

# Hogg Family of Gloucester and York Counties, Virginia

the family as depicted in Mrs. Ironmonger's book  
and  
new findings from recent research and DNA testing

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## I Introduction

The subject of this article is the Hogg families of Gloucester County and York County Virginia and the surrounding area. Extensive research on this family, done by Mrs. Elizabeth Hogg Ironmonger, was published in 1968 in her book "Hogg Family of York and Gloucester Counties, Virginia". Having been endowed as a young man with a copy of this book by my mother, for the longest time I had the perception that everything I would ever want to know about the family was in cousin Bessie's book. After decades doing family history research on other family lines, In 2006 I decided to start a Hogg family DNA project with the goal of determining how the several Hogg families that I knew of were related and perhaps discovering that one or more of them was related to my Hogg family.

The DNA project has led to many exciting and some unexpected discoveries. For one thing, the project shows that the world of Hogg's is very diverse: as of this date, we have identified about 20 unrelated Hogg families. It seems that Hogg was a very common name in Scotland. Perhaps we should not be surprised at this once we appreciate that "Hogg" is a word used in Scotland for a "yearling sheep" and tending sheep was a common avocation for young men in Scotland. It seems that, in the Middle Ages, when surnames were being used for the first time, many Scottish shepherds chose the name "Hogg". This new appreciation for the diversity of Hogg's is only the beginning of our discoveries using DNA. We have made several discoveries revealing the connection of different Hogg families that had no expectation of being related and several discoveries of a lack of relationship where one was expected. Specifically, one of our discoveries tells us that the family tree described in cousin Bessie's book is not entirely correct.

## II A review of "Hogg Family of York and Gloucester Counties, Virginia", 1968, by Elizabeth Hogg Ironmonger (1891-1975).

Allow me to begin by transcribing *verbatim* the foreword to cousin Bessie's book. She describes her intent in her own words far better than I could.

### Foreword

It is not my purpose to attempt to place all the Hogs mentioned in various records, within the framework of my own Hogg family of Gloucester and York Counties, Virginia. Indeed, not all members of the various branches of the Hogg family of Gloucester County will be included in this manuscript as the loss of Gloucester County records by two fires, one in 1820 and another during the Civil War period, renders it practically impossible to trace all the family relationships. Only the data with authentic proof will make up the traced family line of this branch of the Hogg family.

While a few unrelated items are included to form a general background, It is thought best to assemble the disconnected notes, lifted from the 139 genealogical and historical books covered by Dr. E. G. Swem's index, in an appendix or supplement at the end of my Hogg family tree. These items may be of interest to other branches of the Hogg family, and could very well form a nucleus for further study by other Hogs.

The locale of this family paper is based in territory on both sides of the York River in Virginia, from its mouth where it flows into the Chesapeake Bay, up the river west, north-westerly, to its source. Knowledge of the formation of the counties in this area is of importance to grasp the significance of the relocation of family members in the counties under consideration.

York County, one of the eight original shires of Virginia, created in 1634 and named at that time Charles River County, was situated on both sides of the river from which it took it's name. Its boundaries on the south and southwest were definitely marked, while the county extended toward the northwest and west indefinitely. In March 1642/3 the name of both Charles River County and Charles River were changed to York. The northerly extension of York County was cut in 1645 by the formation of Northumberland County and was still further curtailed by the loss of the area north of York River which formed Gloucester and Lancaster Counties in 1651. Again a portion of York County was taken in 1654 to form New Kent County. That part of York west of Scimino Creek on the south side of York River and the part of Gloucester, west of Poropotank Creek on the north side of the river formed New Kent County.

This book was planned to give, as fully as possible, the genealogy of my branch of the Hogg family which descends from Richard Hogg Sr. of Gloucester.

Having found data of two earlier generations of Hogg, who by association and land proximity, appear to be predecessors of Richard Hogg Sr., it was proper that these data be recorded. Since proof of parentage is lacking, the direct tracing could not begin with them. Nevertheless, the chronological story demands that they be placed first in the manuscript. Therefore the book begins with an introduction of two chapters.

This is followed by Part I, Part II and an appendix (or supplement). I have traced two parallel lines through two sons of Richard Hogg Sr. His older son Richard Hogg Jr. and his descendants make up part I.

