



Family Tree

My Ancestors Immigration to America

Barry P. Foley

1. Family Tree
2. My Journey
3. Roots of My Family Tree
4. The Immigrant Thomas Foley
5. Pocahontas, Tommy Jefferson & Cousin Lilibet
6. Ancestral Arrival in Patrick County
7. Bart and Luke
8. Famous Ancestors
9. The Indentured
10. Jamestown Ancestry
11. Miss Amy-The Jamestown Bride
12. Real Housewives of Jamestown
13. Sarah-The Indian Killer
14. The Girl I Left Behind Me

All Songs Written And Performed by Barry P. Foley

For complete lyrics, check out my website: www.barrypfoley.com

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GEMA



STORY BEHIND FAMILY TREE ALBUM

Family Tree is an acoustic album of new songs written about my ancestors' immigration to America. I started researching my Family Tree in 1980, so it's been a long, slow road. Thanks to DNA Testing and websites like Ancestry.com, I have built a database of over 29,000 names.

Most of my ancestry lines go back to the 12th Generation, and several on back to the 20th Generation.

In January 2023, I began a project to support this album by collecting all the names of ALL the immigrants in my ancestral heritage. Although I have a relatively small number of dead ends before immigration, overall, there are over 2400 names. Unfortunately, because I'm a double Foley, many names appear four and five times resulting in 1000 duplicates. But I have a solid 1395 immigrants I can document.

Of all the songs and stories of the album, only three songs don't relate to a particular person. The Indentured, Miss Amy-The Jamestown Bride, and The Girl I Left Behind Me. In fact, The Girl I Left Behind Me is an adaptation of a 17th Century English Ballad that has been recorded and rewritten numerous times.

I hope you enjoy My Journey to my Family Tree.

barryp

(To read the lyrics of all the songs and stories, skip to page 41).



Edward Eugene Foley
10 Aug 1926-05 Jun 2011



Married 22 Dec 1945
Mama & Daddy



Lou Allene Foley
30 Nov 1929-Living



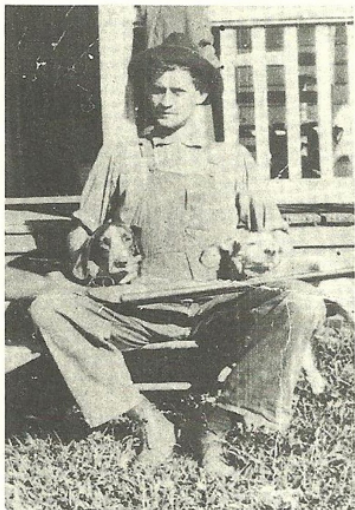
Charlie Cleveland Foley
9 Apr 1898 - 20 Oct 1989



Married 18 Apr 1920
Daddy's Parents



Lonie Bet Pilson
4 Feb 1904-10 Feb 1963



BOSS FOLEY about 22 yrs old
at **JIM FOLEY's** homeplace



BOSS & VADA FOLEY
and baby **LILLIE ODEAN**



Vada Mary Sawyers
3 Oct 1903-27 Dec 1987

James Franklin "Boss" Foley

10 Feb 1900-19 Jul 1962

Married 5 Sep 1920
Mama's Parents

**Boss Foley
Family
take just after
his death in July
1962**





William Howard Jeremiah Foley
14 Feb 1874-16 Jan 1937

Married
7 Mar 1895

Great Grandparents
on Daddy's Side



Mary Lee Rorrer
22 Feb 1882-28 Jan 1902
Died giving birth to twins



**William (13) and Cleve Foley (11)
1909**



**Minnie Adeline Rorrer sister to
Mary. She took in the boys
when their mother died**



William Howard Foley
14 Feb 1874-16 Jan 1937

Howard remarried on
16 Mar 1905 and had
6 children with Mattie
Bouldin.



Martha Elizabeth "Mattie" Bouldin
26 Jun 1887-8 Aug 1927



Mary "Mollie" Law 10 Nov 1879-2 Apr 1978
married John Rufus Pilson 26 Dec 1895
Great Grandma on Daddy's side



Posey R. Pilson (son)
24 Feb 1919-29 Oct 1965



James Tyler (Red-Eye Jim) Foley
14 Nov 1863-19 Jan 1935



Seated left to right:
RICHARD, BOSS, JAMES T., MYRTLE, MARTHA, GAY

Back: CHARLIE, ANNA, ELLA, MAGGIE

Great Grandparents-Mama's side
Married 16 Nov 1884

MARTHA ADELINE LAW FAMILY



MARTHA ADELINE (LAW) PENDLETON FOLEY

Martha Adeline Law
1 Oct 1862-14 Jan 1935



Jim Foley's children circa 1960...Boss Foley far left.



Mr. and Mrs. W. D. "Bill" Massey of Route #2, Stuart, Virginia celebrated their 74th Wedding Anniversary, January 9, 1983 in the Fellowship Hall of Ross Harbour Methodist Church. Present for the occasion were their six children: Paul Massey, Stuart; Clyde Massey, Stuart; Mrs. Irene Foley, Stuart; Mrs. Beatrice Lawless, Stuart; Mrs. Treva Scarce, Danville; and Mrs. Hazel Mills, Danville. The couple have 32 grandchildren, 40 great-grandchildren and 10 great-great-grandchildren. Five generations of the Massey family attended the celebration.

**Bill Massey and Delia
Adeline Foley
(brother to Boss**



Seated Left to Right: JOSHUA LAW (MARTHA'S brother) & JIM FOLEY
Back Left to Right: VIRGINIA CREWS LAW & MARTHA LAW FOLEY

**Jim Foley and Martha
Law Foley**



FAMILY REUNION

Standing left to right:
ELMER HALL, HARRISON HUNDLEY, JACKSON VIA,
RICHARD FOLEY, BOSS FOLEY, MACK FOLEY

Second Row left to right:
KATE FOLEY, GAY FOLEY HALL, ELLA FOLEY HUNDLEY,
MAGGIE FOLEY RORRER, ANNA FOLEY A. VIA, DELIA FOLEY MASSEY

Bottom left to right:
VADA S. FOLEY, MYRTLE FOLEY LAWLESS,
BENNIE G. FOLEY, BILL MASSEY

**Jim Foley's kid at Family
Reunion circa 1960**



Orange Aaron Sawyers

11 Oct 1878 -3 Jan 1932



Married 6 Aug 1896

Divorced 1923

Great Grandparents on Mama's (Mama's) Side



Sarah Ida Lou Foley

5 Mar 1873-11 Mar 1962



Orange & Sarah Lou Sawyers Family circa 1910
Grandma Vada is far right (7 years old)

2nd Great-Grandma

Mary Virginia "Jenny" Ross

Born: 24 Aug 1846 Patrick County VA

Died 24 Oct 1914 Patrick County VA

daughter of

Samuel Ross and Esther Harbour

Married 31 Dec 1868 to

William Green "Buck" Foley

the had 8 children including William

Howard Foley (Cleve's Daddy)



