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REPORT TO: File

SUBJECT Mills & Associates: Amherst County, Virginia: Land & Probate Records, 1761–1806 (Including Bias, Lavender, Maddox, Ripley, Tilman, Toney, Wade, Walton, White, Witt)

BACKGROUND: This project begins the effort to systematically identify and extract all available colonial records for three Albemarle > Amherst pioneer families, their children, their sons-in-law, and their associates:

- William Mills (c1695–c1755) and wife Mary (c1705–1776)<sup>1</sup>
- Edward Watts (c1700–aft1763)<sup>2</sup>
- William Witt (c1680–1754)<sup>3</sup>

This research segment expands upon two prior reports:<sup>4</sup>

- “Mills & Associates: Albemarle County, VA: Court Orders, Deeds & Probate, 1745–1767; Including Lavender, Learwood, Mattox, Mosby, Napier, Ripley, Tilman, Wade, Walton, Watts, and Witt,” report to file 27 January 2016 (updated 21 May 2022),” 58 pp.
- “Witt & Associates: Albemarle & Amherst Counties, VA, Court Orders, 1766–1800,” report to file, 16 January 2016 (updated 10 May 2022), 38 pp.

RESOURCES: For deeds and probate registers surviving for Amherst during the period covered by this project, Bailey Fulton Davis has published very brief abstracts. Those relevant to this project will be extracted from Davis as a beginning point.<sup>5</sup> Those for key individuals in this project will be verified against the surviving original record books imaged online by *FamilySearch* and corrected if necessary.

Davis’s Amherst deed volume also include abstracts from Albemarle that are more fully covered in the Sparacio publications used for the Albemarle Preliminary Survey above. They were included in the prior report, because he and Sparacio have read some names differently. This report’s use of Davis’s abstracts will begin with the creation of Amherst County.

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<sup>1</sup> For all proved information on William Mills and analyses of how that information advances research into his origin, see E. S. Mills, “William Mills (c1695–c1755) of Goochland, Albemarle & Amherst Counties, Virginia; Spouse Mary [—?—]: Research Notes,” 104 pp., a work-in-progress last updated 16 May 2022; archived online at Mills, *HistoricPathways.com* under the “Research” tab.

<sup>2</sup> For transcripts, abstracts, and/or images of records on Edward and his several sons, see E. S. Mills, “Thomas Watts (b. ca.1725; d. ca.1796–1800); Spouse Sarah Mills: Research Notes,” 45 pp., a work in progress last updated 15 June 2016; archived online at Mills, *HistoricPathways.com* under the “Research” tab.

<sup>3</sup> For sparse background on this branch of the Witts, see David F. Whitt, *Ancestors and Descendants of William Whitt: 1775–1850* (Bowie, MD: Heritage Books, 2004), 54–55.

<sup>4</sup> These reports are also archived online at *Historic Pathways* under the “Research” tab.

<sup>5</sup> In general, Davis’s two volumes glean skeletal details from each recorded deed and probate record. Occasional misreadings exist, as with every derivative work.

## Executive Summary

All three major families—Mills, Watts, and Witt—were in Albemarle > Amherst from its initial settlement, as was Charles Lavendar whose sons William and Allen married the daughter and granddaughter of William and Mary Mills. The families into which the other Mills children married (with the exception of Learwoods) were also in Albemarle. However, that county was a vast one at creation, and the early settlements of these families sprawled across what now is several counties. To summarize key locations, as defined in the Albemarle report and this one:

- **Albemarle:**

After the county's first division in summer 1761, all the principles in this study fell into the offshoot counties of Amherst and Buckingham, although several would continue to appear randomly in Albemarle records across the next several years. One associated family—that of Thomas Tilman—remained in Albemarle but would be cut away into Fluvanna when that county was created in 1777.

- **Amherst:**

- *Mills-Watts Cluster: Lower Pedlar.* This initial settlement of William Mills and Edward Watts, whose children intermarried, clustered along the lower Pedlar River and its creeks, principally Buck, Dancing, and Harris. They did not remain. By the mid-1760s, these two families are cited in records of the Pedlar region only as original patentees of adjacent lands that were being sold by later owners. All adult sons of both men, except one, had either left or died.
- *Mills-Lavender-Walton Cluster: Tye River, later Nelson Co.* In the 1760s, after William Mills' youngest son Jesse came of age, William's estate was settled and his land on waters of the Pedlar were sold. At that point, Jesse (the only male Mills to remain) relocated along the Tye River amid his sister Milly's in-laws, the Lavenders. Settling there with them was William Walton Jr., the brother-in-law of Jesse and future second-husband of Milly, whose first appearance in Amherst deeds (1761) places him on a tract that bounded the Hardware, the Rockfish, and the James. Walton's many thousands of acres would also include land on Piney River.
- *Witt Cluster: Rockfish River and its waters, later Nelson Co.* Deeds place the sons of William Witt (d. 1754, Albemarle<sup>6</sup>) primarily on the south side of Rockfish. Their lands dotted the landscape across the North Branch of Davis Creek, Corbin's Creek, Short's Creek, Lackey's Mountain, and "the cove of the mountain," roughly present Gulleysville in Nelson Co.

- **Buckingham:** Pre-1761, the Waltons and Ripleys were adjacent neighbors along Walton's Fork of Ripley's Creek, an area that became Buckingham. From there,

- John Ripley, the family elder, would give his land to adult children and move to Edgefield District, South Carolina, with his last wife, Elizabeth (Mills) Learwood. He does not appear in Amherst land or probate records, although a prior research segment found that he did launch one court suit against his mother-in-law in 1767 before leaving for SC.<sup>7</sup>
- William Walton Jr., after the 1747 death of his father William Sr., sold parental lands and moved to the Tye River of Amherst. He drops out of Amherst records in 1793, after selling his extensive

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<sup>6</sup> Albemarle Co. Will Book 2: 20–21.

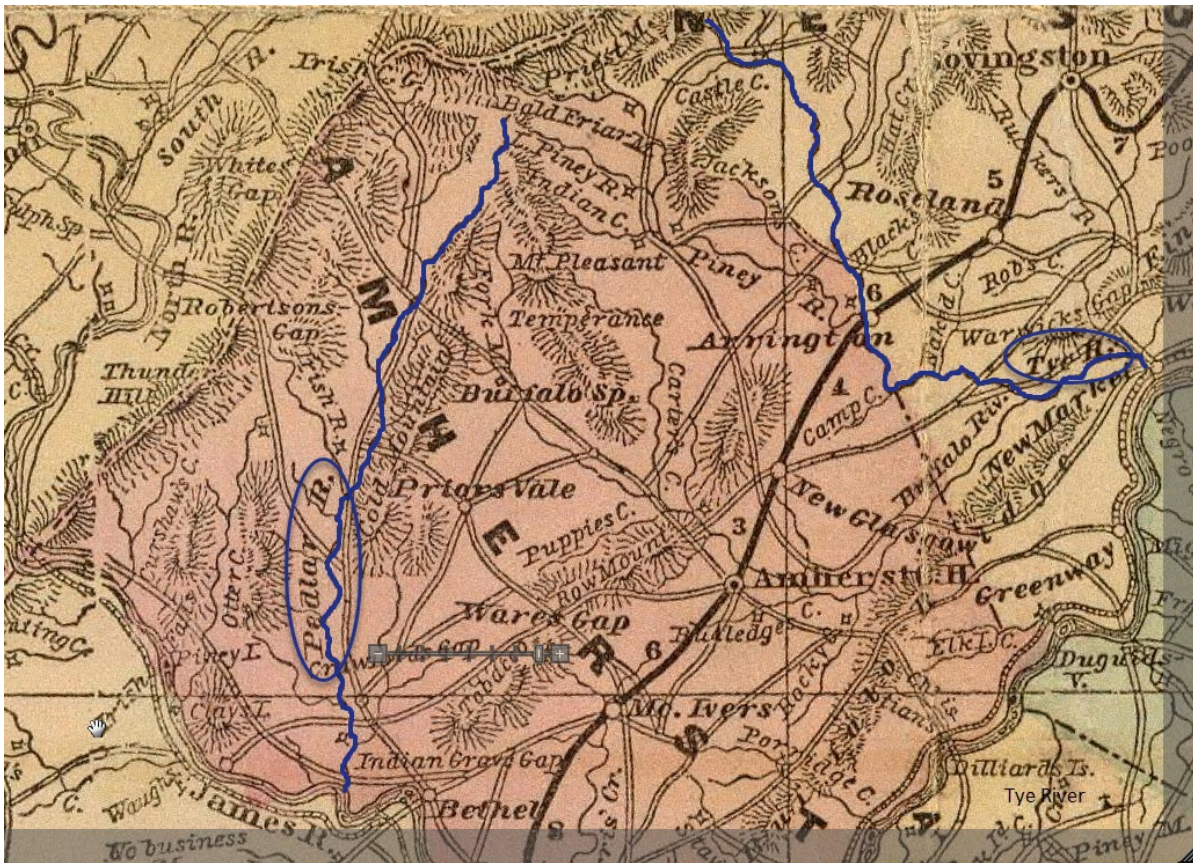
<sup>7</sup> E. S. Mills, "Mills & Associates: Amherst County, Virginia, Court Orders ...," report to file, 25 April 2022," 8–11; archived online at Mills, *Historic Pathways* (<https://www.historicpathways.com>) under the "Research" tab.

landholdings amid lingering debt created by the revolution in which he had served. Prior research has established that he and second wife Milly Mills (Widow Lavender), moved to Burke County, NC.<sup>8</sup>

## Maps

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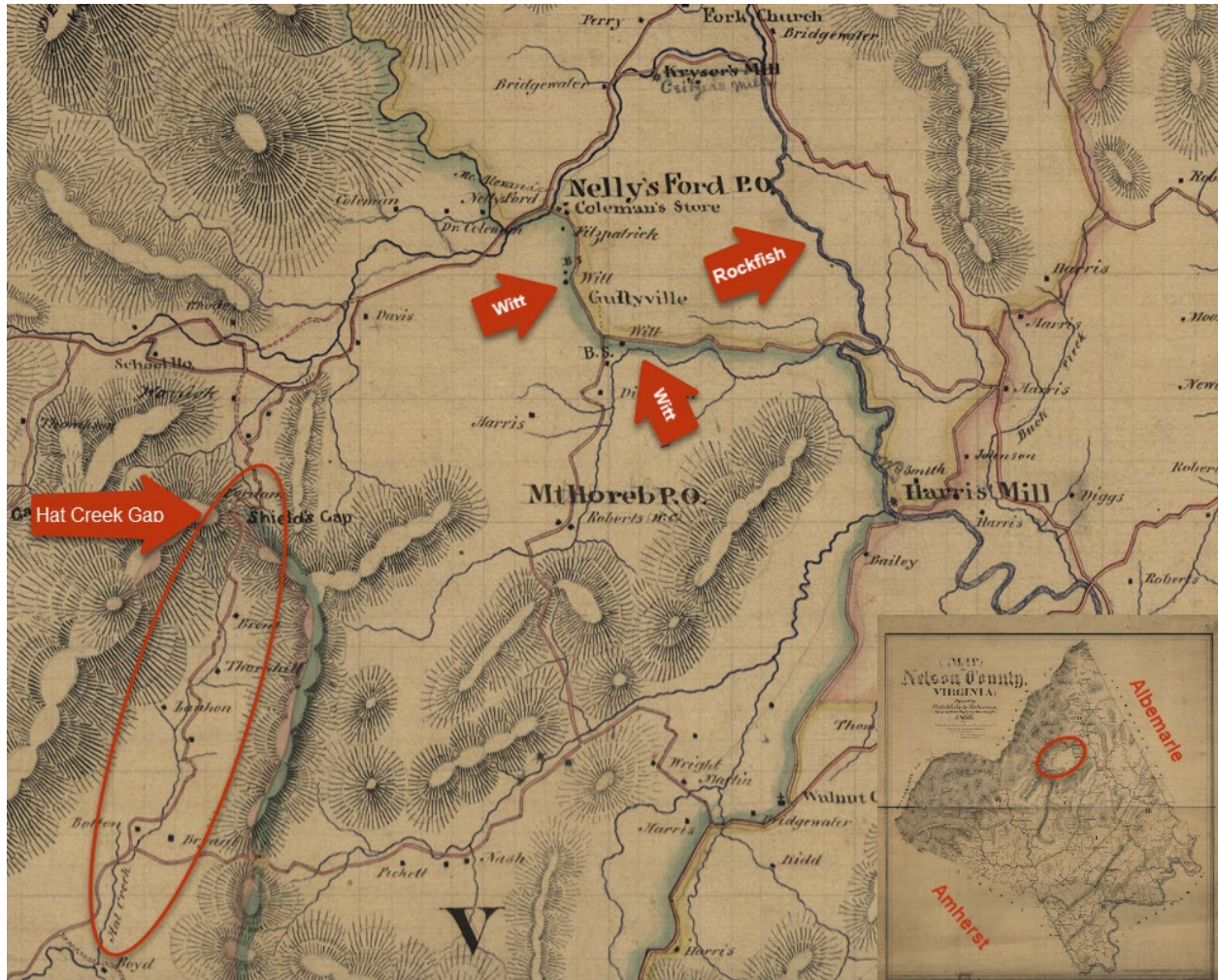
**Map 1**  
**Pedlar River & Tye River, Old Amherst County<sup>9</sup>**



<sup>8</sup> See the previously cited “William Mills (c1695–c1755) of Goochland Albemarle & Amherst Counties, Virginia; Spouse Mary [—?—]: Research Notes,” particularly pp. 14–15.

<sup>9</sup> Snipped from *Lloyd’s Official Map of the State of Virginia* (New York: J. T. Lloyd, 1862); imaged at *David Rumsey Map Collection* (<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~3695~350006:Lloyd-s-official-map-of-the-State-of> : 15 November 2019).

**Map 2**  
**Witt Community, Present Nelson County<sup>10</sup>**



<sup>10</sup> Snipped from Jedediah Hotchkiss and S. B. Robinson, *Map of Nelson County, Virginia, 1866* (Staunton, VA: Hotchkiss & Robinson, 1866); imaged *Library of Congress* (<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/g3883n.cwh00301> : accessed 4 February 2016), LC control number 2005625185.

**Map 3**  
**Rockfish River, Old Amherst (Now Nelson) County, Virginia<sup>11</sup>**  
(Showing Witt settlement at top left and Walton landholdings at bottom right)



**Research Notes**

**7 AUGUST 1761**

Land sale

**William Walton** to **Thomas Tilman**, both of Albemarle, sale for 80£, 100 acres on Fluvanna River “on the W side of a run commonly called William Cannon’s corner, thence up the said run according to its meanders to a white oak thence S & W to a large creek called **Rockfish**, thence down the said creek according to its meanders to the Fluvanna River, thence down the Fluvanna to the first station.” Witnesses: Richard Perkins, John Moore. Acknowledged 13 August 1761 in court by William, after relinquishment of dower rights by wife **Elizabeth**.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>11</sup> Snipped from Hotchkiss and Robinson, *Map of Nelson County, Virginia, 1866*.

<sup>12</sup> Abstracted from Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Abstract, 1761–1764* (N.P.: Antient Press, 1988), 25; citing pp. 90–91.

**13 AUGUST 1761**

Land sale

**William Walton** of Albemarle to James Hilton of Buckingham Co., sale for 260£, 200 acres by estimation, being part of a larger tract on Hardaway Creek, Rockfish Creek, and “James or the Fluvanna” River. No witnesses. Acknowledged by William and relinquished by wife Elizabeth on same day in court.<sup>13</sup>

**31 AUGUST 1761**

Land sale

“**Wm. Walton** to Jas. Hilton, Buckingham, for £260, 200 acres, part of a tract adj. **Harway [Hardware], Rockfish, James River**. Hilton gets all above Rockfish – 200 acres. Wit: Rich. Perkins Jno. Moore, **Eliz, wife of Walton**.”<sup>14</sup>

COMMENT:

This William Walton was William Jr., married to Elizabeth Tilman.

**10 MARCH 1762**

Land survey

“List of surveys made by Wm. Cabell from 20 June 1761 to 27 June 1771, inclusive. They show no locations, but merely date and acres. ...

