

William Austin of Philadelphia; ca. 1735 to Now

Latest revision:10/19/07 (See back page for the author's contact info)

Preface

William is a common family name within this clan of Irish Austins. One William Austin of this clan, born in or before 1650, established a presence in Kent Co., MD. Another William Austin of the same clan, born in Ireland about 1705 (from whom I descend) begat progeny in Maryland and they established a presence in NC and then in Dickson Co., Tennessee. Yet another William Austin of the same clan, born circa 1735 in Ireland, who is the main subject of this document, landed at Philadelphia in the early 1760's on the way to establishing a lasting presence in the states of North Carolina and Illinois. Threads of the 3 separate family groups are intertwined. This and other documents attempt to clarify the general presence of this clan as authenticated by DNA testing.

Robert S. Echerd (1888-1951), a native of Alexander Co., NC, who was deeply interested in the history of the area and the pioneers, wrote, "Prior to 1771 three Austins landed at the port of Philadelphia and came southward. They were William, Samuel and Moses. They were not brothers, but all were related." This statement is based on family tradition, that is, knowledge passed down through the generations. This "Echerd" reference corroborates the statement made by Benjamin Austin (a grandson of this William Austin) who in his biography stated that his grandfather immigrated to America from Ireland.

It seems the three men, once they made it to America, decided to split up. Samuel moved to Maryland and purchased land on the north side of the Potomac just upstream of the city of Washington, but later, by 1800, he joined those that had established a presence in (Wittenberg), Burke Co., NC. Moses is currently a mystery.

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William Austin (#1 of this family line) married **Ann** _____, possibly in Philadelphia (Ann is given the maiden name Jones in many genealogies). Her Mother may have been German. A suburb of Philadelphia called "Germantown" may be her American origin.

Numbers 1 through 7 are William and Ann's children. Some of their family lines are continued along to those that are living today.

- 1. m. Benjamin(2) Dillery Austin**, born 21 Jan 1760 in (?), died in 1840 in Burke Co., NC, and is buried in Taylorsville, NC. He married **Mary "Polly" Bradburne (or Mary Hunter)** in 1782 in Burke Co., NC. She died in March 1837. They had 8 children:

- | | |
|--------|--|
| 1-1 f. | Mary Austin* was born in 1783 in Burke Co., NC. |
| 1-2 m. | Benjamin Austin Jr.* was born 24 Mar 1785 (twin) in Burke Co., NC. It is said that this boy died as a child. |
| 1-3 m. | William Austin was also born 24 Mar 1785 (twin). |
| 1-4 f. | Catherine Austin was born in September of 1787. |
| 1-5 f. | Arramentha Austin |
| 1-6 f. | Unnamed daughter |
| 1-7 f. | Unnamed daughter |

Page 98 of the Burke Co., NC 1790 census

	Males 16 & over	Males under 16	Free white females		98	Males 16 & over	Males under 16	Free white females
Wm Hamer	1	3	1		John Falls	1	1	4
George Hane	3	1	3		John Bann	1	2	3
Wm Reid	1	4	3		Hugh Reid	1	6	2
Andrew Steel	3	0	2	3	Elijah Banks	1	3	2
Matthew Burgin	1	5	3		Hugh Fox	3	4	7
Geo West	1	2	4		Henry Baker	1	3	4
Tho' Scott	1	4	4		Salob Miller	1	1	2
Q Emmitt	1	1	5		Martin Miller	2	3	2
Ino Bradford	1	2	2		Ino Groat Price	1	0	4
Tho' Spier	4	3	6		Lide White	1	3	7
Reid Ruffin	1	2	3		Nicholas Jones	1	4	2
Bradford	1	1	2		Daily Walker	1	2	5
Geo West Sr	2	1	6		Edward Teague	1	2	6
Ino Horse	3	1	1		Ino Teague	1	4	3
Cap Colville	1	1	1		Isabella Hadley	1	0	0
Ino Smith	2	1	2		Elijah Smith	1	0	4
Matthew Cox	3	1	1	4	Wm Roberts Sr	2	1	6
Wm Roberts Jun	1	0	1		Christina Miller	1	1	1
Robt Moor	1	1	2		James Tenny	1	3	3
George Brown	1	1	3		Wm Coakwell	1	1	1
Q Brown	1	2	2		Josephson	1	1	1
Sam Steel	1	2	2		Ino Hoover	1	0	2
Salob Winkler	5	0	1		Wm Dockery	1	2	2
Amos Fulle	2	2	2		Ino Comod	2	1	1
Wm Shovel	1	4	5		Ino Roberts	1	1	4
Ino Hadley	1	2	3		Ino Roberts	1	1	4
Ben Tucker	1	2	6					
Ben Amos	2	0	1					
Ben Amos	2	0	1					

