

POSSIBLE RELATIONSHIPS IN THE HILL FAMILY OF NORTH CENTRAL NORTH CAROLINA (FOR DISCUSSION ONLY - NOT ALL PROVEN)

(2) 1 JAN 1997
50 P
24 NOV 2015

NUMBER OF TAXPAYER LIST

I. UNKNOWN HILL ANCESTOR - PROBABLY BORN BEFORE 1700

A. Green Hill, Sr (Not on Taxpayer list) m d L) Grace Bennett d 1772

#4

1. Green Hill, Jr. b 3 NOV 1741 d 11 SEP 1826 (TN) (Bus - Mulhainson Co, TN). N.C. Legislature 1777, 1779 Moved to TN in 1799 m d (1st) Nancy Thomas m d (2nd) before 1799 Mary Sewell d/o Benjamin Sewell

a. 13 children

#15

2. William Hill* d 1786 m d Mary Jones

- a. William Bennett Hill b 1779
- b. Samuel Sugar Hill b 1781
- c. James Jones Hill, in NC Legislature 1812-1818 b 1782 m d L) Martha --
- d. Charles Applewhite Hill b 1784 d 1831 To GA 1808 but moved back to NC. In NC Legislature 1823-1826 m d 1806 L) Rebecca Wesley Long d/o Col Gabriel Long and Sarah Anne Richmond

- i. William George Hill
- ii. Mary Ann Hill
- iii. Daniel Shine Hill [guardian for Richard & Charles]
- iv. Kemp Plummer Hill
- v. Nicholas Long Hill
- vi. Richard Henry Hill
- vii. Martha Caroline Hill
- viii. Sarah Richmond Hill
- ix. Charles J. Hill

3. Mary Hill m d William Brickell

4. Henry Hill d JAN 1805 - HL State Legislature 1780-1795

#5

a. Jordan Hill - 8 terms NC State Legislature

* Guardian for his 4 orphans on 15 SEP 1797 was William Brickell, cashier and later the guardian was his brother Henry Hill

③ 1 JAN 1997

B Thomas Hill, Sr d 15 MAR 1777

#13
#2
#14
#16
#17
#1
#3
#8
#9
#10
#11
#12
#6

1. Benjamin Hill md (1) Mary -- d before 1789
She md (2nd) Edward Jones. Her children by Benjamin Hill were left a bequest by their Grandfather Thomas Hill, Sr on 3 NOV 1789. on 18 JUN 1822 one John H. used his inheritance from Thomas Hill, Sr as security

2. Thomas C. Hill, Jr → (Thomas C. H. GAUTH) → on 4 AUG 1822 in New Orleans gave power of Attorney to collect from estates of brother Benjamin Hill & Callie Hill

3. Callie Hill d before 1803

4. Robert Hill md (1) Ann -- . She md (2nd) James K. Goodloe

a. Ethel Ann Hill (AKA Ann E. Hill and ETHA Ann Hill) (She sold her land in Franklin Co, NC on 14 AUG 1841, inherited from Robert Hill). md John Skinner

5. Martha W. Hill

C. Bennett Hill d before 26 APR 1793 md (1) Martha --

1. William Bennett Hill (deced)

D. William Hill, Sr

1. William Hill, Jr

E. Amos H. Hill → He & Elizabeth Hill on 10 AUG 1775 (Franklin Co, NC) gave deed to Willoughby Talley

F. Ephraim Hill

G. John Hill

1. John Hill, Jr

H. Joseph Hill

I. Nicholas S. Hill

J. Richard Hill

K. Robert Hill

1. Henry Hill md MAY 1790 (Franklin Co, NC) Rebecca Ransom

L. James Hill

a. HINCKEY HILL
(HENCKEY HILL, KINCHY HILL)
b. Green Hill
c. Guilford Hill (GILFORD)
d. John Hill
e. Henry Hill
f. Milley Hill

