

CHAPTER XXII

EWING / FRAZIER / GILLESPIE / PORTER FAMILIES

INTRODUCTION TO A CLUSTER OF EWING/FRAZIER/GILLESPIE/PORTER FAMILIES ALONG THE BORDER OF LITTLE BRITAIN TWP. LANCASTER CO. PA AND OCTORARO HUNDRED, CECIL CO. MD (1729-1742)

Lancaster Co., PA was created in 1729. No tax records exist for the county until 1750, so in the 21 missing years there is little to tell who was where. Early Deeds still exist in both Lancaster Co., PA, and Cecil Co., MD as well as Wills, but little else. One of the most revealing documents to be put into publication is the *LANCASTER COUNTY PENNSYLVANIA QUARTER SESSIONS ABSTRACTS (1729-1742)* edited by Gary T. Hawbaker. I have a copy and it has told me about the above people in a way nothing else can. I have bought the Book with these people in it. Below I list each of the dates and entries:

- p1 5 August 1729 - Drumore Township - Patrick Ewings Constable [Note: Drumore included present Little Britain, Fulton, East Drumore and Drumore]
- p30 August 1734 - Persons sworn and affirmed on the Grand Inquest included Samuel Ewing Robert Galespy and Pat: Galespy to appear and give evidence against Sarah Taylor
- p31 August 1734 - Sarah Taylor: Felony; Jury: William Ewing was one of the 12.(Sarah to get 21 lashes)
- p35 Feb. 1735 - John Frazier
- p40 August 1735 - Inhabitants of Drumore twp. seek a road from James Alexander's to Octoraro Creek to join a road in Chester leading to Christian Creek. signed William Gelaspie, James Ewing. [NOTE: James born by 1714!]
- p41 4 November 1735 - Persons sworn and affirmed on the Grand Inquest included James Porter
- p49 3 August 1736-Persons sworn on Grand Inquest included James Ewing [NOTE: Has to be Nathaniel's half-brother]
- p54 2 November 1736 Persons on Grand Inquest included Thomas Ewing [Proven to be son of James of Chester died 1740.]
- p64 3 August 1737 - Persons ordered to be recommended to the governor as suitable to keep public houses for the ensuing year include Hugh Patrick (will be proven to be father to Jane who married Alexander Ewing of Nathaniel I) Mary Ewing
- p66 November 1737 - Edward Davies and John Davies that Edward Davies appear and abide the judgement of the court for assaulting Thomas Ewing.
- p68 7 February 1738 - Peter Shalaberger and Woola Shalaberger that Peter his wife and his son George shall be of good behavior and appear at court. Cont [Note James Ewing who died in 1775 in Lebanon twp. Lancaster had married Mary Shalaberger widow of George prior to 1759.] Also, Petition of inhabitants of Drumore that a new township be created called Little Britain. Approved.
- p69 2 May 1738 - Persons sworn on Grand Inquest: Thomas Ewing. Shalabergers mentioned again.
- p73 1 August 1738 - Petitions of: ... Mary Ewing, Hugh Patrick, and others to keep public houses of entertainment. Allowed.
- p74 Petition of inhabitants of Little Britain for road from Henry Reynolds Mill to (Octoraro) Creek signed by Samuel Ewing, James Ewing.
- p75 7 November 1738 - Persons affirmed and sworn on Grand Inquest included Samuel Ewin. Same Court included report of 4 men, included Samuel Ewing, who had viewed the need for the road from Henry Reynold's Mill in Chester to Palentin ford on Octoraro.
- p84 7 August 1739 - Sworn and affirmed included Thomas Ewing and Patrick Gillaspy.
- p86 same date the "county was divided into districts NI-N8." Included were present counties west and north of Lancaster. Same court Mary Ewing petitioned to keep a public house. Allowed. (Hugh Patrick, also).
- p92 February 1740 - Petition of several inhabitants of Martock and Sadsbury twp., "they have no road to Meeting, Mill or Market ask for one beginning at house of John Smal and by James Dunwoodys to Great Road Opposite to Craighead's Meeting house" signed by John Ewing (and others).
- p93 6 May 1740 - Persons sworn and affirmed on Grand Inquest included Mathew Robertson (who was the brother-in-law or nephew to MY William Ewing of Nantmel).
- p97 5 August 1740 - Petition of the inhabitants of the Township of Little Britain "necessity of road beginning at N.E. corner of Caleb Pennells thence to Britains ford over Conawingo Creek thence by James Porters store to a road in Chester to Miles's ford on Octoraro." signed Robert Love, James Ewing, William Gelaspy, William Crawford, John Smith and James M'Quisten. (Note James M'Quisten acquired land in West Pennsboro twp. and sold to William Gillespie who had patented "MT. GILLESPIE" next to "DIVIDING" in Octoraro Hundred Cecil Co. then moved to Cumberland Co., PA.)

