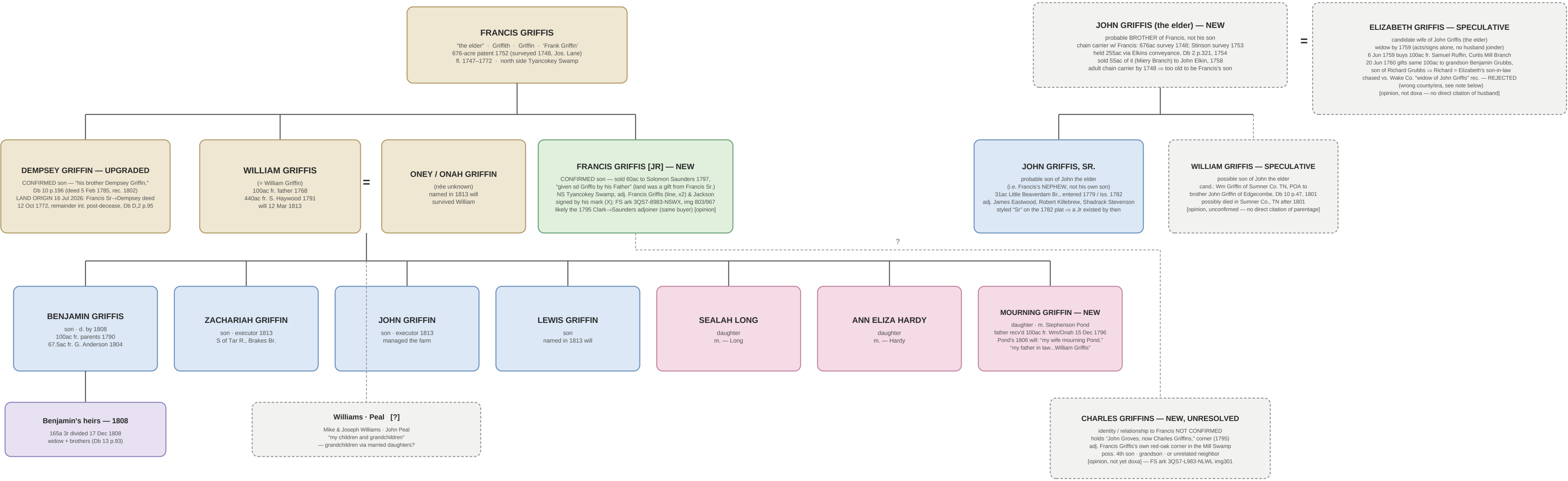


The Family of Francis Griffiths (Griffith / Griffin)

Edgecombe County, North Carolina — Tyancokey Swamp / Walnut Creek sector · revised 23 Jul 2026 (Tonto, adds Elizabeth Griffiths candidate-spouse box + Wake Co. negative finding)

