

BENJAMIN GRAYSON, SENIOR, of Wilkes county, N.C..

by R. R. Grayson, M.D.

Benjamin Grayson first appears on 7 Dec. 1778 in the Wilkes county land book, entry no. 530, where Benjamin entered 400 acres of land on King's Creek adjoining the land of Edmond Tilley.

It is of interest that in the same month and the same year, a Joseph Grayson entered land in the county adjoining, that is, in Burke county.: On 31 Dec. 1778 Joseph Grayson entered 100 acres of land lying on both sides of a branch of the first Little Broad River in Burke county. (Grant no. 387, book 44, p. 153.)

The second record of Benjamin Grayson in Wilkes county was 19 June 1779 for entry of 150 acres of land next to Edmond Tilley, no. 1038.

In 1784 on November 9th, in file no. 544, the state of N. C. granted to Benjamin Grayson 290 acres of land in Wilkes county on King's Creek near Edmond Tilley's farm.

Mrs. Mary Hammersmith of Naperville, Ill., has done a reconstruction of the map of the area and has written that the farm of Benjamin Grayson of Wilkes containing 290 acres, was adjacent to Joseph and William Helt and to Edmond Tilley. Benjamin Grayson's land was on the then Burke-Wilkes county line. This area is now within Caldwell county.

On July 31st, 1784, the Board of auditors of the State of N. C. paid Benjamin Grayson 9 pounds for militia service in the Morgan district.

Tax lists from Wilkes county show Benjamin Grayson every year from 1785 through 1800. In the year 1799 he was listed as Benjamin Grayson, senior. In 1799 also, a Benjamin Grayson, junior, was on the tax list for the first and only time, with zero acres and 1 poll. Benjamin, sr., had 290 acres and no polls that year.

In the first census, 1787, Benjamin Grayson was listed as 1 male age 21-60; 5 males under 21, and 3 females. In the 1790 census, there were 3 males over 16, 2 males under 16, and 2 females.

In the same year, 1790, John Grayson appears in Wilkes county in his own household as 1 male over 16 and 1 female.

Joseph Grayson appears on the 1794 tax list for the first time, then Jesse Grayson appears in 1797.

In the 1800 census Benjamin Grayson is listed: 1 male over 45, 1 male 16-26, and 1 female over 45. John Grayson, Joseph Grayson, and Benjamin Grayson, jr. are gone in the 1800 census. Jesse Grayson was present as 3 males 16-26, 1 male under 10, 2 females under 10, and 1 female 16-26.

The birth year of Benjamin Grayson, sr., was sometime between 1727 and 1755. This is calculated as follows: In 1787 he was listed as under age 60 ($1787-60=1727$) and in 1800 he was ~~under~~^{over} age 45 ($1800-45=1755$).

A William Grayson first appeared in Wilkes county in the 1800 census as 1 male 26-45, 3 males under 10, 2 females under 10, and 1 female 16-26. In the 1810 census, William Grayson was age 26-45, and in the 1820 census of Wilkes county, William was over 45. William Grayson was therefore born sometime from 1755-1775. (Under 45 in 1800; $1800-45=1755$; over 45 in 1820; $1820-45=1775$.)

William Grayson attested to the handwriting of Jesse Grayson 15 Sept. 1802 in a deed recorded in Wilkes county in the May term of 1806

A new John Grayson presumably the son of William Grayson, appeared in the 1810 census a few doors away from William: 1 male 16-26 (born 1784-1794),

