

Billups

The Billups families in the United States all sprang from two brothers born in Cardiff, Wales.

Virginia Beverly Billups, who married Col. Walton Harris, II, is a descendant of the ship-building family in Norfolk, Virginia, and the Harris family prizes a piece of a blue brocade satin suit her great, great grandfather Capt. Robert Billups wore at the launching of a ship to sail for America.

Capt. Christopher Billups in 1668 received a grant of 1,163 acres of land at the south end of Stratton Island for having sailed around the island in 24 hours. The old Billups manor is still standing on the island and is owned by Mr. Cortland Livingston Stevens of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

[Thought you might like to know names of your great, great grandfather and great, great grandmother]

Walton and Virginia Beverly's children

Eliza
Walton, III
Caroline
Robert Littleton
Augustine
Mary Ann
Young Loftin Gresham*
Jeptha Calhoun
Willis
Rebecca

and your great grandfather and great grandmother's children

Robert Littleton and Elizabeth Heard's children

William Jeptha
Mary Virginia
Infant son
Laura Roberta
Susan Frances
Robert Billups

*Young Harris College, Young Harris, GA, named for him. Methodist junior college.

[I am glad you want to know something of your family background and hope this will be of interest to you. I have much more you can see sometime. Love, Auntie (Mary Harris Downer)]

I decided to write you Grandpa Walton's record and Grandpa John Griffith's too. Someday you may want to be a D.A.R. or Colonial Dame. Dates for that on other side. I think you will be glad to have MaMa's line. Glad you are carrying her name Susan on and I am Mary. Virginia and Beverly the Billups names.]

According to records after the restoration of the edict of Nantes by Louis XIV of France and during the religious persecution of Charles and James II of England, the protestants emigrated in great numbers to America.

Henry Harris

a Baptist preacher from Glamorgan in Wales, with others obtained from William and Mary, King and Queen of England, a grant to ten miles square of crown lands on the south bank of the James River some miles above the great falls now Richmond, Virginia. This Henry Harris had one son

Edward Harris

his son **Nathan Harris** was born in 1716
married Catherine Walton of Brunswick County, Virginia, in 1737

their son **Walton Harris** was born in Brunswick County in 1739,
died in 1809. (9 unclear; could be 7 or 8)
married Rebecca Lanier (born in 1744) in 1760. (She was a
granddaughter of Elizabeth Washington, a first cousin
of General George Washington)

their son **Col Walton Harris II** was born July 10, 1775, died April
20, 1820.
married Virginia Beverly Billups (born April 26, 1787, died
March 31, 1877) January 19, 1802. Both buried in
family cemetery on family farm one mile from
Watkinsville adjacent to Harris Shoals

their son **Robert Littleton Harris** (born April 26, 1807, died
January 27, 1889)
married Elizabeth Heard Tucker (born August 26, 1810, died
November 28, 1873) December 1, 1840 Both buried in
family cemetery on family farm one mile from
Watkinsville adjacent to Harris Shoals

their son **Robert Billups Harris** (born August 13, 1845, died
February 9, 1936)
married Mary Susan Elizabeth Evans (born September 15, 1857,
died July 13, 1940) August 27, 1979. From Walton County
near Monroe, Georgia Both buried in Watkinsville,
Georgia, town cemetery

their son **Henry Hull Harris** (born October 8, 1883, died February,
1961)
married Alice Blanche Crowley (born October 25, 1894, died May
9, 1989) December 15, 1914. Both are buried in
Watkinsville, Georgia, town cemetery

their
daughter **Virginia Harris** (born November 25, 1918, died November
20, 1988)
married Albert Hillyer Parsons (born April 11, 1914, died)
July 1, 1934

Robert Griffith

was born in Wales, in 1721. He came to America on the ship "Great Western" and was wrecked off Cape Hatteras in 1743.

He married Martha Douglas of North Carolina in 1752. One son was born in 1754--John Griffith.

Robert Griffith was killed at Braddock's defeat in 1755. His widow, Martha Douglas Griffith married William Stenson, a Scotchman. They had one daughter, Nancy, who married William Locklin.

Their daughter Martha Locklin married John L. Griffith, grandson of Robert Griffith.

Their son John L. Griffith married Ann McLerath of North Carolina.

Their son David Griffith married Sarah Davis. Their daughter Nancy Griffith married Henry D. Evans, father of Mary Susan Elizabeth Evans Harris.