FIRST GENERATION

1. Sir James Grier was born about 1604 in Capenoch, Dumfrieshire, Scotland. He died about 1666 in Dumfrieshire, Scotland. "Sir James Greer, Knt., of Capenoch,

Dumfriesshire and Rock Hall, Alnwick, Northumberland, 5th son of Sir William Grier. Succeded his brother, John in Capenoch. In a discharge, dated 1630, James signs Grier and

brother Alexander signs Grierson. Died 1666. Married Mary, daughter of the Rev. John Browne, M. A., of Glencairn, first minister after the Reformation; and widow of Thomas

Grier of Bargarg Tower, Dumfriesshire. John Grierson of Bargarg married Grizel, daughter of of Robert Kirkpatrick of Closeburn by his wife Grizel, daughter of Sir William Baillie

of Lannington, M. P., by Grizel his wife, daughter of Sir Claud Hamilton of Elieston, brother of James, 1st Earl of Abercorn, ancestor of the Duke of Abercorn." ("Printed Pedigree

Chart of 1888," as seen in Edinburg, Scotland and a copy made from this same chart as obtained from Lois Temple. NOTE FROM RALPH TERRY: I am not sure what the

connection is between Mary Browne or Thomas Grierson to the above mentioned John Grierson.)

"Sir James Grier, son of Sir William and Nichola (Maxwell) Grierson was designated as of The Rock and Copenoch, Dumfriesshire, Scotland. He was born circa 1604; died in

1666. In 1626, he married Mary Browne, daughter of the Reverend John Browne of Glencairn, and was, at the time of this marriage, the widow of Thomas Greer, of Barjang

Tower of the same county. From this Sir James Grier, originated the several Greer branches known as of Tullylagen, Grange and Sea Park. Many of these accepted the Quaker

faith and removed to Ireland. The known children of Sir James amd Mary (Brown) Grier, three: i. James Greer ... . ii. Henry Greer ... . iii. Ann Greer ... ." (From a lithographed

Family Chart prepared by Thomas Greer, of Ireland, in 1855 as given in GREGOR, MacGREGOR, MacGHEE, MAGRUDER, GRIERSON, GRIER, GREER --- A HISTORY

OF THE ORIGIN OF THE ABOVE FAMILIES AND MANY OF THEIR DESCENDANTS, 1954, compiled by Robert M. Torrence, A.B., F.G.S.P., F.I.A.G., 110 Edgevale

Road Baltimore 10, Maryland, page 41.)

"Sir James Grierson removed to Cumberland and changed his surname to Grier. On 6 August 1630 [Lag Charter #214], James Greirsone (NOT SIR), brother of Sir Robert

Greirsone of Lag, witnessed his brother Lancelot Greirsone's sasine to Dalskairth." (William Greer, Illinois.)

He was married to Mary Browne (daughter of John Browne Rev. and Sara Hope) about 1626. Mary Browne was born about 1604 in Glencairn, Dumfriesshire, Scotland. Sir

James Grier and Mary Browne had the following children:

 +2 i. Henry Greer.

 +3 ii. John Grier.

 +4 iii. James Greer.

 +5 iv. Anne Grier.

 +6 v. Nicola Grier.

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SECOND GENERATION

4. James Greer was born about 1627 in Capenoch, Dumfrieshire, Scotland. He died about 1688 in Gunpowder River, Baltimore County, Maryland. "GREAR, James. Arrived

Maryland Nov., 1674, on Batchelor, ex Bristol. Indentured. (Early Settlers Book 18, folio 152) - 2112 ... (A second listing is also shown:) GREER, James. Born probably

Dumfriesshire. Son of James Greer and Mary Browne. Settled Joppa, Baltimore County, Maryland, 1675. Married Ann, daughter of Arthur Taylor and Wife Margaret, with issue:

(1) John, born 1688; (2) James. (D. C., 22 Apr., 1961) - 2117." (These two entries are from A DICTIONARY OF SCOTTISH EMIGRANTS TO THE USA by Donald

Whyte, 1972.)

(NOTE FROM RALPH TERRY: It is from the D. C. listing that some have put the claim of James Greer being the son of Sir James Greer; but who put the information in the D. C.

Also note this source shows a second son, James. Other sources list another possible son, Joseph. John is, however, the only son of record to have been found up to this time,

1997. Some accounts believe James Greer died about 1699. Records for James Greer in the LDS Ancestral File, show him born about 1650 in Dumfrieshire, Scotland, married

Anna Taylor on 2 November 1675 and that his name could have been "John" rather than James. In ROYAL HERITAGE OF THE GREERS (1985) by Carolyn Beal she states

that her father and Sylvester Greer believed that James Greer was born in England in 1650, but she is inclined to believe the 1627 date. If this James Greer was the son of Sir James

Grierson, then he would have been born about 1627, to fit into the birth pattern of Sir James' other children. Sir James Grierson did have a son named James, according to the

PRINTED PEDIGREE of 1888 and other Scottish sources. This son, James, is shown as a "M. D. ("surgeon" or "barber/ surgeon," in earlier sources) of Edinburgh and died

unmarried." Personally, I feel the compiler of the pedigrees did not know what happened to this James and several listing on this pedigree bear the inscription, "became a surgeon

and died unmarried." With no real proof other than family tradition, I am going to assume, at this time, that this James was the James that was transported to America in 1674. This

would put James at around the age of 50 when he arrived in America.)