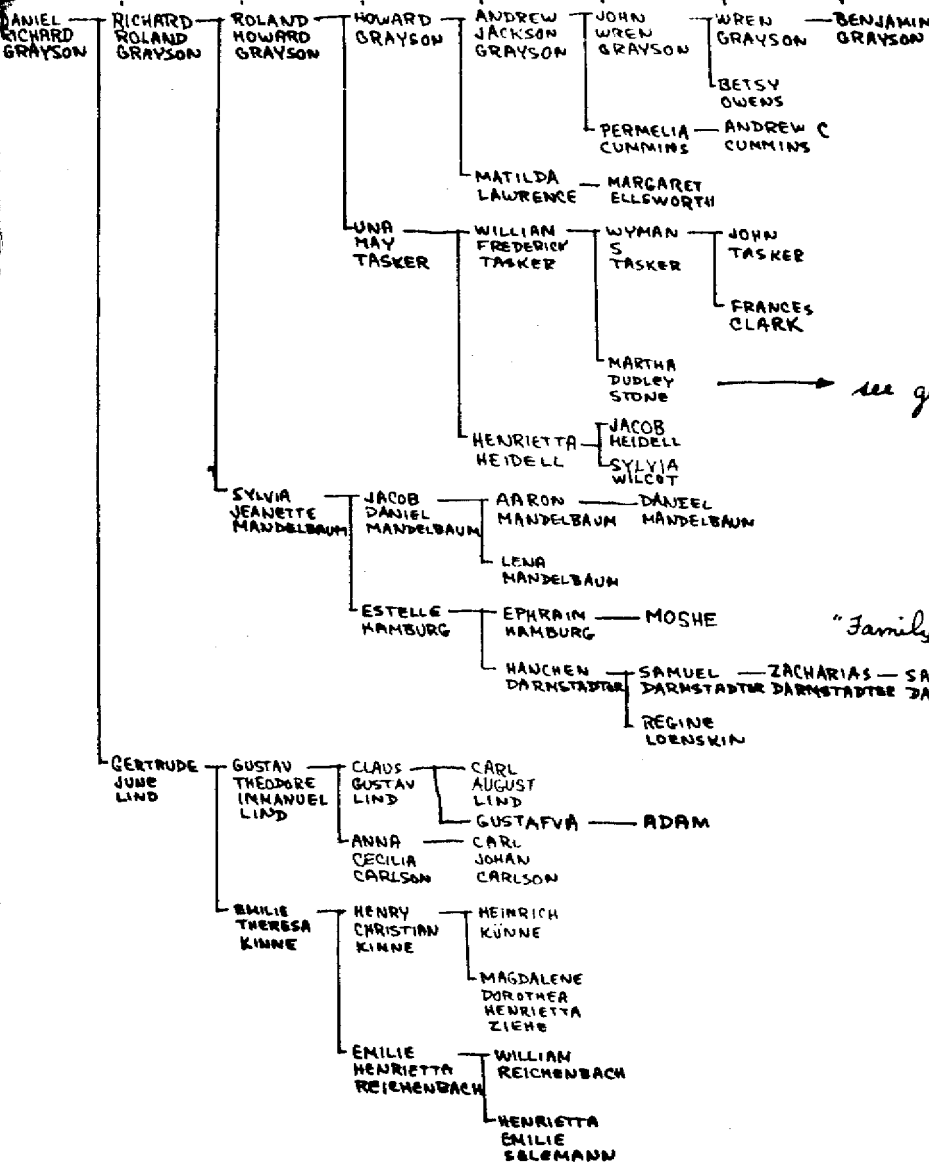
A new Benjamin Grayson appears in 1820 near William and John born 1794-1804.

A new Joseph Grayson appears nearby in 1820, born 1794-1804, also.

Inferences: Benjamin Grayson, sr. entered land in Wilkes county the same year that Joseph Grayson, who was probably his brother, entered land in Burke county. Joseph Grayson became the patriarch of the Rutherford county Graysons.

Benjamin Grayson, sr., had 5 sons and 2 daughters. The sons were John, Joseph, Jesse, and Benjamin, jr., and one other. The names of the daughters are unknown. The 5th son was apparently at home in 1800 at the time when a William Grayson appeared with his own family in the Wilkes census. The 5th son in 1800 was aged 16-26. The 5th son was thus born 1778-1784. This age is compatible with the known birth of Wren Grayson, sr., born 1782. Wren Grayson is the probable 5th son of Benjamin Grayson, sr., therefore.

