

# THE BONDURANT FAMILY ASSOCIATION

---

Route 3 Box 3120, Danielsville, GA 3063-9611

*SPRING 1989, NEWSLETTER NUMBER 7*

## SEE YOU IN RICHMOND, VA, JUNE 2-4TH

It's not too late to make plans to join us at **Holiday Inn-Downtown**, 301 W. Franklin St., Richmond, VA 23220 (804/644-9871) for our 1989 gathering (a downtown map is included in this issue on page 2).

The Holiday Inn-Downtown is holding a block of rooms for BFA guests until May 1st at the convention rate of \$45 per room (1 to 4 persons). Please make your reservations with the hotel.

M. Edouard Goulon-Sigwalt, who researched the Bondurants in Europe some years ago, and his sister Mrs. Mariellé Bondurant of Casper, WY, may be with us. If they are willing time will be set aside in the program for them to share with us the experience of research among French records.

There will be no fee for our program, but registration will begin at 6 p.m. on Friday, June 2nd, prior to the "Meet-Your-Kin" session at 7. Won't you bring family photos, memorabilia, Bible copies and charts to share?

Saturday's meeting begins at 9, with an election of officers and site selection for the next annual meeting. Presentations on the Bondurant lands and lives in VA, and in France are scheduled, with lunch on your own. The program concludes by 5 p.m.

On Sunday, an optional auto tour will visit Jean Pierre's reported grave site, and his 1725 land patent near Manakin, then go to Matoaca where his 1708-9 plantation lay.

**RESEARCH:** come early, and join in a work session at the Virginia State Library and Archives. Help is needed to abstract the post-1782 tax digests for Virginia counties where Bondurants lived; to examine plat books for Bondurant lands; read church records and published histories for mentions of Bondurant descendants. Can you help?

**THE COMMEMORATIVE MARKER** style, text, and location will be discussed at the June meeting. The Association will decide.

**WE'VE MORE NEW MEMBERS** - There were 100 on Feb. 1st, now there are 112. Send us the names and addresses of your "cousins" and we'll notify them of the Association and our coming meeting.

