

**RECORD OF THE SMITH FAMILY
DESCENDED FROM JOHN
SMITH, BORN 1655 IN COUNTY
MONAGHAN, IRELAND**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649687916

Record of the Smith Family Descended from John Smith, Born 1655 in County Monaghan,
Ireland by Joseph S. Harris

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

JOSEPH S. HARRIS

**RECORD OF THE SMITH FAMILY
DESCENDED FROM JOHN
SMITH, BORN 1655 IN COUNTY
MONAGHAN, IRELAND**

RECORD
OF
THE SMITH FAMILY

DESCENDED FROM

JOHN SMITH

BORN 1655

IN

COUNTY MONAGHAN, IRELAND

PHILADELPHIA
1906

This edition published by
TUTTLE ANTIQUARIAN BOOKS, INC.
26 South Main Street
Post Office Box 541
Rutland, Vermont 05702
Telephone (802) 773-8229

CS
71
S643
1990z

56081

PREFACE.

The following pages contain what I have been able to gather of the history of the descendants of John Smith, born in Ireland in 1686, died in Uwchlan, Chester Co., Pa., December 19, 1765; and his wife, Susanna, born in Ireland in 1691, died in Uwchlan, Chester Co., Pa., December 24, 1767.

The search for material for this record has been prolonged for thirty-three years, and while something more could still be found by patient work, it is not worth while to withhold longer from publication what has been collected.

The inquest really goes a little further back, to John Smith, born about 1655, who never left Ireland, but of whose children, three came to America, and are known to us. Of the second child, Mary Smith, who married William Fulton, some record is preserved for four generations, her family record ceasing, so far as it is hereinafter disclosed, with her great-great-grand-children. The descendants of the younger brother, Joseph Smith, are followed for three generations, and cease with his great-grand-children.

But the two younger members of the family who came to this country are merely introduced herein to connect them with John Smith, their older brother, and to give to any one who wishes to follow out the history of those families a start where the traditions may be a little blind.

Much care has been taken to get all the facts that have been here assembled, though it has been mostly expended in the last few years.

It will be seen that, of the fifteen children of John and Susanna Smith, who were mostly born in America, and are herein called Generation XVI, four persons are unnamed; two more, Jacob and Samuel, did not marry, and of five more, John, Abraham, Isaac, Elizabeth and Susanna, I have found no record coming down to the present time; this account is therefore largely of the descendants of the remaining children, James, Robert, Mary and Sarah; and of these, the oldest, James, has not left much record, so that the story hereinafter told concerns chiefly at the present time the descendants of the three remaining children, Robert, Mary and Sarah. In the last Generation that has approached

completion, XXI, which contains 848 names, 11 of them are descended from James Smith; 558 from Robert Smith; 254 from Mary Smith, and 25 from Sarah Smith, so that the record is largely of the families of Robert and Mary Smith.

Several causes may be assigned for this marked variation in the number of recorded descendants. Six of the original fifteen are supposed to have died unmarried, the only doubt being in the case of Jacob, of whom it is thought by some persons that there may have been descendants, he having gone West in early life. The record is too obscure to follow; at all events, there are no descendants of his recorded in this place. Isaac's family is known to have run out with his son Edward. The families of John, Abraham and Elizabeth probably removed to the South or West, and no trace of them remains, while the family of Susanna seems to have left Chester county.

The family of Robert is the best known of all the children of John Smith, and they have been traced up most completely; and the family of Mary have been the next most carefully traced, though they have scattered through the Southwest, and more of them, perchance, are missing.

The net result is that we have a pretty full history of these two children's descendants, and the rest are fragmentary and partial, James' descendants being but few, and Sarah's but innumerable, though they, too, are scattered, and have not all been found.

The record may be said to be fairly full down to the XIX Generation, the births in which ran from XIX 12, born in 1807 to XIX 248, born in 1866, being mostly born from 1820 to 1860. These are now all people of adult years, and were ready to give some details about themselves; but after that time dates of birth became more difficult to secure, and had to be omitted in many cases. After that Generation the details are more meagre, many persons who were applied to failing to give what was necessary, and some showing unwillingness to contribute much information.