8 Mar 1762	Robert <b>Whitten</b>	32a
9 Mar 1762	Benj. Noel	150a
9 Mar 1762	Ellick Duggins	60a
<b>10 Mar 1762</b>	<b>James Bias</b>	<b>230a</b>
11 Mar 1762	Jno. Hogg	53a
11 Mar 1762	Wm. Kippers	82a
12 Mar 1762	Benj. Higginbotham	236a
13 Mar 1762	Isaac Mayfield	200a
13 Mar 1762	Jos. Higginbotham	385a
15 Mar 1762	Aaron Higginbotham	190a
16 Mar 1762	Carnaby Veal	215a
16 Mar 1762	Isaac Gibson	250a
17 Mar 1762	Wm. Floyd	125a
17 Mar 1762	Jno. <b>Hix</b>	77a
19 Mar 1762	Hugh Morris	200a
19 Mar 1762	Cornl. Thomas	180a
20 Mar 1762	<b>Charles Tuley</b>	63a
16 April 1762	Robt Johnston	99a
7 Oct 1762	William Diuguid	116a
17 Jan 1763	Henry Key	82a
18 Jan 1763	Rich. Prichard	80a
18 Jan. 1763	Jno. Suttin field	160a
19 Jan 1763	<b>Wm. Watts</b>	70a
20 Jan 1763	<b>Wm Wats</b>	50a
20 Jan 1763	Theophilus Favers	170a

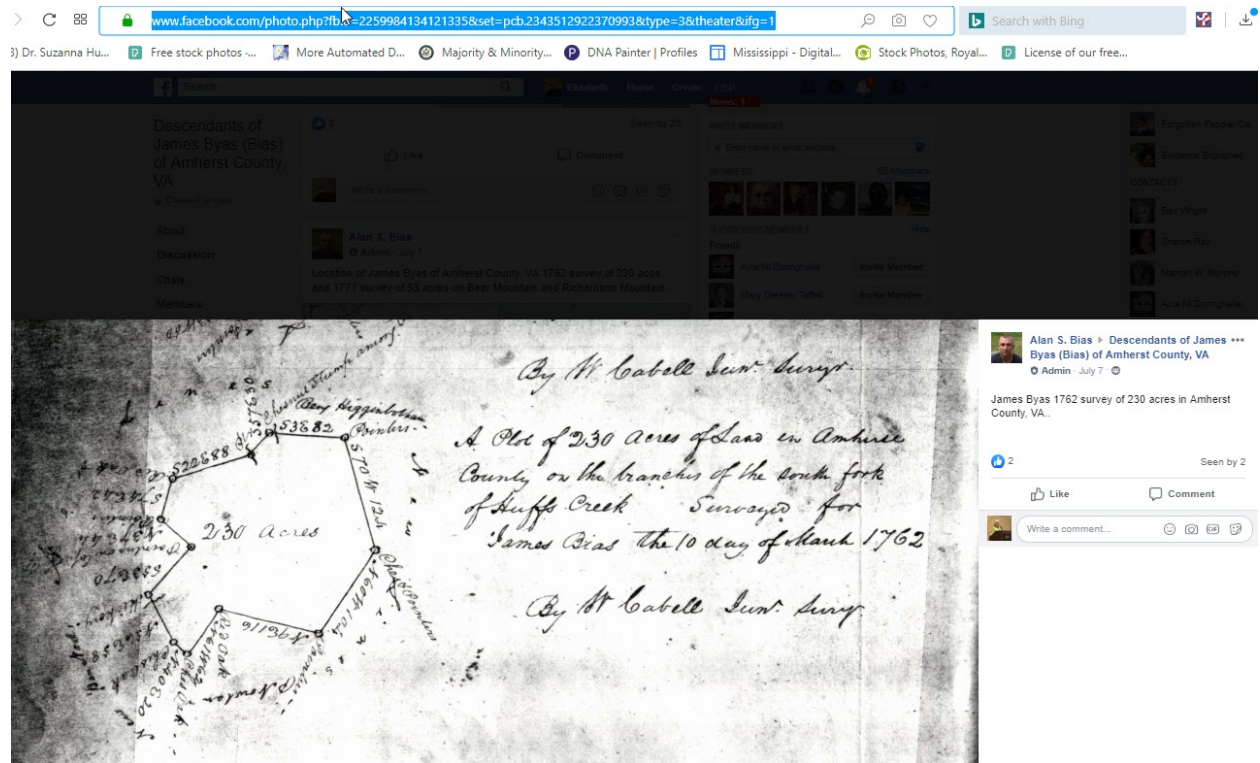
<sup>13</sup> Abstracted from Sparacio, *Deed Book, Albemarle County, Virginia, 1761–1764*, 25; citing pp. 88–90.

<sup>14</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 51; citing Alb DB 3: 88.

21 Jan 1763	Jno. Denny	142a
22 Jan 1763	Theophilus Favars	170a
14 Feb 1763	Anne Neal	58a
[skip several dozen]		
28 Mar 1771	Robt. Freeland	150a
29 mar 1771	Wm. Migginson	92a
4 Apr 1771	<b>Jas. Bias</b>	53a
5 Apr	Wm. <b>Hix</b>	74a
9 Apr 1771	Robt. Johnston	294a
10 Apr 1771	Joseph <b>Layne</b>	297a <sup>15</sup>

COMMENT:

The Bias family researcher Alan S. Bias has posted a plat of the James Bias survey in the Facebook group “Descendants of James Byas (Bias) of Amherst County, VA,” showing his adjacent landowner to be Benjamin Higginbotham.



5 APRIL 1762

Association

Will of John Cox of Albemarle. Son: William Cox, all land bought from Abraham Childers &c. Son Benjamin, half of land on which testator now lives &c. Son Edward Cox, other half, etc. Daughters Elizabeth Cox, Sarah Bard. Youngest children Edward, Benjamin and Elizabeth. Executors, son William and “friends **Thomas Jopling** and Mical Thomas. Witnesses: John Bullock, Stephen Crouch, Noel Burton.

<sup>15</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 127–28, 131.

9 September 1762. Certificate of probate granted to Thomas Jopling and Michael Thomas.<sup>16</sup>

COMMENT:

Jopling's action here contrasts with his action when William Mills's will was presented for probate. Jopling accepted this 1762 appointment. He did not accept the co-executorship of Mills' 1755 will when it was presented for probate in 1766.

**19 JANUARY 1763**

Survey

17 April 1763	Henry Key, 82a
18 Jan. 1763	Rich. Prichard 80 a
18 Jan. 1763	Jno. Suttan Field 160a
19 Jan. 1763	Wm. Watts 70a
20 Jan. 1763	Wm. Watts 70a
20 Jan. 1763	Theophilus Favars 170a
21 Jan. 1763	Jno. Denny 142a
22 Jan. 1763	Theophis Favars 170a

COMMENT:

The William Watts of these two surveys has not been connected to the William Watts who had land surveyed before 1753 on Clark's Creek (Little Pedlar). This William Watts was the apparent husband of Mary (who, as his widow, married Joseph Dillard of Dillard Creek and Tye River) and father of Stephen, Charles, and Orany Watts. The two 70-acre tracts appear to lie on the waters of Rucker's Run and Dutch Creek at Rocky Mountain. The northern prong of Rucker's Run, the watercourse that runs up to Rocky Mountain, appears on various maps as Dillard Creek.<sup>17</sup>

**30 APRIL 1763**

Association

"William Cabell & wife, Margaret, AC to John Cabell, Buckingham Co., for love and affection which they bear their loving son, John Cabell ... 790 acres, N side of an adj. Fluvana River ... 40 acres part of which is an island in the Fluvana and known as Woods' Island ... 200 acres one other part in the fork to **Tye River** ... 400 acres one other part thereof beginning at mouth at **Owen's Creek** ... part of tract of 4800 acres pat. to William Cabell on Sept. 12 1738 ... 150 acres lying opposite land belonging to estate of William Meggison, deceased and granted to Hugh Denham by patent and by him sold to William Arrington, deceased, and by him devised to his son, Neves Arrington, and by him sold to William Horsley, Deceased, and by said Horsley sold to William Cabell. Reserving leases granted to Thomas Hughes, John Smith, Gilbert Bowman, Henry Gotherd & Robert Irons and use of plantation 'his hands now works' ... liberty for his son William Cabell, Jr. and his heirs forever to fish on any parts of Wood's Island. X of Margaret. Wit: **William Walton**, William Cabell Jr., John Dawson."<sup>18</sup>

**12 JULY 1764**

Association

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<sup>16</sup> Abstracted from the transcription by Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Wills, 1752–1764*, 94–95; citing Will Book 2, pp. 37–38.

<sup>17</sup> See E. S. Mills, "Watts & (Some) Dillards of Albemarle & Amherst Counties, VA: Preliminary Survey of Published Sources, 1782–1807 Personal Tax Rolls, 1782–1800 Land Tax Rolls, and 1765–1792 Court Order Books," particularly the Cluster 3 summary at pp. 16–21; report to file last updated 29 April 2022, 130 pp.; archived online at Mills, *HistoricPathways.com* under the "Research" tab.

<sup>18</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 76–77; citing Amh DB A: 110; see also A: 112 for a similar deed from the Cabells to the "infant sons" of William Horsley, Decd., with William Walton as witness.



**Thomas Tilman** (T) witnessed sale of land from William Cox to Daniel McKinsay, adj. to **Robert Walton**, Thomas Napier, John Douglass, Rockfish Creek, Secretary's Rolling Road. John Tompkins and Thos. Hickman also witnessed.<sup>19</sup>

**9 AUGUST 1764**

Association

Noel Burton of Goochland to John Moon of Albemarle, sale of 400 acres on N side of **Hardware** joining Richard Damril. Witnesses: George Perry, **Jeremiah Wade**, **Thos. Tilman** (T).<sup>20</sup>

COMMENT:

In November 1743–November 1744, Noel (Nowel) Burton sued the newly-adult Ambrose Mills, son of William, in Goochland County. The court orders do not state the nature of the suit.<sup>21</sup>

**1 APRIL 1765**

Association

"Abraham Warwick, AC, to John Dawson, AC ... 35 pds for 100 acres ... **Rich Cove** near **Rockfish** ... Lines: John Crawford, Cove Creek, Alexander Chisam, John Lyons. Wit: Ambrose Porter, **Richard Tankersley**, **Harris Toney**."<sup>22</sup>

COMMENT:

Richard Tankersley's offspring would intermarry with those of Mildred (Mills) Lavender.

**6 AUGUST 1765**

**AMHERST COUNTY, VA**

Marriage bond

"Know all men by these presents that we **Jesse Mills** and **John Fraser** are held and firmly bound unto our sovereign Lord George the Third by the Grace of God now King of Great Britain &c in Fifty Pounds Current money to be paid to our said Lord the King his Heirs and Successors, to the which payment well and Truly to be made, we bind ourselves our Heirs, Executors and Administrators jointly and Severally firmly by these presents sealed with our seals and Dated this sixth Day of August one Thou-sand seven hundred and sixty five.

Whereas there is a marriage suddenly intended to be Solemnized between the above bound Jesse Mills and **Lucy Tilman spinster**, The Condition of the above Obligation is such that if there be no lawful cause to obstruct the same Then the above Obligation to be void. Otherwise to Remain in full force and Virtue. Sealed & Delivered in presence of Geo. Seaton. [Signed] Jesse Mills, John Fraser."<sup>23</sup>

COMMENT:

I have not yet identified Fraser or placed him into the context of the Millses and their associates.

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<sup>19</sup> Abstracted from the transcription in Sparacio, *Deed Book, Albemarle County, Virginia, 1761–1764*, 117; citing pp. 482–83.

<sup>20</sup> Abstracted from the transcription in Sparacio, *Deed Book, Albemarle County, Virginia, 1761–1764*, 11; citing pp. 485–86. See also Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 66; citing Alb DB 3: 485.

<sup>21</sup> Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745* (Westminster, MD: Heritage books, 2007), 302, 357, 396, 428, 489; citing original pages 314, 374, 415, 450, 517.

<sup>22</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 86; citing Amh DB A: 328.

<sup>23</sup> Amherst Co. Marriage Bonds and Consents, 1763–1783, chronological sequence; imaged on Amherst Co. microfilm 104, Library of Virginia, Richmond.

Know all men by these presents that we John Witt  
and John Trason are held and firmly bound  
unto our sovereign Lord George the Third by the grace  
of God now King of Great Britain &c. in fifty pounds  
sterling money to be paid to our said Lord the King  
his Heirs and Successors, to the which payment  
well and truly to be made we bind ourselves our  
Heirs, Executors and Administrators jointly and  
severally firmly by these presents sealed with  
our seals and Waxed this sixth Day of August  
one Thousand seven hundred and sixty five.

Whereas there is a marriage suddenly intend  
ed to be Solemnized between the above bound John  
Witt and Lucy Selman Spinster the  
Condition of the above Obligation is such that  
if there be no lawful cause to obstruct the same  
Then the above Obligation to be void otherwise to  
Remain in full force and Virtue

Sealed & Delivered  
In presence of  
Geo. Seaton

John Witt  
John Trason

**SEPTEMBER 1765**

Association

**John Witt, Abner Witt, and Benjamin Madox** returned to court the inventory and appraisement of the estate of Thomas Hickerson."<sup>24</sup>

**7 OCTOBER 1765**

Land sale

"**Robt. Whitten**, AC, Hector McAlester, for 100 pds, 263 acres both sides of **Beavour Creek**. Lines: Nicholas Easting, **Jer. Whitten**, Wm. Cabell's order of Council tract; Benj. Stennet, (X) of Whitten. Wit: Wm. Henry, Thos. Reid. Wife of Whitten [unnamed] consents."<sup>25</sup>

COMMENT:

In 1784 one William Whitten/Whitton served as surety for Anne (Mills) Witt, daughter of William Mills and widow of Lewis Witt (son of Benjamin).<sup>26</sup> In 1789, the Bedford court brought criminal charges against him and Milly Witt, daughter of Ann; Ann had born a child out of wedlock and

<sup>24</sup> Lydia (Sparacio) Bontempo, *Will Book, Albemarle County, Virginia, 1764–1775* (N.P.: Antient Press, n.d.), 17; citing p. 190.

<sup>25</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 94; citing Amh DB B: 89.

<sup>26</sup> Witt vs. John Cooper, Bedford Chancery Records, 1785–011; imaged at Library of Virginia, *VirginiaMemory* ([www.virginia.gov/chancery/case\\_detail.asp?CFN=019-17885-011](http://www.virginia.gov/chancery/case_detail.asp?CFN=019-17885-011) : accessed 14 May 2016).

Whitton was charged with “keeping Milly Witt.”<sup>27</sup> This William seems to be the same man who appears subsequently in this set of Amherst notes as son of Jeremiah Whitten and administrator of his estate.

#### 7 OCTOBER 1765

##### Land purchase

“Geo. Carrington, Cumberland, to **Robt. Whitten**, AC, £13-10, 270 acres. Lines: **Pierce Wade**, Jas. Creuse.”<sup>28</sup>

##### COMMENT:

This land lay on Harris Creek. See Whitten’s deed of trust under 8 August 1766, below.

George Carrington was an absentee landowner holding over 6000 acres along Harris Creek in the area of Bargain Creek, Bear Garden Creek, Franklin Creek of the Buffalo, Moll’s Creek, Pole Cat Creek, Randolph Creek, Rocky Run of the Buffalo, Thrasher’s Creek of the Buffalo. James “Crews” and Pearce Wade and the younger Thomas Watts of 1763 bought parts of the Carrington tract.<sup>29</sup>

#### 11 OCTOBER 1765

##### Land sale

**Thomas Tilman** (T) sold to Alexander McCaul of Richmond in Henrico County, Merchant, for 5 shillings, 150 acres in Albemarle on the **Fluvanna River** between **Great Rockfish & Little Rockfish Creeks**, adj. John Ware, John Henry Gent, land **purchased by Tilman from William Walton**. Also another 400 acres on Hardware River between John Moore and Hugh Morris, purchased by Tilman from George Dameron, also “the following Negro slaves (11 named) And also a Bay Mare unbranded a Black Horse & Colt, Eleven black cattle, thirty hogs marked with an Underkeel in each ear, five Feather beds & furniture, two chests, six pewter dishes & one Dozen pewter plates.”<sup>30</sup>

##### COMMENT:

Tilman is obviously in serious financial distress. About two months earlier (bond dated 6 August 1765; see above), his daughter Lucy had married Jesse Mills, son of William and Mary.

Tilman’s son Daniel, who also remained in Albemarle after Amherst was cut away, had similar financial difficulties (as did the new son-in-law Jesse Mills during these same years). On 18 December 1772 Daniel mortgaged “four slaves and their increase” to Geo. Kippen and Co.<sup>31</sup> On 3 January 1774 he mortgaged five enslaved men, women, and children.<sup>32</sup>

The 1765 appearance above is *Thomas’s last in the deed books of Albemarle. Daniel made his last appearance in these deed books with the 3 January 1774 mortgage.* They both appear in Fluvanna tax rolls of the 1780s.

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<sup>27</sup> Bedford Co., VA, Order Book 9, 1786–1790, p. 259; Bedford Co. Reel 41, Library of Virginia.

<sup>28</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 94; citing Amh DB B: 90.

<sup>29</sup> See Mills, “Watts & (Some) Dillards of Albemarle & Amherst Counties, VA,” pp. 36–40, for abstracts and analyses of the many Carrington sales.

<sup>30</sup> Abstracted from Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Deed Book, Albemarle County, Virginia, 1763–1768* (N.P.: Antient Press, 1989), 43; citing pp. 197–99.

<sup>31</sup> Abstracted from the transcription in Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Deed Book, Albemarle County, Virginia, 1772–1776* (N.P.: Antient Press, 1992), 34; citing pp. 134–36.

<sup>32</sup> *Ibid.*, 98; citing pp. 381–82.

