

R.138 ESTATE OF REVEREND WILLIAM HILL JR 2/ (1737-1784) OF
VA. & ROCKINGHAM COUNTY, NC

Entered in July of 1998 by Robert R. Hill of Brandon, FL.

Sources for Information: My research based on data from Mr. Charles Massey, book East Goes West, by Craft, DAR Files, Data from American an Genealogical, Data from Mrs. Winifred Jacob of Beaverton, OR and Mr. Jeff Bradley.

REVEREND WILLIAM HILL JR 2/.

Rev. William Hill Jr 2/ was born in Caroline County, Virginia in 1737 & was the eldest child of William Hill Sr 1/ & wife Susannah Smithers.

This entire Hill family moved southward into today's Surry County, NC by ca. 1770-1775. The National Genealogical Secretary Quarterly states he came a few years earlier than his father and was in the living on a plantation known as "Popular Hill" on (Ash Camp Creek) of the Dan River in Rockingham County, NC. Thomas Hill 3/, eldest son and born in 1759, shows his birth in Guilford County, NC, indicating the Hills were there by this time.

He is said to have been a Baptist minister, which for a short time, caused problems with his father. He and wife Hannah were members of the Matrimony Baptist Church in Guilford County, NC ca. 1775-1783.

There is strong evidence to show Rev. Hill 2/ had two marriages, the first ca, January 1759 to a woman named Hannah Bridges, and the second one to Hannah Elizabeth Halbert, b. 1747).

Note: Later research shows there were two different William Hills. There was Rev. William Hill that married Elizabeth Halbert and another one that married Hannah Bridges. Researchers have got these two men confused with each other. They also say Thomas Hill, born 1759 that married Catherine Shropshire was a son of Rev. William Hill. **THAT IS WRONG!** He was a son of the other William Hill & Hannah Bridges. Bridges.

Robert R. Hill, Brandon, FL. Nov. 1998

That proof comes in the form of two things: First court records of Caroline County, Virginia in 1764, shows "Elizabeth Halbert, dau. of Joel Halbert Sr., deceased, made ward to her mother, Frances Halbert." This probes she was a seventeen year old single minor, some five years after the birth of the eldest son, Thomas Hill 3/ (b. 1759). Not only that, another piece of evidence comes from Abner Hill 4/, son

of Thomas Hill 3/, in biographical. mentions a "grand uncle Thomas Bridges."

Still a third bit of information come from the Tennessee Stat Archives. Remember, Thomas Hill 3/ and many of his children (and brothers) moved to Tennessee. In the archives, in the folder regarding this Hill family is a entry stating "William Hill Jr married Hannah Bridges."

These are the reasons for listing two marriages.

Now Hannah Elizabeth Halbert usually addressed herself as "Elizabeth." Nothing has been found to show her name was Hannah, Hannaniah, or Eliza.

Land Deeds imply that Rev. William Hill Jr 2/ was already a land owner of 200 acres when he received the two land granta (below) from the State of North Carolina on the very same day for a total of 632 acres. With his other 200 acres, he owned a total of 732 acres.

N.C. Land Grant No. 299 (TO WILLIAM HILL)

Entry No. 161 (382 acres)

Entered February 26, 1778

Issued March 1st, 1780

382 acres "In Guilford County on both sides of Buffalo Island Creek of Dan River. Beginning at white oak on south side of the aforesaid creek; thence west 186 poles to a black oak in Joseph Gibson's line, crossing the creek 206 poles to his corner; thence the same course continuing 80 poles, 286 in all to a poplar in Gustavus Hill's line; thence east along his line crossing white oak fork. 37 poles to a white oak; thence north along his line 54 poles to a black oak; thence east crossing a branch 149 poles to a black oak; thence south crossing the creek 340 poles to the first station." This was for 382 acres.

Comments: This was not Reverend William Hill!