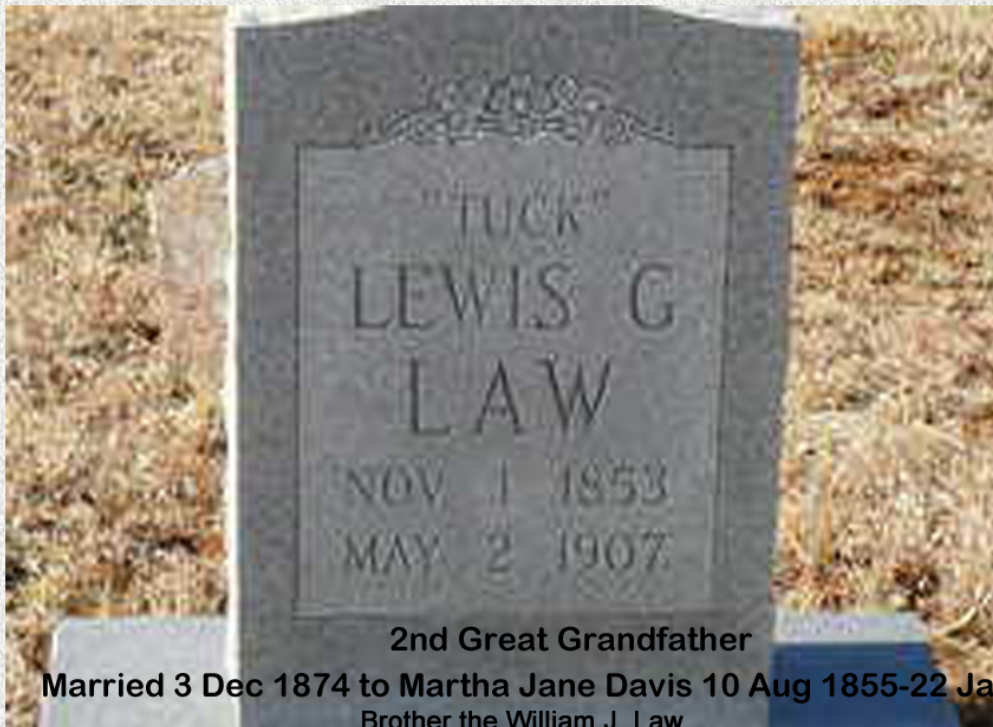
2nd Great Grandparents on Daddy's Side



Henry Lee Rorrer 7 Dec 1854-13 Apr 1936

Sarah Ann "Sallie" Bryant 15 Jun 1855-20 Feb 1930

Married 02 Dec 1875



"TUCK"
LEWIS G
LAW
NOV 1 1853
MAY 2 1907

2nd Great Grandfather

Married 3 Dec 1874 to Martha Jane Davis 10 Aug 1855-22 Jan 1893

Brother the William J. Law



WILLIAM J. LAW

William J. Law

18 May 1824-4 May 1907

**2nd Great Grandfather on Mama's Side
Brother to Lewis "Tuck" Law**

Know all men by these presents, That we
William Law and Lewis Spencer

do hold and firmly bound unto
Priscilla Ruth Spencer
of the Commonwealth of Virginia and his successors in office, in the just and full sum
of one hundred and fifty dollars, current money, to which payment well and truly to be made, we
do ourselves, jointly and severally, firmly by these presents. Dated with our seals and dated
the 2^d day of December 1868.

The condition of the above Obligation is such, That, whereas,
there is a Marriage solemnly intended to be had and solemnized between the above bound
William Law and *Priscilla Ruth Spencer*
of Patrick county, Virginia, if there be no lawful cause to obstruct said Marriage, then the above
Obligation to be void, in case it remain in full force and virtue.

Witness
Samuel S. Staples

Wm
William J. Law
marks
Lewis Spencer

WILLIAM J. LAW and PRISCILLA RUTH SPENCER
Marriage License



Joseph H. Sawyers

Born 22 Jul 1857 Wythe VA

Died 20 Jan 1941 Chatham VA

son of

James Anderson Sawyers &

Elizabeth Dollarhite

**One son, Orange with Thurza K. Harman in
1878**

Married Elizabeth Keaton

1910

**2nd Great Grandpa on
Mama's (Mama's) Side**

2nd Great Grandparents on Mama's side



McTyler "Mack" Foley 13 Feb 1851-28 Aug 1902
Elizabeth A. Ruth Wright 24 Sep 1849-15 Jun 1910
Married 13 Dec 1870

3rd Great Grandma (Daddy's Side)
Esther Jane Harbour
Born May 19, 1828 Patrick County
Died: Nov 19, 1923
Daughter of
Richard and Judith Nowlin Harbour

Wife of Samuel Anderson Ross
Married 12 Oct 1843
He was a Veteran of the Civil War
or
The War Between The States
(for those educated in the South)



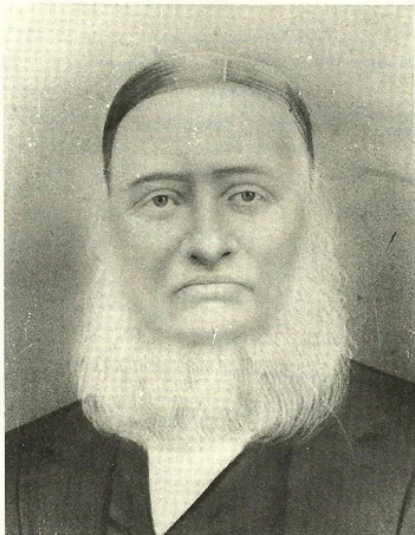
3rd Great Grandparents-Daddy's Side

Sarah "Sallie" Amanda Harbour
Born in Patrick County 16 Dec 1833
Died 18 Oct 1917 in Leaksville NC
daughter of
Richard Harbour & Judith Nowlin

Married in 1849 to
David Charles Rorrer
Oct 1829-06 May 1872
They had 5 children

Sarah A. Harbour





WILLIAM LAW, SR.

**William B. "Doc" Law
3rd Great Grandfather
28 Mar 1791-19 May 1876**

**son of
Daniel B. Law
and
Obedience Biddy Tyree**

**Married Jane Witcher
30 May 1816**

**Father of
William J. Law
and Lewis "Tuck" Law**

4rd Great Grandparents-Daddy's Side

David Alexander Rorrer Jr.