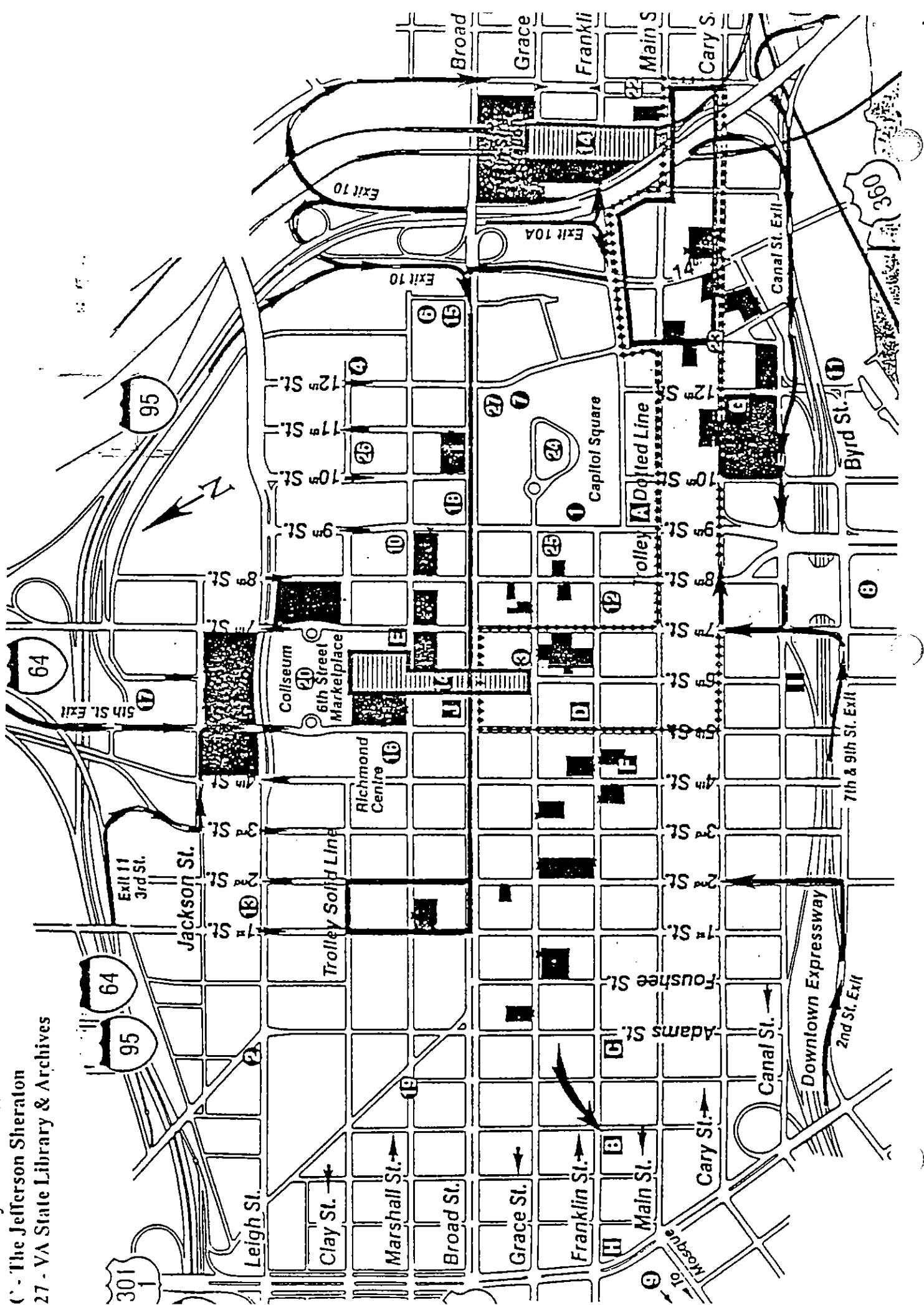
**FAMILY GROUP RECORDS** have been received from 99 persons. In addition several have sent extensive research on Bondurants, both their direct ancestors, and collateral, newspaper clippings about modern Bondurants, and help identifying some of the "Unknowns".

To each and every one, thanks from the whole Association!

**THE INTERNATIONAL GENEALOGICAL INDEX (I.G.I.)** was prepared by the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints (LDS) Family History Library, from family information submitted to them over a period of years, as well as indexes to primary records. We have now abstracted all Bondurants (and numerous other spellings of the surname) from the 1988 edition of the I.G.I.

**CENSUS INDEXES** for most of the eastern and mid-western states have also been abstracted for Bondurants. Would you like to volunteer to transcribe the actual census entry for known Bondurants in your state? Given the year, county, and page numbers, and the form on which to abstract, can you provide the work?

B - Holiday Inn-Downtown  
 C - The Jefferson Sheraton  
 27 - VA State Library & Archives



THE DATA BASE is growing, thanks to numerous contributions of records from BFA members, and others. Everything may not be on the computer by June 1st but we'll bring what we have to the meeting. Won't you do likewise?

## OUR FIRST HUNDRED YEARS, 1676-1776

*From France to Virginia*

We wrote of Jean Pierre Bondurant from his birth in France to Virginia in the last issue. Let's follow him through mid-life to his death.

1713, Henrico Co., VA. Jean Pierre sued several persons and estates, presumably seeking payment for debt or services rendered. The only land which belonged to him so far as we now know lay near Matoaca, in lower Chesterfield County, northwest of Petersburg. How he obtained the land cannot be proved, but the 200 acres were sold in 1708 to John Wilson, Sr., a local large land-owner.

### WHERE WERE JEAN PIERRE AND HIS FAMILY BETWEEN 1714-1719?

After appearing in court records at almost every session, there was no sign of Jean Pierre in Henrico County, VA, for five years. It doesn't seem likely that he suddenly was paid promptly, and settled all claims immediately, after a long history of litigation. What happened?

