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The Putnam Family of Guilford County North Carolina

If you refer back to the section on VIRGINIA PUTNAMs, you will find under Thomas Putman IV, several listings of who *might* be his children. The Putnams of Guilford County *might* be connected to this Thomas Putman, but I doubt it.

A few New Englanders came to North Carolina to join Quaker Meetings in the western part of the state both during and after the Revolution. These may be part of the New England Putnam branch. Or, more likely, this is another line that came over to America for religious freedom. Just have no clues at all now.

In 1763, a **Joshua Putnam** was on the tax lists for Pitt County, which was part of Beaufort County on the coast of North Carolina. He may be the first guy in this family. In fact, he may simply have arrived by ship from England, and not be connected to any of the Putnam/Putnam families that were here in the 1600s. Just don't know.

The first reference to this Quaker family is where a **Josiah Putnam** was received by the Springfield Monthly Meeting (Quaker Church) in Guilford County, North Carolina on April 5, 1794. He had transferred from the nearby New Garden Monthly Meeting also in Guilford County. I have no other information on him at all. He would be the first and only of our clan that was a Quaker.

He may have returned to Virginia, for if Jeremiah was his son, Jeremiah was born in Virginia as were both of his parents. I cannot connect Josiah to Jeremiah, but the ages make it logical that Jerry was his son. Josiah was born in the 1770s and Jeremiah was born in the 1790s.

JOSIAH PUTNAM

Josiah was born in Virginia about 1775. I have no clues as to his wife. They were or became Quakers by 1794 when they were received in the various Monthly Meetings of Guilford County. They lived in the area of the present day Greensboro, North Carolina.

He may well be the son of Joshua Putnam of Pitt County.

I have nothing on the children except various marriage records. I guess at the following children:

Jeremiah Putnam

Jeremiah Senior was born in Virginia in the mid 1790s. He first appears in 1819 in the Caswell County, NC tax lists. He first appears in the North Carolina Census returns in 1830 in Guilford County. He probably either came in the 1819 time frame or returned to Virginia and arrived in the mid 1820s as the eldest children were born in Virginia in the early 1820s and the rest in North Carolina in the latter 1820s.

Jeremiah was first married to someone in Virginia around 1818 to 1819. The first two kids were born before 1823 and in Virginia, so Jeremiah was married to someone else before Susan. There is an age gap between kids two and three.

Jeremiah then married Susan Dean on April 4, 1823, or at least that was the day the Bond was issued. This took place in Caswell County, North Carolina.

Susan is listed as a widow in Guilford County in the 1840 census returns. And by 1850 Susan was shown as the head of the household, and we get the names and ages of their kids. She was still there in 1860 at age 75, living with her daughter Mary Ann and her husband Martin Field.

Based on Census returns, the children of Jeremiah and Susan Putnam were:

DEVALES PUTNAM born about 1820 in Virginia. Since he was born before the 1823 marriage date, he may have been with a first wife of Jeremiah or even a brother of Jeremiah. He married Elizabeth Ann Owens in Guilford County on May 26, 1847. Elizabeth was born in Carteret County, North Carolina in 1827. Both he and Elizabeth are in the 1880 census of Guilford County, he at age 61 and she at age 53. They lived in Greensboro, North Carolina. They died before the 1900 census. Their children were:

Laura Putnam born about 1848. She was at home in 1860 and then married Charles Lenard or Leonard January 29, 1867.

Loretta Putnam born in 1850. She was not in the 1860 census, so must have died as a child.

John Devales Putnam born in 1853. He was home in 1860 and 1870 and I do not find him in 1880. He married Hannah Best in DeWitt County Illinois January 5, 1885 and they are there in Clinton in 1900 through 1920 and Hannah is widowed there in 1930.

William Fillmore Putnam born May 1856 and died June 18, 1858.

Julius E. Putnam born in March 1857. He is married by 1880. In 1880 she is called Elvira and in 1900 called Elizabeth, but is the same gal. He died in Alamance County October 18, 1926. Their children were:

George Cyrus Putnam born in June 1879. He married Maggie Leona Camps in Guilford County. He owns a dairy farm and they are in Morehead City through the 1930. She died here November 9, 1931. He died in Guilford County on June 10, 1940. Children in census reports were:

George Dewey Putman born in September 1899. He died July 31, 1955

Savannah 'Swannie' L. Putnam born in 1902.