Born in Martinsville VA 1 Aug 1791

Died in Pittsylvania Ct VA 25 Aug 1880

Son of

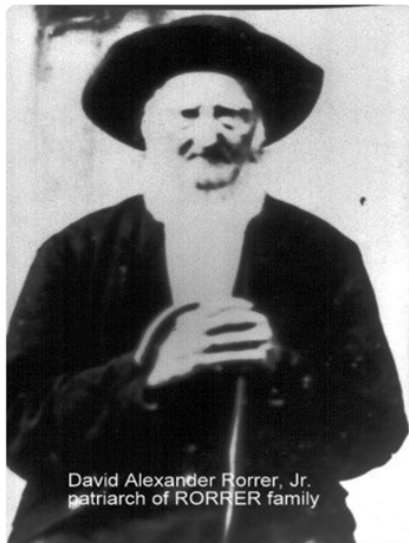
David A. Rorrer Sr and Elizabeth Deboe

Married Nancy Ann Brown

21 Feb 1814

They had 6 children

**David Alexander Rorrer,
Jr.**



David Alexander Rorrer, Jr.
patriarch of RORRER family

4th Great Grandpa (Mama's Side)

John Bennett Sawyers
Born 1808 in Surry, NC
Died 1 Feb 1878 Wythe VA,

son of
James and Mary Polly Grayson Sawyers

Married Phoebe Puckett in 1830
Nine Children to include

James Anderson Sawyers (1836-1862)



5th Great Grandma (Daddy's Side)

Mary "Polly" Thomas

Born 1784 Patrick County VA

Died 31 May 1873 Franklin County VA

Daughter of

Welsh Immigrant Charles Thomas Sr.

& Judith Patterson

Married 23 Feb 1799 to

John Witt Nowlin and they had seven children



My 7th Great Grandfather (Mama's Side)

Major John Bolling
(January 27, 1676 – April 20, 1729)

was an American planter, politician and military officer in the colony of Virginia. He was the great-grandchild of **Pocahontas** and her husband, John Rolfe.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Bolling





**Great Grand Uncle
Hugh Trevylen Foley
27 Apr 1887-16 May 1953
brother to William Howard Foley**

**Hugh ran off to South Carolina with a 14
year old and changed his last name to
Bennett...**

Leaving a wife and 6 kids behind

He had 4 kids with Julia Bennett

 **Barry Parks Foley**
1954-Living

Spouse & Children ^

 Gabriele H Koerner

 Michelle Susan Foley

Siblings v

+ Add relative

 **Charlie C " Foley**
1898-1989

 **Edward Eugene Foley**
1926-2011

 **Lonie Bet Pilson**
1904-1963

 **James F " B " Foley**
1900-1962

 **Lou Allene Foley**
1929-Living

 **Vada Mary Sawyers**
1903-1987

 **William Howard J Foley**
1874-1937

 **Mary Lee Rorrer**
1882-1902

 **John Rufus Pilson**
1876-1945

 **Mary "Mollie" Law**
1879-1978

 **James Tyler (Foley**
1863-1935


 **Martha Adeline Law**
1862-1935

 **Orange Aaron Sawyers**
1878-1933

 **Sarah Ida Lou Foley**
1872-1962

 **William Green " Foley**

 **Mary Virginia Ross**

 **Henry Lee Rorrer**

 **Sarah Ann " BRYANT**


 **Dallas C Pilson**

 **Nancy Ellen Pendleton**

 **Lewis Greene (Law**


 **Martha Jane Davis**


 **William Lee FOLEY PVT**


 **Mary L Foley**

 **William J Law**

 **Priscilla Ruth Spencer**

 **Joseph H Sawyers**











 **Thurza (K Harman**

 **McTyler "Mack" Foley**


 **Elizabeth A R Wright**

 **Charlie C. Foley**
1898-1989

Spouse & Children ^


-  **Lonie Bet Pilson**
-  **Thelmer Howard Foley**
-  **John Ray Foley**
-  **Mildred L H E Foley**
-  **Edward Eugene Foley**
-  **Virginia Pauline Foley**
-  **Charlene Hazel Hall**
-  **Robert Earl Foley**
-  **Paul Nash Foley**
-  **James Marshall Foley**

Spouse & Children ^

 **William Howard J Foley**
1874-1937


 **William Green M Foley**
1846-1914

 **Mary Virginia Ross**
1847-1914

 **Henry Lee Rorrer**
1854-1936

 **Mary Lee Rorrer**
1882-1902

 **Sarah Ann M BRYANT**
1855-1930

 **Jeremiah A Foley Jr**
1794-1878

 **Nancy Maxie M Thomas**
1804-1873

 **Samuel Anderson Ross**
1818-1903

 **Esther Jane Harbour**
1828-1923

 **David Charles Rorrer**
1829-1872

 **Sarah Amanda Harbour**
1833-1917

 **James M. J Bryant Jr.**
1820-1870

 **Martha Ruth Harger**
1833-1907

 **Jeremiah Foley Sr**

 **Barbara Foley Jr**

 **Charles Thomas Jr.**

 **Deborah Jordan**

 **David Ross**

 **Sarah Anderson**

 **Richard Harbour Sr**

 **Judith Nowlin**

 **David A Rorrer Jr.**

 **Nancy Ann W. Brown**

 **Richard Harbour Sr**


 **Judith Nowlin**

 **James N. Bryant**




 **Nancy MNU**

 **George Harger**

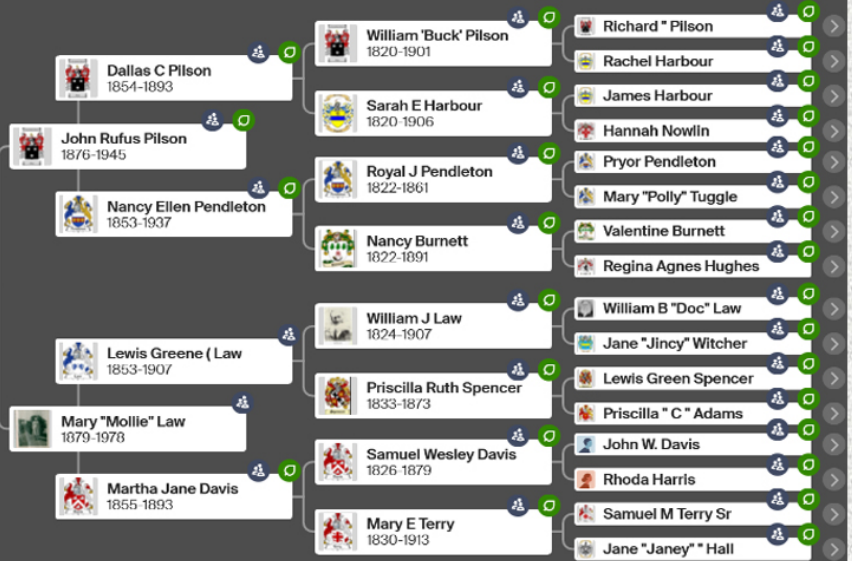
 **Phoebe Grist**


 **Lonie Bet Pilson**
1904-1963

Spouse & Children ^

-  Charlie C * Foley
-  Thelmer Howard Foley
-  John Ray Foley
-  Mildred L H E Foley
-  Edward Eugene Foley
-  Virginia Pauline Foley
-  Charlene Hazel Hall
-  Robert Earl Foley
-  Paul Nash Foley
-  James Marshall Foley

