

The Logsdon Family

The first reference found regarding the Logsdon name in America is dated January 16, 1674.

"Captain Samuel Smith of Virginia proved his right to 300 acres of land for transporting Robert Dewberry, William Belcher, Thomas Humphries, William Logsdon, George Young, Jesiah Blackwell, and William Golden to the Province to inhabit."

William Logsdon, and the others, were indentured to Captain Smith for their passage. They either couldn't or wouldn't pay for their transportation, but chose instead to work for Captain Smith, without pay, for four years. Soon after 1678, William Logsdon acquired land for himself and became a planter, with tobacco as his principal crop.

William Logsdon was married to Honor O'Flynn, said to have been abducted from Ireland and a woman of great piety, circa 1702. At the time, William would have been close to 48 years old.

During the early years of the Colonies, the owners or Captains of ships acquired willing women in Europe and brought them here to become wives of the settlers. The settlers then paid for the passage. If enough women were not found to fill orders, the Captains were not above kidnapping young girls and bringing them by force. Honor O'Flynn is believed to have brought Catholicism to the Logsdon, and later the Durbin, families.

May 12, 1707.

"By virtue of assignment of 100 acres, warrent assigned by Gregory Davis of Baltimore County on the 19th of April last, unto William Logsdon of the said County, part of a warrent for 200 acres granted said Gregory Davis on the 17th day of April last, I, John Israel, deputy surveyer under Mr. Clement Hill, Jr., have laid out to the aforesaid William Logsdon that tract and parcel of land called BEDFORD, lying in Baltimore County on the north side of the POTAPACE River"

William also acquired a tract of land called BROTHERLY LOVE, near York and Adams Counties, Pennsylvania, May 22, 1730.

In September, 1726, William deeded 97½ acres of land to his daughter Ann, wife of Samuel Durbin. This land was to be used by Samuel's family until the death of William Logsdon, and was then supposed to revert back to William's estate. Honor, wife of William Logsdon, released her dower right to the land.

William Logsdon died after 1730 and before 1742. He was born prior to 1652, and was at least 72 years old at the time of death. The 1742 date was derived from the fact that a part of his land was sold by three of his sons, William II, John and Edward, in that year. George Conti was the purchaser of the land.

The known children of William Logsdon and Honor O'Flynn are: Ann, William II, John, Edward, Prudence, Honor and Thomas.

Ann, daughter of William Logsdon and Honor O'Flynn, was married to Samuel Durbin, parentage unknown, July 4, 1723.

William II, son of William Logsdon and Honor O'Flynn, was married to Ann Davis, parentage unknown, circa 1730.

Known children of William Logsdon II and Ann Davis are:

1. Comfort, born circa 1731.
2. Ann, born circa 1733.
3. Lawrence, born circa 1735.
4. William III, born circa 1736.
5. Elisha, born circa 1739.

The family of Elisha Logsdon is of the most importance to the Logsdons of Sunfish, for it was through him and his descendants that they can be traced back to England.

Elisha, son of William Logsdon II and Ann Davis, was married to Rebecca, daughter of Clement Howard, Sr. and an unknown wife, date not unknown.

Elisha lived for a short time in an area west of Fort Cumberland, Maryland, on land which had been set aside for veterans of the Revolutionary War. Each soldier received 50 acres of land, officers received 200 acres. There were some Durbins and other Logsdons living in this same area in the early 1780's. Circa 1791/1792, Elisha settled in Madison County, Kentucky.

It is not known when Rebecca Howard Logsdon died, but Elisha was married second to Susannah Baker, a widow, in Madison County, December 29, 1798. Susannah's maiden was probably Lackey, for that name was on Elisha's will, but had been crossed out.

Before her marriage to Elisha Logsdon, Susannah had been married to a Baker, and they had lived, or were supposed to have lived, somewhere near the Mammoth Cave. The Baker home was attacked by Indians, and Baker and a son were killed and scalped. Susannah and a daughter, Nancy, were captured and carried off, but Susannah managed to escape. The Indians took Nancy to their village and held her for two years. Nancy had flaming red hair, and this fascinated the Indians so much that they intended to adopt her into the tribe. They pierced Nancy's ears, nine holes in each ear, in preparation for the ceremony.

