

*The French Connection of  
Great-great-great-great-Grandfather  
Beverly Callicott  
And  
Priscilla, his Wife*

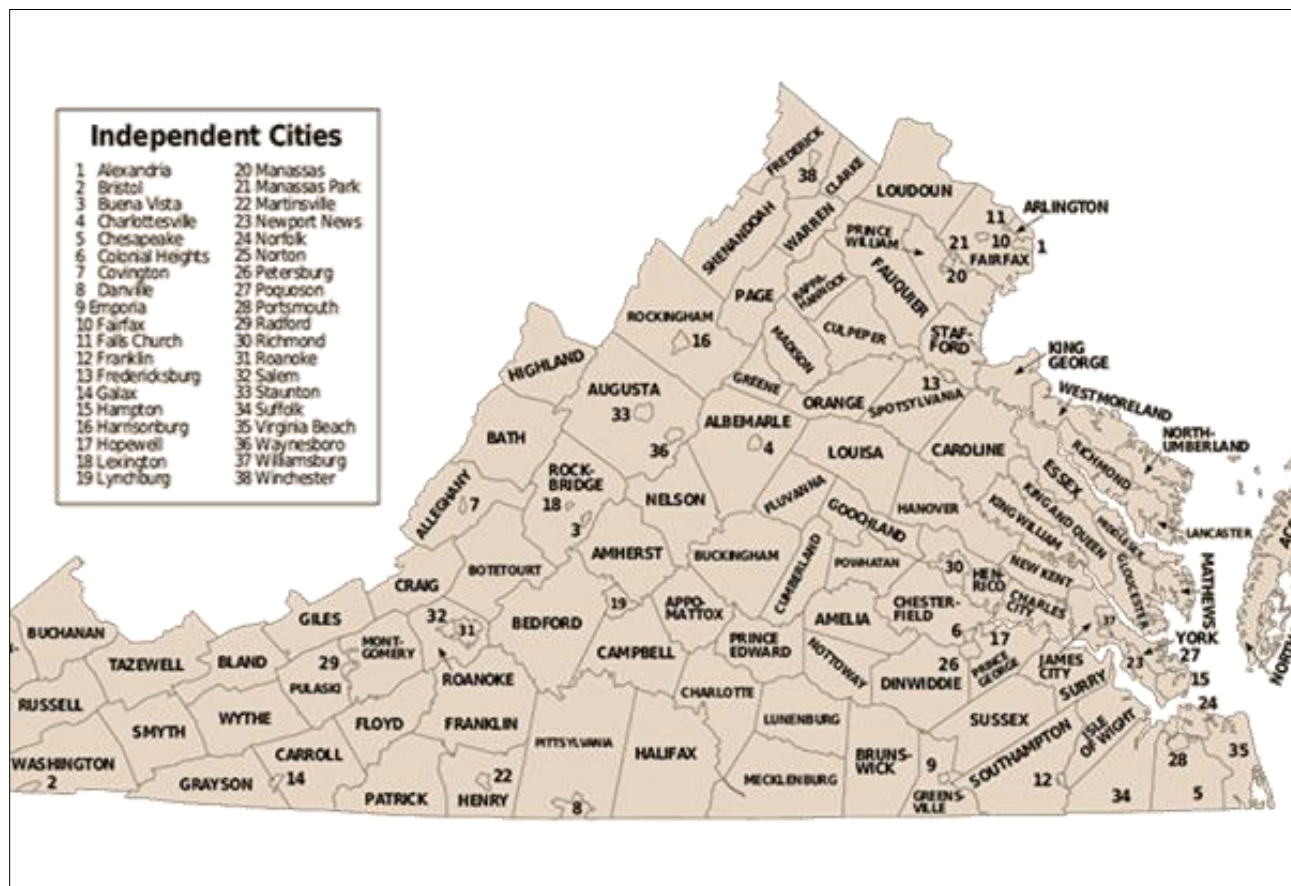
From  
Helen Vaughan's Family Narratives 6/30/19

Introduction to my French Connection analysis. . .

