“HISTORY OF PERQUIMANS COUNTY”
As Compiled from Records Found There and Elsewhere
By Mrs. Watson Winslow

(Abstracts of Deeds from 1681 through the Revolution - Petitions, Divisions, and Marriages Found in Perquimans and Adjacent Counties - A brief Summary of the Settling of Perquimans, with the kind and manner of settlers - Two Maps, One of the Old Order, and, One a Present Day Map - Illustrations of a Few Old Residences and Several More Modern Ones.)
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Rod Willis guided eloise k. howard to this Book in Dec 2008, studied it closely for our surnames, historical events impacting lives & movements of same and summarized her research notes in a chronological manner. She recaps the information found in “History of Perquimans County” as follows:

“Early Inhabitants.
From the Settlement of Perquimans to the Revolutionary Period.

Circa 1622.
(Page 1)
“At what date the first white man set foot on Perquimans soil, staking a claim ..., no one can say with any degree of certainty. FOOTE in his notes, claims that a band of settlers moved down on the Chowan River shortly after the Indian massacre in 1622. Where they took root he does not attest to.
As Chowan River has its headwaters in VIRGINIA, with the Blackwater River as one of its tributaries, the inference may ....
be.... those early settlers followed the water courses, ... down to the new country instead of overland migration, as it is a .... known fact that the forest and land adjoining the Dismal Swamp was .... an impenetrable tangle of trees and undergrowth.... immigrants fought shy of the interior and clung to the river banks, where escape was more easy in case of attack by hostile tribes, fish could be procured for daily fare and houses built on high ground.”

The settlement spoken of by FOOTE was most probably in what is now GATES COUNTY, and was then - CHOWAN, or still in the unnamed wilderness called CAROLINA.  

Orapeak (Corapeak) in GATES COUNTY was certainly one of the first, if not the first settlement in Carolina and the records in Perquimans prove beyond a single doubt that:

PERQUIMANS COUNTY at that time RAN ALL THE WAY TO THE VIRGINIA LINE.... This line was changed in 1779 and PERQUIMANS shrunk to its present boundary.”

1653.  
(Roger GREEN, clergyman from Virginia, started with a colony to settle on lower Chowan River in 1653, coming vested with power to possess lands in CAROLINA; ... always been some doubt about the location of his settlement....the name of Green appears on early records in Perquimans & we are led to believe some of his followers drifted over into the bordering county (Pasquotank County?/ekh) and took up land there.) This migration preceded by 8 years the advent of:

1661.  
(Page 2:)  
“...George DURANT who held oldest recorded deed in NC for land he bought from Indian Chief Kilcoconewen, King of Yeopim, March 1, 1661 but not recorded in Perquimans’ deed book until 1716/ekh) and anyone versed in early history of ALBEMARLE knows many settlers were well established on their own land in PERQUIMANS PRECINCT before said DURANT came to NC.”
“In Perquimans Precinct, at the mouth of LITTLE RIVER, came into being the first authenticated town in ALBEMARLE, called, “LITTLE RIVER.” This town was situated on the west side of the mouth of LITTLE RIVER and by act of Assembly, became one “Ports of Entry” for ALBEMARLE, where “ships shall laid, and unlaid. Precinct Court was held in this town for forty years and near this place a “Gran Court House” was built about 1701. The Court House stood on the Sound, probably burned between the time of the holding of the October Court and the date of its next session, as it is not mentioned on any record after that date. The Precinct Courts came to order at the houses of old residents before and afterwards, the first recorded being at the house of one HARRIS (Thomas Harris) who was the first Clerk of PERQUIMANS and after his death, at the house of Thomas WHITE, who had married the widow of Harris, Sept 4, 1694.”

(Page 3:)

“ In every precinct, a court consisted of a Steward (Judge) and four justices, inhabitants of said precinct, owning 300 acres of land as a freehold.

No man served on jury unless he held a freehold of fifty acres of land in the county,

and a grand juryman had to be the possessor of 300 acres, the petty jurymen having 200 acres, a constable 100 acres, and no man was called a freeman who did not acknowledge God.

Divers persons in CAROLINA were possessed of land by reason of grants from Sir William BERKELEY.”

1663. (Deed No. 51, Albemarle/Perquimans) Wm. VOSE (could be, “VOSS”/ekh), Planter - for 30 Pounds paid by Isreal SNELLIN, sold 100a on North side of Perquimans River, between land of Ralph FLETCHER and Wm. LAWRENCE. William & Joan VOSE. Nov-----, 1663. Test: Wm. BUNDY, John WHEDBEE, Robert WILSON.

1665. Henry PHILLIPS is claimed to have been the first Quaker to set foot in Perquimans Precinct, having come from New England in 1665.
1667.
October A.D. 1667. Grant from LORDS PROPRIETORS unto Samuel Stephens, Esq., Gov of Albemarle, as by “our instructions & Commission, Annexed, wherein he is given Authority to Convey & grant Land.”

1668.
February 6, 1668. (No. 34, Perquimans) Grant from LORDS PROPRIETORS to Thomas LONG, planter - 168a English Measure, on West side of Perquimans River, adjacent lands of Lawrence NOGGINS, due said LONG for transporting three persons into said County. At Mr. George DURANT’s house.
March 11, 1668. (No. 24, Perquimans) William VOSE (could be, “VOSS”/ekh) of Perq River, planter - sold to Thomas KENT of Albemarle Co., paracel of land in Perquimans, on East side of the River, adjacent William CHARLES. 100a by an assignment of a Pattent from Wm. WEST. Test: Herman _______wick, Arnold WHITE, Thomas HARRIS, Cltk Court.

1669.
(Page 6)
“No minister being stationed in the PROVINCE OF CAROLINA prior to January 20, 1669, an Act of Assembly was passed making it lawful for those wishing... marriage to appear before the Governor, or some Councilor, and there declare themselves as man and wife having several friends or neighbors present as Witnesses, whereupon the marriage was declared legal and the Register of the Precinct in which such marriage took place inscribed their names on the book used for that purpose.”

1672.
(Page 5:)
“To encourage emigration every settler was granted 100 acres for his own transportation, and fifty acres for every servant he brought in. (The process of being granted land based on number of persons brought into new settlements such as CAROLINA, is known as “HEADRIGHTS.”
“All persons who do come to plant in CAROLINA before December 25, 1672, above the age of sixteen” were granted fifty acres of land.”

June 27, 1672. (No. 25, Perquimans) Thomas KENT of Perquimans, Planter - “do assign all right to Land mentioned in Bill of Sale unto Ralph FLETCHER.” Test: Samuel PRICKLOVE. Thomas HARRIS, Clerk of Court.

William EDMUNDSON, a Quaker, held first religious service on banks of the Perquimans River, under several large Cypress trees, in Spring of 1672. He lived in part of Perquimans bordering on Little River, somewhere near present town of Woodville, just across the line from Pasquotank County. NC.

The Register of each precinct had to be owner of 300 acres.... Each precinct ordered to keep record of all marriages, birth, and deaths, “in a book” ...

Such a book was painstakingly kept by the Register of PERQUIMANS, called, “BIRTHS, DEATHS, and MARRIAGES in BERKELEY,” BERKELEY, being the name of the parish, seems to have encompassed the whole confines of PERQUIMANS Precinct, as then surveyed. “Among some of those who received grants from Sir William BERKELEY:

John HARVEY, granted 250 acres on River Carolina (Sound) adjoining Roger WILLIAMS, which land was granted “att James City” Sept 5, 1663; and John JENKINS in like manner received 700 acres, “being a Neck of land, bounded on South by River Carolina (Sound) and on the North by Pyquomons River (Perquimans?/ekh) and on the West by land of Thomas JARVIS.”

Of all the many Harvey sons not one remains in Perquimans who bears the name, but there are a few collateral branches...one strictly speaking lineal descendant in the person of Miss EMILY SKINNER of Hertford.”

1675.
(Page 324).
JAMES BEASLEY (son of Robert & Sarah BEASLEY), married Mary CROPLEY (daughter of John & Ann), March 17, 1675. Moves to BERTIE County at some point.

1678.
February 5, 1678. (No. 36, Perquimans). Grant from LORDS PROPRIETORS to Richard Eavans, of Carolina, planter - 240a on west side of Perquimans River, “by a small Swamp & the River Side,” adjacent Thomas LONG, due sd Eavans for transporting five persons.”

February 6, 1678. (No. 38, Perquimans). Grant from LORDS PROPRIETORS to Lawrence NOGGINS, planter - 230a on West side of Perquimans River, in Precinct of Perquimans, adjacent Joshua SCOTT. Due said NOGGINS for transportation of 5 persons into said County. At Mr. George Durant’s house.

Diana (Manners) HARRIS, wife of Thomas, married second, William FOSTER, 1675.

1678/79.
(No. 48, Perquimans) John ELDIN, to Wm. STEWARD & Samuel GREEN, “a parcel of Land adjacent lands of James PERISHO, with two sows & five shoats, now running on said Land.” Test: Sam’l PRICKLOVE, Geo HARRIS.

1679.
Nov 6, 1679, a Grand Council for the County of ALBEMARLE held at Gen’l Mr. George DURANT’s house. JOHN NIXON, a member of the Council, stated his age as 54. George DURANT’s house was on the Sound. (Colonial Records, Vol. I, page 355).

1680.
Seth Sothel appointed Gov of CAROLINA, Nov 20, 1680.
1681.
June 10, 1681 (this might be “January 10, 1681”/ekh)
No. 1, Albemarle Co. of BERKLEY. John CHESSON within said Co. to William WILKSON. 100a on the Sound, adj Thomas HART, for 10,000 lbs of Tobacco. Test: John LEWIS, Jonathan ASHFORD. January 12, 1681. (Perquimans Deed Book A, No. 2)

1682.
January 31, 1682. (Perquimans Deed Book A, No. 13). John LILLY of Perq, in Co of Albemarle, Province of N.C., planter - for 1940 lbs of Pork paid by Wm. FOSTER of Afore’ Planter - “do sell my plantation 150 a. on North side of the mouth of Perquimans River.” Test: Samuel WOODRIVE, Alex SPEED, John THURSTONE.