**23 MAY 1766**

Association

“John Welch, AC, to Geo. Kippen & Co, Glasgow merchants, for 5 sh, Deed of Trust for 25 pds. on 9 Jan 1765 and 10 pds. on same date – 250 acres on **Tie**, land bought of Thos. Wright, dec’d., rec. in AC. Wit: Neill Campbell, **Wm. Walton**, Wm. Cox, Geo. Munroe (x).”<sup>33</sup>

**14 JULY 1766**

Association

“Carter Braxton, King Wm., to Matt. Tucker, AC for 36 pds, 144 acres both sides of **Buffaloe** – part of tract of Braxton’s. Lines: Geo. Seaton, N side of Buffaloe, Braxton; in Tucker’s possession. Wit: Geo. Seaton, Edmd. Wilcox, Hugh Rose, **Wm. Walton**, Gabl. Penn.”<sup>34</sup>

**8 AUGUST 1766**

**AMHERST COUNTY, VA**

Mortgage

“**Robt. Whitten**, AC to McPherson & Minzies, Henrico merchants, 5 sh. to secure debt £66-6-7 half penny and principal of £33-3-3-3 farthings. 270 acres on **Harris Creek**. Lines: **Peirce Wade**, Jno. Goodwin, Jos. Dawson, **Thos. Watts**. Land **Robt. Whiten** [sic] bought of Geo. Carrington Sr. and rec. in AC – also stock and house hold goods. (X) of Whiten. Wit: Thos. Reid, Gabl. Penn, Jno. Barret, Johnson Bien.”<sup>35</sup>

COMMENT:

For this Thomas Watts, who appears to be a brother of Caleb Watts of Clark’s Creek, see the previously cited report, “Watts and (Some) Dillard’s of Albemarle & Amherst,” Cluster 2, pp. 9–16 and many subsequent pages.

**1 SEPTEMBER 1766**

**AMHERST COUNTY, VA**

Land sale

“**Jesse Mills**, AC, to Nathaniel Davis, AC, for 40 pds, 350 acres branch of **Buck Creek** of **Pedlar**. Lines: Maple Creek, **Edward Watts, Jr., Thomas Mills**. Lucy, wife of Jesse Mills, consents.”<sup>36</sup>

COMMENT:

This Edward Watts Jr. was the brother of Jesse Mills’s brother-in-law Thomas Watts. Edward Jr. migrated in the 1760s to the Wateree River where he took out a land grant adjacent to his brothers Thomas and William before he and William relocated to the next major waterway to the west, Little River. There on Little River, they would be contiguous to land surveyed for Jesse’s older brother Ambrose Mills.<sup>37</sup>

Thomas Mills of this document was Jesse’s brother, who died before their father made his will in 1755. Thomas left two small children and the land was held in the family until those children came of age. Thomas’s daughter Elizabeth would sell it shortly after her marriage to John Turner and their settlement in Charleston, SC. (See 20 September 1777, below.)

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<sup>33</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 94; citing Amh DB B: 95.

<sup>34</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 95; citing Amh DB B: 108.

<sup>35</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 96; citing Amh DB B: 124.

<sup>36</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 96; citing Amh DB B: 128.

<sup>37</sup> See E. S. Mills, “Thomas Watts (c1723–aft. 1796); Spouse Sarah Mills: Research Notes,” a work-in-progress last updated 29 November 2019, 46 pp.; archived online at Mills, *HistoricPathways.com*, under the “Research” tab.

**17 APRIL 1767**

Land survey

“John **Barnet**; 1¼ ac; April 17, 1767; a small **island** in the Rivanna River opposite to **Abner Witt’s** land known by the name of **Sandy Island**; by Dan’l Smith.”<sup>38</sup>

COMMENT:

At this point, I quit reading the land surveys. The index shows no further entries for the William Mills family, the Wattses or Witts. Similarly, Albemarle deeds and probates have not been abstracted or transcribed past this point.

**20 MAY 1767**

Neighbor

“Henry Taylor, AC to Henry Key, AC, for 50 pds – 73 acres S side of N branch of **Piney** – part of 400 acres pat. to Geo. Taylor at Williamsburg 20 Sep 1751. Lines: Mr. Rose, **where Wm. Walton** ... [*sic*; page has been torn and shows only S and T but on next page there appears the name of Saml. Tarrant.”<sup>39</sup>

**7 JULY 1767**

Land sale.

“Mary Grymes, widow, Peyton Randolph, Esq.; Benj. Grymes; and John Robinson, Gent., Executors of Phillip Grymes, dec’d; and Lunsford Lomax, the Younger, Caroline Co., to **Jesse Mills**, AC [Amherst Co.]. [Whereas] Lunsford Lomax, the Elder, [of] **Caroline**, mtgd. on 7 Aug 1756, and rec. 21 Oct. 1756 in General Court – to secure loan to Lomax by Phillip Grymes, late of Middlesex, 7881 acres – money not repaid – mutually agreed between Mary Grymes, widow, and executors that land be sold to discharge debt and interest thereon – and they appointed Wm. Cabell, the Younger, atty, in AC Court – Lunsford Lomax & wife, Judith, 13 Jan 1767, (Proved in AC) conveyed to Lunsford Lomax, the Younger, [*who now conveys for*] 128 pds. 10 sh. [*paid*] by **Jesse Mills** – **396 acres**, part of said tract and formerly granted to Harmer, King, Randolph, & Lomax by order of Council **Tye River**. Lines Rose. Wit: George Seaton, **Wm. Walton**, Jno. Ryan, Edmund Wilcox, Clerk.”<sup>40</sup>

COMMENT:

- The 1766–67 documents tell us that Jesse has chosen to leave the neighborhood of his parents and relocate in a different community—selling his parental inheritance on the Pedlar and using the proceeds to buy Tye River land, several miles to the northeast, where his new in-laws lived.
- In 1770 (see below) the Grymes heirs sold another part of this land to Jesse’s brother-in-law William Lavender, at which time the deed referred to the adjacent landowner as “Mills,” without a given name. The reference is clearly to Jesse, the only adult male Mills left in Amherst County.

William Walton, the witness, had married Elizabeth Tilman (sister of Jesse’s wife Lucy) in Goochland’s St. James Northam Parish on 1 December 1758.<sup>41</sup> Like Walton, Jesse’s parents had come to Albemarle > Amherst from Goochland.<sup>42</sup>

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<sup>38</sup> Eric G. Grundset, “*Land Lying in the County of Albemarle*”: *Albemarle County, Virginia Surveyors’ Plat Books, Volume 1, Parts 1 and 2, and Volume 2, 1744–1853 [and 1891]* (Fairfax, VA: Privately printed, 1998), 95; citing vol. 1, pt. 2, p. 95.

<sup>39</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 100; citing Amh DB B: 197.

<sup>40</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1807; and Albemarle County, Virginia, 1748–1763)*, 100; citing Amh DB B: 203.

<sup>41</sup> W. Mac. Jones, *The Douglas Register: Being a Detailed Record of Births, Marriages, and Deaths ... as Kept by the Rev. William Douglas, from 1750 to 1797* (Richmond: J. W. Fergusson & Sons, 1928), 90.

### 21 SEPTEMBER 1767

#### Association

"Thos. Philips, AC, to Henry Key, AC, for 30 pds. 273 acres both sides **Cubb Creek**. Lines: Jno. Maclakin, Sarah Phillips, wife, consents. Wit: **Wm. Walton**, Elias Smith (x), Moses Mott (x). Grantors signed with (x)."<sup>43</sup>

### 2 NOVEMBER 1767

#### Surety on bond

"Geo. Stovall Jr., Jas. Dillard, **Wm. Walton**, **Gabl. Penn**, Alex. Reid Jr., Alex. Reid, Jno. Ryan, Jacob Smith, **Jesse Mills**, Ambrose Porter, Abraham **Penn**, Wm. Bibb, Jas. Christian, **Wm. Floyd**, Jos. Dillard, & Wm. Loving bonded to King Geo. III for 1000 pds. for Geo. Stovall Jr. who was appointed sheriff by governor under Colony seal on 17 Oct last past to perform duties of office. ... Same men and date as above for Stovall to collect fees. ... Same men and date for Stovall – 500 pds – to collect all Quit Rents."<sup>44</sup>

#### COMMENT:

In 1780 Gabriel Penn's niece Frances (daughter of *George Penn*) would marry William Burton Jr., a half-brother to the William Burton, "natural son," whom I propose to be Jesse's son-in-law.<sup>45</sup>A number of interactions between Jesse's family and the Penns will be seen in the research notes that follow.

On 7 March 1768 a new bond would be posted, authorizing Stovall to collect taxes. Walton and Gabriel Penn obligated themselves again. Jesse Mills did not.

William Floyd of the Pedlar was a witness to the 1755 will of Jesse Mills's father William.

### 6 MARCH 1768

#### Association

"Wm. Hansbrough & wife, Keziah, to Jno. Tuggle Jr. for £16-11-3, 98 acres on **Rucker's Run**. Lines: Col. Lomax. Wit: **Wm. Walton**, Jno. Loving, Jr., Bartholemew Ransay. Dated 1768 but proved 6 Mar 1769."<sup>46</sup>

### 7 MARCH 1768

#### Bond

"Geo. Stovall, Jr., **Wm. Walton**, Wm. Cabell, Danll. Gaines, **Cornl. Thomas**, Wm. Loving, & Gabl. Penn – 500 pds. bond to King Geo. III. Stovall appointed Sheriff under seal of Colony 17 Oct. last past. Bond to collect levies."<sup>47</sup>

### 5 SEPTEMBER 1768

#### Land sale

"**Jesse Mills** & wife **Lucy**, AC, to Lucas Powell, Alb. Co., for 90 pds. 396 acres branch of Tye. Lines: Rose. Wit: Jacob Smith, Wyatt Powell, **Wm. Floyd**."<sup>48</sup>

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<sup>42</sup> Mills, "William Mills (c1695–1766) of Goochland, Albemarle & Amherst Counties, Virginia; Spouse Mary (Walton?): Research Notes," previously cited.

<sup>43</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 104; citing Amh DB B: 272.

<sup>44</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 103; citing Amh DB B: 261–62.

<sup>45</sup> See E. S. Mills, "Jesse Mills Sr. (c1743–aft1810) of Albemarle & Amherst Counties, Virginia; Spouse Lucy Tilman: Research Notes," pp. 2–4, a work-in-progress last updated 28 April 2022); archived online at *HistoricPathways.com* under the "Research" tab.

<sup>46</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 113; citing Amh DB B: 405.

<sup>47</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 105; citing Amh DB B: 302.

<sup>48</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 110; citing Amh DB B: 364.

**3 APRIL 1769**

Association

“Wm. Cabell, Sr., AC, to Wm. Cabell Jr., AC, love borne by SR for JR, his son, fishery on **Woods Island** in the Fluvanna – agreeable to reservations in deed from Wm. Cabell, the elder to his son, Jno. Cabell, 13 Apr 1763; rec. in AC. Wit: **Wm. Walton**, Jno. Savage, **Eleonar Mills (x)**.”<sup>49</sup>

**17 APRIL 1770**

Land purchase

“Lunsford Lomax, Jr., Caroline, to **Jesse Mills**, for £60, 297 acres branch of Rucker’s Run and part of 6134 acres etc. – see p. 57 herein – Lomax to Stevens. Wit: Zach. Taliaferro, Thos. Mitchell, Rod. McCulloch, Thos. Reid, Rich. Tankersley, Rich. Tankersley Jr.”<sup>50</sup>

COMMENT:

On 14 June 1770, Jesse Mills conveyed 297 acres on Rucker’s Run to Thomas Lumpkin, via what appears to be a deed of trust. On 5 July 1771, he gave a deed of trust to this same 297 acres to Spiers, Bowman & Co. In 1772. On 1 June 1772, Lumpkin sold the tract saying that he had purchased it from Mills. See those dates below.

**17 APRIL 1770**

Land purchase

“Grymes exrs. To **Wm. Lavender** – see p. 33 for details of Grymes – for £25, 546½ acres on **branch of Tye**. Lines: **Mills**, Alcock, King. Wit: Zach. Taliaferro, Thos. Mitchell, Thos. Hawkins, Ambrose Jones, Geo. Galasbey, Moses Campbell.”<sup>51</sup>

**4 JUNE 1770**

Association

“Ambrose Jones, AC, to Thos. Goldsby, Alb. Co, for £20, 98 acres pat. 10 Sep 1760, to Jones, N fork of **Piney**. Wit: Chas. Irving, **Wm. Walton**, Wm. Martin, Wm. Monroe.”<sup>52</sup>

**14 JUNE 1770**

Land sale

“**Jesse Mills**, AC, to Thos. Lumpkin, AC, for £100, 297 acres bought by TL [*sic*; should be JM] of Lunsford Lomax Jr. and rec. in AC. Wit: Geo. Penn, Isaac Tinsey, Geo. McDaniel, Geo. Galaspie.”<sup>53</sup>

COMMENT:

Lumpkin sold this land on 1 June 1772; see that date below.

**1771**

Land survey

COMMENT:

The Bias family researcher Alan S. Bias has posted a plat of the James Bias survey of 1771 in the Facebook group “Descendants of James Byas (Bias) of Amherst County, VA,” showing his adjacent landowners to be Benjamin and John Higginbotham.

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<sup>49</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 115; citing Amh DB B: 431.

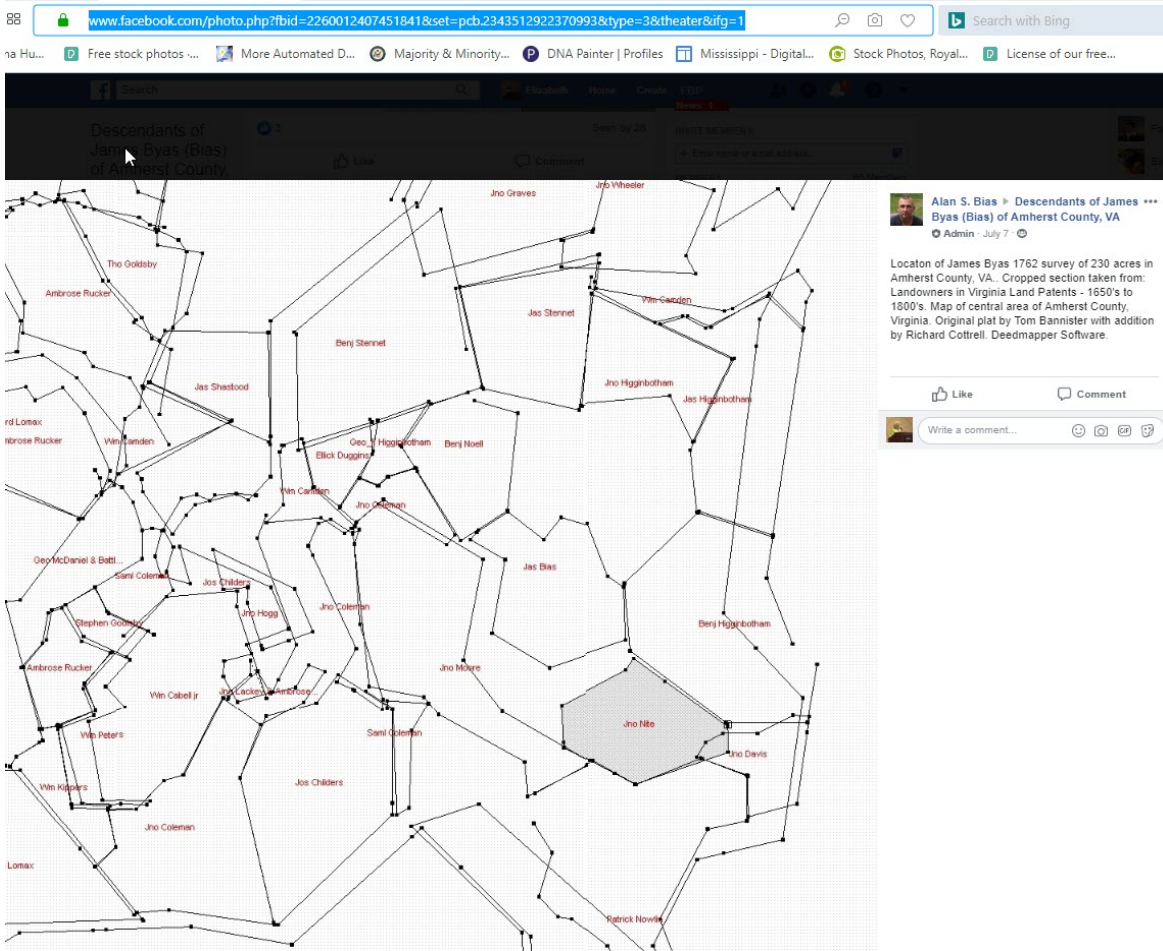
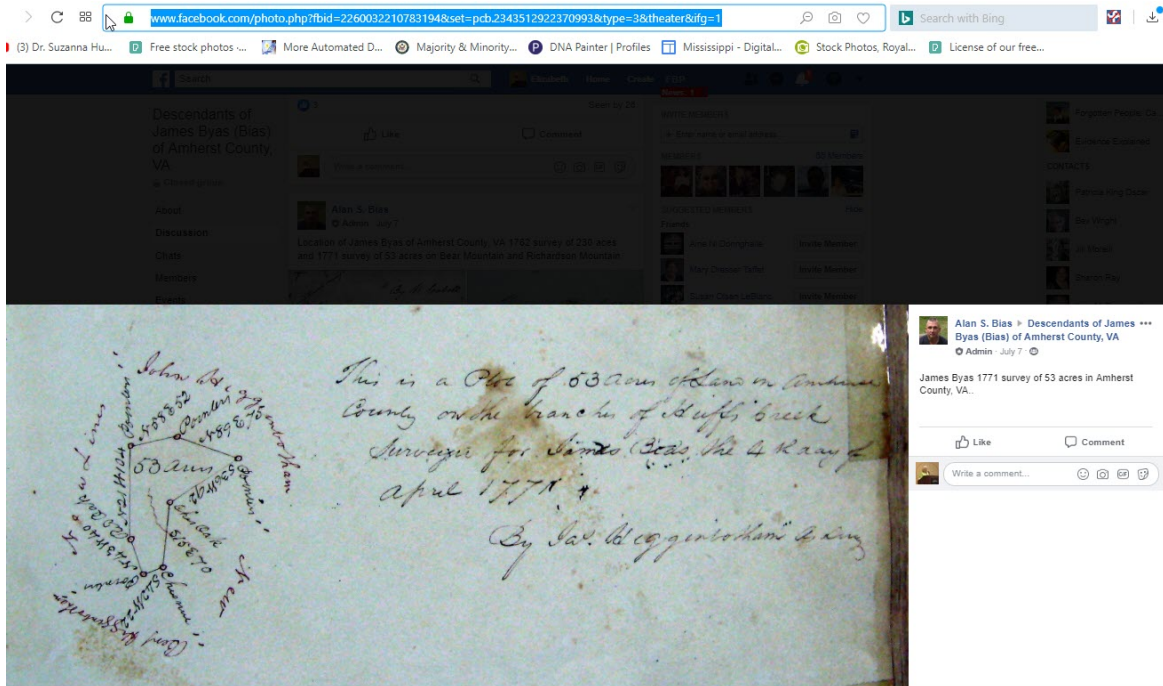
<sup>50</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 121; citing Amh DB C: 74.

