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SUBJECT: Mills & Associates: Albemarle, Goochland & Southside VA, Preliminary Survey of Published Resources; Including Notes for Families Surnamed Byas, Joplin, Lavender, Learwood, Napier, Ripley, Toney, Walton, White, Witt, & Watts

BACKGROUND: The “facts” and allegations on which this research was based are as follows:

William Mills (allegedly born in England) and wife Mary (allegedly née Walton) are said to be the parents of seven children born c1725–1745, for which the following details are widely asserted:²

1. **AMBROSE MILLS**, b. c1722; married c1745, Albemarle (?) **Mourning Stone**; and c1759, Craven Co., SC, **Ann Brown**. Lived in Lunenburg and Bedford Cos., Va. (1749–57); Anson Co., NC (1758); Craven Co., SC (c1758–67); Tryon and Rutherford Cos., NC (c1768–1780). Hung 14 October 1780, Bickerstaff’s Farm, Rutherford Co., NC, as a Loyalist colonel.³
2. **THOMAS MILLS**, b. c1724; m. before 1752; d. before 6 September 1755, leaving children Ambrose and Elizabeth named as heirs in Thomas’s father’s will.⁴ Wife unknown.
3. **SARAH “SALLY” MILLS**, b. c1726; m. about 1748, **Thomas Watts**; moved with him to Craven Co., SC (later Camden District and Fairfield and Kershaw Cos.).⁵ Often, but mistakenly, she is said to have married “Thomas Caleb” Watts with whom she apparently remained in Amherst where she is said (without evidence) to have died in 1766.
4. **WILLIAM MILLS**, b. c1728; named as an heir in his father’s 1755 will. Nothing further proved. Numerous online trees assert him to be “Col. William Henry Mills” of the Patriot cause, but none offer evidence.⁶

¹ The problem-riddled “starting point information” in the background of this report has not been revised because this data formed the basis for the research. For a summary of corrections on each individual, see the “Executive Summary,” pp. 3–7. Crossreferences to other ongoing research reports *have* been added or updated to ensure that readers are pointed to the most-accurate information.

² The only documented work I’ve seen published on this family is Mrs. P. W. Hiden, “Nicholas Mills of Hanover County,” *Tyler’s Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine* 14 (1833): 237–42; 15 (1933): 38–64; reprinted as *Genealogies of Virginia Families; From Tyler’s Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine*, Gary Parks, ed. 4 vols. (Baltimore: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1981), 2: 700–1; citing Amherst Order Book 1773–82.

For all known records found to date for this couple, see E. S. Mills, “William Mills (c1695–1755) of Goochland, Albemarle & Amherst Counties, Virginia; Spouse Mary [—?—]: Research Notes,” a work-in-progress last updated 23 February 2022; archived at E. S. Mills, *Historic Pathways* (<https://www.historicpathways.com>) under the “Research” tab.

³ For the records that document this chronology, see E.S. Mills, “Ambrose Mills, Col. (c1721–1780); Spouses 1. Mourning Stone; 2. Ann Brown: Research Notes,” a work-in-progress updated 28 August 2018; archived at *Historic Pathways* under the “Research” tab.

⁴ Thomas’s birth-order position in the family is unproved. As a deceased son, he is mentioned last in his father’s will. Given that the 1755 will credits him with two children before his death and that males commonly married later than females in their society, I am positioning him ahead of his sister Sarah.

⁵ For all known records created by or about this couple, see E. S. Mills, “Thomas Watts (c1725–aft. 1796); Spouse Sarah Mills: Research Notes,” a work-in-progress last updated 15 June 2016; archived at *Historic Pathways* under the “Research” tab.

⁶ For all known records created by or about the real Col. William Henry Mills, a native of England who returned to England, see E. S. Mills, “Col. William Henry Mills, Esq. (c1727–1786); Spouses, 1-Unknown, 2-Elizabeth Montgomery: Research Notes,” a work in progress last updated 6 July 2019; archived at *Historic Pathways* (<https://www.historicpathways.com>) under the “Research” tab.

5. **ELIZABETH MILLS**, b. c1730; m. **Thomas Learwood**, Albemarle Co., Va., before her father's 1755 will.⁷ One undocumented Learwood genealogy asserts she married secondly to a **Ripley**. By Learwood, she supposedly had **John, Mary** who married **Richard Tankersley Jr.** of Amherst, **Agatha or Anne** (m. in Albemarle **Charles Denny** who was b. 1760), **Frances** (m. **Benjamin Denney**), and **Edmond Learwood** who moved to Laurens Co., SC, with son **Edmond Franklin Learwood**, born 1782, who reputedly named sons **Ambrose Ripley Learwood** and **Charles Lavender Learwood**. By **Ripley**, she supposedly had **John** (who allegedly married **Ambrose Graden**), **Pleasant** (m. a **Shadwick**), **Elizabeth** (m. **John Murray**), **Mildred** (m. "**Equiviler [Acquilla] Yearns**"), and possibly another son who married a **Dalsbarthe** and **Barrentine**.⁸
6. **ANNE (AKA ANNA) MILLS**, b. c1732, Va.; unmarried at time of father's 1755 will; frequently (but without direct evidence or a proof argument) said to be wife of **Lewis Witt** whose widow left a son "Mills Witt" and other children who bore names carried by Anne Mills's siblings (Jesse, Millie, Elizabeth).⁹
7. **MILDRED "MILLY" MILLS**, b. c1734, Va.; unmarried at time of father's 1755 will; said to have married **William Lavender** who died 1776. Many descendants attribute to him a double-name also: William Charles Lavender.¹⁰
8. **JESSE MILLS**, b. c1736, Va.; heir to a "proportionable part of his father's land *beside* the land [his father] lived on." Some assert that he later lived in Bedford County and/or died in Kentucky. None offer any evidence or appear to have tried to reconstruct his life.

OBJECTIVE: Comb all available published records to (a) help identify correctly each person in this family, their spouses, vital dates, activities, and migrations; (b) disambiguate this Mills family from the descendants of the immigrant Nicholas Mills who also settled Albemarle.

SIDE ISSUE: Autosomal DNA carried by descendants of Ambrose, Sarah, Elizabeth, and Millie

⁷ TLC Genealogy, *Bedford County, Virginia, Order Book 1, 1754–1761* (Miami Beach, FL: TLC Genealogy, 2000), 134. Some descendants allege that she married **John Edmond Learwood** (1720–1855) in 1745, had four children born 1745–50 (though he is said to have died in 1755), and that she d. 1767, Va. See, for example Ralph Tennant, "Christine Larwood Family Tree," *Ancestry* (<http://trees.ancestry.com/tree/21647526/person/1171920273> : accessed 6 June 2015); no evidence provided

⁸ James Larwood, "Morphology of Larwood Genealogy" (MS, n.p., 1933); imaged at *Ancestry.com* from a copy at Sutro Library, San Francisco, California. This manuscript presents the American Learwood/Larwood immigrant as "John Larwood," assigns him a marriage at about the same date as Elizabeth Mills married **Thomas Learwood**, but does not identify his wife. The time frame and the identity of the couple's putative offspring suggest strongly that this is the **Thomas Learwood/Learwood** who married Elizabeth Mills, daughter of William, before William's 1755 will in Albemarle. Also see Joey67, "Denney Family," *Missouri Family Trees* (<http://missourifamilytrees.blogspot.com/2010/03/denney-family.html> : accessed 23 May 2016. Ann "Larwood" Denny is said to be the mother of Benjamin Denney (b. about 1780 in Virginia; died January 1842 in Pulaski, Mo.; and Charles Denney Jr. who died 1841 in Pulaski. Charles Denney's parents are alleged there to be Samuel Denney and Sarah Suddarth, whose parents were William Suddarth and **Parlow Mills**. He cites no sources

⁹ Bedford Co., Va., Will Book 4: 276-77, Will of Anne Witt, 9 December 1811, probated 28 October 1816; and Will Book 5: 195–97, Anne Witt, Sales & Accounts; these two sets of records name her children as **Mills, Jesse**, John, Roland, Robert, Agatha/Agness, **Milly** (m. William Whitton), and **Betsey** (Calvert).

¹⁰ For example, see KayMarie Ybarra, "KayMarieRettaYabarra" tree, *Ancestry* (<http://trees.ancestry.com/tree/60751412/person/34299038922/facts> : accessed 17 May 2016), "Mildred Millie Mills ... 1738 ... 1776," profile page. The double given-name attributed to her husband, "William Charles," is highly dubious. Double forenames were not at all common in this era. Also Michael Spillars, "Spillars Family Tree," *Ancestry* (person.ancestry.com/tree/54902/person/6049440132/facts : accessed 17 May 2016), profile for "Mildred Amelia Mills, Birth 1738 • Virginia, United States; Death 1776 • Amherst, Amherst, Virginia." Spillars lists her children (without evidence) as **Sarah** (1744-1787), **William** (1760–1835), **Winston** (1762-1835), **Anthony** (1763-1802), **Charles** (1763-1802), **George** (1765-1846); **Mary** (1768–1850); **Joseph** (1769--).

Jlav78, "Lavender Family Tree," *Ancestry* (person.ancestry.com/tree/27253432/person/26082618067/facts) asserts the same basic facts for Millie and William that are used by Spillars, above, and most everyone else; but jlav78 gives different data for the children: **Sarah** (1744-1787), **John** (1746-1776), **Charles** (1748–1803), "William (Allen)" (1756–1835), **Mary, Mildred, Anthony, George, Winston, Charles.**"

triangulate on many segments with descendants of one William Mills who was born c1783–88 and married Drucilla Kemp, 1815, in Franklin County, VA. No one has identified his parents. His Y-DNA is a Witt Y rather than a Mills Y—suggesting that his mother may have been a Mills and his father a Witt. This report lays ground work for determining how this man—whom I am calling *William Mills-Witt*—*might* fit into this family.

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Executive Summary

The research notes in this report expand our knowledge of most key members of this nuclear family:¹¹

WILLIAM & MARY MILLS: GOOCHLAND PERIOD

- **1732–44, St. James Parish, Goochland County.** Land on
 - Licking Hole Creek and Wild Boar Creek. *Neighbors:* Henry Chiles, Samuel Coleman, Richard Kearby/Kirbey, “Utley,” “Scott,” Henry Adkins, Stephen Lacy, George Hilton. *Associates:* Patrick Cash, Edman Hogges, William Grimes, John Clark, John Pryor, Peter Patrick. John Winn, Humphrey Parrish, Josias Payne, John Robards.

¹¹ For documentation of each point in this executive summary, see the research note of that date.

WILLIAM & MARY MILLS: ALBEMARLE PERIOD

- **1745, Albemarle County.** Witnessed a confrontation between Edward Watts and John Peartree Burks, for which Watts launched a suit against Burks in August 1745. William Mills and son Ambrose were the only witnesses called. William was paid for 10 days service. Ambrose did not appear.
- **1746, Albemarle County.** Was paid bounty for 2 wolf heads.
- **1746/7 Albemarle County.** Filed a suit against Robert Davis that was dismissed by mutual consent.
- **1746, Albemarle County.** Was paid bounty again for 2 wolf heads.
- **1747/8 Albemarle County.** Was appointed road surveyor in the place of Robert Davis. Did jury duty in March and May terms. These are the only two instances of public service found for him.
- **1748, Albemarle County.** Had 54 acres surveyed. Location not specified. Grant not yet found.
- **1749, Goochland/Albemarle County.** 400-acre grant surveyed on Pedlar River and Dancing Creek.
- **1752, Albemarle.** With wife Mary, sold 400 acres on Pedlar River & Dancing Creek to Martha Massie.
- **1755 (26 Sept), Albemarle.** Wrote will. *Executors to be:* Wife Mary & Thomas Jopling. *Associates:* John Staples, Isham Davis, Wm. Floyd, Charles Truly, Robert Davis. Apparently died shortly after the will. He appears, in person, on no record thereafter.
- **1756–59, Albemarle/Amherst.** Finalization of grant of 350 acres on Branches of Buck Creek of Pedlar River. *Neighbors:* Edward Watts Jr., Thomas Mills, Thomas Smith, John Tuley.
- **1766 (10 July), Amherst.** Finalization of grant for the 330-acre “unsettled tract” on branches of Buck Branch of Pedlar River bequeathed to son William Jr. by terms of his 1755 will. *Neighbors:* John Davis, Isham Davis.
- **1766 (4 August), Amherst.** Probate of will of William Mills
- **1776 (July), Amherst.** Probate of estate of widow Mary Mills.

