

Southey Fisher (c1747–1801-2)

& Spouse:

Phoebe [–?–]

Research Notes

Southey Fisher Family Summary:

Born: c1747, Accomack County, Virginia¹
Parents: Thomas⁵ Fisher and Susanna Armitrader²
Married: about 1765
Spouse: **Phoebe**³; wed 2nd by 1805, Thomas Wallace;⁴ likely died about 1812⁵
Occupation: Planter,⁶ miller,⁷ ordinary keeper⁸
Military Service: Captain, Revolutionary War
Died: October 1801–January 1802⁹
Residences: Accomack County, Virginia (1747–69)
Duplin County, North Carolina (c1770–1784)
Sampson Co., North Carolina (1784–1801)

CHILDREN:

1. JOHN FISHER, b. c1775,¹⁰ was deeded land by his father in 1794¹¹ and administered his father's estate with the widowed Phoebe in 1802;¹² died 1830.¹³

¹ Southey's first appearance on record in Accomack was 30 January 1769, when (as an adult) he and Thomas Fisher were consecutively paid small sums from the estate of Thomas Lucas; see Accomack Co., Wills &c 1767–72: 251–52; imaged, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q57-99P7-S99F-2> : accessed 23 February 2024) > images 135–36. Southey's name was spelled by clerks as both Southey and Southy. In his signatures, Southey prevails. Thus, that name will be used for him in this paper, except when quoting documents.

² See proof argument in the PARENTAGE & ORIGIN section of this report.

³ Sampson Co., NC, Minutes, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, 1800–1808, no visible pagination; imaged, *FamilySearch* > Image Group Number 8139513 > images 165, 168, for administration of "Southy" Fisher estate given to "Mrs. Phebe Fisher" and John Fisher. Also 1807 deed of "Phoebe Wallis mentioning "Reubin Fisher, my son"; Sampson Co., Deed Book 14: 381–82; *FamilySearch* > IGN 7540369 > images 488–89.

⁴ On 10 June 1805, Southey and Phoebe's son Reuben Fisher executed a deed guaranteeing use of land "for Phebe Wallace ... during her natural life." See Sampson Co., NC, Deed Book 13: 274–75; imaged *FamilySearch* > IGN 7540369 > image 146.

⁵ On 18 and 25 June 1812, Phoebe and her second husband, Thomas "Wallis," deeded to her son John Fisher what seems to be all her belongings, land, personal, and money; see Sampson Co., Deed Book 16: 36, 73–74; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 7537437 > images 246, 266–67. By 4 May 1816 Wallis/Wallace had remarried; see Sampson Deed Book 17: 148; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 7540370 > image 84.

⁶ See the numerous land deeds for Southey abstracted or transcribed in this set of research notes.

⁷ Sampson Co., Deed Book 13: 274–75; imaged *FamilySearch* > IGN 7540369 > image 146. This deed, by which Southey's heirs sold several tracts of his land, repeatedly mention "Fisher's Mill branch."

⁸ Sampson Co., Minutes, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, 1794–1800, no visible pagination; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 8139513 > image 5. This first order book begins 11 August 1794.

⁹ Sampson Co., Minutes, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, 1800–1808, no visible pagination, Feb. 1802 request to probate estate of Southey Fisher (probates were typically opened within three months of death); imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 8139513 > images 165, 168.

¹⁰ Extrapolated from the fact that he did jury duty in 1796—i.e., aged at least twenty-one. See Sampson Co., Minutes, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, 1794–1800, no visible pagination; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 8139513 > image 55.

¹¹ Sampson Co., Deed Book 9: 260–61; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 007540367 > image 145.

¹² Sampson Co., Minutes, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, 1800–1808, no visible pagination; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 8139513 > images 165, 168.

¹³ "North Carolina, U.S. Wills and Probate Records, 1665–1998," database with images (https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/9061/images/007640055_00075) > Sampson > Original Wills, 1663–1978, Faircloth, Martha–Jackson, Julia J > images 251–52.

Note that Southey named his first son *John* (his grandfather's name) and his second son *Thomas* (his father's name), both New Testament names. By extrapolation, the third and fourth sons (who carried the Old Testament names Elijah and Reuben) may well be named for *Phoebe's*

2. THOMAS FISHER, b. c1776, was deeded land by his father in 1797;¹⁴ was still alive in December 1819 when brother John made his will.¹⁵
3. REUBEN FISHER, b. c1778, received his first grant in 1799;¹⁶ moved to adjacent Bladen County by 1805;¹⁷ allegedly married c1801 **Margaret Streety**, daughter of William T. Streety and Elizabeth Jessup; died, allegedly in Bladen in 1828.¹⁸
4. PENNY FISHER, b. c1780, Duplin County, North Carolina;¹⁹ married c1796, Sampson County, NC, **Jacob Sessums**,²⁰ moved 1808–10, Christian Co., KY; moved by 1818 to Lawrence Co., MS;²¹ died 1841–48, likely in Mississippi before Jacob's migration to Texas.²²
5. ELIJAH FISHER, b. c1785; first on record, 1807 settlement of Southey's estate.²³ Allegedly wed c1805 in Duplin, **Elizabeth Dees**, daughter of Sampson Dees and Elizabeth Williams.²⁴ By 1809 he moved to Christian Co., KY,²⁵ and by 1819 followed the Sessums-Williams clan to Lawrence Co., MS.²⁶ By 1828 he had relocated in Hinds Co., MS,²⁷ where his will was probated in 1839.²⁸

father and grandfather. That premise provides a starting point for her family's identification.

Within these notes, one potentially significant connection is seen with a man named Elijah: Elijah Lucas who, together with Southey and his father Thomas, was paid from the Thomas Lucas estate in Accomack, 1769. Lucases also moved from Accomack to Duplin and Sampson. This Elijah was the son of Solomon Lucas, had a brother Southy Lucas, and in 1782 was son-in-law of William Hutson. See Stratton Nottingham, *Wills and Administrations of Accomack County, Virginia, 1663–1800* (1990; reprinted, Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2012), 177, 357.

¹⁴ Sampson Co., Deed Book 11: 548–49; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 007540368 > image 350.

¹⁵ "North Carolina, U.S. Wills and Probate Records, 1665–1998," images, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/9061/images/007640055_00075) > Sampson > Original Wills, 1663–1978, Faircloth, Martha–Jackson, Julia J > images 251–52. An often-used published abstract of this will makes a significant error in identifying the first executor as "Brother Worthy Fisher"; see Cora Bass, *Abstracts of Sampson County, NC, Wills, 1784–1895* (N.P.: N.p., n.d.), 36. The recorded will says "my worthy brother Thomas and my worthy friend Daniel Parker."

¹⁶ Sampson Co., Grant Book B: 63; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 7519327 > image 304.

¹⁷ Sampson Co., Deed Book 13: 274–75; imaged *FamilySearch* > IGN 7540369 > image 146.

¹⁸ *FamilySearch FamilyTree* (<https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/G8ZR-HMJ> : accessed 2 September 2024), profile of "Reuben Fisher (about 1777–1828) G8ZR-HMJ."

¹⁹ 1820 census: aged 26–44 (b. 1775–94). 1830 census: aged 50–60 (b. 1770–80). 1840 census: aged 50–60 (b. 1780–90). The overlap at c1780 would make her seventeen or eighteen when her first known child was born in 1798. Birthplace is based on proved residence of parents at the time of her birth, supported by 1880 Leake Co., MS, census data for son Thomas and daughter Mary, both citing mother's birthplace as NC.

Penny's *Find A Grave* memorial (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/67934439/penny-sessums>) is fraught with error. It asserts, without evidence, that she was full-blood Choctaw. It posts a picture for her, although she died before photography reached her area, and asserts a 1777 birth in NC (where the only Choctaw were those held in slavery). It also asserts an 1845 death in Oklahoma and a burial in Ft. Towson Cemetery, Choctaw County, OK (or, alternately, in "Doaksville Cemetery, OK"). No page creator is named. The claim to Choctaw ancestry is based on the *disallowed* claims for Choctaw citizenship and land made by a number of her grandchildren.

For all known records on Penny Fisher and Jacob, see E. S. Mills, "Jacob Sessums (c1777–c1856) & Spouse Penelope "Penny" Fisher (c1780–c1845): Research Notes," particularly pp. 74–82 for "Alleged Native American Ancestry"; archived online at Mills, *Historic Pathways* (<https://www.historicpathways.com/download/JacobSessumsPennyFisherResearchNotes.pdf>).

For Penny's offspring and resolution of the Choctaw myth, see E. S. Mills, "Identifying a Teenage Mother in Rural Pre-1850 America: the FAN Suggests and atDNA Confirms Shadrack Odom's First Wife," *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* 111 (December 2023): 245–74.

²⁰ Marriage date extrapolated from the fact that the 1800 Jacob Sessums household in Sampson County shows two children aged 0–10. Marriage place based on known residence at time of marriage.

²¹ "Mississippi, State Archives, Various Records, 1820–1951," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1919687>) > Browse > Lawrence > County tax rolls 1818–1830 > image 21 (Sessums).

²² The Jacob Sessums household in the 1833 Simpson Co. state census and the 1840 Newton Co., federal census both include a female of her age; in 1850 Jacob (but not Penny) was enumerated with their son Redding in Texas.

²³ Elijah first came on record in 1807, amid the settlement of his father's estate. The 1810 census places his birth between 1785 and 1794. See 1810 U.S. census, Christian Co., KY, p. 567. He appears on Christian's 1809–10 tax rolls; see *FamilySearch* IGN 7834413 > images 620 and 734–35.

²⁴ *FamilySearch FamilyTree* (<https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/9X37-FR9> : accessed 2 September 2024), "Elizabeth Dees."

²⁵ Christian Co., KY, 1809 tax roll; imaged *FamilySearch* IGN 7834413 > image 620. 1810 U.S. census, Christian Co., Hopkinsville p. 567.

²⁶ "Mississippi, State Archives, Various Records, 1820–1951," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1919687>) > Browse > Lawrence > County tax rolls 1818–1830 > images 38 (Fisher), 56 (Sessims). Also 1820 U.S. census, Lawrence Co., MS, p. 64, lines 33–34, adjacent households of Elijah Fisher and Jacob "Sessims."

²⁷ *Ibid.* > Browse > Hinds > County tax rolls 1822–1849 > images 96–97 (Fisher); images 155–45 (Fisher).

²⁸ Hinds Co., MS, Probate Book 1: 119.

CONTENTS

TIME LINE: Southey's Activities & Associates	3
PARENTAGE & ORIGIN	5
RESEARCH NOTES	9

TIME LINE:

Southey's Activities & Associates

Note:

For full details and documentation of each of the 50 activities in Southey's time line, look for that date under "Research Notes."

Accomack County, Virginia

1769 Jan 30 "Southy" & Thomas Fisher (consecutive entries) are paid from the estate of Thomas Lucas, first cousin of Thomas Fisher; no explanation for the payment.

Duplin County, North Carolina

c1770–1 applied for a grant of land in Duplin, 10 acres, east side of **Little Coharie**.

1774 Jul 22 patented 100a on *east* side of **Little Coharie**. Entry date not shown but a lapse of two to four years between entry and patent was common.

1779 Aug 17 entered 50a on *east* side **Little Coharie**, adjoining Thomas Magee. [The Magees would remain their neighbors throughout Southey's life; his widow's second husband would then marry a Magee.]

1779 Nov 30 sold to William McLemore, 100a on **Little Coharie** at **Marsh Branch**.

1780 Apr 17 sold to Jacob Magee another 100a on west side of the **Great Coharie**, both sides of **Sheppard's Branch**, adjoining William Owens and Fleet Cooper.

1780 Fall was captain of Duplin militia company called up for RW service, according to pension application of the widow of Solomon Sessums who served under Southey.

1782 Oct 29 patented 50a on *east* side **Little Coharie**, adjoining Thomas Magee.

1783 Aug 30 bought 100a adj. Richard Sessums on *west side* of **Little Coharie** from Culmer Sessums [who got his land from Richard Sessums].

1783 Oct 20 sold to Gabriel Holmes, 50a on **Bud's Branch**, *east side* of **Little Coharie**, adjoining Thomas Magee.

Sampson County (cut from Duplin)

1784 purchased two tracts from **Theophilis Williams** on *west side* of **Little Coharie**, 100a granted to Mark Phillips in 1756, and 100a granted to William Dees in 1774.

1784 Feb sold 200a *west side* of **Little Coharie** adjoining Richard Sessums, near George Bockins, side of **Coharie Swamp**; land patented by Nathan Hall.

1784 taxed in Sampson County; details not presently available.

1785 Jan 21 bought 200a from John Owens on *west side* of **Little Coharie**, adjoining Richard Sessums.

1786 Feb 6 with Robert Butler witnessed a deed from John Manuel to **Lewis Lucas** for land on *east? side* of **Great Swamp** at *upper side* of **Edge's Branch**, part of a tract granted to Richard Sessums in 1772. [Lucases from Accomack and Northampton.]

1787 Mar 29 bought from Thomas Gray, a "Negroe Man called James, about Twenty one years olde." [In 1807, Southey's heirs Thomas, John, Reuben, and Elijah Fisher, and Jacob Sessums, sold "Jim" to Thomas Wallace, who had married Southey's widow.]

1787 May 10 entered 50 acres on the *west side* of **Little Coharie**, adjoining himself and John Butler.

1787 May 11 entered 150 acres, on *west side* of **Little Coharie**; patented 10 July 1788.

1788 Mar 14 sold to John Hall 200a on *west side* of **Little Coharie**; patented 10 July 1788.

Southey Fisher
Wife: Phoebe [–?–]

- 1788 May 8 bought from Richard Tatom 30a on *west side* of **Great Coharie**, which Tatom bought from Joshua Rich; **adjoins Bailey Fisher**.
- 1788 Jul 10 patented two tracts (50a and 150a) on *west side* of **Little Coharie**, adjoining himself and John Butler.
- 1788 Aug 11 entered 50a on *west side* of **Little Coharie**; patented 16 November 1790.
- 1790 Aug enumerated as 2 males 16+, 3 males –16, and 2 females [should be self, wife Phoebe; daughter Penny, sons John, Thomas, Reuben, and Elijah.
- 1790 Nov 16 patented 50 acres on *west side* of **Little Coharie**; entered 11 August 1788.
- 1792 Aug 1 bought from Elijah Wiggins 150a on *west side* of **Great Coharie**, at **Great Branch** and **Coharie Creek**.
- 1792 Feb 11 entered 25a on *east side* of **South River** at **Beaverdam Swamp**; patented 16 July 1795.
- 1794 Jan 23 bought from William Owen 150a on **Little Coharie** and **Little Coharie Marsh**, near **Berry Branch**.
- 1794 Jan 23 bought from Daniel Coor 100a on *both sides* of **Little Coharie** adjoining William Owens, himself, and **Barnabas Hall** [bought land from Elijah Fisher]²⁹
- 1794 Aug 11 obtained license to keep an ordinary “at his Own House.”
- 1794 Nov 11 sold to son **John Fisher**, 200a on *west side* of **Little Coharie**, including George Purkins’ improvement, adjoining **Richard Sessums** on **Coharie Swamp**.
- 1795 Mar 20 entered 50 acres on *east side* of **Little Coharie**; patented 3 November 1797.
- 1795 Apr 18 bought from William Haire, 150a on *east side* of **Great Coharie Swamp** and *west side* of **Beaverdam**.
- 1795 May appeared in court to acknowledge his deed to William Haire.
- 1795 Jul 16 patented 25 acres on *east side* of **South River** at **Beaverdam Swamp**; entered 11 February 1792.
- 1796 Feb exempted from paying poll taxes “in future” [a suggestion that he was in poor health].
- 1796 May 2 entered 100a on *west side* of **Little Coharie**; patented March 1799.
- 1796 May his deed for to John Hall was proved in court by witnesses. Deed not yet located.
- 1796 Nov his deed from Daniel Coor for 100a was proved by oath of witness Charles Butler.
- 1797 Feb renewed license to keep an ordinary “at his Own House.”
- 1797 Mar 30 sold two tracts to son **Thomas Fisher** at a greatly reduced price: (1) 160a on *east side* of **Great Swamp** and *west side* of **Beaverdam**; (2) 25a on *east side* of **South River** on **Beaverdam Swamp**, adjacent to his own line.
- 1797 Oct 20 entered a tract of 75a on *both sides* of **Little Coharie**, joining John Fisher, “John Fisher’s Branch,” and “Barnabas Hall dec’d.” Patent issued 9 March 1799.
- 1797 Nov 3 patented 50 acres on *east side* of **Little Coharie**; entered 20 March 1795. February 1798, renewed his license to keep an ordinary “at his Own House.”
- 1798 May 19 entered 160a on *west side* of **Little Coharie** joining himself, Roger Alden’s patent, Charles Butler, Neill Culbreth; patented 26 November 1799.
- 1798 Nov renewed his ordinary license.
- 1799 Mar 9 patented 75a on *both sides* of **Little Coharie** adj. John Fisher and **Barnabas Hall**, dec’d. Also 100a on *west side* of **Little Coharie** adj. John Fisher, Nathan Hall, and land he bought from Daniel Coor. Land entered 2 May 1796.
- 1799 Nov 26 patented 160a on *west side* of **Little Coharie**; entered 19 May 1798.
- 1800 Feb appointed overseer of the road to fill the post being vacated by Charles Butler. Two other actions at court: (1) renewed ordinary license; and (2) won a case against John Butler, nature unspecified.
- 1801 May assigned with John Fisher to the road crew to make **Little Coharie** navigable.
- 1802 Feb “Mrs. Phebe Fisher and John Fisher” applied for letters of administration on his estate. His deed (singular) to Thomas Fisher was proved in court by witness Daniel Coor. (Cf. November 1797 above.)
- 1802 May Sampson Dees was appointed road overseer to replace Southy Fisher.

²⁹ Barnabas Hall is said to have married Tabitha Benthall, 9 September 1740, in Northampton (Old Accomack) Co. VA; see *FamilySearch FamilyTree* (<https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/L61D-NB4> : 9 October 2024), “Barnabas Hall, 17710-1790, L61D-NB4,” where contributors have tried to merge him with “John Lewis Lucas.”

PARENTAGE & ORIGIN

No one document identifies a person. People are not born with a preassigned number, after which all pieces of information are keyed to each person's number. Identity and kinship are proved or disproved by the whole *body* of evidence we accumulate for a person, not by any single document. Identity and kinship are determined by a person's actions and associations, habits and haunts, occupations and ownerships.

Therefore, before we can reliably identify a person and their parentage, we must do three things:

- Identify, locate, and use all known records for the person's time and place.
- Gather all details from every document, with no detail being too trivial to use.
- Place our person into a web of associates whose records must also be mined for clues to origin and kin.

This paper documents the pursuit of these three goals for Southey Fisher. The body of evidence assembled here (and summarized under TIME LINE) tracks Southey through fifty records and points clearly to his origin and parentage.

Associates & Their Origin:

When Southey settled in Duplin (later Sampson) County, North Carolina, about 1770, he chose a neighborhood heavily populated by migrants from Virginia's Eastern Shore—specifically, Old Accomac and its offshoot, Northampton.³⁰ Those Duplin families (chiefly, Benthall, Grice, Hall, Hudson/Hutson, Lucas, Parker, Scarborough, and Turlington, had been in Accomack and Northampton since the 1600s—as had the Fishers. The immigrant John Fisher first appeared in a court deposition in 1634. After his death in the winter of 1639–40, his widow married Richard *Bailey*.³¹ Across the next century and a half, the Baileys, Benthalls, Grices, and Lucases in particular intermarried with the Fishers of Accomack and Northampton in numerous ways.³²

The name *Southey*, as a given name, is also rooted in Old Accomac. Henry Southey of Somerset, England, died in James City Shire in 1622, leaving considerable wealth. His daughter Anne wed Nathaniel Littleton, from an armorial family in Shropshire, and settled with him at Accomac where he served as chief magistrate, a member of the House of Burgesses, and a member of the governor's Executive Council. Their second-born son was the first there to carry the given name Southey.³³ The name then spread not only

³⁰ Accomac was one of the original eight shires (counties) of Virginia. It was renamed Northampton County in 1642, then Accomac County was cut from the northern half of Northampton in 1663. Gov. William Berkeley abolished Accomac in 1670, but the General Assembly restored it 1671. Not until 1940 was the letter "k" officially added to "Accomac" by the Assembly. This paper will use the current spelling unless specifically referring to Old Accomac.

³¹ As an introduction to the early Accomack and Northampton Fishers, see Mrs. Blair Smith, "The Thomas Fishers of Northampton County, Virginia," *The Virginia Genealogist* 30 (April–June 1986): 83.

³² Many of these examples can be found in Elizabeth Shown Mills, "Fishers & Associates of Accomack & Northampton Counties, Virginia, 1634–1785," report to file, 1 September 2024; archived online at Mills, *Historic Pathways* (<https://www.historicpathways.com/researchreports.html>) > FISHER. Many more can be found in the sources cited in that paper, which also documents Southey's ancestry.

Southey's Grice neighbors in Duplin > Sampson, who also descended from the Accomack Fishers, would move with Southey's offspring to South Mississippi where they appear as neighbors on censuses and tax rolls. For the relevant Mississippi research, see E. S. Mills, "Williams & Associates of Lawrence County, Mississippi, 1814–c1860," report, 31 July 2021 (updated 30 Sept. 2022), 105 pp.; archived at *HistoricPathways* (<https://www.historicpathways.com/download/Williams-LawrenceCoMS.pdf>).