1683.
Pirates already a problem in waters of Albemarle & English gvt ordered suppression of them Feb 27, 1683.
Edward TEACH aka “Blackbeard, The Pirate” was an Englishman by birth and first settled in Virginia where he married and abused a lady of quality in Alexandria, Va. He first unlawfully “ran blockades” bringing in Negroes free of duty. He fled to NC when VA got serious about “shoot to kill” orders against him & successfully fooled many NC colonists with his dutiful payment of taxes & patronizing local businesses with his cash. He even presented himself to the local Church of England officials as being pious. Perquimans records do not shown any sign of his living nor trading there nor does it “claim” him as one of their citizens. However, two of his sons lived apparently in Perquimans County and conveyed property there. It is believed that his descendants still live in the district.

June 6, 1683. (Deed No. 23, Perquimans) Francis TOMS, with consent of Abigail my wife (John LACY Dec’d, her former husband) do give right of land at the head of Yeopim Creek, 300 a. called “John LACYs
Plantation” unto William CHARLES. Test. Joseph GOODMAN, Samuel PRICKLOVE.

June 11, 1683. (Deed No. 19), Perquimans) Charles PROWS of Pasquotank, planter, Executor of last Will of Ann PROWS, late of sd precinct, widow; relict of Henry PROWS, Deceased, sold unto Francis TOMS of Per 260 a., adjacent Wm. VOSSes & Wm. CHARLES. Test: Henderson WALKER, Josiah SLOCUM, Wm. CHARLES.

December 24, 1683. (Deed No. 14, Perquimans) William FOSTER, “do give unto my son, FRANCIS FOSTER, within mentioned title, to him and his heirs forever.”

1684.
March 27, 1684. (Deed No. 37, Perquimans) Richard EVANS & Elizabeth, his wife, for 26 Pounds paid by Edward MAYO, “assigns within mentioned Patent.”

May 3, 1684. (Deed No. 27, Perquimans) Wm., EARL OF CRAVEN, one of the LORDS PROPRIETORS, grants unto Josiah FENDALL, 100 a in Perquimans Precinct, on N. Side of Albemarle River, “At Mr. George Durants house,” under Seal of the County of Albemarle. Seth SOTHEL, Governor, Councillors: Anothony SLOCUM, Thomas HARVEY, James BLOUNT.

May 3, 1684. (Deed No. 28, Perquimans) LORDS PROPRIETORS unto Josiah FENDALL 100a on N. Side of Albemarle River, in Perquimans precinct, “due for transporting two persons.” At Mr. George DURANT’s home (Court at Mr. Durant’s house).

November 15, 1684. (Deed No. 9, Perquimans) Thomas ATOWAY of Albemarle, unto William CHAPMAN, “Plantation on the North side of Perq River. 150 a. with Labour done upon it.” Test: Henderson WALKER, Nicholas CROPP.

1685.
July 15, 1685. (Deed No. 3, Perquimans). Albemarle. William
WILKERSON, “Warrents above sale of Land (see, “Robert Marlow, 1681, above/ekh) unto Cornelius LERRE (Leary). Test: Francis HARTLEY, Peter SIMPSON, Emanuel ALBERRY.

October 2, 1685. (Deed No. 10, Perquimans). William CHAPMAN unto Roger WHITE, Land. Test: Thos GODROM (probably GORDON, Ed NORWOOD.

1686.
May 20, 1686. (No. 39, Perquimans) Jeanne NOGELL, Widow & relict of Lawrence, Dec’d, for the sum of 18 Pounds paid by Edward MAYO of Perquimans River, “assigned my right to said Patent.”

August 4, 1686. (No. 57, Perquimans) Charles PROWS of Pasquotank Precinct, sold to John HODGSON, all right to land on South side of Deep Creek, adjacent RICHARD BENTLEY. Test: Judith SPRIE, _______METHER.

1687.
March 5, 1687 (No. 50, Perquimans) David BLAKE of Perquimans sold to ROBERT BEASLEY of same, all right to a Tract of Land - adjacent Peter GRAY, on North side of Perquimans River. Test: Peter GRAY, Stephen MANNERING.

April 25, 1687. (No. 26, Perquimans) Samuel PRICKLOVE of Perquimans River, Planter - in consideration of 45 Pounds paid by John DURANT of same, sold a patent of land given from Thomas LEPPER to John DAVIS, from him to said DURANT and from him to myself. Test: Wm. CHAPMAN, Richard EIVENS.

August 22, 1687. (No. 29, Perquimans) Tabitha GRAY, widow of John GRAY, dec’d bound as an apprentice her son, ROBERT, one year old, to Daniel SNUKE, for 20 years, “to do all manner of work his said Master shall employ him in, Said SNUKE to be dilligent in bringing up said ROBERT GRAY and to maintain him in sickness & health, and to find him good wholesome meat, drink, washing, lodging and apparel and at
age of 21 years, to pay said apprentice 2000 pounds of Tobacco.” Test: Peter GRAY, Thomas LONG.

August 22, 1687. (No. 30, Perquimans) Tabitha GRAY, widow of JOHN, bound two children, THOMAS (age 7) and ELIZABETH (age 4), unto Thomas LONG of said County. Thomas to serve until he is 21 years old and Elizabeth until she be 16, or marries. Test: Peter GRAY, Daniel SNUKE.

NO DATE; (however, Document No. 31, Perquimans) I, Jean LOADMAN, do give to my son, JAMES, one cow & calf. Test: Peter GRAY, Richard BUYER.

NO DATE; (however, Document No. 32, Perquimans) Grant from LORDS PROPRIETORS unto Joseph SUTTON of Albemarle, planter - 300a on east side of Perquimans River, adjacent Debora SUTTON, due said SUTTON for transporting 6 persons in the Country. Seth SOTHEL, Governor. Councillors: Anthony SLOCUM, Thomas HARVEY, James BLOUNT.

August 25, 1687 (No. 44, Perquimans) John BELLMAN of Albemarle, assigns to Richard BYAR “houses, clear Ground on FRANKs Creek, on North side of River.” Test: Peter GRAY, Robert WILSON.

December 20, 1687. (No. 71/Albemarle/Perquimans) George DURANT of Albemarle, Mariner - assigned to Hon’ble Seth SOTHEL right of Land, “at a creek called Lilleys Creek, which issueth out of Perquimans River,” down said River to Perquimans Point and along Sound side, “eastward of his now Cleared Ground, by virtue of a certain writing of George CATCHMEYD (could be, “Catchmaid”/ekh), dated March 13, 1662, now upon Record,” 200a. December 20, 1687. At a Court at Capt WOOLARDs, January 6, 1689-90. John WINGATE, Clerk. Test: Wm. WILKERSON, John HARTLEY, John DAVIS, Henderson WALKER. (This was likely the land George DURANT deeded to Seth SOTHEL, “unlawfully taken from him,” while under duress by Seth SOTHEL &. an example of one of many charges brought against Seth SOTHEL,
requiring England to recall and impeach him).

1688.
May 24, 1688. (No. 33, Perquimans) George CASTLETON, to Richard EVINS 150a “upon a Creek out of Perquimans River, called PERISHOES Creek, adjacent James PERISHO and William STEWARD, said land surveyed by Wm. JAMES, Deputy Surveyor for the Co.” Test: Dan’l SNUKE, Wm. CHAPMAN.

June 6, 1688. (No. 40, Perquimans) Elizabeth HEWS, of Perquimans Precinct, widow - late wife of Wm. HEWS dec’d to Thomas HARVEY, Esq of same, 700a English Measure. “A Neck of Land” bounded on South by River, on West by a great Swamp, which parteth this land from Richard BENTLEY’s and on East by mouth of Perquimans River.” Ack in Court 6/4/1688. Test: Benj LAKER, Cornelius LEARY, Jonathan ASHFORD, John SPELLMAN, Henderson WALKER.

June 17, 1688. (No. 42, Albemarle/Perquimans Precinct.) Samuel PRICKLOVE of Perquimans to Thomas JACOCKS, “all right to Land on the head of Deep Creek” 600a. Test: Richard CRAIGG, Thomas DOWNS. Samuel PRICKOVE, Clerk & Reg.

October 30, 1688. (No. 58/Perquimans) John HODGSON, assigns right to land unto Robert SMITH. Test: Henry WHITE.

December 20, 1688. (No. 41, Albemarle/Perquimans Precinct) Thomas JACOCKS of the County of Albemarle, “do give to Walter SENICER and his heirs, a plantation at the head of Deep Creek on South side of Swamp.” Thomas & Ann JACOCKS. Test: James DAVIS, Henry WHITE.

1689.
February 15, 1689. (No. 43, Albemarle/Perquimans) Patrick KENEDY, planter - assigns to Timothy CLARE of same County, planter - right to Plantation on FRANKs Creek. Patrick & Elizabeth KENEDY. Test: Peter GRAY & James LOADMAN.
February 18, 1689. (No. 35, Perquimans) Thomas LONG & Alce, my wife, for 60 Pounds Sterling paid by Edward MAYO have assigned said Patent. Test: Em NIXON, Sarah MAYO.

March 21, 1689. (No. 49, Albemarle/Perquimans) “I, Francis TOMS, do sell my right to Land, adjacent Joshua LAMB & Wm. LAWRENCE,” to line of Anthony HASKITT. Test: John HARLOW, Mary TOMS.

April Court 1689.
(Page 324)
ROBERT BEASLEY: (B: ? D: circa 1695)
Recorded his mark in Perquimans. County, NC, April Court 1689.
“Appears to have married 3 times.” (See below/ekh)
In 1695, his widow, “Mary”, recorded the Division of his Estate, so he had died in that time period.
Wives of ROBERT BEASLEY are stated as follows:
1. SARAH (last name unknown at present).
   “Robert Beasley, had a former wife, Sarah, by whom he had”:
   1) FRANCIS BEESLEY, b. July 11, 1678, d: c. 1719 (?)
      b) married also, “MARY” before 1704.
         Their children were:
         i. James, b. Aug 4, 1704
         ii. Robert, b. Dec 1, 1707
      FRANCIS had a Will, Albemarle Co. (Perq) probated before Governor Eden on May 20, 1719, naming son, “JEAMES” to whom he gave a plantation on South side of Perquimans River; and to son, “ROBERT,” gave land on the Morratock River; names wife as, “MARY”; names brother, “JEAMES” as Executor.
   2) JAMES (“Jeames”/ekh), no birth date given, married:
      a) Mary CROPLEY (daughter of John & Ann)
         on March 4, 1675. Moved to Bertie Co. (NC/ekh)
where his Will probated January 1758; only legatee in Will stated to be “WILLIAM BENTLEY, son of John, who was probably a gr-son.

