

Conflicting Timelines of William Grotehouse/Groathouse of Northampton and Mifflin County, PA vs William Greathouse Junior of Bedford County, PA and Harrison County, VA

For years, a Greathouse line has been reported as follows: Herman, John, Wilhelm, William Jr. That line is said to have begun in Germantown, Pennsylvania and ended up in Harrison County, VA around 1786. We know that the William Greathouse in Harrison County, VA had a son William from his will. Someone determined that William Jr. was the same William who was married to Mary Owen and spent his last days in Mifflin County, PA.

Outlined below is a collection of events which have been chronologically ordered to show that records mentioning William Grotehouse/Groathouse of Northampton and Mifflin County, PA and William Greathouse Jr. of Bedford County, PA and Harrison County, VA, respectively, covered the same time period and raise the strong possibility that the activities of at least two separate individuals were recorded.

Contrary to what some have reported, William Grotehouse/Groathouse of Northampton and Mifflin County, PA could not have been the William Greathouse, Jr., who was the son of William Greathouse of Bedford County, PA and Harrison County, VA. The following chart clearly shows both of these men living in their respective residences at the same time.

Also the William Greathouse Jr. of Harrison County, VA properly used "Jr." as long as his father was living. The custom was to drop the usage of "Jr." when the father of the same name died, which William Jr. did. William Grotehouse/Groathouse of Northampton and Mifflin County, PA never used "Jr.".

William of Northampton and Mifflin, PA Timeline		William of Bedford, PA and Harrison, VA Timeline	
1770 – Northampton	<p>St. John's Lutheran Church, Easton, PA. Some of the confirmed persons in 1770 are children of some of the above families. Others representing their names are:</p> <p>William Grothouse Source: Memorial Volume. St. John's Lutheran Church, Easton , Pa: Containing an Account of the Jubilee Services, the Historical Sermon, the Charters of the Church and the Benevolent Society and a List of the Officers of the Church and the Officers, Teachers, and Pupils of the Sunday School By St. John's Lutheran Church (Easton, Pa.), D H Geissinger, Rueben Kolb, Pa St. John's Lutheran</p>		

	<p>Church (Easton Published by Pub. by authority of the Church Council, 1882 Original from Harvard University Digitized Dec 7, 2007: <http://books.google.com/books?id=74ISAAAAYAAJ &pg=PA34&dq=grothouse></p>		
<p>1775 – Northampton</p>	<p>William and Maria Grothaus have the birth of their son, John Leonard Greathouse, recorded in the records of St. Peter’s Union Lutheran and Reformed Church of Plainfield Township. Page 72 GROTHAUS John Leonard born Sept 10, 1775 Parents: William and Maria Records of St. Peter’s Union Lutheran and Reformed Church, Plainfield Township Source: <u>Pennsylvania Births: Northampton County 1733-1800</u> by John T. Humphrey</p>		
<p>1778 – Northampton</p>	<p>Aug 29 – No. 4 Account Sale of Henry & Peter Zells Estate Sold at Public Vendue Aug 29, 1778 Page 436 William Grothouse, Saw and joiners tools,1 5 Source: Pennsylvania Archives; By Samuel Hazard, John Blair Linn, William Henry Egle, George Edward Reed, Thomas Lynch Montgomery, Pennsylvania Dept. of Public Instruction, Pennsylvania Secretary of the Commonwealth, Gertrude MacKinney, Pennsylvania State Library, Charles F Hoban, Secretary of the commonwealth, Pennsylvania General assembly. Published 1935 printed by J. Severns & co. Online: http://www.footnote.com/image/3242119/grothouse</p>		