His younger son, John Hogg Sr. and his descendants form Part II and is my own family line.

(Appendix) The supplement covers all other Hogg data that have come under my observation. Its arrangement is self explanatory.

Most of the material used in this family study has been taken from the York County records which at times, may seem too dry and legalistic to be of interest to the general public. No family folklore are available to add lightness and laughter to the manuscript. A few printed obituaries were at hand, and the family record page of a number of Bibles contributed their share of vital statistics, but the main thread of the family story had to be unraveled from the old Court records. To me, a member of this family, many pleasant hours were spent, searching through the old books, peering into the past, reconstructing, in my thinking, the circumstances surrounding the everyday lives of some of my forefathers in a gradually changing era. We think of the earliest period of our country and the migration of stout hearted pioneers coming to the shores of the early English Colony of Virginia, among them being a few members of this family as early as the 1650's. The York County Court records about 1678 give a glimpse of the life of an ancestor named Hogg. We dream of his pioneer activities as he plied his trade in both York and Gloucester Counties, and visualize imaginatively, his home and family life. As the children married and moved into homes of their own, their involvement in civic affairs became apparent. When the crisis of 'taxation without representation' brought on the war against the mother country – the great Revolutionary War, - members of this Hogg family served in this tremendous struggle and helped to procure for us, freedom, and to establish the new, young country of America.

The York records tell of Hogg men who bought land, served as jurors, commissioners, road surveyors, guardians, executors, administrators – men who advanced the cause of county development and progress as they discharged their civic duties. No wonder the researching of these old records was a fascinating experience to a descendant of such pioneer stock. As the many court items have been lifted out of the record books and assembled in this manuscript, may the reading of them be an inspiration to members of the present generation, and if the emphasis at times seems to lean to the legal documents, the facts revealed by them may be rewarding. Indeed it has been said, "no man looks forward to posterity who has not looked back to ancestry".

## Chapter 1

In Chapter 1, Mrs. Ironmonger introduces the Hogg men known to immigrate to Virginia in the 1600's as listed in Nell Nugent's "Cavaliers and Pioneers". This is the list I extract from Nugent's book:

- (1) William Hogg, Northumberland Co., 1650,
- (2) Andrew Hogg, county unknown, 1653,
- (3) Thomas Hogg, Northampton Co., 1656,
- (4) Robert Hogg, "Petomeck Freshes", 1657,
- (5) John Hogg, New Kent Co., 1657,
- (6) Lawrence Hogg, Northampton Co., 1657,
- (7) John Hogg, Charles City Co. and James City Co., 1664, and
- (8) John Hogg, New Kent Co., 1695.

Mrs. Ironmonger mentions the first 5. She argues that John Hogg of New Kent County, 1657, is probably the ancestor of the Hogg's of Gloucester and York Counties. She makes it clear there is no proof for the claim; it is a plausible suggestion and a good place to start the book. Taking John Hogg the immigrant as the first generation, she reports the second generation Hogg men listed in the quit rent roll for New Kent County for 1703, John Hogg Jr. and William Hogg, as probably sons of John Hogg the immigrant.

## Chapter 2

In Chapter 2, Mrs. Ironmonger introduces George Hogg the sawyer. He is mentioned in records in both Gloucester and York Counties in a time frame that suggests he is a contemporary of the second generation Hogg's, John Hogg Jr. and William Hogg. Mrs. Ironmonger suggests that George Hogg the sawyer was also a son of John Hogg the immigrant. Again, she points out there is no proof.

Next Mrs. Ironmonger introduces a group of third generation Hogg's mentioned in the Abingdon Parish register in Gloucester County. These are

- (1) Sarah, daughter of George Hogg, baptized, April 27 1719, married John Coke,
- (2) George Hogg married Mary Caul, August 8 1730,
- (3) Elizabeth Hogg married George Moore, October 27 1732, and
- (4) Richard Hogg married Mary Austin, 16 Jan 1736/7.

Sarah Hogg is identified as a daughter of George Hogg, presumably George Hogg the sawyer. The records do not say so, but Mrs. Ironmonger suggests that probably George, Elizabeth, and Richard are also children of George Hogg the sawyer. To avoid confusion, I refer to George Hogg, who married Mary Caul, as George Hogg II and Richard Hogg. Who married Mary Austin, as Richard Hogg Sr. Mrs. Ironmonger also states "there was another son who married Mary \_\_\_\_\_, and their son John was born 1736. This John Hogg married Mildred \_\_\_\_\_, and their daughter Sally Hogg was baptized April 1, 1759.