Wilbur Ray Putnam born in 1906. He is still with his folks in 1930, but has a new wife Ruby. They were married in 1929. He died February 26, 1936.

According to Birth Records, they had:

Child Putnam born May 7, 1930.

George Wilbur Putman born May 31, 1933.

Nancy Delores Putman born March 4, 1936.

Harley Andrew Putnam born January 11, 1910 and died in Greensboro March 9, 1969. He was married at the time of his death.

Frances Putnam born in 1913.

Eva Putnam born in July 1881.

Samuel N. Putnam born in July 1889. He is married to Lonnie in Guilford County in 1910 and she is widowed in Winston-Salem in 1930.

Cecil Edward Putnam born March 1, 1895 and died June 23, 1952. He is married in Washington, Guilford County in 1930 to Myrtle Loy, who was born September

11, 1903 and died August 28, 1987, and they have these children:

Doris Putnam born August 2, 1927 and died December 2, 1985. She married a Turner and then a Johnson.

Julius Edgar Putnam born February 12, 1929 and died in 2005. I don't have his wife's name, but the NC birth Records give him these kids:

Elmer Lee Putnam born in Alamance County in 1943.

Shelda Wytonia Putnam born in Alamance County in 1948.

Bruce Edgar Putnam born in Alamance County in 1950.

Cecil E. Putnam born in Alamance County in 1952.

Brent Cecil Putnam born in Guilford County July 24, 1965.

Kevin Kent Putnam born in Guilford County February 16, 1972.

Susan Elnora Putnam born in 1862. She was at home in 1880.

Mary M. Putnam born in 1864 and home in 1880.

James Walter Putnam born in July 1867. He married Sophronia Hodgen and they are in Morehead City through 1920. He died November 16, 1937. She died in Guilford County on January 30, 1953. They had these children in Guilford County:

Jesse Putnam born in 1892.

Flossie Putnam born in 1894.

Clyde James Putnam born January 25, 1896, and died October 20, 1963. He is married in Greensboro in 1930 with a wife Mollie D. and they had:

Roy Clayton Putnam born February 12, 1928. He married and died in Greensboro on September 5, 1987.

Shirley Mae Putnam born April 24, 1937 in Greensboro.

Sarah Putnam born in 1897.

Emmett Ralph Putnam born May 10, 1900. He is married to Isadora in Friendship, Guilford County in 1930. He owns a house and also a general store. Not bad.

Paul E. Putnam born in 1902.

Marion J. Putnam a son born in 1904.

Collin Millard Putnam born October 15, 1907.

Ethel R. Putnam born in 1910.

Dorothea E. Putnam born in 1912.

JEREMIAH PUTNAM JR. was born in either Virginia or North Carolina about 1821-1822. He married Charlotte Fields in Guilford County on January 25, 1844. Charlotte was born in Guilford County in 1823. They were in Guilford County through the 1860 census. By 1870, they were in Calloway County, Missouri. They appear with all the kids in the 1880 census and onwards. Please see the section on MISSOURI PUTNAMS for full details on this family.

WILLIAM PUTNAM was born in Guilford County in 1826. He married Anna H. Coffin in Guilford County on October 9, 1860. Anna was a Quaker, but William was not and she was dismissed from the Church for marrying out of the faith. They had no children and William died in the 1860s, probably in the Civil War. In 1870 Anna was at home with her mother. Anna later married Joseph Morris, another Quaker, and was restored to the Church in July 1872.

SUSAN PUTNAM born in 1828. She married William L. Ballinger in Guilford County October 31, 1848.

MARY ANN PUTNAM born in 1831. She married Martin L. Field in Guilford County on January 15, 1852.

William? Putnam

Sorry, just do not have a name, but I guess it to have been William. All I know is that his widow, Elizabeth appears in her twenties with four children in Jefferson County, Tennessee in 1830.

Many Quakers left Guilford County, North Carolina for the new Deep River Monthly Meeting in Jefferson County, Tennessee. I assume that was what brought this family over here. The last child was born in 1829 so the husband died in the very late 1820s.

By the 1850 census of Jefferson County, we finally get the names and ages. Elizabeth was born in Virginia in 1806 and the children were born in North Carolina. See the TENNESSEE PUTNAM section for more details.

The four children listed in 1850 were:

MARY ANN PUTNAM born in 1824. She married George Brevard in Jefferson County on July 6, 1853.