"In the Maryland Patent Series, Liber 18, page 152, the following passage is found. "A List of Servants Transported by Samuell Gibbons of Bristoll in the Ship Batchellor of Bristoll

1674." This document contains three columns of names; the last name in the lefthand column is "James Grear." The document is dated 2 November 1674 and reads. "Then came the

within named Samuel Gibbons and proved Rights unto four Thousand five hundred acres of Land it being due to him for Transporting the ninety persons herein mentioned - into this

province to Inhabit before me (torn) Charles Calvert." The situation was that the various Lords Baltimore offered land in the new colony of Maryland, 50 acres per person, to

persons willing to make the journey and to help colonize the province. Also, individuals who paid the transportation costs for another person or persons were, then, entitled to claim

that person's acreage as reimbursement. Interestly, Samuel Gibbons sold his rights to the land to Robert Ridgely of St. Mary's County who then sold it back to Charles Calvert!"

(This information and a copy of page 152 of Liber 18 is from OUR GREER FAMILY HISTORY by Thomas H. Greer, 1983, pages 80 - 81.)

(NOTE FROM RALPH TERRY: I have found no proof that this James Greer was the same James Greer who married Ann Taylor. There is no marriage record of which I am

aware, but it has been placed in some records that they married June 6, 1687. This was the date of the first proven connection of our immigrant ancestor, as Arthur Taylor mentions

"James Grear, and Ann, his wife" in his will and gave him land that was later passed on down to John Greer, the only recorded son of James Greer and Ann Taylor. This will does

not show that Ann, wife of James Grear, to be his daughter. But, from a deposition made by the son, John Greer in 1738, that he (John) was born about 1688 and that his mother,

Ann Grear was a daughter of Arthur Taylor. This would place the marriage of James Greer and Ann Taylor in 1887 or before, as also proved by Arthur Taylor's will. If the James

who married Ann Taylor, is the same James who was transported in 1674, and as John seemed to have been their only child, then they probably would not have married many years

before he was born. Therefore, James Greer would have been about 55 to 60 years old when he married. It was been said that James was killed, but I see no proof of this. If this

James was over 60 years old in 1688, then there is a good chance that he died of old age. Other researchers feel the James Greer who arrived in America in 1674 was born about

1656, but this appears to be based on the thinking that all men who came over were young men, so he would have been about 18 years of age.)

"June 6, 1687. To all Christian people, to whom these presents shall come ... I, Arthur Taylor, of Gunpowder River, in Baltimore County, Maryland, Planter, for and in

consideration of natural love and affection which I have and do bear unto James Grear and Ann, his wife, as also for divers and other good reasons and considerations and hereunto

especially moving and do by these presents, give, grant, alein, enfoff their heirs and assigns, unto James Grear and Ann, his wife, their heirs and assigns forever, 75 acres of land,

being part of a greater tract of 300 acres belonging to the said Arthur, and called, "Arthur's Choice", lying and being situated in Baltimore County, and on the south side of a branch

of the Gunpowder River, called Bird Run, beginning at a red oak standing on the said river and running from said oak bounding with the ... run ... east-north-east 53 perches by a

line into the woods for length 300 ... thence by a line down west-south-west from the end south-south-east ... east to line 53 perches ... Witness: Samuel Sickelman, Amos

Thompson - Signed Arthur Taylor (his X mark)." (Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland, R. M. # H. S., Vol. 1, page 261.) This same land was held in trust for the "orphan of

James Greer named John" until he reached age. Neither James Greer or his wife Ann left a will that has been located.

........................... "James Greer. His name is mentioned in Playfair (BRITISH ANTIQUITY, by Sir William Playfair, Volume 7, pages 506-513, published in London, England,

1811) and is included in the Family Chart, nothing more. It may be assumed, as in many similar cases, that he left the country. He was born circa 1627 and it is asked if he may be

the James Greer who was transported into Maryland in 1675, by Samuel Gibbon, who was granted 4500 acres of land for transporting 90 person into Maryland (see above)."

"The key name in connection with this "Greer Family, Originating in Maryland," is James Grear whose earliest record in Maryland is in the Hall of Records, Annapolis, "Early Settlers

Book 18, Folio 152": "James ....FINISH..... ...................TORRENCE, began page 141............ (GREGOR, MacGREGOR, MacGHEE, MAGRUDER, GRIERSON, GRIER,

GREER --- A HISTORY OF THE ORIGIN OF THE ABOVE FAMILIES AND MANY OF THEIR DESCENDANTS, 1954, compiled by Robert M. Torrence, A.B.,

F.G.S.P., F.I.A.G., 110 Edgevale Road Baltimore 10, Maryland, pages 41, .)

He was married to Ann "Anna" Taylor (daughter of Arthur Taylor and Margaret Hill) about 1680 in Baltimore County, Maryland. Ann "Anna" Taylor was born about 1662 in

Baltimore County, Maryland. She died on 13 May 1716 in Baltimore County, Maryland. "Ann (Taylor) Greer was living June 6, 1687 when she and James Greer received the 75

acres from his father. She was the wife of Lawrence Richardson at the time he held trust in the 75 acres of land for "John, ye orphan son of James Greer." She was the wife of Oliver

Harriott at the time he was custodian for these same acres for John Grear, March 14, 1714, when Ann released her dower rights in this land when John and Sarah sold it to Mark

Guisard. James Greer and Ann "Anna" Taylor had the following children:

 +12 i. John Greer.