Cecil County, Maryland
Map of the upper part of the Peninsula
showing the Talbot line

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- p98 same court.- Persons allowed to keep public houses included Mary Ewing, Hugh Patrick.
- p99 4 November 1740 - "Report of persons to lay out road in Little Britain twp ... passes N.E. of Slate Hill to N fence of William McDowels over Conawingo to E side Britains ford to a road leading from Patrick Ewings to Miles ford on Octoraro by James Porters store to N. end of land betwixt the plantations of the said Porter and James McQueston thence down said land, thence down Nathaniel Ewings lane of his plantation to white oak in field of John Steel up Octoraro Creek to Miles ford."

NOTE: This is one of the most revealing entries. Tho Nathaniel Ewing and John Steel are known to have lived in Octoraro Hundred Cecil Co., MD the 1683 TALBOT Line dividing Maryland from Pennsylvania still had its influence until the Mason Dixon was laid. Dr. John Ewing a son of the above Nathaniel Ewing was one of the surveyors! The question is raised about Patrick Ewing's place. There is a Patrick Ewing never before indicated with this family who was "highest of kin" on the Inventory of Alexander Ewing of THE LEVELL who died 1738. One was born 1720 so probably not one of Patrick Ewing's place.

We can guess his father was Patrick Ewing, Constable, of 1729. Mary Ewing applied for a Tavern License in 1737. With two daughters, why? Husband deceased?

- p102 May 1741 - "Petition of inhabitants of Lancaster Co. of necessity for a road from Wm. Smith's Mill on Bevar Creek to a ford on Octoraro Creek commonly called John Ewing's Ford."
- p104 May 1741 - "Report of the road from William Smith's Mill to John Ewing's Ford. Confirmed"
- p105 5 August 1741 - Among persons allowed to keep Public Houses is Patrick Gillespie. Two names added include Mary Ewing who is now identified as being of Little Britain township. [Note below that Patrick Gillespie witnessed will of Mary]

WILL OF MARY EWING

Lancaster Book A Vol. 1 page 67 records the will of Mary Ewing and is dated February 1741/2 and is signed with her mark. It was witnessed by Patt. Gillespie and James Ewing both of whom signed. I have a copy of the handwritten court copy and abstract it here:

"I appoint that my best gown to one of my daughters and my floured apron and gold ring to the other, Franke getting her choys (sic) and the remaining part if there be any to be desposed toward the maintaining and burying of my father and mother at the discretion of Nathaniel Ewing and George Gillespie ... if either of them failing, to appoint another two in their place, and if any remain to be equally divided between my two daughters. Lastly that my son-in-law Robert Gillespie to be my sole executor. I appoint that my two daughters may have all my body clothes and all my household plenishings."

/w/ Patt. Gillespie

/w/ James Ewing

/s/ Mary Ewing

"M" her mark

Probate date was March 23 1741/2 when Patrick Gillispie and James Ewing appear saying they saw Mary Ewing sign and she was of sound and disposing mind. March 27, 1741/2 the INVENTORY of goods and chattels belonging to Mary Ewing total £116.16.5 and included:

to the Plantation	£ 47.0	[Surely Surveyed 1744 to Patrick Ewing]
to hir best gown	£ 4.0	
to a cow and heffer	£ 3.10	
to a hors	£ 4.0	
to an old copper still	£ 3.20	

(there is no record of any sale or account of her estate.)