N.C. LAND GRANT NO. 313 (TO WILLIAM HILL)

Entry No. 150 (350 acres)

Entered: February 26, 1779

Issued: March 1, 1780

350 acres "In Guilford County on both sides of Buffalo Island Creek of Dan River beginning at a white oak running thence north 165 poles to a post oak in the aforesaid Hill's line; thence east along his own line 60 poles to a white oak; thence north along his own line crossing Buffalo Island Creek 160 poles to a black oak; thence east 180 poles to a black oak; thence south crossing a branch 120 poles to a post oak in Henry Seale's line; thence west along his line crossing a branch 60 poles to a black oak; thence south along his line

crossing the creek aforesaid and such creek fork 205 poles to a white oak, thence west crossing such fork 180 poles to the beginning" This was for 350 acres, meaning Rev. Hill received a total of 732 acres from these two land grants.

Comments: This was William Hill that had a wife Hannah Bridges. Prior to his death, this William Hill and his three sons, Thomas Hill 3/, James Hill 3/ & John Hill 3/ reached and agreement over dividing land.

The details of that agreement is not known but apparently was carried out, probably with the courts approval. Many deeds (shown later) proves this.

On March 29, 1780, Rev. William Hill Jr 2/ sold to (son) John Hill 350 acres he received from one of the two land grants. Many researchers says that it was the son John Hill 3/ that bought this land but there is proof that it could not have been him.

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY, N.C. DEED BOOK E, PAGE 180
On March 10, 1780: William Hill sells to William Mills (382 Acres)

"William Hill of the County of Rockingham and State of North Carolina of one part and William Mills of the County of Henry and State of Virginia of the other part, 382 acres, land situated in the county of Rockingham and on waters of Buffalo Island Creek of Dan River, beginning at a white oak on the south side of the aforesaid creek running thence west 186 poles to a black oak in Joseph Gibson's line; thence north along his line crossing the creek 206 poles to his corner; thence the same course continued 80 poles (286 in all) to a pole in Gustavus Hill's line; thence east along his line crossing white oak fork.."

Witnessed by: Charles Gallaway, A. Walker, Lee Murphy

Note: This is the same land of N.C. Land Grant Number 299.

Comments by Robert Hill: Despite the fact that no mention of "Reverend" is made, the description of the land makes it obvious that this was Rev. William Hill Jr 2/, selling his last 382 acres of land that he had received by land grant to William Mills.

GUILFORD COUNTY, N.C. DEED BOOK 2, PAGE 280:
On March 12, 1783, William Hill of State of North Carolina and county of Guilford on the one part and John Hill of the aforesaid State and County of the other (part Seale's land containing 350 acres situated) on both sides of Buffalo Island Creek of Dan River, beginning at a white oak, running

thence north 165 poles to a post oak is the aforesaid Hill's own line; thence east along his own line 60 poles to a white oak; thence south crossing a branch 120 poles to a post oak in Henry Seale's line; thence west along his line crossing a branch 60 poles to a black oak; thence south along his line..."

Witnessed by: George Peay, George Peay Jr., William Shropshire

Comments: The location of the land & mention of John Hill tells me this was not John Hill 3/, son of Rev. William Hill, but was another John Hill known as John Hill Sr, another but possibly related family. (see next deed).

Rockingham County, NC

1789, The state of NC sells to William Hill two sales of 100 each on the south side of Dan River, which was probably the inheritance of brothers John 3/ & William Hill 3/..

Stokes County Deed Book 3, Page 57. 7TH October 1797. John Hill of Davidson County, Tennessee, to William Hill of the city of Raleigh (NC) for 100 pounds current money, 464 acres (of land) on Ash Creek, waters of the Town Fork, whereon the Reverend William Hill, deceased, formerly lived.

Signed/John Hill

Witnesses: James Hill, Thomas Henderson. Proved December 1799 by James Hill.

Other land deeds list this John Hill as John Hill Sr., who was now of Davidson County, Tennessee, proving he was alive on the 7th of December 1795. Court Records shows him dead in October of 1796, proving he was not John Hill 3/, the son of Rev. William Hill Jr 2 (now deceased).