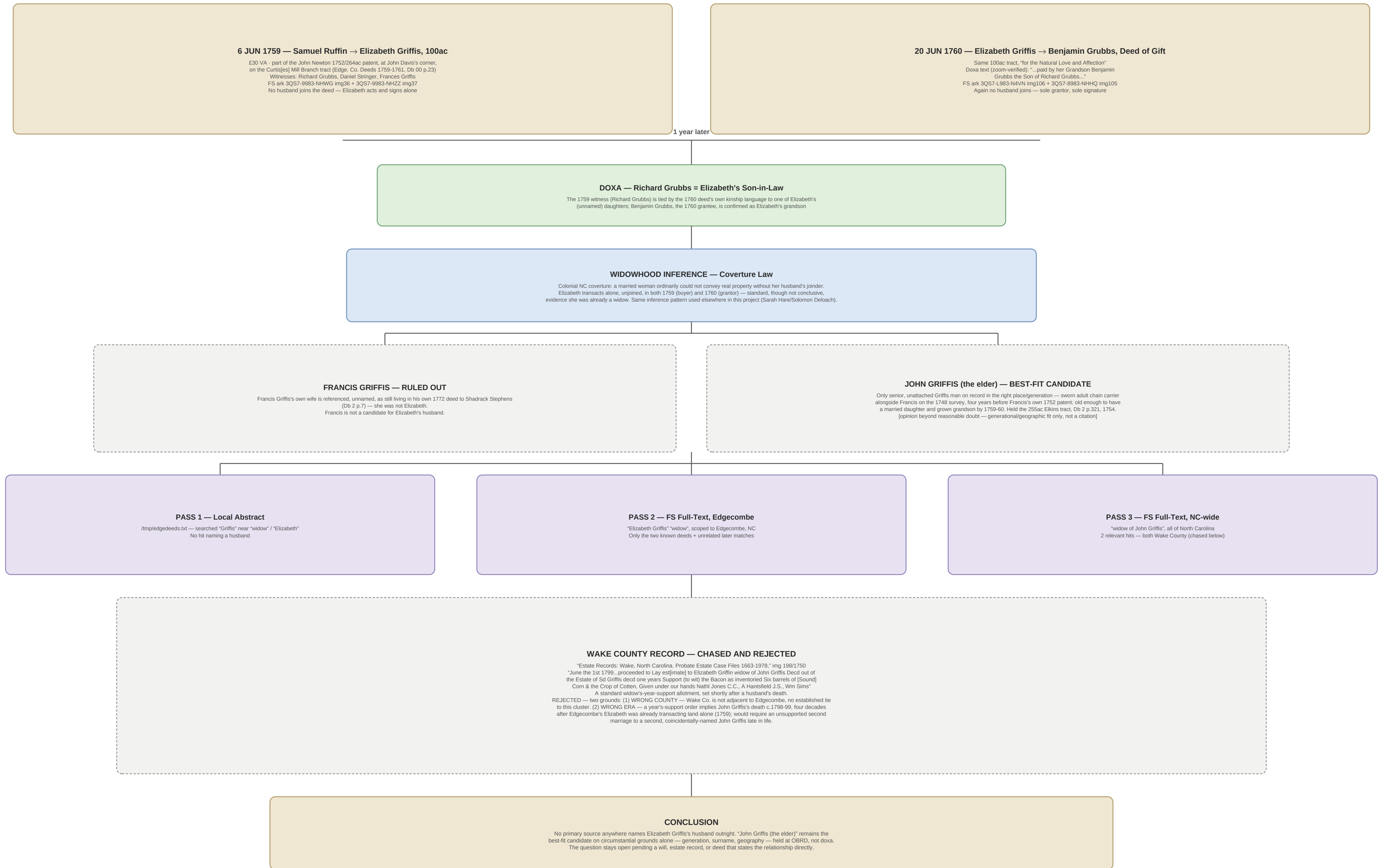


NOTES & SOURCES

- Francis Griffiths = Griffith = Griffin = "Frank Griffin" (spelling fluid, same man). Sons of Francis (William, Dempsey, Francis Jr) shown blue-bordered tan/green; John the elder's line shown on the right as a separate, parallel sibling branch, not Francis's own children.
- FRANCIS GRIFFIS [JR] — 4 Jul 2026: CONFIRMED third son of Francis Griffiths (the elder), from Francis Griffiths [Jr] → Solomon Saunders, 60ac, 1797 (FamilySearch ark:/61903/3:1:3Q57-8983-NSWX, img 803/967, IGN 007513466, "Edgecombe, Deeds 1794-1798"). Doxa-level proof phrase: land was "given sd Griffiths by his Father." Begin x NS Tyancokey Swamp at sd Griffiths corner · S42E100 Griffiths line · N45E114 to Jackson · N64W114 · then Griffiths/Saunders line to 1st; adjointers Francis Griffiths (line, x2, almost certainly the father's own remaining land) and Jackson. Signed by his mark (X) — consistent with the project's signature-vs-mark literacy tracking. The deed itself says only "his father," not "Francis Griffiths Sr." by name — the identification rests on the shared name, the shared Tyancokey Swamp neighborhood, and the adjoining "Francis Griffiths" line, so treat the FATHER'S identity as OBRD rather than airtight doxa, the SON's existence and the gift-from-father fact are doxa-level.
- 1795 CLARK→SAUNDERS TIE — NEW 8 Jul 2026: Edmund Clark → Solomon Saunders, 1795, 2 tracts (10.5+179.5ac, FS ark 3Q57-9983-N215, img 499/967) names "Francis Griffiths" as the adjointer on tract No.2's S/SE line ("Edwin Dancy & Wm Griffiths line" / "Fr Griffiths line" to Wilson) — the deed itself does not say Jr or Sr. Same buyer, Solomon Saunders, bought from Francis Griffiths [Jr] two years later (1797, above), same neighborhood — makes Jr the likelier match, but this is inference from buyer + timing + neighborhood, not a stated relationship. [opinion, not yet doxa]. Surfaced when Marc's placeholder overlap with the R5 gap (461ac) was tested as possible evidence Francis Griffiths "absorbed" R5 — ruled premature (Clark/Saunders No.2, R5, and Griffith 676ac are all unanchored placeholders); theory parked pending topo-fixing.
- CHARLES GRIFFINS — NEW 5 Jul 2026, UNRESOLVED: named in John Wilson → John I. Jackson, 1795, 152ac deed (FS ark 3:1:3Q57-L983-NLWL, img 301, "Edgecombe. Deeds 1794-1798") as holding "John Groves[s], now Charles Griffins[s], corner" — a line adjoining Francis Griffiths's own red-oak corner "in the Mill Swamp." The same deed's beginning call is at "Francis Griffins," so Charles and Francis are neighbors, possibly kin. Placed here as a DASHED, UNCONFIRMED slot only — none of Francis's three confirmed sons is named Charles, so he may be an undocumented 4th son, a grandson, or an unrelated Griffins-surname neighbor. [opinion, not yet doxa] — do not treat this box as a confirmed branch until a will, estate record, or later deed states his relationship to Francis's line explicitly.