Was a Member of the House of Burgesses, Oct. 11, 1709.

2) September 19, 1689. ROBERT BEASLEY marries JOHANNAH JENKINS. (Berkeley Par. Reg.) (This is Berkeley Parish, Perquimans Precinct, NC/ekh). “HANNAH”, wife of ROBERT BEASLEY, died Nov 7, 1702.

3) “MARY” appears to have possibly been the last wife of ROBERT BEASLEY, recording the Division of his Estate, 1695, Perquimans.

April 22, 1689. (No. 46, Perquimans Precinct) Cornelius LEARY of Perquimans Precinct and Mary, his wife, to Benj. Laker of same, 200a on the Sound, “on West side of Wm. TETTERTONs line.” Test: JOHN BENTLEY, Edward MAYOR, Senior. “Samuel PRICKLOVE, Reg of writings.”

April 18, 1689. (No. 59, Perquimans) Robert SMITH assigns right to within mentioned “bill of Sale” to Wm. BARTLETT. Robert & Ann SMITH. Test: Henry WHITE. Samuel PRICKLOVE, Reg of Writings for Perquimans Precinct.

April 22, 1689. (No. 47, Perquimans Precinct) JOHN BENTLEY of Perquimans Precinct, “for a sum in hand” paid by Cornelius LEARY of same County, sold 200a being part of Land I live on, in lieu of 200a given him by my father RICHARD BENTLEY, as a dowry with his wife; which land was sold by my father to Mr. Benj. LAKER, whereon he now liveth, fronting on the Sound, adjacent Land whereon I now live.” Test: Benj LAKER, Edward MAYO, Sen’r.

June 29, 1689. (No. 45, Perquimans) Thomas SANFORD of Perquimans, to Wm. BOGUE, his right to Land in the “Narrows” of Perquimans River, on Northeast side thereof - adjacent lands of Richard BYAR. Test: Sam’l PRICKLOVE, Israel SNEILLIN.
November 4, 1789 (I believe this to be a “typo” & intended date of: 1689, due to its position in the list of Deeds registered at that time/ekh) (No. 62 (Albemarle/Perquimans) HUMPHREY WILLIS of Albemarle, Carpenter - for a consideration paid by Henry JENKINS of said County, sold tract of Land on North side of Yeopim River, adjacent Thomas HOUGHTON on Nov 4, 1789 (Believe this to be “1689/ekh). Henderson WALKER, Clerk. Test: Henderson WALKER, Thomas HOUGHTON.

November 29, 1689. (No. 56. Albemarle/Perquimans) Thomas JACOCKS & Ann, his wife, of the County of Albemarle, “assigned within mentioned Sale of land” unto Wm. BARTLETT. Test: Henry WHITE, James DAVIS. (Wm. BARTLETT married Elizabeth DURANT, daughter of George & Ann MOORWOOD).

1690.
July 7, 1690. (No. 60, Perquimans) Richard EVNAS, assigned Land, unto Stephen MANORING (could be MANWARRING/ekh), “for the use of James PERRISHAW and his heirs.” Ack in Court July 7, 1690. Test: Richard DORMAN, Stephen MANORING.

August 20, 1690. (No. 52, Albemarle/Perquimans) Wm. VOSE (could be “VOSS”/ekh), “for love I bear my daughter, MARGARET, wife of Jonathan JONES, do give 100a where I now live, on the “Point” of the River. Wm. VOSE & Joan VOSE. Test: Ralph FLETCHER, James MORGAN.

August 20, 1690. (No. 61. Perquimans) Edward MAYOR of Perquimans River, for 40 Pounds paid by Anthony DAWSON of same, sold 590a on South west side of Perquimans River, “as by three Patents,” under Seal of the Hon’ble Seth SOTHEL, Esq., Gov of this Province. Aug 20, 1690. Ack at a “Grand Counsel” at the house of Mr. John HARRIS, Feb 5, 1690-91. Test: John STEPNEY, John TAYLOR. Richard PLAYTOR, Clerk.

September 16, 1690. (No. 53, Perquimans) Daniel SNOOKE & Margaret, his wife, of Perquimans Precinct, “for a sum of money” paid
by Cornelius LEARY & Jonathan ASHFORD, of same - sold Plantation on Castletons Creek, adjacent Wm. STEWARD,” where we now live,” 150a. Test: Wm. STEWARD, JOHN BENTLEY, Walter CASSELL.

October 2, 1690. (No. 64, Albemarle/Perquimans) Thomas ATTOWAY of Perquimans in County of Albemarle, for a consideration paid by Patrick KENEDY of same - sold Plantation “bequeathed to me by Thomas LONG, dec’d” Oct 2, 1690. Test: Stephen MANORING (could be “MANWARING”/ekh), Jos HOLLFORD.

October 5, 1690. (No. 55. Perquimans) James JOHNSON & Rachel, his wife, to ROBERT BEASLEY, Land. Test: Charles MacDANIEL, Samuel NICHOLSON, Sen’r.

October 5, 1690. (No. 65. Perquimans) Samuel NICHOLSON, for love I bear my brother, Joseph, do give 200a on North east side of Perquimans River, adjacent land formerly Joseph SCOTTs called “Log House Land” when it shall come into my hands by the death of Ann DORMAN, the relict of Christopher NICHOLSON, deceased. Test: Peter GRAY, John KINSE, John LAWRENCE.


November 2, 1690. (No. 54. (Perquimans) Hannah EDGE, for a valuable consideration paid by James JOHNSON, sold 200a. “Which was entered by John TAYLOR, deceased. Richard PATER, Clerk. Test: Richard POPE, Jonathan BATEMAN.

1691.
February 4, 1691. (No. 67/Perquimans) JOHN BENTLEY, Cooper - (son of Richard of Perquimans Precinct - Cooper, deceased) sold 100a (part of a Grant unto his father, RICHARD BENTLEY, 15,000 acres, March 29, 1680) unto Joyas (Josiah) FENDALL, adjacent Cornelius LEARY & Henry NORMAN. February 4, 1691. Test: John HARVEY,
John PHILPOTTS, Alexander LILLINGTON.

Gov. Seth Sothel - “grave charges” made against him, recalled to England for a hearing of charges, May 12, 1691, impeached for being in “cahoots” with the pirates, unfair “land grabs” from colonists; deposed of governorship, impeached & sent to SC as Governor and again charged with same crimes, returned to Perquimans and died in shame with no descendants leaving widow, named “Anne”.

Nov 8th, 1691, England sent instructions to “use ye utmost endeavor to make a settm’t of a Towne, remote from the Sea, as a Seat of Government in CAROLINA” at which date, EDENTON was made the seat of government for CAROLINA, it is supposed.”

1692.
June 21, 1692. (No. 69/Perquimans) James LOADMAN of Perquimans, sold to Charles MacDANIEL, a Plantation adjacent Patrick KENEDY. Test: Peter GRAY, Patrick KENEDY.

August 29, 1692. (No. 68/Perquimans) Julianna TAYLOR, “hath engaged to deliver unto Capt. Anthony DAWSON, one heifer, in Ballance of all account between sd Parties, which Heifer said DAWSON freely gives to JONE TAYLOR. John STEPNEY, Reg & Clerk. Test: Stephen MANWARRING, John HOLLFORD.

1693.
February 25, 1692/93. (No. 73/Perquimans) Caleb BUNDY & Jean, his wife, sold to Timothy CLARE, a Plantation on North side of Perquimans River “towards the head thereof.” John STEPNEY, Clerk. Test: Henry WHITE, Thomas SYMONDS (could be, “SIMMONS”/ekh)

April 17, 1693. (No. 72/Perquimans) James JOHNSON of Perquimans, assigned right of within mentioned “Bill of Sale” unto Ralph FLETCHER. Rachel JOHNSON Ack’ her dower right. Test: John WHEDBEE, Elizabeth FLETCHER, Jun, Ralph FLETCHER, Jr. Edward MAYO, Clerk.
The Colonial Records of North Carolina have excellent copies of the old Precinct Court proceedings in PERQUIMANS, showing earliest extant to be at house of ______ HARRIS (Thomas), May, 1693.

(Same source states that the oldest records were burned during the rebellion of 1677-79. Those papers escaping the fire were lodged with the Secretary of State, Mr. J. Bryan Grimes who abstracted Perquimans Wills into his book, “GRIMES’ NORTH CAROLINA WILLS.” (All wills PRIOR to 1762 are found there in abstract form.)


The Court convened May 1693, with sitting Justices: Alexander Lillington, Caleb Calloway, and John Barrow.
The Will of Robert SMITH proven.
Jonathan BATEMAN and John DURANT (son of George) appointed to appraise Smith’s estate.
Mrs. Sarah WOOLARD secured order of Court, demanding estate due her, “now in the hands of Mr. EDWARD SMYTHWICK in Chowan county.” (This could be, “SMITHWICK/SMYTHWICK”/ekh)
On the grand jury: “Timo PEAD, Mr.Rich EVINS, Mr. Antho DAWSON, Mr. Geo BRANCH, Mr. Israel SNELLING, Mr. Thomas TONDLE (TODDY), Mr. Jno LITTLE, Mr. Jno STEPNE, Mr. James HOGG.
The petit jury consisted of Mr. Ralph FLETCHER, Mr. Christopher BUTLER, Mr. Timo CLARE, Mr. James THIGPEN, Mr. Tho. PIERCE, Mr. Patrick KENEDY, Mr. Ste. MANNERING (MANWARRING), Mr. Robert BRIGHTWELL,
Mr. Geo EAMES, Mr. Isac WILSON, Mr. John WILLOUGHBY, Mr. Francis FOSTER.”

************ ROBERT AND JOHANNA BEASLEY ************

were paid for six days attending court. May Court 1693

Caleb CALLOWAY received 30 shillings from estate of “Guyles LONG, deceased.”