HILL FAMILY OF NORTH CENTRAL NORTH CAROLINA

① JAN
1997

○ N.C. TAXPAYERS 1701-1786 - REC'D 5 AUG 1986

[NOTE: Below are listed the members of the HILL Family who were recorded as taxpayers in BOTE, FWV (Franklin, Vance, Warren) and Granville Counties in the period 1701-1786 - RPL]

- 1 AMOS H. HILL BOTE 1771; FWV 1771
- 2 BENJAMEN HILL FWV 1771
- 3 EPHRAIM HILL BOTE 1771; FWV 1771
- 4 GREEN HILL BOTE 1771, FWV 1771
- 5 HENRY HILL BOTE 1771, FWV 1771
- 6 JAMES HILL GRANVILLE 1784
- 7 JOHN HILL, JR. BOTE 1771
- 8 JOHN HILL GRANVILLE 1784
- 9 JOSEPH HILL GRANVILLE 1769
10. NICHOLAS S. HILL BOTE 1771
11. RICHARD HILL FWV 1771
12. ROBERT HILL BOTE 1771, FWV 1771
13. THOMAS HILL BOTE 1771, GRANVILLE 1755
14. THOMAS HILL, JR. BOTE 1771, FWV 1771
15. WILLIAM HILL, SR BOTE 1771
16. WILLIAM HILL BOTE 1771, FWV 1771
17. WILLIAM HILL, JR FWV 1771

cc to Janet Lee Lighthill 1 JAN 1997

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 - b. Samuel Suggs Hill b 1781
 - c. James Jones Hill, 9th NC Legislature 1812-1818
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KINCHY HILL)
b. Green Hill
c. Guilford Hill (GILFORD)
d. John Hill
e. Henry Hill
f. Milley Hill

#16

#17

#1

#3

#7 & #8

#9

#10

#11

#12

#6

HILL

○ EXCERPT FROM INDEX OF BOOK "THE GOODWIN FAMILY OF CENTRAL N.C." BY THOMAS JERRY GOODWIN, SR - 2009 RPU 24NOV2012. - NOTE: INDIVIDUALS LISTED AS MEMBERS OF THE _____ FAMILY - [WAKE/CHATHAM COUNTIES]

HILL

Blake Michael 1036
Christopher Michael 1036
Earl Wayne 1036
Elizabeth 215
Gladys Elizabeth 831
Jill 959
Katherine 590
Mabel Claire 456
Rose Marie 634
Tyler Christopher 1037
William R. 456

○ RPU Extract of Book in RPU Genealogical Collection NO 31

INDEX TO HATHAWAY'S REGISTER

From 1900-1903 at Edenton, NC

△ JAMES ROBERT BENT HATHAWAY

Published "The North Carolina Genealogical Register with a total of 480 pages and over 50,000 names. Entries concerned the early families of the old North State. Much valuable family information not available elsewhere is included.

△ In 1945 in AUSTIN, TX

Worth S. Ray published this Index to Hathaway's Register. He originally titled his Index as "The Lost Tribes of North Carolina, Part I".

RPU COMMENTS :

1. A fair scan of the book reveals no UPCHURCH entries and so far details on the other families provided appear marginal to RPU interests although something of significance may later be found.
2. The Clearfield Company use of a 5"x8" reproduction + original poor print quality makes hard reading. I could reproduce in larger print but so far cannot justify this effort

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HILL FAMILY

①

February 4, 1997
Janet Lighthill-Ridley
3158 W Wolf Valley Rd
Clinton, TN 37716-6105

RECD
13 FEB 1997

Robert Phillip Upchurch
6 Eagles Way Lane
Lake St. Louis, MO 63367-2240

JANET RIDLEY
3158 WEST WOLF VALLEY RD
CLINTON, TN 37716-6105

Dear Cousin Phillip,

Got your letter last week and put off answering until I had had a chance to sift through my records to pull out some information for you and to take another dip into the records available at the Historical Society in Knoxville. Thank you for the out-take from the Franklin County Sketchbook, you were right in your guess that I hadn't seen it. I think I told you that I had a pamphlet called simply "Green Hill", that was prepared by J Edward Allen, a descendent of Green Hill Sr., through his son William Hill. There is some information on the Hill family there, that I thought you might be interested in. I'm going to give you the direct quotes, but will leave out the stuff that is irrelevant to what you're interested in....so, directly from the pamphlet....

