



Clyde Edward & Evalyn Esther
Pollard Leshner

The Pollards Of Amelia County, VA.

Written by: Tim Duffie
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To some in our family, the Pollard legacy is the distant past, a family branch most dearly remembered by Moms and Dads, Aunts and Uncles. Or, even more distant, a family branch remembered only by Great Aunts & Great Uncles.

Few can identify with family that distant.

However, to many of us our Pollard legacy brings back fond memories of the fragrance of freshly baked bread as we entered the Leshner home in **Transfer, Mercer County, Pennsylvania**, after a long trip from Indiana, Ohio, or from nearby New Castle, Pennsylvania, in the 1950s & 60s.

Right: the Leshner home, Transfer,
Mercer County, Pennsylvania

To reminisce about the Pollards for some is to remember churning butter on the back porch of the Leshner home with Grandma Leshner...

...or Grandpa Leshner escaping the **Wrath of the Pollards** by fleeing to his woodshop, fondly called the **Dog House**, amidst the pines behind the garage.



Some may even remember going to visit Grandma & Grandpa and learning that GGrandma Catherine "Kitty" Howe Pollard was asleep in the back bedroom. In her 90s by then, I was not quite sure who she was, I just knew that I was asked to be quiet...a monumental task for me at that age...or any age, for that matter!

Yes...for many of us, to think of our Pollard legacy is to reminisce about the sweetest of grandmothers: **Evalyn Esther Pollard Leshner**.

In our research we've learned that:

- we count **Grace Kelly** (*Princess Grace of Monaco*) in our ancestry through the Gilstraps of Evalyn Esther Pollard Leshler's **Joseph G. & Mary Gilstrap Pollard** lineage. That explains the source of our devilishly good looks DNA
- **Isaac G. Pollard**, and possibly his father, **Joseph G. Pollard** (*source: Audra Irene Pollard Phillips*), were somewhat itinerant Episcopal Methodist ministers. This was back in the days of the **Tent Meetings, Bible Thumping**, and "...a wee bit of a Pentacostal..." (*Audra Irene*), Methodist Church. That explains the spiritual background (*minus the Pentacostal influence, of course*) passed on from **Evalyn Esther Pollard** to **Clyde Edward Leshler** which still influences the Leshler – Jenny – Duffie families.

Thus the interest in determining how **Joseph G. Pollard**, allegedly born in Virginia in 1818, managed to wed **Mary Gilstrap**, born in Tennessee in 1822. This was before the days of copping the keys to Dad's '56 Buick and running off to the nearest town to woo and win the local cheerleader.

The Pollards & Gilstraps heavily influenced who we are. So, to find answers to how our **Good Looks** merged with our **Bible Thumping** lineage, it is necessary to trace our **Pollard/Gilstrap** histories as best we can until we find the meeting point.



After several years of contemplating alternatives for the father of **Joseph G. Pollard**, 3rd GGrandfather to my generation of the Pollard/Leshler clan, I recently opted to accept the premise that his father was the **Moses Pollard** we'd located. This particular **Moses Pollard** was born in Amelia County,

Virginia, about 1767, so the timing was right.

It appears as though this was when two names were introduced into the Pollard family. **Joseph George & Leah Sarah Morris Pollard** named two of their children

- **Moses Pollard**: apparently taken from Leah Sarah Morris Pollard's mother, **Mary Moses**
- **Isaac Pollard**: probably was taken from her father, **Isaac Morris, Sr.**

Per the graphic (above), Joseph's parents, **Moses & Nancy Morris Pollard**, were married sometime between 1798 & 1806. If our **Joseph Pollard**, father of **Isaac G. Pollard**, was truly born in 1818 as most have stated, then the math works out rather well. While I have not yet connected all our ancestral dots, it appears that **Moses Pollard** may well have married a cousin...something relatively common at the time.

I was helped along in my decision by the rootsweb.com database of **Carolyn Gould**. A professional genealogist, Carolyn states that listing Moses as the father of Joseph is "...tentative but fits known information."

One thing we both apparently agreed on was the formula for naming children used at the time:

- **Oldest daughter** was named after the mother's mother: **Lockey F. Pollard/Lockey Gilstrap**
- **Oldest son** was named after the father's father: **Moses G. Pollard**
- **Second daughter** was named after her mother: **Mary Elizabeth Pollard/Mary Gilstrap Pollard**
- **Second son** was named after the mother's father: **Isaac G. Pollard/Isaac Gilstrap.**

Moses Pollard, son of **Joseph Pollard**, was the only family I located in Amelia County, Virginia, that matched that sequence of names. Upon discovering this family, one clue I latched onto was the thought that the “G” in **Joseph G.**, **Isaac G.**, and **Moses G.**, may well have come from **George Pollard**.