<p>1778 – Northampton</p>	<p>May 14 – Upper Saucon: Muster Roll of Capt. John Roberts Company, 1st Batt. North'ton Co., 2nd Class William Grotehouse Source: First Battalion Northampton County Militia. Pennsylvania Archives, Series 5, Volume VIII. Page 87. Online: http://www.footnote.com/image/3420418/grotehouse Source: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Revolutionary War Militia Organization: Northampton Co., PA. Online: http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt?open=512&objID=4125&&PageID=435890&level=6&parentCommID=4125&menuLevel=Level_6&mode=2</p>		
<p>1780 – Northampton</p>	<p>Plainfield: The following is a list of the taxable inhabitants of the present county of Northampton, together with their occupations, and the assessed value of their property in the year 1780. It is copied from the original "Return for Northampton County, of the eight-monthly tax. Beginning from the 1st of January to 31st of August, 1780." Grothouse, William taylor 48 Source: http://ftp.rootsweb.ancestry.com/pub/usgenweb/pa/northampton/history/local/davis/davis08.txt</p>		
<p>1780 – Northampton</p>	<p>May 16 – Plainfield: Muster Roll of Capt. Lewis Stacher's Company, 2nd Batt. North'ton Co. Corp's William Grothouse Source: Second Battalion Northampton County Militia. Pennsylvania Archives, Series 5, Volume VIII. Page 122. Online: http://www.footnote.com/image/3421090/grothouse Source: Ibid., PH & MC.</p>		
<p>1781 –</p>	<p>Apr 10 – Plainfield: A List of the 4th Company of the</p>		

<p>Northampton</p>	<p>2d Battalion of Militia of Northampton County, Captain Lewis Stacher. Corporal, William Grothouse Source: Second Battalion Northampton County Militia. Pennsylvania Archives, Series 5, Volume VIII. Page 138. Online: http://www.footnote.com/image/3421464/grothouse Source: Ibid., PH & MC.</p>		
<p>1781 – Northampton</p>	<p>July – Plainfield: A Class Roll of Fourth Company of the Second Battalion of the Northampton County Militia, Captain Lewis Stacher. Corporal, Will'm Grothouse I do hereby Certify that the above Class Roll is a trued Class Roll of my Company. Witness my hand the 30th Day of Nov'r 1782. Lewis Stacher, Capt. Source: Second Battalion Northampton County Militia. Pennsylvania Archives, Series 5, Volume VIII. Page 148. Online: http://www.footnote.com/image/3421257/grothouse Source: Ibid., PH & MC.</p>		
<p>1781 – Northampton</p>	<p>Sep 1 – Plainfield: A Class Roll of Capt. Stacher's Company, Captain Lewis Stacher. Corporal, William Grothouse Source: Second Battalion Northampton County Militia. Pennsylvania Archives, Series 5, Volume VIII. Page 149. Online: http://www.footnote.com/image/3421271/grothouse Source: Ibid., PH & MC.</p>		
<p>1782 – Northampton</p>	<p>April 18 – Plainfield: A Class Roll of the Fourth Company of Militia of the Second Battalion of Northampton County delivered to the Lieutenant of the County by Captain Lewis Stacker. Corporal, William Grothouse</p>		