August 7, 1693. (No. 70/Perquimans) Articles Of Agreement; between John FOSTER of Perquimans Precinct - Planter and Stephen PAINE (could be, “PAYNE”/ekh) of aforesaid (Precinct/ekh) - “Joint Partners from henceforth, during their natural lives” each binds himself unto the other, in the sum of 50 Pounds Sterling. Test: Peter GRAY, Richard DAVENPORT. Acknowledged in Court, August 7, 1693.

September 2, 1693. (No. 74/Albemarle/Perquimans) John FOSTER & Stephen PAINE (could be, “PAYNE”/ekh) in County of Albemarle, Planters - for 27.5 Pounds, 10 Shillings paid by Alex LILLINGTON of same - sold 150a on Yeopim Creek, adjacent John BARROW. Test: Henderson WALKER, John BLOUNT, John SPELMAN 1694.

Thomas WHITE marries widow of Thomas HARRIS, who had been the first Clerk of Perquimans Court & Court is now convened at Harris’s home.

February 1694/4 Court, with same justices present.

John DAVIS was stated to be dead.

John PHILPOTT withdrew an action against Richard NOWELL. Rights were proven by Thomas LEPPER for 10 persons (headrights/ekh) Thomas (twice), Ann, Sarah, Rebecca LEPPER, Ann KENT, John THOMAS, William BROWN, William BRICKSTONE and Nicholas ROBERSON.

Caleb Calloway proved rights for “Dan’ll PEMBROKE, Tho. MERETT (an Indian) and Arthur LONG.” The last captain in Bacon’s Rebellion. Roger SNELL by gift, conveyed land to Jonathan TAYLOR.

The will of Mr. George DURANT probated “by oath of Mr. John
PHILPOTT and Mr. Francis FOSTER.”  
Seth SOTHEL had also passed away and his Will was proven by Col. William WILKINSON, Capt. Henderson, WALKER and Sarah WOOLARD, all residents of Perquimans.  
Lawrence ARNOLD, deceased, his widow, Elizabeth, sworn as Administratrix.  
Rights were proven by Thomas PIERCE for himself, John, Susanna, Ruth, Dorothy, Mary and John PIERCE.  
Hannah GOSBY proved rights for her son, John GOSBY, Jno ANDERSON, Jean ANDERSON, Katherine KINSEY, Jeremiah WHITE and Henry CLAYTON. (John Kinsey came to NC from Nansemond Co., VA, wed Katherine, daughter of Francis TOMS, having one son, John, born 1692, his death occurring soon after, she married second, John NICHOLSON.)  
***********John BENTLEY entered land for importations, Jean, Mary and Sarah BENTLEY.  
Jenkins WILLIAMS proved rights for himself.  
Timothy CLARE imported Edmond RODMAN, and Richard FOX, Jr. Samuel NICHOLSON rights for Christopher NICHOLSON and Hannah, his wife (who came from New England), Deliverance SUTTON (daughter of said Christopher and wife of Joseph SUTTON), Francis SIMONS and Hannah NICHOLSON.  
(NOTE: FRANCIS BEASLEY (son of Robert & Sarah BEASLEY), would marry a Hannah SUTTON, (daughter of Joseph & Deliverance (Nicholson) SUTTON) on May 15, 1701/ekh)  
Thomas HARLOE proved rights for himself, Mary (twice) and John HARLOE, probably his son.  
John DURANT rights for himself and wife, Sarah (Jooke).  
William GODFREY rights for himself and Sarah GODFREY.  
James, Ann, Alice and John WILSON came to Carolina as headrights of James Ffewox.  
Edward MAYO, Senior, transported himself and children, Edward, Sarah, Ann, Elizabeth MAYO, also Em JOHN and Ann NIXON and Samuel and Affica PIKE.  
William BUTLER rights for himself and wife Diana.
Richard NOWELL rights for himself, Joan, Ellinor, Alice and Olliver Nowell, John SMITH, Charles, George and Mary TAYLOR. (Richard Nowell settled on Little River.)

Page 9:
Tabitha HASKEET (HASKET) rights for John GRAY and Tabitha, his wife (her daughter), John GRAY, Jr., and Thomas GRAY.
William LACEY proved rights for himself, his father, William LACEY, Sr., Grace and John LACEY, probably his wife and brother, and Jean DAVIS.
James LOADMAN rights for himself (twice) and his mother, Jean BUYARD.
Stephen MANWARING rights for Edward BERRY and John DEADMAN. (The name of Manwarring appears on records of Richmond Co., VA and one Stephen Manwarring came to Carolina from Surry Co., VA, apparently)
Thomas HASSOLD (HASSELL) came from Pennsylvania about this time (1692/ehk) bringing with him Thomas SNOWDEN, Mary and Thomas HASSOLD, Jr.

***************William BARCLIFT proved rights for himself, SARAH BEASLEY, JAMES and JOHANNA BEASLEY,
Richard and Sarah CHASTONE (Chesson).(NOTE: this means, Wm. Barclift claims he transported himself, the BEASLEYS and the CHASTONEs (Chessons) into the Province of CAROLINA at some date (unknown), for which he would be given land for each “head” or person./ehk)

May 1, 1694, ROBERT BEASLEY granted land in Perquimans Precinct for 282 acres.

June 1, 1694, ROBERT BEASLEY granted land in Perquimans Precinct for 218 acres of land.

At the third Court held in Perquimans Precinct, Major Alexander Lillington, Mr. Henry WHITE (a Quaker from Surry Co., VA, purchased land from John TROY of Surry, June 9, 1655), Mr. Thomas LEPPER, Mr. John BARROW, Justices present.
At this Court, Ann PARISH, formerly JACOCKS (wife of Thomas of Little River), acknowledged a deed of gift to her son, John HUFFTON. Thomas HASSOLD entered land on Northeast side of Perquimans River, between lands of Samuel PRICKLOVE and Thomas ATTOWAY. Elizabeth ARNOLD petitioned Court to the effect that Lawrence ARNOLD, her deceased husband, left estate unto their son, John, to be turned over to him the age of thirteen years & prayed for a guardian to be appointed in the person of Jonathan BATEMAN, whom she later married for her second husband. Thomas HASSOLD presented petition showing that Thomas SNODEN, a child, was left with him by his father in law, Edmund PIRKINS, and that said child was bound to him until he was 21 years of age. (Could this be “PIPKIN”?/ekh)

General Court held Sept 25, 1694 at house of Mr. Thomas WHITE (he had married Diana FOSTER, widow of William FOSTER, nee MANNERS). Honorable Thomas Harvey, presiding. Major Alexander LILLINGTON, on behalf of John WRIGHT of VA, brought suit against Thomas HASKINS (HOSKINS) for debt.

Sept. 28, 1694 Court. Major Samuel SWANN, proved rights, himself, wife, Sarah (daughter of William DRUMMOND), William, Sanmuel, Samson, Henry and Thomas SWANN and Elizabeth HUNT; negroes Tom, Mary, Hannah, Eliza and Jane, for transportation of which he received 650 acres of land on the Sound in Perquimans Precinct.

November 6, 1694 Court held at Mrs. Diana FOSTER with same Justices present. Petition by John HUNT (who lived in Little River), showing “Mrs. Ann DURANT held in her possession books and papers belonging to the estate of Mr. William THERRILL,” prayed that they be given to him (HUNT/ekh), being the only living Executor, which was granted. George DURANT, husband of said Ann, had been Executor for Mr. William THERRILL, who was one of his followers during the rebellion of
1677-79. William THERILL had a Will probated in Perquimans County speaking of George DURANT of “Berty Point,” and said THERILL himself, lived on Little River.

Page 10:
Thomas GILLIAM appeared in Court accusing Robert WHITE and Vincent, his son, with grand larceny. Court ordered that a penalty of having the letter “T” branded in the hand which was duly executed. Augustince SCARBROUGH entered 300 acres of land on Powells Point Neck.
Thomas HASKINS (Hoskins) appeared in Court for first time. Elizabeth BANKS of London appointed “beloved friends ffrancis TOMES and John HAWKINS” attorneys to recover money and goods due from estate of Seth SOTHEL, late Governor of Carolina. Thomas WHITE and Diana, his wife (late wife of William FOSTER), entered a suit against John WILSON; these two in constant litigation with residents of this precinct).
Jurors appointed for their case were: William JACKSON, Robert MOLINE (MODLIN), John BELMAN (who immigrated to Perquimans from Surry Co., VA.), Uriah CANNON, John RAPER, Thomas GILLIAM and John BARROW, foreman. (Thomas GILLIAM also came from Surry Co., Va. To Perquimans.)

Nov. 29, 1694 Court.
Daniel PHILLIPS appointed Deputy Marshall of Perquimans. A list of tithables exhibited in Court numbering 787 souls and a levy of five shillings imposed upon each person therein named.

February 25, 1694/5 Court.
MARY BEASLEY, widow of ROBERT BEASLEY, recorded the Division of his Estate, 1695.
Anne WARD petitioned the Court for administration on estate of her deceased husband, Francis WARD, which was granted. Elizabeth BATEMAN, widow of Jonathan, asked for her third part of husband’s estate, his son Jonathan, being Executor.
Jacob OVERMAN proved rights for himself, Dorothy, Jacob, Jr., Tho., Ephrim, Margery, Charles and Ann OVERMAN. Diana WHITE (petition) for her son, John HARRIS, same Court, prayed for his estate.

Feb. 27, 1695 Court. Will of Mrs. Ann DURANT proven by oath of Jno CLAPPER and Elinor MOLINE (MODLIN) and Thomas DURANT made Executor on March 1, 1695. James WARD and Hannah, his wife, relict of Richard STIBALL were granted Execution re estate of said STIBALL. Major Samuel SWANN, Surveyor for Province of Carolina, brought suit against Benjamin LAKER for non payment of his fee, having surveyed 1500 acres for said LAKER, which was dismissed.

In 1696, the records show that there were in Carolina sixty or seventy scattered families, settled principally along the water front for twenty miles up Little River shore and around to Perquimans River.

John Archdale was now Governor, the only Quaker to hold such a high office. He favored his own sect but had as Lords Deputies: Honorable Francis JONES, Benjamin LAKER, Major Samuel SWANN and Thomas HARVEY.