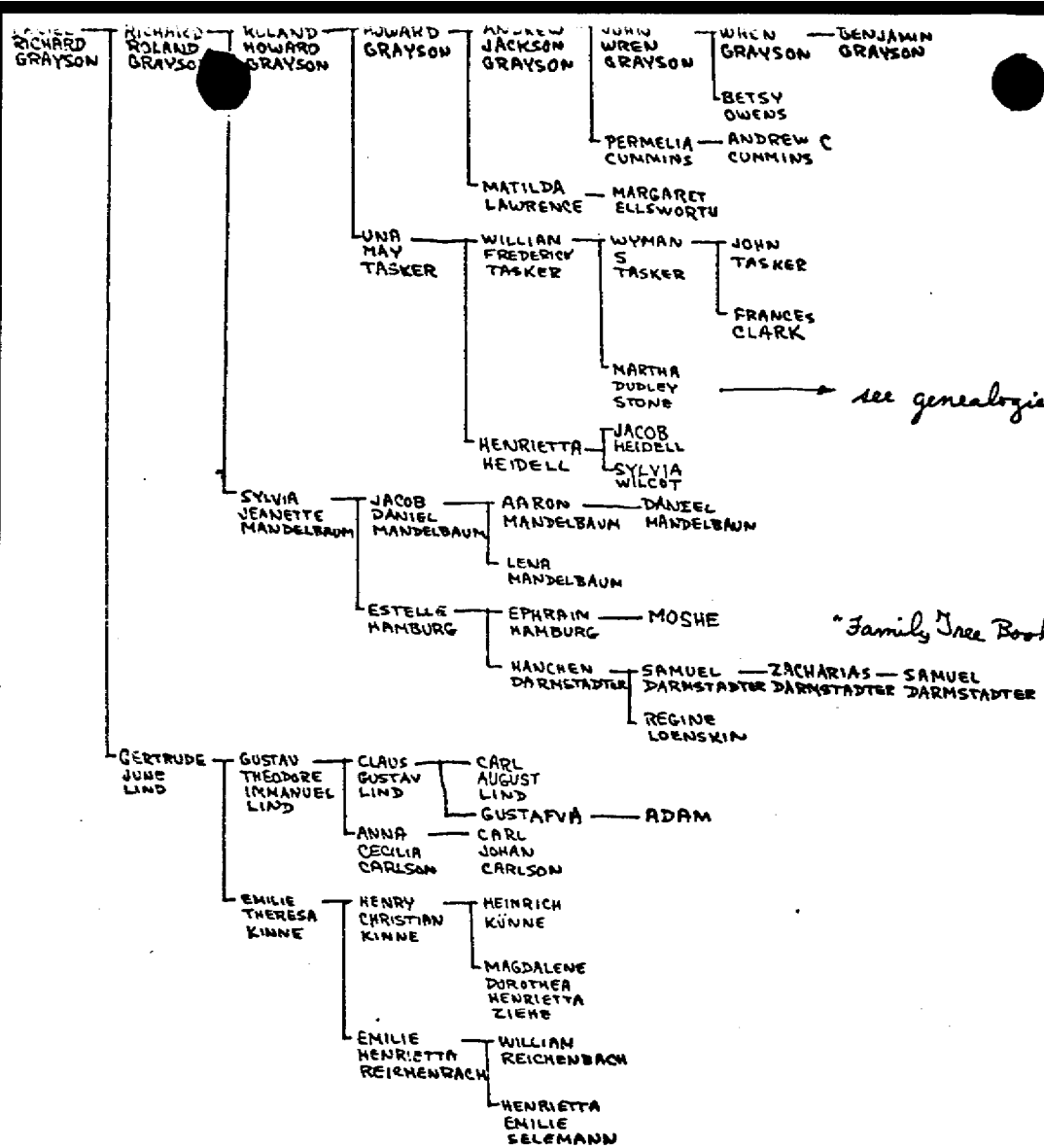
William Grayson of Wilkes in 1800, therefore is not a son of Benjamin, but might have been a brother. The "new Graysons", John, Benjamin, and Joseph, in 1810 and 1820, were sons of William Grayson.



see genealogies of Gregory Stone & Simon Stone - back to 1314 - thousands of relatives

"Family Tree Book"

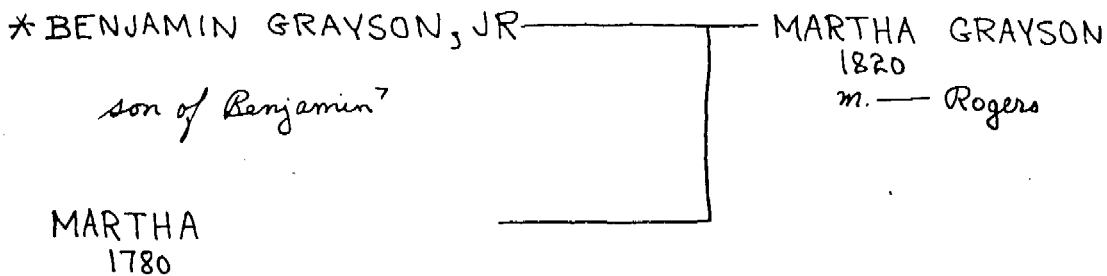
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8



see genealogies of Gregory Stone & Simon Stone - back to 1314 - thousands of relatives

"Family Tree Book"

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8



1. 1830 Census, Tennessee, Marion Co.

p. 51 BENJAMIN GRAYSON
 0- 5- 10- 15- 20- 30- 40- 50- slaves
 M 1 2 1 0 0 8
 F 0 1 1 0 1

(neighbor to Jesse⁶ & Patsy⁶)

2. 1792.11.21 Benjamin Grayson
 witnessed a will of James M. Carty
 in Knox Co, Tenn

3. 1802, Tenn., Roane Co, on tax list

4. 1805.6, Tenn, Roane Co, on first jury

5. 1806, Tenn, Knox Co, on tax list.
 in Capt Hardin's Co, 1 free poll

6. 1807, Tenn, Knox Co, on tax list
 [letter. John Abbott]

7. 1802, Tenn, Roane Co, on tax list
 in Capt Walker's Co

7. 1815, Tenn, Bledsoe Co, on tax
 list; (Benj misread as
Berry.)

