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**CHAPTER XIII**  
**JAMES EWING AND HIS MOVE FROM HUNTERDON CO., NEW JERSEY**

**in 1727 to NETHER PROVIDENCE, CHESTER CO. PENNSYLVANIA**  
**his children including MY WILLIAM EWING of WEST NANTMEAL, CHESTER**  
**1727-1751**

Chester County, Pennsylvania Deed Book #F page 32 dated 7 May 1727, recorded 14 March 1739/40 reads:

“James Ewing of Hopewell, County of Hunterdon, West New Jersey in consideration of 300 pounds bought from Jacob Vernon and wife, Ellenor, of Nether Providence 300 acres in Nether Providence township bounded by Ridley Creek, Jacob Vernon, King's Highway and Israel Minshall, already in possession of James Ewing by agreement of sale. Witnesses Jacob Shoemaker and Gabriel Hinton.”

Robert McClellan (proven to be his son-in-law) had purchased land in Middletown twp. Chester Co., PA but we have been unable to locate that deed. The land is, now, in Delaware Co., PA. In the earliest book in Chester Co., PA called “Treasure's Book” (Ms #76212) the following record is found:

- 1730- James Ewing for 2 old red foxe (sic) heads
- 1732- Thomas Ewing for 2 young fox heads
- 1733- Thomas Ewing for 2 fox heads
- 1734/5- Thomas Ewing for 6 crows heads

Chester Co. Tax Records reveal the following named Ewing from the beginning of tax recording:

- 1729 Nether Providence twp James Huins (sic)
- 1730 Nether Providence twp James Ewing & William Ewing  
[William is over 21 so born before 1709]
- 1732 Nether Providence twp. James Ewing
- 1734 Nether Providence twp. James Ewing
- 1734 Bethel Twp (adjacent to Nether) William Huins (sic)
- 1735 Nether Providence twp James Ewing & Thomas Ewing  
[Thomas is over 21 so born before 1714]
- 1735/6 Nether Providence twp. James & Thomas Ewing
- 1739 Nether providence twp. James Ewing [died in 1740-appears for the last time]

Chester Co. Tax Records reveal the following named McClellan from the beginning of tax recording:

- 1734 Middleton twp Robert McClelan
- 1735 Middleton twp Robert McClalan
- 1737 Middletown twp. Robert McClanning (sic)
- 1739 Middletown twp. Robert McLenen
- 1740 Middletown twp Robert McClanen

Last appearance of Robert McClellan and last Middletown tax until 1747. He died 1741 and in 1749 tax James McClealin is married and Robert McClalin is a “freeman” over 21 unmarried. These will be proven, later, to be his eldest and second sons, children also of Elizabeth Ewing McClellan.

See information on Robert McClellan in *Compendium of American Genealogy* Volume IV page 194, some of his background is traced but not in full of this McClellan family.

14 December 1739 Will Book B page 73 #721 *Chester County, Pennsylvania Wills* James Ewing of Nether Providence twp. Chester Co. wrote his will and it was proven 28 November 1740. The executors were Robert McClelan and William Lindsay “my sons-in-law”. It was witnessed by John McClelan and William McClelan and John Bradish. The will is briefed as follows:

“To my wife, Margaret Ewing all real estate whereon I now live in her lifetime, and at her decease I require that purchase made of some part of my estate in said township by my son-in-law William Lindsey, being the half thereof sometime before the execution hereof be confirmed to the said William Lindsey, his heirs, etc. forever, immediately after my decease. The real estate devised to my wife during her life I give  
-1/4 part to the children of my daughter Elizabeth wife to Robert McClelan to be equally divided among them after my wife's decease  
-1/4 to Margaret wife of William Lindsay

-1/4 to Jane Ewing  
 -1/4 to Rebecca wife to John Cohoon  
 to granddaughter Elizabeth daughter of Robert McClelan £16  
 to grandson, James Ewing son to William Ewing £4  
 to my sons, William Ewing and Thomas Ewing the sum of one shilling  
 The remainder of my personal estate, 1/3 to my wife and the residue to be disposed of according to the will of my executors.

Thus we have children and two grandchildren of James and Margaret Ewing of Nether Providence twp. Chester Co., PA as of 1739.

2 August 1741 Letters of Administration granted to Elizabeth McClelan widow of Robert McClelan, deceased, 2 October 1741 the Administration Bond of Elizabeth McClelan, wife, was signed by William Ewing and William Lindsay. See copy on next page. The Inventory was filed 13 Nov 1741 #761 by Hugh McClelan and Mathew Coudon.

28 October 1751 *Chester County, Pennsylvania Deed* Book T page 227[Wife, Margaret, died] This is a very important Deed. It is classed by Chester Co. Archives as a "Defective Deed", for references use the incorrect name at times and it was recorded 23 years later, 19 May 1774. Some of the people concerned had died and some had moved so far away they could not be at the "signing." However, this is how it reads: The ( ) parentheses are in deed.

GRANTORS:

Henry Caldwell, Chester Co. and wife, Elizabeth (a daughter of James Ewing, deceased.) William Ewing and wife, Jane Ewing of Chester Co. (a son of James Ewing, deceased) John Cohoon and wife Rebecca (a daughter of James Ewing, deceased) James Ewing of Chester Co., PA son of Thomas Ewing, deceased, (grandson of James Ewing, deceased), Samuel Ewing of Chester Co., PA son of Thomas Ewing deceased (grandson of James Ewing, deceased) John Ewing of Chester County son of Thomas Ewing deceased (grandson of James Ewing, deceased)

GRANTEE: William Lindsay of Lower Providence twp.

