

Paisley Family Research and News

Following the Female Tree Branches

In about 1737 William Paisley and his wife Nellie (Elenor/Eleanor) McLean set sail to America. They left behind William's family in Tyrone County, Ireland. Nellie's father John and her five McLean siblings traveled with them. William and his entourage most likely landed at the Philadelphia port in the colony of Pennsylvania. Records indicate that William may have settled for a while in Kent County (Delaware)¹ before moving on to the frontier of Pennsylvania, settling 20 miles up the Schuylkill River² probably in the town of Norriton (then Philadelphia County).³ William's brother John came later to America and was a land owner in Kent County with his wife Margaret Grey.⁴ William and John's several brothers and sisters stayed in Ireland.⁵

William and Nellie had six children that survived to adulthood. The three boys and three girls all married and left a legacy of thousands of descendants. John also had six children, (four sons, two daughters)⁶ but only his son John's descendants have been tracked and firmly attached to the family tree.⁷ Identifying and tracking the other children of John is an endeavor that researchers continue to pursue.

Often times the girls of the family get forgotten. They marry, the name changes, and after a few generations the Paisley name is no longer invoked. Failing to search out and include descendants from the daughters has the potential to exclude those that may hold the "missing records." How many times have the daughters kept the family Bible? How many times were the daughters denied land yet lovingly kept the family letters? How many times do the descendants of these daughters have to search harder and better to make the connections?

Researching the Paisley family as a whole is a daunting task. A researcher focused on his/her particular interest brings the depth and breath of research that is needed to bring the hidden facts to the surface. We are indebted to Nancy Poquette for her work at transcribing American Revolution pension records, old church records, and for her careful and detailed compilation of facts about her ancestor Jane Paisley. In this issue, we look closer at Jane Paisley and get an inside look at old church records. To view many of Nancy Poquette's transcriptions go to <http://www.usgwarchives.net/nc/guilford.htm>

¹ Kent Co tax list, Murtherkill Hundred 1737; Kent Co tax list, Dover Hundred 1742.

² Letter from Rev. Samuel Paisley of Moore Co. NC to nephew Samuel Paisley of Montgomery Co, IL, 22 July 1850; John Pastley Revolutionary War Pension Application, 27 May 1844 (Pension Office Book E, Vol. 9, Page 131, File No. S3646, National Archives, Washington DC)

³ Proprietary Tax List of Philadelphia County & City, 1769, (William Peasley and neighbor Thomas Major, and Samuel Peasley; Major later moved to Guilford, William and Samuel may be nephews of William who moved to Guilford with his family and nephew John in 1765)

⁴ Kent Co tax list, Dover Hundred, 1754-58, 1761

⁵ Letter from Rev. Samuel Paisley of Moore Co. NC to nephew Samuel Paisley of Montgomery Co., IL; 22 July 1850.

⁶ Id.

⁷ Mark Carey presentation to the Paisley Family Association meeting March 5, 2011; Paisley Family DNA Project (<http://www.familytreedna.com/public/paisley/>.)

Jane Eleanor Paisley

Jane Eleanor Paisley was the daughter of William and Nellie McLean Paisley. She was the oldest

child, having been born about 1737⁸ in the colony of Pennsylvania, probably not long after the family had arrived in America. Over the next 13 years she was joined by siblings Robert, William, John, Margaret and Mary. Her mother died 1750 or sometime thereafter. Her father remarried to Catherine Hamilton.

At the age of about 25, Jane married John White on June the First 1762⁹, possibly in Christ Church, Philadelphia. One year later Jane gave birth to a daughter. Martha White was born on 20 June 1763¹⁰ in Pennsylvania. In 1763-64 Jane and John made the move to North Carolina. They settled on Richland Creek, Orange County, NC (later part of Guilford Co). Jane gave birth again, just nine months after Martha was born. This child, William Joseph White (b. 22 Mar 1764) did not live long.

During the American Revolution John White served 15 days as a private soldier under Col. James Martin in 1776¹¹, but in 1778 he engaged Ezekiel Croft to be his substitute in the North Carolina militia.¹² He also served as Commissioner for Guilford County.