"The first Green Hill was a prominent citizen of the state, public-spirited and influential. Grace Bennett, wife of the elder Green Hill, was the daughter of "William Bennett, Gentleman," of Northampton county, NC. A deed to land given him by the Earl of Granville, one of the Lords Proprietors, so describes him. He was Captain of the Roanoke Company of 101 men, Northampton Regiment, Colonial Militia, in 1748.

The records of Blandford Bute Lodge of Masons, which were rediscovered in 1914, show that this lodge was in existence as early as 1766, having it's meetings in old Bute county, from which Warren and Franklin were formed in 1779.....These records show that Green Hill, Henry Hill and William Hill, were members of the lodge. These lodges were, during the Revolutionary period were really Committees of Deliberation on the State of the Country, and, therefore, the minutes cease for the period of the war....

When the first Colonial Assembly of North Carolina, described as the first popular Convention of any Colony in America, was held in New Bern on August 25, 1774, Green Hill was among the delegates present. It is declared that no such Convention had ever preceded this in America, except by royal authority or approval. It met in defiance of the Crown and its royal Governor and his proclamations, there being seventy members present, representing almost all of the thirty-five counties.

Chief Justice Clark, editor of the North Carolina Colonial Records, said of this Convention that it "never had a superior from that day to this, and doubtless never will in all time to come. Scarcely a name prominent in the annals of the day is wanting."

The second Provincial Congress was held at Hillsboro, on August 25, 1775, and Green Hill was again present.....the writer's own family is descended from the fourth son, William Hill, who married Mary (or Polly) Jones, daughter of Shugan Jones, and granddaughter of Edward Jones and wife, Abigail Shugan Jones---the latter the famous progenitor of a large number of substantial citizens of the North Carolina of the present day....." the rest of what he says just repeats what you already know about Charles Applewhite Hill and what I already told you about the lineage of his descendants. The pamphlet itself, is really about Green Hill Jr. I told you once, I think, that he appears to have been the main mover behind Methodism in both North Carolina and Tennessee. Before that, the Hills were undoubtedly members of the Established Church, and must have been fairly active in their church, since there is an old entry to the effect that Green Hill, (probably Sr.) was appointed vestryman of the Parish of St. George in 1758. He goes on to say that Green Hill Jr. was also a delegate at the 3rd and 4th Provincial Congresses, and at that

4th Provincial Congress, he received a military title, 'Major of the Militia'. He was already a Methodist minister at that time. (His uncle William Hill Sr., was also at those Provincial Congresses, representing Surry county, and he was a Baptist Minister.) In 1781, Green Hill Jr. enlisted as Chaplain of the 10th regiment, Sharp's Company, and saw service the same year as far west as Salisbury, when our armies were on a retreat. In 1783 he was elected Treasurer for the District of Halifax, where he had some trouble with the Assembly of 1789, a shortage was charged, but in 1789 a committee appointed to report on the shortage, reported favorably that he was entitled to 233 pounds, thirteen shillings, and sixpence as reimbursement rather than being short. I have seen other accounts of Franklin County history that ascribe this last paragraph of events to Green Hill Sr. Apparently, I am not the only one who has been confused by the Hill family's penchant for traditionally using the same given names over and over for their children! There isn't any doubt though that it was Green Hill Jr. who was the moving force behind Episcopal Methodism in both North Carolina and Tennessee.