CONSIDERATION: £5

REMARKS:

Of the original 300 acres acquired by James Ewing 1727, Nether Providence, 1/3 was conveyed to Peter Dicks assignee of Thomas (son of James), dated 14 Jan 1730. By "writing obligatory" dated 25 Sept 1732. James Ewing agreed to the sale of 1/2 the residue of the real estate to William Ewing. However, same day, September 1732 William Ewing by "writing obligatory" agreed to sell to William Lindsay. [This transaction was confirmed in the will of James Ewing and is probably the reason why he made no bequest of real estate to his sons.] Property bounded by Providence Road, Land of Minsher, Peter Dicks and Jacob Vernon containing approximately 100 acres.

SIGNED:

Henry Caldwell and William Ewing by signature all others by mark including Jean Ewing wife of William.

WITNESSES:

James Mather, James Lindsey, Robert McClelan, Moses Moore, Thomas Taylor, James Campbell and Henry Caldwell.

Eventually William Lindsay purchased all shares to the land. The deeds give us additional information regarding the children and grandchildren of James Ewing.

*Deed Book T* page 206, 28 October 1751 (same as above)

John Cahoon and wife Rebecca (daughter of James Ewing) of Middletown twp. [it is actually in Cumberland Co. Middleton twp. for that is where John Calhoun died 1757 after living in York Co. near William Ewing] to, William Lindsay for £30 for 1/4 share of real estate of James Ewing being the share devised to Rebecca.

*Deed Book T* page 207, 26 October 1751

William Lindsay of Lower Providence and wife Margaret (Daughter of James Ewing) to Robert McClelan of Middletown Chester Co., PA £28 for 1/4 share of the real estate of James Ewing being the share devised to Margaret Ewing (wife of William Lindsey).

*Deed Book T* page 208, 29 October 1751

Robert McClelan of Middletown to William Lindsay £30 for the same 1/4 share mentioned in *Deed Book T* page 207 The last two deeds cleared title of Margaret's share to William Lindsey (her husband).

*Deed Book T* page 230, 29 August 1760 [recorded 1774]

Jane Miller of East Pennsborough, Cumberland County (widow of Hugh Miller daughter of deceased James Ewing) to William Lindsay £30 and "for divers other good causes and considerations her thereunto Specially moving" This deed does not mention the source of Jane's property.

*Deed Book V* page 114, 28 October 1751

James McClennon [sic - is really McClellan] of Middletown and Wife, Martha [Caldwell-daughter of Henry who married James McClellan's mother] (James the son of Robert and Elizabeth - grandson of James Ewing)

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Robert McClennon of Middletown (son of Robert and Elizabeth - grandson of James Ewing) Thomas McClennon and wife Elizabeth (son of Robert and Elizabeth grandson of James Ewing) Samuel McClennon (son of Robert and Elizabeth - grandson of James Ewing) Charles McMichael and wife Rebecca (a daughter of Robert and Elizabeth granddaughter of James Ewing) Mary McClennon, spinster (daughter of Robert and Elizabeth-granddaughter of James Ewing) to Samuel McCree

Estate rights under the will of James Ewing to the share of his daughter, Elizabeth. He is married to Elizabeth, the eldest daughter of Robert and Elizabeth Ewing McClellan, now Elizabeth Caldwell, wife of Henry.

*Deed Book V* page 114, 30 October 1751

Samuel McCree and wife Elizabeth (another daughter of Robert and Elizabeth McClellon-granddaughter of James Ewing) to William Lindsay

Estate rights under the will of James Ewing to the share of his daughter Elizabeth.

James's Will and above Deeds show:

James Ewing and Margaret \_\_\_\_\_ ? Ewing had the following children in, probably, the following order:

Elizabeth Ewing b ca 1704 married 1<sup>st</sup> Robert McClelan b ca 1680-90; d 1741, They had:

Elizabeth McClelan married Samuel McCree (McCrea) prior to 1751

James McClelan married Martha [Caldwell] of Middletown prior to 1751

Robert McClelan of Middletown

Thomas McClelan married Elizabeth ? \_\_\_\_\_ prior to 1751

Samuel McClelan

Rebecca McClelan married Charles McMichael prior to 1751

Mary McClelan spinster 1751 so over 21

Elizabeth Ewing McClelan married 2<sup>nd</sup> Henry Caldwell

Thomas Ewing b ca 1706/7. He witnessed the 1727 Deed in Hope well, N.J. so he was at least 21 then. Sons named in deed, 1751:

James [became Brig. Genl. in Rev. War]

Samuel [deceased prior to 1753, not in mother's will]

John [Capt. Rev; War]

William [deceased by 1751, not in Deed]

William Ewing b ca 1708/9 [2<sup>nd</sup> on Deed in both land sale and signature] married Jean prior to 1751. [MEF: MY ANCESTORS]

James b prior to 14 Dec 1739 date of grandfather, James, Will. There are others - See Chapter XXXIV ahead.

Margaret Ewing b ca 1711/12, 2<sup>nd</sup> named daughter in will married ca 1728 William Lindsey.

They stayed in Nether Providence and his will names all children.

Jane Ewing b ca 1713/14 [in this order in will and deeds] married +1739 Hugh Miller [who d -1760]

Rebecca Ewing b ca 1716/17 married ca 1732/4 John Cohoon (Calhoun) to Middletown twp. Cumberland Co., PA [children in 1757 will]

**Chester County, Pennsylvania**  
**Administration Bond #761 Dated 2 October 1741**  
**Robert McClelan, deceased**

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 FOLLOWING IS WHAT WE COULD FIND ON EACH CHILD IN CHESTER CO., PA.
 

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We follow grandchildren to place of residence Sons and families WILLIAM & THOMAS continued in the Counties to which they moved.

James Ewing and Margaret \_\_\_\_\_ had:

- I. **Elizabeth Ewing** was the second wife of **Robert McClelan** who was born ca 1680-90. He died prior to 2 Oct 1741, when Letters of Administration of his estate were granted to Elizabeth McClelan, William Ewing and William Lindsey. (See copy on preceding page.) His inventory was made 13 Nov 1741 by Mathew Coudon and Hugh McClelan. Mathew Coudon is, possibly, a brother to James Coudon who married Ester Ewing in Ireland. Hugh McClelan is probably the second son of Robert McClelan by his first wife. (See Chapter XIX). Elizabeth (Ewing) McClelan remarried prior to 1751 Henry Caldwell whose will is Recorded in Chester Co. Will Book D page 185 dated 14 September 1758 and proved 1 Nov 1758.