The net result that has been achieved is to link the present Smith family to the earliest records now known, and to trace a number of them so far down that each can take it up for himself, if he wishes to continue the search further.

Pains have been taken to get as much information as possible in regard to everybody whose name has been mentioned in the record, but the fullness of the account in some cases, compared with the slightness in others, will show the different accessibility of the information desired. Several persons took up the search quite willingly, and pursued it zealously, but in general it was more sparingly followed, and with much less success.

There will probably be some errors in the dates given, though care was taken to get correct ones. Family records have not been kept in many cases, and several of the existing dates are somewhat conflicting.

The residences of the various persons named are only approximately accurate, as many of them may have removed elsewhere by the present time.

More accurate records are desirable. If any one thinks that he can correct any errors of statement found in this account, he is requested to write to the compiler of this book, and should any considerable amount of information be obtained in this way, it can be published at some future time, and distributed to those who may have bought the record.

Let it be understood that the purpose of this publication is chiefly to bring together what can be gathered now, and to let it be printed before it shall be forgotten.

JOSEPH S. HARRIS.

READING TERMINAL, PHILADELPHIA,
DECEMBER 31, 1905.

The branch of the Macdonald family in which we are specially interested removed during the seventeenth century from Antrim, journeying about sixty miles to the southwestward, into county Monaghan, in which county there is still a village called Smithborough, on the line of the Ulster canal.

At the time when this family history commences they were living in county Monaghan, and were warmly attached to the Presbyterian church. They were farmers, holding their lands under lease. When their leases expired, about 1718, not only was an increased rental demanded as a condition of renewal, but the tenants were required to subscribe to the doctrinal articles of the Church of England, under the provisions of what was rather absurdly called the "Toleration Act."

Neither of these conditions was satisfactory to these sturdy people, who were staunch Presbyterians, and as they had but little property interest in Ireland, and no hereditary attachment to its soil, they decided to follow the current which was then setting westward across the Atlantic so strongly as to threaten to depopulate the whole province of Ulster. Six thousand persons came from that province to America before 1729, and before the middle of the eighteenth century the migration was at the rate of twelve thousand annually for several years.

THE SMITH FAMILY.

GENERATION XIV.

INDEX NO.	MEMBER OF FAMILY.	CONSORT.	BIRTH.	MARRIAGE.	DEATH.	RESIDENCE.
XIV	John Smith (Macdonald)		about 1655.			County Monaghan, Ireland.

GENERATION XV.

THE CHILDREN OF JOHN SMITH (MACDONALD) XIV.

XV	MEMBER OF FAMILY.	CONSORT.	BIRTH.	MARRIAGE.	DEATH.	RESIDENCE.
1	John Smith.	Susanna.	1686.	about 1713.	Dec. 19, 1765.	Brandywine Settlement, Chester Co., Pa.
2	Mary Smith.	William Fulton.		about 1728.		Little Britain, Lancaster Co., Pa.
3	Joseph Smith.	Isabel.	1704.	about 1730.	May 27, 1760.	Oxford Township, Chester Co., Pa.

John Smith (XV 1) is said to have married about seven years before his emigration, and to have had five children upon his arrival in America. He left Ireland with his family, probably early in the year 1720. The voyage was so tempestuous that the emigrants encountered great danger, and were much delayed, but they came at last safely to land with all their belongings, and with one more child than they started with, Robert having been born during the passage across the ocean.

On their arrival in America they proceeded promptly to what was then called "the Brandywine Settlement," in Chester Co., Pennsylvania, which had been started by some of their countrymen who had very shortly preceded them, and which developed in the first half of the eighteenth century into a great Scotch-Irish community. The country near Philadelphia had been largely taken up by the earlier emigration of the Quakers, who were mainly from southern and western England. Back of them, and to their northward, in and about the Great Valley of Chester county, the Welsh settlers had made their home, and the north-of-Ireland men, when they came, pushed on to the hilly country in the northern and western part of what is now Chester county,