In Search of the Ancestors of Hezekiah Ellis

A Research Study
By
Robert L. Ellis

Background:
Hezekiah Ellis lived in Middlesex County, Virginia and died there in December 1726. He and his wife Mary had nine children. A small group of their descendants have been trying to identify Hezekiah’s parents. In January 2008, Bev Hockett sent a collection data she had gathered about Hezekiah and his parents to her Ellis “cousins” and suggested further collaboration. This paper is my second effort in contribution to that effort.

There had been a consensus position on the question of Hezekiah’s parents, and that was he was the son of Edward Ellis and his wife Susannah Hill, who were married in Middlesex County, Virginia in 1678. Their marriage is documented in the Christ Church Parish Register, Middlesex County. The initial unanswered questions concerned who were the parents of Edward Ellis and Susannah Hill. Related to these questions were doubts that they were Hezekiah’s parents. For example, Russ Dreyfus offered these points:

There is a record of the marriage of Edward Ellis and Susannah Hill in the Christ Church Parish of Middlesex County, and there is record of Hezekiah’s death and his will in that parish and county. Where are the records of his Christening, and where the records of the Christenings of any of the children of Edward and Susannah?

If Edward and Susannah were the parents of Hezekiah, why is there no one named for either Edward or Susannah in the immediate subsequent generations. In the late 17th Century it was customary for parents’ names to be passed down to their children and/or grandchildren.

Is it certain Hezekiah was born in Middlesex County? Could he have arrived there by way of immigration from England or moving there from elsewhere?

I contributed a short paper entitled “Edward Ellis and Hezekiah Ellis” to the “cousins” in February 2008. This paper is the result of a more thorough and exhaustive effort that looked at everyone with an Ellis surname who reportedly lived in Virginia in the 17th Century.

Summary:
There is no smoking gun that identifies the parentage of Hezekiah Ellis or his place of birth. While I found nothing that “proves” he was born in Middlesex County, I also found nothing that indicates he was born anywhere but Middlesex County. His parents may not
have been Edward Ellis and Susannah Hill – there were at least two other Ellis men in Middlesex County in the right time frame, but I have found no source that attributes Hezekiah Ellis born c.1680 to any other set of parents.

**Methodology:**

I reviewed my existing data base, revisited the few books I have, and revisited my Family Tree Maker CDs. I conducted new searches on the Internet, though I am limited now to free databases such as Rootsweb.com and the LDS site. (After I thought I had finished my research a few years ago, I dropped my subscriptions to for-fee sites such as Ancestry.com.) I also used a non-family history search engine of search engines (Copernic.com) because it has found information on people in the past that I did not find in genealogy sites to include Ancestry.com and Family Tree Maker.

I set up a new data base to store the data collected in alphabetical order. I then went through data on names frequently mentioned as candidates for relationship to Hezekiah and looked at them in the order in which they appeared in Virginia. I noted conflicting data and supportive data.

**The Findings:**

**Hezekiah Ellis**

(c.1680 - 1726)

The preponderance of data available supports the argument that Hezekiah was born in Middlesex County, Virginia c. 1680 and died there in December 1726. When I searched Rootsweb.com for all men named Hezekiah Ellis born between 1660 and 1700 and who died in Virginia, only the Hezekiah of Middlesex County showed up – 67 entries worth. When I dropped Virginia as the place of death from the search criteria, I got 85 entries, all on our Hezekiah of Middlesex County who married Mary. The vast majority of the entries show a c.1680 year of birth.

The preponderance of data supports the assertion that Hezekiah was born to Edward Ellis and Susannah Hill. For example, of the 67 Rootsweb.com entries on Hezekiah Ellis born c.1680, all but 12 list Edward and Susannah as his parents. The twelve list no parents.

Yet his parentage remains unproved. The circumstances suggest Edward and Susannah were his parents. For example, in her self-published 1993 book entitled *Ellis Family History*,1 Shirley Ulaki wrote:

“Edward Ellis married Susannah Hill in Christ Church, Middlesex County, Virginia on the 7th July 1678. He may be the father of Hezekiah since he was in Middlesex County about the time of Hezekiah’s birth. It is unknown when Hezekiah Ellis was born, but we may assume he was born about 1680…”

(Underscore added.)

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The argument appears to be that because we know Edward Ellis and Susannah Hill were married in Middlesex County in 1678 and because we think Hezekiah was born about 1680, then Hezekiah is likely the son of the couple. There is an assumption inherent in this: that there were no other men named Ellis in Middlesex County at the time. We now know this was not the case.

**Ellises in Middlesex County, Virginia in the 17th Century**

There appear to have been four people with the Ellis surname in Middlesex County by 1690: Edward, born c.1654; his reported sister Elizabeth, born c. 1651; John and Sylvanius, who were servants in 1683.

1. **Edward:** I believe there is complete agreement among us in Bev’s group that there was an Edward Ellis in Middlesex County by 1676 during Bacon’s Rebellion, and that he married Susannah Hill on July 7, 1678 in that county. The next set of questions includes: to whom was he born and when? (Not forgetting the first question - is he the father of Hezekiah?)

   The sources available to me identify Edward’s parents as:

   - David Ellis born 1590 and his wife Margaret; or
   - Zacheus (aka: David) Ellis born 1635 and his unknown wife, or
   - Edward Ellis born 1630 and his wife Elizabeth Stevens; or
   - Thomas Ellis born 1630 and his wife Mary.

   Edward’s year of birth varies from 1654 to 1660 and the place of birth ranges from Kennsington, London, England to James City County and Middlesex County, VA. I cover the matter of Edward’s parents below.

2. **Elizabeth:** The sources that list Edward and Elizabeth as the parents of Edward born c. 1654 are the only sources that mention that this Edward had a sister named Elizabeth who married John Sutton. From my earlier paper “Edward Ellis and Hezekiah Ellis”:

   “There was an Elizabeth Ellis in Middlesex County in the timeframe, and she probably was the sister of our Edward. Bev’s first email reported that

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2 http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=idahojo&id=I06816
   http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=wittm&id=I5220
3 http://wc.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=:3321740&id=I222300
   http://wc.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=dmvdj4&id=I1323
   http://homepage.mac.com/e_hutchinson/WC01/WC01_356.HTM
4 http://wc.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=:2613751&id=I530170423
   http://wc.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=mjr6387&id=I71105
Richard Ludwig 465 Highland Dr. Mountville PA 17554 ph. 717-285-3852 rl25@msn.com
Rootsweb.com 28 Sep 04: Thomas; Updated: 2004-06-04 Ray Thomas, ravenhugin@yahoo.com
5 http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=ssssara6&id=I36751
an Elizabeth Ellis, daughter of Edward Ellis born 1630, and sister to our Edward, married a John Sutton who was born in 1650 in Virginia. I found similar information at several sites.6

“Elizabeth died in Middlesex County in 1706.

“Sutton was a tailor”7 Tailors were considered among the servant class in Middlesex County at the time according to the Rutmans (A Place in Time: Middlesex County, Virginia 1650-1750.)

Sutton was a servant to Major Robert Beverley of Middlesex County. Major Beverley was a staunch supporter of Gov. Berkeley during Bacon’s Rebellion8 and led his horsemen in a flying squad that eliminated Bacon’s rebels from Middlesex County.9 Robert Beverley was a prominent landowner in Middlesex County who at times was a favorite of the colony’s governor and at times very much out of favor.

3. and 4. John and Silvanius: Bev Hockett shared with us entries from the Middlesex County Order Book 2 1680-1694 that mention John Ellis and Sylvanius Ellis as servants to Major Robert Beverley as of 4 Feb 1683. I have nothing more about these two men.

Alternative Parents for Hezekiah Ellis

Some sources reported that a Hezekiah Ellis was born in 1655 to David Ellis and his wife Margaret. One10 of these said he was born in Wales, the others11 said he was born in James City County, Virginia. The sources listing his birth place as James City County also assert that he had a brother named Edward who was born c.1655 in James City County and who married Susannah Hill.

Comment: I find these sources not credible. These sources give a birth year 25 years earlier than the majority, and have him the brother of Edward. Also, the year of birth requires his mother to have been 55 years old and his father 65 years old at the time.

7 http://poefamilyresearch.net/VA/Studies/PoeSuttonMiddlesex.htm
8 http://poefamilyresearch.net/VA/Studies/PoeSuttonMiddlesex.htm
9 A Place in Time: Middlesex County, Virginia 1650-1750, by Darrett B. Rutman & Anita H. Rutman, p. 81
10 http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/jgm.cgi?op=GET&db=davidwa60&id=I02231
11 http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/jgm.cgi?op=GET&db=wittm&id=I5220
Reported Parents of Edward Ellis (c.1654-??)

As stated above, the sources available to me identify Edward’s parents as:

1. David Ellis born 1590 and his wife Margaret;¹²
2. Zacheus (aka: David) Ellis born 1635 and his unknown wife.¹³
3. Edward Ellis born 1630 and his wife Elizabeth Stevens;¹⁴ and
4. Thomas Ellis born 1630 and his wife Mary.¹⁵

Re: David Ellis and Margaret
(1590 - c.1661) (c.1600 - ??)

Several Internet sources¹⁶ report that one David Ellis, born in 1590, was an early arrival in Virginia. Most give his place of birth as “Wydall” Hall, Hertford, England, while one says he was born in Wales.¹⁷ Four of the sources that give Hertford, England as his birthplace mention he was of Welsh descent, though I suspect they are all quoting the same original source.

All of these sources report that David had a son John, while a few report three to four additional sons named Richard, Hezekiah, Henry and Edward, respectively.

His wife’s given name is consistently reported as Margaret, and some sources give her full name as Margaret Milton. (I question this assertion and explain why later in my discussion John Ellis whose will was probated in 1659.) Her date and place of birth is consistently given as c.1600 in England. Most of the sources give his date and place of death as in or after 1661 in Virginia.

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¹² [http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=idahojo&id=I06816](http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=idahojo&id=I06816)
¹³ [http://wc.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=wittm&id=I15220](http://wc.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=wittm&id=I15220)
¹⁶ [http://www.geocities.com/heartland/ridge/4606/Ellis/pafg01.htm#15433](http://www.geocities.com/heartland/ridge/4606/Ellis/pafg01.htm#15433)
Three sources report that David Ellis came to Jamestown in 1608 aboard the Mary and Margaret. All of these appear to something copied from a single version. Highlights of this story and the attributed sources are:


   The name of Ellis appears at an early day in connection with the Colony of Virginia. David Ellis came out in the second supply of emigrants from England, and was one of the men sent by Captain Smith to build a house for King Powhatan at his favourite seat, Werowocomico, on York River.”