Mrs. Ironmonger identifies the fourth generation children of George Hogg II and Richard Hogg Sr. recorded in the Abingdon Parish register:

Children of George Hogg II and Mary Caul Hogg:

- (1) Elizabeth Hogg, daughter of George Hogg and his wife, baptized October 14 1735,
- (2) Stephen Hogg, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Hogg, baptized August 12 1738,
- (3) Littleton Hogg, son of George and Mary Hogg, born April 2 1740,
- (4) George Hogg Jr., son of George Hogg II, born October 1746, and
- (5) Stephen Hogg, son of George and Mary Hogg, born August 26, baptized September 4 1753.

Children of Richard Hogg Sr. and Mary Austin Hogg:

- (1) Avarilla Hogg, daughter of Richard and Mary Hogg, born October 4 1744,
- (2) Fielding Hogg, son of Richard and Mary Hogg, born December 16 1745,
- (3) Richard Hogg Jr., son of Richard and Mary Hogg, born February 7 baptized April 2, 1748,
- (4) Onebie Hogg, daughter of Richard and Mary Hogg, born August 30 1751, and
- (5) John Hogg, son of Richard and Mary Hogg, born October 23, baptized December 4 1757.

Mrs. Ironmonger closes Chapter 2 with records from a [then] newly discovered Gloucester County tax book for 1770-1771 that lists the following Hogg men:

- (1) Richard Hogg Sr.
- (2) Richard Hogg Jr.
- (3) Fielding Hogg
- (4) John Hogg
- (5) George Hogg and
- (6) George Hogg Jr.

Mrs. Ironmonger states "These items agree with the foregoing statements about early Hogs in Gloucester County.", but I believe some discussion is in order.

- (1) Richard Hogg Sr. is the one who married Mary Austin in 1736/7. His birth is estimated to be about 1717, which makes him about 53 in 1770.
- (2) Richard Hogg Jr. is the son of Richard Hogg Sr. born in 1748, which makes him 22 in 1770.
- (3) Fielding Hogg is the son of Richard Hogg Sr. born in 1745, which makes him 25 in 1770.
- (4) John Hogg is the one who was born in 1736. He died between 1770 and 1771. He was 34 in 1770.
- (5) George Hogg is George Hogg II who married Mary Caul in 1730. His birth is estimated to be about 1710, which makes him about 60 in 1770.
- (6) George Hogg Jr. is the son of George Hogg II born in 1746, which makes him 24 in 1770.

These assignments are all consistent with the presumption that the age requires for inclusion on the tax list was 21. Note that John Hogg, who was born in 1757, would have been 13 in 1770 and Stephen Hogg, who was born in 1753, would have been 17 in 1770.

The main body of the book: Part I and Part II

Mrs. Ironmonger regarded Chapter 1 and Chapter 2 as an introduction. The main body of her book consists of Part I: the descendants of Richard Hogg Jr., presumably the older son of Richard Hogg Sr., and Part II: the descendants of John Hogg Sr., presumably the younger son of Richard Hogg Sr. These two sections of the book present detailed family trees for these two branches of the family.

The Appendix (Supplement)

In the appendix, Mrs. Ironmonger gathers and presents all of the loose Hogg data that she could not assimilate into the main body of the book. Included here are miscellaneous data on other Gloucester County Hogg's, miscellaneous data on other York County Hogg's, a family tree for the descendants of Lewis Hogg Sr. (1773-1852), who was born in Gloucester County and moved to York County, and a family tree for the descendants of Vincent Hogg of Gloucester County.