From records in the next chapter will be found Nathaniel Ewing in Octoraro Hundred and George Gillespie of Lancaster County in 1734 and was of "Octoraro Hundred" by 1750.

The Plantation has not been located. No sales in Lancaster Co by any Gillespie or Ewing identify it. However, Patrick Ewing received A Warrant to Little Britain Land dated March 27, 1744 for 200 acres and another on 8 April 1749. The Survey # is A-2-257 for 275 acres dated 5 October 1750. (No application has been located for this piece of land!) The Patent #P-14-152 was issued to Alexander Ewing 28 April, 1788 (the son of Patrick Ewing) and it was named "COVENT GARDEN". This Patrick Ewing (1720-1786) is buried in Little Britain Church Cemetery beside his son, Alexander Ewing (1771-1844).

Daughters of Mary Ewing died 1742 Franke (Frances) and Jean(?)

As we saw in the 1741/2 Will of Mary Ewing she had one daughter whose name was Franke (Frances?). She had a son-in-law Robert Gillespie (mentioned above as being an adult in 1734) who was the executor of her estate. Franke (Frances) and Robert Gillespie were in Amelia Co., Va. buying 606 ½ acres for £100 on May 17, 1744 from Edward Brifwate (sic) Amelia Deed Bk 2 page 140, on Ft. Creek, part of same tract, same day sold to Samuel Ewing. Robert Gillespie wrote his will dated

14 October 1757 recorded in Prince Edward Co., Va. WB #1 page 29. Names his wife, Franke Gillespie and sons, William, George and James Gillespie. [Robert Gillespie witness on Cecil Co., MD. 1739 will of Alexander Ewing. One Frances Gillespie wrote her will in Prince Edward Co., Va. on 24 July 1790 and it is recorded there in Will Book #2 page 105. She names the same three sons, William, George and James Gillespie. We have not tried to trace these three men, tho we believe George died there by 15 Sept 1834 (Will Book 7, page 376 dated 23 Jan 1833). He leaves his entire estate there in Prince Edward Co. to nephew Robert Gillespie of Buckingham Co., Va. (adjacent to Prince Edward Co., Va.) Wm. and George Gillespie sold 48 acres to James Ewing, Jr. 19 Oct 1778.

Jean/Jane Ewing married ca 1743/4 Ezekiel Calhoun in Chestnut Level, Little Britain twp. Lancaster Co., PA. One of their descendants insists that Jane/Jean was born in PA tho others say Ireland and N.J. Ezekiel Calhoun is proven to have been the son of Patrick Calhoun and Catherine Montgomery. There is little doubt as to the mother, Catherine, being with her son and his family for she was scalped in 1761 while some of them watched, horrified. It occurred in Abbeville Co., S.C.

Jean/Jane Ewing and Ezekiel Calhoun went from Chestnut Level in Lancaster Co., PA to Virginia with Ezekiel's three brothers, Patrick (Jr.) Calhoun, James Calhoun and Will. Calhoun. On Jan 24, 1755 they witnessed the sale in Lunenburg Co., Va. of land of Robert and Mary (Baker) Ewing i.e., 160 acres on Glade creek of Roanoke River, to Benjamin Sterrett. Augusta Co., Va. Deed Book 7, 182-7 (I have a copy.) Robert was granted a Patent 15 Dec 1749. Robert received £35 for it and Mary released her Dower Right. Robert and Charles Ewing went with Cecil Co. Ewings to Virginia.