January Court, 1696/7, held at house of Thomas NICHOLS with Justices present: Mr. John GODFREY, Caleb CALLEWAY, Capt. Ralph FLETCHER, John BARROW and Samuel NICHOLSON. James OATES appeared for first time at this Court. Rights were proven by Thomas SPEIGHT, for himself, John MORRES (MORRIS), Elizabeth, John, Jr., William and Mare MORRES. Denis MACLENDEN (possibly, “McClenond/McLendon”ekh) proved rights for himself, Rebecca CARPENTER, Elizabeth BRIENT, Denis FRANCIS and Thomas MACLENDEN. Abraham WILLIAMS rights for himself, wife Anne, and Edward and John WILLIAMS. Peter JONES brought suit in this Court.
March, 1696/7.
John STEPHNEY took oath as Clerk of Perquimans.

August 8, 1696.
Court held at house of James THIGPEN.
(This info is inexplicably entered on Page 16 of “History of Perquimans;” hence, out of chronological order of Courts being held/ekh)

James MINGE appears for first time proving rights for himself, his wife, Ruth (nee LAKER), and eight negroes for which he secured 1000 acres of land. His land situated in Harveys Neck, running along the bank of what is now called “Minsie” Creek and later named in deeds as “Ming Creek.” (I have recently come to the question of whether “MINGE”, “MINGES” and “MING” were varied spellings of “MING” or “MINGES.” Many MINGES still live here in eastern North Carolina and are a very wealthy family connected with Pepsi Cola distributorship. If “MINGES” is a surname sometimes written as “MING”:

A James MING married on Feb 23, 1790 in Chowan County, NC to ANN BEASLEY, b. between 1750-1768, Beasley Island, Craven Co., NC; died 1820. She was a daughter of SOLOMON BEASLEY (b. c. 1707, Beasley Island, Craven Co., NC) and his wife, Rachel Eda Taylor, (b. Oct 9, 1717, Baltimore, Maryland (?)/ekh and died before 1789, Beasley Island, Craven County, NC). A brother of ANN BEASLEY was John BEASLEY, (b. between 1747-1755, Rattlesnake Branch, Beasley Island, NC, died in SC), wife was Margaret Millie Peggy Smith.

Richard TURNER proved rights and had 450 acres of land turned over to him for importing himself, wife, Bridget, William BARNSTABLE, Elizabeth TURNER (who married ______NEWBY), John TURNER and John HOOKS.

Edward WILSON was appointed Constable “in Room of John DAVENPORT.” (This means, “in the place of”/ekh)

Among the Justices of this Court, were present only two, James COLE and John STEPNEY, who could sign their own names, all others using “marks.”

April 1697 Court at house of Thomas BLOUNT with Justices: Caleb
CALLEWAY, Judge Captain Ralph FLETCHER, Mr. John BARROW, Mr. John GODFREY, Mr. John WHEDBY and Mr. Samuel NICHOLSON.
Richard NOWEL and Ellener, his wife, acknowledged a deed of gift to their daughter, Allis.

Mr. John WHEDBY did the same for his two children, Richard & Deborah.
John LILLY, Robert HARMON and Jonathan TAILOR were appointed Constables of the Precinct. (Could be “TAYLOR”/ekh)

Page 12:
January 1698 Court held at house of James OATES.
Timothy CLARE appointed “Keeper of the Toole Bookes of Piquemons on West sid, and Isaack WILSON on ye East Sid.” (This means, “Keeper of the Toll Books of Perquimans” on the West side and East Side of the “ferry” that crossed the River/ekh).
Tolls had become necessary because vagrant persons pilfering cattle from herds of their neighbors, were driving them into Virginia to sell; therefore, a law was passed requiring each animal to be marked in prevention of thievery.

1698.
April 1698 Court, again at James OATES house.
William BOGUE appointed Constable “from ye Narrows of piquemons to Suttens Creek, and to Mr. LAKARs Crick on ye West Side.”
October 1698 Court at Mr. James OATES house with Hon’ble Thomas HARVEY, Deputy Governor, presiding.
John PARISH appointed Overseer of highway “from the ferry to Mr. WHEDBYs path.” It is to be deplored that the “ferry” here spoken of is not better designated.
In October of the same year, a “Grate brig” is mentioned over the head of perquimans River, where James PERRISHO served as Overseer. This bridge was likely the same later called “Newbys Bridge”, crossing the River beyond Belvidere going to Piney Woods.
1699-1700.
January 1699-1700, Assembly held at Mr. James OATES house. Mr. James COLE permitted to build a “Mill at the head of Indian Crick” during the sitting of this Court. Mr. Henry WHITE already a resident of Perquimans Precinct & his home used to solemnize Quaker weddings. He lived near a town known as Woodville, bordering on Little River, Perquimans County near Pasquotank County line. A Quaker burying ground exists across Little River on Pasquotank County side, marked by large sycamore tree & small gravestones.

1700.
April 1700 Court, held at OATES’ house. William MOORE proved rights for transporting himself, and wife, Elizabeth, into this country. October 1700 Court, held at OATES’ house. Daniel HALL and wife, Rose, appeared in Court. James OATES dead October 6, 1703. His will probated January 1704, naming son Joseph and wife, Elizabeth, another legatee, Joanathan EVINS. Elizabeth OATES was daughter of John WYATT and wife Rachel CALLOWAY. The ages of their children are given in Berkeley Parish Register as follows: John, born August 7, 1697; John (first by name), born Feb 4, 1667; Jesse, born August 31, 1669; Mary, born Nov 16, 1672. Joseph OATES moved from Perquimans to Beaufort County.

1701.
(Page 324) FRANCIS BEASLEY (son of Robert & Sarah BEASLEY) married Hannah SUTTON (daughter of Joseph & Deliverance (NICHOLSON), on May 15, 1701. April 8, 1701 Court at house of Captain Anthony DAWSON, at which time Captain Ralph FLETCHER had advanced to Judge of the Precinct. Justices Samuel NICHOLSON, Francis FOSTER, James COLE and Samuel CHARLES, present. July 8, 1701 Court at house of Capt. Anthony DAWSON.
Robert INKRSOME “sheweth that Walter SESTION is ded Haven
Made no Will” prays for administration on his estate “having married
Rollok of said SESTION.” (This means, that INKRSOME married
SESTION’s widow (relict) & wants to administer SESTION’s
estate/ekh)
John PRICKLO petitioned the Court that “ffrancis BEDSON (BELSON
Lay Sick at His ____ (House). A long time, who died and was Buried At
His on Cost, now prays for Custodie of his Estate.”

(The second Tuesday of October 1701 Court, held at “ye Gran Court
House for ye precinct of Perquimans.”
Major Samuel SWANN & Elizabeth, his wife (second wife, daughter of
Alexander LILLINGTON), acknowledged a deed to Samuel SWANN, Jr.
John HECKLEFIELD petitioned the Court showing “George PRODY Is
dead haven Maide no Will” and desires management of his estate.
Samuel PHILIPS and James CHESEN petitioned Court for their share
of a crop made while living with John LILLY. PHILIPS given full share
& CHESEN given a half share.
John HECKLEFIELD newly arrived in Carolina and made Little River
his future home. Court would be held at his house for a number of years
and an Assembly in 1707.

1702.
Hannah BEASLEY (Johannah Jenkins BEASLEY, wife of ROBERT
BEASLEY), dies November 7, 1702.
April 1702 Court, house of Capt. James COLES.
Peter ALBERTSON “sheweth that John LILLY was indebted to Ann
JONES Now his Wife, and James OATES was ordered to pay to said
ALBERTSON Tenn Shillings and six pence.”
Sarah HARRIS chose as her guardian, her uncle, Nathaniel
ALBERTSON.
October 1702 Court, Captain James Coles’s house.
Mrs. Mary SWANN(wife of Samuel SWANN, Jr.), proved his Will in
Court.
Mary ALBERTSON, widow of Albert ALBERTSON, probated his Will;
sons: Albert, Peter and Nathaniel.
Thomas WINSLOW “Proved on Write for his freedom An Assigned it to Timothy CLAR.” Soon after this date, he married Elizabeth CLARE, daughter of Timothy and it seems certain he was apprenticed to said CLARE and had just come of age.
October 17, 1702 “GEN’LL COURT” was held at house of Capt. John HECKLEFIELD in Little River. The function of this Court appears to have been on the same basis of our present day Supreme Court. At this session of note: Honorable Samuel SWANN, Esq.; Hon. William GLOVER, Esq.; John JENKINS, Esq.; William DUCKENFIELD (whose home was in Bertie County) coming to prosecute a suit against Thomas EVINS.

1703.
April 24, 1703.
Henderson WALKER was Governor of the Province.
Peter GODFREY appointed Clerk of Perquimans, January 1702/1703.
Samuel SWANN (Sec’y of the Court), administered oath to new Clerk.
Captain John STEPNEY turned over the “books” to GODFREY then.
Governor Walker had sworn in 3 new justices, Samuel SWANN, Frances TOMS and William GLOVER.
Feb 2, 1703 Court at Captain James Coles’ house.
Hannah SNELLEN, widow of Israel, acknowledged a deed to her “Cheldren,” Rachel and Esther. Soon after this date, she became the wife of Timothy CLARE, his third and last wife.
Sarah HARRIS made choice of her grandmother, Mary ALBERTSON, as her guardian.
(Page 14:)
March 9, 1703 Court at same place.
William TURNER made over patent of land to James NEWBY & wife, Sarah, and they sold it to JAMES FOSTER.
Orphans of Thomas & Mary HANCOCKE bound to Gabriel NEWBY. This is first mention of surname, “NEWBY” in Perquimans Court proceedings and from this fact, were likely new comers to Carolina.
Eza (Esau) ALBERTSON was “Sworne Constable, from the hithermost part of Little River to the lower side of Suttons Creeke.”
Lawrence ARNOLD (2) had the embarrassing experience of having a child sworn to him out of wedlock by Jeane RICHARDS, servant of John HECKLEFIELD.

John WEST, brother in law of the orphans of Lewis ALEXANDER and Esther KNIGHT, was ordered to take them with Emanuel KNIGHT under his care.

March 29, 1703, GENERAL COURT at house of Capt. John HECKLEFIELD; Counsilors present: Hon. William GLOVER, Thomas SYMONS, Richard PLATER and William COLLINS, Esquires. Mr. Christopher GALE, presented account of John HARVEY’s estate.