"I leave to my dearly beloved wife, Elizabeth, 1/3 of my personal estate. To my son-in-law, James McClelan [Elizabeth's son by Robert] and my daughter, Martha, all my real estate except my wife's 1/3 including the Plantation. At her decease my plantation to be divided among my son-in-laws children, only his oldest son, Joseph, to have a double share. Personal estate to James McClelan and daughter Martha. £5 for the use of the Congregation of Middletown." [This is the church built by James Ewing and Robert McClelan] James McClelan is executor. /w/ William Lindsey and James McClelan. /Signed/ Henry Caldwell (seal) ... Inventory taken 1 Nov 1758 is an impressive one.

Elizabeth (Ewing) McClelan Caldwell wrote her will on 14 August, 1759 and it was proved 1 October 1764. It is recorded in Chester Co. Will Book D Vol. 4 page 488:

"To my son, James McClelan 5 shillings

"To my son, Samuel McClelan one pound thirteen shillings and four pence and my Large Bible.

"To my daughter Rebecca McMichael two pounds and my warming pan.

"To my daughter Mary Caldwell two pounds [she has married William Caldwell but we have not found his parentage.]

"To my son-in-law William McClelan £1 [He moved from Upper Darby twp. to Warrington twp. York Co., PA.]

"To my daughter-in-law Jane Miller £1 [She married William Miller]

"To my daughter-in-law Isabel Hunter £1 [She married James Hunter] all to be paid within one year of my decease.

"All the residue I bequeath to my sons: Robert McClelan, Thomas McClelan and Samuel McClelan; and my daughters Elizabeth McCray (sic) McCree, Rebecca McMichael and Mary Caldwell

I appoint my son, Samuel McClelan, Executor."

witnesses

/s/ Elizabeth Caldwell

Isaac Cochran, John Cochran

"X" her mark

James Lindsay

"In Sadsbury twp. Chester Co., PA Inventory was made by Daniel Henderson and Alexander Simrall." It includes goods purchased by Samuel McClelan, a credit due by Bond from James McClelan and interest upon the same. A note is due from William Caldwell. Date of Inventory 28 Sept, 1764.

Elizabeth (Ewing) McClelan and Robert McClelan had:

- A. **Elizabeth McClelan** b ca 1722 married ca 1741 **Samuel McCree**. They are on tax of Middletown twp. Chester Co., PA 1749, 1750.

In 1751, they purchased land of Susanna (Howard) Patterson Ewing Connolly. She is an aunt, by marriage, to Thomas Ewing (Elizabeth's brother) who died in 1741, and Susanna married 3<sup>rd</sup> John Connolly who owned land in Manchester twp. York Co., PA. Samuel McCree and John Cohoon (Calhoun) paid tax on this land in 1751. Susannah wrote her will in 1753 and provided in it for the survey and patents to Samuel McCree to be paid out of her estate. This was done by her executors. The land lay across the Conowingo Creek from the 397 acres bought by my ancestor William Ewing and was granted a mortgage by Susannah in 1750. "William Ewing and Jane Ewing signed it." Rebecca (Ewing) Calhoun wife of John was a sister to Elizabeth Ewing McClelan. John Calhoun's will probated in Cumberland Co., PA (see VI ahead).

Samuel McCree wrote his will in Antrim twp. Cumberland Co., PA 2 January 1777. He is called "Gentleman." Antrim in Franklin Co., PA. They moved there from York Co., PA.

"I bequeath to my wife, Elizateth McCree £100 and 1/3 of my estate ... she is to be maintained by the children. To Robert McCree, Thomas McCree, and John McCree no more than received unless rise in real estate. To

James McCree, William McCree, Isaac McCree and David McCree an equal share. Beloved daughter Shusana (sic Susanna) shall have £100 and beloved daughter, Elizabeth £100. If children disagree with my will or their mother's they shall have no part. Sons, Robert, James to be Executors. Before signing I give to beloved daughter Jean Armstrong £100."

The will was witnessed by John Wishard and Archibald McAlister. "The said John Wishard sometime in the beginning of February last past (sic passed) and this Archibald McAlister was at his funeral. Sworn and submitted and subscribed at Carlisle, March 25, 1778." James McCree spelled his name this way as he was a witness to the will of John Wishard who died just prior to Samuel McCree, his father. We believe they named the daughter, Susanna, in honor of the aunt who was so gracious about the land purchase. Family naming patterns are Perfect.

- B. **James McClelan** b ca 1723 married **Martha Caldwell** ca 1745. She was the daughter of Henry Caldwell the second husband of his mother, Elizabeth (Ewing) McClelan Caldwell. He wrote his will in Chester Co., PA on 27 January 1793 and it was proved 28 Feb. 1795. It is recorded in Chester Co., PA. Will Book 1 Volume 9 pp104-5. He mentions wife, Martha daughters Martha, Elizabeth who married James Taylor; Joseph (who was born 1747 died 14 Oct 1834 and married Kezia Parke (1767-1842); Henry (executor of uncle Robert McClelan's will); Robert; Samuel and James.
- C. **Robert McCleland** b ca 1726 was not married as of the 1751 Deed. On the Middletown tax of Chester Co., PA. In 1753, he is married and next to James his older brother. He wrote his will in Upper Darby Twp. 3 September 1808, Delaware Co., PA but it is recorded in Chester Co. Will Book 11 page 360 "yeoman" and was probated in court 22 Jan 1811. Abstracted it reads:

"I Robert McClennen (court recorder spelled it incorrectly but Robert signed his name, clearly, McClellan. He does not mention a wife.)-daughter, Ann, wife of Samuel Kerns; Elizabeth unmarried; John; William; James; Robert and Samuel. His nephew, Henry McClelan of Sadsbury twp. Chester Co. is to be executor (Henry is the son of James, above). Letters of Administration were granted to Henry McClellan the day of probate."