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THIRD GENERATION

12. John Greer was born between 1682 and 1688 in Gunpowder River, Baltimore County, Maryland. He died on 15 Sep 1750 in Baltimore County, Maryland. "John Greer, as

his name is spelled in all of his records, was born in Baltimore County in 1688, as will be proven, and was a planter at the same time speculated in lands to a considerable extent. His

first land consisted of the 75 acres which he inherited from his parents; his purchases were from 1718 to 1720 and his sales were from 1714 to 1748. After 1748, his name is not

found in Maryland records. In order to verify the above statements, that John Greer was the son of James Grear and his wife, Ann Taylor, and that John Greer was born in 1688,

copies of Court Records will follow:

"BOOK T. R. #A, fOLIO 333, TRANSCRIBED FROM LIBER 15, FOLIO 296-71: "John Greer to Walter Bosley: This Indenture, 4 March 1714, John Greer, of Baltimore

County, Maryland, planter, has received rent from and sells to Walter Bosley 75 acres, being part of Arthur's Choice in Baltimore County, on the South side of Gunpowder River,

called Bird's Run, beginning at a red oak... (The entire description will not be copied, because it is exactly as shown in the original grant from Arthur Taylor to James and Ann

Greer.) "Be it remembered that on 4 March 1714, came Ann Harriott, mother of said Greer and Sarah, his wife, both of whom being privately examined by Luke Raven, Gent., one

of the Justices of the City Court of Baltimore County, acknowledged all their rights of Dower to the within mentioned, bargained and sold land and improvements on the premises of

the said John Grear, likewise acknowledged in open Court, according to the Act of Assembly. Signed John Stokes."

"BALTIMORE COURT PRECEEDINGS - LAND COMMISSION, LIBER H.W.S. NO. 2, FOLIO 144, 1732 DEPOSITIONS: "John Greer testified of having been informed,

some fourteen or fifteen years before, by his uncle, John Taylor, then Deputy Surveyor, that the beginning tree of Heathcoat's cottage was a bounded poplar tree which stood at the

head of the first draft above Nicholas Day's plantation, near to an Indian cabin and that at some small distance from the place where the deponent now stands, being a bounded

poplar tree standing near the head of a great drain on the third branch on the North side of the main falls of the Gunpowder River, there appeared to have been formerly made an

Indian cabin." (This again confirms that John Grear's mother was Ann Taylor, since her brother, John Taylor was his uncle.)

"MARYLAND HISTORY MAGAZINE, Volume 18, page 21: "In 1738, John Greer deposed that he had been bitten by a rattlesnake in the woods about 30 perches above the

mouth of the Long Green River and futher, that he was 50 years old at that time." This places his birth as in 1688.

"BALTIMORE COURT PRECEEDINGS - LAND COMMISSION, LIBER W.B.M. VOLUME 16, FOLIO 147: "July 25, 1743, before the Land Commission held to

determine the bounds of a tract called, Thompson's Tott, laid out for George Thompson. That thirty years ago, or there about, Mr. John Taylor, who then lived on the South side of

Gunpowder River near the ferry and afterward went to Carolina, and if now living is seventy-eight, the said John Taylor shewed this deponent a bounded black and red oak which

this deponent now sheweth unto us, fairly bounded by three trees... the aforesaid oak stands on the East side of a swampy stream descending into Momigold Run, now called

Honeygo Run." (This is given to establish the birth date of John Taylor, as 1665.)

"ANN ARUNDEL & BALTIMORE COUNTIES - RENT ROLLS NO 1, FOLIO 230: "Greers park, 100 acres, rent 4 shillings, surveyed to John Greer, 3 February 1718, lying

on the Great Falls of Gunpowder River in Baltimore County, patented to said Greer, 6 March 1732, Certificate A.M., #1, folio 213, Patent P.L. #8, folio 802. These same 100

acres were transferred to Mark Guishard, 5 April 1748, by John Greer and his wife, Sarah, did not join in the Deed. (T.B. #E., folio 715.)"

"ANN ARUNDEL & BALTIMORE COUNTIES - RENT ROLL NO. 1, FOLIO 259: "Greers Improvement, 58 acres, rent 2 shillings, 6 pence, surveyed for John Greer, 24

January 1720, lying on North side of Main Falls of Gunpowder River. Certificate E.I. #3, folio 289. Patented E.I., #4, folio 167. John Greer sold these to Mark Guishard 5 April

1748. T.B. #E., folio 715. Wife did not join in Deed."

"ANN ARUNDEL & BALTIMORE COUNTIES - CERTIFICATE E.I. #3, FOLIO 443: Greer's Discovery, 92 acres, rent 0-3-8 1/2, surveyed to John Greer 24 January 1720,

lying on North side of Main Falls of Gunpowder River. Patented to Thomas Greer, Liber E.L. #4, folio 410. John Greer transferred these 92 acres to Mark Guishard 2 March

1747, wife did not join in Deed. It is here assumed that Sarah Greer died following the birth of her twin sons, Benjamin and Joseph Greer, born 6 January 1727.

"Consulted Maryland records fail to disclose Wills for either John Greer or his wife, Sarah, so the names of their children have had to (be) established through records to be quoted

in each case. Before listing their names, because this is a controvercial question, the following references are given:

"SCOTCH - IRISH SETTLEMENT IN VIRGINIA, (AUGUSTA COUNTY RECORDS, page 275) VOLUME 3, page 18, by Lyman C. Chalkley.: "15 September 1750 -

John Greer's Noncupative Will: Debts to be paid to William Long, William Neil, John Kennedy and Nathaniel Patterson; son, Alexander, to be bound to a trade; one child to be

bound to John Mitchell; one child to be bound to S. D. (sic, evidently Samuel Doak); oldest girl to go to some decent woman to learn housewifery." Executors: John Mitchell and

Samuel Doak. Teste: James Corwin, John Mitchell, Samuel Doak, Francis Beatey." IBID. VOLUME 3, PAGE 446: "22 September 1750, John Greer's Vendue: Sold to John

Lockhart, John Roseman, Sarah Lynn, John Teat, John Mitchell, Chilpa Kelley, George Buckingham, Thomas Scott, Jane Lynn, Thomas Teat and Francis Beatey. John New."

