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# Phillips DNA News

[www.phillipsdnaproject.com](http://www.phillipsdnaproject.com)

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Editor: [Nancy Kiser](#)

Please submit news articles or ideas for articles to the editor. Questions about Genetic Genealogy can always be sent to the editor.

## Intro

Happy New Year, everyone! This is Nancy Kiser, the administrator of the Phillips DNA Project hosted by Family Tree DNA, and this is my first newsletter for this project. I plan to publish information about the project, about DNA analysis, and about Phillips families in general in my newsletter. I will post this newsletter on the free website provided to us by FTDNA under the tab labeled NEWS. If you have an article you would like to include in this newsletter, please send it to me at [nancy2kiser@yahoo.com](mailto:nancy2kiser@yahoo.com), along with a little biographical information about yourself.

## Project News at FTDNA

Family Tree DNA has just revamped their website, so your personal page looks different now. You might want to access your personal page and check it out. I personally like the changes. One new feature is called Haplotree and it is located on the left hand side of the page under Y-DNA. It is interactive and fun. I discuss this feature a little bit more under Questions and Answers below.

Since founding this project in August of 2008, the project has grown from zero participants to 126 participants, which is very rapid growth. Using DNA analysis, I have identified 49 different, unrelated Phillips families. In addition, over 100 Phillips men have been tested who do not definitively match any other Phillips men. Not all of these Phillips men belong to my project and not all of them got tested by FTDNA, but I have studied their yDNA nonetheless.

## Haplogroups

There are seven different haplogroups found among the roughly 360 men named Phillips who have gotten their yDNA tested thus far. Haplogroups are approximately equivalent to nationality and indicate the general area where your ancient Phillips ancestors originated. You might want to think of haplogroups as the limbs of the tree of Homo sapiens. Keep in mind that Phillips men who belong to different haplogroups cannot be related to each other through their Phillips lines within many thousands of years.

Of the 360 Phillips men in my personal database, 268 or 75% belong to Haplogroup R1b. This is not surprising because R1b is the most common haplogroup in Western Europe and it is thought 78% of all men who live in the British Isles belong to Haplogroup R1b. Most genetic scientists

and anthropologists believe R1b is the Celtic haplogroup, although there is not total consensus about this.

The next largest haplogroup among Phillips men who have been DNA tested is Haplogroup I, which is generally considered to be a Scandinavian and/or Central European haplogroup. There are 60 men named Phillips who test as Haplogroup I, which represents approximately 16.5% of all Phillips men who have been DNA tested. It is possible that the presence of Haplogroup I in the British Isles may be the result of invasions of England by Vikings and Anglo-Saxons during early times.

Approximately 3.5% of Phillips men who have been DNA tested belong to Haplogroup E1b, which is considered to be Mediterranean in origin. The presence of Haplogroup E1b in the British Isles might reflect the early Roman occupation of England. Haplogroup J, which is a Mediterranean-Middle Eastern haplogroup frequently associated with Jews, also comprises about 3.5% of all Phillips men who have been DNA tested. Only five Phillips men belong to Haplogroup R1a, considered to be an Eastern European and/or Slavic haplogroup. This is only about 1.5% of all Phillips men who have been DNA tested, and R1a is also similarly uncommon in the British Isles. Two Phillips men belong to Haplogroup E3a, which is mostly restricted to African populations and two Phillips men belong to Haplogroup Q, which is generally associated with Native Americans.

I have noticed a definite decline in orders for DNA tests since the economy began its precipitous slide in September. We will all have to work extra hard to recruit new participants. If anyone has any ideas about how to attract new recruits, please let me know. Many of you still have no Phillips matches, so it is essential to continue to spread the word about DNA testing and genealogy. I am excited about the information that DNA testing has uncovered thus far with regard to Phillips genealogy.

## Questions and Answers

Here are some questions I have received from various participants about DNA analysis. I think if one person has a question about something, there are probably other people who have puzzled over the same question, so I am printing those questions and answers here. Please feel free to send your questions to me, and if I don't know the answer, I will find someone who does.