<sup>51</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 121; citing Amh DB C: 78.

<sup>52</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 121 citing Amh DB C: 87.

<sup>53</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 127; citing Amh DB C: 178.

MILLS: Mills & Related Families, Amherst County Land & Probate Records (2019) updated 27 May 2022





**5 JULY 1771**

Mortgage

“**Jesse Mills** to Alex. Spiers, Jno. Bowman & Co. Deed of Trust – 5 sh. 297 acres which Mills bought of Lunsford Lomax. Also one Va. born negro wench named Pheobe; stock, tobacco. Wit: Thos. Jones, Jas. Pendleton, Martin Bibb.”<sup>54</sup>

COMMENT:

Jesse appears to be mortgaging the land he had conveyed in June 1770 to Lumpkin; suggesting that the 1770 conveyance was a deed of trust and not a fee simple sale. The fact that Spiers, Bowman & Co. required Jesse’s enslaved woman, stock, and crop to be included in the security also suggests that the company was taking a second mortgage, rather than a first. The land went to Lumpkin, with Lumpkin selling it on 1 June 1772.

**6 AUGUST 1771**

Mortgage

“**Wm. Walton** to Hugh Rose for £610 in debt – Deed of trust 5 sh. – many slaves named: Will, Siesor, Dick, Quiller, Acquire, Seros, Stephen, Punch, Chas. Will, Lewis, Matt., Sarah, Rose, Nann, Hannah, Rchel, Annica. Wit: Jas. Pamplin, Andrew Lackey, Jno. Jacobs.”<sup>55</sup>

**30 SEPTEMBER 1771**

Mortgage

“**Jesse Mills** to Thos. Mitchell, Factor for Jas. & Ro. Donalds & Co., Glasgow merchants – all household furniture, stock and all book debts after paying Wm. Watson his demands vs. me. Memo: Trunk and table mentioned in fifth line delivered in lieu of the whole. Wit: Edmd. Wilcox, **Nathl. Tilman**.”<sup>56</sup>

COMMENT:

*Many* Amherst planters of this era are indebted to several Glasgow merchants: principally Donalds & Co., Spiers, Bowman & Co., and Geo. Kippen & Co.

**8 OCTOBER 1771**

Livestock sale

“**Jesse Mills**, AC, to **Edwd. Tilman**, for £12, stock. Wit: Ann nbas(?) [Ambrose] Jones, Lede Jones.”<sup>57</sup>

**11 FEBRUARY 1772**

Associate

“Wm. Cabell, AC, to William Cabell Jr. for £50, 150 acres N side and joining Tye just about mouth of **Joe’s Creek**. Pat. to Wm. Matthews 12 Jan 1746 and by Matthews & wife Hannah to Wm. Cabell in Albemarle in Jan. Court, 1749. Lines: Wm. Cabell Jr. Wit: **Wm. Walton**, Jos. Cabell, Nichl. Cabell.”<sup>58</sup>

**2 MARCH 1772**

Neighbor

“Jno. Tuley, AC, to Nathl. Davis, for £50, 350 acres on **Pedlar**. Lines: **Wm. Mills**, crossing Maple Creek, **Edwd. Watts Jr.**, Stone.”<sup>59</sup>

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<sup>54</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 145; citing Amh DB C: 252.

<sup>55</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 136; citing Amh DB C: 295.

<sup>56</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 134; citing Amh DB C: 254.

<sup>57</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 137; citing Amh DB C: 316.

<sup>58</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 134; citing Amh DB C: 255.

<sup>59</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 135; citing Amh DB C: 267.

**7 MARCH 1772**

Mortgage

“**Jesse Mills** Deed of Trust to Alex. Spiers, Jno. Bowman & Co., Dect [Debt] of £255-8-2 – 5 sh – one negro girl, *Letty*, about 30; one boy *Harry*, about 12; other slaves, stock, tobacco-land on **head of Tye** – 200 acres [should be 217 acres unless he forfeited 17 acres to clear earlier debts]. Wit: Geo. Walker, Jr., Geo. Weir, Thos. Wright, Thos. Reid.”<sup>60</sup>

**9 APRIL 1772**

Land purchase

“Micajah Clark, Albemarle Co., to **Caleb Watts** of AC for £160, 350 acres. Lines: **Wm. Watts, Peter Bay**; also 250 acres. Wit: Peter Davie, Jno. Harvie, Micajah Clark Sr.”<sup>61</sup>

COMMENT:

The Caleb Watts of 1772 had an apparent brother Thomas Watts (d. 1798), who lived and farmed with him; but they were not sons of the Thomas Watts whose grant was sold to Peter Bays before moving off to SC. Whether Caleb and the younger Thomas (who shows in Amherst from 1766 to 1798) were offspring of the William Watts of the cited grant is unproved.<sup>62</sup>

**1 JUNE 1772**

Mention

“Thos. Lumpkin, AC, to Lucas Powell for £133-10, 297 acres on branch of **Rucker’s Run**. Bought by Lumpkin from **Jesse Mills**. Wit: Wm. Wilson, Thos. Powell Jr., Alex Reid. Ordered del. to Thomas Hawkins for Powell 19 Apr 1791.”<sup>63</sup>

**7 SEPTEMBER 1772**

Neighbor

“Chas. Tulry [Tuley], AC, to Stephen Goolsby, AC, for £100, 400 acres pat. to Arthur Tuley, dec’d 3 Nov 1750. Branch of **Pedlar**. Lines: \$o. Davis, Maple Creek, **Edwd. Watts**. Wit: Rich. Peter, Jer. Taylor, **Wm. Floyd**. Eliabeth, wife of Tuley.”<sup>64</sup>

**18 NOVEMBER 1772**

Mortgage

“**Jas. Byous [Byas]** to Jas. Manees – Deed of Trust – 5 sh. cows, pigs, dishes, etc. Wit: Thos. Harget, Jas. Manees.”<sup>65</sup>

**27 SEPTEMBER 1773**

Association

“Geo. Blain, AC, sadler, to Jno. Montgomery & **Wm. Walton**, AC – various items – slave, mare, cows etc; formerly property of Wm. Bowen & Jas. Matthews; tobacco – 5000 pds. of crop for year; corn, furniture, horse which was that of Thompson Dickerson formerly; cow and calf once belonging to John Loving; 9

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<sup>60</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 136; citing Amh DB C: 298.

<sup>61</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 143; citing Amh DB C: 447.

<sup>62</sup> See Mills, “Watts & (Some) Dillardards of Albemarle & Amherst Counties, VA,” esp. 4–15, for the records and analysis that distinguish the Thomas of 1766–1798) from the older Thomas (son of Edward) who sold his grant to Bays.

<sup>63</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 137; citing Amh DB C: 331.

<sup>64</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 141; citing Amh DB C: 392.

<sup>65</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 149; citing Amh DB D: 22.

pigs – formerly those of Wm. Barnet; sow and pigs formerly those of Abraham Lea. Wit: Jas Cull, Thos & Ro. Montgomery.”<sup>66</sup>

### 1 NOVEMBER 1773

Association

“Shff. bonds for various duties for Zachariah Taliaferro, 1 Nov 1773. Bondsmen: Wm. Spencer, **Jos. Dillard**, Jas. Stephens, Hugh Rose, **Gabriel Penn**, **Wm. Walton**, Jas. Dillard, Chas. Rose, Jno. Harvie, Chas. Statham, Joell Crawford, Danl. Gaines. Bond of £1000 and appointed by Gov. of Colony 25 Oct last. Two bonds.”<sup>67</sup>

### 10 SEPTEMBER 1776

Mortgage

“**Jesse Mills**, AC, to Edmd. Wilcox, AC, for £12-8-11, debt. Deed of Trust. 5 sh. Two slaves, Moll and Bristol and descended to me at death of my mother; stock, etc. Wit: Geo. Gillaspie, Jas. Higginbotham, Jos. Cabell.”<sup>68</sup>

### 20 SEPTEMBER 1777

Mention

“Jno. Turner & wife **Eliz. [Mills]**, Charles Town, S.C. to Ashcraft Roach, AC, for £150, 335 acres on branch of Bader(sic) [**Pedlar**] River. Lines: Ro. Davis, Atthus Tuley, **Edwd. Watts**. Pat. to **Thos. Mills**, 10 March 1756. Wit: Gabl. Penn, Thos. Lumpkin, Wm. Vannerson.”<sup>69</sup>

#### COMMENT:

Thomas Mills, son of William, died while his grant was in process. His father’s 1755 will notes his death and states that Thomas was survived by two children, Ambrose Jr. and Elizabeth. The estate was kept together until the heirs came of age. Ambrose Jr. appears to have died young. Elizabeth, as sole heir, is now selling the land.

### 7 APRIL 1778

Administrator’s bond

**William Whitten** posts bond for 500£ as administrator of the estate of **Jeremiah Whitten**, Deceased, with John Whitting & Jeremiah Whitten as sureties. Signed: William Whitten. Jn<sup>o</sup> Whitten, Jeremiah his X Mark Whitten.<sup>70</sup>

#### COMMENT:

The marriage registers have no William Whitten marriage in Amherst, though he is in probate records through 1802 or so.

### 7 APRIL 1778

Administrator’s bond

**William Whitten** posts bond for 500£ as administrator of the estate of **Jeremiah Whitten**, Deceased, with John Whitting & Jeremiah Whitten as sureties. Signed: William Whitten. Jn<sup>o</sup> Whitten, Jeremiah his X Mark Whitten.<sup>71</sup>

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<sup>66</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 155; citing Amh DB D: 130.

<sup>67</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 151; citing Amh DB D: 77.

<sup>68</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 167; citing Amh DB D: 397.

<sup>69</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 199; citing Amh DB E: 353.

<sup>70</sup> Amherst Co., Will Book No. 1 with Inventories & Accounts, 1761–1780, pp. 414–15; image Amherst microfilm reel 17, Library of Virginia (LoV).

COMMENT:

This William Whitten/Whitton is apparently the William who, in 1784, served as bondsman for Anne (Mills), widow of Lewis Witt, formerly of Albemarle but then of Bedford<sup>72</sup> and was charged there in 1789 with “keeping” Milly Witt, who had borne a “bastard child.” Charges against William were dismissed, apparently for lack of jurisdiction because he was a resident of Amherst, but were pursued against Milly.<sup>73</sup> Allegedly, the couple later married but no record has been found for that marriage in Bedford or Amherst. Ann Witt’s will, written in 1811, cites her daughter as “Milly Whitten.”<sup>74</sup> William appears in Amherst probate records through 1802 or so.

**20 APRIL 1778**

Inventory

Estate of **Jeremiah Whitten**. Taken by Neal McCann, John Sledd, Zacharias Taylor. 1 cattle, 9 sheep, 18 hogs, 1 horse, 3 axes, 2 iron potts & 1 frying pan, 1 beehive, 1 grind stone, 1 meal sifter, 1 chest, 6 chairs, box of iron, 2 heaters, 1 laste, 1 flesh forks, funnel, tin pan, 2 basons, 12 spoons, 2 dishes, 6 places, 6 knives, 6 forks, 1 butter poll [sic], 4 books, 1 linnen wheel, looking glass, lume [loom] and wooling wheel, 1 trunk and table, 1 pair sheers & parsell of wool, 2 Saddles, 1 bridle, 2 “beds and bedsteds and furniture,” 2 “cow hides and pailles and pigens,” 2 hogsheds, 2 barrels & 1 churn, 1 pair of cotton cards, 1 hatchet, 1 “Bedsted and four hoes”, 2 hoes, 1 razor, 1 stay and one harness.

Returned to court 6 July 1778.<sup>75</sup>

**20 MAY 1778**

Neighbor

“Jno. Coleman, AC, to Tyree Slading, AC, for blank sum, 100 acres. Lines: near **Huff Creek**, top of the Mt., Jno. Coleman, Benj. Nowel, **Jas. Byas**. Wit: Jno. Daniel Coleman, Wm. Peter, Moses Sweeney. Orig. del. to Slading.”<sup>76</sup>

**7 SEPTEMBER 1778**

Land purchase

“Jno. Tuggle & wife Mary, AC, to **Wm. Walton**, AC, for £140, 3 tracts adjoining, but in three parcels on N branch **Rucker’s Run** and **Ragged Mts**. 1) 42 acres pat. to Jno. Loving Jr. 5 Jun 1765. Lines: Col. Lomax. Conveyed by Loving to Tuggle. 2) 40 3/3 [sic] acres bought by Tuggle from Lunsford Lomax Jr. 5 Oct 1767. Lines: Lomax; top of a Mt. 3) 82 acres pat. to Jno. Tuggle 1 May 1776. Lines: Jno. Montgomery, Jno. Loving Jr., Abraham Seay Jr, Lunsford Lomax.”<sup>77</sup>

**18 MAY 1779**

Association

“Wm. Hollandsworth, AC, to Killis Wright, AC, for £100, 100 acres N side and joining **Great Branch** of a N branch of **Tye**. Part of 300 acres of grantor. Lines: grantor. Wit: **Wm. Walton**, Geo. Gilbert, Geo. Divers. Orig. del. to Wright.”<sup>78</sup>

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<sup>71</sup> Amherst Co., Will Book No. 1 with Inventories & Accounts, 1761–1780, pp. 414–15; image Amherst microfilm reel 17, LoV.

<sup>72</sup> Witt vs. John Cooper, Bedford Chancery Records, 1785–011; imaged at Library of Virginia, *VirginiaMemory* ([www.lva.virginia.gov/chancery/case\\_detail.asp?CFN=019-17885-011](http://www.lva.virginia.gov/chancery/case_detail.asp?CFN=019-17885-011) : accessed 14 May 2016).

<sup>73</sup> Bedford Co., VA, Order Book No. 9, 1786-1790, p. 259; Bedford Co. Reel 41, Library of Virginia.

<sup>74</sup> Bedford Co., VA, Will Book 4: 276–77, Will of Anne Witt.

<sup>75</sup> Amherst Co., Will Book No. 1 with Inventories & Accounts, 1761–1780, 429.

<sup>76</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 176–77; citing Amh DB D: 48.

<sup>77</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 177; citing Amh DB D: 158.

<sup>78</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 155; citing Amh DB D: 158.

