

Peter Watson of Swansicutt Creek  
Worcester County  
Maryland  
and  
Accomack County  
Virginia  
Descendants

PETER WATSON OF SWANSICUTT CREEK  
WORCESTER COUNTY  
MARYLAND  
AND  
ACCOMACK COUNTY  
VIRGINIA  
DESCENDANTS

A Family History  
Commissioned  
by  
William H. Watson

Mary Frances Carey  
Genealogist

## Foreword

While the Watson ancestors of William H. Watson are not known by the family beyond his great-grandfather, John W. Watson, who married Mary Ellen Thornton in 1877, there is little doubt but that he is a descendant of Peter Watson of Swansicutt Creek, who settled in present-day Worcester County, Maryland, in 1678. A complete search of local records for the descendants of Peter Watson has been made and this booklet shows those who lived in lower Worcester County and upper Accomack County, Virginia. Some of Peter's descendants lived in upper Worcester County, others in Delaware, and some left the area for other states and other parts of Maryland.

It should be noted that Peter Watson's brother, Robert Watson, settled in lower Accomack County and his descendants remained in St. George Parish. There was one exception. Ephraim Watson, a descendant of Robert Watson, and son of Moses Watson, who died in lower Accomack County in 1764, married Tabitha Wharton of Wharton Place on Assawoman Creek. They had a son, John Wharton Watson, who married Betsy S. Simpson in 1806. John Wharton Watson bought 175 acres, in the neighborhood of Assawoman Creek, from George W. Bundick in 1819. When Ephraim Watson died testate in 1823, he left son John W. "lands that was John Wharton's deceased". This John W. Watson and his wife were living in Baltimore when they sold Accomack County land in 1827, but apparently moved back to Accomack County, where he died intestate in 1842, when his son Thomas S. (Simpson?) Watson was named his administrator. Thomas S. Watson had married Hetty Godwin, daughter of Nicholas Godwin, in 1832. He died intestate the year after his father and the 1850 census shows his widow in the household of her brother, James D. Godwin, with her two children, one a John of 11 years. The 1860 census shows this John Watson, 21, in the household of James Corbin. John N. (Nicholas?) Watson, 25, married Harriet D. Byrd, daughter of Selby Byrd, in 1866. They both have tombstones standing in J. W. Taylor Memorial Cemetery at Temperance-

ville. His states he was born in 1840 and died in 1909. John Wharton Watson apparently also had a younger son, John E. (Ephraim?) Watson, who married Elizabeth Haley in 1849. He and his wife are buried in Edgehill Cemetery at Accomac. They had at least eight children, the eldest of whom, another John E. Watson, married Elizabeth Harrison in 1874, the marriage record stating he was a son of John and Elizabeth Watson.

The 1850 census for Somerset County, Maryland, shows John Watson, a 22-year-old unmarried blacksmith, living in an hotel in Princess Anne. Nothing more has been found of him. He was not listed in the Somerset County censuses of 1860 or 1870. Neither has he been found in Worcester County or Accomack County. There were no Watsons in present-day Somerset County in 1840 or earlier censuses.

It should also be noted that there were early Watsons in other areas of Virginia. A Robert Watson left a nuncupative will in Isle of Wight County in 1651 and a Thomas Watson died intestate in Norfolk County in 1656.

After an exhaustive search, the name of the father of John W. Watson, of the Assawoman/Atlantic area, has not been proved. The preponderance of evidence strongly suggests he was a grandson of John Watson, who married Rachel Waters of New Church in 1809. The records indicate they had a son, William H. Watson, who would have married circa 1850, or a few years before, and became the father of the John W. Watson, who retired to New Church about 1912 and died there in 1934.

When writing a family history, copies of early wills are usually included, showing the handwriting of the County Clerk, how the testator signed his name (could he write it or did he use his mark?), and the types of possessions handed down. Since Maryland wills do not consistently make satisfactory copies, most herein have been transcribed. Note the use of the letter "f" in place of "s", whenever a double "s" occurred in the earlier wills. In that of Charles Watson, Sen<sup>r</sup>, in 1764, the letter "f" was used throughout the will in place of "s", even in the Watson name.

Mrs. Victoria Watson Pruitt of Chincoteague, in writing of her ancestors, states that three brothers, Zadock Watson, Purnel Watson, and Robert Watson (her grandfather who is labeled Robert Watson V in this study) came to Chincoteague from Horntown, Virginia, in the early part of the seventeenth century. The records indicate that it was actually Mrs. Pruitt's great-grandfather, Robert Watson, IV, and his two half-brothers, Zadock Watson and John Watson, who settled on Chincoteague Island in the early 1800s.

The Jehu Watson line was prepared in 1983 for a granddaughter of Elizabeth Pettit Watson Meelheim of Horntown. Mr. Leslie Powell Dryden, genealogist of Hyattsville, Maryland, now deceased, searched Maryland records at the Hall of Records in Annapolis for early Watsons in Somerset and Worcester Counties, and shared the results for the 1983 report.

The enclosed write-up is fully documented through seven generations. Undocumented material on the descendants of John W. Watson has been given by family members. These include: Mrs. Virginia Dryden of New Church, Mrs. Carrie Frances Jackson of New Church, Mr. William H. Watson of Atlantic, Mrs. Kitty Watson of Salisbury, Maryland, Mrs. Violet Fisher of Salisbury, and Mrs. Barbara Bunting of Pocomoke City, Maryland. Mrs. Virginia Dryden loaned family pictures for copying, as did William H. Watson.

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June 15, 1997

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Peter Watson  
The First Generation

Peter Watson's name appears only twice in Eastern Shore of Virginia records. John Trueman, of Northampton County, Virginia, wrote his will on 16 August 1678 and it was recorded on 27 March 1679. He left a calf to his goddaughter Mary Watson, daughter of Peter Watson (North. Co. Wills, Orders, XIII, No. 11, 1678-1682, p. 7).

Robert Watson of Accomack County, Virginia, wrote his will on 24 July 1702 and it was recorded on 1 June 1703. He named sons Robert, David and grandson Joseph, son of a deceased son Peter. He left son David and brother Peter "all my wearing cloaths equally to be divided between them" (Acco. Co. Wills and Etc. 1692-1715, pt. II, p. 29). Robert's son Peter was born on 11 August 1661, to him and his wife Susanna (North. Co. Deeds, Wills, etc, IX, No. 7, 1657-1666, p. 133). Robert Watson gave a deposition on 26 May 1679, in which he gave his age as "6 and 30 years or thereabouts" (Acco., Co. Wills, Deeds & Orders 1678-1682, p. 80). This would place his birth circa 1643.

Peter Watson next shows up in Somerset County, Maryland, the part that became Worcester County in 1742. He was granted 250 acres of land in the southern part of present-day Worcester County by Lord Baltimore on 20 February 1679 (Wor. Co. #2, p. 99). This acreage was due him for transporting himself, his wife Jane, and children Peter, John and Mary into the province of Maryland.

There seems little doubt that Peter Watson, brother to Robert Watson, first settled on Virginia's Eastern Shore. He could have lived on the 600 acres Robert Watson bought in 1665, between present Belle Haven and Painter (Whitelaw, p. 571). It is likely he was younger than his brother, placing Peter's birth circa 1645 and his marriage circa 1668.

Peter Watson named his Maryland patent Peterson and later deeds locate it as

being on the west side of a branch of Swansicutt Creek (Som. Co. Deeds L, p. 684). Modern maps show the village of Welbourne, Maryland, in this area, and a small body of water - a widening of the creek at this point - is known locally as Big Mill. Descendants of Peter Watson have lived in the area to the present day.

Peter Watson gave his son Peter 50 acres of Peterson on 7 May 1703 (Som. Deeds L, p. 684) and sold the balance to Rowland Hodgson, for 20 pounds, on 10 January 1705 (Som. Deeds GI, p. 96). There is no record of Peter Watson's death. He left no will and the settling of his estate has not been found. It can be assumed he died soon after he sold his remaining 200 acres in 1705.

The children of Peter Watson and his wife Jane were:

1. Peter Watson, Jun<sup>r</sup>, born before 1679, died testate 1730 (So. Co. Wills, Libre 20. folio 195). When this Peter Watson died, he not only owned the 50 acres of Peterson his father had given him, but 300 acres of Blackridge he bought from Daniel Welbourne of Accomack County on 3 March 1721, for 4505 pounds of tobacco (Som. Co. Deeds IK, p. 136) and two other tracts in Maryland, Falmouth and Crow Land (an island in Assateague Bay), that had been patented by Thomas Clifton and descended to his daughter Comfort, who married Peter Watson, Jun<sup>r</sup> (Rent Rolls 1663-1723, p. 52, p. 71). Peter Watson, Jun<sup>r</sup>, in his will, named his wife Comfort; sons Peter, James, Urias and Luke; and daughters Elizabeth, Sarah and Frances. It was his son, Peter Watson, III, who died testate in Accomack County in 1758, leaving daughter Esther Aydelott a tract in Worcester County, Maryland, called Black Ridge, containing 300 acres and to his son-in-law, Benjamin Aydelotte, 50 acres of Peterson in Worcester County (Acco. Co. Wills, 1757-1761, p. 41).

2. John Watson, born before 1679. No other record. It could have been he who died in Sussex County, Delaware, in 1729.

3. Mary Watson, was born before 1678.

4. Robert Watson, born circa 1682. See next section.



Robert Watson, Sen<sup>r</sup>  
The Second Generation

While there is no actual proof that Robert Watson, Sen<sup>r</sup>, was the son of Peter Watson of the preceeding section, the fact that he owned land in the same area indicates he was a son, born to Peter and his wife Jane, after they settled on Swansgut Creek. There were no other Watsons in the area and the dates of his land transactions substantiate this.

Robert Watson, Sen<sup>r</sup>, born circa 1682, would have been named for his uncle Robert of Accomack County. He would have married circa 1705, but the name of his wife has not been found.

Robert Watson patented two tracts of land in Worcester County. The patent to Lanes Chance, 100 acres, was received on 10 July 1725 (Md. Land Patents, PL 6, p. 247). The certificate of survey, dated 2 April 1724, described the tract as being about 4 or 5 miles from the seaboard side, beginning at a marked red oak standing on the west side of White Oak Branch, at the northern end of White Oak Swamp. A patent of resurvey was granted Robert Watson on 7 May 1740, after he had petitioned that he possessed land called Gore, granted to John Melson on 6 January 1685 for 200 acres (Patents E 16, p. 245). Melson had assigned his right to Gore to Robert Watson, who had been living on the land for many years, under the supposition he had a good title to it. However, there was no warrent on record, so one was granted on 26 October 1730 and a certificate to resurvey issued on 5 April 1731. The patent of resurvey of The Gore Enlarged was for 222 acres, 20 acres being for vacant land added. This tract was described as being on the seaboard side, beginning at an oak standing by the west side of Swanicut Branch, and near an old mill dam, being the first bounder of a tract formerly surveyed of Nathaniel Vesca (Nathaniel Veasey, whose will Robert Watson had witnessed in 1710 - Som. Co. Wills, Liber 14, Folio 370).

In November Court, 1738, Robert Watson petitioned the county for a public road

to be laid out from his house across to the county road at Littleton Creek. Since it was determined that the road would be of no use to anyone but him, and he declared he wanted it only "to visit his children who were gone from him", the road was denied. Instead, a new road was ordered to be cleared from Smithfield Road, a little below Robert Watson, Sen<sup>r</sup>, to an old road that leads towards Pocomoke Ferry, to a girdle tree standing on the ferry road that leads to Virginia. Among those designated to work on the road were; Robert Watson, Sen<sup>r</sup>, John Watson, Peter Watson and Luke Watson (Som. Co. Jud. Rec. 1736-1740, p. 37).

Robert Watson, Sen<sup>r</sup>, died testate in 1746. His will was written on 24th of January and probated on 6th of March (Wor. Co. Wills 25, p. 14). He left son Charles the plantation "whereon I now dwell", being 220 acres, "with my water mill", during his lifetime and then it was to go to Robert Watson, son of Charles. He left a Negro woman named Easter to grandchildren John Watson (under 18 years) and Elizabeth Watson, children of his (deceased) son, John Watson. He gave son Robert Watson 100 acres, "whereon he now lives", and a Negro girl Cato. He named his daughters; Mary Wharton, Rhoda Walker, Hannah Fisher, and the son of a deceased daughter, Robert Watson McCatty. He also named two other grandsons, Nathan Watson and Charles Watson, sons of Charles. He left his unnamed wife in the care of his son Charles and made Charles his executor. The will was witnessed by William Aydelott, Jun<sup>r</sup>, William Veasey and Solomon Webb.

The children of Robert Watson, Sen<sup>r</sup>, and an unknown wife, were:

1. Robert Watson, Jun<sup>r</sup>, born circa 1706, died intestate 1760, wife Mary. He inherited 100 acres Lanes Chance from his father. He had children Levin and Elizabeth.
2. Charles Watson, Sen<sup>r</sup>, born circa 1709, died testate 1764. He inherited a lifetime interest in 220 acres of The Gore Enlarged from his father. See next section.
3. John Watson, born circa 1712, died intestate 1743, wife Mary. He had children John and Elizabeth. See section on Jonathan West Watson.

4. Mary Wharton.
5. Rhoda Walker.
6. Hannah Fisher.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ McCatty.

Transcription of will of Robert Watson, Sen<sup>r</sup>  
Worcester County Wills 25, p. 14

In the Name of God Amen, I Robert Watson of Worcester County in the province of Maryland being something undisposed but of Perfect mind and memory, blefsed be God for it and calling to mind the uncertain Estate of this transitory Life that all Flesh must yield unto death when it shall please God to Call

First I recommend my Body to the Earth from whence it came and my soul to God who gave it to be Buried in a Christian like manner at the discretion of my Friends, nothing doubting but at the General Refsurrection I shall receive the same again by the mighty Power of God to bestow upon me in this Life I give and Bestow in the following form and manner. -

Imprimis. I give and Bequeath to my son Charles Watson the plantation whereon I now dwell with all the Land thereon to belonging by Estimation two hundred and twenty acres together with my water mill during his natural life and then to my grandson Robert Wattson son of Charles to him and his heirs and afsigns forever:-

Item: I give and Bequeath to my Grandson John Watson son of John when he shall arrive to the age of Eighteen, and Elizabeth Wattson daughter of John a young Negro woman named Easter her and her Increase to be equally divided between them forever. -

Item: I give and Bequeath to my son Robert Watson one hundred acres of land whereon he now lives together with a negro girl called Cate to him his heirs and afsigns forever.

Item: I give and Bequeath to my daughter Mary Wharton one shilling sterling by way of discharge.-

Item: I give and Bequeath to my daughter Rhoda Walker a Negro woman named Rose but the Increase to my grandson Daniel Walker and his sister Mary Walker to be equally divided Between them forever:-

Item, I give and Bequeath to my Grandson Robert Wattson Mecatty a Negro Boy Called Tom to him his heirs and afsigns forever.

Item, I give and Bequeath to my grandson Nathan Watson my Negro Girl called Leah to him his heirs forever: and also my large Bible which is not to be sold out of the Family.-

Item, I give and Bequeath to my Grandson Robert Wattson son of Charles my Plantation with my two stills to him and his heirs forever.-

Item, I give and Bequeath to my grandson Charles Wattson Son of Charles a negro Boy called Munday to him and his heirs forever.-

Item, I give and (Bequeath) unto my Daughter Hannah Fisher one shilling sterling by way of discharge.

Item, I give and Bequeath to my Son Charles Watson two Negros namely George and Darkey to him and his heirs forever. But my will and desire is that my son Charles shall keep my wife in good sufficient meat and drink washing and Lodging during her natural life with my Son Charles but no longer.