**Question:** I have a lock of hair clipped from my grandfather before he was buried in 1930. He has been a "mystery man" for our family for many years. Do you think DNA could be recovered from his lock of hair?

**Answer:** Unfortunately, yDNA deteriorates rapidly and Family Tree DNA told me it is so difficult to extract yDNA from hair that they won't even try. Of course, there may be other labs that would try, for a price. By the way, yDNA is not the DNA that is tested on those ancient bodies that anthropologists dig up, in case you are wondering.

**Question:** There are lots of Phillips families who have rumors in their families about Native American ancestry. More than 350 Phillips men have now been DNA tested. Why do you think

there are only two Phillips men who belong to Haplogroup Q, which indicates Native American ancestry?

**Answer:** I think the reason we don't see more Native American yDNA in Phillips men is because it was more common for a Native American woman to have children with a Caucasian man than vice versa. So there may be a lot of Phillips who have Native American DNA, but their Native American DNA probably does not come from their straight paternal Phillips line. If a Phillips man was mixed race and his father was a Caucasian man named Phillips, then of course it makes sense he would have had the last name Phillips. However, his yDNA would test as Caucasian, not Native American, because he inherited his Phillips yDNA from his father and his Native American mtDNA from his mother.

**Question:** One of my cousins had his yDNA tested by a company other than Family Tree DNA. This company does not supply haplogroup predictions and does not test the exact same markers as FTDNA. I was wondering if the markers tested by the other company can be used to predict his haplogroup?

**Answer:** Your haplogroup is determined by testing something called SNPs (Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms), which are not the same as the yDNA markers called STRs (Short Tandem Repeats). However, STRs or markers can indeed be used to predict a man's probable haplogroup. A man named Whit Athey has published something he calls a Haplogroup Predictor on the internet at this link: <http://www.hprg.com/hapest5/>. If you go to this website, you can fill in your cousin's values for the markers he has had tested, and the Haplogroup Predictor will suggest his probable haplogroup. This is a free service.

**Question:** I got the Deep Clade test at FTDNA, and it says I belong to Haplogroup I2 with the following information in parentheses: (M170+/M258+/P19+/P215+/P38+). What do those numbers mean? Are they markers?

**Answer:** M170+/M258+/P19+/P215+/P38+ are all SNPs (Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms) that have tested positive in your DNA. These SNPs determine your haplogroup. They are different from the ancestral markers called STRs (Short Tandem Repeats). STRs mutate more rapidly than SNPs so they are useful for tracing your recent ancestry. STRs allow you to identify matches within the past 12 generation. SNPs mutate very rarely so they are useful in identifying your deep ancestry. FTDNA has recently added a new feature to everyone's personal page called Y-DNA Haplotree. It is located on the left hand side of the screen on your personal page. Go to your personal page at FTDNA and click on Y-DNA Haplotree. This will take you to a page that has a tree on it. On the right hand side of the page, you will see the words YOUR MATCH on a dark blue bar. Click on those words and it will activate a line that moves along your tree path, showing you which SNPs tested positive and which tested negative. This is how FTDNA determines your haplogroup.

## Featured Article

The following article was written by Rex Phillips who belongs to Phillips Family Group 3. Rex was born in Oklahoma but lived most of his life in West Texas. Rex retired from Westinghouse in 1994 and has lived in Dallas since 1968. He and his wife Addie are the proud parents of three daughters and grandparents of two girls and one boy. Because so many Phillips researchers have claimed descent from William and Mary Swann Phillips of Surry County, VA, Rex has spent a great deal of effort trying to determine if there are any descendants of that line and, if so, who they might be. Here is the result of his research, with input from fellow Phillips research, Debra Anderson.

### William & Mary Swann Phillips of Surry County, VA by Rex Phillips

WILLIAM PHILLIPS was born circa 1671 based upon his first appearance in the Lawnes Creek Parish Tithing List for Surry County, Virginia. He was the son of JOHN PHILLIPS and unknown. Some records indicate that John's first wife's name was Elizabeth. WILLIAM had a younger brother, also named JOHN, who according to the tithing list was born circa 1678. We do know that JOHN, SR. was married at the time of his death (1698/99) to Ruth Emery and that he had a step-son named Edward Emery.