An obvious possibility is that the Bondurant family moved. Where did they go, and why? Did they join the dissenting Huguenots who broke away from the Manakin congregation and left for the "Trent River" in North Carolina about 1711.

Led by Pastor Claudius Philippe de Richbourg, these former Manakintown Huguenots were caught by the Tuscarora Indian attacks, and moved further southward to South Carolina where they settled on land grants in the Orange Quarter. Did Jean Pierre join them, then decide to return to Virginia? We know some of the Fords were in this group. Only further research will tell us.

### THE TITHE LISTS

"An Act Concerning Tithables" passed in 1705 defined the methods of collecting tithes, and what persons were deemed tithable. All male persons 16 and upwards (of any color) and all negro, mulatto, and Indian women 16 and upward NOT BEING FREE (i.e. slaves) were declared tithable, or chargeable for defraying the public, county and parish charges in this her Majesty's colony and dominion; excepting such only as the county court, and vestry, for reasons in charity made appear to them, shall think fit to excuse. The county justice of the peace was to take the lists of tithables each June 10th, from persons residing in his precinct. The list was to be delivered to the clerk of the county court at the August term of court. A copy of the tithe list was to be displayed in the court house "there to remain during the sitting of the court, for the view and inspection of all that please, and for the discovery of such as shall be concealed."

Absentee landowners were to be represented on the tithe lists by their attorney, or overseer. In case of illness of head of family, they could take or send their list to the justice's home between June 10th and the end of the month without penalty.

Exempted from the tithe were the governor and his family, and any "beneficed" minister within the colony. Records of the Huguenot's King William Parish include tithe lists showing persons who held land within the Huguenot reserve, which formed the parish's boundaries. Jean Pierre was not seen there until 1730. Had he been a resident of the French settlement, or had settled some other person on his land, his name would have been included in the annual tithe lists from 1726-9.

### WAS HE IN A NEIGHBORING COUNTY?

Henrico County was bounded south of the Appomattox River by Prince George County, east across the Appomattox by Charles City County, and north across the York River by New Kent County.

Jean Pierre may have moved his family to an adjoining county for this period. He was in court several times suing to collect debts owed him by persons whose land holdings were in Charles City Co. in the pre-1710 period. There are large gaps in this county's records, and most of the gaps occur in the early 1700s.

In New Kent, a county formed in 1654 there are record losses to the Civil War period in most groups. No help there! Prince George, formed in 1702 from Charles City County, offers some hope. In spite of record losses, there are scattered deeds, plats, and other documents surviving in the 1710-20 period.

### JEAN PIERRE REAPPEARED IN HENRICO COUNTY RECORDS IN 1719

Henrico County Court Order books again show activity:  
 1719 February Court, Jean Pierre sued MATHIEW TURPIN, JOHN GARRIT, and ABIATHA GREEN for debt. The latter two suits were dismissed.  
 1720 October Court, MATHIEW CUMIN sued Jean Pierre for debt.  
 1721 May Court, Jean Pierre sued GEORGE CARTER, and was sued by JOHN BOLLING, Gentleman.  
 Since none of the three appeared in court to prosecute the suits, all were dismissed.  
 1722 August Court, THOMAS PATEMAN sued Jean Pierre for debt and obtained a judgment.  
 RICHARD WARD, JR. also sued for payment on a mare sold Jean Pierre 2-18-1722, and obtained a judgment against Jean Pierre.

1723 September Court, JOHN SOANE sued Jean Pierre.  
 1723 November Court, Jean Pierre sued the estate of HENRY LEISTER, WILLIAM RANDOLPH, executor.