IBID. PAGE 26 (AUGUSTA COUNTY RECORD, page 447): "24 August 1752, John Mitchell and Samuel Doage (sic.) gave bond as guardians apointed for Rebecca,

Alexander, Martha and Mary Greer, orphan children of John Greer, deceased, with Surety, Francis Beatey." IBID. VOLUME 1, PAGE 66 (AUGUSTA COUNTY ORDER

BOOK, NO. 4, PAGE 331.): "Samuel Doak and John Mitchell, guardians for the orphan children of John Greer, made final settlement, 22 November 1754."

"It is not known upon what date John Greer went to Virginia, presumably to be nearer his older children. While proof is lacking, it is thought the documents, above quoted, apply to

the John Greer, born in Baltimore County, Maryland in 1688, who must have married again, some time after the death of his first wife, Sarah, assumed to have died after January

1727, and by his second marriage became the father of four additional children: Rebecca, Alexander, Martha and Mary Greer. His second wife must have predeceased him, since

her name was not mentioned in his Will and his children were spoken of as orphans. The fact that his estate was settled 22 November 1754, it is obvious that his youngest child,

Mary, had reached maturity, 18 for a daughter, or at marriage, at or before that date. Accordingly, her birth date would be about 1736; Martha in 1734; Alexander in 1732 and

Rebecca in 1730, close to three years after the death of Sarah, his first wife. It must be remembered that in Augusta County, Virginia, at that time, there many others by name of

Greer, such as those from Andrew Greer to Tennessee and others from The Carolinas. It is very difficult to seggregate them, John Greer, born in 1688, would have been but

sixty-two years old at his death, in 1750. This sketch is based on the above conclusion and will credit John Greer with children, thirteen: Their names will follow:" [children and

descendants listed.] (GREGOR, MacGREGOR, MacGHEE, MAGRUDER, GRIERSON, GRIER, GREER --- A HISTORY OF THE ORIGIN OF THE ABOVE FAMILIES

AND MANY OF THEIR DESCENDANTS, 1954, compiled by Robert M. Torrence, A.B., F.G.S.P., F.I.A.G., 110 Edgevale Road Baltimore 10, Maryland, pages 144 - 148 .)

(NOTE FROM RALPH TERRY: The following sources are mentioned by Bell (others?) Rent Roll #1 folio 259; Book E.L. #4 folio 410; General information about John Greer as

per J. B. Bell in GREER KINSMEN from Mrs. Vivian G. White, expert on this family, 1970; Marge Hankins, 1986, who lists Gayle Holmes, Ann Hughes Farnsworth, Margretta

Schrader, Dr. Benjamin Cartwright and research in Kentucky and Missouri as her sources. Carolyn Beal lists her sources as T. N. Greer; Sylvester Greer; Mary Weaver Garcia;

Darlene Leese (T Bar Ranch, Eldorado, Oklahoma 73537); and the Mormon Records submitted by Ellen Greer Rees.)

"Many compilations on the Greer family show Sarah (Day) Greer's death date from 1742 to 1747. This date seems to have been based on Sarah not signing any deed releases

during 1747 and 1748. However, a logical scenerio could be as follows: According to the vestry books, in Baltimore County, "John Greer was admonished for co-habitating

unlawfully with one Chloe Jones (not dated)."" (ROYAL HERITAGE OF THE GREERS by Carolina Beal, 1985, page 33.) (NOTE FROM RALPH TERRY: Sarah, John's wife,

apparently, separated from him and went to live with her son, Aquilla at the Chilimara Plantation (as seen by a land lease record found under Aquilla Greer). John was still in

Baltimore County, Maryland where he had four additional children, possibly by Chloe Jones. John later moved to Augusta County, Virginia. His last four children were possibly

born out of wedlock, as they were not accepted by John's older children and were bound out to pay John's debts after his death. As some sources show Obadiah Pritchett to be

Sarah's second husband, rather than her first husband, she could have married him after separating from John.)

He was married to Sarah Day (daughter of Nicholas Day and Sarah Lowe) on 4 Mar 1704 in St John's Parish, Joppa, Baltimore County, Maryland. Sarah Day was born about

1686 in Baltimore County, Maryland. She died about 1758 in Baltimore County, Maryland. John Greer and Sarah Day had the following children:

 +30 i. James Greer.

 +31 ii. William Greer Sr..

 +32 iii. Moses Greer.

 +33 iv. John Greer Jr..

 +34 v. Aquilla Greer.

 35 vi. Sarah Greer was born about 1720/21 in Gunpowder River, Baltimore County, Maryland. She was christened on 15 Feb 1721 in St John's Parish, Gunpowder River,

Baltimore County, Maryland. She died after 15 Feb 1721 in Gunpowder River, Baltimore County, Maryland. "Sarah Greer was a twin of Ann and died as an infant." (GREER

KINSMEN by J. B. Bell). "Sarah died at seven years of age." (GREERS THAT GOT TO GEORGIA by Julian Greer). The birth (or christening ?) date of Sarah and Ann Greer is

recorded in St. John's Parish Records, page 99.

"But who is the Sarah Greer who witnessed the will (of John Greer, Jr.)? Is She Sarah Day Greer, wife of John Greer Sr or I and mother of John Greer, Jr or III? If so, it is strange

that we have not come across her and John Greer Sr or I in any records since the late 1740's in Baltimore County, Maryland. Then, too, she would have been in her 90's by the

time of this will, 1782. Also, Moses Greer's testimony in 1769, as I have pointed out, makes it sufficiently clear that John Greer Sr or I and his wife Sarah Day Greer were both

dead by 1749 or close thereafter. Very probably this Sarah Greer who witnesses the will was none other than John Greer Jr or II's sister Sarah who never married." (MY GREER

AND RELATED FAMILIES, by Clayton Alvis Greer, page 70.)

 +36 vii. Ann Greer.

 +37 viii. Thomas Greer.

 +38 ix. Joseph Greer.

 +39 x. Benjamin Greer.

