

Claiborne Society Newsletter

The National Society of Claiborne Family Descendants



Message from the Publications Chairman

Patricia Clayborn

Professor Henry Louis Gates Jr's marvelous program "Finding Your Roots" usually ends with the guest struggling to explain why he or she feels so much more "worthy" as a result of learning about the fascinating lives of their ancestors. And they also feel a new responsibility to live up to the eminence of their forebears, as a link in a long unbroken chain. When we do our research, we can experience that same thrill each time we make progress working our way back through the generations.

We are so proud of Claiborne Clan member Matt Redman, who has conducted extensive research on Colonel William Claiborne's brother Thomas and Thomas's daughter Jane and her family. Mr. Redman's 10th great-grandfather is William Brereton, the brother of Capt. Thomas Brereton, who married Jane Claiborne, the daughter of Colonel William Claiborne. You can read his latest research paper at the following site: http://www.claibornesociety.org/research/

Elizabeth Richardson, our Vice President and Reunion Chair, has done an extraordinary job laying the groundwork for our Reunion which will take place from November 3 - 6, 2022. This issue includes a preliminary agenda and a registration form you can send in now. You may also read more at the following site: http://www.claibornesociety.org/reunion/

Our Society Secretary, Linda M. King, has sent us an article from Johnathan Clayborn, the FTDNA project administrator for our surname project on Family Tree DNA. She likes his thoughts for next steps and thinks it will help some of our newer members that have questions about their family history.

Linda King has also submitted her research on a fascinating ancestor in the article: "Gunned Down in His Prime – The Murder of Billy Clayborn."

In this issue we have the sad task of sending notice of the passing of John Frederick Dorman. As a group, we have lost a wonderful friend and expert advisor. He is mourned by so many, including his peers, and you may read more at the following site: https://fasq.org/john-frederick-dorman-1928-2021/

Finally, I have examined why the Kirkbride Family coat of arms is included with that of the Cleburne Family at Cliburn Hall.

We are hoping that this season brings you and yours a feeling of renewal and anticipation for great things ahead.

Thank you for your continuing membership and for contributing to our Society!

Sincerely, Patricia Clayborn

Webmaster

NEW MEMBER:

We are delighted to welcome the following new member to our Clan: James "Jason" McClure, Fayetteville, Arkansas

President Deborah Peabody Vice President Elizabeth Richardson Linda M. King Secretary Charles E. Claiborne Treasurer Frank Rura Registrar

OFFICERS 2019 - 2022

Committees Standing Elizabeth Richardson Reunion Research Dr. Alex Waldrop Archives Susan W.H. Rura **Publications** Patricia Clayborn Dan Boylin

www.claibornesociety.org

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2022 Claiborne Reunion Annapolis, Maryland November 3, 4, 5, and 6, 2022

Message from the Reunion Chair: Elizabeth Richardson, Vice President Claiborne Society

Make Room Reservations as Soon as Possible

We are looking forward to seeing you in Annapolis on Thursday, November 3rd from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm at the Historic Inns of Annapolis Governor Calvert House at 58 State Circle, Annapolis Maryland.

The Historic Inns Hotel is comprised of three buildings:

- The Gov. Calvert House is said to have had its beginnings in 1694, rebuilt after a 1764 fire, and added to four times.
- The Maryland Inn was initially built in 1772 and subsequently expanded.
- The Robert Johnson House's middle section was built in 1773 and later incorporated the homes on each side.

In the 1970s, all three buildings came under one owner who renovated them into boutique hotels. They are in the old part of Annapolis, convenient to most attractions, many restaurants and small shops. The hotel is 30 minutes from the Baltimore

Washington International Airport. Here are some suggested Annapolis attractions:

- Tours of historic Annapolis (standard or custom) by electric car.
- · Tours of U.S. Naval Academy.
- Ornate 1770s Annapolis Capitol (Washington gave his resignation speech and treaty ending Revolution ratified there when it served as U.S. capitol, 1783 and 1784)
- 1774 Hammond-Harwood House (outstanding architecture and furnishings)
- 1760s William Paca House with two-acre reconstructed 18th century garden
- Historic and lively city docks (beautiful water views, luxury sailing and motor yachts, historic buildings, restaurants and bars).



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Electric Car Tours

Historic Inns of Annapolis Governor Calvert House





The theme of this reunion will be William Claiborne's 1631 settling of Kent Island, the first English outpost in what would become Maryland. During the reunion we will hear of Claiborne's accomplishments and struggles relating to Kent Island. We will also view sites where archeological work to find remains of his two forts has taken place.

Claiborne named the island and the fort he built near its southeastern tip after England's County Kent, his home before coming to America. His main purpose was to trade with the Indians of the upper Chesapeake Bay for beaver pelts, which were then in high demand in Europe for making fashionable hats. In conjunction with the fort, he erected warehouses for his trade goods, homes for his men, several windmills, a boat construction facility, and the first church in present-day Maryland. Initially, his residence was in or near Kent Fort, but later he established his home and a second fort up the island's west coast, naming both Crayford, after his home town in England. Unfortunately, in 1632 King Charles granted part of northern Virginia, including Kent Island, to Lord Baltimore. This set up a power struggle for the island, which Claiborne eventually lost. He spent the rest of his life trying to regain this land he considered rightfully his.