Do these tax lists refer to the
 same Benjamin?

Could any of 2-9 refer to Benj⁷?

8. [Marion Co land grants, on file at courthouse,
 via John Abbott 197] 1824.4.5

p. 5: Benjamin Grayson, assn of Martha Grayson, 90 acres.
 #12 p. 5 SE side Sequatchie River, adjoining survey of Joseph for 70 acres.
 Whereon Martha now lives.

assn = assign — but who is Martha?

9. [deeds, *ibid*]

1829.28: Benj. Grayson to Elijah Hudson, Bk C, p. 277, \$75 for 45 acres
 adjoining 70 acres of Joseph Grayson; part of grant from State of Tenn

. [grants, *ibid*]

1833.4.20 p. 242 50 acres to Benjamin Grayson. [typed copy]

(BENJAMIN ' cont.)

8' 1850 Census, Tenn, Marion Co, district #3

MARTHA ROGERS 30

⋮

MARTHA GRAYSON 70 Va

| From 8, 8', it is likely th at Martha Grayson, b. 1780, is the wife of
Benj',...

BENJAMIN GRAYSON who married Nancy Regney:

From more war records:

On 2 Dec. 1850 he was said to "aged 58 on 16th January next"
which would be 1851. 1851 minus 58 = birthdate
16 Jan. 1793.

Company muster roll for Sept. 20 1814 to Mar 20 1815 states
"Residence, Knoxville."

"Distance from rendezvous," left blank .

"Number of days added for traveling allowance of pay," left
blank.

Inference: Benjamin Grayson who married Nancy Regney was a
resident and native of Knoxville, Tenn.; therefore
his father likely was John Grayson of Knox county, previously
of Wilkes co., N.C., who first appeared in the 1790 census.

see Book 6
Sect X

* BENJAMIN GRAYSON

-1843

son of Joseph?

HANNAH MELTON

WILLIAM G GRAYSON *

1814

m. Christina McCurry

Rutherford Co, NC

SPURIOUS REFERENCES TO BENJAMIN GRAYSON

1. 1817.4.12 NC, Wilkes Co - married a widow: Mrs. Elizabeth Hubbard Kilby, bondsman J. Hubbard, witness W W Martin - is a guardian for the Kilby children (later?)
[letter: Abshee, Wilkes Gen Soc]
2. 1818.9.10 NC, Wilkes Co, was bondsman at the marriage of Joseph Grayson and Dicy Dyer. (see Joseph⁵)

* JESSEE GRAYSON

son of Benj⁷

1. 1796.8.16 NC, Wilkes Co; bought land from Nebuzradan Coffey, £100 for 145 acres on King's Creek, on "both sides of King's Creek" witnessed by Benjamin Grayson
2. 1798.11.13 NC Wilkes Co, witnessed deed
3. 1801.2 NC Wilkes Co, witnessed a deed
4. 1804.10.25 NC Wikes Co; sold 150 acres on "both sides of King's Creek" acres to Edward Long for 100 pounds
5. 1804.12.21 NC, Wilkes Co; bought land from Lawrence Bradley, £70 for 80 acres on the middle fork of King's Creek.
6. 1805.11 NC, Wilkes Co; witnessed a deed: Sarah Herren to — Stanley
7. 1806.5 NC, Wilkes Co; witnessed a deed: John H. Owen to — Fletcher
8. 1806 Tenn, Knox Co, on tax list in Capt. Chiles' Co, 1 free poll.
9. 1814.11.4 NC, Wilkes Co, sold land to Moses Stansbury, \$75 for 55 acres on the middle fork of King's Creek
10. 1823 Tenn, Marion Co, witnessed the will of Joseph⁶ Grayson.
11. 1826.6.9 Tenn, Marion Co, was granted land (#1613) 200 acres on NW side of the Sequatchie River. [p.152, on file at courthouse, via John Abbott 1972]
12. 1830 Tenn, Marion Co, Census, p.51,

	0-5	10-15	20-25	30-35	40-45	50-55	60-65	slaves
M	2	1	1	2				
F	1	1	1					

 (neighbor to Patay⁶ & Benj⁶)
13. 1830.9.7 : TENN, MARION Co: Jesse Grayson sold to Amos Griffin 200 acres on the NW side of Sequatchie R. (the same land granted 1826.6.9) for \$200 "Jesse now lives on property" (?)
[Bk B, p.405, on file at court house, via John Abbott 1972]

6 1/2. 4 Nov. 1805. Sold 55 acres on middle fork of King's Creek to Moses Stansbury. Deed 550. Wilkes Co. N.C.