Whomever the “G” represented, it seems that by the time **Isaac Haven Pollard** came along, that individual was such a deep, distant memory that the “G” was dropped for all future generations. In all likelihood, Isaac Haven didn't even know where the “G” had come from originally. Up until recently, I couldn't have told you that Grandpa Lesher's middle name was Edward...let alone knowing the middle name of a 3rd. GGrandfather.

With all that in mind, I Googled **Pollard, Amelia County, Virginia** and began searching through all references that came up. I began to match up all those listed with known information, hoping to complete the makeup of the Pollard family at that time. There were quite a few listings that matched.

Ultimately I was searching for more: **the missing link that would indicate we were on the right track.**

Four Generations of Pollard Women

Back L to R: **Betty Lesher Jenny, Catherine “Kitty” Howe Pollard, Evalyn Esther Pollard Lesher**
 Front: **Karen Jenny Schwab**



This is all pretty boring stuff, and I don't anticipate that anyone will read them all. However, it is indicative of how active our ancestors were in the settlement of this country in general, and pre-Revolutionary War Virginia in particular.

The population of Amelia County (including Nottoway, a new county) in 1790 was as follows:

- males over sixteen years: 1,709
- males under sixteen: 1,697
- women: 3,278
- free negroes: 106
- slaves: 11,300.

Since our Pollard ancestors arrived in Amelia County in 1737, 50+ years before this census, it is not difficult to see how it was possible for George, Joseph, et al, to be **“big fish in a small pond”**.

Also, if you look at some of the “**Wills**” included, you will see that several of our Pollard ancestors were slave-owners, which should come as no surprise since Virginia was the center of the soon-to-be Confederate States of America.

In each article, the names in “**bold**” print are those related, or thought to be related, to our Pollards, determined by surnames and known marriages.

This represents the family of George Foster, married to **Susannah Pollard**. Susannah was the sister of **Joseph Pollard**, daughter of **George Pollard**, and 5th GGrandaunt to my generation of Pollard descendants.

This information has not been documented by me, Dr. B.G. Foster, 1302 Santa Fe Trail, Tyler, TX 75703

George was the second son of Thomas and Elizabeth Meador Foster. He was born ca 1720 Essex County, Virginia and died ca 1788 Amelia County, Virginia. He married **Susannah Pollard ca 1737** in Amelia County, Virginia. She was born in 1718 and died between 1874 and 1788 in Amelia County, Virginia.

Children of George and Susannah Pollard Foster:

1. **William** born ca 1738 Amelia Co., VA
2. **James** born ca 1742 Amelia Co., VA; married Mary; no other information available
3. **George Pollard** born ca 1746 Amelia Co. or Prince Edward Co., VA; died 1816; married an unidentified wife
4. **Anthony** born ca 1750 Amelia Co., VA; died 1824 Amelia Co., VA; married Elizabeth Asselin
5. **Joseph** born ca 1752 Amelia Co., VA
6. **John** born ca 1753 VA; died after 1837
7. **Joel** born ca 1755 VA; married VA Edith Amos
8. **Abner** born November 14, 1759 Amelia Co., VA; died February 27, 1848 Hamilton Co., IL; buried Ten Mile Creek Cemetery; married (1) January 7, 1781 Amelia Co., CA Drucilla O’Neill; born 1762 Bedford Co., VA; died ca 1803 (2) March 15, 1804 Pittsylvania Co., Judith Lane; born ca 1783; died 1853 Hamilton Co., IL; buried Ten Mile Creek Cemetery
9. **Larkin** born August 1761; died March 30, 1845; married Mary Cawthorn

For the most part, it seems this group of our 1st cousins 6X removed stayed in Virginia through the 1800s.

The following matches the data received from Carolyne Gould...birth & death...so this is the right **George Pollard**, currently assumed to be our 6th ggrandfather. This provides a wealth of info about our early family in Virginia.

This long list of Pollard activities includes 16 Nov 1739 - Presentments by **Grand Jury** including...
“For not coming to church”

Apparently those folks were serious about their church attendance!

POLLARD, George (b. ABT 1702, d. SEP 1765)

Note: # Event: Fact 1737 Amelia Co., Tithables 1

Event: Land 9 JUL 1737 Patent for 393 acres in Amelia County, Sandy Creek 2

George Pollard came to Amelia County about 1736, and in July 1737 was granted a patent for 382 acres on Sandy Creek. Patent Book 7, p. 373: **George Pollard**, 393a., Amelia Co., adj. John Radford, John Harris & Joel Meadows, Sandy Cr. (p. 374). 9 Jul 1737.

He may have been there earlier as a patent of June 1737 to John Harris states that it adjoins **George Pollard**; Patent Book 17, p. 314. "A Plat of the Land Patents of Amelia County, Virginia", Amelia County Historical Committee, 1987, shows those two patents; they are in the westernmost portion of the county. **George Pollard's** patent is separated from the Appomattox River by only one other patent, and the Appomattox is the boundary between Amelia and Prince Edward counties. The patent is just east of present Farmville.

