

HAM Country
417 Forest Avenue
Franklin, OH 45005

A Short History of the HAM Surname in Virginia & NC

New book documents the early progenitors of the HAM surname.

Dave Hamm (of Franklin, OH) and co-authors Geneva S. Greer (West Jefferson, NC) and Susan Bullock (of Reidsville, NC) have just completed a new book, "**A Short History of The HAM Surname in Virginia & NC.**" A three volume work, all together a total of about 1,300 pages including nearly 100 pages of Bibliographic references and nearly 200 pages of indexes. Based upon original records, manuscripts and books, these volumes are arranged chronologically, fully indexed by surname, places, with illustrations, full bibliographies, and citations to sources. Each volume is 8 1/2" by 11" hard bound. Printed in December, 2003 by Gateway Press, Inc., Baltimore, Maryland.

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Early HAM Immigrants

- ✓ Joseph Ham immigrates to Virginia in 1621 by the ship Warwick. At 16 years of age, he was an indentured servant for Lieutenant Albiano Lupo in Elizabeth City, Virginia (now Hampton, Virginia). Joseph Ham's will is probated in 1638 naming wife Mary, widow of John Pead. Two children of John Pead are mentioned, John and Catherine Pead.
- ✓ William Ham immigrates to Maine in 1635 on board the Ship Speedwell. Originally contracted to fish, eventually settles in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. William Ham dies in 1672 leaving at least two children, Matthew Ham and Elizabeth Ham.
- ✓ Barbara Ham immigrates to Maryland in 1650.
- ✓ Jerome Ham is mentioned in York County, Virginia records beginning in 1652. Justice of the Peace, High Sheriff and Burgess of York County, dies in 1659. Jerome left wife Sibella, a daughter Elizabeth Ham and an unborn son, named Jerome Ham, Jr. (named after the death of his father). Sibella later marries 2) Matthew Hubbard, then 3) William Aylett church warden of the Bruton Parish, in what is now Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia.
- ✓ Katherine Ham immigrates to Virginia in 1654.
- ✓ George Ham immigrates to Maryland in 1660.
- ✓ Margaret Ham immigrates to Virginia in 1663.
- ✓ John Ham arrives in Dover, New Hampshire in 1665. Born in 1649, marries Mary Heard and dies in Dover, New Hampshire in 1727. His will is recorded at Exeter, New Hampshire, naming eight children.
- ✓ Richard Ham immigrates to Virginia in 1668. This may be the Richard Ham of the Pincke Bantan Merchant ship in County Cornwall, England. The Richard Ham of Cornwall files will on July 11, 1668, and his will is proven in 1669. That is, it is likely that he filed his will before leaving on the voyage, and died a year later.
- ✓ Joseph Ham immigrates to Maryland in 1672.
- ✓ Emanuel Ham immigrates to Maryland in 1674. In Old Rappahannock County, Virginia by 1689 where heirs are mentioned in a deed from George Ward. Emanuel also goes by the name Manuel Ham, and dies in Westmoreland County, Virginia in 1708. His wife Sarah Ham is mentioned during the administration of his estate.

HAM Origins Quick Facts

- ✓ The word “ham” was a Celtic word for a place of habitation. An enclosed piece of land was known as a “hamm” or hamme,” and a small collection of homes was known as a “hamlet.” The word is spelled the same in Scotland, England, France, and Germany.
- ✓ There is a small City of Ham in France near Amiens in the Department of the Somme that was once famous for its castle and hereditary line of Lords. The castle was the seat of Lordship from the 9th century, and a stone castle was built there in the 10th century. After 1408, the castle had been sold, and the hereditary line ceased to own it. The castle then passed successively to other royal families in France. The castle was used as a State prison in both ancient and modern times. Joan of Arc was imprisoned at the Castle of Ham in France in about 1430. Other prisoners included the ministers of Charles X, Louis Napoleon, General L. E. Cavaignac, and General C. L. L. J. De Lamoriciere. The City of Ham is located at an important position of the Somme, and the castle was damaged in World War 1, where tanks were used in the area.
- ✓ Odin was a Celtic god of war. Odon was a title sometimes used by the Lords of Ham in France. In ancient times, the French castle was located in a region call Vermandois.
- ✓ In 926 AD, Herbert II, Count of Vermandois saves Raul, King of France in a battle with the Normands.
- ✓ In 986, Simon is mentioned as having a castle and becoming the first Lord of Ham, in France. From 986 to 1374, 16 Lords of Ham will succeed him in the hereditary line.
- ✓ In 1150, Hamo was Chancellor in England.
- ✓ In 1202 Eudes II de Ham (also called Odon IV) of Vermandois is knighted from the Crusades of 1202. His Coat of Arms is described as gold, with three red crescents.
- ✓ In 1400, the castle of Ham in France is sold to another hereditary line. Marie of Ham, daughter of Jean IV, sells the castle to the Duke of Orleans, a member of the immediate family of France’s King Charles VI.
- ✓ During the 1600's, the HAM surname is found in England in counties Berkshire, Cornwall, Devon, Essex, Somerset, Southton, Surry, Middlesex as well as in the cities of Bristol and London.
- ✓ In 1816, Rev. Mordecai F. HAM is born. Of Allen County, Kentucky he would become the ancestor of the Mordecai Hamm that baptized Billy Graham. This descendant of Mordecai Ham was a famous evangelist that held tent crusades in the early 1900's.