In the twentieth century, repeated attempts were made to locate the site of Kent Fort, but none was completely successful - probably due to the island's severe coastal erosion over the years. A good part or perhaps all of the original settlement is probably now underwater. Many artifacts from Claiborne's period have been found close to shore by watermen dredging for clams, and by others on the island's beaches. Archeologists, too, have found numerous artifacts, but no proof of exactly where the fort was, although there have been indications of its vicinity.

This newsletter includes a tentative Reunion agenda and a registration form that you may mail now. If you have any questions, you may e-mail to lizgric@gmail.com.







Historic 1880 Christ Church Stevensville



National Society of Claiborne Family Descendants

2022 Reunion Annapolis, Maryland

Thursday, November 3 through Sunday, November 6, 2022 Historic Inns of Annapolis Governor Calvert House 58 State Circle Reunion theme: "Colonel William Claiborne: Settling of Kent Island"

PROGRAM

Thursday, November 3:

3:00 pm to 6:00 pm: Registration, hospitality and cash bar at the Governor Calvert House. Dinner and evening on your own with Claiborne and Cliborn relatives and friends.

Friday, November 4:

9:00 am: Meet in the Governor Calvert House lobby and board bus for tour of Kent Island. (Juice and minimuffins will be served on the bus.)

- Stop at Claiborne historical marker for photo op.
- Visit private beach to hear about and view mostly offshore archeological sites, pictures of artifacts found, distant island where family of one of Claiborne's men was massacred by Indians.
- Stop near where evidence of Crayford Fort was found offshore.
- Lunch at waterfront restaurant. Can order and pay for what you wish.
- Visit 1880 Gothic Revival church, said to stem from Claiborne's church.
- Driving tour of historic Stevensville.
- Visit Kent Island Visitor Center's mini museum to view exhibits on history of Kent Island, including brief information on Claiborne.
- Return to Governor Calvert House. Dinner and evening on your own. Note: For Thursday and Friday nights "dinner on your own", we may organize group visits to two restaurants: Cafe Normandie (French restaurant highly recommended by our president Deb Peabody) and Reynolds Tavern (built 1747, oldest tavern in Annapolis).

Saturday, November 5:

9:00 am: Meet in Governor Calvert House conference room for business meeting. Continental breakfast served prior to meeting at table outside the meeting room.

Business meeting: Call to Order, Invocation, Minutes, Treasurer's and Registrar's Reports,

Nominating Committee Recommendations, Election, New Business, Discussion of next Reunion, Benediction, Adjournment.

12:00 Noon: Casual lunch served in the meeting room after the meeting.

Afternoon free on your own to visit Annapolis sites of your choice. (See first page for list.)

7:00 pm: Banquet

Dr. Claiborne Smith Award, Installation of new Officers, Remarks by new President.

Keynote Speaker: Chief Archeologist with the Maryland Historical Trust. Lecture and power point presentation on William Claiborne's adventures and struggles to settle and keep Kent Island, and the archeological attempts to discover the sites of his two forts. We possibly will be able to view some artifacts found during these attempts.

Closing Remarks, Group Photo, Board Meeting with New Officers.

Sunday, November 6:

11:00 am: Check out. There are several good restaurants nearby serving Sunday brunch. Information on these will be provided.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

From: Steven and Catherine Claiborne Cate, regarding the upcoming Claiborne Clan Reunion

"Good afternoon. Yea! Its gonna happen! Thanks for the notification a few days ago.

Catherine and I have been looking to plan a visit to the Chesapeake area for a few months now. And then the potential for a reunion came up. Terrific! Very soon after your email, I was on the phone with the Governor Calvert making reservations. Thanks.

Something else to mention to you....We're also taking this opportunity to sail with our favorite cruise line-American Cruise Lines. They are offering an 8 day, 7 night cruise of Chesapeake Bay which commences the Sunday following the reunion. Anyone can go to ACL's website for all the details. I don't have any financial interest in ACL, but I know they have always spoiled us on the past, whether in Florida, the San Juan Islands, or the New England coastline.

Perhaps, if you would or could, you could notify other Claiborne kin of the possibility of linking the two events. During the week between the events, we'll have a rental car and will be doing additional exploring. Perhaps even drive to see a longtime friend in Southern Vermont.

Thanks for the heads up on the reunion. Our last was 2011, in New Orleans. Thanks, too, for the link to the DAR lecture. Looking forward to meeting you again. Best, Steven and Catherine Claiborne Cate"

We appreciate the tip from Steven and Catherine. Regarding the DAR Lecture Series, there are two new lectures (see below).



There are two new postings for the DAR Lecture Series entitled:

- "Finding Women: Maiden Name Unknown" with Craig Roberts Scott at the following site: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jZtxzOY6_zU
- "Problem Solving with DNA: Case Studies" with Patti Hobbs, CG: https://youtu.be/8UNLEEOsNAc



Society Facebook Page

You may access our Society Facebook Page at the following site: https://www.facebook.com/groups/165839180432914





National Society Claiborne Family Descendants DNA Study

From: Jonathan Clayborn, FTDNA Project Administrator Claiborne Society Surname Project on Family Tree DNA:

My name is Johnathan Clayborn, and I have been appointed to be the DNA Project Administrator of the Claiborne-Clyburn DNA Project by Family Tree DNA. This project was previously administered by Dr. Alex Waldrop, whom I have taken over for.

Unfortunately, Dr. Waldrop did not leave many notes inside the project files on the website, so some of the data has been lost. One of the first things I attempted to do was to reach out to people and re-establish contact and re-organize the data. I have discovered that more than half of the emails associated with the project are no longer valid, a few of the members who took the test have since passed away, and a few of the projects were listed under Dr. Waldrop's email. Needless to say, sorting it out has revealed some gaps. With that, I ask that if you or someone you know has taken the Y-DNA test on Family Tree DNA, please contact me.