³³ For more on Henry Southey and his Accomack son-in-law Nathaniel Littleton, see Nora Miller Turman and Mark C. Lewis, "The Will of Ann Littleton of Northampton County, Virginia, 1656," *The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography* 75 (January 1967): 11–21; archived at JSTOR (<https://www.jstor.org/stable/4247277>).

among descendants but also among other settlers who curried favor with those in power by naming their children after them. The use of a family surname as a male's sole given name was, in fact, strikingly common in Accomack and Northampton; and the given name Southey, wherever found in early America, is usually traceable back to an Accomack-Northampton family

In addition to Southey, the contemporary records of Duplin and Sampson document the presence of two other contemporary Fishers:

- **Solomon Fisher** made his first appearance in Duplin on 17–18 April 1767, entering two tracts of land on the east and northeast side of Little Coharie; both tracts were surveyed on 2 March 1768.³⁴ He did not stay to complete the title. In 1779 and 1781, he entered two tracts of land in Surry County, North Carolina,³⁵ and never appeared thereafter in Duplin or Sampson.
- **Bailey Fisher** made his first appearance *of record* in Duplin on 25 November 1771 when land was patented to him on the Great Coharie.³⁶ The surviving paperwork does not reveal when he applied for the land, but patents in this era usually were issued two to four years after the land was entered. When, soon after the patent, Bailey sold part of his land to Southey Fisher's neighbor Fleet Cooper, that deed identified him as "Baily Fisher, *bricklayer*."³⁷ That occupational label provides the link needed to identify Bailey's origins and parents—and points to the identity of Solomon Fisher as well.

Bailey & Solomon's Parents:

On 26 May 1747, in Accomack, an administrator's account was filed for the estate of the deceased planter **John Fisher**. The accounting named heirs and other kinsmen/neighbors who were paid from the estate:

Total: 53 pounds, [illegible shillings] 5½ pence. Payments to "Mr. Pettigrew," Captain Taylor, Margaret Shay, John Gilchrist, William Pritchard, John Ross, *Southey* Rew, George Johnson, Joseph Walker, John Evans, John Watson, Richard Onions, William Nock, William *Hutson*, Henry Fletcher, Thomas *Lucas*, Anderson Patterson, Samuel Hosier the sheriff, Thomas Barber, "John Brown John," William Northam, William *Lucas*, widow's one-third part, **Thomas Fisher**, "**John Fisher D^o left in hands of Adm^r,**" **Elizabeth Fisher**, **Edmund Fisher**, **Spencer Fisher**, **Solomon Fisher**, **Bailey Fisher**. Heirs sharing in their "father's estate" were Solomon Fisher, John Fisher, Edmund Fisher, Spencer Fisher, Elizabeth Fisher, Thomas Fisher, Bailey Fisher. Household goods and livestock are itemized. No enslaved people or servants are mentioned. Son Solomon inherited the family Bible. Appraisers: William Beavans, William Andrews.³⁸

Thomas Fisher, the eldest son, inherited the land of his father John Fisher, under the prevailing law of primogeniture (all land to eldest son). Over the next two decades, he sold off parts of it and bought other

³⁴ McCorkle, *North Carolina Land Grant Images and Data* (<https://nclandgrants.com/grant/?mars=12.14.57.4280&qid=656384&rn=71> : accessed 1 June 2021), Solomon Fisher; citing File No. 0147, State Archives of North Carolina MARS database. Also (<https://nclandgrants.com/grant/?mars=12.14.57.4317&qid=659014&rn=2> : accessed 1 June 2021), Solomon Fisher; citing "File No. 0146, State Archives of North Carolina MARS database. Also see "North Carolina, U.S., Land Grant Files, 1693–1960," database with images, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/22650:60621> : accessed 4 February 2024) > Duplin > 0115–0310 > images 220–32 of 1142.

³⁵ McCorkle, *North Carolina Land Grant Images and Data* (<https://nclandgrants.com/grant/?mars=12.14.113.1340&qid=1106885&rn=2> : accessed 1 June 2021), Solomon Fisher; citing File No. 1339, Land Patent Book 786: 396–97; and (<https://nclandgrants.com/grant/?mars=12.14.113.1749&qid=1106885&rn=1>) Solomon Fisher; citing File 1748, Land Patent Book 89: 184–85, State Archives of North Carolina.

³⁶ "North Carolina, U.S., Land Grant Files, 1693–1960," database with images, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/22650:60621> : accessed 4 February 2024) > Duplin > 2133–2375 > image 935 of 1238.

³⁷ Sampson Co., Deed Book 3: 389–90; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 007540365 > images 1383–84.

³⁸ Accomack County Wills, Etc., 1743–1744: 340–41; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 7643798 > image 486.

neighboring pieces as his fortunes ebbed and flowed, leaving a trail of records.³⁹ His two youngest brothers, still minors, were apprenticed: Spencer, on 31 August 1756, was bound to their neighbor James Johnson to learn the trade of *bricklayer*. The following month, **“Bayly” Fisher (orphan of John) was also bound to Johnson to also learn the bricklaying trade.**⁴⁰

The indenture was problematic. Shortly before the widowed Elizabeth died in 1757, she and her daughter Elizabeth Jr., along with Solomon Fisher, were indicted on a charge of “rescuing” two runaway indentured servants belonging to James Johnson. Those servants were not named; by implication they were Elizabeth’s two sons Bailey and Spencer. To guarantee both women’s “good behavior” and their appearance at the next court session, Thomas Fisher appeared before the magistrates on 26 April 1757 and posted a bond of £5; Solomon posted the same for himself. At the May term, the Fishers were discharged from their behavior bonds, with Thomas Fisher serving as security.⁴¹

By August, the children of John and Elizabeth Fisher were in court again, opening their mother’s estate:

30 August 1757

“Spencer Fisher Orphan to Elizth Fisher his Guardⁿ.

Dr. To [debited for the sum he owed for] 10 years Board & finding him Cloaths £03.15.11

Cr. By his part of John Fishers Est. £03.15.11

“Baily Fisher Orphan to Elizth his Guardⁿ

Dr. To 10 years Board & finding him Cloaths £03.15.11

Cr. By his part of John Fishers Est. £03.15.11

“Solomon Fisher Orphan to Elizth Fisher his Guardⁿ

Dr. To 10 years Board & finding him Cloaths £03.15.11

Cr. By his part of **John Fishers Est.** £03.15.11

“We the Subscribers have Audited and Settled the Acco^t of the Guardianship of Solomon Fisher Orphan as above stated. William Beavans, Solomon Bird.”

“At a Court held for Accomack County July 30th 1759 The above Audit & Settlement of Elizth Fishers Guardianship of **Spencer Fisher, Baily Fisher and Solomon Fisher being return^d by William Beavans & Solomon Bird Pursuant to an Order of Court are Admitted to Record.”⁴²**

That December, Thomas Fisher, as administrator of his mother’s estate, attested the appraisal made by William Beavens, Solomon Bird, and Nathaniel Bird of his mother’s meager belongings: *1 feather bed [mattress], 1 bedstead matt & cord, 1 old blanket & “sheat,” 1 candlestick, 1 glass tumbler, 1 pewter dish & spoon, 1 wooden bowl, 1 old chest, 3 chairs, “1 old lot of books,” and a small amount of animals, etc.*⁴³ Elizabeth’s young-adult children were left in desperate straits. In February 1760, Elizabeth Jr. and Solomon were charged with stealing a hog from their neighbor George Johnson; and Elizabeth was also accused of illegally trading with a Negro enslaved by William Mason. Charges would be dropped against Elizabeth; Solomon shouldered the blame. In July 1760, he was found guilty and fined £10. Because he could not pay it, he “immedately received 25 lashes well laid on [and] was committed to the sheriff’s custody (at 9 lbs.

³⁹ Accomack Co., VA, Deed Record Book 2, 1746–1757: 40–41, 82, 420, 525, 590–91.

⁴⁰ JoAnn Riley McKey, *Accomack County, Virginia, Court Order Abstracts*, vol. 19, 1753–1763, 2 separately bound parts, consecutively numbered (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2011), 134, 137.

⁴¹ McKey, *Accomack County, Virginia, Court Order Abstracts*, vol. 19, 1753–1763, 161, 163, 167.

⁴² Gail M. Walczyk, *Accomack Co., VA, Orphans Accounts, 1741–1770* (Coram, NY: Peter’s Row, 1999), 38.

⁴³ Accomack Co., VA, Wills, Etc., 1757–1761: 147; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 7643799 > image 324.

tobacco [per] day) till paying the costs of his prosecution: 2027 lbs. tobacco.” A court note of 30 September 1760 reported that Solomon was still in custody.⁴⁴ **Neither Solomon Fisher nor his younger brother Bailey have been found in Accomack records past that point.**

Thomas Fisher, the eldest brother of Solomon and Bailey, remained in Accomack with his **wife Susannah Armitrader**,⁴⁵ and left a trail of records by which his life can be reconstructed. The T mark he used to sign his documents also helps to distinguish him from other Thomas Fishers—as does the location of his lands and his cluster of friends and neighbors.⁴⁶ Thomas served as witnesses to wills and deeds and as executor for other estates,⁴⁷ bought and sold additional lands,⁴⁸ sued individuals who owed him money and was sued for his own debts,⁴⁹ bought goods at the estate sales of his kinsmen and neighbors,⁵⁰ served as road overseer and did jury duty. He is last found on record 27 July 1779, when (as “Thomas Fisher Senr.”) he purchased “the acre of Land where the old warehouse stood on Gilford Creek” from William Andrews and his wife Susanah.”⁵¹ Five years later, part of his land was sold by his son Thomas Jr., with the widowed Susanna witnessing the document.⁵² Susannah would survive at least another decade; the last reference found to her is her aged father’s will, drawn in 1794.⁵³

Amid the litany of activities that form the framework of Thomas’s life, one additional document places Southey Fisher in this family. On 30 January 1769 (see that date under “RESEARCH NOTES”) the Accomack justices approved a settlement of the estate of Thomas Lucas, neighbor and first cousin of Thomas Fisher. Fifteen payments were made to individuals who were not heirs. The first four payments were

⁴⁴ McKey, *Accomack County, Virginia, Court Order Abstracts*, vol. 19, 1753–1763, 284–85, 296–97, 304–5, 311.

⁴⁵ Accomack Co., Deed Record Book 3, 1757–1770: 73, 471–72, among other documents, identify Thomas’s wife as “Susannah.” The will of William Armitrader (var. Armye Trador; born c1715; died 1794) identifies his children as **Susannah Fisher**, Elizabeth **Lucas**, Comfort Trador, Agnes Shay, Ommey Young, William Armye Trador, and George Trador. See Nottingham, *Wills and Administrations of Accomack County*, 421. Also see Anna M. Watring, *Accomack County, Virginia, Marriage References and Family Relationships, 1620–1800* (Lewes, DE: Colonial Roots, 2013), 91, 251. For a concise, documented history of the Traders in this century, see “Descendants of Henry Trader,” in Mary Frances Carey, Barry W. Miles, and Moody K. Miles, *Colonial Families of the Eastern Shore of Virginia*, vol. 1 (Berwyn Heights, MD: Heritage Books, 2019), 155–85.

⁴⁶ Accomack Co., VA, Deed Record Book 3, 1757–1770: 148; imaged, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSLZ-1SJV-6> : accessed 24 August 2024) > IGN 8189580 > item 1 > Image 81 of 667.

⁴⁷ Accomack Co., VA, Wills, 1761–1767: 362; imaged, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q57-L9P7-SFCV> : accessed 26 August 2024) > IGN 7643799 > item 3 > image 191 of 381. Also McKey, *Accomack County, Virginia, Court Order Abstracts*, vol. 19, 1753–1763, 372, 436. Also McKey, *Accomack County, Virginia, Court Order Abstracts*, vol. 20, 1764–1765 (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2012), 181–83, 250. Also Accomack Co., VA, Deed Record Book 3, 1757–1770: 416.

⁴⁸ Accomack Co., VA, Deed Record Book 3, 1757–1770: 142, 338–39. Also McKey, *Accomack County, Virginia, Court Order Abstracts*, vols. 21,22,23, 1765–1769 (Westminster, MD: Heritage Book, 2012), 44, 68, 104, 106, 115. Also McKey, *Accomack County, Virginia, Court Order Abstracts*, vols. 24–25, 1769–1773 (Berwyn Heights, MD: Heritage Books, 2016), 211.

⁴⁹ McKey, *Accomack County, Virginia, Court Order Abstracts*, vol. 19, 1753–1763, 329, 334, 372, 485. Also McKey, *Accomack County, Virginia, Court Order Abstracts*, vol. 20, 1764–1765, 2, 4, 28, 36, 46, 55, 59, 65, 68, 76, 85, 146, 154, 165. Also McKey, *Accomack County, Virginia, Court Order Abstracts*, vols. 21,22,23, 1765–1769, 44, 68, 104, 106, 115, 124, 209, 213, 217–18, 226. Also McKey, *Accomack County, Virginia, Court Order Abstracts*, vols. 24–25, 1769–1773, 5, 55.

⁵⁰ Accomack Co., VA, Wills, 1761–1767: 19–25, 66–67, 98, 135, 141, 143, 160, 167–68, 175–76, 181.

⁵¹ Accomack Co., Deed Record Book 5, 1777–1783: 184; imaged, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSY6-49R5-S> : accessed 24 August 2024) > IMG 8357987 > Item 2 > Image 199 of 374.

⁵² Accomack Co., Deed Record Book 6, 1783–1788: 163–64; imaged, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSYD-29T5-V> : accessed 24 August 2024) > IMG 8358060 > images 179–80 f 565.

⁵³ Nottingham, *Wills and Administrations of Accomack County*, 421.

Paid Littleton Armitrader	£7.5.8	[uncle of Susannah, Thomas Fisher's wife] ⁵⁴
Paid Thomas Northam	0.6.3	[husb. of Comfort Lucas, sister to Thomas Fisher's mother] ⁵⁵
Paid Southy Fisher	0.1.0	
Paid Thomas Fisher	0.5.0 ⁵⁶	

This payment, made to Southy himself, rather than to his father, indicates that he was legally an adult. Apparently he had not held that status long. A page-by-page reading of Accomack's surviving records for that era reveals no earlier reference to him and no subsequent reference. Within months he would be in Duplin County, NC, taking out land between the Little and Big Coharie, where his uncles Solomon and Bailey had already entered tracts.

RESEARCH NOTES

ACCOMACK COUNTY, VA 30 JANUARY 1769

"The Estate of Thomas Lucas Deced. Dr.

To paid Littleton Armitrader	£7.5.8
Paid Thomas Northam	0.6.3
Paid Southy Fisher	0.1.0
Paid Thomas Fisher	0.5.0
Paid Joseph Stockly	0.2.6
Paid Benjamin Peck	0.5.0
Paid John Northam	0.3.10 ½
Paid Daniel Shae	0.17.10
Paid Alexander Jeffrey	0.5.9
Paid Philip Fisher	0.0.10
Paid Jabez Lucas	0.1.8
Paid Robert Small	0.5.0
Paid Henry Fletcher	2.6.100
Paid Clerks fees and the Sherif 262# Tob. @ 2d.	2.3.8
Paid the appraisers gold+Tob ^o 2 ^d pr. p ^d	0.15.0
Allowed the Administratrix for her Trouble	1.5.0
By the Loss in the Sale not amounting to appraisement	<u>2.12.7</u>

Pr CONTRA CR.	£ 19.3.5 ½
By the amount of the Inventory	23.3.3
By 17 Shillings Elijah Lucas	0.17.0
By 222 pds Tob ^o Levi Bloxom	1.17.0
By Cash Levi Bloxom	<u>0.2.60</u>
	£25.19.9

⁵⁴ Carey, Miles, and Miles, *Colonial Families of the Eastern Shore of Virginia*, 1: 158–59.

⁵⁵ Nottingham, *Wills and Administrations of Accomack County, Virginia, 1663–1800*, 94, 1719 will of William Lucas named daughters Comfort Northam, Rachel "Wimbury," and Elizabeth Lucas. Also Watring, *Accomack County, Virginia, Marriage References and Family Relationship, 1620–1800*, 177, saying Thomas married Comfort (N) before 6 January 1712, with citation to VES:1219/1224; OB11:87; 15:110; 16:79.

⁵⁶ Accomack Co., Wills &c 1767–72: 251–52; imaged, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q57-99P7-S99F-2> : accessed 23 February 2024) > images 135–36.

We the subscribers have Audited and Settled the above Estate.

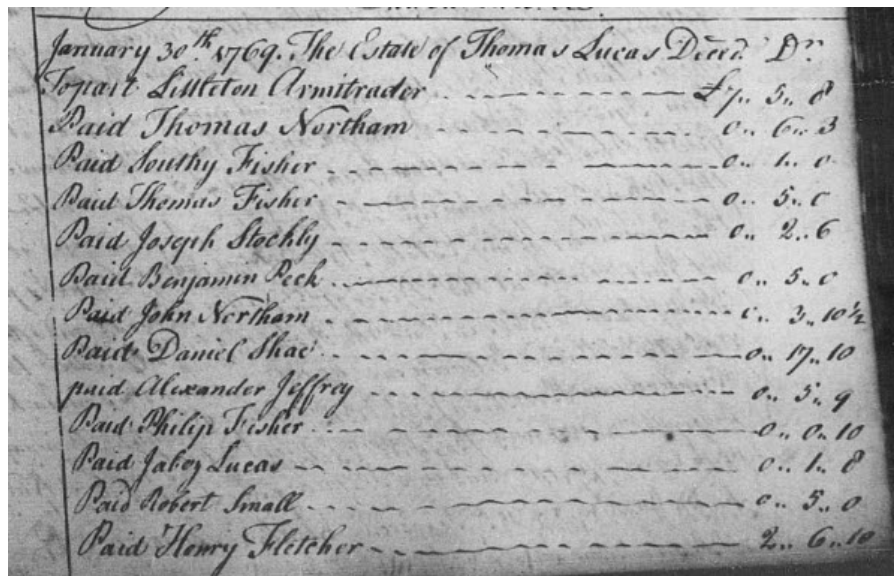
Fortune Lucas Admr.

Henry Fletcher

Robert Small

John Northam

Returned into Court February 1st 1769 And Admitted to Records. See.[?] Holden Clk Acc^k.”⁵⁷



January 30 th 1769. The Estate of Thomas Lucas Deceased Dr.	
Debit Littleton Armitrader	L ^y 5. 8
Paid Thomas Northam	c. 6. 3
Paid Southey Fisher	c. 1. 0
Paid Thomas Fisher	c. 5. 0
Paid Joseph Stockly	c. 2. 6
Paid Benjamin Beck	c. 5. 0
Paid John Northam	c. 3. 10 1/2
Paid Daniel Shac	c. 17. 10
Paid Alexander Jeffrey	c. 3. 9
Paid Philip Fisher	c. 0. 10
Paid Jacob Lucas	c. 1. 8
Paid Robert Small	c. 3. 0
Paid Henry Fletcher	2. 6. 10

20 FEBRUARY 1772
DUPLIN COUNTY, NC

Land survey

“Survey’d for **Southey Fisher** One hundred acres of Land in Duplin County on the East side of Little Cohera

Beginning at a small White Oak by the side of a Marsh Branch on **Gabriel Homes’s** line, thence running up the branch N 5 E 100 pole to a pine, thence N 85 W 160 pole to a pine near the Creek, thence **S 5 W 100** pole, thence Joining Gabriel Homes’s line to the Beginning — 20 Feby 1772. Wm. Dickson, Surv.”⁵⁸

Reverse: “Thomas Magee & Moses Macklimore, Cha[in] Bear[ers].”

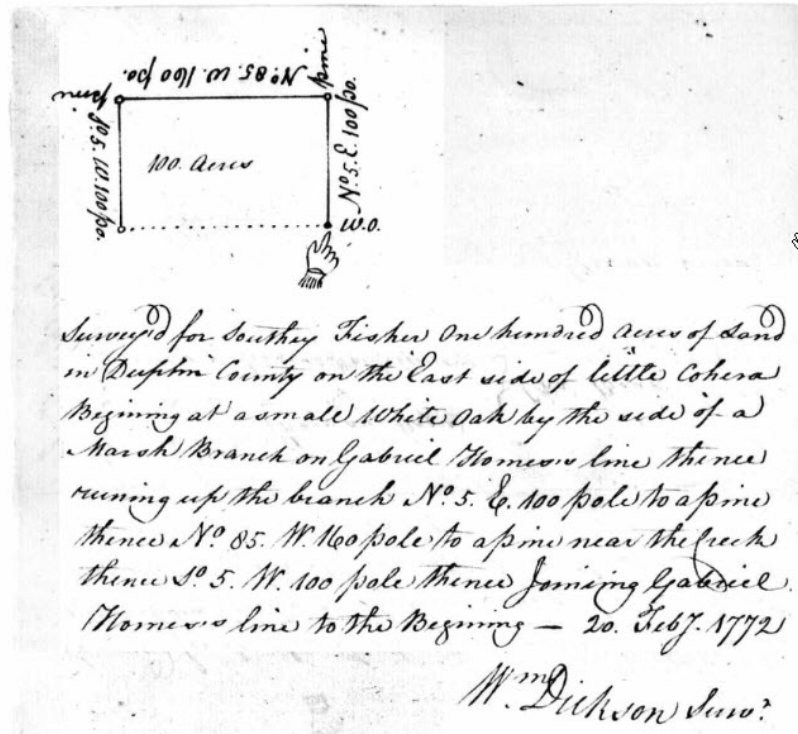
COMMENT:

See 2 July 1774 for the issuance of this grant. The warrant for the survey is dated 18 November 17__ [year blank]. The survey, which is said to have occurred in February 1772, was not returned to court until July Court 1774. Typically, surveys of this place and time seem to have occurred 12 to 18 months after the entry—in which case late 1780 would be a likely time for the entry.

