

Ann Randall: a Brief History through her Marriages

(11 Aug 2020 by Janet Ross)

Ann Randall lived in Isle of Wight Co., VA, from at least 1651 until her death on 23 Jul 1696 likely at the Bridger's White Marsh Farm. She was buried next to Joseph Bridger at White Marsh Farm, and her grave was covered with a ledger stone giving her name and death date. She had four husbands: Robert Watson, Henry Pitt, James Powell, and Robert Randall. Consequently, Ann was Hester Pitt Bridger's aunt by marriage, as well as likely being a friend to Joseph and Hester Bridger.

Ann's earliest record (so far) in Isle of Wight Co., VA, was the 1651 noncupative will of her likely first husband Robert Watson (1). Robert's will was dated 06 Nov 1651 and presented in court 09 Oct 1652 by Robert Dunster, minister, and Mr. Richard Lockyer, merchant. Robert gave his brother John Watson 3000 pounds of tobacco, his brother James Watson's child 200 acres on Pagan Creek that bounded the land of Sam: Mathews, after the decease of his wife [Ann]. Ms. Ann Watson, relict of the sd Robert, acknowledged that he gave the wife of Toby Harst a cow [and?] calfe and desired her to remember the youngest daughter of Thos: Fluellen.

Could Ann have been the youngest daughter of Thos. Fluellen/ Flewellin/ Fluelling/ Llewelyn? Perhaps. Tho. Flewellin and Ann Flewellin [no relationship recorded] were transported to Virginia by Henry Neale before 13 Aug 1643, as shown in Henry Neale's patent for 850 acres in James City Co., VA, at the upper Chippokes (2). So, we have an Ann associated with Thomas Flewellin as possibly a wife, daughter, or sister. The only other information about Thomas Flewellin is from Virginia Immigrants and Adventurers 1607-1635: A Biographical Dictionary, by Martha W McCartney (3), which states that Thomas was left a bequest by his friend John Ringe, a London Yeoman, in his will dated 31 Aug 1636 and proved 19 April 1637. John wrote this will before he set sail for Virginia on the Great Hopewell. In that will, John stated that Thomas was already living in Virginia at Potash Quarter, near Samuel Mathews' plantation.

Ann's second husband was Henry Pitt (1613 Bristol, England-about 1665 Isle of Wight Co., VA), brother of Robert Pitt (1605/6 Bristol, England-1672 Isle of Wight Co., VA). In Seventeenth Century Isle of Wight County, Virginia, Boddie stated (4) that Henry Pitt and Ann Watson were married by about 1655 but gave no source for that date. Perhaps the source was a deed dated 10 Mar 1655, in which Henry Pitt purchased 200 acres from James and Mary Watson, which was land where James' brother Robert Watson formerly lived (5). Henry died about 1665 and shortly thereafter Ann married Col. James Powell, as shown by a patent dated 19 Oct 1665 (6,7). (For more about Henry Pitt, see Brayton, John A., Colonial Families of Surry and Isle of Wight Counties, Virginia, Vol. 7, The Pitt family of Bristol, Gloucester, Charlestown, Massachusetts and Isle of Wight County, Virginia, by author, 2002.)

Ann's third husband Col. James Powell was a colleague and also probably a friend of Joseph Bridger. James was a Justice of the County Court of Isle of Wight Co., VA, for 1668, 1677, and 1680 (8). During Bacon's Rebellion, James served as a Major, under the command of Col. Joseph Bridger. Boddie (9) noted that Col. Joseph Bridger and Major James Powell were two of the most active supporters of Gov. Berkeley. The Commissioners investigating losses due to the Rebellion made their report on 17 Oct 1677, and these two gentlemen were among those mentioned. Specifically, Col. Bridger "Was a very Resolute Gentleman who (though forced to fly in the heat of war from his own countie) yet on his return was very active and instrumental in reducing to their obedience the South part of James River and in his absence was plundered of his cattle and effects to a good value." Major Powell was "an honest loyal person who was

wounded by the Rebels in his leg at the Jamestown engagement and was a great sufferer in his stock and otherwise." James was also one of the men who appraised the estate of Joseph Bridger in 1686 (10). James Powell died early in 1692/3 in Isle of Wight Co., VA, and his will was dated 05 Jan 1692/3 and recorded 09 Feb 1692/3 (11). In it, he mentioned his sister Mary Heath, Nicholas Wilson, Margaret (the wife of Nicholas Wilson), Ann (the daughter of Nicholas Wilson), James Wilson, his Godson James Baker, Ambrose Griswood, Capt. Richard Tibbott, Henry Tooke, Henry Baker, and Richard Stone. He named his wife Anne the executrix, and the witnesses were Richard Stone and John Bell.

