



Southern Colonial Genealogy

Genealogy Off the
Shelves

Southern Colonies

- ▶ Maryland
- ▶ Virginia
- ▶ North Carolina
- ▶ South Carolina
- ▶ Georgia

Colonial Period: 1607-1776



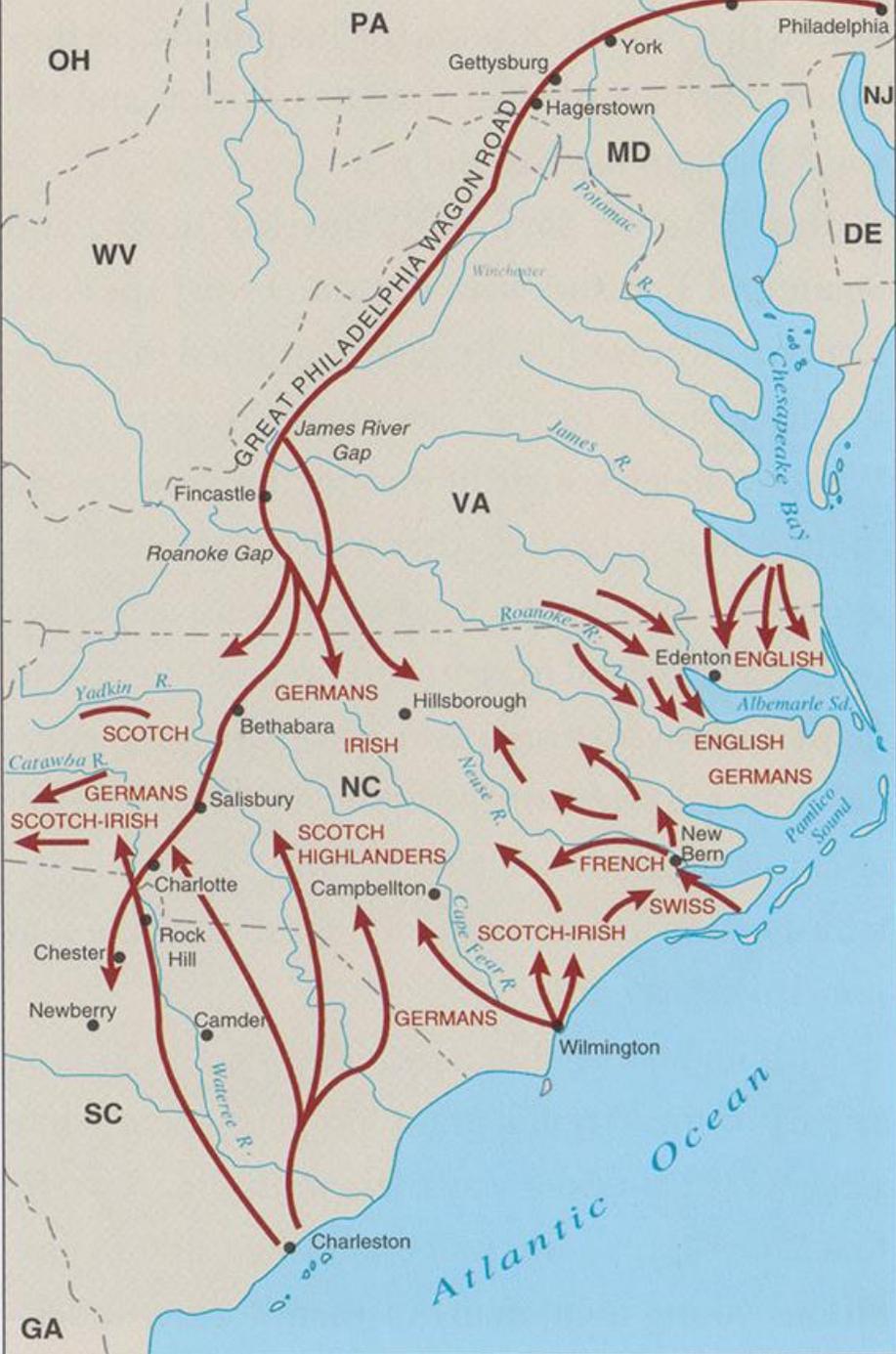
Why is English the default?

- ▶ The history of Colonial North America centers primarily around the struggle of England, France, and Spain to gain control of the continent.
- ▶ Rapid Growth and encouraged immigration.
- ▶ Industrious self-sustaining efforts turned into worldwide trade.



How is the South different than other colonies?