To the left is the entry for this
 ← Ben Austin. (1) male above
 16 years, (2) males under 16, (6)
 free white females.

Benjamin and Polly's 8th child (born after the 1790 census) was:

1-8 m. Elijah(3) "Sharper Lige" Austin (Benjamin², William¹) He was born 31 May 1792* in Burke Co., NC. He married **Keziah "Cassandra" Austin**, his first cousin, 7 Nov 1821 in Burke Co., NC. She was born 1 Oct 1800* in Burke Co., NC. Cassandra was the daughter of Nathan Austin and Rebecca Teague. (*from their birth certificates) The 5th of Elijah and Cassandra's 5 children was:

1-8-5 m. Elijah(4) Tillman Austin (Elijah³, Benjamin², William¹) was born 17 Jul 1845* in Taylorsville, Alexander Co., NC. He married **Judith Brown**. She was born in Aug 1831 in NC. Judith died in 1919 in Taylorsville, Alexander Co., NC; she and her husband are buried in Taylorsville, NC. Elijah died 19 Feb 1879 in Taylorsville, NC. The second of Elijah and Judith's 5 children:

1-8-5-2 m. Robert(5) Sherman Austin (Elijah⁴, Elijah³, Benjamin², William¹) was born 24 Jan 1867 in Taylorsville, Alexander Co., NC. He married **Rebecca Louetta Reid** 4 Oct 1896. She was born 14 Mar 1872 in NC. Rebecca died 17 Jul 1951 in Taylorsville, NC; she and her husband were buried in Taylorsville, NC. Robert died 2 Aug 1949 in Taylorsville, NC. The eighth of their 10 children:

1-8-5-2-8 m. Wayne(6) Reid Austin (Robert⁵, Elijah⁴, Elijah³, Benjamin², William¹) was born 9 Oct 1911 in Taylorsville, Alexander Co., NC. He married **Ellen Amanda Hollar** in 1934. She was born 26 Jul 1914. She was the daughter of Ray Hollar and Annie Brooks. Wayne died 15 Nov 1992 in Taylorsville, NC, and was buried in Taylorsville, NC. The second of their 3 children:

1-8-5-2-8-2 m. William(7) "Robert" Austin, b. 11 Mar 1943 in NC, married **Shelia Ann Teague**, b. 14 Dec 1945 in NC. They were married 21 Aug 1964 at Antioch Baptist Church. Shelia is the daughter of Earl Henry Teague and Kathleen Teague. Their two daughters are:

- a. **Dinah(8) Leigh Austin** who married Nathan Vannoy. They have two boys (9th gen.) Will and Alexander.
- b. Andrea Gale Austin(8) married Shawn Pennell, they have two girls (9th gen.) Teagan, who was baptized July 29, 2007, and Reid.



Pictured above: From left to right: Lynn (Austin) Rouse, Lucia Austin (Lynn's Mother), Robert Austin, Ellen Hollar Austin (Robert's Mother), Jim Austin (the author of this document), Dinah (Austin) Vannoy (Robert and Shelia's daughter), Shelia Austin (Roberts wife).

Lynn, Lucia, and Jim are part of a separate line of Austin's (see my William Austin of Ireland, ca.1705 document).