Sorting the data has proved much more useful and we have learned several new things. I have completely reworked Dr. Waldrop's original groups and divided people by Haplogroup and location. We have also been able to combine the Y-DNA information and graft that onto Family Trees to create what is called a Cladogram. This has revealed a couple of important things that we can prove scientifically.

- 1. Col. William Claiborne's line of Virginia is not biologically descended from the Westmoreland family. This does not rule out the possibility of adoption or some other such relationship, but genetically, these two families have different origins.
- 2. The Clybourns of Canada, the Robeson County, NC Clyburns, the Clyburns/Clayborns of Henrico, VA are all descended directly from the Westmoreland Group. We are narrowing the gap in proving the direct lineages involved here.
- 3. While the genealogical records are sparse, the Y-DNA comparisons of the earliest Westmoreland DNA patterns do support the claim that they are not descended from Bardolph of Ravensworth, as had been suggested, but rather are most likely descended from the Tallbois family. The DNA is not a strong match here, not enough to definitively prove it, but the DNA evidence points to a much closer genetic link between these families.

Despite these findings, there is still much work to do. We have discovered several new mysteries. Claibornes who's DNA doesn't match, non-Claibornes whose DNA does match, etc.

One of the important things I would recommend is that the society at large establishes a public-facing genealogical database with proven trees. In attempting to track down some of the unknown members' data when I took over the project I noticed that many descendants of Col. William's family erroneously linked their trees to the Henrico family, and vice versa. Having an official list with vetted data, sources, and notes, publicly available will help to cut down on much of this confusion.

Another crucial step is more involvement in the DNA project itself. More members should take the tests and share their data, which we can keep private. The more data points that we have to analyze, the more accurate our family portrait becomes. There are several branches in particular where we sorely need more people to test. Additionally, if people have tested, upgrading their tests can yield additional data points. And anyone who can afford to do so should be encouraged to take the "Big Y" DNA test as this may permit us to identify specific SNP markers that are unique to our families and their branches.

I will be publishing some YouTube videos with these findings, updates, Q&A sessions, and general DNA information in the coming months. If you would like to contact me with information about the Y-DNA test, or if you would like to participate and want to know next steps, please send me an email at: Johnathan.Clayborn@gmail.com.



Gunned Down in His Prime - The Murder of Billy Clayborn

By Linda M. King

I have always enjoyed reading stories of the early pioneer days and the shocking crimes that were a way of life. I loved mysteries, tried to solve the story, and found the motivations fascinating as a young person.

In July 2011, my Aunt Mae Clayborn Damron shared a new story about the murder of my paternal great-grandfather, Billy Clayborn. The murder occurred in 1923 in the Ozark community of Walnut (Newton County), Arkansas, when Billy was 42 years old. Perplexing were the things I did not know about the murder and the questions that I had surrounding the event. Of particular interest was that my great-grandmother, Martha (Hylton) Clayborn, was suspected of involvement.

I wanted to know more! I tried to find as much information as I could surrounding the murder. I needed to understand how life could deteriorate to the point that my great-grandmother would participate in a scheme to murder her own husband. I decided to learn more about the time and place where the family settled and how it had affected their lives and values.

March 2012, Aunt Mae and I headed to Jasper (Newton County), Arkansas, looking for documentation about the murder. We needed to find the court records, the charges, and case disposition records.

Who were Billy and Martha (Hylton) Clayborn?

William "Billy" Frederick Clayborn was born at Union, Newton County, Arkansas, possibly 28 or 29 February 1879 or 1880, son of Frederick Y. and Nancy Caroline (Barber) Clayborn. He died at Walnut, Newton County, Arkansas, 23 May 1923. He married at Newton County, Arkansas, Martha Jane Hylton, 6 October 1907. She was born at Jasper, Newton County, Arkansas, 16 May 1888, daughter of Montgomery and Oma (Norton) Hylton. She died at Kansas City, Kansas, 14 January 1955.

As children, Billy and Martha migrated from Tennessee to Arkansas with their parents for homestead land and the dream of a better life. The Hyltons were from eastern Tennessee (Washington County) and the Clayborns from Middle Tennessee (Hickman County). Most settlers in Newton County existed by subsistence farming. The land was mineral-rich, supported fruit and nut trees (particularly peaches, apples, and walnuts), but was not generally favorable for traditional crop farming.

As a young adult, Billy became known as a "whiskey man." In 1899, he was arrested for making whiskey. The US Marshal's Office tried him at Ft. Smith, Arkansas, but the charges were dismissed the following year. (1) Apparently, making and running whiskey had been a way of life in Newton County for several generations, and they did not readily accept the new federal controls. Newton County was a very rural area populated by hill people who didn't like outsiders, especially those telling them what to do. Billy seemed to fit right in.

Details of the Republican primary of 1908, indicate that Billy Clayborn was elected by the Republican County Central Committee to serve as the committeemen for Union Township for the next two years. (2) This indicates that Billy was known and respected in the area.

Billy and Martha had six children over about ten years (between 1909 and 1919). The census records indicate that Martha was a "homemaker."

I remember Aunt Mae sharing that Martha (who was her grandmother) was not particularly maternal and could often be cruel to children. Mae said that Martha often enjoyed frightening them. Mae personally witnessed this with neighborhood children. I wonder about Martha's childhood and if she experienced any traumas or abuse that contributed to her ill disposition toward others.