1. [Abbott: 1974.1]

TENN, HAMILTON Co: Book 11, p. 349

John & George Grayson had a joint interest in some land, but George died, leaving heirs John Grayson, Thomas Grayson, and Mary Lassiter of Blodoe Co, Tenn.

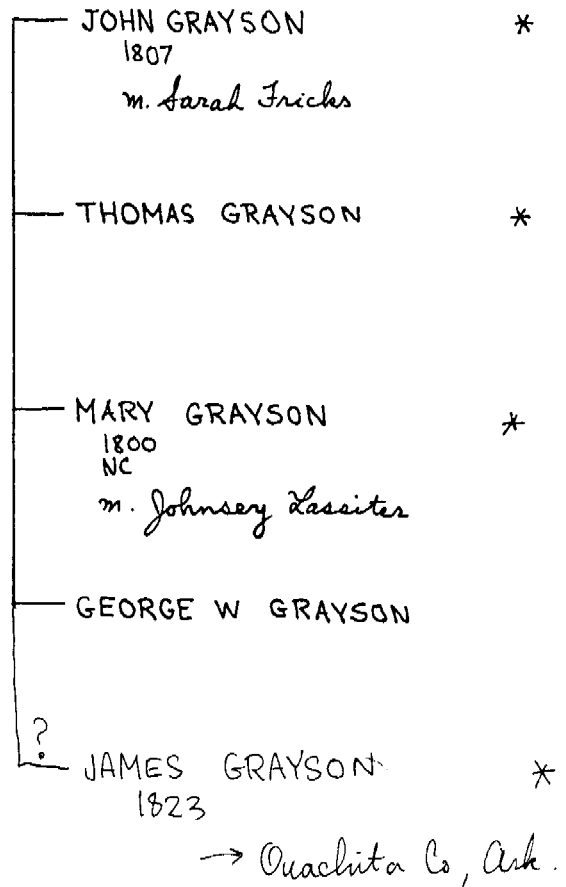
2. [ibid] a George W. Grayson is buried in Harrison, Tenn, 12 miles up river from Chattanooga.

3. [letter: 1842.5.1: to Henry Grayson from Wren Grayson, Jr, et. al.]

On the outside of this letter is a promissory note made out to Thomas Grayson, witnessed in HAMILTON Co.

4. TENN, MARION Co.: The Fricks and Lassiter families are neighbors to Jesse^b, Patey^b, and Benj^b.

note: 3 & 4 prove that the above Graysons are related to us, and 4 suggests that their father is Jesse^b or Benj^b.



6. 1802 TENN, ANDERSON Co: Joseph Grayson was on the tax list in Captain Chiles' Company, listed with 1 free poll (male over 21) and owned 300 acres of land located at "Wolf 9"
7. 1805 TENN, ANDERSON Co: Joseph Grayson was on the tax list.
8. Joseph "belonged to a Virginia family" [source: ?]
9. 1830 TENN, MARION Co:

Census p. 52

PATSY GRAYSON	0-	5-	10-	15-	20-	30-	40-	50-	60-	slaves
M		0	1	0	1			0		6
F		1	1	1	0			1		

(neighbors: p. 51 Jesse⁶ Grayson
 p. 51 Benj⁶ Grayson
 p. 63 Henry⁵ Grayson
 p. 51 Henry⁶ Fricks ← see John⁵, m. Sarah Fricks
 p. 50 Johnsey⁵ Lassiter) ←

10. The information on the daughters Jane and Patsy comes from Mary Elizabeth Rogers, Whitwell, Tenn. [source: ?]

11. 1828-9-20 TENN, MARION Co: land grant to Patsy Grayson for 78 acres on SE side of Sequatchie River joining the land of Benj. Grayson.
 [p. 184 of records on file at courthouse, via John Abbott 1972]

12. We have copies of letters written by Wren Grayson and sons from Indiana in 1847 to Henry Grayson in Tenn. which show that Wren Grayson, sr., was the brother of Henry Grayson's father, Joseph Grayson.

* JOSEPH GRAYSON
c. 1778
son of Benj⁷

HENRY GRAYSON
1799.11.2 - 1879.11.9 *

ELIZABETH BRAZEALE
(= PATSY)

m. 1798.12.10

BENJAMIN F GRAYSON *

~1802

moved to Missouri

FRANKLIN (A)

1. 1822.9.10 Tenn, Marion Co,
The will of Joseph Grayson:
(see the transcript on following
pages)

names wife: Patsy
daughter: Elizabeth
youngest sons: James and Joseph
executors: Patsy
Henry
Benj. J

witnesses: H. Elijah Hudson
Jesse Grayson
Henry Watson
Henry Grayson
Benj. J. Grayson.