Previous Books and Manuscripts about the HAM Surname in Virginia

Rev. Ervin Charles Tipton, **The Ham Family Kith and Kin**, San Rafael, California. Privately printed in 1977. Dedicated to his mother, "Minnie" Mary Avangeline Ham Tipton. Approximately 100 pages. Study of the descendants of Stephen HAM (who died in Madison County, Kentucky in 1821) and related families of COUNTS and SCRANTON in Missouri. Mention of HAM Coats of Arms from antiquity, some discussion of the earliest Ham immigrants in New Hampshire and Maine and their descendants. The Appendix includes a description of the ancestors of L. Winston Hamm, Jr. (of New Hampshire) back to William HAM who immigrated to Maine on the ship Speedwell circa 1635.

Tania S. Ham, **William HAM(M), Senior and Some of His Descendants**. 1991. 1073 Murray Drive, Jacksonville, Florida 32205. 173 pages including Index. Some illustrations. A genealogical and historical study of the HAM families of Wayne County, North Carolina. She has a page on the meaning of the "Ham" name, and includes a description of a few Coats of Arms. Perhaps the most professionally done work on this line, Tania uses a numbering system to track each individual. Documents or associated records are provided in each individual study. Children are listed along with each study. The numbering system begins with William HAM, Sr., born circa 1726 in Virginia or North Carolina and who died in 1799 in the Darlington District (Cheraws District), South Carolina. Includes transcriptions of deeds, wills, and estate records. Her records begin circa 1730 in what was then Edgecombe County, North Carolina.

Donna May Smith Ham, **The Ham Branches**. C/o Janice Ham, 2700 Pioneer #169, Cape Girardeau, MO 63703. The book is not dated, but Donna Ham passed away in 1997. Written in memory of her husband, Don Gay Ham, who died in 1971. A massive work on the Wayne County, North Carolina HAM lines. The book is 604 pages, including a four page Bibliography and a 27 page Index. Profusely illustrated, and about 14 maps are included. She begins with a discussion of the origins of the Ham surname, Coats of Arms, and has a picture of the Castle of Ham in France. There is some coverage of a Jerome Ham of Bristol, England. She begins her discussion of the earliest immigrants to Virginia, but in particular, Jerome Ham who died in York County, Virginia in 1659. Some coverage of early Ham records in Virginia, with a focus on York, Spottsylvania, Orange, and Surry Counties. North Carolina studies begin at about page 70, and mainly concentrates on the Wayne County, North Carolina HAM lines.

Major Gillespie Ham, **Ham Manuscript**. 1926-1928. Indexed and Copyrighted in 1993 by Thomas E. Hamm, Jr. 105 Martinique Place, Cary, NC 94305. Originally written in 1926, it was 152 hand written pages with a partial index. No illustrations. Compiled again in 1992 by Thomas Hamm, Jr., now is 58 pages plus a 22 page index. Thomas Hamm, Jr. has transcribed the manuscript as it was originally written. Containing some obvious errors, the manuscript attempts to record the family history of the Fleming County, Kentucky HAM lines. He starts with their supposed origins in England and Scotland, with the supposed immigration in 1740 to Lewisburg, Virginia (now West Virginia). He follows the family migration to Madison County, Kentucky then to Fleming County, Kentucky as well as their migration to other locations, such as Kansas and Colorado. No sources are officially cited, but names, locations, and some dates are given. Thomas Hamm, Jr. Of Cary, North Carolina hopes to correct the errors through research, and write a new family history.