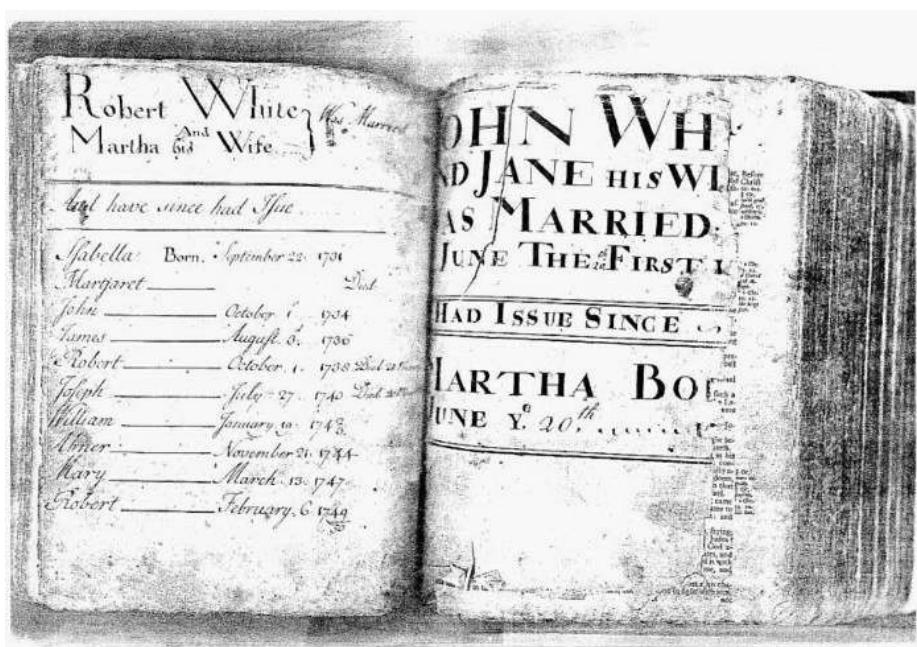
What was Jane doing during the war? Nancy Poquette's thoughts on her ggggg-grandmother: "JANE had to have played an active part during the American Revolution. She must have entertained with food and drink, the officers who showed up at her home to visit her commissary husband, John White. When Guilford County was notified that they had to provide a certain number of blankets, shirts, trousers, socks and shoes, as the wife of one of the commissaries, JANE PAISLEY WHITE would have done her part with sewing and knitting as time allowed. When the war came to Reedy Fork Creek, she would have aided the American officers and enlisted men when they showed up at her doorstep and would have sent food to the men hiding out in the forest. Finally, after the battles and skirmishes, she would have done her share of nursing the sick and the wounded and her home may even have been the scene of hospital activities." [See Buffalo Church session records that follow for another look at Jane during the war.]

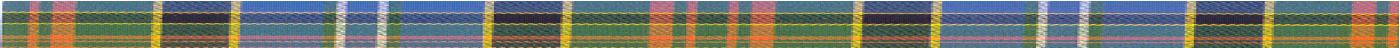
Martha, the only surviving child of John and Jane Paisley White, grew to adulthood and married Joseph McDowell. John White died in 1787. In his will he left one third of his land to Jane and two-thirds to his son-in-law Joseph McDowell.¹³

Jane remarried the widower William Gowdy, a ruling elder of Buffalo Presbyterian Church on the 15th of October 1787 in Guilford Co.¹⁴ Mr. Gowdy died in 1791¹⁵ and is buried at Buffalo Presbyterian Church. Mr. Gowdy added a codicil to his will giving his wife "Jean" one third of his real estate.¹⁶ What Jane received was one-third of the estate left to her by her first husband, which had transferred to her second husband upon her marriage. Jane continued alone and managed her first husband's farm. Her daughter Martha and son-in-law Joseph McDowell moved to Tennessee in 1799.¹⁷ Jane wrote her daughter many letters over the next couple of years. Descendants report that these letters were kept in an old desk that was brought across the ocean from Ireland, carried across the Blue Ridge Mountains into Tennessee, then to Illinois, and later to California, and for years contained the package of old letters.