The son, John Hill 3/, was made "guardian to his brother Green Hill 3/" by the courts. The NC court records shows he (the son, John Hill 3/) was still alive in "Cumberland" in 1811. What the relationship was of this John Hill Sr. to Rev. Hill 2/ & children is unknown, but he did leave to his sons, the land that was purchased from Rev. Hill 2/.

This FGS above for John Hill Sr is listed as married to Mary Covington & had sons, John Hill Jr., Micajah Hill, Dutton Hill, and a daughter Unity Hill. Again, this John Hill had purchased land from Rev. William Hill Jr 2/ before his death, but was not the son bearing the same name.

Comments: This was John Hill Sr, who had moved to Tennessee selling his BC land to William Hill III 3/, son of Rev. Hill 2/.

Mr. Bradley says quote: "John, son of this William Hill, is dead by October 31, 1796, but still living on December 1, 1795.

My Comments: I think Mr. Bradley has him mixed up. I think this was John Hill, James Hill 3/. The son, John Hill 3/ was still alive as late as 1810 (court records), which states he was a resident of "Cumberland" (Tennessee).

His birth date of 1780 is very questionable since he was guardian of brother, Green Hill 3/. b

John Hill Sr died ca. 1796, and proves it was not John Hill 3/ (son of Rev. William Hill Jr 2/) because John Hill 3/ is listed as being born in 1780 (very questionable) and court records list John Hill 3/ as "guardian" of his younger brother, Green Hill 3/, born 1782. Court records in 1810 clearly shows that John Hill 3/ was alive after the 1796 death date for this John Hill Sr.

The confusion is understandable because this John Hill's Sr property that was left to his sons, (Micajah John Jr, David Alexander, & Dutton Hill. It seems to have been the land sold to John Hill Sr by Rev. William Hill Jr 2/ in the deed dated 12th of March 1783.

Brief Information on John Hill Sr.

died ca. 1796 in Tennessee
Married: Mary Covington

Children:

1. Micajah Hill.
2. John Hill Jr.
3. Unity Hill,
4. David Alexander Hill.
5. Margaret (Peggy) Hill m. Alexander Jones .
6. Dutton Hill.

Information taken from deeds shows John Hill Sr 3 was deceased by 1796, however others say he moved to Tennessee and died there ca. 1809. That certainly needs explaining and still other sources, who submitted a FGS, say he was a Veteran of the War of 1812, seemingly impossible. Despite all of this conflicting data, the names of his children appears to be listed among the heirs of Rev. William Hill 2/. I believe John's birth date was earlier, ca. 1772, and died ca. 1796. Perhaps it was his son, John Hill Jr 4/ that went to Tennessee and fought in the 1812 war. John Jr 4/ would become "Senior" with the death of his father, and perhaps researchers got confused over this. It is possible he was a family member, but not a son. I think this was a son.

On the 21st of day in December 1786, a John Hill Sr purchased 137 acres of land from Joseph Johnson's, situated on Buffalo Island Creek, of Dan River, adjacent to lands of William Hill & Hills own line. (Reference: Rockingham County Deed Book A, Page 221 December 1786 (see footnote below))

My Comments: I first thought this was John Hill 3/, son of Rev. William Hill Jr 2/, but his birth is listed as 1780, and it seems to be that he was only six years old. There was another John Hill Sr family in Rockingham County, who purchased the land in the above deed.

John Hill lived in Surry County who married Mary Covington, and had sons: Micajah Hill, John Hill Jr, David Alexander Hill, Dutton Hill & daughters Unity Hill and Margaret Hill.

This seems to show that Rev. William Hill 2/ kept 177 of the 360 acres for himself. It suggest that at some date, on another deed not found, that Rev. William Hill JR 2/ had sold this land to Joseph Pain (Payne) Johnson, who was now reselling it back to a John Hill Sr and who appears not to be heir of Rev. William Hill Jr 2/, but maybe a relative.

Surry County Deed Book K, Page 217, (100 acres)
1st December 1795 "John Hill of County of Surry and State of North Carolina of the one part and Colby Creed of the other part... 100 acres of land, lying & situate in said county of Surry on Little Fish River being part of the survey made by William Ramsey which said Creed is now in possession of from a purchase of Jacob or Joab??) Hill..."