Previous Books and Manuscripts about the HAM Surname in Virginia

Edythe Johns Rucker Whitley, **History of the Rucker Family and Their Descendants**. 1927. A book on the RUCKER family of Virginia. This book mentions the descendants of Stephen HAM (ABT 1834 - ABT 1810) and wife Mildred RUCKER of Amherst County, Virginia.

Sudie Rucker Wood, **The Rucker Family Genealogy With Their Ancestors, Descendants, and Connections**. 1932. Old Dominion Press, Inc. Richmond, VA. Another book on the RUCKER family of Virginia. This book mentions the descendants of Stephen HAM (ABT 1834 - ABT 1810) and wife Mildred RUCKER of Amherst County, Virginia.

Edith Rucker Whitley, **HAM – HAMM – FARNEYHOUGH – FARNEYHOW – WARREN – LUCAS – THRIFT – and Some Related Families of Virginia**. 1967. Edith Rucker Whitley, 1604 South Observatory Drive, Nashville, TN 37215. A genealogical study of several related families in Virginia. Edith devotes nearly 60 pages of her research to the HAM surname in Virginia. She briefly mentions the will of Joseph HAM in 1638, and briefly mentions the activities of Jeremy or Jerome HAM in York County, Virginia during the 1650's. Much of the material is with regard to Samuel HAM, who left a will in Spotsylvania County, VA in 1738. She follows with some descendants in Spotsylvania, Orange, and Albemarle Counties, Virginia. Edith Whitley also includes very short, one page summaries of information of other HAM men in Virginia, such as:

- Edward HAM in Orange County, Virginia. Mid 1700's. Mentioned in the will of Samuel HAM.
- William HAM in Orange County, Virginia. Mid 1700's. Mentioned in the will of Samuel HAM.
- Thomas HAM of Caroline County, Virginia. Mid 1700's. She speculates that he may have been a brother of Samuel HAM.
- John HAM of Caroline County, Virginia. Mid 1700's.
- Richard HAM of Middlesex County, Virginia, who married Diana GIBBS in 1736.
- Benjamin HAM of Elizabeth City County (now Hampton), Virginia in 1758.
- James HAM in Spotsylvania and Caroline Counties, Virginia circa 1750.
- Joseph HAM of Augusta County, Virginia in the 1770's.
- Joseph HAM of Orange County, Virginia from 1783 to 1820.
- Stephen HAM of Orange and Amherst Counties, Virginia from 1758 to 1812. She mentions the will of Stephen HAM in 1810 in Amherst County, but does not distinguish the other records cited from the "other" Stephen HAM (of Orange and Culpeper Counties, who married Rhoda COFFER in 1782).

William A. Weimer, **The Ancestors and Descendants of Phillip Hamm and Catherine Wurth**. 1999. William A. Weimer, 34 Windward Drive, Asheville, NC 28803. 252 pages, which includes illustrations, tables, maps, descendant charts, source citations at the end of each chapter, a Bibliography, and an 11 page Index. It is a genealogical and historical study of the immigrants Phillip HAMM and wife Catherine WURTH. Both born circa 1800 in Alsace, near Strasbourg. Arrived in the United States in 1836 in the State of New York, and migrated through what is now Wheeling, West Virginia. By 1845 the family settled in Erin Township, Stephenson County, Illinois. It includes German Church records from as early as 1668.

HAM Revolutionary War Veterans

✓ Known Revolutionary War HAM surname veterans from Virginia and North Carolina:

- Drury HAM, born 1760 in Orange County, Virginia. Served for a time as an Indian Spy, fought in the Battle of Cowpens in January 1781, discharged in Guilford County, NC. Fought under general Morgan and General Greene. Eventually settles in Lincoln County, Kentucky.

- John HAM, born 1750 in Caroline County, Virginia. Removed to Chatham County, North Carolina when he was a small boy. Fought in North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia. During his service in South Carolina, he received a severe head wound in a skirmish with the Tories. He moved to Logan County, Kentucky, where he lived for over 30 years.