As William McCleland the step-son of Elizabeth (Ewing) McClellan Caldwell lived in Upper Darby and moved from there to York Co., PA it is possible that Robert died 1811 bought the Upper Darby land from William. We have not traced this but have traced William. See below.

- D. **Thomas McClelan** was married to **Elizabeth** \_\_\_\_\_ as of the 1751 Deed T:227. His mother made no direct bequest to him but names him in the list of six of the seven children who are to get the residue of her estate "if any". He is not found on any tax list in Chester Co., PA.
- E. **Samuel McClelan** b 1732, as according to his tombstone in the Upper Octoraro Presbyterian Church Cemetery, he died 9 December 1807 at 75 years. That Church was home base for Rev. John Cuthbertson and a History of the Church states that "Samuel McClelan did the carpentry work when the church was enlarged in 1769 and that his son, Robert rebuilt the wall of the graveyard in 1790 carving his initials on a stone there." He is of Sadsbury twp. Chester County. Samuel McClelan's will is recorded in Chester Co. Will Book L Vol. 11, pp. 191-193. He names his wife, Ann and children Ann Love McClelan, Thomas McClelan (evidently his favorite for he got the remainder of the plantation and "my carpenters tools" and was appointed Executor) Elizabeth McClelan, James McClelan; Robert McClelan; John McClelan. Wife Ann, son Thomas and Joseph McClellan are executors. The will was written 26 Feb. 1807 and probated 29 Dec 1807. Samuel was executor of his mother's will.
- F. **Rebecca McClelan** married **Charles McMichael** prior to the 1751 Deed T:227 in Chester Co., PA. We found nothing on this couple.
- G. **Mary McClelan** was a "spinster" in the 1751 deed. She married **William Caldwell** whose relationship to her stepfather we have not been able to determine. William Caldwell owed money to Elizabeth (Ewing) McClelan Caldwell's estate, 1764

Robert McClelan, Sr. had been married prior to his marriage to Elizabeth Ewing. Chapter XIX follows one Hugh McClelan who with Mathew Coudon made the inventory of Robert McClelan's estate in 1741. He can only be a son of Robert McClelan, Sr. as he had "a brother, William McClelan who testified as late as 1773, that Dr. Robert McClelan of Salisbury twp. and Little Britain twp. and Cecil Co., Md., was indeed, a son of Hugh McClelan and was born 1740." Hugh McClelan died in 1754 having had three sons by his first marriage, and three children by his second. The Lancaster Co., PA deed confirming that Hugh and William are brothers is Deed Book BB page 432 dated 8 January 1773.

William McClelan witnessed the 1739 will of James Ewing (my ancestor), with a John McClelan who remains unidentified as of now. William McClelan is on the Upper Darby Tax list in 1766 and 1767 and on October 26, 1769 (see York Co., PA Deed Book D page 205) he and wife, Mary, (probably 2<sup>nd</sup> wife) of Upper Darby twp. obtained a mortgage from Simon Sherlock of Southwark, Philadelphia Co., PA for £200 for 285 acres in Warrington twp. York Co., PA. Simon Sherlock had obtained the land from Robert McMullin and wife, Susana on March 4, 1768. (See Chapter XIV) York Co., PA DB KO page 430 re a Deed of Mutual Conveyance where James Ewing of, now, Upper Darby and wife Jane swapped land with Robert McMullin, of, now Warrington twp York Co., PA. "James Ewing and Jane (Lindsey) Ewing were, already in Upper Darby

twp. Chester Co., PA and McMullin was already in Warrington twp. York Co., PA.” William McClelan wrote his will dated 1 May 1781 probated 30 July 1782, York Co., PA Will Book F page 30. He is of “Warrington twp. York Co., PA” wife, Mary, Children: John McClelan who was born 1760 as he died 1843 “age 83”, and had married Jenny Mitchell daughter of William Mitchell who died 1800; eldest daughter Margaret McClelan; son William McClelan; Mary McClelan; Elizabeth McClelan and Jane McClelan. A son, Robert McClelan is not mentioned for he preceded William in death.

Robert McClelan appears in Warrington twp. York Co., PA the year that William, above, does. No land is ever mentioned nor sold by his estate as his widow, Agness McClelan is the administrator of the estate of Robert McClelan on 1 Sept 1772. Orphan's court Records of York Co. Book C page 75 state “Agness McClelan showed a balance of £239.0.7 and pay to Robert McClelland, Jr. his two shares as eldest son, £52.19.6, and to James, William and Jean McClelland or their guardians the sum of £26.9.9 ½ each. Also sum of £26.9.9 ½ the share of Agnes, Jr., deceased, one of the daughters who died since her father be equally divided.” Agness, Sr. also prays the court to appoint guardian for James 13, William 11, Jane 8. (It can be assumed that Robert, Jr. is over 16 and the Pvt. of 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion of Capt. Nelson's Co. Nov 16, 1776 and March 17, 1776.)

II. **Thomas Ewing** b ca 1700, married 1<sup>st</sup> possibly in Ireland \_\_\_\_\_ ? married 2<sup>nd</sup> in Lancaster Co., PA in December of 1735 **Susanna (Howard) Patterson** widow of James Patterson, Sr. James already had one son by his first wife, Anne. James Patterson and Susanna (Howard) Patterson had: Sarah Patterson who married Benjamin Chambers; Susanna Patterson who married James Lowry; Rebecca Patterson who married George Poulson; and Thomas Patterson who died young. James Patterson was an Indian Trader and obtained a Warrantee of 200 acres in Lancaster Co.