We should point out that in her discussion of "other Hogg's of York County" in the appendix, Mrs. Ironmonger identifies several Hogg's in York County well before the arrival of Richard Hogg Jr., John Hogg Sr., and Lewis Hogg Sr. from Gloucester County. The earliest York County Hogg cited by Mrs. Hogg was Charles Hogg, who died in York County in 1736,

### III The Hogg Family of Gloucester and York Counties according to Mrs. Ironmonger's book

Based on reasonable speculation for the first two generations and documented proof from there on, the Hogg family of Gloucester and York Counties, as presented in Mrs. Ironmonger's book is the following:

generation no. 1: John Hogg the immigrant of New Kent County, 1657

generation no. 2: George Hogg the sawyer of Gloucester and York Counties, presumed to be a son of John Hogg the immigrant

generation no. 3: George Hogg II and Richard Hogg Sr. of Gloucester County, presumed to be sons of George Hogg the sawyer

generation no. 4: Richard Hogg Jr. and John Hogg Sr., sons of Richard Hogg Sr., whose descendants are traced in York County

### IV Recent Hogg Family History Research and status of our knowledge prior to consideration of DNA data

Along with the three Hogg family branches traced by Mrs. Ironmonger:

- (1) Descendants of Richard Hogg Jr., born 1748, son of Richard Hogg Sr.,
- (2) Descendants of John Hogg Sr., born 1757, son of Richard Hogg Sr., and
- (3) Descendants of Lewis Hogg Sr., born 1773, parents unknown

several researchers have compiled family frees for a number of other branches of the Hogg family in Gloucester County, specifically:

- (4) Descendants of Fielding Hogg, born 1745, son of Richard Hogg Sr.,
- (5) Descendants of Stephen Hogg, born 1753, son of George Hogg II,
- (6) Descendants of Thomas Hogg Sr., born 1764, parents unknown,
- (7) Descendants of Daniel Hogg, born 1766-1775, parents unknown, and
- (8) Descendants of John Hogg Senior, born 1782, parents unknown.

In addition, there are a number of family trees posted on the internet that claim to descend from William Hogg, son of John Hogg the immigrant of New Kent County. I have not been able to identify who has done the original research to support these trees. They all descend from Milbourne Hogg, son of William Hogg, who lived in Hanover County. His descendants migrated to Amherst County. None of these connections seem to be proved by records.

In summary, there are eight well traced branches of the Gloucester and York Counties Hogg family (excluding the Hanover/Amherst County branch). Of these eight family branches, four have documented connections to the third generation Hogg's and four cannot be connected at this time.

The fundamental assumption in play here is the belief that all Gloucester and York County Hogg's descend from John Hogg the immigrant of New Kent County. To my knowledge, the first person to articulate a credible challenge to this fundamental assumption was Mrs. Winona Colona Hogge who traced the descendants of Stephen Hogg, born 1753, son of George Hogg II. She collected data from Northampton County that makes a compelling argument that George Hogg II was a son (or grandson) of Thomas Hogg, the immigrant who came to Northampton County in 1656. I was not aware of this evidence before December, 2009.

## V What we have learned from DNA testing

I started the Hogg DNA Project in 2006 with the goal of learning how the numerous Hogg families were connected. I started by providing my own DNA data and then began looking for other Hogg family descendants that I could recruit. The Hogg DNA project is a surname project that exploits the fact that the Y chromosome is passed from father to son essentially unchanged generation after generation. Due to this father-to-son continuity, the Y chromosome is a tracer of the direct male-line ancestry of the person being tested. Two living men, usually with the same surname, who have a common male-line ancestor, will have matching, or nearly matching, Y-DNA. So, my data alone was of limited value. It becomes interesting when compared with the data from another, potentially related, person. My expectation was that DNA from members of the other branches of the Gloucester and York Counties Hogg family would match, proving that we all descend from a common male-line ancestor, presumed to be John Hogg the immigrant of New Kent County. I was not aware at the time of Mrs. Winona Hogge's argument that her branch of the Hogg family descended from Thomas Hogg of Northampton County.

The first person I was able to recruit was Mike Hogge, a male-line descendant of Fielding Hogg, born 1745, son of Richard Hogg Sr. Mike is also a descendant through a female connection of Thomas Hogg Sr., born 1764. The expectation was that Mike and I would match since we both descend from Richard Hogg Sr. Mike had the DNA test in 2008. At about the same time, Walter Hogge, a male-line descendant of Thomas Hogg Sr., born 1764, had the DNA test. Mike's data and Walter's data became available at about the same time in 2008. Mike's data matched Walter's data, but to our surprise, did not match my data. This result is not possible if Mike and I are both descendants of Richard Hogg Sr., as documented in my family tree traced by Mrs. Ironmonger and Mike's family tree traced by him. Clearly there was a mistake somewhere.