A Mr. Whitlock, an Indian trader, visited the Indian village and, suspecting the red-haired girl to be Nancy Baker, paid the Indians \$500.00 for her, and returned her to her family.

Elisha Logsdon died before November 6, 1815, the date his will was probated in Madison County. The will, dated January 29, 1814, named his wife and fourteen children:

1. Joseph.
2. William.
3. Susan.
4. Elisha.
5. Rebecca.
6. Nellie.
7. Nancy (Ann).
8. Patience.
9. Honor.
10. Peter.
11. Henry.
12. Mary Catherine.
13. Rachael.
14. Hannah.

Elisha stated in the will that he didn't want Susannah to allow any timber to be cut on his farm. I thought that was funny for the area had to be heavily forested at the time.

Susannah's will, found in Hardin County, dated September 2, 1834, mentioned daughters Rebecca Skees, wife of James Skees, Elender Roberts, wife of Lewis Roberts, and Nancy Harvey, wife of Norris Harvey.

Children of Elisha Logsdon and Rebecca Howard, and Susannah Lackey

I. Joseph, son of Elisha Logsdon and Rebecca Howard, was married to Sarah, thought to be the daughter of John Simons, Sr. and an unknown wife, in Mercer County, October, 1795.

Some researchers think this Joseph was the son of Edward Logsdon, but I think otherwise.

In the courthouse at Harrodsburg, we found a note which was written on a half sheet of paper, giving permission to the Clerk to issue a marriage license. The note appears to have been signed by Joseph Durbin and witnessed by John Simons and Edward Logsdon. A copy follows this page.

There was but one Joseph Logsdon on the tax list of Madison County in 1788 and 1789. In 1791 there were two Josephs. In 1796 one of the two Josephs was listed as Senior, and paid taxes on 145 acres of land on Silver Creek. The other Joseph did not own any land. In 1797, one Joseph was still paying taxes on 145 acres, and the other had no land. In 1807, a **black headed** Joseph Logsdon paid taxes on 145 acres of land, and a **red headed** Joseph Logsdon paid the tax on 107 acres of land on Silver Creek. The same occurred in 1808, and in 1809. I believe that since the "black headed" Joseph had been paying taxes for years on the 145 acres, and the "red headed" Joseph started paying taxes only in 1807, the red headed Joseph must have been the younger, son of Elisha Logsdon, and the man who was married to Sarah Simons in Mercer County.

James R. Virden, a researcher of the Durbin and Logsdon families for the last twenty-five to thirty years, said that the Joseph who married Sarah was a red head.

Deeds in Madison County show that Joseph and "Sary" sold their farm in 1814, and James Virden said they went to Grayson County in that year, and to Illinois in 1824. Jesse Durbin said they moved to Missouri in 1832, and to Texas in 1838 or 1839, then to California in 1848. Some researchers think Joseph died en route to California; other think he survived the trip.

In Gasconade County, Missouri, I found the marriages for two Logsdon men who are said to be sons of Joseph Logsdon and Sarah Simons.

Albron Logsdon to Sarah Simons, March 8, 1827.

John Logsdon to Anastasia Simons, August 24, 1832.

This is to Certify that I am
willing for Joseph Logsdon and
my daughter Mary to be joined in
wedlock given ~~for~~ under my hand
John Simon Joseph Dur ^{for} Lee
Edward Logsdon

John, son of Joseph Logsdon and Sarah Simons, was married to Anastasia, daughter of Edward Simons and Sarah Wedt, August 27, 1832. (Mormon Genealogical Library in Salt Lake City.) Records are at St. Charles Borromea Catholic Church, St. Charles County, Missouri.

On the census of Austin County, Texas, 1850:

Albron Logsdon	52, born in Tenn.
Sarah	40, born in South Carolina
Ambrose	19, born in Ill.
John	16, born in Mo.
Julie	12, born in Texas
Janetta	10, born in Texas
Perry	7, born in Texas
Ira	3, born in Texas

If this is the Sarah Simons who married Albron in 1827, she would have been but 17 years old at the time of marriage. No one knows if Joseph and Sarah ever lived in Tennessee, but I doubt it. I also doubt that Albron is their son, if he was born in Tennessee.