Siblings v



 **James F * B * Foley**
1900-1962

Spouse & Children ^

-  **Vada Mary Sawyers**
-  **James A Foley**
-  **Lillie Odean Foley**
-  **Pauline Izzy A Foley**
-  **Frank Joseph Foley**
-  **Lou Allene Foley**
-  **Mary Jereldine Foley**
-  **Alvis McCray Foley**
-  **Grady Lee Foley**
-  **Edna Nanniebet Foley**
-  **Lewis Oakley Foley**
-  **Brenda J Foley**

 **William Lee FOLEY PVT**
1845-1903

 **James Tyler (Foley)**
1863-1935

 **Mary L Foley**
1836-1895

 **William J Law**
1824-1907

 **Martha Adeline Law**
1862-1935


 **Priscilla Ruth Spencer**
1833-1873


 **Wesley H Foley**
1821-1880


 **Matilda Ruth Boling**
1820-1882

 **Jeremiah A Foley Jr**
1794-1878


 **Nancy Maxie M Thomas**
1804-1873

 **William B "Doc" Law**
1791-1876

 **Jane "Jincy" Witcher**
1798-1858


 **Lewis Green Spencer**
1804-1880


 **Priscilla "C" Adams**
1811-1866

 **Henry Foley 2nd**


 **Martha Elinor Steel**

 **James Marcus Bolling**

 **Sarah Sally Wright**

 **Jeremiah Foley Sr**

 **Barbara Foley Jr**

 **Charles Thomas Jr.**

 **Deborah Jordan**

 **Daniel B Law**

 **O Brildy Tyree**

 **Ephraim Witcher**

 **Jensey Adams Rowden**

 **John R Spencer Sr**

 **Sarah Sallie Lynch**

 **Reverend J Adams**

 **Elizabeth Jane "Corn"**

Vada Mary Sawyers
1903-1987

Spouse & Children ^

- James F " B " Foley
- James A Foley
- Lillie Odean Foley
- Pauline Izzy A Foley
- Frank Joseph Foley
- Lou Allene Foley
- Mary Jereldine Foley
- Alvis McCray Foley
- Grady Lee Foley
- Edna Nannlebet Foley
- Lewis Oakley Foley
- Brenda J Foley

Orange Aaron Sawyers
1878-1933

Thurza (K Harman
1860-

McTyler "Mack" Foley
1851-1902

Sarah Ida Lou Foley
1872-1962

Elizabeth A R Wright
1849-1910

Joseph H Sawyers
1857-1941

James A Sawyers
1836-1862

Elizabeth Dollarhite
1837-1884

Joseph William Harmon
1829-1880

Rebecca Dunford
1834-

James T. Foley
1812-1886

Nancy Jane Foley
1810-1883

Josiah Wright
1824-1862

Sarah Lynch Spencer
1825-1919

John Bennett Sawyers

Phoebe Puckett

Samuel Dollarhite

Mary Polly Johnson

Patrick "Pete" Harmon

Mary Polly Melton

John William Dunford III

Mary Polly Payne

John Christopher Foley

Mary Whaling

Jeremiah Foley Sr

Barbara Foley Jr

Jonathon N Wright

Nancy S E Slaughter

Abraham " Spencer

Catherine J ' Adams

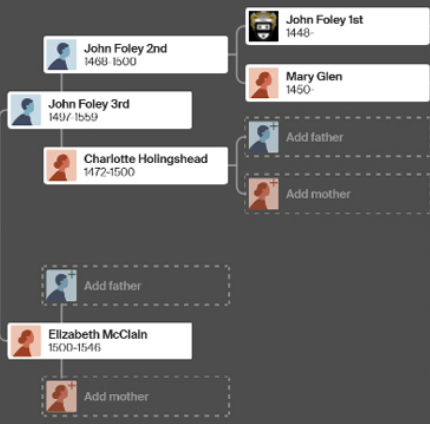
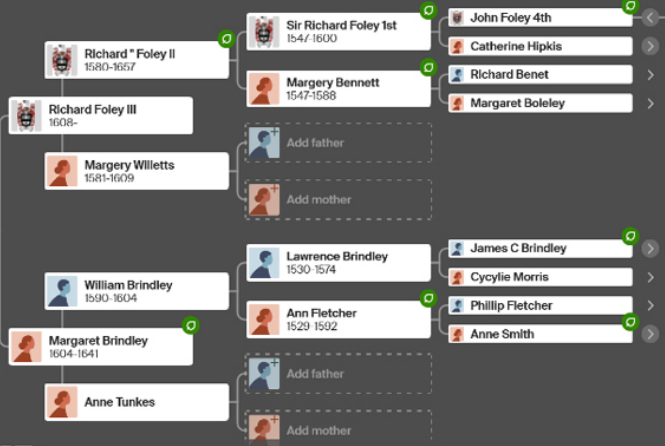
Foley Ancestors


Thomas Foley Immigrant
1639-1690

Spouse & Children ^









- Martha * Bryant
- Thomas Foley Jr.
- Bryant Foley
- Anne Foley
- John Foley I
- Richard Foley 4th

Siblings v



 **Richard " Pilson**
1783-1859


Spouse & Children ^

-  Rachel Harbour
-  Rachel Esther Pilson
-  Elizabeth Pilson
-  Nancy E Pilson
-  Moses Pilson
-  William 'Buck' Pilson
-  Richard Turner Pilson
-  Sabrinah Pilson

