

**John Upchurch, VI      XID-143**

Commentary: John Upchurch, VI (XID – 143) was the son of George Upchurch, head of Upchurch clan #5. Shortly after his father had moved to Iredell County, NC from Brunswick County, VA, John was born in 1799. As a young, single man he moved, as did the entire George Upchurch family, to Wayne County, KY. There John married and lived out the rest of his life. His children are well documented and in the 1800s helped to establish a robust presence in Wayne County, KY under remote, isolated frontier conditions.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Transcribed by Lori Hansel, a member of the George U./Moses subclan, from the original Biofile preserved in the Allied Families Archives, transcript received 31 DEC 2015.

(1) John Upchurch b. ca. 1799 in NC, son of George Upchurch of George/John Upchurch Clan. He died at 73 prior to 23 June 1873 when will was proved. (*Upchurch Story* by Ada Morgan, pg. 67)

(2) John U was son of George U 1790 Progenitor (*Upchurch Story* by Ada Morgan, pg. 29)

(3) John U (XID-143) in 1838 sold land to Moses U (XID-141) in Otter Creek, KY (*Upchurch Story* by Ada Morgan, pg. 66)

(4) John Upchurch was born about 1799 in North Carolina. He died prior to 23 June 1873, when his will was proved. John married Sarah Bertram, daughter of Nicolas Bertram. John had many land dealings, taking care of his children and looking out for those less fortunate. He had a strong sense of family pride and loyalty. Here are some of his land deeds:

John and Sally Daring sell to John Upchurch...land on Otter Creek October 11, 1828 recorded 3-18-1844 BK J-283

Nicholas Kenaston and wife Katie Kenaston of Fentress County sell to John Upchurch for \$150...100 acres on LSF. BK D 478

John Upchurch to Moses Upchurch 75 acres on Otter Creek. 1-25-1838 G-343

The 1850 Census of Wayne Co., KY and the will of John Upchurch gives a record of the family. In 1850 Nicholas Bertram was making his home with John and Sarah. John's will, written in 1868, names the married daughters. His will was proved 6-23-1873.

[*Upchurch Story* by Ada Morgan pg. 67 for John son of George]

(5) Burrell Dishman b. 27 May 1820, d. 23 May 1901, md 22 Nov 1843 to Nancy U (XID-143) b. 9 April 1825, d. 11 November 1884; daughter of John U (XID-143) and Sarah (Bertram) U. (*Upchurch Story* by Ada Morgan, pg. 68 & 74)

(6) See Family Chart received 21 June 1981 from Hazel U.

Hazel U. b. 29 September 1911 is daughter of Ballinger Wright U, granddaughter of Henry Alvin U. and great granddaughter of John U. & Sarah Bertram. Hazel lives in Yuma, AZ.

(7) See Letter 25 November 1990 Cheryl Robin Abbot to RPU- John U b. 1790 – 1800 (NC) d. 1870 – 1880 (Wayne County, KY), married c. 1830 Sarah Butram [Bertram] b. 1795 – 1805 (TN/NC) d. 1860 – 1870 (Wayne County, KY)

(8) See Letter 2 Jan 1991 Cheryl Robin Abbot to RPU

1860 Census, Wayne Co., KY

John U 68 [John U, VI]; Sarah U [nee Sarah Bertram]

Alvin U 20 [Henry Alvin U]

Elizabeth U 15

America U 9

Nicholas Bertram 89 [Nicholas Bertram]

(9) From letter dated 13 August 1993 Norma Jean Gooding to RPU: This story concerns this part of the Upchurch Family.

I. George U – Head of Clan

\*A. John U [The father who shot the cougar]

\*1. Henry Alvin U [The baby in the story]

\*a. Theodosia Earnest U [The grandmother who told the story]

Copies filed under \* plus under Otter Creek, Ky and Order Creek, KY.

John U., VI

Page 2

XID-143

*Also on Otter Creek, in KY. That's in Theodosia's family Bible, her writing. All I have figured it's close to the Tennessee border. Looking back at records, William Harvey Gooding was born in Palmerville, KY near Mt. Pisgah. I believe Otter Creek may be Order Creek instead. I'm not well organized on my paperwork yet. But again the family tells this story:*

*When the family was traveling by wagon train, they reached Otter Creek in KY and camped overnight. The ladies were getting the fire ready and men folks were out hunting. They put the baby (Henry Alvin) in a basket under the wagon, in the shade. Then men came in and meal was cooked, they ate. The mother went to get baby and it was gone. The men folks started looking around and found lion or cougar tracks and where baby was dragged. They located the big cat on a ledge above creek and it was playing with the baby. There was a chance that if they shot it might hit the baby, but took a chance, cause it would kill it anyway. So the father took aim across wagon wheel and shot. He killed the cat and got back a scratched and bruised baby but otherwise unhurt. The baby wasn't but a few days old. My grandmother, Theodosia, told this to us many times. Said her daddy's nickname was (Otter) .*

(10) From – Rev. James Henry Carter 1826-1900 Page 12 & 13

### Chapter III

#### John Upchurch – Sarah Bertram

John Upchurch, son of George Upchurch and Rachel Bathshares, was born ca 1799 in North Carolina, probably in the Salisbury District of Iredell County.