Ann's fourth and last husband was Robert Randall. They were married within a year of James Powell's death. Essentially all of the court documents during their marriage dealt with settling the estate of James Powell. It should be noted that Robert Randall's name was sometimes recorded as Robert Randolph, in those court records (12), but from the subjects of the records, it is clear that that the two names refer to the same man. In addition, both James Bennett Boddie's *Seventeenth Century Isle of Wight County, Virginia* (p. 737) and John A. Brayton's *Colonial Families of Surry and Isle of Wight Counties, Virginia, Vol. 7, Transcription of Isle of Wight County, Virginia, Deed Book 1, 1688-1705* (p. 423) recognized that Robert Randall and Robert Randolph were the same man and index his records and those of his wife Ann under both surnames. One record identifies Robert as Robert Randall of Surry County. Review of the record abstract books that I have for Surry Co., VA, in the late 1600s have records for only Robert Randall. So, I am confident that Ann's fourth husband was named Robert Randall.

More about Robert Randall: He was sometimes referred to as Capt. Robert Randall, and so he may have been a ship captain. The first record found so far for Robert in Surry Co., VA, is when he and Jno. Rawlings witnessed a document, dated 06 May 1679 (13). By 07 Jul 1685, Robert had married Mary Swann, the relict of the Hon. Thomas Swann, Esq., decd., as shown by a deed dated and recorded on 07 Jul 1685 (14). Robert was still alive at least two years after Ann Randall's death, as shown by records in Isle of Wight and Surry Counties. The last record found for Robert was dated 13 Aug 1698, when he, as Robt. Randall of Surry Co., VA, appointed Henery Tooke to be his attorney in Isle of Wight Co., VA (15).

Short summary of Ann and her husbands

Ann _____ (perhaps Fluellen/ Flewellin/ Fluelling/ Llewelyn, the youngest daughter of Thomas Fluellen. Ann apparently had no children from any of her four marriages.)

B. ?

D. 23 Jul 1696 Isle of Wight Co., VA, buried next to Joseph Bridger at White Marsh Farm, Isle of Wight Co., VA

M1 to Robert Watson

D. about Nov 1651 Isle of Wight Co., VA (His nuncupative will was dated 06 Nov 1651 and presented in court 09 Oct 1652.)

M2 by 1655

To Henry Pitt

B. 1613 Bristol, England

D. about 1665 Isle of Wight Co., VA

M3 about 1665

To Col. James Powell

D. Jan or Feb 1692/3 Isle of Wight Co., VA (His will was dated 05 Jan 1692/3 and recorded 09 Feb 1692/3.)

M4 about 1693

To Capt. Robert Randall of Surry Co., VA

Refs. for the above "article"