He was married to Chloe Jones?. John Greer and Chloe Jones? had the following children:

 40 i. Rebecca Greer was born about 1730 in Baltimore County, Maryland.

 41 ii. Alexander Greer was born about 1732 in Baltimore County, Maryland.

 42 iii. Martha Greer was born about 1734 in Baltimore County, Maryland.

 43 iv. Mary Greer was born about 1736 in Baltimore County, Maryland.

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FIFTH GENERATION

114. Benjamin Greer was born on 9 Feb 1746 in Albemarle County, Virginia. He died on 23 Oct 1816 in Green County, Kentucky. "Benjamine Greer was a revolutionary war

soldier of some reknown. He was born 9 February 1746 (according to a listing in the DAR PATRIOT INDEX, probably obtained from a family Bible record) and died 23 October

1816 (according to the same source, which also gives the name of his first wife as Nancy Wilcoxson). Benjamine was born in Albemarle County, Virginia and grew up in Franklin

County (Virginia). Soon after obtaining his majority, Benjamine settled in the area that is now southwest Wilkes County, North Carolina. This was a part of Rowan County until

1777. No Greer's appear in the Rowan County records, which have been well abstracted, not on any of the surviving Rowan tax records in Surry County deeds either, although this

is a period of invisibility in the land records of the northwest part of North Carolina. The area was a part of the Lord Granville District, in which the lord was reserved sole

proprietary rights to make land grants. However at his death in January of 1763, a dispute arose among his heirs that proceeded into lengthy litigation. The result of this was that

Lord Granville's land office closed down and never reopened until the Revolution abrogated the property rights in 1778. The result of this was that in Wilkes County, where very

little settlement had taken place before 1763, there were almost no established titles to land until 1778 when the change in government produced a rush to make land entries and thus

protect the settlers claims to land they had already occupied for a number of years.

"Benjamine probably moved to Wilkes County about 1770 along with other Greer's and began clearing land, building cabins, and starting farming, all in the region around Cub

Creek in the southwest part of modern Wilkes. We first find Benjamine in Surry County on a tax list of 1771, on which he and his brother Aquilla appear. By 1772 his father John

and brothers Joshua and John Jr. were also taxed there. Surry County Will Book 1 (page 102a, abstracted by Jo White Linn) lists among the purchasers at the sale of the estate of

James Burk, 28 October 1776, Acquilla Greer, Benjamine Greer, and John Greer.

"Benjamine probably married just before or soon after his arrival in North Carolina, although a bond does not survive here. his first wife was Nancy Wilcoxson, and this another

family which, like the Greers, appears to have come from Maryland.

"We late find in the Wilkes County Land Entry Book for 1778 - 1781, under the date 4 March 1778 (page 75): "Benjamine Greer enters 200 acres joining Francis Hardgrave,

including the improvement where on the said Greer now lives." The official entry was recorded with the Secretary of State under the date 7 June 1778 and the tract, on Cub Creek

joining Francis Hardgrave, James Mitchell and William Smith, was granted 22 September 1785 (Wilkes #620 - photostat attached [in book]). The land was surveyed on 8 October

1789 but the names of the chain bearers are not given. A few years later Benjamine moved to the area that is now Watauga County, entering claimes to tracts on the south fork of

New River in 1781 and 1789.

"At the first court of Wilkes County in March of 1778 Benjamine's father, John Greer, qualified as a Justice of the Peace and Benjamine became constable in Capt. Hargrave's

district which is said to have been in the area of Moravian Creek (see Johnson J. Hayes, THE LAND OF WILKES, page 31).

"During the revolution Benjamine Greer apparently saw various services in the Wilkes County Militia, although documentary record of this is scarce. One account of his most famous

exploit, the rescue of Col. Benjamine Cleveland from the Tories in April 1781 near Meat Camp Creek, is related in A HISTORY OF WATAUGA COUNTY (Appendix B [in

book]. The source of this account, in its earliest published version, is apparently Lyman C. Draper's KING'S MOUNTAIN AND ITS HEROES, 1881, photostats from which that

relate to the rescue are also attached (as Appendix F [in book] as well as a few pages of supplementary material from John Preston Arthur's WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA: A

HISTORY, 1730 - 1913 (which is Appendix E [in book]. This adds the tradition, preserved in the Greer family, that is was Ben Greer who fired the shot that killed Col. Ferguson

at King's Mountain. Lyman Draper unfortunately does not cite his sources for his account which, although probably factual, was likely based on hearsay evidence and also, perhaps,

papers of Col. Cleveland. Wilkes County Militia rosters do not survive, not are any original pay vouchers issued to Benjamin Greer extant. However proof that he did recieve

payment for militia service is contained in the books of the North Carolina Treasurer and Comptroller, Revolutionary Army Accounts. In Book A of this series (Vol. 40, page 221)

is recorded a payment in 1782 (?) Morgan District, which included Wilkes County, as follows: "0879. To Benjamine Greer for Service pr ditto -.16-." The ditto refers to the

statement "for Service pr Pay Roll" a few lines above.

"The account of Benjamin's rescue of Col. Cleveland implies that he had moved his residence further west by 1781 to the South Fork of New River near the present Watauga -

Wilkes border, and in the area where Joshua Greer later lived. First, on 24 January 1781 he entered a claim to 100 acres, apparently obtained from one Stringer, which was granted

9 July 1794 (#1121, photostat attached [in book]. Chain carriers for the survey, 20 January 1791, were his sons Wm. Greer and John Greer. This land is said to have been four

miles above Cleveland's plantation at the "Old Field" where Gap Creek enters the South Fork. After the war Benjamin continued to increase his holdings here; on 16 July 1789 he

entered a claim to 100 acres at his own line which was issued 9 July 1794 (Wilkes #1199, photostat attached [in book]. That he had actually moved his residence to this plantation

is shown by the fact that he sold his Cub Creek land in 1790: "Wilkes County Deeds B-1:73): This Indenture made this Twenty seventh day of April ... 1790 Between Benjamin

Greer of the ... County of Wilkes ... and Turner Hampton of the county ... aforesaid ... witnesseth that for ... one hundred pounds ... hath ... sold ... unto the sd Turner Hampton ... a

certain tract of parcel of alnd containing two hundred acres Lying ... on the Waters of cub creek, Beginning on a post oak and red oak sapling on a flat in Francis Hardgrave line ...