### JEAN PIERRE RECEIVED HIS ONLY LAND PATENT IN 1725

On March 24, Jean Pierre received a patent for 400 acres of land in Goochland County (which was cut off from Henrico) on the south side of James River and Jones Creek, by purchase from the King. This was recorded in Patent Book 1724-1725, pages 399-400. It was this property which Jean Pierre divided among his sons in his 1734 will. This is the first and only land patent found for Jean Pierre in Virginia, he was 48 years old at the time -- an old man by contemporary standards.  
 This patented land was NOT in the Huguenot reserve of 10,000 acres which had previously been laid out, but was south and west of its southwestern boundary.

### THE KING WILLIAM PARISH RECORDS

That Jean Pierre had not yet returned to live in the Manakin area can be proved by his absence from the annual tithing lists of the congregation until 1730. It is not clear from the church records whether the congregational boundaries might have been extended to include non-Reserve lands, or whether Jean Pierre's patent had not been occupied until 1730.

The annual tithing lists of the parish show the Bondurant family thus:  
 1730, Pierre Bondurant, Jean Bondurant - 2 tithes. (Both men had to be 16 or older. The sons Peter and John ONLY; their father Jean Pierre not included.) Their entries are followed by that of Mathieu Agé, for whom the creek on the eastern boundary of Jean Pierre's patent was named.  
 1731, Jean Pierre Bondurant, Jean Bondurant, Pierre Bondurant - 3 tithes. They were preceded in the list by Mathieu Agé.  
 1732, NO BONDRANTS WERE ON THE TITHE LIST; Mathew Agee is also missing. Could there be a loss of records?  
 1733, Jean Pierre Bondurant, Jean Bondurant, and Pierre Bondurant - 3 tithes. Mathew Agee was not on this list.

*It is my desier thatt my son Peter Bondrant have his Shair of land on the S & E end of Age Branch and my son John Bondrant and my son Joseph Bondrant to have their shair on the S & W of my Branch to equal divided between them acording as the lines goeth and to have the liberty of Cuting any Pine or pinetree upon my son Peter Bondrant land for their youse.*

(Reverse side) *Jno. Pet. Bondurant's Will. January 1734 [1734/35] Recorded.*

*At a Court held for Goochland County Juny 21st 1734 [1734/35]. This will was proved by the Oaths of John Cook & James Ford two of the witnesses hereto and was admitted to Record.*

*Test. Henry Wood, Clerk.*

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VIRGINIA, Deed Book 2, pages 56-7.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The handwriting of the will is not that of John Peter, nor is the spelling of the surname consistent with his signature. Despite illness and weakness which he mentioned in the will, John Peter's signature was firm and literate, very similar as his signature in the church register in Switzerland many years before. At the time the will was drawn he was 57, an advanced age for the time.

A holdover from medieval handwriting is seen in John Peter's will; the pronoun I, now capitalized, was then written as a lower-case j. It was the earlier convention to use the j form for a single i or when the i concluded a Roman numeral. Thus xvii was written xvij. I have transcribed the j as a lower case i when found in John Peter's will.

The witness John Bondurant must have been John Peter's son. Under the law, had the younger John been needed to prove the will, he would have forfeited his right to his inheritance. Fortunately the other two witnesses, Cook and Ford proved the will, and John's legacy was saved.

**WHO INHERITED WHAT (IN ORDER AS THEY ARE MENTIONED IN THE WILL):**

Son JOHN BONDURANT - 125 acres of land "which he now dwelleth on", horse, bed, blanket, rug, sheet, hide, bedcord, iron pot, dish, basin, 3 plates, cow and calf "that he is now porsest of".

John's land, and Joseph's, to be south and west of "my branch".

Son PETER BONDURANT - 150 acres on the Agee Creek boundary (eastern) of John's land. Horse Smoaker, cow and calf, 2 sows and 4 shoats, a puter dish, basin, 6 plates, 1 porringer, 6 pewter spoons, an iron pot, a rug, blanket, sheet, brown lining "to make him a bed". Peter also received his father's wearing apparel, to be distributed to him as the widow saw fit.

PROVISO: If either John or Peter died without issue, the surviving son received the legacy of the deceased son. The will, and the tithe list, suggests that John was already married and living apart from his parents, but had no "heir apparent".