⁵⁷ Accomack Co., Wills &c 1767–72: 251–52; imaged, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q57-99P7-S99F-2> : accessed 23 February 2024) > images 135–36.

⁵⁸ “North Carolina, U.S., Land Grant Files, 1693–1960,” database with images, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/22650:60621> : accessed 4 February 2024) > Duplin > 1535–1854 > image 86–87 of 1385.

See 30 November 1779, below, for Southey's sale of this land.



COMMENT:

As Southey's first neighbor, a man he chose to settle next door to, Gabriel Homes deserves special consideration—especially as a potential relative of Southey's. Gabriels's point of origin has not been determined. He is first found on record in **Edgecombe**, from which he settled **New Hanover** > Duplin in 1750. The following provides an overview:

- Halifax Co. Deed Book 3 (1746–1750): 399–400, Hardy Homes of Edgecombe sold 150 acres to Gabriel Homes of **Edgecombe**, 150 acres on Swift Creek, 16 August 1749.
- Halifax Co. Deed Book 3 (1746–1750): 447–48, Gabriel Homes of New Hanover sold 150 acres on N side of swift Creek to Robert Knight of Edgecombe County. Said to be 1 January 1749, in presence of Hardy Homes, and presented to February 1749 court.
- Deed Book 2, 1752–1758 [recopied]: 118–19, "Gabriel Homes of Duplin, planter" bought land from Sampson on 26 May 1750, land said to lie on "Gabriel's Branch".
- Sampson [Duplin] Co. Deed Book 4 (1762–1771): 4–7. "Gabriel Homes, planter" bought 260 acres from John Sampson, for 65£ on 2 August 1762. On 7 August, Sampson sold 507? acres to Richard Clinton, with Gabriel Homes as witness. Homes' tract was said to begin "at a Black Jack Gum in Gabriels Branch, his old [line], Beginning Corner, Standing near his own House, running with his own line N 80 E 90 poles to a pine, his old corner, thence with his line S 10 E 184 poles to a hickory, his other corner, thence S 80 W 140 poles to a lightwood Stake, in the Marsh in Gabriel's Branch, thence ... part of a larger tract of [12,000] acres to James Hewith ... 14 January 1735, by him sold to "George Vaughn of the Kingdom of Ireland, Esquire," part of which was sold to Sampson at Sheriff's sale in 1761.

A generation earlier (1718), one Gabriel Holmes was supposedly in Norfolk County, Virginia—across the bay from Northampton:

“This indenture made ye Eighteenth day of June one thousand seven hundred and eighteen between James Holmes of ye Kingdom of Ireland, brother & next heire to Gabriell Holmes, Late of ye Said Kingdom deced. [to] Moses Prescott of Norfolk County in Virginia” ... sale of 100 acres on E side of Indian Creek, adj. Thomas Davis, James Warden, etc. Witnesses: Lem Wilson, Katherine Wilson.”⁵⁹

20 FEB 1772 & 22 JULY 1774

DUPLIN COUNTY, NC

Land entry

“No. 1566. Duplin County, **Southy Fisher**, 100 acres, grant 587, issued July 22, 1774. Entry No. 312, entered 18 November 17__, book no. 26, page no. 7. Location: “On the **East side of Little Cohera** Beg. at a small white oak.”⁶⁰

“To the Surveyor-General, Greeting: You are forthwith to admeasure and lay out, or cause to be admeasured and laid out, unto **Surry Fisher** [*sic*], a Plantation, containing **One Hundred Acres** of Land, in the County of Duplin, **In the Fork near Little Coheara** upon a Branch called Yards Branch. ... Given at New Bern under my Hand, the eighteenth day of November Annoque Domini 17__ [no year stated]. W. [Jo?] Martin. [for] Wm. Palmer, D. Sec.”

Reverse of warrant: “No. 312. **Surry Fisher** 100. Duplin. To Wm. Dickson Survr. **Feb 20th 1772**. Wm. Palmer, SG. Retd. July Ct. 1774. Wm. Palmer, D.S.G. **587** fill’d. Ex. Recd. S [L?] 3.0.0.” Second panel of reverse reads “N. 71 N. 73.”⁶¹

1776–1781

DUPLIN COUNTY, NC

Military service

“**Fisher, Southy**. Duplin County Regiment, 1776–1781. 1776, a Captain under Col. James Kenan. 1781, a Captain under Col. James Moore. [Service at] Moore’s Creek Bridge.”⁶²

COMMENT:

“The **Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge** was a minor conflict of the American Revolutionary War fought near Wilmington (present-day Pender County), North Carolina, on February 27, 1776. The victory of the North Carolina Provincial Congress' militia force over British governor Josiah Martin's and Tristan Worsley's reinforcements at Moore's was a turning point in the war; American independence was declared less than five months later.

“Loyalist recruitment efforts in the interior of North Carolina began in earnest with news of the Battles of Lexington and Concord, and patriots in the province also began organizing for the Continental Army and militia. When word arrived in January 1776 of a planned British

⁵⁹ Norfolk Co., VA, Deed Book 10, 1718–19, pp. 37–38; imaged, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QSQ-G9PX-6X9>) : accessed 23 August 2024) > image 44; from IMG 7645631 > item 3.

⁶⁰ “North Carolina, U.S., Land Grant Files, 1693–1960,” database with images, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/22650:60621>) : accessed 4 February 2024) > Duplin > 1535–1854 > image 83–88 of 1385.

⁶¹ *Ibid.* > Duplin > 1535–1854 > image 84–85 of 1385.

⁶² J. D. Lewis, *The American Revolution in North Carolina* (https://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/nc_patriot_military_captains.html) : 5 February 2024).

Army expedition to the area, Martin ordered his militia to muster in anticipation of their arrival. Revolutionary militia and Continental units mobilized to prevent the junction, blockading several routes until the poorly armed loyalists were forced to confront them at Moore's Creek Bridge, about 18 miles (29 km) north of Wilmington.

"In a brief early-morning engagement, a charge across the bridge by sword-wielding loyalists was met by a barrage of musket and artillery fire. Two loyalist leaders were killed, another captured, and the whole force was scattered. In the following days, many loyalists were arrested, damaging further recruiting efforts. North Carolina was not militarily threatened again until 1780, and memories of the battle and its aftermath negated efforts by Charles Cornwallis to recruit loyalists in the area in 1781."⁶³

26 FEBRUARY 1779
DUPLIN COUNTY, NC

"Surveyed to **Southey Fisher** one hundred acres of land in Duplin County on the W Side of Great Cohera on both sides of Shepherds Branch

Beginning as a pine in the Branch Wm. Ownes Corner thence along his line N 18 W 127 poles to a pine his corner, thence S 72 W 127 poles along Fleet Coopers line to a pine over the Branch, thence S 20 E 127 poles to a pine, thence to the beginning. Jo. Dickson Surveyor."

Reverse: John Wright & Sam Bell, Cha. Bear.⁶⁴



1 JULY 1779
DUPLIN COUNTY, NC
Land grant

File 1787. "Know Ye, That We, for and in Consideration of the Sum of Fifty Shillings for every Hundred Acres hereby granted, paid into our Treasury by **Southey Fisher**, have Given and Granted, and by these Presents do Give and Grant unto the said **Southey Fisher** a Tract of Land, containing [100] Acres, lying and being in our County of Duplin ..."

On the *west side* of **Great Cohera**, on both sides of **Sheppard's Branch** beginning at a pine in the branch **William Owens' corner** tree, thence as his line N 18 W 127 poles to a pine, his corner, thence along **Fleet Cooper's** line S 72 W 127 poles to a pine over the branch, thence S 20 E 127 poles to a pine, thence to the beginning.

Entry 24, no date.⁶⁵

"North Carolina, U.S. Land Grant Files, 1693-1960," database with images, Ancestry (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/209931:60621> : accessed 4 February 2024) > Sampson > 1-315 > image 1361 of 1420.

⁶³ "Moore's Creek Bridge," *Wikipedia* (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Moore%27s_Creek_Bridge : accessed 23 April 2024).

⁶⁴ "North Carolina, U.S., Land Grant Files, 1693-1960," database with images, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/209931:60621> : accessed 4 February 2024) > Sampson > 1-315 > image 1361 of 1420.

⁶⁵ McCorkle, *North Carolina Land Grant Images and Data* (<https://nclandgrants.com/grant/?mars=12.14.57.1726&qid=658532&rn=3> : accessed 3 June 2021), Southey Fisher, 1 July 1779, Duplin County; citing Patent Book 32: 58.

17 AUGUST 1779
DUPLIN COUNTY, NC

Land entry

No. 611. **Southey Fisher**. 50 acres, *east side of Little Cohera*." Patented 29 October 1782.⁶⁶

"No. 2232. Duplin. **Fisher, Southey**. 50 acres. Grant No. 500. Issued 29 Oct 1782. Entry No. 611. Entered 17 August 1779. Book 4, page 171. "East side of Little Cohera."⁶⁷

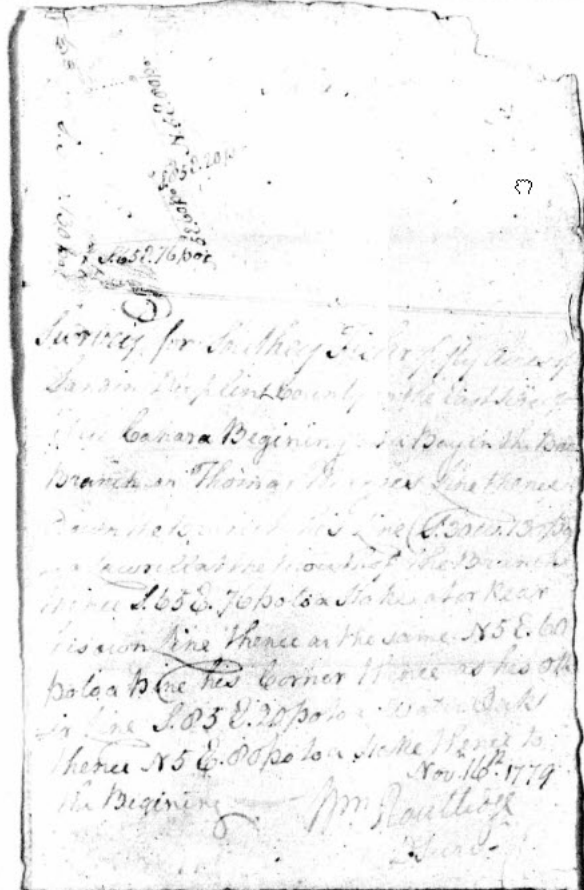
"To the Surveyor of the said County, Greeting. You are hereby required, as soon as may be, to lay off and survey, for **Southey Fisher** a Tract or Parcel of Land, containing fifty Acres, lying in the County aforesaid On the East side of Little Cohary, Beginning on the Bae [Bay] Branch and **Joining his own line**." 17 August 1779."

Reverse side of warrant: No. 611.
Southey Fisher. 50 acres. Exd.
[executed] & Retd. [Returned] Aug. 117,
1779. W^m Routledge, Dept. Surveyor."⁶⁸

COMMENT:

For the survey of this land, see
16 November 1779.

THIS IMAGE MAY BE ILLEGIBLE DUE TO THE
CONDITION OF THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT.



16 NOVEMBER 1779
DUPLIN COUNTY, NC

"Survey for **Southey Fisher** fifty Acres of
Land in Duplin County on the East side of
Little Cahara

Beginning in a **Bay** in the **Bay**
Branch on **Thomas Magee's**
Line thence Down the Branch
his line S 20 W 135? [130?] pole
to a Laurelle at mouth of the
Branch, thence S 65 E 76 pole to
a stake at or near **his own line**,
thence on same **N 5 E 60** pole
[to] a pine, his corner, thence as
his own line S 85 E 30? poles [to
a] Water Oak, thence N 85 E 20
pole to a stake, thence to the
Beginning. Nov. 16th 1779. W^m
Routledge, DSurv."

⁶⁶McCorkle, *North Carolina Land Grant Images and Data* (<https://nclandgrants.com/grant/?mars=12.14.57.2172&qid=658532&rn=4>: accessed 3 June 2021), Southey Fisher, 29 October 1782; citing Patent Book 47: 171.

⁶⁷ "North Carolina, U.S., Land Grant Files, 1693–1960," database with images, Ancestry (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/22650:60621> : accessed 4 February 2024) > Duplin > 2133–2375 > images 489–94 of 1238.

⁶⁸ "North Carolina, U.S., Land Grant Files, 1693–1960," database with images, Ancestry (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/22650:60621> : accessed 4 February 2024) > Duplin > 2133–2375 > images 489–94 of 1238.

Reverse of Survey: “Will Owens & Southey Fisher, C.B. [chain bearers]”⁶⁹

COMMENT:

The grant of this land, dated 29 October 1782, transcribes the metes and bounds as follows:

Beginning at a bay in the **bud branch** on **Thomas Magee’s** line, thence down the branch his line S 30 W 130 poles to a laurel at the mouth of the branch, thence S 65 E 76 poles to a stake at or near his own line, thence on the same N 5 E 60 poles to a pine, his corner, thence as his other line S 85 E 20 poles to a w. oak, thence N 5 E 80 poles to a stake, thence to the beginning.⁷⁰

30 NOVEMBER 1779

DUPLIN COUNTY, NC

Land sale

Southey Fisher to **William McLemore**, both of the County of Duplin, sale for 30£ of “One Certain Messouage or tract of land” in Duplin, on the side of **Little Cohary**, 100 acres more or less:

Beginning at a small white oak by the **Marsh Branch** in **Gabriel Holmes’** line, thence running up N 5 E 100 poles to a pine, thence N 85 W 160 poles to a pine near the creek, thence S 5 W 100 poles, thence joining Gabriel Holmes to the beginning.

Full warranty, etc. Signed: **Southey Fisher**. Witnesses: John Morgan, his X mark, Joseph Fauller. Acknowledged in Open Court by Southey Fisher 1780 [session not stated].⁷¹

17 APRIL 1780

DUPLIN COUNTY, NC

Land sale

Southey Fisher to **Jacob Magee**, both of Duplin, for 200£, receipt acknowledged, sale of “One Certain Mesuage tract or parcell of land and plantation” in Duplin, being 100 acres more or less on the W side of **Great Caheary**, on *both sides* of **Sheppeard’s branch**:

Beginning at a pine on the branch, **William Owens’** own corner tree, thence as his line N 18 W 127 poles to a pine on his corner, thence along **Fleet Cooper’s** line S 7 W 127 poles to a pine over the branch, thence S 20 E 127 poles to a pine, thence to the beginning.

Full guarantee, etc. **Signed: Southey Fisher**. Witnesses: John Wright, Mark McLemore. Proved in open court by oath of John Wright, January Court 1781.⁷²

22 DECEMBER 1781

DUPLIN COUNTY, NC

No. 526 State of North Carolina, 22^d Dec^r 1781

“As Auditors for the District of Wilmington, This is to C[erti]fie that Lieu^t **Southy Fisher** is allowed [the s]um of Twen[ty two] pounds Ten Shillings Specie for his Services in the Militia as Returned in Pay Roll No.

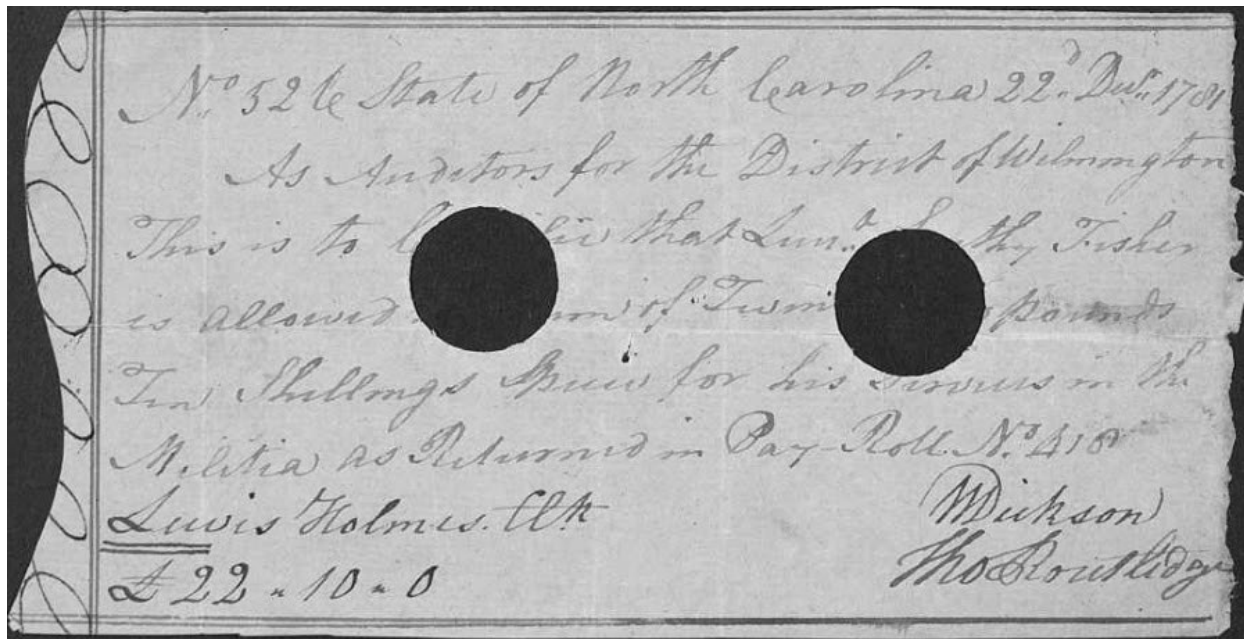
⁶⁹ “North Carolina, U.S., Land Grant Files, 1693–1960,” database with images, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/22650:60621> : accessed 4 February 2024) > Duplin > 2133–2375 > image 492–93 of 1238.

⁷⁰ McCorkle, *North Carolina Land Grant Images and Data* (<https://nclandgrants.com/grant/?mars=12.14.57.2172&qid=658532&rn=4>: accessed 5 June 2021), Southey Fisher, 29 October 1782; citing Patent Book 47: 171.

⁷¹ Sampson Co., Deed Book 6: 432–33; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 007540366 > images 949–50.

⁷² Sampson Co., Deed Book 7:170–71; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 007540366 > images 1177–78; the pages are not imaged in proper sequence.

416 [Signed] Lewis Holmes Cl^k ; W. Dickson, Tho Routledge. £22.10.0."⁷³



"North Carolina Revolutionary Pay Vouchers, 1779-1782," *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QSQ-G9W8-NSKZ> : downloaded 23 April 2024), indent for Southey Fisher, 22 December 1781, Wilmington District, NC.

13 JANUARY 1782

DUPLIN COUNTY, NC

Land purchase

Nathan Hall to **Baily Fisher**, both of Duplin, sale for 50£ in "gold and silver money" paid in hand, one tract of 200 acres in Duplin on west side of **Little Cohary**, including **George Purkins's** improvements:

Beginning at a white oak on the side of Cohary Swamp, above the **marsh**, and running near or joining **John Owens'** line S 35 [25?] W 180 poles to a black oak, thence N 35 W 180 poles to a pine, thence S 35 E 180 poles to a pine, thence to the beginning.

Full guarantee. Signed: Nathan Hall his X mark. Witnesses: **Southey Fisher**, Jeremiah Bullard (x). Proved in open court by Southey Fisher, January Term 1782.⁷⁴

COMMENT:

- On 11 November 1794, Southey Fisher sold a similar tract to his son John Fisher.
- This Bailey Fisher, bricklayer, was Southey's uncle. Southey's father Thomas was the oldest son of the John Fisher who died c1743 in Accomack. As shown in the PARENTAGE section, the two youngest sons, Bailey and Spencer Fisher, were apprenticed to a neighboring bricklayer in 1756 after they reached an appropriate age.

⁷³ "North Carolina Revolutionary Pay Vouchers, 1779-1782," *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QSQ-G9W8-NSKZ> : downloaded 23 April 2024), indent for Southey Fisher, 22 December 1781, Wilmington District, NC.

⁷⁴ Sampson Co., Deed Book 7: 320–21; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 007540366 > images 1327–28; note: the pages are not imaged in proper sequence.

29 OCTOBER 1782
DUPLIN COUNTY, NC

Land grant

No. 500. "Know Ye that We have granted unto **Southey Fisher** Fifty [50] Acres of land in Duplin County on the *East side of little Cohera*":

Beginning at a bay in the **bud branch** on **Thomas Magee's** line, thence down the branch his line S 30 W 130 poles to a laurel at the mouth of the branch, thence S 65 E 76 poles to a stake at or near his own line, thence on the same N 5 E 60 poles to a pine, his corner, thence as his other line S 85 E 20 poles to a w. oak, thence N 5 E 80 poles to a stake, thence to the beginning.

Entry 611; entered 17 August 1779.⁷⁵

COMMENT:

See the *Ancestry* image of this survey dated 16 November 1779.

1783
DUPLIN COUNTY, NC

Tax Roll

Baily Fisher, **Southey Fisher**.⁷⁶

COMMENT:

No other Fishers in Duplin or New Hanover. No Solomon Fisher anywhere in the state.

30 AUGUST 1783
DUPLIN COUNTY, NC

Land sale

Culmer Sessions [Sessums] of Bladen County to **Southey Fisher** of Duplin, for 60£ in hand paid, sells a tract of 200 acres on *west side* of **Little Cohary** and bounded as followeth:

Beginning at a pine, thence S 45 W 179 poles to a pine, thence S 45 E 179 poles to a pine, thence S 45 E 179 poles to a stake, thence N 45 W 179 poles to the beginning.