Samuel PRICKLOVe will probated by oath of Francis PENRICE & John ANDERSON.

Henry BAKER of Virginia brought suit against William EARLY for debt and appointed his “good friend” Samuel SWANN, Esq., of Carolina attorney to collect all delinquencies due him from said Early.


John EAVANS made petition in this court.

Thomas DEWHAM (DERHAM) of Bath arraigned for murder of William HUDSON, slain the previous September, for which crime he was to be branded on the “brawn of the left hand with the letter M, but appears to have been released from this punishment by following Court.

Before 1704.
FRANCIS BEASLEY (son of Robert & Sarah BEASLEY) married, “MARY”.

1704.

JAMES BEASLEY (son of FRANCIS & MARY BEASLEY), born August 4, 1704.

April 11, 1704 Court at house of Dennis MacCLENDEN (could be, “McClendon”/ekh). (John BEASLEY,( b. 1747-1755, Rattlesnake Branch, Beasley Island, Craven Co., NC; died Feb 23, 1818 in SC), had a wife, Margaret Millie Peggy SMITH,( b. 1747-57 possibly Dobbs Co.,
NC, died after July 17, 1717, SC). They had a son named Daniel BEASLEY (b. 1790-1792, Darlington District/County, SC, died 1863 in Simpson Co., MS), who married a Catherine McLENDON, (b. 1792 in SC and died 1870, Simpson Co., MS)(ekh)

Some of the inhabitants of Carolina mentioned as “being in Court” April 11, 1704:
**************JAMES BEESLEY (BEASLEY) AND MARY, HIS WIFE, Francis WELLS and David HARRIS and wife, Elizabeth.************** Constance SNOWDEN, wife of Thomas, relinquished her dower right in land unto John BATEMAN. Thomas EVANS and Mary, his wife, acknowledged a deed made by them to Thomas SNOWDEN. James THIGPEN presented petition in Court showing the need of a road “to be cleared from the ferry out to the High Road.”
July 11, 1704 Court, at Dennis MacCLENDEN’s house.
William MORGAN brought suit against David HARRIS for “Defamacon and Apersing words, he having said, “Thee art a Rogue and Ile prove it.”

Page 15:
Court held MORGAN guilty of pure slander & ordered to pay all costs. John WHITE and Alice were defendants in a case.
Caleb CALLEWAY appointed Overseer to clear old road from LAKARs Creek in response to multiple residents requesting such help.
William WILLIAMS proved rights for himself and at next session of court his wife, Susannah, appointed friend, Dennis MACCLENDEN, her attorney.
January 1, 1704/04 Court.
Colonel William WILKINSON and Hester, his wife, by Thomas SNOWDEN, their attorney, brought suit against Johannah TAYLOR, Executor of the estate of William BOYCE, deceased, for two rings belonging to said Susannah.
***************Richard SKINNER became overseer of the highway “in Room of Francis BEASLEY” (this means, “in place of or replacing Francis BEASLEY”)/ekh)1705.
January 6, 1705 Court at Dennis MacCLENDEN’s.
Isaac WILSON proved rights, for “Importacon” of Mary BRASINAN (BRASSEUR), Elizabeth BRASMAN, John MORRIS, James WHITE, Anne BARKER, George BAITE and wife, Rebeccah RATCLIFFE, Joseph CANERLE, Richard TURNER, William BARNSTABLE, John HOOKS, Isaac and Abraham RICKS, for which he was awarded 1200 acres of land in Perquimans Precinct.

Ralph BOASMAN, who immigrated to Perquimans from Surry Co., VA, had rights proven for importing Samuel, Elizabeth, Mercy and Susannah BOND, Matthew POTTER, Sarah JOHNSON and Luke GRACE.

James NUBY allowed 300 acres of land for transporting John, Magdalen, Elizabeth and James NEWBY; he took up land in Pasquotank County where he died; and as soon as this 300 acres was entered, he immediately conveyed it to Isaac WILSON of Perquimans.

April 11, 1705 Court at house of Dennis MacCLENDEN.

Thomas SNOWDEN appointed “Clearke of Court for Perquimans Precinct.”

Court records show that about this time, Deborah WHIDBY (daughter of John), became wife of Henry BONNER.

Ralph BOASMAN, who immigrated to Perquimans from Surry Co., VA, had rights proven for importing Samuel, Elizabeth, Mercy and Susannah BOND, Matthew POTTER, Sarah JOHNSON and Luke GRACE.

James NUBY allowed 300 acres of land for transporting John, Magdalen, Elizabeth and James NEWBY; he took up land in Pasquotank County where he died; and as soon as this 300 acres was entered, he immediately conveyed it to Isaac WILSON of Perquimans.

Mrs. Deborah WHEDBEE, widow of John, married second, Dennis MacCLENDEN, and it was at her house that Court was held in:

1706.
July 9, 1706 Court, MacCLENDEN’s house.
Justices present: James COLE, Thomas LONG, Joseph SUTTON, Sr., William LONG, Esquires.
Ezekiel MAUDLIN, deceased, his wife, Hannah, made Administratrix.
Ralph BOSMAN was appointed Constable.
and Samuel PHELP made “packers” for this Precinct, “John PARISH from the head of Little River to the mouth thereof and soe around up Pequimins River to Lillys Creek,” and FRANCIS BEASLEY and Samuel Phelps for the remainder of the Precinct. Plainly, this demonstrates the fact that along

the bank of Little River and the mouth of Perquimans the settlers were more thickly congregated than further up towards the interior.

Samuel PHELPS ordered to “keep the Toll Booke att the Head of Pequimins River.”

Circa 1707.

Affidavit made by Robert LAWRENCE of Nansemons County, Virginia asserted that he was 69 years old, being seated about 47 years upon a plantation on South West side of Chowan River, where he had lived for the past seven years and that he was well acquainted with the boundary lines of those rivers.”

1707. ROBERT BEASLEY (son of Francis & Mary BEASLEY) born December 1, 1707.

1708.

Assembly, October 11, 1708, Little River, house of Capt. John HECKLEFIELD’s with nine representatives from Chowan, two from Pasquotank of Quaker choosing, five from Currituck, with the number from Perquimans not designated.

Edward MOSELEY chosen as Speaker of the House.

Country was torn with dissatisfaction as another rebellion, called the Cary Rebellion, arose causing distrust and discontent among the struggling colonists. This Rebellion at its height 1709-1710, when the country had hardly recovered from the dissention of 1677-79 & proved a great hardship on those peacefully minded and disrupted gvt.

About this time (1709-1710/ekh), it was observed that the man in charge of the Church of England for Carolina had contributed to the departure
of colonists leaving the Church to go over to the “new religion,” Quakers.

1709.
**JAMES BEASLEY** is a member of the House of Burgesses, Oct 11, 1709.

1712.
**LAST COUNCIL** to be convened in Perquimans, July 4, 1712, Little River, home of Capt. John HECKLEFIELD.  
May have been this date that “Phelps Point” became the seat of Precinct Court; however earliest authenticated sitting of Court on the Point is 1735; the Assembly had passed an Act for a Court House to be erected there in 1722. Many people were summoned to Court on Phelps Point soon after this date.

**June 2, 1712, A COUNCIL held at house of Governor & Captain General Edward Hyde.**

Governor Hyde dies September 8, 1712 leaving colonists to face Indian attacks, scarcity of provisions and growing political unrest among them. Edward WILSON, dead w/o a will Sept. 12, 1712; his wife, Sarah and daughter, Elizabeth WIATT, nearest of kin with Daniel JONES (who had married another daughter), Executors.

Nine years pass with no Precinct Court records to be found. This could have been while the Precinct was “re-adjusting its broken order into some form of stability after recent disorders.”

**Home of Mrs. Elizabeth FRENCH used for the sitting of Court due to death of John HECKLEFIELD. Elizabeth FRENCH may have been the widow of John HECKLEFIELD, but it so, “this made her fourth marriage.”**

1719.  
**FRANCIS BEASLEY** is dead by this time and his Will is probated Albemarle Co. (Perquimans) on May 20, 1719. Will states his wife is “MARY”, sons are “Jeames” and Robert. He named his brother, “Jeams” as his Executor. (Therefore, I believe this Francis BEASLEY is the son of Robert & wife, Sarah BEASLEY/ekh)
1721.
Court held in house of Mrs. Elizabeth FRENCH, Little River, Perquimans Co., NC. No Court convened in a private dwelling again until the Court had moved from Little River to Hertford some time before July 1755.

