

Was One of the 20 Plus Africans Landed at Jamestown in 1619 an Ancestor?
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Henry and Polly Taylor were born in Mecklenburg County, Virginia during the last two decades of the 1700s. While there is no known surviving information as to who their parents and grandparents were, it is possible that one of them was a descendant of one of the twenty plus Africans landed at Jamestown in 1619 by the ship, the White Lion.

How could this be so? You ask. Well, if we count 25 years as a generation there are seven generations between the arrival of the Africans and Henry and Polly's birth during the latter part of the 1700s. If we further assume that 15 of the original Africans survived and produced children and that the people in each generation produced an average of 4 children each, then by the time Henry and Polly are born theoretically there are 245,760 persons in the Colonies with DNA from those original 20 plus Africans landed at Jamestown in 1619.

Henry and Polly Taylor were enslaved by Edmund Taylor, one of Rev. Howell Taylor's sons. They came to Tennessee from Virginia with Edmund Taylor during the first quarter of the 1800s and settled with Taylor and his family in Fayette County near Dancyville in the area of the white folks' church, Taylors Chapel, and the black folks church, Mount Olive.

Henry and Polly married and produced a daughter, Jennie Taylor. Around 1836, Jennie Taylor married Madison Taylor. Little has been discovered about Madison's line, not even the names of his parents. Jennie and Madison Taylor had 5 known children - David Taylor, Henry Taylor, Robert Taylor, Martha Taylor and Agnes Taylor. The third son married Louisa Freeman, the daughter of Mary Bryant Freeman and Daniel Freeman, in 1881. The late Calvin Nelson Douglass and Ms. Lelia Kate Greer are descendants of Henry and Polly Taylor.