In the tithing lists WILLIAM was listed as living in households with other men until 1694 so he probably married sometime between 1694 and 1700. WILLIAM married MARY SWANN, daughter of Matthew and Mary Swann. MARY SWANN'S sister, SARAH SWANN, married CARTER CRAFFORD, son of Robert and Elizabeth Carter Crafford. MATTHEW SWANN, in his 1702 will, left 100 acres jointly to daughter MARY PHILLIPS and Godson (Grandson) JOHN PHILLIPS so we know that WILLIAM and Mary Swann were married before 1702. Matthew Swann also left to daughter Sarah 100 acres adjoining the land that he gave Mary. WILLIAM PHILLIPS later purchased this same 100 acres from SARAH and husband CARTER CRAFFORD.

WILLIAM PHILLIPS' will of 14 February, 1720 listed the following children: JOHN; WILLIAM; MATTHEW; SWANN; MARY; ELIZABETH; and ANN

In his will of 1720, WILLIAM PHILLIPS specified that the 100 acres Matthew Swann's will had given jointly to daughter Mary and grandson JOHN should go to son JOHN. The 100 acres that William had purchased from Carter and Sarah Swann Crafford he willed to son MATTHEW. It was willed as "entailed" land, such that if MATTHEW died without lawful issue, the land would then pass to son SWANN and if he died without lawful issue, then to son WILLIAM, and if both died without lawful issue the land would pass to William's daughter MARY PHILLIPS EDWARDS, wife of JOHN EDWARDS.

John Anderson Brayton postulated that in fact all sons except John died without heirs as evidenced by a deed of sale from John Edward's (MARY PHILLIPS' husband) that Brayton said was the entailed land that had been willed to MATTHEW PHILLIPS. Brayton stated that the fact that no records could be found of sales of any of the land that had been willed to William, Jr., Matthew or Swann Phillips subsequent to the 1738 sale of land by WILLIAM PHILLIPS (Jr.) and his wife SARAH ( see below) further indicated that all three had died without lawful issue. Although I agree with Brayton's premise that there was no surviving issue

of those three sons, I also believe there was no surviving male issue from any of the sons of William and Mary Swann Phillips, including son John. Brayton also states that the John Phillips of the 1758/59 will was the son of William and Mary Swann Phillips. However, records of the purchase of the land that John of the 1758/59 will left to his son Hartwell show that the John Phillips who purchased at least two of those properties would have been too old to be the son of William Phillips. Further, I believe that John, son of William and Mary, in fact predeceased his mother, Mary Swann Phillips.

Matthew Swann left 100 acres jointly to his daughter Mary Swann Phillips and his grandson John. WILLIAM PHILLIPS in his 1720 will stated that this same land was to go to son John. In MARY'S will (1727), there is no reference to son JOHN and she wills to daughter MARY EDWARDS "the plantation where I now live" for life and then to daughter ANN PHILLIPS. I believe that this is the same land previously given to MARY and her son JOHN by Mary's father, Matthew Swann, and then subsequently by WILLIAM PHILLIPS in his will to son JOHN. This, of course, would mean that son JOHN PHILLIPS was already dead at the time of his mother's will in 1727. This also precludes the JOHN PHILLIPS who died in 1758/59 as being the son of William and Mary Swann Phillips as many Phillips researchers have claimed. See excerpts from the following wills supporting the above:

14 Dec 1702: Will of Matthew Swann. To daughter Mary, wife of William Phillips, and to grandson John Phillips, my house and plantation where I now live. To daughter Sarah, all the remainder of my land adjoining Mary, when 18 years old. Wit: Ar: Allen, Jno Allen, Robt. Ruffin.

14 Feb 1720: Will of William Phillips. To son John the plantation given to my wife by her father Matthew Swann.

28 Mar 1727: Will of Mary Phillips. To daughter Mary Edwards, wife of John Edwards, my plantation where I live for her life, then to my daughter Ann Phillips.

