

UPDATED MAY 1, 2008

## EARLY PUTMAN DOCUMENTS

This section contains transcripts of Wills, Deeds and other important documents from the early records of the Putman Family. These old documents represent, in many cases, all we know of our early ancestors. As such, they are an important part of our heritage.

Most of these documents pertain to my particular line, but I will add other documents that pertain to the Southern Putman/Putnam line as time goes on.

### WILL OF WILLIAM PUTNAM, 1647

This will was written by William Putnam of Chesham Parish, Hawridge in Buckinghamshire, England on May 11, 1647. William was the father of the Thomas Putnam who came to Virginia later that year.

At the present time, I have a Photostat of this will obtained from the Public Records offices in London. However, I cannot easily read a single word. Penmanship was not great in those days and the thing makes little sense. I had Norman Graham of England try to read it as well, but it is about like reading ancient Sanskrit, the following is the best we can do.

**In the Name of God, Amen. On the Eleventh day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand Six Hundred and Forty Seven, I, William Putnam of Hawridge in the County of Bucks, yeoman, ...**

From here on, we can only get the general drift. William is to be buried in the churchyard at Hawridge. He leaves his son Francis thirty pounds, son Thomas eighty pounds, daughter Mary ninety five pounds, daughter Joyce ninety five pounds, daughter Jane, wife of John Wright six pounds. To son and heir, Henry Putnam, all my lathes at Billenden and a grindstone. The residue to my wife, Jane, who is executrix and I entreat my brother Henry Putnam to be overseer.

The will was proved on July 4, 1648 in the Archdeaconry of Bucks.

## **WILL OF THOMAS PUTNAM, 1647**

The following Will was drawn while aboard the sailing ship *INCREASE*, bound for Virginia.

**I make my wife Dorothy my executrix. To my son Thomas Putnam 20 pounds out of 43 pounds, nine shillings due me by my father William Putnam's will, dwelling in Buckinghamshire in Chessam Parish, remainder of said money to Dorothy my wife, she to pay Sarah Miller at Holburne Barre in middle Rowe 5 pounds and to John Salter 4 pounds, 16 Shillings due to me from Henry Bolton of Saint Clements Church, unto Mr. Coxyn, Chirurgeon aboard the Ship, 20 shillings. He to take care of my wife and child. Dated December 29, 1647.**

Witnesses were Arthur Bromell and John Bigge.

John Smyth subsequently married the widow Dorothy Putnam and returned to England and had the will probated. The Probate Act Book states:

**"Letters of Administration granted to John Smyth, husband of Dorothy Smyth alias Putnam, late wife of said testator, Thomas Putnam the elder, to administer during the absence of said Dorothy and Thomas Putnam, the son of said deceased, now both in Virginia beyond sea."**

The above will indicates that Thomas Putnam's father William was still alive and residing in Buckinghamshire, England in 1647. The elder William Putnam had obviously drawn his will, but had not died at that time. This ties in with the research of Eben Putnam who states that William Putnam of Hawridge had his will drawn on May 11, 1647 and it was probated shortly after his death on July 4, 1648.

## THOMAS PUTNAM VA. GRANT, 1673

The following is the first record found in Virginia involving the Putnam family. It is the land grant given to Thomas Putnam junior in the original Gloucester County which part later is found in Mathews County, Virginia. This Grant is dated OCTOBER 23, 1673.

*"To all &c. Whereas &c. Now know yee, that I the said Sir. William Berkeley Knt. &c. doe graunt unto Thomas Putnam three hundred and thirty acres of land scituate lying and being upon the branches of Millford Crank Haven in Glouster County and Bounded Vizt: Beginning at a corner Maple in or neare Mr. Richard Long's line and running thence by a line of marked trees N.N.W. 120 poles to a corner white Oake, thence N.E. 1/2 Northerly 334 poles to a corner white Oake, thence Southerly 15 deg. 20 poles to a corner red Oake belonging to Jno. Gayton's; thence by his line E by S. 126 poles to another corner Red Oake belonging to said Jno. Shapely, thence by Jno. Shapely's line N. Easterly 50 deg. fifteen poles and N. Easterly 10 deg. tenne poles & N. Easterly 25 deg. 8 poles and E. by S. 28 poles to a corner White Oake and soe continuing on that course 80 poles to a corner Maple & thence along the creeke syde westerly to Richard Long's corner tree and thence by Richard Long's N.E. by N. 300 poles to the first beginning place."*

**"This said land being due unto the said THOMAS PUTNAM by patent bearing the date of April 19th, 1662. To have and to hold &c. To be held &c. Yielding and Paying &c. Provided &c."**

## JOHN PUTMAN N.C. WARRANT, 1694

The first recorded event involving a Putman in North Carolina was on a 1694 Land Warrant. This Warrant is recorded in the Old Albemarle County, North Carolina, Book of Land Warrants and Surveys, 1681 to 1706. The Patent on Page 220 and the Warrant on Page 193.