Thomas Ewing, as we have seen, witnessed the 1727 sale of land by his father, James Ewing, in Hopewell twp. Old Hunterdon Co., N.J. The land had been purchased in 1722 by James Ewing. (See Chapter VII above). As of 1731, in Hunterdon Co., N.J. Thomas Ewing was 21 years or over. As we saw, he may have remained in New Jersey for a time after his father and the others moved to Nether Providence township, Chester Co., PA by 1727. However, by 14 January 1730 he sold his 100 acres of his father's 300 acres in Nether Providence (“his share”) to Peter Dix. When Peter Dix died; his son acknowledged inheritance of this land “sold by Thomas Ewing to my father, Peter Dix.”

In 1732, 1733 and 1734 he was paid for Fox Heads and Crows heads in Chester Co., PA. This is recorded in the Treasurers Book of Chester “IT is the oldest book kept of Chester County PA records.”

In 1728-29, Old Hunterdon Co., N.J., a man listed as an “overseer of roads” whose name is spelled Thomas Evins or Euins. The location is “lower roads on north side of Stony Brook,” & in 1722 on the tax list of Hunterdon Co., N.J. James Evanse (which becomes Euans then Ewing) is there and a Thomas Evans or Euans is there with 5 horses and cattle, 6 sheep and 100 acres.

On 2 March 1735, Thomas Ewing was “Plaintiff” in a suit in Hopewell, N.J. Hunterdon Co. filed by him in the Court of Common Pleas and he was represented by a lawyer, Kinsey. It was not resolved until 16 August 1738 in “Ewing receiving a total of £19.17.0 plus £3.17.0 in interest.” The suit was against two members of the Pearson family. They may have bought his 100 acres and had not paid him for it. We have been unable to find who they were.

However, Thomas Ewing is in Nether Providence tsp. Chester Co., PA paying tax with his father as if he were single, 1735. We can assume that the wife, if any, has died. A biography of Thomas Ewing by Samuel Evans written in 1884 in the *Historical Register, The Ewing Family of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania and York County, Pennsylvania* states that:

“by the year 1734 Thomas Ewing was a widower from sturdy Presbyterian stock and had emigrated from the northern part of Ireland.” [Evans does not say where he got this information]. Thomas Ewing might have been a surveyor for he found the deficiency in the land that had been granted to his [present] wife's first husband, James Patterson, Sr. Samuel Blunston made the correction ... In 1736 Mrs. Susannah (Howard) Patterson, widow of James Patterson, Sr. the Indian Trader of Conestoga Manor, Hempfield twp. Lancaster County Pennsylvania married Thomas Ewing.”

In 1737 and 1738 Thomas Ewing purchased land that had been settled by John Gardner who came from West Jersey as did the Ewing family.

Deed T-227 dated 1751 showed that Thomas Ewing was deceased by that date and that there were 3 sons surviving him, namely James Ewing, Samuel Ewing, and John Ewing. There was another son, William, who died prior to 1751. Samuel died before his mother wrote her will in 1753.

See the Lancaster Co., PA Record of this family in Chapter XXXV.

III. **William Ewing** was born about 1708/9. He is my ancestor. In 1730 he is on Nether Providence twp. Chester Co., PA tax list with his father, presumably “single and over 21.” In 1734, he is on the Bethel Twp. Chester County, Pennsylvania tax list as married and the name is spelled Huins (as were other Ewing at various times). In August of 1735 he is a defendant in a charge by one John Collier and the court records “not prosecuted.” William Ewing is

called a "Weaver" as his father was in New Jersey. 1735 A Tax Records and 1735/6 Tax as well as 1737/8 all show William Ewing as a resident of Nantmeal Township, Chester Co.

29 November, 1736 William Ewing received a Warrant in the township of Nantmeal, Chester Co., PA, Survey #B-5-162 made on the 4<sup>th</sup> of January 1737 "laid out for 304 acres bounded on the west by a road leading to Lancaster called Conestoga Road." The Patent is recorded 19 March 1738/9 in Patent Book A-15-129. It is also recorded in *PA ARCHIVES SERIES 3 VOL. III* "Provincial Commissions page 298, Patent to William Ewing is recorded by Tho: Penn on 19 March 1738/9."

In the same *Pennsylvania Archives Series 3 VOL III* "Provincial Commissions, page 246 Thomas Ewing received a Warrant for 400 acres In Lancaster Co. on the East of Swataharo Creek in Lebanon twp. on 17 Nov 1738. It was Surveyed 21 day of the same month and Patented 17 January 1738/9. It was recorded on 22<sup>nd</sup> of January 1738/9." (Only 3 months ahead of William on Patent but William waited almost two years longer after Warrant date.) Thomas Ewing was a representative to the Pennsylvania Legislature at the time.

The Survey made for William Ewing, #B-5-162(4 Jan 1737), shows that the land of William Ewing is by "A Road dividing this from Matthew Robinson" (sic Robertson) "his brother-in-law's settlement." [Matthew Robertson signed his name in a beautiful handwriting but it was spelled incorrectly by Clerks, Recorders and Tax takers. Even his will was signed in that beautiful hand but Recorded under the name Robinson. He was, also, buried with a tombstone spelling his name wrong!] Matthew's land was 608 acres, Survey #B-7-152 and Patent #A-15-129.