It appears that the land Brayton believed was "entailed" land that John and Mary (PHILLIPS) Edwards sold was in fact the 100 acres originally given to Mary Swann in her father's will. Thus the 100 acres of entailed land that was willed to Matthew passed to Swann Phillips and after Swann's death to William, Jr., who in turn sold the land to Richard Hamlin. See the deed below:

Surry Co., VA Deed Book 4, p 285, dated and recorded 17 April 1745:  
John Edwards of Isle of Wight Co., VA to Thomas Binn of Surry Co., 30 Pounds Current Money, 100A in Southwark Parish bounded by Col Ludwell, the Cartpath that leads to Piney Road and William Holt.  
Signed JOHN EDWARDS

19 November 1751: Richard Hamlin and wife, Elizabeth Hamlin, to John Ruffin for 50 pounds current money—100 acres which said Hamlin bought from WILLIAM PHILLIPS on the West side of Chipokes Creek in Soutwarke parish and bounded by John Crafford, John Edwards, Philip Ludwell, Esq. and said Hamlin.



Note that the land was adjacent to John Edwards and John Crafford and also that Philip Ludwell was common to both this land and the land that John and Mary Phillips Edwards sold which Brayton believed was the “entailed” land. If one compares the description in the deeds for the above 100 acres and the 100 acres that John and Mary Phillips Edwards sold, it is apparent that the two properties have common adjacent landowners and are adjacent to one another.

Even if there was no surviving issue from the male descendants of William and Mary Swann Phillips, that does not mean there can be no closely related descendants, as I believe it is probable there were descendants of WILLIAM’s younger brother, JOHN PHILLIPS, JR., born circa 1678. This possibility will be discussed in the next section on the JOHN PHILLIPS who died in 1758 and whose will was proven in 1759 (hereafter referred to as JOHN 1758/59).

*JOHN PHILLIPS 1758/59*

*Surry CO VA Will of John Phillips written Aug 11, 1758, proved Jan 16, 1759:*

*In the name of God Amen I JOHN PHILLIPS of the County of Surry being of perfect sound Mind and Memory (Thanks be Given to Almighty God) Do make and Ordain this my last Will & Testament in Manner and form following that is to say --*

*I give to my Son John a Feather Bed and Furniture and Ten pounds Current Money.*

*Item: I give to my Son HARTWELL my Plantation in Southampton County containing Three hundred and Twenty Acres also the Plantation where on I now dwell and the Land on Bold Robin Branch in the County of Surry aforesaid to him and his Heirs forever ---*

*Item: I also give my Son HARTWELL my Two Negroes Boys named Frank and Jacob. Two Feather Beds and Furniture and Eleven pounds Curr. Money with the Interest thereon due by Bond from Mary Glover & Thos. Bailey junr I also give him my said Son HARTWELL my Young Bay Horse and my Saddle an Bridle Two Iron Potts & Hooks Five Chests Four Cyder Casks. One pot Rack the Shor?\_ Three Chairs one pieces of Cotton & Thread Virginia Cloth for Shirting and one piece all cotton to make him a Coat and Breeches, with Cotton Cloth to Line them to be delivered to him as he wants them together with all my wearing Cloths and those that were his deceased Brothers. One Broad Axe one Adze One Auger & Gouge---*

*Item: I direct that my Negro Wench Hanah shall be Sold by my Executors hereafter named for the best price that can be had and the Money arising by the Sale to be Equally divided between my Sons ARTHUR & JOSEPH and my Daughter MARY WARREN or the Survivors of them or their legal Representatives ---*

*Item: I give my Daughter MARY WARREN my Negro Boy named Jeff ---*

*Item: I direct that my Negroes named Sam. & Phillis, Mingo, and Sue, shall be Sold by my Executor hereafter named for the best Price that can be had and the Money arising by the Sales to be equally divided between my Son HARTWELL and my Five Daughters MARY, ELIZABETH, LUCY, SARAH and ANN or the Survivors of them or their legal Representatives ---*