Tithable lists may give information about children. It is believed that the list reflects the head of the household and male children over 16:

1737 tithable list in *The Southside Virginia*, Oct 1982, Vol.1, No. 1, Amelia County Tithables Flatt Creek, page 17 lists "**George Pollard, Francis Pollard -2**"

1740 Amelia County Tithables by J. C. Kolbe, page 71 , George and Francis are shown in George's Household in Flat Creek "**George Polerd, Frncs Polerd - 2**".

1744 - quoted in Rudd -Pollard-Youngblood, page 201: "By 1744 we note that **George Pollard's second son, Joseph**, became a tithable.

1749 - quoted in Rudd-Pollard-Youngblood, page 202: Joseph a separate tithable, so 21.

If Francis and Joseph appeared at age 16, then Francis born ca. 1721 and Joseph ca. 1728.

In 1757 **George** deeded part of his patent to **Joseph**, and in 1765 **Joseph**, in turn, deeded that land to a third party and for reasons not explained, George joined in the deed. (*See below: Pollard/Wayles Deed, 1765 - Amelia Co. VA, Amelia County, Virginia, Deed Book 8, Page 625*)

An index of tithables shows he was in Amelia Co. from 1736 – 1756

Amelia County, Virginia, Tax Lists, 1736-1764, An Every Name Index, TLC Genealogy, Miami, 1993:

1736, **George Pollard** - Jno Dawon's List, above Flatt Creek

1737, **George Pollard** - Jno Dawon's List, above Flatt Creek (from Flat Creet to the extent of the county upwards)

1738, **George Polerd** - John Burtons List, above Flatt Creek

1739, **George Pollerd** -{Francis Anderson's} List, above Flatt Creek

1740, **George Polerd** - Thos Tabb's List, between Deep and Flatt Creeks

1741, **George Polerd** - John Burton's List, above Flat Creek {between Appomattox River and Flatt Cr}

1742, **George Polard** - Wm. Clement's List [between Flatt Creek and Appomattox River]
 1746, **George Pollard** - Thomas Tabb's List [between Flatt Creek and Appomattox Reiver] {to Saylor's Creek}
 1747, **George Polard** - Thoms Tabb's List , above Flatt Creek
 1749, **George Pollard** - Thomas Tabb's List, Raleigh Parish above Flatt Creek
 1751, **George Pollard** - Thomas Tabb's List, Raleigh Parish
 1753, **George Pollard** - Thomas Tabb's List, Raleigh Parish (mutilated)
 1754, **George Pollard** - Thomas Tabb's List
 1755, **Geo. Pollard** - Colo Richd Booker's Pool [between Falatt and Nibbs Creeks?]
 1755, **Geo. Pollard** - Thomas Tabb's List, Raleigh Parish
 1756, **George Pollard** - Thomas Tabb's List, Raleigh Parish

Deeds

Patent Book 17, p. 373; **George Pollard**, 393a., Amelia Co., adj. John Radford, John Harris & Joel Meadows, Sandy Cr. (p. 374). 9 Jul 1737.
 Patent Book 17, p. 323 - patient of 6/10/1737 to John Harris of 332 acres in Amelia on South side of Appamattox river is descried as ajd to John Radford, **George Pollard** and Joseph Echole
 Patent Book 19, p. 1095, patent to Richard Anderson, 252 acres on S. sie of Appomattox R. bet. **George Pollard**, Thomas Pruitt, **Thomas Foster** & Paulen Anderson (the actual patents indicate that either it is a misstatement to have named **George Pollard**; the actual owner would have been Samuel Davis].
 Amelia, DB 1, Page 454, 2/18/1742 - **George Pollord** to **George Foster** for £20, 197 acres south side of Appamattox River, being parf of 392 acre patent to **Pollord**, bounded in part by a tree on bank of Sandy Creek, Ratford [Redford]'s line, and Meador's line.
 Amelia, DB 2, Page 506 - 11/21/1746 - William Wood of King Queen Co to Robert Page of Goochland, witnesses were John Mauldin, **George Pollard**, and Shadrach Turner (proved by oaths of witnesses in court 6/28/1747)
 Amelia, DB 2, Page 562, 12/5/1747 - William Barnes (grantee of Radford) to **John Morris Jr**, 100 acres on South side of Appomattox River, **George Pollard**, **John Morris** and Shadrach Turner witnesses.
 Amelia, DB 6, Pg 39, 6/23/1757 - **George Pollard** to **Joseph Pollard** for £20, 100 acres on south side of Appomattox River, being part of 392 acres patent to said **George Pollard** and adjacent line of John Redford, with all house, etc.
 Amelia, DB 8, Page 625, 9/17/1765, **Joseph Pollard** to John Wayles of Charles City County, for £20.15.00 - part of all of above 100 acres; **GEORGE POLLARD** signed as grantor but not referred to in body of deed.