Item, I give and Bequeath to my Son Charles Watson all the remainder of my Estate not given by me before and do appoint him my whole and sole Executor of this my last Will and Testament denying all other Wills, Deeds, Gifts, either by word of mouth or writing. Acknowledging this my last Will and Testament whereof I have hereunto Set my Hand (and) Fixed my Seal this 24th day of January 1746.

In Presence of us  
William Aydelott Junr.  
William Veasey  
Solomon Webb

his  
Robert  Watson  
mark

Charles Watson, Sen<sup>r</sup>  
The Third Generation

The appearance of this Charles Watson in early tax lists of Somerset County, Maryland, indicate he was born circa 1709. There is no record of his buying or selling land. From his father, Robert Watson, he inherited a lifetime use of 200 acres of The Gore Enlarged, land that was to pass to his son, Robert Watson, at his death.

Charles Watson, Sen<sup>r</sup>, made his will on 2 October 1759 and it was proved on 8 March 1764 (Wor. Co. Wills, 32, p. 2). He left a slave and household furniture to his wife, Sarah Watson. He made other personal property bequeaths to "eldest son Nathan Watson", to "second son Robert Watson" and to "third son Charles Watson". Son Robert was made executor and witnesses were: William Aydelott, William Vezey, Jun<sup>r</sup> and John Allen.

The children of Charles Watson, Sen<sup>r</sup>, and wife Sarah were:

1. Nathan Watson, born circa 1731.
2. Robert Watson, born circa 1733. See next section.
3. Charles Watson, born circa 1735.

Transcription of will of Charles Watson, Sen<sup>r</sup>  
Worcester County Wills 32, p.2

In the name of God Amen the second Day of October one thousand seven hundred and fifty nine I Charles Watfon of Worcester County in the Province of Maryland Being Sick and weak of Body but of sound and perfect Mind and Memory thanks to Almighty God for it calling to Mind the frailty of all Mankind knowing that it is appointed for all Men once to die do make and ordain this my last Will and Teftament in Manner and form following that is to say I Recommend my Soul into the Hands of Almighty God who gave it and my Body to be Decently Buried at the Direction of my Executors and as touching such Worldly Estate as it hath pleased God to Blefs me with I Give and Dispose of the same in the following Manner and form

Imprimis I give to my well Beloved Wife Sarah Watfon the whole Use and Benefit of one Negro Woman called Darkey during her natural Life.  
Item I Give and Bequeath to my well beloved Wife aforesaid one feather Bed and furniture and one large Pewter Dish and one middle Size Ditto and three Puter Plates and also one large Chest Also one middle size Iron Pot and Hook to her and her Heirs forever and one Spinning Wheel.

Item I Give and Bequeath to my Eldest Son Nathan Watfon the next large Puter Dish and two Plates also one Ox Chain to him and his Heirs forever.

Item I Give and Bequeath to my second Son Robert Watfon one Negro Boy called Jofhua and on Negro Man called George and on Horse called Jockey also the next Dish also six Pewter Plates and one Pewter Bafon and on large Iron Pot and hooks also two Yoke of Oxen and one Short deep Chest and on Grinfone also one large square table and one fpice Mortar to him and his Heirs and afsigns forever also one Ox chain.

Item I Give and Bequeath to my third Son Charles Watfon one Negro Girl called Rachel and one Negro Boy called Jeb and one young Horse called Swallow together with four feather Beds and furniture and also four small Pewter dishes one Pewter Bason and one Pewter Punch Bowl and Pewter Chamber Pot and also seven Pewter plates and three small Iron Pots and one pair of hooks and one large Cupbord one Oval Table and one Ox Chain also one Elm Chest and also the negro Woman called Darkey above mentioned after his Mothers decease to him and his Heirs and afsigns forever

And further my Will and Desire is that all the rest of my Personal Eftate not yet given may be equally divided between my loving Wife Sarah Watfon and my three Sons namely Nathan Robert and Charles Watfon and I do hereby Constitute and Appoint my second Son Robert Watfon my whole and fole Executor of this my last Will and Testament Revoking Disannealling and making Void all other Will or Wills heretofore made by me either by Word of Mouth or in Writing and do Acknowledge this only to be my last Will and Teftament in Witnefs whereof I have hereunto set my Hand and fixed my Seal the Day and Year above written.

Signed Sealed and Acknowledged  
in Presence of Us  
William Aydelott  
William Vezey, Jun<sup>r</sup>  
John Allen

his  
Charles x Watfon  
mark

Robert Watson, III  
The Fourth Generation

Robert Watson, III, the second son of Charles Watson, Sen<sup>r</sup>, was born circa 1733. He married (1) circa 1755, Mary Brumble, daughter of Nathaniel Brumble. On 12 April 1765, Nathaniel Brumble deeded to Robert Watson and his wife Mary 100 acres, "now in Worcester County, near Jacob Pain", called Old Berry (Wor. Co. Deeds F., p. 332). The deed states that Mary Watson was the daughter of Nathaniel Brumble and he was giving this land to her and her husband for love and affection. On 5 January 1781, Robert Watson and wife Elizabeth, of Accomack County, Virginia, deeded 100 acres of Old Berry to Alexander Davis for 4000 pounds of money of Maryland, land that began at the third line of Jacob Payne and his wife Tabitha (Wor. Co. Deeds K, p. 365). It is apparent that Robert Watson had lost his first wife and remarried by 1781. Later records indicate his second wife was much younger than he.

Robert Watson, III, inherited 220 acres of The Gore Enlarged in 1764, when his father, Charles, Sen<sup>r</sup>, died. The debt books of Worcester County show The Gore Enlarged in possession of Robert Watson in 1745; in possession of Charles Watson, 1755-1762; and Robert Watson ("line of Virginia"), 1768-1774.

Robert Watson, III, had died testate in Accomack County by 1786 (Acco. Co. Wills 1784-1787, p. 119). His will was written on 1 February 1781 and recorded on 28 March 1786, when his widow, Elizabeth Watson, qualified as executor of his estate. He left his land to be equally divided between two sons, John Watson and Robert Watson. He left a slave, Abraham, to son John and another, Charity, to son Robert, wife Betty, and "the child she now goes with". He named his wife as executor and the will was witnessed by Levin Marshall (a man of Horntown) and John Taylor.

Robert Watson's second wife, Betty/Elizabeth, was likely a daughter of Samuel Taylor, who died testate in Accomack County in 1783, naming a grandson as Robert

Watson (Acco. Co. Wills 1780-1784, p. 450).

No record has been found of Robert Watson, III, buying land in either Accomack County or Worcester County. Therefore, the land he left sons John and Robert had to have been The Gore Enlarged.

Robert Watson, III's widow Elizabeth apparently married Jonathan Watson, son of Jonathan West Watson (see later section), for, in 1789, Jonathan Watson was appointed guardian of Robert Watson, orphan of Robert Watson, who was born about 1777 (Wor. Co. Orphan's Court Proceedings, 1782-1789, p. 309 and 1789-1791, p. 7).

The children of Robert Watson, III, were:

1. John Watson, born circa 1765. On 11 February 1811, John Watson of Accomack County, Virginia, sold to Shadrack Redden of Worcester County, Maryland,  $11\frac{1}{4}$  acres of The Gore Enlarged for \$600 (Wor. Co. Deeds AB, p. 469). The land was bound southwest by lands of Wrixam Payne, northwest by lands formerly belonging to James Handy, northeast by lands of Robert Watson, and southeast by the "Mill Branch". John Watson's wife Rachel released her dower rights in the land.

John Watson had married Rachel Waters by a bond of 25 December 1809 (Acco. Co. MLB 1806-1832, p. 139). Rachel was a sister to Rev. Thomas Waters of New Church, who was pastor of Chincoteague Baptist Church there.

John Watson was shown in the Accomack County 1820 census for Accomack Parish as over 45, with a wife aged 16 to 26, and a young family, three males and a female, all under 10 years. In 1830, John W. Watson, of Accomack Parish, was 40 to 50 (circa 65?). His wife was 30 to 40 and there were three sons in their household. John W. Watson was not listed in the 1840 census. He apparently had died between 1830 and 1840 and his widow, Rachel Watson, was likely the female aged 40 to 50 in the household of their son, Thomas J. Watson. The 1850 census shows Rachel Watson, at 65 years, living with this son.

The children of John W. Watson and his wife, Rachel Waters Watson, (see Chart II), were:



A. ? George W. Watson, born circa 1810. A George W. Watson died intestate by 28 September 1846, apparently unmarried, when William H. Watson was named to settle his estate (Acco. Co. Orders 1845-1848, p. 212). At the sale of his personal property, on 17 November 1846, Rachel Watson, Thomas Watson and Thomas Waters, were among those who bought (Acco. Co. Inv. 1846-1849, p. 460). William H. Watson bought a silver watch for \$5.00.

B. Thomas J. Watson, born circa 1816 (1850 census). He was a merchant in upper Accomack County in the 1850 census. He was reissued a license to retail wine and other spirits on 25 February 1850, "at his home about four miles below New Church to which he has removed since obtaining his license" (Acco. Co. Orders 1848-1851, p. 278).

Thomas J. Watson, "of John", married (1) 28 November 1839, Miss Fanny Colonny (Acco. Co. Mar. Reg. #1, p. 62), (2) 13 July 1846, Ann Beachamp (Wor. Co. Mar. Rec. 1795-1865, p. 160). In 1850, he had three sons: Major Watson at 9 years, John T. (W.?) Watson at 7 years, and Joseph H. Watson of 5 years. Thomas J. Watson died intestate in Worcester County in 1855 (Wor. Co. Index to Estates). His son Major J. Watson, a wheelwright, married Mary E. Wilkerson in 1864 (Wor. Co. Mar. Rec. 1795-1865, p. 226). His son John T. (W.?) Watson, a carriage maker, married Bettie A. Evans of Horntown in 1867 (Acco. Co. Mar. Reg. #3, p. 20) and son Joseph H. Watson, tailor, married Ocie E. Marshall in Worcester County in 1869 (LES, MD., Mar. Rec. 1865-1906, p. 501).

C. ? John Watson, born circa 1818, died ?, married circa 1842, \_\_\_\_\_ Bloxom, granddaughter of Woodman Bloxom and wife Nancy. On 20 April 1876, a deed was recorded of a group of people, all of Philadelphia, selling land they had inherited from Mrs. Woodman Bloxom (Acco. Co. Deeds 1876-1877, p. 302). These included: Woodman Bloxom and wife; Rebecca Bloxom Hinson and husband; Harriet P. Bloxom Cochran and husband; and the Watson children of a third sister who was deceased. Her children were: William T. Watson; John W. Watson; James H. Watson; Rachel A. Watson Atkinson, wife

of George Atkinson; George W. Watson; and Jonathan D. Watson. The land, 70 acres near present-day Johnsons Corner, was sold to John D. Parsons for \$100. Woodman Bloxom and his second wife, Nancy Whealton Watson, kept a tavern in New Church. A part of their building still stands as the old kitchen to the Garden and Sea Inn/Bed and Breakfast. On 3 November 1828, Zadock Watson, of Chincoteague, voted for the President and Vice President "at Mrs. Nancy Bloxom's Tavern" (Acco. Co. Deeds 1828-1830, p. 16). Woodman Bloxom had died intestate in 1826 (Acco. Co. Orders 1824-1827, p. 336) and his widow Nancy in 1833 (Acco. Co. Orders 1832-1836, p. 86). Their children were: Samuel Bloxom, John Bloxom, Harriet Bloxom and Charlotte Bloxom (Acco. Co. Surveyor's Record #5, p. 171).

D. ? William H. Watson, born circa 1822. No record has been found of William H. Watson marrying circa 1845 (Acco. Co. Marriage License<sup>Bonds</sup> 1841-1847 are missing), nor has he been found listed in a census. When Thomas J. Watson's personal property was sold in 1856, William H. Watson was the auctioneer (Wor. Co. Accts GBG #4, p. 611). A William H. Watson died intestate in Worcester County in 1894 (Wor. Co. Index to Estates). In the administration of his estate, there was no division of his property among children, only his widow, Mary E. Watson, was named (Wor. Co. Accts TDT, #9, p. 274). A William Watson had married Mary Elizabeth Trader on 22 December 1862, with no indication of their ages or if this was a first or second marriage on the license (Wor. Co. Mar. Rec. 1795-1865, p. 222). They were not listed in the 1870 or 1880 censuses in Worcestor County, Somerset County or Accomack County. For a likely continuation of this line, go to section on John W. Watson, who named a son, William H. Watson.

2. Robert Watson, IV, born circa 1777. No record has been found of him selling his part of The Gore Enlarged, which he still owned when his brother sold his part in 1811. Worcester County deeds from 1814 to 1818 were burned.

This was the Robert Watson who married Sarah Davis on Chincoteague Island,

Virginia, by a bond of 20 October 1806, with Arthur Bowden as security (Acco. Co. MLB 1806-1832, p. 140). Present-day descendants of Robert Watson, IV, say that family tradition tells that his wife was an Indian. It is unclear whether this refers to Sarah Davis or a later wife/woman that he supposedly bought from Chincoteague Indians. There is nothing in Accomack County records that can prove or disprove an Indian connection. A family picture of Robert Watson, IV's son, John W. Watson, with a much younger wife, shows he did have features characteristic of Indians, especially the high cheek bones. He and his brothers, Robert Watson, V, and Purnel Watson, lived on Chincoteague Island. They and their descendants are shown on Chart III.

No record has been found of the death of Robert Watson, III. Accomack County census records give his age as 16 to 26 in 1810, when he would have been 33; as 26 to 45 in 1820 (43); 50 to 60 in 1830 (53); and 60 to 70 in 1840 (63). He apparently died between 1840 and 1850.

3. Unborn child in 1781. No other record.

In the name of God, mine I Robert Watson of the County of Accomack in Virginia in perfect and sound memory thanks be to God for it but knowing the uncertainty of life in this world and that we are all born to die for the better settling of those worldly goods which I have

I make and ordain this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following  
Item I give my soul to God from whence it was taken.  
Item I give all my lands to be equally divided between my two sons John Watson and Robert Watson to them and their heirs and assigns forever  
Item I give and bequeath to my loving wife Betty Watson and my son Robert Watson and the child she now goes with my negro girl Charity and her increase to them and their heirs forever also I give to my wife one feather bed and furniture also one spinning wheel also one chest also two large pewter dishes and two large pewter basons with six pewter plates to her and her heirs forever also one nine bottle case  
Item I give to my son John Watson my negro man Abraham to him and his heirs and assigns forever also one feather bed and furniture also one chest also one desk and one twelve bottle case also one large pewter dish and one middle sized one and two pewter basons and six pewter plates.  
Item I give and bequeath to my son Robert Watson one feather bed and furniture also one self also one deep pewter dish and one shallow one also two pewter basons and four pewter plates also one square chest also one twelve bottle tin case and my Will and desire is that the rest of my estate not yet mentioned should be equally divided between my wife Betty Watson and John Watson and Robert Watson and the child she now goes with and I do by these presents nominate and appoint my beloved wife Betty Watson Executrix of this my last Will and Testament I with myself whereof I have hereunto fixed my hand and seal this 1<sup>st</sup> day of February 1781.

Signed sealed & delivered in presence of  
Jenins Marshall, John Taylor

Robert Watson

At a Court held in Accomack County March 28<sup>th</sup> 1786

This Will was proved by the oath of John Taylor and Jenins Marshall witnesses thereto & ordered to be recorded. And on the motion of Elizabeth Watson taking oath and giving Jenins Marshall for her security who entered into and acknowledged & bind forth that full power & satisfaction is granted her for obtaining a probate thereof in due form.

Litt. Savage 666

Exam:



John W. Watson of Chincoteague, b.c. 1818, dec'd by 1889,  
with one of his later wives.  
Descendants relate that he had Indian ancestry.