Land was patented to **John Williams** on 16 November 1757. Witnesses: Fleet Cooper, Nicholas Parks [Parker?]. Proved in open court by oath of Fleet Cooper, April Term, 1784.⁷⁷

20 OCTOBER 1783
DUPLIN COUNTY, NC

Land sale

Southey Fisher to **Gabriel Holmes, planter**, both of Duplin Co., sale for 10£ specia, receipt acknowledged, a parcel of 50 acres by survey, in Duplin on *east side of Little Cohary*:

Beginning at a bay, the **Bud branch**, on **Thomas Magee's** line, thence down the branch his line S 30 W 130 poles to a laurel at the **mouth** of the **branch**, thence S 63 [for] 76 poles to a stake at or

⁷⁵ McCorkle, *North Carolina Land Grant Images and Data* (<https://nclandgrants.com/grant/?mars=12.14.57.2172&qid=658532&rn=4>: accessed 5 June 2021), Southey Fisher, 29 October 1782; citing Patent Book 47: 171.

⁷⁶ "North Carolina, U.S., Compiled Census and Census Substitutes Index, 1790–1890," database, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/3566/>: 5 February 2023), querying for surname Fisher. The source is not cited.

⁷⁷ Sampson Co., Deed Book 8 (1783–1792): 128–29; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 007540366 > images 1622–23; the imaged pages do not appear in proper sequence.

near his own line, thence as the same N 5 E 60 poles to a pine, his corner, thence as his other line S 85 E 20 poles to a water oak, thence N 5 E 80 poles to a stake, thence to the beginning.

Said 50 acres granted to Fisher by patent dated 29 October 1782. Full guarantee, etc. **Signed: Southey Fisher.** Witnesses: James Moore, Michael Kennan, Owen Holmes. Proved in open court by oath of Holmes, January Term 1784.⁷⁸

1784

SAMPSON & DUPLIN COUNTIES, NC

Historical context

Sampson Co. was created this year from Duplin County.

1784

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Tax Roll

Bailey Fisher, **Elijah Fisher, Southy Fisher.**⁷⁹

COMMENT:

No other Fishers in Sampson, Duplin, or New Hanover. No Solomon Fisher [brother of Bailey] anywhere in the state.

This Elijah Fisher is too old to be Southey's son of that name. His land acquisitions and sales in Sampson track him into Cumberland County by 1800;⁸⁰ he died there in 1808.⁸¹ It appears more likely that he is a son of Bailey and Charity who has just reached taxable age in 1784.

N.D. 1784

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Land purchase

Theophilis Williams to **Southy Fisher**, both of Sampson County, for 100£, two tracts in Sampson on *west side of Little Coheara*:

Tract 1: 100 acres. Beginning at a pine on Little Coheara and runs S 53 W 187 poles to a pine, thence N 37 W 127 poles, thence N 53 E 127 poles to a pine, thence to the beginning. Granted to **Mark Phillips** by patent 19 March 1756.

Tract 2: 100 acres. Beginning at a red oak by the side of Coheara Swamp, near the aforesaid line, and runs along said line S 43 W 160 poles to a red oak by a branch, thence N 45 W 100 poles to a pine, thence N 43 E 160 poles to a white oak, thence down Coheara to the beginning. Granted to **William Dees** by patent 22 July 1774.

⁷⁸ Sampson Co., Deed Book 8: 102–4; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 007540365 > images 1596–97, 1599; the pages are not imaged in proper sequence.

⁷⁹ "North Carolina, U.S., Compiled Census and Census Substitutes Index, 1790–1890," database, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/3566/>; 5 February 2023), querying for surname Fisher. The source is not cited.

⁸⁰ Sampson Co., Deed Book 11: 354–55, 357–58; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 007540368 > image 234–36.

⁸¹ "North Carolina, U.S., Wills and Probate Records, 1665–1998," database with images, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/2239824:9061>; accessed 2 September 2024) > Cumberland > Estates Records, Faulk, Malcolm–Geddie James, 1663–1978 > Elijah Fisher, 1808, Estate Folder, images 437–441 of 1653.

Full guarantee, etc. Signed: Theophilus Williams. Witnesses: Young Ryall, Alexander Canell. Proved March Term 1785. Registered 10 July 1786. Transcribed 18 January 1832.

21 JANUARY 1785
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC
Land purchase

John Owens to **Southy Fisher** for 200 acres on *west side* of **Little Coheara**:

Beginning at a white oak on the side of the above said Coheara Swamp, above the marsh, and running or Joining **Richard Sessom's** line S 35 [24?] W 180 poles to a black oak, thence N 55 W 180 poles to a pine, thence N 35 [25] to a pine, thence to the beginning.

Granted to Nathan Hall 20 February 1772. Full guarantee, etc. Signed: John Owens his X mark. Witnesses: Fleet Cooper, Silas Myhand. Proved by oath of Fleet Cooper, June Term 1785. Registered 15 July 1786. Transcribed 27 January 1832.⁸²

6 FEBRUARY 1786
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC
Association

Southy Fisher and Robert Butler (his X mark) witnessed a deed from John Manuell to **Lewis Lucas**, for land on *east? side* of **Great Swamp** and *upper side* of **Edges Branch**, "being a part granted to **Richard Sessoms** Bearing date 1772." Proved February Term 1787. Registered 1 July 1788. Transcribed 30 May 1832.⁸³

COMMENT:

Various online trees assert that Lewis was born in Northampton or Accomack County and married **Tabitha Benthall** (Fisher kin from Accomack). The universal tree at *FamilySearch FamilyTree* presents Tabitha Benthall as the wife of Barnabas Hall of Duplin (who appears frequently in these notes as Fisher associates) and asserts that he had an alternate identity as "John Lewis Lucas."⁸⁴ ***The conflicts need resolving.***

The Lucas connection is significant because (a) Southey's great-grandmother Elizabeth [—?—], as a widow of Philip³ Fisher in 1709, married William Lucas Jr., some years younger than she; and (b) Southey's grandmother Elizabeth (wife of John⁴ Fisher) appears to have been née Lucas, the younger sister of William Jr.⁸⁵

29 MARCH 1787
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC
Bill of sale.

Thomas Gray to **Southy Fisher** for 120£ specie, title to "a Negroe Man called James, about Twenty one years olde." No witness. Acknowledged in open court May Term 1787. Registered in Book B, page 350, 10 July 1788. Transcribed 8 June 1832.⁸⁶

⁸² Sampson Co., Deed Book 19: 114; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 7537436 > image 362.

⁸³ Sampson Co., Deed Book 19: 250–51; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 7537436 > image 439.

⁸⁴ *FamilySearch Family Tree* (<https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/L61D-J9J> : accessed 2 September 2024), "Tabitha Benthall about 1710 — about 1770 L61D-J9J."

⁸⁵ See E. S. Mills, "Fishers & Associates of Accomack & Northampton Counties, Virginia, 1634–1785; Including Armitrader, Lucas, Roberts, Staton, and Warrington," report, 1 September 2024; archived online at Mills, *Historic Pathways* (<https://www.historicpathways.com>) under the "Research" tab.

⁸⁶ Sampson Co., Deed Book 19: 283; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 7537436 > image 457.

COMMENT:

On 25 October 1807, Southey's heirs (Thomas, John, Reuben, and Elijah Fisher, with Jacob Sessums who was wed to Penny Fisher) sold one "Jim" to Thomas Wallace, who had married Southey's widow.

10 MAY 1787

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Land entry

Entry No. 90. **Southey Fisher**. 50 acres on *west* side of **Little Cohera**. Patented 10 July 1788.⁸⁷

"No. 226. Sampson County. 50 acres, grant 212. Issued 10th July 1788. Warrant No. _____. Entry No. 90. Entered 10 May 1787. Book 67, page 263. "On the West side of Little Cohera Bey at a white oak."⁸⁸

Warrant: No. 90. "John Crumpler, Entry officer of claims for lands for the County of Sampson to the Surveyor of Said County, you are by this required as soon as may be to lay off[f] and survey for **Southy Fisher** a tract or parcel of land containing Fifty Acers [*sic*] Lying in the County aforesaid on the West side of the Little Cohary Between **his Own line** and John Butler's line. 10 May 1787."⁸⁹

11 MAY 1787

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

No. 236. Sampson Co., **Southey Fisher**. 150 acres. Grant No. 222. Issued 10 July 1788. Warrant No. [blank]. Entry No. 110. Entered 11 May 1787. Book No. 67. Page No. 267. "On the West side of Little Cohera."

"John Crumpler, Entry officer of claims for lands for the County of Sampson to the Surveyor of said County, Greening: You are by this Required as soon as may be to lay off[f] and Survey for **Southey Fisher** A Tract or parcel of land Containing One hundred and fifty Acers Lying in the County aforesaid, on the West Side of Little Cohary, Beginning on **his Own line** and **joining John Owenses** Patten line." [Reverse:] Sothey Fisher 150 Acres May 11th 1787."⁹⁰

COMMENT:

See survey under 23 November 1787.

25 MAY 1787

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

"Survey'd for **Southy Fisher** Fifty acres of Land in Sampson County Lying on the West side of Little Coherah;

Beginning at a **White Oak, his corner**, and runs along his line S 43 W 124 po. to a pine on his Line, thence N 30 W 72 po. to a pine near John Butlers corner, thence along Butlers line N 60 Et. to his corner, and past his corner, 168 po. to a stake, thence S 47 E 20 po. to a Water Oak on the side of Coherah, then to the Beginning. May 25th 1787. Enoch Herring, Survr."

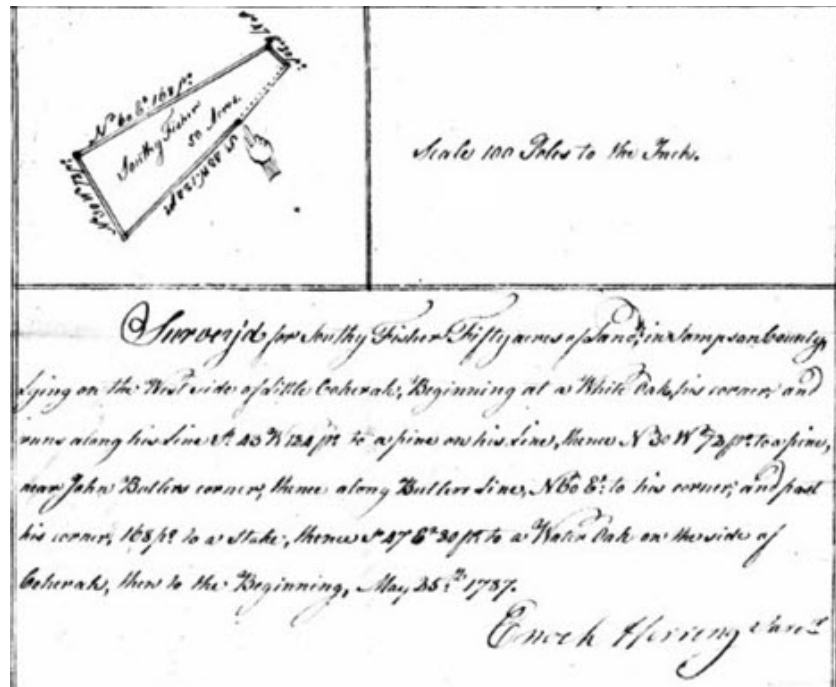
⁸⁷ McCorkle, *North Carolina Land Grant Images and Data* (<https://nclandgrants.com/grant/?mars=12.14.109.226&qid=658532&rn=5> : accessed 5 June 2021), Southey Fisher, 10 July 1788; citing Patent Book 67: 263.

⁸⁸ "North Carolina, U.S., Land Grant Files, 1693–1960," database with images, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/22650:60621> : accessed 4 February 2024) > Sampson > 1–315 > image 1000–5 of 1420.

⁸⁹ "North Carolina, U.S., Land Grant Files, 1693–1960," database with images, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/22650:60621> : accessed 4 February 2024) > Sampson > 1–315 > image 1000–5 of 1420.

⁹⁰ "North Carolina, U.S., Land Grant Files, 1693–1960," database with images, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/22650:60621> : accessed 4 February 2024) > Sampson > 1–315 > image 1050–5 of 1420.

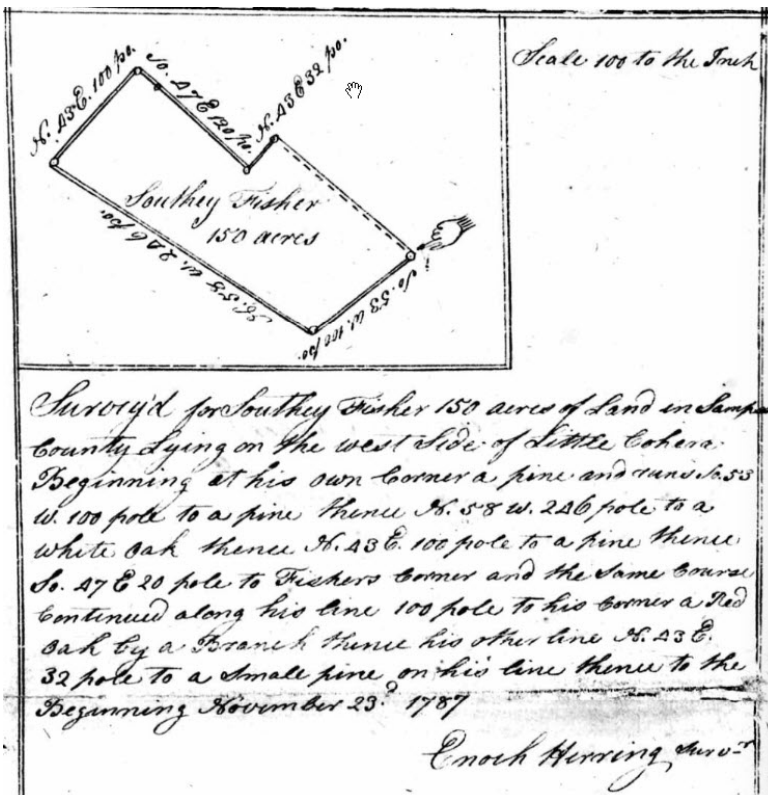
Reverse of survey: Isaac Sessums
& Simon Ingram, Chain bearers.⁹¹



23 NOVEMBER 1787
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

"Survey'd for **Southey Fisher** 150 acres of Land in Sampson County Lying on the West Side of Little Cohora,

Beginning at **his own Corner** a pine, and runs S 53 W 100 pole to a pine, thence N 58 W 246 pole to a white oak, thence N 43 E 100 pole to a pine, thence S 47 E 20 pole to **Fisher's Corner** and the same course Continued along **his line** 100 pole to his Corner, a Red Oak by a Branch, thence his other line N 43 E 32 pole to a small pine on his line, thence to the Beginning. November 23d 1787. Enoch Herring, Survr. [Reverse:] Nicholas Parker and Drewry McLamore, Cn. Bearers."⁹²



⁹¹ "North Carolina, U.S., Land Grant Files, 1693–1960," database with images, Ancestry (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/22650:60621> : accessed 4 February 2024) > Sampson > 1–315 > image 1000–4 of 1420.

⁹² "North Carolina, U.S., Land Grant Files, 1693–1960," database with images, Ancestry (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/22650:60621> : accessed 4 February 2024) > Sampson > 1–315 > image 1050–4 of 1420.

14 MARCH 1788
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Land sale

Southey Fisher to **John Hall**, both of Sampson County, for 60£ Specia money in hand paid, sells “One certain tract” of 200 acres more or less in Sampson on *west side* of **Little Cohary**:

Beginning at a pine, then S 45 W 179 poles to a pine, then S 45 E 179 poles to a pine, then N 45 E 179 poles to a stake, thence N 45 W 179 poles to the beginning.

Full guarantee, etc. Signed: Southey Fisher. Witnesses: Lazarus Hall his H Mark, Josiah Hall his X mark. Proved in open court by oath of Lazarus Hall May Term 1796.⁹³

COMMENT:

This is the land that Southey bought from John Owens in 1785.

The mark of Lazarus Hall, here and at Deed Book 11: 358 (as rendered by the clerk) consists of two, straight, down strokes followed by a cross-stroke that was a bit higher on the left than on

Elijah Fisher, the apparent son of Bailey, had numerous land associations with the Halls, particularly Lazarus and Barnabas.⁹⁴

10 JULY 1788
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Land grant

“No. 212” “This Grant to **Southey Fisher** for [50] acres of Land is in the same form as the aforesaid registered grant in this Book Page 61, all but the difference of the persons name and various courses of the same, viz. on the *west side* of **Little Cohara**”:

Beginning at a white oak, **his corner**, and runs along his line S 43 W 124 poles to a pine on his line, thence N 30 W 72 poles to a pine near **John Butler’s** corner, thence along Butler’s line N 60 E to his corner, and past his corner 168 poles to a stake, then S 47 E 20 poles to a water oak on the side of Cohara, thence to the beginning.

Entry 90; entered 10 May 1787.⁹⁵

COMMENT:

The unorthodox verbiage in this document results from the clerk’s desire to shortcut the recording process. He wrote out a grant in full on p. 61. Thereafter, each time he had to record a grant, he wrote a short version prefaced by “in the same form as the foresaid registered grant ...”

⁹³ Sampson Co., Deed Book 10: 143–44; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 007540367 > images 355–56.

⁹⁴ See E. S. Mills, “Sessums & Fishers of Sampson (Formerly Duplin), NC: Preliminary Survey,” report, 29 June 2021 (updated 2 Sept. 2024), 147 pp.; archived online at Mills, *HistoricPathways* (<https://www.historicpathways.com/download/SessumsFisherSampson|CoNCprelimsurvey.pdf>).

⁹⁵ Sampson Co., Grant Book A: 196; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 7519327 > image 122. For the state-level record, see McCorkle, *North Carolina Land Grant Images and Data* (<https://nclandgrants.com/grant/?mars=12.14.109.226&qid=658532&rn=5> : accessed 7 June 2021), Southey Fisher, 10 July 1788; citing Patent Book 67: 263.

Southey Fisher
Wife: Phoebe [–?–]

10 JULY 1788

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Land grant

“No. 222” State of North Carolina to **Southey Fisher** for 50 shillings per 100 acres, a tract of 150 acres in Duplin on *west side of Little Cohara*”:

Beginning at **his own corner**, a pine, and runs S 53 W 100 poles to a pine, thence N 58 W 246 poles to a white oak, thence N 43 E 100 poles, thence S 47 E 20 poles to Fisher’s corner, and the same course continued along his line 100 poles to his corner, a red oak by a branch, thence his other line N 43 E 32 poles to a small pine on his line, thence to the beginning.

Entry 110; entered 11 May 1787.⁹⁶

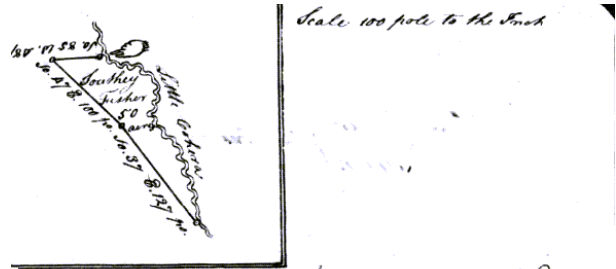
16 AUGUST 1788

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

“Survey’d for **Southey Fisher** 50 acres of Land in Sampson County lying on the West Side of Little Cohera

Beginning at a water Oak his own Corner on the Bank of Cohera and runs his line S 85 W 48 po to his Corner a White Oak, thence his line S 47 E 100 po. to his Corner a Red Oak Near his Corner of another Survey, thence his line S 37 E 127 po to his Corner a pine on Little Cohera thence up the Various courses of Cohera to the beginning. E. Herring Survr.”

Reverse: John Butler & William Hair Chⁿ Bearers.⁹⁷



Surveyd for Southey Fisher 50 acres of land in Sampson County Lying on the West Side of Little Cohera Beginning at a water Oak his own Corner on the Bank of Cohera and runs his line S. 85 W. 48 po to his corner a White Oak thence his line S. 47 E. 100 po. to his corner a Red Oak Near his corner of another Survey thence his line S. 37 E. 127 po. to his corner a pine on Little Cohera thence Up the Various courses of Cohera to the Beginning August 16th 1788 E. Herring Survr.

“North Carolina, U.S. Land Grant Files, 1693-1960,” database with images, Ancestry (https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/209931:60621 : accessed 4 February 2024) > Sampson > 1-315 > image 1361 of 1420.

⁹⁶ Sampson Co., Grant Book A: 193; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 7519327 > image 120. For the state-level record, see McCorkle, *North Carolina Land Grant Images and Data* (<https://nclandgrants.com/grant/?mars=12.14.109.236&qid=658532&rn=6> : accessed 5 June 2021), Southey Fisher, 10 July 1788; citing Patent Book 67: 267.

⁹⁷ “North Carolina, U.S., Land Grant Files, 1693-1960,” database with images, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/209931:60621 : accessed 4 February 2024>) > Sampson > 1-315 > image 1361 of 1420.




