

HOLLOWELL RESEARCH NOTES 1

The Odom Family History

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Compiled by

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Woodland, North Carolina

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Foreword

1

Realizing that many people are interested in their early family history, I have attempted to write the history of the Odom family. I have made several trips to the Dept. of Archives and History, Raleigh, N. C.; several trips to Edenton, Chowan county; several trips to Windsor, Bertie county and to Gatesville, Gates county. My work is based on the wills and deeds in the three counties. I also collected the Odom wills and deeds at Chesapeake Civic Center, Great Bridge, Va, for Norfolk county records. I did not have any Odoms to go to for help. I appreciate the cooperation of the Registers of Deeds and the Clerks of Court for their help. There are many families that are not complete. I have included all the information that I could obtain. I hope my work proves satisfactory.

Lucy Elliott Hollowell
Woodland, N.C.
February 1969

Introduction to Norfolk County

2

The first colonists in Virginia gave names of places and persons in England to rivers, creeks, counties and ports of entry in the New World. Thus we have Norfolk, Portsmouth, Princess Anne, Isle of Wight, etc. The new territory was divided into eight shires and later called counties which were established in 1634. The eight original counties were James City, Warrick River (Warrick), Warrosquyoake (Isle of Wight), Charles River (York), Accawack, Henrico, Charles City, and Elizabeth City.

Elizabeth City county was formed by the Colony of Virginia in 1634 and comprised the present counties of Nansemond, Norfolk and Princess Anne. From this county the part lying on the South side of the James River was cut off and formed into New Norfolk county about 1636. About 1637 New Norfolk county was divided into Upper Norfolk county and Lower Norfolk county. Upper Norfolk county was then changed to Nansemond. Lower Norfolk county was in 1691 divided into Norfolk county and Princess Anne county. Norfolk county retained all the records of the older counties back to 1636. These records are now at the Chesapeake Civic Center, Great Bridge, Virginia. All the records were moved from the courthouse at Portsmouth, Va. to the Chesapeake Civic Center, Great Bridge in September 1962. The lower part of Norfolk county was called Chesapeake; North of Elizabeth River continues as the City of Norfolk and Princess Anne county was changed to Virginia Beach. There is no Norfolk county now.

The Odom Family in Norfolk County, Virginia

The Odom name is variously spelled Odeon, Odion, Odium, Odam, Odum, Odom. The Odom family is found in Norfolk county, Virginia as early as 1651. William Odeon, the Mariner of London and master of the good ship commonly called by name () bought 100 acres land on Elizabeth River from George Heigham.

Deed Book 4 page 141 14 April 1651 Norfolk Co.

William Odeon, commander of the good ship () assigns Power of Attorney to Richard Starnell

Deed Book C page 167 23 June 1655 Norfolk Co.

He had a friend who could look after his affairs while he was on the high seas.

William Odeon was living on his land when he died Feb 1662. He died before his youngest son ~~Wm~~ Richard was seventeen years old. His will was dated 25 Jan. 1662, proved 16 Feb. 1662 Book D page 368 Norfolk Co. His children as in will were William II, Ellen, and Richard (see pages 5-6). His wife was not mentioned. Evidently she was deceased.

William II heired all the land from his father, besides one-third of the moveable property. His sister Ellen and brother Richard each received one-third of the moveable property. He bought and sold land in Norfolk county.

William Odeon II (son of William I) sells land to Francis Sayer
Deed Book 4, page 27 Nov. 23, 1677 Norfolk Co.

William Odeon II assigns Power of Attorney to John Moore.
Deed Book 4 page 141 12 May 1683 Norfolk Co.

William Odeon II, son and heir of William I deceased, assigns rights of 100 acres land to Thomas Curle.

Deed Book 4 page 141 12 May 1683 Norfolk Co.

William Odeon II son and heir of William Odeon I, deceased assigns rights of land to Francis Sayer.

Deed Book 4 page 141 12 May 1683 Norfolk Co.

Joseph Whitsen and wife Mary assigns rights of land to William Odeon II

Deed Book 4 page 299 18 June 1684 Norfolk Co.

Joseph Whitsen and wife Mary assigns rights to another piece of land to William Odeon II. Mary gives consent to sell the land,

Deed Book 5 page 223 19 Dec. 1684 Norfolk Co.

From Lower Norfolk Co. Libraries-Vol. I p 121-no of books in library among them Mr. William Odeon II-three old books and a Bible. July 16, 1687

William Odeon II married and had two sons- John Odeon and William Odeon III. John bought land and settled in Nansemond Co. where his father's brother Richard was living.

From the Quit Rent Rolls of 1704 in Nansemond county
Richard Odeon owned 50 acres
Jacob Oadham owned 20 acres

John Odium of County of Nansemond sold his right of patent to land to Nicholas Stallings of Chowan precinct.
Book W page 15 19 Oct. 1700 Chowan Co.

Then John Odium bought 200 acres land from Charles Gaffin on West side of -----below Woodward's Creek (Later Gates Co. 1779)
Book W page 91 30 Sept 1706 Chowan Co.

John was a young man when he came into Chowan precinct (later Gates Co. 1779). He lived in what is now Gates county N.C. His son John Odium, Jr. bought 200 acres land at a pine in Keelan Branch etc. of Chowan precinct (later Gates Co.).
Book C page 45 21 Jan. 1719 Chowan Co.

No further data on this family

William Odeon III, John's brother, married Patience Warrick, daughter of Henry of Southern Branch of Elizabeth River. They continued to live in Norfolk county.

Henry Warrick (Warrick) of Southern Branch of Elizabeth River gives by will to daughter Patience Odeon and son-in-law William Odeon.
Will dated 1710 Will Book 9 page 25 Norfolk Co.

Mary Warrick, widow of Henry Warrick deceased gives possession of property to two children William Odeon and wife Patience and Mary Barts.
Book 9 page 27 20 April 1711 Norfolk Co.

They had five children. His will was dated 29 Dec. 1743 proved 16 March 1744

Children: names as in will--- Patience Butt, Ann, Mary, Elizabeth and William Odeon IV (see will pages 7-8-9-10)
Book H page 96 Norfolk County.

William Odeon IV followed other members of the Odom family into what is now Gates county, N.C. and settled there. His will is at Gatesville, Gates county proved 1794 (see will page 15-16)

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