Charles Watson, Jun<sup>r</sup>  
The Fourth Generation

Charles Watson, Jun<sup>r</sup>, the third son of Charles Watson, Sen<sup>r</sup>, was born circa 1735. He inherited slaves from his father in 1764 and it appears he was a farmer. Since the records do not show him buying or selling land, it is suggested that brother Robert Watson shared with him the 220 acres of land on which they had been raised and which had been left to Robert by their grandfather's will of 1746.

Charles Watson, Jun<sup>r</sup>, would have married circa 1760. The maiden name of his wife Elizabeth has not been found. He died testate in 1773, apparently under 40 years of age, leaving two underage children. His will was written on 31 March 1773 and probated on 13 August 1773 (Wor. Co. Wills 39, p. 293). He left personal property to his wife Elizabeth and to daughter Ufamy and son Jehu.

His children were:

1. Ufamy Watson, born circa 1762.
2. Jehu Watson, born circa 1766. See next section.

Transcription of will of Charles Watson, Junr  
Worcester County Will 39, p. 293

In the name of God amen the 31st day of March 1773 I Charles Watson of Worcester County being sick and weak of body but of sound and perfect mind and memory thanks to God for it knowing that it is appointed for all men to die do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament first I recommend my Soul into the hands of God who gave it and my body to be defently buried and touching such Estate as it hath pleased God to blefs me with I give and dispose of the same in the following maner and form --

Imprimis I give and bequeath to my loving wife Elizabeth Watson my negro woman called Rachel during he life and at her decease hur and hur increase to be divided between my two children to them and their heirs forever --

Item I give and bequeath to my daughter Ufamy Watson one negro man called Caleb also one negro girl called Margaret also one negro boy called Stephen also one feather bed and furniture thereto belonging also one horse also one cow and calf also one large iron pot and one small ditto also one large cubbard also one oval table and one case of bottles to her and her heirs and assigns forever --

Item I give and bequeath to my son Jehu Watson one negro boy called Jonathan also one negro girl called Nelly one yoke of oxen also one cow and one bed and the furniture thereto belonging one small cubbard also one middle size iron pot to him and his heirs forever --

Item I give and bequeath to my wife Elizabeth Watson one large chest also one middle size iron pot also one old feather bed to hur and hur afsigns forever --

Item all the rest of my personal Estate not yet given I give and bequeath to my loving wife Elizabeth Watson and my two children namely Ufamy and Jehu Watson to be equally divided between them and their heirs and afsigns forever --

And I do hereby Constitute and Appoint my frier Fisher Walton whole and sole Executor of this my last Will and Testament and do hereby revoke and make void all former Wills heretofore made by me and do publish pronounce and declare this only to be my last Will and Testament the day and year first above written --

Signed, sealed and Acknowledged  
in presence of us

William Aydelott

David Dixon

Thomas x (his mark) Hancock

his  
Charles x Watson  
mark

Jehu Watson  
The Fifth Generation

Jehu Watson, the only son of Charles Watson, Jun<sup>r</sup>, was born circa 1766. In the Worcester County December Court, 1781, William Aydelott was named guardian to Jehu Watson, orphan of Charles Watson, aged over 14 years (Wor. Co. Orphan's Ct. Proc. 1777-1782, p. 180). Had Jehu been 16 years of age or over, he would have selected his own guardian.

Jehu Watson purchased 50 acres of Woods Beaver Dam Enlarged from John Nicholson on 12 March 1790 and mortgaged it to John Blades a week later ( Wor. Co. Deeds N, pp. 181 & 188). He paid 62 pounds 10 shillings for the tract and it was located on the north side of Luttlord (Littleton) Creek. On 19 September 1800, he purchased 75 additional acres of the same land from the sheriff, at the auction of Thomas Law's land (Wor. Co. Deeds T, p. 670), and on the 24th of the same month, he made another 145.5 acre purchase of Woods Beaver Dam Enlarged directly from Laws for 258 pounds 10 shillings (p. 745). On 12 November 1801, Jehu Watson made his fourth purchase of this land, 100 acres, from John Taylor and Jesse Bennett, for 20 pounds (Wor. Co. Deeds U, p. 461) and a final 10.5 acres was bought from John Taylor, Sen<sup>r</sup>, on 11 May 1807 for 10 pounds (Wor. Co. Deeds Z, p. 55). Jehu Watson had then purchased 381 acres.

On 7 November 1794, Jehu Watson purchased a Negro woman from Elizabeth Collins for 50 pounds (Wor. Co. Deeds R, p. 13). He sold a Negro woman to James Cottingham for 75 pounds on 2 April 1800 (Wor. Co. Deeds T, p. 535).

The records show no other transactions by Jehu Watson until his will was probated on 15 September 1815 (Wor Co. Wills MH #10, p. 117b). He gave his son James "the plantation whereon I now live containing 200 acres", after the death of his unnamed wife. He gave his son William "my other plantation containing 170 acres", after the death of his wife. He directed that sons James and William



jointly pay for the part of his land that "is not yet paid for". He named other children as Peter, Mitchell, and Polly.

Jehu Watson would have married circa 1790. The name of his wife has not been found, only later records show her given name was Ann (Wor. Co. Deeds AS, p. 148).

It appears that sons James and William had problems in paying off the debt on their father's land. The records show they were in debt to Benjamin Aydelotte in 1819 (Wor. Co. Deeds AK, p. 139). When Dr. John Stevenson's estate was being settled by Ebenezer Hearn in 1828, James Watson joined the latter in deeding Woods Beaver Dam Enlarged to Peter Watson, Mitchell Watson and Polly Watson (Wor. Co. Deeds AT, p. 302). They would have been James Watson's two younger brothers and sister.

The children of Jehu Watson (see Chart IV), were:

1. James Watson, born circa 1790, deceased by 1840, married (1) 12 December 1815, Tabitha Jones (Wor. Co. Mar. Rec 1795-1865, p. 58, (2) 17 December 1822, Margaret Jones (p.82). James Watson had two sons in 1830, one of 10 to 15 years and another under 5 years of age.

2. William Watson, born circa 1795, m. 3 November 1818, Maria Beacham (Wor. Co. Mar. Rec. 1795-1865, p. 69). No other record has been found of this William Watson after 2 October 1820, when James Watson and William Watson sold to Titus Rigger a Negro woman named Leah "about 41 years of age", for \$200 (Wor. Co. Deeds AL, p. 21). William Watson's name, aged circa 25 years, does not appear in the 1820 census for Worcester County.

3. Peter Watson, born circa 1800. A Peter Watson died intestate in Worcester County by 14 March 1843, when Samuel Blades was named to administer his estate (Wor. Co. Index to Estates). Peter Watson sold to Preson Mason, for \$130, "a part of a tract called Woods Beaver Dam Enlarged it being part of the plantation Sold by Ebenezer Hearn to Peter Watson, Mitchell Watson and Polly Watson" (Wor. Co. Deeds JCH #3, p. 415). No marriage for Peter Watson has been found and, since no wife

cosigned his deed to Preson Mason, it is doubtful if he married. Census records do not show him head of a household.

4. Polly Watson, born circa 1804? Polly Watson was unmarried on 24 November 1829, when she sold Ebenezer Hearn a Negro girl named Mariah, aged about 16 years (Wor. Co. Deeds AV, p. 330). No record has been found of Polly selling her part of her father's land. She had to have been the Mary Watson who married Preason Mason on 30 October 1833 (Wor. Co. Mar. Rec. 1795-1865, p. 119), since he ended owning her brothers' parts of Woods Beaver Dam Enlarged.

5. Mitchell W. Watson, born circa 1807 (1850 census), died intestate in Accomack County by 27 April 1863, when Samuel Hinman was named to administer his estate (Acco. Co. Orders 1862-1865, p. 76). The names of the men to appraise his estate indicate he was living in the Horntown area when he died. Mitchell Watson married (1) 26 August 1828, Sally Dryden (Wor. Co. Mar. Rec. 1795-1865, p. 102), (2) 15 November 1860, Mary R. Townsend (Acco. Co. Mar. Reg. #3, p. 11). This last record gives the names of his parents as Jehu and Ann Watson. On 25 July 1837, Mitchell Watson and wife Sally sold to Preson Mason all claim to his deceased father Jehu's land called Woods Beaver Dam Enlarged, for \$120 (Wor. Co. Deeds JCH #4, p. 525). They were living in Somerset County on 8 May 1841, when they sold land called True Bridge that had belonged to Sally's father, Noble Dryden, and to his father, Noble Dryden, Sen<sup>r</sup> (Wor. Co. Deeds GMH #4, p. 271). Mitchell Watson and his family were living above New Church, in the northern part of Accomack County when the 1850 census was taken. The 1860 census shows him, at 51 years of age, living in St. George Parish household 242/266, in lower Accomack County. He had lost his wife and had three children living with him. His children were:

A. Mary M. Watson, born circa 1830 in Maryland (1850 census). Mary Watson, "daughter of Mitchell", married 15 February 1856, Samuel S. Hinman, widower (Acco. Co. MLB 1853-1858, p. 4).

B. Mitchell Watson, born 1831, died 1901 (tombstone in Union Greenbackville Cemetery). Mitchell Watson married Rosetta Pilchard on 22 December 1860 (Wor. Co. Mar. Rec. 1795-1865, p. 215) and lived in Worcester County (1870 and 1880 censuses).

C. Mahala C. Watson, born circa 1832 in Maryland (1850 census). A Matilda C. Watson, 47, was in Pocomoke, Maryland, in 1880, a "Mantua Maker", living with Ewells.

D. Peter J. Watson, born 1837, died 1890 (tombstone in Downings M.E. Church Cemetery, Oak Hall, Virginia), married 26 November 1864, Mary E. Taylor (Wor. Co. Mar. Rec. 1795-1865, p. 230) and lived in Horntown, Virginia.

E. Levin T. Watson, born circa 1847 in Maryland (1850 census). No record has been found of Levin T. Watson marrying locally. He was not listed in the 1870 census or that of 1880.

F. Drucilla Watson, born after 1850? Stephan Pilchard of Worcester County had been guardian to Levin Watson and Drucilla Watson, orphans of Mitchell Watson, when Pilchard died in 1868 (Wor. Co. Guardian Accts, EH #1, p. 530).

G. Virginia E. Watson, born circa 1852 (1860 census). An Emma Watson, 19, was in the Horntown household of William Bloodgood in 1870. A V. Emma Watson, 28, was living in Pocomoke, Maryland, with Drydens, in 1880.

Transcription of will of Jehu Watson  
Worcester County Wills MH #10, p. 117b

In the name of God Amen I Jehu Watson of Worcester County sick & weak (of) body but of sound disposing mind memory & understanding & considering the certainty of death do make and ordain this my last will & testament in manner & form following viz -

Imprimis I give to my son James the plantation whereon I now live containing 200 acres to him & his heirs forever after the death of my wife.

Item I give to my son William my other plantation containing 170 acres to him & his heirs forever after the death of my wife.

Item I will that my sons James & William pay Jointly for the land which I purchased & is not yet paid for.

Item I give to my beloved wife all the land I now pofsefs during her life time also a negro woman.

Item I give to each of my children one bed & furniture & all my other property not other disposed of I wish devided equally between my children Peter Mitchell & Polly.

Item I give Daughter Polly a negro girl Maria to her & her heirs forever.

Lastly I hereby nominate constitute & appoint my son James whole & sole Executor of this my last will & testament. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand & affixed my seal this tenth day of September one thousand eight hundred & fifteen.

Signed sealed & declared by the

testator to be his last will in the presence of us..

his  
Jehu x Watson  
mark

John Stevenson

David Hancock

John Costen

Jonathan West Watson  
The Fourth Generation

No record has been found giving the parents of Jonathan West Watson, who was called West Watson at times in Worcester County records, and at other times Jonathan Watson. The first Federal Census for Worcester County, in 1790, listed him as John West Watson and a son as John Watson of West.

Jonathan West Watson was born circa 1735, for he would have been of age on 7 November 1759, when he bought 125 acres, part of Poor Hall, from John Wimbrow and wife Susanna for 15 pounds (Wor. Co. Deeds D, p. 483). On 2 September 1762, Jonathan West Watson, of Worcester County, bought another 125 acres of Poor Hall and 25 acres of Privilage from Isaac McKenny, of Accomack County, for 46 pounds (Wor. Co. Deeds E, p. 418).

By eliminating other Watsons in lower Worcester County, it becomes apparent that Jonathan West Watson was first cousin to Robert Watson, II, of the preceeding section, and the son of the John Watson, of the third generation, who died intestate in Worcester County in 1743, before his father. That this John Watson had a son John (Jonathan?) is shown by the will of Robert Watson, Sen<sup>r</sup>, written in January 1746, leaving "grandson John, son of John when he shall arrive to the age of Eighteen" and Elizabeth Watson, daughter of John, a slave.

Jonathan West Watson would have married (1) circa 1758. His wife was Sarah on 24 April 1767, when she signed a deed with her husband selling 45 acres of Poor Hall and 5 acres of Priviledge to Samuel Lamberson for 15 pounds (Wor. Co. Deeds G, p. 77). It appears Sarah was a Wimbrough, for Jonathan West Watson willed to daughter Delany Hale (Hall? Hill ?) personal property that had belonged to her grandmother, Mary Wimbrough. Sarah was apparently deceased by 15 November 1769, when Jonathan West Watson sold Purnel Newbold, of Somerset County, 100 acres, 75 acres of Poor Hall and 25 acres of Priviledge, for no wife cosigned the deed (Wor. C. Deeds H,

p. 114). Jonathan West Watson married (2) between 1770 and 1793, Nancy \_\_\_\_\_, his widow.

Jonathan West Watson wrote his will on 6 November 1800, saying he was ill and in bed. It was probated on 2 July 1805 by Jonathan Watson, his son and executor (Wor Co. Wills 1803-1809, JBR #6. p. 241). He left his widow Nancy a home, the use of 1/3 his land during her widowhood, the property "she brought to my plantation", and other personal property. He named grandchildren, the children of his son John, as Sary Watson, Sophia Watson, and West Watson, to whom he left "land on the North Side of the great road". A grandson, John Watson, the son of Jonathan, was left "land that lies on the South Side of the great road". A third grandson, John Watson, the son of Major, was mentioned. He named his children as:

1. John Watson, born circa 1760. See next section.
2. Johannas Watson. He was listed in the Worcester County 1800 census as 26 to 45 years of age, with no wife or children. No other record.
3. Charity Melvin.
4. Rebecca Joins (Jones?). She had a son, William Joins(Jones?), in 1800.
5. Delany Hale (Hall? Hill?).
6. Agnes Watson, married 10 April 1801, Levin Pilchard (Wor. Co. Mar. Rec. 1795-1865, p. 15).
7. Major Watson, "that went to Georgia", apparently leaving a son John with his father.
8. Zadock Watson, "that went to Kentucca".
9. Mary Waterfield, "that went to Kentucca".
10. Jonathan Watson, born circa 1765, died testate on Chincoteague Island, Virginia in 1827 (Acco. Co. Wills 1826-1828, p. 422), married (1) circa 1786, Elizabeth Watson, widow of Robert Waton, III, (2) 28 July 1824, Nancy Wimbrow, widow (Acco. Co. Mar. Reg. #1, p. 36). Jonathan Watson of Worcester County, Maryland,

bought 500 acres of Accomack County land on Assateague Island from Thomas Teackle Gore and wife Comfort on 14 June 1796 for 30 pounds, land called Little Neck (Acco. County Deeds 1793-1797, p. 447). He apparently had moved into Accomack County by 1800, for his name does not appear on the 1800 or 1810 census for Worcester County. Neither does it appear on the 1800 or 1810 census for Accomack County, unless he was one of the two John Watsons listed in Accomack Parish in 1810. Jonathan Watson was listed in Accomack Parish in 1820, as over 45 years of age (55), with two males in his household under 16 years of age. Jonathan Watson had a son John by 1800 (his father's will) and he named a son Zadock Watson in his will. He left land to Zadock and to a grandson, Evans Lewis. He left land to Purnel Watson and John Watson, "son" (son's?) of Robert Watson. He gave William Watson, son of West Watson in Worcester County, Maryland, "all that part or parcel of Land which I purchased of West Watson his father being and Lying in Worcester County". Chincoteague Island descendants of Jonathan Watson are shown on Chart VI.