The “UPCHURCH” family has been traced back to John Upchurch who’s will is dated 1502. He resided in Colchester, Essex, England. [not valid – RPU]

John was the second generation of this family to be born in America. [wrong-RPU] The “UPCHURCHS” originally settled in Virginia, but later moved to North Carolina and then on to Wayne County, Kentucky where their off-spring married into the “CARTER” line several times.

John’s parents moved their family to Wayne County ca 1811 and settled on land in the Little South Fork area.

John was married to Sarah Bertram ca 1824 prior to the birth of their first child in 1825.

Sarah Bertram, daughter of Nicholas Bertram, was born in Tennessee ca 1800. Her parents were both born in North Carolina.

John and Sarah were the parents of at least seven children.

The 1850 Census for Wayne County Kentucky shows Nicholas Bertram living with his daughter, Sarah, and her husband John Upchurch.

The records of Wayne County show that John was very active in the buying and selling of property, as early as 1828.

John wrote his will in 1868 and died sometime prior to the 23<sup>rd</sup> of June 1873, when his will was proven.

It is not known where John is buried, nor when or where Sarah died. The “Cemeteries of Wayne County Kentucky” compiled by Bennie and Juanita Coffey does not mention either one of them. Of course, in that time period, it was common to be buried on one’s property and just marked with a field stone.

(11) Will File – Will book of Page 81  
Wayne County, Kentucky

Will of John Upchurch XID-143  
Head of the George Upchurch XID-137/John Upchurch Subclan XID-143

From letter 28 January 1991, Cheryl Robin Abbot to RPU

New Will Book A

New Bk A:208-209      Written 28 Mar 1868  
Proved 23 June 1873

Will of John Upchurch(X)      xid - 143  
Being now about 70 years of age, but in good health...to my 2 sons, Daniel G. & Henry Alvin Upchurch,  
all my land lying on Waters of Otter creek, divided equally..residue divided among 5 daughters:  
Elizabeth Dishman, Nancy Dishman, Nelly Carter, Lucinda Hughs & Roena Carter.  
Executor: son Henry A. Upchurch  
Witness: John L. Sallee 7 Emsley A. Buttram

I.	George Upchurch XID-137 [Head of Clan]	
A.	<u>John Upchurch</u> XID-143	<u>XID</u>
1.	Daniel G. Upchurch.....	429
2.	Henry Alvin Upchurch.....	430
3.	Elizabeth Upchurch.....	431
	md. Reubin Dishman.....	
4.	Nancy Upchurch.....	239
	md. Burrell Tremont Dishman.....	196
5.	Nelly Upchurch [Eleanor Upchurch].....	426
	md. James H. Carter.....	425
6.	Lucinda Upchurch.....	427
	md. Morgan Hughes.....	432
7.	Rowena Upchurch.....	428
	md. Robert Carter.....	433

(12) See Letter 18 August 1997 Eleanor Louise Baker to RPU  
John Upchurch b. 1799 d. before 23 JUN 1873 md. Sarah Buttram (Bertram) b. 1810 d. before 23  
MAR 1868

(13) See letter 25 FEB 1998 Eleanor Louise Baker to RPU Page 15,16

John Upchurch - b. 1799 (Iredell Co., NC) d. before 23 JUN 1873 (Wayne Co., KY) (Will Proved) md. Sarah Bertram (Buttram) b. 1810 (Iredell Co., NC) d. before 23 MAR 1868 (Wayne Co., KY) [date will of John Upchurch was written]

*John Upchurch's will was written 23 March 1868, Wayne County, KY. John Said he was about seventy years of age. Will as proved 23 June 1873. Sarah was not mentioned in will, so she was deceased by 1868. He willed to his two sons, Daniel G. Upchurch and Henry Alvin Upchurch all the land he owned in Wayne County, Kentucky on the waters of Otter Creek. The residue of his estate of every kind to be divided between his five daughters, Elizabeth Dishman, Nancy Dishman, Nellie Carter, Lucinda Hughes, and Rowena Carter. He signed his mark in the presence of his good friends John Sallee and Emsley A. Bertram. His wife Sarah Buttram (Buttram-Bertram) was daughter of Nicholas Buttram, born 1781 in North Carolina.*