	<p>I do Certify that the above Class Roll is a true Class Roll of my company. Witness my hand the 30th day of Nov'r 1782. Lewis Stacker, Capt.</p> <p>Source: Second Battalion Northampton County Militia. Pennsylvania Archives, Series 5, Volume VIII. Page 173: William Grothouse. Online: http://www.footnote.com/image/3421451/grcthouse</p> <p>Page 175: William Grothouse. Online: http://www.footnote.com/image/3421464/grothaus</p> <p>Source: Ibid., PH & MC.</p>												
1783 – Northampton	<p>Upper Saucon: A Class Roll of Captain John Stahl's 5th Company, 4th Battalion, Northampton County Militia, 2nd Class: W'm Grothouse</p> <p>Source: Fourth Battalion Northampton County Militia. Pennsylvania Archives, Series 5, Volume VIII. Page 360. Online: http://www.footnote.com/image/3530652/grothous</p> <p>Source: Ibid., PH & MC.</p>	1783 - Bedford	<p>Tax List: Turkeyfoot Township Wm Greathouse, resident William Greathouse, non-resident Frederick Akert, resident John Greathouse, single freeman</p>										
1785 - Northampton	<p>Tax List: Proprietary Supply Tax and State Tax Lists of Upper Saucon Township.</p> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">Acres</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Horses</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Cattle</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Tax</td> </tr> <tr> <td>William Grothouse</td> <td style="text-align: center;">60</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> <td style="text-align: center;">15 .8</td> </tr> </table> <p>Source: Pennsylvania Archives, Series 3, Volume XIX, Proprietary Supply and State Tax Lists of the County of Northampton for the Years 1772 to 1788. Page 93. Online: http://www.footnote.com/image/3037833/grodhou</p>		Acres	Horses	Cattle	Tax	William Grothouse	60	2	3	15 .8	1785 - Bedford	<p>Tax List, Turkeyfoot, Bedford, PA Wm Greathouse, resident William Greathouse, resident Frederick Greathouse, resident John Greathouse, single freeman</p>
	Acres	Horses	Cattle	Tax									
William Grothouse	60	2	3	15 .8									
1785 – Northampton	<p>William Grothouse listed as a neighbor of David Snyder in Upper Saucon Township. Page 67: #679 David SNYDER, Upper Saucon, yeoman 22/8/1785 –</p>												

	<p>1/10/1785 Esther wife Children: Jacob, Catherine, John et al. Neighbors Abraham Snyder, John Geissinger and Philip Sharry Z. William Grothouse Witness Source: <u>Will Abstracts of Northampton County, Pennsylvania 1752-1802</u></p>												
1786 - Northampton	<p>Tax List: Proprietary Supply Tax and State Tax Lists of Upper Saucon Township.</p> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td></td> <td>Acres</td> <td>Horses</td> <td>Cattle</td> <td>Tax</td> </tr> <tr> <td>William Grathouse</td> <td>50</td> <td>1</td> <td>4</td> <td>12.3</td> </tr> </table> <p>Source: Pennsylvania Archives, Series 3, Volume XIX, Proprietary Supply and State Tax Lists of the County of Northampton for the Years 1772 to 1788. Page 191. Online: http://www.footnote.com/image/3037940/grathouse</p>		Acres	Horses	Cattle	Tax	William Grathouse	50	1	4	12.3	1786 – Harrison	<p>Jul – William Greathouse Jr and John Greathouse signed a petition which was passed in Oct proving for the road and for the sheriff to collect taxes to build a state road to the mouth of the Little Kanawha [Hening's Statutes At Large, Vol XII, p 295]</p>
	Acres	Horses	Cattle	Tax									
William Grathouse	50	1	4	12.3									
		1786 – Harrison	<p>Aug 16 – Harrison County Court: A William Greathouse was exempted from working on a highway.</p>										
		1787 – Harrison	<p>Nicholas Carpenter's list of tithables includes John, William and William Jr. Greathouse.</p>										
		1787 – Harrison	<p>Mar 22 – Harrison County Court: Andrew Davisson vs William Greathouse, impce.</p>										
		1787 – Harrison	<p>May 23 – Harrison County Court: John Prunty vs William Greathouse, John Wolf and Jas. Anderson, not foundals. Andrew Davisson vs William Greathouse, continued.</p>										
		1787 – Harrison	<p>Jun 18 – Harrison County Court: William Greathouse appointed constable for the town of Clarksburg.</p>										
		1787 – Harrison	<p>Aug 22 – Harrison County Court: John Prunty Vs. William Greathouse, John Wolfe and James Anderson, judgment against John Wolfe. Prunty Vs. William Greathouse, John Wolfe, and James Anderson, judgment against John Wolfe.</p>										