*Item: I give my Daughter ELIZABETH One Iron Pott---*

*Item: I give to my Daughter LUCY one Iron Pott ---*

*Item: I give to my Daughter SARAH one Iron Pott ---*

*Item: I give to my Daughter ANN One Iron Pott & One Copper Kettle ---*

*Item: I give all the Rest of my Estate to be Equally divided between my five Children ELIZABETH, LUCY, SARAH, ANN & HARTWELL and I direct that my Negroes and other Necessaries be kept on my Plantation to Finish my Crop which is also to be equally divided amongst my last mentioned Five Children ---*

*Item: I direct that my Estate shall not be Appraised And I do hereby Constitute & appoint my Kinsman Carter Crafford and my Son HARTWELL Executors of this my Last Will revoking and making void all former Wills by me made Inn Witness wherof I have put my Hand and Seal this Eleventh Day of August Anno Domi 1758 ---*

<i>Signed Sealed Published and Declared</i>	}	<i>JOHN (his mark) PHILLIPS (SS)</i>
<i>To be the Last Will &amp; Testament of John</i>	}	
<i>Phillips in presence of -----</i>	}	
<i>John Ruffen, John Regan,</i>		
<i>William Maget -----</i>		

The JOHN PHILLIPS whose will was written in 1758 and proven in 1759 has generally been regarded by many researchers as being the son of WILLIAM and MARY SWANN PHILLIPS. There were some reasons that originally made that assumption a reasonable one. The Co-Executor of JOHN 1758/59's will (along with minor son Hartwell) was Carter Crafford, the same name as that of the Administrator of MARY SWANN PHILLIPS' will and the same as that of a witness to WILLIAM PHILLIPS' will. Carter Crafford, Sr., the administrator of MARY's will and a witness to WILLIAM's, was the son of Robert Crafford and Elizabeth Carter. He was married to Sarah Swann, the sister of Mary Swann.

However, the Carter Crafford who was the Administrator of John 1758/59's will was Carter, Jr., the son of the above Carter, Sr. Further, and for reasons stated earlier, I believe that John, son of William & Mary Swann Phillips, was already dead at the time of his mother's will in 1727.

John Anderson Brayton and John Boddie, another noted Virginia genealogist, both believed that JOHN 1758/59 was married to Carter Crafford, Sr.'s half-sister, MARTHA CRAFFORD, daughter of Robert Crafford and his 2nd wife Margaret Davis Crafford (eventually Margaret Braddy). JOHN 1758/59's will named Carter Crafford (Jr.) "my kinsman" as Administrator. JOHN would of course be related as the husband of Carter, Jr.'s aunt, MARTHA CRAFFORD. There are also other reasons that lead me to believe that John was married to Martha Crafford.

JOHN 1758/59 had three children who named a daughter MARTHA, almost always an indicator in Southern families that there was a close relative named Martha. MARTHA CRAFFORD also had a brother named ARTHUR. JOHN 1758/59 and his wife named a son ARTHUR. There is another reason and one that could also lead one to the probability that JOHN was not only married to MARTHA CRAFFORD but was also closely related to WILLIAM PHILLIPS, JR. son of William & Mary. We know from a 1738 deed wherein the younger William sold property that had been willed to him by his father, William, Sr., that WILLIAM., Jr.'s wife was named SARAH. Now look at the following estate account of John Crafford, son of Carter Crafford, Sr. who was a half-brother of MARTHA CRAFFORD, also keeping in mind that John Crafford lived adjacent to the property that William, Jr. sold (see 19 Nov. 1751 Deed below), and also adjacent to JOHN EDWARDS who married MARY PHILLIPS, daughter of WILLIAM and MARY SWANN PHILLIPS.

19 Sept 1738: Indenture made from William Phillips of Lawnes Creek [Parish] to William George of Parish and County aforesaid. Sum of 5 Shillings... Parcel of Land containing by estimation 200 ac more or less ... lying and being in Southwark Parish ... County aforesaid ... near the Cypress Swamp and the Land that my Father bought of William Hooker by deeds dated the 5th of Nov 1694 and is bounded as in and by the sd Deeds... signed William Phillips and Sarah Phillips. Wit: Chas. Binns, Joseph Delk and John Champion.