2) “From: Tom Allman and Elizabeth Helms Southern Cousins

   David Ellis came out of the second supply of Immigrants from England, on the ship "Mary Margaret". He lived in the mines near Jamestown, Virginia. He was one of the men sent by Captain John Smith to build a house for King Powhatan (Chief Powhatan, father of Pocahontas) at his favorite seat, Wemowocomino, on the York River in 1608. He is listed in the muster of men at Pashehaighs in 1624. He married Margaret who came in on the "Margaret and John". He started his family register with John Ellis, born ca 1661, also of Welch extraction, as one of the grantees of the second charter of Virginia.

Orange County Virginia Families: "Volume III by W. El Brockman"
Emigrants Ancestry by F. A. Virkus”


   A Sketch of the Family in the Richmond Times-Dispatch: John Ellis of Tuckahoe, known as Peters Creek, is the son of David Ellis.”

I found that a David Ellis and “uxor” Ellis were listed among the living “In the Maine” in A LIST OF THE LIVINGE dated Feb 16, 1623. The LIST creates another mystery – there also a David Ellis among the living at “Chaplain’s Choise.” I have found no other reference to a David Ellis of Chaplain’s Choise. No other name is duplicated on the LIST.

Re: In the Maine: The land westward of Jamestown Island on the north side of the James River up to the Chickahominy River was first known as Pasbehegh, named

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18 http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=christury&id=I0951
http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=davidwa60&id=I02231
http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=idahojo&id=I06816


20 Ibid., p. 41
after the Pasbehegh Indians who lived there. In 1608, the glass furnaces were built there, and there were some residents there. Some parcels of land were granted in about 1614. As the area expanded, two communities arose. The closer to Jamestown became known as “the Maine”, and the other remained known as Pasbehegh. In 1624 there were 36 people living “in the Maine” and 43 in Pasbehegh. These areas apparently were neither safe nor sustainable – by 1626 the colonial government had given permission for the inhabitants of both areas to leave because of “the barreness of the ground wherein they plant…the badness of their utterly destroyed houses…(and) their small strength & ability to hold & defend the same place.”

Re: Chaplain’s Choise: This appears to have been one of several private plantations founded between 1619 and 1624. It was in Charles City County on the south side of the James River. There were 24 people living there in 1624, but by 1625 the number had dropped to 17. (Map is from Hatch, pp. 32-33.)

A muster taken in January 1624 listed the couple David and Margrett Ellis as living in the Maine, James City. This muster also reported that David was the head of household, Margrett was his wife, they had no children with them, nor did they have servants. While ages are reported in the muster, the ages of David and Margrett were not. The date of David’s arrival was not given, but he came on the ship “Mary Margrett.” The date of Margrett’s arrival date was not given, but she came on the ship “Margrett & John.” The David Ellis of Chaplin’s Choise is not on the muster, in fact, only one person is mentioned as still living at Chaplin’s Choise.

As noted above, David Ellis reportedly came to Jamestown in the “second supply” aboard the ship Mary Margaret. (Margaret is spelled variously in the records.) There was a “second supply” ship, and it was named the “Mary Margett,” according to the 1625 document entitled “A Briefe Declaration of the Plantation of Virginia during the first Twelve Yeares, when Sir Thomas Smith was Governor of the Companie, & downe to this

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21 Charles E. Hatch, Jr., The First Seventeen Years Virginia 1607 – 1624, pp. 35-38
22 Ibid., pp. 68,69
23 The Census of Virginia in 1624 at http://familytreemaker.genealogy.com/users/s/e/a/Carey-Patrice-Seagraves-AK/FILE/0002text.txt

Prepared by Robert L. Ellis, Summer of 2008
present tyme. By the Ancient Planters now remaining alive in Virginia.” From that
document:

“The fecund supplie was a shipp called the Mary Margett which arrived here nine
months after, ... in her sixty perfons, most gentlemen, few or no tradesmen,
except some Polanders ...”

Based on the 1624 muster, the Mary Margaret (however spelled) sailed to Virginia in
1608 and maybe in 1609. (There was one listing for 1607, but the document quoted
above shows this incorrect - nine months after the first arrival in Jamestown places
the timing of the first visit in 1608.) Thus, based on the 1624 muster that states David Ellis
arrived aboard that ship, he must have come in 1608 and no later than 1609. Although he
was a head of household in 1624, he did not qualify as an “Ancient Planter.” An “Ancient
Planter” was a colonist who had arrived in Virginia before or in 1616 and who was
etitled to 100 acres of land for paying his own passage and had lived in the colony for
three years when he applied for the land. The first list of Ancient Planters was made in
1624, thus adding two additional requirements: survived the 1622 massacre and still alive
in Virginia in 1624. There is no one named Ellis listed as an Ancient Planter.

As noted above, Margaret, the wife of David Ellis reportedly came to Jamestown at an
unspecified time but aboard the ship Margaret and John (spelled variously). Based again
on the 1624 muster, the ship “Margrett & John sailed to Virginia at least once a year
starting in 1620 and through 1623. Thus it appears David came to Virginia at least 12
years before Margaret.

What happened to the David Ellis of Chaplain’s Choyse, assuming the appearance in the
1623 A LIST OF THE LIVINGE was not a clerical error, is unknown. However, if he
was there in 1623, he was not by 1624 when the muster was taken, and he had no
children, and therefore is not pertinent to our research effort.

As stated above, most of the Internet contributors give David’s year and place of death as
in or after 1661 in Virginia. The documents I have do not mention his death. David Ellis
apparently lived out his life on Jamestown Island. A land patent claim filed on March 10,
1652 referred to his land there, and it was mentioned again in a patent filed on March 1,
1653. His name appears in Jamestowne Ancestors as a landowner in 1653 on
Jamestown Island. Some of the Internet sources quote from a 1658 will of a John Ellis
that would indicate that David Ellis died in or before that year, if the will’s author
actually was a son of this David Ellis.

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24 Colonial Records of Virginia, pp.69, 70.
25 Virginia Lee Hutcheson Davis, Jamestowne Ancestors 1607-1699, Commemoration of the 400th
Anniversary of the Landing at James Towne 1607-2007, p.22
26 Ibid., pp.8, 9.
27 Nell Marion Nugent, Cavaliers and Pioneers, Abstracts of Virginia Land Patents and Grants 1623 – 1666,
pp. 231 & 270.
28 David, p. 51.
The Issue of David’s Children

Watson’s 2008 Rootsweb.com posting reported that the children of David and Margaret Milton Ellis were:

- John Clarin Ellis, born 1607 in Wales;
- Richard Ellis, born 1650 in Wales; and
- Hezekiah Ellis, born 1655 in Wales died 23 Dec 1726 in Middlesex Co., VA.

Witt’s 2008 Rootsweb.com posting reported the children of David and Margaret Ellis as:

- Richard Ellis, born c. 1650 in James City Co., VA, died in New Kent Co., VA;
- Hezekiah Ellis, born c. 1655 in James City Co., VA and died 23 Dec 1726 in Middlesex Co., VA. He married Mary, born c. 1655 in James City Co. VA.;
- Edward Ellis, born c. 1658 in James City Co., VA and died in Middlesex Co., VA. He married Susannah Hill on July 7, 1678 in Middlesex Co., VA;
- John Ellis I, born 1661 in Tuckahoe Creek, Henrico Co., VA, and died in 1728 in Goochland Co., VA. He married Susannah Royall.

Martin’s Rootsweb.com posting reported the couple’s children as:

- Richard Ellis, born c.1650 in James City Co., VA;
- Hezekiah Ellis, born c. 1655 in James City Co., VA;
- Edward Ellis, born c. 1658 in James City Co., VA; and
- John Ellis I, born 1661 in Tuckahoe, Henrico Co., VA.

One LDS contributor’s posting reported the couple’s children as:

- Henry, born in 1615 Wyddak Hall, died in Tuckahoe;
- Thomas, born in 1617 Wyddak, died Falling River, Henrico Co., VA;
- Richard, born in 1618, Wyddak Hall, died Falling River; and
- John 1, born in 1620 Wyddak Hall, died 1662 at Tuckahoe.

Stury’s 2004 Rootsweb.com posting reported that John Ellis, also known as “John of Tuckahoe” was born to David and Margaret Milton Ellis in about 1630 at Jamestown, Virginia. A geocities.com posting reported that David and his wife Margarett (born c. 1600) had one son, John Ellis. No date and place of birth was given.

Some 2008 Rootsweb.com postings reported that one David Ellis, who was born in England and whose wife was not known, had a son William who was born c.1621 possibly in Chaplain’s Choice, Virginia. No other children were mentioned.

http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=davidwa60&id=I02231
http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=wittm&id=I5220
http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=idaahojo&id=I06816
http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=christury&id=I0951
http://www.geocities.com/heartland/ridge/4606/Ellis/pafg01.htm#15433
http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=marciamcclure&id=I6504
http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=khaining&id=I1709
Comments: I believe three of the Rootsweb.com postings to be inaccurate. Watson’s list has John Clarin Ellis born to a 7 year old mother, and then a 43 year gap before the next child was born to a 60 year old father and a 50 year old mother. The lists of Witt and Martin have the first child, Richard, born to a 50 year old mother and 60 year old father. Also Martin advised me by email that her source was an Internet posting and she could vouch for it.

The LDS posting likewise is inaccurate. David Ellis was in Virginia and his wife was not when the four children were allegedly born in “Wyddak Hall.” (This appears to be a misspelling of Wyddal Hall, which is actually spelled Wyddial Hall. This manor was first mentioned in the Doomesday Book of 1086. It was purchased in 1627 by the Gulston family. By the 1800s it had become the domain of an Ellis family, with Heaton Ellis being lord of the manor in 1881.)

The remaining postings, about a John born c.1630, are in the realm of possibility, and I will address them in my coverage of men named John Ellis.

The postings about David having a son William strike me as credible. William and his family remained in the Norfolk County area for the rest of the 17th Century, at least.

Re: Zacheus aka: David Ellis
(1635 – 1686)

Two Rootweb.com contributors report that the father of John Ellis born 1661 was David or Zacheus Ellis. The data they report is consistent with that posted by other contributors about one Zacheus Ellis. All agree that David or Zacheus was born in Wales in 1635 and died in Henrico County, Virginia in 1686. They identify neither his parents nor his spouse. None mention when he arrived in Virginia.

The Issue of the Children of Zacheus or David

Stephens’ 2007 Rootweb.com posting lists three children:

- Charles Ellis, born 1658 in Middlesex Co., VA and who died in 1708 in Stafford County, VA. He married a Rebecca;
- Edward Ellis, born 1660 in Middlesex Co., VA. Edward married Susannah Hill on July 7, 1678. She was born in 1660 in Middlesex Co., VA to William Hill.; and
- John Ellis, born 1661 in Middlesex Co., VA and who died Dec 1728 in Henrico Co., VA. He married 1) Elizabeth in 1682 and 2) Susannah Smith in 1687;

http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=marciamcclure&id=I6500
37 http://www.hertfordshire-genealogy.co.uk/data/places/wyddial.htm
38 http://wc.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=:2914846&id=I175,
http://wc.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=:2914846&id=I4109
39 http://wc.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=:3281087&id=I225217
Van Dore’s 2007 Rootsweb.com posting\(^{40}\) lists the same three children. He gives Charles’ birth year as 1657 and also lists his wife as Rebecca. He provides only year and place of birth for Edward and John, and agrees with Stephens.