Most of what I gave you above is repeated in a book called "Dictionary of North Carolina Biography", Vol. 3, H-K, pp. 134-135., edited by William S Powell, put out by the University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill and London. That reference also adds that on Jan 11, 1777, William Hill was appointed a justice of the court for Bute county. I still have most of the Bute county records to sift through, so I can't verify this independently, BUT and this is my Big News.....Having sifted through all the Franklin county records available to me, I can tell you that I'm pretty sure that our Henry Hill was the original Henry Hill, brother to Green Hill Jr. I have checked every reference mentioning the name Henry Hill at all, even just as a witness, for Franklin county, and there are only 5 different Henry Hill's there. Three of them, Henry son of Thomas, Henry son of Robert, and Henry son of Lewis, were already dead by 1808. That leaves us with just the original Henry son of Green, and his son, Henry Jr. There is no record that Henry Jr. was ever a magistrate of the court, and in fact, I find no reference at all to Henry Hill Jr. after 1798, except for the 1805 record of Elizabeth Henry Martin and her husband John selling land that Elizabeth had inherited "including 3 tracts originally granted to Henry Hill Jr." (that record was among those I sent you last time.) I have a theory about what happened to him, but I need to check it out first, meanwhile, as far as available records go, Henry Hill Jr., just drops off the face of the earth after 1798. Henry Hill the elder, however, was sitting on the bench as a magistrate in Franklin county as early as 1783. Moreover, he is the ONLY Henry Hill, I can find any record of having ever been a magistrate. It has to be the original Henry. He was born in 1740. so he'd have been 43 years old in 1783. Given the law of averages, his oldest child was probably born about 1760, which would have made Henry Jr. about 23 years old, much too young to sit as a magistrate in a county court, back in the days when gray hair and wisdom were supposed to go hand in hand. Besides, the court records distinguish between Henry and Henry Jr. So our Henry, has to be the original Henry son of Green and Grace. I cannot find anywhere even an approximate death date for either Henry Sr., or Henry Jr. Surprisingly, while the Hill family appears to have been quite wealthy for the times, they weren't real big on making out wills. I hesitated to accept the idea that the original Henry was Elizabeth's father when everything started pointing that direction because somehow I had gotten the idea that Elizabeth was Henry Hill's only child. I went back to JJU's autobiography to check. That isn't what he says. What he says, is that Elizabeth was Henry Hill's only daughter. Still, the math of the whole thing kind of bothers me too. If our Henry Hill was the original Henry Hill, he'd have been at least 50 when Elizabeth was born, and at least 93 when he deeded the farm over to her in 1834! But, if Elizabeth's father was a magistrate in the court of Franklin county, it can't have been anyone but the original Henry, son of Green and Grace. I still have a lot of the Bute county records to go through and almost all the records for both Granville and Halifax counties. And I intend to go through them as thoroughly as I have the Franklin county records, but I really think we have the answer.

COPIED
FOR
BIOGRAPHY
OF
KEY
PEOPLE
- SEE
ATTACHED
ABSTRACT

There is 1 record that alludes to the fact that Henry Hill, (unfortunately, this record could refer to any one of 3 Henrys, Henry son of Thomas was already dead, and the record does not say Henry Jr., but that still leaves Henry son of Green, Henry son of Robert, and Henry son of Lewis) was also a sheriff in Bute county at one time:

From Franklin County, NC Loose Estate Papers, Vol. 1, pp. 15--"1792. Answer of Jas Hornsby and his wife Mary (x) to the petition of Jas Barr and his wife Sarah. Thomas Dickerson was the father of sd

Sarah; he died Oct. 1777 intestate, leaving a wife & 4 children; that Mary administered the estate in Bute Co. about Feb. Ct 1778, returning an inventory at May Ct following, & HENRY HILL THEN SHERIFF OF BUTTE CO SOLD THE ESTATE; among the buyers were the widow (a defendant), Jno Dickerson a brother to the dec'd, & that the amount purchased by others was used by the sd Mary to educate the children, 2 of which died about Jul. 1778, 1 having married Jas Barr & the fourth Nancy has not lived with the defendant since 1783; that Sarah & Nancy lived with the sd Mary from the time of the death until the marriage with their mother about Jul. 1781 & continued to live with him until Mar 1783; Jno & Wm. Dickerson were 2 children of Thomas Dickerson who died since he did; sd Jas & Mary consider they deserve a distributive share due to the death of the other children."