Order Book and Will Book Entries

8 Jan 1737 - Judgment, Henry Cary v. **GEORGE POLLARD**, to recover £2/16/1½ & costs (Amelia Co. Order Book 1, p. 42)
16 Nov 1739 - Presentments by Grand Jury including "For not coming to church:
 John Dawson, Joel Meadows, Henry Dawson, **GEORGE POLLARD**, John Thomas, Thomas Prewitt, John Hudson, John Blanchet, Mathew Harris, John Hurt, Thomas Wingo, Christopher Sneed, HANCE HENDRICK, James Brumfeild, Thomas Burton, Henry Lester, Richard Beisley & George Shepart. Ordered the several persons be summoned to appear at the next Court. (Amelia Co. Order Book, 1, p 80).

21 June 1740 - Jury duty; **GEORGE POLLARD** a member of jury in criminal case, Comm. v. Rob't Vaughan (Amelia Co. Order Book 1, p. 111)

1740/41 - Witness, HANCE HENDRICK, witness for Barnes, to be paid for 2 days' attendance; James Brown from Goochland Co., witness for same, to be paid for 2 days & coming and going 20 miles; **GEORGE POLLARD**, witness for same, to be paid for 1 day. (Amelia Co. Order Book 1, p. 148)

15 May 1741 - Jury duty; **GEORGE POLLARD** a member of grand jury. (Amelia Co. Order Book 1, p. 154)

18 Jun 1742 - Road work; **GEORGE POLLARD** and other tithables to assist clearing road from Wm Echols Road on Sandy Creek up to ridge at fork of Sandy Creek (Amelia Co. Order Book 1, p. 212A)

22 June 1745 - Appraiser; **GEORGE POLLARD** appointed with others to appraise estate of Robert Charlesworth ((Amelia Co. Order Book 1, p. 325A)

19 June 1747 - Deed; **GEORGE POLLARD**, John Maulden & Shadrack Turner made oath re deed of William Wood to Robert Page (Amelia Co. Order Book 2, p. 43A.)

17 July 1747 - Witness; **GEORGE POLLARD** paid as witness for five days attendance on behalf of William Clement. (Amelia Co. Order Book 2, p. 48A) Resided in Amelia Co., Virginia (formed 1735)

Deed Book 1, Page 75 - deed of 5/12/1737 from Terey to Adam Loving, describes property by reference to "line of **Pollard**."

Deed Book 1, Page 376 - deed of 4/19/1742 from Adam Loving to Meadows, describes property by reference to "**George Pollard's corner**"

Deed Book 1, Page 454 - deed of 2/18/1742 from **George Pollard** to **George Foster**, £20, 197 acres on south side of Appomattox River, part of 397 acre patent to said **George Pollard**, bounded in part by a tree on bank of Sandy Creek, Ratford's line and Meador's line.

Order Book 1, Page 154 - member of grand jury

Deed Book 2, Page 162, deed of 3/15/1744 from Wood to Page, describes 200 a in Roighleigh Parish as "bounded by Mr. **George Pollard's corner**"

Order Book 1, Page 212A; named with group of men to work with Surveyor "for road to be cleared from William Nichols road on Stocks Creek up to ridge at fork of Sandy Creek."

Order Book 1, Page 229B - Deed of **George Pollard** to **George Foster** ordered recorded.

Order Book 1, Page 325A - named in some capacity (perhaps appraiser) for Estate of Robert Charlesworth.

Deed Book 2, Page 506, deed dated 11/21/1746, William Wood of King & Queen Co., to Robert Page of Goochland for £25, 150 acres on fork of the Stocks creek bounded by Thomas Wingo, witnesses were John Mauldin, **George Pollard** and Shadrach Turner who proved the deed in court 6/29/1747.

Order Book 2, Page 48A, Court held July 17, 1747, **George Pollard**, John Harris, John Hill and John Smith Jr. witnesses for Wm. Clements to be paid for 5 days attendance.

Deed Book 2, Page 562, deed dated 12/5/1747 from William Barnes of "Ragly Parish" to **John Morris, Jr.**, of Ragly Parish, £15, for 100 acres on south side of Appamattox River where Will Barnes now lives, part of the patent of John Radford who sold to Barnes, witnesses: **John Morris**, **George Pollard**, and Shadrach Turner.