Siblings v

+ Add relative


 **Richard Pilson Sr**
1720-1776

 **William Pilson Jr.**
1752-1812

 **Esther Dinwiddie**
1724-1783


 **Francis Turner**
1736-1804

 **Esther Turner**
1766-1857


 **Elizabeth Gilley**
1744-1817

 **Richard Pilson**
1702-1783

 Add mother

 **Lawrance Dinwiddie**
1696-1764

 **Janet Coulter**
1703-1744

 **James Turner**
1705-1793

 **Mary Admire**
1712-1793

 **Francis Gilley**
1730-1790

 **Elizabeth Mills**
1724-1790

 Add father

 Add mother

 **ROBERT DINWIDDIE**

 **Elizabeth Cumming**

 **Michael Coulter**

 **Jonet Cumming**

 **James Turner Sr.**

 **Sarah MNU Immigrant**

 **George Admire**

 **Margaret Kuhn**

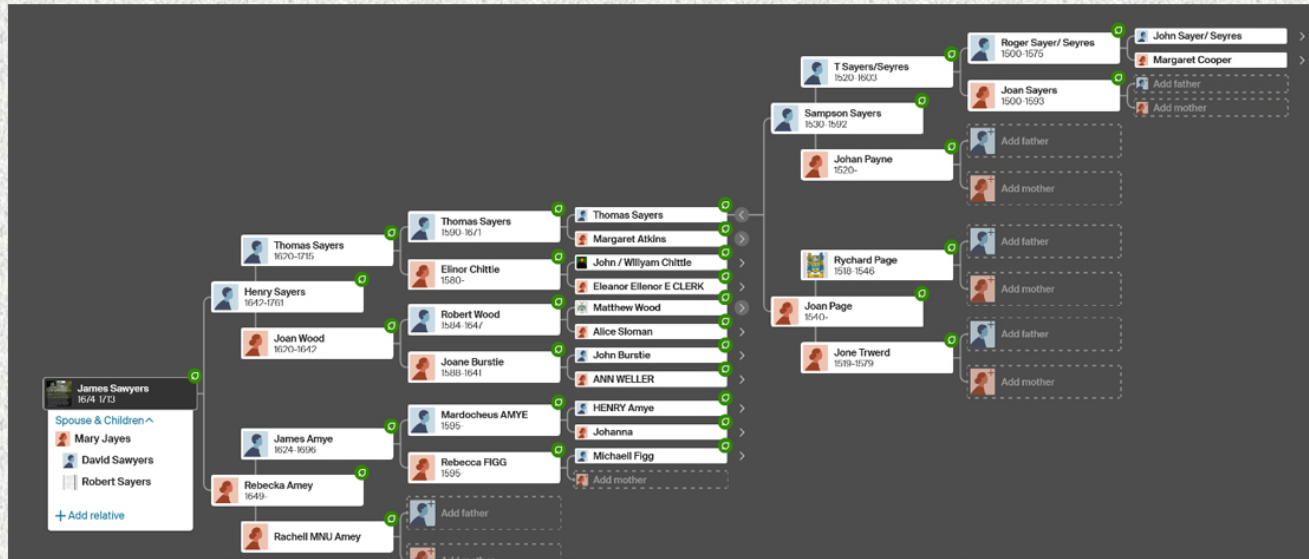
 **Francis Gilley Sr**

 **Frances Luke Immigrant**

 **John Miles**

 **Susanna Gardiner**

Pilson Ancestors



Sawyer (Sayer) Ancestors



Pocahontas Matoaka Powhatan

BIRTH 17 SEP 1595 • Werowocomoco Village, On Pamunkey River York River, Virginia, US

DEATH 21 MAR 1617 • Gravesend, London, Middlesex, England

10th great-grandmother

My 3rd Great Grandfather Wesley H. Foley (Mama's Side) married Matida Ruth Bolling. The Bolling line goes back to my 7th Great Grandfather John Fairfax Bolling (1676-1729). He is the great grandson of Pocahontas and John Rolfe.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Bolling

Pocahontas also had a child with her first husband Kocoum Powathan, her name was Jane Ka Okee.

Jane Ka Okee married my 11th Great Grandfather Col Thomas Pettus. Their daughter Mary Pettus was a wife of Chief Wipsewasson Wahanganoche of the Patawomke Tribes. Their daughter Keziah Arroyah Wahanganoche was the mother of Martha Bryant the wife of our Foley namesake immigrant Thomas Foley.'



President Thomas Jefferson

BIRTH 13 APR 1743 • Shadwell, Colony of Virginia, British America

DEATH 04 JULY 1826 • Charlottesville, Virginia, USA

2nd cousin 10x removed

Related Several Ways:

Henry Soane is my Thomas' 2nd Great Grandfather and my 12th Grandfather.

On the Pilson Acedral Line, Elizabeth Pilson, my 3rd Great Aunt married Rev James Jefferson that was the 3 Great Grandson to Thomas Jefferson's Father

On Mama's Foley line, Great Grandpa Mack Foley's brother married the daughter of the same Rev James Jefferson and my 3rd Great Aunt Elizabeth Pilson.



Queen Elizabeth II

BIRTH 21 APR 1926 • Mayfair, London, London, England

DEATH 8 SEPTEMBER 2022 • London England

10th cousin 1x removed

Richard “Ironmaster” Foley II is Queen Elizabeth’s 9th Great Grandfather through her mother’s line.

He is my 10th Great Grandfather and the Grandfather to our namesake immigrant Thomas Foley.

FAMILY TREE

Written by: Barry P. Foley
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In the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains
Where this country boy was raised, and everybody was kin
Forty miles north of the Carolina pines
Where nobody ever taught us our Ancestral bloodlines

My Mama and my Daddy shared the same last name
And two of Mama's sisters, also did the same
The Sawyers and the Pilson's weren't that close to me
Til I started on my journey to learn my Family Tree

The Foley name is Irish, and my wife loved her Irish Man
Turns out, my line came from England, southwest of Birmingham
Back as far as the 15th century Foley's have called it home
I'm thankful young Thomas felt the urge to roam

The Sawyers are on Mama's side also hailed from England
Just like the Foley clan they go back 400 years
Rogers said goodbye to Sussex, sailed across the ocean
By 1720 Virginia was now their home

My Irish blood comes from Daddy's side, by way of his Mama
The Pilson's came late, by immigration times
In 1750, Richard had enough of Downpatrick
Grabbed his son and they set sail for the promised land

Now I sit in Mama's yard looking at the Blue Ridge Mountains
Where this country boy was raised, and everybody was kin
Knowing what I know now about my family history
I wish someone had taught us about our Family Tree

MY JOURNEY

Written by: Barry P. Foley
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When My journey started all I knew was that Mama was a Foley, her Mama was a Sawyer, and
Daddy's Mama was a Pilson, and that was it.

I first sat down with my Grandma Vada of my Mama's side. From memory, she rattled off names
and dates faster than I could write. Info on her Daddy's family, the Sawyers, from Carroll County,
names of her Mama Sarah Lou's family, who were also Foley's. Vada could only take me as far
back as her grandparents. When I asked her where our ancestors came from, she waved her hand
and said, "over there," meaning Europe. But that was a good start.

Then I sat down with my Grandpa Cleve Foley of my Daddy's side. He whipped off info, like reading
it out of a book. Told me his Mama died when he was 4 years old and that his great Uncles Peyton
and Reed had fought in the Civil War. Again, he could only go back as far as his Grandpa William
Green "Buck" Foley. But that was a good start.

My primary goal was to find my Grandpa Cleve's Great Grandpa. I went the logbooks of Marriage
Licenses in the Patrick County Courthouse and found the Marriage License of Rebecca Foley from
the 1st of July 1865, and on it was her parents' name, Jeremiah and Nancy Foley. I was so thrilled.
I took a copy to Grandpa to tell him who his Great Grandparents were. That made me proud.

In 1993, Mama's family, descendants of James Foley and Martha Law Foley, put together a book of
all the family. Inside was a family tree, and there was that name again, Jeremiah, but this time it
listed his father, Bartholomew. For the first time I could see where my two family lines connected.