## 2 AUGUST 1779

### Association

“Martin Key & Chas. Irving, both of Albemarle and St. Ann’s Parish, attys. for Henry Key, to Abraham Warwick, AC, and parish, for £1000, 1) 97 acres at **Fendley’s Gap**. Lines: attornies; Fendley Gap, Ro. Johnson. 2) 160 acres. 3) 400 acres new the gap. Lines: Jno. Harmer, attornies. 4) 400 acres in the gap. Total of 1057 acres. Reference to Power of Atty. in 1773. Wit: N. Cabell, Wm. Spencer, Jas. Nevil, Jno. Loving, Jr. Proved 6 Sep 1779 by N. Cabell, **Wm. Walton** & Thos. Griffin.”<sup>79</sup>

### COMMENT:

Neither Walton nor Griffin are mentioned as witnesses. Their role in the proving of this document goes unexplained.

## 23 SEPTEMBER 1779

### Civic role

“Committee under Act of General Assembly “Concerning Escheats and Forfeitures from British Subjects” summoned by David Shepherd, Es1., AC Escheator, do find that Jno. Harmer was and remains a subject of the British King – has in AC 7080 acres on Rucker’s Run and Dutch Creek whereon is growing corn and tobacco; also 81 slaves in AC; 10 horses, 95 cattle, 171 hogs (sic), 137 hoes, 11 plough hoes, 31 axes, 17 iron potts, 12 frying pans, six pair wedges, six flax wheels, and some other plantation tools – old iron of little value – also six grind stones, 18 reap hooks. Our verdict is that lands etc. by forfeited to the Commonwealth. **Committee:** Chas. Rose, **Wm. Walton**, Thos. Hawkins, Wm. Furbush, Abraham Warwick, Geo. Blain, Lucas Powell, Jno. Cartwright, **Jos. Dillard**, Jos. Mays, Saml. Edmonds, Wm. Spencer, Jas. Higginbotham, Jas. Stephens, Wm. Lee, Thos. Griffin, Patrick Rose, Abraham Seay, Ro. Wright, Jno. Wright, & Wm. Crisp, AC Freeholders.”<sup>80</sup>

## 10 DECEMBER 1779

### Association

“Jas. Tuley & wife Judith, Albemarle to **Abner Witt**, AC for £500, 70 acres branch of **Short’s Creek**. Lines: News, Thos. Morrison, Francis News. Wit: Francis News, **Lewis Witt**, Jos. Roberds. Orig. del. to Witt.”<sup>81</sup>

“Francis New & wife Sarah, AC, to **Abner Witt**, AC, for £500, 76 acres. Lines: Jno. Chiswell. Wit: David, Elisha, Littleberry & Wm. Witt. Orig. del. to Witt.”<sup>82</sup>

“Saml. Woods & wife Sarah, AC, to **Abner Witt**, AC for £800, 90 acres S side **Rockfish**. Lines: Lee Harris, Cluff Shelton. Wit: **Jas. Littrell**, Benj. Carpenter, **Jno. Dinwiddie**, Lewis Witt. **Orig. del. to Witt.**”<sup>83</sup>

### COMMENT:

I have not located Short’s Creek. Obviously it is in the Rockfish neighborhood.

## 25 DECEMBER 1779

### Mention

“Abraham Warwick & wife Amy, AC, to Jno. Bibb, AC, for £1500, 382 acres on **N branch of Rucker’s Run**. Warwick bought it from Jno. Depriest 1 Jun 1772. **Lines:** Harmer (Hamner?), Wm. Furbush, Thos. Hawkins, but formerly **Mills-Lomax old line**. Wit: Jesse Martin, Micajah Becknall.”<sup>84</sup>

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<sup>79</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 186; citing Amh DB E: 76.

<sup>80</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 186; citing Amh DB E: 183.

<sup>81</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 188; citing Amh DB E: 204.

<sup>82</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 188; citing Amh DB E: 205.

<sup>83</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 188; citing Amh DB E: 206.

<sup>84</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 183; citing Amh DB E: 148.

COMMENT:

Rucker's Run fell into Nelson County when Nelson was created, it is S to W (and a couple of miles from) the county seat, Lovingston.

**20 APRIL 1781**

Association

"Josias Wood & wife Rhoda, AC, to William Gallaspie, AC, for 30,000 tobacco, 305 acres. Lines: Saml. Staples, Wm. Loving. Wit: Wm. Powell, **Wm. Walton**, Geo. Galaspie."<sup>85</sup>

**7 MAY 1781**

Bond

"Shff. Bond for Alex. Reid Jr. Bondsmen: Zachl Taliaferro [former sheriff], **Wm. Walton**, Saml. Higginbotham, Jno. Loving Jr., Hugh Rose, Gabl. Penn, Edmd. Wilcox."<sup>86</sup>

**6 AUGUST 1781**

Bond

"Shff. bond. Alex Reid, Jr. Bondsmen: David Shelton, Jas. Montgomery, Wm. Spencer, Wm. Bibb, Wm. Harris Jr., J.H. Morrison, **Wm. Walton**."<sup>87</sup>

**5 AUGUST 1782**

Mention

"Ashcraft Roach & wife Mary Magdalin, AC, to Rezin Porter, Albemarle, for £200, 335 acres on branch of **Pedlar**. Lines: Ro. Davis, Arthur Tuley, **Edwd Watts**."<sup>88</sup>

COMMENT

This is the Thomas Mills grant that Roach bought in September 1777.

**31 MAY 1783**

**AMHERST COUNTY, VA**

Land sale

"**Jas. Bias**, AC [Amherst Co.] to Wm. Camden, AC, for £24, 60 acres pat. to Bias at Williamsburg 3 Aug 1771. S. branch **Huff Creek**. Lines: Benj. Noell, Jno. Coleman, Frye(?) Stataims's(?) named Old Cove. Wit: Jos. Tucker Geo. Duncan, Jno. Duncan."

"Benj. Noell, AC, to Wm. Camden, AC, for £120, 150 acres and pat. to grantor at Williamsburg 16 Feb 1770. On branches of **Huff Creek**. Lines: Jas. Ison, Jas. Stinnett. Wit: Jos. Tucker Jno. & Geo. Duncan. This and above deed del. to Camden 7 Jan 1791."<sup>89</sup>

COMMENT:

Bias has now disposed of the 230 acres that he had surveyed in 1762. He still has 53 acres that were surveyed for him in 1771. Apparently, he was downsizing rather than leaving the county.

**15 NOVEMBER 1783**

Association

"Wm. Gillespie, AC, to Peter Carter for £10,000 tobacco, a slave, Gloucester, about 19. Wit: **Wm.**

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<sup>85</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 194; citing Amh DB E: 288.

<sup>86</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 194–95; citing Amh DB E: 294.

<sup>87</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 195; citing Amh DB E: 297.

<sup>88</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 199; citing Amh DB E: 353.

<sup>89</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 204; citing Amh DB E: 420–21.

**Walton, Sherod More Gillespie, Thos. Walton.**<sup>90</sup>

COMMENT:

This Thomas appears to be the son of William and Elizabeth (Tilman) Walton.

**29 MARCH 1784**

Land transfer

**“Wm. Witt, AC, to Littleberry Witt for £96, 96 acres in cove of a mtn, Rockfish. Lines: Jos. Roberts, Saml. Lackey. Orig. del. to Witt 21 Jul 1786.”**<sup>91</sup>

COMMENT:

Is this the parental land that William is selling to his brother? The land he inherited under his father’s will? Combined with the document below in which he purchased a tract from older brother Abner, the two documents seem to be realigning the ownership of family tracts.

**“Abner Witt, AC, to Wm. Witt, AC, for £110, 111 acres in cove of a mt., Short’s Creek, head of a branch. Lines: Jno. Chiswell, Abner Witt, top of the ridge. Wit: Little Berry Witt, Lewis Witt, Jas. Littrell. Orig. del. to Littleberry Witt for Wm. Witt 21 Jul 1786.”**<sup>92</sup>

COMMENT:

I have not been able to locate Short’s Creek. However, note the 2 April 1784 deed below for Abner buying land on Davis Creek.

**2 APRIL 1784**

Land purchase

**“Wm. Horrell & wife Eliz, Albemarle, to Abner Witt, AC, for £100, 193 acres N side of N branch Davis Creek. Lines: Jno. Wade ... which he sold to Wm. Martin & Martin to Jno. Harris. Wit: Littleberry Witt, Wm. & Lewis Witt. Original del. to Bartlett Eades by Witt’s order.”**<sup>93</sup>

COMMENT:

*HomeTownLocator* shows Davis Creek flowing off the Rockfish SE of Gullysville, present Nelson County.

**22 MAY 1784**

Indentureship

Edward Noonan, Cork, shoemaker – 3½ years. Assigned to **Tilman Walton**, 2 Oct 1786, recorded. Wit: Rich. Harrison.<sup>94</sup>

**5 JULY 1784**

Witness

**“Augustin Shepherd, Jno. Shepherd, & Debartus Shepherd to Jas. Calaway, AC [Amherst Co.], for £800, 554 acres. Property of David Shepherd and by his will devised to his three brothers above; ref. to AC will and deeds. Line of Carter Braxton. On 22 Mar 1775 for “300 or 4 acres”. Also deeds of Ezek. Gilbert, 1 Feb 1779, for 40 acres; 1780, for 50 acres. Tracts adjoining. Wit: Wm. Powell, Jesse Mills.”**<sup>95</sup>

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<sup>90</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 211; citing Amh DB E: 516.

<sup>91</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 208; citing Amh DB E: 471.

<sup>92</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 208; citing Amh DB E: 472.

<sup>93</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 209; citing Amh DB E: 479.

<sup>94</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 261; citing Amh DB F: 91

<sup>95</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 213; citing Amh DB E: 551.

COMMENT:

Jesse Mills is landless at this time—raising obvious questions:

- Where did he live?
- How did he support himself and his family?

The fact that he appeared as witness for the sale of land by the Shepherd brothers to James Callaway suggests that he was in the employ of the Shepherds or Callaway. All were prominent figures in Amherst.

Most deed references to David Shepherd (*var.* Sheppard) prior to 1775 show him acting as a witness to mortgages executed in favor of James & Robert Donalds & Co. of Glasgow. On one such instance, he was identified as factor for the company. On 23 Sept. 1779, Shepherd, Esqr. summoned “the Committee ... Concerning Escheats and Forfeitures from British Subjects” re a debt of Jno. Harmer. (DB E: 183)

David Shepherd’s purchase deeds (and others that mentioned him as adjacent owner) are as follows:

- 22 Mar 1775, 304a S side **Tribulation Cr.** adj. Gabriel Penn, James Gatewood, Henry Gilbert, bridge, Parker’s road. (DB D: 260)
- 27 Apr 1776, James Gatewood sold land adj. Shepherd and **Buffalo River.** (DB D: 369)
- 6 Nov 1777, James Robertson sold land adj. Shepherd on N side **Buffalo.** (DB E: 7)
- 1 Feb 1779, Ezekiel Gilbert sold Shepherd 400a “N side and joining **Tribulation Cr.**” (DB E: 98)
- 1 Nov 1779, Ezekiel Gilbert sold Shepherd 160 acres on both sides of **Tribulation Creek.** “Orig. del. to Gabl. Penn July 1784.” (DB E:189)
- 16 Mar 1780, Jno. Wiatt Gilbert sold 50 acres to Shepherd, purchased from Ezekiel Gilbert, no N fork of **Tribulation Creek.** (DB E:259)

Regarding Jesse’s fellow witness: Powell was a natural for witness service, given that he was the adjacent landowner to Sheppard.

The likeliest possibility for Jesse’s employer would be the Shepherds. Given that David was a factor for the Donalds firm and an escheator for the commonwealth (DB D: 602), as well as a man without wife and children, it is unlikely that he managed his lands as a plantation and much more likely that he hired a farm manager or overseer.

Modern topo maps show **Tribulation Creek as a branch of Buffalo River**, about two miles North of the present city of Amherst. The North Fork of Tribulation ends at approximately Berry Hill. The Gatewood deed of 1776 tells us that Shepherd’s land was on the easternmost part of Tribulation, very near Buffalo.

Meanwhile, the 1782 tax roll places Jesse amid taxpayers in the vicinity of Stovall’s Creek, a bit south of Tribulation:<sup>96</sup>

John Patterson	
George Campbell junr.	[Robert Mills, Jesse’s proposed youngest son, married Sally Campbell in 1806]
George Campbell	[1764 bought land on <b>head br</b> of <b>Rockfish</b> (DB A: 183); 1771 land on N side of <b>Piney</b> (DB C:134)]
<b>Richard Tankersley</b>	1 white male, 1 Negro, 5 cattle, 5 horses &c [Richard Jr. supposedly m. Jesse Mills’s niece Mary Learwood <sup>97</sup> ]

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<sup>96</sup> Amherst County, 1782 Personal Property Tax Roll, p. 10; Library of Virginia Personal Property Tax Records microfilm reel 18.



[bought land **N side of Tye opposite mouth of Piney** 1767 (DB B: 170); sold part to Richard Jr. (B: 388); this tract should be just north of the town of Arrington and a bit west of the town of Roseland, along the current Amherst-Nelson Co.]

James Thompson  
 John Hight  
 George Hight  
 James Thompson  
 “(Son of John)”  
 Benjamin Wright

[*skip 4*]

William Davis [None of this cluster of Davises reported enslaved people. This is a different family from the Davies/Davis family that neighbored the Millses on Pedlar River]

Phillip Davis Land adj. Hugh Rose, upper **Davis/Davy’s Creek of Rockfish R**, now Nelson Co. DB D: 298]

Margaret Davis  
 Mary Davis  
 Willey Davis  
 Jane Davis  
 Moses Wright

[land on **Harris Cr.** of James R. (DB D: 422); Harris is immediately W of **Stovall Cr.**, below.

In 1789 he sold this land, with wit. being Benjamin White (DB F: 45). Benjamin in 1787 had married here in Amherst to Ann Goodwin, daughter of Micajah, then moved to Montgomery Co. where he and his father John make their first tax-roll appearance. In 1792, his father John married in Montgomery, one Frankey Mills, of unproved parentage.]

**Thomas Parrock** [adj. Rev. Rose 1779, 1787, apparently on waters of **Tye** near Roseland (D.B. E: 49; F: 223).

Parrock’s daughter in 1790 married John Lancaster Jr.<sup>98</sup> In 1795 either Lancaster Jr. or Sr. penned the consent for marriage of **Jesse Mills’s daughter**, saying she had lived in his home for “some Time.”]

Martin Bibb 1 white male, 1 Negro, 0 cattle, 1 horse &c  
 [wit. Jesse Mills’s 1771 mortgage of Phoebe; owned various lands; one tract was 1 farm west of the short **Stovall Cr** of **James R** and another between Stovall and **Porridge Cr** of James R (DB C: 252; F:70, 456).]

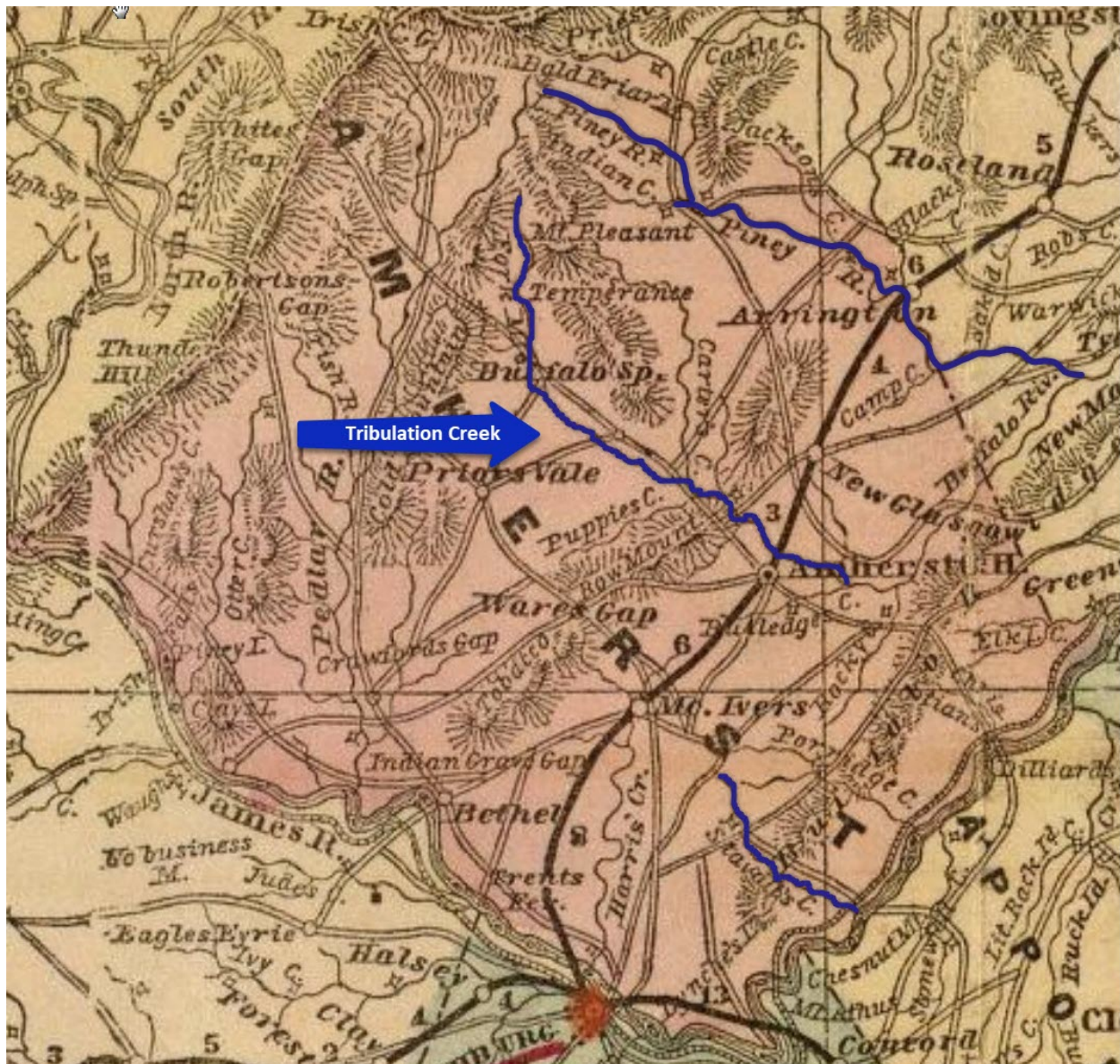
**Jesse Mills** **1 white male, 2 Negroes, 3 cattle, 1 horse &c**

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<sup>97</sup> James Larwood, “Morphology of Larwood Genealogy” (MS 1933), 19 pp.; imaged as “Morphology of Larwood Genealogy ...,” *Ancestry* (<http://search.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/sse.dll?db=genealogy-glh47066928&h=6&ti=0&indiv=try&gss=pt> : accessed 23 May 2016), from a copy deposited in Sutro Branch of San Francisco Public Library, California State Library System. This skeletal compilation provides no evidence for any of its assertions. The numerous associations between the Mills-Lavender clan and the two Richard Tankersleys do suggest the likelihood that this claimed marriage is correct.