#588 1850 Census Wayne County, Kentucky  
His farm valued at \$1350.00

Upchurch, John	50	farmer	North Carolina	
(Bertram)Sarah	40	wife	Tennessee	
Upchurch, Lucinda	18	dau.	Kentucky	md. Morgan Hughes
Upchurch, Roena	16	dau.	Kentucky	md. Robert Carter
Upchurch, Daniel Granville	12	son	Kentucky	Levinia Hurt
Upchurch, Henry Alvin	9	son	Kentucky	Susan Hurt
Upchurch, Elizabeth	6	dau.	Kentucky	md. Rufus E Dishman
Bertram, Nicholas	70	father in law	North Carolina	

(1860 Census says his age is 89) (79)

*Levinia and Susan were daughters of William Hurt and Temperance Buttram (Bertram)  
Eleanor (Nellie) already married James H. Carter, brother of Robert?  
Nancy married Burrell F. Dishman, brother of Rufus, who married Elisabeth.*

(14) John Upchurch, son of George Upchurch, Head of the George Upchurch Clan, received 50 acres of land on 22 FEB 1847 on the Otter Creek in Sandy Valley, Wayne County, Kentucky. This land had been held earlier by his brother-in-law Jefferson Dishman. John Upchurch subsequently transferred it to his sister Lydia Upchurch (wife of Jefferson Dishman) and she transferred it to Moses Dishman her brother-in-law. (*Upchurch Story* by Ada Morgan, Page 65)

(15) See letter 25 FEB 2001 Melva Doris Upchurch to RPU

William Bertram, I b. 1759 (aka Butram) md ( ) Sarah Patterson

A. Nicholas Bertram b. 1781

1. Sarah Bertram b. 1810 (NC), md ( ) John Upchurch VI b. 1792 d. 1873, son of George Upchurch, head of clan

B. William Bertram, II b. 1783 (Wayne County, KY) md ( ) Nancy Stinson b. 1855 [? RPU]

1. William J.C. Bertram, III b. 1821 d. 1902 md ( ) Martha Hurt b. 1832 d. 1887

a. John C. Bertram md ( ) Mary Jane Cooper b. 14 Jul 1858

i. Linnie Belle Bertram "Linnie" [Lavina Belle Bertram] b. 1896 md 16 Mar 1901 ( ) Henry Elmer Upchurch b. 1896, son of John William Upchurch of the George U/John U VI subclan – Henry Alvin Upchurch line.