Son JOSEPH BONDURANT - 125 acres with improvements "wheair i now dwelleth" (the homeplace), located on the south and west of "my branch", a cow and calf, another calf in the possession of son-in-law James Ford, 2 sows, 4 shoats, a ram sheep, a mare colt with her colts. The mare's foals to be returned to father John Peter. Joseph also received 2 dishes (one large, one small), a basin, 6 plates, a porringer, a "Point pot", sow and 4 shoats.

Daughter MRS. ANN FORD, a heifer 18 months old, a sow and pigs.

Daughter MRS. FRANCIS SALLE, a heifer aged 18 months, a sow and pigs.

The widow MRS. ANN BONDURANT, remaining estate, land and personal property.

1734, Jean Bonduran, Jr. - 1 tith; Jean Pierre Bonduran - 2 tithes. The split entry shows that Jean, Jr. has set up his own household within the year 1734. Was son Peter the second, but unnamed tith in Jean Pierre's home?

1735, Jean Bonduran, Pierre Bonduran - 2 tithes. (Jean Pierre had died between the signing of his will and its proving in March 1735.)

### JEAN PIERRE BONDURANT'S WILL

Transcribed from the original, now on file at VA State Archives. Original spelling, punctuation, and capitalization retained with the exception of names of family members which have been highlighted.

*In the name of God amen i JOHN PETER BONDRANT being sick and weak but of a good sound disposing mind and memory all prais be giving to god for it and now minding to settel my worly estate which it is please god to bestow upon me before i depart this life doth make and appoint this to be my last will and testament in manner and form following*

*first i give my soul to god that gave it me and my body to the earth from whence it takin to be decently entered according to the decrescion of my Excutors heairafter mentioned*

*Item i give and bequeth unto my son JOHN BONDRANT one Hundred and Twentifive acors of Land which he now dwelleth on and one hors and one bed and blankit and Rug and sheet and hide and bedcord and one Iron pot one dish one bason and Three plaits and one Cow and Calf that he is now porsest of to him and his ares forever*

*Item i give and bequeath unto my son PETER BONDRANT one Hundred and fifty Acors of Land on Age Crick and upalong us the crick goes and a Hors naimed Smoaker and one Cow and Calf and Two Sous and fore Shoties and one puter Dish and one Bason and Six plaits one porrenger and six putor spoons and one Iron Pot and one Rugg one Blankit and one Sheet and brown lining to make him a bed to him and his ares lawfully begotten for ever but if are a one of my too sons die without issue then to the sorviveor and to his ares lawfully begotten forever*

*Item i give and bequeth unto my son JOSEPH BONDRUANT one Hundred and Twenty five acors of Land with the purinancis [appurtenances] belonging their unto whear i now dwelleth and one Cow and Calf and one Calf in the possession of JAMES FORD and too Sous and fore Shots and one Ram sheep and one Meair Coalt with the hors Colts that she has & the meair fols to return to me for ever and too Dishis one larg and one small and one Bason and six plaits and one Porrenger and one Point pot and one Sow and fore Shoats to him and his ares for ever*

*Item i give and bequeth to my Daughter ANN FORD one Heffer eighteen munts ould and one Sow and pigs to her and her ares forever*

*Item i give and bequeth unto my Daughter FRANCIS SALLE one Heffer att the age of Eighteen munts and one Sow and Pigs to her and her ares forever and i do give unto my son PETER BONDRANT all my weairing cloaths and it is my desir that my Wife should Keep them and let him have them as she thinks fit and my Carpentors Tools and Shumakers Tools and Croscut Saw and Wedgis i leave for the use of my Wife and my too sons and that their be no hindrance or molistation of any person or person whotsoever*

*Item i give to my loving Wife ANN BONDRANT after my just depts and funeral charges and leagucies are paid all the remainder of my Estate my land personnolly in this place or else wheair to hir and hir ares for ever and i do leve my loving Wife Ann Bundrant hole and sole Excutor of this my last will and testament revoking all other wills or wills made by me heairtofore as Witness my hand an fxt my seal this Twentyfift Day of September 1734*