<p>1788 - Northampton</p>	<p>Tax List: Proprietary Supply Tax and State Tax Lists of Upper Saucon Township.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Acres Horses Cattle Tax</p> <p>William Grathouse 50 2 2 11 .6</p> <p>Source: Pennsylvania Archives, Series 3, Volume XIX, Proprietary Supply and State Tax Lists of the County of Northampton for the Years 1772 to 1788. Page 301. Online: http://www.footnote.com/image/3039993/grathouse</p>	<p>1788 – Harrison</p>	<p>Nicholas Carpenter’s list of tithables includes Frederick Akert (2 Tithables [Frederick, John]), William Greathouse, William Greathouse - Constable</p>
<p>1789 – Northampton</p>	<p>Dec 3 – William Grothouse listed as warrentee of land.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Acres Surveyed</p> <p>Grothouse, Wm. 15 . 110 Dec 3, 1789</p> <p>Source: Provincial Papers: Warrantees of Land in the Several Counties of the State of Pennsylvania. 1730 – 1898. Pennsylvania Archives, Series 3, Volume XXVI. Page 84. Online: http://www.footnote.com/image/3372821/grothouse</p>	<p>1789 – Harrison</p>	<p>May 20 George Jackson vs William Greathouse, Jr.,-- Judgment for Plaintiff</p>
		<p>1789 – Harrison</p>	<p>Tax list - John McCally's list of tithables include William, John 2 [2 tithables in household including John], Michel, and William Jr. Greathouse.</p>
<p>1790 – Northampton</p>	<p>U.S. census, population schedule William Groathouse household, Upper Saucon, Northampton; NARA microfilm publication M637, roll 3. males: 16 and up: 1 [William]; females: 5.</p>	<p>1790 – Harrison</p>	<p>Tax list - Nicholas Carpenter's list of tithables include William, William Jr., Gabriel and John Greathouse.</p>
<p>1790 – Northampton</p>	<p>Mary Owen Grothouse, the wife of William Grothouse is mentioned as a child of David Owen in his will. Page 52 #529 David OWEN, Upper Saucon, yeoman 26/7/1786 – 29/6/1790 Sarah wife Executor</p>		

	<p>Children: David, Joseph, Jonathan, Nathan, Lydia, Sarah (wife of Jonathon Scot of Upper Milford) Co-Executor, Rachael (wife of Samuel Bachman), Mary (wife of William GROTHOUSE), Abigail (wife of Jacob Zieglerfuss).</p> <p>Mentions Sarah, Owen and Hannah daughter of son Thomas deceased; land of in Lower Saucon and Salisbury: lands of Ehrhart Weaver, George Hall, Matthias Egner, Michael Zeisler and David Smith. J Okely, George Hall, Christopher Hansel Witnesses.</p> <p>Source: <u>Pennsylvania Births: Northampton County 1733-1800</u> by John T. Humphrey</p>														
1791 – Northampton	<p>William Grothouse, husband of Mary Owen Grothouse, serves as the executor for his brother-in-law's, David Owen, estate.</p> <p>Page 52 #526 David OWEN, Upper Saucon, yeoman 17/3/1791 Probate 10-/5/1791 Margaret wife Executor Children: Elizabeth, Hannah, Solomon, David Brother-in-law William GROTHOUSE Executor Abraham Seider Executor Christian Clymer, Conrad Brinker, Witness Abraham Sellers Witness to renuncn. Of executor of will.</p> <p>Source: <u>Pennsylvania Births: Northampton County 1733-1800</u> by John T. Humphrey</p>	1791 – Harrison	Mar 25 – will of Wm Greathouse, dev Barbary, wife; John, Frederick, Gabriel, Wm. Sons, Mary, Caty Hartset, Anna McCarty, daus.												
		1791 – Harrison	Tax list - Nicholas Carpenter's list of tithables include Gabil, William Jr. , John, William and Michel Greathouse.												
1792 – Mifflin	Grote, House , 300 acres, 1 horse, 1 cow.	1792 – Harrison	Tax List - Benjamin Coplin's District (handwritten list) <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Date</th> <th>persons charged</th> <th>tithables</th> <th>horses</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Mar 20</td> <td>William Graithouse</td> <td>1</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mar 20</td> <td>Michel Graithouse</td> <td>1</td> <td>1</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Date	persons charged	tithables	horses	Mar 20	William Graithouse	1	1	Mar 20	Michel Graithouse	1	1
Date	persons charged	tithables	horses												
Mar 20	William Graithouse	1	1												
Mar 20	Michel Graithouse	1	1												