Jonathan Watson could have had a son, David Watson, whose parentage has not been determined. If so, it is odd that Jonathan left land to other related Watsons without naming another son. David Watson was born circa 1785 (40 to 50 in 1830). He would have married (1) circa 1812. He, a widower, married (2) Elizabeth Snead in 1828 (Acco. Co. MLB 1806-1832, p. 139). This record states that he was "son of John Watson". David died intestate by 1 December 1840, when his estate was administered to John D. Wallop (Acco. Co. Orders 1840-1842, p. 151). Wallop, of the Watts-ville area, gave William B. Field and Sabastian C. Marshall for his securities, both men of the Horntown ares. Thomas Lilliston was named guardian of Benjamin Watson, Edward Watson and Adeline Watson, orphans of David Watson (Acco. Co. Orders 1842-1845, p. 121). On 25 April 1845, Elizabeth Watson, widow of David, sold her dower in lands of David Watson to John Hope (Acco. Co. Deeds 1846-1845, p. 581), and, on 19 September 1846, William Watson of Z and wife Elizabeth joined Peter Watson in

selling their 2/7ths interest in lands of David Watson on Chincoteague and Assateague Islands to John Hope (p. 420). Apparently David Watson had two other children by his first marriage, besides Peter Watson and Elizabeth, the wife of William Watson, son of Zadock. David's son Peter married circa 1846, Susan E. \_\_\_\_\_, who was born in Pennsylvania (Acco. Co. 1870 census). Peter Watson and his family were living in Worcester County in 1880, when he had two married sons living nearby. Apparently his children settled in the Girdletree/Stockton, Maryland, area. On 20 February 1875, Peter Watson, of Accomack County, bought Worcester County land called Popes Island from John H. Handy, Trustee (Acco. Co. Deeds 56, p. 643). On 11 June 1883, Peter Watson and wife Susan E., of Worcester County, sold Popes Island to Charles E. Babbitt, Jr., reserving 1 acre for their son, Robert Watson, "upon which Robert Watson now resides" (Wor. Co. Deeds ITM #9, p. 577). David Watson and his known descendants are shown, unconnected, on Chart VI.



Will of Jonathan West Watson  
Worcester County Wills 1803-1809, JBR #6,p. 241

[illegible]

all which was in the said will that was mentioned by the  
Grand in other May (William) and likewise I give  
to my daughter Agnes Watson one cow and to my son  
Thomas Watson one small bea and furniture and  
likewise I will that my hand mill is not to be moved off  
my plantation at all And I likewise leave to my wife  
Mancy one half of my corn and meat that is on my  
plantation when I decease and likewise one half my  
hogs and sheep that on my plantation at my death that  
belongs to me And all the movables that has not been  
mentioned in my will above is to be sold and the money  
that remains with the purchase money is to pay the  
charges and the remainder is to be equally divided betwixt  
my son Moyer Watson that went to Georgia and my son  
Joseph Watson that went to Kentucky and my  
daughter Mary Watson that went to Kentucky &c &c  
And I do appoint my son Jonathan Jds executor of this  
my last will and testament and to settle all my business  
of this my will made this eighth day of November in the  
year of our Lord God Eighteen hundred When unto I sit  
my hand and foot this same 8<sup>th</sup> day of November one  
thousand eight hundred

Agnes sealed and acknowledged

In the presence of us — Jonathan Watson <sup>his</sup> ~~Exec~~  
William Melvin mark  
John Melvin  
Anna Melvin

Worcester County &c The 2<sup>nd</sup> day of July Anno  
Domini 1805 Then came Jonathan Watson and made  
Oath on the holy evangel of Almighty God that the  
 foregoing contents of writing is the true copy

Transcription of the will of Jonathan West Watson  
Worcester County Wills 1803-1808, JBR #6, p. 241

In the name of God Amen I Jonathan West Watson of Worcester County in the State of Maryland being in body ill but of a perfect Sense and understanding doe make and publish this my last Will and testament in manner and form as followeth (viz.) first of all I leave to my wife Nancy my large home and one third of my land during her widowhood if she choseth if not to be maintained of my land during widow hood and likewise I will what she brought to my plantation to her and her heirs forever and likewise I give her one \_\_\_\_\_ to her and her heirs forever and likewise give her my bed whereon I lie and furniture during her widowhood and after she is done with it to Sophia Watson the youngest daughter of my son John Watson and likewise I give to my wife Nancy one pewter dish one pewter bason and two tin basons during her widowhood and after she is done with them to Sary Watson daughter of my son John Watson And I leave the land that lies on the South Side of the great road to my grandson John Watson son of Jonathan Watson to him and his heirs forever and if he dies without heir then to John Watson son of Major Watson and likewise the rest of my land that lies on the North Side of the great road to my grand son West Watson son of John Watson to him and his heirs forever and if he dies without heirs then to my son Jonathan Watson and my still to my son Jonathan Watson reserving that my wife Nancy to still her own liquor there. I give to my daughter Charity one bed and a heffer and the spinning wheel that was her mothers to her and her heirs forever and I give to my daughter Rebecca Joins (Jones?) one bed and one heffer and the increase to her son William Joins (Jones?) And to my daughter Delany Hale (Hall? Hill?) one bed that she claims and furniture Stead and hide cord (?) and one small oval Table thats in the same chame (chamber?) and an old Iron pot and one hackle and two old chears all which was in the ould will that was mentioned by her Grandmother Mary Wimbrough and likewise I give to my daughter Agnefs Watson one cow and to my son Johannafts Watson one small bed and furniture and likewise I will that my hand mill is not to be moved off my plantation at all And I likewise lend to my wife Nancy one half of my corn and meat that is on my plantation when I decease and likewise one half my hogs and sheep thats on my plantation at my death that belongs to me. And all the moveables that has not been mentioned in my will above is to be sold and the money that remains with the purchase money is to pay the charges and the remainder is to be equally devided betwixt my son Major Watson that went to Georgia and my son Zadok Watson that went to Ketucca and my daughter Mary Waterfield that went to Kentucca. And I do appoint my son Jonathan sole executor of this my last will and testament and to settle all my businefs of this my will made this eighth day of November in the year of our Lord Good Eighteen hundred Whereunto I set my hand and Seal this 8th day of November one thousand eight hundred ~

Signed Sealed and acknowledged }  
In the presents of us }  
William Melvin  
John Melvin  
Aura Melvin

his  
Jonathan West X Watson  
mark

John Watson  
The Fifth Generation

John Watson, a son of Jonathan West Watson, was born circa 1760 and died intestate in 1794, when Rebecca Watson was named to administer his estate, giving Levin Payne and Jabez Pilchard as her securities (Wor. Co. Index to Estates, 1742-1908). When his father wrote his will in 1800, naming three of John's children, their father was deceased.

John Watson married circa 1784, Rebecca Payne, daughter of John Payne, who died testate in 1777, naming sons as Levin Payne, Samuel Payne, Wrixham Payne and John Payne, and daughters as Rebecca, Sophia, Esther and Elizabeth (Wor. Co. Wills 1769-1783, JW-4, p. 332).

John Watson of West (Jonathan West) was listed in Worcester County, Maryland, by the 1790 census, at which time he had three males under 16 years in his household. In 1800, Rebecca Watson was head of a household in Worcester County. She had two males living with her, one between 10 and 16 years of age and another under 10 years. Rebecca was not listed in a later census.

John Watson bought 89 acres for 66 pounds 15 shillings from Robert Gibb and wife Wealthy on 2 June 1784. This land was called Bacon Quarter Enlarged and was near lands of William Hancock and Elijah Pilchard (Wor. Co. Deeds K, p 630). John Watson patented a tract called Thin Soil in 1789, apparently 29 acres (Wor. Co. Land Records, p. 628). On 3 March 1790, John Watson and wife Rebecca sold 30 acres Bacon Quarter and Pilchard's Neglect to Daniel Mason (Wor. Co. Land Records, p. 32). On 19 March 1790, Wrixham Payne and wife Susanna and Levin Payne and wife Leah sold to John Watson (Black Smith), land called Smithfield and Farloworth,  $76\frac{1}{2}$  acres, also Partnership,  $15\frac{1}{4}$  acres (Wor. Co. Deeds N, p. 191). On the same date, John Watson and wife Rebecca deeded to Wrixham Payne 64 acres of Bacon Quarter, 29 acres of Thin Soil for 7 pounds 10 shillings (p. 193).

Census records indicate John Watson and his wife Rebecca had seven children, but only five appear to have been living when their mother died between 1800 and 1810. They were (see Chart V):

1. West Watson, born circa 1788. See next section.
2. Sarah Watson. Sally Watson married Stephen Pope Pilchard on 4 November 1817 (Wor. Co. Mar. Rec. 1795-1865, p. 34). This was the Sary Watson of her grandfather, Jonathan West Watson's, will. On 25 March 1809, Sally Pilchard and Stephen, her husband, deeded to John Payne, for 19 pounds, all their claims in "Smith Field formerly belonging to John Watson deceased" (Wor. Co. Deeds AA, p. 278).
3. Betsy Watson, married 12 October 1808, Edmond Gladden (Wor. Co. Mar. Rec. 1796-1865, p. 37). Edmond Gladden and wife Elizabeth sold Charles Hope, for \$36, Smith Field and Farlowirth "being 1/5 of the tract formerly belonging to John Watson Deceased" (Wor. Co. Deeds AA, p. 113).
4. Polly Watson, married Hezekiah Ward? Hezekiah Ward and wife Polly joined Charles Hope and Edmond Gladden and wife Elizabeth in deeding John Watson's land to his son West Watson in 1810 (Wor. Co. Deeds AB, p. 271). No record has been found of Hezekiah Ward buying this land.
5. Sophia Watson, named as daughter of John in his father's will. No other record.

West Watson  
The Sixth Generation

West Watson, only known son of John Watson and his wife, Rebecca Payne Watson, was born circa 1788. He would have been the son in Rebecca's household in 1800, at 10 to 16 years of age. The 1810 census shows him head of a Worcester County household, at 26 to 45 years of age (he was circa 22), with a wife but no children. In 1820, he was again 26 to 45 (32), in 1830 his age was given as 40 to 50 (42), in 1840 as 50 to 60 (52), in 1850 as 55 (62) and in 1860 at 75 (72).

West Watson inherited land from his grandfather, Jonathan West Watson, in 1805, land "on the North Side of the great road". West Watson married (1) Betsy Ellis, on 26 June 1810 (Wor. Co. Mar. Rec. 1795-1865, p. 41). Betsy was a daughter of William Ellis and wife Elizabeth Ellis, both of whom died testate naming a daughter as Betsy Watson (Wor. Co. Wills 1813-1822, MH #2, folio 6 and folio 326).

On 24 June 1820, West Watson and wife Betsy sold to Jonathan Watson of Accomack County, Virginia, for \$150, land on the north side of the county road, part of Poor Hall, "that my grandfather Jonathan West Watson left me in his will" (Wor. Co. Deeds AK, p. 406). Jonathan Watson, in his Accomack County will of 1827, left the same land to West Watson's son William.

West Watson made his first land purchase on 29 December 1810, when he bought 92 acres from Hezekiah Ward and wife Polly, John Payne, and Charles Hope, for \$200 (Wor. Co. Deeds AB, p. 271). This purchase was for part of Smithfield, Farloworth and Partnership, land that his father had owned. On 6 January 1825, he bought 83 acres, part of West Chester, from Thomas Melvin of Accomack County, for \$125 (Wor. Co. Deeds AQ, p. 245). On 2 July 1831, West Watson bought 32 acres of Lanes Ending from William McHenry and wife Sally for \$50 (Wor. Co. Deeds AX, p. 288). On 28 March 1835, West Watson bought 69 additional acres of Westchester from William Jones and wife Molly and from William Aydelotte (Wor Co. Deeds JCH #1, p 528, p. 530

and JCH #2, p. 3). One of these deeds locates the land on Holmes Mill Pond , another places it near Swansicut Creek.

The 1850 census for Worcester County shows West Watson as head of 1st District household 1642. He had lost his first wife and had only 20-year-old daughter Harriet Watson in his household and a Susan Taylor, of 23 years. On 28 October 1852, West Watson married (2) Susan Taylor (Wor. Co. Mar. Rec 1795-1865, p. 183). No record has been found proving the parentage of Susan Taylor. When William Ellis wrote his will in 1811, he had a daughter Nancy Ellis. This daughter was Nancy Taylor, when her mother wrote her will in 1818. Nancy Ellis married James Taylor on 5 December 1815 (Wor. Co. Mar. Rec. 1795-1865, p. 58). It is suggested that Susan Taylor was their daughter. If so, she would have been the niece of West Watson's first wife, and a first cousin to the children of his first marriage.

The 1860 census shows West Watson, a 75-year-old farmer, in 1st District household 2932/2931. His wife Susan was then 30 (33?) and they had three children in their household; John Watson at 8 years (7?), Susan Watson at 6 years and Robert Watson of 2 years.

West Watson wrote his will on 12 January 1869 and it was recorded on 10 August of the same year (Wor. Co. Wills TT #8, 1851-1873, p. 521). He directed that son William inherit the farm "whereon he now lives, free and clear of any Dower in the same of my wife" and that his other land, including the farm "where I now live", be sold. The monies arising from such sales were to be paid over "to my several children and grandchildren in a legal proportion", after expenses were paid. He appointed his son William Watson and friend William J. Aydelott sole executors. When they qualified to probate the will, they gave Barnabas Taylor and William M. Schoolfield as their securities.

On 24 January 1871, the executors of West Watson's will presented the settlement of his estate (Wor. Co. Accounts, #3, GWB, 1866-1875, p. 184). William T.

Wilkerson, an Accomack County preacher of the Greenbackville area, had been paid \$3.00 for preaching the funeral. The widow, Susan Watson, was paid \$523.20. The balance was divided into eight parts for the children of West Watson (except son William who had inherited land) or grandchildren, in the two cases in which his daughters had died. The children of West Watson were:

1. Patsy Watson, born circa 1815 (1850 census), married (1) 1839, Daniel Mason (Wor. Co. Mar. Rec 1795-1865, p. 139), (2) circa 1870, \_\_\_\_\_ McHenry.

2. William Watson, born 29 May 1817, died 26 October 1886 (tombstone in Watson plot on Jones Road, Worcester County, Lena Jones farm), married (1) 18 December 1843, Mary Aydelotte (p. 152), (2) 26 November 1873, Mary Wimbrow, widow (Wor. Co. Mar. Rec. #1, 1866-1886, pages unnumbered). William Watson's first wife was born 11 April 1824 and died 20 August 1860 (tombstone). His second wife, Mary Duncan Watson, was born 31 December 1825 and died 28 August 1877 (tombstone). William Watson had a son Westly Watson, 6 years old in the 1850 census, and it was likely he, called Levin Watson, at 14 years in the 1860 census, and Levin at 22 in the 1870 census. Levin W. Watson, 26, married Sarah W. Taylor, 18, on 19 December 1871 (LES, MD, Mar. Rec. p. 501). Levin W. Watson was deceased by 28 April 1874, when William Watson (his father) and Sarah W. Watson (his widow) were named to administer his estate (Wor. Co. Index to Estates). Levin W. Watson apparently had no children, for his estate was divided between his widow and his father (Wor. Co. Accts GBG #4, p. 524). William Watson wrote his will on 25 August 1884 (Wor. Co. Wills 1866-1923, p. 268). He named four daughters: Elizabeth Watson; Sarah Hannah Watson; Mary Frances, wife of W. T. Outten; and Ellen Aydelotte, "now wife of William Jones". A fifth daughter, Henrietta A. Watson, was born on 3 December 1851 and died 7 November 1877 (tombstone with parents).