In February 1801 Jane Paisley White Gowdy sold her Guilford County farm. She moved in with her daughter and son-in-law in Tennessee, on the border of Kentucky. Her brother, Capt. Robert and his wife, Margaret Majors lived in Logan County, across the Red River about three miles from the McDowell home- stead. Jane died in 1804 and is buried at the Red River Church, Adairville, Logan County, Kentucky.¹⁸

Martha, the only adult child of Jane, continued to expand the growing list of Paisley descendants by





WILL OF JOHN WHITE

"In the name of God, Amen. Feb. 5th, 1787. I, JOHN WHITE, being very sick and weak of body, but of perfect mind and memory, blessed be God...do make this my last will and testament..."

"First, I give and bequeath unto JEAN WHITE, my well-beloved wife, one-third part of all my lands to be by her freely enjoyed forever; that she may sell and convey the same, or dispose of it by will or otherwise as she may think proper, and also my household furniture to be by her, freely enjoyed: and also the house and barn and all other buildings to be by her freely enjoyed during her natural life, whether they fall into her part of the land or not; and also her choice of two of my cattle, after which she is to have one half of all my stock of horses, cattle, sheep and hogs, as near as the same can be divided; and also one third part of all my grain that shall be raised on the plantation I now live on, so long as she lives on said plantation to enjoy it. Also, firewood to be hauled to her door sufficient so long as she lives on said plantation to enjoy it, and also one third part of all my money in hand or arising from bond notes or outstanding debts."

"Secondly, I give unto my beloved son-in-law, JOSEPH McDOWELL, the two-thirds of all my lands, and also the remaining part of my personal estate not disposed of as above, to be by him, freely enjoyed forever."

"And I do hereby constitute, make, ordain, my beloved wife, JEAN, JOSEPH McDOWELL, ?June? and Robert Paisley, my sole executors of this, my last will and testament. John White, seal. [close of probate of JOHN WHITE's will, May 20, 1787]

giving birth to six children: Jane, Joseph, Martha, Elizabeth and James (twins), and Abner McDowell. Jane goes on to marry her cousin Thomas Morgan Paisley, son of Captain Robert Paisley (1739PA-1828KY). Joseph married Elizabeth Thomas, Martha married Aaron Orendorff, Elizabeth married William McDowell, James married Kitty Ann Rawlings, and Abner married Nancy Grider.

From Jane Paisley and her daughter Martha, hundreds of descendants continue their legacy, although many may be unaware of their Paisley connection. And although Martha's daughter Jane married back into the Paisley name, it did not last past two more generations. It is a good and worthwhile endeavor to search out the lost female lines and bring them back into the family. Speaking of which, is anyone in contact with descendants of Mary Paisley Doak or Margaret Paisley Denny?!

Jane Sells NC Land

"This indenture made this 18th day of Feb. 1801 between JOSEPH McDOWELL and JANE GOWDY (widow) of the County of Guilford and State of NC, of the one part, and John Thompson of the same county and state of the other part. Witnesseth that for and in consideration of the sum of \$1800 to the said JOSEPH McDOWELL and JANE GOWDY (widow) in hand paid...a certain piece, parcel or tract of land originally granted to JOHN WHITE by the state of NC, and by him devised to the said Joseph McDowell and JANE GOWDY...containing 640 acres, excluding one acre and 15 poles, where the widow Scott's barn stands...JOSEPH McDOWELL, seal, JANE GOWDY, seal. NC, Guilford Court, Feb. Court, 1801
[Record of Deeds, Guilford Co, NC, Vol. 7, pgs 320-321, from NC Historical and Genealogical Record, Oct. 1932 issue, by Julia Angeline Drake]

8 Letter from Rev. Samuel Paisley of Moore Co. NC to nephew Samuel Paisley of Montgomery Co., IL; 22 July 1850.

9 White Family Bible. New Testament, printed 1762 Ireland. Bears Jane White's signature dated Sept. 4, 1765. Bible passed from Jane Paisley White Gowdy to Martha White McDowell to Rev. James McDowell to Martha Jane McDowell Pomfret to Henrietta Pomfret Anderson to Haven Pomfret Anderson to Melva Donaldson Anderson (2009), current location unknown. 10 Id.

11 North Carolina Revolutionary War Accounts, payments to soldiers, 1776, "State of North Carolina Public Accts Journal A." NC State Archives.