Three other postings\(^{41}\) list only one son of David/Zacheus Ellis: John born 1661.

Comments: The reported birth years of the three children of David/Zacheus Ellis places each of them in the right age range to be Hezekiah’s father.

There was a Charles Ellis with a wife named Rebecca in Stafford County. His parentage is in dispute. See the section on Charles Ellis below.

There is no dispute about the marriage of Edward Ellis and Susannah Hill. The questions relate to his parentage and to their children. If David/Zacheus was Edward’s father and Hezekiah’s grandfather, Hezekiah would have named his first son after his younger uncle. This would be a slight deviation from the standard naming convention of the time.

I discuss the various listings for John Ellis below. It is more probable for a David or Zacheus born in 1635 to be the father of John Ellis born in 1661 than the David Ellis born in 1590.

David Ellis – Others

1642: A land patent filed on Oct 13, 1642 listed a David Ellis as a head right. The land being patented was on the south side of the Rappahannock River, which means in the vicinity of Middlesex County.\(^{42}\)

1650: A land patent files Aug 20, 1650 for land on the north side of the Rappahannock River listed a David Ellis as a head right.\(^{43}\)

Comments: David Ellis of 1590 came to Virginia before the head right system was created. I think it unlikely these patents refer to him. Also, because head rights were sometimes traded, these two listings could be referring to the same David Ellis or to two different ones. Unfortunately, we have no additional information about him (or them.) Assuming the 1635 birth year for David/Zacheus to be reasonably accurate, he would have been a bit young to have been the David Ellis mentioned in the 1642 patent, but he certainly could have been the David Ellis mentioned in the 1650 patent, both in terms of his age and of the location (north side of the Rappahannock River.).

\(^{40}\) [http://wc.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=dmvdjr4&id=I1323](http://wc.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=dmvdjr4&id=I1323)

\(^{41}\) [http://homepage.mac.com/e_hutchinson/WC01/WC01_356.HTM](http://homepage.mac.com/e_hutchinson/WC01/WC01_356.HTM)

\(^{42}\) Nugent, p. 137

\(^{43}\) Nugent, p. 196.
Charles Ellis and Thomas Ellis, Senior

I turn to Charles Ellis in an effort to gauge the accuracy of the postings that Zacheus/David was his father and by extension, also the father of Edward and John.

The Stafford County records reveal there was a Charles Ellis in that county from at least 1688 until his death there in 1708. The records also reveal there was a Thomas Ellis, Senior and family in Stafford County in the same time frame. Both men served at one time or another as an official of Stafford County. Based on the information available to me, I believe this Charles Ellis of Stafford County was related to Thomas Ellis Senior he may even been his brother. If so, Zacheus/David Ellis could have been the father.

Complicating matters a bit is that there are postings about two men named Charles Ellis, one born c.1657 and the other born in 1665.

Now, the details.

Charles Ellis
(c.1657 – 1708)

There are conflicting postings about the parentage of Charles Ellis born c. 1657. Stephens and Van Dore reported that Charles Ellis was the first born of David/Zacheus Ellis and that he was born in Middlesex Co., VA. C. 1657. However, Ross and Six reported the same birth year but identified Charles’ parents as Thomas and Mary Ellis.

In order to address which set of parents may be correct, I must first cover the various versions of his marriages and children.

The Issues of the Wives and Children of Charles Ellis

The Wives: A few sources, all apparently quoting the same document, state that Charles was married three times and in this order: first to Joyce; second to Rebecca c.1675 in Stafford County; third to Mrs. Charles Ellis c. 1685.

Comment: This assertion is incorrect. Stafford County court records, reported by the same sources, reveal Rebecca Ellis was still alive in 1691, that by 1702 Charles was married to Joyce, and that Joyce was the widow Ellis as of 1708.

Six, in a May 2008 Rootsweb.com posting, also lists three wives for Charles: Mary, who he allegedly married in England; Rebecca, who he married in 1680 in Stafford

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44 http://wc.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=2944767&id=I580082419
http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=sssara6&id=I36751
http://gedcom.surnames.com/burgess_jim/i0001051.htm
http://wc.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=2944767&id=I580082419
http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=mrmasha&id=I26158
45 http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=sssara6&id=I36751

Prepared by Robert L. Ellis, Summer of 2008
County; and finally Joyce, who survived him. This source does not explain how the Stafford County born Charles made it back to England to marry Mary.

Comment: I believe this assertion to be incorrect.

In other words, I think Charles was married twice, first to Rebecca and then to Joyce.

Note: One or more sources identified Joyce as the widow Duncomb. The root source appears to be “Descendants of the Kelleys of 16th Century Worcester, England and 17th Century Colonial Virginia compiled by Emily C. Stillman” The quotation cited is:

“12 May 1703 - Will of Joyce Picket. “I, Joyce Pickett, being sick in body give to Joyce Ellis one half crown - I give and bequeath all my estate, real and personal, to Thomas Duncomb, my son, except for one book… I appoint Thomas Duncomb my lawful executor." It is signed Joyce Pickett. From this will we know that Joyce (Duncomb)) was married to Charles Ellis by May of 1703. And if Rebecca, previously mentioned, was his first wife, she was now deceased for .” 47

I read Pickett’s will to state that it was Joyce Pickett who was previously married to a Duncomb, not Joyce Ellis.

The Children: The sources that quote Emily C. Stillman’s work include her list of the five children fathered by Charles Ellis:

- Katherine Ellis, born c. 1688 in Stafford Co., VA;
- Elizabeth Ellis, born c. 1690 in Stafford Co., VA;
- Mary Ellis, born c. 1690 in Stafford Co., VA;
- Charles Ellis Junior, born c. 1694 in Stafford Co., VA; and
- Susan Ellis, born c. 1696 in Stafford Co., VA.

Immediately following that list, the sources give a second version of the children:

- Katherine Ellis, born c. 1676 in Westmoreland, VA;
- Elizabeth Ellis, born c. 1680 in Stafford Co., VA;
- Charles Ellis Junior, born c. 1682 in Stafford Co., VA;
- Mary Ellis, born c. 1688 in Stafford Co., VA; and
- Sarah Ellis, born c. 1688 in Stafford Co., VA.

Hall, in his May 2008 Rootsweb.com posting, 48 repeats the Stillman account but then adds yet another version. He identified six children born to Charles and Rebecca Ellis as:

- Elizabeth Ellis, born 1680 in St. Paul's Parish, Stafford Co., VA;
- Charles Ellis, born 1682 in St. Paul's Parish, Stafford Co., VA;

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47 [http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=mrmarsha&id=I32514](http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=mrmarsha&id=I32514)
48 [http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=mrmarsha&id=I26158](http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=mrmarsha&id=I26158)
Mary Ellis, born 1686 in St. Paul's Parish, Stafford Co., VA; Sarah Ellis, born 1688 in St. Paul's Parish, Stafford Co., VA; Catherine Ellis, born c. 1691 in St. Paul's Parish, Stafford Co., VA; and Lucy Ellis, born 1690 in St. Paul's Parish, Stafford Co., VA.

Van Dore lists five children (excludes Lucy), and has a different birth order: Elizabeth and Katherine both born in 1680, Charles c. 1682, Mary c. 1686, and Sarah c. 1688. Other sources list only one child, Katherine.

Stafford County records, as reported by several of the sources I have already cited plus others, support the assertion that Charles and Rebecca had the six children listed by Hall.

The sources combined give this list: 49

- Elizabeth Ellis, born 1680 in Stafford Co., married Dade Massey in 1701 in that county;
- Charles Ellis Junior, born 1682 in Stafford Co., died there unmarried in 1734;
- Mary Ellis, born c. 1686 in Stafford Co., was single when Charles died;
- Sarah Ellis, born c. 1688 in Stafford Co., married Anthony Buckner;
- Katherine (or Catherine) Ellis, born c. 1691 in Stafford Co., married Cossum Bennett c. 1707 in Stafford County. She married Mason French after Bennett’s death c. 1718, but it is her marriage to Bennett that is pertinent to this effort; and
- Lucy (or Susy/Susan) Ellis, born c. 1690 in Stafford Co., married Richard Todd c. 1706 in that county.

The children connect Charles to Thomas and Mary Ellis through their marriages, and thereby lend credibility to those sources that so link them.

Charles Ellis apparently left a very small estate for his widow, and in 1708 Dade Massey, Anthony Buckner, and Cossum Bennett their rights to that estate to the widow Joyce. Daughter Mary, still single, also gave up her share of the estate. 50 Lucy may have been dead by this time - I found nothing to indicate that Richard Todd had joined in this generosity. The will of Charles Ellis Junior mentions his sister Elizabeth Massey and left a portion of his estate to “Richard Todd’s three children he had by my sister Lucy.” 51

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49 http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=a13212&id=I8445
http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=imacmike&id=I1196
http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=marykl&id=I027202
http://wc.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=dmvdjr4&id=I1323

50 http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=dmvdjr4&id=I1323

51 http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=mrmasha&id=I32514
http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=mrmasha&id=I26160

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Two sources included in their postings identical material reportedly taken from a compilation of Stafford County court records by Sparacio (whoever that was.) The first mention of Charles Ellis was on March 23, 1688 when he witnessed an inventory. Almost a year later he witnesses a deed of sale of land from Francis Dade. The land was in Stafford County.

Note: Francis Dade was the maternal uncle of Dade Massey, who married Charles’ daughter Elizabeth.

Charles shows up again in court records in 1690, 1691 and 1692. The 1691 matter included Rebecca Ellis. He appeared as a witness five more times between 1698 and 1700.

In 1690, Thomas Ellis was appointed to serve as Constable of the lower precinct of St. Paul’s Parish in Stafford County, and was sworn in by William Buckner, Justice of Stafford County.

Note: William Buckner was the uncle of Anthony Buckner, who married Charles’ daughter Sarah.

On October 9, 1700 William Brent of Stafford County “let and set unto Thomas Ellis Senior and Mary Ellis and Thomas Ellis, Jr, all of said county, 300 acres of land … lying on the Potomac River, the said 300 acres being “the most southerly part thereof and to begin at a gut in a marsh binding Dade Massey's land…” The witnesses to this indenture included Charles Ellis.

Note: Dade Massey was Charles' soon to be son-in-law.

