THE VANDAL FAMILY

HISTORY

Tracing the Ancestors and Descendants of Abraham Vandal of West Virginia
Every two years the descendents of Abraham and Mary Vandal gather to celebrate their Vandal heritage and to strengthen the bond that holds us all together as one big loving family. This group picture was taken at our reunion in Lucas, Iowa in 2003.
THE VANDAL REUNION AT HAWK'S NEST IN 2013
In Holland Wandel is pronounced the same as we would pronounce Vandal in America. When serving in the Revolutionary War the Army spelled it several different ways but settled on the spelling “Vandal” for his pension check.
Our Abraham was born in Dutchess, New York near Albany and served as a Private in the Revolutionary War, serving with the State Troops of New York Militia from 1776 until 1781 and at one time was under the command of General George Washington according to Department of the Interior documents.
These are pictures of how the men in the New York Militia dressed and are perhaps how Abraham was uniformed.
In Albany, Abraham can be traced back to his Great, Great, Great Grandfather, Evert Janse Wendel, who was with the Dutch West Indies Company in Emden, Holland (now Germany) and immigrated to New Amsterdam (New York City) in 1642. In 1646 he moved to Fort Orange (now Albany) and is recorded as being a Controlling Elder of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church and a City Alderman there.
Evert Janse Wendel’s father, Jan Wendell, was a ship Captain out of the Port of Emden, Netherlands. He was born in 1621 in Leiden, South Holland Province and is the furthest back we have been able to trace the family up to this point.
Emden, Holland was a very busy port city in the 1600s and still is today.
This is a statue of Captain Phil Schuyler in Albany and is perhaps how Captain Jan Wendell appeared in those days.
Abraham Vandal was born in 1758 in Dutchess, New York near Albany and was the Great, Great, Great, Great Grandson of Captain Jan Wendel.

He and Mary Dillon were married in Rockbridge County, Virginia in 1780 and settled in Fayetteville, WV.
Abraham and Mary donated a portion of their land for the building of the Fayetteville, West Virginia Courthouse
Abraham and Mary Vandal had eight children.

- James Abraham
- Charity
- John Dillon
- Joel Worth
- Jamima
- Edward Dillon
- Mary Hannah
- Elizabeth
Over the years the descendants of Abraham and Mary have changed the spelling of their name in several different ways.

For instance, the children of John Dillon **Vandal** chose several different spellings -

Some changed it to **Vandel**
Some changed it to **Vandall**
While others left it as **Vandal**
Andrew Vandal, son of James Abraham, was the only one of the ten children to change the spelling to Vandale.

Of the six children of Thomas James Vandal, four changed the spelling to Vandel and two changed it to Vandell.

The children of Curtis Vandel separated the Van from the Del to make the name Van Del.
Regardless of how we spell our name, we are all Abraham and Mary’s off spring.
The Vandal Clan remains a strong family group, getting together often on different occasions.

2001 Reunion in Pipestem, West

Tombstone Dedication for Thomas Stewart Vandel
Our reunions are always a time of fun and fellowship.
At our Web site you will find links to the upcoming family reunions, notices of births, marriages and deaths, family news and also a link to our updated family tree where you are able to trace your family back to 1567.
THE VANDAL FAMILY
HOME PAGE

http://vandalfamily.org

VANDAL - VANDALL - VANDALE - VANDEL - VANDELL - VAN DAL - VANDLE -
Vandal cousins have kept in touch over the years through their quarterly Vandal Newsletter.
Thank you for your interest in the Vandal Family History. And please join us at our next reunion. We would love to have you there.

Chuck Hield – Vandal Family Historian