

Needham Bryan Study

Grandson of John Bryan
"The Immigrant"
of Nansemond / Isle of Wight

John Bryan (b. circa 1626, Bitton, England - d. circa 1680, Isle of Wight County, Virginia) was an immigrant settler who relocated to Isle of Wight County around 1672, receiving land patents there, including one in 1682 that may have passed to his heirs after his death. He married **Sarah** (surname unknown, b. unknown - d. unknown). He may be connected to Bitton through headright patents where he transported individuals from that area (e.g., John Ballard and Lewis Bryan/Brian of Bitton) to Virginia in the 1650s–1670s, implying personal ties to the region (there is a specific christening record dated October 8, 1626, in Bitton, listing John Bryant (a common spelling variation) as the son of Lewis Bryant and an unnamed mother).

Their children included:

William Bryan (b. circa 1655, likely England or Virginia - d. circa 1742, likely Virginia).

William Bryan married Alice MacLand (b. circa 1656-1665, Isle of Wight County, Virginia - d. circa 1729-1741, likely Virginia) around 1689. Alice was the daughter of John MacLand (d. 1705, Isle of Wight County) and Elizabeth [Needham?] (some sources confuse Alice's maiden name with Needham due to her mother's purported surname, but primary records like her father's 1705 will confirm MacLand as her maiden name).

Their children included:

Needham Bryan (b. February 11, 1690, Isle of Wight County, Virginia - d. January 2, 1770, Snowfield Plantation, Bertie County, North Carolina). Needham moved to Bertie County around 1722, where he acquired land including Snowfield Plantation in 1726, served in various public roles (e.g., Justice of the Peace, sheriff, assembly representative), and was involved in a 1710 land transaction conveying property formerly granted to a deceased John Bryan (likely his grandfather or a relative) in 1682.

Needham Bryan married Ann Rombeau , b. circa June 1, 1692, likely Isle of Wight County, Virginia - d. January 16, 1730, Bertie County, North Carolina) on November 16, 1711, in Isle of Wight County, Virginia. Ann was the daughter of Quintin Rambeau (or similar variations; limited details available, but a document provides proof of her existence). They had at least three

Some Proofs
and
Discussions
to
Ponder...