- ▶ Migration for wealth and opportunity
- ▶ Lack of Vitals before 1900s
- ▶ Burned Counties
- ▶ Pedigree Collapse
- ▶ Lack of documentation for enslaved peoples
- ▶ Agriculture
- ▶ Exports and shipping
- ▶ Piracy and Privateering



Migration

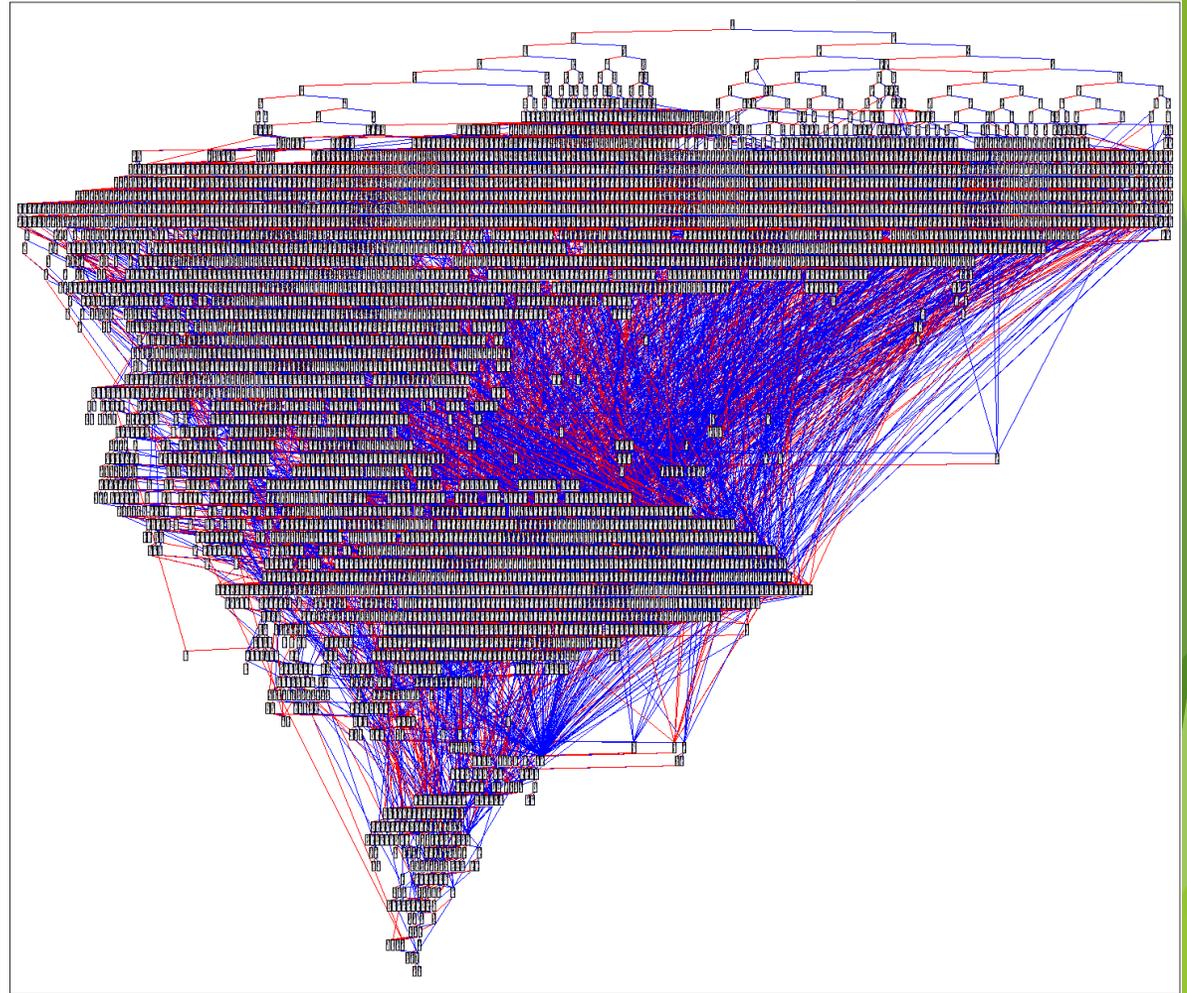
- ▶ Settlers in the Southern colonies came to America to seek economic prosperity they could not find in Old England. The English countryside provided a grand existence of stately manors and high living. But rural England was full, and by law those great estates could only be passed on to the eldest son.
- ▶ Plymouth Company and London Company joint stock businesses.
- ▶ Quakers and Catholics move down the coast.

