

June 15, 2021

UPCHURCH & ALLIED FAMILIES ASSOC.



UFAFA National Home Office | 1130 Kildaire Farm Road, Suite 120 | Cary, NC 27511

Happy Independence Day

July 4th

EDITOR'S DESK

Summer greetings to you and yours! We hope you enjoy this newsletter!

First up is an article by Dr. Phil Upchurch, outlining facts and information on our immigrant ancestor *Michael Upchurch I*. Hopefully a re-telling of this Upchurch Bulletin article, (printed 6 years ago) will help to clear up some misconceptions available on the web. :)

Also, there's an interesting article by WRAL NBC 5—Cary, on page 2 which directly corresponds to our very important to UFAFA's Allied Families, of which so many of you can relate (no pun intended). Our own Carla Michaels is credited with the research and discovery of the graves and our President Dr. Tom Upchurch points out how integral Allied families are to this organization! Comments are framed in tan/gold.

Next month's newsletter will be our BIG Footprints issue with many expanded articles, special reports and lots more interesting stuff!

Cindy Hale, Editor



A Re-statement About Our Upchurch English Heritage By Phil Upchurch PhD

THE UPCHURCH BULLETIN—VOLUME 36, NUMBER 1.
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With the rare exception, it can be well said that all white American Upchurches descend from Michael Upchurch I, who came to Surry Co., VA in 1638 as a young indentured servant. The story of his life and his descendants in America has been laid out in issues of the Upchurch Bulletin as may be found at www.alliedfamilies.com. The story of his heritage in England has also been told in the UB and in companion issues of Englandia, also to be found online. Current researchers will be astounded to learn that our family had the great good fortune to acquire the services of Professor David Ransome to thoroughly vet our English heritage. His 25 reports published in our two publications tell a valid story and dispels some distortion that appeared before Professor Ransome surfaced to be our guiding light. Here are a few of the salient facts:

• There is no evidence that an Upchurch ever lived at the village of Upchurch on the Medway River in Kent, England.

• Michael Upchurch I was not born and did not live at Little Gidding in Huntingdonshire, England. He corresponded with members of the famous Ferrar family who lived at Little Gidding. The well-to-do Ferrars, Colletts, Reynolds and other like families were associated and Michael may have basked in the light of members of these families in the new world when the barriers of status would have been lowered. Incidentally, for more than twenty years, David and Joyce Ransome have published – and continue to publish – their research on the Ferrars. Joyce will have an article on Nicholas Ferrar's educational program in the next issue of The Seventeenth Century and David is just completing a paper that will identify the Virginian silkworm that the Ferrars were breeding at Little Gidding in the 1650's.

[Early the next September, Magdelene College hosted a conference on the Ferrars in

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Graves Hidden in a Parking Lot in Downtown Cary

Posted May 27, 2021

**By Heather Leah, WRAL
Multiplatform Producer**

middle of a parking lot in downtown Cary, much less the remnants of an old family cemetery dating back to the 1800s.

As cars whiz past, curving through the round-about and weaving through downtown Cary, most have no idea they are driving past the on

remaining piece of a historic family cemetery – which once rested on the homeplace of one of the town's founding families.

The homeplace, which is long-gone, belonged to Carlos Yates – son of Eli Yates, whose family owned the renowned Yates Mill. One of the town's earliest families, Eli Yates bought 706 acres of land in what would eventually become Cary.

Carlos Yates was also the father of Helen Yates Walker, whose name is deeply entwined with the historic Page-Walker Hotel, owned by the father of Cary himself: Frank Page.

So how did such a historic family's cemetery become surrounded by concrete?

The only remnant of Cary's founding families' home- stead

Carla Michaels, historian for the Friends of Page-Walker and great-great-granddaughter of Carlos Yates, has uncovered the story of the family cemetery and homestead through her research.

"The cemetery is the only remaining vestige of the Carlos Yates Family Cemetery that was on the Carlos Yates Home place," explains Michaels. "He was my great-great-grandfather, and the father of Helen Yates Walker of the Page Walker Hotel, among others."

"Eli Yates' land, which would later



become Cary, extended from just south of Chatham Street to north of NW Maynard Road," she said. "And from round-about to round-about on Chatham Street."

In the early 1840s, three of Eli Yates' sons – Pharis, Carlos and Alvis – bought the land from their father.

Pharis owned the 300 acres that Frank Page, Cary's founder, bought and used to develop downtown Cary.

"Carlos continued to buy land to extend his holdings and built his large homeplace near the site of the family cemetery. He and his wife Mary Ann Marcom Yates lived there until their deaths," said Michaels.

The grave site is very close to the train tracks that run past the Page-Walker Hotel. The railroad and train stations played a large role in Cary's growth. It makes sense that one of the town's founding families would have had land near the railroad, and even sold land to the railroad.

The grave marker in the parking lot belongs to his daughter Glendora "Dora" Yates Edwards, who died young.

Michaels found written documentation that Dora was laid to rest near her father, Carlos.