On Sep 30, 1701, Charles Ellis was one of twelve men appointed to a Commission of the Peace for Stafford County by the Governor of Virginia. His name appears as Captain Charles Ellis in the records of that commission between 1702 and 1703. During that time, he also served as an officer in the Stafford County Militia. He was Sheriff of Stafford County from October 1702 to September 1707.

On March 20, 1702, Charles Ellis and Joyce Ellis witnessed a deed of sale in Stafford County.

In 1705, Thomas Ellis, William Buckner and Dade Massey witnessed a will.

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54 http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=kristim1975&id=I515
55 http://www.rootsweb.com/~vastaffo/overwhartonparishregister176.htm
56 http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=mrmasha&id=I26158

Prepared by Robert L. Ellis, Summer of 2008
Note: Buckner was the uncle of Charles’ son-in-law Anthony Buckner, and Massey was the husband of Charles’ daughter Elizabeth.

Hall reported that Charles, born before 1666 and who died in 1708 in Stafford County, had a brother named Thomas, who was born before 1665 and who died after 1700 in Stafford County. There are no other siblings listed, and their father was listed only as “Father Ellis.” However, no source that lists Charles Ellis as a son of Zacheus/David Ellis mentions a son named Thomas.

Although Stephens and Van Dore reported that Charles Ellis, spouse of Rebecca and son of Zacheus Ellis was born in Middlesex County in 1657, almost all other sources list only “Virginia” as his place of birth or give no place of birth. Davis lists Stafford County as his place of birth.

Observation: From past research and reports, we know that Hezekiah’s son John Ellis married Mary O’Neal on Sept 17, 1722 in St. Paul’s Parish, Stafford County. When I double checked the parish register as published in the Family Tree Maker’s CD #174, Virginia’s Vital Records #1, I discovered an entry a few lines below that of the Ellis-O’Neal marriage that reported the marriage of John Overall to Mary Ellis less than a month later, on October 8, 1722!

By researching John Overall, I found sets of data for one or more women named Mary Ellis.

1) One source reported a Mary Ellis, who was born c. 1686 in Stafford County to Charles and Rebecca Ellis, and who was unmarried when her father died.

2) This same source identified another Mary Ellis who born before 1706 in Stafford County to Thomas and Mary Ellis. Her brother was the Thomas Ellis Junior mentioned in the 1700 indenture of land mentioned above, an indenture witnessed by Charles Ellis. This source lists neither a husband for Mary nor a date of death for her.

3) The sources that link Mary Ellis to John Overall give her birth year as c. 1703 and her parents as Charles and Mary (Mary Elliott) Ellis. They give a date of death as July 24, 1738. These sources do not identify Charles’ parents, and they vary widely on Charles’ date of birth (from 1650 to 1680.) (Some sources list the wife of John Overall as Mary Elliott, but identify her parents as Charles Ellis and Mary Elliott. The parish register recorded her name as Mary Ellis.)

http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=mrmarsha&id=I48629
http://wc.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=3281087&id=I225217
http://wc.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=dmvdjr4&id=I1323
http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=3221252&id=I4312
http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=mrmarsha&id=I26157
http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=mwbhallard&id=I119494
http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=bethmicari&id=I6682
http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mysouthernfamily/myff/d0035/g0000030.html
Comments re: Mary Ellis:

- The Mary born c.1686 to Charles and Rebecca Ellis is not likely the Mary Ellis who married John Overall in 1722. She would have been 36 years old in 1722, which was a little old for a first marriage in those times. However, I do note that she was 22 and single when she signed over her rights to her father's estate in 1708.

- The Mary born c. 1703 is not the daughter of Charles Ellis, Jr., who was born c.1682. Based on his will, he died unmarried and without issue.62

- The Mary Ellis who married John Overall was most likely the daughter of Thomas Ellis Senior. The sources that identify the parents of the Mary who married John Overall as Charles and Mary Ellis are wrong for the reasons stated above about Charles' marriages.

This places John Ellis, son of Hezekiah, in the same parish in Stafford County in 1722 as Mary Ellis, daughter of Thomas and Mary Ellis.

Here is the speculative part:

Charles Ellis
(1665 - ??)

Several Rootsweb.com contributors and one forwarded by Bev63 identified a Charles Ellis born in 1665 as a son of Edward Ellis and Elizabeth Stevens. These sources name three siblings: Elizabeth, born 1651; Edward, born 1654, and John, born 1661. Three of these sources give the place of birth for all four as Kensington, London, England while the other two give that as the place of birth for Elizabeth and Edward and no place of birth for John and Charles. No source available to me tells us if he came to the Colonies, who he married or if he married or when and where he died. Six, who lists Charles as born in 1657 in Middlesex County to Thomas and Mary Ellis, lists Charles siblings as Edward, christened 1660 in Christ Church Parish, Middlesex County, and John, born 1661 in Middlesex County.64

Note: Ross’ posting65 is for two men named Charles Ellis – he lists the parents of Charles born 1657 as Thomas and Mary Ellis, and the parents of Charles born 1665 as Edward Ellis and Elizabeth Stevens.

62 http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=mrmasha&id=I26156
63 http://wc.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=2944767&id=158082419
64 http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=2496104&id=1539795955
65 http://wc.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=ssssara6&id=I36751

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Prepared by Robert L. Ellis, Summer of 2008
Speculation: Charles Ellis, born 1665 in England may be the Charles Ellis, born c. 1657 and the brother of Thomas, based on the names. The paternal grandfather of Elizabeth, Edward, John and Charles was Thomas Ellis. Also, one Rootsweb.com contributor listed Charles’ date and place of birth as “1668 in Virginia.” Perhaps “Father Ellis” given by Hall was Edward, and perhaps the siblings settled in Stafford and Middlesex Counties.

Perhaps Hezekiah was related to Thomas and Charles. Having family Stafford County might explain why Hezekiah’s son John married Mary O’Neal in St. Paul’s Parish, Stafford County in 1722 rather then in his birth county of Middlesex. If Charles was a son of Edward Ellis and Elizabeth Stevens and therefore a brother of Edward Ellis born 1654, Hezekiah would have been the nephew of Charles and Thomas, and a cousin to the Mary Ellis who married John Overall.

Note:
   “St. Paul's Parish of Stafford (and later King George) County was originally part of Potomac Parish, then Chotank, but officially St. Paul's by 1702. It … remained part of Stafford County until 1777 when it was added to King George County. (The Register of St. Paul's Parish, George S. King)”

If this speculative version turns out to be correct, then David Ellis born c.1635 in Wales would not be the father of Edward Ellis born c.1654.

I take leave of Charles Ellis by quoting a comment included in the Rootsweb.com posting by Ross and also in a gedcom posting:


   “CAPTAIN CHARLES ELLIS Although thorough research has been done on the immigrants coming into the Northern Neck of Virginia, mainley in the books "Pioneers and Cavaliers" Vols I and II by Neil Nugent, there is no name of a Charles Ellis. There are many ELLIS'S's who came in under the Certificates and Rights System but nothing this researcher could find that would connect them with Charles ELLIS, our ancestor in Stafford County, Virginia.”

66 http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=imacmike&id=I1196
67 http://www.combs-families.org/combs/records/va/parish.htm#stpaul
68 http://wc.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=2944767&id=1580082419
http://gedcom.surnames.com/burgess_jim/0001051.htm
Re: Edward Ellis and Elizabeth Stevens
(1630 – 16??)

Edward Ellis born in December 1630 in England may not have emigrated to Virginia, but he is mentioned by some sources as the father of the Edward Ellis of Kennsington, London who did show up in Middlesex County.

According to these sources, Edward Ellis was born on December 12, 1630 to Thomas Ellis and Anne Gregorie. Edward married Elizabeth Stevens, and the couple had four children:

- Elizabeth, born 1651 in Kennsington, London, who married John Sutton;
- Edward, born 1654 in Kennsington, London, who married Susannah Hill;
- John, born 1661 at Kennsington, London, who married Susannah Royall in London; and
- Charles, born 1665 at Kennsington, London.

Comments: Based on my report below about John Ellis born 1661, Edward and Elizabeth were not the parents of John Ellis of 1661, at least the one who married Susannah Royall. I provided some speculation about Charles born 1665 above, but it is just that. This gives these sources a credibility problem for me. This is unfortunate because other uncontested data confirms that their reported daughter Elizabeth Ellis was married to John Sutton and living in Middlesex County at the same time as Edward Ellis born c. 1654.

Edward Ellis - Others

Edward Ellis
(16?? – 1670)

The first Edward Ellis to arrive in Virginia appears to be the Edward Ellis who was claimed as a head right first in 1636 and then in 1638. The first claim was made by Nathan Martin of Henrico County, and the second by Benjamin Carrill of James City County. (It was the norm for landowners to trade head right claims.) I know from the Ellis DNA project that this Edward is not related to me and thus not related to Hezekiah. But for the purposes of this effort, I will provide some basic data.

Edward Ellis was born between 1615 and 1620 in either England or Wales. His wife is not known. His known child was Jeremiah Ellis, born c.1643 in Surry County, VA. Edward lived on Chippoaks Creek. He died in 1670 in Surry County.

69 http://wc.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=mjr6387&id=I71105
http://wc.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=:2613751&id=I530170423
From Bev: Richard Ludwig 465 Highland Dr. Mountville PA 17554 ph. 717-285-3852 rll25@msn.com
70 Nugent, pp 41 and 88; Ellis Family History by Shirley Green/e Ulaki, Section I, pp 9-10.
71 ELLISES OF SOUTHERN ILLINOIS; Entries: 11154 Updated: 2004-09-27 00:25:04 UTC (Mon) Contact: Gary Ellis, furworld@hotmail.com ; Burnett Family and Other Branches Updated: 2004-09-14 13:03:17 UTC (Tue) Contact: Sue Terhune , est3739@comcast.net
Jeremiah married c.1668 to Mary and again c. 1704 to the widow Sarah Harvey. His children were Joseph, born c. 1670; Jeremiah II, born c. 1671; Edward, born c. 1673; James, born c. 1679; John, born c. 1687, and Benjamin, born c. 1688. This Ellis family migrated south and west to Warren County, NC in the mid 1700s and Davidson County, TN by the late 1700s.  

Note: Bev’s packet of data contains one submitter’s view that Edward had two children, Jeremiah mentioned above, and Edward, born c. 1660 in Middlesex County, VA. I believe this is incorrect. First, the Ellis DNA Project does not support it, and second, there is nothing to support the idea that Edward of Surry County ever ventured into Middlesex County.

**Edward Ellis**  
(1609 – c.1658)

John Ellis Sr. of Charles City County was the son of Edward Ellis and Marie Radford. Edward was born in somewhere in England, and Marie was born in Cheshire, England. The couple was in Charles City County by 1648 when their son John was born. Edward died after 1658 in Charles City County.