At any rate, while Green Hill Sr. and Green Hill Jr. appear to have been religious leaders in the county, Green Hill Jr. a war hero and political leader in the county, Henry Hill did his share by sitting on the bench and according to what you sent me, served in the state senate for 14 years as well, Bennett Hill appears to have been on almost every panel of jurors from at least 1783, to the Spring Court of 1791, at which time he seems to disappear. Green Jr. also ran the local grist mill, and it looks to me from the property descriptions I've read that between them, the Hill clan owned most of the land in Franklin County along the east bank of the Tar River east to Cypress Swamp Creek and Sandy Creek (which is almost 1/3 of the county if you look at a map from that time!). Various Hill properties are used as landmarks in the county to denote property lines for others. They had a hand in building most of the local roads and bridges, and in every year you find one or more of the Hill's responsible for making up the list of that year's taxables in at least one of the various districts. While Henry is the Hill who most often sat on the bench and signed off on the court minutes, you also find Jordan Hill, son of Green Hill Jr., and Robert Hill doing so occasionally. They tended to intermarry a lot with the Jones family, another of NC's prominent families. In fact, Bute county was formed out of Granville county in the home of Edward and Abigail Shugan Jones, back in 1764, (I think that was the year).

There are various and sundry stories recorded about the prominence, fame, and social status of the Hill family antecedents too, they supposedly have ties to the early ancestors of Robert E Lee, and are rumored to be connected to a couple of famous general in the Revolutionary War and Earl Guilford Dudley as well. The trouble is that no one seems to agree on who exactly was Green Hill Sr.'s father. I wrote you Virginia Pew Chase's version, and I told you that W H Thomas told a whole different story in his genealogy. J Edward Allen, the man who wrote the Green Hill pamphlet has a different genealogy yet from Green Sr. on back. He does state very clearly though that he hadn't verified his version. I haven't had time to verify anything further back than Green Sr., just sorting out his descendants has been a handful, so I really don't know who's right. The only thing the three of them seem to agree on is that the family originated in Virginia and were prominent even there. And that's about all I can tell you about the Hill's. Between them they seem to have had their fingers into every pie in the county, whether social, political, religious or military.

While I was dipping into the records this last time, I did look to see what I could find on Archibald Upchurch, and Phebe Lindsey, the mother of X Upchurch. I didn't backtrack yet through the records I have already covered, but I did check everything in this latest batch of records I pulled. I didn't come up with a lot. I did find a marriage bond for Phebe--.

"Granville Marriages 1753-1868", pp. 90.-- "Dickson, Joseph & Phebey Linsey, 17 Dec. 1795; Benjamin Denton, bm; Sneed, wit."

That was the only record I turned up for them. I need to backtrack next time to see if I can find some information on the various Thomas Hill's, so I'll keep an eye out for more on Phebe and child X. What I did not find, was a marriage bond for Archibald Upchurch, though I did find one for Elizabeth Upchurch and William Johnson--

Same book as above, pp. 185--"Johnson, William & Elizabeth Upchurch, 20 Mar 1838; Lewis Heflin, bm; S G Shearmon, wit."

I'll keep looking to see what I can find in the records for Archibald. Maybe I'll have better luck with the Granville records.

I did find one other record that I'm sending, it doesn't have anything to do specifically with any of our family members, but I thought it was interesting. I've told you that John Upchurch IV ran a pub out of his home. When I was going through this last batch of the Franklin county records, (the court minutes actually, while I was tracking Henry Hills!) I came across this entry for the June Court of 1790--

"Ordered that the rates of taverns the current year be as follows (to wit) a ---? dinner with Syder Grogg or (smear) 4/6, Supper 2/6, Breakfast 2/6, toddy of Good rum by quart 3/, Grogg by Quart 1/6, rum of Same quality 5/ by quart, by gallon 20/ Good rum by Gill 9d, rum distilled in the Country or Taffy by Gallon 12/ & by Gill 6/, good brandy 20/ pr Gallon, Cyder by Gallon 2/, by quart 6/, Wine by the Bottle 5/, porter 4/, Horse feeding & Stabledge one night & morning with Corn and fodder 4/, Corn by Gallon 1/6, bed one right of pasturage for Horse 1 night 1/, G--? by Glass 6d, french brandy by Glass 6d, wine by Glass 6d." (Item 153, pp. 14)