Witnessed by
C. Tucker
David Clark
George Burns

Comments: This seems to be the son, John Hill 3/ selling his part of the 380 acres that he, his brother & father, all agreed to prior to the father's death. ;

Surry County, N.C. Deed Book G, Page 190
On 1st October 1796, the son "Jacob Hill of the one part and Colby Creed... (sells) 140 acres of land, lying and being situate in the County of Surry on Little Fisher River, it being part of a tract deeded for William Ramsey of 380 acres, divided by and bounded by (lands belonging to) Fielding Herrin and JOHN HILL, deceased to said Colby Creed at the upper end agreeable to the conditional lines formerly made containing 140 acres..."

Witnessed by
Joel Mackey

Alexander Mackey
Martin Burrus.

Note: The name of Jacob has in the past been transcribed as "Joab Hill," which Bradley states is wrong. The correct name is Jacob. The error caused by misinterpreting of the clerk's handwriting.

This was Joab (Jacob) Hill 3/, a son of Rev. Wm. Hill Jr 2/, selling his share of the land, he, his two brothers & their father all agreed to prior to the father's death. Do not get him confused with the John Hill Sr, of Rockingham County and the Dan River.

Rev. William Hill 2/ died sometime in later 1784 because, by the 1st of February 1785, she had already remarried to John Glenn Jr, of Rockingham County, NC.

Rev. William Hill died in late 1784. He & three sons, Thomas James & John had agreed how to split up 380 acres of land. Was it this land?? Rev. William Hill 2/ died in late 1784 "Intestate" (no will).

At the time of is death in 1784, the old English law still prevailed in the new country and that law recognized the "eldest son" as the sole heir. In England, that law was strictly enforced, even if a will stated otherwise. Since Thomas Hill 3/ was the eldest son, there is a good chance that most of the lands fell into his hands, because he liquidated his holdings to his brothers & others and moved to Wilks County, Georgia before going to Tennessee.

Rev. Hill 2/ was a man of about 47 years old when he died (1737-1784) and had many children. When he died, he left no will and the estate was placed in the "intestate status."

The fact that the widow, Elizabeth Halbert Hill had remarried John GLenn Jr, may have caused a rift between her children and herself, because even after at least two court orders, she had not been given her legal "dowry rights of property," meaning one third.

In 1789, the State of NC sells to William Hill 3/, two sales of 100 acres each, on the north side of the Dan River, which may be the 200 acres of grants intended for John Hill Sr & Rev. William Hill 3/ before their deaths (not proved), but it was the son, William Hill III 3/ that bought this land from the state.

At some unknown date, Thomas Hill 3/ had moved to Wilks County, Georgia before going on to Tennessee in 1792, he sold all of his holdings to his brothers & others. He was never

named in the petitions or law suits filed against the estate for that reason..

On 22nd October 1792: Thomas Hill of Wilks Co., Ga. sells to (brother) James Hill for 90 pounds current money, 149 acres, a tract of land in Surry Co. lying on both sides of Fisher River at the fork in the lower end of Surry made by William Ramsey for 380 acres, "bounded by a conditional line made between the said James Hill and his father William Hill, containing 140 acres"... etc. etc
Signed/Thomas Hill

This shows Thomas Hill 3/ was entitled to 149 acres, which was surveyed by William Ramsey, surveyor, who was divided a 380 acres, as agreed to by the three sons and their deceased father, Re. Hill before his death.

On the same day Thomas Hill 3 sold another 100 acres, which is thought to have been his own land.

On 22nd October 1792, Deed between Thomas Hill of Wilks Co., Ga. to Benjamin Cadle for 30 pounds current money, sells 100 acres of land lying on Bull Creek, the waters of Tarrarat River beginning at two chestnut trees, the south side B Run and runs East twenty three chains to a pine the north forty three chains and a half, crossing said Run to a white Oak, west twenty three chains to a Pine then South crossing said Run to the beginning, containing 100 acres etc etc.."
Signed/Thomas Hill

Mote: At this time, Thomas Hill 3/ had sold a total of 350 acres in first deed to John Hill, another 149 acres to brother James Hill 3/ & 100 acres to Benjamin Cadle, for a total of 599 acres of land.