"So the family's sad 'joke' has been that Carlos Yates is buried somewhere under the parking lot. His marker is long gone, although my father remembers an impressive obelisk that marked his grave," said

[Carla] Michaels.

She also believes there could be at least one other grave interred in the parking lot – while other family members were buried in Hillcrest Cemetery in Cary.

Is it possible, then, that the remains of one of Cary's early settlers and founding fathers is buried, with no grave marker, beneath the asphalt of a downtown parking lot?

Graves and cemeteries are hidden all over Cary

Many cities and towns around the Triangle have hidden graveyards. They're often tucked away in overgrown spaces, sometimes hidden behind decades of foliage and overgrowth.

In Durham, for example, a very old segregated cemetery was hidden behind curtains of ivy so deep that neighbors living across the street didn't even realize it was there.

Cary, specifically, seems to have an abundance of family cemeteries hidden in unusual locations.

The grave of a Revolutionary War veteran and prominent Cary leader was discovered overgrown in a major neighborhood development.

Historians, likewise, searched for years to find the family graveyard for the original High House – which turned out to also be hidden in the middle of a neighborhood of residents who didn't realize the lost history in their backyards.

Each of these lost graveyards, however, were discovered in overgrown suburban spaces. It's far more rare that an old family cemetery be found surrounded in asphalt, with headstones sticking out from the center of parking spaces.

Many of the "lost family cemeteries" in Cary neighborhoods are

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UAFA NEWS & INFORMATION

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JULY HOLIDAYS

BOOM!

1-Canada Day
4-Independence Day
4-Sidewalk Egg Frying Day
4-Independence Day
9-National Sugar Cookie Day
10-Pick Blueberries day
12-Pecan Pie Day
13-Barbershop Music Appreciation day
13-National French Fries Day
14-Bastille Day
16-Fresh Spinach Day
16-World Snake Day
22-Hammock Day
24-Pioneer Day
24-Amelia Earhart Day
26-Aunt & Uncle Day
27-Take Your Houseplants for a Walk
28-National Milk Chocolate Day
29-National Lasagne Day
30-National Cheesecake day
30-Father-in-Law Day

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The Family Tree

Our family is like the branches
On an old but sturdy tree
The leaves resemble people
That make up our ancestry
The past has not been easy
And it could have made it fall
But the roots are cemented firmly
For this tree to stand so tall
As time goes by it's certain
That the leaves will wither and wilt
But new branches of the tree will thrive
On foundations they have built
Together we are stronger
It isn't hard to see
That every leaf is needed
To make this family tree



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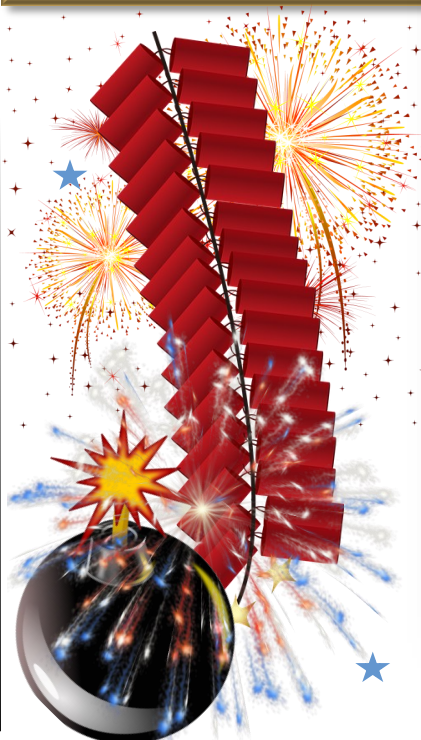
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UAFA is looking for Ancestry
Tree Master Associates!
Do you or someone you know like
genealogy and have access to
Ancestry.com? Sign in and work
on your own family tree. Our tree
is growing and it's fun! Volunteer
today! Contact Linda Upchurch
Sparks lusparks@eplus.net





A Re-statement About Our Upchurch English Heritage

Cambridge, at which both David and Joyce were asked to contribute papers.]

- Richard Upchurch of the small village of Brington in Huntingdonshire is reasonably well established as the father of our Michael Upchurch I. It is reasonable to assume that Michael was born in or near Brington and that he left from there for America under what circumstances we do not know. The wife of Richard is not known. The given name of Richard became legendary in the American Upchurch family down to Richard Upchurch IV.

- The grandparents of Michael Upchurch I are unknown and any representations to the contrary are unfounded.

- It is a fact that in the 1500's and before there were several Upchurch enclaves in different parts of England with slight variations in spellings of the name. Professor Ransome was able to aggregate some of these groups under one or another progenitor. However, the task of amalgamating them all into one wholly related grand Upchurch family of England remains elusive.

- Known Upchurch relatives of Michael Upchurch I migrated to Austral-

Continued from Page 1

ia and New Zealand and connection with them has been established.

- While Michael Upchurch I did not come from Little Gidding, there is a rich history of this place, its people, and its church and it provides a window into circumstances of interest to our family.