Source: William and Mary College Quarterly Historical Magazine, Vol. 16, No. 2, p. 81, Amelia marriages - 21 Mar 1721, John Carter and Oney Pollard

LAND PATENTS: George Pollard, 1737: Amelia County Virginia

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LAND PATENT DATED JULY 9, 1737 FOR **GEORGE POLLARD** OF AMELIA COUNTY VIRGINIA

GEORGE the Second by the Grace of God of Great Britain, France and Ireland _____ Defender of the Faith To all to whom these Presents shall come Greetings Know ye that for divers good causes and considerations but more especially for and in consideration of the sum of Forty Shillings of good and lawful Money for our use paid to our Receiver General of our Province in this our Colony and Dominion of Virginia. We have Given, Granted and Confirmed and by these Presents for us our Heirs and Successors do give grant and confirm unto **George Pollard** one certain Tract or Parcel of Land containing Three Hundred and Ninety Three Acres lying and being in the County of Amelia adjoining John Radford, John Harris and Joel Meadows lines on the lower side of Sandy Creek and bounded as followeth-to wit---BEGINNING in the lower line of the said Radford's old Land (line?) where his new Land (line?) adjoins the same Four Poles from his corner sycamore Thence along Radford's old Lines South thirty one Degrees East twenty-two Poles Thence South eighteen degrees West twenty-two Poles Then South ten degrees East one hundred and forty five Poles to a large corner white oak on the Brink of Sandy Creek Thence East three and one half Degrees North forty Poles Thence East one hundred and seventy two Poles to a corner on Joel Meadows Line Thence North ten degrees East two hundred and forty Poles to a corner pine Thence West thirty nine degrees North one hundred and sixty two Poles to John Radford's corner of his new Land Thence South thirty two degrees West one hundred and seventy eight Poles to a corner and Thence West sixty six Poles to the beginning With all Woods, Underwoods, Swamps, Marshes, Lowgrounds, Meadows, Feedings (?) and his due share of all Veins, Mines and Quarries as well discovered or not discovered within the bounds aforesaid and being part of the said quantity of three hundred and ninety three acres of land and the Rivers, Waters and Water courses therein contained together with the privileges of Hunting, Hawking, Fishing and all other Profits Commodities and Necesitaments whatsoever to the same or any part thereof belonging or in any wise appertaining To Have & Hold possess and enjoy the said Tract or Parcel of Land and all other the before granted Premises and every part thereof with this and every of their Appurts (?) unto the said George Pollard and his Heirs and Assigns forever; To the only Use and Behoof of his the said George Pollard his Heirs and Assigns forever To be held of us our Heirs and Successors as of our Manner of East Greenwich in the County of Kent in free and common _____ and not in _____ or by Knight Service Yielding and paying unto us our Heirs and Successors for every fifty acres of Land and so proportionally for a lesser or greater quantity than fifty acres the Fee Rent of one Shilling yearly to be paid upon the Feast of Saint Michael the Arch Angel and also cultivating and unproving those acres part of every fifty of the Tract abovementioned within three years after the Date of these Presents Provided always that if three years of the said Fee Rent shall at every Time be in arrears and unpaid or if the said **George Pollard** his Heirs or Assigns do not within the space of three years and coming after the Date of these Presents cultivate and improve three acres part of every fifty of the Tract abovementioned Then the Estate hereby granted shall cease and be utterly determined and thereafter it shall and may be lawful to and for us our Heirs and Successors unto such other Person or Persons as we our Heirs and Successors shall think fit In Witness whereof we have executed these our Letters Patent to be made Witness our Trusty and Well beloved William Gooch Esq our Lieutenant Governor and

Commander in Chief of our said Colony and Dominion at Williamsburg Under the seal of our said Colony the Ninth Day of July One Thousand seven hundred and thirty seven. In the Eleventh year of our Reign.

William Gooch

This is the sale of 57 acres by our 5th ggrandparents, **Joseph & Leah Morris Pollard**, to John Wayles (referenced above).

Pollard/Wayles Deed, 1765 - Amelia Co. VA
Amelia County, Virginia, Deed Book 8, Page 625