19 Nov. 1751: Richard Hamlin and wife, Elizabeth Hamlin, to John Ruffin for 50 pounds current money—100 acres which said Hamlin bought from WILLIAM PHILLIPS, (Jr.) on the West side of Chipoakes Creek in Southwarke parish and bounded by JOHN CRAFFORD, JOHN EDWARDS, Philip Ludwell, Esq. and said Hamlin.

Now see JOHN CRAFFORD'S 1762 Estate Account below:

Pg 103, Surry County, Virginia Deeds and Estate Accounts 1756-1787, by William Lindsay Hopkins. (p266) 19 Jan 1762 ... Account of Estate of JOHN CRAFFORD, decd., lists Quit Rent on 430 acres of land, Benjamin Newsum, John Drew, William Salter, Abraham Mitchell, Francis Little, ESTATE OF SARAH PHILLIPS, William Savidge, John Pope, Henry Weatherbond, James Barlow, John Newsum, James Jones, James Cason, Carter Crafford as Executor of Estate of JOHN PHILLIPS, DECD., William Godwin, Anselm Bailey.

Witness: William Philips Edwards, William Cornwell, John Beriman and Thomas Hart.

Also: From "Adventurers of Purse and Persons" by John Frederick Dorfman. pg 330, no. 98--- Jane Hancock (John, Jane Holt, Randall, Randall,) born 15 Aug., 1741, married (bond) 24 February 1762, HARTWELL PHILLIPS, son of JOHN and MARTHA (CRAFFORD) PHILLIPS, of Edgecombe Co. ,N.C., who married (2) by 1772, Feraby Jones and left will about 1807.

Absolute proof- NO, but taken together pretty compelling.

One reason it is important to establish whether or not John 1758/59 was married to Martha Crafford is that it can help define the date of births for John's children and determine which of the many Joseph Phillips in the area might be their son.

We know from John 1758/59's will that there were four living sons, five living daughters and one son "who died early". The living children were: Sons JOHN, Jr.; JOSEPH; ARTHUR & HARTWELL and Daughters MARY; ELIZABETH; LUCY; SARAH & ANN.

The son who died early was apparently in his teens or older as John willed that son's clothing to Hartwell, his youngest son who was circa 16 years old at the time of the will. One daughter, MARY, was married to Arthur Warren at the time JOHN's will was written. The other four were single in 1758 but were married by the time of the Estate Settlement in 1759 and thus were likely in the 16 to 21 age range in 1758 when the will was written.

Taking Hartwell Phillips date of birth as 1741 and working backward using a spacing of approximately two year intervals between children can give some approximate dob's for John & Martha's children.

- a. JOHN PHILLIPS, b. ca 1725
- b. ARTHUR PHILLIPS, b. ca 1727-34
- c. MARY PHILLIPS, b. ca 1727-34
- d. JOSEPH PHILLIPS, b. ca 1727-29
- e. LUCY PHILLIPS, b. ca 1736-42
- f. SARAH PHILLIPS, b. ca 1736-42
- g. ANN PHILLIPS, b. ca 1736-42
- h. ELIZABETH PHILLIPS, b. ca 1736-42
- i. (unknown) PHILLIPS, b. (?), d. before 1758
- j. HARTWELL PHILLIPS, b. ca 1741 m. Feraby Jones 24 Feb. 1762

Note: With the exception of HARTWELL, there are no records from which to determine sequence or date of births of the children. I assumed that JOHN, Jr. was the eldest. Joseph signed a marriage bond in January 1751 so he should have a dob of circa 1729 or before. While



this approach may not be accurate it does provide some reasonable assumptions for date of births or approximate ages for the children.

Determining the parents of JOHN 1758/59 is difficult. There are, however, some clues available from the deeds of the three pieces of land that JOHN 1758/59 willed to his son HARTWELL and earlier deeds wherein the land was initially acquired by a JOHN PHILLIPS.