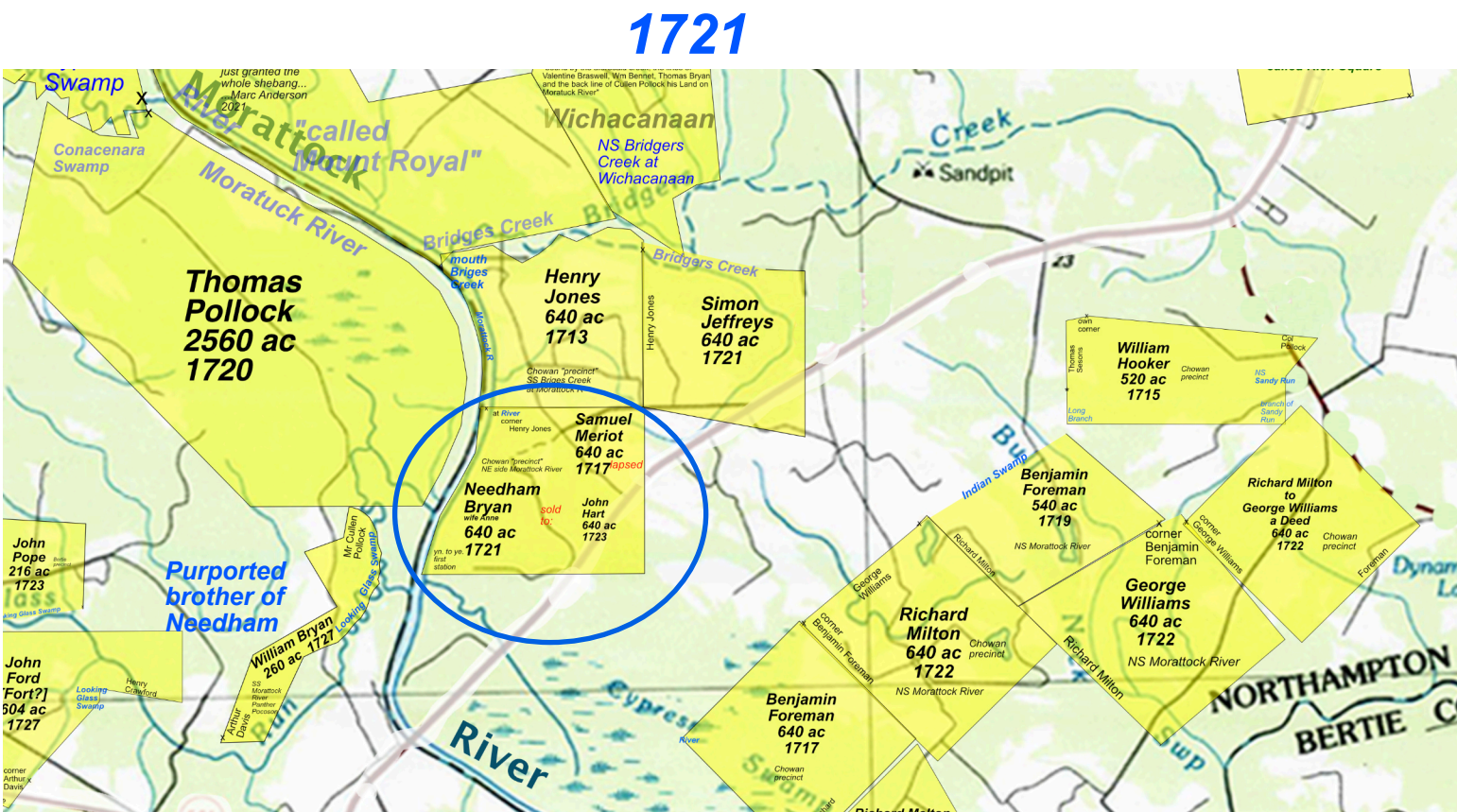
http://www.virtualjamestown.org/indentures/search_indentures.html

Agent: John Brian
Aug 15, 1659 Lewes Brian of Bitton, Gloucestershire
Aug 15, 1659 John Ballard of Bitton
Aug 24, 1659 John Boulton of Bitton

Credit:
David Boyett

15 Aug 1659 (p. 432)
following bound to John Brian, Planter, to serve in Virginia:
Lewes Brian of Bitton, Glos., yeoman
Robert Brian of Bitton, Glos.,
John Ballard of Bitton
—Bristol Records Office

24 Aug 1659 (p.433)
John Boulton of Bitton, Glos., bound to John Brian, Planter, to serve 4 years in Virginia
—Bristol Records Office



This is the 1st Patent I find for Needham in NC ... near Bridger's Creek
He settles permanently in 1726 at Snowfield (Lewiston-Woodville)

Gregory Tyler, commenting on my blog, says this:

Marc, "Anne Rombeau" really did exist with that death date. Susan Bryan Martin Capehart (1815-1882) has a volume of "Family Records of Marriages, Births and Deaths of the Relations and connections of Susan Martin Capehart and George Washington Capehart" in the Capehart Papers at Wilson Library at UNC-CH. See this scan:

My impression is she actually visited the graveyards where much of the information was collected, probably in the 1840's.