Birth Certificates of that period



NOTES for Benjamin Dillery Austin:

MILITARY: PENSION RECORD OF BENJAMIN DILLERY AUSTIN #S-6548: "Benjamin Austin, now a citizen of Burke Co., formerly of Orange Co., NC; b. 21 Jan 1760 and entered service of U.S. 1779 under command of Rokard Christmas. Benjamin furnished a substitute, John O'Donally, who was discharged April 1781. **After returning from his servitude, John O'Donally applied to William Austin, father of Benjamin Austin, for his pay.** Then Benjamin Austin volunteered in 1781 and was [later] taken prisoner by the Tories at the same time as Gov. Burke, at the Orange Co. Court House, NC. Benjamin Austin was taken to Wilmington, NC, where he was put aboard a prison ship and sent to

Charleston, SC, and from there to John Island near Charleston. From John Island he was taken to Savanna, GA, where he made his escape on the night of April 9, 1782 and went up the Savannah River where General Wayne was stationed at Ebenezer." [Could Benjamin's relative, Wm. "Deux Twain" Austin (see the William Austin of Ireland; ca 1705 document) have helped Benjamin to escape?] Benjamin received from Gen. Wayne a passport to return home. He returned to Burke Co., NC. [another of Benjamin's relatives, Philip Austin vouched for the above in a deposition dated 19 Jan 1833.] Benjamin was called again in 1782 to fight the Cherokee Indians, but having married, he hired a substitute.

MILITARY: Roster of NC Soldiers in Rev. War - D.A.R. Benjamin Austin, Pvt. NC Militia received a pension beginning in 1833 at age 73.

Note: The previous paragraph shows that Benjamin and his father William were in Burke Co. in the early 1780's.

The Sons of the American Revolution memorialized Benjamin's gravesite in Taylorsville, NC, on 30 Oct 2006.

Returning to the children of William #1 and Ann Austin...

2 f. Elizabeth (Betsy) Austin, born about 1762 in (?). She married John White Jr. in 1780.

3 m. Samuel(2) Austin (William1) was born about 1763 in (?). He was the son of William Austin and Ann _____. He married **Mary Conners** 26 Jun 1783 in Orange Co., NC. Samuel died in 1845 in Caldwell Co., NC. The 8th of their 9 children was:

3-8 m. John(3) Austin (Samuel2, William1) was born 29 or 30 Apr 1797 in Burke Co., NC. He married Rebecca _____. She was born in 1808 in NC. Rebecca died 5 Aug 1889 in Alexander Co., NC, and was buried in Antioch Baptist Church Cemetery, Alexander Co., NC. John died 9 Apr 1871 in Alexander Co., NC, and was also buried in Antioch Cemetery. The 2nd of their 6 children was:

3-8-2 m. William(4) D. Austin (John3, Samuel2, William1) was born 14 Jan 1839 in Burke Co., NC. He married **Mary Elizabeth Teague**. She was born 7 Apr 1848 in NC. Mary was the daughter of Elijah A. Teague and Martha _____. She died 4 Sep 1925 in Alexander Co., NC. William died 28 Mar 1893 in Alexander Co., NC, and was buried in Antioch Cemetery, Alexander Co., NC. The 9th of their 14 children was:

3-8-2-9 m. Gwaltney(5) W. Austin (William4, John3, Samuel2, William1) was born 7 Oct 1882 in Alexander Co., NC. He married **Luda Naomi Ingram**. She was born 13 Jan 1886. Luda died 4 Apr 1968 in Alexander Co., NC. Gwaltney died 26 Feb 1934. The first of their eight children was:

3-8-2-9-1 m. Carris(6) Jones Austin was born 12 Feb 1909. He married **Ida Sue Kirby**. She was born 1 Oct 1910 in Caldwell Co., NC. She died 4 May 1997 in NC. She was the daughter of Molton Avery Kirby and Louannie Victoria Starnes. Carris died 16 Mar 1989 in Alexander Co., NC. One of their children:

3-8-2-9-1-1 m. Dewey(7) Poe Austin was born 29 Dec 1929 in Alexander Co., NC. Dewey was married 11 June 1950 to **Sadie Starnes**, born 6 Jan 1931 in Caldwell Co., NC.



Dewey and Sadie Austin

Sadie is the daughter of Shafter Alonzo Starnes (b. 2 Sept 1907, d. 4 Apr 1984) and **Alice "Irene" Austin**.

Alice "Irene" Austin Starnes (b. 21 Apr 1912) is the daughter of Jonas "Partee" Austin (b. 14 May 1886, d. 3 Feb 1979) and Oma "Omie" Elizabeth Hall (b. 1888, d. 7 Jan 1914).