Southey Fisher
Wife: Phoebe [–?–]

1790

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Census

“All 1790 United States Federal Census results for **Fisher**” in Sampson County, NC (*Ancestry*):

Results 1–3 of 3					
View Record	Name	Home in 1790 (City, County, State)	Number of Slaves	Total Number of All Persons - Free White, Free Colored, Slaves	View Censu
View Record	Elijah Fisher	Sampson, North Carolina	1	9	
View Record	Southy Fisher	Sampson, North Carolina	3	10	
View Record	Bailey Fisher	Sampson, North Carolina	1	6	
1–3 of 3				Per page	50 ▾

1790

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Census

(p. 113; column B)

William Blocker

Solomon Sessoms	1 free white males 16+	5 free white females	0 other free persons
	2 free white males –16		1 slave

Samuel Faircloth [bought land in 1784 from Richard Sessoms]

Isaac Sessums	2 free white males 16+	2 free white females	0 other free persons
	2 free white males –16		

Benjamin Faircloth [father of Samuel above, according to 1784 deed]

Lewis Lucas [1786, bought patent of R. Sessoms, Great Swamp at upper side, Edge’s Branch]

John Harwood

Hardy Faircloth

Southy Fisher	2 free white males 16+	2 free white females	0 other free persons
	3 free white males –16		3 slaves

COMMENT:

The household members should be self, wife Phebe, daughter Penny, and sons John, Thomas, Reuben, and Elijah.

Ephrim Emanuel

James Spiller

David James
Bartrum Bryan
John Stanly Sr.
Leven Stanly
Stephen Stanly,
John Stanly Jr.
Jesse Powers
Thomas Underwood
John Cook
James Carrell
John Wester
David Clark
Joseph Holley
William Williford
John Bracker
Jeremiah Dean
Christopher Bracker
Nathan Vick Sr & Jr.
Sion Williford
James Brown
Mathew Mason
James Hollingsworth
Thomas Gregory
Solomon Hines
John Crumpler

Bailey Fisher

1 free white males 16+	2 free white females	0 other free persons
2 free white males –16		1 slave

COMMENT:

In 1821, the aged Bailey conveyed property to Anna Bailey, whom he identified as his daughter, saying that he and his unnamed wife would remain there until death. Anna and that wife are likely the two females in the household above.

Sarah Newman
Jesse Emanuel
Joshua Hayle
Mathew Purgen
George Fields
John Hall
Thomas Bullard
Josiah Hall
Jacob Halley
Martha Herring
(pp. 125–26; Column A)
Josiah Blackmon
Westbrooks Lee
Nathaniel Thornton

Thomas Thornton Sr.

Bud Lee

Furnifold Wood

Joab Blackmon

Niel Colbraith

Theophilus Autry

Christ^r Sutton

Frances Wood

John Moss Jones

John Porter

Samuel *Faircloth*

Robert Williams

Cornelius Autry

Moses Hall

John Butler

John Daniel

Rachael Autry

John Johnston	1 free white male 16+	4 free white females	0 other free persons
	1 free white male –15		0 slaves

Josiah Carter

Nicholas Sessums	1 free white male 16+	2 free white females	0 other free persons
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Richard Sessums	1 free white male 16+	2 free white females	0 other free persons
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James Grice	1 free white male 16+	2 free white females	0 other free persons
			0 slaves

COMMENT:

James Grice married Solomon Sessums' sister Axy. She, Solomon, and Richard were children of Nicholas, as was Isaac (for whom paternity is explicitly stated in a deed from Nicholas). **The Grices are from Northampton-Accomack where Sarah Fisher (first cousin to Southey's grandfather) wed William Grice c1700.**⁹⁸

Lewis Lucas	[apparently Lucas is enumerated twice; see the sequence for Isaac Sessums & Southey Fisher. The Lucases are also from Accomack-Northampton.]		
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Old Natt			2 other free persons
----------	--	--	----------------------

William Owens	1 free white male 16+	2 free white females	0 other free persons
	1 free white male –16		2 slaves

⁹⁸ Mary Frances Carey, Barry W. Miles, and Moody K. Miles, *Colonial Families of the Eastern Shore of Virginia*, 3 vols. (Lewes, DE: Colonial Roots, 2004–7), 3: 69–71. I have verified Carey et al.'s citations for this information against the cited records and the original documents of the two counties.

1790 United States Federal Census for Bailey Fisher

North Carolina > Sampson > Not Stated

Schedule of the whole number of persons 113					within the Division allotted to Guilford County				
Cumberland County					Sampson County				
Traylerville					William Blocker	2	5	3	1
Amount brought over	368	183	372	29	496	1	2	5	
James Hogg (of Hillsborough)					Sammuel Faircloth	1	1	3	
Polly Campbell			2		Isaac Sypson	2	2	2	
Margaret Miller			1		Benjamin Faircloth	3	4	4	
Norman Wood (Sampson)	1	1	2		Lewis Lucas	1	3	3	
John McPhail	1	2	1		John Harwood	2	4	3	
Eggy McPhail			3		Hardy Faircloth	1	5	1	
Josh McCall	1				Southey Fisher	2	3	2	3
Daniel Thompson	1				Ephraim Emanuel				3
James Smith	1				James Spiller	1	1	4	1
Charles Tatham	1				David James	3	4	5	
Peter McArthur	1		2		Barthum Bryan	1	1	2	
Elizabeth Tabitha		3	4		John Stanley Jr	2	2	7	8
John McArthur	1				John Stanley	2	6	6	
John Smith	1				Stephen Stanley	2	1	4	
John Little	1		2		John Stanley Jr	3	2	6	
William Russell	1		2		John Powers	2	3	2	
Jacob Lamon	1	1	1		Thomas Underwood	2	2	4	
William McCants	2				John Cook	1	2	4	
John McNaughton	1	2	3		James Garrol	3	1	7	1
John Toney				5	John Wether	2	1	3	6
James Aronby	2				David Clark	3	1	3	2
Thomas Coffey	2	1	1		Joseph Kelley	6		4	
William Stealy	1				William Williford	2	3	4	
Callender Dean	2				John Bracher	2		2	
Arch McCall	1				Jeremiah Dean	1	1	3	
The Rev Mr. Hays	3	2	2		Christopher Bracher	1	1	2	
	394	195	390	34	Nathan Vick Jr	1		4	
Amount of Cumberland County					Nathan Vick Jr	1		5	
brought forward	1397	1362	2661	19	Sen Williford	1	1	2	
1344	1791	1557	3059	83	James Brown	3	4	3	
					Mathew Mason	1	1	6	3
					James Willingsworth	2	4	4	
					Thomas Gregory	1	2	3	
					Solomon Hines	2		2	
					John Groomer	1	3	4	10
					Bailey Fisher	1	2	2	1
					Sarah Newman	1	5	2	
					John Emanuel				6
					Joshua Hayli	1	2	4	
					Mathew Puzen	1	1	6	1
					George Field	1	1	5	
					John Hall	3	3	3	
					Thomas Ballard	1	1	3	
					Irish Hall	1	1	1	
					Isaac Hall	1	2	2	
					Mathew Herring	1	2	4	6
					Amount carried over	79	95	63	10
									74

1790 United States Federal Census for Richard Sessums

North Carolina > Sampson > Not Stated

Schedule of the whole number of persons -

125

Names of heads of Families.

within the Division allotted to Sheriff Dudley.

126

Sampson County.

Amount brought over	718	852	1396	73	864
Isiah Blackmon	1	1	1	1	1
Westbrook Lee	1	2	4	1	1
Nathaniel Hornum	1	1	1	1	1
Thomas Thornton Jr.	2	1	2	1	1
Ben Lee	1	1	1	1	1
Amazilla Wood	1	2	2	1	1
Isiah Blackmon	1	1	1	1	1
Niel Colbraeth	1	1	1	1	1
Frederick Aubrey	1	1	1	1	1
Christ? Sutton	1	3	4	1	1
Francis Wood	1	1	1	1	1
John West Jones	1	1	1	1	1
John Porter	2	1	1	1	1
Samuel Tinsaloth	1	1	1	1	1
Robert Williams	1	4	4	1	1
Cornelius Aubrey	1	1	1	1	1
Moses Hall	1	1	1	1	1
John Butler	2	3	5	1	1
John Daniel	1	1	1	1	1
Isaac Aubrey	3	1	2	1	1
John Johnston	1	3	4	1	1
Isiah Carter	1	2	3	1	1
Nicholas Sessums	1	1	2	1	1
Richard Sessums	1	2	2	1	1
James Grace	1	1	1	1	1
Lewis Lucas	1	3	3	1	1
Old Craft	1	1	1	1	1
William Owens	1	1	2	1	1
John Higgins	2	2	4	1	1
Young Royal	1	3	4	1	1
Isiah Campbell	1	2	2	1	1
Murdoch McHennen	2	1	1	1	1
Isiah Moore	1	1	1	1	1
Nathan Jackson	1	1	1	1	1
Elias Daniel	1	1	1	1	1
Samuel Porter	2	3	5	1	1
Hardy Dees	2	1	6	1	1
Timothy Williams	3	1	4	1	1
Isiah Gibbs	2	1	4	1	1
Nathan Williams	1	1	1	1	1
Quaden Williams	1	1	1	1	1
Isaac Williams	3	5	8	1	1
Joseph Williams	2	6	5	1	1
George House	1	1	1	1	1
Henry Williams	1	1	1	1	1
Arthur Brown	2	4	3	1	1
Isiah Brown	1	1	1	1	1
Amount carried over	782	927	1538	75	865

Sampson County.

Amount brought over	782	927	1538	75	865
Luke Smith	1	2	4	1	1
Isidiah Brown	1	2	4	1	1
Abner Chesnut	1	1	1	1	1
Frances Rounnels	1	1	1	1	1
Peter Houston	2	1	1	1	1
Joseph Rich	1	1	1	1	1
Joshua Rich	1	1	1	1	1
Christopher Bracher	1	1	1	1	1
William Wright	1	1	1	1	1
Robert Wright	1	1	1	1	1
John Hair	1	1	1	1	1
Jeremiah Bullard	2	1	1	1	1
Elliot Edge	1	2	2	1	1
John Adam	1	1	1	1	1
Wynn Vance	1	1	1	1	1
Reuben Walker	1	1	1	1	1
Isiah Chesnut	1	1	1	1	1
William Williamson Jr.	6	1	1	1	1
Jeremiah Pope	1	5	3	1	1
Lewis Moore	1	1	1	1	1
Ann Moore	1	1	1	1	1
Ezekiel Moore	1	1	1	1	1
Isiah Myhand	1	1	1	1	1
Isiah Pope	1	1	1	1	1
Willis Magee	1	1	1	1	1
Philip Magee	1	1	1	1	1
Harris Pope	1	1	1	1	1
Charles Chesnut	2	1	1	1	1
John Jackson Jr.	1	2	3	1	1
Simon Gruch	1	1	1	1	1
John Jackson Jr.	1	1	1	1	1
Richard Jackson	1	1	1	1	1
Mary Smith	2	2	3	1	1
John Smith	1	1	1	1	1
William Darn	1	1	1	1	1
Edward Bird	3	2	5	1	1
Isiah King Jr.	1	1	1	1	1
Henry Izard	1	2	1	1	1
Isaac Pitermont	2	1	3	1	1
Isaac Goodman Jr.	1	1	1	1	1
Isaac Goodman Jr.	1	1	1	1	1
Edward Lee	1	2	3	1	1
John Bryant	1	2	4	1	1
John Register Jr.	1	2	4	1	1
Charley Gason	3	1	4	1	1
Amount carried over	800	963	1657	75	921

16 NOVEMBER 1790
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Land grant

Entry 159. “Know Ye That We have granted unto **Southy Fisher** fifty [50] Acres of Land In Sampson County On the *West side* of ***Little Cohera***”:

Beginning at a water oak, his own corner on the bank of Cohera, then S 85 W 48 poles to his corner, a white oak, thence with his line S 47 E 100 poles to a red oak, his corner, then with his line S 37 E 127 poles to a pine, his corner on Little Cohera, thence up the various courses of Cohera to the beginning.

Entered 11 August 1788.⁹⁹

16 NOVEMBER 1790
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Land grant

Entry 159. “Know Ye That We have granted unto **Southy Fisher** fifty [50] Acres of Land In Sampson County On the *West side* of ***Little Cohera***”:

Beginning at a water oak, his own corner on the bank of Cohera, then S 85 W 48 poles to his corner, a white oak, thence with his line S 47 E 100 poles to a red oak, his corner, then with his line S 37 E 127 poles to a pine, his corner on Little Cohera, thence up the various courses of Cohera to the beginning.

Entered 11 August 1788.¹⁰⁰

11 FEBRUARY 1792
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Land entry.

No. 282. **Southy Fisher**, 25 acres on *east side* of ***South River*** at ***Beaverdam Swamp***. Patented 16 July 1795.¹⁰¹

12 FEBRUARY 1793
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Land purchase

William Owens to **Jacob Sessome**, both of Sampson Co, for 30£ old Specia money to him in hand already paid, sale of one tract of 200 acres in Sampson County on *west side* of ***Little Cahary*** and on *both sides* of the ***Beaverdam Marsh***:

Beginning at a black jack near the corner of **Nathaniel Jones** fence and runs N 34 E 200 poles to a gum in the Beaverdam Marsh, thence N 56 W 160 poles to a pine, thence S 34 W 200 poles to a pine and thence to the beginning.

⁹⁹ McCorkle, *North Carolina Land Grant Images and Data* (<https://nclandgrants.com/grant/?mars=12.14.109.303&qid=658532&rn=7> : accessed 7 June 2021), Southy Fisher, 16 November 1790, Duplin County; citing Patent Book 73: 334.

¹⁰⁰ McCorkle, *North Carolina Land Grant Images and Data* (<https://nclandgrants.com/grant/?mars=12.14.109.303&qid=658532&rn=7> : accessed 7 June 2021), Southy Fisher, 16 November 1790, Duplin County; citing Patent Book 73: 334.

¹⁰¹ McCorkle, *North Carolina Land Grant Images and Data* (<https://nclandgrants.com/grant/?mars=12.14.109.514&qid=658532&rn=8> : accessed 7 June 2021), Southy Fisher, 16 July 1795; citing Patent Book 86: 478.

“It being a pattent granted to **John Owens**” on 18 October 1787. Full guarantee, etc. Signed: William Owens. Witnesses: **Christopher Sutton** and **Isaac Sessams** his mark. Proved in open court February Term 1793.¹⁰²

COMMENT:

The Jacob Sessums who later married Penny Fisher would have been about sixteen at this time. The older Jacob Sessums I, who obtained land in 1777, has been absent from county records since 1782.

23 JANUARY 1794

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Land purchase

William Owen to **Southey Fisher**, both of Sampson Co., purchase for 30 Specia, 150 acres on **Little Caharee**:

Beginning at a pine near **Berry branch**, thence S 15 S 155 poles to a stake, thence S 75 E 15½ poles to a stake in **Little Caharee Marsh**, then N 15 E 155 poles to a stake, thence N 75 W 15½ poles to the beginning.

Signed: William Owens. Witnesses: Daniel Coor, Charles Butler his X mark. Proved in open court February Term 1790.¹⁰³

23 JANUARY 1794

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Land sale

Daniel Coor to **Southey Fisher**, both of Sampson County, for 70£ in hand paid, sells “One Certain messuage or tract of land” in Sampson, being 100 acres on *both sides* of **Little Cahara**:

Beginning at a hickory near **William Owens’** corner and runs S 60 W 155 poles to a sweet gum in the **marsh** of Little Cahara, thence N 30 W 80 poles to a red oak on the bank of Little Cahara, thence S 75 W 19 poles to a red oak near **Southey Fisher’s** line, thence S 35 E 26 poles to a pine near Fisher’s corner, thence S 51 W 56 poles to two small pines, thence S 30 E 45 poles to a white oak, thence E 280 poles to a stake in **Barnabas Hall’s** line, and thence to the beginning.

Full warranty, etc. Signed: Daniel Coor. Witnesses: Charles Butler his mark, William Owens. Proved in open court November Term 1796.¹⁰⁴

11 AUGUST 1794

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Court order

“**Southy Fisher** Came into Court and prayed for License to keep A Publick Ordinary at his Own House and also to Sell Spiritous Liquors by retail at the Court house, which was granted.”¹⁰⁵

¹⁰² Sampson Co., Deed Book 9: 64–54; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 007540367 > image 37.

¹⁰³ Sampson Co., Deed Book 9: 330–31; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 7540367 > image 184.

¹⁰⁴ Sampson Co., Deed Book 10: 199–200; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 7540367 > images 387–88.

¹⁰⁵ Sampson Co., Minutes, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, 1794–1800, no visible pagination; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 8139513 > image 5. This first order book begins 11 August 1794.

11 NOVEMBER 1794
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Land sale

Southey Fisher to **John Fisher**, both of Sampson County, for 30£ in hand paid, sale of “one certain tract” of land in Sampson on *west side* of **Little Cahara**, 200 acres, “including George **Purkins**’ improvement”:

Beginning at a white Oak on the side of **Cahary Swamp** above a **marsh** and runs near or joining **Richard Sessoms**’s line, S 25 [55?] W 180 poles to a black gum or oak, thence N 55 W 180 poles to a pine, thence N 35 E 180 poles to a pine, and thence to the beginning.

Full guarantee, etc. Signed: **Southey Fisher** his X mark. Witnesses: Danl. Coor, Silas Myhand. Proved in open Court, November Term 1794.¹⁰⁶

COMMENT:

Southey bought this tract in 1782 from Nathan Hall, at which time George Purkins’ improvement was also cited.

12 NOVEMBER 1794
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Court order

“A deed from **Southy Fisher** to **Jno. Fisher**, for 200 acres of land was acknowledged in open Court and ordered to be Registered.”¹⁰⁷

20 MARCH 1795
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Land entries

“No. 503. **Southey Fisher**, 50 acres on *east side* of **Little Cohera**; patented 3 November 1797.”¹⁰⁸

“No. 645. Sampson County. **Southey Fisher**. 50 acres. Grant No. 488, issued 3 November 1797. Warrant No. blank]. **Entry No. 503**. Entered 20 March 1795. Book 94, page 120. “E. side of Little Cohera.”¹⁰⁹

“To the Surveyor of said County. You are hereby Commanded to Survey for **Thomas Fisher** [*sic*] 50 Acres of land in the County aforesaid agreeable to his Entry a Copy of Which is hereunto annexed and make a return to the Secretary’s Office according to Law. Given under my hand this 20th of March 1795. John Crumpler, ET. No. 503. 50 acres of land **joining Sothey Fisher** line included the **Olde Musterfield**.

[Reverse] “Entered by **Thos. Fisher** and Survey’d for **Southey Fisher** 50 acres. Returned paid for. 20 March 1795.”¹¹⁰

COMMENT:

See 13 January 1796 for survey.

¹⁰⁶ Sampson Co., Deed Book 9: 260–61; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 007540367 > image 145.

¹⁰⁷ Sampson Co., Minutes, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, 1794–1800, no visible pagination; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 8139513 > image 13.

¹⁰⁸ McCorkle, *North Carolina Land Grant Images and Data* (<https://nclandgrants.com/grant/?mars=12.14.109.626&qid=658532&rn=9>), Southey Fisher, 3 November 1797, Duplin County; citing Patent Book 94: 120.

¹⁰⁹ “North Carolina, U.S., Land Grant Files, 1693–1960,” database with images, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/22650:60621> : accessed 4 February 2024) > Sampson > 611–876 > image 207–10 of 1474.

¹¹⁰ “North Carolina, U.S., Land Grant Files, 1693–1960,” database with images, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/22650:60621> : accessed 4 February 2024) > Sampson > 611–876 > image 207–10 of 1474.

18 APRIL 1795

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Land sale

William Haire to **Southey Fisher**, both of Sampson, for 12£ in hand paid, sells 150 acres on *east side* of **Great Cahary Swamp** and the *west side* of **Beaverdam**:

Beginning on the Beaverdam at a white oak, then running W 110 poles to a pine, thence N 220 poles to a pine, thence E 110 poles to a pine, thence to the beginning.

Full warranty, etc. Signed William Hair his X mark. Witnesses: Daniel Coor, William Honeycutt. Proved in open court May Term 1795.¹¹¹

MAY TERM 1795

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Court order

“Joseph Scott came into Court with a petition praying leave to have a new Road laid off leading from Sampson Court House to the **Govern^rs ford** on **South River** And that **O. Holmes, Fleet Cooper** [both adjacent landowners to **Southy Fisher**], Willm. Wiggins, Joseph Scott, Wilis Cooper, Cone? Cooper, David Dodd, Daniel Williams, Jno. Fowler, Willis Magee, Joseph Williamson, Silas Myhand, John Crumpler, Byus Boykin, **Sessums Parker, Nicholas Parker**, Lott Rich, Lazarus Hall, Phillip Magee, Thos. Clinton, Stephen Beck, be a Jury to lay off the same. Ordered that **Richard Sessions** Summon them to lay off said Road.”

“**Thomas Ivey Junr.** came into Court and was duly qualified as Sheriff.”

“A deed from William Hair to **Southy Fisher** for 150 acres of land Was Acknowledged in open court and Ordered to be Registered.”¹¹²

16 JULY 1795

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Land grant

Sampson Co. Grant No. 500. “Know ye that We have granted unto **Southey Fisher** Twenty five [25] acres of land in our County of Sampson On the *East Side* of **South River** On the **Beaverdam Swamp**:”

Beginning at his own corner a pine, thence S 45 poles to a pine, thence E 90 poles to a black jack, thence N 45 poles to a stake in his own line, thence with his own line to the beginning.

Entry 282; entered 11 February 1792.¹¹³

¹¹¹ Sampson Co., Deed Book 10: 2–3; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 007540367 > image 277.

¹¹² Sampson Co., Minutes, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, 1794–1800, no visible pagination; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 8139513 > images 24–29.

¹¹³ McCorkle, *North Carolina Land Grant Images and Data* (<https://nclandgrants.com/grant/?mars=12.14.109.514&qid=658532&rn=8> : accessed 7 June 2021), Southey Fisher, 16 July 1795; citing Patent Book 86: 478.