(A.) Surry County Virginia Deeds, 1684-1733, 1694 - 1709, pg. 264:

5 March 1702, Charles Savage, planter, and wife Elizabeth Savage to JOHN PHILLIPS for 6000 pounds tobacco... 220 acres more or less bounded by Samuel Thompson, Nicholas Sessoms [Sessums]... branch bet sd Savage and Joseph Richardson

Wit. William Drew and John Simmons

Charles Savidge

Rec. 2 Mar 1702

Elizabeth (X) Savidge

Note: This should read 270 acres, not 220. Either transcribed wrong or a typo by transcriber. Per Debra Anderson, a fellow Phillips researcher, the microfilm copy of the original deed reads 270 acres. This also agrees with the 1704 Quit Rents list for Surry Co. which showed John Phillips with 270 acres.

The above land was willed to son HARTWELL by JOHN 1758/59 and then sold by HARTWELL: 26 Aug. 1766, Surry Co. Deed Book 8, 1760-69

HARTWELL PHILLIPS and wife Jane Phillips of Edgecombe Co. in North Carolina to Anthony Digge of Surry County for 30 pounds current money-270 acres bounded by a former corner of Samuel Thompson and Nicholas Sessoms and a branch formerly between Charles Savage and Joseph Richardson.  
HARTWELL PHILLIPS

Deeds B & C below were also land willed by John 1758/59 to son Hartwell and subsequently sold by him.

(B.) Surry Co. Virginia Deeds 1684-1733 and other court papers, 1715 - 1730, pg. 255: 16 Feb 1719, Loveless Savidge Planter of Surry CO [Indenture also signed by wife, Sarah Savidge], to JOHN PHILLIPSs... 265 acres near a parcel surveyed for Charles Savidge and bounded by Mr. Samuel Thompson, This Land being formerly granted to Robert Savidge on 20 Apr 1682 and being given by will of sd Robert Savage to sd Loveless Savidge.

Wit. Robert Ruffin and William Drew

Loveless Savidge

Rec. 17 Feb 1719

Sarah Savidge

19 Mar 1764, Surry CO VA Reg. 20 March 1764 Db-8, p. 212:

HARTWELL and wife Jane of Southwark Parish to John Warren of same, 45 pounds current money, 265 ac, land granted to Robert Savidge 20 April 1682, who willed it to Loveless Savidge, who sold it 16 Feb 1719 to JOHN PHILLIPS, the father of HARTWELL, which JOHN willed it to his son.

Wit: John Watkins, Henry Davis

(C.) [Virginia Genealogical Society Quarterly](#) > [Volume 28](#) > Number 2

28 Aug 1746, Patent Grant, JOHN PHILLIPS, 320a, Isle of Wight, S. side of main Black Water, in Etheldred Taylor's line, S. side of Lightwood Sw., C. of John Branch's land, (p.211)

Southampton County, Virginia Deed Book 3, 1760 to 1767, transcribed by Forrest King, pg 392-392:

26 Feb 1765, HARTWELL PHILLIPS of North Carolina to EDMUND BRANCH 320 acres (patent to JOHN PHILLIPS of Surry County, Virginia on 28 Aug 1746 and by will given to sd. HARTWELL), S: HARTWELL (signed) PHILLIPS, W: JOSHUA (signed) WOOD, DAVID (signed) HATFIELD, and JOSEPH (signed) GRAY

Wit: Joshua Wood [Joshua was brother-in-law of HARTWELL], David Hatfield, Joseph Gray.

Recorded: 12th Sept 1765

As noted previously, JOHN, the son of WILLIAM (b. ca 1671) AND MARY SWANN PHILLIPS, could not have been born much prior to 1700 and therefore could not possibly be purchasing land in 1702. If the JOHN purchasing land in 1702 is from Lawnes Creek Parish (and the proximity of the Craffords and Phillips in the Lawnes Creek Tithing List support the likelihood of John 1758/59 being from Lawnes Creek), then it narrows the candidates to either someone for whom no previous records have been found (and who is not on the Lawnes Creek tithing lists prior to 1703) or it is the JOHN PHILLIPS, younger brother of the WILLIAM PHILLIPS who married MARY SWANN. That JOHN PHILLIPS, brother of WILLIAM, was born prior to June 1678 and at the time of the land purchase in 1702 would have been about 24 years of age. This latter seems to be the most likely but raises some questions. If the John who purchased the land in 1702 is JOHN 1758/59, then he:

(A) Delayed marriage to circa 1720-21 at age 42-43 and fathered children until age 63. OR

(B) Was married more than once, and the second marriage was to MARTHA CRAFFORD circa 1725-27 and he fathered children with Martha Crafford until age 63 (Hartwell b. 1741) and died at about age 81.