With the internet, I found a direct trace from Bartholomew to Immigrant Thomas Foley, who arrived
in 1664 from England. Yes, from England, but he had to be Irish, as Foley is an Irish Name!!!! Fast
forward to 2018, when I made a DNA test from Ancestry and turns out I'm 94% English.

Although my journey will never end, I have marked a milestone with this project of tracing my
Immigrant Ancestors.

ROOTS OF MY FAMILY TREE

Written By: Barry P. Foley
Copyright @ 23 Mar 2023

Somewhere north of London, in the English countryside
Is an old oak tree, its tall and its wide
This tree has been in my family, since 800 years ago
Its roots run long and deep and all way to my soul

They run north to Scotland, Aberdeen and Inverness
To the Welsh coastline and Lord Bryant's place, way out west
Through every major city in England both north and south,
The coastline down to the Isle of Wright and Captain Traver's house

Then the roots grew wide over to the Green Island
Up its the ragged coast from County Cork up to Dublin
And further on to Downpatrick to the Pilson's Ancestral home
We are all thankful ole Richard felt the need to roam

Turnaround

SPOKEN

Then they grew under the channel, to show how strong they can be
Down to Alsace of the border between France and Germany
Alsace changed hands with every war, the borders are a blur
But those roots stayed strong, for the immigrant Michael Rohrer

My Foley roots in Dudley, southwest of Birmingham
Ole Thomas Foley said goodbye forever to his native land
It has been 400 years, since our ancestors crossed the stormy seas
Those brave men and women, the roots of my family tree

THOMAS FOLEY

Written By: Barry P. Foley
Copyright @ 23 Mar 2023

Thomas Foley, our namesake ancestor. He is my 8th Great Grandfather. That part we know. We know when he came to America, we know when he married the Indian Princess Martha Bryant, we know the names of his children and we know when he died. We also know about his Last Will and Testament.

We don't know why the use of the name Folio appears so often in regard to Thomas. But in those days names seemed to have some degree of flexibility!! What we DON'T know for sure, and never will, who really is Thomas Foley. Extensive research was between 1992-1995 and the Foley Findings were published. With the same basic conclusion.

There was a good line in his will that read "To my Son Brian Folio, one gun sent to his father out of England, that was important to me. I researched the name Folio and found nothing. I also researched every Thomas Foley I could find in England in that time frame and traced their movement. The only one without accountability in England was dear old Thomas. So the rest is what I BELIEVE to be true. He was the six of seven children born to Richard and Margaret Brindley Foley, christened the 18 Jun 1639 at St James Church in Dudley. He was the 3rd son.

Richard III was born 1608 in Dudley and Margaret was born 1604. His father was Richard "Ironmaster" Foley II and his mother was Margery Williets. Richard II made his fortune making Nails.

Shortly after Richard III was born, Margery died in 1609 and his father got remarried to Alice Brindley. It seems his fortune was positioned toward his new family, and he fathered another 10 children with Alice, to include Sir Thomas Foley, born 1617 who prospered with the help of his father fortune.

Sir Thomas served in the House of Commons and his purchased Whitley Court and had extensive additions made. He traveled in the right circles in so much as he is the 8th Great Grandfather to the late Queen Elizabeth on her mother's side. All well documented!

The Foley line goes as far back as 1441 with John Foley. Every Foley I found lived in the general vicinity of Dudley, Rowley Regis, and Stourbridge, southwest of Birmingham in what that call the Black Country.

Pocahontas, Tommy Jefferson and Cousin Lilibet

Written by: Barry P. Foley
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When your family has been around as many years as mine
Somebody important is bound to cross your family's lines
When they all come from the same place, and end up mostly in the same state
Its bound to happen
You don't have to believe me

Pocahontas had a child with her Indian husband
Something the Rolfe family don't want to talk about
My Indian bloodline goes back to that child
400 years ago, on Martha Bryant's side
You don't have to believe me

Henry Soane is my 12 Great Grandfather, his daughter's married Peter Field
whose daughter married a Jefferson, whose son was named Peter
Peter is Tommy Dad, making Henry his 2nd Great Grandfather
and makes Thomas Jefferson my Cousin
But, you don't have to believe me

TURNAROUND

Now Cousin Lilibet, on her Mama's side
We share a Great Grandpa in our bloodline
Richard "Ironmaster Foley's son by a second wife"
Sir Thomas of Witley Court is in the Queen's direct line
But, you don't have to believe me,

It's all right there on Wikipedia, just don't have my name on it

ANCESTRAL ARRIVAL IN PATRICK COUNTY

Written by: Barry P. Foley
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This album focuses on my immigrant ancestors, but I want to take you a bit further. When my first ancestors came to the land that is now Patrick County, it was Brunswick County; in 1746, it became Halifax, then in 1752 Pittsylvania, in 1767 Patrick-Henry, and by 1791 it finally became Patrick County. Most of my ancestors arrived in Patrick and Henry Counties between the 1750s and 1760s. Here are all the known immigrants that made the area home, along with some other essential bloodlines

English Immigrants Capt John Rowden and wife Elizabeth Johnson, my 7th Great Grandparents, were the first to arrive in the county by 1730. They had married in London.

William Charles Lynch Sr was an Irish IMMIGRANT, and his wife Sarah Clark, my 6th Great Grandparents arrived by 1733

Bart Foley's future wife, Barbara Hundley, was born in Patrick County in 1738. Her family came from Gloucester County. Bart arrived in 1757 from Stafford County to establish the Foley line.

English Immigrants from Liverpool, Maj William Reuben Witcher and his wife Anna Rachel Majors, my 6th Great Grandparents, arrived in 1745.

Luke Foley's future wife, Mary J. Bolling (5th GGM) born in Patrick County in 1748; Luke arrived in 1767 from Stafford County

English Immigrant Rebecca M. Neal, my 6th Great Grandmother, arrived in 1765.

Scottish Immigrant Daniel Ross Sr, my 5th Great Grandfather, arrived in Franklin County by 1767. Charles Thomas Sr, an Immigrant from Wales, and wife Judith Patterson, my 5th Great Grandparents, arrived in Patrick by 1768. The Thomas line appears more than four times in my Family Tree.

Scottish Immigrant, John Wright, my 6th Great Grandfather, arrived by 1770

William Pilson, Jr and wife Ester Turner, my 5th Great Grandparents, arrived from Albemarle County, VA. The son Richard "Dicky" Pilson was born in Patrick County in 1783. The first of the Pilson line in Patrick

David A. Rorrer Sr and wife Elizabeth Betsy Deboe, my 5th Great Grandparents, arrived in Martinsville by 1789. The Rorrer line is thru my Grandpa Cleve Foley's mama's line

The Law family line, which appears on both sides of my family, arrived by 1791 in Franklin County with Daniel Law and wife, Obedience Tyree

English Immigrants John Grist and wife, Elizabeth Walker, my 5th Great Grandparents, arrived by 1797. They hold the distinction of being the newest immigrants in my family tree based on immigration dates.

