

# Willcox with two L's? What's up with that?

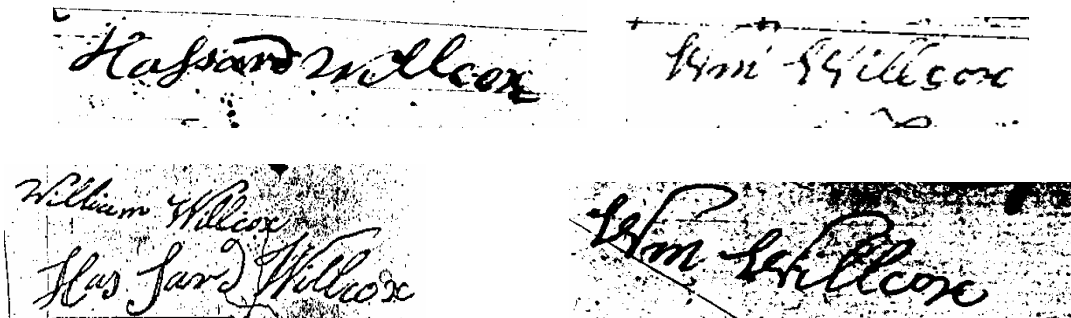
By Thom Wilcox

At this year's reunion and re-organization of the family organization, the name Willcox was definitely one of the topics of discussion. Let me tell you this isn't new and has been a source of controversy in the family for years. OK then, what is it, one L or two L's, Wilcox or Willcox?

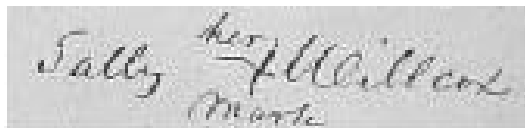
To try and answer that long debated question, let's go back some years and see how our ancestors originally spelled their names. First let's look at John Henry Owen Willcox's father and grandfather. JHOW's grandfather Hazard Sr. (b. Abt 1745) in a Walloomsac Patent deed in 1770 spelled it with two L's.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Hazard Willcox". The letters are dark and somewhat faded, with a slightly slanted baseline.

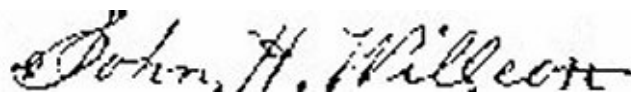
Next JHOW's father, Hassard Jr. (b. 25 Dec 1775) and his brother William (b. abt. 1768) also spelled it with two L's on land petitions in Upper Canada from the Crown in 1793, 1808 and 1811.

Four handwritten signatures in cursive script, arranged in a 2x2 grid. The top-left signature is "Hassard Willcox", the top-right is "Wm Willcox", the bottom-left is "William Willcox" with "Hassard Willcox" written below it, and the bottom-right is "Wm Willcox". The signatures are dark and somewhat faded, with a slightly slanted baseline.

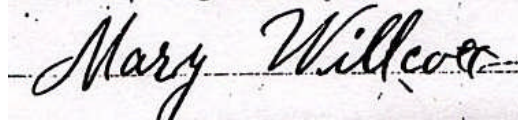
On Hassard Jr.'s probate records in 1831, JHOW's mother (b. 16 Nov 1780) Sarah (Sally) Seely's signature was written with two L's, albeit she only made her mark (X).

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sally Seely" with "her mark" written below it. The signature is dark and somewhat faded, with a slightly slanted baseline.

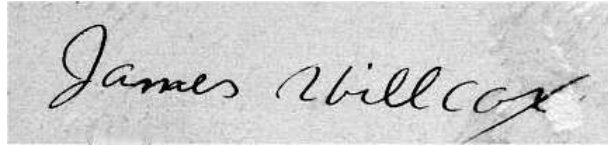
JHOW (b. 14 Jan 1824) himself spelled it with two L's on a petition to Governor Cummings of Utah in 1859. (JHOW went by the name of Henry).

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John H. Willcox". The letters are dark and somewhat faded, with a slightly slanted baseline.

JHOW's wife Mary Young (b. 6 Jun 1831) signed her name with two L's in a letter about the 50<sup>th</sup> Jubilee in 1897.

A photograph of a handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Willcox". The signature is written on a piece of paper with horizontal lines, and the ink is dark.

JHOW's son James Henry (b. 10 Nov 1855) also spelled it with two L's.

A photograph of a handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James Willcox". The signature is written on a piece of paper with horizontal lines, and the ink is dark.

Now this is about the time, at least down my line, where we loose the double-L. My grandfather, James Henry's son, Quintin (b. 23 Apr 1897) spelled it with only one L and none of his siblings spelled their names with the double-L. Ever since then, my father and down my line, we all have spelled it with only one L.

Willcox or Wilcox, however **you** spell it, is just that, however **you** spell it. It's the blood line that counts. In honor of how **they** spelled it, and to honor JHOW as a great father and patriarch is the reason for the renaming of the family organization to John Henry Owen Willcox Family Organization (JHOW.org -originally known as The Wilcox Family Organization).

Thom Wilcox  
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