA families... Taylor

Chronicle of two pioneer families NC backwoods
John Fleming, Carolina to California
The Rhoades family in America
Sketches of Rabun county history
Taylor family records
As a tree grows...NW NC
Hendon-Hunt
General notes...Taylor
History Wm Taylor 1757-1845
Abstracts of deeds: Edgecombe County, NC

Sections A and B of the research notes still have not been found.

The research notes were handwritten extracts of this multitude of records. They represent several weeks of work just to extract. Analysis of the information that was extracted represents several more weeks of work by the researcher.

Searching of records was limited in several instances due to pre-conceived restrictions on the project. It appears that records were being searched right up to the day the final report was being written.

A preliminary report was written by ARC, Inc 22 March 1977 outlining their recommendations for further research covering every VA and NC county enclosed in a 90 mile circle drawn from the mouth of the Roanoke River in Mecklenburg county, VA. The next ARC recommendation was to put the data on the back of family group records to facilitate analysis of such a vast collection of data.

Note: These two recommendations were apparently never followed for two major reasons:

1. The Taylor organization kept asking questions that side tracked the main issue of the project to find the ancestry of Joseph Taylor Sr. Sidetracks reported in subsequent reports included:
 - A. Proof that the KY Taylor's came from NC
 - B. Study the proxy baptisms done in Nauvoo
 - C. A letter from John Harding in London
 - D. Other Taylor families in KY
 - E. Resurrecting the Zachary Taylor bogey
2. They simply ran out of time and money.

Interim reports were issued by ARC, Inc. on 27 April 1977, 18 Oct 1977, 26 Oct 1977, 25 Jan 1978, 1 Mar 1978, 31 May 1978, 14 July 1978, 4 Sep 1978, 22 Sep 1978.

By October 1977 the circle of interest had shrunk to a smaller circle drawn at the head of the Chowan River. They still recommended putting the data on the back of family group

records. The ARC, Inc. had run out of time and far overspent the hours budgeted for the project.

The final report was issued 22 Nov 1978. The following questions are raised:

1. Was the research objective clear to both ARC, Inc. and the Taylor family?
2. Did ARC, Inc. have a definite research plan?
3. Was information withheld from ARC, Inc. or was misleading information given to them?
4. Were sidetracks given and taken?
5. Did ARC, Inc. fully implement their research plan?
6. Did ARC, Inc. find the correct ancestry of Joseph Taylor, Sr.?

The answers to these questions should be of interest to all Taylor descendants.

Taylor, Edward, doc

Will of Edward Taylor

In The Name of God Amen. I Edward Taylor of the Isle of Wight County being very sick & weak in Body Yet of a sound Mind and perfect Memory do make this my last Will and Testament. First I commit my Soul to God that gave it and my Body to be buried in a Christian manner and the rest of my Estate as followeth. Item, I Give unto my Son Joseph Taylor my Plantation and all the Land belonging to it, to him and his Heirs lawfully begotten of his Body and if such Heirs fail to return to my Son Edward and his heirs lawfully begotten of his Body and if such Heirs fail, to my Son George and his Heirs forever. Item, I Give to my loving Wife Mary Taylor liberty of my Plantation, Horses and Land during her Widow Life. Item, I Give to my Son Edward my Gun and a 2 Year Old Heifer and her Increase. Item, I Give to my Son George, one Year Old Heifer and her Increase and my Sword I give to my Son George. Item, I Give to my Daughter Elizabeth, a Three Year Old Cow and Cows' Calf and their Increase. Item: I Give all the remainder part of my Estate to my loving wife Mary Taylor who I do Appoint my whole Executor to see this my Will done and performed. As Witness my Hand and Seal this Twenty Ninth day of June 1734.

Edward Taylor

Signed, Sealed and Delivered
in the Presence of Us, Robert Ely Jr., Ambrose Sanders, Sarah Osburn
At a Court held for Isle of Wight County, May 26, 1735

The last Will and Testament of Edward Taylor, deceased, was presented in Court by Mary Taylor his Relict & Executrix who made Oath thereto according to Law and being Proved by the Oaths of the Witnesses thereto it is admitted to Record.

Teste James Baker Clerk of Court
???? Recordature Teste Jas. Baker Clerk Court

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Page 63.

In the name of God Amen. I Edward Taylor
of the Isle of Wight, lawfully being very sick & weak in Body yet of sound
Mind & perfect Memory do make this my last Will & Testament
First I commit my Soul to God that gave it, and my Body to
be buried in a Christian manner, and the rest of my Estate as follows
th. Item I Give unto my Son Joseph Taylor my Plantation and
all the Land belonging to it, to him and his Heirs lawfully begotten
of his Body, and of such Heirs first to return to my Son Edward and
his Heirs lawfully begotten of his Body, and of such Heirs first to my
Son George, and his Heirs for ever. Item I Give to my loving Wife
Mary Taylor Heirs of my Plantation Thomas & Sarah during
her Natural life. Item I Give to my Son Edward my Gun
a fine Year Old Horse and a new Saddle. Item I Give to my
Son George my Gun & Saddle, and for Purchase and use of his
gun taking this money. Item I Give to my Daughter Elizabeth
three Year Old Cows & a new Saddle. Item I Give
all the rest of my Estate as my Heirs to my loving Wife Mary
Taylor whom I do choose to my sole executrix, and she shall
and perform all the Wishes of my last Will & Testament
witness my hand & Seal the 10th day of June 1731

Edward Taylor

Signed sealed & Delivered
in the Presence of the
Witnesses

At Court held for the Isle of Wight County May 21 1731

The last Will & Testament of Edward Taylor deceased was
presented in Court by Mary Taylor his Widow & executrix who made
Oath thereunto according to Law and being approved by the Oath of the
Magistrates thereunto it is admitted to be proved

Teste James Baker Esq
Vice Rector of the Isle of Wight