Ezekiel Calhoun wrote his will on 3 Sept 1759. It was recorded in Charleston, S.C. 25 May 1762 (one year after his mother was scalped). He mentions his brothers, Patrick Calhoun executor with wife, Jean and brothers Jas. and William overseers. Ezekiel Calhoun died in 1762 and he and Jean Ewing Calhoun had the following:

- Jean Calhoun b ca 1743/4 married 1760 John Steadman (Abbeville SC)
- Rebecca Calhoun b 18 March 1745 Augusta Co., Va. married 1764 Andrew Pickens famous Rev. War. General in Hopewell Pres. Church Abbeville Co., S.C. (Pickens from Paxtang Co., Pa;
- John Ewing Calhoun b 1750 shared equally with his brothers Patrick and Ezekiel, Jr. in selling lands in Augusta Co., Va owned by Ezekiel Calhoun, Sr. on 26 Sept 1771.
- Catherine Calhoun b ca 1752 married 7 Jan 1768 Maj. Alex. Noble
- Ezekiel Calhoun, Jr. b ca 1753
- Mary Calhoun b ca 1755
- Patrick Calhoun b ca 1756/7 father of statesman John Calhoun.

Robert Gillespie and the four Calhoun brothers were in Virginia with the other EWING/GILLESPIE/PORTER men who went there after 1745 and acquired lands by 1749. It is said they "stopped in the Caldwell settlement before moving on to Amelia/Prince Edward" etc.

PATRICK EWING OF LITTLE BRITAIN twp.

We have found this regarding Patrick Ewing of "Covent Garden", Little Britain twp. Lancaster Co., PA. He was born in 1720, died 1 Jan '86 [1786]. He married 1st _____ Butler daughter of Thomas Butler whose will was written 4 May 1758 and probated 7 June 1758 and Patrick Ewing was one of the executors and a legatee but no grandchildren are named.

Patrick married 2nd Elizabeth Nesbit (widow) 12 June 1769 at St. James Episcopal Church in Lancaster City, (d 23 Nov 1809 at "78 years" b. 1731.) Patrick's will dated 1 Dec 1785, probated 1 March 1786, 1 son:

- Alexander Ewing b 3/15/1771 d 1/19/1844 married 11/95 Mary Campbell daughter of Robert Campbell who wrote his will 12 Jan 1812, probated 27 Aug 1813, executor, Alexander Ewing, son-in-law. Robert had 4 daughters. Children of Alexander and Mary (Campbell) Ewing can be found through deeds in Lancaster Co., PA. (Mary d 30 March 1861 age 85)
- Robert Ewing b ca 1797 (adult on 1821 Little Britain tax)
- Alexander Ewing, Jr. married Mahalia. Lancaster Co., PA Deed #X-6-25 dated 5 May, 1840 "Alexander Ewing, Jr. and wife sell to Kirkpatrick Ewing and wife, Malvina, land left to Robert Campbell Ewing by his grandfather, Robert Campbell. Robert Ewing died without issue and inheritance descended to Alexander Ewing, Jr. who is of Iowa Territory."
- Archibald Ewing is on the 1825 tax, and "Alexander and son Archie" are on the 1827 tax. No land sales by that name and no more appearances on tax lists.
- Kirkpatrick Ewing is on the 1831 tax record. His wife was Malvina. He is mentioned on the 1838 deed below.
- Eliza. (Elizabeth?) Ewing b ca 1800/06 married 1825 Robert Patterson b 3/21/1787, daughter Elizabeth Patterson b ca 1830 (See D.A.R. Application #151947 of Helen Davis Knox.) No sales are made by Alex. and Mary to any Robert Patterson that we were able to find.
- William S. Ewing Deed #T-6-314 "Alexander Ewing and wife Mary sell to son, William S. Ewing on Mar 3, 1833." Wm. wife is Hannah. Wm. S., b 24 Dec 1803 d 25 Mar 1880 (She d 1883)
- James C. Ewing. Deed #W-6-488 "Alexander Ewing and wife to son James C. Ewing on Feb 10, 1835, 79 acres" b 1810 d 1877.

- Samuel (S. or B) “Alexander Ewing and now deceased wife, Mary, previous to her death 21 July 1838 agreed to sell to son Samuel (S or B) Ewing part of “COVENT GARDEN” 69 acres described as being by lands of William S. Ewing, Abram F. Ewing and Kirkpatrick Ewing.
- Abraham F. Ewing in Deed #Y-5-271, Alexander Ewing and wife sell on 3 May 1833 to son, Abraham F. Ewing and his wife Margaret land by land of William S. Ewing.