COMMENT:

At least one other William Mills was in the part of Goochland that became Cumberland County.

- **1746, Goochland.** Grant to “William Mills Son of William Mills of Aberdeen,” 380 acres, both sides of Pidy Rock Run, Willis River. Neighbors: Anthony Levellain, William Daniel, William Easley, Ralph Hipping (Kipping?). That land lay near the heads of Pidy Rock, Bear Creek, and Tar Wallet Creeks.
- **1755–59, Cumberland.** This William Mills, as a resident of Cumberland, sold two parcels of his Pidy Rock Run land, with no wife participating—while our William is documented as a resident of Albemarle.¹²

THOMAS MILLS

- Born by 1725. In his own right, in 1746, he was paid bounty for 1 wolf’s head.
- Shortly before his death he applied for a land grant adjacent to his father’s land on “branches of Pedlar River,” also adjoining Arthur Tuley and Edward Watts [Jr.] That grant was approved on 10 March 1756, six months after his father’s will described him as deceased.
- Albemarle and Amherst deeds have no record of his sale of that land.
- His land is mentioned on 10 July 1766 when William Mills Sr. finalized his title to the 330-acre previously “unsettled” tract adjacent to several family properties.
- His widow and the mother of the two children named in the will of William Sr., appears to be the **Eleonor Mills** who, in 1769, witnessed a deed from Wm. Cabell Sr. to William Cabell Jr., together

¹² For disambiguation of these two William Millses, see E. S. Mills, “Mills & Watts: Goochland and Cumberland Counties, Virginia: Initial Survey,” report to file, 28 August 2018; archived at *Historic Pathways* under the “Research” tab.

with William Walton and John Savage. William Walton would later marry Thomas's sister Milly Mills. John Savage was a landowner at Tobacco Row Mountain—i.e., the east bank of Pedlar River.

- Thomas's son Ambrose has not been found as an adult. His daughter Elizabeth is likely the Elizabeth Turner, wife of James Turner of Charleston, who sold Thomas's land in 1777 without benefit of a recorded purchase.

WILLIAM MILLS JR.

- Apparently left home by or soon after adulthood. I have not found him in Southside VA records.
- Resident of NC on 5 October 1770 when he sold 330 acres bequeathed to him by his father.
- Was hung by his sister's future brother-in-law, Capt. Jesse Walton, the week before the Battle of King's Mountain; the incident is recounted in the RW pension application of Capt. Walton's nephew, William Walton Jr., whose father married the widowed Milly (Mills) Lavender.

JESSE MILLS

- First on record as an adult in 1764.
- Sold his inherited land in September 1766, with consent of wife **Lucy** [née **Tilman**].
- Bought 396 acres on Tye River in 1767, part of the Grymes tract from which Milly Mills and husband William Lavender would buy a parcel in 1770.
- Served as bondsman on 2 November 1767 for Sheriff George Stovall, Jr.
- September 1768, sold his new tract (396 acres) on Tye River but apparently still owned land there.
- June 1770 bought another 297 acres of the Grymes tract.
- 5 July 1771, mortgaged the 297 acres; Lucy's participation was not required given that it was a mortgage and not a sale.
- 1771, 1772, 1776, gave several mortgages on personal property and slaves inherited from mother.
- 1777–1778, no record of him in Amherst.
- 1779, signed a petition of inhabitants from Albemarle, Amherst & Buckingham.
- 1780–1781, no record of him in Amherst.
- 1784 (July), mortgaged a slave and livestock to Tilman Walton, son of Milly's future husband William Walton, and witnessed a deed.
- 1784–1802, no further record. Not on 1787 tax roll. Likely period of death.
- 1802, one Jesse Mills of Green Co., Kentucky, is sued in Albemarle County by Joshua Hudson, father of Jesse's late wife Rachel, by whom he has a small child. This man is often (but erroneously) said to be Lucy Tilman's widower; he was actually Jesse Jr., Lucy's son.

ELIZABETH (MILLS) LEARWOOD RIPLEY¹³

- Elizabeth married twice: (1) **Thomas Learwood** (*var.* Larwood, Leerwood, Leirwood) before 26 September 1755; and (2) **John Ripley**, 1762–1769.
- January 1756, Bedford County. Thomas "Leirwood" and *James Wheeler* were sued in Bedford by Archibald Buchanan and John Brown & Co.

¹³ For the Amherst and South Carolina documents that chronicle Elizabeth, her husbands, and her children, see E. S. Mills, "William Mills (c1695–1755) of Goochland, Albemarle & Amherst Counties, Virginia; Spouse Mary [—?—]: Research Notes," a work-in-progress last updated 23 February 2022; archived at E. S. Mills, *Historic Pathways* (<https://www.historicpathways.com>) under the "Research" tab.

- 13 June 1757, Bedford County. Thomas “Learwood” received grant of 154 acres [formerly] in “Lunenburg County” on the head branches of Reedy Creek by the north side of Pilot Mountain.” This land lay along the line with the future county of Campbell.
- September 1757, as residents of Prince Edward County, Thomas and Elizabeth sold the Pilot Mountain land.
- 29 March 1760, Bedford County. Thomas and Elizabeth on 29 March 1760 received a grant of 230 acres on west side of Elk Creek, Bedford.
- 1760. Thomas Learwood’s land is cited as adjacent to land of Moses Watkins of Bedford, on both sides of Reedy Ck in Bedford, adjoining George Walton, Thomas Franklin, and Bolling. Witnesses: Robert Rutledge, William Bumpas, and William Jamerson.
- In 1762, in Prince Edward Co., she bore a son who enlisted in the Revolutionary War at age 14 under the name John Ripley; as an adult, he used the name John Mills. In his pension application he stated that he enlisted as Ripley because that was his stepfather’s name. About 1789, John left SC for Tennessee, then to North Carolina, before settling in Athens Co., OH.
- 1762–1769. Time frame of second marriage.
- About 1769 (when young John was seven) his step father “John Ripley” moved them to Ninety Six District SC. By 1772, Elizabeth’s new husband had purchased part of the James Ryan patent on Beaver Dam Swamp of Little River, which they sold in 1784. Elizabeth’s son *Edmund Learwood* bought another portion of that patent in 1784.
- The John Ripley household appears on the 1790 census of Edgefield District, SC, after which the family appears to have moved again—leaving behind one son Ambrose Ripley.
- Elizabeth and John Ripley may have followed her son John Mills into Tennessee. Individuals of appropriate names are found in Nashville (John Ripley, 1802) and Rhea County (1830, Pleasant Ripley).
- A possibility for Elizabeth’s alleged son-in-law “Equiviler Yearns” has been found as a War of 1812 casualty in Kentucky: Aquilla Yearns, county of residence not stated.
- No evidence has been found yet for other Learwood children. Richard Tankersley Jr., who allegedly married Mary Learwood, was a neighbor of Milly (Mills) Lavender and inventoried the estate of Milly’s husband William in 1774.

MILLY (MILLS) LAVENDER WALTON

- Milly married twice: (1) **William Lavender**, with no middle name; apparent son of “Charles Lavender, the elder” who held land in Goochland in 1745; died 1774; (2) 16 April 1792, Amherst, **William Walton**, a conscripted RW officer.¹⁴ By the first husband, she was the mother of:
 1. **William Lavender Jr.**, an RW soldier who married **Sarah “Sally” Stratton** (daughter of John Stratton) on 4 April 1781, and remained on parental land on Tye River until 1793. He and his widowed mother then sold the land they had inherited, calling it a grant made to “Charles Lavender, the elder.” Died as a pensioner on 7 January 1835, leaving his widow Sarah who then applied for a pension on his service.
 2. **Charles Lavender**, an RW soldier who married **Lucy Ballew**, daughter of Thomas and sister of Joseph; died 5 May 1802 in Edgefield District, SC, where his father-in-law also lived. Lucy and

¹⁴ William Montgomery Sweeny, *Marriage Bonds and Other Marriage Records of Amherst County, Virginia, 1763-1800* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1980), 79. For the Amherst documents that chronicle Milly, her children, and her husbands, see E. S. Mills, “Mills & Associates: Amherst County, VA, Preliminary Survey of Published Resources, 1764–1806; Including Notes for Families Surnamed Byas, Joplin, Lavender, Learwood, Napier, Ripley, Toney, walton, White, Witt & Watts,” report to file, 2 January 2018 (updated 29 December 2021); archived online at Mills, *Historic Pathways* (<https://www.historicpathways.com>) under the “Research” tab.

children lived a short while in Buncombe Co., NC, near her brother Joseph, then moved to Spartanburgh District, SC, before settling in Jackson County, Georgia, where her son Charles sought a pension. Other sons: Simeon (moved to Alabama) and Willis (moved to Mississippi).

3. **Winston Lavender**, also an RW soldier according to the pension application by Charles Jr. No further information.
4. **Allen Lavender**, who was married by 29 October 1785,¹⁵ appears on the 1787 tax list, and died in 1799, leaving land on Rockfish River near Joe's Creek. His brother Charles was one of his administrators. In 1805, his land was in possession of **Aggey Lavender, his widow**, who was the daughter of Anne (allegedly Mills) and Lewis Witt.
5. **Anthony Lavender** (likely son), whose estate was opened in July 1801 in Amherst.
6. **George Lavender**, adult by 1802 when he witnessed a will, petitioned the Virginia legislature in 1810, as a resident of **Nelson County**, to allow him to bring into the state a slave coming to him from his father's estate, which his remarried mother had removed to her residence in Tennessee.

Milly and William Walton apparently had no children. The following is known:

- In 1793, with son William Lavender Jr. and their spouses, she sold the land inherited from her first husband.
- 19 January 1806, William Walton Sr. died in Burke County, NC, age 69.
- 1808, Maury County, Tennessee, Milly appeared with the widowed Elizabeth McDonald at the estate sale of Elizabeth's husband John McDonald.
- May 1822, Maury County, Tennessee, the property of Milly Walton, deceased, was auctioned off.
- No known relatives of Milly have been found yet in Maury to explain why she moved there. Maury records do have one Jesse Walton, 1818, and William Walton 1821. Jesse appeared in the company of a John "Bickenstaff" (likely *Bickerstaff* of the Rutherford N.C. Loyalist family on whose farm Ambrose Mills was hung). William Walton appeared in the company of one John Mills.
- Another possible magnet drawing Milly to Maury might be the RW soldier Hugh McCabe who moved there from Pedlar River in Amherst.