13 JANUARY 1796

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

"Survey'd for **Southey Fisher** 50 Acres of Land in Sampson County on the East side of Little Cohera Including the **Muster Meddow**

Beginning at a pine thence No. 61 E 66 pole to a pine, thence N 29 W 124 poles to a Stake, thence S 61 W 66 pole to a pine on **his Own line**, thence with his line to the Corner and the same Course to the Beginning. January 13th 1796. E. Herring Survr. **John Fisher & Thomas Hair** Cn. Bearers."¹¹⁴

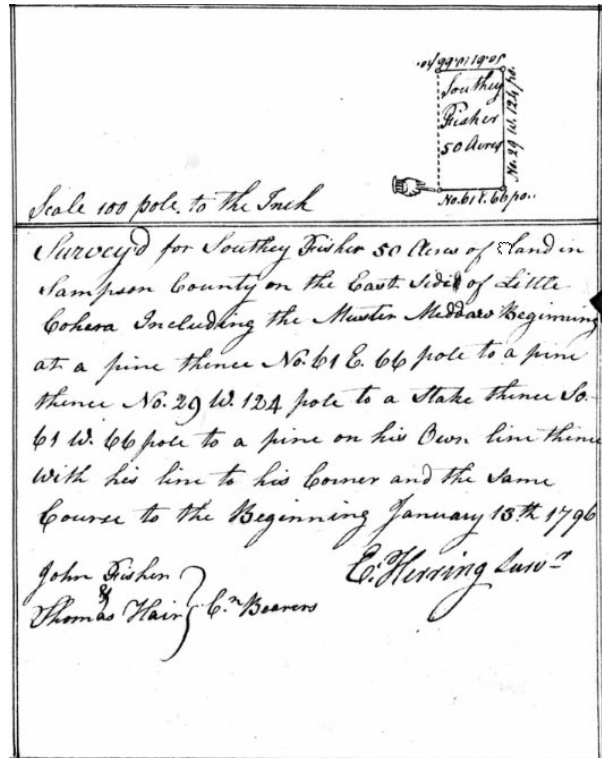
FEBRUARY TERM 1796

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Court order

"Ordered that **Southy Fisher** be exempted in future from paying a poll tax in future."¹¹⁵

"**Elijah Fisher** came into court & prayed for license to keep a publick ordinary at his Own House & sell Spiritous Liquors on the Court House Ground & offers for his Security Labon Taylor who was approved on. Bond filed."¹¹⁶



COMMENT:

Southey Fisher was exempted three years before Bailey Fisher was exempted. North Carolina tax law from 1772–1804 set the poll age for white males at "21 and over," with no maximum age stated. In 1804, the maximum age was set at 50.¹¹⁷ Prior to 1804, men usually requested exemption when they were no longer physically productive.

This Elijah Fisher would be the Elijah who first appeared on the 1782 tax roll with Bailey Fisher. I am including his records here to distinguish his activities from those of Southey's youngest son.

2 MAY 1796

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Land entry

Entry no. 116. **Southey Fisher**, 100a on west side of **Little Cohera**; patented 9 March 1799.¹¹⁸

¹¹⁴ "North Carolina, U.S., Land Grant Files, 1693–1960," database with images, Ancestry (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/22650:60621> : accessed 4 February 2024) > Sampson > 611–876 > image 207–10 of 1474.

¹¹⁵ Sampson Co., Minutes, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, 1794–1800, no visible pagination; imaged, FamilySearch > IGN 8139513 > images 43.

¹¹⁶ Sampson Co., Minutes, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, 1794–1800, no visible pagination; imaged, FamilySearch > IGN 8139513 > images 43, 46.

¹¹⁷ "Tax Records in North Carolina: NC Tax Records," State Library of North Carolina (<https://statelibrary.ncdcr.libguides.com/c.php?g=151278&p=5224139> : accessed 23 April 2024).

¹¹⁸ McCorkle, *North Carolina Land Grant Images and Data* (<https://nclandgrants.com/grant/?mars=12.14.109.730&qid=658532&rn=10> : accessed 5 June 2021), Southey Fisher, 9 March 1799, Sampson County; citing Patent Book 99: 318.

MAY TERM 1796

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Court order

“A deed from **Southy Fisher** to John Hall was proven in open Court by the oath of Lazarus Hall & ordered to be Registered.”¹¹⁹

AUGUST TERM 1796

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Court order

John Fisher is impaneled on the grand jury.¹²⁰

16 NOVEMBER 1796

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Court order

“Ordered that **Solomon Sessums & Southy Fisher**, Overseers of the road & their Usual hands build a free Bridge across the **Great Swamp** at the place where the road now crosses.”¹²¹

COMMENT:

This session also dealt with a widow **Penelope Clinton** whose husband’s estate was discussed in earlier pages. I am noting this on the possibility that a connection develops with Southey Fisher and wife Phoebe who named their Daughter “Penelope.” One Richard Clinton, in August 1762, bought land adjacent to Gabriel Homes; in 1772, Southey Fisher patented his first tract, also adjacent to Gabriel Homes.¹²²

“**John Fisher**, Wm. Owens, and Lewis Parker ordered to appear as jurymen for “Parker’s district” in the next term.

“A deed from Danl. Coors to **Southy Fisher** for 100 acres of land was proven in Open Court by the Oath of Charles Butler ...”¹²³

FEBRUARY TERM 1797

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Court order

“Ordered that **Southy Fisher** have leave to keep a publick Ordinary at his Own House, he complying with Law in that case.”¹²⁴

COMMENT:

¹¹⁹ Sampson Co., Minutes, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, 1794–1800, no visible pagination; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 8139513 > images 48–49, 52–53.

¹²⁰ Sampson Co., Minutes, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, 1794–1800, no visible pagination; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 8139513 > image 55.

¹²¹ Sampson Co., Minutes, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, 1794–1800, no visible pagination; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 8139513 > image 63.

¹²² Sampson [Duplin] Co. Deed Book 4 (1762–1771): 4–7.

¹²³ Sampson Co., Minutes, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, 1794–1800, no visible pagination; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 8139513 > images 63–65.

¹²⁴ Sampson Co., Minutes, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, 1794–1800, no visible pagination; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 8139513 > images 69.

Note that Southey has resumed his license and Elijah did not reapply. However, Southey has no longer asked for a license to sell liquor on the courthouse grounds as well as at his home.

9 MARCH 1797
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC
Land grant

“No. 692” Grant to **John Fisher** for 100 acres in Sampson, on *west side* of **Little Cohara** lying near the **head of N. Hall’s branch** above said Fisher’s plantation:

Beginning at a post oak, thence S 40 W 127 poles to a pine, thence S 50 E 127 poles to a pine, thence N 40 E 127 poles to a stake, thence to the beginning.

Entered 12 January 1796.¹²⁵

COMMENT:

The date of the patent is clearly written as 9 March 1797, but note that Southey Fisher and Reuben Fisher had grants whose dates are recorded very clearly as 9 March 1799.

30 MARCH 1797
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC
Land sale

Southey Fisher to **Thomas Fisher**, both of Sampson County, for 5£ in hand paid, sells:

Tract 1: 150 acres on *east side* of the **Great Swamp** and on the *west side* of **Beaverdam Swamp**, Beginning on the Beaverdam at a white oak, running W 110 poles to a pine, thence N 220 poles to a pine, thence E 110 poles to a pine, thence to the beginning.

Tract 2: 25 acres on *east side* of **South River** on the **Beaverdam Swamp** beginning at his own Corner at a pine, thence S 45 poles to a pine, thence N 45 poles to a stake in his own line, then with his line to the beginning.

Full guarantee, etc. Signed: **Southey Fisher** his X mark. Witnesses: Daniel Coor, Thomas Holland. Proved in open court May Term 1802 by oath of Daniel Coor.¹²⁶

3 NOVEMBER 1797
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC
Land grant

“Know Ye that We have granted unto **Southy Fisher** fifty Acres of Land in Sampson County on the *East Side* off **Little Cohara** including the **Muster Meadow**”:

Beginning at a pine, thence N 61 E 66 poles to a pine, thence N 29 W 124 poles to a stake, thence S 61 W 66 poles to a pine on his own line, thence with his line to his corner, and the same course to the beginning. Entry 503; entered 20 March 1795.¹²⁷

No. 589. Grant to **Elijah Fisher** for 25 acres in Sampson, near the *head* of **Wolf branch**:

¹²⁵ Sampson Co., Grant Book B: 64; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 7519327 > image 305.

¹²⁶ Sampson Co., Deed Book 11: 548–49; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 007540368 > image 350.

¹²⁷ McCorkle, *North Carolina Land Grant Images and Data* (<https://nclandgrants.com/grant/?mars=12.14.109.626&qid=658532&rn=9> : 8 June 2021), Southey Fisher, 3 November 1797; citing Patent Book 94: 120.

Beginning at a post oak, thence N 15 W 90 poles to a stake, thence S 75 W 45 poles to a pine, thence S 15 6 90 poles to a stake, thence to the beginning.¹²⁸

No. 590. Grant to **Elijah Fisher** for 25 acres in Sampson, on the **main road** joining his own line:

beginning at his own corner, a pine, thence S 55 W 45 poles to a stake, thence S 35 E 90 poles to a stake, thence N 55 E 45 poles to a pine on his own line, to the beginning.¹²⁹

No. 591. Grant to **Elijah Fisher** for 100 acres in Sampson, on *both sides* of the **main road**:

Beginning at a pine by the **Goose Pond**, thence S 45 W 160 poles to a black jack, thence S 45 E 100 poles to a pine, thence N 45 E 160 poles to a black jack by the **road**, thence to the beginning.¹³⁰

23 DECEMBER 1797
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

"By virtue Of a Warrant from the Entrey Taker of Sampson County No, 1136 Surveyd for **Southey Fisher 100 acres** of Land in Said County on the West side of Little Cohera, Joining **John Fisher's** line, Including the land Said to be taken up by Nathan Hall and Joining his own lines,

Beginning at two Bay Saplings and a Sweet gum at the run of John Fisher's Branch on his line, thence his line N 55 W 58 pole to his Corner pine, thence his line S 35 W 111 po. To a Red Oak on his line on the side of his Branch, thence N 75 W 90 pole to a pine on Southey Fisher's line, thence his line N 43 E 112 pole to his Corner pine, thence his line N 51 E 84 po to a stake on his line near a Corner of the Land he bought of Daniel Coor, thence S 30 E 48 pole to his Corner White Oak, thence his line E 78 pole to a Water Oak at the Run of Little Cohera, thence Down the Run as it meanders to the mouth of John Fishers Branch, thence up the Branch as it meanders to the beginning.

Thos. Fisher & Daniel Coor, C. Bearers. E. Herring Survr."¹³¹



"North Carolina, U.S., Land Grant Files, 1693-1960," database with images, Ancestry (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/22650:60621>) : accessed 4 February 2024) > Sampson > 611-876 > image 841 of 1474.

¹²⁸ Sampson Co., Grant Book B: 23; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 7519327 > image 284.

¹²⁹ Sampson Co., Grant Book B: 23; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 7519327 > image 284.

¹³⁰ Sampson Co., Grant Book B: 22; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 7519327 > image 284.

¹³¹ "North Carolina, U.S., Land Grant Files, 1693-1960," database with images, Ancestry (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/22650:60621>) : accessed 4 February 2024) > Sampson > 611-876 > image 841 of 1474.

FEBRUARY TERM 1798
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Court order

“Southy Fisher Came into Court and prayed for a license to Keep a publick Ordinary **at his Own House** Which was Granted. “ Posted 200£ bond with Fleet Cooper as surety.¹³²

15 MAY 1798
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Land purchase

Thomas Fisher from **Thomas Frazer**, both of Sampson County, for 20£ in hand paid, purchase of a tract of land [acreage not stated] “including **Sanders’ Old Field**”:

Beginning at a mulberry tree in said field, then N 25 E 90 poles to a hickory tree, then N 65 W 90 poles to a pine, thence S 25 W 90 poles to a pine in the **Beaverdam Swamp**, thence down the swamp to the beginning.

Full warranty, etc. Signed: Thomas Frazer. Witnesses: Owen Holmes, Begars Mobley. Proved in open court August Term 1798.¹³³

19 MAY 1798
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

“No. 865. Sampson County. **Southy Fisher** Grant No. 824. **160** acres. Issued 26 November 1799. Warrant no. [blank] Entry no. 1328, entered 19 May 1798, book 107, page 1. “On the W. side of Little Cohera, joining his own, etc.”

Warrant: “To the Surveyor of Sd County, You are Commanded to Survey for **Southey Fisher 300 [sic]** Acres of Land agreeable to his Entry a copy of which is hearunto annexed and make a return of the Same according to Law. Given under my hand the 2 [sic] December 1798. [illegible name], E.T. No. 1328, 300 acres of Land Joining his Own, **Neil Culberths, Charles Butlers, and James L_____**. **Entered the 19th of May 1798.**”

Reverse of Warrant: “Southey Fisher. 300 acres.”¹³⁴

COMMENT:

For the survey, see 25 September 1798, below.

AUGUST TERM 1798
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Court order

“A deed from Thomas Frasher to **Thos. Fisher** for 50 acres of land was acknowledged in open Court for Registration.”

¹³² Sampson Co., Minutes, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, 1794–1800, no visible pagination; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 8139513 > image 90.

¹³³ Sampson Co., Deed Book 11: 32–33; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 007540368 > image 47.

¹³⁴ “North Carolina, U.S., Land Grant Files, 1693–1960,” database with images, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/22650:60621> : accessed 4 February 2024) > Sampson > 611–876 > image 1409–13 of 1474.

"A deed from **Elijah Fisher** to Barnabas Hall for 100 acres of land Was proven by Danl. Coore for Registration."¹³⁵

COMMENT:

This land-owning Elijah would be the Elijah of the 1782 tax roll, not Southey's youngest son.

25 SEPTEMBER 1798
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Survey

"By Virtue of a Warrant from the Entry Taker of Sampson County, No. 1328, Survey'd for **Southey Fisher** 16- acres of Land in said County on the West Side of Little Cohera Joining his own, Roger Aldine, Charles Butlers and Neill Colbraiths line.

Beginning at a pine on Colbraith's line on the Side of the Marsh, thence his line **S 60 W 70** pole to his Corner stake, thence his line **S 53 W 127** poles to his Corner pine, thence his line **S 22 E 127** pole to his Corner Stake, thence his own line **N 53 E 119** to a stake on Fisher line near his Own and Colbraith's Corner, thence Fisher's line **S 30 E 70** pole to his Corner pine, thence **N 89 W 22** pole to his Corner pine, thence his line **S 43 W 102** pole to his Corner White Oak **thence his line of another Survey N 38 W 123** pole to a pine past his Corner on the side of a Branch then **S 75 W 30** pole to a pine on Roger Alden's line, thence his line **N 22 W 118** pole to a lightwood Tree on Charles Butlers line, thence Butler's line **N 53 E 240** po to his Corner a pine on the side of the Marsh, thence to the Beginning. Septr. 25th 1798 [sic]. E. Herring Survr. Charles Butler & John Fisher, C Bearers."



Backside of Survey: "Southey Fisher 160 acres. May 9 1798 [sic]."¹³⁶

NOVEMBER TERM 1798
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC
Court order

¹³⁵ Sampson Co., Minutes, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, 1794–1800, no visible pagination; imaged, FamilySearch > IGN 8139513 > images 116–17.

¹³⁶ "North Carolina, U.S., Land Grant Files, 1693–1960," database with images, Ancestry (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/22650:60621> : accessed 4 February 2024) > Sampson > 611–876 > image 1409 of 1474.

“**Southy Fisher** came into Court and prayed for a license to Authorise him to keep a publick Ordinary at his Own House Which Was Granted and offers for his Surety Charles Butler who was approved. ...”

“Agreeable to a petition filed, a road be laid off leading out of the old road near **John Parker** and to come into the Wilmington Road near Jas. Rogers? and that the following persons be a Jury to lay off the said Road, that R^d Sessoms [Sessions], Constable, summon said Jury & David Dodd, Qualify said Jury ... L_____ Royal, John Parker, Owen Owens, William Parker, Charles Butler, **Baly Fisher**, Byne Boykin, Nathan Peterson, Laban Tatum, Wm. Blackburn, Lott Ritch, John Wright, Jno. Peterson & John Treadwell.”¹³⁷

COMMENT:

At this point the paper suddenly whitened for one last page, that being the color that distinguished the entries of 1800 from 1798. The book then ends. There are no entries for 1799.

9 MARCH 1799

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Land grant

“No. 689” Grant to **Reuben Fisher** for 50 acres in Sampson, on *west side* of **Little Cohara** and near the *head* of **Fisher’s mill branch**:

Beginning at a red oak and post oak, thence N 50 E crossing the branch twice 80 poles to a stake, thence N 40 W 100 poles to a stake, thence S 50 W 80 poles to a black jack, thence to the beginning.

Entered 12 January 1796.¹³⁸

COMMENT:

On 10 June 1805, as a resident of **Bladen County**, NC, Reuben sold this land to **Neil Culbreath**, the same man who bought land and slaves from **Jacob** and **Penny [Fisher] Sessums** before they left Sampson. Jacob and Penny also named a son Reuben Fisher Sessums.

9 MARCH 1799

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Land grant

“No. 706” Grant to **Southy Fisher** for 75 acres in Sampson, on *both sides* of **Little Cohoera**, joining lines of **Barnabas Hall dec’d** and **John Fisher**:

Beginning at his corner, two bay saplings and sweet gum at the run of **John Fisher’s branch** on John’s line, thence with his line S 55 E 122 poles to his corner white oak, thence N 35 E 28 poles to a persimmon tree at the run of Cohara, thence up the run as it meanders to **Barnabas Hall’s** corner, a holly on the bank of Cohara, thence with Hall’s line N 41 E 100 poles to Fisher’s corner stake on his line, thence Fisher’s line W 40 poles to his corner water oak at the run of Cohara, thence down the run as it meanders to the **mouth** of John Fisher’s branch, thence up the run of the branch as it meanders to the beginning.

¹³⁷ Sampson Co., Minutes, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, 1794–1800, no visible pagination; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 8139513 > images 118–20.

¹³⁸ Sampson Co., Grant Book B: 63; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 7519327 > image 304.

Entered 20 October 1797.¹³⁹

9 MARCH 1799
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC
Land grant

“No. 715” Grant to **Southy Fisher** for 100 acres in Sampson, on *west side* of **Little Cohara** joining **John Fisher’s lines**, including the land said to be taken up by **Nathan Hall** and joining his own lines:

Beginning at two bay saplings and sweet gum at the run of **John Fisher’s branch** on his line, thence his line N 55 W 58 poles to his corner pine, thence his line S 35 W 111 poles to a red oak on his line on the side of the branch, thence N 75 W 90 poles to a pine on Southey Fisher’s line, thence his line N 48 E 112 poles to his corner pine, thence his line N 51 E 84 poles to a stake on his line near the corner of the **land he bought of Daniel Coor**, thence S 30 E 48 poles to his corner white oak, thence his line E 78 poles to a water oak at the run of **Little Cohara**, thence down the run as it meanders to the mouth of John Fisher’s branch, thence up the branch as it meanders to beginning.

Entry 1136; entered 2 May 1796.¹⁴⁰

26 NOVEMBER 1799
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC
Land grant

“Know Ye that we have granted unto **Southy Fisher** one hundred and Sixty Acres [160] on the *west side* of **Little Cohara**, joining his own, **Roger Alden’s**, **Charles Butler’s** and **Neill Culbreath’s** lines”:

Beginning at a pine on **Culbreath’s** line on the side of the marsh, thence his line S 60 W 70 poles to his corner stake, thence his line S 53 W 127 poles to his corner pine, thence his line S 22 E 127 poles to his corner stake, thence his line N 53 E 119 poles to a stake on **Fisher’s** line, near his own and Colbreath’s corner, thence Fisher’s line S 30 E 71 poles to his corner, a pine, thence N 89 W 22 poles to his corner pine, thence his line S 43 W 102 poles to his corner white oak, thence his line of another survey N 38 W 123 poles to a pine past his corner on the side of a branch, thence S 75 W 30 poles to a pine in **Roger Alden’s** line, thence his line N 22 W 118 poles to a lightwood tree on **Charles Butler’s** line, thence Butler’s line N 53 E 240 poles to his corner, a pine on the side of the marsh, thence to the beginning.

Entry 1328, entered 19 May 1798.¹⁴¹

¹³⁹ Sampson Co., Grant Book B: 64; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 7519327 > image 305. For the state-level registration, see McCorkle, *North Carolina Land Grant Images and Data* (<https://nclandgrants.com/grant/?mars=12.14.109.721&qid=658532&rn=1> : accessed 5 June 2021), Southey Fisher, 9 March 1799; citing Patent Book 99: 314.

¹⁴⁰ Sampson Co., Grant Book B: 65; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 7519327 > image 305. For the state-level registration, see McCorkle, *North Carolina Land Grant Images and Data* (<https://nclandgrants.com/grant/?mars=12.14.109.730&qid=658532&rn=10> : accessed 5 June 2021), Southey Fisher, 9 March 1799; citing Patent Book 99: 318.

¹⁴¹ Sampson Co., Grant Book A: 353; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 7519327 > image 200. For the state-level registration, see McCorkle, *North Carolina Land Grant Images and Data* (<https://nclandgrants.com/grant/?mars=12.14.109.846&qid=658532&rn=11> : accessed 5 June 2021), Southey Fisher, 26 November 1799; citing Patent Book 107: 1.