The Estate Account of Alexander Ewing was dated 23 November 1844 but not settled until 22 September 1847. The balance was only £74. Much of it paid to Administrators, to the court case with money to the Supreme Court of Lancaster Co. re: the “suit of Samuel S. Ewing against the estate of Alexander Ewing.”

The above does not constitute proof positive that Mary Ewing was the mother of Patrick Ewing; but, I believe she was and that she was the widow of Constable Patrick Ewing who was, probably, the “Highest of Kin” to Alexander Ewing who died 1738 Cecil Co., MD. Maybe we will have proof one day?

Patrick Gillespie witnessed the 1741/2 will of Mary Ewing with James Ewing. (James Ewing most likely the younger brother to Nathaniel Ewing-see Chapter XXVIII.) Patrick married Isabel Ritchie see Amelia Co., Va. Deed Book 3 page 291 June 1750 “Patrick Gillespie, appointed his brother, William Gillespie of Lancaster Co., PA his attorney to sell a part of a lot on Market St. in Charlestown, MD.” Isabel, his wife, was a witness as was George Ewing and James Ewing. In another Deed James Ewing asked his “friend” Joshua Ewing to do the same thing. They had all bought parts of lots there thinking that Charlestown, MD was to become a thriving port. I have a plat of all those lots given to me by Bonnie Gillespie.

Patrick Gillespie wrote his will on 14 July 1779 in Prince Edward Co., Va. and it was proved in May of 1780. “Wife Isabel; Son, William Gillespie; son David Gillespie; daughter Ellinor, [Note: She married Samuel Ewing eldest of James Ewing younger brother to Nathaniel] daughter Margaret; daughter Mary.” /w/ James Gillespie and J.L. Ewing and Richard Jackson. [Note: James Gillespie is a son of Robert Gillespie and Frances Ewing Gillespie from Lancaster/Cecil counties in PA And Md .

John Frazier, 1735, a brother or son of Joseph Frazier who is buried in the OLD CHESTNUT LEVEL CEMETERY, Joseph was “born 1661 and died in 1741.” His wife was Elinor “who was born 1672 died 1765, age 93” – [We suggest she may be an older sister to Alexander born 1676/7 who purchased part of “THE LEVELL” see Chapter XXIV] Joseph Frazier Administration Bond is dated 4 August 1741 and is filed in Lancaster Historical Society Administration Bonds. It also includes his Inventory. His administration bond was signed by William Cumming; John Ewing; Robert Crookshank. Cumming and Ewing wrote their names. Joseph Frazier (son of the deceased) and John McCrery made the Inventory on 13 August 1741. The following owed him money: James Arbuckle, James Caldwell, Caleb Pennal (said by some to be father-in law to Mary who married 2nd Samuel son of Alexander Ewing died 1738) Cecil Co., MD DB:K #5 folio 226: “William Teague to Joseph Frazier 1 Sept 1736, 100 acres.”

John Ewing who signed the above 1741 Administration Bond cannot be Nathaniel’s son John Ewing who was born 1732. He, probably, is not the son of Alexander Ewing of “THE LEVEL” as he was to be put to trade as of 1739. He, probably, is the John Ewing who has the ford across the Octoraro Creek. And probably not the old John Ewing who had children to settle in West Nottingham twp. Chester Co. as in 1741 Old John was 93-died in 1745 at age 97! It is my considered opinion that he is John Ewing, brother to Nathaniel Ewing and is one and the same with John Ewing who died in Queen Annes County in 1751. His children are rather well documented. See Chapter XXXII.

Samuel Ewing and William Ewing both moved to Amelia/Prince Edward Co., Va. prior to 1749. Grants and Deeds there prove. See Chapters XXVIII and XXX ... James Porter, merchant, is the brother of Rachel Porter Ewing wife of Nathaniel Ewing (1693-1748).

Thomas Ewing mentioned in the Court of Common Pleas above is a brother to MY William Ewing. He is the father of Brig. Genl. James Ewing of the Flying Camp of the Revolutionary War. See Chapter XXXV this work.