ANNE MILLS

- Despite the frequent assertions that Anne Mills, daughter of William, married Lewis Witt and bore a son named *Mills Witt*, no direct evidence has emerged yet to support this. Significant indirect evidence does connect Anne Witt to offspring of William and Mary Mills and is currently being developed.
- Some researchers have noted that David Mills of Albemarle also had a daughter Ann and have questioned whether *she* might be the wife of Lewis Witt. No known tree validly identifies a husband for David's daughter Ann. However, David's will of 1764 refers to Ann as "Ann Mills," implying that she was still single. If so, she can be eliminated from consideration as Anne Witt, who bore eight

¹⁵ "Journal to Ledger C: Commencing from the 10th October 1785 By Thompson and Teas," p. 34, charge against Allen Lavender p Wife Dr. to Sundries" (hat, handkerchief, fabric, thread); "Amherst County Business Records, Thomas and Teas Company Journal; Amherst County microfilm reel 132; Library of Virginia. Online trees asserting that William and Allen were one and the same are mistaken; this journal repeatedly carries separate charges for the two men.

children to Lewis before his death in 1774.¹⁶

Formation of Critical Counties

EVOLUTION OF ALBEMARLE-AMHERST

1728	Goochland	cut from	Western & northwestern	Henrico
1744	Albemarle		Western	Goochland
1749	Cumberland		Southeastern	Goochland
1761	Amherst		Southwestern	Albemarle
1761	Buckingham		Southern	Albemarle
1777	Fluvanna		Southeastern	Albemarle
1807	Nelson		Northeastern	Amherst

EVOLUTION OF BEDFORD

1732	Brunswick	cut from	South & southwestern	Prince George
1746	Lunenburg		Western & northwestern	Brunswick
1746	Amelia		Western	Prince George
			Northern	Brunswick
1752	Halifax		Western	Lunenburg
1753–1754	Bedford		Northwestern	Lunenburg
1754	Prince Edward		Western	Amelia

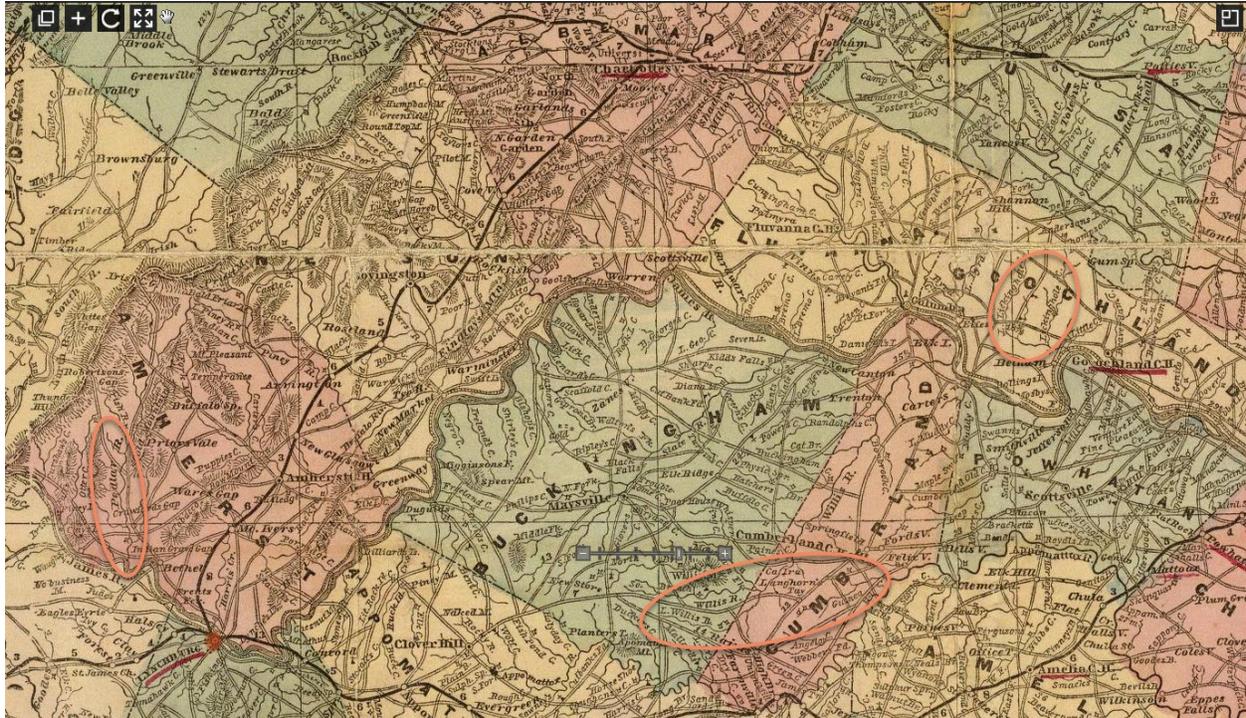
EVOLUTION OF HENRY-PATRICK-FRANKLIN

1767	Pittsylvania	cut from	Western	Halifax
1777	Henry		Western	Pittsylvania
1786	Franklin		Northern	Henry
			Southwestern	Bedford ¹⁷

¹⁶ Ann Chilton, *Bedford Co., Va., Will Book 1, 1759–1787; Will Book 2, 1787–1803* (Signal Mountain, TN: Mountain Press, 1988), 18; citing Will Book 1: 211 (Lewis Witt). Also Bedford Co., Will Book 4: 276–77 (Ann Witt will) and 287 (Ann Witt inventory and accounts), previously consulted for my work on William Mills-Witt of Franklin Co.

¹⁷ Michael F. Doran, *Atlas of County Boundary Changes in Virginia, 1634–1895* (Athens, Ga.: Iberian Publishing Co., 1987).

Map 1
Goochland & the Counties Cut from It —Showing William Mills Landholdings



Research Notes

11 APRIL 1732
GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Land grant

“For 40 shillings, grant to **William Mills**, 400 acres on **branches of Licking Hole Creek**, Goochland county, bounded as follows:

Beginning at a corner pine of *Samuel Coleman's Land*, Thence on his line South fifty Six degrees West forty nine chains to a Corner pine, Thence West Twenty Six Chains to a Corner pine, thence South Thirty five Chains to *Chiles corner White Oak* on a branch, Thence West Seventeen Degrees North Sixty Six Chains to a Corner red Oak, Thence North Ten degrees West Seven Chains to a Corner black oak, Thence West Sixteen degrees North Thirty Three? Chains Corner red oak & pine, Thence North Seventeen degrees West on *Irby [sic] Line* four & an half Chains to a Corner hiccory on *Scotts Line*, Thence North Thirty five degrees East fifty two Chains to *Kirbys Corner white Oak*, Thence on his Line South forty one Degrees East fifty four Chains to a Corner white Oak, Thence East seven Degrees North Twenty seven chains to a Corner, Thence East Thirty Six Degres North one hundred Eighty Chains to a Corner Thence South Thirty Six degrees East Seventy Chains to a Corner White Oak, Thence West Thirty Six Degrees South to the Line

of **Henry Childs**_[i] Thence on his line to the place began at.¹⁸

31 OCTOBER 1732

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Land purchase

“Henry Chiles and Anne his wife sold to **William Mills** 300 acres on east side of **Licking Hole Creek** in Goochland for £25, including plantation called “Bobs” & bounded by *Utley’s* line. Wit: Richard Kearby, Patrick Cash, Edman Hogges.”¹⁹

TO DO:

This abstract and the other Goochland deed records that follow are from third-hand sources and are included here only as placeholders until an appropriate Goochland records-survey can be made.

12 MARCH 1733

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Land sale

“**William Mills** of Goochland sold Francis Kearby 100 acres for £2.10 being part of 400 acres by patent dated 11 April 1732. Wit: Richard Kearby, Edmond Hogges, William Grimes. **Mary, wife of William Mills**, relinquished dower.”²⁰

C17 FEBRUARY 1735

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Land sale

“**William Mills** of **St. James Parish**, Goochland, sold William Chambers 20 [200?] acres on **Wild Boar Creek** for £4, part of a tract bought of Henry Chiles. **Mary** relinquished dower. Wit: Samuel Coleman, John Clark.”²¹

C15 JUNE 1736

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Land sale

“**William Mills** of St. James Parish, Goochland, sold James Walker 300 acres on branches of **Licking Hole Creek** for £15.5 part of a greater tract Mills took up by patent 11 April 1732 bounded by *Samuel Coleman*, *Chiles* corner, *Scott’s* line, *Kerby’s* line & *Henry Chiles*. **Mary** released dower. Wit: John Pryor, Henry Chiles, Peter Patrick.”²²

8 SEPTEMBER 1736

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

¹⁸ Library of Virginia, “Land Office Grants,” database with images, *Virginia Memory* (http://image.lva.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/GetLONN.pl?first=164&last=&g_p=P14&collection=LO_Patent : downloaded 20 May 2016), “Mills, William, grantee ... Goochland County ... 400 acres on branches of Lickinghole Creek”; citing “Land Office Patents No. 13, 1728-1732 (pt.1 & 2), p. 407 (Reel 11).”

¹⁹ Carl R Waggle, “Genealogy Report: Ancestors of Mary Elizabeth Lewis,” user trees, *Genealogy.com* (<http://www.genealogy.com/ftm/w/a/g/Carl-R-Waggle-CA/GENE3-0010.html> : accessed 23 May 2016), citing Goochland Deeds & Wills Book 1: 366.

²⁰ Carl R Waggle, “Genealogy Report: Ancestors of Mary Elizabeth Lewis,” user trees, *Genealogy.com* (<http://www.genealogy.com/ftm/w/a/g/Carl-R-Waggle-CA/GENE3-0010.html> : accessed 23 May 2016), citing Goochland Deeds & Wills Book 1: 487.

²¹ Carl R Waggle, “Genealogy Report: Ancestors of Mary Elizabeth Lewis,” user trees, *Genealogy.com* (<http://www.genealogy.com/ftm/w/a/g/Carl-R-Waggle-CA/GENE3-0010.html> : accessed 23 May 2016), citing Goochland Will Book 2: 68.

²² Carl R Waggle, “Genealogy Report: Ancestors of Mary Elizabeth Lewis,” user trees, *Genealogy.com* (<http://www.genealogy.com/ftm/w/a/g/Carl-R-Waggle-CA/GENE3-0010.html> : accessed 23 May 2016), citing Goochland Deeds & Wills Book 2: 231.

Disambiguation

“For 40 shillings, grant to **William Mills**, 400 acres on **the Ridge between Willis River and great Guinea Creek of Appamattox River**, Goochland county, bounded as follows:

Beginning at a red Oak in Almes Allen’s Line, running Thence New Lines North fifty Degrees West one hundred and twenty six Poles to a white Oak, North twenty five Degrees East one hundred and seventy Poles to a Pine, Thence on John Marten North sixty Degrees East seventy Poles to a white Oak and Hickory, Thence New Lines North twenty five Degrees East one hundred and forty two Poles to Pointers, South sixty five Degrees East one hundred and forty seven Poles to oa white Oak, Soth twenty five Degrees West thirty five Poles to a white Oak, Thence on William Warnack the same Course continued two hundred and ninety three Poles to a Spanish Oak, Thence on James Allen North seventy five Degrees West fifty two Poles to a white Oak South thirty seven Degrees West sixty seven Poles to first station.²³

COMMENT:

For the disambiguation of this William Mills from the William who married Mary and moved to Pedlar River of Albemarle, see the previously cited “William Mills (c1695–1755) of Goochland, Albemarle & Amherst Counties, Virginia; Spouse Mary [—?—]: Research Notes.”

16 MAY 1738

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Witness

William Mills witnessed a deed between *John Winn* of Henrico and *Humphrey Parris* for land on **North side of the James** in Goochland, along with William & Humphrey Parrish Jr.²⁴

16 SEPTEMBER 1740

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Neighbor

John Parrish sold land on **South branch of Owens Creek** bounded by *William Mills*, Henry Adkins, and Stephen Lacy.²⁵

23 JULY 1741

ORANGE COUNTY, VA

Importation

“John Newport John Crawford **James Mills** & Thomas Brown ... were immediately imported into this Colony from Great Britain.”²⁶

14 SEPTEMBER 1741

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Neighbor

²³ Library of Virginia, “Land Office Grants,” database with images, *Virginia Memory* (http://image.lva.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/GetLONN.pl?first=407&last=&g_p=P17&collection=LO_Patent : downloaded 20 May 2016), “Mills, William, grantee ... Goochland County ... 400 acres on the ridge between Willis River and Great Guinea Creek of Appamattox River”; citing “Land Office Patents No. 17, 1735-1738, p. 164 (Reel 15).

²⁴ Carl R Waggle, “Genealogy Report: Ancestors of Mary Elizabeth Lewis,” user trees, *Genealogy.com* (<http://www.genealogy.com/ftm/w/a/g/Carl-R-Waggle-CA/GENE3-0010.html> : accessed 23 May 2016), citing Goochland Deeds & Wills Book 3, page 121.

²⁵ Carl R Waggle, “Genealogy Report: Ancestors of Mary Elizabeth Lewis,” user trees, *Genealogy.com* (<http://www.genealogy.com/ftm/w/a/g/Carl-R-Waggle-CA/GENE3-0010.html> : accessed 23 May 2016); no book/page cited.

²⁶ Barbara Vines Little, “Importations in the Orange County, Virginia, Order Books 1-8, 1735–1770,” *Magazine of Virginia Genealogy* 26 (November 1988): 248, citing Order Book 2:433; imaged in “Virginia Genealogical Society Quarterly,” database with images, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com>), image 14.

MILLS: Mills & Associates of Albemarle, Goochland & Southside, VA: Initial Survey 2016 (Rev. 2022)

“George Hilton sold land on **Licking Hold Creek**, [adj.] Thomas Biby, Christian’s line, and **William Mills**.”²⁷

14 NOVEMBER 1743

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Land sale

“**William Mills** sold land to Josias Payne.”²⁸

15 MAY 1744

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Land sale

“**William & Mary Mills** sold land to John Robards. ...”²⁹

COMMENT:

This may be when they moved away or were cut off into Albemarle County as he does not appear in the 1744 Vestry book of St. James Northam.