On the census of Risk County, Texas, 1850:

John Logsdon	43, born in Ky.
Anna D.	48, born in Ky.
Catherine	14, born in Mo.
John S.	11, born in Mo.
Teresa Armertha	8, born in Texas
Mary Ann	28, born in Mo.

II. William, son of Elisha Logsdon and Rebecca Howard, born in Alleghany County, Maryland, was married to Mary, daughter of James Bradley and Ann _____, in Madison County, April 2, 1796.

Ann, wife of James Bradley, had been married to a Miller, and was a widow at the time she married James.

William Logsdon and Mary moved from Madison County to Hart County circa 1820. William died prior to 1830, for Mary, his wife, and some of the children were listed in the household of Landon Bush, a son-in-law, on the census of Hart County in 1830. Mary was on the census of Edmonson County in 1850, in the household of William Goodwin, a son-in-law, and on the 1860 census of Edmonson County in the household of William Richard Durbin, another son-in-law.

Children of William Logsdon and Mary Bradley, as listed by Sally Prior, 400 Detwiller Lane, Belleview, Washington 98004. Sally Prior is the most thorough researcher I have ever encountered, although I do disagree with her in regards to the parentage of the Joseph Logsdon who married Sarah Simons, preceding.

II-A. James Mathew, born February 12, 1797, died in Illinois on July 7, 1864, was married to Margaret, daughter of Joseph Durbin and Elizabeth Logsdon, September 29, 1819.

No other information on this line.

II-B. Joseph, born circa 1799, died circa 1840 in Grayson County, was married to Hannah, daughter of Christopher Durbin, Jr. and Honor Logsdon, in Hardin County, November 7, 1820.

From the baptismal records of St. Vincent in Union County:

"Joannah, daughter of Joseph Logsdon and Hannah, bapt. June 22, 1835."

This does not mean that Joseph and Hannah ever lived in Union County, but that the priest, probably Elisha J. Durbin, Hannah's cousin, who baptised Joannah had left the record at that church. Joannah was probably the Ann on the census of 1850.

On the census of Grayson County, Millerstown District, 1850:

Joann Logsdon	53
Honor	28
Mary	27
Delphina	25
Martha A.	19
Ann	17
John	11
Henry J. Hayes	26, boarder

Henry J. Hayes, parentage unknown, was married to Mary, daughter of Joseph Logsdon and Hannah Durbin, in Grayson County, circa 1852.

Henry and Mary later moved close to Sunfish.

On the census of Grayson County, 1860:

Joanna Logsdon	63, farm manager
Honor	40
Defina	36
Martha	30
Ann	26
John E.	22
Juda Whobrey	13
Theresa Decker	19

I have no idea what connection Judy Whobrey and Teresa Decker had to Hannah Durbin Logsdon.

On the census of Grayson County, 1870:

Honor Logsdon	48
Delphinia	45
M.J. Durbin	18
J.H. Durbin	1
M.A. Logsdon	39 (Martha A.)
J.E. Logsdon	32 (John Elisha)
S.A. Logsdon	30 (Sarah A.)
J.S. Logsdon	5 (Joseph S.)
J.T. Logsdon	3 (John T.)
C.W. Logsdon	2 (Charles W.)

Hannah, or Joannah, had died before this census was taken. I have no idea who the M.J. and J.H. Durbin are.

In the cemetery of St. Augustine, Grayson Springs:

"Martha A. Logsdon, daughter of Joseph and Hannah, born Aug. 30, 1830, died Feb. 8, 1890."

I think this proves that Joannah was really Hannah Durbin.

From an old Logsdon family bible in the possession of Mrs. Sal Squatrito (M. Bernice Logsdon), 1514 Altamont Avenue, San Jose, California:

"Johanna Longston, born April 4, 1798."

"I bab. Mary Lucy, daughter of Washington Whobrey (and) Elizabeth Hayes, born in 1845, sponsor Joanna Durbin."

This notation was made by the priest or other person baptising Mary Lucy Whobrey, who was to become the wife of George A. Durbin. George A. was the son of Dr. John C. Durbin and Rebecca Logsdon, and Hannah and John C. were brother and sister.