My Great Grandfather Orange Sawyers arrived in Patrick from Carroll County after he married Sarah Lou Foley in 1896

BART AND LUKE

Written By: Barry P. Foley
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My 5th Great Grandfathers Bart and Luke were the sons of Henry Foley and Great Grandsons of our namesake immigrant Thomas Foley. Bartholomew was born 1735 and Luke in '37 in Stafford Virginia – northeast of Fredericksburg and just off the Potomac River.

Bart arrived in Patrick County in 1757 and Luke came via Mecklenburg County and arrived by 1767. Here is their story:

Bm BPM 125

Bart left his home in Stafford made his way to Patrick County
Didn't waste anytime finding a wife in sweet Barbara Hundley
Born in Patrick and her roots were English a marriage made in heaven
Bart was 22 when they tied the knot in seventeen fifty seven

Bart was already got a bunch of land grants, before his little brother Luke arrived
About 1200 acres, on Bull Mountain's northern side
There were 11 children, all bearing the Foley name
Four were born after he died, I guess Barbara had no shame

Turnaround

Luke planted his foot Patrick, and much to his Daddy's surprise
He found a good wife in Mary Bolling, he just turned 45
They had 6 boys and 2 girls filling up that Foley home
Records ain't clear, but by 1801, dear old Luke was gone

He had 2500 acres half through land grants
I'm sure he would have gotten more given half the chance
Son, Christopher shipped off the war in 1812
Mary Bolling line was a dead, nothing left to tell
Yep, her bloodline was a dead end nothing left to tell

FAMOUS ANCESTORS

Written By: Barry P. Foley
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Of my 1395 known immigrant ancestors, there are some notable people in American History. In no real order, let me get right to it.

Col Samuel L. Drake Was a Revolutionary Soldier

I have 3 sea Captains, but none so notable as Capt Christopher Newport – Captain of the Susan Constant and overall in Charge of the Flotilla of ships to the first voyage to Jamestown. He actually never immigrated, although his daughter did.

Three Governors of the Virginia Colony

John R. West Shelton, George Reade, and Richard Bennett
Thomas Gardner II- First Governor of Massachusetts

Four Speakers of the House of Burgesses

Robert King, Robert Wynne, Thomas Milner II, Theodorick Bland
And of course, several members of the House of Burgesses, most notably
Henry Soane, who just happened to be the 2nd Great Grandfather to President Thomas Jefferson
I have a good number of those connected to the Virginia Colonies.

Besides the forementioned Capt Christopher Newport, and early arrival in Jamestown was Capt Samuel Silas Jordan who arrived 25 Jul 1610. His wife Cecily Jordan was one of first women to arrive in Jamestown

Capt John Warde – Arrived 1611 in Jamestown- Rev Robert Hunt was the First Chaplain.
Dr. John Woodson-First Doctor arriving in 1619, He died in the 1644 Indian Massacre. He was also one of the first slave owners, purchasing 6 of the original 20 slaves in 1619.
And yes, my family tree has Native American Roots. At least 10 ancestors married women of various tribes. Including,

My 10th Great Grandfather, Col Thomas Theodore Pettus married Ka-Okee Jane Powhatan Patawomeck in 1618. Her father was Kocoum Patawomeck and her mother was Pocahontas.
Thomas Foley – Our Namesake Immigrant married Martha Bryant. Her mother was Keziah Arroyah of the Patawomeke Tribe and daughter of the tribal chief.

Although not immigrants, my 10th Great Grandfather John Hoyter was born 1640 in Chowan NC and was the Chief Of The Chowanoke Indians and his offspring continued to be in power of the tribe.

OTHER NOTEABLES

Capt Thomas John Taylor- 5TH Great Grandfather of President Zackery Taylor 12th POTUS
John Proctor and Sarah Burt (Wife of William Basset) were convicted and hung for being a Salem Witch. Elizabeth Basset was a convicted Salem Witch but not hanged because where was pregnant.

THE INDENTURED

Written by Barry P. Foley

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My father was an old man, by the age 43
Working this piece of earth, to feed my brother and me
When I turned 16, I come to understand
As the younger son, I would have to leave the land

Here in County Cork, there's never work to be had
Lucky enough to have a place to lay yer head
Me uncle from the port of Cobh, spoke of the Promised Land
Indenture yourself for passage; it will make you man

As I hugged mum goodbye, she placed a chain around my neck
Her gold wedding band, to help me not forget
On the 1st day of May, I boarded the ship Tyree
Bound for Virginian soil, two weary months at sea

Oh, I miss ole Ireland, Oh, I miss my home

This Virginia land is hot, the likes I've never seen
The Master with his whip, the English think they're kinds
A filthy shack with 20 men, some try to runaway
We're beaten just like slaves, the indentured must obey

Six more years until my servitude is clear
Make my way out west, to the new frontier
Close me eyes late at night, see my sweet mother's smile
Curse my father's name back in from the Emerald Isle

Oh, I miss ole Ireland, Oh, I miss my home

JAMESTOWN

Written by: Barry P. Foley -Copyright © 17 Mar 2023

Just the mention of the word Jamestown and every American is transported back the 4th Grade when they had a history class. Unlike the lies still taught about Columbus discovering American in 1492, what we were taught about Jamestown was mostly factually true. The dates, the names of the ships and so forth. We just were not taught all the truth.

Jamestown was chartered by the investment group Virginia Colony in 1606. Its fundamental purpose was to go to America and rape and pillage the land of all of its gold and silver, before the Spanish got there and beat them to it. The Spanish had done exactly that in Caribbean.

The dreams of becoming rich was one reason so many "gentlemen" were on the first ships arriving in Jamestown on 13 May 1607. Of the first 104 English men and boys that first landed on Virginia soil, there were 50 members of the Gentry Class.

The Gentleman that was secretly chosen by the Virginia Colony to be the leader, Capt John Smith, was charged with mutiny and they planned to execute him, until just before they sat foot on Virginia soil and opened the secret envelope, announcing the leader. That had to be interesting!!!

Neglecting the more pressing need of survival, groups went out right away, hunting for Gold and Silver and began their mission with earnest, coming up empty handed, except for the Iron Pyrite, known as Fools Gold which they took back to England.

From the beginning, Chief Powhatan provided greatly to feed the Colony, all in a matter of trade of course. If it had been up to some of the war mongers of the original group and many who came after, they would have killed every Native American on sight and burned every village to the ground. Luckily, several in the initial leaders were a bit smarter and had to concern themselves with survival.

The winter of 1609-1610 was known as the Starving Time in Jamestown. A population of 500 when winter began resulted in only 61 surviving by springtime. Many factors played a part, but one was simply ignorance on how to farm and the Gentry Class thought physical labor was beneath them. Yet 40 miles down the river at Port Comfort, the food was so excess, they fed it to hogs!!

