

Edmund Pulliam

James Pulliam -- Mary Clarke

William Pulliam, 1665- born, Henrico County; married, New Kent Co.-- Ann Patterson

There are a number of references to William Pulliam owning land in New Kent County. Then in the early 1700s, 1722-1729 period, there are numerous references to William Pulliam owning land in next-door county of Hanover County. This could be the same William Pulliam, or perhaps a son of William also named William, thus a brother of Thomas Pulliam below.

1) Thomas Obadiah Pulliam, 1703-1758 approximately, born, New Kent Co., is identified as a Christian man, a member of the Episcopal Church, in a short biographical sketch I received. "Uppermost in his mind was his inclination towards Christianity," writes Alyce Rebecca Pulliam Perry in this material, "Deakins-Pulliam and Allied Families of America."

"He was never absent from a church meeting without a good reason. He was liberal toward the support of his Parish, kind and fatherly to his children, respectful and devoted to his wife, courteous and generous to his neighbors."

During this period the Anglican Church was the established church in Virginia. The switch to the Baptist Church during the 1700s was a significant and costly one.

Spotsylvania County became a county in 1720; it was a larger county then.

Marriage: 1735, Spotsylvania County, Winifred Halliday
Church: St. George's Parish

Children:
James Pulliam
Thomas Jr.
Anna W.
Sarah
Benjamin
Susannah
Agnes
Winifred
Mary
Elizabeth
Isabella

Also in 1735 John Halliday(brother of Winifred?) gives or sells 200 acres in Spotsylvania County to Thomas Pulliam, a planter of the same county.

2) This first Thomas Pulliam must have had a son,
Thomas(married Frances Boswell)(1738-1806)
Church affiliation: Baptist(?)
Marriage: 1763? in Spotsylvania County?
Children:
Mary
Benjamin
Boswell
James
Frances(married to John Hisle; Absalom Lillard)
Thomas

Just from reading in Baptist history in Virginia, the affiliation with the Baptists at the time of their marriage seems a little early, unless they were among those first joining the Baptist Church in those years. Baptist preachers were being jailed in Spotsylvania County in 1768.

I think the question in here is when did they moved from Spotsylvania County to Culpeper County? Culpeper became a county in 1748.

Then there is a land reference to Thomas Pulliam in Spotsylvania as late as 1757. By 1770 there is a reference to people buying 84 acres in Spotsylvania Co. from Thomas Pulliam of Culpeper, September 21, 1770. So I can place them in Culpeper as of 1770 and that will help in discerning the Lord's work in that area in the 1770-1790 period among the Baptist Churches.

From Culpeper County records I see that Thomas Pulliam bought land in Culpeper County March 19, 1767. Rappahanock County became a new county, out of Culpeper County, in 1834, and it may be that the Pulliam property was in what became Rappahanock County.

So there seems to be a moved to Culpeper in the 1760-1770 period.

Is the third Thomas Pulliam born during this period? About 1760.

3) The third Thomas(married, Keziah Brown)(1760-1832) is born about 1760, 1759, according to Christine Pulliam records. That date of birth lines up with war records as well.

Marriage: 1786, January 18, Culpeper County. Christine Pulliam has them being married by William Mason, a Baptist minister.

That name of William Mason comes up frequently in Robert Semple's book, ``A History of the Rise and Progress of the Baptists in Virginia.'' And through the book I can identify several churches he helped with as a pastor, a circuit rider of sorts, it seems.

And through the land records it would seem that Thomas Pulliam would have been affiliated with the F.T. Baptist Church, in the southeastern corner of what became Rappahanock County, originally part of Culpeper County.

What seems clear is that the Lord was doing a special work of revival before and after the War for Independence, and I am not sure whether the Pulliam turn to You and the Baptist Church came before or after.

But here is one interesting point: Christine Pulliam has Thomas Pulliam and Keziah Brown(also of a Baptist family background, I think) getting married Jan. 18, 1786, by William Mason. Was not the second Baptist revival in the Culpeper area after that date? Not necessarily. Semple has it starting in 1785, page 58, and spreading until 1791 or 1792. He also says the revival especially affected the Culpeper Association and that the F.T. Baptist Church in the Culpeper Association was especially blessed, page 61.

When F.T. Baptist Church was constituted it had 20 members, in 1778. Then by the time of the book's publication(1810) it has 100 members. So it would seem that the Pulliams would have become part of the church after the war for independence period, 1785, or become part of a fellowship perhaps before an actual church formation. William Mason became minister of the church in 1788, and there was a special period of revival 1788-89, described by Semple. Mason appears to have labored in many Culpeper churches in this period.

Here also is an item from Gene Pulliam of Culpeper that can help in dating: from pension records, Thomas Pulliam was a private in the Virginia militia during the War for Independence. His name was placed on the pension roll, April 8, 1833(1831?) Age of 72. That would date his birth at about 1760.

This Thomas died in about 1832? August 27, 1832(in Page County, according to Christine Pulliam records; but she is relying on that Marion County biography of Peter Pulliam....not sure of any Page County move.