Due to the "intestae status of the estate, matters seems to have drug out until the 26th of November 1794 when some of the heirs (i.e. sons John Hill 3/, William Hill III, and a daughter Frances (Frankey) Hill 3/) asked the courts for their share of the personal estate of their father, the deceased Rev. William Hill Jr 2/. The court was agreeable, appointed the persons responsible for this and ordered "to lay off & assign to each heir their share of the estate."
(Reference Rockingham Co., NC Court Minutes in State Archives in Raleigh, NC under # 85).

Rockingham County Court Minutes, 1786-1795 Pt.2, Page 32.
Dept, of Archives & History, Raleigh, N.C.

27 August 1792. Ordered that the prayer of William Hill's heirs be granted and that Samuel Henderson, Thomas Henderson, Pleasant Henderson, James Hayes and John Reagen be appointed

to lay of (sic) (off?) the lands as the law directs and make (a) report to next court and that Thomas Henderson be appointed guardian to said children to wit: William Hill, James Hill, Eliza Hill, Cintha Hill, Green Hill and Polly Hill.

3. On 22 October 1792 Deed between Thomas Hill of Wilks Co., Ga. to Benjamin Cadle for 30 pounds current money, sells land lying on Bull Creek, the waters of Tarrarat River beginning at two checkout trees, the south side B Run and runs East twenty three chains to a pine the north forty three chains and a half, crossing said Run to a white Oak, west twenty three chains to a Pine then South crossing said Run to the beginning, containing 100 acres etc etc.."

Signed/Thomas Hill

4. In 1792, the son, Thomas Hill 3/ sold 140 acres of inherited land to Colby Creed.
5. On 10th November 1792, Thomas Hill 3/ sells 140 acres to brother Jacob Hill 3/, on both sides Fisher River & Little River, adjacent to lands of John Hill * James Hill, and agreed by the three. This was Rev. Hill's home site.
6. In ?? November 1792, Thomas Hill sells to John Hill 100 acres of Surry County land, situated between John Hill & his father, Wm. Hill deceased, and the former lines of the Survey by deeded by Wm. Ramsey.
7. Surry County Deed Book K, Page 217, (100 acres) dated 1st December 1795 "John Hill of County of Surry and State of North Carolina of the one part and Colby Creed of the other part... land lying & situate in said county of Surry on Little Fish River being part of the survey made by William Ramsey which said Creed is now in possession of from a purchase of Jacob or Joab??) Hill..."
8. 1st October 1794, John and William Hill, heirs of Reverend William Hill, sells 300 acres of land on the south side of Dan River to James Scales.
9. Rockingham Court Minutes 1786-1796
On the 26th of November 1794, the court was agreeable to a petition, filed by heirsL: John Hill 3/, William Hill 3/ & Frankey Hill 3/, a daughter who married Mark Hardin. The court ordered they should received their share of personal estate of William Hill, deceased. It appointed them who were to divide the estate, ordering them to "lay off and divide the real estate and lay off of the widow's dowry, and also lay off and assign to each

heir their share of the estate."

10. In the February 1795 Term, the courts ordered the estate to "lay off to. the late widow, now Mrs. Glenn, her right of the estate."

For some reason this was not done because in March of 1811, the Glens appealed to the courts for the widow's satisfaction. For some unknown reason this was not done.

11. On 10th December 1810, the widow, now Mrs. Elizabeth Glenn, filed an appeal to the courts to receive her rights of the estate (see below).

PETITION OF WIDOW, ELIZABETH (HALBERT) Hill..