Mae also told me that she had heard that after Billy died, Martha was living in her father's home, but then her father asked her to move out when one of her younger sisters, June, needed a place to live. We don't know or understand the circumstances, but I have to wonder if she felt unappreciated or unloved by her own family.

The Murder

We were able to find several pieces of information documenting the murder.

The following are direct extractions of two articles found in the The Daily Times, plus a family story from an interview with the niece of Billy Clayborn, Eula (Clayborn) Bridges. Eula's father was George Zibe Clayborn, Billy's brother. Even though the story is not provided from personal knowledge, Eula's knowledge, stories she knew from her father, and her own recollection provides information relatively close to the event.

The Daily Times Article, 30 May 1923: Two Men Held on Murder Charge: "News has reached Harrison of a shooting that occurred at Walnut, a remote district in the southern part of Newton County, last Wednesday, when Anderson Beasley, one of the wealthiest citizens of this section, and Hiram Beckham, a farmer of the neighbor, were responsible, it is said, for death by shooting of one, William Claiborne."

"Bad feeling had existed between the men for some time, and last Wednesday, an encounter took place between the men near Claiborne's home, and words passed that resulted in Beckham shooting Claiborne five times. Owing to the remoteness of the district and the condition of the roads, and the fact that the telegraph wires had been down, Beckham and Anderson Beasley,

(continued next page)

who was arrested as his accomplice, were not taken to Jasper until Monday. The two were charged with murder in the first degree." (3)

Family Story: Death of William "Billy" F. Clayborn, as told by Eula Clayborn Bridges to Cecil Warren: "During an interview with Eula Clayborn Bridges, daughter of Rev. George Zibe Clayborn (Billy's brother), I was told the story of Billy's death. Since there is additional information, I will pass it along. Aunt Eula said that Billy and Martha were separated, she and the children lived at Walnut in Newton County and Billy was living in Stone Hill, Johnson County. He had gone back home to visit the children and to take them straw hats. Upon arrival he found that two men were at the house. Billy who had a bad temper engaged them with angry words. As the conversation got heated one of them pulled out a pistol and shot Billy off his horse. Billy, who was unarmed, was shot five times. Both men served time in prison. A newspaper account published in The Daily Ozark Times May 30, 1923, states that the two men were Hiram Beckham and Andrew Beasley and Beckham had done the killing." (4)

The Daily Times Article, 11 July 1923: Beckham and Beasley Sentenced at Jasper: "Judge J.M. Shinn and Prosecuting Attorney Karl Greenhaw are said to be passing a very busy week at Jasper. A recent murder case of great interest has already been disposed of and Hiram Beckham and Anderson Beasley who are accused of the murder of William Claibourn in a wood near his home some two months ago, have both been sentenced. Beckham, we understand, has been sentenced for murder in the first degree, while Beasley has been given five years in the penitentiary for his supposed share in the crime. These two men and their victim are all said to have been prominent citizens of their section of Newton County. Beckham, we are told, agreed to plead guilty on condition that his punishment was commuted to imprisonment for life." (5)

I do question why Martha Clayborn was not included in either newspaper article by the reporters talking about the murder, when the court records show that she was charged and indicted by the Grand Jury as an accessory to the murder. Eula's interview doesn't mention the involvement of Martha either.

Court Records

The following information was retrieved from the official court records found at the Newton County Courthouse in 2012 regarding the murder and the indictments that followed.

The official court records named three (3) defendants in the murder of William "Billy" Clayborn: Hiram Beckham, Anderson Beasley, and Martha Clayborn.

Grand Jury indictment of Anderson Beasley: "State of Arkansas vs. Anderson Beasley, in the Newton Circuit Court, July Term, 1923. The Grand Jury of Newton County, in the name and by the authority of the State of Arkansas, on oath, accuse the Defendant, Anderson Beasley of the crime of accessory after the fact of murder in the first degree committed as follows towit: The said Defendant, on the 23rd day of May, 1923 Here and there being and after one Hiram Beckham in the said county of Newton and State of Arkansas, on the 23rd day of Mary 1923, did unlawfully, willfully, feloniously and with his malice aforethought, with deliveration and after premeditation did kill and murder one Billie Clayborne by shooting him in the head and body of him the said Billie Clayborne with a gun loaded with gun powder and leaden balls and there and then held in the hands of him the said Hiram Beckham from the effects of which wounds he the said Billie Clayborne then and there died against the peace and dignity of the state of Arkansas, and he, the said Anderson Beasley there and then, well knowing that he the said Hiram Beckham had committed said crime in manner and form aforesaid did unlawfully and feloniously conceal the commission of the said crime from the magistrate and harbor and protect him the said Hiram Beckham. Karl Greenhawe, Prosecuting Attorney, Fourteeth Judicial Circuit. Criminal Docket No. 567." (6)

Martha Claybourne is listed as a witness on this indictment. Hiram Beckham pleaded guilty to the charges in a plea deal and was convicted of First Degree Murder with a life sentence.