12 Ezekiel Croft pension application #S16739.

13 Guilford Co, NC Wills. Will probated May 20, 1787, Will Book A, file number 0395, Guilford County Records; also Guilford Co. Court Minutes, Vol. I, pg 261, as recorded in the NC Historical and Genealogical Record of Oct 1932 issue, by Julia Angeline Drake.

14 North Carolina Early Marriages, Early to 1800, Liahona Research, Jordan Dodd

15 Donnell, Raymond. *Buffalo Presbyterian Church and Cemetery*, Guilford Co Genealogical Society, 1994, p.75

16 NC State Archives, CR.046.801.77, the Will of William Gowdy.

17 Drake, Julia. *Mill Wheel to Plow Shares*, p.117; reprinted Partridge. *Paisley and Allied Families*, 1972, p.710.



18 Baird; Logan County, Kentucky Cemetery Records, p. 560.

Buffalo Presbyterian Church Records

Nancy Poquette has transcribed some of the Buffalo Presbyterian Church session records that are available at the North Carolina Department of Archives and History in Raleigh, North Carolina. Only some of the records are available to the public. Other records remain restricted and one must obtain the permission of the church to view. Below are two excerpts that involve Paisleys.

From: North Carolina Department of Archives and History, Raleigh. Buffalo Presbyterian Church, Greensboro, North Carolina. Session Minutes and Records, Volume 1, June 8, 1768 to April 2, 1796. Microfilm no. R.046.08002:

The Death of Monrow of Hillsborough

[page 1-about 1781]

"Samuel Bell, being reported to be in company when a certain Monrow was killed, and the session being desirous to examine the matter previous to his receiving privileges, sd Bell produced the following evidences:

"Jane [Paisley] White, being duly sworn saith that at Widow Erving's she saw a man whom she supposed to be the man that was killed, who enquired if she was a rebel, or if she was subject to King George. Sd deponent not giving a direct answer to either, he enquired if she had a husband and she said she has, and he replied if he had him he would ['know'] what to do with him, but said he did not know what to do with her. She enquired if he had deserted from the British and he replied he would not desert from his Majesty and proposed purchasing corn for the British army, as she supposed."

[page 2:]

"He also drank a health to George the third on the British throne, success to his arms and damnation to the rebels and said she was the only rebel he had seen since he left the Shallow Ford on the Yadkin and shewed his buttons that were marked with the number 70 or 71 or thereabout."

"Elizabeth Craig being duly sworn saith that the man that was afterwards shot came to her house and said he was a Britian and would live and died one, and frequently damned the rebels. Sd person had a sword and cartridge box, which she saw and she supposed he had a pistole--further the sd person said he was a spy and that he was brother to Monrow, late of Hillsborough. This deponent further saith she heard some of the company who came to take him desiring him to surrender, but he made no answer that she heard, and further saith that Sam'l Bell was not in the house when the man was shot."

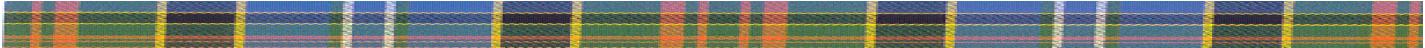
"Mary Good being duly sworn saith that the man she supposed to be afterward [page 3:] kill'd came to Robert Craig's wanting _____ drink and ordered her and another young woman by no means to leave the house or he would burn it. He asserted he was a Britian and she understood he belonged to the British Army from his cursing the rebels and seeming to wish prosperity to the British King. Further, he threatned to keep with this deponent and the other young woman or he would kill them."

"When Samuel Bell and the other men, some of whom were armed, came to take him, they desired him to surrender a prisoner, but he made no reply as she heard, but some of the company with Mr. Bell said the man was going to shoot. And then some of them shot, but she knows not which."

"Mary Logan being duly sworn saith she saw a man who she supposed to be him who was afterward killed. That he conversed with her, seemed to want spirits. This deponent showed some desire to go home, fearing the enemy might come and fright the child. He ordered her to go home and nobody [page 4:] should hurt her further. He cursed the currency, spoke disrespectfully of those that made it, and told her the British would not come that way."