1. Isle of Wight Co., VA, Wills and Administrations Book A, 1641-1650, p. 29. Nuncupative will of Robert Watson. Dated 06 Nov 1651. He gave his brother John Watson 3000 pounds of tobacco, his brother James Watson's child 200 acres on Pagan Creek bounding land of Sam: Mathews after the decease of his wife [Ann]. Ms. Ann Watson, relict of the sd Robert, acknowledgeth that he gave the wife of Toby Harst a cow calfe and desired her to remember the youngest daughter of Thos: Fluellen. Executrix: his wife Ann. Proved by Robert Dunster, Minister, and M. Richard Lockyer, merchant.
2. Virginia Patent Book I, pt. II, p. 898. Dated 13 Aug 1643. Henry Neale received 850 acres in James City Co., VA. The land was at the upper Chippokes, a line of trees deviding this and land of Henry White, etc. Due for trans. of 17 pers: Henry Neale, Jon. Neale, Phillip Bowen, Samuel Bowen, Samuel Hall, Wm. Best, Tho. Flewellin, Ann Flewellin, Henry Maddin, Edward Miller, Tho. Musgrove, Ann Dyer, Wm. Jones, Tho. Adkins, Ellin Hawkes, Mary Hawkes, Andrew Asse, John Scricher (?).
3. Virginia Immigrants and Adventurers 1607-1635: A Biographical Dictionary, by Martha W McCartney, Genealogical Publishing Co., Baltimore, 2007, p. 307. Thomas Fluelling (Llewelyn). On August 31, 1636, when John Ring, a London Yeoman, set said for Virginia on the Great Hopewell, he made a bequest to his friend, Thomas Fluelling (Llewelyn), who already was living in the colony at Potash Quarter, near Samuel Mathews' plantation (position 23 on the map attached). Ring also left part of his personal estate to Richard and Abigail Atkins, residents of Mulberry Island (position 21) and to Robert Burnett's wife, Margaret. John Ring, a bachilor, died abroad and his will was proved on April 19, 1637 (EEAC 48; SR 3977; WITH 152). NOTE by JMR: John Ringe's two-page will was proved and recorded in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury. An image of John Ringe's 1637 will can be found online in Ancestry.com (and likely other places) by searching the Card Catalogue for the the Prerogative Court of Canterbury (Prob11/ 173) (Ancestry Image 838/ 917).
4. Boddie, John Bennett, Seventeenth Century Isle of Wight County, Virginia, 1938, Chicago, reprinted Genealogical Publishing, Baltimore, 1994, p. 509. Capt. Henry Pitt of Isle of Wight, m. Ann, widow of Robert Watson about 1655. He patented 450 acres on Pagan Creek 13 Jan 1652 for the transportation of himself and 8 persons. He died about 1666 for in that year his widow Anne married Capt. James Powell. His son and heir accordingl to a deed 27 Aug 1666 was Thomas Pitt. Thomas Pitt, the son, married Mary, daughter of Col. Arthur Smith, and he died in 1688 leaving a well in which he mentions 7 children.
5. Isle of Wight County, Virginia, Deeds, Wills, Conveyances, Book A, pp. 69-70. Deed from James Watson, tanner, and Mary, his wife, to Henry Pitt for 200 acres, which was land that James' brother Robert Watson formerly lived. Dated 10 Mar 1655. Recorded 12 Mar 1655.
6. Patent Book 5, p. 521 (639). Dated 19 Oct 1665. Mrs. Ann Pitt, 150 acres in Isle of Wight Co., VA, on a br. of Pagan Cr., beg. at the land of Thomas Grosse, etc. then NE to Capt. Pitts former line, etc. Being parte of 750 acres granted to Mr. Jno. Sparkes, 03 Jun 1635.
7. Will and Deed Book 1, no page. Gov. Wm. Berkeley grants to Mrs. Anne Pitt 150 acres on branch of Pagen Creek, adj. Thomas Gross part of a pat. of 750 acres granted John Sparkes 03 Jun 1635. [On] 19 Oct 1665 this pat. was assigned by Mr. James Powell and Ann his wife, late

the wife of Capt. Henry Pitt, dec., unto Thomas Pitt. Dated 09 Nov 1667. [Note: This patent is from Patent Book 5, p. 521 (639). Dated 19 Oct 1665.]

8. Boddie, John Bennett, Seventeenth Century Isle of Wight County, Virginia, 1938, Chicago, reprinted Genealogical Publishing, Baltimore, 1994, p. 704. James Powell was a Justice of the Isle of Wight County Court in 1668, 1677, and 1680.

9. Boddie, John Bennett, Seventeenth Century Isle of Wight County, Virginia, 1938, Chicago, reprinted Genealogical Publishing, Baltimore, 1994, pp. 154-162. Material about the aftermath of Bacon's Rebellion in Isle of Wight Co., VA. Grievances from citizens of Isle of Wight Co., VA: "17---That Major Powell had a hundred pounds of tobacco a day, for going with the gentlemen who divided the counties, being as we conceive nothing concerned." Later, Ja. Powell and Jo. Bridger were among those who signed the Grievances document of Isle of Wight Co., VA. After the list of signatures, Boddie writes that "two of the most active of [Gov.] Berkeley's supporters [were] Col. Joseph Bridger and Major James Powell. The Commissioners made their report on October 17, 1677, and among those mentioned were these two gentlemen. They said that Col. Bridger 'Was a very Resolute Gentleman who (though forced to fly in the heat of war from his own countie) yet on his return was very active and instrumental in reducing to their obedience the South part of James River, and in his absence was (as we have heard) plundered of his cattle and effects to a good value.'" Of Major Powell, they said he was 'an honest loyal person who was wounded by the Rebels in his leg, at the Jamestown engagement, and was (as we have heard) a great sufferer in his stock and otherwise.'"