Jonas Partee Austin Sr. had many sons including Willard Perry Austin (b. 20 July 1919, d. 30 Nov 1998) who had two sons, Kenneth Ray Austin born 18 Mar 1942 and Dale Allen Austin born 26 Jan 1947.

Partee's parents were Waitsel A. Austin (b. Apr 1859) and Huldah A. _____, b. July 1864. Waitsel's parents were John J. Austin (b. 1834) and Mary _____, b. 1838. John's parents were James Austin, b. 1788 and Jane _____, b. 1799, all born in NC. James and his progeny are listed in the census for 1850 and 1860, Wittenberg Township of Burke/Alexander Co., NC. Since these Austin's are otherwise undocumented, I wonder if they are the progeny of the Benjamin Austin who was born in Queen Anne's Co., MD in 1743? (Please refer to my William Austin of Kent Co., MD document)

Dewey and Sadie Austin have two children:

- f.i. Denise(8) Austin b. 1952 that married David Rudisill.
- m.ii. Dewey(8) "Dirk" Poe Austin Jr. He was born 20 Nov 1971. He married Wesley Shelton 20 July 1996. They have two boys: Caleb(9) and Cohen(9).

Returning to the children of William #1 and Ann Austin...

- 4 m. Nathan Austin, born in 1767 in Wilmington, DE, died in 1853. Note: Yet another Benjamin Austin (who resided in Missouri in the late 1880's) was one of the sons of Nathan Austin. According to Benjamin's biography, Nathan Austin was born in 1767 in Wilmington, Delaware and moved to Orange Co., NC at a young age. Benjamin records that it was his Grandfather, William Austin that came over from Ireland.
- 5 m. Elijah Austin, born 15 Feb 1774 in NC, died after 1854. He married Temperance Payne. One of their sons was (Justice) Absalom Christfield Austin, born in 1812.
- 6 m. Aramentha Austin. Born in NC, never married; was living with Elijah in 1820. RESEARCHER: Glenn A. Reiff, 3/93.
- 7 m. **Elisha Austin(2)**, born in 1776 in NC, died 13 Sep 1858. He married Mary (Martha) Polly Fox. She is likely the daughter of Hugh Fox. Elisha Austin came along as the last child of seven and decided to move to Warren Co., Tennessee and then to Illinois to find new fertile farmland, and his progeny produced vast numbers that remain in that state and elsewhere today.

Of Elisha and Polly's 9 children, Benjamin, Hugh, and William are here extended out to living family members:

7-6 m. **Benjamin F. Austin(3)** was born 6 Dec 1816 in Warren Co., TN. He was the son of Elisha Austin and Martha Polly Fox. He married Lucinda Emerson 23 Feb 1837 in White Co., IL. She was born in 1817 in KY. Lucinda was the daughter of William Emerson and an unknown mother. They had 6 children. Lucinda died in 1856 in White Co., IL. Benjamin then married (2nd) **Susannah Kello** 24 Jul 1856. She was born 30 Dec 1837 in IL. Susannah is the daughter of Isaac Kello and Mary Clark. Benjamin died 25 Dec 1893 and was buried in White Co., IL. Of their 17 children, the 15th:

7-6-15 m. **William Austin(4)** was born 16 May 1872 in Enfield, White Co., IL. He was the son of Benjamin F. Austin and Susannah Kello. He married **Emma Leasure** 11 Sep 1891 in White Co., IL. She was born 29 Dec 1872 in Decatur, IN. Emma died 11 Jan 1963 in Eldorado, IL. Emma is buried in Douglas Cemetery. William died 9 Sep 1955 in Broughton, IL. Of their 2 children, the second:

7-6-15-2 f. **Hallie Austin(5)** was born 12 Jul 1895 in Broughton, IL. She was the daughter of William Austin and Emma Leasure. Hallie married **Henry E. Barker** on 1 Jan 1914 in McLeansboro, Hamilton Co., IL. He was born 24 Apr 1892 in Broughton, IL. Henry died 26 Jan 1980 in Broughton, IL. Hallie died 3 Apr 1986 in McLeansboro, Hamilton Co., IL. Of their 3 children (Frank, Beulah, and Jessie):

7-6-15-2-2 f. **Beulah Barker(6)** was born 28 Jun 1917 in Broughton, Hamilton Co., IL. She was the daughter of Henry E. Barker and Hallie Austin. She married **Hugh Wilson** 21 Nov 1936 in Old Shawneetown,