1744

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

County formation

Albemarle is created this year from the western portion of Goochland.

25? SEPTEMBER 1745

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Legal suit

“In case of Benjamin Harris agst **John Ripley**, an *Allias Capias* awarded.”³⁰

COMMENT:

One John Ripley, in the 1760s, would marry William Mills’s widowed daughter, Elizabeth (Mills) Learwood.

26 SEPTEMBER 1745

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Residence

“In the first order book 1744–48, we have the following ... p. 64, Sept. 26, 1745 John Graves to be the surveyor of the road from the **mouth of Tye River** to the branches of **Harris Creek** and all the tithables between **Buffalo and Fluvanna Rivers** except **Chas. Lavender**, are to assist him.”³¹

COMMENT:

Charles Lavender’s son William would marry William Mills’s daughter Milly and settle with her on Charles’s Tye River land.

²⁷ Carl R Waggle, “Genealogy Report: Ancestors of Mary Elizabeth Lewis,” user trees, *Genealogy.com* (<http://www.genealogy.com/ftm/w/a/g/Carl-R-Waggle-CA/GENE3-0010.html> : accessed 23 May 2016); no book/page cited.

²⁸ Carl R Waggle, “Genealogy Report: Ancestors of Mary Elizabeth Lewis,” user trees, *Genealogy.com* (<http://www.genealogy.com/ftm/w/a/g/Carl-R-Waggle-CA/GENE3-0010.html> : accessed 23 May 2016), citing Goochland Deeds & Wills Book 4:270.

²⁹ Carl R Waggle, “Genealogy Report: Ancestors of Mary Elizabeth Lewis,” user trees, *Genealogy.com* (<http://www.genealogy.com/ftm/w/a/g/Carl-R-Waggle-CA/GENE3-0010.html> : accessed 23 May 2016), citing Goochland Deeds & Wills Book 4:356.

³⁰ Joanne Lovelace Nance, “Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Orders, ... September Term 1745 to March 1746,” *Magazine of Virginia Genealogy* 26 (November 1988): 267–72, specifically 267, citing p. 57.

³¹ Mrs. P. W. Hiden, “Graves Family of Pittsylvania [sic] and Franklin Counties,” in *Genealogies of Virginia Families: From Tyler’s Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine* vol. 2 (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1981), 81.

28 NOVEMBER 1745

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land appraisal

"On petition of *Henry Terrell & Mathew Mills* to have Improvements of 2400 acres (belonging to sd Terrell & Mills in this county) valued. David Lewis, David Rees, Danl Holladay & John Key appointed to appraise the improvements &c on sd land & report to next court."³²

COMMENT:

Matthew Mills is from the well-worked line of the Virginia immigrant Nicholas Mills.³³

23 JANUARY 1745/6

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Court order

"Appraisalment of *Henry Terrell & Mathew Mills* returned & ordered to be recorded."³⁴

24 JANUARY 1745/6

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Legal case

"In case of *John Pleasants* agst **John Ripley**, attachment obtained at last court is cont."

"Case of *Benjamin Harris* agst **John Ripley** dismiss by mutual consent."

"On attachment of *Hugh Moor* agst **John Ripley**, deft. fails to appear, plt. makes oath to an account of £2/14/6 & is to recover. Sheriff ordered to sell goods attached to satisfy the Judgment."³⁵

28 MARCH 1746

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Legal case

"Case of *John Pleasants* agst **John Ripley** cont. till next court on motion of the plt. by atty. Gideon Marr."

"On attachment of *Hugh Moor* agst **John Ripley**, cont. as Sheriff fails to return the sale of goods."³⁶

12 JUNE 1746

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land survey

"Joshua Fry, Gent. Surveyor presented a list of surveys made by him from June 1, 1745 to June 1, 1746."³⁷

COMMENT:

Fry has been filing this list each year. No Mills or Watts land has been surveyed yet.

³² Nance, "Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Orders, ... November Term 1745–March 1746," *Magazine of Virginia Genealogy* 27 (February 1989): 25–37, specifically 26, citing p.81.

³³ Mrs. P. W. Hiden, "Nicholas Mills of Hanover County," *Tyler's Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine* 14 (1933): 237–42; 15 (1933): 38–64; reprinted as *Genealogies of Virginia Families; From Tyler's Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine*, Gary Parks, ed. 4 vols. (Baltimore: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1981), 2: 657–701.

³⁴ Nance, "Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Orders, ... November Term 1745–March 1746," *Magazine of Virginia Genealogy* 27 (February 1989): 25–37, specifically 28, citing p.88.

³⁵ Nance, "Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Orders, ... November Term 1745–March 1746," *Magazine of Virginia Genealogy* 27 (February 1989): 25–37, specifically 30–31, citing pp.94–95, 97.

³⁶ Nance, "Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Orders, ... November Term 1745–March 1746," *Magazine of Virginia Genealogy* 27 (February 1989): 25–37, specifically 36–37, citing pp. 110–13.

³⁷ Nance, "Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Orders, ... November Term 1745–March 1746," *Magazine of Virginia Genealogy* 27 (May 1989): 120, specifically 123–24, citing pp. 123.

13 JUNE 1746

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Legal suit

“Attachment of *Hugh Moor* agst **John Ripley** is cont., Sheriff has not returned the sale of goods.”

“Case of *Patrick Cambhill* agst **Thomas Watts** is cont.”

“Case of *John Pleasants* agst **John Ripley** is further cont.”³⁸

16 AUGUST 1746

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Legal suit

“Attachment of *Hugh Moor* agst **John Ripley** is further cont. as Sheriff failed to return the sale of goods.”

“Case of *John Pleasants* agst **John Ripley** cont. by mutual consent.”³⁹

AUGUST 1746

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Legal suit

“**Robt. Napier, Jr., & wife Mary** – in a suit.”⁴⁰ [No further details]

28 AUGUST 1746

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Disambiguation

“For 40 shillings, grant to **William Mills, son of William Mills of Aberdeen**, 380 acres on “**both sides of Pidy Rock Rua [sic] of Willis River**, Goochland County, bounded as follows:

Beginning at Pointers **Ralph Kippings** Corner running thence a New Line North Seventy five Degrees East two hundred and four Poles crossing **Pidy Rock Run** to Pointers_[i] thence on **Anthony Levellain’s** North thirty Degrees East nineteen Poles crossing a Branch to Pointers_[i] North Seventy Degrees East two hundred and four Poles to Pointers_[i] thence on **William Daniel** South nineteen and an half Degree East one hundred and fifty nine poles to Pointers_[i] thence a new Line South nineteen Degrees East one hundred Poles to Pointers, North Seventy Degrees West two hundred and give Poles to Pointers_[i] thence on **William Easley** North thirty five Degrees West forty five Poles to a White Oak_[i] South fifty five Degrees West two hundred and one Poles crossing two Branches of Pidy Rocky Run to Pointers_[i] Thence on **Ralph Hipping [Kipping?]** north thirty five Degrees West one hundred and Seventy eight Poles to the first Station.”⁴¹

UPDATE:

This land would fall into Cumberland County and would later be sold by its owner “William Mills of Cumberland County” during the time that William and Mary Mills lived in Amherst.

13 SEPTEMBER 1746

³⁸ Nance, “Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Orders, ... March Term 1746–August 1746,” *Magazine of Virginia Genealogy* 27 (May 1989): 120–30, specifically 126–27, citing pp. 131–32, 133–34.

³⁹ Nance, “Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Orders, ... March Term 1746–August 1746,” *Magazine of Virginia Genealogy* 27 (August 1989): 165–76, specifically 167–68, citing p. 159–60.

⁴⁰ Bailey Fulton Davis, *The Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1762–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1948–1807)* (Greenville, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1979), 5; citing Order Book 1744–48, p. 151.

⁴¹ Library of Virginia, “Land Office Grants,” database with images, *Virginia Memory* (http://image.lva.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/GetLONN.pl?first=230&last=&g_p=P25&collection=LO_Patent : downloaded 20 May 2016), “Mills, Willliam, grantee ... Goochland County ... 380 acres on both sides of Pidy Rock Rua [sic] of Willis River; citing “Land Office Patents No. 25, 1745-1747, p. 230 (Reel 23).

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Legal suit

“Case of *John Pleasant* agst. **John Ripley** is dismiss by mutual consent.”

“On attachment of *Hugh Moor* agst **John Ripley**, deft. granted stay execution.”⁴²

14 NOVEMBER 1746

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Bounty

“To **Thomas Mills** for 1 wolfs head 140 lbs. tobacco

“To **William Mills** for 2 Do [Ditto] 280⁴³

12 MARCH 1746/7

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Legal case

“Case of **William Mills** agst *Robert Davis* is dismiss by mutual consent.”⁴⁴

13 MARCH 1746/7

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Legal case

“**William Mills** awarded 250 lbs. tob. by **Edward Watts** for 10 days attendance as evidence in case agst *John Peartree Burks*.”

“**Ambrose Mills** to be summoned to show why he did not appear as evidence in case of **Watts** agst *Burks*.”⁴⁵

COMMENT:

Watts launched this case of slander against Burks on 23 August 1745. The calling of William and Ambrose Mills as witnesses carries an implication that they were witness to the offense when it occurred—thereby placing them in the company of Burks and Watts as early as summer 1745.

9 APRIL 1747

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Legal Case

“Summons of **Ambrose Mills** to show why he failed to appear as evidence for **Edward Watts** is dismiss.”⁴⁶

15 MAY 1747

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Legal suit

“In case of **John Ripley** agst *Hugh Moor*, the issue formerly joined is cont. by mutual consent.”⁴⁷

⁴² Nance, “Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Orders, ... March Term 1746–August 1746,” *Magazine of Virginia Genealogy* 27 (August 1989): 165–76, specifically 174, 176.

⁴³ Nance, “Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Orders, ... [1744/5–March 1747/8],” *Magazine of Virginia Genealogy* 28 (November 1991): 314–19, specifically 317, citing p. VI.

⁴⁴ Nance, “Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Orders, ... February Term 1746[/7]–March 1746[/7],” *Magazine of Virginia Genealogy* 28 (February 1990): 48–58, specifically 56, citing p. 239.

⁴⁵ Nance, “Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Orders, ... March 1746[/7]–May 1747,” *Magazine of Virginia Genealogy* 28 (August 1990): 202–10, specifically 203, citing p.251.

⁴⁶ Nance, “Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Orders, ... March 1746[/7]–May 1747,” *Magazine of Virginia Genealogy* 28 (August 1990): 202–10, specifically 208–9, citing pp. 266, 269.

9 JULY 1747

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Legal suit

"*John Gooding* awarded 75 lbs. tob. by Hugh Moor for 3 days as evidence in suit of **John Ripley**."

"*Joseph Norman* awarded same [25 lbs. tob.] by **John Ripley** in suit agst *Hugh Moor*. *William Flowers* awarded 100 lbs. tob. by **John Ripley** in same suit. *James Watkins* awarded 25 lbs. tob. by *Hugh Moor* in same suit."⁴⁸

10 JULY 1747

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Court order

"Lawyers fee to be taxed in case of **John Ripley** agst *Hugh Moor* to stop execution on a Judgment formerly obtained by sd Moor."

10 DECEMBER 1747

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Bounty

"To **Thomas Mills** for one ditto [wolfs head at 140 each] 140 lbs. tobacco

"To **William Mills** for two Do [Ditto] 70⁴⁹

10 MARCH 1747/8

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Road order

"**Wm Mills** appointed Surveyor in the room of Robert Davis."⁵⁰

COMMENT:

Robert Davis, like William Mills, was a landowner on Pedlar River. Note that William had sued Davis in the March 1746/7 court term, but the suit was dismissed with mutual consent. Might it have had something to do with the condition of roads?

10 MARCH 1747/8

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Court order

"William Lewis, Mathew Mullins, Gabriel Thompson & Abraham Shatteen to value improvements to **Charles Mills's** land."⁵¹

COMMENT:

Charles Mills was from the Nicholas Mills family on Mecham's River, not the family of William Mills of Pedlar River.

⁴⁷ Nance, "Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Orders, ... May Term 1747–July Term 1747," *Magazine of Virginia Genealogy* 28 (November 1990): 271–80, specifically 272–74, citing pp. 283–84, 289.