I think we're talking shillings and pence here, but I have no idea what denomination of money "d" is supposed to represent. Anyway, I thought the entry was interesting and it intrigues me that such a thing would be set out by the courts. Obviously, nobody had sued anyone yet over price-fixing! The court seems to have dealt with a little of everything, from disputes to tax collecting, to who fixed what road or built which bridge where, as well obviously as what you paid for what commodity at the local tavern! I have decided that every kid as part of a school assignment should have to do some research at a local historical society at one time or another, it's the most interesting way I know to really study history and get a sense of how things really were!

Okay! I also did some looking into the Hill names you sent me last time from the Franklin Co., Tax List. I didn't get to them all--I only had 5 hours to work that day and it always surprises me that 5 hours can go so fast, but I was able to identify a few more of them for you.

1. Amos Hill--I still haven't identified this one, will try to spend more time with him next time
- * 2. Benjamin Hill--Talking about the Hills without ID #s is always complicated because there are so many of them bearing the same name. There were at least 2 Thomas Hills. Thomas father of one of the Henry's, and Thomas, his son. There were also at least 2 Robert Hills. Benjamin is brother to Robert, son of Thomas. I believe that the other Robert was brother to Thomas Sr. I'll send you the record with this letter. So Thomas the elder had at least 6 sons and 2 daughters that I am aware of--Henry, Robert, Thomas, Richard, Collier and Benjamin; the daughters I know about were Martha W, and Mary. I'll send the records that I haven't sent you already for this crew.
3. Ephraim Hill--another one I didn't get to
4. Green Hill--you already know
5. Henry Hill--you already know
6. James Hill--if this is a 1771 Tax list, this can't be Son of William, son of Green he wouldn't have been old enough to be taxed!
7. John Hill Jr.--I have a couple of records but nothing yet that will ID him
8. John Hill--nothing so far
9. Joseph Hill--shows up in a couple of records but I can't ID him yet either
10. Nicholas S Hill--The only Nicholas I came across at all was Nicholas L Hill, this Nicholas L Hill cannot be a son of Charles Applewhite Hill because it was in the 1790 records and CAH wouldn't have been but 6 years old then. So far, I have found nothing that would ID this guy.
11. Richard Hill--There is a Richard who is the son of Thomas the elder, but from what I can see there is more than one Richard hanging around Franklin Co. too.

It's tricky, there may have been 10 kids, but I've only been able to ID these 8!

12. Robert Hill--Father to Henry and Brother to Thomas the elder
13. Thomas Hill--Still can't tell you for sure where he fits into the scheme of things but it's looking more and more like Henry Sr. had several sons and one daughter. My best guess for the children of Henry at present is: Henry Jr., Thomas Sr., Robert, Lewis, Green, and Elizabeth, but it is just a guess at this point based more than anything on how the names and the property appear to have been handed down in the families. Though we do know that Green was a child of Henry, (I sent you that record the last time), logically, Henry Jr. has to be a son of Henry, and I've already stated my reasons for including our Elizabeth Hill.
14. Thomas Hill Jr.--son of Thomas above obviously, brother to Richard, Benjamin, Henry, ~~James~~, Collier, and Robert.
15. William Hill Sr.--I gave you this one last time.
16. William Hill--Brother to Henry, son of Green Sr.
17. William Hill Jr.--son of William Hill Sr. above

I'll keep looking for these guys...I told you I'd already decided to go back over territory previously covered before I got your list, so maybe I can turn up something more.

*From Franklin NC Original Wills, Vol. I, 1780-1861, pp. 39--"Thomas C Hill, 20 Apr. 1808; Mar Ct 1814 (this last is the probate date on the will) To my brother Robert - all my lands & 4 negros Ephraim, Tabby, Peter & Braveboy; also my right to the property now in the possession of John Huckaby held by the dower of my mother, & all my other property after my debts are paid. Ex. My brother Robert Hill. Wit: William Thomas, G Brogdon, Young Wilhite."