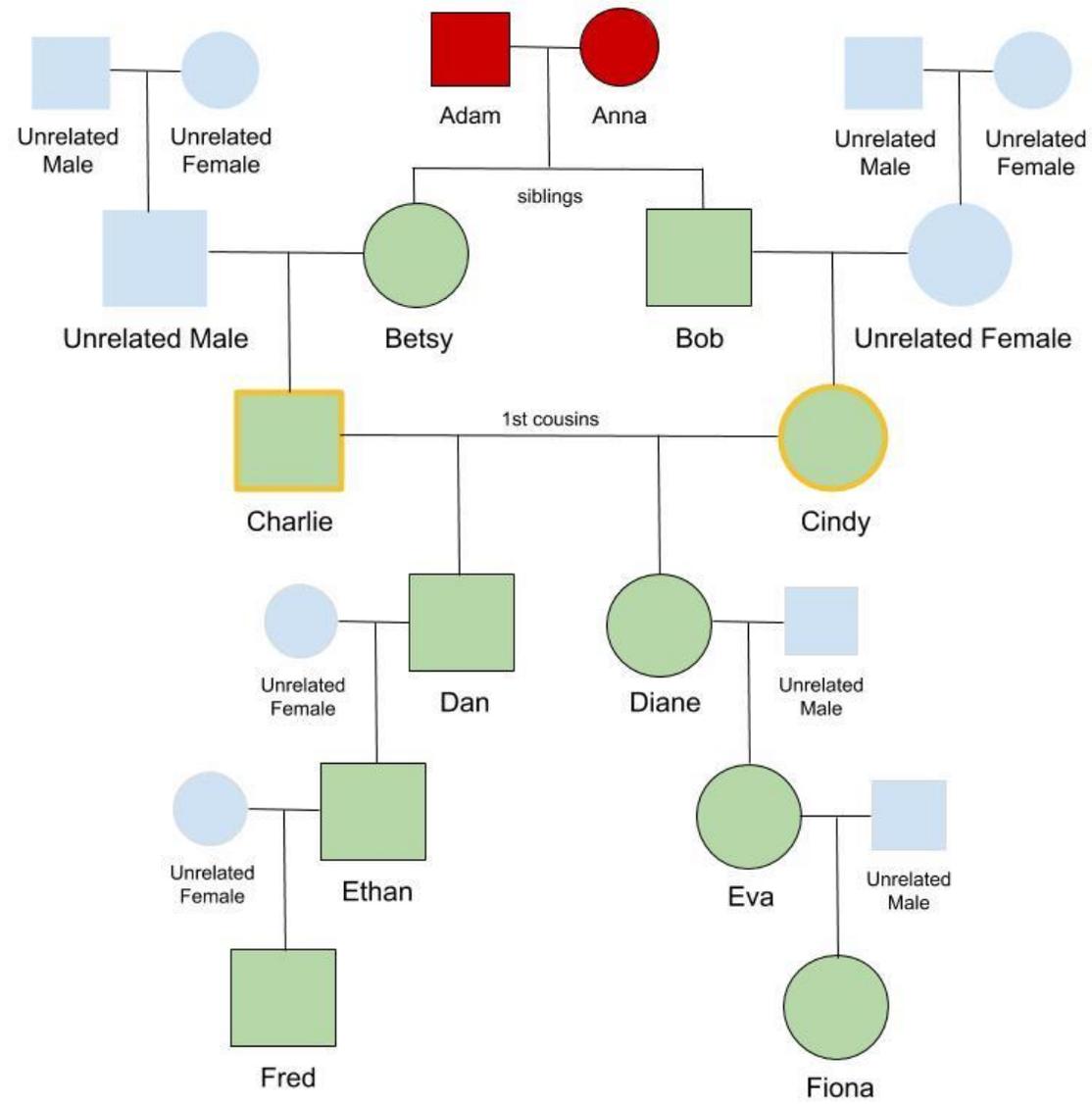


Pedigree Collapse

Pedigree collapse occurs when two relatives reproduce, which causes their descendants to have the same ancestor(s) occupy more than one position in their family tree.

Mostly in rural and isolated areas.





The Southern Colonies and the Enslaved

- ▶ While enslaved people lived in the North (mining, maritime, domestic work), the primary population were in the South due to the cash crop industry (cotton, tobacco, indigo, rice).
- ▶ 1790-1810 Population of 100,000 grew to 1.1 million.
- ▶ Less than a quarter of white Southerners owned slaves.
- ▶ Local natives were captured for slavery, but often escaped due to a familiarity with the land.
- ▶ Prisoners of war, criminals, debtors.
- ▶ “Black Englishmen” through manumission, baptism, or self purchase.
- ▶ Instability of servitude by 1705 stripped Black southerners of their rights.