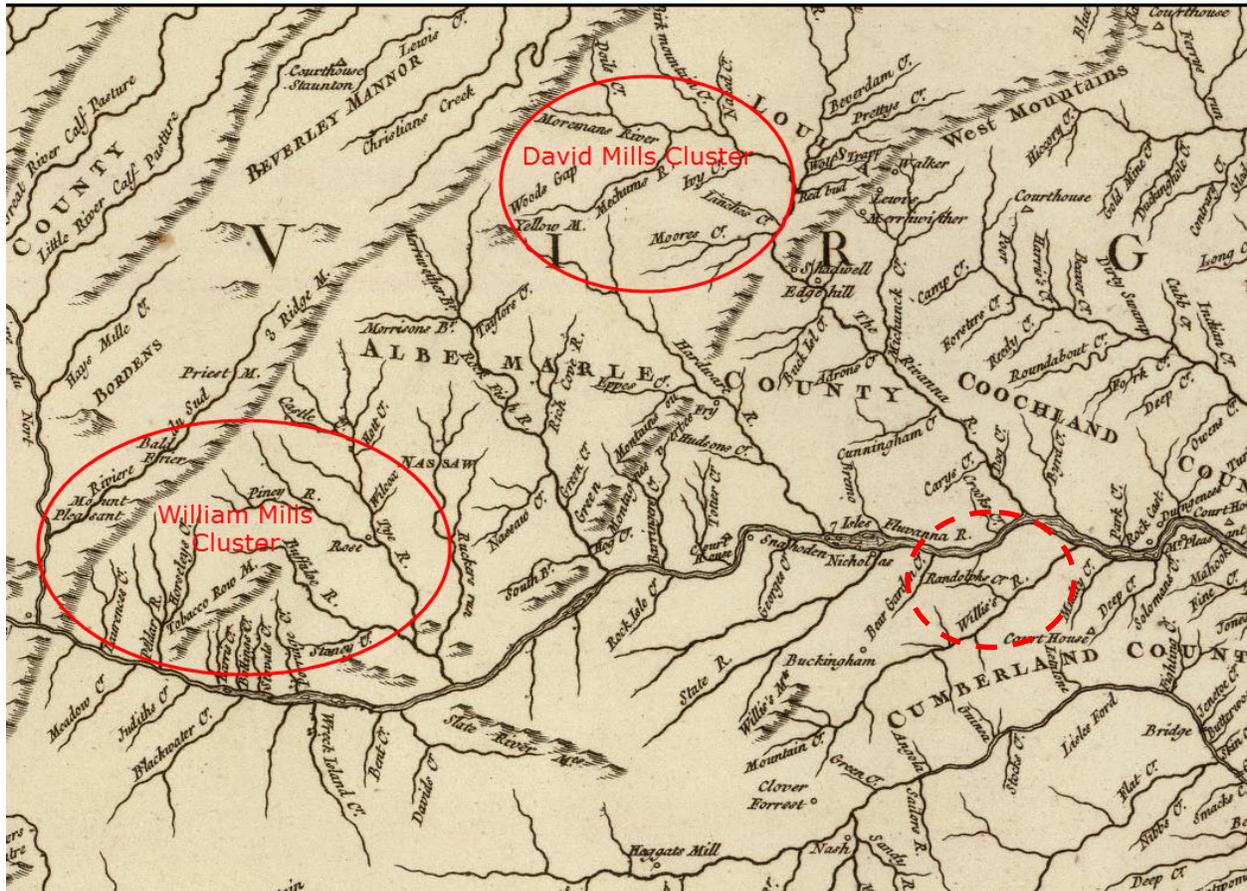
⁴⁸ Nance, "Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Orders, ... May Term 1747–July Term 1747," *Magazine of Virginia Genealogy* 28 (November 1990): 271–80, specifically 277, citing pp. 293–95.

⁴⁹ Nance, "Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Orders, ... [1744/5–March 1747/8]," *Magazine of Virginia Genealogy* 28 (November 1991): 314–19, specifically 318, citing p. X.

⁵⁰ Nance, "Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Orders, ... March Term 1747/48–June Term 1748," *Magazine of Virginia Genealogy* 29 (May 1991): 112–24, specifically 113, citing p. 345.

⁵¹ Nance, "Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Orders, ... March Term 1747/48–June Term 1748," *Magazine of Virginia Genealogy* 29 (May 1991): 112–24, specifically 113, citing p. 345.

Map 2
Two Mills Clusters in Albemarle, c1749–1780⁵²
David Mills of Fredericksville Parish, Northern Albemarle
&
William Mills of Lower Albemarle (later Amherst)



10 MARCH 1747/8
ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA
Legal suit

“In case of *Patrick Campyhill* agst **Thomas Watts**, deft granted *Imparle*.”

“In case of William Bishop agst John Cannaday, parties appear as does a Jury, to wit: William Morrison, **William Mills**, John Douglas, Michael Thomas, John Farrow, William Symson, Alexander Patten, Patrick Napier, Thomas Bibb, Leonard Ballow, Moses Higgenbottom & Joseph Higgenbottom who retire to consider their verdict.”⁵³

COMMENT:

⁵² The above map snippet is from Joshua Fry and Peter Jefferson, “A Map of the Most Inhabited Part of Virginia,” 1775; imaged at *David Rumsey* (<http://bit.ly/1TEYmPT> : accessed 20 May 2016).

⁵³ Nance, “Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Orders, ... March Term 1747/48–June Term 1748,” *Magazine of Virginia Genealogy* 29 (May 1991): 112–24, specifically 114, citing pp. 346–47.

William's selection for the jury tells us something more than what the record actually says. A grand juror in this era had to be a freeholder—i.e., a white male over aged 21 who owned at least 100 acres of unimproved land or at least 25 improved acres with a house thereon.⁵⁴

5 APRIL 1748

ALBEMARLE CO., VA.

Land patent

Thomas Watts patent for 400 acres, branches of the Pedlar River, in a valley, Albemarle Co., bounded as follows:

Beginning at a Hickory Saplin_[,] running thence south twenty degrees west twenty two poles to a White Oak in a Valley_[,] south twenty degrees East ninety poles to pointers_[,] south ten degrees west seventy three poles to a hickory Saplin_[,] south thirty five degrees west one hundred and thirty six poles to a pine_[,] south sixty six poles to four Dogwood Saplings_[,] south fifty five degrees west two hundred and forty four poles to Pointers_[,] north four hundred and thirty six poles to pointers_[,] and north sixty five degrees West one hundred and forty poles to the first Station.⁵⁵

12 MAY 1748

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Jury duty

Benjamin Witt is sworn into the Grand Jury.

"In slander case of William Bishop agst John Cannady, parties appear by their attys as does a Jury, to wit ... **William Mills.**"⁵⁶

9 JUNE 1748

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Court order

"Improvements to **Charles Mills's** land were returned, **David Mills** made oath that same had not been appraised before."⁵⁷

9 JUNE 1748

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land survey

"Joshua Fry, Gent. Surveyor presents the following lists of surveys made by him from June 1747 to June

⁵⁴ "The Grand Jury for the General Court was empannelled by the sheriff. ... it was required that they be freeholders and 'of the most capable persons'," according to Hugh F. Rankin, "The General Court of Colonial Virginia" (MS, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation Library, 1990), p. 9; html edition, Colonial Williamsburg Digital Library (<http://research.history.org/DigitalLibrary/View/index.cfm?doc=ResearchReports%5CRR0088.xml> : accessed 20 July 2018).

"**Freeholder** – The Colony of Virginia voting law of 1736 defined a Freeholder as a white male 21 years of age who owns at least 100 acres of unimproved land or 25 improved acres with a house and a 'plantation.' Any qualified Freeholder who failed to vote was subject to a fine of 200 pounds of tobacco. Any non-Freeholder who attempted to vote was subject to a fine of 500 pounds of tobacco." See William F. Milam, "Glossary of Colonial Terms," *Milam in Virginia* (<http://www.milaminvirginia.com/glossary.html> : accessed 20 July 2018).

⁵⁵ Library of Virginia, "Land Office Grants," database with images, *Virginia Memory* (http://image.lva.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/GetLONN.pl?first=276&last=&g_p=P26&collection=LO Patent : downloaded 20 May 2016), "Watts, Thomas, grantee ... Albemarle County ... 400 acres on the branches of Pedlar River"; citing "Land Office Patents No. 26, 1747–1748, v.1 & 2 p. 1–730, p. 276 (Reel 24)."

⁵⁶ Nance, "Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Orders, ... March Term 1747/48–June Term 1748," *Magazine of Virginia Genealogy* 29 (May 1991): 112–24, specifically 119, citing p. 361.

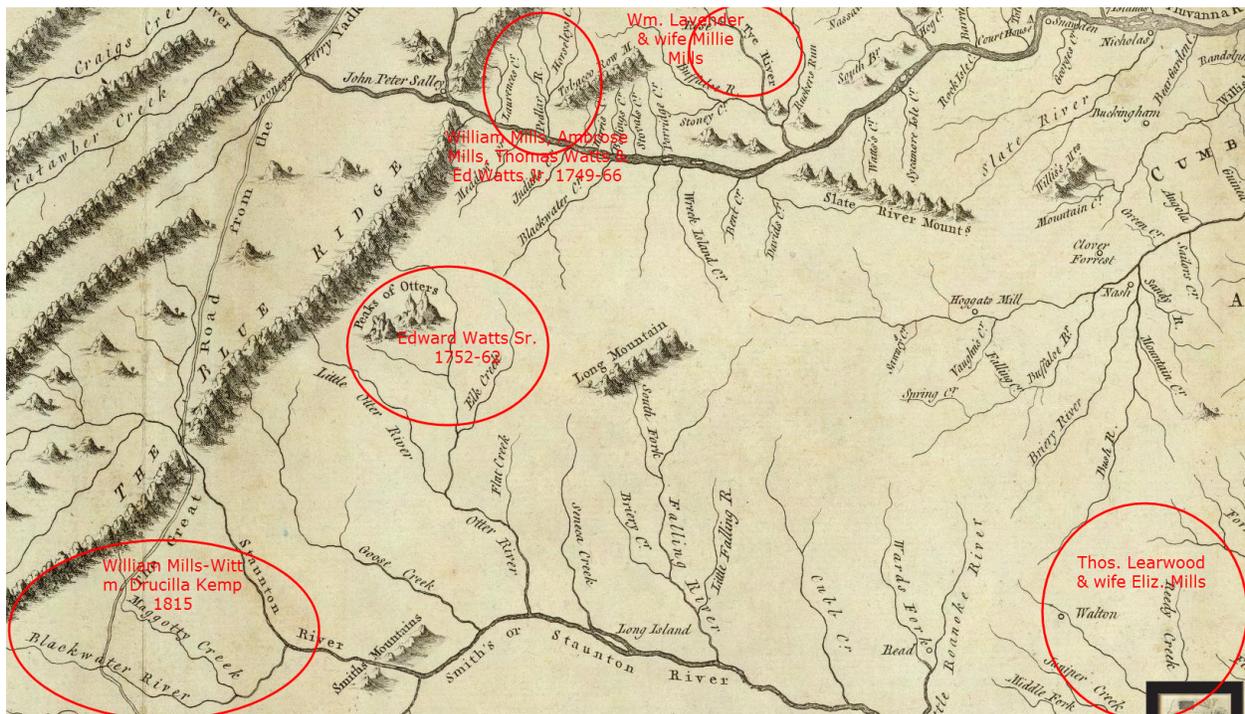
⁵⁷ Nance, "Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Orders, ... March Term 1747/48–June Term 1748," *Magazine of Virginia Genealogy* 29 (May 1991): 112–24, specifically 122, citing p. 371.

1748. ... Peter Soblet, **John Ri{pley?}** 199, ... William Phelps 200, **Marvel Stone** 390, George Taylor 200 ... **William Mills** 54, David Wills 125, Francis Baker 230, Arthur Tuley 400, Peter Currey 195, **Thomas Watts** 335, Capt. Lynch 400, Harding Burnley.” [end of list].⁵⁸

COMMENT:

This is the first acreage I have found for William Mills in Albemarle. However, he should already own a tract—at least 100 unimproved acres or at least 25 acres under cultivation with a residence thereon— given his service on the Grand Jury in June 1748.

