

## Publication References Compiled By

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### Key to this publication :

- Green** highlight on reference number – Reference is from current-day Delaware area.  
**Grey** highlight on reference number – Reference is from current-day Pennsylvania area.  
**Yellow** highlight on reference number – Reference is from current-day Virginia area.  
**Blue** highlight on reference number – Reference is from current-day Kentucky area.  
**Magenta** highlight on reference number – Reference is from current-day South Carolina area.  
**Red** highlight on reference number – Reference is from current-day Georgia area.

- 1.** 1600 Misc., Early Swedish History in America  
**Source:** Swedish Church Records, Elisabeth Thosell,  
[www.genealogi.se/kyrkoeng.htm](http://www.genealogi.se/kyrkoeng.htm)
- 2.** 1610 Misc., State of Delaware (A Brief History)  
**Source:** [www.state.de.us/facts/history/delhist.htm](http://www.state.de.us/facts/history/delhist.htm)
- 3.** 1613 Misc., A Brief History of New Sweden in America  
**Source:** [www.colonialswedes.org/History/History/html](http://www.colonialswedes.org/History/History/html)
- 4.** 1738 Misc., History of Old Swedes Church, Willmington, DE.  
**Source:** [www.oldsvedes.org/history.htm](http://www.oldsvedes.org/history.htm)
- 5.** 1671 Census Record, “There were two significant early censuses made in this area (*author’s note; Swedish Colonies of Delaware*). The 1671 Census was the first English census of Delaware ordered by the New York Governor and includes all taxable persons. The 1693 Census includes only the members of the Swedish Church to prove to the authorities in Sweden that there was a sizable group of people here who desired pastoral care. There are **no Verdemans** in either census, thus they presumably arrived later on”.

*Author’s note; Mr. Nichols’ comments regarding these census, in particular the second census of only members of the Swedish Church, supposes the Vardeman family to be “Swedish” and to be members of the Swedish Church. We do not know with confidence the origin of the Vardeman surname, nor the church affiliation of John Vardeman (John Vardeman I) and his wife. We do know based upon church records that his son William (William Vardeman I) and his daughter Jane (Joanna) Margarita do become members of the Old Swedes Church by marrying spouses whose families are existing members. Therefore*

*the second census may not record the presence of the John Vardeman's (John Vardeman I) family merely because of the lack of membership status with the Swedish Church.*

**Source:** Personal communication, Oct. 18, 2000, Ray Nichols, Archivist, Old Swedes Church, Wilmington, Delaware.

6. 1693

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**Source:** Personal communication, Oct. 18, 2000, Ray Nichols, Archivist, Old Swedes Church, Wilmington, Delaware.

7. February 20, 1702

Land Records, **James and Dorcas (Harmanson) Sennexon**, his wife, acquire a lot in the town of New Castle. Recorded June 1, 1703. These are the parents of James Sennexon who marries Jane Margarita Vardeman (the daughter of John and Margareta (Evans) Vardeman I.

**Source:** New Castle County, Delaware, Land Records 1673-1710 by Carol Bryant, Willow Bend Books, Westminster, MD, 1999.

8. May 3, 1713

Marriage, Rev. Andrew Hesselius was married at Old Swedes Church on May, 1713, the same day that he took the regular pastorate from his predecessor, Eric Bjork, the first pastor. His last service was on September 15, 1723 when he handed it over to his brother, Samuel Hesselius, whose farewell sermon was preached on Oct. 10, 1731. The Vardeman family were married, took communion, and baptized their children in this church under the ministry of Rev. Andrew and Rev. Samuel Hesselius.

**Source A:** Personal communication, Oct. 30, 2000, Ray Nichols, Archivist, Old Swedes Church, Wilmington, Delaware.

**Source B:** Christina Congregation's Church Book from the year after Christ's Birth, 1713 for the following time till 1756, Records of Communicants by Rev. Andrew Hesselius, 1717, Old Swedes Church, Wilmington, Delaware.

Personal Communications, In a letter of Jan. 19, 2002, Dr. Peter S. Craig discusses his opinions on the origins of the Vardeman family of New Castle County, Delaware.

“This is to acknowledge and try to answer you inquiry of January 13<sup>th</sup> about the origins of the Vardeman family of New Castle County.

I myself have puzzled over this question and believe that **John Vardeman** who died in Appoquinimink Hundred, New Castle County, in 1714 was not Swedish, although two of his children did marry into the Swedish congregation at Holy Trinity (Old Swedes) Church in Wilmington. That church was a Swedish Lutheran church, open to persons born in Sweden, descendants of the same and also person who intermarried with members of the church. Others could be baptized or married there, but they were not considered members. In the case of two of **John Vardeman’s children – William and Margaret** – they became members by such intermarriage.

