

## INTRODUCTION



To all who see these presents, Greetings. The author of this treatise is Windle Ray Causey, soldier, teacher, and fledgling genealogist. This book is offered to those Causey Cousins and other interested parties to read, assess, and share in the research I've accumulated through my years of investigation and study of our family history.

My father was Clifton Tilford Causey b. 1923 in Fayette County, Alabama. His father was John Solomon Causey b. 1882 also in Fayette County, Alabama. John Solomon Causey's father was James Orlando "Jim O." Causey born in Mississippi and son of James Solomon Causey b. 1812 in Guilford County, North Carolina. His father was Solomon Causey b. 1774 son of Zebulon Causey b.1739, who was son of Thomas Causey, Jr. b. 1720 who was son of Thomas Causey, Sr. b. 1690. From Solomon to Thomas Sr. all were born in Dorchester County, British Colonial Maryland. Thomas Causey Sr.'s father was probably William Causey born about 1650 also in the Maryland Colony established by the 2nd Lord Baltimore, Cecil Calvert in 1634. Whether the Causey's were among the more than 200 indentured servants who arrived with Lord Baltimore continues to be an unanswered question. I say, probably not. The Causeys have been faithful members of the Methodist Church since 1840 and before that the Anglican Church. We can say with some degree of certainty that John and William Causey were Gentleman Planters in Dorchester County, British Colonial Maryland by the year 1680. It is my assumption based on factors which will be discussed in the first few chapters that the John Solomon Causey line is most likely linked to Nathaniel and Thomasine Causey of Jamestown, Virginia.

Stephen Lancaster, in 'The Heritage of Craven County, North Carolina', 1984, edited by B. M. H. Thorne, Vol. 1<sup>1</sup>, wrote on page 102, "Causeys or Causways in America are descended from the English family of Norman French extraction. Robert Le Caucies, or Le Calceis, came to England from Normandy with William the Conqueror in 1066 and settled in Lincolnshire." "William Le Causcets was listed in the Curia Regis Roll in Nottinghamshire in 1212. Robert De Calceto is listed in the Assize Rolls of Lincolnshire in 1202. Robert Causey (Causay), first modern English spelling, was listed in the Sussex Records in 1327 as Norman French, a family which had come from pays De Coux, the present Department of eine-Infericure in France. A Henry Atte Cauce is recorded in Somerset in 1356. Nycholas Cawsey was living in Suffolk Co., England in 1524." The daughter of Sir John DeCoursey, Earl of northeast Ireland's Ulster Province, married Sir Henry Dillon, descendant of the ancient monarchs of Ireland. Dillon was a Norman from Lyon in

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<sup>1</sup> The Heritage of Craven County, North Carolina. Published in 1984 by Eastern North Carolina Genealogical Society in cooperation with the History Division of Hunter Pub. Co., New Bern, N.C., Orders to Heritage of Craven Co. in Winston-Salem, N.C.

Brittany, Aquitaine, and secretary to Prince (later King) John of England. He accompanied King John on his trip to Ireland in 1185. Henry was the first Dillon in Ireland He acquired large tracts of land in County Westmeath, where he built manors, castles and monasteries. It is said Henry Dillon was a Crusader and the three crescents on his coat of arms are said to represent three Saracens killed in hand-to-hand combat. Dillon died in 1244. **Sir John DeCoursey may well be the earliest Causey ancestor in Ireland.** It is noted that in early Virginia and Maryland records appear the names Causey, Cawsey, Cossey, Coursey and 'DeCoursey'. Elsewhere, in England can be found many Causey place names, e.g., there is a Causey's Field in Middlesex, England and the first railroad bridge built in England is in Devon, named 'Causey Bridge'. Coats-of-Arms and shield blazons later cited in hereditary lineages became popular after the Battle of Hastings in 1066 AD. The 'General Armory' identifies a Causey (of Hyngham) coat-of-arms to be 'a griffin segreant sa.' This simple design of the coat-of-arms further indicates an early Norman origin of the Causeys, and harkens back to the Norman Conquest of England at Hastings in 1066 AD.” However, family histories, oral and written, as well as Y-DNA strongly suggest Scot-Irish lineage. More details on the European side of the Causey family in Chapter 1.

Causey Coat of Arms



## Causey Coat of Arms

**Blazon** (Shield) description (Hyngham\*). Ar. a griffin segreant sa. <sup>2</sup>

Silver or white (argent) stands for peace and sincerity.

**Griffin** (head, wings, and talons of an eagle with the body of a lion). stands for valour and death-defying bravery and vigilance. Segreant Said of the dragon or griffin erect with wings elevated and addorsed, in the position of the lion when borne rampant.

**Helmet**<sup>3</sup>. The helmets of esquires and private gentlemen were to be placed in profile, with the visor or beaver closed; to be of steel, but enriched with gold. These are drawn after various patterns however, the only point being that the visor should be closed, whence they are termed close helmets. The helmet depicted in the Causey Coat of Arms appears radiant probably signifying the “Helmet of Salvation”.

**Motto**<sup>4</sup>. CAUSEY family motto: IN DEO SPES (In God is hope)



**Place of Registry.** “Causey (Hyngham)”. Ar. a griffin segreant sa. Hyngham, (Hingham), South Norfolk District, Norfolk, England, United Kingdom referencing the geographic location of the origin of the Causey Coat of Arms.

This Causey Coat of Arms shown (left) can be found on page 437 of the book FOOKS FAMILY by HERBERT C. FOOKS Copyright 1953

<https://archive.org/details/fooksfamilybyherOOfook> .

*On preface page V the author states, “The Causey Coat of Arms has been included for general information without connecting it with the Causey descendants of Patrick Causey who died about 1753. Papers may be found on this subject.” See below.*

***Author’s Note: At present there is no known documented connection between the Causey of Hyngham and any current Causey line.***

<sup>2</sup> The general armory of England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales; comprising a registry of armorial bearings from the earliest to the present time. Author: Burke, Bernard, 1814-1892. Publisher: London : Harrison & sons, 1884. Copyright: Public Domain. LINK <https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=iau.31858028062762&view=1up&seq=13&skin=2021>

<sup>3</sup> Title: A Complete Guide to Heraldry, Author: Arthur Charles Fox-Davies, Illustrator: Graham Johnston, Release Date: December 13, 2012 [EBook #41617], LINK: <https://www.gutenberg.org/files/41617/41617-h/41617-h.htm>

<sup>4</sup> Coat of Arms & Family Crests Store, Family Crest Mottos LINK: <http://www.4crests.com/family-crest-mottos.html>