I undertook a study to identify every possible connection in our two family trees where a mistake might have been made. I did not find a connection in Mike's family tree where a mistake seemed plausible. Also, the fact that Mike and Walter matched argued that Mike's tree was correct. I did, however, find two connections in my family tree where a mistake seemed possible. The first suspect connection was the identification of John Hogg Sr. of York County, my ancestor, as the son of Richard Hogg Sr. There is no proof of this connection; it is based on the record in the Abingdon Parish register of the birth of a son named John to Richard Hogg Sr. and Mary Austin Hogg in 1757, the absence of John Hogg from the Gloucester County tax list of 1784, and the appearance of John Hogg on the York County tax list starting in 1794. The second suspect connection was the relationship between John Hogg Sr. and Lewis Hogg Jr., also my ancestor. In his will John Hogg Sr. names Lewis Hogg Jr. his son, but there is no proof that he was a biological son. We have no knowledge of the name of John Hogg Sr.'s wife and it seemed possible that Lewis Hogg Jr. might have been a step son, the son of a second wife by a previous husband. The test required to sort out these two hypotheses was DNA from an older brother of Lewis Hogg Jr.

In January of 2010, we obtained DNA data from Peter Hogg, a descendant of Zachariah Hogg, an older son of John Hogg Sr. Peter's data was ideally chosen to settle the question of which hypothesis correctly explains the disconnect between Mike and I. If Peter matches Mike and Walter, we would conclude that John Hogg was the son of Richard Hogg Sr. and impugn the connection between John Hogg Sr. and Lewis Hogg Jr. If on the other hand, Peter matches me, we conclude that Lewis Hogg Jr. was indeed a biological son of John Hogg Sr. and that John Hogg Sr. was not the son of Richard Hogg Sr. In the end, Peter matches me, proving that John Hogg Sr. of York County was not the son of Richard Hogg Sr. of Gloucester County. We arrive at the conclusion that there are two unrelated Hogg families in Gloucester and York Counties, descending from two different immigrant ancestors.

At about the same time that we obtained Peter Hogg's DNA, we also got DNA data from Edward Hogge, a descendant of Stephen Hogg, born 1753, son of George Hogg II. In light of Mrs. Winona Hogge's argument that George Hogg II was a son of Thomas Hogg, the immigrant of Northampton County, we were prepared for the possibility that Edward Hogge's data might match none of the other Hogg men tested. It turns out that Edward matches Mike and Walter. The data in hand now leads to a very simple

description of the Gloucester and York County Hogg's: the Hogg family branches that can be connected to George Hogg II and Richard Hogg Sr. of Gloucester County descend from a common male-line ancestor, and it seems very likely that George Hogg II and Richard Hogg Sr. were sons of George Hogg the sawyer, as suggested by Mrs. Ironmonger. However, it seems most likely at this time that George Hogg the sawyer was a son of Thomas Hogg, the immigrant of Northampton County. Furthermore, we accept at this time that John Hogg Sr. of York County descends from a separate line of Hogg's, most likely those that were in York County all along. We now look with renewed interest at the data on "other York County Hogg's" presented in the appendix (supplement) of Mrs. Ironmonger's book. It seems very likely that these were the descendants of John Hogg, the immigrant of New Kent County.

We are unable to find proof based on original records, but the following picture is plausible and consistent with all of the data available at this time: there are two Hogg families, one descending from Thomas Hogg of Northampton County, whose descendants in the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> generation lived in Gloucester County, and the other descending from John Hogg of New Kent County, whose descendants in the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> generation lived in York County.

The goal of additional DNA testing now is to test representatives of those branches of the Hogg families thus far untested to determine which family they belong to. Gloucester and York Counties Hogg family branches not yet tested are:

- (1) Descendants of Richard Hogg Jr., born 1748, son of Richard Hogg Sr.,
- (2) Descendants of Lewis Hogg Sr., born 1773, parents unknown
- (3) Descendants of Daniel Hogg, born 1766-1775, parents unknown, and
- (4) Descendants of John Hogg Senior, born 1782, parents unknown.

In addition, we would certainly like to have DNA from a member of the family that claims to be descendants of William Hogg, son of John Hogg, the immigrant of New Kent County.