FEBRUARY TERM 1800
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Court order

“Ordered that **Southy Fisher** be Overseer of the road in the Room of Charles Butler and that the usual hands Work Under him.”

“**Sol^o Sessums** Constable Returned into Court two executions, to wit:

- Wm. Hair vs. Jno Butler. Ordered that the clerk issue a Order of sale to sell the lands of the Defendant to the Sheriff as the law directs.
- **Southy Fisher** vs. John Butler. Ordered that the clerk Issue a order of Sale to sell the lands of the Defendants to the Sheriff as the law Directs.”

“**Southy Fisher** came into Court and prayed for a license to keep a publick Ordinary at his Own House Which Was Granted, and Offers for his Security John Crumpler who was approved ...”

“Ordered that **Baily Fisher** be exempt from paying a Poll tax for the year 1799.”¹⁴²

5 JULY 1800
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Jacob Williams, labourer to **Isaac Williams**, planter, sale of 50 acres on W side of Seven Mile Swamp patented to him on 17 December 1795. Witnessed: Nathaniel Williams, **Elijah Williams**. Proved November Term 1803. Registered 4 December 1804.¹⁴³

[filed consecutively with ...]

22 August 1803

Stephen Williams (x) for natural love to his brother **Reuben Williams**, conveyed a tract on E side of Seven mile Swamp above Thomas Gibbs’ survey & another tract of N side of the swamp, and all his personal property. Witnesses: Jas. Peters, Elias Peters. Proved November Term 1803. Registered 4 December 1804.¹⁴⁴

COMMENT:

These two Williams documents were brought into court together, both were held for a year, and then someone paid to have them registered on the same day—suggesting they are all part of the same family. **I am noting this because of the pairing of the names Elijah and Reuben in the same family. John Williams** of Sampson Co. NC and Lawrence Co., MS, who named sons *Isaac* and *Nathan*, was the nephew of Neal Culbertson who bought land from Reuben and Elijah Fisher’s mother Phoebe. John’s eldest son Neal married the daughter of Elijah and Reuben Fisher’s sister Penny Fisher.

Also:

7 May 1791, **Reuben Williams** sold to **Nathan Williams** 150 acres on W side of Great Cohara, with **John Holly** as witness. (Deed Book 9: 88–89; IGN 7517772 > image 300.

¹⁴² Sampson Co., Minutes, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, 1794–1800, no visible pagination; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 8139513 > images 99, 101.

¹⁴³ Sampson Co., Deed Book 12: 345–46; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 7540368 > images 543–44.

¹⁴⁴ Sampson Co., Deed Book 12: 346–47; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 7540368 > image 544.

Southey Fisher
Wife: Phoebe [–?–]





3 January 1801, **Reuben Fisher** witnessed the sale by **Catherine Williams** (x) to Jas. Herintine, 400 acres, 200 of which is on the W side of Little Cohara on the head of the Horse Pen Branch, E of Great Pocosan; Luke Butler was second witness. (Deed Book 11 (1798–1802): 410; IGN 7517772 > image 768. Catherine Williams was mother of John Williams, above.

1800

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Census

“All 1800 United States Federal Census results for **Fisher**” in Sampson County, NC (*Ancestry*):

Results 1–5 of 5					
View Record	Name	Home in 1800 (City, County, State)	Number of Slaves	Total Number of All Persons - Free White, Free Colored, Slaves	View Census
View Record	John Fisher	Fayetteville, Sampson, North Carolina		6	
View Record	Bailey Fisher	Fayetteville, Sampson, North Carolina	2	5	
View Record	Spencer Fisher	Fayetteville, Sampson, North Carolina		5	
View Record	Southy Fisher	Fayetteville, Sampson, North Carolina	12	16	
View Record	Thomas Fisher	Fayetteville, Sampson, North Carolina		5	
1–5 of 5			Per page 50 ▾		

(p. 519; Fayetteville Dist.)

Consecutive entries

Caleb Faircloth

Owen Ownes

Joseph Hutson

William Owens

Lazarus Hall

Barnabas Hall

Smidia Faircloth

Southy Fisher	1 white male	45+	1 white female	45+	12 slaves	16 total
	1 white male	16–25 [Reuben]				
	1 white male	10–15 [Elijah]				

Thomas Owens

John Fisher

Thomas Fisher

Kneal Colbreath

Daniel Colbreath

Southey Fisher
Wife: Phoebe [–?–]

John Colbreath
 Ephraim Johnston
 Laban Tatom
 William Wright
 Robert Wright
 Elisha Norris
 Kinchen Scarborough

[The Scarborough family is also rooted in Accomack Co., VA]

1800 United States Federal Census for Southey Fisher												
North Carolina > Sampson > Fayetteville												
Calist Fawcett	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	519
Owen Owens	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	15
Joseph Hudson	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
William Owens	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
Lazarus Hall	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	2
Barnabas Hall	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
Samuel Fawcett	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
Southey Fisher	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
Thomas Owens	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
John Fisher	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
Thomas Fisher	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
Amos Colbreath	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7
Daniel Colbreath	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
John Colbreath	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Ephraim Johnston	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4
Laban Tatom	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4
William Wright	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4
Robert Wright	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Elisha Norris	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Kinchen Scarborough	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	50	20	19	19	17	45	15	16	22	19	1	108

11 SEPTEMBER 1800
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC
 Land sale

Elijah Fisher of Cumberland County, NC, to Needham Vann of Sampson County, sale for \$100, two tracts of land in Sampson:

Tract 1: 100 acres on *west side of Bearskin Swamp*: Beginning at a small pine on **Barnaby Hall's** line and running S 40 E 68 poles to a stake at the run of said Bearskin, thence up said run N 50 E 188 poles to a stake near the run, thence N 40 W 110 poles to a small black jack, thence to the beginning.

Tract 2: 300 acres, "a tract of another survey granted to **Elijah Fisher** ... to contain all the lands in said survey at the *mouth* of the **Juniper Branch**, joining **William Owens'** and **Barnaby Hall's** land.

Full guarantee, etc. Signed: **Elijah Fisher** his X mark; R. Crumpler, Jesse Nelms his X mark. Proved in open court May Term 1801.¹⁴⁵

COMMENT:

Cumberland adjoins Sampson on Sampson's W & NW bounds. It was created in 1754 from Bladen County.

NOVEMBER TERM 1800
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Court order

Southey Fisher did not appear in court to renew his tavern license.¹⁴⁶

FEBRUARY 1801
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Court order

John Fisher and Jonathan Parker are among the list of men summoned to appear for jury duty in the next term of court.¹⁴⁷

MAY TERM 1801
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Court order

"A petition Handed into Court by **Lazarus Hall** praying leave to open and make navigable a Stream of Water Called **Little Cohary** which Was Granted. Ordered therefore that the hands (to wit) Owen Owens, Felix Hare, Isaac Nelson, *Wm. Owens*, **Barnabas Hall**, Smidick Faircloth, Needham Vann, Martin Hare, Auther Hare, John Hare, Thomas Hall, Wm. Hare Junr., Eli Lackerman, Jonⁿ Pope, Federick William, Robert Butler, *John Williams*, Josiah Hall, **Jacob Sessums**, Charles Lucas, Thos. Sanders, Lewis Lucas, Christophe Edmonds, John Parker, Luke Parker, Luke Butter, Rich^d Sessions, **John Fisher**, Thomas Owens, Joshua Tatum, Laban Tatum."

COMMENT:

After moving to Mississippi, John Williams' son Neal would marry Jacob Sessums' daughter Polly.¹⁴⁸

"Ordered that the following hands to wit **Barnabas Hall** Overseer and Willis Magee overseer and Smithwick Faircloth, Needham Vann, Jesse Nealms, William Hair, Arthur Hair, Felix Hair, Martin Hair, John Hair, John Williams, Sampson Dees, Luke Butter, Robert Butter, **Southy Fisher**, **John Fisher**, Thos. Owens, Enoch Hall, James Hall, John Parker, Luke Parker, Owen Owens, Eli Lackerman, Thos. Hall, and their Hands work on the river called **Little Cohary** under the overseers named and agreeable to a petition filed." (image 141)

AUGUST TERM 1801
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

¹⁴⁵ Sampson Co., Deed Book 11: 354–55; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 007540368 > image 234.

¹⁴⁶ Sampson Co., Minutes, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, 1800–1808, no visible pagination; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 8139513 > images 129–33.

¹⁴⁷ Sampson Co., Minutes, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, 1800–1808, no visible pagination; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 8139513 > image 138.

¹⁴⁸ Lawrence Co., MS, Marriage Book 1: 33, 46.

Court order

“Ordered that John Williams, Robert Butler, Luke Butler, **Jacob Sessums**, Charles Lucas, John Hair, Martin Hair, Wm. Hair Junr., Arthur Hair, **John Fisher**, Thomas Owens, Sidick Faircloth, Thos. Hall, Charles Hall, Enoch Hall, James Hall, and Noah Hall And their Hands work on **Little Cohary River** Leading from **Fisher’s Bridge to John Parker’s Bridge** under Barnabas Hall.” Another cluster, Parkers, Owens, etc., were ordered to “work on the River Called Little Cohary river, Leading from the Widow Robinsons Landing to Parkers Bridge, under Sessums Parker, overseer.”

“Ordered that **Southy Fisher** have leave to erect a publick Griss Mill and Saw Mill across a stream of Water called **little Cohary** on his Own Land. Petition filed.”

Mr. Southy Fisher came into Court and prayed leave to keep a publick Ordinary at his Own House, which was granted ... bond, Security Thos. Owens & Sampson Dees.”

‘Wm. Owens, **Neil Culbreath**, **Thos. Fisher** and others summoned to appear for jury duty at next (November) term of court.”

“A deed from John Hall to **Thos. Fisher** for 200 acres of land was proven in court by **Thomas Wallice** for Registration.”¹⁴⁹

COMMENT:

Thomas Wallice (aka Wallis, Wallace) was the man who married Southey Fisher’s widow. This is the earliest reference I’ve seen to him.

FEBRUARY TERM 1802
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Court order

8 February: “**Mrs. Phebe Fisher** and **John Fisher** came into court and prayed Adminiⁿ on the estate of **Southy Fisher** Which Was Granted. Ordered that she inter into bond in the Sum of two thousand pounds and offers for their Security **Sessums Parker**, Jacob Crumpler & Laban Tatom, who was approved of. Bond filed.”

“A deed from **Southy Fisher** to **Thos. Fisher** for 150 acres of Land was proven by Danl. Coore for Registration.”¹⁵⁰

MAY TERM 1802
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Court order

3 May: “Ordered that **Sampson Dees** be Overseer of the road in the room of **Southy Fisher** and that the usual hands work under him.”¹⁵¹

MAY TERM 1802
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

¹⁴⁹ Sampson Co., Minutes, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, 1800–1808, no visible pagination; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 8139513 > images 150–54.

¹⁵⁰ Sampson Co., Minutes, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, 1800–1808, no visible pagination; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 8139513 > images 165, 168.

¹⁵¹ Sampson Co., Minutes, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, 1800–1808, no visible pagination; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 8139513 > image 169.

Court order

4 May: "Ordered that **John Fisher & Jacob Sessums & Thos. Wallace** work on the road under Sampson Dees."¹⁵²

COMMENT:

Wallace has insinuated himself into the family cluster very quickly after Southey's death. Was he already working for Southey, perhaps as a farm manager or keeper of his ordinary.

NOVEMBER TERM 1802

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Court order

"Ordered that Jonathan Parker Esqr. have leave to build a publick Griss Mill on a Stream of water called **Matthis' Branch** on his Own Land and Richard Parker's Land. Ordered that **Thomas Wallace** have leave to keep a publick Ordinary at his Own House, he complying with the Requisites of the Law. Ordered that he enter into bond in the Sum of five Hundred pounds and offers for his Security **Jacob Sessums** who was approved of. Bond filed."

COMMENT:

It does appear that Wallace has already married the widow and has moved into her home that had been previously set up as an ordinary during Southey's life.

"Ordered that Neil Culbreath, **Thomas Wallace**, Nicholas Parker, **Sessums Parker**, Thos. Parker, Thos. Bullard, Thos. Owens, Owen Owens, Wm. Owens, Willis Magee, John Peterson, John Wright, Nathan Peerson, **Bailey Fisher**, John Dodd, David Dodd Esqr., Wm. Blackburn, John Tredwick? Junr. George Taylor, John Robinson, Jas. Robinson, Stephen Herring, John Herring, And that Daid Dodd Esqr. qualify the Jury and **Richd. Sessions** Constable Summons the Same to lay of[f] the New Road Leading from **Thos. Wallace's** to James Devauns."¹⁵³

MAY TERM 1804

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Court order

John Fisher serves on jury.¹⁵⁴

4 NOVEMBER 1804

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Land purchase

Thomas Fisher from **Enoch Hall**, both of Sampson, for 200 in hand paid, sale of 100 acres of land on *west side* of **Little Cohary** at **John Hall's line**:

Beginning at a pine, **Thomas Owens'** corner near a small **Old field**, thence with Owens' line N 45 E 110 poles to a small sweet gum in a **Marsh by Cohary Swamp**, thence S 40 E 64½ poles to a cypress in the swamp, thence S 4 [48?] W 32 poles to a corner, a pine, thence his line S 44 W 32

¹⁵² Sampson Co., Minutes, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, 1800–1808, no visible pagination; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 8139513 > images 176.

¹⁵³ Sampson Co., Minutes, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, 1800–1808, no visible pagination; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 8139513 > images 182–83, 186–87.

¹⁵⁴ Sampson Co., Minutes, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, 1800–1808, no visible pagination; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 8139513 > image 236.

poles to a blackjack past his corner, thence N 46 w 67 poles to a pine near Owens' corner, thence Owens' line to the beginning.

Full warrant, etc. Signed: Enoch Hall. Witnesses: **Thomas Wallice, Noah Hall**. Proved in court August Term 1805.¹⁵⁵

4 NOVEMBER 1804
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Land purchase

Thomas Fisher from **John Hall**, both of Sampson, for \$200 in hand paid, purchases 200 acres on *west side* of **Little Cohera**:

Beginning at a pine, thence S 45 W 179 poles to a pine, thence S 45 E 179 poles to a pine, thence N 45 E 179 poles to a pine, thence N 45 W 179 poles to the beginning.

Full guarantee, etc. Signed: John Hall, his mark. Witnesses: Noah Hall, **Thomas Wallace**. Proved in court, November Term 1804.¹⁵⁶

FEBRUARY TERM 1805
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Court order

(11 February, first court day)

"Ordered that **Thomas Wallace** be Overseer of the Road in the Room of Sampson Dees and that the usual hands work under."¹⁵⁷

MAY TERM 1805
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Court order

(13 May, first court day)

"Ordered that **Thomas Fisher** work on the River under Barney Hall Overseer."¹⁵⁸

10 JUNE 1805
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Land sale

Reubin Fisher of **Bladen Co., NC**, to **Neil Colbreath** of Sampson Co., for \$600 in hand paid, sells five tracts of land in Sampson:

Tract 1: 50 acres on *west side* of **Little Cohera** near the *head* of **Fisher's mill branch**. Beginning at a red oak and post oak, thence N 50 E, crossing the branch twice 80? poles to a stake, thence N 40 W 100 poles to a stake, thence S 50 w 80 poles to a black jack, thence to the beginning.

Tract 2: 100 acres on *west side* of said **Little Cohera**, beginning at a red oak by the side of **Cohera Swamp** near **William Dees'** corner, and running thence along his line S 43 W 160 poles to a red

¹⁵⁵ Sampson Co., Deed Book 13: 235–36; imaged *FamilySearch* > IGN 7540369 > images 126–27.

¹⁵⁶ Sampson Co., Deed Book 14: 52–53; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 7540369 > image 42.

¹⁵⁷ Sampson Co., Minutes, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, 1800–1808, no visible pagination; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 8139513 > images 250, 252.

¹⁵⁸ Sampson Co., Minutes, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, 1800–1808, no visible pagination; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 8139513 > image 253.

oak by a branch, thence N 47 W 100 poles to a pine, thence N 43 E 160 poles to a white oak, thence down Cohera to the beginning. "It being a patent granted to **Wm. Dees** 13 September 1793." [Inherited from Southey]

Tract 3: 50 acres on *west side* of said Cohera. Beginning at a red oak S by Fisher's corner, and run along his line S 43 W 124 poles to a pine, thence N 30 W 72 poles to a pine **John Butler's** corner, thence along Butler's line N 60 E to his corner, and past his corner 168 poles to a stake, thence S 47 E 20 poles to a water oak on the side of Cohera, thence to the beginning, it being a patent granted to **Southy Fisher** 25 May 1787.

Tract 4: 160 acres on the *west side* of said Cohera, joining his own lines. Beginning at a pine on **Culbreath's** line on the side of the **marsh**, thence his line S 60 W 70 poles to his corner, a stake, thence his line S 53 [55?] W 12 $\frac{1}{2}$? poles to his corner, a pine, thence his line S 22 E 127 poles to his corner a stake, thence his line N 53 E 119 poles to a stake on **Fisher's** line near his own and **Colbreath's** corner, thence **Fisher's** line S 30 E 71 poles to his corner, a pine, thence N 89 W 22 poles to his corner, a pine, thence his line S 43 W 102 poles to his corner, a white oak, thence his line of another survey N 38 W 123 poles to a pine post, his corner on the side of a branch, thence S 75 W 30 poles to a pine on **Roger Alden's** line, thence his line N 22 W 118 poles to a lightwood tree on **Charles Butler's** line, thence Butler's line N 53, E 24 poles to his corner, a pine, thence the side of the **marsh** to the beginning, it being a **patent granted to Southy Fisher** 25 September 1798.

Tract 5: 30 acres more or less (part of a survey granted to Mark Phillips on *west side* of said **Cohera** and *north side* of **Fisher's Mill Branch**, it being all of that survey **willed to him the said Rubin Fisher by Southy Fisher Dec'd.**

Full guarantee, etc., "only for **Phebe Wallace** to have free privilege of the Land on the *east side* of the **main Road** leading from Fayetteville to Sampson Court house so far as belonged to me as far as timber for the use of the plantation and pine wood During her natural life, only for him or them to pay the taxation that may hereafter become due.

Signed: **Reuben Fisher**. Witnesses: Danl. Coore. Cornelius Colbreath. Proved in court November Term 1805.¹⁵⁹

COMMENT:

- Reuben's Tract 1, whose origin was not stated, was granted to Reuben Fisher on 9 March 1799.
- Despite the reference to a will, none has been found and the estate was opened as an administration, rather than an executorship.

AUGUST TERM 1805
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Court order

(12 August, first court day)

"A Deed from Enoch Hall to **Thomas Fisher** for 100 acres was proven by **Thomas Wallis** and Ordered to be Registered."¹⁶⁰

¹⁵⁹ Sampson Co., Deed Book 13: 274–75; imaged *FamilySearch* > IGN 7540369 > image 146.

¹⁶⁰ Sampson Co., Minutes, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, 1800–1808, no visible pagination; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 8139513 > image 267.

21 SEPTEMBER 1805
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Land purchase

John Fisher of John Dickson of Cumberland County as attorney for Robert Charles Johnston of city and state of NY, for 13£ 6 shillings in hand paid, 100 acres on *west side* of **Little Cohera** and on the *head* of the **branch said Fisher lives on:**

Beginning at a stake, **Amon's** corner on **Owens' Line** and runs with his line N 34 E 78 poles to a stake at a black oak stump said Fisher's corner, thence with said Fisher's own line and past his corner N 56 W 250 poles to a pine, thence S 34 W 50 poles to a black jack, thence to and with said Fisher's line and Amon's line to the beginning.

"being part of the contents of a patent granted to Roger Alden for 20,000 acres" in 1796 and by Alden conveyed to Robert Charles Johnston, etc. Full warranty. Signed: John Dickson, attorney for Robert C. Johnston. Witnesses: Angus Wilkinson, Thomas Owens. Proved in court February Term 1806.¹⁶¹

NOVEMBER TERM 1805
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Court order

(11 November, first court day)

John Fisher served on the Grand Jury.

"A Deed from **Reuben Fisher** to **Neill Culbreath** for 5 pieces of land was proven By the Oath of Cornelius Culbreath and Ordered to be Registered."¹⁶²

COMMENT:

This Turlington family, also used the given name *Southey* and hailed from Accomack. I've not seen a Southey yet in any other Duplin > Sampson family. However, the Turlingtons have not been active in any of the Fisher documents I've gathered up to this point.

MAY TERM 1806
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Court order

(12 May, first court day)

Court ordered a jury of freeholders to lay off the Dower of **Penelope Clinton**, widow of Richard Clinton Dec'd.

"A Bill of sale from Drewry McClemore to **Thos. Wallace and Phebee Wallace** for a mare bridle and Saddle, also one Bed and furniture was proven in Open Court and Ordered to be Registered."

"A Deed from Lewis Lucas to Charles Lucas for 100 acres of land was proven by **Solomon Sessoms** and Ordered to be Registered."¹⁶³

COMMENT:

¹⁶¹ Sampson Co. NC, Deed Book 13: 334–35; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 7540369 > image 177.

¹⁶² Sampson Co., Minutes, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, 1800–1808, no visible pagination; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 8139513 > images 268, 270, 272, 274.

¹⁶³ Sampson Co., Minutes, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, 1800–1808, no visible pagination; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 8139513 > images 282–83, 286–87.

I did not see a reference to the McLemore-Wallace document in the deed index where other bills of sale were found for Wallace and the Fishers. It is uncommon for a bill of sale to include the purchaser's wife.