1729.
Edward HALL takes the first Tax List found in Perquimans which denotes acreage of each person listed. Given in rotation as follows:
Jeremiah SUTTON w/50 acs; John LEARY, 100 acs; Edward HALL, Jr., _____; Nathan LONG, 150 acs; Zebulon PRATT, 46 acs; John SMITH, 75 acs; Ann WILSON, 100 acs; Robert ROE, 50 acs; Elisha STONE, _____; William ARKILL, 167 acs; Thos. THATCH, 96 acres; Zebulon CALLEWAY, 50 acs; Joseph BARROW, 300 acs; Luke WHITE, 50 acs; Spencher THACH, 100 acs; Andrew DONALDSON, 175 acs; John WYATT, _____; Mary WHIDBEE, 66.5 acs; William CLEMONS, 240 acs; Benjamin SANDERS, 1019 acs; William CREECY, 250 acs; William ARRINGTON, 160 acs; John BARROW, 200 acs; Nathan SKINNER, 55 acs; Thos SIMMONS, 130 acs; William STEPNEY, 350 acs; John SANDERS, 162 acs; Frederick LUTEN, 223.5 acs; Willis BUTLER, 140 acs; Richard CALE, 140 acs; Bailey FORBES, 399 acs; Lemuel FORBES, _____; Thomas HARMON, 209 acs; Leven THACH, 72.5 acs; John JOHNSON, 50 acs; John NIXON, 236 acs; Jesse BUNCH, 50 acs; Malachi DEAL, _____; James BRINKLEY, 507 acs; Levy CREECY, 231.5 acs; William MULLEN, 50 acs; JAMES BUSH, 50 acs; Nathaniel BRATTON, 152 acs; Francis SUTTON, 50 acs; Leven SCOT, 100 acs; William LONG, 466 acs; Lemuel LONG, 50 acs; Richard HATFIELD, 207 acs; Jeremiah DOE, _____; William JONES, Jr., 113.5 acs; Thos. LONG, 103.5 acs; Reuben LONG, 143 acs; Joseph THACH, 100 acs; John COLLINS, 120 acs; Christopher COLLINS, 104 acs; Joseph MATHIAS, 125 acs; Isacher BRANCH, 50 acs; William BRANCH, 156.5 acs; Benjamin BRATTON, 210 acs; John LUMSFORD, 100 acs; Henry HALL, 125 acs; John WINGATE, _____; Richard SKINNER, 492.5 acs; Thos STACEY, 50 acs; Thos. CREECY, 337 acs; Eri BARROW, 200 acs and 6 negroes; Edward WINGATE, 50 acs; Job MILLER, 260 acs; William Jones JOINER, Thos. WHEDBEE, 133 acs;
“Frederick HALSEY, 100 acs. William STANDIN, 286 acs; Joseph NORCUM, 322 acs; Joseph HARVEY, 297 acs; Peleg LAWTON, 200 acs; Burton (?) HARVEY, 500 acs; Robert HARVEY, 300 acs; William JONES, Sr., 130 acs; Ezekiel ARRENTON, 170 acs; Stephen SKINNER, 15 acs; Isaac WHITE, 133.5 acs; Charles W. MILLER, ____; Delight NIXON, 416 acs; William WESTON, 50 acs; Arodi BARROW, 25 acs; James WHITE, 150 acs; Benjamin SMITH, 1319 acs; Jeremiah COLLINS, 100 acs; Ann SKINNER, 200 acs; Gray SPRUEL, 226 acs; James McCLENNY, 50 acs; Mary PRATT, 33.5 acs; William WHITE, 477 acs; Sarah WHITE, 800 acs; Thos. PARRAMORE, 100 acs; Richard HATFIELD, 69.5 acs; John SKINNER, 850 acs; Mary HARVEY, 800 acs; Joshua SKINNER, 550 acs; Jonathan PEARSON, 52 acs; Thomas HARVEY, Esq., 379 acs and 18 town lots, 15 blacks, Thomas HARVEY, 588 acs; Benjamin HARVEY, 700 acs; (12 blacks each); Joseph GILBERT, 100 acs; Sarah SKILLINGS, 2 town lots and two ____; Charles MOORE, Jr., 242 acs and six blacks; Samuel PENRICE, _____; Joshua LONG, 621.5 acs, Charles Pettigrew, 750 acs and ten blacks; William SKINNER, 851.5 acs; Thos JONES Estate, 400 acs.

1733.
THOMAS BEEZLEY, will probated July 3, 1733 (no county given); Sons: JOHN & THOMAS, wife was ELIZABETH, Executrix. This will NOT made in Perquimans Co., NC. (Query: Who were Thomas’s parents, what was maiden name of Elizabeth, his wife ?/ekh) (Why was this Will listed in History of Perquimans perhaps probated by a child who lived in Perquimans?/ekh) (NOTE: notice spelling of surname/ekh)

Before 1735.
Loose papers and Minute Books show a well organized ferry used between two points of land called Phelps Point and Newbys Point. Nathan NEWBY supervised the “setting over” of people on Newby’s Point. Jonathan PHELPS did the same and both men received a stipend from the county for this work.

1735.
Mary NEWBY (nee TOMS, wife of Nathan first) required to give bond
after death of her husband in 1735 for maintenance of the ferry between her Point and where the ferry landed on the Phelps Point side. She exhibited her husband’s will in Court, July, 1735. Mary NEWBY married Samuel MOORE soon after Nathan NEWBY’s death. Nathan NEWBY (2) continued to operate the ferry, later cared for by Samuel PRETLOW who married his widow.

“Zachariah CHANCEY charged Gabriel NEWBY of Perquimans in Court, August 6, 1735 for Newby’s use of “wicked Boastful Malitious Scanderlous and Oprobius English words” against CHANCEY causing him “great unrest and in fear of harm to his good name and Office”; therefore, asked Court to administer either “Corporal or Pecuniary punishment” upon NEWBY to deter him from using “libelious words.”

SAMUEL BEASLEY, Nov 13, 1735 Will names: brothers as FRANCIS & THOMAS; Mary BEASLEY (gr-mother) JOHN BEASLEY & JAMES BEASLEY, Jr. Witnesses: William CROPLEY, Thomas BENTLEY & Elizabeth WELLS. The witnesses of this will prove it to be of Perquimans County (See deeds in Perquimans for further data.) (Query: Who were parents of this SAMUEL BEASLEY?/ekh)

Around this era, another Act of Assembly would tax each person in Perquimans Precinct for the “Building of a publick warehouse as by Law Directed.” Macrora SCARBROUGH and Nathaniel CARUTHERS appointed to “Manage” its construction of “12 feet high, 18 feet wide, 25 feet long.”

1739. By Act of Assembly, October 1739, a tax of 2 shillings 6 pence was levided upon each “Tythable for the purpose of building a Publick Goal” (this would have been a “jail.”/ekh). 1749. Jonathan PHELPS sold land to the county to lay out the town of HERTFORD; Directors being John HARVEY, John CLAYTON and Nathan NEWBY. Nathan NEWBY lived at “Bear Garden on the opposite side from HERTFORD. Jonathan PHELPS had died before 1749 and his son, Benjamin, now had charge of the “Ferry.”
1740.
At July 3, 1740 Court, Richard CHESTON granted his motion to lay out a road from Newbys Point to the main road leading to MORGANs. This road appears to be the same that now runs from the Causeway to Winfall. Zachariah NIXON, Richard CHESTON and James MORGAN, Sr., appointed to lay off the road.
Mary NEWBY, widow, (nee TOMS, wife of Nathan first) petitioned the Court to take off “Tithables from the main road to labour on the ferry road, it being more Convenient for me than the main road and I can better tend the ferry if any person Comes to be Set over my lands being on that road Can Set them over so shall get no Blame.” (Petition granted)

1742.
List of Taxables taken of Perquimans by Thomas WEEKS, J.P. :
Robert COCK, George GORDING and sons, William and Nathaniel; Jeremiah HENDRICK, Joseph ROBINSON, Thos. KNOLES, Samuel MOORE, Francis TOMS, John MORRIS, John GUYER, Mary NEWBY, widow, and son, Thomas; Ezekiel MAUDLIN, Jane MORGAN, widow; John HENBY and son, Silvanus; Arthur ALBERTSON, John LACEY, James HENBY, Jr., Edward MAUDLIN aqnd sons, William and Ezekiel; Thos. JESSOP, Jesse NEWBY, Thos. BARCLIFT, John MANN, John BARCLIFT, Sr., and son, John; Solomon HENDRICK, David HUFFTON, Michael MURPHY, Thos. MONTAGUE, Josiah RAPER, Benjamin MONDAY and son, Thomas; Thos. STAFFORD, William TOMBLIN, Margaret STANTON and sons, Moses and Aaron JACKSON; Charles OVERMAN, John ROBINSON, William HASKET, Nathaniel WELCH, Isaac HENDRICK, William COLSON, Phineas NIXON, John WINSLOW, William KNOLES, Thos. GODFREY and son, Thomas; Samuel RIGHT (WRIGHT), William ARNOLD, Jno. NIXON, Jno. MOORE, Thos. SHARBO, Thos. WINSLOW and son, Job and six slaves (Thomas WINSLOW, Sr.); Thos WINSLOW, Jr., Joseph RATCLIFF, Aaron ALBERTSON, Jno. ANDERSON, Rachel PEARSON, widow and son, Jonathan; John PERRISHAW, Josiah BUNDY, John WILSON, William BUNDY.
1744.
The Assembly.
Macrora SCARBROUGH, one-time treasurer of the King’s Quit Rents, was accused of being “a high criminal” by a complaint laid before the Assembly in 1744 by James CASTELLAW. The next day, SCARBROUGH appeared in Court & resigned. The King’s Quit Rents were paid at Deep Creek, where Charles DENMAN was treasurer of Perquimans Precinct.
John PERRY lists house-holders for Perquimans County:

1754.
(Page 324)
JAMES BEASLEY is deceased as his Division (of estate/ekh) is shown in CHOWAN COUNTY, NC in 1754 stating his children: JOHN, JAMES, MARY and THOMAS; mother as Mary WOOLARD; John & Thomas BEASLEY (probably brothers) Mary PAYNE, wife of Peter. Thomas
BEASLEY, m. Martha _________. (NOTE: I believe this deceased “JAMES” could be the son born August 4, 1704 to Francis (son of Robert & Sarah Beasley) and “MARY” BEASLEY; the other JAMES BEASLEY (son of Robert & Sarah BEASLEY) having probated his Will in BERTIE COUNTY, NC in January of 1758/ekh)

WILLIAM BEASLEY, dec’d 19, 1 mon 1754, Betty BEASLEY, Administratrix. (Query: Is this January 19, 1754? Who are parents of this William Beasley & what was Betty’s maiden name?/ekh)

Nathan NEWBY given the work of making a “Good sufficient double Door to the Prison of Oak Planks & provide a Good Lock to be fixed in the Middle of the Door with a Good Bolt.”
Jacob DOCTON prayed at the Precinct Court held April 18, 1754 to be exempted from further taxation due to “mind being impaired.”
Inhabitants on North East Side of the head of Vosses Creek petitioned the Court to be exempted from Service on any other road than the one they had to maintain which was a “long bad Road to make and maintain from the county Road by Joseph OUTLANDS up said Creek to a branch of the Creek known by the name of Reedy Branch, to be laid off from John LACEYs to said Branch & all inhabitants that are or may Settle within said Boundaries are expected to make & repair said Road.”