This Indenture make the Seventeenth day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand Seven hundred and Sixty five Between **Joseph Pollard** of Amelia County of the one part & John Wayles of Charles City County of the other part Witnesseth that the said **Joseph Pollard** in consideration of the sum of Fourty two Pounds Fifteen Shiling to him paid by the said John Wayles, hath granted bargained and Sold aliened and Confirmed unto the said Wayles his heirs & assigns Fifty Seven acres of Land lying in Amelia County being part of the Tract whereon the said **Joseph Pollard** now dwells & Bounded as followeth, to wit, beginning at a Corner white oak of Shackelford Joining Bagbey and Pollard thence on their lines South 29 ½ degrees West at Eighteen poles cross Pollards Spring Branch one hundred & eighty Poles to a Corner Hickory on Easton's Path. Thence a new Line South thirty nine & half degrees Cross a bald Branch at 24 poles East at Twenty two Poles / Cross the said Branch twice Fifty Four Poles & a half to Pinters, Thence North twenty nine and a half degrees East at Twenty Poles cross the aforesaid Branch at one hundred Fifty Six Poles cross Pollards Spring Branch One Hundred & ninety poles to a small white oak & hickory corner on the Line of Shackelford thence on this line North Fifty-two degrees West Sixty-five Poles to the Place begun at and whatsoever to the said Land and premises belonging or appertaining: and also all the Rights title Interest Estate claim & demand whatsoever of him the said **Joseph Pollard** of first to the Same. To have and to hold the said Land and Premises with the appurtenances thereunto belonging unto the said John Wayles his heirs & assigns To the only proper use & Behoof of the said Wayles his heirs & assigns forever and the said **Joseph Pollard** for himself, his heirs Exors & Admrs doth hereby covenant promise and agree to & with??? & John Wayles his heirs & assigns in manner following, to wit, that the said Joseph hath good Right & lawful authority to sell & dispose of the same & Promises aforesaid in manner & form above said and that the said John his heirs & assigns shall and may hold the same free and clear of all dower or other encumbrances & lastly that the lands & premises aforesaid he the said **Joseph Pollard** & his heirs to the said Wayles & his heirs & assigns against the claim of all Persons whatsoever shall & will warrant & forever defend by these Presents In witness whereof the Parties above said have hereunto Set their Hands & affixed their Seals the day & year above said.

his
Joseph X Pollard {SS}

Signed Sealed & Delivered mark
In Presents of William Clement

George Pollard {SS}

Henry Cox
John Austin

John Austin

Isaac Morris (Joseph's father-in-law)

Abraham Whitworth

September 17th 1765 Received of John Wayles fourty two Pounds fifteen shilings in full for the Consideration of the within 57 acres of land etc

his

Joseph X Pollard

mark

Teste

Wm Clement

Henry Cox

John Austin

John Austin

George Pollard

Isaac Morris

Abraham Whitworth

At a Court held for Amelia County the 16th day of Sept 1765. Pollard & prov'd to be the Act & Deed of the within named This Indenture was acknowledged by the within named **Joseph George Pollard** by the oaths of John Austin **Isaac Morris** & Abraham Whitworth & ordered to be Recorded

Key Discovery: in the final paragraph in this deed I found what I was looking for...**Joseph is identified as Joseph George Pollard.**

George...a middle name that continued in this family for the next three generations of Pollards until it was finally put to rest by GGrandfather Isaac Haven Pollard in the early 20th Century.

I have yet to find proof that his son, **Moses Pollard**, was **Moses G. Pollard**, but I'm sure it will surface eventually.

The following are a few of the aforementioned wills in which various individuals parceled out their "**negro wenches**", and other "**negro slaves**" within and to the Pollard family. One daughter got "**a negro man named Bridge, a cow, and a calf**".

This is the will of **Isaac Morris**...father of **Leah Morris**...wife of **Joseph George Pollard**...5th. GGrandparents to my generation of Leshner-Jenny-Duffie families. **Isaac & Mary Moses Morris** are 6th GGrandparents to that same generation.

If you count the "**I bequeaths**" of land, **Isaac Morris** must have owned in excess of 1,200 acres at one time...all in Amelia County, Virginia...including the 300 acre "Plantation" on which he was living

at his death...making him a veritable multi-millionaire in those days. He was born in 1710 in North Carolina and died in 1750 in Amelia County, Virginia.

I also suspect he owned a substantial portion of those 11,300 slaves mentioned earlier.

To review, a summary of our Pollard lineage is:

Joseph G. & Leah Morris Pollard – Moses G. & Nancy Morris Pollard – Joseph G. & Mary Gilstrap Pollard – Isaac G. & Sara Esther Yoes Pollard – Isaac H. & Catherine Howe Pollard – Clyde & Evalyn Esther Pollard Leshner

Will of Isaac Morris, 1749, Estate, 1750-1768 - Amelia County, Virginia

Will Book, 1, Page 64:

In the name of God Amen. I **Isaac Morris Senr** being very weak of Body byt in my perfect sense and memory praised be God Almighty for the same and knowing the uncertainty of this mortal life I therefore make and ordain this my Last Will and Tesament Revoking all other wills by me formerly made and this only to be my last Will and Testament. I therefore give an Bequeath as followeth

Item I Give and Bequeath to my Daughter **Elizabeth Harris** one negro man named Bridge which she hath already in possession and Cow and calf to her and Her Heirs and Assigns forever.

Item I Give and Bequeath to my Son **Moses Morris** one negro Girl named Tamer and three hundred acres of Land lying in Amelia County at the place Called Jacks Quarter takeing it in a regular manner to lines that it may not be hurtfull to the other part of the Tract of Lane to hims and his Heirs forever after the Decease of my loving **Wife, Mary Morris**

Item I Give and Bequeath to my Daughter **Leah Morris** (*our 5th ggrandparents Joseph G. & Leah Morris Pollard*) one negro girl named Judy to be hers and her Heirs forever.