HENRY A. PUTNAM born in 1825. He is at home in 1850, but I do not find him afterwards.

FRANCIS M. PUTNAM born in 1827. He married Martha E. Blackwell on June 4, 1855. He was the only one here in 1860 and was in Sevier County, Tennessee in 1870 and 1880, and in Cooke County, Texas by the 1900 census. See the section on TENNESSEE PUTNAMs for more details on Frank.

JAMES L. PUTNAM born in 1829. He married Martha or Mahala Bourland in the 1860s. In 1880 they are in Montague County, Texas. In 1900 they are in Oklahoma, living in the Chickasaw Nation, he at age 60, Mahala at age 57. I haven't found them in 1910. In 1920, Mahala and the kids are all in Bryan County, Oklahoma. Based on the various census reports, the children were:

Rufus R. Putman born in 1871. In 1900 he is in Oklahoma, near Dad, with a wife named Fanny and two daughters, in 1910 he and a wife named Jennie are in Bryan County, Oklahoma. Children till then were:

Maggie Putman born in 1894 in Texas.

Myrtle Putman born in Oklahoma in 1898.

Willis Putman born in 1902.

Ruth Putman born in 190? (no age registered)

Arthur H. Putman born in 1872 and home in 1900 through 1930.

Jane Hester Putman born in 1874 and not in the 1900 census. She married Orman L. Spence (born 1871 and died 1953 in Temple, Oklahoma). He was a druggist. Janie died in Lawton, Oklahoma in 1972. They had these children:

Hettie Jane Spence born March 5, 1893 in Purdon, Texas and died October 31, 1978 in Lawton, Oklahoma. She married Willie Grady Moore in Quanah, Texas on October 16, 1910. Their grandson, Doyal Edwards, filled me in on this family.

Susan Spence born October 2, 1894 and died in Lawton, Oklahoma. She married Rufus Montgomery.

Wesley Spence born June 21, 1896. He died as a child.

Lee Spence born June 13, 1902 and is living in Oklahoma City in 1997. His wife was named Audry. He wrote and published Gospel Music.

Anderson 'Bud' Spence born December 21, 1905.

Terry 'Punk' Spence born January 15, 1910 and his wife was Lucille.

Esther Lilly Spence born March 23, 1915. She married Irvin Moon.

Orman L. Spence, jr. born January 26, 1916.

Braxton Holmes Putman born December 8, 1876 and home in 1900 through 1930.

James Albert Putman born August 10, 1878 and home in 1900 through 1930.

Commodore Earl Putman born October 11, 1880 and home in 1900 through 1930.

Singleton Lafayette Putman born September 26, 1882 and home in 1900 and 1910. In 1920 and 1930 he is still in Bryan County, and has a wife Carry and these children:

Everett Putman born in 1915.

Hattie G. Putman born in 1918.

Hattie (Harriet) M. Putman born in 1885 and home in 1900.

Another Son Putnam

Ah yes, more confusion here in Jefferson County, Tennessee. In 1850, out of the blue, we find two married Putnams who are too old to be Elizabeth's children. If they were younger, they might have been brought up in another family to spare old Elizabeth some trouble. But no.

Two males just appear out of nowhere in 1850. They obviously were living in another family during the 1830 and 1840 census where only household heads were listed. It would appear definitely that dad had died in the 1820s and mom either died or remarried and went under a new married name. Who knows?

These are the two children of some Putnam/Putnam:

GEORGE WASHINGTON PUTNAM was born in Tennessee in 1814. In 1850 he is 35 and his wife Eleanor is 45 also born in Tennessee. There are no children at that time, and I do not find him in 1860.

WILLIAM J. PUTNAM was born about 1823 in Tennessee. He married Sarah Foland, age 27 born also in Tennessee, and in 1850 they have three children. They were married about 1844. I do not find them in 1860, but in 1870 Sarah is a widow with all sorts of kids in Vernon County, Missouri. Please refer to the section on MISSOURI PUTNAMs for this family. You might also check out the TENNESSEE section as well.

Nancy Putnam

Nancy was born about 1800 in North Carolina. She married Solomon Copeland in Guilford County on April 20, 1818.

Elizabeth Putnam

Elizabeth or Betsy was born about 1804. She married James North in Guilford County on February 15, 1822.

Jenny Putnam

Jenny was born about 1808. She married Hugh McCall in Guilford County on April 22, 1825.