Map 3
Location of Mills-Learwood-Lavender-Watts Grants⁵⁹



12 JULY 1748
ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Court order

“Promissory note: 12 July 1748 William Crutchfield promises to pay John Hayes 25 shillings. Wit: **Pat’r Napier.**”⁶⁰

⁵⁸ Ibid., specifically 123–24, citing pp. 374–75.

⁵⁹ This snippet is also taken from Joshua Fry and Peter Jefferson, “A Map of the Most Inhabited Part of Virginia,” 1775; imaged at *David Rumsey* (<http://bit.ly/1TEYmPT> : accessed 20 May 2016).

⁶⁰ Benjamin B. Weisiger III, compiler, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Papers, 1744–1783* (Richmond: P.p., 1987), 2.

24 SEPTEMBER 1748

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Court order

“Promissory note of **Ambrose Mills** of Albemarle Co. to William Hopkins 24 Sept. 1748. **Wit: R. Walton, H. Wood.**”⁶¹

COMMENT:

In 1759, one Robert Walton & wife Rebecca participated in an Albemarle sale of land by heirs of Chas. Hudson of Hanover Co.⁶²

One Walton genealogy asserts that Robert Walton Sr. was born c1694 and died after 1734 in New Kent County. He and his alleged wife Frances Sherwood are said to have had six children christened in St. Peter’s Parish, New Kent:

- Robert Jr. b. 7 January 1717/8, m. Mary Hughes, and d. c1750 in Cumberland Co.
- Rebecca Walton, b. 20 April 1720, m. Charles Pearson. (No source is provided for the marriage and no further information is provided on her or Pearson.)
- Joseph Walton, b. 10 February 1722, m. “Mary” and lived on Brimmer/Bremore creek of Goochland Co.
- George Walton, b. 17 February 1724/5, m. Martha Hughes on 14 August 1749 in Cumberland, and d. 7 July 1797 in Prince Edward Co.
- Frances Walton, b. 14 January 1726/7, m. Col. Richard Callaway, d. about 1766 in Bedford Co.
- Sherwood Walton, b. 10 July 1728, m. Susanna Jouett, and d. by 1816 in Amelia Co.

According to this genealogy, Robert Walton was a brother of William Walton I (b. 1700) who married Susannah Cobb and produced William Walton II of Goochland and Amherst, who married Elizabeth Tillman and was the brother-in-law of Jesse Mills.⁶³

Meanwhile, tradition among descendants of William Mills Jr., who moved to North Carolina, holds that his wife was named Rebecca and that they named a daughter Mary *Walton* Mills.

1748

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Court order

“Case of Bishop **Toney** and Sarah his wife agst James Shasted, saying that on 10 April 1748 he said that **Sarah Toney** was Thomas **Lane’s** whore” and would prove it. Toney’s claim damages of 50 pounds. Order to summon William Bishop and Rachel Jones as witnesses for James Chasted.

13 July 1749 to Justices of Albemarle County Court: “Please let my suit agst James Shasted be dismissed. Signed: Bishop Toney” (3 items).⁶⁴

COMMENT:

As shown in the notes below, the Lane/Laine family in the next generation would be extensively involved with the Biases, Whittens, and other associates and in-laws of the Millses and Witts.

⁶¹ Benjamin B. Weisiger III, compiler, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Papers, 1744–1783* (Richmond: P.p., 1987), 6.

⁶² Albemarle Co., Deed Book 2: 343.

⁶³ Wilmer L. Kerns, *Waltons of Old Virginia and Sketches of Families in Central Virginia ...* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2009), 10–14.

⁶⁴ Benjamin B. Weisiger III, compiler, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Papers, 1744–1783* (Richmond: P.p., 1987), 5.

In the 1770s, John Toney of Amherst < Albermarle moved to the New River region of Fincastle > Botetourt > Montgomery County where he would be a neighbor and associate of Millses and their inlaws.

1748

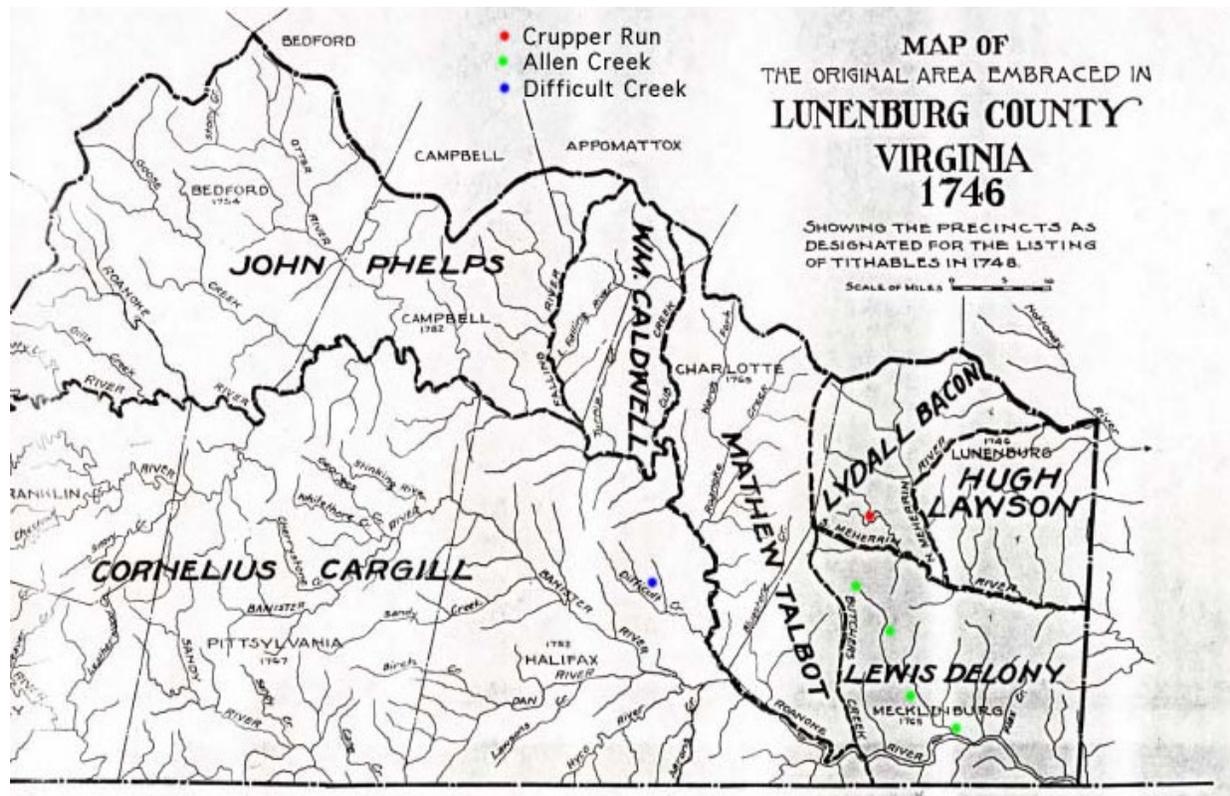
ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Court papers

“1748 Folder ... William Hopkins shows that **Ambrose Mills** is indebted to him 1 Pound, 13 shillings, 9 pence, due by account. Account for above (2 items).”

“1749 Folder ... Promissory note of **Ambrose Mills** of Albemarle Co. to William Hopkins 24 Sept. 1748. Wit: **R. Walton**, H. Wood.” [no date]⁶⁵

Map 4
Lunenburg County, Virginia, 1748⁶⁶



1748

LUNENBURG COUNTY, VA

Tax roll

“List of Tithes Taken Between Hounds Creek and Meherrein {River} 1748”⁶⁷

⁶⁵ Benjamin B. Weisiger III, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Papers, 1744–1783* (Richmond, VA: P.p., 1987), 3, 6.

⁶⁶ Landon C. Bell, *Sunlight on the Southside: Lists of Tithes; Lunenburg County, Virginia, 1748–1783* (1931; reprint, Baltimore: Clearfield Co., 1998), 58; color-annotated copy, source not identified, accessed via *Google Images*.

⁶⁷ Landon C. Bell, *Sunlight on the Southside: List of Tithes, Lunenburg County, Virginia; 1748–1783* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1974), 58, 60–61; no source cited.

COMMENT:

No Mills or known neighbors and associates.

“List of Tithables for 1748; List Taken by {Lewis} Deloney”⁶⁸

[skip 35 households]

Lewis Delony

John Freeman 8

[skip 17 households]

Henry Delony

John Challis

Jas. Vincent 3

[skip 4 households]

Edward Whitt

1 [one Lewis Witt/Whitt supposedly m. Anne Mills]

[skip 26 households]

Field Jefferson

Thos. Jefferson

George Farrar

Joseph Aking

Wm. Edwards

David Dodd 16

John Tayloe Duke

2 [later a Watts & Mobberly neighbor in Fairfield District, SC]

John Duke

3

[skip 32 households]

Wm. Sandifer

John Young

6

[skip 22 households]

Nickolas Calyham

John Callyham

David Caliham

3

[skip 30 households]

David Allen

1

John Robinson

Mark Robinson

Edward Robinson

4

Wm. Douglas

1

Thomas Watts

1 [husband of Sarah Mills]

Wm. Hagood and

Wm. Hagood, Junr.

2

Matthew Robinson and

Wm. Gamblin

2

[13 households to end of list]

“From the Mouth of Fallin River Upwards [to county line] 1748, Taken by John Phelps”

John Miles [Mills]

1 [4 names from end of list]⁶⁹

⁶⁸ Landon C. Bell, *Sunlight on the Southside: List of Tithes, Lunenburg County, Virginia; 1748–1783* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1974), 67–73; no source cited.

⁶⁹ Landon C. Bell, *Sunlight on the Southside: List of Tithes, Lunenburg County, Virginia; 1748–1783* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1974), 81–86; no source cited. He appears as “Mills” on Phelps’ list of 1752 and other county records. See also William Mills of Hailes’ 1750 list.

28–30 MARCH 1748

ALBEMARLE COUNTY (ADJACENT TO LUNENBURG)

Land survey

“Thos. Stone, 200 ac; Mar 28, 1748; joyning South side Pedlar River; joyning **Geo Watts, Horsly’s creek, Thos Stone.**”

“**Thos. Watts**, 335 ac; Mar 30, 1478 [sic]; branches of Pedlar River; by Thomas Turpin; joining Robt. Davis, **Edwd Watts.**”⁷⁰

1749

LUNENBURG COUNTY, VA

Tax roll

“The List of Tithes taken Between Hounds Creek and Meherrin 1749” by Hugh Lawson⁷¹

COMMENT:

No Mills or known neighbor or associate.

“William Howard’s List of Tithables, 1749”

[Skip 8 households]

John Robinson

Mark Robinson

Edward Robinson

4 tithes

24 heads & scalps

[Skip 9 households]

Henry Deloney

William Tait, Constable

[Skip 17 households]

William Hagood, Senr. &

William Hagood, Junr.