The following is the original Land Patent dated January 1, 1694.

### PATENTS FOR LAND

**ALBEMARLE Ss:** William Earle of Craven Palatine and the rest of ye. true and absolute Lds. Proprietors. of all Carolina to all to whom these presents shall come Greeting in our Lord God everlasting Know ye. yt we ye. said Lds. and absolute Proprietors. According to our great deed of grant bearing date ye. first day of May Ano. Dm. 1668 Given to our County of Albemarle under our hands and great Seal of our said Province doe hereby Give and Grant unto Thomas Miller of our said County Planter a Tract of Land containing six hundred and forty acres lying on Pasquot. River in Pasquot. Prec. beginning at a Gum on ye. Banks of ye. said River at ye. mouth of Portahunck Creeke thenc downe ye. said River by various Courses to a Marked Pine thenc North twenty eight degrs. East three hundred and Ninety Poles to a Gum thenc North forty one degrs. West three hundred thirty six poles to a Poplar by ye. side of Portahunck Creeke then down ye. said Creeke by various Courses to ye. first Station.

The said land being due to ye. said Thomas Miller for ye. transportation of one Pson for every fifty acres as appears upon Record under this Patent. To have and to hold ye. said Land wth. all rights and privilegs of hunting hawking fishing fowling wth. all woods waters and rivers wth. all profitts Comoditys and heriditaments. to ye. same belonging or apptaining Except one halfe of all Gold and Silver Mines unto him ye. said Thomas Miller his heires and assignes for ever in as large and ample Maner to all Intents and purposes as by ye. said Deed is granted or Intended Yeilding and paying unto us our heires and successors yearly every twenty ninth day of September the fee rent of one shilling for every fifty acres hereby Granted to be holden of us our heires and successors in free and comon Soccage Provided yt. if ye. said Thomas Miller his heires or assignes doe not seat or plant or cause to be seated thereon within three yeares after ye. date hereof then this Patent to be void otherwise to stand and be of full force. Given under ye. Seal of our said County of Albemarle ye. first day of January Ano. Dm. 1694. Witness our trusty and welbeloved Philip Ludwell Esqr. Governr. and Capt. Genrll. of our said Province and our trusty and well beloved Councillrs. who have hereunto sett their hands. Philip Ludwell, Tho: Harvey, Danl. Akehurst, Ffrancis Tomes, Thomas Pollock.

**The Psons. Imported are Thomas Miller Senr., Thomas Miller junr., 3 times transported, Tho: Eliot and his wife, Saml. More and his Wife, Saml. London, JNO. PUTMAN, Elizabeth Larkin, Lewis a French man and Henry Smith.**

### WARANTS & RETURNS

**ALBEMARLE. Ss:** To ye. Surveyr. Genrll. or Deputy. These are in ye. name of his Excel.

ye. Palatine and rest ye. true and absolute Lds. Proprietos. to will and require you to Survey and lay out for Mr. Thomas Miller of ye. County of Albemarle Six hundred and forty Acres of land wch. is due to him for ye. transport ation of thirteen Psons whose names are under written and make returne of this Warrant wth. ye. Survey to ye. Secretarys Office fail not as you will Answer ye. contrary. Given under our hands and seal of ye. County the 23rd. day of October Ano. Dm. 1694. Philip Ludwell, Thomas Harvey, Benj. Lakar, Wm. Wilkison, Ffrancis Tomes, Tho: Pollock, Danl. Akehurst, Thomas Miller Senr., Thomas Miller junr., 3 times transported, Tho. Elliot, and his Wife, Saml. More, and his wife, Saml. London, JNO. PUTMAN, Elizabeth Larkin, Lewis a french man, & Tho. Smith.

**ALBEMARLE Ss:** Surveyed by vertue of ye. Within Warrant for mr. Tho. Miller Six hundred and forty acres of land as by ye. Survey herewth. returned doth appear. P. Saml. Swann Surveyr. And ye. Courses of ye. Survey Entered in his Patent fol. 112.

## **BARNET PUTMAN LAND GRANT, 1773**

The following Land Grant was for the property that Barnet Putman and his family first lived on in South Carolina. The Land Grant to Barnard Putman reads:

**South Carolina: Pursuant to a Warrant directed under the hand and seal of John Brenner, Esq. A Land Grant dated the 4th day of May 1773 I have admeasured and laid out unto Barnard Putman a plantation or tract of land containing three hundred acres in Berkley County in the fork between Broad River and Saludy on the south side of Tyger River and bounded northeastwardly by River southwestwardly by Land laid out to Wiatt Wood and part vacant land and southeastwardly by Land laid out to Joseph Hopkins and northwestwardly by vacant land and hath such shape form and marks as is represented by the above plat certificate under my hand this 4th day of June 1773.**

**(signed) Enoch Pearson D.S.**

The intersection of the Tyger and Broad Rivers is located in the southeast part of the present Union County near Sedalia, South Carolina. Barnet therefore resided in the present Union County from 1773 through the Revolution.