JOSEPH GRAYSON *

moved to Missouri

PATSY GRAYSON

m. Joe Rogers, ch: James
Anderson Rogers.

JANE GRAYSON

m. John Bailey

JAMES GRAYSON

2. 1798.12.10 TENN, KNOX Co. Joseph
Grayson m. Pattie Brazeale
bondsmen: Henry Brazeale

3. 1801.7.20 Joseph Grayson bought 400
acres for \$500 from Henry
Brazeale.

[copy of original: TENN, KNOX Co]

4. 1801.4.24 TENN, KNOX Co: Joseph
Grayson bought 400 acres for
\$400 from Stockley Donelson.
The deed was witnessed by Lt.
Brazeale and W. Brazeale.

[copy of original document]

5. 1801: TENN, ANDERSON Co. Joseph
Grayson was a member of the
committee formed to locate the
county seat for the new county.

(A) according to
Palmer Grayson
middle name was
Franklin

* WILLIAM GRAYSON
b. 1767, Va.
son of Benjamin? ??
Annie
b. 1774, N.C.

BENJAMIN GRAYSON
b. 1791-1800

JOSEPH GRAYSON
b. 1791-1800

JOHN GRAYSON
b. 1791-1800

HENRY GRAYSON
b. 1801-1810

? William B. Grayson
b. 1815

Cynthia
b. 1816, N.C.

1. 1830 Census, Monroe Co, Tenn.

		0-	20-	30-	40-	50-	60-	slv.
WILLIAM	M	3	0			0	1	9
p. 82	F	3	2			1	0	
JOSEPH	M	2	1	1				9
p. 83	F	3	1	1				
HENRY	M	1	1					5
p. 89	F	2	1					
JOHN	M	1		1	0			5
p. 101	F	2		0	1			
BENJAMIN	M			0	1			3
p. 102	F	1	1	0				

(verify these records again)

2. 1810 Census, Wilkes Co, NC

William Grayson 1 male age 26-44
4 males age 0-15
1 female age 26-44
1 female age 16-25
4 females age < 16

3. 1806-11-18 deed Wilkes Co, N.C. [p. 480] 100 acres £10
SHADRACH LAROS (?) TO WILLIAM GRAYSON on Moravian Creek

4. 1809-7-29 William Grayson witnessed a deed in Wilkes Co.

5. 1801-1-12 deed Wilkes Co, N.C. bought 50 acres for £25 on Moravian Creek

6. 1811-8-19 deed Wilkes Co, N.C. witnessed a deed

7. 1810-3-20 deed ... his land mentioned in the description

8. 1800-11-7 grant # 2310 Wilkes Co, to William Grayson, 50 acres on the
Yadkin River. (Photocopy attached)

9. 1799-10-23 deed Wilkes Co, bought for £84 from William Johnson 200 acres
on Moravian Creek

William⁶ (cont.)

10. 1810 Wilkes Co Census

WILLIAM GRAYSON
1 male age 26-44
4 males <16
1 female 26-44
1 female 16-25
4 females <16

JOHN GRAYSON (neighbors)
1 male 16-25
1 female 16-25
1 female <10

11. [Abbott, 74.1] a land grant in 1815, purchase in 1807, sale in 1824 — all in Wilkes Co, N.C., and 1807 } tax list, Knox Co, Tenn.
1826 }

12. 1800 NC, Wilkes Co. Census

[Davidson: 74.5.23 letter]

WILLIAM GRAYSON

p.39

M 3 0 0 1 0
F 2 0 1 0 0

13. 1850 Census, Tenn, Monroe # 332

WILLIAM GRAYSON 83 Va. ←
AMY 76 N.C.
SYNTHIA 34 N.C.
HENRY 19 Tenn.
JOSEPH 6 Tenn.
JOHN 10/12 Tenn.

CLEMANTINE 17 Tenn

} are these all children of Wm. Unlikely.