Gallatin Co., IL. He was born 5 Feb 1907 in Broughton, Hamilton Co., IL. Beulah died 25 Dec 1986 in Broughton, Hamilton Co., IL. Of their 3 children (Thomas, Mary, and Paula):

7-6-15-2-2-2 f. **Mary Jane (Wilson) Miller**(7) is the daughter of Hugh Wilson and Beulah Barker. She married **Gordon H. Miller**. They had 2 children:

- 1) f. i. Laura D. Miller(8).
- 2) m. ii. Kevin D. Miller(8).

Another of the sons of Elisha(2) and Mary Austin was:

- **Hugh Austin** (third gen.) born in 1808 in N.C. He married his first wife Polly Dobson 22 Jan 1833. Polly was born in 1813 in Warren Co., TN. After the death of his first wife, Hugh married (#2) Mary Watson. Hugh died before 1870 in White Co., IL. Hugh and Polly had a son:

- Daniel Austin (fourth gen.) who was born 25 Oct 1844 in White Co., IL. Daniel's first wife was Sarah Brown and his second wife was Francis Farris. Daniel died 27 Nov 1926 in Greenville, MO. Daniel Austin and Sarah had a son:

- George Washington Austin (fifth gen.) who was born 14 June 1872. He married Ida Elizabeth Dean. George died 1 Feb 1929. G. W. Austin and Ida Elizabeth Dean died 21 days apart in Poplar Bluff, MO. This was when Thomas Edward Austin was 5 years old and the baby of 12 children.

- Thomas Edward Austin (sixth gen.) was born about 1924 in Poplar Bluff, MO. He is 83 years old in 2007.

- Carol (Austin) Bournstein (seventh gen.) is his daughter.

Another of the sons of Elisha(2) and Mary Austin was:

- **William Austin** (third gen. In America) who was born in NC, 2 Sept 1799. He married Catherine Foster who was born 12 Apr 1806 in VA. They were married 20 Mar 1823. Wm. died 13 Sept 1858. One of their sons was:

- Alexander Austin (fourth gen.), born 24 Dec 1823 or 1824 in Warren Co., TN. He married Mary Ann Friar on 11 Sept 1842. She was born 25 Oct 1828 in IL. Mary died 1 Nov 1883. She was the daughter of Richard Friar and Malinda Kearney. One of Alexander and Mary's sons was:

- Elisha A. Austin (fifth gen.) born 10 Oct 1858 in Carmi, IL. Elisha, who was known as "Elias", first married Eliza Jane Austin on 9 Nov 1880 in IL. Eliza was born in 1864 in IL. They had two children:

- 1) Cornelius "Neal" Austin, born Oct 1882, married Mary E. Williams 27 Apr 1904.
- 2) Alvin Austin, born Dec 1886, married Pearl Poshard 22 July 1907.

Eliza passed away between Dec 1886 and 1890.

Elisha married his second wife Sarah J. Merritt 12 Feb 1891 in IL. Sarah was born in January 1862 in IL. Elisha died 28 Apr 1938. Elisha and Sarah had four daughters:

- 3) Mary Austin, born Nov 1891, married George Pettyjohn 11 Aug 1908.
- 4) Pearl Austin (please see below)
- 5) Helen Austin, born 4 June 1900, married Elvie Gidcumb 19 Jan 1918.
- 6) Bertie Austin, born 9 Aug 1901, died 15 Oct 1913.

- Pearl Austin (sixth gen.) was born in Oct of 1898 in Heralds Prairie, IL. She married **Vernal Robert Pearce**. He was born 26 Sept 1897 in IL. He was the son of Robert and

Elvira Pearce. Pearl died in 1963 in IL. Vernal died 18 Jan 1926. Vernal and Pearl Pearce had two sons, one survived infancy:

- **Vernal Leslie "Les" Pearce** (seventh gen.) was born 8 June 1924 in IL. He married Virginia Hilliard (born 29 Sept 1925) 14 June 1946. Their daughter:
- Sharon (eighth gen.) (born 14 Feb 1948) married Richard Francis Hazley 12 Jan 1973. He was born 9 Aug 1948. They have two daughters:
- Kristen (ninth gen.) who married Sean Douglas Watson 31 Oct 1992 and
- Andria (ninth gen.) married Bob McGee. As of June 2007, she is expecting twin girls in December.