Grand Jury indictment of Hiram Beckham and Anderson Beasley: "State of Arkansas vs. Hiram Beckham and Anderson Beasley, in the Newton Circuit Court, July Term, 1923. The Grand Jury aforesaid in the name and by the authority of the State of Arkansas accuse further the said Hiram Beckham and Anderson Beasley on the 23rd day of May, 1923, in the county and state aforesaid unlawfully, willfully, feloniously with malice and aforethought and after premeditation and deliberation did kill and murder one W. F. Clayborn by striking him the said W.F. Clayborn in the head with a deadly weapon, instrument and thing which the said Hiram Beckham and Anderson Beasley then and there had and held in their hands the name of which is to the Grand Jury unknown against the peace and dignity of the state of Arkansas. The said crime of murder to have been committed by different means and not to charge different murders. Karl Greenhawe, Prosecuting Attorney, Fourteeth Judicial Circuit." (7) Martha Clayborn is also listed as a witness on this indictment.

This indictment points to more than one weapon and appears to indicate that the Grand Jury believed Anderson Beasley was not just an innocent bystander, but Anderson Beasley was only charged as an accessory after Hiram Beckham pleaded guilty to murder.

Grand Jury indictment of Martha Clayborn: A separate indictment of Martha Claybourn states that she was charged with "Accessory before the fact to murder in the first degree" and says that "not there and then being present". . . "unlawfully, willfully, with malice, aforethought and after premeditation and deliberation, did advise, encourage, [1 word illegible] aid that him the said Hiram Beckham to do and commit said crime of murder in the first degree." (8) Anderson Beasley is listed as a witness on this indictment.

Martha's case was dismissed. She was required to pay sheriff/court/witness fees of \$77.15, (9) which is approximately \$1,280 in today's dollars.

Chancery Records

Also found in the court records were two entries for another Chancery Court case, Martha Clayborn vs. William Clayborn. The records indicate that Martha pursued legal action against her husband before the murder. The case was "passed until the adjourned term" (10) and later dismissed. (11) Without further research and record retrieval, it's only speculation that perhaps this was a petition for separation or divorce, and the proceedings were not going well.

What Motivated Martha?

The earlier reference about Martha's character and her cruelty to children may indicate a streak of evil. It is certainly not typical behavior of most grandmothers, at least in my experience. The court records above suggest that Martha was quite persuasive and manipulative with Hiram Beckham and perhaps even Anderson Beasley.

Evil behavior in a person can sometimes be coupled with creativity and intelligence. Personalities with these character traits tend to encourage others to be cruel. They are known to prey on other people for the sole purpose of exploiting weaknesses.

Did Martha use Hiram? If it's true that she was separated from Billy, she had to find some way to support herself and her six boys, who were ages 14 to age 4 at the time. While the two oldest children were 14 and 13, I have no idea if they were able to find work to help support the family.

I am surprised that all of the newspaper accounts and the family story don't include Martha Clayborn as being charged as an accessory in the crime. Was it because she was his wife and they were separated? Did family ignore that fact since they knew they were living apart?

Aunt Mae shared that she had heard that the milk cow, wagon, and mule were purchased on credit, and after Billy died, the family later lost those resources, leaving them destitute.

Eula's interview indicated that Martha and Hiram Beckham were lovers. Was Anderson Beasley just a friend of both? The Grand Jury indictment suggests Beasley was involved, likely using the unknown weapon, but was later only convicted as covering up the crime and protecting Hiram, and possibly hid the facts from the court. This could indicate a friend trying to protect one or both people involved.

One additional fact that seems to lend credibility to the lover story is that Martha had a stillborn daughter in 1924 that is buried in Walnut Cemetery. Aunt Mae stated the family suspected that Billy was not the child's father, as all his children with Martha were boys. It certainly makes for a good story, but cannot be proven without DNA analysis.

Conclusion

In conclusion, I often laugh that Aunt Mae waited to share the details about our grandmother/great-grandmother when we were together in person, as opposed to on a phone call. While I admit, I was shocked at first, I was not surprised. Mae did not know that my dad filed charges against his own brother for a crime (theft against their mother) and that we had regularly visited him in the penitentiary. I had grown up giving most people the benefit of the doubt, but assumed that all families had at least one or more scandals if they looked hard enough.

After reviewing this evidence again, I'm eager to go back to Arkansas to look for the grand jury transcript, Martha's petition before the Chancery Court, and penitentiary records for Hiram Beckham and Anderson Beasley for more evidence to fill in the details surrounding this story. There are still so many questions to answer to understand this event in my family's history.

- 1 Criminal defendant case file for Bill Clayborn, National Archives Identifier: 210840, U. S. District Court for the Fort Smith Division of the Western District of Arkansas. 2/20/1897 (Most Recent). Record Group 21. Image accessed at Ancestry.com.
- 2 Lackey, Walter F, Newton County Homestead, No. 1, 1959, pg. 49, Low Gap, Arkansas, Copy provided by Mae Damron on 22 March 2012.
- 3 The Daily Times, 30 May 1923, Harrison, Arkansas, microfilm stored at Harrison Daily Times office and viewed at Boone County Library, Harrison, Arkansas, 20 Nov. 2018.
- 4 Interview with Eula Clayborn Bridges, as told to Cecil Warren. 22 July 2012, Ancestry.com
- 5 The Daily Times, 11 July 1923, Harrison Arkansas, microfilm stored at Harrison Daily Times office and viewed at Boone County Library, Harrison, Arkansas, 20 Nov. 2018.
- 6 Newton County, Arkansas Indictment Record No. 567, p. 399, Accessed 23 March 2012, Newton County Courthouse, Jasper, Arkansas.
- 7 Newton County, Arkansas Indictment Record No. 1, p. 398, Accessed 23 March 2012, Newton County Courthouse, Jasper, Arkansas.
- 8 Newton County, Arkansas Indictment Record, p. 420, Accessed 23 March 2012, Newton County Courthouse, Jasper, Arkansas.
- 9 Entry 618, State of Arkansas vs. Martha Clayborn, Newton County Circuit Court Records, 1920-1940, pg. 40, Accessed 22 March 2012.
- 10 Entry 128, Martha Clayborn vs. Billie Clayborn, Newton County, AR Chancery Records, Book E, Page 236, 1921 March 1925 June, Accessed 22 March 2012.
- 11 Entry 158, Martha Clayborn vs. William Clayborn, Newton County, AR Chancery Records, Book E, Page 301, 1921 March 1925 June, Accessed 22 March 2012.