*J Bondurant*

*Test John Cook*

*James Ford E his mark*

*John bondurant*

(Codicil added at the bottom:)

### WE CAN FOLLOW THE FAMILY THROUGH THE KING WILLIAM PARISH RECORDS

The parent Jean Pierre, or John Peter Bondurant, as he was then known in Virginia, died either in late 1734 or early Jan. 1735, near Manakin. His estate was offered for probate in Goochland Co., VA, which had been cut off from Henrico Co. a decade before. The last year of life of Jean Pierre was 1734; he reported 2 tithes, himself and one other (possibly Peter, but more likely a slave).

1735 - Jean Bonduran and Pierre Bonduran - 2, reported jointly.

1736 - Jean and Pierre Bonduran - 2, reported jointly. Mathieu Ogé (Agee) again appeared with 3 tithables.

1737 - Joseph Bonduran was reported for the first time; his entry was widely separated from his brothers Jean and Pierre Bonduran who were listed individually.

René or Rane Chastain was elected to the Vestry in this year and took the oath of office. He continued to serve until January 1744. Whether he was the father of the man who became an early Baptist minister in VA, or the minister himself is uncertain. The family intermarried with the Bondurants.

1738 - Jean Bonduran - 1, followed by Edward Tanner, Jr. - 1. Further down the list was "The Widow Bonduran" reporting 3 tithables. If Peter and Joseph were her tithables, neither was named; who was the third - possibly a slave. The tithes list are missing after 1738. Bondurants are next mentioned in 1749 in the Vestry Book which ended in 1750.

1749 - Jean Bonduran and Joseph Bonduran elected as vestryman, and Joseph chosen to be Church Warden. The men signed their names in the English form: John Bondurant and Joseph Bondurant.

1750 - Jean and Joseph reelected to the vestry, and Jean replaced Joseph as Church Warden. Both signed again with the English form of their names. This ends the surviving records of King William Parish for the colonial period.

### THE WIDOW BONDURANT

Little is known of Jean Pierre's widow Ann - her surname, parentage, and vital statistics. She appeared only once in the King William Parish tithe list, in 1738.

1744 - A deed from WILLIAM MAYO, Gentleman, of Goochland Co., VA to THOMAS TABB, Gentleman, for £253, transferred 1580 acres lying between Appomattox River and Flat Creek. Adjoining owners were JOSEPH SCOTT, JOHN DABNEY, THOMAS BURTON, DANIEL HAMBLEN, JAMES COLLINS, and JOHN SHORT dec'd. The land was part of a patent of 6778 acres granted to Mayo 2-27-1734. Witnesses to the deed were OBEDIENCE TURPIN, ANN BONDURANT, and HENRY POWELL. The deed was acknowledged by Mayo and proved by the oaths of all three witnesses in Amelia County, 4-19-1745 and recorded in Deeds 1742-1747, page 129-31. Obedience is of interest, for Peter Bondurant was one of the witnesses to her will signed 1-26-1746, proved 6-17-1749. Her parents were John Branch and Martha. Obedience Branch m. 1st 11-1796 John Cocke; 2nd Alexander Trent who died testate 1703; 3rd Thomas Turpin who died 1724 leaving her as his executrix.

1752 - Ann was apparently living in Cumberland Co., VA for in June a negro girl named Lucy, belonging to Ann was "adjudged to be 9 years old" (for tax purposes). No slave was listed in the inventory of Jean Pierre's estate, so Ann must have obtained the child from some other source. All three sons were also in Cumberland County at this time.

1768 - Cumberland Co., VA tithes list an ANNE BONDURANT as well as Joseph Bondurant were listed. We can't be sure that this was Jean Pierre's widow, but it seems possible. When she died, and where has not yet been discovered. Any additional records on Ann would be welcomed!