3. Sallie Watson, born circa 1820, married 10 June 1845, Ezekiel Wimbrow (Wor. Co. Mar. Rec. 1795-1865, p. 157). Sallie was deceased when her father died. Her



share of his estate went to her children, William Wimbrow and Elizabeth Wimbrow.

4. Elizabeth Watson, born circa 1825 (1850 census), married (1) 9 January 1844, Elias Taylor (Wor. Co. Mar. Rec. 1795-1865, p. 153), (2) 2 January 1861, Stephen Hill (p. 215). Elizabeth, born 3 February 1822, died 28 September 1882, has a tombstone in the Watson plot with her brother William. Her first husband, Elias Taylor, son of James, born 23 June 1816, died 16 March 1855, also has a stone there.

5. Amanda Watson, born circa 1827 (1850 census). married 19 July 1848, James Tull (Wor. Co. Mar. Rec. 1795-1865, p. 168). Amanda was also deceased when her father died. Her share of his estate went to her children: John W. Tull, Mary E. Tull, Amanda A. Tull, and James U. (H.?) Tull.

6. Harriet Watson, born circa 1830 (1850 census), married 6 November 1852, William Gootee (Wor. Co. Mar. Rec. 1795-1865, p. 183).

The last three children of West Watson were by his second marriage to Susan Taylor in 1852, when he was circa 64 years of age. All three were underage when he died in 1869. William W. Payne was appointed their guardian on 14 June 1870 (Wor. Co. Guardianship Docket from 1846 to 1879, pages unnumbered). He served as guardian until the daughter married and the two boys became of age. Their mother, Susan Watson, has not been found in the 1870 census, but, on 2 January 1875, Robert M. Townsend and wife Susan deeded  $97\frac{1}{2}$  acres of Smithfield, Partnership and Westchester to John J. Watson for \$500 (Wor. Co. Deeds ITM #3, p. 493). The deed states that Susan got it from William J. Aydelotte and William Watson, executors of West Watson, deceased, and that Susan was then Susan Watson. Apparently West Watson's widow had married Robert M. Townsend. Susan's children were:

7. John J. Watson, born 1853. His remaining part of his father's estate was turned over to him in 1874, showing him to be 21 in that year. No record of the marriage of John J. Watson has been found. His wife was Jennie in the 1880 census,

when he was listed head of Stockton District household 468, next door to his half-brother, William Watson. He and his wife then had two children, Charles Watson at 4 years and Mary Watson at 2 years. John J. Watson bought the  $97\frac{1}{2}$  acres of his father's land from the Townsends in in 1875. He and his wife Jennie sold this tract to Eliza Jones, wife of Charles Jones, on 22 November 1888 for \$600 (Wor. Co. Deeds JWS #3, p. 28). John J. Watson, born 3 January 1853, died 4 November 1921, and his wife, Jennie A. Watson, born 12 April 1852, died 4 June 1916, are buried with stones in the Salem M. E. Church Cemetery, Pocomoke. Other Watsons in this cemetery are likely their descendants.

8. Susan Watson, born circa 1854 (1860 census). This daughter was called Anna in her father's will and in the settling of his estate. Charles Howard married Susan Ann Watson on 12 October 1870 (LES, MD, Mar. Rec. 1865-1906, p. 220).

9. Robert Watson, born circa 1858 (1860 census). Robert's final account was turned in by his guardian in 1879, showing he was of age by that year. Robert Watson, unmarried, at 20 (22?) years was in the 1st District Worcester County household of a Redden in 1880. Robert Watson, 25 (23?), married Elizabeth Merritt, 23, on 12 January 1881 (LES, MD, Mar. Rec. 1865-1906, p. 502). Robert Watson, "of Pocomoke City" died testate by 6 May 1919, when his will was recorded (Wor. Co. Wills ACR #1, p. 190). He left his property to his widow Elizabeth without naming any children. Robert Watson, born 15 April 1859, died 31 March 1919, and wife, Elizabeth T. Watson, have stones in Goodwill M.E. Church Cemetery, near Pocomoke, on Stockton Road. Four of their children who died young also have stones in this cemetery, as does Joshua T. Watson (1887-1916), apparently a son who died before his father.

In the name of God Amen. I West Watson of Worcester County  
in the State of Maryland, being of sound disposing, sound memory  
and understanding, considering the certainty of death, and the uncertainty  
of the time thereof, do make and publish this my last Will and  
Testament in manner (and form) following, that is to say, first and  
principally; following I commit my soul into the hands of Almighty  
God who gave it, and my body to the dust from whence it came  
to be decently buried.

Item, I give and devise the farm whereon my son William  
now lives, to him the said William, and his heirs and assigns forever  
free and clear from any Deed or in the name of any wife, the line  
between lands and my homestead farm to run straight from a  
boundary on the roads where they cornered the corner of Samuel H  
Payne farm to and by a boundary on the line on the land known  
as the Collins land thence to a boundary on or over the road, the  
same being, all the land lying South and East of said line to my son  
land.

Item I give order and direct my two Executors hereinafter  
named, to sell in such manner, and at such time and under  
such notice as they may deem best; All my lands known as the  
"New farm" and a piece of land adjoining the same known as  
the "Water land" near Marshall's Wells Pond. Also my farm where  
I now live, and pay over to my several Children and grand  
children in a legal proportion all the moneys arising from such sale,  
over and above legal and good proper expenses of such sale.  
I further will and direct that all moneys or effects arising from  
a proper settlement of my personal estate after settling my just debts  
shall be paid to my said several Children and grand Children  
in such proportion as the Law would award if I died intestate.  
Said Distribution to be made by the Orphans Court of Worcester  
County to my Daughter Horriet wife of William Scott, my son son  
my Daughter Anne, my son Robert, and the Children of my Daughter  
my Daughter Anne, my son Robert, and the Children of my Daughter

Now I give order and direct my two Executors hereinafter named, to sell in such manner, and at such time and under such notice as they may deem best: All my lands known as the 'Horn farm' and a piece of land adjoining the Land known as the 'Hutten land' near Marshall's Mills Pond. Also my farm where I now live, and pay over to my several Children and grand children in a legal proportion all the moneys arising from such sale, over and above legal and good proper expenses of such sale.

I further will and direct that all moneys or effects arising from a proper settlement of my personal estate after settling my just debts shall be paid to my said several Children and grand Children in such proportion as the Law would award if I died intestate. Said Distribution to be made by the Orphans Court of Worcester County to my Daughter Harriet wife of William George my son John my Daughter Anne, my son Robert, and the Children of my Daughter Sally formerly wife of Archibald Wimbrough to my Daughter Mary formerly the wife of Daniel Mason, and my Daughter Amanda wife of Saml. Hall, and to my Daughter Elizabeth now the wife of Stephen Hill.

Lastly, I nominate constitute and appoint my son William and my friend William A. Aydelott sole Executors of this my last will and Testament; hereby revoking annulling and making void all wills heretofore made by me. In testimony whereof I hereunto set my hand and affix my seal on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of January 1869.

Witness, sealed, published and declared by the above named Tutor West Watson, in the presence of each of us, who at his request and in his presence & in the presence of each other have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses.

Ellen J. Aydelott.  
Robert E. Matthews.  
Saml. H. Payne.

West Watson

USA  
Stamp  
2/

John W. Watson  
The Seventh Generation

The death certificate of John W. Watson states he died in New Church, Virginia, on 21 October 1934, at 90 years of age. It gives his place of birth as unknown. His father was named as John Watson, whose birthplace was unknown. His mother's name was unknown, as was her birthplace.

Local records show John W. Watson was born between 1850 and 1855 and could not have been 90 years of age at the time of his death. When he married in 1877, his age was given as 23 (born circa 1854). The Accomack County 1880 census for Atlantic District shows him as 25 (born circa 1855), head of household 331/339 that included a son Otho of 1 year and his wife Mary of 20 years. They were living at Assawoman. It appears to have been he, a 20-year-old John Watson, oysterman, born in Virginia, in the Atlantic Township (District) household of Edward Holland, of Assawoman, in the 1870 census (born circa 1850). These records indicate that John W. Watson would have been 5 to 10 years of age in 1860 and 79 to 84 at the time of his death. Had he been born in 1844, he would have been drafted for service in the Civil War, and local records do not show this, neither does his tombstone or obituary.

The only John Watson in Accomack County of this age was John E. Watson, 9 years, in the <sup>1860</sup> household of John E. Watson and his wife Elizabeth. John Watson, 24, "son of John and Elizabeth," married Elizabeth Harrison, 21, on 27 October 1874 (Acco. Co. Mar. Reg. #3, p. 41). His tombstone, at Edgehill Cemetery at Accomac, gives his birth on 5 January 1851 and death on 24 July 1934 (Graven Stones, p. 270).

One other John Watson, of 8 years, has been found in the 1860 census. He was a son of West Watson of Worcester County and was apparently born in Maryland and lived there all his life. His tombstone in Salem Methodist Church Cemetery, Pocomoke gives: John J. Watson, born 3 January 1853, died 4 November 1921 (Cem. Records of Wor. Co., MD, p. 196).

John W. Watson's age had deviated by the time of the 1900 census (there is no 1890 census), when his age was given as 58. While genealogists expect census ages to be accurate only to within five years, it is obvious John W. Watson could not have aged 33 years since 1880, when his age was only 25 years. He was shown as 66 in 1910 and 74 in 1920, the last census released.

No record has been found giving the parentage of John W. Watson. After an extensive search, several deadends, and the elimination of other branches of Watsons, it is considered highly possible that his father could have been a William H. Watson of the New Church ares, especially since he retired to New Church to spend his last years (see p.12 and Chart II).

John W. Watson, 23, married Mary E. Thornton, 18, on 16 July 1877 in Worcester County (Wor. Co. Mar. Reg. #1. 1866-1886). His occupation was given here as oysterman and they were married by C. C. Wertenbaker.

Mary E. Thornton was 9 months old when the 1860 census was taken, in the Accomack County household of John Thornton and his wife Margaret. Her father, Captain John Henry Thornton, had married Margaret Claywell, in Worcester County, on 12 May 1852 (Wor. Co. Mar. Rec. 1796-1865, p. 182). Margaret Clavil, 15, was in the Accomack County household of William J. Colburn in 1850, while John Thornton, 24, was a sailor in the household of his mother, Elizabeth Thornton, in the area of Assawoman. The 1860 household of John Thornton, then a farmer, included two other children, John T. Thornton at 6 years, and Narcissa Thornton at 2 Years. Later census records show other children as Lewis Thornton, Silvester Thornton, Alicia Thornton, Josephine Thornton, and William Thornton. James Darby, 20, and Rebecca Tatham, 15, were living with the family in 1860. This couple married on 8 August 1861 (Acco. Co. Mar. Reg. #3, p. 12) and became the parents of Caroline Frances Darby (1866-1939), who married Thomas R. Taylor (1857-1947) on 28 January 1883 at Atlantic (Acco. Co. Mar. Reg. #3, p. 74).

The 1900 census shows John Watson, a farmer who rented his land, in Atlantic District household 39/40. He and his wife Mary had been married 23 years. They had had seven children, all of whom were living with them. By 1910, John W. Watson, a farmer, was living with his family on Wallops Neck Road (near Wattsville?). He and his wife Mary E., then 50, had had another child who had died. Living with them were: son William at 24, daughter Margie at 22, daughter Manie of 19 years, son Harry at 15 and son Milton of 13. The 1920 census shows John W. Watson, with wife Mary E. at 61 years, living in the village of New Church. Their daughter, Lillie Trader, at 37, was in their household.

John W. Watson lost his wife of 49 years on 13 November 1926. The obituary of Mary Ellen Thornton Watson states she was 67 years of age, a most estimable woman and a lifelong member of Atlantic M. P. Church (Pen. Ent., 20 Nov. 1926 issue). She was survived by her husband and seven children; a sister, Mrs. William Taylor of Atlantic; and three brothers, Eddie Thornton of Philadelphia, Louis Thornton and Thomas Thornton of Atlantic. Her brother, Sylvester Lee Thornton, had died in 1910 (tombstone in family plot).

After his wife died, John W. Watson and his widowed daughter, Lillie Trader, moved in with his other daughters, both of whom were living in New Church. He died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Clyde Mariner, on 21 October 1934, and was buried in Nelsons Cemetery beside his wife (Obituary in Pen. Ent. 27 Oct. 1934 issue).

The children of John W. Watson and his wife, Mary Ellen Thornton Watson, were:

1. Otho L. Watson, born 15 December 1878. See next section.
2. Lillie Watson, born 1881, died 1967 (tombstone at Nelsons). Lillie Watson, 21, married Luthur F. Trader, 20, blacksmith, on 17 December 1902, at Temperanceville (Acco. Co. Mar. Reg. #4, p. 80). Luthur Trader died in 1904 (tombstone). They had no children.

3. William H. Watson, born 1883, died 1956 (tombstone at Parksley Cemetery).

William H. Watson married Ethel N. Nock on 22 November 1913 (Acco. Co. Mar. Reg. #4, p. 206). She was born in 1892 and died in 1973, according to her tombstone. His obituary states he was a salesman in O. M. Littleton confectionary in Pocomoke, Maryland (Pen. Ent., 22 Mar. 1956 issue). His children were:

- A. William H. Watson, Jr., of Philadelphia.
- B. J. Elton Watson of Salisbury. He married Kitty Willey.
- C. Mary Ellen Watson, who married Robert J. Frostrom of Pocomoke.

4. Margaret/Margie A. Watson, born 1887, died 1966 (tombstone in Nelsons Cemetery). Margie A. Watson married Clyde Ward Mariner, farmer, on 24 December 1913, at Temperanceville. Mr. Clyde Mariner (1887-1966) later became foreman of the State Road Commission for Accomack County. Descendants tell of him repairing the bridges to Chincoteague and going to Tangier Island for a week to work on the bridges there. He and "Miss Margie" had three daughters:

- A. Llewellyn Mariner, now deceased, married Edgar B. Reamy.
- B. Pauline Mariner, married (1) Bruce Davis, (2) Edward T. Hughes.
- C. Carrie Frances Mariner, married (1) Adron Taylor, (2) Daniel Jackson.

5. Manie W. Watson, born 1890, died 1980 (tombstone Nelsons Cemetery). Manie Wallace Watson married Willie Thomas Gladding, Jr., cooper, on 19 November 1916, at New Church (Acco. Co. Mar. Reg. #4, p. 240). "Mr. Willie" delivered ice to grocery stores and private homes in the 1920s and 1930s, before electric refrigerators came into use. He then ran a filling station in New Church, which included an ice house for icing trucks. He and his wife had an only daughter:

- A. Virginia Gladding, married William H. Dryden.

6. Harry Watson, born September 1892 (1900 census). Harry Watson married Mae Taylor in 1916 (Pen. Ent. 20 May 1916 issue, under New Church news). Harry T. Watson was a 26-year-old cooper in the 1920 census, head of a household in New Church, which included his wife and two daughters. When his father died in 1934,



he was living in Snow Hill, Maryland, where he had a grocery store, according to descendants. He was living in Selbyville, Delaware, in 1956, when his older brother died, where he had a hatchery. He died in 1967 and his wife in 1980 (family records). She was a sister to Charles Taylor, Sr , of New Church. He and his wife had four daughters:

A. Violet M. Watson, married Robert Harold Fisher.

B. Catherine Watson, married Woodrow Hudson.

C. Gloria Lee Watson, married Waples Gum.

D. Peggy Anne Watson, married Hilton Johnson.

7. Milton Watson, born 4 August 1895 (1900 census), died circa 1945. He joined the Army and served in both World War I and World War II. He was in the service when he died in Georgia from a fall. He had married Evelyn Clements of Richmond, Virginia, and was buried there. He and his wife had no children.