- JOHN GRIFFIS (the elder) — identified as Francis's probable brother from chain-carrier timing (sworn adult chain carrier alongside Francis in 1748, before Francis's own 1752 patent — too old to be Francis's son). Held the 255ac Elkins-conveyed tract (Db 2 p.321, 1754) and sold part of it (55ac, Miery Branch) to John Elkin in 1758.
- JOHN GRIFFIS, SR. (31ac Little Beaverdam Branch, entered 1779, issued 28 Oct 1782) is a DIFFERENT, later-generation John than the 1748 chain carrier — probably that John's own son, making him Francis's nephew rather than Francis's son. The 1782 plat's "Sr" styling implies a Jr existed. An 1795 Beaver Dam/Horse Pen Branch deed independently cites "John Griffiths, Sr's corner" as a neighbor, in the same neighborhood as the 31ac grant, and separately names "Demsey Griffiths" adjoining — confirming both men were active there together.
- WILLIAM GRIFFIS (speculative, son of John the elder) — placeholder for a second William Griffiths, a cousin to Francis's own William. Candidate: "William Griffin, of Sumner Co., TENN." appointed his brother "John Griffin of Edgecombe" as attorney to sell 100ac on Killebrew's Mill Branch (Db 10 p.47, 25 Apr 1801) — fits better here than on Francis's own William, who stayed in Edgecombe and died there (will proved May Ct 1813). Possibly died in Sumner Co., TN after 1801. [opinion, unconfirmed]
- DEMPSEY GRIFFIN — CONFIRMED: Db 10 p.196 (deed 5 Feb 1785, rec. Feb Ct 1802) states outright "the land said William Griffin purchased of his brother Dempsey Griffin" — doxa-level. His own house on Tyancokey Swamp is a landmark in Francis's own 1772 deed to Shadrack Stephens (Db 2 p.7, corrected from an earlier "Db 2 p.95" citation).
- The 1813 will of William Griffiths names sons Zachariah, John & Lewis and daughters Sealah Long & Ann Eliza Hardy; Mike & Joseph Williams and John Peal close the will as "my children and grandchildren" — most likely grandchildren via married daughters [identification uncertain]. Benjamin (son) predeceased his father by 1808, absent from the 1813 will; his 165-acre estate was divided 17 Dec 1808 (Db 13 p.93).
- MOURNING GRIFFIN (m. STEPHENSON POND) — NEW 16 Jul 2026, CONFIRMED doxa: Marc's datasheet "Griffis Pond 1796.pdf" (Walnut Creek NAS) contains (1) William Griffiths & Onah his wife → Stephenson Pond, 100ac, deed 15 Dec 1796 (FS ark 3:1:3Q57-9983-NPR5, img 824/967, IGN 007513466, "Edgecombe...Deeds"), NS Tyancokey Swamp at mouth of a small branch, along "said William Griffiths back line" to Dempsey Griffiths's corner — the SAME 15/16 Dec 1796 pair in which William also sold an adjoining 100ac to his own son Zachariah (FS ark 3:1:3Q57-L9G4-SXD8, img 1561/1971); and (2) Stephenson Pond's own last will & testament, 30 May 1806, proved Aug Ct 1806 Edgecombe (FS ark 3:1:3Q57-8983-DHFZ, img 200/565, IGN 007513468): "I lend to my Wife mourning Pond the use of my plantation..." naming children John, Richard, William, Celah & Zachariah