Over a year ago I thought I had found all the pilgrims amongst Mama and Daddy's ancestors that I was going to find, and I couldn't find enough material on anyone to add them to my Immigrant narratives. Of course there are others, but my eyes have grown too old to spend the day searching through aged, handwritten papers. Fortunately an old theory of mine concerning the Callicott name and a possible connection to France popped up. These folks are true characters who will not stay quiet. While trying to put a name on my 64 great-great-great-great-grandparents I discovered some of their pilgrimages I need to include with my collection of immigrants. I had already read the Callicott papers—I just needed to write them into a story. James Callicott, the grandfather of Nancy Callicott Vaughan, is Daddy's GX4 grandfather and wife Agatha Harrison, is his GX4 grandmother. I believe this Callicott's name and history link him and his son Beverly to France and the French Huguenots.

*Helen Vaughan Michael*

## *History of the Name of Callicott*



### ***NOT a Colonial Map.***

***Map of Virginia counties, from Essex to Prince Edward and Charlotte where the colonial Callicotts traveled to and settled in, relative to French Huguenots and the Nottoway tribal lands, and minus the western counties that seceded from Virginia during the American Civil War.***

Our ancestors swept across the American continent like the surf foaming up out of the Atlantic Ocean: as the first wave of immigrants washed out, another white wave washed in. Early on it was more the story of the oncoming invaders washing away the natives. The strangest of all migrations went on amongst Mama's Indians—the Nottoway and the Cherokee. First, her Skipper Nottoway tribesmen, the few who survived the 1600 surge of white invaders off the Virginia coast, were forced out by the white colonists moving inland from 1607 Jamestown. Including the Callicotts and the Vaughans, Daddy's immigrants from France and Wales helped drown the Nottoway in rum and disease before they took over the tribe's lands. Mama's Skippers escaped to the South, to the Carolinas, around 1720.

Down South, in time the Nottoway set up housekeeping and began farming in North Carolina and South Carolina, and after another hundred years or so, they, along with white settlers headed out west where Mama's Cherokee were being forced from their homes in Tennessee and Alabama. Her great-grandmother, Isabella, lost her parents on President Andrew Jackson's Trail of Tears during the relocation of the Cherokee Nation in 1838, but the child survived. Unexplainably, as Mama's Cherokee were marched out of Tennessee and Alabama, her Nottoway Skippers left their happy homes in South Carolina and moved into the abandoned farms of the displaced Cherokee. This eerie version of a family musical chairs was then played and replayed by Daddy's gypsy Callicotts and Vaughans back on the East Coast as his families left Virginia around 1800 for the Carolinas and Tennessee, as ten to twenty years later the Skippers would begin making their exit.

So it was with the Virginian children of James Callicott and his wife Agatha, my GX 5 grandparents. James was born in 1705 and Agatha Harrison in 1720, in or near Essex, Virginia. Calculated from the births of their children they were married in the early 1740's and moved south to Prince Edward County. Birthdays of her children suggest 1720 as a reasonable date of Agatha's birth. A son, Beverly Callicott, was born in 1750. He had two brothers, Bailey and Harrison and a sister named Mary. Their father was a tobacco farmer, so Beverly and his siblings grew up on a tobacco plantation that was maintained by the work of slaves.

In August 17, 1778, during the American Revolution, James left a will shortly before his death that is a timely family history of sorts.

### TRANSCRIBED WILL OF JAMES CALLICOT

*Prince Edward County, Va*

*In The Name Of God, Amen. I, James Callicot, of the County of Prince Edward, being at this time in perfect sense and sound memory do make and ordain this my last will and testament....*

*Imprimur I give and bequeath to my son BEVERLY CALLICOT all my land between the Barbon branch and Farmer Jennings' line to him and his heirs forever. Also I give and bequeath to my son BEVERLY COLLICOT one negro woman names Philis. Also sixteen pounds two shillings in cash and all the debts justly due to me and an equal part of the crop that now grows on the plantation.*

*ITEM: I give and bequeath to my son HARRISON CALLICOT one bay filly and half my stock of cattle, hogs, and sheep - be paying and discharging all my lawful and just debts, to him and his heirs forever....*