1673- Jeremiah Ellis of Surry County had six children, one of whom was Edward Ellis, born in 1673.

1675- An Edward Ellis was apprenticed in Bristol, England to John Whitfield in Virginia for four years.

1677- An Edward Ellis was apprenticed in Bristol, England to Jasper Jenkins for four years, shipped over on the *Susanna*.

1689 – An Edward Ellis wrote his will in Northampton County, VA. Based on that short will, he was not married (or a widower) and had no children. I have found not other data about him.

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72 [http://www.ellises.org/index.htm](http://www.ellises.org/index.htm)  
73 [http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=donham-dunham45&id=I31297](http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=donham-dunham45&id=I31297)  
74 ELLISES OF SOUTHERN ILLINOIS; Entries: 11154 Updated: 2004-09-27  
    Contact: Gary Ellis, furworld@hotmail.  
    Burnett Family and Other Branches Updated: 2004-09-14 Contact: Sue Terhune,  
    est3739@comcast.net  
75 Family Tree Maker, The Complete Book of Emigrants, 1607-1776  
76 Family Tree Maker, The Complete Book of Emigrants, 1607-1776  
Re: Thomas Ellis and Mary
(1630 - ???)

Ross and Six\textsuperscript{78} reported that Thomas and Mary Ellis were the parents of Charles, born in 1657 in Middlesex County Edward, christened 1660 in Christ Church Parish, Middlesex County, and John, born 1661 in Middlesex County.

\textit{Comment}: I suspect Thomas and Mary Ellis were of the same generation as Edward, Charles, and John, not their parents. See my discussion on Charles and Thomas Ellis above. See below for more on Thomas and Mary.

\textbf{Thomas Ellis}
(Before 1665-After 1700)

There was a Thomas Ellis born before 1665. Unfortunately, I can find little about him beyond that mentioned above in connection with Charles Ellis. The Stafford County records cited by several of the sources indicate Thomas Ellis Senior was married to Mary and that in 1700 they had a son Thomas Junior. Thomas Junior was born before 1695 in St. Paul’s Parish, Stafford County. Daughter Mary was born before 1706, but after 1700. These records also mention Thomas Ellis’ appointment in 1690 as a Constable in the lower precinct of St. Paul’s Parish.\textsuperscript{79}

There is a mention of Thomas Ellis in a Middlesex County record dated February 3, 1700.\textsuperscript{80} The entry states: “Inventory of Estate of Randolph Seger/Debts owed the estates—Thomas Ellis & others.” While at first glance, this entry suggests that this Thomas Ellis lived in Middlesex County. My research on Randolph Seger (Seager) revealed that Seger lived and died in Middlesex County:

The Seager family is mentioned several times in \textit{A Place In Time: Middlesex County, Virginia, 1650-1750}. The family’s story was one of a man, Oliver Seager, who arrived with wife and son in 1652 and settled in what would become the western most part of the county. He had little, but worked hard. The family status rose, and by the time son Randolph was an adult, the Seagers were among the higher social strata. Randolph served frequently as a juror, estate appraiser, constable, and surveyor of highways. In 1690 he was named to the vestry, and from that point on became known as “Mister Seager.” By 1692 he was a justice of the peace. He died in 1694.\textsuperscript{81}

\textsuperscript{78} http://wc.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=:2944767&id=I580082419
http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=sssara6&id=I36751
\textsuperscript{79} http://wc.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=mrmasha&id=I44220
http://wc.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=:2944767&id=I580082419
\textsuperscript{80} Middlesex Co. VA Wills & Inventories 1673-1812 & Other Court Papers by William Hopkins Call # F232 M6 H79 p. 352 found in Library of VA, Richmond VA, Will Book A 1698-1713, provided by Bev Hockett in email dated May 11, 2008
\textsuperscript{81} Darrett B. Rutman & Anita H. Rutman, \textit{A Place in Time}, p. 146
I note that the Inventory of the estate was filed six years after he died, which seems a bit unusual. Since the title in the record mentions “Debts owed the estates of…,” perhaps there were several lawsuits going on in attempts to gain repayment of debts. I found at one other similar record in “A Chronological Account of the Bristows in Virginia: 82

Inventory of Estate of Mr. Randolph Seger, decd., by Samuel Gray, surviving administrator. . . . Debts owed the estate: . . . WILLIAM BRISTOW, .”

The wording of the entries, “Debts owed to the estates of,” sounds like the named men had died. Yet Thomas Ellis of Stafford County was very much alive in February 1700, as was William Bristow of Middlesex County. The inventory was filed in Middlesex County because that is where Seger lived and died. It does not mean that those who claimed unpaid debts were residents of that county. Perhaps there was another Thomas Ellis living in Middlesex County, but I have not found any reference to one.

Thomas Ellis – Others

There were a few other men named Thomas Ellis in and around Virginia in the 17th Century:

1637: On August 24, 1637 a Thomas Ellis claimed 50 acres in James City County, Virginia, the head right assigned to him from another colonist. On May 7, 1638, he claimed another 50 acres in Henrico County. 83

1653: Northumberland County records show that in 1653 a Thomas Broughton did something with “his Assignment of a Patent to Tho Ellis.” The contributor noted “Entry stained and mutilated. I cannot read it.” 84

1665: Two men were sent to Virginia after having been apprenticed to a Thomas Ellis. There also were two Thomas Ellises who sailed to Virginia in 1677 and 1686. 85

Thomas Ellis
(c.1687 – 1782)

Several sources report a Thomas Ellis born c.1687 in Henrico County, Virginia was a son of John Ellis and his wife Susannah Royal, both of Henrico County. 86 Others state that

83 Nugent, pp. 69 & 90
84 Virginia Vital Records #1 on Family Tree Maker CD #174
85 The Complete Book of Emigrants, 1607 -1776, on Family Tree Maker CD #350
86 http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=jim_smith87123&id=I03175
http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=mrmasha&id=I48629
http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=tlallman&id=I4127
http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=:2486187&id=l659265447

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Thomas, though born in Henrico County, was the son of John Ellis and Susannah Smith, both of Middlesex County. Thomas lived his entire life in Henrico County.

**Thomas Ellis, Junior**
(Before 1695 - ??)

Thomas Ellis Junior, whose name appears in the indenture of 1700 mentioned above, was born before 1695 in St. Paul’s Parish, Stafford County, Virginia to Thomas and Mary Ellis.

**Thomas Ellis of Maryland**

One source reported a Thomas Ellis living in Prince George’s County, Maryland when that county was created out of Charles County in 1696. However, my research via Rootsweb.com uncovered but one Thomas Ellis in Maryland, and he was born in 1684 in Kent County, Maryland to John Ellis and Susannah Ware. This Thomas died c.1717 in either Maryland or Delaware, source dependent.

Note: I did find a Thomas Ellis who was reported to have been born in 1669 in Somerset County, Maryland. However, his parents were reported as John Ellis and Elizabeth Freeman. My research revealed that John Ellis and Elizabeth Freeman lived and died in Barnstable County, Massachusetts and their children were born there.

**The Question of John Ellis**

There was a naming convention popular in Virginia in the 17th Century, and some expect to see Hezekiah naming a son after his father. Hezekiah did not name any son Edward or David or Zacheus. He named his first son John, so it is reasonable to ask if there were a John Ellis in the area.

There are a few men named John Ellis in Virginia and Maryland in the 17th Century, and there is much conflicting data.

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87 http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/jgm.cgi?op=AHN&db=:3281087&id=I174540
http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/jgm.cgi?op=AHN&db=fleiner_study&id=I174495
88 http://wc.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=mrmasha&id=I44220
89 http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/jgm.cgi?op=AHN&db=dredellis&id=I05535
http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/jgm.cgi?op=AHN&db=mymark&id=I015
http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/jgm.cgi?op=AHN&db=:3306552&id=I14280
John Ellis  
(?? – 1659)

Rollins, in his 2006 Rootsweb.com posting about John, aka: “John of Tuckahoe” Ellis, mentions the June 1659 probate of the will of a John Ellis, noting “This John may possibly be our David’s brother but the dates show unlikely.” He later adds “The information here is conflicting at best;…”

The conflict exists because he has mixed data about two different John Ellis’.

The John Ellis whose will was probated in 1659 arrived in Virginia perhaps as early as 1635. A “Jon” Ellis was claimed as a head right in that year by George Minifie. By 1644, John Ellis was living in Northampton County on the Eastern Shore of Virginia, where served as a witness to a transaction there.

On April 9, 1648, John Ellis and two associates, James Jones and John Taylor, obtained a patent for 500 acres of land in Northampton County. He was moving in the upper echelons of the powerful by 1651, evidenced by his signature on the Northampton Protest of 1652.

Background on the Northampton Protest (From my paper on my maternal ancestors):

“There was another political issue brewing on the Eastern Shore, and that was the growing belief that Northampton County should be independent of Jamestown. In the very early days of the colony, Virginia Company officials had referred to the Colony of Virginia and the Kingdom of Accomack (Northampton County in 1651) as if they were two separate entities. But the more pressing case was made by the fact that since 1647, the Jamestown government had not called for burgesses from Northampton County.

The newly installed Commonwealth government of Virginia imposed taxes on the residents of Northampton. The result was the Northampton Protest of 1652. Everyone in Virginia’s power structure knew that Col. Scarburgh was the instigator of this action, but he did not sign it. Officially, a committee of six prominent men formed the People’s Committee, and on March 30, 1652, issued the Protest. …


90 http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=droll&id=I341
91 Nugent, p.24
92 Nugent, p. 158
John Taylor must have sold out his share by 1654 because his estate was settled in Lancaster County, VA in that year.94 At an unknown date, John Ellis sold his share to William Jordan, who is one of my maternal ancestors. Jordan left that land to his daughter in 1662.95

The will of John Ellis, as reported in Rollins’ posting mentioned above, reflects that he had no wife and no children. He left half of the yearly produce of his estate to his mother in England, whom he identified as Anne Milton, and he the rest of estate to his brother Henry Ellis with the proviso that Henry’s share be divided equally among Henry’s children after Henry died. The executors listed by John Ellis and the witnesses to the will were all residents of Northampton County. In fact, two of his executors were cosigners of the Northampton Protest.

Where Henry was is another matter. I find no reference to him as living in Virginia or Maryland at the time John died. There is a statement in the material surrounding the will that suggests to me that Henry was also in England. There are men named Henry Ellis in the records, but they are related to John of Tuckahoe Ellis and were born well after John Ellis’ will was probated.

Note: Rollins states: “If this is the will of our ancestor, David’s son John of Tuckahoe, then his mother Anne Milton returned to England prior to 1658…Thus her entire name could be Margarett Anne Milton or Anne Margarett Milton.” That John Ellis identified his mother back in England as Anne Milton indicates to me that his father had died and his mother remarried. She probably never came to the Colony. The norm for widows in 17th Century Virginia was to remarry and remain in Virginia.