WILL of John Macland 1705

Catalog Record

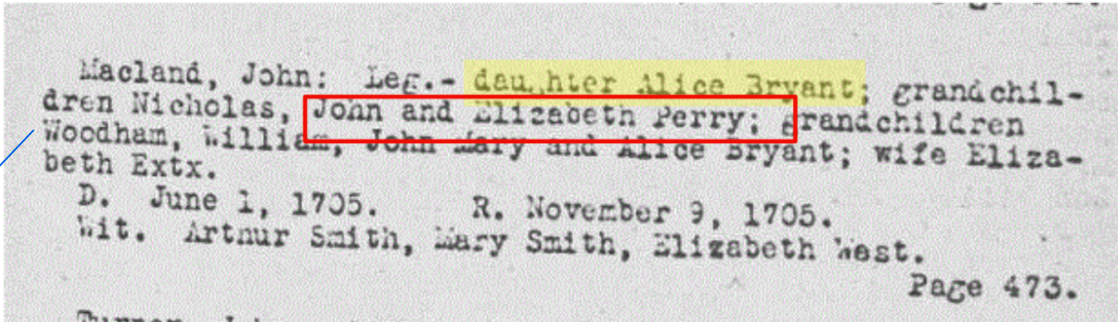
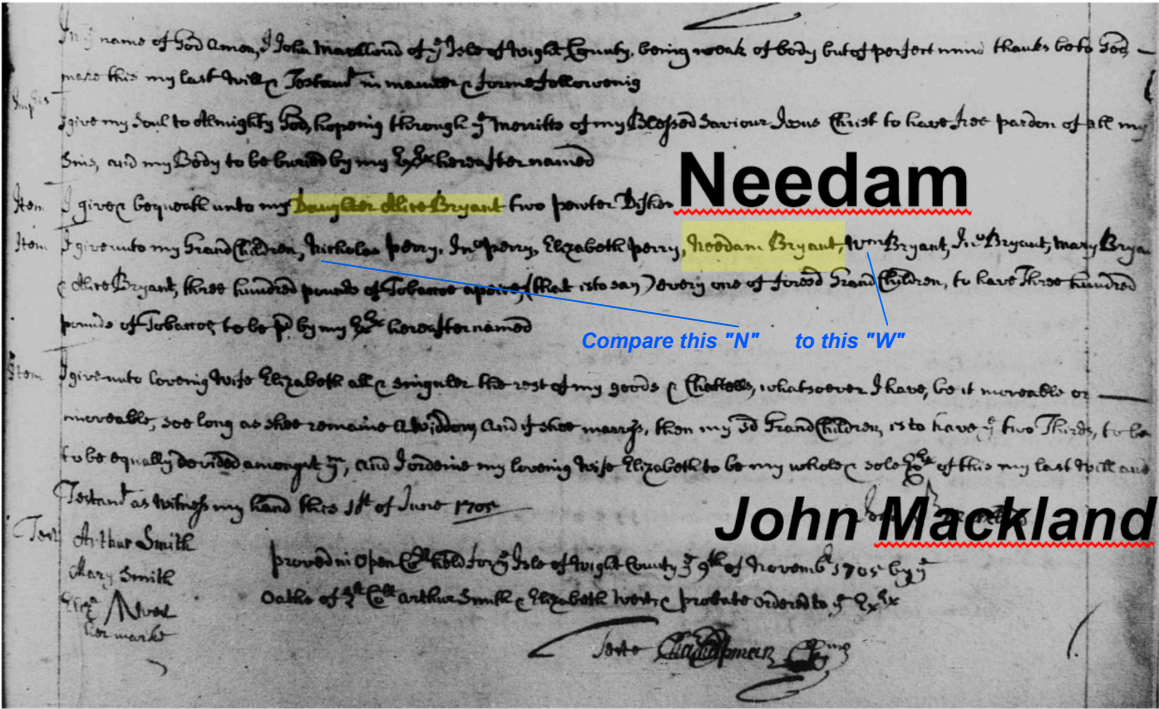
Item Number

