



William Morris

Family Group



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|--------------|---|-----------|---|
| Born: | 1 January 1722 | Place: | Liverpool, England |
| Died: | December 1792, Kanawha County, VA | Buried: | Hughes Creek Cemetery, Kanawha County, WV (maybe) |
| Occupation: | ? | Religion: | ? |
| Other Wives: | ? | Military: | ? |
| Father: | ? | Mother: | ? |
| Notes: | <u>Historical Sign Post</u> , Cedar Grove, Kanawha County, WV | | |

Fort Kelly, was better known in border annas as "Kelly's Station." It was situated on the right side of the present town of Cedar Grove, on the right bank of the Great Kanawha River, 20 miles above Charleston, at the mouth of Kelly's Creek, in Cabin District, Kanawha County. It was built by Captain William Morris who came to the spot in 1774. It derived its name from Walter Kelly, who was killed at that place in 1772. It was along a prominent place, bieng the shipping point for the people who crossed the mountains in the early settlement of the Great Kanawha Valley and of the state of Kentucky. For many years after the fort fell into decay the place was known as "Boat Yards."

Becoming self-sufficient and being capable of defending themselves against the Indians allowed the Morris to become the 1st permanent settlers in the Kanawha Valley. The Morris settlement was strategically located where the trail from the Greenbrier settlements met the Kanawha River. On leaving the big levels where Lewisburg is now located. the early travelers took the Meadow River route south of present US Route 60. On reaching the site of present-day Ansted, the trail swung north and followed a small creek through a low gap near Gauley Mountain. After crossing the divide it dropped down on the headwaters of Rich Creek. Continuing down Rich Creek to the Gauley River, the early travelers forded the river near present-day Belva. From there they went up Bell's Creek and crossed through Pond Gap to the headwaters of Kelly's Creek. Continuing down Kelly's Creek, they reached the Kanawha at Morris' Station. To this point settlers going west had used pack horses to carry their meager belongings, but reaching the river, it became practical to find a way to travel by water. The Morris soon realized there was a thriving business for supplying canoes and flat boats to settlers going down the river which led them to establish a boat yard. There was also, nearby, a large stand of virgin yellow poplar, and before long Morris' Station was a busy place, becoming a terminal point for overland travel as no road existed down the valley for many years. Later, when George Rogers Clark was preparing to move against the Illinois forts, directions were given to the Morris boat yard to supply as many dugout canoes as might be required. Among the hand-picked men that accompanied Clark on his hazardous mission was John Morris, probably the most adventurous of the Morris brothers.

Wife: Elizabeth Stipps ♥ Married: 1 January 1745/46, Orange County, VA

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|-------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Born: | 1729 | Place: | Orange, VA |
| Died: | 1796, Kanawha, VA | Buried: | ? |
| Occupation: | ? | Other Husbands: | ? |
| Father: | Joshua STAPP ♥ | Mother: | Martha COFFEY ♥ |
| Notes: | ? | | |

Children of William and Elizabeth

| | | | |
|----------|---------------------------|---------|---|
| Name: | William, Male | Born: | 17 December 1746, Orange, VA |
| Died: | Abt. 1803, Kanawha, (W)VA | Buried: | ? |
| Married: | ? | Spouse: | ? |
| Name: | Henry, Male | Born: | 1747, Orange, VA |
| Died: | <u>1824</u> | Buried: | Lockwood Field-Fairview Baptist Church, Nicholas County, WV |
| Married: | ? | Spouse: | ? |

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Notes: Henry, moved his family in 1791 to a spot that now is Lockwood, Nicholas Co. Henry was one of ten children born to William and Elizabeth Stepp Morris. His father was the first permanent white settler in the Kanawha Valley. Henry is buried at Lockwood, Nicholas County, in a field across from Fairview Baptist Church along with two of his daughters who were scalped by Indians.

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| Name: | Leonard, Male | Born: | abt 1748 |
| Died: | abt 1831 | Buried: | ? |
| Married: | ? | Spouse: | ? |
| Name: | Joshua, Male | Born: | Abt. 1752, Culpepper, VA |
| Died: | Abt. 1824 | Buried: | ? |
| Married: | ? | Spouse: | ? |
| Name: | John, Male | Born: | Abt. 1755 |
| Died: | Abt. 1818 | Buried: | ? |
| Married: | ? | Spouse: | ? |
| Name: | Elizabeth, Female | Born: | abt 1757, Culpepper, VA |
| Died: | ? | Buried: | ? |
| Married: | ? | Spouse: | ? |
| Name: | Frances, Female | Born: | abt 1760, Culpepper, VA |
| Died: | ? | Buried: | ? |
| Married: | ? | Spouse: | ? |
| Name: | Achilles, Male | Born: | abt 1763, Culpepper, VA |
| Died: | ? | Buried: | ? |
| Married: | ? | Spouse: | ? |
| Name: | <u>Levi</u> , ♡ Male | Born: | Abt. 1768, Culpepper, VA |
| Died: | Abt. 1834, Kanawha County, (W) VA | Buried: | ? |
| Married: | 20 November 1788, Greenbrier County, (W)VA | Spouse: | Margaret JARRETT ♡ |
| Name: | Benjamin, Male | Born: | Abt. 1770 |
| Died: | 1829 | Buried: | ? |
| Married: | ? | Spouse: | ? |

Family Group Documentation

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