John Greers line by a Path ... (signed) Benjamin Greer ... Witness: Rowland Judd, Isaac Walker, Francis Hardgrave."

"Benjamine was a member of the Three Forks Baptist Church in Watauga from 1790 to 1800 (according to A HISTORY OF WATAUGA COUNTY) but had to leave the church

in 1801 because of his intemperance.

"Benjamine obtained one other tract of 100 acres on the South Fork of New River, purchasing a warrant from Jacob Holeman (sic) on 14 March 1798, which was issued to him 7

June 1799 (Wilkes #1590, photostat attached [in book]. Benjamine's daughter Ann married Thomas Holman, evidently a member of this family. Benjamine Greer is listed in Wilkes

County on the State Census of 1787 and the Federal Census of 1790, and in Ashe County (created in 1799) in 1800. Sometime in this period his first wife died. In Wilkes County

on 26 April 1791 he married his second wife who is said by the HISTORY OF WATAUGA COUNTY to have Mrs. Sallie Atkinson Jones (although the DAR PATRIOT INDEX

states he [Benjamin] married secondly \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Cutbirth). Mrs. Jones was the widow of Thomas Jones who died of a wound received in the Revolutionary War.

"Benjamine sold the "Holeman" tract in 1800: "(Ashe County Deeds A:176): This Indenture made this Seventeenth Day of October ... 1800 between Benjamine Greer of Ashe

County ... and Elizabeth Blackburn of said county ... witnesseth that he the said Greer for ... sixty pounds ... hath sold ... one hundred acres ... on New River, Beginning at a

chestnut near a branch ... granted to the aforesaid Greer by a State deed Dated August the third ... 1778. (signed) Benjamin Greer. Witness: Jacob Holman, James Propitt."

"He sold the bulk of his remaining lands to Philip Church on 10 August 1803 consisting of two tracts, one of 15 acres on the north side of New River (B:349), and his 100 acre

home tract described in the following deed: "(B:348): This Indenture made this tenth day of August ... 1803 between Benjamin Greer of the County of Ashe ... and Philip Church of

the County aforesaid ... witnesseth that the said Benjamin Greer ... for ... Three Hundred dollars ... hath sold ... land ... beginning in his other line on a Red oak corner on a Ridge,

then South crossing the River Seventy Poles to a stake, then with the River one hundred and sixty Poles to a Stake on the Bank of the River, then North fifty West thirty six Poles to

a White oak, then North seventy Poles to a stake, then East one hundred and sixty poles to the first station, being one hundred acres lying on the South Fork of New River, being

the tract of land Greer now lived on ... (signed) Benjamin Greer. Witness: William Greer, Jesse Greer."

"We know from A HISTORY OF WATAUGA COUNTY ... (see Appendix B [in book] that Benjamin left Ashe County for Kentucky, leaving many of his sons behind. This

move is probably dated by the 10 August 1803 sale of the 100 acres on New River "being the tract of land said Greer now live on ...". Benjamin made a will 21 February 1816,

proven 25 November 1816 in Green County, Kentucky (Green County Will Book 2, page 3, photostat attached [in book]) in which he left property to his wife Sarah and younger

children. The ten older children were bequeathed only $1.00 each and none of them settled in Green County.

"Benjamine Greer and his first wife, Nancy Wilcoxson, apparently had ten surviving children. The not altogether consistent evidence of the census suggests they should be dated as

follows: [list shows eleven children, with birthdates, however, Benjamin appears to be duplicated]. Benjamine Greer and second wife Sarah had issue: [list of six children with

approximated census dates]." (OUR GREER FAMILY HERITAGE, 1983, by Thomas H. Greer, 335 Minamontes Avenue, Half Moon Bay, California 94019, pages 29 - .)

"Besides Joshua Greer, two other Greers, said to be his brothers, settled on the South Fork of New River. These were David Greer and Samuel Greer, both of whom left

descendants in Watauga County. It appears that most all the Watauga County Greers descend from Benjamin. The other early Greers listed in Wilkes County in the 1790 Census all

appear to have resided within areas included in modern Wilkes County or Ashe County, rather than Watauga." (OUR GREER FAMILY HERITAGE, 1983, by Thomas H. Greer,

335 Minamontes Avenue, Half Moon Bay, California 94019, page 27.)

"Benjamin Greer was a soldier in the Revolutionary War under the command of Col. Ben Cleveland. There were several Greers in the Battle of Kings Mountain. It was during this

time that the famous "Greer Hint" was coined with Benjamin a participant. One of his fellow soldiers stole Benjamin's tobacco from him. When Greer threatened he would whip him

for it, Col. Ben Cleveland remonstrated with him and urged strong reason against it saying his men should fight the enemy and not each other. "I'll give him a hint of it anyway," said

Greer and when he met the tobacco pilfer he knocked him down. "Greer's Hint" was long a byword in all that region. That saying "Greer Hint," somewhat modified to read "you

don't have to knock me down with a hint" is still a byword with the family." (KINGS MOUNTAIN AND ITS HEROES by Draper, 1881.)