<sup>98</sup> William Montgomery Sweeny, *Marriage Bonds and Other Marriage Records of Amherst County, Virginia, 1763–1800* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1980), 46.

**Map 4**  
**Tribulation Creek of Buffalo, Stovall Creek & Piney River of Tye River, Amherst County<sup>99</sup>**



**5 JULY 1784**

Mortgage

“Jesse Mills, AC, to **Tilman Walton**, AC, for £21-10, Deed of Trust – 1 sh. – slave, stock, etc. Wit: Ro. Wright, Jno. Swanson, **Wm. Walton**.”<sup>100</sup>

<sup>99</sup> Snipped from *Lloyd's Official Map of the State of Virginia* (New York: J. T. Lloyd, 1862); imaged at *David Rumsey Map Collection* (<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~3695~350006:Lloyd-s-official-map-of-the-State-of-Virginia-1>): 15 November 2019).

<sup>100</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 212; citing Amh DB E: 539.

**2 AUGUST 1784**

Land sale

“**Jas. Bias** & wife **Eliz**, AC, to Lemaster Cooksey, AC, for £78, 170 acres S branch **Huff**; part of pat. to grantor at Williamsburg 3 Aug. 1771. Wit: Chas. Burrus, **Jos. Layne**, Wm. Camden.”<sup>101</sup>

**6 SEPTEMBER 1784**

Neighbor

“Tyre Slading, AC, to Wm. Camden, AC, for £20, 100 acres. Lines: Near **Huff Creek**, Jno. Coleman, top of the mt., Benj. Nowell, **Jas. Bias**. Wit: Jno. Danl. Coleman, Thos. Lucas, Solomon Ellis. Proved 7 Mar 1785 – Jno. Danl. Coleman is now dead, but signature proved by Lucas & Ellis under oath.”<sup>102</sup>

**15 SEPTEMBER 1784**

Neighbor

“Jane Davis, AC to Jacob Phillips, AC, for £70, 250 acres S side **Dancing Creek**. Lines: Jos. Cabell, Ro. Payton, S branch Dancing Creek. Wit: John **Goodrich**, **Jos. Lane**, John **Tooley**, Jno. Sale.”<sup>103</sup>

COMMENT:

Note that Joseph Lane is a neighbor of **both** James Bias and Jane Davis of Dancing Creek. They appear to be in the neighborhood in which William Mills settled. His first patent was on the Pedlar and Dancing Creek, with the Davises and Tooley/Tuleys as neighbors.

Jane Davis, widow of Robert Davis, was the daughter of **Thos. Jopling**, whom William Mills named as executor in his 1755 will.”<sup>104</sup> A younger Jane Davis was the sister of Dr. James Hopkins, named in his will of 1802.<sup>105</sup>

**6 OCTOBER 1784**

Neighbor

“Chas. Ellis & wife Sarah, AC, to Josiah Ellis, AC, for £610, two tracts. 1) 400 acres N side **Pedlar** and conveyed to grantor by exrs. of Jas. Meredith, 13 Mar 1768. 2) 23 acres surveyed for grantor by Jas. Higginbotham. Lines: Roderick McCulloch, S branch **Horsley**. 423 acres. Wit: Wm. Loving, **Wm. Walton**, Chas. Taliaferro Jr., Henry Brown, Jos. Goodwin. Orig. del. to R. S. Ellis 30 Mar 1801.”<sup>106</sup>

**6 JANUARY 1785**

Association

“Lemaster Cooksey, AC, to Wm. Camden, AC, for £20, 100 acres S fork **Huff Creek**. Lines: Benj. Nowell, top of a mt., Jno. Higginbotham, Benj. Higginbotham, Patrick Nowell. Wit: Jno. Watson, Wm. Tucker, Pledge Palmore, Thos. Bailey.”<sup>107</sup>

COMMENT:

Cooksey, the prior August, bought 170 acres from Bias for £78. He is now selling 100 acres of it for just £20. It is likely that he kept the house lot and improved acres and disposed of the rest.

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<sup>101</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 211 citing Amh DB E: 526.

<sup>102</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 216; citing Amh DB E: 595.

<sup>103</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 216; citing Amh DB E 596..

<sup>104</sup> Amherst Co., Court Order Book 1773–1782, p. 455; imaged, Family Search digital film 7856348 > image 122.

<sup>105</sup> Bailey Fulton Davis, *The Wills of Amherst County, Virginia, 1761–1865* (Greenville, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1995), 179; citing Will Book 4:86ff.

<sup>106</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 214; citing Amh DB E: 565.

<sup>107</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 216; citing Amh DB E: 594.

**5 SEPTEMBER 1785**

Association

“Benj. Childress, AC, to Peter Martin, AC, for £22-10, 72 acres S branch of S fork **Davis Creek**. Lines: Matt. Harris, Wm. Wright, his own. Wit: **Tilman Walton**, Wm. Powell.”<sup>108</sup>

**3 MARCH 1786**

Association

“**Geo. Gillaspie** & wife Mary, AC, to Jno. Thompson, AC merchant, for £240, 471 acres, part of a tract bought by Gillespie of Lunsford Lomax Jr. Lines: Red oak stump on a mt., Jones, Bibb, Edmunds, Chas. Rose. Wit: Lucas Powell, Christopher Bolling, **Tilman Walton**, Jno. Alford.”<sup>109</sup>

**4 MARCH 1786**

Land sale

“**Abner Witt**, AC and Parish, to Robt. Hardie, AC & Parish, for £200, 100 acres **Corbin Creek**, branch of **Rockfish**. Lines: Wm. Small, Saml. Lackey, Alex. Reid, Robinson.”<sup>110</sup>

“**Abner Witt**, AC and Parish, to **Jos. Roberts**, AC, for £50, 76 acres branch of Corbin that heads near Lackey’s Gap. Line formally agreed upon by **Jno Witt Sr.** and **Abner Witt**. Lines: Jno. Bolse, top of Lackey’s Mt., **Littleberry Witt**, Key’s old corner, Jos. Roberts. Wit: Ro. Harvey, Wm. Dawson, Alex. Roberts. Orig. sent to Roberts 1801.”<sup>111</sup>

**5 JULY 1786**

Land sale

“**Abner Witt**, AC & Parish, to **Jos. Roberts** of same, for £30, 100 acres N side Lackey’s Mt. in the gap. Lines: Jos. Roberts, exactly on top of the mt., former line of Jas. Lackey. Wit: **Benj. Carpenter**, Wm. Forbus, **James Litterell**, Alex. McAlexander. Orig. sent to Roberts 24 Oct 1801.”<sup>112</sup>

**22 JULY 1786**

Land mortgage

“**Abner Witt**, AC, to **John Witt**, **Benj. Carpenter**, **Littleberry Witt** & **Wm. Witt**, AC, for 5 sh. Deed of Trust— £130 — grantees are bound to Matt. Harris & Jno. Griffin for bond to Wm. Horrell by **Abner Witt** — suit has been instituted; suit vs. **Benj. Carpenter** by Wm. Russell and Couch, assignees of Jas. Taylor vs. **Abner Witt**; also suit for 1000 pds tobacco by Jas. Woods vs. **Abner Witt**. Also 4 negroes and stock. Orig. del. to **Wm. Witt** 13 Feb 1787.”<sup>113</sup>

**1 NOVEMBER 1786**

Land sale

“**Wm. Witt**, AC, to **Littleberry Witt**, AC, for £80, 80 acres on branch **Rockfish**. Lines: Saml. Lackey, Chisell’s grant line, **Jas. Littrall**, Short’s branch. Wit: Zach. Burnett, Donnel, **Abney [sic] Witt**, **David Witt**. Orig. del. to grantee, Mar 1789.”<sup>114</sup>

**28 DECEMBER 1786**

Land sale

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<sup>108</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 226; citing Amh DB F: 13.

<sup>109</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 231; citing Amh DB F: 46.

<sup>110</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 258; citing Amh DB F: 2.

<sup>111</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 258–59; citing Amh DB F: 86.

<sup>112</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 259; citing Amh DB F: 87.

<sup>113</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 259; citing Amh DB F: 101.

<sup>114</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 259; citing Amh DB F: 93.

“**Wm. Witt**, AC to **David Witt**, AC, for £52, 81 acres in **cove** of a **mt.** on Head of one of branches of **Short’s Creek**. Lines: Jno. Chisel, **Wm. Witt**. Wit: Zach. Burnett, **Dennett Abney Witt** (Donnel above), Wm. Abney. Orig. del. to grantee in Mar. 1789.”<sup>115</sup>

**1 MARCH 1787**

Land sale

“**Abner Witt**, AC, to **Jno. Witt**, AC, for £300, 109 acres **Davis Creek**. Lines: Jas. McAlexander, Thos. McDaniel. Also 111 acres head of **Short’s Creek**. Lines: **Jas. Littrell**, **Littleberry Witt**. 90 acres on **Rockfish**, mouth of **Short Creek**. Lines: Lee Harris, Clough Shelton. 360 acres adj. Boles tract and Jas. McAlexander on **Rocky Branch** and joining my old tract that was Horrils. Wit: **Littleberry Witt**, **David Witt**, Thos. H. Talbert. Orig. sent to Jno. Witt by **Wm. Witt**.”<sup>116</sup>

**1 OCTOBER 1787**

Mention

“Reason Porter & wife Eliz, Albemarle to Jno. Gilliam, for £200, 201 acres branch of Wilderness Run. Lines: Ro. Davis, Arthur Tuley, **Edwd. Watts**, Archelaus Gilliam.”<sup>117</sup>

COMMENT:

This is a reference to the old Thomas Mills grant pre-1750 that was adjacent to William mills, Robert Davis, and Arthur Tuley.

**1 OCTOBER 1787**

Land sale

“**Wm. Walton**, AC, to Abraham Seay, for £45, 45 acres branch **Rucker’s Run**; part of a survey. Lines: **Walton**, Seay, Lomax’s old line. Del. to Jas. Seay.”<sup>118</sup>

**6 JULY 1788**

Land sale

“**Jno. Witt**, AC, to Clough Shelton, AC, for £18.5, 90 acres S side and joining **Rockfish**. Lines: Lee Harris, Clough Shelton. Wit: Thos. Wiatt, J. Shelton, Bartlett Cash.”<sup>119</sup>

**4 DECEMBER 1788**

Land sale

“**Paul Tilman & wife Mary**, Hanover, to Richard Chandler, AC, for £500, 700 acres on Tye – part of tract – by order of Council to Mr. Thos. Doswell. Wit: J. Stewart, Jas. Franklin, Wm. Horsley Jr, Jno. Floyd.”<sup>120</sup>

**20 DECEMBER 1788**

Land sale

“**Paul Tilman (Thilman)**, Hanover, to Nathl. Clark, AC, for £140, 500 acres head branch of S fork **Tye**. Lines: Henley Drummond, part of order of Council grant to Jno. Drummond. Wit: Thos. Goodwin, Henley Frummond, Peter Hughes.”<sup>121</sup>

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<sup>115</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 259; citing Amh DB F: 94.

<sup>116</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 259; citing Amh DB F: 138.

<sup>117</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 246; citing Amh DB F: 211.

<sup>118</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 256; citing Amh DB F: 203.

<sup>119</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 259; citing Amh DB F: 367.

<sup>120</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 254; citing Amh DB F: 366.

<sup>121</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 254; citing Amh DB F: 420.

**7 JANUARY 1789**

Voter roll

“Poll of election. Summary at end: Clerk of above Poll has made oath before me that he has taken the same justly and impartially this 7 Jan 1789. Will Cabell, Jr. ... **Tilman Walton, Wm. Walton** ... Stephen Watts ... **David Witt, Geo. Witt, Jno. Witt, Littleberry Witt, Wm. Witt.**”<sup>122</sup>

**2 FEBRUARY 1789**

Voter Roll

“Poll kept and held in AC for candidates for Congress in the Albemarle District 2 Feb 1789. ... For James Madison ... Chas. Watts ... Steven Watts ... **David Witt.** ... For James Monroe ... Stewart Ballow ... Wm. Lavender ... **Tilman Walton, Wm. Walton** ...”<sup>123</sup>

**1789**

Voter roll

“Nicholas Cabell Supporters ... **Wm. Lavender** ... **Wm. Walton** ... **John Witt** ... For Gabriel Penn: ... **Wm. Lavender** ... **Jno. Witt** ... For Saml. J. Cabell ... **Wm. Lavender** ... **William Walton** ... For William Cabell Jr. ... **Wm. Walton** ... **Jno. Witt.**”<sup>124</sup>

**1 JUNE 1789**

Association

“Rich. Chandler, AC, to Jos. Richeson, Caroline Co., Deed of Trust – 5 sh. 114 acres bought of Jno. Stewart and **Paul Tilman**. Lines: Jno. Wiatt & others. Two tracts of 414 acres and 700 acres on Tye bought of **P. Thilman** (sic): 6 slaves named. Wit: Jos. Roberts, Jas. Lively, Chas. Tucker.”<sup>125</sup>

**3 JULY 1789**

Land sale

“**Wm. Walton**, AC, to Abraham Seay, AC, for £50, 76 acres **Rucker’s Run**. Del. to Seay, 9 Feb 1794.”<sup>126</sup>

**20 FEBRUARY 1790**

Land sale

“**Jno. Witt**, AC, to **Wm. Witt**, AC, for £130, 774 acres N. fork **Davis**. Lines: James McAlexander, Jos. Roberts, Thos. McDaniel, Jno. Johnson. Orig. del. to Bartlett Eades, 22 Jun 1794.”<sup>127</sup>

**5 MARCH 1790**

Land sale

“**Jno. Witt**, AC, to Clough Shelton, AC, for £18.5, 90 acres as above located [see deed p. 367]. Lines: Lee Harris, grantee. Wit: Wm. Martin, Lewis Nevil, Jno. Lamont.”<sup>128</sup>

**15 MARCH 1790**

Association

“Wm. Bib, Wm. Loving, Saml. J. Cabell, Wm. Cabell Jr., Clough Shelton, Abraham Warwick & Jno. Howard, Trustees under Act of Assembly, 13 Nov 1788, for establishing a Town and Tobacco Warehouse

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<sup>122</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 469–70; citing Amh DB F: 292–94.

<sup>123</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 471–72; citing Amh DB F: 596–97.

<sup>124</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 256; citing Amh DB F: 493.

<sup>125</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 226; citing Amh DB F: 417

<sup>126</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 256; citing Amh DB E: 341.

<sup>127</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 259; citing Amh DB F: 450.