*From Franklin Co. Deed Book 17, pp145: "Robert Hill was brother to and executor for Caller Hill, deceased, Sept. 10, 1816." This has to refer to Robert son of Thomas, because Robert father of Henry had no other children according to the court record I sent you last time and according to that same record, that Robert had himself died about 1796. According to another deed, this Robert appears to have been married to a woman named Ann, they had 1 daughter Ethu Ann Hill and he died Nov. 26, 1821.

*From Franklin Co. deed Book 3, pp. 242. "Thomas Hill Jr., and Martha W Hill were children of Thomas Hill Sr., who died March 15, 1791, leaving a will, this April 24, 1800."

*From Franklin Co. deed Book 15, pp. 95. "Thomas C Hill sold the land that he received by the will of his deceased brother, Benjamin Hill, witnessed by Robert Hill, March 1, 1810."

*From Franklin Co. deed Book 11, pp. 171. "Thomas Hill Sr., deceased in his last will and Testament left a legacy to Mary Jones, wife of Edward Jones; said Mary Jones had died before the testator and the legacy was conveyed to her children by Benjamin Hill, Nov. 3, 1789." There later was a major to do in the court system on behalf of Mary's children by their guardians, against Robert Hill and others saying that the children of Mary had not gotten their fair share. Robert settled it out of court by signing some sort of agreement in Halifax county, giving his share of the estate to Mary's children. I haven't seen the agreement, it's simply testified that there is one in the Franklin county court minutes.

So once again, I've given you more information that what you asked for. I can't seem to help myself. This whole business of separating the Henrys to figure out which one is ours has required looking into the families of several of the Hill families of Franklin county. I guess that before I state any positive conclusions, I'm feeling the need to have someone follow behind me and check my reasoning. My brain gets so full of the different families and records that it feels like it all just spins around like a whirlwind in there after a while, and I don't want to jump to any conclusions because I haven't done my homework, or because I have missed the obvious in all the confusion.

I am going to tackle the Henry Hill records for Bute and Granville counties to see if I can't make a definitive connection as to which Henry is ours, and one of the reasons I'm going to re-cover the Franklin

county records is to pull the information on the Ransom family as well to see if there isn't something there which will be a definitive tie between a specific Henry Hill and the marriage bond between Rebecca Ransom and Henry Hill for May 1790, and between Elizabeth Hill Upchurch. Like I said, I think we have the answer, but I also believe that we're going to have to settle for a connection based on deduction rather than a definite record which says that "Elizabeth Hill's father Henry was...." That being the case, to do the job properly means that all the records have to be examined and analyzed. When I go through the Granville county records, I'll keep a watch for Phebe Lindsey Dickson and Archibald Upchurch, son of Elizabeth Upchurch Johnson.

Things here go on as usual. We finally got the results of the DNA tests for Chris and Michael, they were positive of course, and that paperwork has gone to the US Embassy in Vladisvostok. Now all we do is wait for them to make a decision regarding Michael's citizenship, passport, and visa. With 99.98% certainty as to his parentage, I don't know how they could possibly turn us down, but we're trying not to get our hopes up yet. We've had them up there a hundred times the last 2 1/2 years, and every single time another roadblock has come up. We've been told it'll probably be another couple of months before we hear from the embassy. The wheels of government turn slowly indeed!

We've joined the choir at church and are also taking seminar training in order to be part of the Care Ministry at our church. So we keep pretty busy. Instinct tells me that my daughter Heather may be announcing an engagement one of these days soon....I'm not sure I'm ready for that one. I'm still trying to figure out when she grew up on me! My oldest boy James gets out of the Marine Corps next week and heads back up to Alaska to begin his civilian life. We had hoped he'd get to stop by Tennessee first, but it looks like that's not going to happen. With just the orchard and the vineyard to worry about here on the farm, things are pretty quiet on that front. I did notice the other day that some of the fruit trees are already starting to bud out and that worries us a little. Everything budded and bloomed out early last year and Mother Nature clobbered us and froze the blossoms on the trees! Some things, though, you just have to leave in God's hands and trust His plan. The weather is one of those things. So we'll see what's in store for us this season.