The following births were noted in the bible, children of Joseph and Hannah:

Honour, born Sept. 22, 1821

Mary, born Sept. 10, 1823

Delphine, born May 26, 1825

Mat, born Aug. 30, 1830 (This was Martha)

Ann, born Sept. 26, 1832

John Elisha, born July 2, 1838

John Elisha, son of Joseph Logsdon and Hannah Durbin, was married to Sarah Grant, parentage unknown, prior to 1864. Their children were also listed in the Logsdon family bible:

Joseph S., born Oct. 22, 1864

John T., born Aug. 3, 1866.

C.W., born May 24, 1868 (Charles)

M.M., born Sept. 10, 1870 (Margaret)

Martha H., born Feb. 2, 1873

Sarah A., born July 26, 1875

Theresa E., born Sept. 27, 1878

Ann, daughter of Joseph Logsdon and Hannah Durbin, was married to Samuel G. Grant, parentage unknown but probably a brother of Sarah, December 24, 1865.

The Grant children are in the Logsdon family bible:

Samuel G. Grant, April 12, 1846

Mary Grant, May 1, 1867

Hannah Joe Grant, Dec. 28, 1870

Margaret L. Grant, Dec. 13, 1872

John J. Grant, June 25, 1876

Ann Logsdon Grant, born September 26, 1832, died January 4, 1899. She is buried at St. Augustine, Grayson Springs.

Joseph S., son of John Elisha Logsdon and Sarah A. Grant, was married to Susanna Guidona Portman, parentage unknown (they came from Germany) at Big Clifty, circa 1892.

Susanna was a school teacher.

The children of Joseph S. and Susanna are in the Logsdon family bible:

John T., Oct. 24, 1894

William F., Jan. 2, 1897

Louis Francis, Oct. 4, 1898

Marcella A., Aug. 14, 1900

Mary G., Aug. 20, 1902

Martha L., April 11, 1904

Rosa A., April 2, 1906

Anthony Paul, May 16, 1908

Helen, July 23, 1910

Helen, daughter of Joseph S. Logsdon and Susanna G. Portman, was married to James Roland, son of Olliver John Bush and Ruth Durbin, June 4, 1936. (This line will be carried in the Bush Family Section.)

II-C. Elisha, probably Henry Elisha, son of William Logsdon and Mary Bradley, was married to Ellender Whitman, parentage unknown, circa 1827/1828.

This marriage has not been found, and it was probably in Hart County, where there are no records. The name Whitman was derived from Hart County death records.

From the baptismal records of St. John the Baptist, Rineyville:

"August 31, 1832. Alexander Logsdon, son of Henry Logsdon and his wife Ellendor, born Sept. 18, 1829. Godfather: John Goodman."

John Goodman, husband of Patience Logsdon (sister of Henry Elisha) was baptised into the Church on the same day as Alexander.

"August 31, 1832. William Logsdon, son of Elisha Logsdon and his wife Ellendor, born August 21, 1831."

I have no idea why the same priest who baptised these children would use the name Henry for one and Elisha for the other, when the parents for both sons are the same.

On the census of Hart County, 1850:

Henry Logsdon	49
Ellender	39
Alexander	21
Mary	17
Harriet	15
Susan	12
Henrietta	9
Ellender	6
Elizabeth	4

Note the difference in the ages of Alexander and Mary. It would seem one child had died, and William would have filled this gap.

The Logsdon Family

On the census of Hart County, 1860:

Henry Logsdon	58
Ellen	49
Henrietta	19
Elizabeth	13
Vica A.	7
Henry Farris	16, farm hand
William	1

On the census of Hart County, 1870:

Henry Logsdon	68
Ellen	59
Henrietta	29
Visa	17
Lewis	7
William	11
Lucy	1

On the census of Hart County, 1880:

Henry Logsdon	78, born in Ky., Father in Maryland, Mother in North Carolina
Henrietta	39

We have learned of the marriages for three of these children. Mary was married to her first cousin, James H., son of Elijah Logsdon and Mary Jane Bush. Harriet was married to a John Logsdon, parentage unknown, circa 1853.