"Benjamin Greer was in Ashe County, North Carolina in 1799." (GREER FAMILY HISTORY, by Mrs. Ellen A. Fawcett, North Little Rock Arkansas. This was recieved by

Frances Gosney Hoover, 5815 Gladstone Blvd, Kansas City, Missouri 64123-1517 in 1981, who in turn sent it to Ralph Terry in 1995. It appears to be a part of a collection of

families, as it appears on pages 78 to 82.)

"Benjamin and wife, Nancy Wilcoxin, settled at Old Fields on the west bank of the South Fork of New River in Ashe County, North Carolina. About 1890 the old chimney was still

standing where the old home had been. Later in years, he married a Mrs. Jones, whose husband had died from wounds received in the Revolution. Late in life, he moved to Green

River in Western Kentucky, where he died." (Glen C. Roberts, 2097 Superior Avenue, South Charleston, West Virginia 25303.)

"They (Nancy and Benjamin Greer) went to Virginia; Rowan County, North Carolina when her family went, and to Kentucky when Daniel Boone went to Kentucky." (BOONE'S

by Sarah Ridge Street Rockenfield (Route #1, Box 8, Sullivan, Indiana 47882, tel: 812-268-5493), printed by Whipporwill Publications, Evansville, Indiana, 1987, page 357.)

"In the name of God, Amen. I, Benjamin Greer, of the County of Green, State of Kentucky, being through the goodness and mercies of God though weak in body, yet of a sound

mind and perfect understanding and memory, do constitute this my last will and testament and desire it may be recorded as such. I most humbly bequeath my soul to God who gave

it, beseeching ... (page was torn and taped at this point and part missing) ... and my body buried like seed in the ground, not to be lost, but here buried to remain till the morning of

the Resurrection through Jesus Christ our Lord. As to my burial, I do desire to be interred, at the discretion of my Executors, thereafter named, who, I doubt not will arrange it with

prudence. As to my worldly estate, I will, and positively order that all my debts be paid. First, I do bequeath to my two youngest sons namely Aquilla and Edmond Greer, the two

tracts of land I now live on to be equally divided between them: and the rest of my estate to be equally divided between my three daughters: namely Sally, Elizabeth and Polly Greer;

but my wife, Sarah Greer, to hold the same in her hands during live; but the said children to have their equal part as they become of age or marry. At the discretion of my Executors

to which I do appoint my wife Sarah Greer, Aquilla Greer and Robert Erwin, and do constitute the executors of this my last will and testament and trustees for my wife and children.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this twenty first day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand Eight hundred and sixteen. N. B. and I do will that all

my other children namely, John, Rachel, William, Benjamin, Ann, Jesse, David, Samuel, Joshua and James have one dollar each out of my estate. Signed Benjamin (X) Greer,

witnesses: Benjamin Bayly, Christopher Hinker, James (X) Lile" (Green County, Kentucky Will Records.)

"The genealogy of Benjamin Greer is also recorded in "A Factual History of Early Ashe County, North Carolina," page 160, as well as a typescript of his will. The daughter, Ann or

Nancy Ann, is not mentioned in this typescript, but is mentioned in the genealogy. She was probably left out in error." (Ralph Terry.)

(NOTE FROM RALPH TERRY: John M. Greer wrote GREER, A FAMILY RECORD about 1942, about this Benjamin. His publication is the one that somehow used a

photograph of Duart Castle on the island of Mull, Scotland and misnamed it "Lag Castle." He used the assumption that his Greer family descended from the line of Henry Greer of

Ireland, son of Sir James Greer of Lag. He admits that his direct connection to the Irish Greers "becomes blurred" with the immigration of one of Henry descendant's, but still goes

on this assumption. More recent research, done by the descendants of Daniel Boone, has shown that John M. was a decendant of James Greer, the immigrant, brother of Henry,

whom John M. thought they descended through. (This Benjamin was a son-in-law of Sarah (Boone) Wilcoxson, sister of Daniel Boone.) This family is still related to Henry Greer's

descendants, just not directly. The information about John M.'s ancestor, Benjamin, was correct, John M. just plugged his data into the wrong line. Benjamin was a son of John, but

not the John, who descended from Henry Greer. Even though John M. had a bad assumption and a misnamed photograph, his family should, nevertheless be proud of the work that

he did. Anyone who takes the time to research, write down and publish what they know of their family is to be commended. I feel certain that some of our descendants will, some

day, appreciate the work that each of us has done.)

He was married to Nancy Wilcoxson (daughter of John Wilcoxson and Sarah "Sally" Boone) in 1767 in Rowen (now Ashe County) County, North Carolina. Nancy Wilcoxson

was born on 17 May 1745 in probably Berks County, Pennsylvania. She died on 30 Oct 1790 in Wilkes County, North Carolina. (NOTE FROM RALPH TERRY: A LDS

Ancestral File listing shows Nancy Wilcoxson to be the wife of John Greer, Jr, father-in-law of Nancy Wilcoxson ... this is incorrect.) Benjamin Greer and Nancy Wilcoxson had the

following children:

 +280 i. Rachel Greer.

 +281 ii. John Greer.

 +282 iii. William Greer.

 +283 iv. Benjamin Greer Jr..

 +284 v. Nancy Ann Greer.

 +285 vi. Jesse Greer Sr..

 +286 vii. David Greer.

 +287 viii. James Greer.

 +288 ix. Samuel Greer.

 +289 x. Joshua Greer.

He was married to Sarah "Sallie" Atkinson (daughter of Edmund Atkinson and Unknown) on 26 Apr 1791 in Wilkes County, North Carolina. Sarah "Sallie" Atkinson was born

in 1740. She was buried in Wilkes County, North Carolina. She died in Wilkes County, North Carolina. (NOTE FROMA RALPH TERRY: DAR records indicate Sarah Atkinson

Greer's maiden name as Cutbirth. Could she have been married to a Cutbirth?) Benjamin Greer and Sarah "Sallie" Atkinson had the following children:

 +290 i. Aquilla Greer.

