



So Obscure A Person: A Genealogy And History Of Alexander Stinson And His Virginia Descendants

By Edna Barney

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"So Obscure a Person" tells the story of ALEXANDER STINSON Senior of Williamsburg and Buckingham County, Virginia. His life spanned almost the entire eighteenth century of Virginia and he is the progenitor of the Virginia STINSON family, including those who went further South after the Revolutionary War. This book, which includes five generations of his descendants, is the result of years of research at courthouses and libraries in Virginia and elsewhere. It is extensively documented with both embedded sources and footnotes, and is fully indexed. There is an excursus on the HOOPER family which includes his English maternal forebears, and his CABELL and MAYO cousins. The hardcover edition (ISBN 978-1-4357-1328-4) of this book is available at online booksellers and www.lulu.com/ednabarney.

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By Edna Barney Bibliography

- Rank: #3013203 in Books
- Published on: 2008-08-08
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.00" h x .64" w x 6.00" l, .84 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 256 pages

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Editorial Review

From the Publisher

"So Obscure a Person" is a family history and genealogy that follows the descent of ALEXANDER STINSON Senior, born circa 1712. His life spanned almost the entire eighteenth century of Virginia. He is the progenitor of the STINSON family of Buckingham County, Virginia including those who went further South after the Revolutionary War.

The author wrote the book to remind STINSON descendants of the legacy they received from the young Williamsburg servant boy who himself was bequeathed in the will of SUSANNA ALLEN to her friends *"to work their plantation or be sold at public auction."*

Edna Barney constructed five generations of STINSON lineages from her years of research at Virginia courthouses and libraries. It is extensively documented with both embedded sources and footnotes, and is fully indexed. There is an excursus on the HOOPER family which includes the CABELL and MAYO cousins, relatives of the STINSONs.

From the Author

Eighteenth century Virginians muddled through life much as we do today. They lived each day, one at a time, the same as do we, but they did so much more during those one hundred years of history. Alexander STINSON moved upcountry from Tidewater Virginia to a place called Willis's on the branches of Cattail, in what is now the center of Virginia, Buckingham County. He saw the land when it was a wilderness, and he settled it, and built a home for himself and his family. His dream of working the land he had won came true, as he became a Virginia planter. He cleared and built his own roadways, he taught his children, and he helped create a society where there had been no community at all. He and his children rebelled against a tyrannical government, fought a war, and created a brand new nation. While living through it all, he kept intact the faith of his fathers. After having accomplished all that he did, his children moved on to new places to pioneer as he had done!

From the Back Cover

"When the courthouse burned, all of our records were destroyed" has been the lament since 1869, of Buckingham County researchers. At the time that Buckingham Courthouse and its Clerk's Office, in the village of Maysville, was burnt to the ground, "The Richmond Whig" proclaimed *"NOT ONE PAPER WAS LEFT."*

Alexander STINSON pioneered the Virginia wilderness *"beginning at a white oak on Willis's River bank."* Most of the life stories of his family were lost when their county courthouse burned, yet we can find enough extant tidbits to connect most of the STINSONs back together again.

The STINSONs left the civilization of Virginia's Tidewater to pioneer upcountry, *"beginning at a white oak on Willis's River Bank."* For more than a century, the life stories of his family were archived in their county courthouse, until that fateful night in 1869, when every remembrance of them forever disappeared.

This work attempts to document the history of the STINSON family of Buckingham County, Virginia. The

progenitor STINSON was a young servant boy in colonial Williamsburg who ran away from his master, and was later bequeathed as property in the will of his master's good friend, tavern keeper SUSANNA ALLEN. Spinster ALLEN left him to her friends *"to work their plantation or be sold at public auction."*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Arthur Walker:

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