- John HAM, born 1759 of Culpeper County, Virginia and Surry County, North Carolina. Married Happy Ryon in 1782. Settled in Pulaski County, Kentucky.

- Mordecai HAM, born 1758 of Chatham and Guilford Counties, North Carolina. Private soldier and dragoon (calvary) of the US Militia Army. Fought in North Carolina, participated in the Battle of Guilford in March, 1781. Married Rebecca Pratt and settled in Stokes County, NC.

- Stephen HAM, born about 1734 in Orange County, Virginia. Private in the 2nd VA Regiment, was on the company payroll from March 1777 to March, 1778. Married Milly Rucker and settled in Amherst County, VA.

- Stephen HAM, born about 1762 of Culpeper County, VA. Private in Company 8 under Colonel Daniel Morgan. Married Rhoda Coffey and settled in Madison County, Kentucky.

- William HAM, born 1762 in Elizabeth City County (now Hampton), Virginia. Lieutenant in the Navy under Commander James Barron. Commanded the Schooner Nicholson on the James River during the siege of Yorktown in September, 1781. Married Susan Cooper and settled in Elizabeth City County (now Hampton), Virginia.

- William HAMM, Private in the NC Continental Line. Heirs of William HAMM awarded 640 acres in North Carolina for 84 months of service.

The HAM Surname

Volume 1 - Origins and Migration

Includes original source records, manuscripts, and records of how the surname came to be. Begins with an Archeological excavation in France of a Gallic village (near the City of Ham) that dates from 200 BC. Includes pictures of the castle of Ham and the tombs of Odon IV and wife Isabelle of Bethencourt. (Odon IV was the Lord of Ham who fought in the crusades of 1202.) There is some coverage of the ancient Counts of Vermandois (circa 900 AD, the City of Ham was attached to Vermandois in 888 AD). 16 Lords of Ham are traced back from the first Lord of the castle in 986 AD (Symon of Ham) through the 1400's, when the hereditary line sold the castle. At the end of the chapter is a chronological table of the Lords of Ham.

Also included are English wills, transcribed from the 1600's and 1700's. The English records begins in England with Hamo, the Chancellor in 1150, with an abstracts of English wills beginning with Henry de HAMME in London on Feb 2, 1277/78. English wills and estates are indexed at the end of the Chapter.

Abstracts of some Revolutionary War Pension papers are included within the sections on Kentucky, Maine, New Hampshire, South Carolina, and Tennessee. There are short sections dealing with migration in the United States after the Revolutionary War, and some historical coverage of the states of Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, New Hampshire, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, and Tennessee.

HAM surname wills and estates are indexed at the end of the section on Kentucky, and Tennessee HAM wills and estates are indexed at the end of the section on Tennessee.

Includes images from the Mordecai HAM and DODSON family Bible, of Allen County, Kentucky. That is, images of the Bible records of the ancestors of the Mordecai Hamm who baptized Billy Graham, courtesy of Susan Carol Howard.

A section of short genealogies are included at the end of this volume, which includes:

- Descendants of Jacob HAM, Berkeley County, Virginia
- Descendants of John HAM, Stafford County, New Hampshire
- Descendants of Joseph HAM, Culpeper County, Virginia
- Descendants of Joseph HAM, Monroe County, Virginia
- Descendants of Stephen HAM, Culpeper County, Virginia

The HAM Surname

Volume 2 - Virginia

This is the most complete compilation of HAM surname origins in Virginia to date.

It has coverage of over 20 counties in Virginia, beginning with the first HAM immigrant (Joseph Ham), who immigrated to Elizabeth City, Virginia in 1621 on board the ship Warwick at 16 years of age. Joseph was an indentured servant for Lieutenant Albiano Lupo in what was then Colonial England (and now Hampton, Virginia). After 7 years of service as an indentured servant, he would later own his own land. Joseph HAM will survive American Indian attacks in 1622 and the plague in 1623. Joseph files his will in March 1637/38 in Charles River County (now York County), Virginia. Joseph HAM a resident of the city of New Poquoson, and among his most valuable possessions are 2,000 pounds of tobacco and 20 young goats.