8. Baby Watson, born and died circa 1902.

# COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH - DIVISION OF VITAL RECORDS

23508

1 PLACE OF DEATH  
 COUNTY OF Accomack  
 MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT OF Atlantic  
 OR  
 INC. TOWN OF New Church  
 OR  
 CITY OF \_\_\_\_\_ (No. \_\_\_\_\_) (If death occurred in a hospital or other institution, give its NAME instead of street and number)  
 REGISTRATION DISTRICT No. 2-C REGISTERED No. 33  
 (TO BE INSERTED BY REGISTRAR) (FOR USE OF LOCAL REGISTRAR)  
 ST. \_\_\_\_\_ WARD \_\_\_\_\_

Length of residence in city or town where death occurred \_\_\_\_\_ yrs. \_\_\_\_\_ mos. \_\_\_\_\_ ds. How long in U. S., if of foreign birth? \_\_\_\_\_ yrs. \_\_\_\_\_ mos. \_\_\_\_\_ ds.

2 FULL NAME John H. Watson  
 (A) RESIDENCE No. New Church, Va. ST. \_\_\_\_\_ WARD \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Usual place of abode) (If nonresident give city or town and State)

## PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS

3. SEX Male 4. COLOR OR RACE White 5. SINGLE, MARRIED, WIDOWED, OR DIVORCED (write the word) Widowed  
 5A. IF MARRIED, WIDOWED, OR DIVORCED HUSBAND OF (OR) WIFE OF \_\_\_\_\_  
 6. DATE OF BIRTH (month, day, and year) 1844  
 7. AGE Years \_\_\_\_\_ Months \_\_\_\_\_ Days \_\_\_\_\_ IF LESS THAN 1 DAY, \_\_\_\_\_ HRS. OR \_\_\_\_\_ MIN.  
 8. TRADE, PROFESSION, OR PARTICULAR KIND OF WORK DONE, AS SPINNER, SAWYER, BOOKKEEPER, ETC. Retired  
 9. INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS IN WHICH WORK WAS DONE, AS SILK MILL, SAW MILL, BANK, ETC. farmer  
 10. DATE DECEASED LAST WORKED AT THIS OCCUPATION (month and year) \_\_\_\_\_ 11. TOTAL TIME (YEARS) SPENT IN THIS OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_

12. BIRTHPLACE (city or town) (State or country) Not known

FATHER 13. NAME John Watson  
 14. BIRTHPLACE (city or town) (State or country) Not known

MOTHER 15. MAIDEN NAME Not known  
 16. BIRTHPLACE (city or town) (State or country) Not known

17. INFORMANT (ADDRESS) Daughter  
New Church, Va.

18. BURIAL, CREMATION, OR REMOVAL PLACE Nelson Cemetery, Oct. 23 1934

19. UNDERTAKER (ADDRESS) N. A. Shields  
New Church, Va.

20. FILED Oct 23 1934 J. R. Nelson Registrar

## MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

21. DATE OF DEATH (month, day, and year) Oct. 21st 1934

22. I HEREBY CERTIFY, THAT I ATTENDED DECEASED FROM Oct. 21, 1934 TO Oct. 21, 1934

I LAST SAW him ALIVE ON Oct. 21, 1934 DEATH IS SAID TO HAVE OCCURRED ON THE DATE STATED ABOVE, AT \_\_\_\_\_ M. THE PRINCIPAL CAUSE OF DEATH AND RELATED CAUSES OF IMPORTANCE IN ORDER OF ONSET WERE AS FOLLOWS:

Myocarditis  
 CONTRIBUTORY CAUSES OF IMPORTANCE NOT RELATED TO PRINCIPAL CAUSE:  
93

NAME OF OPERATION \_\_\_\_\_ DATE OF \_\_\_\_\_

WHAT TEST CONFIRMED DIAGNOSIS? Spec. WAS THERE AN AUTOPSY? No.

23. IF DEATH WAS DUE TO EXTERNAL CAUSES (VIOLENCE) FILL IN ALSO THE FOLLOWING: DATE OF \_\_\_\_\_ INJURY \_\_\_\_\_  
 ACCIDENT, SUICIDE, OR HOMICIDE? \_\_\_\_\_

WHERE DID INJURY OCCUR? \_\_\_\_\_ (Specify city or town, county, and State)  
 SPECIFY WHETHER INJURY OCCURRED IN INDUSTRY, IN HOME, OR IN PUBLIC PLACE.

MANNER OF INJURY \_\_\_\_\_

NATURE OF INJURY \_\_\_\_\_

24. WAS DISEASE OR INJURY IN ANY WAY RELATED TO OCCUPATION OF DECEASED? No.

IF SO, SPECIFY \_\_\_\_\_

(SIGNED) Chas. C. Mautner M. D.

(ADDRESS) Rock Hall, Va.

This is to certify that this is a true and correct reproduction or abstract of the official record filed with the Virginia Department of Health, Richmond, Virginia.

DATE ISSUED

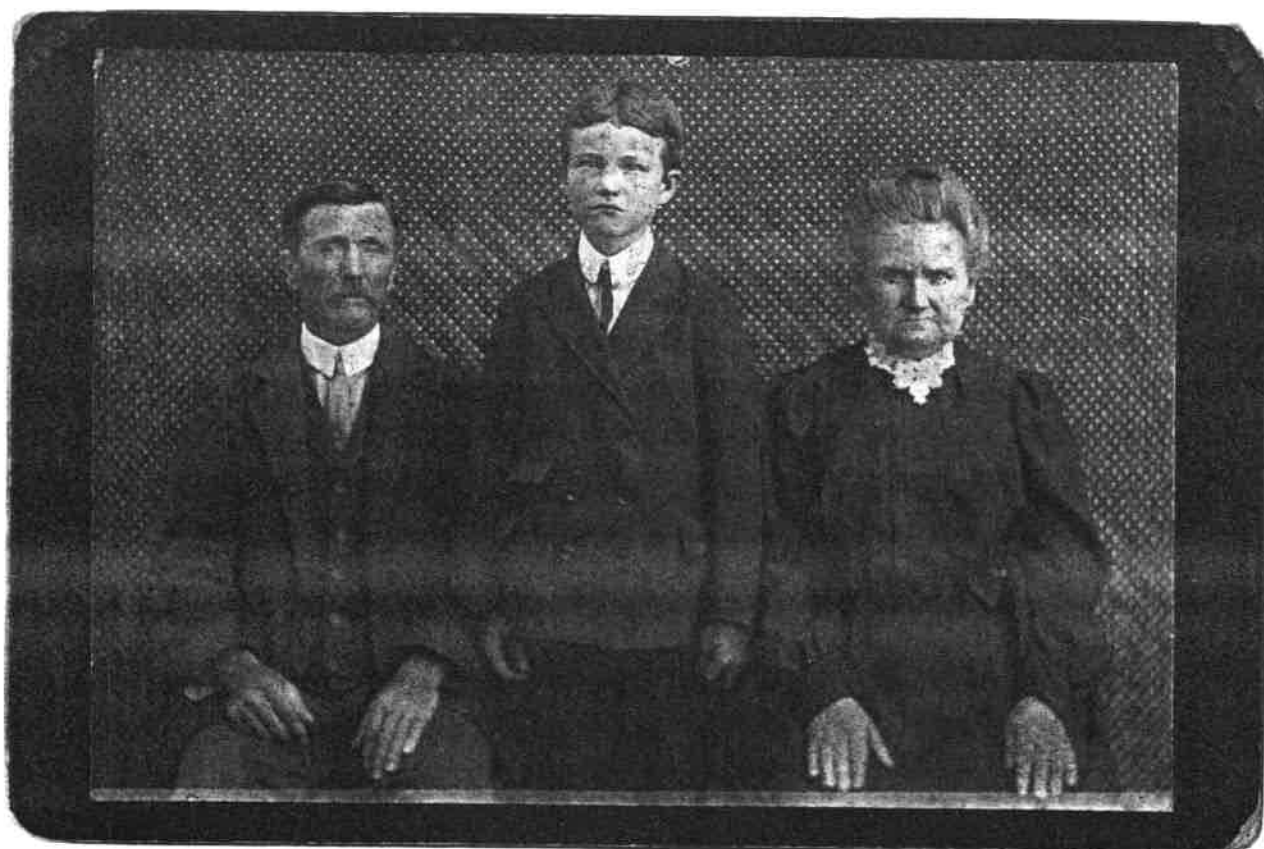
APR 22 1997

Deborah M. Little, State Registrar

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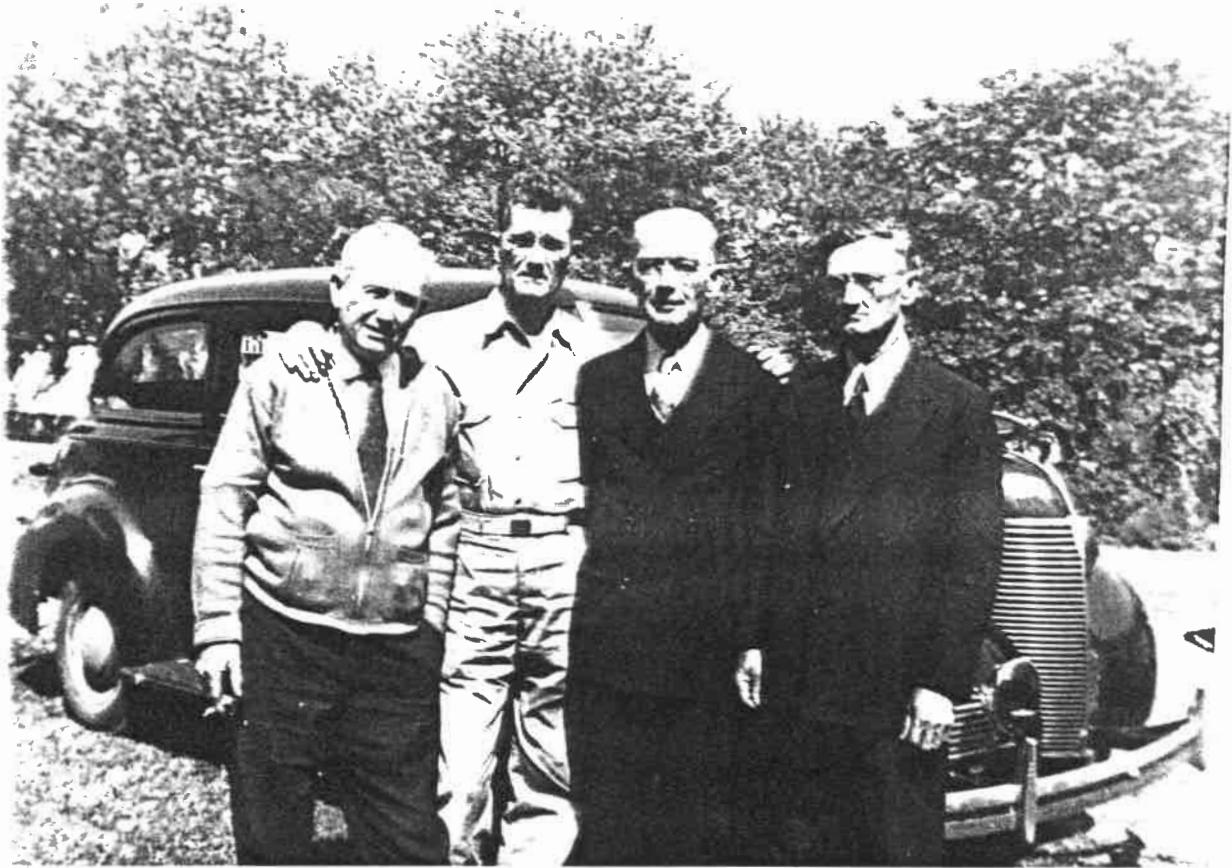


John W. Watson and wife, Mary Ellen Thornton Watson,  
with youngest son, Milton Watson.



Back row, from left to right - Milton Watson and wife, Evelyn Clements Watson; William H. Watson and wife, Ethel Nock Watson; Otho L. Watson and wife, Lelia Taylor Watson.

Front row, from left to right - Clyde W. Mariner and wife, Margie Watson Mariner; Lillie Watson Trader; Manie Watson Gladding; Harry Watson.



From left - Harry Watson, Milton Watson, William H. Watson,  
Otho L. Watson.

Otho Lee Watson  
The Eighth Generation

Otho Lee Watson, the oldest child of John W. Watson and his wife, Mary Ellen Thornton Watson, was born 15 December 1878 (Reg. of Births). He was shown as 1 year of age in his Atlantic District parent's household by the 1880 Accomack County census and as 21, in their household, by the census of 1900.

On 23 November 1904, Otho L. Watson, 21 (25), a cooper, married Lelia Taylor, 19, at Conquest Chapel (Acco. Co. Mar. Reg. #4, p. 104). She was a daughter of Thomas R. Taylor and his wife, Caroline (Carrie) Frances Darby Taylor.

The Accomack County census for 1910 shows Otho Watson, a 29-year-old cooper, with his wife Lelia, 23 (25), to whom he had been married for five years. They had two sons; Marion Watson of 3 years, and Herbert Watson of 1 year, and were living on Wishart Point Road. The family has not been found in the 1920 census. Apparently they were then living on Wallops Island, and the census taker missed them.

Mrs. Dorothy Nebel Harr, in Eastern Shore, By Coach-and-Four, printed in 1976, seems to have interviewed Mr. Otho Watson, for her article Marooned on Wallops Island (p. 101). He had been manager of the Wallops Island Association buildings on Wallops Island for thirteen years, when a hurricane struck on Wednesday, August 23, 1933. With him there were his wife; his two sons; their wives; two grandchildren; his sister, Mrs. Lillie Trader; his father, John W. Watson; other employees and about twenty-six members and guests of the Association. Most of these people left their buildings, which were becoming unsafe from the wind, high surf and waves, for the Coast Guard Station early in the morning. During the afternoon, the Coast Guard evacuated to the trees on the highest point of the Island, where they spent the night while the hurricane blew itself out. The Coast Guard brought everyone ashore on Thursday morning (Pen. Ent., 2 September 1933 issue, front page and p. 12).

No one lost their life on Wallops Island during the hurricane of 1933, but "the club house, cottages, and Coast Guard Station are completely wrecked" (Pen. Ent.). This is not entirely true. While "the Cottage", where the employees of the Association were housed, was completely destroyed, as was the Fuller Cottage, built for the guests of Association members, the other two main buildings, on the dunes facing the ocean, were left standing. The Club House was standing as late as 1947, when the Navy was using the northern end of Wallops Island for ballistic testing. The Coast Guard bought 3.22 acres from Wallops Island Club, Inc. on 16 April 1934, for a new building on the western side of the island (Acco. Co. Deeds 145, p. 304). When it was completed, the old Coast Guard Station was dismantled. Otho Watson's son, Herbert Watson, had a boat house, left standing by the storm, moved to Wisharts Point, where he remodeled it for his home.

Otho L. Watson spent the remainder of his life living at Wisharts Point as a waterman. His wife Lelia, born 2 October 1885, died on 4 December 1975 at 90 years (obituary in E. S. News, 11 December 1975 issue). He died at his home on 22 May 1977, at 98 years of age (obituary in E. S. News, 26 May 1977 issue). His obituary states he was born and raised in Atlantic. He and his wife were both members of Atlantic United Methodist Church. They were buried in the J. W. Taylor Memorial Cemetery, Temperanceville.