10. Isle of Wight Co., VA, Will and Deed Book 2, p. 255. Col. Joseph Bridger. Appraisal by James Powell, Arthur Smith, Henry Applewhaite, Henry. Baker. Dated 28 Jun 1686.

11. Isle of Wight Co., VA, Will and Deed Book 2, p. 322. Will of James Powell. Dated 05 Jan 1692/3. Recorded 09 Feb 1692/3. Leg. sister Mary Heath; Nicholas Wilson; Margaret the wife of Nicholas Wilson; Ann the daughter of Nicholas Wilson; James Wilson; Godson James Baker; Ambrose Griswood; Capt. Richard Tibbott; Henry Tooker; Henry Baker; Richard Stone. Wife Anne Extx. Witnesses: Richard Stone and John Bell.

12. See multiple records cited below in Hopkins, W. L., Isle of Wight County, Virginia, Deeds 1647-1719, Court Orders 1693-1695 and Guardian Accounts 1740-1767, Richmond, 1993.

13. Surry Co., VA, Book II, 1671-1684, p. 206. Dated 06 May 1679. Jno. Miniard to Roger Potter some stock, a debt for which Capt. Roger Potter is bound with me [the sd Miniard] to Mr Arthur Allen for 652 pounds of tobacco. Witnesses: Robert Randall and Jno. Rawlings.

14. Surry Co., VA, Deeds, Wills, etc., #4, 1687-1694, p. 75. Henry Randolph as marrying Sarah Swann, one of the daughters of Col. Thomas Swann, decd., to assure Robert Randall, who married the administratrix of Col Thomas Swann, decd, that he will claim no part of the orphans' estate. Signed Henry Randolph. Witnesses: William Edwards and Thomas Swann. Recorded 04 Sep 1688.

15. Isle of Wight Co., VA, Deed Book 1, pp. 246-247. Dated 13 Aug 1698. Proved 09 Sep 1698. Robt. Randall of Surry Co., VA, appointed Henery Tooker to be his attorney. Signed Robert (O) Randall. Witnesses: Ar. Allen, Henery Baker, Tho. Holt, and John Lees.

12. Supplementary References for Ann and Robert Randall from Hopkins, 1993.

Hopkins, W. L., Isle of Wight County, Virginia, Deeds 1647-1719, Court Orders 1693-1695 and Guardian Accounts 1740-1767, Richmond, 1993.

p. 43: Cites Isle of Wight Co., VA, Deed Book 1, 1688-1704, p. 75. Dated [not dated]. Nicholas Willson and wife, Margaret Willson, accept the legacies left by the will of Col. James Powell, decd., and administered by Capt. Robert Randolph (who married Anne [now Randolph] the Executrix of the said deceased). Signed Nicholas (X) Willson. Witnesses: Arthur Allen and Hugh Davis. Recorded 09 Aug 1693.

p. 46: Cites Isle of Wight Co., VA, Deed Book 1, 1688-1704, p. 95. Dated 09 Apr 1694. Nicholas Willson appoints his wife Margaret Willson, as his attorney in the suit with Capt. Robert Randolph and Mrs. Ann Randolph. Signed Nicholas (X) Willson. Witnesses: John Whetstone and John Browne.

p. 55: Cites Isle of Wight Co., VA, Deed Book 1, 1688-1704, p. 197. Dated 09 Apr 1696. Robert Randall and wife, Ann Randall, sign over a lease to William Smith. Signed Robert Randall and Ann Randall. Witnesses: Richard Stone and Joseph Coren. Recorded: 09 Apr 1696.

p. 56: Cites Isle of Wight Co., VA, Deed Book 1, 1688-1704, p. 201. Dated 09 Apr 1696. Ann Randall appoints John Skelton as her attorney for the deed to William Smith. Signed Ann Randall. Witnesses: Richard Stone and Joseph Coren.