The name Vardeman – or variations thereof – did not appear in the records of the Holy Trinity Church until 21 April 1720 when **William Vardeman** Married **Magdalena Peterson**, daughter of Peter Petersson and his wife Karin. **William and Magdalena Vardeman** took communion together at that church on 15 May 1720, 24 May 1724, and 18 October 1724. Their only known child was **Maria**, born 1 April 1724, who was baptized in the church on 5 April 1724, with Pastor Samuel Hessselius, Jacob Vandiver, Maria [Stalcop] Smith, and Erasmus Stedham’s wife Helena appearing as sponsors. The name of **William Vardeman** disappears from church records after 1724. He may have died.

**William Vardeman’s sister Margaret** married James Sinnicks [variously spelled] at Holy Trinity Church on 20 January 1730. She was called Margaret or Margareta in church records, but in one deed (New Castle County deeds, B-2:313) she was referred to as Joanna Margaret. She had many children, and in the 1764 church census taken by Pastor Anders Borell, she was described as “Swedish”, a term which generally meant that she was of Swedish extraction. She was then (in 1764) reported to be 56 years old (born c. 1708), able to read the Swedish Bible and knew the Swedish language “completely.”

Borell’s description of her makes me wonder if John Vardeman’s wife Margaret, at the time of his death, was Swedish. Margareta or Margaret was a common Swedish name, and there was a Swedish widow by that name in the early 1700s. She had been the wife of Paul Peterson, an uncle of the Magdalena Peterson who married William Vardeman. (See my book, *The 1693 Census of the Swedes on the Delaware*, 117.) For this to be the case, however, Margaret could not have been the mother of John Vardeman’s eldest son John (who was of age in 1714). It would also seem unlikely that she could be the mother of the other two sons, Christopher and William (the latter marrying in 1720).

I tend to reject this thesis, however, since John Vardeman’s will (witnessed, I observe, by three Englishmen) mentions his wife Margaret as being the mother of his eldest son John (New Castle wills, Misc. 1:472)

Borell was not particularly accurate in his census of 1764. I tend to think that Margareta [Vardeman] Sinnicks' "Swedish" label was the result of her having learned the language well as the wife of a Swede. I believe her Swedishness was acquired, not inherited from her mother. But certainly not from her father who, it seems, never stepped foot in the Swedish church.

Finally, I should note that most of the Swedes lived close to present Wilmington, in Brandywine, Christiana and New Castle hundreds. Very few were to be found at the southern end of New Castle County in Appoquinimink Hundred prior to the death of John Vardeman. Sincerely yours, Peter S. Craig.  
**Source:** Personal communication, Jan. 19, 2002, Dr. Peter S. Craig, F.A.S.G.

**10** March 17, 1714 Will, **John Vardaman** (*John Vardeman I*), of Appoquinimink Creek, New Castle County, Delaware.  
Wife: **Margaret (Evans?) Vardeman** - Executrix  
Listed Children: **Johannes Vardeman**  
**Christopher Vardeman**  
**William Vardeman** (*William Vardeman I*)  
**Jane Margarita Vardeman**

In the name of God Amen I **John Vardaman** (*John Vardeman I*), of **Apoquininny Creek** in the County of New Castle Upon Delaware being this Seventeenth day of March in the first year of our Sovereign Lord George by the Grace of God of Great Britaine France and Ireland King Defender of the Faith in Anno Dom 1714/15 sick in body but of perfect mind & memory calling to mind the uncertainty of this life and well knowing that all flesh must Dye doth make this my last will & testament in manner & form following –.....

Item 1 – I give and bequeath unto my well beloved wife **Margaret Vardaman** (*Margaret Vardeman, wife of John Vardeman I*), all my Estate Real & personal to be & remain unto her during her natural Life with full power.

Item 2 – If my son **Johannes** (*Johannes Vardeman, son of John Vardeman I & Margaret Vardeman*), will come & live with his mother and be industrious to work & clear and pay for my land and plantation that then after my wife's death he may said son **Johannes** (*Johannes Vardeman, son of John Vardeman I & Margaret Vardeman*), have all the land & plantation paying unto each of my Children to wit **Christopher** (*Christopher Vardeman, son of John Vardeman I & Margaret Vardeman*), & **William Vardaman** (*William Vardeman I, son of John & Margaret Vardeman*), & **Jane Margarita Vardaman** (*Jane Margaret Vardeman, daughter of John I & Margaret Vardeman*), thirty pounds each within such convenient time as he shall be able to pay it after each child comes to age.