This letter is long enough, so I'm going to sign off now. I'll keep you posted as to what research turns up and try not to overwhelm you with material you don't want or need. I'm enclosing a check for \$30 to cover this year's subscription to UB and Englandia. I'll try to get to volumes 4 and 5 in the back issues next time I write. Give Sallaine my best and remember that you are both welcome here any time you happen to be in the neighborhood. Best wishes with the farm. It sounds like you're really enjoying it and doing quite well too. Take care.....

God Bless,

Jan

UB-B-5-77
E-2-4-97

From Sta 4 FEB 1997 Janet Lee Lighthill to R M

BUT and this is my Big News.....Having sifted through all the Franklin county records available to me, I can tell you that I'm pretty sure that our Henry Hill was the original Henry Hill, brother to Green Hill Jr. I have checked every reference mentioning the name Henry Hill at all, even just as a witness, for Franklin county, and there are only 5 different Henry Hill's there. Three of them, Henry son of Thomas, Henry son of Robert, and Henry son of Lewis, were already dead by 1808. That leaves us with just the original Henry son of Green, and his son, Henry Jr. There is no record that Henry Jr. was ever a magistrate of the court, and in fact, I find no reference at all to Henry Hill Jr. after 1798, except for the 1805 record of Elizabeth Henry Martin and her husband John selling land that Elizabeth had inherited "including 3 tracts originally granted to Henry Hill Jr." (that record was among those I sent you last time.) I have a theory about what happened to him, but I need to check it out first, meanwhile, as far as available records go. Henry Hill Jr., just drops off the face of the earth after 1798. Henry Hill the elder, however, was sitting on the bench as a magistrate in Franklin county as early as 1783. Moreover, he is the ONLY Henry Hill, I can find any record of having ever been a magistrate. It has to be the original Henry. He was born in 1740, so he'd have been 43 years old in 1783. Given the law of averages, his oldest child was probably born about 1760, which would have made Henry Jr. about 23 years old, much too young to sit as a magistrate in a county court. back in the days when gray hair and wisdom were supposed to go hand in hand. Besides, the court records distinguish between Henry and Henry Jr. So our Henry, has to be the original Henry son of Green and Grace. I cannot find anywhere even an approximate death date for either Henry Sr., or Henry Jr. Surprisingly, while the Hill family appears to have been quite wealthy for the times, they weren't real big on making out wills. I hesitated to accept the idea that the original Henry was Elizabeth's father when everything started pointing that direction because somehow I had gotten the idea that Elizabeth was Henry Hill's only child. I went back to JJU's autobiography to check. That isn't what he says. What he says, is that Elizabeth was Henry Hill's only daughter. Still, the math of the whole thing kind of bothers me too. If our Henry Hill was the original Henry Hill, he'd have been at least 50 when Elizabeth was born, and at least 93 when he deeded the farm over to her in 1834! But, if Elizabeth's father was a magistrate in the court of Franklin county, it can't have been anyone but the original Henry. son of Green and Grace. I still have a lot of the Bute county records to go through and almost all the records for both Granville and Halifax counties. And I intend to go through them as thoroughly as I have the Franklin county records, but I really think we have the answer.

IN THE ABOVE COUSIN JAN GIVES HER REASONED JUDGEMENT THAT JOHN JORDAN W FITS INTO THE HILL FAMILY OF NC AS FOLLOWS

- Δ I. GREEN HILL, SR
 - Δ A. GREEN HILL, JR
 - Δ 1. JORDAN HILL
 - Δ B. HENRY HILL
 - Δ 1. ELIZABETH HILL
 - Δ MRL) AMBROSE W
 - Δ a. JOHN JORDAN W