14. 1840 Census, Tenn, Monroe, p.183

WILL GRAYSON 0- 5- 10- 15- 20- 30- 40- 50- 60- 70- 80-
p.183 M 1
F 1 1 1

0 slaves

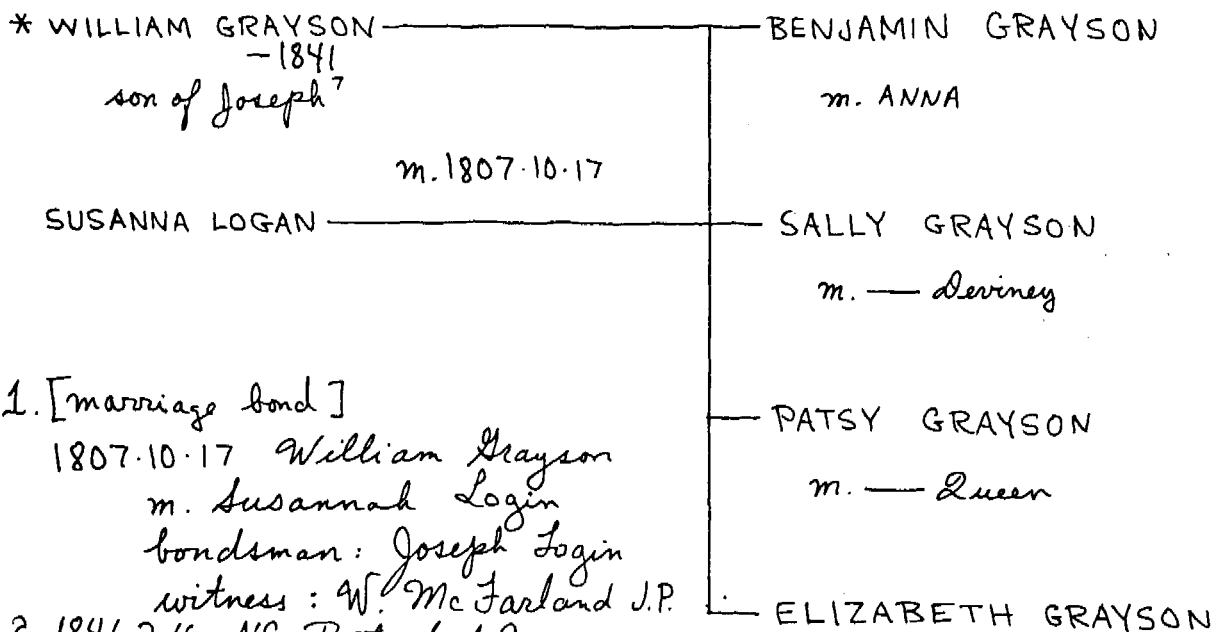
BENJAMIN GRASON
p.252

ISABEL GRASON
p.271

HENRY GRASON
p.273

JOSEPH GRASON
p.277

Isabel could be the widow of JOHN⁵.



1. [marriage bond]
1807-10-17 William Grayson
m. Susannah Login
bondsmen: Joseph Login
witness: W. McFarland J.P.
2. 1841-2-16 NC, Rutherford Co.
will: William Grayson
This will gives a lot of family
info.

3. 1820 Census, NC, Rutherford Co.
WILLIAM GRAYSON

2 males	≤ 10
1 male	26-45
1 female	≤ 10
1 female	10-16
1 female	26-45
2 slaves	

4. 1840 Census, NC, Ruth. Co.

WILLIAM GRAYSON

	0-	5-	10-	15-	20-	20-	40-	50-	60-	70-
M	1	2			1				1	
F	1		1	1			1			

(Joseph? cont.)

8. [marriage bond]

