

Part II

FAMILIES

Gen. I - Richard Nance wife Alice,

First of the name on record in America, How or when Richard Nance arrived in the colonies is still a mystery. We do know he came from England in 1639 or earlier and he did precede his wife to the colonies, Among a list of English emigrants to Virginia Colony the following was found: "Alice Nance consigned to her now husband Richard Nance, Virginia Colony. 1639" (from Emigrants to Virginia)

See Henrico County, Virginia, 1639 land grant. This first grant of record was located on both sides of the Appamatox River which is just south of the James River. It is from this area that three of our Oldest established lines have been traced.. The Charles City County records show Richard Nance as being a resident of said county in 1665, This county is north of the James River and today contains an area called Nances (Nance's Neck).

This Nance's Neck has been confused by some writers as being the original 1639 land grant (in part). Actually the two parcels of land are separated by the James River and are some 20 to 25 miles apart. However it is believed that Richard owned a portion of Nance's Neck and in 1692 William Nance, a son or grandson, received a portion of land that was a part of the Nance's Neck, It is from this area that James Nance wife Ann are found on record - they being ancestors of one of the four old established Nance lines.

Basicly most of the Nance descendants living in our country can trace their lineages to one of these four old established Nance families - namely:

- Section I- John and Sarah Nance (Second American Generation)
- Section II- Daniel and Elizabeth Nance (Third American Generation)
- Section III- James and Ann Nance (Fourth American Generation)
- Section IV- William and Ann Nance (Fourth American Generation)

Gen. II

There has been no proof that the following Nances are brothers, nor that they are the sons of Richard; but these three are of near the same age. All lived along the James River and have the most popular names found in all four of our old established Nance lines.

- I- John wife Sarah (living descendants can be traced to this family.)
- II- Captain Thomas Nance - 1688 in Elizabeth City, Va.
- III- William Nance- 1667 in Surry County records,

Thomas Nance was on record as a land owner in Prince George County in 1737. There being no further records, it is assumed he died shortly thereafter. This may be Capt. Thomas or a son, Thomas, and it is believed that the William & Ann family and the Daniel & Elizabeth family connect to this Thomas Nance as the name "Thomas" was most popular in these two lines.

There were two other early Nances of record that haven't been connected to the mainstream of the family:

- 1) Rouland Nance - Baltimore County, Maryland - will 20 Nov, 1682
. As his entire estate was willed to Henry Constable, it is assumed he was single and had no children,
- 2) John Nance - Essex County, Virginia
His will shows no children (see Essex County records).

When searching this register for your ancestors, remember -- the Nances were a prolific family. Children were consistantly being named for grand-