Why is the Kirkbride Family Coat of Arms included with that of the Cleburne Family at Cliburn Hall?

By Patricia Clayborn



Arms and Inscription, Cliburn Hall, Westmorland

No one knows when the old stone peel tower at Cliburn was first built, but it would have been preceded by an even more ancient wooden structure, palisade and moat.

The stone tower probably was there by 1235 when Elizabeth Tailbois, daughter of Walter de Tailbois, married Robert le Franceys de Cliburn. Elizabeth's family had held the Cliburn-Tailbois property for many years, and she brought it with her to the marriage as her dowry. Their descendant, Robert de Cleburne, held both the manor of Cliburn-Tailbois and the manor of Cliburn-Hervey when he married Margaret de Cundale in 1362.

Their descendant Robert de Cleburne married Emma Kirkbride in 1505. Emma was the daughter and co-heiress of George Kirkbride, who was a direct descendant of Odard de Logis, Baron of Wigton (see descendants list which follows this article). The barony of Wigton, which included the village of Kirkbride, was an ancient part of Allerdale, until Waldieve, son of Earl Gospatrick, gave it to Odard de Logis. Odard

was made Earl of Wigton by King Henry I, fourth son of William the Conqueror. Odard's descendants took the name of their Kirkbride manor as their surname.

The village of Kirkbride gets its name from Saint Brides Kirk or church, which is dedicated to St. Bride, a shortened form of Bridget, who was an early Irish saint. This very ancient church still stands and the village of Kirkbride is six miles north-east of Wigton, and four miles south of Bowness, in the Wigton Union, Cumberland Ward, Cumbria.

The "Siege of Caerlaverock," poem, written by a herald who was there in person, describes the expedition of King Edward I ("Longshanks") to Scotland in July 1300, including his attack on the Castle of Caerlaverock near Dumfries, and mentions Emma's ancestor - Sir Richard de Kirkbride - as follows:

"One de Kirkbride was by many great and crushing stones assailed, but he set his shield before him, white with a green cross engrailed. Stoutly he and his the portal smote as smiths their hammers wield, while huge stones and bolts and arrows rained upon them till they reeled, wounded, wearied, and scarce able to find strength to crawl away."

The arms of Kirkbride are said in the poem to have been "Argent, a Cross Engrailed [indented] Vert," but in the Visitation of the County of Cumberland in 1615, Sir Richard de Kirkbride, whose name appears among the knights of Northumberland and Cumbarland, is stated to have borne "Argent, a Saltire Engrailed Vert." While a cross is shaped like a "t," a saltire is shaped like an "x."

Emma's grandson, Richard Cleburne (1532-1588) was naturally proud of his heritage, and included the Kirkbride coat of arms over the entry of Cliburn Hall when he remodeled and made additions in 1567. He had a second reason when his sister Eleanor married Richard Kirkbride.

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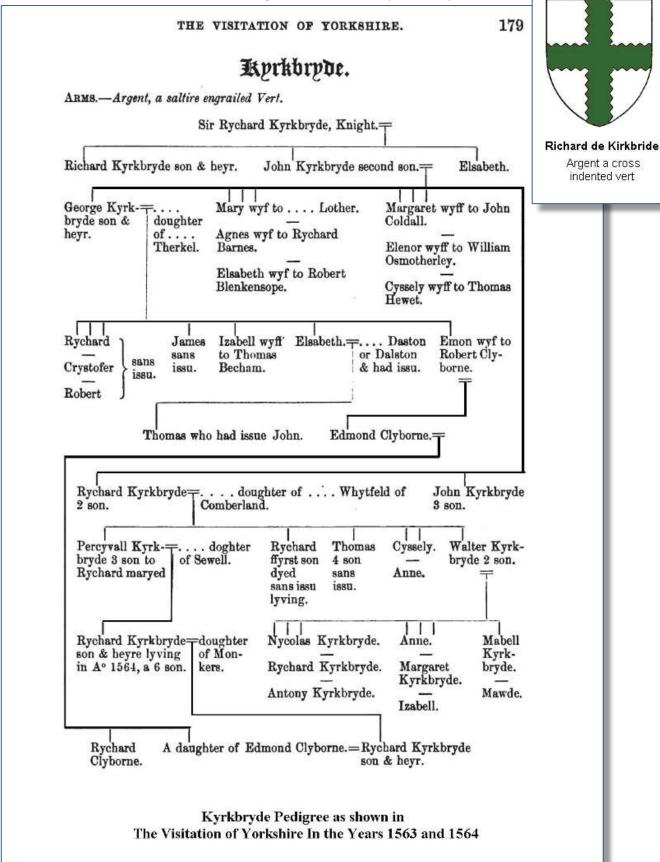
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Why is the Kirkbride Family Coat of Arms included with that of the Cleburne Family at Cliburn Hall? (continued)