 +291 ii. Sally Greer.

 +292 iii. Elizabeth Greer.

 293 iv. Polly Greer was born after 1792.

 294 v. Edmond Greer was born after 1800.

 295 vi. Thomas Greer was born about 1810. (NOTE FROM RALPH TERRY: This Thomas, born about 1810, is shown in a list on page 46 of OUR GREER FAMILY

HERITAGE, 1983, by Thomas H. Greer, 335 Minamontes Avenue, Half Moon Bay, California 94019. I am not sure where Thomas H. Greer got this name. If there was a

Thomas, he possibly died young, as he is not mentioned in Benjamine's will of 1816, and Benjamine states, "my two youngest sons." Also, in A GREER FAMILY RECORD, by

John M. Greer, pages 23 and 24, another son Thomas, who married Hannah Ketron, is shown, and gives one son, Isaac, who married Nancy Norris, and lists their children with

some additional data. It appears this Isaac Greer was Isaac Newton Greer, son of Benjamin's son, William. I do not feel there was a son, Thomas, as none is listed in Benjamin's

will, which appears to be very thorough. Was there a Thomas Greer who married Hannah Ketron?)

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SIXTH GENERATION

285. Jesse Greer Sr. was born on 14 Nov 1778 in Zionville, Watauga County, North Carolina. He died on 17 Sep 1869 in Zionville, Watauga County, North Carolina. He was

buried in Blackburn/Howell Cemetery, Bald Mountain Township, Watauga County, North Carolina. "Jesse Greer, son of Benjamin was born November 14, 1778 and married

Polly Morris who was born September 17, 1787. They spent their entire life around Zionville, North Carolina where they reared seventeen children, whose names are listed on the

next page." (GREER - A FAMILY RECORD, 1942 by John M. Greer., pages 24 - 25.)

Jesse and his son Jesse were Justices of the Peace a good portion of their lives.

"Jesse Greer born 14 November 1778 Wilkes County, North Carolina died 20 Sep 1860 buried Watauga County, North Carolina in Blackburn/Howell Cemetery, Bald Mountain

Township. Married Mary/Polly Morris 17 Jan 1800. (She was 12 when they married and 92 when she died in 1880. She lived to see at least one ggggrandchild. Jesse and Mary

had 17 children in a 29 year period (no multiples)." (Mary Floy Katzman.)

"Jesse Greer died at Todd, Ashe County, North Carolina." (Douglas Blackburn.)

He was married to Mary "Polly" Morris on 17 Jan 1800 in Ashe County, North Carolina. Mary "Polly" Morris was born on 17 Sep 1787. She died on 29 Feb 1880 in

Zionville, Watauga County, North Carolina. She was buried in Blackburn/Howell Cemetery, Bald Mountain Township, Watauga County, North Carolina. "Mary Morris died at

Todd, Ashe County, North Carolina" (Douglas Blackburn.) Jesse Greer Sr. and Mary "Polly" Morris had the following children:

 +808 i. Fannie Greer.

 809 ii. Benjamin Greer was born on 9 May 1802 in Linville, North Carolina.

 +810 iii. Joshua Greer.

 +811 iv. Nancy Greer.

 +812 v. Jesse Greer Jr..

 +813 vi. Polly Greer.

 +814 vii. Sallie Greer.

 +815 viii. Jane Greer.

 +816 ix. Elizabeth "Betsy" Greer.

 +817 x. Joseph Greer.

 +818 xi. Andrew Greer.

 819 xii. Cynthia Greer was born on 1 Oct 1819 in Linville, North Carolina.

 +820 xiii. Franklin Greer.

 +821 xiv. Isaac Greer.

 +822 xv. William Greer.

 +823 xvi. James J. "J. J." Greer.

 +824 xvii. Elvira Greer.

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SEVENTH GENERATION

812. Jesse Greer Jr. was born on 16 Dec 1806 in Linville, North Carolina. He died on 29 Feb 1880 in Watauga County, North Carolina. He was buried in Banner Elk

Cemetery. 1850 Johnson County, Tennessee census: Jesse GREER, 43, NC; Frances GREER, 40, NC; Welburn GREER, 16; Polly GREER, 12; Margaret A. GREER, 7.

"Jesse Greer lived near Todd, later moved to Trade, Tennessee. Buried in the Banner Elk Cemetary with wife & her sister, Nancy. He died 29 Feb 1892." (Douglas Blackburn.)

(NOTE FROM RALPH TERRY: Other sources say Jesse, Jr. died 29 Feb 1888 in Watauga County, North Carolina and is buried there. I am not sure what state or county

Banner Elk Cemetery is located in.)

He was married to Frances "Frankie" "Francie" Brown (daughter of Brown and Unknown) on 16 Nov 1826. Frances "Frankie" "Francie" Brown was born on 19 Nov 1810

in North Carolina. She died on 2 Dec 1905 in Watauga County, North Carolina. She was buried in Banner Elk Cemetery. Jesse Greer Jr. and Frances "Frankie" "Francie" Brown

had the following children:

 +2024 i. Caroline Greer.

 +2025 ii. Wilborn H. Greer.

 +2026 iii. Polly Greer.

 2027 iv. Margaret A. Greer was born about 1843.

 +2028 v. Emeline Greer.

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EIGHTH GENERATION

2024. Caroline Greer .

She was married to Issac Wilson. Caroline Greer and Issac Wilson had the following children:

 4350 i. Nancy Emaline Wilson.

 4351 ii. Frances Wilson.

 4352 iii. Polly Wilson.

 4353 iv. John Wilborn Wilson.

 4354 v. Martha Wilson.

 4355 vi. Robert Boyd Wilson.

 4356 vii. William A. Wilson.

 4357 viii. Sarah Marilla Wilson.

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