Item I Give and Bequeath to my Son **Silvanus Morris** Three Hundred acres of Land lying in Amelia County with the Plantation whereon I now live to him and his Heirs and assigns forever.

Item I Give and Bequeath to my Son **Zachariah Morris** Three Hundred acres of Land Lying Amelia County joyening my son **Moses Morris** to him and his Heirs forever.

Item I Give and Bequeath to my Son **Isaac Morris** Three Hundred acres of Land lying in Amelia County Joyening my son **Zachariah Morris** to him and his Heirs forever.

Item I Give and Bequeath to Thomas Whitworth when he hath paid for it the Land in Amelia County which he bought from me to him and his Heirs for ever. And as for the Residue or Remainder of my Estate be it in what nature or property soever except Land I leave under the care of my Wife **Mary Morris** During her naturall life or Widowhood. ***But if she should Marry at that day or the day of her Death Then the above mentioned part of my Estate to Equally Devided amongst three of my Daughters Tabitha, Rhonda and Oney Morris and three of my sons Silvanus Zacheriah and Isaac Morris***

But if the Leagusies of the last six Children mentioned be found to be more then the first Leagusies Given in the Personall part then the overplush to be Equally devided amongst all my Son and Daughters except Elizabeth Harris. And lastly Constitute and ordain my loving wife Mary Morris Executrix and my son **Moses Morris** Executor of this my last Will and Testament in Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and fixed my Seal this seventeenth day of December one thousand seven hundred and forty nine.

In the line at these words (Except Land)

Interlined before signed

His Signed Sealed Isaac Morris

In Presence of Mark

Ben Hendrick

Jacog Seay

Thomas Whilsorth

Sarah Edwards

Amelia County, VA Will Book 2X, Page 245-247
Settlement, Estate of Isaac Morris

At a Court held for Amelia County the 18th day of May 1750 This Said Will and Testament of **Isaac Morris** was presented by **Mary Morris** Executrix therein named & who made oath thereto and proved by the oaths of Benjamin Hendrick and Jacob Seay two of the witnesses thereto and orderd to be recorded.

Pursuant to an order of this County Court Dated September 1767 wherein we the Subscribers are appointed to divide the estate of **Isaac Morris** dec'ed agreeable to his last Will and to allot unto each of the Devisees his or her respective part of the said Estate on the said Devisees first entering into Bond to find **Mary Morris** Widow & Relict of the said **Isaac Morris** dec'ed Such Maintainance as should be Judged Sufficient agreeable to the said Order the said Devisees all except Thomas Webb who married one of the Devisees who was not present have agreed & Enter into Bond to pay the said **Mary** the Widow his or her proportionable part of Twenty Pounds Current money per Annum towards her Support & Maintenance & we have set apart & allowed the said Widow over & above the said Twenty Pounds per Annum By & with the Consent of the Devisees present One negro Girl named Gill one negro Boy named Jerry a bed and furniture a Side Saddle & a mair & Coalt (mare & colt?) which Said negro & other Articles are part of the estate of the said **Isaac Morris** dec'ed & to be Subject to a Further Division amongst all the legatees of the said **Isaac Morris** dec'ed We have laid of and assigned to the Devisees their proportionable part as Followeth. Viz. To **Moses Morris** one negro fellow named Will the said **Moses Morris** to pay **Josep Pollard** fourteen Pounds current money & Augustine Beale five Pounds their Bring them sums due from the said **Moses Morris** to the said Pollard & Beale to make their part equal to the other Devisees of the said **Isaac Morris** dec'ed and also the said **Moses Morris** is to pay to Thomas Webb the sum of Fourteen Pounds Current money on the said Thomas Webb entering into Bond with Security to pay unto the above said **Mary Morris** his Proportionable part of Twenty Pounds per annum which sum will make the said Thomas Webb part equal to the other Devisees. To **Isaac Morris** one negro wench named Denah & one negro Boy Named Bobb. To **Zacharias Morris** one negro wench named Lucy & her child Pat and one Boy named Jamey. To **Silvanus Morris** One negro Fellow Named Ben & another Named Jack. To **John Bedle** who married one of

the Devises One negro Fellow Named Joe & a negro Girl Named Amey. To **Augustine Beale** who married one of the Devises one Negro fellow named David & a boy named Joe & five Pounds to be paid him my **Moses Morris** to make his part equal to the Other Devises. To **Joseph Pollard** who married one of the Devises one negro Boy Named George & to be paid him by **Moses Morris** fourteen Pounds to make his part equal to the other Devises. To **Thomas Webb** who married one of the Devises one negro Girl Named Judah & to be paid him my **Moses Morris** fourteen Pounds Current money to make the said Thomas Webbs part equal to the Other Devises on the said Thomas entering into Bond with Security to pay the above said **Mary Morris** his proportionable part of twenty Pounds p annum as the other Devises have Done. Their being that sum allowed to the said **Mary** for her Support To Tabitha Morris one negro wench named Phillis & her child & a boy named Davie.