2 tithes

Francis Ellidge

John Parnold

Jacob Mitchell

John Earl

John Carril

Thomas Watts

3 tithes

18 heads & scalps⁷²

COMMENT:

- This William Howard district was the Lewis Delony district the previous year.
- Note that Thomas Watts is still listed near the Hagoods, as in the previous year. However, he is now listed in the “household” of John Earl.
- Many online trees at Ancestry and elsewhere assert (without evidence) that John Earl was married to **Mary Elizabeth Watts.**⁷³
- John Earl drops from Lunenburg records. He is possibly the Col. John Earl(e) of the RW era in Rutherford Co., NC, who associated closely with Ambrose Mills’s heirs.⁷⁴

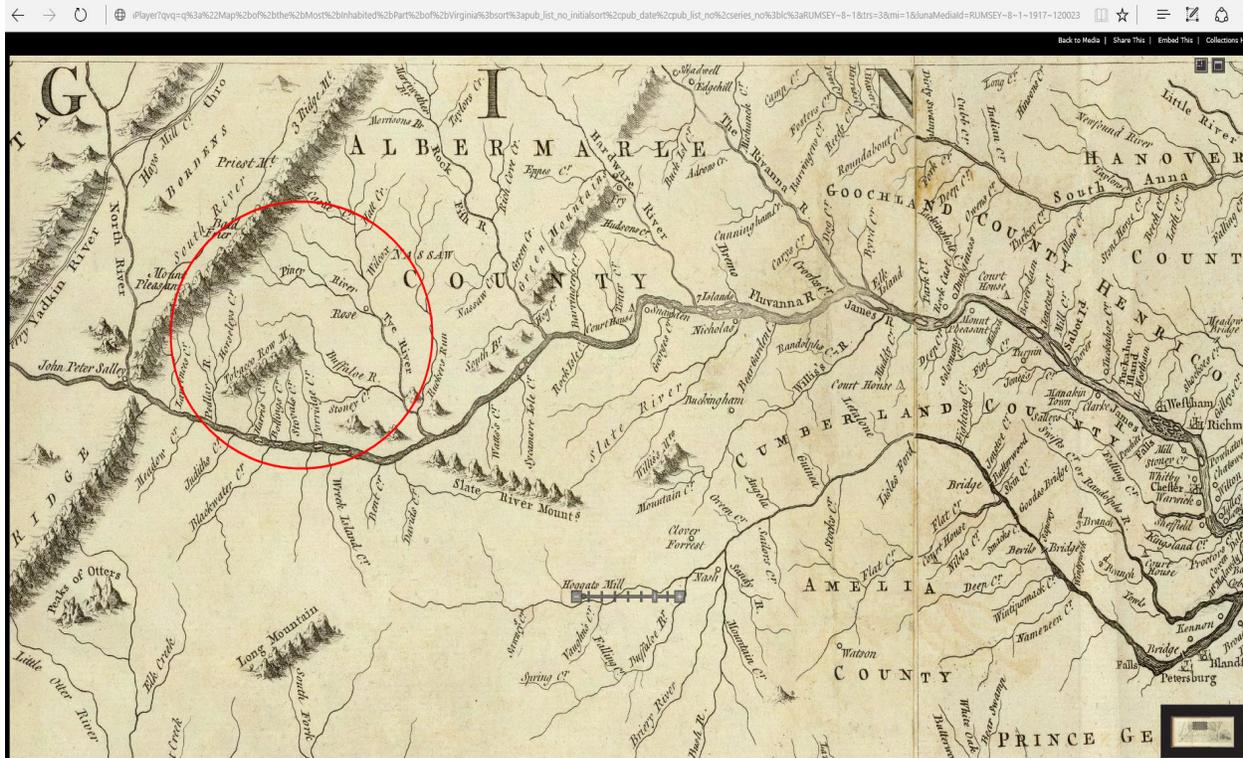
⁷⁰ Eric G. Grundset, “Land lying in the County of Albemarle:” *Albemarle County, Virginia Surveyors’ Plat Books, Volume 1, Parts 1 and 2, and Volume 2, 1744–1853 [and 1891]* (Fairfax, VA: Privately printed, 1998), 18; citing vol. 1, pp. 64 and 68.

⁷¹ Landon C. Bell, *Sunlight on the Southside: List of Tithes, Lunenburg County, Virginia; 1748–1783* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1974), 67–73; no source cited.

⁷² Landon C. Bell, *Sunlight on the Southside: List of Tithes, Lunenburg County, Virginia; 1748–1783* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1974), 108–15.

⁷³ For example, see “scanner5” [creator, “Murphy-MacDaniel Family Tree,” *Ancestry* (http://trees.ancestry.com/tree/11032083/person/6159613367?ssrc=&ml_rpos=37 : accessed 5 January 2015), “John Earl” page.

Map 5 Pedlar River, Tye River, Piney River Region, Albemarle (later Amherst)⁷⁵



1 APRIL 1749 ALBEMARLE & GOOCHLAND COUNTY

Land grant

On payment of 40 shillings, grant made and confirmed unto **William Mills**. 400 acres in Goochland County [which, by the time of the patent was issued, had been subdivided to create Albemarle] “on both sides of **Pedlar River and Dancing Creek** bounded as follows:

“Beginning at two Spanish Oaks on the North Side the said River running Thence down the same and across making in a Right line two hundred and twenty Poles to a Willow Tree on the South Side the River,^[1] Thence into the Woods North twenty five Degrees West at one hundred and seventy a Branch in all two hundred and thirty Poles to a red Oak near a Branch,^[1] North two hundred and sixty Poles crossing two Branches and **Dancing Creek** to two Dogwoods and a Gum,^[1] South seventy six Degrees east at seventy six Pedlar River in all two hundred and sixteen Poles to Pointers on the side of Valley,^[1] and South twenty Degrees West two hundred and twenty Poles to the Beginning.”⁷⁶

⁷⁴ See E. S. Mills, “Mills & Associates: Rutherford County, NC, Its Parent Counties ... & Offshoots: Initial Survey,” report to file, 28 August 2018; archived at *Historic Pathways* under the “Research” tab.

⁷⁵ The above map snippet is from Joshua Fry and Peter Jefferson, “A Map of the Most Inhabited Part of Virginia,” 1775; imaged at *David Rumsey* (<http://bit.ly/1TEYmPT> : accessed 20 May 2016).

⁷⁶ Library of Virginia, “Land Office Grants,” database with images, *Virginia Memory* (http://image.lva.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/GetLONN.pl?first=539&last=&g_p=P28&collection=LO_Patent : downloaded 20 May 2016), “Mills, Willliam, grantee ... Albemarle County ... 400 acres on both sides of Pedlar River and on Dancing Creek”; citing “Land Office Patents No. 28, 1746–1749 (v. 1 & w p.1-730), p. 539 (Reel 26).”

9 AUGUST 1749

LUNENBURG COUNTY, VA

Land sale

Thomas Watts and **Sarah**, his wife of Albemarle County, sell to Peter Bays, “of aforesaid county,” for 35 pounds, land in Albemarle County, on the North side of Pedlar River, containing 400 acres, described as

Beginning at a Hicory saplin, Running from thence by marked Trees to a White Oak in a valey, from thence to a Hicory saplin from thence to a pine, from thence to four Dogwood saplins and Thence along a line to pointers and Thence along a line to pointers [*sic*] and Thence along a line to the place Began.”

Signed: Thomas (WT his mark) Watts. Witnesses: Edmond Harrison, Richard Powell, Thomas Smith. August Court, 1749: Thomas Watts acknowledged the deed.⁷⁷

COMMENT:

- Pedlar River was a short branch of the Fluvanna/James, lying in the western “butt” of Albemarle. To the south of the Fluvanna was Lunenburg. In 1754, Prince Edward County (where the Learwoods lived) would be created from Amelia and included the part of Lunenburg that lay along the south side of the Fluvanna.
- Sarah did not sign or make her mark. The evidence does not show she was actually present. In most other deeds in this record set, the wife *did* sign or acknowledge the sale.
- Skimming this “Will & Deed” book reveals that most men who appear in these records (i.e., yeoman class and above) could sign their names. Most women could not.
- Thomas Smith, one of the witnesses above, in 1759 sold land adjoining William Mills and Edward Watts. (See abstract under that date.)

13 NOVEMBER 1749

LUNENBURG COUNTY, VA

Court order

Payment of wolf bounties.

“To Henry Delony, assignee of **Thomas Watts/Walls**, granted by Wm. Howard, Cert. 3 Oct. 1749, 1 old Wolf head, 140 lbs. tobacco.”

[*skip several*]

“To **Ambross Mills**, granted by John Phelps, cert. 25 Feb 1748, 1 old wolf head, 140 pounds tobacco.”⁷⁸

12–14 APRIL 1750

ALBEMARLE COUNTY

Land survey.

“**Wm Mills**’ 350 ac; Ap 12, 1750; on branches Buck Creek; by William Cabell, joining **Edward Watts Jr.**”

“**William Mills**; 330 ac; Ap 13, 1750; on branches Buck branch; by William Cabell; joining **Thos. Mills**, John Davis, Isham Davis.”

⁷⁷ Albemarle Co., Va., Wills & Deeds, Book 1: 96–97. Peter Bays did not keep the land. On 13 December 1760 William Gilliam sold it to Nicholas Davis of Cumberland County, saying that Thomas had received patent for the 400 acres “on branches of Pedlar River” on 5 April 1748. No neighbors were named. See Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Abstract, 1761–1764* (N.P.: Antient Press, 1988), 4.

⁷⁸ June Banks Evans, *Lunenburg County, Virginia: Order Book 2, 1748–1742* (New Orleans, LA: Bryn Ffylliaid Publications, 1995), 51; citing Order Book 2: 246–47.

“Thos. Smith, 350 ac; Ap 14 1750; on Pedlar River; by William Cabell; joining **Wm Mills, Edward Watts, John Stones.**”⁷⁹

1750

LUNENBURG COUNTY, VA

Tax roll

“For 1750: List taken by Nicholas Haile.” [about 120 taxpayers; skipping first 75 or so]

John Keeth

John Macfaull

William Mills 1 [Not William Mills Jr.]⁸⁰

William Hays

John Richardson

William Bennet

Peter Bennet

Joseph Bennet

Nicholas Welsh

[skip 15]

Charles Simmons

William Linch

Thomas Wats 1 [Not the Thomas Watts who married Sarah Mills]⁸¹

John Boon

John Smith

Peter Kinsey

Joshua Bartlet

John Anderson

Jeremiah Scafe

[end of list]⁸²

“List Taken by William Howard”

[includes Farrars, John Taylor Duke, William Sandefur⁸³ (with Young dependents again) and then ...]

Edward Whitt 1

James McDaniel

Field Jefferson

Thomas Jefferson [son of Field, cousin of the president]

Steven Houseman 12

[skip 6 households]

John Robinson

Thomas Moore

James Smith

Thomas Avery, Senr.

John Avery

Thomas Avery, Junt.

⁷⁹ Eric G. Grundset, “Land Lying in the County of Albemarle:” *Albemarle County, Virginia Surveyors’ Plat Books, Volume 1, Parts 1 and 2, and Volume 2, 1744–1853 [and 1891]* (Fairfax, VA: Privately printed, 1998), 31–32; citing vol. 1, pp. 127, 133.

⁸⁰ See E. S. Mills, “William Mills of Haile’s Tithe List, 1750, Lunenburg Co., Virginia: Identification Needed,” report to file dated 20 June 2018; archived at *Historic Pathways* under the “Research” tab.

⁸¹ *Ibid.*

⁸² Landon C. Bell, *Sunlight on the Southside: List of Tithes, Lunenburg County, Virginia; 1748–1783* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1974), 135–38; no source cited.

⁸³ The Sandefur/Standifer family ended up in Franklin Co., where they were associates of (and marriage bondsman for) William Mills-Witt in 1815. See Franklin Co., Marriage Bond, no. 2859; Office of the Circuit Court Clerk, Rocky Mt., VA.

<i>John King</i>		[a man of this name was a Fairfield associate of the Thos. Watts family]
Baxter Davis		
Edward Davis		
John Sanboth		
John Gain Davis		
Thomas Watts	1	[The Thomas Watts who marr. Sarah Mills, now cited independently]
William Taber		
John Taber		
Henry Sage		
William Daniel		
Francis Lett		
[etc.] ⁸⁴		

“List taken by Hugh Lawson”⁸⁵

COMMENT:

This district has no Mills or known neighbors and associates.

“1750 List taken by John Phelps”

William Mobberley	1	
Benjn. Turman		
John Jennings	2	
Edwd. Mobberly, Junr.		
Thomas Mobberly		
Roger Conner	3	
Edwd. Mobberly	1	
Benjn. Mobberly	1	
[skip 10 households]		
Clemt. Mobberley	1	[These Mobberlys moved to Fairfield along with Ambrose Mills]
[skip 7 households]		
Capt. Linch		
Harry Cockram	3	
Jno. Mobberley		
Mordecai Mobberley		
Hamon Mobberley	6	
[skip 2 households]		
Jno. Payne		
Chs. Spurlock		
Ambrose Mills	4	[Mills is shown on next year’s list as Payne’s overseer]
[skip 5 households]		
Wm. Stone		[Ambrose Mills married Mourning Stone] ⁸⁶

⁸⁴ Landon C. Bell, *Sunlight on the Southside: List of Tithes, Lunenburg County, Virginia; 1748–1783* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1974), 138–44, particularly p. 140; no source cited.

⁸⁵ Landon C. Bell, *Sunlight on the Southside: List of Tithes, Lunenburg County, Virginia; 1748–1783* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1974), 144–47, particularly p. 145; no source cited.