*ITEM: I give and bequeath to my son BAILEY CALLICOT the land and plantation where on I now live and half my stock of cattle, hogs, sheep and equal part of the crop that is now growing on the plantation, to him and his heirs forever, but if my son BAILEY CALLICOT should never return from the ARMY, my will and desire is that my sons BEVERLY CALLICOT and HARRISON CALLICOT to have the land sold and money equally divided between them both....*

*ITEM: I give and bequeath to my daughter MARY BALDWIN one negro wench named Becky and her increase to her and her heirs forever....*

*ITEM: I give and bequeath to my loving wife AGATHA CALLICOT the house and plantation I now live on during her natural life and all the household kitchen furniture of every kind during her natural life. I also send unto my well beloved wife one negro man named Dick during her life time. After her decease then for the negro to be sold and the money equally divided between my three sons, BEVERLY CALLICOT and BAILEY CALLICOT and HARRISON CALLICOT.*

*ITEM: I have and nominate my two sons BEVERLY CALLICOT and HARRISON CALLICOT my Executors to execute and comply with this my last will and testament. In witness thereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this seventeenth day of August 1778.*

*His*

*James X Callicot*

*Mark*

*Signed Sealed and Delivered*

*In presence of*

*William Callicot*

*Josiah Pace*

*Her*

*Elizabeth X Callicot*

*Mark*

*Recorded in Prince Edward County by Beverly Callicot on Sep 26, 1778 and Probate Granted him.*

*BOOK 1, PAGE 213*

Then, past middle age, James and Agatha's son Beverly and his wife Priscilla left their inheritance in the land of their birth--Virginia, and headed for North Carolina where they lived out their lives. In time, Beverly also became a tobacco farmer. Among their nine children, he and Priscilla had two daughters, Nancy and Dicea, who were highly educated girls, so he may have been a professional in the law or education as well. The family seems to have been a well-to-do bunch.

The two daughters are noteworthy because they left records of their Callicott heritage that not only are signs of affluence, they are signs that point the way back to France.

Because records over a period of a hundred years show that James Callicott and his children and their children pronounced their name with a French pronunciation, it could be assumed that his people came over from Europe via France with the French Huguenot Protestant refugees who had settled in the Essex, Virginia area and later on in Prince Edward. Early spelling of their name indicates they pronounced Callicott with a long "o" as the French would do, a pronunciation that would continue in the family at least until 1820 where it appeared as Calico on a White County, Tennessee census—and, even a century beyond.

Many settlers were moving westward into central Virginia from its eastern shore near, or onto, Indian tracts. Indeed the earlier Essex

settlement of the parents of James Callicott and the French Huguenots--pronounced *Hue-ga-no*, in France--was sixty miles northeast of the Callicott's plantations in Prince Edward County. The Essex settlement had begun early in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, along with Jamestown, and its early European colonists included a group of Protestant French Huguenots.

Besides official records that show the odyssey of their family, Nancy and Dicea left documentation in their own words and in their own handwriting. But first, from **Callicott Connections I, by John T. Callicotte , Gateway Press, Inc., Baltimore, Md, 1984, pp. 24-29**, it is said that a James Callicott migrated from Essex County to Prince Edward County, Virginia about ten years before the area was given a Virginia county name in 1754. In the brand new county he was appointed a land *proccessioner* on Sep 12, 1759. The book claims he bought and sold several tracts of land in Prince Edward County during the next fifteen years to become a large landowner. He and Agatha began their family there.

According to granddaughter Nancy, their son Beverly was from Prince Edward County, where James and Agatha had settled after their marriage and made their fortune, but the younger Callicott family finally ended up in Charlotte County, next door. Nancy must have spent some time with her grandparents because as an old woman she claimed that she “. . . was born and raised in Prince Edward and Sharlotte Counties in Virginia.” (**Excerpt from 1858 Pension Application**)

Prince Edward and Charlotte Counties are adjacent counties, and the birth of Nancy in 1777 places Beverly in the area. Her actual date of birth can be calculated as happening in January, or one of the first three days in February, 1777 from the following:

*On this 3rd day of February AD One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty Eight personally appeared before Me, Wm. Hutchinsson a justice of the Peace, Nancy Vaughan, a Resident of Hawkins County in the State of Tennessee aged About 81 Eighty one years. . . .*