- 1739 Tax of Nantmeal twp. Chester Co., PA shows William Ewing as a resident. There are no tax records for Chester Co., PA from 1740-1747.
- 2 October 1741 he was in Chester Co. for he signed the Administration Bond of Robert McClelan his deceased brother-in-law husband of his sister, Elizabeth (Ewing) McClelan (See page 78, 93).
- February 1746/7 Chester Co., PA Court of Common Pleas "William Ewing of W. Nantmeal asked that a Jury be formed to assess the damage caused his improvement and orchard by the "New Road from Flower's Mill through Ewing's property." And on 10 December "William Ewens was awarded the value of £4 for this." His name is spelled Ewins on the same document.
- "20 December 1749 William Ewing enters a caveat against John Dunwoody regarding a Survey lately made for him may not be received in Nantmeal twp., and as Benjamin Lightfoot who surveyed it is in town to take his examination that the Affair, may, if possible be decided." (This is also found in *Pennsylvania. Archives Series 3 VOL. II* page 174).
- 6 October 1749 William Ewing had obtained an additional Warrant and Survey #A-47-89 for 24 acres adjacent to his 304 acres. The Patent was issued to William Dunwoody, Patent #AA-6-374 on August 1765. It noted that "This is not a part of John Dunwoody's 300 acres."
- 1 June 1750 - Philadelphia, PA Deed Book Vol H #2 pp36-39  
"This Indenture between William Ewing of the tsp. of West Nantmeal, Chester Co., PA yeoman, and Jane his wife of one part and William Dunwoody of twp. aforesaid, whereas on 9 March 1738 a Patent was issued to William Ewing and Jane his wife a tract of 304 acres w/6 % for roads, now said William and Jane his wife for £500 do sell to William Dunwoody 192 acres part of the 304 acres Patented and is now in actual possession [Boundaries indicate no land sold that borders Phipps], and that on 23 June 1750 William Dunwoody purchased of William Ewing an additional 50 acres." [Confirmed in Dunwoody's 1765 Patent to it of 24 acres. This leaves 112 acres adjacent to Joseph Phipps, Jr. unsold.]

/signed/ William Ewing [SEAL]

/witnessed/Dennis Whalen,

Francis Gardner,

John Dunwoody, William Stewart

/signed/ Jean Ewing [SEAL]

"R" her mark

6 April 1751 Chester Co., PA. "William Ewing and Jane his wife came before me Justice of the Peace and acknowledged their deed.

/Samuel Flowers/ Recd March 1 1750 Wm Dunwoody's 5 shillings.

Recorded: 12 August, 1751.

- 28 October 1751, Deed T page 227, Chester Co., PA  
This Deed has been discussed earlier in this Chapter and, tho defective has valuable clues. The wife of William Ewing is Jane.



**Chester County, Pennsylvania**  
**Survey B-5-162, Nantmeal Township**  
**Surveyed 4 Jan 1737**

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**Chester County, Pennsylvania**  
**Land Surveyed for Matthew Robertson of Nantmeal Township**  
**April 3, 1742**

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**Chester County, Pennsylvania  
Road Petitions, 1737, Volume 3**

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Note signature of William Ewing and Matthew  
Robertson together near those of “neighbors”.

**Chester County, Pennsylvania**  
**Court of Common Pleas**  
**Volume 5, page 19, February 1746/47**

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This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> MATCHING SIGNATURE OF WILLIAM EWING

**Chester County, Pennsylvania**  
**Tax Ordered 1749, Assessed November 1750**  
**West Nantmeal Tax for William Ewing**

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This is the last appearance on West Nantmel Tax for William Ewing  
William Dunwoody bought all but 112 acres of this land.

- 1 December 1750 Chester Co., PA Court of Common Pleas:  
“Joseph Phipps, Jr. entered a plea of trespass against Wm. Ewins, late of Chester Co., PA, yeoman, to be answered the last Tuesday in February next.” (i.e. 1751) Phipps land bordered that of William Ewing on the N.E. side (see Survey B-5-162 above.)
- May Term, 1752 Chester Co., PA Court of Common Pleas:  
“William Ewing was attached to answer Joseph Phipps of a plea wherefore with force and arms ... he did break and enter, and 3 hundred hickory trees, 2 hundred white oak trees and 2 hundred black oak trees, there lately growing did cutt down and carry away & other harms to the said Joseph Phipps there did to great damage of the said Joseph and against the peace ... Joseph, by John Ross his attorney, complains that William Ewing, the 10<sup>th</sup> day of April in the year 1751 etc ... the value of £50 and other damage to the value of £100 & thereupon brings this suit.”  
/w/ John Doe and Richard Roe [Indicated they really did not want to be involved!]
- May Term, 1754 Chester County, Pennsylvania Court of Common Pleas:  
“final entry re the 1 December 1750 plea of trespass against William Ewing by Joseph Phipps, Jr- states 'ENDED SAYS ROSS'.” John Ross was the attorney for Phipps. Ewing paid no fifa charges]

Barbara Weir, a researcher in Chester Co., PA Archives made, at our request, a thorough study of this Accusation against William Ewing who, we are convinced, is the one who moved to Manchester/Newberry twp. York Co., Pa by 15 October 1751 (where he was mentioned in the Will of Edward Early of Newberry twp. as a beloved friend). Also, by 1752 William Ewing was serving as Constable of Newberry twp. York Co., PA. Ms Weir indicated that William Ewing did not have to be a resident of Chester Co. to be listed in the Court of Common Pleas as a defendant.

- 20 October 1759 Grand Inquest held:  
“Matthew Robertson, the younger, of Chester Co., PA, yeoman, upon a certain John Phipps then and there within the jurisdiction of this court with force and arms did beat and wound and evilly treat and other harms to the said John Phipps and against the peace of our said Lord the King his Crown and Dignity.” [No resolution was indicated.]

Barbara Weir learned that Joseph Phipps Jr. never lived on his West Nantmeal land he owned. He lived in Uwchlan twp. and died in Botetourt Co., VA in 1772. I have a copy of his will. Joseph Phipps, Jr. died in East Caln twp. Chester Co., PA 1769.

### III. William Ewing and Jane (Robertson) Ewing had:

- James Ewing** b ca 1736 (prior to the 1739 will of grandfather)
- John Ewing (My Ancestor)** b 1739 according to Church Records
- Elizabeth Ewing** b ca 1741 (see Chapter XXXIV)
- Thomas Ewing** b 1743 according to Church Records.
- William Ewing, Jr.** b 1748 according to Church Records

Possibly two other daughters. See Chapters XXXIV and XXXVIII.