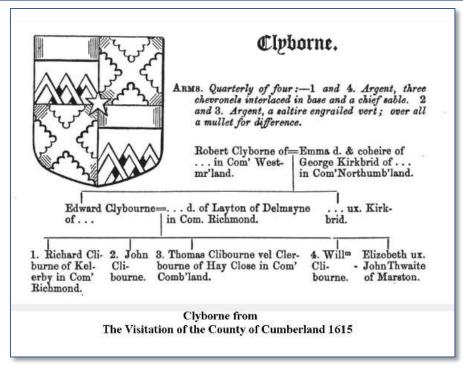
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Why is the Kirkbride Family Coat of Arms included with that of the Cleburne Family at Cliburn Hall? (continued)

Descendants of Odard de Logis, Baron of Wigton

(Numbers denote generations)

- 1 Odard de Logis, Dea Baron of Wigton b: circa 1095 d: circa 1179 in Wigton, Cumberland +married Isold Isabel de Longcroft b: circa 1107 in Longcroft, Wigton, Cumberland
- 2 Adam de Wigton b: circa 1129 in Wigton, Cumberland d: circa 1180 in Wigton, Cumberland +married Obanna b: circa 1150
- 3 Odard de Wigton b: circa 1175 in Wigton, Cumberland d: 1208 in Wigton, Cumberland +married Millicent Blakehale b: circa 1180
- 4 Adam de Wigton b: circa 1195 in Wigton, Cumberland d: 1225 in Wigton, Cumberland
- 3 Adam de Wigton b: circa 1185 in Wigton, Cumberland d: circa 1225 in Wigton, Cumberland +married Anna de Kirkbride b: circa 1185 in Kirkbride, Cumberland
- 4 Richard de Kirkbride b: circa 1220 in Wigton, Cumberland d: 1267
 - +married Euphemia de Levington b: circa 1220 in Levington, Cumberland m: 1243
- 5 Richard de Kirkbride b: circa 1266 d: 1330 in Windsor, Berkshire buried in Windsor Castle +married Christina de Wigton b: circa 1266 in Wigton, Cumberland m: Feb 1283 d: circa 1314 in Levington, Cumberland
- 6 Walter de Kirkbride b: circa 1287 d: 1336
 - +married Alice de Burdon b: circa 1297 m: circa 1313
- 7 Richard de Kirkbride b: circa 1314 d: circa 1350 +married Isabella de Ireby b: circa 1314 d: 1398
- 8 Richard de Kirkbride b: circa 1348 in Kirkbride m: 1388 d: circa 1398 in Kirkbride +married Rachel de Upton b: 1354 in Newscastle-upon-Tyne
- 9 John de Kirkbride b: circa 1395 in Kirkbride m: 1434 d: 1475
 - +married Margaret Caldbeck b: circa 1398
- 10 George de Kirkbride b: circa 1435 in Kirkbride d: 24 Jan 1511 in Kirkbride +married Anne Threlkeld b: circa 1435
- 11 Emma Kirkbride b: circa 1485 in Kirkbride m: Oct 1505 d: 1535 +married Robert Cleburne b: circa 1488 in Cliburn Hall, Cliburn m: Oct 1505 d: circa 1545 in Cliburn Hall, Cliburn
- 12 Edmund Cleburne b: circa 1506 in Cliburn Hall, Cliburn, Westmorland d: circa 1546 in Cliburn Hall, Cliburn +married Elinor Layton b: circa 1510 in Dalemain, Westmorland m: circa 1525
- 13 Richard Cleburne b: 1532 in Cliburn Hall, Cliburn, Westmorland d: 12 Jun 1588 in Cliburn Hall, Cliburn +married Eleanor Lancaster b: circa 1535 in Sockbridge and Barton, Westmorland
 - 14 Edmund Cleburne b: circa 1555 in Cliburn Hall, Cliburn, Westmorland d: circa 1590 in Killerby, York +married Grace Bellingham b: 1558 in Levens Hall, Westmorland d: 1594 in Yorkshire Burial: Catterick Church
- 13 Eleanor Cleburne b: circa 1549 m: circa 1574 d: after 1582
 - +married Richard Kirkbride b: circa 1545 in Ellerton Grange, Heskett Parish, Cumberland d: 1614
- 14 Bernard Kirkbride b: circa 1577 m: 1599 d: circa 1622 in Ellerton Grange, Heskett Parish, Cumberland +married Dorothy Dudley b: circa 1580 in Yanwith, Westmorland
- 15 Richard Kirkbride b: circa 1600 d: 1659





John Frederick Dorman III July 25, 1928 - November 26, 2021

The Claiborne Society was saddened to hear from Walt Sheffield of the passing of John Frederick Dorman III on November 26, 2021. Walt wrote to us: "As you know, Mr. Dorman wrote his incredible genealogical history of our family. As his primary caregiver in his last few years, I am sad to report his death. Following and attached are an article noting his passing and his obituary both of which appeared in the Free Lance-Star here in Fredericksburg."



"Born on July 25, 1928, in Louisville, Kentucky, Mr. Dorman earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Louisville in 1950. He served in the Army Security Agency during the Korean War and then became an Assistant Archivist at the College of William & Mary. He was awarded a Master's degree in Library Science by Emory University in 1955.