Children:

- 1) William(born, 1789?)(Marie Lillard)
- 2) George Franklin(Elizabeth Lillard)
- 3) Isabelle
- 4) Pendleton(Martha Dearing)
- 5) John Ransom married Rhoda Lillard

John Ransom Pulliam and Rhoda Lillard
children were: a) Benjamin Pulliam
(who had a son named George Pulliam, who deserted Elizabeth
Lillard Pulliam
They had five children: Franklin Preston Pulliam
Silas Lillard Pulliam (father of Eugene, single man, and George
Pulliam and Preston Pulliam and two sisters, Victoria
Evangelist Pulliam Skelly and Laura Lillard Pulliam Walker)

Eugene Pulliam of Culpeper, Virginia,

- b) Mildred Pulliam O'Bannon
- c) Elizabeth Pulliam Quaintance

From the 1810 census in Virginia, Culpeper County, I gleaned these figures from the family of Thomas Pulliam, the third one. He had one male, under 10; one male, 10-16 years old; 3 males, 16-25, including presumably William Pulliam, born around 1787 or 1789; and one male above 45, or Thomas Pulliam, who was born about 1760. Then he had one female under 10, and one above 45, or his wife.

Land transfers, from Thomas Pulliam to William Pulliam, 1816, 1819, in Culpeper County.

This third Thomas Pulliam also had the first Baptist identification in the family, perhaps through his marriage in a church. It fits with the trend in Virginia in that period. And the move to Palmyra, Missouri, fits the larger history as well, when Baptist missionaries and church-planters were beginning their work in that new state and area. If Thomas Pulliam III died in 1832 William Pulliam may have then felt ready to move, like Abraham waiting to complete the trip to the Promised Land until after Terah died.

A Thomas Pulliam of Virginia, Culpeper County I think, was listed among the soldiers in the War for Independence. I believe that would be the third Thomas Pulliam, who was married to Keziah Brown.

By 1820 in Virginia, Thomas Pulliam had one 16-18 male, and one 45 and up (himself) and William Pulliam had established a separate household. Thomas Pulliam also had an 18-20 year old female and one 45 and up, his wife. The occupation was listed as agricultural. Then William Pulliam had one male, under 10, and himself, 26-45 years old, and his wife, Maria Lillard, as the other member of the household at 18-20 years old. So he married a woman at least 10 years younger than him.

The background on Maria Lillard is of interest from many standpoints. Her ancestry, according to "Lillard, A Family of Colonial Virginia," by Stout Lillard, can be traced back to Huguenots in France, perhaps even farther back to Lollards, or followers of Wycliffe, in England. But Moise Lollard, facing the loss of his children from the home after the revocation of the Edict of Nantes in 1685, put two sons, John and Benjamin, on board a ship for America, while his oldest son, Moise, stayed in France to run the family business. John Lillard's descendants included:

Benjamin and Elizabeth(Lightfoot) Lillard

children: 1) Thomas Lillard m. Anne

a) Dr. Benjamin Lillard m. Lucy Brown, who had a daughter, Maria Lillard, who married William Pulliam

2) Captain Benjamin Lillard m. Frances Crowe

a) Rhoda Lillard m. John Ransom Pulliam(brother of William)

Then a number of the Lillards, Baptists as well, must have moved on out to Missouri because so many of them were in college with I.B. Pulliam in the 1870s.

Then by 1830 Thomas Pulliam apparently has moved in with William, and William Harrison Pulliam had been born, in 1827. William Pulliam has a household of one male, under 5; one 5-10 years old; 1, 20-30 years old(a brother?); one, 30-40 years old(head of house); and one male, 50-60 years old, or Thomas Pulliam. Then there is a female under 5, one, 30-40 years or, or his wife, born in 1800 I'd guess; and two females, 50-60, or Thomas' wife and perhaps Marie's mother?

For Thomas Pulliam I have an August 27, 1832 date of death with a question mark on a sheet from Christine Pulliam. Culpeper County records must have that date.

Then that Thomas Pulliam, the third, had a son named Thomas(brother of William Pulliam), born about 1800, as well, for a fourth generation. That Thomas married Elizabeth Kiblinger and moved to Lewis County, Missouri, in 1841, just a few years after his brother, William made the move. Thomas Pulliam, the fourth generation, was the father of Peter Pulliam, who was the father of David Pulliam, and Peter and David both had Baptist affiliations in Missouri over the years.

From a review of the materials Paul Pulliam sent, I have some more clues. I can't see clear to whether there are two or three Thomas Pulliams in our line, but the length of time suggests three, with children born to fathers when they are about 30 years old or so in each new generation.

- 1) Thomas Obadiah Pulliam, 1706-1758, m. Winifred Halliday
 - 2) Thomas Pulliam, 1733(8,9?)-1806 m. Frances Boswell(They seem to have had a couple of sons called Thomas.)
 - 3) Thomas Pulliam, 1764?-1831 m. Keziah Brown
 - 4) William Pulliam, 1787(9?)-187?) m. Marie Lillard
- his brother: John Ransom Pulliam, 1796-1828, m. Rhoda Lillard
John's son: Benjamin Franklin Pulliam, 1818-1889
- another brother: Thomas W. Pulliam, with Peter Pulliam as a son and David Pulliam as a grandson.
- 5) William H. Pulliam, 1827-1893, m.

John Ransom Pulliam died young and apparently his son, Benjamin Franklin Pulliam, was educated by a Baptist minister, Rev. Fox, in Virginia and later became sheriff of Culpeper County for 23 years. So the Baptist connection and influence continues in the family.