NOVEMBER TERM 1806

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Court order

(10 November, first court day)

“Ordered that Niel Galbreath [*sic*] be Overseer of the Road in the Room of **Thos. Wallace** and that the usual hands work under him.”¹⁶⁴

27 JUNE 1807

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Slave sale

Jacob Sessoms and **Penny Sessoms** of Sampson County, for \$400, sell to Neil Culbreth “a certain Negro woman called Venice and child called Daniel.” Witnesses: Daniel Coor; Love Colbreth. Signed: Jacob Sessums his X mark; **Penelope Sessums her X mark**. Proved November term 1807 by Love Colbreth.¹⁶⁵

COMMENT:

The enslaved mother and child almost certainly were inherited from Penny's father.

16 [OCTOBER?] 1807

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Quitclaim deed

“This indenture made this 16th Day of Dec^r 1807” from **Phoebe Wallis** to **Neill Colbreth**, for \$125 “do hereby assign all my right and title of a certain tract or parcel of land lying on the *upper side of the road* leading to Fayetteville and **Little Coharie**, by estimation 150 acres, it being in part of my right of Dower lying within the lines of **Reubin Fisher, my son**, which tract or parcel of land I warrant and defend,” etc. Signed: Phebe Wallace her x mark. Witnesses: Gabriel Holmes, Jess Parker. Proved in court November Term 1807 [*sic*]. Registered 20 December 1807.¹⁶⁶

COMMENT:

Clearly, the deed was not proved in court before it was executed by the parties. In the clerk's recorded copy, all three dates are very clearly written. “The November Term 1807” should not be in error; there was no December term of court for the deed to be presented. All things considered, the deed was likely executed in October 1807 along with the other documents below that relate to the settlement of Southey Fisher's estate between his widow and children.

25 OCTOBER 1807

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Land sale

Index entry: “John Fisher & others to Tho. Wallace”

¹⁶⁴ Sampson Co., Minutes, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, 1800–1808, no visible pagination; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 8139513 > image 297.

¹⁶⁵ Sampson Co., Deed Book 14: 481; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 7540369 > image 369.

¹⁶⁶ Sampson Co., Deed Book 14: 381–82; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 7540369 > images 488–89.

“We, **Thomas Fisher, John Fisher, Reuben Fisher, Elijah Fisher** and **Jacob Sessums** have bargained, sold and delivered unto **Thomas Wallace** one Negro Man Called Jim for the consideration of one hundred pounds lawful money of this State and we the said Fishers and Sessoms do by these presents forever warrant and defend said Negro Jim unto him the said **Thomas Wallace** and his heirs forever. In witness whereunto we have set our hands and Seals this 26th day of Oct^r 1807.”

[Signed] John Fisher his mark, Thomas Fisher, Reuben Fisher, Elijah Fisher, **Jacob Sessums** his mark.
Witness: Tho^s Owens.

November Term 1807. Then was the within Bill of Sale proven in open Court by Thomas Owens for registration. H. Holmes, CC. Registered Dec 20th 1807, Owen Holmes Regr.”¹⁶⁷

COMMENT:

See the 10 June 1805 deed, above, by Reuben Fisher to Neil Culbreath, selling five tracts of land—including a tract “willed to him ... by Southey Fisher Dec’d.”

In that document, Reuben excluded from the sale of the inherited land the portion on which “Phebe Wallace” was to live for the rest of her life.

Clearly, Thomas, John, and Elijah Fisher, as well as Jacob Sessum’s wife Penelope, were—like Reuben—heirs of Southey Fisher whose wife and widow was Phebe.

27 OCTOBER 1807
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Bill of sale

Thomas Wallis to **John Fisher, Elijah Fisher, and Jacob Sessoms**, for 200£, conveys “one Negro woman called Bash, one Negro Girl called Rachel, one Negro boy called Jo. and one Negro Girl called Lucy and all their increase forever after the death of **my Wife Phebe**.” Signed: Thos. Wallis. Witness: Thos. Owens. Acknowledged in open court, May Term 1808.¹⁶⁸

3 AUGUST 1808
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Bill of sale

Reuben Fisher to **Neill Culbreath**, residences not stated, for \$250, sells “a Negro boy by name **Sam**, which I warrant to be sound in health, and clear of Defection in his limbs or Constitution.” Signed: Reuben Fisher. Witnesses: Gab. Holmes, **Thomas Wallis**. Proved in court August Term 1809.¹⁶⁹

AUGUST TERM 1809
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Court order

(14 August, first court day)

“A Bill of sale from **Reubin Fisher** to **Neil Culbreath** for a Negro Boy Sam Was proven in Court by Gabl. Holmes for Registration.”¹⁷⁰

¹⁶⁷ Sampson Co., Deed Book 14: 481; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 7540369 > image 369.

¹⁶⁸ Sampson Co., Deed Book 14: 404; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 7540369 > image 501.

¹⁶⁹ Sampson Co., Deed Book 15: 169; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 7537437 > image 115.

¹⁷⁰ Sampson Co., Minutes, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, 1808–1812, no visible pagination; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 8139513 > image 377.

16 MAY 1810

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Land purchase

John Fisher from **Benjamin Faircloth, Sr.**, both of Sampson, for 50£ in hand paid, purchase of 150 acres representing two tracts on *west side* of **Great Swamp** [metes & bounds]. Signed: **Benjamin Faircloth** his X mark. Witnesses: **Thomas Wallis**, Josiah Hall.¹⁷¹

24 MAY 1810

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Land purchase

John Fisher from **Benjamin & Solomon Faircloth**, all of Sampson Co., for 100£ in hand paid, two tracts of land totaling 250 acres, on *east side* of **South River** [metes & bounds], Signed: Benjamin Faircloth his X mark, Solomon Faircloth his X mark. Witnesses: **Thomas Wallis**, Josiah Hall.¹⁷²

AUGUST 1810

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Census

All 1810 U.S. Federal Census results for Sessums in Sampson County, NC (*Ancestry*)
(stamped p. 154-bottom, penned p. 490)

Consecutive entries

Joel Horn

Jas. Lockamy

John Simmons

Jas. Herrantine

Nathan Hall

Eliza Fowler

Isaac Sessoms

William Watkins

Arthur Faircloth

Jas. Hall

Nicholas Parker

William Parker

Luke Parker

Thos. Sanders

Cornelius Culbirth

Solomon Sessums

Josiah Carter

James Grice [from the Accomack Grices; married to sister of Solomon Sessums]

Isaam Faircloth

Mark Johnston

Robert Butler

Danl. Culbirth

¹⁷¹ Sampson Co., Deed Book 15: 217; imaged *FamilySearch* > IGN 7537437 > image 140.

¹⁷² Sampson Co., Deed Book 15: 219; imaged *FamilySearch* > IGN 7537437 > image 141.

Charles Butler Junr. & Sr.
Archd. Culbirth
Eliza Faircloth
Solomon Faircloth
Alexr. Culbirth
David Davis

(stamped p. 153-bottom; penned p. 492)

Absalom Aughtry
Cornelius Aughtry
Tho. Parker
Josiah Hall
James Hall Junr.
Thos. Owens
Thos. Frazer

John Fisher	1 white male 26–44	1 white female 26–44	0 fpc	2 slaves
	1 white male 10–15	2 white females 10–15	1 loom	250 cloth
	2 white males 0–9	1 white female 0–9		
Charles Hall Senr.				
Thos. Fisher	1 white male 45+	1 white female 26–45	1 fpc	0 slaves
	1 white male 10–15	2 white females 10–15	1 loom	100 cloth
		2 white females 0–9		

COMMENT:

- Thomas Fisher’s tick mark appears to be in the wrong column. These two neighboring Fishers, John and Thomas, were sons of Southey and Phebe.
- The “Thomas Fisher Junr.” who appears on the following page was son of Bailey,.
- The only Thomas who appears earlier than this on surviving tax rolls is one Thomas who was taxed in Craven in 1742.

Robert **Grice**
Eliza **Lucas**
Michael Johnston
Lewis Hall
Hardy Faircloth
John Johnston
Caleb Faircloth
Neusam Aughtry
John Aughtry
Jesse Elms
Neal Campbell
Barnabas Hall
Jonathan Pope
John Hall Junr.
William Owens
Ezekiel Owens
Barton Bullard

Sam'l Faircloth
Davis Faircloth
Joel Hare

(stamped p. 157-top; penned p. 485)

Begin line 20:

Everit Bass
Joshua Chesnutt Jr.
Alexr. Grice
James Hollingsworth

Neil Culbirth	1 white male	45+	1 white female	45+	0 fpc	16 slaves
	1 white male	16–25	2 white females	16–25	1 loom	800 cloth
			2 white males	10–15		

Jas. Thomson

Thos. Fisher Junr.	? white male	45+	1 white female	45+		
	1 white male	16–25	1 white female	26–44	0 fpc	1 slave
	1 white male	0–9	2 white females	10–15	1 loom	200 cloth
			2 white females	0–9		

COMMENT:

- The “writing” that appears in the column for males 45+ is indiscernible. It appears to be a “2” that is overwritten with “0” or else scratched out.
- Bailey Fisher is not enumerated as a head-of-household on this census. The data for this household is compatible with known data for Bailey and compatible with similar situations in which an aging couple has relinquished the reins of the property to an adult son.
- In 1822, when “Thomas Jr.” was no longer in the county, the aged Bailey Fisher transferred property to his unmarried daughter Anna Fisher, reserving the use of the property for himself and wife until death.

George Taylor
David Kornegay

COMMENT:

I read the entire county and did not find Thomas Wallis/Wallace.

22 JANUARY 1811

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Thomas Wallis to John Fisher and Thomas Fisher, all of Sampson, conveys “my right and Title of the following Negroes ... a woman named Bash, one Negro Girl called Rachel, a Negro Boy called Jo][*sic*], one Negro girl Call’d Lucy, and one Negro boy Called Luke ... from the Claim of me, my Heirs or any other person by from under me, during the life of **Phebe** my wife. “ Witnesses: Jesse Nelloms (x), Smedick Faircloth (x).¹⁷³

¹⁷³ Sampson Co., Deed Book 15 (1809–12):206; imaged, *FamilySearch* < IGN 7517774 < image 122 of 681.

FEBRUARY TERM 1811
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Court order

(19 February, first court day)

John Fisher and **Spencer Fisher** on list of men ordered to appear at the Superior Court's next term to do jury duty.¹⁷⁴

MAY TERM 1811
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Court order

(20 May, first court day)

Josiah Sessums, **Thomas Wallis** and **Thomas Fisher** are among the list of men ordered to be jurors in next term of court.¹⁷⁵

AUGUST TERM 1811
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Court order

(19 August, first court day)

"Ordered that **Thomas Wallis** be Overseer of the Road in the Room of Griffith Crumpler decd. and that the usual hands work under him." He also served on the grand jury with **Thomas Fisher** and **John Fisher**.¹⁷⁶

COMMENT:

Griffith Crumpler's household is also missing from the 1810 census, suggesting that a neighborhood might have been missed or that pages of the return might be lost.

18 JUNE 1812
SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Land sale

Thomas Wallis to **John Fisher**, for 100£, sale of 150 acres on *west side* of **Bearskin Swamp**:

Beginning at a poplar standing in the edge of Bearskin Swamp at the *mouth* of a **Juniper Branch**, then N 70 W 150 poles to a pine, thence N 20 E 160 poles to two junipers in **Shades Branch**, thence down the branch as it meanders to Bearskin Swamp, then down said swamp as it meanders to the beginning.

Signed: Thomas Wallis. Witnesses: Owen Butler his X mark, Lewis Roy, A.L.S. [or Lewis Royals]. Proved February Term 1813. Registered 22 March 1813.¹⁷⁷

COMMENT:

While Wallis' wife Phoebe is not party to this deed, she does appear in a document supposedly executed five days later, by which she appears to have given son John everything she owned. (See

¹⁷⁴ Sampson Co., Minutes, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, 1808–1812, no visible pagination; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 8139513 > image 419.

¹⁷⁵ Sampson Co., Minutes, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, 1808–1812, no visible pagination; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 8139513 > images 425–26.

¹⁷⁶ Sampson Co., Minutes, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, 1808–1812, no visible pagination; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 8139513 > images 433–34.

¹⁷⁷ Sampson Co., Deed Book 16: 73–74; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 7537437 > image 266–67.

23 June 1812, below.) By 4 May 1816, Wallace has a new wife named Nancy, daughter and heir-at-law of their neighbor Robert Magee.

23 JUNE 1812

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Thomas Wallis (x) and **Phebe** (x) his wife of Sampson County, for “love and Good will which we have and do bear towards **John Fisher**,” give to him the following items: One bed and furniture, together with the Bedstead, four head of Cattle, Seventeen head of Hogs, One Chest, One Dutch Oven, One Kittle, one Riding Chair & Harness, four chairs, one pair of Andirons, one Skillet one pan, one Tea Kittle, three pueter Basons, one Dish, three Plates, one Table, one trunk, one pair of cart wheels, two Spining wheels, two pair of Chards, Six head of Sheep, two Erthen plates, two Erthen tea potts, one Tin Tumbler, one Sugar Dish, three Bowls, half of the old corn, One Hundred and twenty two Dollars Cash, one wine Glass, three Spoons, Three Knives and forks, one Hogshead, One Woman’s saddle, and three Bee hives.” Witnesses: Jared Peck, Sander Fisher, Josiah Hall.

“Sampson County, November Term 1812, Then was the within Deed of Gift proven for Registration. H. Holmes CC. Registered January 1st 1813, Owen? Holmes, Regr.”¹⁷⁸

26 OCTOBER 1812

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Land purchase

John Fisher from John Dickson attorney for James William Johnston of Stratford in Fairfield Co., Conn., for \$50 purchased 200 acres between **Great Swamp and Little Cohera**. [Metes and bounds given but not copied.]¹⁷⁹

NOVEMBER TERM 1812

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Court order

(16 November, first court day)

“A deed of Gift from **Thos. Wallis & wife** to **John Fisher** for a Number of Articles was proven by **Sander Fisher** for Registration.”¹⁸⁰

FEBRUARY TERM 1813

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Court order

(15 February, first court day)

“A deed from **Thomas Wallis** to **John Fisher** for 150 acres of land was proven by Lewis Royall for Registration.”¹⁸¹

COMMENT:

¹⁷⁸ Sampson Co., Deed Book 16: 36; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 7537437 > image 246.

¹⁷⁹ Sampson Co., Deed Book 16: 357–58; imaged *FamilySearch* > IGN 7537437 > image 419.

¹⁸⁰ Sampson Co., Minutes, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, 1808–1812, no visible pagination; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 8139513 > image 460.

¹⁸¹ Sampson Co., Minutes, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, 1808–1812, no visible pagination; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 8139513 > image 471.

At this point I stopped reading the Sampson County court minutes. Jacob and Penny (Fisher) Sessums have been gone for six years. Penny's mother, the wife of Thomas Wallace, appears to be dead. The deeds are showing no further interaction between Wallace and her Fisher sons.

27 DECEMBER 1813

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Bill of sale

Reuben Fisher of Bladen County, NC, to Thomas Fisher of Sampson Co., for \$200, "all my whole right of [to] ... "a small Stock or family of Negroes, one named Bash, one named Rachel, & Lucy, & Luke, & Edny."

Signed: Reuben Fisher. Witnesses: Barton Bullard, Snedick Faircloth.¹⁸²

2 FEBRUARY 1815

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Land purchase

John Fisher to Blake Sessums, both of Sampson County, for \$50 cash in hand paid, one tract of 200 acres in Sampson "butted & bounded" as follows *between* the **Great Swamp** and **Little Cohera**:

Beginning at a pine *east side* of the **Juniper**, thence N 85 E 116 poles to a black jack, thence N 5 W 240 poles to a pine, thence S 85 W 134 poles to a small pine, thence S 5 E 240 poles, thence N 85 E 18 poles to the beginning.

Said 200 acres conveyed from **John Dickson** to John Fisher in 1812. Full guarantee, etc. Signed **John Fisher** his X mark. Witnesses: **Solomon Sessums, John Sessums**. Proved in court November Term 117. Registered 17th December 1817. Signed: Richard Sessions. Witnesses: John Herring, James Peterson.¹⁸³

24 MARCH 1815

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Land sale

John Fisher to Lewis Spell, both of Sampson, for \$130, sale of 150 acres on the *west side* of **Bearskin Swamp**:

Beginning at a poplar standing at the edge of Bearskin Swamp at the *mouth* of **Juniper branch**, thence N 70 W 150 poles to a pine, thence N 20 E 180 [160?] poles to two junipers in **Shade's branch**, thence down the branch as it meanders to Bearskin Swamp, thence down said swamp as it meanders to be beginning.

Signed: John Fisher his X mark. Witness: Owen Crumpler his X mark. Proved August Term 1817.¹⁸⁴

4 MAY 1816

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Deed

Thomas Wallis and wife Nancy to Redman Crumpler, sale for \$40.05, about 50 acres of the lands of **Robert Magee** Decd., as the Commissioners shall allot or appropriate to the said **Nancy Wallis, Daughter & Heir**

¹⁸² Sampson Co., Deed Book 16: 271; imaged *FamilySearch* > IGN 7537437 > image 375.

¹⁸³ Sampson Co., Deed Book 17: 271–72; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 7540370 > images 147–48.

¹⁸⁴ Sampson Co., Deed Book 17: 233; imaged *FamilySearch* > IGN 7540370 > image 128.

at at [*sic*] Law of the said Robert Magee, Decd. Signed: Thomas Wallis, Nancy Wallis her x mark. Witnesses: Frederick Morgan his X mark; Tobias Magee his X mark. Proved May Term 1817. Registered 3 June 1817.¹⁸⁵

COMMENT:

Thomas Wallis/Wallace has found not only a new wife, but also another heiress.

22 MAY 1828

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Land sale

John Fisher to **Elijah Fisher**, both of Sampson Co., for 150£ in hand paid, sale “excepting his life time and his wife ... two tracts of land containing” 400 acres [four tracts are actually described] in Sampson Co. on *west side* of the **Great Swamp** and *east* of **South River**, including his improvements ... [In this research segment, I’m not copying metes and bounds for land transactions past 1822]. Signed: John Fisher his X mark; **Sanders Fisher**, Solomon Faircloth his X mark. Proved in open court by oath of Sanders Fisher, November Term 1829.¹⁸⁶

COMMENT:

Book 14 contained deeds from the 1805 period. Book 15 has now jumped to 1828.

4 MARCH 1831

SAMPSON COUNTY, NC

Pension

Solomon “Sessoms or Sessums” and Obedience W19330¹⁸⁷

COMMENT:

Solomon serviced under “Capt. Southy Fisher,” There are 71 pages in this pension file. Here, I’ve only pulled details to identify the file and provide the context for Southey.

Solomon Sessums was entered on the U.S. pension roll on 4 March 1831, as a Revolutionary war private for 10 months and a lieutenant for 3 months. He died 13 August 1832. (image 15489790)

COMMENT:

The affidavits in the file identify him as private, corporal, and sergeant, but not lieutenant.

Obedience Sessums, his widow, was entered on the roll on 24 March 1853, to commence 13 August 1832 and ending 17 January 1846. “Certificate of Pension issued the 24th day of March 1824.” [*sic*] (image 15489797)

February Term 1837

Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions

Before George W. Robinson, Peyton R. Parker, and Joab Johnston, Justices of the Peace, personally appeared **Obedience Sessoms**, a Sampson Co. resident, aged 74, who applies for a pension under the Act of Congress passed July 4th 1836. She is the widow of **Solomon Sessom** who was a “private & sargeant” in the militia of NC during the war. He served as follows:

¹⁸⁵ Sampson Co., Deed Book 17: 148; imaged, *FamilySearch* > IGN 7540370 > image 84.

¹⁸⁶ Sampson Co., Deed Book 14: 50–51; imaged *FamilySearch* > IGN 7540369 > image 293.

¹⁸⁷ Pension application of Obedience (Baker) Sessums, Widow of Solomon Sessums (Pvt., Sgt., Lt.; Capt. Southey Fisher’s Company, NC Militia, Rev. War), W19330; imaged “Revolutionary War Pensions,” *Fold3* (<https://www.fold3.com/image/15489785> and 70 subsequent images : accessed 28 May 2021)

1. “In a company of Duplin militia Infantry in the first of the year 1776 as a private and served three months, was in the battle of Moore’s Creek Bridge.” She knows no further detail and has no proof but “expects that she can prove that her husband was seen in the army towards the close of the war by **Lot Riche Senr.** of this County.”
2. “Three months in a company of Duplin militia infantry in the Fall of 1780 as a sargeant.” She does not know the other officers “as it has been so long ago that most of the Revolutionary Soldiers of her acquaintance have deceased.”
3. “In a company of Duplin militia Infantry under **Captain Clinton** in May 1781 and served three months as a sargeant, marched to Wilmington in this tour or the _____ she thinks she understood from her husband and that he was under Col. Hen ____?

“In the 2nd tour of his service he marched into South Carolina on Peedee and was there she thinks under Genl. Hanington as she has heard her Husband mention his name. And in his first tour of service when he was in the battle at Moore’s Creek bridge she thinks **his Captain was Southy Fisher**. She knows that her husband was absent from home after their marriage and served two terms of three-months each and from his account suffered a great deal and was no doubt the cause of a great deal of the afflictions which he endured towards the close of his life.”

“She further declares that she was married to the said **Solomon Sessoms** on the **27th January** a. d. **(1780)** ... that her husband ... died on the 16th day of August 1832 and that she has remained a widow ever since.”
[Signed] Obedience Sessoms her X mark.

“Sworn to and subscribed in open Court the 23rd February A. D. 1837. Thos. J. Faison Clk.” (images 15489803 and 15489807).

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