

## THE FLOOD FAMILY

The earliest documented record of our immigrant ancestor, John FLOOD, was a land patent, in Albemarle Co., Virginia. On Mar. 3, 1760, for the sum of 30 Shillings, he was granted 295 acres of land, among the south branches of Hunt's Creek, near the church. When Buckingham County was formed, in 1762, the FLOOD land was included in the new county, and the nearby church later became the Buckingham Baptist Church, which is still standing, and in regular use today. From 1771 to 1774, John FLOOD was an officer of that church, serving as Sexton. A plaque, donated by decendants of his son, Henry, is mounted on the church wall, and states that John, and his wife, were buried beside the Church, with a later building addition built over the graves. The absence of wills, marriage records, land transfers and other early legal records, due to the devastating Court House fire of 1869, makes research in Buckingham Co., very difficult. Records, not housed in the Court House., Family Tradition, and a little logic have been used in trying to establish relationships in John FLOOD's family.

According to family tradition, Captain John FLOOD, on retiring from the British Navy, moved his family from England, to the state of Virginia, in America. He was born ca 1694, and was 60 years old, before his first child was born. His first wife was \_\_\_\_\_ DAVIS, who bore at least 3 sons. Sons, Henry (b 1755), & John II (b 1757), were probably born in England, and possibly Thomas (b 1760), as well. John's wife was dead by 1762, when he married for the second time, to Agnes PAYNE, at the age of 68. Son, Noah was born in 1763, and in the 1764 Buckingham Co. List of Tithes, John FLOOD was listed as "Patroler", with 200 acres of land. Three <sup>MORE</sup> ~~HE~~ sons, Moses (b 1765), Joshua A. (b 1772), and Joseph (b 1774), were born by 1773 & 1774, when he was listed as a tythe, on John Barnard's list of tythables. Twins, William & Mary P. (b 1777), and his last son, Benjamin (b 1780), had been added to the family, by 1782, when the first personal property and land tax lists showed that he owned 3 horses, 6 cattle, and 200 acres of land. No record was found for the years 1783 thru 1786, and by 1787, John was dead, as the land tax was charged to his estate, and the personal property tax was paid by Aggy FLOOD. Aggy again paid that tax in 1788, and then she disappeared from the records. In 1788 & 1789, his estate paid the land tax, and in 1790, the 200 acres, referred to as "FLOOD's TRACT", in the tax record, was transferred to Captain William ALLEN's tax bill. Here we can only guess at the facts. Although John FLOOD was about 86, when his

last child was born, his wife was much younger. He probably died about 1783, at age 89, leaving a widow in her middle 40's, with 5 children under the age of 12. Usually, a widow's property was not sold, unless she died, remarried, or sold with a provision that she was allowed to reserve a lifetime occupancy of her house. By 1790, when her land was transferred to Captain ALLEN, her oldest stepson, Henry, was married, had a baby son, and owned 331 acres of land. He had slaves and livestock, and was on his way to becoming a man of great wealth, and a leader in the community. John II had moved to Powhatan Co., in 1783, where he lived until 1790, when he returned home. He bought 312 acres of land, in 1792, and settled down, with his wife and 3 children. Perhaps he came back to help care for his fathers younger children, especially if their mother had died.

There are no existing records that give the names of the children of John FLOOD I, however several FLOOD names appear in early tax, military and census records, who were born too early to have been the sons of any other FLOOD resident of Buckingham Co., except this 1760 pioneer. Besides these listed here, others may have been children of John. A James FLOOD was listed in the tax lists of 1791 & 1792, but no further record was found. An earlier Joshua served in the Rev. War in 1776, and could have been a kinsman. There is also an account, that states that some children of John's 2nd marriage, were named after children of his 1st marriage, who had died.