- Margaret Ewing** b ca 1711/12 married **William Lindsay** ca 1732/3. As has been shown above William Lindsay acquired the remaining acreage of the 300 acres James Ewing bought in Nether (Lower) Providence twp. in 1727/9. He first appears on the tax record there in 1734. William Lindsey wrote his will in Lower Providence twp. Chester Co., PA on 21 March 1776. It was probated at Chester 14 April 1776. It reads in part:

“To my beloved wife, Margaret, my whole estate during her life. At her decease as follows:

To my son John Lindsay the sum of £5 and to his son John Lindsay the sum of £5

To my son James Lindsay the sum of £5 and to his son William Lindsay the sum of £5

To my son William Lindsay the sum of £5

To my son Thomas Lindsay the sum of £5

To my son-in-law James Ewing the sum of £5 and to his son, William Ewing the sum of £5 (Jane Lindsay Ewing died - 1776)

To my son, Robert Lindsay the sum of £40

To my son Samuel Lindsay the sum of £20

To my son Joseph Lindsay the sum of £10

At my wife's decease all my personal and real estate be sold and pay all the named legacies and the balance to be equally divided.

Appoint my sons Robert and Samuel Lindsay to be sole executors”

/s/ WILLIAM LINDSAY (in very shaky hand)

/w/ James Anderson and William Anderson

Recorded in Book F page 170 #2989

Inventory of William Lindsay's estate filed 1 June 1776 by Robert McClellan and William Anderson. The house seemed to be beautifully furnished. He owned 51 acres of land valued at £191, and included was a "Weaver's Loom". Also were Bonds due the estate totaling £167. He had been a "stober" who is one who repaired or made thatched roofs!

- V. **Jane Ewing** b ca 1713/14 married ca+1739 **Hugh Miller** (he d 1760) As we have seen Hugh Miller died prior to 1760 and Jane went to live in East Pennsboro twp. Cumberland Co., PA. We have tried, with no success, to find her or any Miller of significance in the tax records or Wills/Intestate accounts there. [Note: Her niece, Elizabeth Calhoun married Robert Miller. We found no connection].
- VI. **Rebecca Ewing** b ca 1715/16 married ca 1734 **John Cohoon/Calhoun** He is on the 1739 Bethel twp. Chester Co. Tax. He is, also named in the Deed T227 in 1751. However, in the Samuel Blunston Licenses we found the following account by Lenore Embrick Flower in a paper she prepared for reading at Carlisle Pa on Feb. 26, 1959 at the Hamilton Library and historical Association of Cumberland Co., PA. Under VII (page 12) we found the following: Blunston Licenses and their Background (This is regarding the fact that no hard feelings regarding troubles over land licenses lasted long) "John Calhoun filed suit against John Dunning, about 1767. John Calhoun, father of the one who brought suit, had a license in 1734 for 200 acres on Dunning's Spring given by Samuel Blunston, Property Agent of Penn's for 3 acres--John Calhoun built a cabin on this land and returned to Chester where he lived. [John Cohoon/Calhoun was on the Middletown, Cumberland tax 1751.]

"William Armstrong in 1743 took out a warrant thinking the land was vacant, was told by Robert Dunning, father of the defendant, that land belonged to Calhoun by a Blunston License. William Armstrong got his money back and released the Warrant, and in short time Robert Dunning took over the land for himself and had it surveyed, which survey was for land listed in Mr. Cookson's Field Book, by the Calhoun heirs. Nothing further until 1749 when Robert Dunning died and John Calhoun went to see his land and have it surveyed but was opposed by Dunning's widow. Again the Judges decided 'A survey shall be returned on John Calhoun's license from Mr. Blunston.' Three men had claim but Blunston's license was the accepted title. Several families moved South." Until 1750 all this land was called Lancaster Co. Cumberland Co., PA was created 1750 and there is where John Calhoun wrote his will and died. His will is dated 4 September 1757, page 30-31 reads in part:

"Bequeath to my beloved wife, Rebecca Calhoun, the 1/4 of my estate and the other three parts of my estate betwixt my 3 sons, Robert, John, and Andrew Calhoun and bequeath to my daughter Elizabeth £7.0.0.  
/s/ Jno Coulhon /w/ Rebecca Byers, Hannah Rendereannaugh (sic?)  
Proven 24 Oct 1757 Letters unto John Byers and Robert Miller. (i.e. Letters testamentary were given to them as no executor was named in John Calhoun's will.) The inventory was made and exhibited 2 September 1761 by John Byers and Robert Miller. "Distribution was to Rebecca Calhoun, widow of £33.2.8, to Robert Calhoun oldest son £33.2.8 to John Calhoun, second son £33.2.8, to Andrew Calhoun third son £33.2.8, to Robert Miller in right of his wife Elizabeth a daughter of the deceased £7.0.0" We noted that cash was paid to James Dunning!

We have the Lancaster Co. Will of Mary Dunning Will Book A-1 dated 30 Nov 1735. Daughter is Jenet Buchanan, sons Ezekiel, Robert be sole executors. Son John Dunning sum of 5 shillings! Robert Dunning renounced his executor ship of will.

Above can be seen the children of Rebecca Ewing and John Calhoun. As has been mentioned John Calhoun was in Manchester twp York Co. 23 April 1751 when he and Samuel McCree (who married Rebecca's niece Elizabeth McClellan) signed a petition for a road to be opened to Shippensburg (in Cumberland Co.) "to be from Manchester". Also, as has been mentioned, the Manchester land of McCree was mentioned in the will of Thomas Ewing's widow in 1753. It was across the creek from the land that MY WILLIAM EWING acquired in 1750 of Thomas Ewing's widow. (See Chapter XXXIV.) John Calhoun, Jr. became a Doctor in Cumberland Co., PA. Andrew became a J.P. but died early. We found no further record on Robert Calhoun in Cumberland Co., PA.