Film/Digital Note

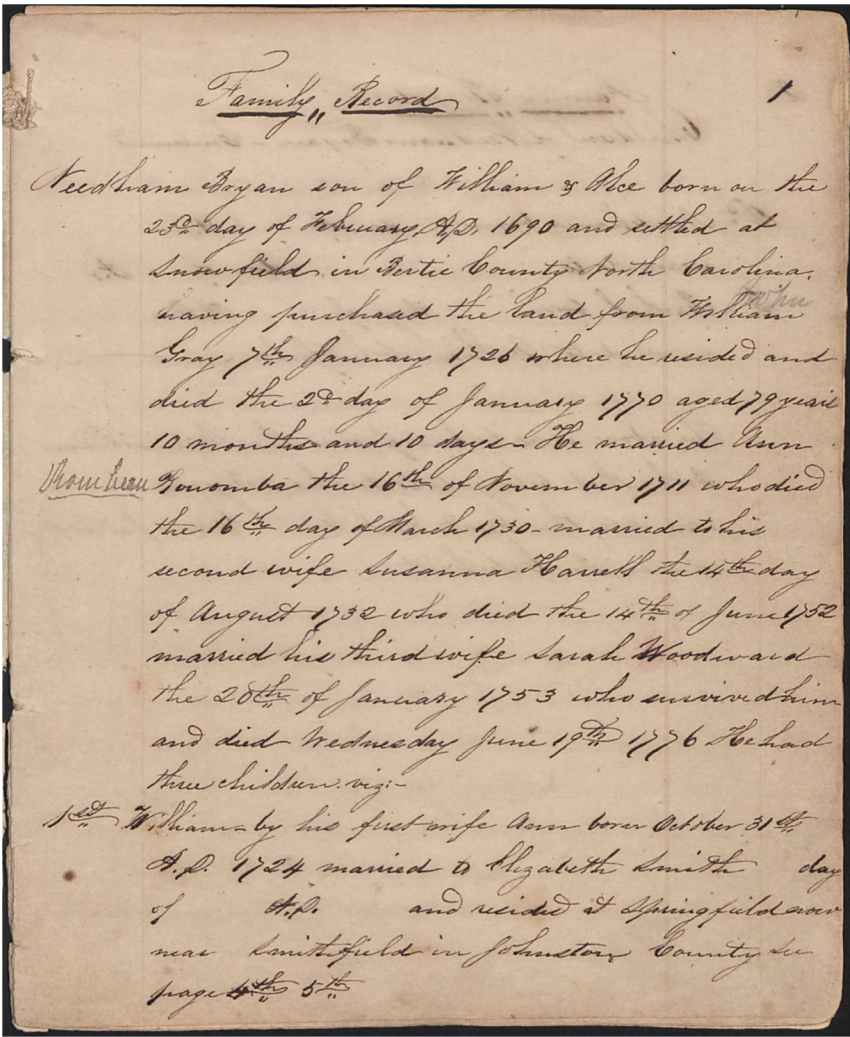
Mixed probate records, 1643-1866
; indexes to wills, 1850-1985
Mixed records, Vol. 2 1661-1719 Mixed records, Vol. 3 1726-1734

Image 237

ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY VIRGINIA
RECORD OF WILLS DEEDS ETC
VOL 2 PART 1
1661-1719



As a former Sign Painter, skilled in the art and mystery of hand lettering, I am convinced this is "Needham" and not "Woodham"... Marc



<https://dc.lib.unc.edu/cdm/singleitem/collection/01ddd/id/464321/rec/5>

...an interesting Post

<https://andersonnc.com/2023/04/24/standing-up-to-the-crowd/#comments>

According to G Tyler of Bertie: The Bryant cemetery has been plowed under and the Snowfield Plantation burned down in the 1960s...

Susan Bryan Martin Capehart (née Susan Bryan Martin; October 29, 1815 – February 27, 1884) was a prominent 19th-century North Carolinian from Bertie County, born into a well-established planter family with deep roots in the region's colonial history. She was the daughter of Peter Boyd Martin (1777–1838), a planter and likely involved in local affairs, and Janet Smith Bryan (1780–1823), who connected her to the influential Bryan family lineage descending from early settlers like Needham Bryan (1690–1770) of Snowfield Plantation. Susan's maternal grandparents were William Bryan (1745–1807) and Elizabeth Smith (1750–1842), further tying her to Bertie County's agricultural elite.