**Excerpt from 1858 Pension Application**



*Charlotte County*



*Prince Edward County*

*European settlers in the future county began moving in early in the 1700s, and included some French Huguenots. Fifty years later in 1764 Charlotte County was established.*

By 1782 the head of the young family was recorded in Charlotte County, Virginia's "**Charlotte County Miscellany**":

**Char Co Deed Bk 6 Pg 58**

**BEVERLY CALLICOAT**

**State: VA/County: Charlotte County**

**Record Type: Continental Census**

Five years later, at the end of the American Revolution, records show Beverly was a witness to the purchase of 168 acres by his father who made the purchase from Andrew Harrison. Harrison is the maiden name of Agatha, his mother. He has a brother named Harrison. More records show that Beverly sold land in Prince Edward on Jun 4 1783, and he turned around and immediately purchased land in Charlotte on Dec. 20, 1783. Nearly ten years later daughter Nancy left no doubt where her father had settled his family. In 1792 she put it in writing.

At fifteen, Nancy had taken a liking to the dashing war hero, thirty year old Sgt. John Vaughan. She may have been a mite precocious. She liked him enough to try to get him for a husband by perjuring herself. In her own handwriting, and using legal phrasing that was surely beyond the common fifteen year old vocabulary, she fibbed about her age when applying for a marriage bond, and, what's more, she talked two adult friends into lying about it. All this took place back during a time when lying was a matter of extreme dishonor and punishable:

**Transcription of False Affidavit Made by Nancy Calicote of Charlotte County**

*Charlotte County - October 6th 1792 – this is to certify the clark of said County, that haveing no guardian nor controller, consent for being of age for my self that there may be a law full Licence in Marriage to John Vaughan of said County as witness my hand. Nancy Calicote.*

*Test*

*Henry Hughes*



Wm Burchet

**Original False Affidavit Made by Nancy Calicote of  
Charlotte County**

Charlotte County October 6th 1792.  
This is to certify the Clerk of said  
County that Having no Guardian  
nor Controller Consent for being  
of age for my self that there may  
be a full Licence in Marriage  
to John Vaughan of said County  
as witness my hand.  
Nancy Calicote  
Test  
Henry Hughes  
Wm Burchet

All original entries from John Vaughan and Nancy Callicott Marriage Bond Oct. 5 1792 Marriage Book 1, Page 179, may be seen @: <http://www.childresscousins.org>

John Vaughan was a Revolutionary War veteran. His successful exploits as a sergeant who served as an artillery gunner for the victorious Americans not only made him look heroic, they made him a man with money in his pocket and the owner of hundreds of acres of land in Maryland and Virginia which had been awarded him for his service.

In spite of residents of the Charlotte area showing support for the American Revolution, wannabe aristocrats, called Tories, were everywhere, and the Callicotts may have been wealthy enough to still support the divine rights of King George III to rule over them. In France people were still

hanging on, barely, to the idea that God was still appointing their kings, too. John Vaughan may have been a man of substance, and a war hero, but no matter how attractive a catch he was, Nancy's fraudulent document failed to haul him in. Some people have guessed that Beverly Callicott found a problem with Nancy's age, plus the discrepancy in their ages, but records show that this was not a problem for a lot of other newlyweds back in those days—including for Nancy's older sister, Dicey. In addition, not many fathers objected to a daughter marrying a man of property—no matter how young, and the Sergeant did own property. Since the Callicotts appear to be people of wealth, another aspect of the case might be their own social standing. For one thing, having two strong-willed, well-educated daughters makes the family appear to stand a cut above. If so, since wealthy colonists had often remained loyal to old King George, if Nancy's father had been a Tory in the recent war—and there are no military records that show Beverly Callicott, or Bailey, for that matter, fought for the American Revolution—he would not have been impressed with John Vaughan's valiant and successful struggle for equality and justice. No matter how much wealth the soldier boy had gained in the fight, no Tory would want a Rebel for a son-in-law.