**Conclusions:** The John Ellis whose will was probated in 1659 is not John of Tuckahoe Ellis, and he has no connection to David and Margarett Ellis. Furthermore, Margarett the wife of David Ellis was not Margarett Anne Milton or Anne Margarett Milton.

**John of Tuckahoe Ellis**
(c.1630 – after 1685)

John Ellis, who became known as John of Tuckahoe Ellis, was born about 1630 in Jamestown to David Ellis and his wife, whose name is source dependent: some say that wife was named Thomasine, some say Anne Margarett or Margarett Milton.96 The consensus place of death is Port Royal, Virginia, but the year of death varies between 1658, after 1666, and in or after 1685. The 1685 date is the one most frequently given.

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95 Whitelaw, p. 539
96 [http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=droll&id=I341](http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=droll&id=I341)
 [http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=bevangenealogy&id=l69685](http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=bevangenealogy&id=l69685)
 [http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=christury&id=l0950](http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=christury&id=l0950)
A couple of sources\textsuperscript{97} reported that he was a member of the Burgess Convention of 1661 and “a grantor of the second charter of Virginia.” I am not sure what the “Burgess Convention of 1661” was – perhaps he was a member of the House of Burgesses that year. The claim that he was a grantor of the second charter of Virginia is incorrect on its face – the first charter of Virginia was issued in 1606, the second in 1609, and the third in 1612. The King took over in 1624, revoking the charter approach to governing the colony.\textsuperscript{98}

His wife was either Thomasine or Elizabeth Smith, or both. Rollins lists both but the dates conflict. He has Thomasine born c.1650 in Henrico County, VA but the marriage taking place in England. He lists the marriage date to Jamestown-born Elizabeth Smith as 1650 in Virginia.\textsuperscript{99} Stury and Bevan list only Thomasine, and Stury gives the date and place of birth for her as c.1650 in Henrico County.\textsuperscript{100} Kemp lists only Elizabeth Smith and gives no data about her.\textsuperscript{101}

I found one report\textsuperscript{102} of an Elizabeth Smith who was born to Richard Smith and Elizabeth Welburn in 1626 at Pashehgh, James City County, Virginia. Elizabeth died in 1693.

Note: One source, as mentioned above, identified the wife of David Ellis born before 1641 as Thomasine.

**The Child Issue:** The only child attributed to John of Tuckahoe Ellis is John Ellis, who was born in 1661. I cover him next.

**John Ellis**

(1661 – 1728)

*I think I have never seen so much conflicting data allegedly about one person in my life!*

John Ellis, born 1661, is attributed to several parents:

- Several Roostweb.com postings\textsuperscript{103} list him as a child of David and Margaret Ellis;
- Five postings mentioned earlier identify his father as Zacheus (or David/Zacheus) Ellis.

\textsuperscript{97} http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=christury&id=I0950  
http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=droll&id=I341


http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=droll&id=I341

\textsuperscript{99} http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=christury&id=I0949  
http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=bevangenealogy&id=I69685

\textsuperscript{100} http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=christury&id=I0956  
http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=daw744&id=I113440

\textsuperscript{101} http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=christury&id=I0950  
http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=bevangenealogy&id=I69685

\textsuperscript{102} http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=daw744&id=I113440

\textsuperscript{103} http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=tlallman&id=I4127
• Rollins, Stury, Bevan and Kemp\textsuperscript{104} list his father as John “John of Tuckahoe” Ellis. Rollins and Kemp identify the mother as Elizabeth Smith while Stury and Bevan say the mother was named Thomasine.

• Two sources\textsuperscript{105} report he was a son of Edward Ellis and Elizabeth Stevens

• One source\textsuperscript{106} asserted that his parents were Thomas and Mary Ellis.

While most of these sources lists his place of birth as Henrico County, Virginia and specifically as Varina, or Tuckahoe, or Peter’s Creek, a few report he was born in either Middlesex County, or Wales or Kent County, Maryland. Varina, Peters Creek and Tuckahoe are all the same area. Varina was the county seat for Henrico County, and Peter’s Creek was a branch of the Tuckahoe River in Henrico County.

All sources that give Henrico County or Middlesex County as the place of birth and also offer a year and/or place of death agree that it was 1728 in Henrico County. The sources that list Kent County, Maryland as the place of birth report that this John died in 1718 or 1719 in Kent County. One source that claims he was born in Wales also lists his death as in 1728 in Henrico County.

The Wives:

The sources that identify his father as John of Tuckahoe, regardless of which mother (Elizabeth Smith or Thomasine), all report that he was married to Susannah Royal or Royall, born c. 1665. Rollins, in one version, also lists a second wife, Susannah Adams, born 1671.

Three sources that list his parents as David and Margarett Ellis also identify his wife as Susannah Royall, born 1663. Rollins, in another accounting, identifies the father as David Ellis born before 1641, gives Royall’s birth year as 1663 and again mentions Adams born in 1671. Another source\textsuperscript{107}, has John born in Wales in 1661 and has him married to Royall born 1663.

Three sources that identify his father as Zacheus Ellis born in Wales 1635, list his wife as Elizabeth Smith, born 1663 or 1670, source dependent.

The source that identifies his father as Thomas Ellis born 1630 in England, list two wives: Elizabeth, whom he married in 1682 in Stafford County; and Susannah Smith whom he married in 1687 in Stafford County.

\textsuperscript{104} http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=droll&id=I332
http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=christury&id=I0949
http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=bevangenealogy&id=I69685
http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=gwydionleu&id=I063521

\textsuperscript{105} http://wc.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=mrjr6387&id=I71105
http://wc.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=2613751&id=I530170423

\textsuperscript{106} http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=ssssara6&id=I36751

\textsuperscript{107} http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=jim_smith87123&id=I03175

Prepared by Robert L. Ellis, Summer of 2008
Note: When I conducted searches on the wives, that is, Susannah Royall and Susannah Smith and Susannah Adams, I found even more conflicting data. One source identified the husband of Royall as John Ellis born 1663 in Kent County, MD. Stevens, someone I have referenced several times in this paper, reported that Susannah Royall married John Ellis born 1661 in Henrico County in 1684, place not specified, and that Susannah Smith married John Ellis born 1661 in Middlesex County in 1687 in Stafford County. (John’s reported eight children with Royall were all born in Tuckahoe, Henrico County between 1685 and 1700. John’s reported eleven children by Smith were also born in Tuckahoe, Henrico County between 1687 and 1720.)

The Children:

The number of children depends on the source, and it does not matter who the reported grandparents are. There is some consistency around the number eight while the birth order and years of birth vary. The eight are:

- John, born c.1685;
- William, born c. 1687;
- Thomas, born c. 1689;
- Henry, born c.1691;
- James, born c. 1693;
- Joseph, born c. 1696;
- Mary, born perhaps in 1700;
- Charles.

The birth years for Mary and Charles vary significantly – Mary was born anywhere from 1700 to 1721, and Charles was born c.1720. Most sources say that they were all born in Henrico County, VA, and usually the birth place mentioned is Tuckahoe.

The gap in birth years between Joseph and Charles suggests a second marriage. I found many Rootsweb.com files on Susannah Adams that list her as the second wife of John Ellis, and him as her second husband. They were married after 1709 (the year Royall died), and Charles was their son. (I am citing just one of these sources here.)

John Ellis died in 1728. His place of death is listed as Henrico Co., sometimes Goochland, Henrico Co., and also as Goochland. Since Goochland County was formed out of Henrico County in 1728, it is safe to say that John and his family lived in that part of Henrico County that became Goochland County.

All of this Ellis family were born in and lived in Henrico County, VA. Some moved on, but I find no connection to Middlesex County or to our Hezekiah.

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108 http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=pat63_and_&id=I3522
109 http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=3281087&id=I280332
110 http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=3281087&id=I174539
111 http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=1631422&id=I0380
**John Ellis (of Maryland)**

(1661 – 1719)

There was a John Ellis born c.1661 in Kent County, MD. Through my participation in an Ellis DNA project, I know he is not related to me, and thus not related to Hezekiah. His parents were John Ellis born c.1628 and Elizabeth Joanes (or Jones), places of birth not given, and his paternal grandparents were John Ellis born 1607 and Elizabeth Murrell.

John Ellis of Kent County married Margaret Elizabeth Coffin, and their known child, William Ellis, was born in 1704 in Kent County, MD. William’s children were born in Kent County and during their life times moved south to North Carolina where the next generation of the family was born.

At least one Roostweb.com contributor has data consistent with the DNA project. This Ellis line begins with a John Ellis born in 1607 in England who married Elizabeth Murrell. They had two children, John Clarn Ellis and James Ellis, both born in England. John Clarn Ellis was born c. 1628 and died 1669 in Kent County, MD. He married Elizabeth Joanes c. 1656 in Kent County, and after her death he married Elizabeth Griffith.

John Clarn Ellis and his first wife had four children: John Clarn Ellis, born July 29 1661 in Kent Co., MD; Elizabeth Ellis, Benjamin Ellis and Mary Ellis.

John Clarn Ellis born 1661 married twice: first to Margaret Elizabeth Coffin and second to Susannah Ware. This source was unaware of child of the first marriage (William), but did identify three children from his second marriage: Jane Ellis, born 1686 in Kent Co.; Benjamin Ellis, born 1682 in Kent Co.; and Thomas Ellis, born 1684 in Kent County.

Some Internet contributors have confused John Ellis of Kent Island with the Henrico County John Ellis. For example, one contributor identifies Kent Island John as the grandson of David and Margaret Ellis and son of their son John and his wife Elizabeth Joanes. This source gives John’s full name as John Clarn Ellis, his birth date as July 29, 1661 in Kent County, and his wife as Susannah Royall.

In short, John Clarn Ellis of Kent County, MD has no connections with Middlesex County, VA or to Hezekiah Ellis.

Another confusion found on line is about the John Ellis who married Elizabeth Freeman. For example, one source reported that an Elizabeth Ellis was born on June 4, 1667 in Somerset County, MD to John Ellis and Elizabeth Freeman. The source referred to John Ellis as a Junior, and noted that Freeman was born in England and died in Barnstable, MA. Her parents were given as Edmund Freeman and Bennett Hodsell, who lived in

112 [http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=tommied&id=I19094](http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=tommied&id=I19094)

113 [http://www.geocities.com/heartland/ridge/4606/Ellis/pafg03.htm](http://www.geocities.com/heartland/ridge/4606/Ellis/pafg03.htm)

114 [http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=kcgoodman&id=I6860](http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=kcgoodman&id=I6860)
Barnstable, MA. The couple reportedly had nine children, all born in Somerset County, MD:

- John, born 1655;
- Elizabeth, born 1667;
- Thomas, born 1669;
- Henry, born 1670 & died April 1677;
- Mary, born 1672;
- Henry, born 1677;
- Anne, born 1679; and
- Richard, born 1683.

