

Note

Names of Girls (and Boys) in Colonial Virginia

The Register of Ancestors: The National Society of the Colonial Dames of America in the Commonwealth of Virginia (Richmond, Virginia, 1979) lists “Ancestors who rendered service in Virginia, beginning with Historic Founders, those who came to Virginia 1607–1620” and continues on down to the signers of the Declaration of Independence. More than 1300 names are listed, with the date of birth, marriage, and other pertinent data for each, beginning with Adams and running on through the alphabet to Yowell. There is also an index of the names of wives (pp. 107–119) that runs from Sarah Adams through the alphabet to Mary Young. In most cases only one given name is listed for the women but in a few instances two and even three names are given. An analysis of girls’ names in Colonial Virginia is as follows:

Elizabeth	214	Tabitha	9	Fanny	2
Mary	187	Rachel	5	Fannie	1
Anne	76	Rachael	3	Jemima	3
Ann	53	Maria	6	Letitia	3
Anna	12	Grace	6	Nancy	3
Sarah	86	Esther	6	Penelope	3
Sara	2	Eleanor	4	Rose	3
Frances	52	Elenor	1	Temperance	3
Francis	1	Elinor	1	Ursula	3
Jane	46	Isabella	4	Atalanta	2
Margaret	45	Isabel	1	Bridget	2
Susanna	25	Sibella	1	Cristina	2
Susannah	12	Phoebe	4	Deborah	2
Susan	7	Phebe	2	Dorcas	2
Martha	38	Priscilla	6	Jean	2
Catherine	18	Agatha	5	Lady	2
Katherine	14	Olive	5	Margery	2
Katerine	1	Agnes	4	Marian	1
Katheryn	1	Diana	4	Marianne	1
Hannah	21	Lucy	4	Matilde	1
Judith	19	Martha	4	Matilde	1
Judy	1	Ruth	4	Patsy	1
Alice	17	Sallie	2	Patty	1
Mildred	15	Sally	2	Peggy	2
Dorothea	7	Winnifred	3	Prudence	2
Dorothy	7	Winnifred	1		
Rebecca	12	Betty	2		
Rebekah	2	Betsey	1		
Joan	4	Apphia	3		
Joanna	4	Amy	2		
Joane	3	Amev	1		
Joanne	1				

The following names appeared only once on the list:

Abigail	Fielding	Millicent
Adria	Fortune	Molly
Amadea		Mourning
Amelia	Gabriella	
Angelica		Patience
Arabella	Helen	Paulina
Arianna	Henrica	
	Hester	Rose
Barbara		
Bethenia	Jennie	Sabra
Boyce	Jerusha	Sisley
	Joyce	
Cassandra	Juliana	Unity
Cassey		
Christian	Keziah	Verlinda
Drusilla	Lettice	Wilhemina
Ducibella	Lucrecia	
	Lydia	Zeruiah
Edith		
Eliza		
Evelyn		

Then I began to wonder if the names of the men reflected the same attitude towards tradition, religion, and romance as did the names of the women. I turned to the main body of the book and here is the answer:

John	207	Archibald	3	Bertram	1
Johnny	1	Drury	3	Beverly	1
William	176	Dudley	3	Bolling	1
Thomas	125	Gabriel	3	Burwell	1
Robert	57	Giles	3	Cadwallader	1
James	52	Humphrey	3	Caleb	1
Richard	52	Jacob	3	Cary	1
George	44	Jonathan	3	Champion	1
Henry	43	Paul	3	Clement	1
Francis	32	Rice	3	Cole	1
Edward	27	Stephen	3	Cornelius	1
Samuel	26	Armistead	2	Crispin	1
Charles	25	Bowler	2	Elias	1
Joseph	22	Cuthbert	2	Elisha	1
Peter	19	Dabney	2	Ensign	1
Benjamin	16	Essex	2	Ephraim	1
David	15	Evan	2	Ethelred	1
Matthew	11	Gawin	2	Fielding	1
Mathew	2	Harry	2	Frederick	1
Nathaniel	11	Joshua	2	French	1
Edmund	10	Lemuel	2	Gray	1
Edmond	1	Leonard	2	Gerard	1
Christopher	10	Mann	2	Gideon	1
Anthony	9	Michael	2	Gill	1

Lewis	9	Miles	2	Goodrich	1
Abram	8	Patrick	2	Garland	1
Alexander	8	Raleigh	1	Hancock	1
Augustine	8	Rawleigh	1	Hartwell	1
Daniel	8	Sampson	2	Harwood	1
Hugh	8	Simon	2	Herbert	1
Andrew	7	Spencer	2	Howell	1
Philip	7	Theodorick	2	Israel	1
Arthur	6	Warham	2	Isham	1
Isaac	5	Willis	2	Josias	1
Isack	1	Wilson	2	Jost	1
Nicholas	5	Acquilla	1	Lancelot	1
Nicolas	1	Allen	1	Landon	1
Edwin	5	Ambrose	1	Larkin	1
Roger	5	Angus	1	Leven	1
Walter	5	Archelaus	1	Littlebury	1
Carter	4	Armiger	1	Lyddall	1
Jeremiah	4	Bartholomew	1	Magnor	1
Lawrence	4	Bennett	1	Marquis	1
Adam	3	Bernard	1	Martin	1
Meredith	1	Pierre	1	Maximilian	1
Merit	1	Randall	1	Thomson	1
Micajah	1	Rodham	1	Townshend	1
Mordecai	1	Roland	1	Tristram	1
Moore	1	Salvator	1	Tully	1
Morgan	1	St. Leger	1	Valentine	1
Obedience	1	Sebastian	1	Walker	1
Oliver	1	Seth	1	Wallace	1
Original	1	Southey	1	Willoughby	1
Orlando	1	Stevens	1	Withers	1
Owen	1	Theophilus	1	Zachary	1
Philemon	1				

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