- ▶ <https://www.slavevoyages.org/>
- ▶ Insurance Policies
- ▶ Plantation Records (manuscripts, journals, news clippings, records, ledgers, diaries, drawings)
- ▶ Probate
- ▶ Follow the owner to find enslaved ancestors

| | | | | | | | |
|----------|----|------|------|---|---|------|-------|
| David | 1 | 130 | 65 | | | 121 | 140 |
| Peter | 2 | 185 | 190 | | | 190 | 195 |
| Jeff | 3 | 200 | 200 | | | 190 | 200 |
| Shes | 4 | 200 | 200 | | | 190 | 210 |
| Nelson | 5 | 180 | 185 | | | 180 | 180 |
| Elias | 6 | hik | " | " | " | " | " |
| Payton | 7 | 180 | 190 | | | 188 | 202 |
| Sydney | 8 | 200 | 201 | | | 182 | 210 |
| Colby | 9 | 127 | 185 | | | 155 | 155 |
| Alford | 10 | hik | " | | | 90 | 95 |
| Mose | 11 | hik | " | | | 36 | 50 |
| Grand | 12 | 110 | 175 | | | 163 | 165 |
| Betty | 13 | 120 | 65 | | | 88 | 90 |
| Amble | 14 | 177 | 185 | | | 175 | 170 |
| Aaron | 15 | 150 | 150 | | | 182 | 140 |
| Round | 16 | 130 | 135 | | | 140 | 115 |
| Albert | 17 | 75 | 80 | | | 75 | 65 |
| Lynch | 18 | 150 | 180 | | | 183 | 170 |
| Sarah | 19 | hik | " | | | 7 | 7 |
| Margaret | 20 | 135 | 130 | | | 130 | 125 |
| Mary Ann | 21 | 65 | 70 | | | 60 | 60 |
| Julia | 22 | 97 | 95 | | | 94 | 90 |
| Harriet | 23 | 120 | 125 | | | 122 | 117 |
| Mary Ann | 24 | 115 | 125 | | | 112 | 110 |
| Clara | 25 | 108 | 95 | | | 100 | 82 |
| Helen | 26 | 180 | 201 | | | 190 | 203 |
| Amy | 27 | 65 | 70 | | | 63 | 50 |
| Betty | 28 | 80 | 82 | | | 80 | 90 |
| P. de la | 29 | | " | | | 60 | 125 |
| Mathias | 30 | 120 | 115 | | | 115 | 125 |
| Ardun | 31 | 72 | 75 | | | 91 | 75 |
| | 32 | 3504 | 3069 | | | 3735 | 3797 |
| | 33 | | | | | | 14708 |
| | 34 | | | | | | |

Documents in Agricultural Community

- ▶ Mercantile Records
- ▶ Land Records
- ▶ Newspapers
- ▶ Family Histories
- ▶ Family Bibles
- ▶ Church Records
- ▶ Taxes (British and local)



Piracy and Privateers

- ▶ The Tuscarora War, which spanned from 1710 through 1713, had a devastating effect on the fledgling province of North Carolina.
- ▶ 1713 marked the signing of the Treaty of Utrecht, which put many of Queen Anne's Privateers out of business. Naturally, they turned their Queen-condoned Privateering skills to illegal acts of Piracy.
- ▶ *Beaufort County Deed Book I, 1696-1729 (including Blackbeard papers)*
- ▶ <https://www.cyndislist.com/prisons/pirates/>



Virginia and Maryland

- ▶ The Virginia colony depended on tobacco for its success.
 - ▶ Labor was needed to grow this valuable crop.
 - ▶ Labor was in the form of:
 - ▶ Enslaved Africans
 - ▶ Criminals/prisoners of war- earn release by working for a period of time-usually 7 years

Virginia and Maryland (Cont.)

- ▶ 1634 - Maryland, a new colony, is founded as a safe place for English Catholics.
 - ▶ They faced persecution in England.
 - ▶ More Protestants than Catholics living in the colony.
 - ▶ Act of Toleration passed in 1649 to protect the Catholics. The act ensured Protestants and Catholic the right to worship freely.
- ▶ Maryland and Pennsylvania argued over borders.
 - ▶ Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon hired to map the border.
 - ▶ Mason-Dixon Line became the official boundary.

Virginia and Maryland (Cont.)