Elisha(2) and Mary's son **William Austin(3)** (above) had many children. Another of William's sons was:

- Charles Austin (4th gen.) born 20 July 1836 in White Co., IL. He married Mary Hoskins on 17 Feb 1855 in White Co., IL. Mary was born 28 Feb 1839. She was the daughter of the Rev. Coleman Hoskins and Mary S. Vaught. Mary died 29 May 1935 in Norris City, IL. Charles died 13 Nov 1910 in IL and is buried along with his wife in Moore Cem.

One of Charles' and Mary's sons was:

- Charles Smith Austin (5th gen.) born 29 Apr 1867 in IL. He married Mary Williams, (daughter of William Calvin Williams and Viola Bayley) 23 Mar 1893. She was born 3 Sep 1873. She died 26 Aug 1957. Charles died 19 Apr 1954 and is buried with his wife in Union Ridge Cem., IL.

One of their sons was:

- Sylvester Bayley Austin(6) born 29 Mar 1895 in White Co., IL. He married Bernice Marlin in Herald, IL on 9 Sep 1917. She was born 16 Feb 1894 and died 21 Mar 1997 in Carmi, IL. She was the daughter of Edwin A. Marlin and Sina Rayney Aud.

Sylvester and Bernice had one son:

- Charles Edwin Austin(7) born 19 Jan 1928 in Norris City, IL. He married Valrie Parker (born in 1929) 16 Jun 1951. They have 2 daughters:
 - Deborah Bernice Austin(8) born 18 Sep 1952. She married Richard Garcia on 18 Oct 1975. They have a daughter, Christine Garcia (9th gen.).
 - Cynthia Ann Austin(8) born 17 Dec 1953 who married Jacques Palpacuer. They have 2 children, Jennifer Palpacuer(9) and Marc Charles Palpacuer(9).

NOTES for Ann Austin:

BIRTH: Mary Jane Miller, IL 1995. Gives birth date as 1742 MD.

NOTES for the Patriarch William Austin #1:

William #1 and Anne (or Ann) were possibly married in Philadelphia. Then they moved down to Maryland. The following land deals begin their historical account.

LAND(1): William [#1] Austin purchased from Rosamond Chrisfield, 5 April 1763, for the sum of 30 pounds, 100 acres of *Jones' Adventure* on Cypress Branch near land taken up by Capt. Richard Smith. {Kent Co. Land Records DD1 1761-1768, folio 405}

This may be where people are picking up the Jones surname for William Austins' wife Anne. This larger parcel *Jones' Adventure* had once been the property of John Jones. Researcher: Cindy Schmidt, August 27, 2007.

LAND(2): "William [#1] Austin of Kent Co., MD, planter, on 29 Sep 1764, with wife Anne, conveyed to Absalom Christfield*, taylor, a tract on Cypress Branch, adjoining a tract formerly taken up by Capt. Richard Smith, 100 acres." {KELR DD#1:661 or 651} [William and his wife Anne were selling land. Perhaps they were preparing to move away from Maryland.]

NOTE: *Absalom Christfield (b. 17 Nov 1740) was the son of Philip Chrisfield and Rosamond Burgan Smith Chrisfield. Rosamond was the widow of Capt. Richard Smith Jr. (mentioned above). These connections explain how Absalom Chrisfield could become the namesake for the later Absalom Christfield Austin (b. 1812), William and Ann's grandson via their fifth child Elijah Austin and his wife Temperance Payne.

SPOUSE-CHILDREN-RESIDENCE: This William moved to North Carolina (from Maryland) where he settled in Orange County by 1770. To get to NC he likely took his family up (northeast) to the shoreline city of Wilmington, DE, where they paused in 1767, while Ann gave birth to their 4th child, Nathan. But then it is likely they took a ship to the Norfolk, VA area, where they disembarked and travelled southwest to the Hillsborough, Orange Co., NC area.

Can we trace the steps of this William Austin in Orange Co., NC in the 1770's? Col. Hal Steiner tackled this task via a detailed examination of the land and tax records in Orange County, NC.