<sup>128</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 259; citing Amh DB F: 470.

on lands of Nichl. Cabell to Wm. Galt & Co. for £31, 2 1/2 acre lotts (sic) in Town of Warminster #3 & #5, beginning at stake on Main Street. To build dwelling house 16 ft. square; brick or stone chimney and fit for habitation by 20 Apr 1792. Wit: Jno. Thompson, **Tilman Walton**, Jas. Stevens, Jr., N. Powell. Orig. del. to Gideon Crews."<sup>129</sup>

**19 MARCH 1790**

Land sale

"**Jno. Witt**, AC, to Wm. Abney, AC, for £25, 111 acres on one of branches of **Short's Creek**. Lines: Jas. Woods, **Eliz. Tuley, David & Littleberry Witt**."<sup>130</sup>

**6 JULY 1790**

Land sale

"**Wm. Walton**, AC, to Abraham Seay, AC, for £50, 47 acres **Rucker's Run**, part of a tract. Lines: grantor, Joell Ponton, Abraham Seay. North Fork **Rucker's Run**. Del. to grantee, 25 Feb 1794."<sup>131</sup>

**5 AUGUST 1790**

Land sale

"**Wm. Walton**, AC, to Joel Ponton, AC, for £100, two tracts on **Rucker's Run**; part of his land. 1) 59 acres known as **Walnut Cove** and joins grantor and **Thos. Fortune**. 2) 132 acres adjoining. Lines: grantor and Abraham Seay."<sup>132</sup>

**5 AUGUST 1790**

Land sale

"**Wm. Walton**, AC, to **Thos. Fortune**, AC, for £170, 769 acres **Rucker's Run – Trotter's Cove**; survey by Jno. Lackey. Orig. sent to Thos. Fortune, 27 April 1816."<sup>133</sup>

**1 OCTOBER 1791**

Land sale

"**Wm. Witt**, AC, to Ro. Grant, AC (Orig. del. to Alex. McAlexander, 4 Aug 1796) for 10, 45 acres N fork **Davis Creek**, part of tract surveyed by Wm. Horrell. Lines: Thos. McDaniel's old line, mt. ridge, line made in presence of Martin Key, Jas. Vaughn, and Saml. Scott Scruggs. Lower part and adjoins Elia. Johnson. Wit: Jas. Vigus, Bartholomew Merion, Thos. Elliot Crutchfield."<sup>134</sup>

**8 FEBRUARY 1791**

Association

"Thos. Eads to his son, Bartlett Eads, for 5 sh. and because of old age – several slaves – to support my wife Margaret and me. Wit: **Tilman Walton**, Saml. Lackey, Chas. Christian, Orig. del. to Bartlett Eads, Apr., 1791."<sup>135</sup>

**4 APRIL 1791**

Voter roll

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<sup>129</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 222; citing Amh DB F: 492.

<sup>130</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 259; citing Amh DB F: 453.

<sup>131</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 256; citing Amh DB E: 341.

<sup>132</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 256; citing Amh DB F: 516.

<sup>133</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 256; citing Amh DB F: 517.

<sup>134</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 258; citing Amh DB F: 2.

<sup>135</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 230; citing Amh DB F: 594.

“A Poll for the Election of Delegates to Represent the County of Amherst in General Assembly taken at the Courthouse of the said County on Monday, April 4, 1791. Samuel Meredith Supporters: **Wm. Lavender ... Tilman Walton, Wm. Walton ... David Witt, Geo. Witt, Jno. Witt, Littleberry Witt, Wm. Witt ...** For Samuel J. Cabell: ... **Tilmon Walton, Wm. Walton ... David Witt, Geo. Witt, Littleberry Witt, Wm. Witt.** ... For Wm Cabell Jr. **Wm. Lavender.**”<sup>136</sup>

#### **?OCTOBER 1791**

Association

“Hezekiah Stone & wife Jane, Fluvanna Co.; Marbel Stone & wife Mary, AC [Amherst Co.] to Duncan McLacklan & Co. for £170, 169½ acres where Marbel Stone lives – **Taylor Creek**. Lines: Ro. Page & Augustine Shepherd. Wit: **Jno. Napier**, Nathal. W. Price, **Jno. Napier Jr.**, Jno. Williamson. Orig. del to Ro. Jouett to carry to Fluvanna, Oct. 1791.”<sup>137</sup>

#### COMMENT:

The compiler’s preface to his abstracts for Book F states this is his “first time” to assemble the abstracts into alpha order [by first letter of the surname of the seller]. This abstract demonstrates the folly. It is presented with no date for the document and is taken out of sequence so one cannot bracket the date from surrounding entries. The only date shown—the date the deed was delivered, might be years after the creation of the document.

#### **19 MARCH 1792**

Land sale

“**Wm. Walton**, AC, to Abraham Seay, AC, for £2, 10 acres N branches of **Rucker’s Run** and **Ragged Mts**. Part of tract formerly that of Jno. Tuggle and by him conveyed to WW, 7 Sep 1778. Lines: Top of a mt. , Abraham Seay, **Wm. Walton**, Lomax’s old line, near a branch.”<sup>138</sup>

#### **16 JUNE 1792**

Neighbor

“Thos. Hawkins & wife Eliz, AC, to Jas. Wills, AC, for £50, 188 acres **Little Cove** at head of **Rucker’s Run**. Lines: Col. Lomax (formerly), **Wm. Walton.**”<sup>139</sup>

#### **14 JULY 1792**

Land sale

“**Geo. Witt & wife Betsy, Jno. Witt & wife Eliz.**, Josiah Dodd & wife Mary, AC, to Jos. Strickland, AC, for £100, 130 acres; part of 430 acres granted to Geo. Herd Baker and deed by Jas. Herd 21 Nov. 1748, S branch **Rockfish**. Lines: **Geo. & Jno. Witt**, Josiah Dodd, Geo. Jude, Thos. Adams. Wit: Bartlett Eades, **Littleberry & David Witt**. Orig. del. to JS, 16 Jun 1797.”<sup>140</sup>

#### COMMENT:

Ordinarily, the structure of this document would suggest that Josiah Dodd’s wife Mary was a sister of George and John and that she was a joint heir to inherited land. George and John were sons of the John who died in 1782 leaving a will that named one daughter Lucy, but no Mary.

John Heard and wife Mary sold George & John Witt and Josiah Dodd 130a on “S branch of S fork of Rockfish” on 11 Oct 1788. (See that date above.) Nothing suggests why the Witt brothers

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<sup>136</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 478–82; citing Amh DB F: 601–9.

<sup>137</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 252; citing Amh DB F: 525.

<sup>138</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 269; citing Amh DB G: 121.

<sup>139</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 270; citing Amh DB G: 141.

<sup>140</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 272; citing Amh DB G: 158.



would buy a piece of land jointly with Dodd if there were not a close kinship.

#### 17 JULY 1792

Land purchase

“Ro. Baber, AC, to **Dennet Witt**, AC (Orig. del. to DW 96 [sic] Oct 1821) for £50, 128 acres branch of **Rockfish**. Lines: Andrea Hairston, Wm. Heard. Wit.: Ezek. Campbell, **David Witt**, Bumpas Baber.”<sup>141</sup>

“Ro. Baber, AC, to **David Witt** – all of my personal property – horse, cow, hogs, furniture, etc. to dispose of as he sees cause. Wit: **Littleberry Witt**, **Dennet Witt**, Bumpus Baber.”<sup>142</sup>

#### 17 AUGUST 1792

Association

“Chas. Lynch, heir of Chas. Lynch, dec’d.; Saml. Mitchell & wife Ann (late Lynch and daughter and joint heir of Christopher Lynch) to Jno. Lynch – Campbell Co. residents – 160 acres on **Harris Creek**. Chas. left land to son, Christopher, but error in will made him only life tenant. It is necessary for Chas. to join in this deed. Lines: Jas. River and the mouth of Harris. Wit: Gideon Lea, **Jno. Mills**, Caleb Tate, Thos. Thorp, **Micajah Goodwin**, Danl. Tucker, Chas. Ellis, Jose. Megann.”<sup>143</sup>

COMMENT:

This John Mills appears to be the John who was son of Jesse and Lucy (Tilman) Mills, now of age.

#### 15 SEPTEMBER 1792

Association

“Saml. Shelton Jr. as attorney for Thos. McDannel, AC, to Jno. Shelton, Ro. Grant, Bartholomew Murren (?) & Wm. Harris, AC, for £140, 200 acres N fork **Davis Creek**. Lines: Jno. Skelton, Bartholomew Merren, Ro. Grant, Mrs. Eliz. Johnson, Saml. Merren, Wm. Harris. Surveyed by Jno. Lackey accompanied by Jno. Skelton & Ro. Grant. 200 acres joins **Jas. Halley Burton**, Eliz. Johnson, **Wm. Witt** & Wm. Harris. Orig. del to Alex. McAlexander 4 Aug 1796(?).”<sup>144</sup>

COMMENT:

In September 1785, James Helley Burton’s widow launched a suit for debt against **Jesse Mills**,<sup>145</sup> whose daughter Sarah, about that time, bore a son “William Mills” by someone carrying the Witt Y.

#### 29 SEPTEMBER 1792

Association

“Thos. H. Talbot (Tabott) & wife Mary, AC, to Moses Hughes, AC, for £100, 100 acres both sides **Stoney Creek**, branch of **Rockfish**. Lines: Said Moses on E., **Jno. Witt** on S., Jno. Littrell on W., Major Alex. Read on N. Part of tract known as Banden’s Entry with mill lot. Wit: Jno. E. Fitzpatrick, Geo. Perry, Thos. Fitzpatrick, Jos. Weaver.”<sup>146</sup>

#### 21 JANUARY 1793

Land sale

“**Wm. Witt**, AC, to Wm. Wood, AC, for £30, 150 acres **Davis Creek**, branch of Rockfish. Lines: Saml.

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<sup>141</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 272; citing Amh DB G: 160.

<sup>142</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 272; citing Amh DB G: 160.

<sup>143</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 318; citing Amh DB H: 98.

<sup>144</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 272; citing Amh DB G: 168.

<sup>145</sup> Amherst Co., Court Order Book 1784–87, p. 291.

<sup>146</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 275; citing Amh DB G: 211.

Murrin, Jno. Abnery [*sic*] Jos. Robards, Thos. Carpenter, **Wm. Witt**. Wit: Jos. Roberts.”<sup>147</sup>

**21 JANUARY 1793**

Association

“Wm. Alford & wife Lettis, AC, to Jesse Martin, AC, for £4-10, 8 ½ acres S side and N branch of **Joe’s Creek**. Lines: Jas. Mathews; part of a tract conveyed to WA by Henry Key. Wit: **Wm. & Tilman Walton**. Orig. del. to JM, 25 Jan 1794.”<sup>148</sup>

**18 MARCH 1793**

Poll Roll

“A pole (*sic*) kept for AC for the election of an additional member to Congress for the District of Albemarle, Amherst, Fluvanna, and Goochland. ... Saml. J. Cabell – Candidate and supporters: ... **Tilman Walton, Wm. Walton ... David Witt, Dennet Witt, Elisha Witt, Jno. Witt, Littleberry Witt, Wm. Witt (2)** ... Francis T. Walker supporters: **Wm. Lavender**.”<sup>149</sup>

COMMENT:

It is curious that the Bias/Byers males did not vote in any election, even though the Nickells did; both families are alleged to have been of Native American descent and to have suffered various legal disabilities as a result.

**17 JUNE 1793**

Land sale

“**Wm. Walton** & wife Mildred, AC, to Jas. Walls, AC, for £150. 75 acres **Rucker’s Run**. Lines: Joel Ponton, Abraham Seay, Wm. Depriest, Jas. Wills. Part of tract by deed to WW from Thos. Lomax, 24 Jul 1784.”<sup>150</sup>

**15 JULY 1793**

Land sale

“**Wm. Lavender** [Jr.] & wife Sarah, **Wm. Walton** & wife Mildred, AC, to Lewis Tindall, Buckingham Co, (Orig. del. 27 Aug 1800 to LT) for £160, 200 acres S side **Tye**. Lines: Edmd. Wilcox, dec’d. Pat. to **Chas. Lavender**, the elder, 12 Jan 1746, adjoins Jno. Partree Burks.”<sup>151</sup>

**6 SEPTEMBER 1793**

Neighbor

“Wm. Camden, AC, to David Duggins, (Orig. del. to Wm. Camden per order) for £50, 140 acres near **Huff**. Lines: Jno. Coleman, top of the mt., Benj. Noel, **Jas. Bias**, old cove about half way up mt., Tyree Hading.”<sup>152</sup>

**19 NOVEMBER 1793**

Land sale

“**Wm. Walton**, AC, to **Jos. Roberts**, AC, for £140, 3 tracts of N branch **Rucker’s Run & Ragged Mt.** 1) 42 acres pat. to John Loving Jr. 5 Jun 1765. Lines: Col. Lomax, his own, top of a mt., Jno. Loving Jr. conveyed to Jno. Tuggle. 2) 40 ¾ acres granted to him by deed 5 Oct 1767 from Lunsford Lomax Jr. 3) 72 acres pat.

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<sup>147</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 275; citing Amh DB G: 211.

<sup>148</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 275; citing Amh DB G: 213.

<sup>149</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 483–85; citing Amh DB G: 257–62.

<sup>150</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 276; citing Amh DB G: 233.

<sup>151</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 278; citing Amh DB G: 254.

<sup>152</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 284; citing Amh DB G: 358.

to Jno Tuggle 1 May 1775. Lines: his own, Jno. Montgomery, Jno. Loving Jr., Abraham Seay, top of the mt. Wit: Wm. Chamberlain, Benj. Henderson, Eddy Fortune, Thos. Fortune. Receipt by Wm. Walton of **Tilman Walton**, 19 Nov 1793, or £140. Orig. del. to Jas. Seay Jr.”<sup>153</sup>

COMMENT:

Joseph Roberts was an adjacent landowner to the Witt brothers and involved with them in several lawsuits.

**17 FEBRUARY 1794**

Land purchase

“Jno. Boush, AC, to **Chas. Watts**, AC, for £105, 110 acres N side **Fenely Mt.** and **N branch Rucker’s Run** – 82 acres of it conveyed to JB by Henry Key 1 Nov 1773, and residue is part of tract conveyed to JB by Henry Key on same date. Lines: Abraham Warwick, Wm. Cabell.”<sup>154</sup>

COMMENT:

John Bush, widower of Fluvanna, m. spinster Mary Tillman by bond of 7 May 1782, with consent of her father Thomas Tilman.<sup>155</sup> However, when John Bush died and his estate was opened in Clark Co., KY, in March 1800, the eldest son “William Walton Bush” was co-administrator of his estate, a role that required him to be at least 21 (i.e., born by March 1779).

Online trees assert a 1748 birth for Mary, making her 34 at the time she married. The Bush estate papers identify nine minors, which is logical within 18 years of marriage; however, the birth year asserted for Mary would make her 52 at the birth of her last child—significantly beyond the normal maximum age of her era. whom she allegedly married at age 36. More likely, she was the sister of Elizabeth who had wed William Walton.

**23 MARCH 1794**

Land purchase

“Lucy Johnson, Exrx. of Ro. Johnson, dec’d, Caroline, to **Larkin Byas**, AC (del. to LB 31 Jan 1801) for £45, 325 acres, pat. 27 Oct 1766, S side & joining **Pedlar**. Lines: Saml. Guest, S bank Pedlar, S bank. Cornfield branches, Jno. Duncan, N fork Cedar, Joel Watkins, Josiah Ellis. Wit: Henry Brooks, Francis Veal, Jos. Veal, Wm. Veal.”<sup>156</sup>

COMMENT:

On this same day, Lucy Johnson also sold adjacent lands to Francis and William Veal.<sup>157</sup>

**21 APRIL 1794**

Land sale

“**Wm. Witt** & wife **Mildred**, AC, to Saml. Merran, AC, for £25, 100 acres **Davis Creek**. Lines: Bartholomew Merran, Ro. Grant. Part of tract of WW. Wit Hudson Martin, Jas. Vigus, Wm. Wood. Orig. del. to Jno. Shelton, 18 Jun 1795.”<sup>158</sup>

COMMENT:

**Why has William Witt’s wife not participated in his prior sales, given that he supposedly married her about 1783?**

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<sup>153</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 299; citing DB G: 565.

<sup>154</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County (1761–1852) & Albemarle County (1748–1807)*, 284; citing Amh DB G: 355.

<sup>155</sup> Sweeny, *Marriage Bonds and Other Marriage Records of Amherst County, Virginia, 1763–1800*, 14.

<sup>156</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 288; citing Amh DB G: 431.

<sup>157</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 288; citing Amh DB G:432–34.

<sup>158</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 288; citing Amh DB G: 421.

Cf. the William Abney & wife Mildred sale below at 15 September 1794.