p. 62: Cites Isle of Wight Co., VA, Deed Book 1, 1688-1704, p. 246. Dated 13 Aug 1698. Robert Randall of Surry County appoints Henry Tooke of the same as his attorney. Signed Robert Randall. Witnesses: Arthur Allen, Henry Baker, Thomas Holt, and John Lees. Recorded 09 Sep 1698.

p. 64: Cites Isle of Wight Co., VA, Deed Book 1, 1688-1704, p. 268. Dated 19 Jan 1693. Lists of debts due Robert Randall and wife, Ann Randall, as her Right as Executrix of Col. James Powell, decd., includes Richard Hanscomes, John Champion, Thomas Clerk (Clark?), George Barlow, William Baldwin, Richard Bennett, Sr., Richard Bennett, Jr., James Briggs, John Green, Thomas Throp, Richard Pyland, Mr. Robert Parks, and Capt. Henry Applewhaite. NOTE: Robert Randall assigns the debts to Nicholas Wilson. Signed Robert Randall. Witnesses: John Goodrich and Ralph Shirley. NOTE: 27 Mar 1693. Robert Parks' note to Mrs. Ann Powell.

p. 80: Cites Isle of Wight Co., VA, Court Orders 1693-1695, p. 6. Dated 09 Oct 1693. Richard Williams . . . Col. James Powell, decd., . . . Capt. Robert Randolph and wife Ann Randolph.

p. 81: Cites Isle of Wight Co., VA, Court Orders 1693-1695, p. 10. Dated 23 Nov 1693. A list of names, including Capt. Robert Randolph.

p. 81: Cites Isle of Wight Co., VA, Court Orders 1693-1695, p. 12. Dated 09 Dec 1693. Richard Williams, orphan of John Williams, decd., . . . Capt. Robert Randolph and wife Ann Randolph Executors of Col. James Powell, decd.

p. 82: Cites Isle of Wight Co., VA, Court Orders 1693-1695, p. 14. Dated 09 Dec 1693. Capt. Robert Randolph and wife Ann Randolph . . . Nicholas Wilson.

p. 83: Cites Isle of Wight Co., VA, Court Orders 1693-1695, p. 20. Dated 09 Feb 1693/4. Capt. Robert Randolph and wife Anne Randolph . . . Nicholas Wilson.

p. 84: Cites Isle of Wight Co., VA, Court Orders 1693-1695, p. 30. Dated 09 Apr 1694. Capt. Robert Randolph and wife Ann Randolph the Executrix of the Estate of Col. James Powell, decd., vs Nicholas Wilson.

p. 86: Cites Isle of Wight Co., VA, Court Orders 1693-1695, p. 38. Dated 09 Jun 1694. Capt. Robert Randolph and wife Ann Randolph the Executrix of Col. James Powell, decd. Vs Nicholas Wilson. . . .

p. 86: Cites Isle of Wight Co., VA, Court Orders 1693-1695, p. 38. Dated 09 Jun 1694. Capt. Robert Randolph and wife Ann Randolph the Executrix of Col. James Powell, decd. vs Nicholas Wilson. Jury: [names not transcribed here]

p. 91: Cites Isle of Wight Co., VA, Court Orders 1693-1695, p. 71. Dated 09 Jun 1694. Edmond Briggs and Richard Stone vs Capt. Robert Randolph and wife Ann Randolph as Executrix of Col. James Powell, decd.

p. 92: Cites Isle of Wight Co., VA, Court Orders 1693-1695, p. 74. Dated 09 Feb 1694/5. John Coursey shows that he has some estate in the hands of Capt. Robert Randolph and wife Ann Randolph.

Ann, Widow Watson

in the Virginia, U.S., Land, Marriage, and Probate Records, 1639-1850

Detail Source

Name: Ann, Widow Watson

Location: Isle of Wight

Notes: This probate record was extracted from microfilmed copies of the original Will Book.

Remarks: Robert Watson, Nuncupative. Leg.-brother James Watson's child 200 A. on Pagan Creek, bounding on Samuel Matthews; brother John Watson. Proved by Mr. Robert Dunster, Minister and Mr. Richard Lockyer, Merchant. Mrs. Ann Watson, Relict of said Robert W

Description: Wife

Book: A-29

Prove date: 6 Nov 1651