-- On 6 May 1755, Lord Granville conveyed Grant No. 92 to John Hunter, of Orange County. This tract consisted of 177 acres on a small branch of the Enoe River [Hillsborough area, Orange Co., NC]. During the next 24 years, this tract of land changed hands several times. On 15 Oct 1770, Edmund Fanning sold it to William Austin [William was now purchasing property in NC].

-- From the May Term, 1777 [Orange Co., NC] court, the following was recorded: A deed from William Austin and Ann, his wife, to Joseph Glasson was acknowledged by the said William Austin and Ann, his wife, who relinquished her right of Dower, and the sale of this property was ordered to be registered. [Perhaps William was selling the last of his property in Orange Co. The 1777 census for the Gloverstone district of Caswell Co. (north and east of Orange Co.) includes a William Austin].

Corroborating evidence positively identifies this William Austin as the one who flourished in the Hillsborough Tax District. He obtained land grants, bought and sold lands and was consistently on the tax records for several years. He was the progenitor of the large family of Austin's that moved to Burke County, NC in about 1779.

"The Folks Out West" reports that land for a church ("The New Meeting House Baptist Church" in what was then Burke Co.) was donated by William Austin in 1781. This indicates that William, Ann and his family had moved into this area before then.

In the book "History of Antioch Baptist Church" (produced in Taylorsville, NC, July 2001 by Dewey P. Austin and others) pg. 2 states, "This church [The New Meeting House Baptist Church] was built in the area to serve the people who moved westward to escape the tyranny of Governor Tryon after the battle of Alamance [May 16, 1771]."

LAND: William Austin donated the land, in 1781, where The New Meeting House Baptist Church* was erected. Ref: "History of Alexander Co., NC" by W. E. White, Stony Point, 1926.

*This first church that burned down in 1828 was a little east of where the Antioch Baptist Church is today. [Notes from William "Robert" Austin, March 2006].

Alexander Co. was formed in 1847 from parts of Burke and other counties.

William Austin obtained land grants in 1792 and 1794 on the waters of the Upper and Middle Little Rivers, in Burke Co., NC.

On 1 Nov 1804, Nathan Austin and Elijah Austin bound themselves by Court Order to take care of William, Ann and Arramentha Austin, "our father, mother and sister." Arramentha was living with Elijah in 1820, but it is not known when William and Ann died. They are not identifiable in the 1810 census, so it can be stated that William and Ann died in Burke Co., NC after Nov 1804 and before the 1810 census.

Of the 5 sons of this first William Austin, four acquired land grants in Burke Co. before 1800 (see Burke Co., NC USGenWeb Project). The son that didn't, Elijah Austin, was probably caring for his Mother, Father and Sister, fulfilling the above Court Order. After his Mother and Father died, Elijah acquired land grants in Burke, Co., NC.

LAND-BURIAL: Article (from "The Heritage of Alexander County, NC", editor Sarah C. Allen, 1986, Alexander County Genealogical Society, Hunter Publishing, Winston-Salem, NC) on Benjamin Dillery Austin by Wayne R. Austin (1911-1992 Taylorsville, NC) who cites personal knowledge, "Early Pioneer Families of Alexander County", "A History of Alexander County", the Taylorsville Times, and Mr. W.T. Pennell as sources... "William Austin purchased land on the Duck Creek branch of Middle Little River on the west side of Job's Mountain which is a small round mountain northeast of Antioch Baptist Church. Job's Mountain can be seen from Caldwell Pond Road where there is a clearing just north of the "Little Store" (the old Tom Little Building). William and his wife Ann are buried in a pine field, beneath a large stone, just northeast from the point on Caldwell Pond Road where one can see Job's Mountain." [see map below] Robert Austin confirms the source of the article and the location of the burial site; March, 2006. Copies of the article were sent to Austin Families Assn.



Later, when the new Church was organized, William's son Nathan Austin deeded five acres of his land to the trustees for use of the Church. Since then, the Church acquired through gift or purchase, approximately thirty additional acres. This newly organized church was called Antioch Baptist Church, a name brought forth from Orange County where the Austin's had, some years earlier, helped establish a church of the same name, before moving westward. The new church was organized on 29 July 1826.

Compiled (with lots of help from cousins, genealogists and historians) **by**
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