- ▶ James Berkeley, governor of Virginia, promised Native Americans that settlers would not go farther west into their lands.
- ▶ 1676 - Bacon's Rebellion:
 - ▶ Nathaniel Bacon disagrees with Berkeley & leads attacks on Natives and Jamestown.
 - ▶ Record Lists

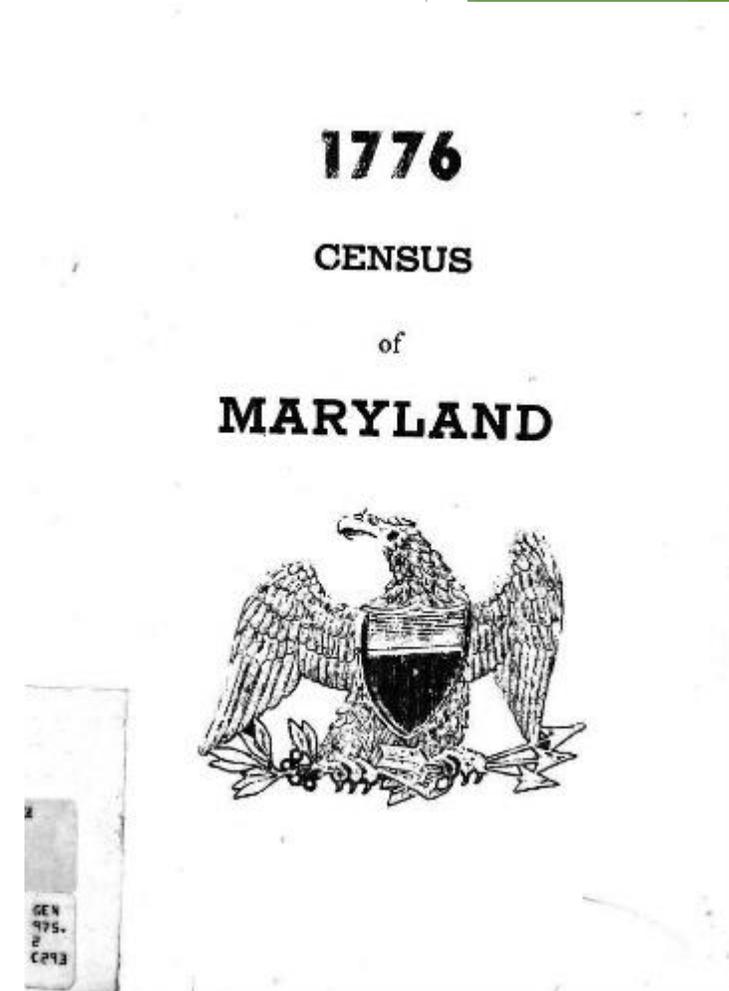
Virginia

- ▶ *Monticello Plantation Records Database*
- ▶ <https://vaheritage.org/>



Maryland

- ▶ Maryland Census of 1776 – FamilySearch Affiliate Libraries, Ancestry
- ▶ <https://packrat-pro.com/ships/shiplist.htm>
- ▶ <https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/>



The Carolinas and Georgia

- ▶ 1663 - King Charles II creates Carolina, “Charles’s Land”.
- ▶ New colony needed a constitution
- ▶ John Locke, English political thinker, writes constitution.
- ▶ Colony splits into two separate colonies northern Carolina & southern Carolina.
- ▶ Important crops in **North Carolina** included- tobacco, timber, and tar. Important crops in **South Carolina** included-Indigo and rice (demand for slave labor increased to grow rice)
- ▶ 1729- Carolina becomes two royal colonies- North Carolina and South Carolina.
- ▶ 1730s and the 1760s large Scottish immigration waves

The Carolinas and Georgia

- ▶ 1733 - Georgia becomes last British colony in America.
 - ▶ Created to give English debtors
 - ▶ Forts were built to protect colonies from Spanish attack.
- ▶ Colony doesn't develop as planned.
 - ▶ Few debtors settle, mostly poor refugees
 - ▶ Settlers complain about ban on slavery.

Carolinas

- ▶ *Records in the British Public Records Office relating to South Carolina, 1663-1782 (<https://loyalist.lib.unb.ca/>)*
- ▶ <https://digital.library.sc.edu/>
- ▶ <https://piedmontrails.com/nc-genealogy/>
- ▶ *The Discoveries of John Lederer*



Georgia

- ▶ <http://www.glynngen.com/siteindex.htm>
- ▶ <https://gahistoricnewspapers.galileo.usg.edu/>



Last Sources

BRITAIN/ENGLAND

- ▶ <https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/>
- ▶ <https://www.bl.uk/subjects/manuscripts-and-archives#>
- ▶ <https://www.durham.ac.uk/departments/library/archives-and-special-collections/>

SCOTLAND

- ▶ <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/>

CANADA

- ▶ <https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/Pages/home.aspx>

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