**Source A:** A Calendar of Delaware Wills, New Castle County, 1682-1800, Abstracted and Compiled by the Historical Research Committee of the Colonial Dames of Delaware", Page 19, Frederick H. Hitchcock Publisher, New York, New York.

**Source B:** Delaware Public Archives, Hall of Records, Dover, Delaware, Registry of Wills, New Castle County, DE, Probate Files, Vandeman, William to Vaughan, Horace, Roll 427, RG2545.001

- 11.** March 21, 1714 Will, Deposition of Capt. John Heally, Charles Ford, and John Danielly before Isacc Gooding, His Majesties Justice of Peace, New Castle County, Delaware.
- Viz: That upon the seventeenth day of this instant the within and above will was audibly read unto him the said **John Vardaman** (*John Vardeman I*), then being in perfect memory & understanding did declare plainly & heartily that the same was his Mind & Full desire & going to set up in his bed to sign the same, a qualm came over his stomach & so lay down & remained insensible until he died and farther saith not.
- Source A:** Delaware Public Archives, Hall of Records, Dover, Delaware, Registry of Wills, New Castle County, DE, Probate Files, Vandeman, William to Vaughan, Horace, Roll 427, RG2545.001
- Source B:** A Calendar of Delaware Wills, New Castle County, 1682-1800, Abstracted and Compiled by the Historical Research Committee of the Colonial Dames of Delaware”, Page 19, Frederick H. Hitchcock Publisher, New York, New York.
- 12.** Dec. 27, 1714 Will, **Christopher Vardeman Jr.** (*son of John Vardeman I or son of Johannes Vardeman?*), – Witness to Will of William Boon, Yeoman, Boon’s Island, Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania. Drawn 24 September 1714, Proved 27 December 1714.
- Source:** Wills, Abstracts Book D, 1714 – 1725/6, Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania.
- 13.** April 5, 1715 Will, Rowland Fitz Gerald Deputy Registrar, New Castle County, Delaware.
- Viz: Grant unto **Margaret Vardaman** (*Margaret Vardeman, widow of John Vardeman I*), Executrix, in the same testament named, chiefly of well & truly administering the same & making a true and perfect inventory of all and singular the goods, rights and credits of the said deceased and exhibiting the same unto the Registrar office at New Castle at or before the Tenth day of August next.
- Source A:** Delaware Public Archives, Hall of Records, Dover, Delaware, Registry of Wills, New Castle County, DE, Probate Files, Vandeman, William to Vaughan, Horace, Roll 427, RG2545.001
- Source B:** A Calendar of Delaware Wills, New Castle County, 1682-1800, Abstracted and Compiled by the Historical Research Committee of the Colonial Dames of Delaware”, Page 19, Frederick H. Hitchcock Publisher, New York, New York.
- 14.** April 21, 1717 Communion, **Magdalena Petersson** (*future wife of William I Vardeman*), first appears as a communicant on April 21, 1717 and again for another half dozen times until 1720 when she marries **William Ver de Man** (*William Vardeman I, son of John & Margaret Vardeman*).
- Source A:** Personal communication, Oct. 18, 2000, Ray Nichols, Archivist, Old Swedes Church, Wilmington, Delaware.
- Source B:** Christina Congregation’s Church Book from the year after Christ’s Birth, 1713 for the following time till 1756, Records of Communicants by Rev. Andrew Hesselius, 1717, Old Swedes Church, Wilmington, Delaware.

15 Feb. 9, 1718

Land Records, "**John Werdeman** (*Johannes Vardaman*), of Appoquinimink Creek, farmer, and **Sarah** (*wife of Johannes Vardaman*), his wife to Silvester Garland of the town of New Castle, merchant.

**John Werdeman & Sarah** (*Johannes Vardaman and his wife*), his wife for £124 granted to Silvester Garland a tract of land lying on Appoquinmy (sic) Creek, the bridge and the King's road containing 313 acres. Signed **John Werdeman and Sarah Werdeman** (*Johannes Vardaman and his wife*), . Delivered in the presence of James Dyre, John Heally & Samuel Griffith. Recorded 14 Mar 1718 (E1:274)."

**Source:** New Castle County, Delaware, Land Records 1715-1728 by Carol Garrett, Willow Bend Books, Westminster, MD, 1998.

*Note by JHV: See the next 4 deeds for confirmation that this John Werdeman is Johannes Vardaman, son of John and Margaret Vardaman and establishes that Johannes has a wife, Sarah. Also note that John Heally (above) is one of the three men who witnessed the will of Johannes' father, John Vardaman.*