**CENSUS ABSTRACT FORM** helps you follow an ancestor through 60 years of censuses. The name goes on the first line, birth and death dates on the second. Write the number found in each census category in the appropriate space. Copy the names of the 5 persons above and below him on the census list, for these are neighbors. They may be kinfolks or in-laws.

PROVISO: The widow and sons John and Peter were to share the carpenter and shoemaker's tools crosscut saw, and wedges. Joseph and John were given the right to cut pine trees on Peter's portion of the plantation "for their own use".

THE LAND IS ACCOUNTED FOR: John Peter's 400 acre patent was thus divided into three tracts. Peter's 150 acres lay along Agee's or Matthew's Creek on the easternmost boundary. John and Joseph received the western two-thirds, and Joseph received the house and outbuildings in addition. Their lands lay on the "south and west of my branch".

*AN INVENTORY OF THE ESTATE OF JNO. PETER BONDURANT DECEAS'D*  
*being apprais'd by us the Subscribers ye 24th Day of January 1734/5 vizt.*

29 head of hogs	£2:18:0
14 head of cattle	8:12:6
3 horses and 1 mare & fold [foal]	7:15:0
1 sheep	0:3:6
4 Beds & a pallatt with their furniture	10:00:0
Ye Books	1:00:0
4 pots & ye Iron tumber	5:00:0
the old Brass	2:00:0
the Earthen & Stone Ware	0:12:6
the Puter	2:5:0
the docters means & old lumber	3:5:0
The wareing cloaths & Sword	5:00:0
1 looking Glass & cainster & vial	0:02:6
The Cotten Wool and Flax	1:16:9
The Loom wheels & chairs	1:5:0
The Gun & Virginia Cloath	1:10:0
6 yards of checks & 7-1/2 yards duroy	1:6:0
a Chest & Table & Lumber	1:0:0
Iron Lumb'ring and blanket & sheer	1:0:0
A parcell of Tobacco and Rope	4:14:0
[Total]	£61:5:9

[Appraised and signed by:]

*Tho's Turpine*

*Wm. Lansdon*

*John Hamilton*

At a Court held for Goochland County May ye 20th 1735

*This Inventory was ordered to be recorded*

*Test. Henry Wood Clerk.*

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VIRGINIA, Deed Book 2, page 99.

**WHAT WAS LEFT FOR THE WIDOW'S SUPPORT?**

Ann received the perishable property, most of the household furniture, and the majority of the stock. It is presumed that she continued to live in the homeplace with their son Joseph until that property was sold.



**1790-1840 CENSUS ABSTRACTS FOR:**

Born		Died												
<b>1790</b>	State, County Males	Under 16	16 up	Females	SLAVES									
<b>1800</b>	State, County Males	0-10	10-16	16-26	26-45	45 up								
SLAVES	Females	0-10	10-16	16-26	26-45	45 up								
<b>1810</b>	State, County Males	0-10	10-16	16-18	16-26	26-45	45 up							
SLAVES	Females	0-10	10-16	16-26	26-45	45 up								
<b>1820</b>	State, County Males	0-10	10-16	16-18	16-26	26-45	45 up							
SLAVES	Females	0-10	10-16	16-26	26-45	45 up								
<b>1830</b>	State, County													
Males		0-	5-	10-	15-	20-	30-	40-	50-	60-	70-	80-	90-	100
		5	10	15	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	up
Females		0-	5-	10-	15-	20-	30-	40-	50-	60-	70-	80-	90-	100
SLAVES		5	10	15	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	up
<b>1840</b>	State, County													
Males		0-	5-	10-	15-	20-	30-	40-	50-	60-	70-	80-	90-	100
		5	10	15	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	up
Females		0-	5-	10-	15-	20-	30-	40-	50-	60-	70-	80-	90-	100
SLAVES		5	10	15	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	up
<b>Revolutionary Pensioner</b>														

List five persons appearing above and below this individual on the census enumeration of:

1790

1800

1810

1820

1830

1840

REMARKS:

THE BONDURANT FAMILY ASSOCIATION