"The Session after mature deliberation, judge that Samuel Bell ought not to be debar'd from church privileges on account of that man who was kill'd on his plantation the Sabbath after Gen. Green's retreat from Guilford Courthouse."

The Reputation of Sarah Erving



Paisley Family DNA Project

The Paisley Family DNA project now has 13 participants. Results for our Wyoming member are now complete. Joseph and his sister Audrey, who spearheaded his involvement, are descended from Robert Paisley (b.1758 Colerain, Lancaster Co, PA). The ancestry for Joe (kit # 237895):

- Robert Paisley B: 1758, Colerain, Lancaster, PA, D: 1851 or 1860, PA , Wife: Amanda or Ann, 1759-1830
- Andrew N. Paisley : B: 1806 or 1808, PA , D: 1885, Lawrence, PA , Wife: Sarah, 1818 - 1890
- Robert Noble Paisley : B: 1842, Neshanock, Lawrence, PA , D: 12/8/1890, Sharon, Mercer, PA , Wife: Katherine Sybil Reeves, 1849 - March 3, 1923
- Harry Robert Paisley : B: 9/26/1871, Hubbard, Trumbull, OH , D: 3/3/1921, Seattle, King, Wife: Frances Adelaide Nevels, 1882-1960 or 1880 - 1959
- Joseph Nevels Paisley : B: 3/18/1903, Valley Junction, IA , D: 9/10/1933, Des Moines, IA , Wife: Jeannie Dupre, 1900 - 1948 John Edward Paisley : B: 12/14/27, Springfield, Greene, Missouri , D: 2/24/2003, Cody, WY , Wife: Arlyne Coughlin, 1926-2011

Joe is an exact match to two descendants of John Paisley of Kent Co., DE. (b. abt.1700 of Tyrone, Ireland) More research into the records of Pennsylvania is needed!

Two more participants' results are pending. Tom of Vermont descends from Clinton St Clair Sabine Pasley (b. Lewes Sussex England 1874) whose son Clinton died in Ottawa, Canada. It will be interesting to see if the England/Canada line matches or starts a new group.

The other participant is Bill of Alabama. His ancestor is Benjamin Franklin Paceley of Hamilton Co, OH. Benjamin is possibly the son of Hugh of VA/PA, Madison Co. KY, and Hamilton Co., OH. Could Paceleys be connected with the Paisley, Peasley, and Pasley/Paslay lines? We will know in a few months.

It might help categorize these family branches better if participants will upgrade the DNA test to 67 or 111 markers. Joe's DNA is currently in process of being upgraded. Donations from non-participants can be made through the web site at <http://www.familytreedna.com/public/paisley/>. Scroll down to "General Fund" and follow the link. This is a great way for those who don't have the Paisley/Peasley/Paslay surname to make a contribution to the FAMILY.

Keep up to date by going to the web site at <http://www.familytreedna.com/public/paisley/>. Click on the "Y-DNA Results" tab and choose *Classic* or *Colorized* to see a comparison of the DNA markers. To see the detailed family ancestry click on the "About This Group" tab and scroll down to "Results."



Lancaster County, Pennsylvania records

McCrea, Kenneth D. **Pennsylvania Land Applications, Volume 1: East Side Applications, 1765-1769.** Pennsylvania Chapter Palantines to America, 2002. [includes information from over 4000 land applications never before published; concerns counties of Lancaster, Berks, Chester, Philadelphia, Bucks, and Northhampton]

Page 113.

Applicant – ES-1472 David Brown

Orig. Place – Lancaster, Colerain

Later Place – Lancaster

Acres – 300

Survey – B-1-139 B

Neighbors – Deck, Thomas McCorkle, **John Paisly**, Thomas Beard, Alexander McConnell, William Bunting, Peter Hasting.

Notes – original dated 7 May 1766.

Page 199.

