

DESCENDANTS OF FRANCIS COSBY

Introduction: "Henry Duke, Councilor His Descendants and Connections" by Walter Garland Duke gives a "Cosby Lineage" going back to Edward I, King of England of year 1272. In addition, it describes an english coat-of-arms as well as an extended lineage that includes Adam through Noah, Charlemagne, Alfred the Great, William the Conqueror etc. The family name Cosby is of Saxon origin, being derived from the name given to the village or seat of Robert of Cossibey, who was the progenitor of numerous lines of Cosbys in England and America. Following is the lineage cited in the Walter Garland Duke book, beginning in the 4th generation removed from Robert of Cossibey.

Generation 1

Francis Cosby b. abt. 1510, England; d. 1580 in Ireland in Battle of Glenmalure at age 70.; marr. 1) Mary Seymour (daughter of Duke of Somerset; niece of Jane Seymour 3rd wife of King Henry VIII) relict of Andrew Rogers and Henry Peyton. 2) Elizabeth Palmer. Children of Francis and Mary:

1. **Alexander**
2. Henry
3. Arnold

Generation 2

Alexander Cosby, Esq. Stradbally Abbey; marr. Dorcas Sydney (daughter of Wm. Sydney, Esq. Oxford in Kent; she had also been a maid of honor to Queen Elizabeth and obtained substantial grants; she bore Alexander 15 children. Following is a partial list of children:

1. Francis, b. Jan 1, 1571
2. Richard
3. John, b. 1574 and died young
4. **Charles**, b. Sep. 12, 1585
5. John, b. 1589 and died young
6. Arnold b. 1591
7. Mabel
8. Rose

Generation 3

Charles Cosby b. Sep 12, 1585 at Stradbally Abbey, Ireland; marr. Mary Loftus, daughter of Adam Loftus, Dr. Divinity of Trinity College, Cambridge, England; Charles' wife d. Nov 23, 1623, leaving only child, John Cosby. Charles removed to York Co., VA later Warwick Co., Va) through "Zouches" connections. [Ref: Herald and Genealogit Vol. 335; Burke's Landed Commoners, Vol. III, pg.153 and Cosby papers in Ireland.]

Generation 4

John Cosby b. Nov 23, 1623 in Ireland; d. 1696 York Co., VA; marr. 1) name unknown; 2) Sarah, her will probated July 21, 1740, York Co., VA; ISSUE:

1. Mary by first wife who accidentally set fire her garments in infancy & died Nov 30, 1657.
2. Daughter who marr. Mr. Jackson
3. Mary Cosby, marr Mr. Ayles
4. Elizabeth, marr. Mr. Wooding
5. Charles Cosby
6. **John Cosby**
7. James Cosby
8. Margaret Cosby
9. Sarah Cosby

Generation 5

John Cosby b. abt. 1680; d. 1761, his will probated in Louisa Co., VA May 26 1761. He was executor of his mother's will in 1749; marr. 1) Martha Garland, daughter of Edward Garland ([See Garland Tree](#)); 2) abt. 1750 Anne (Meriwether) b. 1694, relict Thomas Johnson and daughter of Nicholas Meriwether. Children of John and Martha:

1. John
2. William
3. James
4. Mary, marr. Bartlett Anderson
5. Amy, marr. Clevers Chisholm Duke of Louisa Co., VA
6. (**Sarah**) Ann, marr. Griffith Dickenson ([See Dickerson Tree](#))
7. Elizabeth; marr. Mr. Snelson

NOTE: [See Cosby Research Log](#)