Another possibility would be that John, Jr., born ca 1678, was the purchaser of the land in 1702 but that one or both of the other two pieces of property were purchased by a son, (John III). Although records in Surry Co. were maintained fairly well, none have been found to indicate such a son. No deed transferring property, no will of John, Jr. and no Estate Inventory, Estate Account (or an Estate Administrator appointment as would be required if he had died intestate).

Although we have no way of being certain whether John 1758/59 was the son or the grandson of John, Sr., brother of William Phillips, from a genealogical standpoint (DNA) it makes no difference. The DNA Y markers of descendants of either a brother or a son would be the same.

#### MALE DESCENDANTS OF JOHN PHILLIPS 1758/59

As listed earlier, the four sons of JOHN 1758/59 were: JOHN, JR.; JOSEPH; ARTHUR & HARTWELL.

Records in both Virginia and North Carolina indicate that all four of JOHN 1758/59's sons migrated to Edgecombe Co., N.C. There was a Joseph Phillips buying land in Edgecombe Co., N.C. in 1741 but nothing to ensure that it was Joseph, son of JOHN 1758/59. Deeds in 1750 and 1751 however can be attributed to him. In January 1751, Joseph married Sarah Exum,

daughter of John Exum who also owned land on the Suscuhannah Branch in Isle of Wight (later Southampton Co.). Arthur and Hartwell also purchased land in Edgecombe County, N.C.

JOHN, Jr., in a will dated September 30, 1781 in Edgecombe County, named as Executors of his will nephews Exum and Ethelred Phillips, both sons of his brother JOSEPH PHILLIPS. JOHN, Jr. had three sons but all predeceased their mother, Sarah, and left no issue. There are probably some lineal male descendants of some of the Edgecombe Phillips alive somewhere but to date the only person found is one recently tested in our DNA program and who supposedly was a descendant of HARTWELL PHILLIPS. Unfortunately there were no DNA matches to Phillips in the Family Tree DNA database. The descendants of Joseph Phillips of Edgecombe Co., NC who went to Tennessee were tracked for several generations but ran out of male descendants. If any further descendants of JOHN 1758/59 are to be found I believe they will have to come from the descendants of ETHELRED PHILLIPS, son of JOSEPH PHILLIPS.

### Addendum:

Rex decided to send a copy of the above research to noted genealogist John Anderson Brayton, one of the leading experts on North Carolina and Virginia families. Mr. Brayton is the author of 14 books and numerous articles in highly respected periodicals. Rex received the following response from Mr. Brayton:

*Dear Mr. Phillips:*

*Please forgive my delay in responding to your discussion of John Phillips. I don't know if you've ever written a book or not, but I can tell you that once it is at the publishers, it goes magically right out of one's head. At least for me. I read your letter several times, and I can't help agreeing that John Phillips must be a brother of William, based, if for nothing else, on his listing in the 1704 Quit Rents. Perhaps he did marry twice - that certainly seems simpler and more reasonable, but I was not "qualified" to make that decision when I wrote the book.*

*I am a descendant of Robert Harris through the Sugars, and this was my first acquaintance with the Phillips families. I thought that the woman who made a deposition along with old John Phillips was his first wife. I don't have a copy of the book in front of me at my office - they have, happily, sold out. The curse of dealing with a family with whom one is not intimately connected is that one just isn't privy to all the centuries of secrets and gossip about that family.*

*I don't know what else to say that might be of help. Please feel free to write me again at the above and below address. You have done some excellent work on the Phillipses, certainly worthy of an article in the Magazine of VA Genealogy, or some such. You solved a complicated problem.*

*Sincerely,*

*John A. Brayton*