I'm proud to learn that my 10th Great Grandfather, Captain Christopher Newport was captain of the Susan Constant and overall in charge of the two other ships, Godspeed and Discovery. He made numerous successful resupply missions, yet he never immigrated, although is daughter Margie did.

No less than 20 ancestral immigrants were the among the settlers of Jamestown, before the Mayflower found American soil. Including the first Chaplin and the first Doctor
Many question whether or not Jamestown Expedition was a success. Not my call!

MISS AMY-THE JAMESTOWN BRIDE

Written by: Barry P. Foley Copyright © 19 Mar 2023

It was Sunday after the service, the vicar motioned to me
He said Miss Amy come to the back, I've got something you should see
I know things have been hard for you, since your ole father passed away
I've got something here you should consider

He says the Virginia Company and is looking for girls just like you
You don't much of future it's the best thing you could do
You're almost eighteen perfect time to marry
Promise me you'll give it some thought

They'll pay for your passage to Jamestown
Provide you a dowery of all things needed when you settle down
When you arrive, I promise, you'll have your choice of men
You be provided room and board, you won't be living in sin

I said, vicar you know this ALL sounds to good to be true
I been worrying night and day about what I'm gonna do
My father, bless his soul drank away my pay
And I've never in my life had a spare schilling to my name

With a letter of recommendation, from the church I was on my way
Wearing the first new dress I've ever had, dowery trunk was stowed away
I walked up the brow, I never even looked back
I got no one to wave goodbye too

I never would have believed, how a ship could rolls around so
Many nights, I heard the other girls crying calling out for their mama
I was only ten when my mum passed away
I had to work like a dog ever since that day

Everyone is going crazy since the first sight of land
All the other young maidens, can't wait to meet a man
I'm not in hurry, I'm gonna take my time
I'm not like all those other Jamestown brides out

THE REAL HOUSEWIVES OF JAMESTOWN

Written by Barry P. Foley Copyright © 18 Mar 2023

I figured the title would get some attention!! But unlike a TV Series, this is based upon
fact!

Many women came to the Jamestown Colony to marry men and start families. Some women came at a young age with their parents, others came was indentured servants. Women of the Upper Planter class, were to take care of the household, supervise the slaves, have a supporting role to her husband. However, the farmers wives had a hard life, working dawn to dusk. Indentured servants were sometimes treated no better than the slaves, were tasked with doing whatever household chores to farming deemed necessary.

Here in the best order I can find are the first of the Real Housewives of Jamestown.

The first 2 European women to arrive in Jamestown was the Mistress Forrest-AKA Margaret Foxe and her maid servant Anne Burras. Arriving in October 1608, aboard the ship the Mary and Margaret under Captain Christopher Newport (my 10th Great Grandfather) as part of the 2nd Supply. Also on the ship's manifest, listed as a gentleman was her husband Thomas Forrest Esq.

Joan Pierce and her daughter, Jane, arrived on the Blessing in 1609. Joan's husband William was already waiting. Thanks to Joan's master gardening, the family survived the Starving Time. In 1619, Jane married John Rolfe after Pocahontas had passed away!

My 10th Great Grandmother, Cecily Jordan came to Jamestown in 1611 with her husband Samuel. He died 12 years later and the rest reads like a TV series. Three days after Samuel died, Reverend Pooley proposed to her and claimed that she accepted.

Tad bit unethical in my book!! Later that year, she disavowed Pooley's claim by accepting suitor, William Farrar. This started the first "breach of promise suit" in English North America, which took 2 years to settle, but Cecily prevailed. She then married the very patient Mr. Farrar.

In 1619 the first ship crossed the Atlantic with 90 English Women referred to as the Tobacco Brides and they all married colonists!!

sARAH THE INDIAN KILLER

Written by: Barry P. Foley
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My 9th Great Grandfather Dr. John Woodson was born in Devonshire, England in 1586. John fell in love with Sarah Winston, born in 1600. They married in Devonshire most likely in 1618. In January 1619, the ship "George" sailed from England heading to Jamestown with the new Governor, Sir George Yeardley, John and Sarah Woodson and about one hundred other passengers. Dr. Woodson came as a surgeon to the soldiers who were there the protection of the colonists from the Indians. When the ship with the first 20 Negro slaves landed on American soil, Dr. Woodson bought six of them. They survived the first Jamestown Indian Massacre of 1622. John told Sarah there would be no further Indian trouble. They moved to their 200 acres of land grant at Fleur de Hundred. They had two sons John and Robert.

Here's Sarah – The Indian Killer.

John said to Sarah, please take me as your man
from his side pocket, pulled out a gold wedding band
I can get us on the next ship sailing to Jamestown
Gov Yeardley has offered me a job and I hate to turn him down

In January, Sarah kissed her mom and dad goodbye
As she walked up George's brow with tears in her eyes
There were 60 young women, some were teenage girls
Tobacco Brides on their way to husbands in the new world

They lived first in Jamestown and were untouched this time
When the Indian Massacred more than 339
They moved on their land and built a cabin strong
Where sons John and Robert were born

All was well until April '44, John was caring for the sick
The Cobbler Thomas Ligon stopped for a bit
They were startled, when the Indian whoops rang out
She bolted the door and windows and began to look around

TURNAROUND

She found a safe place to hide her boys, to keep them safe from harm
A wash tub and Potato Hole, she took stock of it all
Meanwhile Ligon was shooting and loading as fast as any man can
Sarah looked through the cabin window to saw her John go down

A cooking kettle was hanging from the fireplace crane
With the water scalding, the coals red hot, down the chimney the first Indian came
She tipped over the kettle and scalded him to death
She heard more noise in the chimney. Sarah grabbed a roasting spit

SPOKEN

She brought that poker it down with all the force she had
Split the braves head open, like a block of wood in the shed

THE GIRL I LEFT BEHIND ME

Written by: Barry P. Foley

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Adapted from a Traditional English Ballad from 1700-PD

Never shall I forget the night, the stars were bright above me
And gently lent their silv'ry light, when first she vowed to love me

Tomorrow I'm bound for the new world, kind heaven then pray guide me
And keep me safely in the heart, of the girl I left behind me

The girl I left, the girl I left, the girl I left behind me
The vows we've made to heav'n above, shall cheer and forever bind me

Her golden hair in ringlets fair, Her eyes like diamonds shining,
Her slender waist, her heavenly face, That leaves my heart stillpining.

Ye gods above oh hear my prayer, To my beauteous fair to find me
And keep me safe until the again I'll see, The girl I left behind me

TURNAROUND

I promised to would send for her, when the company will allow me
Such heavy thoughts my heart do fill, since leaving my darling Mary

I remember her on that wintry day, standing on the pier a waving
As I said goodbye one last time, me heart was surely breaking

The girl I left, the girl I left, the girl I left behind me
The vows we've made to heav'n above, shall cheer and forever bind me