			<p>May 20/29 Gabriel Graithouse 1 1</p> <p>May 28 John Graithouse 1 0</p> <p>May 28 Barbara Graithouse 0 4</p> <p>April 18 Frederick Ackert 1 1</p>
		1792 – Harrison	Mar 21 John Vanlear Vs. William Greathouse Judg. For plaintiff
		1792 – Harrison	May 22 William Greathouse (after the death of his father, William Sr.) records his brand “W C H” William Greathouse’s mark and brand to be recorded. The mark—a crop off the right ear and two slits in the left ear—the brand—W.C.H.{note the C is probably a G}, brand for cattle and ear mark for the hogs (<i>Harrison Co Court Record Minutes-p 403, HC Courthouse, research by David Houchin 2008</i>)
		1792 – Harrison	Aug 21 George Arnold Vs. William Greathouse agreed at the defendants costs and judgment confessed for the same.
1793 – Mifflin	Assessments: Greenwood Grotehouse, William , 180 acres, 2 horses, 4 cows.	1793 – Harrison	Tax list – Benjamin Coplin's list of tithables includes Gabriel and Barbary, Greathouse; John Geathouse, William Graithouse [2 tithables in household including William]
1794 – Mifflin	Assessments: Greenwood Grotehouse, William , 170 acres, 1 still, 2 horses, 6 cows.	1794 – Harrison	Tax list - Benjamin Benjamin Coplin’s District [typed list] (number after the name is number of tithes charged, no number one tithe Barbary Graithouse John Graithouse Gabriel Graithouse William Graithouse-2
		1795 – Harrison	Apr 20 Matthew and Elizabeth Nutter of Brushy Fork Harrison Co VA to David Nutter of Harrison Co VA for receipt 94 acres Copelands Run, corner to William Greathouse [<i>Harrison County Deed Records, John David Davis, 1993</i>]
		1795 – Harrison	Benjamin Coplin’s district [typed list] (number after the name is number of tithes charged, no number one tithe) Michel Graithouse 1795 Joseph Davisson’s district [typed list] (etc.) John Graithouse Barbary Graithouse William Graithouse-2

			Gaberal Graithouse
		1796 – Harrison	Benjamin Coplin's district (handwritten, concluded on May 31) William Greathouse 2 tithables 1 horse Barbary Greathouse 0 tithables 1 horse John Greathouse 1 tithables 1 horse Gabriel Greathouse 1 tithables 1 horse
		1797 – Harrison	Mar 29 Thomas and Catharine Cottrill, of Harrison Co VA to John McCullough for 20 pounds their interest in 100 acres, branch of Elk Creek called Davis Run, adjoining Joseph Bell on the west and Owen Davis of the east, that tract which was conveyed by Joseph Gregory to William Greathouse , Frederick Akert deceased in his will dated 4 March 1793 bequeath to his wife Mary Akert, 100 acres during her life and widowhood, should she re-marry, she is to have one third of 100 acres, the other two thirds to be sold and five shillings to his daughter Elizabeth Akert, five pounds to his grand daughter Mary Cottrill, residue to be divided between his two daughters Barbara Akert McCullough and Catharine Akert Cottrill, Signed Thomas (X) Cottrill and Catharine (X) Cottrill, recorded April 1798 [<i>Harrison County Deed Records, John David Davis, 1993</i>].
		1797 – Harrison	Tax list – Joseph Davisson's district (handwritten, taken in March) William Greathouse 2 tithables 2 horses John Greathouse 2 tithables 2 horses Gabriel Greathouse 1 tithables 1 horse
		1798 – Harrison	Tax list – Joseph Davisson's district (handwritten, taken in March) William Greathouse 2 tithables 2 horses=18 cents Michel Greathouse 1 tithable 2 horses=18 cents
		1798 – Harrison	Feb 18 - William and Mary Greathouse of Harrison Co VA to George Roby of same for 50 pounds 100 acres Coplin's Run, signed William Greathouse and Mary Greathouse. Both sign with signatures, not with X [<i>Harrison County Deed Records, John David Davis, 1993</i>]