July, 1755. Act of Assembly requiring the establishment of a “Ferry from Newby’s Point to Phelps Point Whereon the Courthouse Now Stands on Perquimans River.”
Jonathan PHELPS and Nathan NEWBY given 4 Pounds annually by the County for “Setting over ferry free Inhabitants of this county at Court times, Elections, Members of Assembly, Vestrymen and Musters in said county.”
Jonathan PHELPS granted “Lycences to keep an Ordinary at his Now Dwelling house on Phelps Point ...” (“Ordinary” is a lodging house/ekh)
Nathan NEWBY (2) was ordered by the Court to “Erect & Compleat a warehouse on the Courthouse Lot for Inspection of Tobacco on Phelps Point.”
William SKINNER and James SITTERSON appointed Inspectors of
Tobacco. John HARVEY and Joseph WHITE ordered to “Supply Steel yards & other Necessary Materials for said Inspectors.” (Minute Book, Perquimans County, 1755)

1756.
Citizens of Perquimans petition the Assembly to lay off 100 acres on Phelps Point for a town and town common. Town does not appear to have been incorporated until 1759, however. The Point had a Court House long before this date and may have stood on the point where the warehouse was built. If this is correct, the “warehouse” may have been located on the River behind the present Court House. The County gradually sold off lots of the public ground and streets and sidewalks took up more until the Court House Green became a square, surrounded by business structures as at present.

1758.
JAMES BEASLEY (son of Robert & Sarah BEASLEY) has his Will probated January 1758, BERTIE COUNTY, NC; only legatee being William BENTLEY, son of John, who probably a gr-son. (Query: Does this mean James had a SON named JOHN?/ekh)

1760.
John WEEKS appointed as “Keeper of the Common Goal” on November 12, 1760. (This would be the public jail/ekh)
Joseph ROBINSON, Thomas NEWBY, Nathan NEWBY, Cornelius MOORE, John MURDAUGH, Francis NEWBY, Merchants and traders from Perquimans to the Colony of Virginia, petition and show that Moses EASON, a planter, obtained an Order of Court for “turning up the road below the Mill dam, over Bassetts Swamp on the main road leading to Virginia, claiming it would shorten the way. Petitioners find it is at least a mile and a half further, and before the winter will be impassable. Petitioners pray the Court for an order to have the road returned to its former position.
This road passed through what is now GATES COUNTY and may have been the same route taken by the present road called, “the Virginia Highway.”
1762.
April, 1762. Joshua HOBART requests Precinct Court to be relieved on further taxation due to his having a broken shoulder.
Nathan NEWBY (2) died October 18, 1762 and Seth SUMNER chosen to replace him as one of the Directors of HERTFORD town.

1763.
John SKINNER and Keziah Newby petition the Court for their “Sallery” for attending the ferry “Duly for the Year past over Perquimans River at Publick times According to Order of Court.”
July 18, 1763, John SKINNER paid 5 Pounds, 5 Shillings & 10 Pence by Andrew KNOX, Sheriff of Perquimans for maintaining the Ferry. (John SKINNER had married Dorothy, widow of Jonathan PHELPS, who had owned the land at the Ferry and operated it as long as he lived.)

1764.
Public warehouse businesses in Perquimans in 1764 appear to have been at Cypress Bridge, Hertford, Sanders Landing, John BARROWs, Yeopin Creek, Seth SUMNERs, Little River Bridge, Judge BARCLIFTs (Durants Neck) and Joseph SUTTONS (at the mouth of Suttons Creek).

1769.
Jonathan PHELPS dies before January 1769.
Francis NIXON, on behalf of Benjamin PHELPS, his son, petitioned the Court showing he had rented the ferry and ferry house in the town of Hertford about January 1, 1767 and by Order of Court, for six years, on condition the highest bidder should pay the annual rent which had been bid off to Hatten WILLIAMS on behalf of William NEWBOLD, now in possession, who failed to pay the rent. NIXON prays for use of said premises for four years.
Francis NIXON had married the widow of Nathan NEWBY (2). “She being Kesiah PIERCE, daughter of Thomas, and having for her third husband, Samuel PRETLOW.”
Dorothy PHELPS (nee JORDAN, daughter of Matthew JORDAN of Isle of Wight County, VA), was wife of Jonathan PHELPS and they had a
son, Benjamin and a daughter, Dorothy.
Dorothy PHELPS, widow of Jonathan PHELPS, married, second to John SKINNER who later keeps the ferry.
Evan SKINNER (no date) petitions to build a “House of Entertainment on the Lott and a half of ground Laid out for Publick Buildings, as are convenient and Necessary for Man or Horse,” which was granted. Location of house is uncertain.
Thomas NICHOLSON (no date), was guardian for Joseph McADAMS and pray the Court for an Order to “run a ferry over to NIXONTON which might prove of great ease to the publick,” and petitioned the Court “that said Orphans’ slaves be exempt from working on the publick road rather putting their labor on the road” that leads to Nags head Chappel.”
Inhabitants of Old Neck complained for want of a road and asked Court to have one cleared from Francis TOMS Bridge to mouth of Suttons Creek. Those assigned to keep road in order: Richard SANDERS, Aaron ALBERTSON, Joseph RATCLIFF, Samuel PARKS, Christopher SUTTON, Thos. PIERCE and Joseph NEWBY.
Inhabitants on the North side of Orepeak Swamp asked Court for a road to be cleared “at the path Now going over the Swamp to the County line by James SUMNERs into the main road. “ Granted.

1773.
JAMES BEASLEY married Miss Ann TAYLOR, Oct. 19, 1773.
(Marriage bonds, Perquimans County, NC) (Query: Is this Francis Beasley’s son, James/”Jeams”?/ekh)

1774.
Benjamin PHELPS gives bond July 20, 1774 “to keep an Ordinary at his now dwelling house” and pledges to “Constantly Provide good wholesome Cleanly Lodging and Dyet for Travellers and Stable foder and corn for horses,” for one year.
John HARVEY (of Perquimans Co.) was Speaker of the Provincial Congress at New Bern (NC/ekh).
1775.
John HARVEY (of Perquimans Co.) was Speaker of the Provincial Congress at New Bern.
Other Members from Perquimans:
Andrew KNOX, Thomas HARVEY, John WHEDBEE, Jr., Joseph JONES, Miles HARVEY, Benjamin HARVEY, William SKINNER, Charles BLOUNT, Charles MOORE, William HOOPER;
Councilors: 1776-1868: John SKINNER, Henry SKINNER;
State Treasurer: William SKINNER;
Superior State Judge, Jonathan B. ALBERTSON;
Miles HARVEY, appointed Colonel of Militia by the September Congress; William SKINNER, Lieutenant Colonel; Thomas HARVEY and Richard CLAYTON, Majors.
Perquimans County raised a Company of Minute Men in the Revolutionary War, a stronghold of Quakers.

1776.
John HARVEY was Speaker of the Provincial Congress at New Bern.
In April of 1776, Benjamin HARVEY, Jr., and Edmund BLOUNT appointed to gather all arms to be found in the County for use of troops, fifty of which were sent under guard, commanded by Captain William MOORE to the defense of Wilmington (NC/ekh).

1777.
Benjamin HARVEY, John HARVEY, Representatives, Provincial Congress at New Bern.

1778-1875.
General William SKINNER saved the day at Great Bridge when the Continental troops were hard pressed against the British & is buried on a farm not far from Hertford, NC.
Members of Constitutional Convention: Samuel JOHNSON, William SKINNER, Joshua SKINNER, Thomas HARVEY, John SKINNER, Joseph HARVEY, Benjamin PERRY, Ashbury SUTTON, Jonathan H. JACOCKS.
Members of the Assembly: Joseph JESSOP, Thomas SPEIGHT, Charles DENMAN, Samuel PHELPS, Macrora SCARBROUGH, Richard SKINNER, Marmaduke NORFLEET (lived in that part of Perquimans cut off into GATES Co.), Zebulon CLAYTON, Richard SANDERSON, Joshua LONG, Thomas WEEKS, Joseph SUTTON, James SUMNER, Nathaniel CARUTHERS, William WIATT, Tully WILLIAMS, George DURANT, Luke SUMNER, John HARVEY, Benjamin HARVEY, Francis BROWN, Thomas BONNER, William MACKEY, Charles BLOUNT, Seth SUMNER, Andrew KNOX, John SKINNER, Nathaniel WILLIAMS, John WHEDBEE.

1784. Gideon NEWBY made a deed for land (75 acres) “Nigh the Float Bridge Road” used to cross the Perquimans River at “Bear Garden on the opposite side from HERTFORD.”

The following information is transcribed as seen in “History of Perquimans County”, page 324, without determination by ekh as to which of the following children belonged to ROBERT BEASLEY or to his sons or grandchildren:
2. James Beasley’s Division, Chowan County, NC 1754. Shows children: JOHN, JAMES, MARY and THOMAS; mother MARY WOOLARD (Query: Is this the “Mary” who was married to Robert Beasley at time of his death & who recorded his Division of Estate in 1695?/ekh),
   JOHN & THOMAS Beasley (probably brothers) (Query: “probably brothers” from which wife/ekh?),
   Mary PAYNE, wife of Peter (Query: Peter who?/ekh).
   Thomas Beasley m. Martha ___________. (Query: What is Martha’s maiden surname?)
3. WILLIAM BEASLEY, dec’d 19, 1 mo 1754, Betty Beasley Admix.
(Query: Does this mean January 19, 1754?/ and who knows of this William Beasley and was Betty his wife?/ekh)
4. THOMAS BEEZLEY, will p. July 3, 1733 (no county given); Sons: JOHN & THOMAS, wife was ELIZABETH, Executrix. This will was not made in Perquimans County, NC.

5. The Will of SAMUEL BEASLEY, Nov 13, 1735, names brothers: FRANCIS & THOMAS; Mary BEASLEY (gr-mother) JOHN BEASLEY & JAMES BEASLEY, Jr. Witnesses: WILLIAM CROPLEY, Thomas BENTLEY & ELIZABETH WELLS. The witnesses of this will, prove it to be of Perquimans County (See deeds in Perquimans for further data). “

If you know which of the above children belong to which wife of ROBERT BEASLEY, please advise; if you know if “SARAH” is also “SARAH JOHANNAH CAGWELL JENKINS”, sometimes mistakenly said to be married to a “John Beasley” instead of ROBERT BEASLEY, please advise. The author states that “Robert Beasley appears to have married three times.” This could mean the author was as confused as are we who are trying to determine if “SARAH” and “Sarah Joanna Cagwell Jenkins Beasley” are one and the same wife. Thank you. eloise k. howard (ekh) 12/19/2008