Applicant – ES-2569 Joshua Baldwin

Orig. Place – Lancaster, Colerain

Later Place – Lancaster

Acres – 300

Survey – B-1-139 B

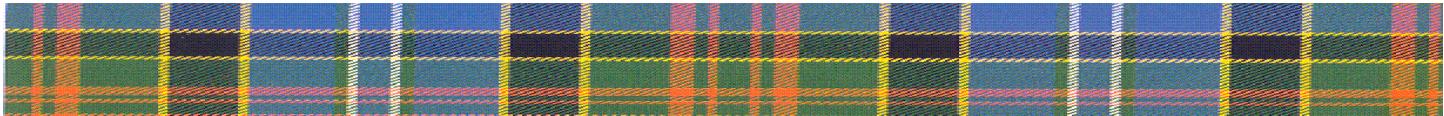
Neighbors – Deck, **John Paisly**, John McConnell, Thomas McCorkle, widow Andrew, David Brown, John M. Ogden and Dorothy Ogden, his wife.

Notes – original dated 5 May 1767; original filed with undated applications A-Z

Lancaster County Petitions etc, to the Supreme Executive Council- 1784 1790. By H. H. SHENK, State Library, Harrisburg Pa.; http://www.archive.org/stream/lancastercountyp00shenrich/lancastercountyp00shenrich_djvu.txt

(Petition of the Inhabitants of Lancaster County) To the Honourable the Representatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly met. The Memorial of the Inhabitants of Lancaster County humbly sheweth that many of your memorialists have, during the late arduous and tedious contest, rendered repeated services, and granted supplies; for which the State, or the United States, are still indebted. Our officers, and soldiers, are now become citizens; to whom considerable sums are due for their hard earned wages, Justice, Equity, and every type of honour, and good faith often pledged, call aloud for the speedy discharge of each of those in preference to all others, to you we look for, and it's our desire you will adopt suitable means for redress. The scarcity of a circulating medium renders it extremely difficult to pay the heavy taxes that have been called for. And whereas a law is passed, ordering payment of the original purchase, and the interest on all the undeeded land, since the settlement; These lands in general are by far the poorest, and of consequence unfittest to pay those large sums. Therefore beg leave to anticipate, and request that you will allow the unpatented lands to be paid for with the Certificates or Final settlements, belonging to Citizens, and that are entitled to receive interest from this State; by which means a considerable part of the public debts will be paid, and of course the interest thereon cease; and it will be much easier for the inhabitants to procure, likewise request your attention to the enormous expenses of the Civil list; lessen the salaries of individuals, dismiss any you may think unnecessary, and by all means (as far as in your power) limit the expenses of our principal officers, which we are well informed, are become enormous, and oppressive, we request the accounts of our County Lieutenants, and sub-Lieut- tenants as we are well assured there is occasion for some connections and amendments and your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray. Lancaster County, 20th November, 1785.

(Petition of the Inhabitants of Lancaster County) **John Paisley** Alexr. Morrison James Finley **Hugh Paisley** John Andrews Isaac Walker **Robert Paisley** John Anderson John Whiteside Wm. Kerr Samuel Entriken John Rowe John Berry Samuel McClellan John O'Neill Ja. Baxter Richard Free Walter Davies William Downing Joseph Wilson John Stewart Alex. May Francis Caughey Abraham Whiteside Arthur May John Crawford Alexd. Lewis Alex. May Jun. Samuel Caughey Wm. Murray John Turner Christian Has Joseph Moore Robert Gregory John White John Cunningham Henry Noll Gilbert Anderson James Whiteside Mattw. Bartholomew Thomas Whiteside James Gamble Hugh McConnell Arthur Andrews John () John Coughey William Huston Robert Cunningham Mattw. Scott Willm. Barckley George Meason Richd. McKie George Nelson John Patterson Hugh McCausling John Sweiger () Daniel McConnel John McConnel James Collans Wm. Anderson



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Membership

If you have not already paid your 2012 dues, please send them to Jenette Lineberger, address at left.

Annual dues are \$5.00. Make checks payable to Jenette Lineberger and note in the message area "Paisley Family Association."

Members receive two issues per year of *Family Research and News*. The newsletters are available as printed copies or online at sites.google.com/site/paisleyfamilyassociation/

Other web sites of interest:

Paisley Family society:

<http://www.paisleyfamilysociety.org.uk/>

Paisley Family Facebook page:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Paisley-Family-Society/195070730565352>

Paisley Family DNA Project web page:

<http://www.familytreedna.com/public/paisley/>