I found other sources\(^{115}\) that reported on the family of John Ellis and Elizabeth Freeman, both of whom lived and died in Barnstable, MA and had nothing to do with Maryland or Virginia. The John Ellis who married Elizabeth Freeman was born in 1623 in London, England. Elizabeth was born in 1624 in Suffolk, England and came to MA aboard the ship *Abigail* in 1635. She was John’s second wife. He married Elizabeth in 1645 in Sandwich, Barnstable County, MA. He died in 1697 in Sandwich, Barnstable. They had eleven children, all born in Sandwich:\(^{116}\)

- Elizabeth, born c.1645;
- Bennett (aka Sally), born 1648;
- Mordecai, born 1650/51;
- Deborah, born 1652;
- Joel, born 1654/5 & died age 1;
- Nathaniel, born 1657;
- Matthias, born 1657;
- Manoah, born 1659;
- Freeman, born 1661;
- Gideon, born 1663; and
- William, born 1665.

Mordecai and Matthias born had sons they named John, one born in 1680 and the other in 1683. One never married and had no children, the other married, lived and died in Barnstable, MA.

\(^{115}\) [http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=cvgnus12&id=I18275](http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=cvgnus12&id=I18275)  
[http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=craighermes&id=I5201](http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=craighermes&id=I5201)  
[http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=geolarson2&id=I115525](http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=geolarson2&id=I115525)

\(^{116}\) [http://www.landersgen.com/landers/5/146.htm](http://www.landersgen.com/landers/5/146.htm)
John Ellis, Sr. and Jr. of Charles City County, Virginia  
(1648 – 1730) and (1678 – c.1738)

There appears to have been another John Ellis family in Virginia beginning by mid-century. Several sources report the same information, and this may reflect the work of a single source. John Ellis Sr. was born in 1648 in Charles City County, VA and died in 1730 in Prince George County, VA. He was the son of Edward Ellis and Marie Radford, both English born, and who were married in Cheshire, England in 1636.

John Ellis Sr. married Elizabeth Willis c.1677. Elizabeth was born in 1661 in Charles City County. They had a son, John Ellis Jr., who was born 1678 in Charles City County. He died c.1738 in Prince George County, VA. He married Joanna Willis, who was born c.1680 in Virginia. They had a son John Ellis III, who was born in 1708 in the parish of Nottoway, Amelia County, VA. His children were born in Amelia County and moved south, some to Halifax County, VA, others to North Carolina and Georgia.

Note: Prince George County was formed from Charles City County in 1702. Amelia County was created in 1734 and formed in 1735 from Prince George and Brunswick Counties. Nottoway County was formed out of Amelia County in 1789.

John Ellis – Others

1635: George Minifie of James City County listed a John Ellis as a head right in a land patent filed July 2, 1635. He repeated that claim in 1636. This may or may not be one of the John Ellis’ mentioned above.

1667: In November 1667, a John Ellis of Bristow was apprenticed to William Scott for seven years in Virginia.

1677: A John Ellis was shipped from London bound for Virginia in September 1677.

1683: Bev Hockett reported a reference in a Middlesex County Order Book to a John Ellis who was a servant of Major Robert Beverley. I have yet to be able to identify who he was.

1685: John Ellis, born 1685 to John Ellis and Susannah Royall: His family is covered above. He allegedly was born in Nottoway Parish, Amelia County while all of his siblings were born on Tuckahoe Creek, Henrico County. I suspect more confusion – a

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117 http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=bigtree&id=I40750  
118 http://www.myvirginiagenealogy.com/va_county/ame.htm  
119 FTW, The Complete Book of Emigrants, 1607-1776:  
120 Ibid.  
121 http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=droll&id=I330
mixing of the John Ellis III, son of John Ellis, Jr. and Joanna Willis mentioned just above with John Ellis born to John Ellis and Susannah Royall. This John Ellis was married at least twice, maybe three times, and all of children were born in Amelia County in the 18th Century. In any event, he was born after Hezekiah, and has no connection to him.

c.1687: John Ellis of Surry County, VA was born c. 1687 to Jeremiah Ellis and his wife Mary.

**More on Edward Ellis and Susannah Hill**

All the sources that mention Edward’s wife and child agree that she was Susannah Hill, born c. 1660, that they married in Middlesex County on July 7, 1678, and that they had one son, Hezekiah Ellis, born c. 1680 in Middlesex County. While some of these sources do not list a place of birth for Susannah or her parents, two do. One reports that she was born in Middlesex County and that her father was named William Hill. The second just gives her birth place as Middlesex County.  

The only Susannah Hill with a father named William that I have found was born before 1669 in Charles County Maryland. She was the daughter of William Hill (sometimes spelled Hills) and Edith Edloe, both of whom died in Charles County, MD after 1677.  

There was Hill family living in Middlesex County at the time of Susannah’s reported birth there, and one of them was named William.

William Henry Hill was born in Shropshire, England and died in Middlesex County, VA on Feb 12, 1668/69. All but two of the numerous sources that report on this William Hill list but one child, a son Thomas. (Thomas lived his entire life in Middlesex County, and was a member of the county militia in 1687 and also served as a vestryman for Christ Church Parish.)

One source mentions two sons, Thomas born 1657 in Middlesex County, and William Henry, Jr. born c.1658. The other source connects a Susannah Hill, born 1660 in Middlesex County to William Hill, born 1630 and to Edward Ellis, born 1660 in Middlesex County and Hezekiah Ellis born in Middlesex County.

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122 [http://wc.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=:3281087&id=I225217](http://wc.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=:3281087&id=I225217)
123 [http://wc.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=mjr6387&id=I71105](http://wc.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=mjr6387&id=I71105)
124 [http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=mrmarsha&id=I44127](http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=mrmarsha&id=I44127)
125 [http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=summerblanchett&id=I323](http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=summerblanchett&id=I323)
126 [http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=sholman8&id=I944](http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=sholman8&id=I944)
127 [http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=dbhenry&id=I5785](http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=dbhenry&id=I5785)
In 2001, Phyllis Francis posted this entry in the Ellis Genealogy Forum:\(^{128}\):

“\(\text{I have Edward Thomas Ellis, born 1660 in Christ Church, Middlesex county, Virginia m. Susannah Hill on 7 Jul 1678 in Christ Church, Middlesex County, Virginia. So far have been able to verify two sons.}\)

\(\text{Owen John Ellis b: 1679 in Prince Georges County, Maryland m. Mary Unknown and had 8 children and}\)

\(\text{Hezekiah Ellis born 1680 in Middlesex County, Virginia d: 22 Dec 1726 in Middlesex County, Virginia - m. Mary Unknown b: 1682 in Middlesex County, Virginia and had 10 Children.}\)

\(\text{source: Ellis Family Bibles (the older ones were really hard to decipher), Census Records, Grandmother, Bertha Agnes Marie Johnson Ellis.}\)”

None of us have been able to contact Phyllis in spite of several efforts by more than one of us in Bev’s group.

Her entry supports the assertion that he was the son of Edward Ellis and Elizabeth Stevens and grandson of Thomas Ellis and Anne Gregorie. The problem I have is with Owen John Ellis. I have found no listing for any one with this name or combination thereof born in MD c.1679. Furthermore, Prince George’s County did not exist in 1679, though Charles County (from which it came) did.

Hezekiah Ellis, born c.1680 in Middlesex County, is the only child attributed to Edward Ellis and Susannah Hill by all sources other than Phyllis Francis. Also, Edward and Susannah are the only parents identified for Hezekiah Ellis born c.1689.

**More on Hezekiah Ellis**

One source\(^{129}\) lists his year of birth as c.1670, does not list parents, and reports two wives: Mary, by whom he had a daughter Sarah in 1717, and Elizabeth. (The source cited Family Tree Maker World Family Tree Number 1259 as her source. I have that Tree, and in the version I have, only Elizabeth is mentioned as the wife of Hezekiah.)

Most sources\(^{130}\) report that Hezekiah was the son of Edward Ellis and Susannah Hill, and that he was born c.1680 in Middlesex County. At least two sources\(^{131}\) report that the couple had nine children, all born in Middlesex County:

\begin{itemize}
  \item John, born 1698 or 1700;
\end{itemize}


\(^{129}\) [http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=taleriana&id=I0062](http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=taleriana&id=I0062)

\(^{130}\) Ulaki, Section 1, pp. 10-11 and Ulaki, Ssection2, p.2; Family Tree Maker World Family Tree Numbers 3139, 1259, & 499; LCS CD dtd 1996; [http://www.familytreemaker.com/users/e/n/Mel-R-Jenkins/GENE8-0005.html](http://www.familytreemaker.com/users/e/n/Mel-R-Jenkins/GENE8-0005.html)

Elizabeth, born 1703 or 1704;  
Mary, born 1705 or 1706;  
Ellis, born 1707  
Ann, born 1708  
William, born 1710 or 1705;  
Hezekiah, born 1713 or 1710;  
Robert, born 1715; and  
Sarah, born November 7, 1717.

Note: I listed the children in the order in which they are mentioned in his will, which often discloses birth order. The years of birth reflect that dates given first by Ludwig and second by Jenkins.

In an email dated 11 May 2008, Bev reported this comment from Lowanna Hendrix:

“Hezekiah was public spirited and just before his death he was imprisoned for publiccly denouncing the tyrannical courts of the English government.”

Bev noted that “She cannot remember where this was noted.”

I can find nothing in my history books or on line that sheds any light on this. The only controversy going on in Middlesex County in the early 1700s was the establishment of Urbana as a shipping port for the county’s tobacco, and that was a legislative matter versus a court issue.

**Other Ellis Colonists (in Alphabetical Order)**

**Alice Ellis:** Claimed as a head right by Edwin Conway of Lancaster County in 1652 and 1654.¹³²

**Ann Ellis:**

An Ann Ellis was born c.1670 in Surry County, VA to James Ellis and Elizabeth Davis. She married William Rowland in 1690 in Surry County. She was the great granddaughter of the Edward Ellis who arrived in Virginia in 1636.¹³³

An Ann Ellis of Leeds, England was apprenticed in Liverpool in November 1699 to Ralph Williamson, Master of the Robert & Elizabeth, bound for Virginia.¹³⁴
Benjamin Ellis: Benjamin Ellis was born c. 1688 in Surry County, VA to Jeremiah and Mary Ellis. He died c.1758. He had three sons, all born in the 18th Century: Joseph, William, and Edward.\(^{135}\)

Catherine Ellis: Catherine (or Katherine) was a daughter of Charles and Rebecca Ellis discussed above, beginning on page 8. She was born between 1688 and 1691 in Stafford County.