1799 – Mifflin	Assessments: Greenwood Grothouse, William , 182 acres, house lots & cows. Online: http://www.footnote.com/image/67084510	1799 – Harrison	Tax List -
		1799 – Harrison	8 Oct - David and Ruth Nutter of Monroe Co VA to William Smith of Harrison Co VA 90 acres drain of Coplin's Run sold to said Nutter by Matthew Nutter corner to William Greathouse <i>[Harrison County Deed Records, John David Davis, 1993]</i>
1800 – Mifflin	Census: William Grothouse household, Greenwood, Mifflin County, page 486; NARA microfilm publication M32, roll 37. males: 10-15 yrs: 2; 45 yrs and over: 1 [William]; females: 10-15 yrs: 1; 16-25 yrs: 2; 26-44 yrs: 1; 45 yrs and over: 1 [Mary]. 1) William Grothouse , age 45 yrs and over, born before 1755. 2) Mary Grothouse , age 45 yrs and over, born before 1755. 3) Female, age 26-44 yrs, born 1756-1774. 4) Female, age 16-25 yrs, born 1775-1784. 5) Female, age 16-25 yrs, born 1775-1784. 6) Male, age 10-15 yrs, born 1785-1790. 7) Male, age 10-15 yrs, born 1785-1790. 8) Female, age 10-15 yrs, born 1785-1790.	1800 – Harrison	Tax list – Benjamin Bartlett's district (handwritten) John Greathouse 1 tithable 2 horses=24 cents Gabriel Greathouse 1 tithable 3 horses=36 cents William Greathouse 2 tithables 3 horses=36 cents
		1800 – Harrison	8 Nov - Leonard Greathouse married Sarah Parsons <i>[Harrison Co Marriage Record Book, Waldomore, Clarksburg WV]</i>
		1801 - Harrison	Tax list – Benjamin Bartlett's district (handwritten) William Greathouse 2 tithables 2 horses=24 cents John Greathouse 1 tithables 1 horse=12 cents Gabriel Greathouse 1 tithable 3 horses=36 cents
1802 – Mifflin	Assessments: Greenwood Groathouse, William, house, lot, distillery, horse & c. Online: http://www.footnote.com/image/67084513	1802 - Harrison	Tax list – Benjamin Bartlett's district (handwritten) William Greathouse 2 tithables 3 horses=36 cents Leonard Greathouse 1 tithable 0 horses Gabriel Greathouse 1 tithable 3 horses=36 cents John Greathouse 1 tithable 2 horses=24 cents
1803 – Mifflin	Assessments: Greenwood	1803 -	Tax list – Benjamin Bartlett's district (handwritten)

	Groathouse, William, mare, oxen & cows. Online: http://www.footnote.com/image/67084514	Harrison	Gabriel Greathouse 1 tithable 2 horses=24 cents John Greathouse 1 tithable 3 horses=36 cents William Greathouse 1 tithable 3 horses=36 cents Leonard Greathouse 1 tithable 0 horses
1804 – Mifflin	Assessments: Greenwood Groathouse, William, horse, cows and stere. Online: http://www.footnote.com/image/67084517		
		1805 - Harrison	Apr 15 – property on Coplins Run sold to David Nutter by Matthew Nutter-corner to William Greathouse [<i>Harrison County Deed Records, John David Davis, 1993</i>]