1807-12-17 NC, Rutherford Co

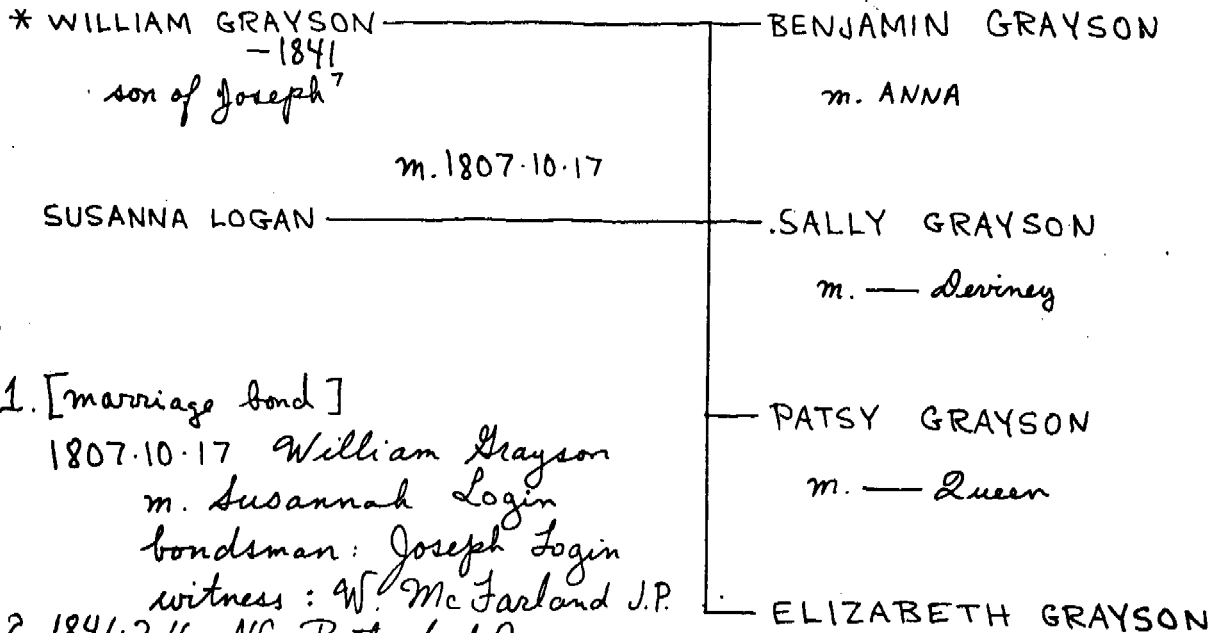
Joseph Grayson m. Rachel

Van Zandt, witness: James
Van Zant.

9. will of William⁶ refers to "Rachel Grayson, deceased widow of Joseph Grayson", so Joseph died before 1828.

10. 1828-6-7 NC, Rutherford

Will of Rachel Grayson — gives a lot of family data.



1. [marriage bond]
1807-10-17 William Grayson
m. Susannah Login
bondsman: Joseph Login
witness: W. McFarland J.P.

2. 1841-2-16 NC, Rutherford Co.
will: William Grayson
This will gives a lot of family
info.

3. 1820 Census, NC, Rutherford Co.
WILLIAM GRAYSON 2 males < 10
 1 male 26-45
 1 female < 10
 1 female 10-16
 1 female 26-45
 2 slaves

4. 1840 Census, NC, Ruth. Co.

WILLIAM GRAYSON

	0-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	30-	40-	50-	60-	70-
M	1	2			1					1	
F	1		1	1				1			

(cont. JESSEE⁶)

14. 1835-2-11 : Jessee⁶ Grayson and Hugh⁵ Grayson witnessed
a deed : Benj. F.⁵ Grayson to Henry⁵ Grayson,
\$330 for 106 acres on SE side of Squatchie R.
[B&C, p. 328, *ibid*]
15. 1814. Jan 10 to May 13 served 4 mo's
+ 4 days as Pvt. in Clark's
Battalion, East Tenn. militia
war of 1812. Paid \$33.03 (a.
Pay roll)
16. 1814. Company muster roll dated
Bledsoe Co. East Tenn. May 13, 1814
Entered Jan 10, 1814 for 6
mo's. Discharged May 13, 1814
Jesse Grayson, Pvt. Capt
John Hawkins, Co. of E Tenn.
Drafted militia in Batt'n
commanded by Major Thomas
C. Clark.

* WREN GRAYSON
 1782 -1865.6.1
 NC Ind
 son of Benj⁷

BETSY OWENS
 178? -
 Va

2nd wife:
 REBECCA
 1781 -1858.10.28
 Va

1. 1830 Census, Kentucky, Scott Co,
 p. 156, line 5

WRIGN GRAYSON

	0-	5-	10-	15-	20-	30-	40-	50-
M		2	1	1			1	
F		0	1	0			1	

2. 1850 Census (Oct. 7) Indiana, Decatur Co,
 Sandcreek Twp, p. 309

#224 WREN GRAYSON 68 NC Illiterate
 REBECCA 69 Va

3. 1815 Tenn., Bledsoe Co, tax list
 REN GRAYSON

4. 1805 Ky, Scott Co, (Apr 27), tax list
 1 white poll, 0 slaves, 2 horses

5. War of 1812, E. Tenn. Militia, 3rd regiment
 (Johnson's), Capt James Summalls Co.
 Wren Grayson served as private
 1814.9.20 - 1815.5.3,
 lived then in Bledsoe Co, Tenn.
 1815.9.26: gave power of attorney to
 Calvin Hixon Morgan; Bledsoe Co, Tenn.

6. 1865.6.3 Madison Courier, (Ind.) p. 4
 died at Westport home of S. Grayson on 1865.6.1; father of John Grayson of
 Madison, Wren Grayson; served in war of 1812 and was present when
 Mobile was captured by the British; age eighty odd.

JOHN WREN GRAYSON *

HENRY GRAYSON *

WREN GRAYSON, JR. *

JOSEPH GRAYSON *

NANCY GRAYSON *

BENJAMIN GRAYSON *

SANDFORD GRAYSON *

LEWIS GRAYSON
 died in infancy