Nevertheless, two years later on October 16, 1794 Beverly Callicott's little girl did leave her father's house in Charlotte County. Nancy describes her elopement with John Vaughan in her war pension application:

*State of Tennessee/County of Hawkins*

*On the 2nd day of June AD One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty Eight ... Mrs. Nancy Vaughan, ... says she ran away with her Husband John Vaughan from Sharlotte County, Virginia and went into Halifax County, Virginia and were married . . . on or about the 16<sup>th</sup> day of October 1794.*

**Affidavit, Widow's application for Revolutionary War Pension, 1858**

Not only are her false affidavits evidence that in Beverly's Charlotte home resided an educated girl—one of the men who aided and abetted her in her perjury, Wm. Burchet, could be someone from the French community up the road a ways, depending on how he pronounced, Burchet.

In the beginning, Nancy, along with several of her relatives, never used the Callicott spelling that became the norm, preferring instead, *Calicote*. At Dicey's wedding the minister even pointed out that the bride

pronounced their family name as, “*Calico*.” This would be an Old World pronunciation of Callicotte from a part of the old world that was French. Since Nancy, Dicey and others used “Calico,” “Calicote,” “Calicoat,” etc--accordingly, it would be another reason to assume that not far back down the line the father of the Callicott girls had ancestors that came from France. Even more astonishing, among Callicott descendants the French pronunciation lasted into the 20<sup>th</sup> century; when a great-great-grandchild of Beverly died in Texas in 1964, the informant—Beverly’s great-great-granddaughter--gave her grandmother’s maiden name as Calico on the death certificate. The particular grandmother’s maiden name was actually Vaughan, but that does not detract from the power of the Calico pronunciation of the name going on and on and on.

One record for his marriage to Priscilla is signed Beverly Calico. Nancy and Dicey were two of the Callicott’s nine known children. All nine were born in Prince Edward County: Dicea 1772–1865, John 1775–1860, Nancy 1777–1858, William 1780–, James 1781–1820, Beverly 1783–1860, Mary Poly 1786–1865, Rachel 1790–1850, and Samuel 1798–1858. After the birth of Samuel, the parents and younger children moved to Randolph County, North Carolina. Beverly was past middle aged.

In 1798 Beverly and Priscilla sold their Virginia property in Charlotte County and got a land grant in North Carolina:

*15 Dec 1798 (Charlotte Co VA DB 9:254) December 15, 1798. Beverly Callicott and Precilla his wife of Randolph County, North Carolina to Thomas Brooke and Traverse Brooke, heirs of George Brooke, deceased, of Charlotte County, Virginia, for 200£, a tract of land in Charlotte County 240 acres on a branch of Sandy Creek. Witnesses: Dixon Loggins, Bibby Brooke, James Callicott.*

**Randolph County, North Carolina**



GRANTEE	Callicot, Beverly		NO.	0156
COUNTY:	Randolph	ACRES:	50	
GRANT NO.:		ISSUED:		
ENTRY NO.:	459	ENTERED:	17 Jan 1798	
BOOK NO.:		PAGE NO.:		
LOCATION:	lying on Hannahs Creek			

In 1805, Beverly sold some of his Randolph County holdings on Hannah Creek to his son, John. Being literate, he was able to sign his own name, which he spelled, "Callicot":

*28 Dec 1805 - Beverly Callicot of Randolph Co. NC sells to John Callicot of Randolph Co., NC for 150, a parcel of land in Randolph Co., NC on Hannahs Creek, containing 150 acres. Signed Beverly Callicot.  
Wit: William Callicot, Christopher Bingham  
**Randolph Co., NC Deed Book 13, Page 89***

Hannah Creek Survey Records, #459  
"Survey for Beverley Callicoate"

1.

STATE OF NORTH-CAROLINA. *W. No. 459*

To the Surveyor of *Randolph* County, Greeting:

YOU are hereby required, as soon as may be, to lay off and survey  
 for *Twenty bealliate Fifty*

acres of land lying in the county aforesaid, on the waters of *Hannahs Creek Beginning at*  
*Joseph Robinsons Corner and running with his line and*  
*de m. for Comptment* Entered the 14<sup>th</sup> January 1798.