Ponds, and nominating "my father in law and friend William Griffiths & Lamon Ruffin" as executors — William Griffiths Jr. and Sr. both appear as subscribing witnesses/qualifying executor at probate. The father-in-law statement is doxa-level and direct: Mourning (Griffis) Pond is William & Oney's daughter. She is not named in William's own 1813 will (above) — [opinion] consistent with her having predeceased her father, since Stephenson Pond's own estate (and the couple's children) were already settled by 1806.
- DEMPSEY GRIFFIN — LAND ORIGIN FOUND 16 Jul 2026: answering Marc's question of where Dempsey's land (the tract he later sold to brother William, Db 10 p.196, 1785, above) came from — Edgecombe Grantor Deed Index confirmed a matching pair of 1774-recorded entries, "Francis [Griffis] to Dempsey Griffiths, Deed, Db 2 p.95" and its reciprocal "Dempsey [Griffis], from Francis Griffiths, Deed, Db 2 p.95." Pulled and read the actual instrument (FS ark 3:1:3QSQ-G983-67R8, img 646/746, IGN 007513459, "Edgecombe. Deeds 1769-1775," Vol. D.2): "This Indenture made this 12th day of October 1772 Between Francis Griffiths Senr., and Demsey Griffiths...for the consideration of one Shilling Sterling...hath given unto the said Demsey Griffiths his Heirs and assigns forever after my & my wives decease the remainder part of my Land & Plantation whereon I now live, only that the said Demsey Griffiths is not to have any right or claim to any part or parcel thereof until the decease of my self & wife, without my leave & my wife..." Francis signed by his mark ("Senr") — distinguishing him from his own son Francis Griffiths [Jr]; witnessed by Jas Hall + Stevens; proved on Shadrack Stephens's oath, April Ct 1774. This is a REMAINDER grant, not an immediate conveyance — Dempsey had no right to occupy/claim the land until BOTH Francis and his wife died, absent their explicit leave. The deed itself does not use kinship language ("son"); Dempsey's status as Francis's son still rests on the 1785 Db 10 p.196 deed's "his brother Dempsey Griffin," as before — this find answers the land-origin question without changing the sonship citation. Also confirms Dempsey already had a house on Tyancokey Swamp by 1772 (Db 2 p.7, Francis's own deed to Shadrack Stephens) and flags an unrelated 1868 "Dempsey Griffin" as a later namesake, not this man.
- ELIZABETH GRIFFIS — NEW 23 Jul 2026, SPECULATIVE spouse slot for JOHN GRIFFIS (the elder): two Edgecombe deeds put an "Elizabeth Griffiths" transacting land alone — no husband joinder either time, standard coverture-law evidence of widowhood. 6 Jun 1759, Samuel Ruffin → Elizabeth Griffiths, 100ac, at John Davis's corner, part of the John Newton 1752/264ac patent, on the Curtis Mill Branch tract (Db 00 p.23, FS ark 3Q57-9983-NHWG img36 + 3Q57-9983-NHZZ img37); witness Richard Grubbs. 