Given under our hands this 5th day of January 1768

Edm'd Booker

Christopher Ford

At Court held for Amelia County the 28th day of January 1768. This Settlement & Division of the Estate of **Isaac Morris** Deceased was returned & is ordered to be Recorded.

Submitted by James H. Maloney maloney@maloneylaw.com

Finally, we have the will of **Joseph Pollard**, husband of **Leah Morris**:

Will of Joseph Pollard, 1789

Amelia County, Will Book 4, Page 162.

In the Name of God, Amen. I, **Joseph Pollard** of Amelia County being weak in Body but of a sound and perfect memory do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament, principally and first of all Item I lend to my beloved wife **Leah Pollard** all of my whole Estate of every kind and denomination whatsoever during her Natural Life

Item I give to my loving sons by name five pounds each to be received out of my Estate **Zachariah Pollard, Thomas Pollard, Hendrick (sp?) Pollard, Moses Pollard, John Pollard** and **Robert Pollard** to them and their heirs forever.

Item I give to my daughter **Mary Pollard** one Negro Girl slave Nann to she and her Heirs for ever.

Item I give to my son **Robert Pollard** my land whereon I now live containing one hundred and forty three acres be the same more or less and if he should Depart this Life before he comes to the age of Twenty one years then the next youngest son to take the said Land and if he should depart this life in like manner then to the next youngest and so to continue on.

Item I give to my daughter **Hannah James** one shilling and three pence.

Item I give all my whole estate that I have not yet mentioned to be equally divided among my children that I shall hereafter name **Isaac Pollard, George Pollard, William**

Pollard, Francis Pollard, Zachariah Pollard, Thomas Pollard, Henikind (?) Pollard, Moses Pollard, John Pollard, Robert Pollard, Betty Pollard, Ovenden Pollard, and Nancy Pollard, to them and their heirs forever. My sons **Isaac Pollard, George Pollard**, and **Zachariah Pollard** I do ordain to be Executors to this my Last Will and Testament in witness whereunto I have set my hand and seal this 2nd day of August 1789.

Sealed and Pronounced Joseph XX Pollard (seal)
In the presence of us mark
Joh Chapman
George Pollard Foster
William Crowder

At a court held for Amelia Court on the 22nd day of October 1789 this Will was exhibited into Court and Proved by two witnesses thereto and ordered to be recorded.

Submitted by James H. Maloney blue@erols.com

It appears as though Joseph & Leah Morris Pollard were not major slave owners. They received one **“negro girl named Judy”** from Leah’s father in his will. According to the above will, they left **“Mary Pollard one Negro Girl slave Nann”**. Apart from that, there is no further mention of slaves in this will.

Miscellaneous Pollard Notes (Amelia County, Virginia): I don’t know how many, if any, of these are our direct ancestors.

September 6, 1760. James Meriwether to **Elizabeth**, daughter of **Joseph Pollard**; sec. William Meriwether; witn. William Colyard.

January 15, 1763. **Thomas Pollard** to Sally Harding, daughter of William Harding; sec. Wm. Meriwether; Wm. Harding's letter of consent; witnessed by George Downing and George H. Opie.

August 14, 1764. Edmund Pendleton, Jr., of Caroline county, to **Milly Pollard**, daughter of Joseph Pollard, gentleman; sec. Jesse Payne; witn. Val. Wood. John Pendleton's letter of consent to son's marriage; witnessed by John Madison and Wm. Campbell.

We know that the Civil War split portions of the extended Pollard family. **Isaac & Lockey Davis Gilstrap**, the parents of **Mary Gilstrap Pollard**, divorced over the war. Isaac supported the North, Lockey the South. At the same time, our gggrandfather **Isaac G. Pollard**, and his brother, our gggranduncle **Moses G. Pollard**, both enlisted in the Union Army, **Moses G. Pollard** dying of typhoid fever on 16 Oct 1862, in Springfield, Missouri.

The **Moses Pollard** we now consider to be the father of **Joseph G. Pollard** died on 9 Nov 1840, in Spartanburg, South Carolina. Since we show him marrying **Nancy Morris** sometime between 1798 –

1806, in Amelia County, Virginia, and since **Joseph G. Pollard** was born in 1818 in Virginia, we may possibly find more family data in Spartanburg, S.C., in the early-to-mid 1820s.

For now, my research turns to Spartanbug, S.C., to see if we can find the link between **Joseph G. Pollard** from Virginia, and **Mary Gilstrap** of Tennessee.