They had two sons, who spent their productive years working together as painters:

1. Marion Thomas Watson, born 12 September 1906, died 26 August 1975 (tombstone at J.W. Taylor Cem.). Marion T. Watson, of Atlantic, Virginia, 22, married Laura K. Matthews, of Temperanceville, Virginia, on 30 March 1929 in Pocomoke City, Maryland (Wor. Co. Mar. Rec. #5, 1917-1936, p. 386). Laura Matthews was a daughter of Frank Matthews and his wife, Eva Nock Matthews. She was born in 1907 and died in 1990 (tombstone). This couple had an only daughter:



A. Barbara Lee Watson, born 5 October 1932, in the home of her Watson grandparents at Wisharts Point, married 11 August 1951, Richard L. Bunting. Richard Bunting worked for Tilghman Fertilizer Co. of Pocomoke before his retirement. They still live in Pocomoke and have two children; Diane Leigh Bunting, born 14 July 1953; and Glenn Richard Bunting, born 22 December 1954.

2. Herbert Carlos Watson, born 19 September 1908, died 17 March 1977, married 25 July 1929, Bertha May Benson of Salisbury, Maryland, daughter of Joseph M. Benson and his wife, Rosa Lee Steward Benson, Bertha Benson Watson was born 15 May 1913 and died 27 January 1986. She was buried beside her husband in J. W. Taylor Cemetery, Temperanceville. This couple lived at Wisharts Point and had an only son:

A. William Herbert Watson, born 12 June 1930, married 28 July 1950, Matilda Ann Linton. William H. Watson worked for the Naval Aviation Ordnance Test Station, Chincoteague, as a radar operator, from 1948 to 1959, when this facility was deactivated. He then worked for Lincoln Labs, MIT, and accepted a position with National Aeronautics and Space Administration in 1960 as an electronic technician. He retired in 1990, after spending much of his working life on Wallops Island, where, as a 3-year-old, he weathered the hurricane of 1933 with his parents, grandparents and great-grandfather.

Bill Watson and his wife built their home in Atlantic in 1958. They had twin sons, born on 28 January 1952, Herbert Benson Watson and Richard William Watson. A third son, Jeffrey Alan Watson, was born on 23 March 1960. Herbie Watson married Susan Gale Cathell on 31 August 1974. They have two daughters. Ricky Watson married Christy Bell Moyer on 5 August 1972. They have two sons. Jeff Watson married Debbie Sue Avery on 20 July 1991. They have no children. Jeff Watson is presently restoring the home of his great-grandfather, Otho L. Watson, at Wisharts Point, as a home for his family.





Mr. Otho L. Watson (1878-1975) and wife, Lelia Taylor Watson (1885- 1975).



Otho L. Watson, holding twin great-grandsons, Ricky  
Watson and Herbie Watson.



Above - Marion Thomas Watson (1906-1975) and wife,  
Laura Matthews Watson (1904-1990).

Below - Herbert Carlos Watson (1908-1977) and wife,  
Bertha Benson Watson (1913-1986).





*lan mills*

Richard L. Bunting, wife, Barbara Watson Bunting, and children.



Above - William H. Watson and wife, Matilda Ann Linton Watson.

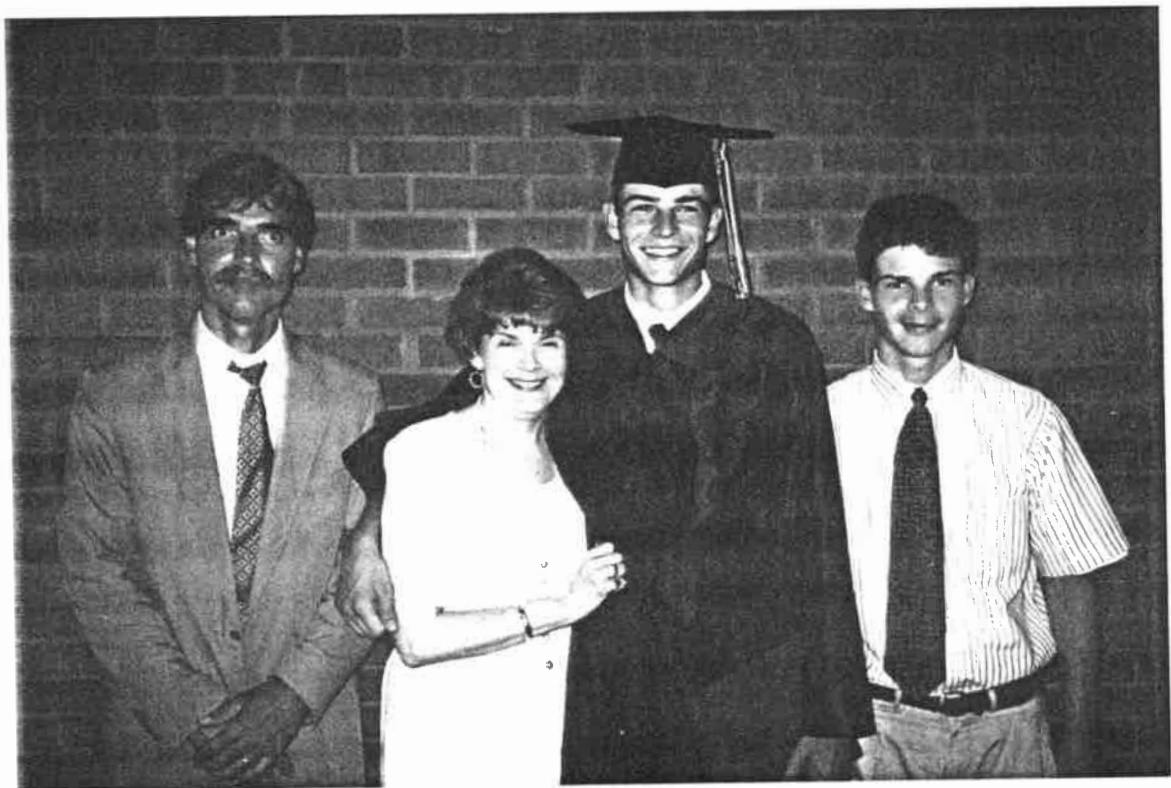
Below - Jeffrey A. Watson and wife, Debby Sue Avery Watson.



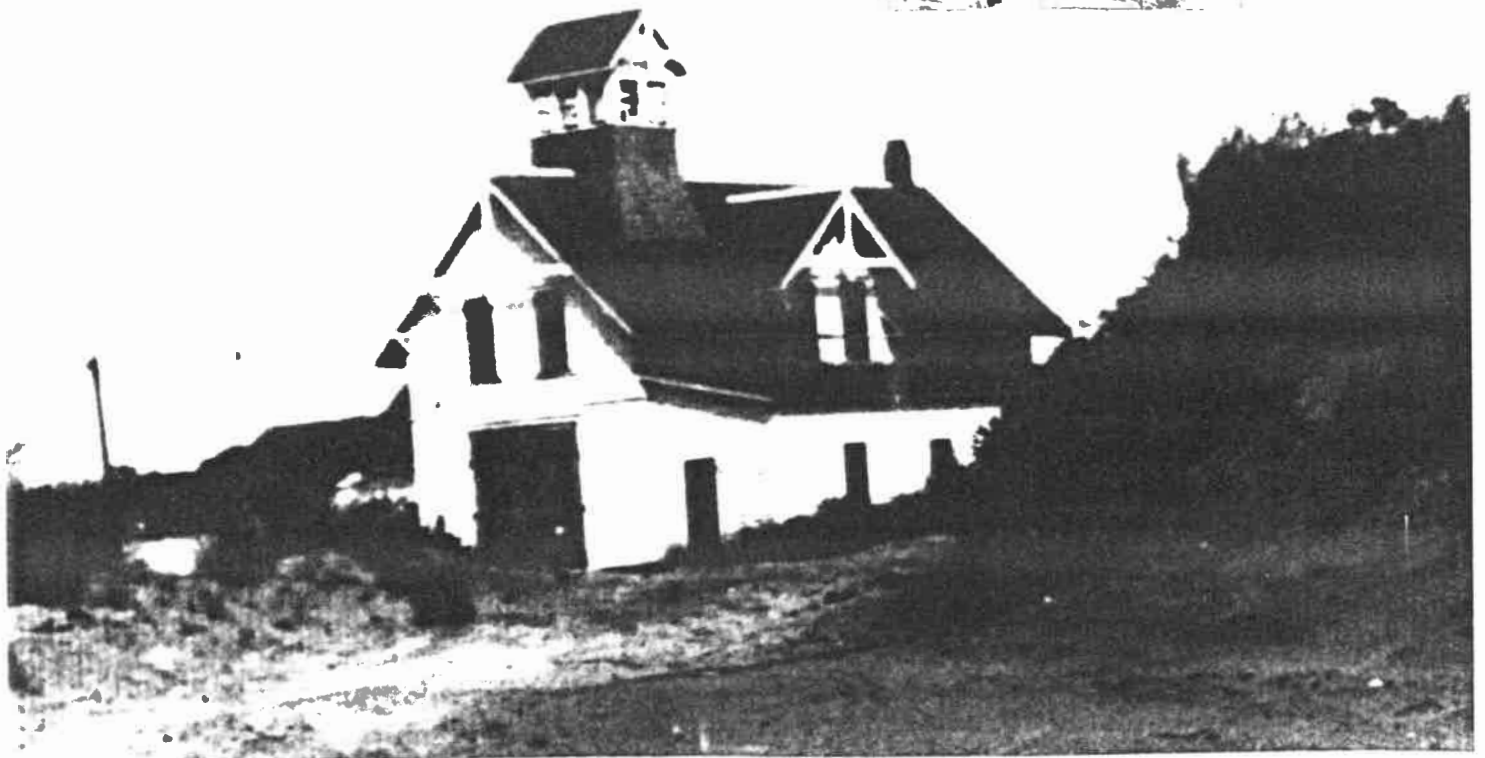


Above - Herbert B. Watson, wife Susan Cathell Watson, with daughters, Andrea Susan Watson and Courtney Brooke Watson.

Below - Richard W. Watson, wife Christy Moyer Watson, and sons, Richard Lee Watson and Bradley William Watson.

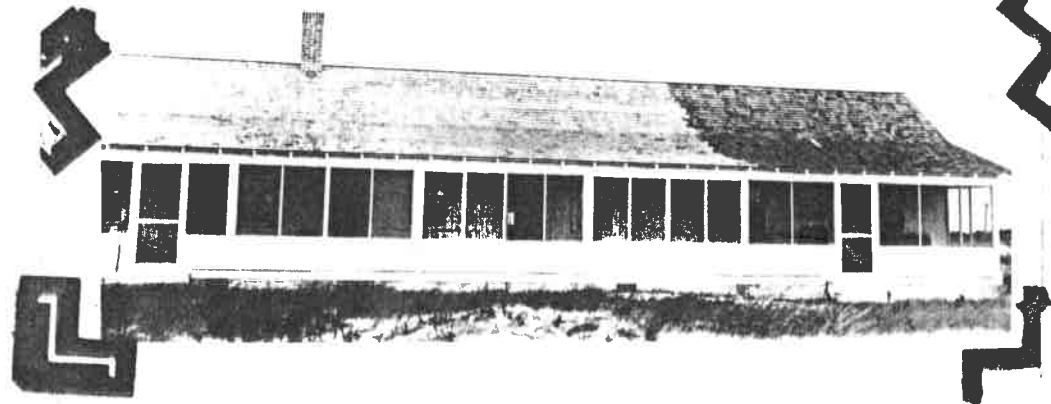






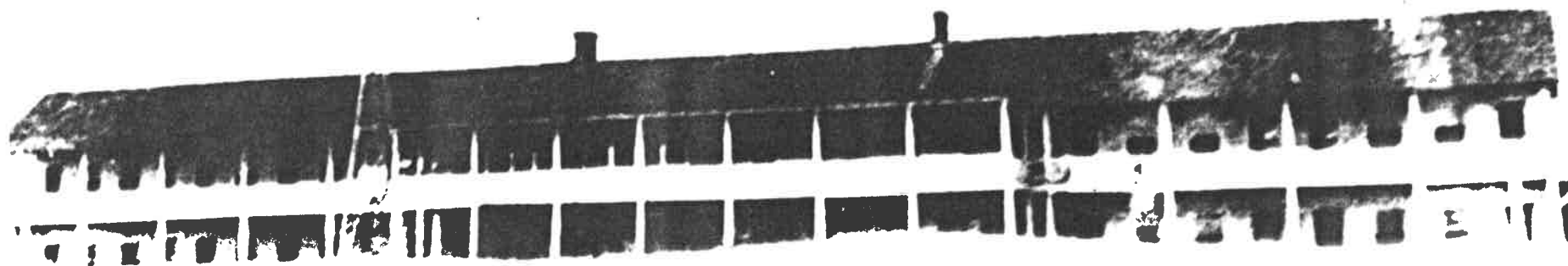
Above - The Wallops Island Coast Guard Station.

Below - The same building after the hurricane of 1933. It had been moved back, and renovated for use while a new Coast Guard Station was being built on the west side of the island.



Above - "The Cottage", a building on Wallops Island that housed the employees of the Wallops Island Association.

Below - The Fuller Cottage, built by the Wallops Island Association for their guests. Both of these buildings were completely destroyed by the 1933 hurricane.







Above - The Wallops Island Association Club House, after the hurricane of 1933.

Below - The Club House, still standing in 1947.



# WATSON CHART I

## 1st Generation

## 2nd Generation

## 3rd Generation

## 4th Generation

## 5th Generation

Peter Watson  
b.c. 1645  
d.int.c. 1705  
m.c. 1668,  
Jane \_\_\_\_\_

Mary  
b. before 1678

Peter, Jun<sup>r</sup>  
b. before 1679  
d. t. 1730  
m.c. 1700,  
Comfort  
Clifton

John  
b. before 1679

Robert, Sen<sup>r</sup>  
b.c. 1682  
d.t. 1746  
m.c. 1705

Robert, Jun<sup>r</sup>  
b.c. 1706  
d. int. 1760  
m.c. 1730,  
Mary \_\_\_\_\_

Charles, Sen<sup>r</sup>  
b.c. 1709  
d.t. 1764  
m.c. 1730,  
Sarah \_\_\_\_\_

Mary Wharton

Rhoda Walker

Hannah Fisher

McCatty

John  
b.c. 1712  
d. int. 1743  
m.c. 1735

Nathan  
b.c. 1731  
d. 1783  
m.c. 1755-60

Robert, III  
b.c. 1733  
d.t. 1786  
m.(1)c. 1755,  
Mary Brumble  
(2)c. 1775,  
Eliz. Taylor

Charles, Jun<sup>r</sup>  
b.c. 1735  
d.t. 1773  
w. Elizabeth

Jonathan West  
b.c. 1735  
d.t. 1805  
m.(1)c. 1758,  
Sarah Wimbrow  
(2)c. 1780,  
Nancy \_\_\_\_\_

Elizabeth

William, b.c. 1769  
Esther, b.c. 1774

John, b.c. 1765-see CHART II  
d. before 1840  
m. 1809, Rachel Waters  
Robert, IV, b.c. 1777-see CHART III  
dec'd by 1850  
m. 1806, Sarah Davis

Ufamy  
Jehu, b.c. 1766-see CHART IV  
d.t. 1816  
w. Ann

John, b.c. 1760-see CHART V  
d. int. 1794  
m.c. 1784, Rebecca Payne  
Johannas

Jonathan, b.c. 1765-see CHART VI  
d.t. 1827  
m.(1)c. 1788, Elizabeth Watson,  
widow of Robert, III  
(2) 1824, Nancy Wimbrow

Rebecca Joins (Jones?)  
Delany Hale (Hall? Hill?)