- In recent years, research on our English Upchurch heritage has been quiescent, but details in the UB and Englandia set the table for a new ambitious researcher to appear on the scene.



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Brington is a village in **Cambridgeshire, England**. Brington lies approximately 9 miles (14 km) north-west of Huntingdon. Brington is in the civil parish of Brington and Molesworth. Brington is situated within Huntingdonshire which is a non-metropolitan district of Cambridgeshire as well as being a historic county of England.

Read more On Brington: [Brington, Cambridgeshire - Wikipedia](#)

GENEALOGY



From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia. This article is about the study of family lineage and history. For the sociocultural evolution of kinship, see [History of the family](#).

Genealogy (from **Greek**: γενεαλογία *genealogia* "study of family trees")^[2] is the study of **families**, family history, and the tracing of their lineages. Genealogists use oral interviews, historical records, genetic analysis, and other records to obtain information about a family and to demonstrate **kinship** and **pedigrees** of its members. The results are often displayed in charts or written as narratives.

The field of family history is broader than genealogy, and covers not just lineage but also family and community history and biography.^[3]

The record of genealogical work may be presented as a "genealogy," a "family history," or a "**family tree**." In the narrow sense, a "genealogy" or a "family tree" traces the descendants of one person, whereas a "family history" traces the ancestors of one person,^{[4][5][6]} but the terms are often used interchangeably.^[7] A family history may include additional biographical information, family traditions, and the like.^[3]

The pursuit of family history and origins tends to be shaped by several motives, including the desire to carve out a place for one's family in the larger historical picture, a sense of responsibility to preserve the past for **future generations**, and self-satisfaction in accurate storytelling.^[8] Genealogy research is also performed for scholarly or **forensic** purposes.



WIKIPEDIA
The Free Encyclopedia



Graves Hidden in a Parking Lot in Downtown Cary

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remnants from before Cary's rapid growth in the 1960s and 70s. Long before Cary grew into bustling neighborhoods and developments, the area was broken down into homesteads and farms. Many of Cary's "original fami-



lies" buried their loved ones on the family land – and then the town grew around those graves, often carving out small spots for the graves, and then building around them.

Over the decades, with the family no longer there to care for the graves, the plots become overgrown and harder to notice. As a carousel of new families move in and out of the neighborhood homes, the historic graves simply fade from public memory.

"It was customary in many rural locations to have a family cemetery located at the 'homeplace,'" said Michaels.

In the case of Carlos Yates' homeplace, Michaels believes the family home

originally stood to the east of the cemetery, which would have been near the eastern boundary of the large property.

When Carlos and his wife Mary Ann passed away, the home passed to their youngest child, Lula Yates Holleman. She married a man, and raised a family in the house. However, at a later date, the property eventually passed from the family, and the Taylor Biscuit Factory was built on the land. It later became Austin Foods, and now belongs to a private company.



To explore more Cary history, take a look at the [Friends of Page-Walker website](#) – a non-profit that works to preserve Cary's history and tell Cary's stories.

Thank you to UAFA President, Dr. Tom Upchurch for demonstrating how Allied Families is so integral to UAFA!

Several **Allied Family** member names are mentioned in the article including **Yates, Holleman and Edwards**.

Carla Michaels, who is credited with uncovering this interesting story is the great-great-granddaughter of Carlos **Yates**! She currently serves on the UAFA Board of Directors along with **Woody Yates**, whose direct line is presented in the chart below.

Speaking of Ancestry, Board Director **Dr. Steven Terry**, Allied Family Tree Master, may have ALL the Allied Family names mentioned in his family tree!

To view the UAFA Allied Family Trees, go to www.ancestry.com then select "Search" from the top menu bar; then select "Member Search"; then enter "UAFA"; after a few seconds our two accounts will appear; select **UAFA-Allied Families**; after the page opens, look in the Family History area (by the tree icon) and select "View All" and all trees will be displayed.

There are several thousand Allied Family members documented!

Dr. Tom also notes that in the **Holleman Family**, Lula **Yates** married a **Holleman**, and the young woman in the cemetery was married to an **Edwards**.

William Yates 1727-1808 (Woody's Common Ancestor with Eli Yates)

1. William Yates, Jr 1762-
 - a. Eli Yates 1790-1857 Purchased 706 acres that became Cary also operated historic Yates Mill
 - i. Carlos Yates 1820 – (Owned the cemetery location and is buried there)
 1. Helen Yates Walker (Page Walker Hotel)
 2. Lulu Yates Holleman (Raised a family in the Carlos Yates house)
 3. Glendora "Dora" Yates Edwards (Grave marker still visible)
 - ii. Phares Yates - Sold 300 acres to Frank Page that was used to develop downtown Cary
2. Matthew Tyson Yates 1760-1837
 - a. Lewis Yates 1797-1827
 - i. William Yates
 1. L.S "Lewis" Yates 1845-1920
 - a. Matthew Thomas Yates 1850-1943
 - i. Herman Yates 1911-2003
 1. Woody Herman Yates 1955

Direct line of Woody Yates