Observing the directions of an Act of Assembly in that case made and provided, two just and fair  
 plans of said survey, with a proper certificate annexed to each: You are to transmit with this Warrant,  
 to the Secretary's Office, without delay. Given under my hand at office, in *at the town of*  
 this *15<sup>th</sup>* day of *April* A. 1809

*J. H. H. H.*

Randolf County, North Carolina

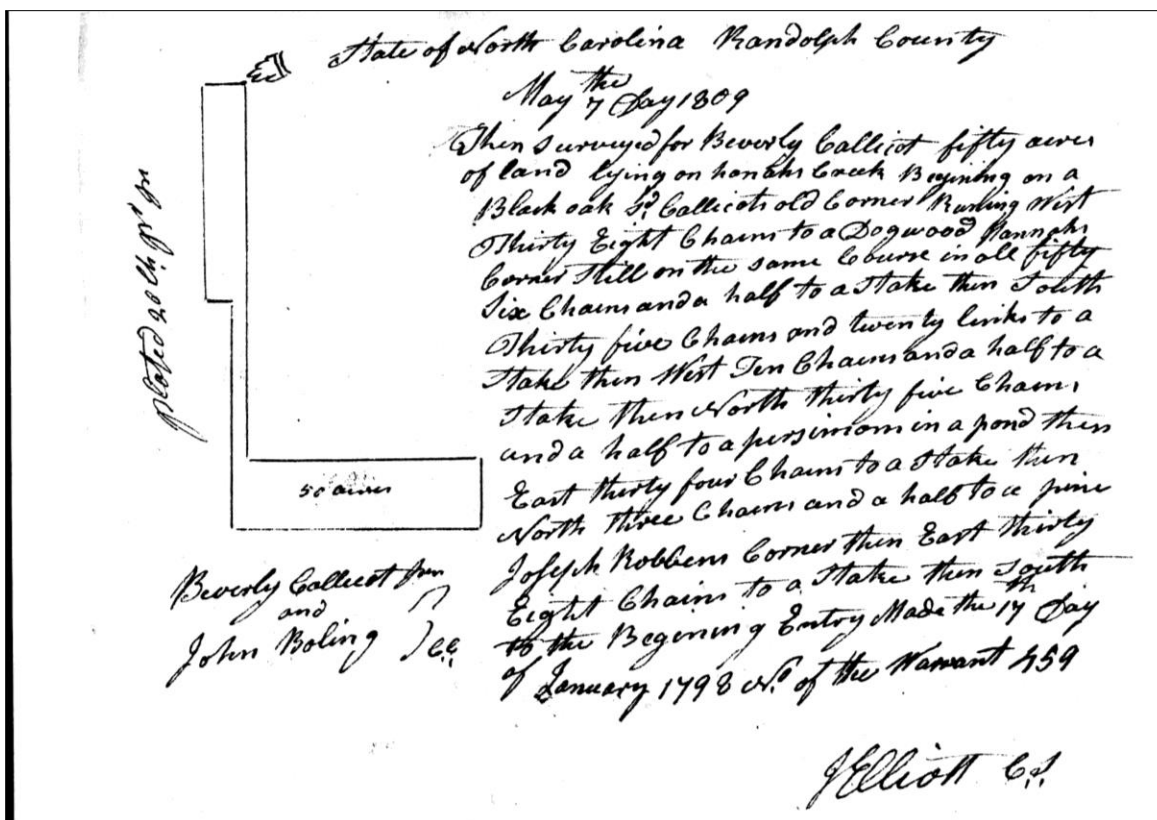
State of North Carolina Randolph County

60 acres  
 60 chains

Then Surveyed for Beverly Callicot fifty acre  
 of land lying on Hanahs Creek Beginning on a  
 Black Oak S<sup>r</sup> Callicot's old Corner Running West  
 Thirty Eight Chains to a Dogwood Hammered  
 Corner still on the same Course in all fifty  
 Six Chains and a half to a Stake then South  
 thirty five Chains and twenty links to a  
 Stake then West Ten Chains and a half  
 to a Stake then North thirty five Chains  
 and a half to a persimon in a pond then  
 East thirty four Chains to a Stake then  
 North three Chains and a half to a pine  
 Joseph Robbins Corner then East thirty  
 Eight Chains to a Stake then South to the  
 Beginning Entry Made the 17 day of  
 January 1798 2<sup>d</sup> of the Warrant 459

J. Elliott C<sup>r</sup>

J. Elliott in Randolph County, NC, 1792 thru 1798  
 J. Elliott signed a Land Warrant in 1792 and again in 1798 as a county official for Beverly Callicot.