Although we could write an entire book about almost every "kin" in this book we must say something about the family of Jane/Jean Robertson. As spelling was so poor in those days the family name was corrupted into "Robinson". When Janets brother, Matthew Robertson signed his own name it was written that way. When tax takers, court recorders and some others wrote it we get misspelling.

Matthew Robertson had married Margaret Smith the daughter of John Smith who died in 1768 (See Chester Co., PA Will Book #2412). John Smith owned land in both West Nantmeal and Nottingham townships. We believe Matthew and Jane were of a very early John Robertson but have been unable to prove it.

Matthew Robertson received a Warrant on 17 March 1736 and it was surveyed, 608 acres, Patent # "A-15-129" recorded 28 April 1749. It was described as being in the "Manor of Springton in Chester Co., PA". The Survey of William Ewing shows his land across the road from Matthew Robinson (sic Robertson). He built a beautiful home on his land. Matthew Robertson (written in beautiful hand) signed a petition in 1737 as an inhabitant of "Nantmeal and Caernarvon" for a road to go to Philadelphia. Also signing were close neighbors William Iddings, John Goheen, John Brakin and Noa Abraham.

Matthew "Robinson" wrote his will on 26 November 1790 and it was proved 25 August 1792. It is labeled and Indexed as Robinson but signed in that same firm hand "MATTHEW ROBERTSON". It was witnessed by John Dunwoodie (sic Dunwoody) who had married Grace Irwin and by William Loag. Executors were Ephriam Robertson and Ephriam Allen (who had married Sarah Irwin. Grace and Sarah were daughters of a William Erwin/Irwin who lived next to Matthew). As briefly as possible it reads:

"To son, Ephriam my clock, to son David plantation where I now live. If he or heirs sell they should reserve the 'old burying ground' at the west end of the orchard and the burying ground on the north side of the orchard. David to get my watch. Grandson, David my desk and silver shoe buckles, granddaughter Margaret who is with me, etc. granddaughter, Elizabeth the sister of Margaret. granddaughter Ann sister to others. To sons Ephriam, John and David share and share alike and to build a stone wall around the burying ground on north of orchard and a Tombstone over my grave and of their mother. Remainder to be sold John to have £, Matthew £10, granddaughter Margaret Craig, grandson Matthew Anderson, grandson James Robinson. Samuel Allen Robinson, granddaughter Mary Anderson. Plantation where David Robinson wheelwright lives to be sold at expiration of lease."

His home is now called the Isaac Van Leer Place and is on the French and Pickering Creeks Conservation Trust. Location: "Spike in Little Conestoga Rd at junction of Pumpkin Hill to spike in Adams Rd. etc back to Conestoga Rd to place of beginning." It is also known as PLEASANT HILL PLANTATION. Hopefully it has been placed on the National Register of Historic Places following its nomination.

The description of the "present and original (if known) physical appearance of the PLEASANT HILL PLANTATION" shows that it is in excellent condition, is unaltered and is on the original site:

"PLEASANT HILL PLANTATION, known locally as the Isaac Van Leer house, is a fine example of the affluent building style in an agrarian community. Built in three sections, its original portion, a three-bay, two-story structure was probably erected by Matthew Robinson before the Revolution. This section is 17' x 32' divided between two rooms and a wide hall on the west side. The hall has a front door to the south and a back door. The front door remains in its original condition with wrought-iron strap hinges spanning the battens behind a six-panel door. A four-lite transom gives light to the hall. The rear door originally similar to the front door, has been replaced with a 6-lite raised panel door. There is a full cellar under this section with an extensive vaulted wine cellar and root cellar at a still lower level. The vault is dug into the ground in front of the house and is entered through the cellar only. A hand-dug well is also in the wine cellar."

At some point part of the home became a Tavern, is the local "here say". The second building phase probably came in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century or early 19<sup>th</sup> Century, possibly during the Lewis ownership. This addition had an entrance toward the well-traveled Little Conestoga Road. It had a separate stairway to the lodgings above. No tavern license appears on Record thus no hard liquors were dispensed. A remodeling of the house took place prior to 1824.

For those of you who have the time and energy we list the sales in Chester Co., PA. West Nantmeal twp. regarding this home. As we mentioned above I have a copy of the Patent A-15-129 and of the Survey. The Deed Books involved are T=86; V-20-70; Q2-237;238; 239; A3-341; T9-538; H 14-189; Q2-241; Sheriff's Deed Book #1 page 75; #3 page 29.

There is also a will of Isaac Van Leer there but I have not explored this.

Barbara Weir who found so very much for me in Chester Co., PA regarding my EWING family was on the committee to nominate (get all the information) about this home. She has so generously shared it with me .

There is what is known as the Robinson Burying Ground/Graveyard on what was Matthew Robertson's property and where he and Margaret and some of his children are buried. All children seemed to have lived out their lives with the last name Robinson; this is to me, quite sad. But the house is exciting.

Some of the documents bearing Matthew Robertson's signature follow.

Chester Co., PA Court of Quarter Sessions 2 May 1750. All of West Nantmeal. Matthew Robertson signed MY William Ewing was signed "for".

Approximate Location of Matthew Robertson, home and West Nantmeal lands of William Ewing.

Signature of Matthew Robertson on his 1792 WILL in West Nantmeal Township, Chester Co., PA. Note that the court recorder spelled it Mathew Robinson. Sadly, that is the name on his grave!



**Chester County, Pennsylvania**  
**Court of Quarter Sessions**  
**2 May 1750**

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All of West Nantmel.  
Matthew Robertson signed.  
MY William Ewing was signed "for."

**Partial Map of West and East Nantmeal Township  
Chester County, Pennsylvania**

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**Chester County, Pennsylvania**  
**West Nantmeal Township**  
**Last page of will of Matthew Robertson**  
**Signed 27<sup>th</sup> Day of November 1790**  
**Proved August 1792**

Signature of Matthew Robertson on his 1792 WILL in West Nantmeal Township, Chester County.  
Note that the court recorded it as Mathew Robinson.  
Sadly, that is the name on his grave!