10 December 1810. Petition of widow Elizabeth Hill of Stokes County, N.C.. widow of Reverend William Hill Jr.: Petition of John Glen & Elizabeth Glenn, formerly Elizabeth Hill.. that William Hill departed this life on or about----? intestate, leaving at the time of his death the following sons: John Hill, William Hill, James Hill & Green Hill; ALSO Elizabeth Hill now Glenn by her intermarriage with John Glenn, his widow & relict.

The intestate was seized of a tract of land lying on Ash Camp Creek, a branch of Town Fork containing 464 acres, adjoining James Hampton and Thomas Evans. Elizabeth (Glenn) is entitled to one-third part as her dower.

John Glenn deposes that he agreed with John Hill, who was the guardian of his brother, Green Hill (by appointment of Court of Rockingham County) to buy Green's part at \$ 300.00. Glenn gave a Negro girl, worth \$ 300.00 as payment to John (Hill) & John sold the Negro. Green Hill has not made good the deed since arriving at the age of twenty-one.

John Hill 3/ lived at Cumberland (county?) in 1808 and 1811. Green Hill replied to the bill in October 1811. (notes from IBID). Note this was not the John Hill Sr that died early 1796 in Tennessee. The two are often confused with each other by some researchers.

End of Estate Affairs for Rev. Wm. Hill 2/.

Comments: For what ever the reason, it appears that the heirs of Rev. William Hill Jr 2/ were not giving the widow (Hannah?) Elizabeth Halbert Hill) her legal rights to the estate of Rev. William Hill 2/, and was the basis of this petition.

These minutes are also important as it proves that the son, John Hill 3/ was still alive as late as 1811 at Cumberland, was once "appointed guardian of brother Green Hill 3/" and therefore was not the John Hill Sr. that died in 1795 in

Tennessee, that was involved in land transactions with Rev. William Hill 2/.

It would be interesting to know the outcome of this petition, but no final settlement was found.

October 1st 1796, Jacob Hill 3/ sells to Colby Creed 140 acres

Note: Jeff Bradley says Jacob & a Joab Hill were same person but often researched as "Joab" due to misappropriation of writing, resulting from the unique writing of the court clerk.

Stokes County, N.C. Deed Book 3, Page 12.

14th January 1797. James Hill of Rockingham County, N.C. to William Hill of same.. For 75 pounds current money, 464 acres (of land) on the waters of Town Fork on Ash Camp Creek whereon the REVEREND WILLIAM HILL, formerly lived, joining the lands of John Halbert, Samuel Hampton and others.

James Hill

Witnesses: Robert Hill, Thomas (T) Evans
Proved June 1797 by Robert Hill.

My comments: I believe this was James Hill 3/, son of the deceased Rev. William Hill 3/, selling to his brother, William Hill 3/. Their uncle, Robert Hill 2/ was a witness.

Stokes County Deed Book 3, Page 57.

7th October 1797. John Hill of Davidson County, Tennessee, to William Hill of the city of Raleigh (NC) for 100 pounds current money, 464 acres (of land) on Ash Creek, waters of the Town Fork, whereon the Reverend William Hill, deceased, formerly lived.

John Hill

Witnesses: James Hill, Thomas Henderson.
Proved December 1819 by James Hill.

My comments: The William Hill of the city of Raleigh, was William Hill 3/, born 1773, married Sarah Geddy in 1803. He definitely was the son of Rev. William Hill Jr. 2/. James Hill was his brother.

7. October 1st 1796, Jacob Hill 3/ sells to Colby Creed 140 acres

get deed and place here

Stokes County, N.C. Deed Book 3, Page 12.

14 January 1797. James Hill of Rockingham County, N.C. to William Hill of same.. For 75 pounds current money, 464 acres (of land) on the waters of Town Fork on Ash Camp Creek whereon the REVEREND WILLIAM HILL, formerly lived, joining the lands of John Halbert, Samuel Hampton and others.

James Hill

Witnesses: Robert Hill, Thomas (T) Evans
Proved June 1797 by Robert Hill.

In 1814, Green Hill 3/ & others, sold to Mark Hardin & wife Frankey Hill, sister of Green Hill 3/, 400 acres on the south side of the Dan River.

END OF R.138 DATA