**21 JUNE 1794**

Land purchase

“Jesse Martin & wife Eliz, AC, to **Allen Lavender**, AC, for £50, 59 acres S side **Findley Mt.** Lines: Rich. Prichard, Jacob Eades – tract of 10 acres and part of 60 acres lately held by Peter Cartwright. Lines: Jesse Martin, old road, Wm. Cabell’s purchase of Peter Cartwright, Jno. Ball, Wm. Alford. Tract of 8½ acres S side and joins N branch of **Joe’s Creek**. Lines: James Matthews, Jesse Martin, and is part of tract of Wm. Alford which he bought of Henry Key.”<sup>159</sup>

**29 AUGUST 1794**

Neighbor

“Edwd. Harper & wife Frances, AC, to Josiah Ellis, AC, for £30, 365 acres on **N side and joining** Dancing Creek. **Lines: Josiah Jopling, Ezek. Shumaker, Larkin Byas**, Drury Bowman. Wit: J. P. Hewlings, Jesse Carter, Rich. Ellis, Wm. Haynes, **Obediah Martin**.”<sup>160</sup>

**13 SEPTEMBER 1794**

Land sale

“**Wm. Witt** & wife **Mildred**, AC, to **Jos. Roberts**, AC, for £150, 500 acres N branch **Davis** (\*Orig. del. to Jno. Roberts, 29 Sep 1794) Lines: Ro. Grant, Jos. Shelton, Jas. McAlexander, Jos. Roberts. Wit: Jno. N. Reid, Jno. Bones, Alex. McAlexander, Jas H. Ponton.”<sup>161</sup>

“Order to AC J.P.’s Wm. Harris & Jos. Shelton, to quiz **Mildred Witt**, wife of **Wm.** – deed of same date to Jos. Roberts – 500 acres. Done 8 Oct 1794.”<sup>162</sup>

**15 SEPTEMBER 1794**

Association

“Jno. Stinnett & wife Ann, AC, to **Jer. Whitten**, AC, for £101-5, 200 acres **Thomas Mill Creek**. Lines: Rod. McCulloch, Chas. Davis, Jno. Sledd. Wit: Chas. Davis, Harden Haynes, Jno. Burford Jr., Frances Veal, **Larkin Byas**.”<sup>163</sup>

**15 SEPTEMBER 1794**

Neighbor

“**Jno. Boush** & wife **Mary**, AC, to Edmond Travelion & Martin Breedlove, Alb., for £80, 100 acres branches **Ruckers Run**. Lines: Jno. Boush, Abraham Warwick, Chas. Watts.”<sup>164</sup>

**15 SEPTEMBER 1794**

Association

“Wm. Abney & wife Mildred, AC, to Wm. Wood, AC, for £30, 111 acres **Short’s Creek**. Lines: **David Witt**, Eliz. Tuley, **Littleberry Witt**. Wit: Hudson Martinn, Jas. Vigus, **Wm. Witt**.”<sup>165</sup>

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<sup>159</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 287; citing Amh DB G: 402.

<sup>160</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 289; citing Amh DB G: 440.

<sup>161</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 289; citing Amh DB G: 445.

<sup>162</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 299; citing Amh DB G: 574.

<sup>163</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 289; citing Amh DB G: 430.

<sup>164</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 287; citing Amh DB G: 412.

<sup>165</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 278; citing Amh DB G: 426.

**6 APRIL 1795**

Land sale

“Wm. **Whitten** & wife Sarah, **Bedford Co.** to Jer. Whitten, AC, for £70, 136 acres N side Otter. Lines: Jno. Hog., his own. Orig. del. to Wm. Davis per order 28 Jul 1796.”<sup>166</sup>

COMMENT:

In 1789, William Whitten/Whitton was indicted in Bedford for “keeping” Millie Witt, who was simultaneously charged with bearing a “bastard child.”<sup>167</sup> The Whitten-Witt relationship may have dated back as early as 1784, when William served as bondsman for Millie’s mother, Anne (Mills) Witt, in her suit against John Cooper over a land dispute.<sup>168</sup>

The above reference to Whitten’s wife as *Sarah* suggests that either Whitten did not marry Millie amid the 1789 charges or else Millie died 1789–95. However, as previously noted, Millie’s mother’s will of 1811 cites her daughter “Millie Whitten.”

One William Whitton m. Sarah Hall by Bedford Co. bond dated “1786, 2, 20”; Leonard Hall, Surety. Married by C. Clay. Although Bedford Co.’s marriage bonds are published in a compendium of Quaker records, the fact that the couple were married by a civil official indicates they did not have a Quaker marriage. The volume also carries minutes of Bedford’s Goose Creek Monthly Meeting, but no Halls or Whittons appear among them.<sup>169</sup>

**29 FEBRUARY 1796**

Land exchange

“Thos. Eades, AC to **Tilman Walton**, AC, for 5 sh., 377 acres top of the mt., dividing **Dutch & Davis Creeks**. Lines: Rich. Pollard, Archer Hamlet, dec’d, Jno. Loving, Ro. Wright, Jno. Milton (appears to be Million in previous deed) – 3 plats and 1 deed (plats not herein). Wit: Mary Milton, Bartlett Eades, Jno. Milton.”<sup>170</sup>

**4 MARCH 1796**

Land exchange

“**Tilman Walton**, AC, to Bartlett Eades, AC, for 6 sh., 327 acres top and both sides of the Mt. dividing **Dutch & Davis Creeks**. Lines: Rich. Pollard, Archer Hamlet dec’d, Jno. Loving, Ro. Wright, Jno. Million(?). Wit: Wm. Wright, Jas. McAlexander, Wm. McDonald. Orig. del. 23 Sep 1796 to BE.”<sup>171</sup>

**31 MAY 1798**

Association

“Bartlett Eades & wife Ann, AC, to Jno. Melton, AC, for £100, 127 acres (Orig. del. to JM, exr. of Jno. Milton, 24 Sep 1840 – note variation in spelling) S branches **Davis**. Lines: grantor, descent of the mt. by a branch near Rich. Pollard’s line, across top of the mt. above Jos. Loving. Wit: **M. C. Napier**, Ro. Wright, Jno. Wright.”<sup>172</sup>

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<sup>166</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 296; citing Amh DB G: 533.

<sup>167</sup> Bedford Co., VA, Order Book No. 9, 1786–1790, p. 259; Bedford Co. Reel 41, Library of Virginia.

<sup>168</sup> Witt vs. John Cooper, Bedford Chancery Records, 1785–011; imaged at Library of Virginia, *VirginiaMemory* ([www.lva.virginia.gov/chancery/case\\_detail.asp?CFN=019-17885-011](http://www.lva.virginia.gov/chancery/case_detail.asp?CFN=019-17885-011) : accessed 14 May 2016).

<sup>169</sup> “Marriage Bonds of Bedford Co., Virginia,” William Wade Hinshaw, ed., *Encyclopedia of American Quaker Genealogy*, vol. 6, *Virginia* (1950; Baltimore: Clearfield Co., 1993), 1014; also 342–56 for Goose Creek MM minutes.

<sup>170</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 312; citing Amh DB H: 13.

<sup>171</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 312; citing Amh DB H: 11.

<sup>172</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 337; citing Amh DB H: 398.

**28 JUNE 1798**

Association

“Jno. Camden, AC, to Jeremiah **Whitten**, AC, for £30, 100 acres **Pigg Creek**. Lines: **Jno. Bias**, Morris, Jno. Hog.”<sup>173</sup>

COMMENT:

There has been no prior purchase of land by *John* Bias. Considering that the seller, whose land adjoined Bias, was a *Camden* and that James Bias sold part of his land to *William Camden*, I should investigate the possibility that James Bias has died and his land has been taken over by a son John.

- 7 March 1762, Robert Whitten had land surveyed two days before James Bias (i.e., same neighborhood)
- 1788, John Bias, Jeremiah Whitten, and John Goodrich were adjacent landowners appointed to keep the road from “John Richardsons into Thomases Road that leads to Davies Ferry.” Note on 15 September 1784 that John Goodrich was a neighbor of Jane Davis on Dancing Creek, where they were also in the Bias neighborhood.
- 6 December 1802, William Camden Jr. was surety for James Franklin and Nancy **Whitten**.
- 6 September 1805 James Bias Jr. was married to Jeremiah **Whitten’s** daughter Elizabeth.
- 1805 Jeremiah Whitten was the father of William Whitten—seemingly the same man who in 1789 was living with Millie Witt out of wedlock.

**1 JUNE 1799**

Land Sale

**Thos. Tilman**, AC, to Jas. Murphy, AC, Deed of Trust. \$1.00 Debt to Jno. Ball – a slave. Wit: Parmenas Bryant, Jas. Hansbrough, Alex. Marr, Sent to Danl. Higginbotham per Murphy’s order – no date.”<sup>174</sup>

**17 JUNE 1799**

Land sale

“**Jer. Whitten**, AC, to Anthony Nicely, AC, for £100, Peg’s (Pig’s?) Creek. Lines: **Jno. Bias**, Jon. Hogg, Nichl. Jones. Orig. del. 19 Aug 1816.”<sup>175</sup>

**17 JUNE 1799**

Association

“Ambrose Gatewood & wife Margaret, AC, to Jas. Shastead, AC, for £50, 100 acres **Otter Creek**. Lines: **Jer. Whitten**, Wm. **Davis**. Wit: Benj. Shackelford, Thos. Jenkins, **Roland Bias**. Final proof, 20 Oct 1800, by TJ. Orig. del. to JS on 18 Aug 1812.”<sup>176</sup>

**29 MARCH 1800**

Power of attorney

“**Wm. Walton Bush & Mary Bush**, admrs. of **Jno. Bush dec’d**, Aaron Sharp & wife Anna (late Bush), Ro. Richards, gdn. of Jonathan (Bush), Wm. Bush, gdn. of **Betsy, Polly, Thos. Tilman**, Neson (one or two names?) Landon, Merier & Lucy Bush, heirs of Jno. Bush, Clark Co. Ky. Power of attorney to Wyatt Bush, Clark Co. Ky. as to AC business. J.P.’s as above. Rec. in AC 21 Apr. 1800

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<sup>173</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 336; citing Amh DB H: 367.

<sup>174</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 353; citing Amh DB I: 23.

<sup>175</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 362; citing Amh DB I: 159.

<sup>176</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 336; citing Amh DB H: 367.

“**Mary Bush**, relict of Jno. Bush, Clarke Co., Ky. to Chas. Watts, AC, 5 sh., dower in 110 acres. J.P.s as above.”<sup>177</sup>

**21 SEPTEMBER 1801**

Neighbor

“Wm. & Jno. Loving, exrs. of Wm. Loving dec’d., AC, to Jno. Seay, AC, for £45, 154 acres – under will of Wm. Loving. Lines: Jas. Thompson & **Tilman Walton** – to be paid to Jos. Loving. Surveyed 13 Dec 1795, and pat. 5 Sep 1788 – Rucker’s Run. Lines: Thos. Hawkins (now Jas. Wills), Jas. Stevens, top of a mt. near a flat rock.”<sup>178</sup>

**19 APRIL 1802**

Administrator’s bond

**William Whitten** is administrator of the estate of Jeremiah Whitten deceased. **Larkin Biass** (x) and Edward Sanderson, sureties.<sup>179</sup>

**18 JULY 1802**

Inventory

Undated inventory returned 19 July 1802, Jeremiah Whitten. Identity of appraisers not given. Total 377.6.11.

COMMENT:

The deceased is apparently Jeremiah Jr. This is a different inventory from the one recorded in Book 1 for Jeremiah Sr.<sup>180</sup>

**5 DECEMBER 1802**

Marriage bond

**Abram Stratton and Mary Lavender**. Surety: William Lavender. Witness: S. Garland.<sup>181</sup>

**6 DECEMBER 1802**

Marriage bond

**James Franklin and Nancy Whitten**. Surety: William Camden Jr. No witnesses.<sup>182</sup>

**28 AUGUST 1805**

Land purchase

“Thos. Fitzpatrick Jr. & wife Eliz.; Chas. Tooley & wife Mary, AC, to **Wm. Witt Jr.** for \$100, 202 acres. Lines: **David Witt, Jos. Roberts**, Wm. Wood. Tract of **Littleberry Witt, & Eliz & Mary are two of his children. LW is dec’d – all interest of Eliz. & Mary.** Wit: Wm. Lee Harris.”<sup>183</sup>

**6 SEPTEMBER 1805**

Land sale

“Heirs of Jeremiah Whitten, Dec’d, namely **William Nowell** and **Lucinda** his wife, **Robert Nuckles** and

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<sup>177</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 357; citing Amh DB I: 82–83.

<sup>178</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 373; citing Amh DB G: 260

<sup>179</sup> Davis, *Wills of Amherst*, 390; citing Book 4: 345. However, the abstracted administrator’s bond is not found on that page of the original will book.

<sup>180</sup> Amherst Co. Will Book No. 4 with Inventories & Accounts, 1801–1810: 40; imaged Amherst microfilm reel 18, LoV.

<sup>181</sup> Amherst Co. Marriage Book 1: 167; imaged Amherst reel 37, LoV.

<sup>182</sup> Amherst Co. Marriage Book 1: 167; imaged Amherst reel 37, LoV.

<sup>183</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 432; citing DB K: 306.

**Frances** his wife, **James Franklin** and **Mary** his wife, **James Biass** and **Elizabeth** his wife, **Tabitha Whitten** of Mercer County & State of Kentucky & **William Whitten Guardian**, lawful for her and administrator of the Estate of said Jeremiah Whitten, Decd, late of the County of Amherst ... to **Benjamin Nowell** of same, for \$83.33" land in Amherst County :on the branches of Thomas's Mill Creek containing fifty acres as survey made 11 October 1802] bounded by Samuel Neely. Signed: William Noel [sic], Robert Nickles [sic], James Franklin, William Whitten Guardian for Tabitha Whitten and admr for Jeremiah Whitten Decd; James Biass. Witnesses: Thomas N. Eubank, Thomas Goodrich, Charles Davis, Benjamin Shackelford.

Proved 10 September 1805 in court by Thomas **Goodrich** and Benjamin Shackelford.<sup>184</sup>

COMMENT:

William Whitten, who was living in adultery with Millie Witt in 1789 was likely born about 1760. His sister Elizabeth would appear too young to be the wife of the James Bias who took out land in 1762 unless (a) she was a much older sister; or (b) she was a much younger second wife.

The James Bias of 1762 is generally said to be the father of Obediah, Larkin, Roland, and John. Obediah married Lucy \_\_\_\_\_ in Amherst but left her by early 1786 and settled in Montgomery County—later Cabell. The sons who came of age in Cabell from the start of the 1809 tax rolls were apparently born after his arrival in Montgomery—i.e., c1789, 1791, 1793, and 1795.<sup>185</sup>

#### 17 SEPTEMBER 1805

Land purchase

"**Jas. Bias**, AC, from Jas. Franklin & wife Nancy, AC, for £80, 105 acres N branches **James [River]**, surveyed by CARS (sic) Christian Jr.; taken from larger tract of heirs of **Jerry Whitten**, decd. Lines: **Tabithy Whitten**, Benj. Noel, Sledd. Wit: Thos. N. Eubank, Rich. S. Ellis, Abram Carter Moses Rucker, Chas. Davis. Order to quiz Nancy, 19 Sep 1805; done, by Wm. Ware & Chas. Taliaferro, 21 Sep. 1805."<sup>186</sup>

#### 18 MAY 1806

Neighbor

"Wm. Camden & wife **Lucy**, AC, 50 Jas. **Markham**, SC, for £60, 140 acres **Huff.**. Lines: Jno. Coleman, top of the mt., Benj. Noel, **Jas. Byas**, Slaiding. Wit: Danl. Higginbotham, Peyton Keith, Jas. Garland. Orig. del. to JM, 5 Jan 1807."<sup>187</sup>

#### 30 SEPTEMBER 1806

Land sale

"Heirs of **Jer. Whitten**: **Jas. Bias** & wife **Betsy**, James Franklin & wife Nancy, Wm. Noel & wife Lucy, Dmnd. Boles & wife Tabitha, to Ro. Nickles, AC, for £20, 136 acres N side Otter. Lines: Jer. Whitten, Jno. Hog, Wit: Ro. Tinsley, Peter Siliman, Jno. Gilliam."<sup>188</sup>

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<sup>184</sup> Amherst Co., Deed Book K, 1803–1807: 300; imaged Amherst microfilm reel 5, Library of Virginia.

<sup>185</sup> For abstracts and/or transcripts of records on Obediah Bias after he left Amherst, see the following reports by E. S. Mills, archived online at *HistoricPathways.com* under the "Research" tab:

- "Mills & Associates: Montgomery & Fincastle Counties, Virginia: Preliminary Survey," report to file 28 August 2018 (updated 10 September 2020), 89 pp.
- "Mills & Associates: Montgomery County, VA, Extended Research (Bias, Sartain, Toney, White, Whitt/Witt)," report to file 10 September 2020, 68 pp.
- "Mills & Associates: Cabell Co., VA, Preliminary Survey (Including Bias, Brumfield, Napier, Toney, White)," report to file, 16 November 2019, 31 pp.

<sup>186</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 445; citing DB K: 441.

<sup>187</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 440; citing DB K: 384.

<sup>188</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 449; citing DB K: 476.



**30 SEPTEMBER 1806**

Land sale

“Heirs of **Jer. Whitten**: **Jas. Bias** & wife **Betsy**, James Franklin & wife Nancy, Wm. Noel & wife Lucy, Edmd. Boles & wife Tabitha, to Ro. Nickles, AC, for £20, 136 acres **N side Otter**. Lines: Jer. Whitten, Jno. Hog. Wit: Ro. Tinsley, Peter Suliman, Jno. Gilliam. Orig. del. to RN, 5 Oct 1809.”<sup>189</sup>

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<sup>189</sup> Davis, *Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1761–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1748–1807)*, 449; citing DB K: 476..