

**REUBEN COOK**

(552?) REUBEN COOK

Born

Died between 19 Nov 1750 and 01 Aug 1751 Isle of Wight County, Virginia

Married

(553?) Hannah Atkinson Gee after 05 Jul 1709

Born

Died after 19 Nov 1750

Children (order of birth unknown):

(276?) William Cook

b. (c1710?)

d. after 19 Nov 1750

m. (277. Ann Griffin/Griffith?)

John Cook

b.

d. after 19 Nov 1750

m.

Benjamin Cook

b.

d. after 19 Nov 1750

m.

Joel Cook

b.

d. probably c1761 Isle of Wight County, Virginia

m.

Nathan Cook

b.

d. after 19 Nov 1750

m.

Ann Cook

b.

d. after 19 Nov 1750

m. ----- Whitehead

Hannah Cook

b.

d. after 19 Nov 1750

m.

Thamer Cook  
b.  
d. after 19 Nov 1750  
m.

Elizabeth Cook  
b.  
d. after 19 Nov 1750  
m.

Reuben Cook (Cooke) was a son of William Cooke, Jr. and Joan Roper of Isle of Wight County, Virginia.<sup>1</sup> The parents of Hannah Atkinson Gee have not been determined but she apparently was the widow of Charles Gee whose estate was affirmed by Hannah (Hanah) Gee, John Cooke, William Cooke and William Heath in Surry County on 05 July 1709.<sup>2</sup>

The surviving children of Reuben and Hannah Cook are named in his will, which was dated 19 November 1750 and proved in Isle of Wight County Court on 01 August 1751:<sup>3</sup>

In the Name of God Amen I Ruben Cook of Isle of Wight County being of good Health at present praised be God, Do make and Ordain this my last Will and Testament in Manner and Form as follows

Item I Give and Bequeath unto my Son John Cook the Plantation whereon Abraham Brawler formerly did Live with one half of the Land that I bought of the sd Abraham Brawler to him and his Heirs forever likewise one Feather Bed and Furniture

Item I Give and Bequeath unto my Son Benjamin Cook the remainder part of the Land which I bought of Abraham Brawler it being the Land whereon Abraham Brawler Junr did Live to him and his Heirs forever likewise one Feather Bed and Furniture

Item I Give and Bequeath to my Son Joel Cook the Plantation whereon I now live with all the Land thereunto belonging and his Heirs forever likewise one Feather Bed & Furniture and Still

Item I Give and Bequeath unto my Son Nathan Cook Twelve Pounds Cash likewise one Feather Bed and Furniture

Item I Give and Bequeath unto my Daughter Ann Whitehead One Feather Bed Rugg Sheet and Blanket

Item I Give & Bequeath to my Daughter Hannah One Feather Bed Rugg Sheet and Blanket

Item I Give and Bequeath unto my Daughter Thamer Cook One Feather Bed Rugg Sheet and Blanket

Item And as for the Rest of my Estate I Give the Use of it to my wife Hannah Cook during her Natural Life or Widdowhood and after her Decease my Will is that the Remainder of my Estate shall be equally devided between seven of my Children (to wit) John Benjamin Nathan & Joel Hannah Elizabeth and Thamer

Item I Give and Bequeath unto Son William Cook five Shillings Cash I likewise constitute my Son Joel Cook my whole and sole Exor of this my last Will and Testament by him freely to be possest and do utterly Revoak and Disanull all former Wills hereunto by me made or any Ways by me named or before by me Bequeathed Ratifying and Confirming this and no other to be my last Will and Testament In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my Hand and Seal this 19th day of November in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and fifty Signed, Sealed and Published

**:Prepared by WILLIAM G SCROGGINS 16 Dec 1989**

**: 718 Mill Valley Drive, Taylor Mill KY 41015-2278**

**REUBEN COOK**

& Declared in psnce of us  
Test Law Lancaster Thomas Betts

Ruben R Cook (LS)

At a Court held for Isle of Wight County August 1st 1751

The last Will and Testament of Ruben Cook deceased was presented in Court by Joel Cook the Executor therein named who made Oath thereto and being proved by the Oath of Lawrence Lancaster and Thomas Betts the Witnesses thereto is ordered to be Recorded

Test Jas Baker ClCur

The bequest of 5 shillings to son William Cook, apparently as an afterthought, suggests that William was the oldest son, already in receipt of his basic inheritance. First born sons were generally named for their paternal grandfather which supports the probability that William was the first born. It is possible that William Cook, son of Reuben Cook and Hannah Atkinson Gee was the William Cook who married Ann Griffith and had William Cook, Jr., who was born about 1730, resided in Halifax County, Virginia, in 1767, and later in Pittsylvania and Henry counties, Virginia, before going to Kentucky where he died about 1790. Henry County came from Pittsylvania County in 1776. Pittsylvania was erected from Halifax County in 1766. Halifax was formed from Lunenburg County in 1752. Lunenburg came from Brunswick County in 1746. Brunswick was established from Surry County in 1720. Surry was erected from Isle of Wight County in 1652.

Reuben and Hannah were not married until after her involvement with the estate of Charles Gee in 1709, but they could have been married shortly after July 1709 and had their children beginning in 1710-1711. If their son William was born by 1711, he would have been old enough to have a son William, Jr. about 1730. However only one daughter was married when Reuben wrote his will in 1750, so their children may have been born later than 1711.

William Cook, Jr. of Henry County, Virginia, who was born about 1730, was associated there with Frederick Rives (Reeves) in 1788 as a deed witness and as justices of the peace. This indirect relationship with the Rives family provides continuity with William Cook IV of Surry County, who married Elizabeth Rives, a daughter of Colonel William Rives and Elizabeth Foster.<sup>4</sup>

Joel Cook apparently died about 1761 when the will of a Joel Cook was proved in Isle of Wight County.<sup>5</sup>

**NOTES**

- <sup>1</sup>. *Southside Virginia Families*, Volume 1, pages 161-162, John Bennett Boddie, Baltimore, 1966.
- <sup>2</sup>. *Wills and Administrations of Surry County, Virginia, 1671-1750*, Eliza Timberlake Davis, Smithfield, VA, 1955, reprinted Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, 1980, abstract, Will Book 5, page 414.
- <sup>3</sup>. Isle of Wight County, Virginia, Wills and Accounts, Volume 5, 1745-1752, Virginia State Library Reel 24, pages 355-357.
- <sup>4</sup>. Supra note 1.
- <sup>5</sup>. *Virginia Wills and Administrations*, Clayton Torrance, Richmond, 1930, reprinted Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, 1978.

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**3**