Moving to the District of Columbia he became a full-time genealogist. Concentrating on Virginia genealogy, he published book-length genealogies on the Claiborne, Epes, Preston, Farish, and Robertson families. He founded and served as the Editor of "The Virginia Genealogist" from 1959 until 2006, publishing over 200 issues. Working in the Commonwealth's courthouses and libraries, Mr. Dorman compiled and indexed Virginia's Revolutionary War pension applications. These efforts have made it much easier for Virginians to document their ancestors' service as patriots during the American Revolution. His three-volume work, "Adventurers of Purse and Person" systematically organized five generations of descendants from each settler who arrived in Jamestown before 1625. He had forty-nine published books.

Mr. Dorman moved to central Stafford County in 1990 where he continued with his prodigious efforts. He was highly regarded in the genealogical community and was the Senior Fellow of the American Society of Genealogists. As a founder of the Board for Certification of Genealogists, he helped set its high standards. Mr. Dorman had nearly completed his magnum opus on his Slaughter family from Caroline County (over seven thousand pages) when macular degeneration ended his career.

Many of the leading lineage societies in the country depended on him as their primary verifying genealogist. These included the First Families of Virginia, the Jamestowne Society, The Society of the Cincinnati, The Descendants of Colonial Governors, the Society of Colonial Wars, and the Sons of the American Revolution. His will leaves his vast library, files, and records to the Library of Virginia.

Few will ever forget his humility, warm smile or that twinkle in his eye as he used his razor-sharp mind and incredible memory to respond to inquiries. He will be laid to rest in his family cemetery (Cave Hill) in Louisville."



TOWN & COUNTY

DORMAN

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His caretaker, Freder icksburg attorney Walt Sheffield, said up until his vision began to fall. Dorman would rise every morning at y a.m. and work on the Slaughter

morning at y a.m. and work on the Slaughter book. After a fall at home, he mayed to Woodmont.

"That would've been his higgest week by far, Shefflield said." It's very, very dry reading, but it's all very helpful. He had to give up that work and jast about hiled him."

Dorman left plently of accomplishments behind. His first generalogical article was published in 1844 while he was still as undergraduate ottdent, he was tilled "Descendants of General Jenathen Clark, Jefferson County, Kentucky 1750-ship."

He published a long list of articles in Nationalist of articles in Nationalist of Articles in Nationalist of Dorman's Staffeld and the Livery of Virginia sent four staffings to Dorman's Staffeld on Dorman's Staffe

print sets of Genealogies of Virginia Families from Tyle's Quarterly william A. Mary Quarterly and The Magazine of Virginia Genealogy published in the 1980s. In that decade, he also co-edited the third selfons of Adventurers of Purse and Person—the systematic genealogical summary of all Virginia wettlers before intag while the secondants. Dorman went on to produce a fourth edition in their secondants. Dorman went on to produce a fourth edition in their secondants. Dorman went on to produce a fourth edition in their secondants. Dorman went on to produce a fourth edition in their secondants, bornan also created The Virginia Genealogists, which consisted of 100 in. But in the decided in the secondant of the National Genealogists and the most feeling in Richmond. Demand methods in the founding hoard members of the Road for Certification of Genesingists.

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He ranks among the very short list of the most profile and most influence| genealogists of his generation and really the generation sharfollows. His expertite was in

of General Jonathan Clark, Jefferson County, Kentacky 1750–1811,"
He published a long list of articles in National Generalogical Society Quarterly. The American Generalogist and other journals. He edited or co-edited dotens of values of shorter Virginia county records and Revolutionary War pension applications. He edited the major reprint acts of Generalogies of Virginia Familias from Tyler's Quarterly, william.

A Mary Quarterly and The Magains of Virginia and we hope the Library of the 1860 on edited the third Generalogy published in the 1860s. In that decade, he also co-edited the third celtion of Adventures of Parse and Person—the

John Frederick Dorn SEEDGEMAN ATT of Stafford died Nov. 26.



NATIONAL SOCIETY CLAIBORNE FAMILY DESCENDANTS REUNION IN ANNAPOLIS NOVEMBER 3, 4, 5, and 6, 2022

REGISTRATION FORM

Name				
Claiborne Line/Ancestor.				
First Name, Last Name and Hometown as you would like it on the name tag:				
Street Address				
City	S	State	Zipcode	
Telephone E-Mail:				
Additional Guests: Name, Hometown, State				
1		•••••		
2				
3				
☐ I would be interested in participating in room sharing/cost sharing with other Claiborne Clan members.				
	Number of Attendees	Cost Each	TOTAL	
Reunion Registration Fee: \$220 per person (\$220 cost includes hospitality room, name tags, gift bags, info folder, bus, tour guides, bus driver tip, meeting room, Saturday continental breakfast, lunch, banquet dinner, and speaker.)	#	x \$220 =	\$	

LODGING: Check in, Registration, Hospitality will be at The Gov. Calvert building, 58 State Circle (valet parking). Reserve rooms by calling 900-847-8882, and giving discount code 1050OA. Rooms with 1 king or 2 double beds: Thurs. night \$195, Fri. and Sat. nights \$290 each. It is important to book rooms as soon as possible. First block of discounted rooms has already sold out. The current block available is at a higher rate (but still discounted), and limited in number. The hotel has said that as their capacity shrinks, their rates go up; when these rooms are gone, subsequent block rates may be higher, if available.

Send this form and a check payable to "The Claiborne Society" to our Treasurer:

Charles Claiborne 508 Penny Lane Woodstock, GA, 30188 Registrar 3052 Rogers Ave. Ellicott City, MD 21043





Claiborne Society Newsletter
The National Society of Claiborne Family Descendants