2. Joel Bertram

a. Samuel T. Bertram

i. Ellis Bertram

---

I. Alvin Bertram md ( ) Rosa B. Young

A. William Bertram, b. 22 Apr 1865 (Wayne County, KY), md 1881 ( ) Nancy Parmley b. 1867 (Wayne County, KY) d. 1944

1. Cletus Benton Bertram b. 1895 (Wayne County, KY), md ( ) Leta Pearl Upchurch

---

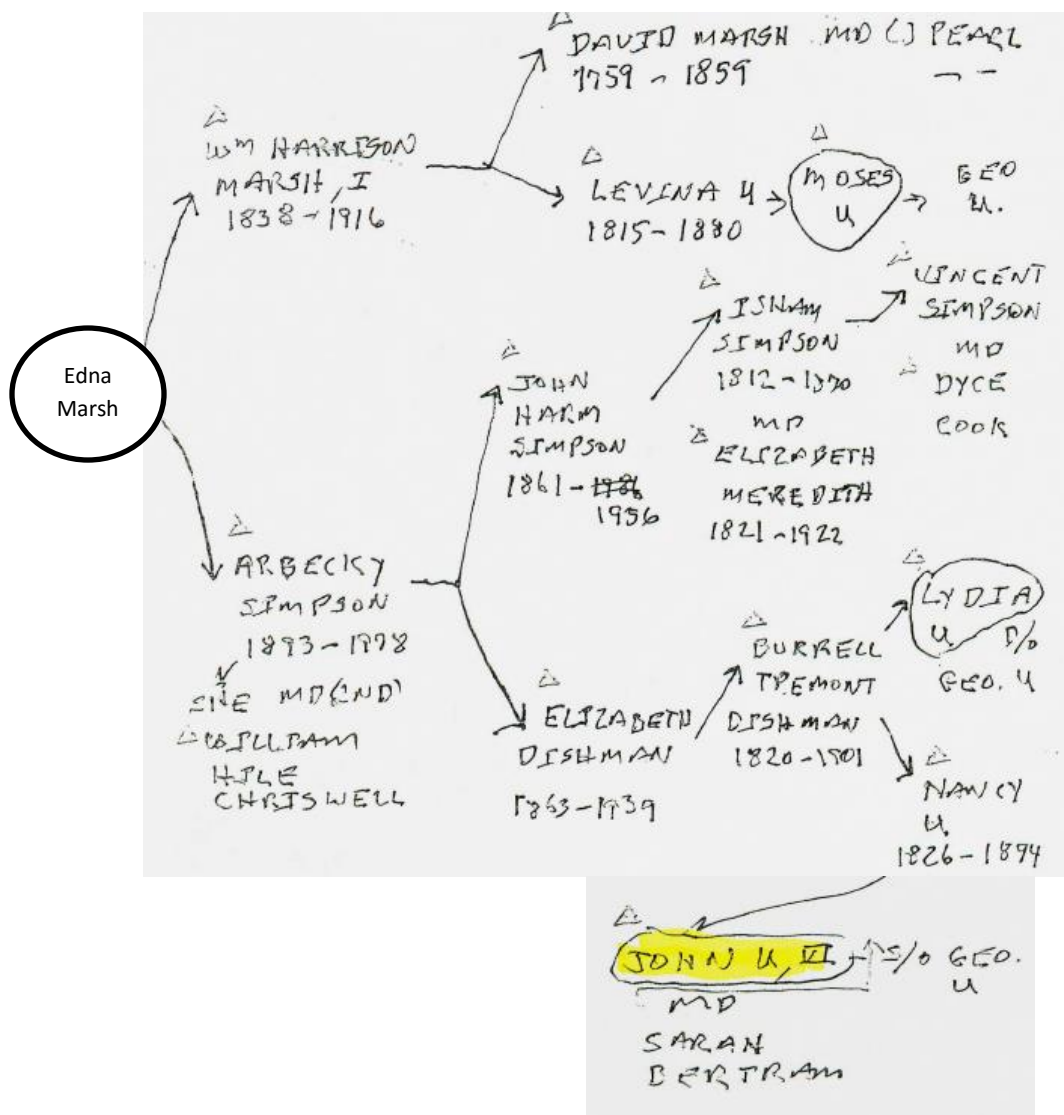
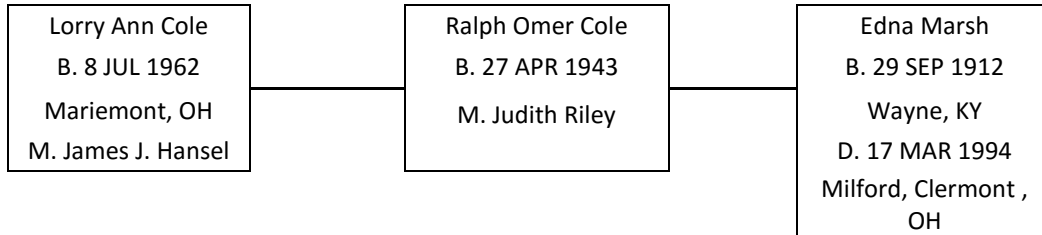
I. Jacob Bertram

A. Lavina Bertram md 20 Mar 1817 John Williams, presumed brother of Keeling Williams who md Rachel Upchurch, dau of George Upchurch, head of clan

---

I. Jacob Bertram md Nancy Rohana Upchurch b. abt. 1877, dau of James Calvin Upchurch of the George Upchurch/Joseph Upchurch subclan – James Calvin Upchurch line.

(16) Tracking of Coordinator Lorry Ann Cole "Lori" back to 3 children of George Upchurch, Head of Clan from her 14 JUL 2015 email to RPU and RPU Records 16 JUL 2014.



graphic by RPU

The three children of George U. (3 Subclans) from whom Lorry descends are circled



(17) See letter 1 December 1998 Dennis Wayne Price to RPU

John U, VI d 1865 Md Susan Bertman (Sarah Bertram in other records – RPU).

(18) A. John U head of the George/John U Subclan was a temporary executor in the will of his brother, Thomas U (XID-140) who never married. The will was written 18 MAY 1853 and proved 24 OCT 1855. Land on Little South Fork in Wayne Co., KY (29, Pg 66)

B. In 1838, Jan 25 deed book D-343 John U sells to Moses U (his brother) for \$200, 75 over on Otter Creek (Wayne Co., KY). Reg 12 APR 1838.