The next character to be studied is Jerome HAM. Much of what has been previously written about Jerome HAM is proven not quite correct. Jerome HAM first appears in Virginia from land Patent books in February, 1652 where he and Lt. Colonel Bellew patent 1,050 acres in James City County, Virginia. He appears to be acting as Sheriff in Lower Norfolk County, Charles City County, Surry County, and York County, Virginia during the 1650's. In 1656, he was Justice of the Peace for York County, Virginia. In March 1657/58, he was Burgess for York County, Virginia. In April, 1658, Jerome HAM is sworn in as High Sheriff for York County, VA. Jerome HAM dies in May, 1659 and leaves wife Sibella and two children, Elizabeth HAM and Jerome HAM, Jr. Wife Sibella would have son Jerome HAM, Jr., who was born (and named) after the death of his father. Sibella would later marry Matthew HUBBARD (who dies in 1667), and William AYLETT, church warden of the Bruton Parish. Previous writings had mentioned any number of children of Jerome HAM and wife Sibella. (We show that Jerome HAM, Sr. Had two children.) Also previously written was that Sibella's maiden name was CAINHOE, daughter of Reverend William CAYNHOE and wife Dorothy CAYNHOE. However, our research has shown that Sibella CAINHOE died unmarried in December, 1658, and could NOT have married Jerome HAM, Sr.

Other immigrants are included, such as Manuel Ham who immigrated to Maryland in 1674 and died in Westmoreland County, VA in 1708. Extra detail prior to 1760 has been applied to York, Caroline, Orange, Amelia, and Surry Counties. This volume takes you through the French and Indian War, to men with the HAM surname who participated at the Siege of Yorktown in 1781, to an assortment of records prior to 1850.

Includes a section on genealogies at the end of this volume, which has:

- Descendants of Jacob HAM, Berkeley County, Virginia
- Descendants of John HAM, Grayson County, Virginia
- Descendants of Joseph HAM, Monroe County, Virginia
- Descendants of Joseph HAM, Culpeper County, Virginia
- Descendants of Stephen HAM, Amherst County, Virginia
- Descendants of Stephen HAM, Culpeper County, Virginia
- Descendants of Thomas HAM, Amelia County, Virginia

The HAM Surname

Volume 3 - North Carolina

Based upon original records, manuscripts and books, this volume pulls together information about the HAM surname from 31 counties in North Carolina. Records begin in 1736, and this volume include tax lists, War of 1812 rosters, Revolutionary War rosters, marriage indices, wills, census records, and cemetery records.

This volume includes images of the Revolutionary War Pension papers of Mordecai HAM of Stokes County, North Carolina.

Includes a HAM surname Index for North Carolina Civil War Volunteers.

Includes pictures of Ashe County residents prior to 1900.

At the end of the section on North Carolina is several indexes of information:

- Birth Index for Ashe County, North Carolina
- Marriage Index for Ashe County, North Carolina
- Death Index for Ashe County, North Carolina
- Index to Deeds in Ashe County, North Carolina
- Tax Lists for Stokes County, North Carolina
- Index to Deeds in Stokes County, North Carolina
- Index to the HAM surname Wills and Estates in North Carolina

Includes a section on genealogies at the end of this volume, which has:

- Descendants of Eli HAM, Ashe County, North Carolina
- Descendants of John HAM, Ashe County, Grayson County, Virginia
- Descendants of John HAM, Iredell County, North Carolina
- Descendants of John HAM, Rowan County, North Carolina
- Descendants of Joseph HAM, Culpeper County, Virginia
- Descendants of Phillip HAM, Guilford County, North Carolina
- Descendants of Thomas HAM, Ashe County, North Carolina
- Descendants of William HAM, Wayne County, North Carolina

The HAM Surname

Pricing and Availability

Volume #1	(Origins)	Price: \$43.00 plus shipping & handling.
Volume #2	(VA)	Price: \$36.00 plus shipping & handling.
Volume #3	(NC)	Price: \$31.50 plus shipping & handling.

Shipping & handling is \$4.00 for the first volume, and \$2.00 for each additional volume.

A printable order form and can be found at:

Tiny URL: <http://goo.gl/BpuvL1>

<http://googledrive.com/host/0B8IN3Go7mlx6T1NCb0FsLXVESEU//HAMCountry.html>

(Click on the link for "Printable Order Form.")

Limited edition, only 500 copies printed.

For ordering information contact:

Dave Hamm
417 Forest Avenue
Franklin, OH 45005

Email: odoniv@yahoo.com

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