20 Jun 1760, Elizabeth Griffiths → Benjamin Grubbs, same 100ac. Deed of Gift, doxa text "her Grandson Benjamin Grubbs the Son of Richard Grubbs" (FS ark 3Q57-L983-N4VN img106 + 3Q57-8983-NHHQ img105) — confirms Richard Grubbs (the 1759 witness) is Elizabeth's son-in-law. John Griffiths (the elder) is the only senior, unattached Griffin man on record in the right place/generation (adult chain carrier by 1748); Francis Griffiths himself is ruled out (his own wife, unnamed, still living per his 1772 deed to Shadrack Stephens). Chased for direct confirmation: local abstract + FS full-text "Elizabeth Griffiths"+"widow", Edgecombe — no husband named either way. FS full-text "widow of John Griffiths", NC-wide, surfaced a Wake County estate record (Probate Estate Case Files 1663-1978, img198/1750, June 1799): "...Lay est[imate] to Elizabeth Griffin widow of John Griffiths Decd out of the Estate of Sd Griffiths decd one years Support..." — REJECTED as unrelated: Wake Co. is not adjacent to Edgecombe, and a year's-support order implies a husband's death c.1798-99, four decades after this Elizabeth was already transacting land alone (1759) — would require an unsupported second marriage to a second, coincidentally-named John Griffiths. No primary source names Elizabeth's husband outright; "John Griffiths (the elder)" remains OBRD only, generational/ geographic fit, not a citation. Full deed transcriptions + search log: p.2 ADDENDUM below. Narrative: Article_ElizabethGriffis_WidowOfJohnElder_20260723.md.
- Sources: Griffis_Family_DetailTree_Edgecombe.md; JOURNAL.md (2 Jul + 4 Jul + 5 Jul + 8 Jul + 16 Jul + 23 Jul 2026 entries); Db 2 p.7, p.95, p.321; Db 8 p.228; Db 9 p.39, p.218, p.265; Db 10 p.47, p.196, p.201; Db 13 p.93; Will Book E p.57 (12 Mar 1813); "Griffis F to Saunders 1797 60.pdf" (FS ark 3Q57-8983-NSWX img 803/967, IGN 007513466); John Wilson→Jackson 1795 deed (FS ark 3Q57-L983-NLWL img301); Edmund Clark→Solomon Saunders 1795 deed (FS ark 3Q57-9983-N215 img 499/967, IGN 007513466); "Griffis Pond 1796.pdf" (Walnut Creek NAS, 16 Jul 2026) — Griffis→Pond 1796 deed (FS ark 3Q57-9983-NPR5 img824/967) + Stephenson Pond will 1806 (FS ark 3Q57-8983-DHFZ img200/565); Edge

APPENDIX — Was Elizabeth Griffis (1760) the Wife of John Griffis "the Elder"?

Companion to The Family of Francis Griffis (Griffith / Griffin) · Curtis Mill Branch cluster · 23 Jul 2026 (Tonto)



SOURCES

Edge. Co. Deeds 1759-1761, Db 00 p.23 (Ruffin→Elizabeth Griffis) — FS ark 3QS7-9983-NHWG img36 + 3QS7-9983-NHZZ img37.

Elizabeth Griffis→Benjamin Grubbs 1760 Deed of Gift — FS ark 3QS7-L983-N4VN img106 + 3QS7-8983-NHHQ img105.

Francis Griffis→Shadrack Stephens 1772 (Db 2 p.7) — reference to Francis's own unnamed living wife.

Griffis_Family_DetailTree_Edgecombe.md; Griffith_Killebrew_MillBranch_Note.md (22 Jul 2026, cont. 8 entry); JOURNAL.md (22-23 Jul 2026 entries).

Wake, North Carolina. Probate Estate Case Files 1663-1978, img 198/1750 ("widow of John Griffis" record, chased and rejected).

Full narrative: Article_ElizabethGriffis_WidowOfJohnElder_20260723.md