Elizabeth Ellis:

Elizabeth Ellis, born c. 1651 in Kensington, London who married John Sutton, and listed as a brother of Edward Ellis of Middlesex County, is discussed above on page 28.

Elizabeth Ellis, born c.1680 in Stafford County, was a daughter of Charles and Rebecca Ellis discussed above beginning on page 8. She married Dade Massey c.1700 in Stafford County and her ten children were born there.

An Elizabeth Ellis of London, England was apprenticed in Liverpool in November 1699 to Ralph Williamson, Master of the Robert & Elizabeth, bound for Virginia.\(^{136}\)

Henry Ellis

The John Ellis who died in 1659 had a brother Henry, whom he mentioned in his will. John’s mother was in England at the time he wrote his will, and the wording of the will in regard to Henry is not specific as to where Henry was. The will was proved at London in 1659, and additional wording in regard to that suggests Henry was in fact in England.\(^{137}\)

Israel Ellis

An Israel Ellis was claimed as a head right in December 1654 by George Clapham of the south side of the York River. Samuel Ellis was also listed in this patent claim.\(^{138}\)

James Ellis

1641 or 1679: Some sources\(^{139}\) report that James Ellis was born in either 1641 or 1645 and died in 1714 in Surry County, Virginia. Two of these sources report he was born in England and one does not mention a place of birth. All state that he married Elizabeth Davis, and they had a daughter named Ann, mentioned above. One of these sources

\(^{135}\) http://ellis.dnafamilies.net/genealogy/Rib
\(^{136}\) Family Tree Maker, The complete Book of Emigrants, 1607-1776
\(^{137}\) http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=droll&id=I341
\(^{138}\) Nugent, p. 271.
\(^{139}\) http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=:3035289&id=I590774808
http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=rwaynemcg&id=I4510
http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=tputman&id=P2541026744
asserts that James was a son of Jeremiah Ellis, the son of the Edward Ellis who was claimed as a head right in 1636.

Sources reporting on Jeremiah note that he was born in 1643 in Surry County, and that his son James was born c.1679 in Surry County.140

1663: A James Ellis was claimed as a head right by Edmund Scarbrough in Accomack County, VA in 1663.141

1666: In September 1666, A James Ellis was apprenticed in Bristol, England to a Humphrey Lester for 4 years in Virginia. In October 1666, Sarah Nethey was apprenticed in Bristol to James Ellis in Virginia for 4 years.142

1692: The Richmond County, Virginia Deed Book No. 1 reflects that a James Ellis witnessed a deed in 1692.

1693: James Ellis, born c.1693, is listed as a son of John Ellis born 1661.

Jeremiah Ellis
(c.1643 – 1722)

Jeremiah Ellis was the only reported son of the Edward Ellis claimed as a head right in 1636.143 He was born March 7, 1643/44 in Surrey County, VA and he lived his entire life there. His wife’s name was Mary Dutton144 who was born in Surry County in 1648, or Mary Sinner, born 1650 in Surry County.145 The couple had six children:

Joseph, born c. 1670;
Jeremiah Jr., born 1671;
Edward, born 1673;146
James, born 1679;
John, born 1678; and
Benjamin, born c. 1688.

Jeremiah Ellis II.
(1671 – c.1738)

Jeremiah Ellis Jr. was a son of Jeremiah and Mary Ellis. He was born in Surry County, VA in 1671 and died there on May 17, 1738. His wife’s name was Elizabeth Parker, born

140 ELLISES OF SOUTHERN ILLINOIS; Entries: 11154 Updated: 2004-09-27 00:25:04 UTC (Mon) Contact: Gary Ellis, furworld@hotmail.com ; Burnett Family and Other Branches Updated: 2004-09-14 13:03:17 UTC (Tue) Contact: Sue Terhune , est3739@comcast.net
141 Nugent, p. 453
142 Family Tree Maker The Complete Book of Emigrants 1607-1776.
143 Same sources as Footnote 131
144 http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=lharmon&id=I12023
145 http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=420angel&id=I854270
146 http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=lharmon&id=I12023
in Warren, NC in 1672. The couple was married c.1689 in Virginia. They had five children, only one of whom was born in the 17th Century – Jeremiah III, born 1697 in Surry County. The other sons were Caleb, Edward, Joshua, and John.

**Joseph Ellis**

**1670:** Joseph Ellis was a son of Jeremiah and Mary Ellis. He was born in 1670.

**1696:** Joseph Ellis, born c.1696, is listed as a son of John Ellis born 1661.

**Lucy Ellis**

Lucy Ellis was born in 1690 in Stafford County, VA to Charles and Rebecca Ellis. She married Richard Todd, who was born c.1686 in Gloucester County, VA. The couple was married c.1706 in Stafford County.¹⁴⁷

**Peter Ellis**

There was a Peter Ellis living in Old Rappahannock County, now Essex County, VA in 1680. He witnessed a deed there in that year.¹⁴⁸ In 1699, a Peter Ellis helped appraise an estate in Richmond County.¹⁴⁹

**Phillip Ellis**

*(1660 - ??)*

William Ellis and Elizabeth Bouling had a son Phillip who was born in Norfolk County in 1660. Nothing else seems to be known about him. See write up below on William Ellis born 1621 for sources.

**Richard Ellis**

A Richard Ellis, age 29, took the oath of allegiance and embarked on the *Merchant Bonaventure* for Virginia in January 1635.¹⁵⁰

A Richard Ellis was claimed as a head right in November 1661 by a resident of James City County.¹⁵¹

**Robert Ellis**

A Robert Ellis, age 22, was shipped to Virginia in October 1635 aboard the *Constance*.¹⁵²

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¹⁴⁷ [http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=mrmarsha&id=I26159](http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=mrmarsha&id=I26159)

¹⁴⁸ [http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=mrmarsha&id=I32508](http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=mrmarsha&id=I32508)

¹⁴⁹ Family Tree Maker, Virginia Vital Records #1, Richmond County Records, 1692-1704

¹⁵⁰ Family Tree Maker, The Complete Book of Emigrants, 1607-1776

¹⁵¹ Nugent, p. 394

¹⁵² Family Tree Maker, The Complete Book of Emigrants, 1607-1776
There was a Robert Ellis who lived in Maryland at one time, but by 1686 had returned to England.¹⁵³

**Ruth Ellis**

One source¹⁵⁴ reported that Ruth Ellis was born on October 31, 1670 in Norfolk, VA to Thomas Ellis and his wife Mary Wright. She married Henry Adams. My research into this family revealed they were in Massachusetts, not VA.

**Samuel Ellis**

A Samuel Ellis was claimed as a Head right in 1635 and 1636. (It was the norm for head rights to be assigned or traded.) Robert Cave or Henrico County made the 1635 claim, and William Layton of the Territory of Lynhaven (south side of the James) made the 1636 claim.¹⁵⁵

A Samuel Ellis was claimed as a head right in December 1654 by George Clapham of the south side of the York River. Israell Ellis was also listed in this claim.¹⁵⁶

**Sarah Ellis**

**Sarah Ellis**

(16?? – 1691)

Two 2008 Roostweb.com postings¹⁵⁷ reported that a Sarah Ellis, born before February 3, 1629 in England, had married Anthony Buckner before the couple came to Virginia. She died in Stafford County in 1691, and he died there two years later.

**Sarah Ellis**

(c.1682/88 – 1740)

As reported above in my comments about Charles and Rebecca Ellis, some sources listed a daughter Sarah born c. 1688. One source¹⁵⁸ gives her birth year as 1682 and reported that she died in 1740 in King William, VA.

¹⁵³ Family Tree Maker, The Complete Book of Emigrants, 1607-1776
¹⁵⁴ [http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=;3207838&id=I039](http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=;3207838&id=I039)
¹⁵⁵ Nugent, pp. 36 and 50.
¹⁵⁶ Nugent, p. 271.
¹⁵⁷ [http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=gilead07&id=I293893](http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=gilead07&id=I293893)
¹⁵⁸ [http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=dsjbandmmp&id=I62256](http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=dsjbandmmp&id=I62256)
¹⁵⁹ [http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=:3281087&id=I224993](http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=:3281087&id=I224993)
Sylvanius Ellis

Bev advised us that she had found references to two Ellis men about whom she knew nothing, and one was a Sylvanius Ellis.

“4 Feb 1683- don’t know who Silvanius Ellis is? Order Book 2 1680-1694

Unfortunately, I have found nothing about him.

William Ellis

William Ellis
(c.1621-c.1670)

Several 2008 Rootsweb.com postings\textsuperscript{159} reported that a William Ellis was born c.1621 to a David Ellis who had been born in England. One source said he may have been born in Chaplin’s Choice, while another said that had he been born in VA in 1621 he should have shown up in the 1623/24 Muster-and he did not.

William married Elizabeth Bouling, who was born c.1626 in VA. The couple had two children, Phillip born in 1660, and William, born 1662, both in Norfolk County. William died in Norfolk County c.1670 and Elizabeth died there c.1680.

William Ellis
(1662- ??)

William Ellis and Elizabeth Bouling had a son William who was born in Norfolk County in 1662. Nothing else seems to be known about him.

1637: A William Ellis was claimed as a head right in December 1637 by a resident of the Upper County of New Norfolk.\textsuperscript{160}

1641: A “Willi.” Ellis was claimed as a head right in Jun 1641 by a resident of Isle of Wight County.\textsuperscript{161}

1662: Two men were apprenticed in Bristol, England in August 1662 to William Ellis of Virginia.\textsuperscript{162}

\textsuperscript{159} http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=marciamcclure&id=I6504
http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=AHN&db=khaining&id=I1709
\textsuperscript{160} Nugent, p. 78
\textsuperscript{161} Nugent, p. 125
\textsuperscript{162} Family Tree Maker, The Complete Book of Emigrants, 1607-1776
1668: A ship left Bristol England for Virginia, and a William Ellis is mentioned in connection with it. I am not sure if the wording means he was shipped on the vessel or he was one of the shippers.163

1674: William Ellis of Derby was a prisoner “reprieved to be transported” in July 1674.164

1687: One 2007 Rootsweb.com posting165 states that a William Ellis born c.1687 in Tuckahoe River, Henrico County, VA had a son named William, who in turn had a son William Burton Ellis who was born un Tuckahoe River area, Henrico County.

1707: Bev’s emails included a reference to a William Ellis who was a defendant in a case in Middlesex County in 1707 or 1708. This certainly suggests he was an adult, and thus born in the 17th Century. I have found nothing else on a William Ellis in Middlesex County.

163 Family Tree Maker, The Complete Book of Emigrants, 1607-1776
164 Family Tree Maker, The Complete Book of Emigrants, 1607-1776
165 http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=:1594071&id=I0368