3.

For Beverly Callicott

The Randolph County Census of 1810 shows that only the youngest children, Samuel and Rachel, were still at home with Beverly and Priscilla. Some of their children, including married daughters, were settled in Randolph, but others had gone west; Nancy and Dicey moved to Tennessee.

For the next two decades Beverly ran his plantation with slave labor, and becoming ill, and "weak of body," he had a will written out in which he mentioned some slaves by name, along with the names of his married daughters, as he handed down his property to his descendants. A woman named Nelly was given her freedom. Another slave who was old was provided for. Other slaves were handed down by name, like the property they were, to his children. In his will dated Jun. 9, 1824, he is survived by nine children—most of whom received five shillings—while a granddaughter who married into a Graves family is the heir to the balance of his property. Since no mention of Priscilla is made, presumably, she died earlier. Beverly Callicott died in August. In the end he could only sign his name with an "X" and someone spelled it with two "t"s.

Last Will and Testament of Beverly Callicott,  
**Transcribed by Grace McChesney Boerner Dec. 23, 2017**

*State of North Carolina*

*Randolph County*

*Know all men by these present that I Beverly Callicott of this county and state being weak of body but of sound mind and memory do think proper to make this my last will and testament for the dispursal of such worldly estate whenever with it hath pleased God to bless me with the following manner & form -- Vez --*

*1st that my body should be buried in descent order after my decease. -----*

*2nd my will is that all my just debts be paid in convenient time after my decease by my Executors here after named.*

*3rd I give unto my granddaughter Poly Graves one feather bed & furniture*

*4th I give to my Daughter Dicey Ford five shillings currant money of this state*

*5th I give to my son John Callicott five shillings currant money of this state*

*6th I give to my Daughter Nancy Vaughan five shillings currant money of this state*

*7th I give to my son James Callicott five shillings currant money of this state*

*8th I give unto my son Beverly Callicott one Negro man named Sam'l now in my possession -----*

*9th I give to my daughter Polly Wade one Negro woman by the name of Anakey which was her possession.-----*

*10th I give unto my son William Callicott five shillings currant money of this state -----*

*11th I give unto my Daughter Rachel Luther five shillings currant money of this state -----*

*12th I give unto my son Sam'l Callicott five shillings currant money of this state -----*

*13th Item I give my Negro Woman by the name of Nelly her freedom Clear from my and my heirs for Ever and my will is that at the next general assembly of superior court of this County after my decease that she the said Nelly be free according to law for her therstoriacy to me and my family*

*14th Item leave twenty Dollars in the care of my E(xecutor?) hereafter named for the purpose of defray any expense which may occur in attaining my Negro woman Nelly's freedom in Court or otherwise and for the support of my ald Negro woman Fran -----*



*15th I hereby will that after all the legal costs are paid out and the expences for the sufficient of my old Negro woman and Fey and other necessary expences are paid, I give to my granddaughter Polly Graves the Ballance of my property whenever or where ever to be found ---*

*Nominate Constitute and appoint my friend John (missing torn page) ch sinc and Benjamin Brookshire Executor to this my last will and testament ratifying and confirming him and no other to contain my last will & testament in witness whereof I have herein to set my hand and seal*

*June the 9th day 1824 -----*

*Witness Sam'l Hill Charles Slack*

*his*

*Beverly X Callicott*

*mark*

*State of North Carolina Randolph County*

*Court of Pleas and quarter sipions*

*August Term 1824*

*The Executor of the will of Beverly Callicott was proven in open court by Samuel Hill one of the Subsesidery witness thereto and ordered to be recorded.*

*Luke (or John) Harssen Clerk*

In the end, he and his children were recorded as *Callicott* by the court clerk in Randolph County, North Carolina, 1824, Americanized all.

Helen Vaughan Michael, July 9, 2019