## **WILL OF ZACHARIAH PUTMAN I, 1748**

The following will is Recorded in the Essex County, Virginia Will Book No.8, Pages 119 and 120. This Will Book covers Wills from 1747 to

**IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN. The Twentieth day of November in the year of our Lord Christ One Thousand Seven Hundred and Forty Eight. I, Zachariah Putman of Essex County being sick and weak in body but of sound and perfect memory thanks be to Almighty God do make and ordain this my Last Will and Testament as Followeth. First of all I Recommend my Soul into the hands of almighty God that gave it and my body to be interred at the discretion of my Executors and as for what worldly goods it hath pleased God to Bless me with I dispose of in manner and form following that is to say my just Debts being first paid.**

**Item I give to Richard Dudding one chirt and one pewter dish and one iron pott.**

**Item I give to the said Dudding one Black Heifer and one sow of pigs.**

**Item I give and Bequeath to my Daughter Mary Putman all the rest of my Estate both Real and Personal to her heirs for ever and I doe appoint William Brewton (or Bowlen) and Samuel Kinshaw Executors of this my Last will and Testament as witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this Day and Year Above written.**

**Zachariah (his mark) Putman (seal)**

**Signed sealed and Published in the presence of**

**Nathaniel Condist (?), Charles Adams, John Fox**

This Will was proven in Essex County after his death on January 17, 1749

## **WILL OF ZACHARIAH PUTMAN II, 1753**

The following will of Zachariah Putman was made and recorded in Culpeper County, Virginia. It may be found in Will Book A, 1749-1770 on Pages 82-83.

**In the name of God, Amen. I, Zachariah Putman in the Parish of St. Marks in the County of Culpeper, in Virginia, being very sick and weak in body but of sound mind and memory, knowing the uncertainty of this life do constitute this to be my last will and testament viz: revoking by these presents all other wills or wills by me heretofore made; First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God thru Jesus Christ in and thru whose merits I hope for Eternal Life and my body to go to the earth as it is to be buried in such decent manner as my executors shall think fit. ITEM: I give and bequeath unto my son John a blaze face horse, bridle and saddle forever. ITEM: I give and bequeath unto my beloved wife, the rest of my estate after my decease to be equally divided between her and my four sons, viz: John, Daniel, James, and Henry. ITEM: I give and bequeath unto Mary Putman one shilling. ITEM: I give and bequeath unto Thomas Putman one shilling. ITEM: and furthermore I leave all my children to doe for themselves at the age of sixteen years, after my decease.**

**Lastly I appoint my loving wife Margaret Putman, and John Fox Executors of this my last will and Testament this 20th day of March 1753.**

**Zachariah Putman**

**his 'P' mark**

Zachariah Putman died on May 15, 1753 and the Will was proved in Court on September 20, 1753.



## **WILL OF DANIEL PUTMAN, 1814**

The following will was handwritten by Daniel Putman on July 15, 1814 and is on file at the Gibson County Courthouse in Princeton, Indiana. Daniel Putman died July 19, 1816 and an Estate Sale was held on August 28, 1816.

**In the Name of God, Amen, I Daniel Putman, of Gibson County, Indiana Territory, being weak in body, but perfect in mind and memory, thanks be to God, and calling to mind the mortality of my body and that it is appointed for all men once to die, I doth recommend my soul to God that gave it me and my body to be buried in a decent and Christian like manner at the direction of my executors nothing doubting but I shall have the same body restored again at the general resurrection and as touching what worldly estate it has pleased God to bless me with in this life, I shall dispose of in the following manner.**

**First, I have already given my son Hazeal Putman two hundred acres of land in Kentucky, together with personal property, which I allow in full for his part of my estate and all my land, tenements, household goods, debts, and moveable effects to be equally divided between my dearly beloved wife Prudence Putman and my beloved children, Lavinia Putman, William Putman, Reding Putman, Elijah Putman and Thomas Putman. If any of the legatees shall decease under age, their part to be equally divided between the surviving heirs, and I do constitute and appoint my beloved sons Hazeal Putman and Reding Putman, my lawful executors of this my last will and testament. I do empower and request them to assign any rights or convey any lands agreeable to any hand or hands I have already given, or if this is not a sufficient amount of money to pay all just debts against my estate to sell more land and make lawful rights and conveyances thereto and I do bequeath and allow my beloved wife Prudence Putman to have and enjoy the plantation on which we now live, together with the house, household goods, and stock sufficient for her support during her widowhood and I do disannul and disallow all or any other former wills, and I do confirm this my last will and testament. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this fifteenth day of July in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and fourteen.**

Signed by **Daniel Putman**

Signed Sealed and Acknowledged in the presence of: Green Brazelton, Robert Skelton, William Scales and James Skelton.