Agnes  
m. 1801, Levin Pilchard  
Major  
Zadock  
Mary Waterfield

# WATSON CHART II

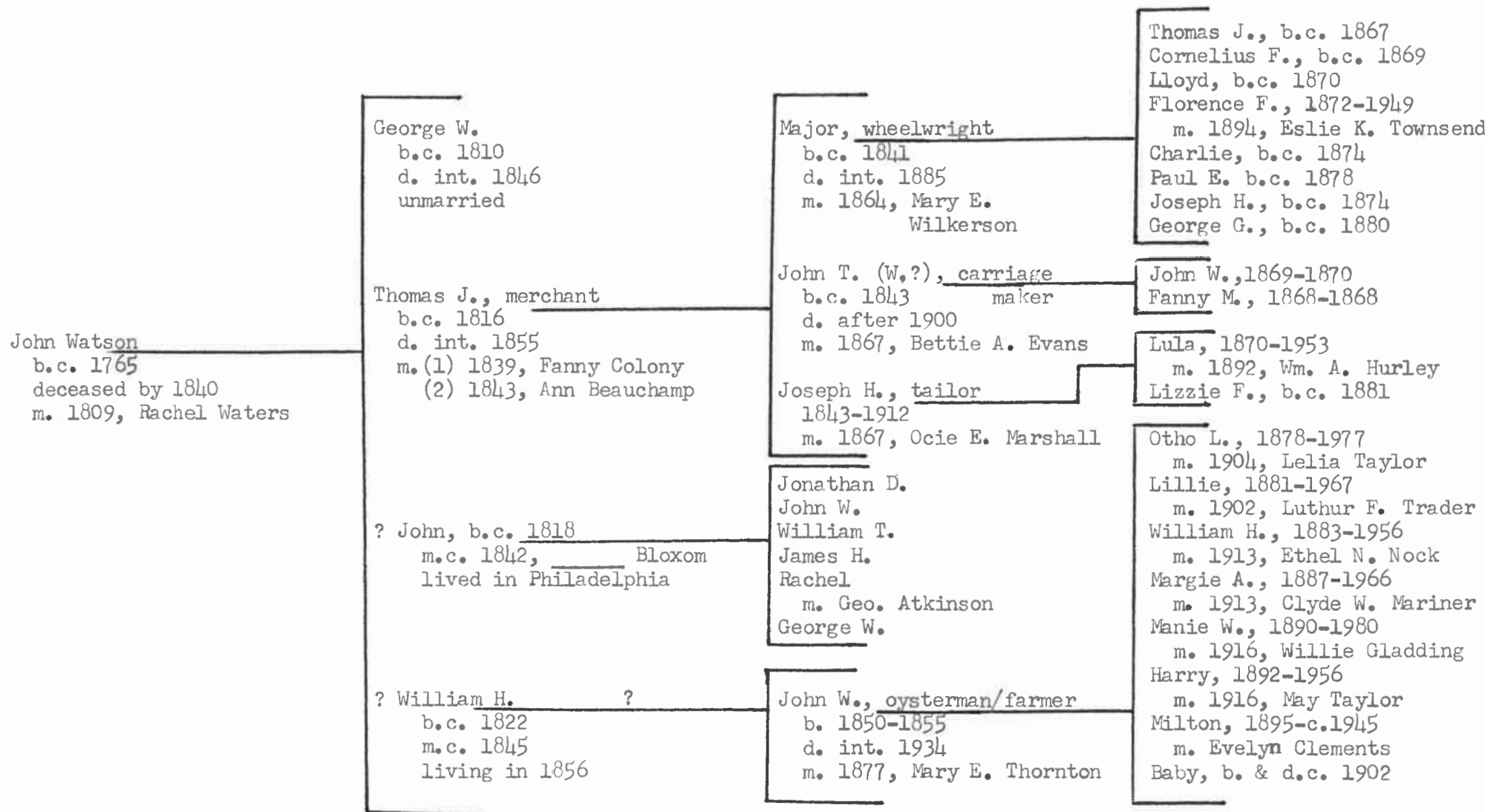
New Church/Horntown/Assawoman Watsons

5th Generation

6th Generation

7th Generation

8th Generation



WATSON CHART III  
Chincoteague Watsons

5th Generation

6th Generation

7th Generation

8th Generation

Robert Watson, IV  
b.c. 1777  
dec'd by 1850  
m. 1806, Sarah Davis

Robert, V  
b.c. 1807  
dec'd by 1850  
m. 1824, Polly Thornton,  
dau. of Kendall

Purnell  
b.c. 1810  
dec'd by 1850  
m. (1) 1832, Margaret  
Thornton of K  
(2) 1839, Mary Cherricks,  
widow

John W., b.c. 1818  
dec'd by 1889  
m. (1) c. 1838, Sally Thornton  
(2) 1847, Mary Loun  
(3) 1857, Mary A. Cole?  
(4) 1860, Mary Taylor  
(5) 1873, Martha Bowden

Robert, VI, 1827-1900  
m. (1) 1848, Henrietta  
Watson, dau. of  
Zadock  
(2), 1874, Harriet  
Hancock

William Thomas  
b.c. 1841  
m. 1869, Laney Lone  
Civil War Veteran

George W.  
b.c. 1844  
m. 1869, Ann Maria  
Melvin  
Civil War Veteran

Mary, b.c. 1840  
m. 1858, Theodore Young  
Littleton W., b.c. 1850  
m. (1) 1873, Ann Eliza  
Tatham, widow  
(2) 1883, Susan Cherricks,  
widow  
John Purnell, b.c. 1852  
m. 1873, Elizabeth  
Hancock

Jessie B., b.c. 1853  
William L., 1855-1909  
m. (1) c. 1877, Louise

(2) 1883, Esther  
Carpenter

David R., 1857-1940  
m. 1874, Annie Tatman  
Daniel J., 1864-1934  
m. 1882, Ruth Snead  
Elizabeth, b.c. 1866  
m. (1) c. 1885,

Thornton  
(2) 1890, Joseph H.  
Taylor

Alfred T., 1869-1918  
m. 1889, Salona Cherricks  
Henrietta, b. 1870  
George C., b. & d. 1872  
Sarah A., b.c. 1875  
Wallace, b. 1879, d. 1886  
Revilla, b.c. 1882  
Victoria, 1884-1970  
m. 1903, Wm. P. Priutt

Lydia A., b. 1870  
m. 1887, Chas. W. Powell  
Others

Mary E., 1874-1915  
m. 1895, George Cherricks  
John Benny, 1882-1915  
m. 1899, Manie Turlington  
Wallace?  
Others

# WATSON CHART IV

Worcester County/Horntown Watsons

5th Generation

6th Generation

7th Generation

8th Generation

Jehu Watson

b.c. 1766

d.t. 1815

m.c. 1790, Ann

James, b.c. 1790  
deceased by 1840  
m. (1) 1815, Tabitha Jones  
(2) 1822, Margaret Jones

William, b.c. 1795  
d. ?  
m. 1818, Maria Beacham

Peter, b.c. 1800  
d. int. 1843  
unmarried

Polly, b.c. 1804?  
m. 1833, Preason Mason

Mitchell W., b.c. 1807  
d. int. 1863  
m. (1) 1828, Sally Dryden  
(2) 1860, Mary R.  
Townsend

Mary M. b.c. 1830  
m. 1856, Samuel S.  
Hinman

Mitchell, b. 1831  
d.t. 1901  
m. 1860, Rosetta  
Pilchard

Mahala C., b.c. 1832

Peter J., of Horntown  
1837-1890  
m. 1864, Mary E. Taylor

Levin T., b.c. 1847

Drucilla, b. after 1850?

Virginia E., b.c. 1852

William Purnell, 1860-1938  
m. 1888, Laura F. Tarr  
Florence, b.c. 1865  
m. 1886, James Howard  
Edgar, b.c. 1871  
Emerson H., b.c. 1874  
unmarried  
Minnie, b.c. 1876  
m. (1) 1892, Major W. Tarr  
(2) Evans  
Sidney M. 1878-1910  
Louis, 1880-1906  
m. 1904, Eliza Walker  
Charlie, d. young  
Martha, d. young  
Sarah, d. young  
Edna, m. (1) Zadock Penniwell  
(2) Calvin Aikee  
Tray, m. Marion Lamberson

Cornelius, 1866-1945  
Edward, bc. 1868  
lived Philadelphia  
Elizabeth P., 1871-1957  
m. 1898, W. D. Meelheim  
Sally Mariah/Rida, 1882-1926  
m. 1905, Asa Hickman

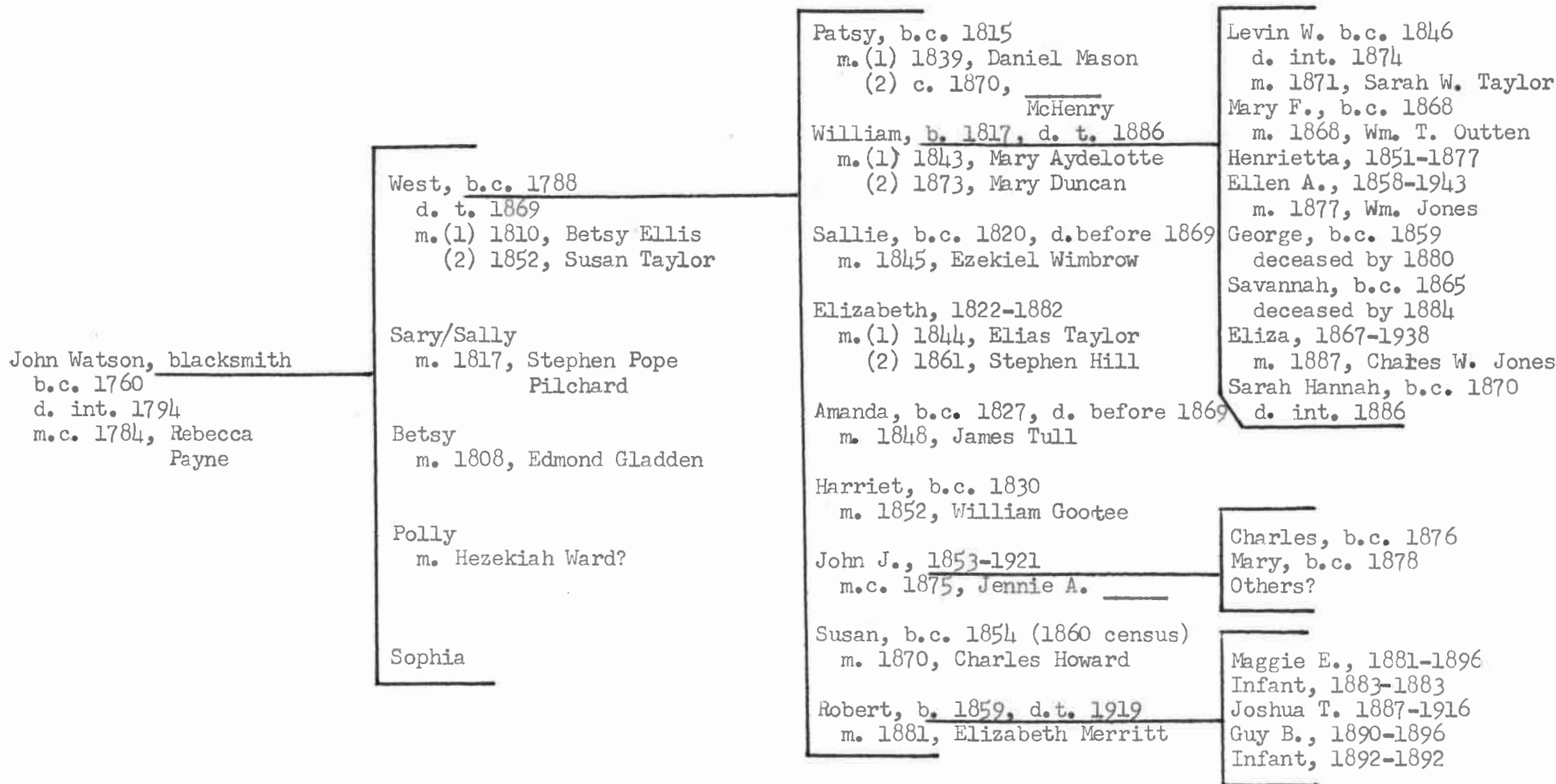
WATSON CHART V  
Worcester County Watsons

5th Generation

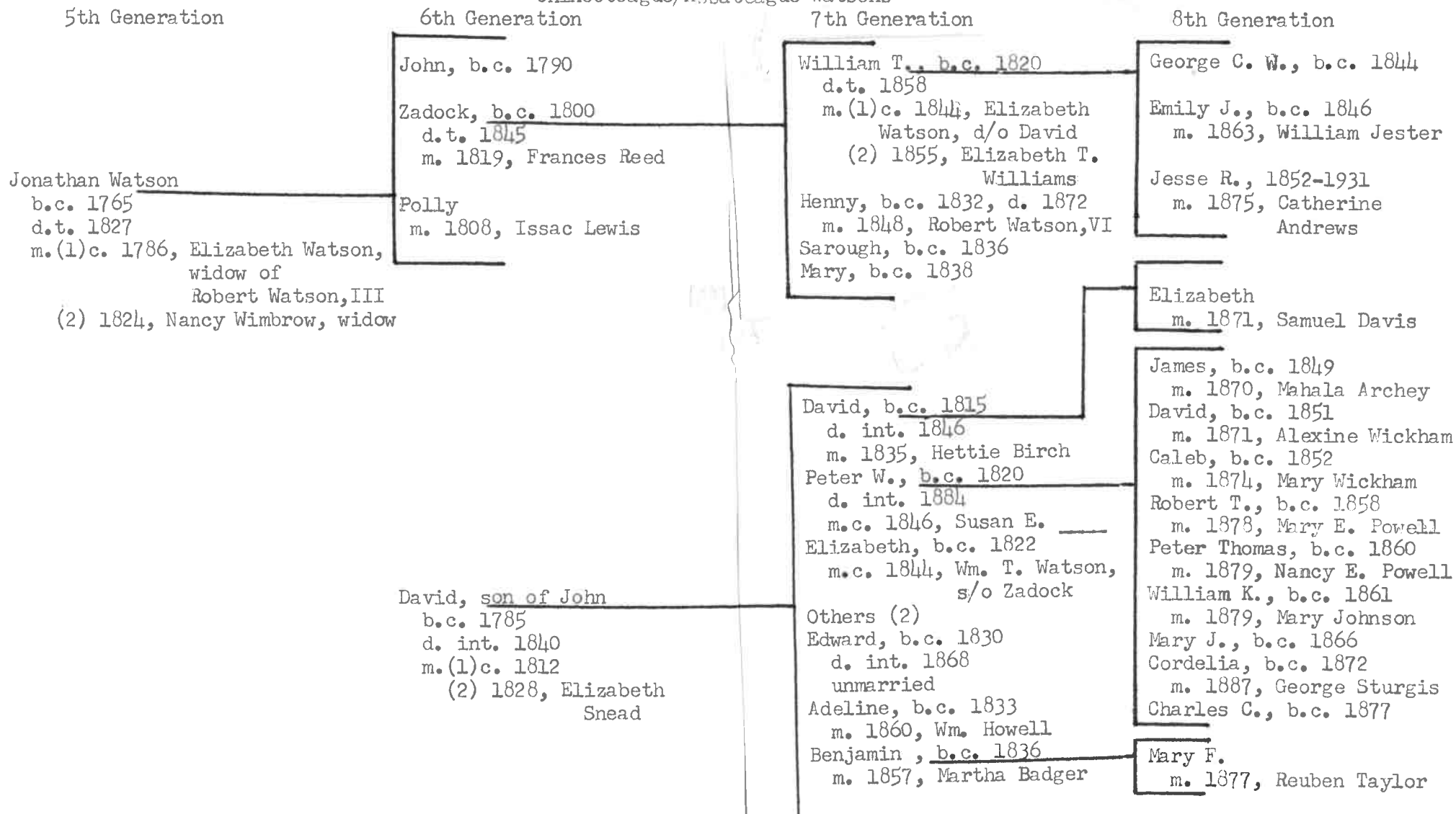
6th Generation

7th Generation

8th Generation



WATSON CHART VI  
Chincoteague/Assateague Watsons



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