⁸⁶ Lyman C. Draper, *Kings Mountain and Its Heroes: History of the Battle of King’s Mountain, October 7th, 1780* (Cincinnati: Peter G. Thompson, 1881), 481. Draper, the famed creator of the Draper Manuscripts at the Wisconsin Historical Society, corresponded from the 1840s with thousands of families of participants in the Revolution to acquire privately held records, memoirs, etc. His biography of Col. Ambrose Mills does not provide sources. However, a longer sketch with passages almost verbatim to Draper appears online, where it is said to be written by Ambrose’s great-grandson J.M. Edney as an obituary for his grandfather Maj. William Mills (son of Ambrose). However, the transcript itself states that it was written “October 30, 1845,” 11 years after Maj. William’s death. It is more probable that the grandson wrote this in the 1840s as a sketch for Draper.

Robt. Irons [Ironses were also in Fairfield]
Wm. Stone Junr.
Eusebius Stone 4

JULY 1750

LUNENBURG COUNTY, VA

Court order

“Silvanus Junon petitioner agst **Thos Watt**; petitioner to recover £3/5/5/ debt.”⁸⁷

COMMENT:

To have been sued in his own name, Thomas was at least 21—i.e., born before 1729.

1751

LUNENBURG COUNTY, VA

Court papers.

“1751 Folder ... John Harvie shows that John Long is in debt to him. Account of John Long with Harvie for attorney’s fees agst **James Mills** and agst Molly Johnson, for 1 Pound, 10 shillings (2 items).”⁸⁸

COMMENT:

I have found no evidence to fit this James Mills into any other Albemarle family.

1751

LUNENBURG COUNTY, VA

Tax list

“For 1751 List taken by Field Jefferson”

[Skip about 40]

Thomas Evins
John Evins

[skip 9]

Charles Evins
And son Tom
Gilbird Evins

[skip 20]

William Sandefur {?}
Saml. Young

Thomas Wats 1

Edward Henry
David Robertson
Robert Hudson
Ephraim Hudson

Thos. Burnee
John Lankford 1

Thomas Macklin
James Lett
Francis Lett
John **Hopson**

For a typescript, see “Public Member Photos & Scanned Documents,” *Ancestry* (<http://www.Ancestry.com> : accessed 23 June 2015), unidentified contributor, “Maj William Mills 1746 to 1834.”

⁸⁷ June Banks Evans, *Lunenburg County, Virginia: Order Book 2, 1748–1742* (New Orleans, LA: Bryn Ffylliaiad Publications, 1995), 71; citing Order Book 2:322.

⁸⁸ Benjamin B. Weisiger III, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Papers, 1744–1783* (Richmond, VA: P.p., 1987), 8.

Job Meader	2	[Little River land grant in 1760; ⁹⁴ in Anson Co., NC, by 1762; ⁹⁵ back in Fairfield, 1790; son-in-law of Edward Mobberly, Sr., who is taxed at the start of this list ⁹⁶]
Joel Meader		
Benjn. Orrick		
Jno. Eckols		
Jeffery Crowley		
Wm. Harvey		
Lewis Meador		[moved to Anson Co., NC]
[skip 39]		
Jas. Gibson	1	[Fairfield, SC, 1790]
Randal Gibson	1	[Fairfield, SC, 1790]
Thos. Prather		
Adam Biard		
Thos. Walker		
Wm. Briant		
Jno. Davison		
Henry Farguson		
Matw. Amory		
Wm. Armstrong		
Thos. Carr		
John Mills	2	[No known relationship to Ambrose; he is not named as a son in the published abstract of William Mills's will made 1755 and probated 1766. Associate of the William Mills of the 1750 Hailes list. ⁹⁷]
Nathan Nichols		
John Thomas		
John Wallon [Walton?]		
James McGee		
Jno. Phelps		
William hayes		
Thos. Laxton		
[End of list] ⁹⁸		

"1752 List taken by Hugh Lawson"⁹⁹

COMMENT:

No Mills or known neighbors or associates.

⁹⁴ Kenneth Shelton, *All That Dare Oppose Them: The Whig Victory at Mobley's Meeting House, June 1780* (P.p.: P.p., 2005), 22.

⁹⁵ Ann Chilton, *Bedford Co., Va., Deed Book A-1, 1754-1762* (Signal Mountain, TN: Mountain Press, 1987), 22; deed from "Job Meador of Anson Co., N.C., to John Williams of Bedford County, 70 acres lying on the South side of Otter River." The Mobberlys/Mobleys who moved to Fairfield also lived on Otter River in Bedford. The Watts of Bedford owned land on Elk and Ivy Creeks, as did the Woodwards who also moved to Fairfield where they were Watts neighbors.

⁹⁶ Kenneth Shelton, *All That Dare Oppose Them: The Whig Victory at Mobley's Meeting House, June 1780* (P.p.: P.p., 2005), 100, 118. Shelton cites Robert Mills, "Statistics of South Carolina, 1826" for statement that Job Meador died Oct. 1822 at 101 years of age.

⁹⁷ See E. S. Mills, "William Mills of Haile's Tithes List, 1750, Lunenburg Co., Virginia: Identification Needed," report to file, 20 June 2018; archived at *Historic Pathways* under the "Research" tab.

⁹⁸ Landon C. Bell, *Sunlight on the Southside: Lists of Tithes, Lunenburg County, Virginia, 1748-1783* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1974), 202-8.

⁹⁹ Landon C. Bell, *Sunlight on the Southside: List of Tithes, Lunenburg County, Virginia; 1748-1783* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1974), 199-202, especially p. 200; no source cited.

The compiler of these published tax rolls for Lunenburg did not include surviving rolls from 1753–63.

TO DO:

- Seek the omitted Lunenburg tax rolls at Library of Virginia and use them to further analyze the family.
- Search for the existence of Bedford tax rolls after the county's creation in 1754, to better define the outmigration to the Fairfield area.

27 FEBRUARY 1752

LUNENBURG > BEDFORD COUNTY, VA

County creation

The legal act creating Bedford County was passed this day.

COMMENT:

It would be 1753 before an administration was in place to start recordkeeping in the new county, In the meanwhile, we continue to find Watts, but not Mills, in Lunenburg's records.

JULY 1752

LUNENBURG COUNTY, VA

Civic role

"Alexander Mackie agst Amey Jones, Godfrey Jones, David Jones exorts Thos Jones decd., defendant; **jury**: James Arnold, Saml Perrin, **Thos Watts**, Wm. Bevil, Lewis Morgan, Henry Parrish, Joseph Perrin, James Thomason, Christopher Johnson, Richd Thompson, Wm Jones, Reuben Vaughn; plaintiff to recover for nonperformance."¹⁰⁰

7 AUGUST 1752

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

William Mills of Albemarle County to *Martha Massie* of New Kent County, sale of 400 acres in Albemarle Co. on **Pedlar River** described as:

"Beginning at two Spanish Oaks on the North side of the said River, running thence down the same and across making in a Right line two hundred & twenty Poles to a Willow tree on the South Side of the River, thence into the woods North twenty five Degrees west at one hundred & Seventy a branch, in all two hundred & thirty Poles to a red oak near a branch, North two hundred & Sixty Poles Crossing two ranches & **Dancing Creek** & two Dogwoods & Gum South twenty Six Degrees East at Seventy Six, Pedlar River, in all two hundred & Sixteen Poles to Pointers on the side of a **vallee** & South twenty Degrees West two hundred & twenty Poles to the Beginning."

7 August 1752, Mills put Massie in possession of the property.

13 August 1752, Mills acknowledged receiving 200 pounds from Massie in full payment. Mary, William's wife, also appeared in court to be privately examined about the relinquishment of her dower rights.¹⁰¹

COMMENT

- William Sr. patented this land in 1749 on "**Pedlar River and Dancing Creek.**"

¹⁰⁰ June Banks Evans, *Lunenburg County, Virginia: Order Book 2 ½-A, 1752–53* (New Orleans, LA: Bryn Ffyliad Publications, 1997), 15; citing Order Book 2 ½-A:103.

¹⁰¹ Albermarle Co. Wills & Deeds, Book 1: 475–76 (previously consulted in my Watts study).

- Why would a single woman buy this land from Mills? It's rural; part of it is in woods. It's not a town lot where she would have close neighbors. **Typically, Mills would be part of Martha's support network.** This conclusion is strengthened by the point that Mills legally put her in possession of the property a week before he received payment.

TO DO:

- Martha Massie should be studied as a potential kinswoman of William or Mary Mills.
- New Kent should be studied as potential place of prior residence for William Mills.

10 AUGUST 1752

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

Samuel Jameson of Albemarle County to James Wharey of same, sale for 40 £, 400 acres in Albemarle Co. on "**branches of Spring Creek**" described as:

"bounded beginning at **Charles Mills's** Corner white Oak saplin runing thence on his line to pointers, thence on new line North West to a Stake between pointers, South West to a branch of Spring Creek to a shrubby white Oake, South east to pointers in **Charles Mills** line, thence on the said North East to the first station (which said parcel of land was granted unto Samuel Jamison by Patent bearing date the twenty fifth day of June One thousand seven hundred and Forty seven) with all building houses orchards and appurtenances belonging."

Signed: Samuel Jamison; Jean [her distinctive mark that looks like a small C looped into a big below-line C] Jamison. Witnesses : John McCollock, John [A, his mark] Jamison, Alexander Jameson.¹⁰²

COMMENT:

In addition to the William Mills family on Albemarle's Pedlar River, another cluster of Millses appear in a different part of the county—offspring of Nicholas Mills of Hanover. Charles, above, is one of those. Many online trees assert that the William Mills under study in this project was also a son of Nicholas. None offer evidence. As seen from this project, the patterns of residence and associations strongly speak against that proposed kinship.¹⁰³

5 SEPTEMBER 1753

LUNENBURG COUNTY, VA

Court order

"John Thompson agst **Ambrose Mills** for debt due; dismissed."¹⁰⁴

31 OCTOBER 1753

LUNENBURG COUNTY, VA

Court order

"**John Mills** aptd surveyor rd from *Euing's* fence to the Blew Ridge in room of **William Mills**."¹⁰⁵

¹⁰² Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed & Will Abstracts, 1748–1752* (1990, reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, n.d.), 145.

¹⁰³ Mrs. P. W. Hiden, "Nicholas Mills of Hanover County," *Tyler's Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine* 14 (1933): 237–42; 15 (1933): 38–64; reprinted as *Genealogies of Virginia Families; From Tyler's Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine*, Gary Parks, ed. 4 vols. (Baltimore: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1981), 2: 657–701.

¹⁰⁴ June Banks Evans, *Lunenburg County, Virginia: Order Book 2 ½-B, 1753–1754* (New Orleans, La.: Bryn Ffylliaid Publication, 1998), 33, 35; citing Order Book 2 ½-B: 373, 386, 391.

¹⁰⁵ June Banks Evans, *Lunenburg County, Virginia: Order Book 2 ½-B, 1753–1754* (New Orleans, LA: Bryn Ffylliaid Publication, 1998), 41; citing Order Book 2 ½-B: 469.

COMMENT:

This William Mills was the William of the 1750 Nicholas Haile list, who had significant associations with John about 1749–53.¹⁰⁶ Given that Bedford County was cut from Lunenburg, he is a candidate for the John Mills who married a daughter of Bedford's Robert Ewing.¹⁰⁷

"**Jas Mills** on attachment (mare & colt) agst Jeremiah Morah dfdnt; plaintif to recover debt by public sale attachment."¹⁰⁸

COMMENT:

- This James is also not mentioned as a son in the will of William Sr.
- Some trees assert (without documentation) that he is the same James Mills of Bedford in 1782–85 and thereafter Franklin Co. However, that James did not begin a family until c1774,¹⁰⁹ which is improbably late for him to be this James who was an adult in Lunenburg before 1750.

10–11 OCTOBER 1753

ALBEMARLE COUNTY

Land survey

"Micajah Clarke; 400 ac; October 11, 1753; North fork of Maple Creek; by William Cabell, joining **Marvel Stone**."

"Micajah Clarke; 350 ac; October 10, 1753; branches Pedlar River on West side of the Tobacco Row Mountains, by William Cabell; joining Peter Bays, **William Watts**."¹¹⁰

COMMENT:

In 1769, one **Eleonor Mills**, the apparent widow of Thomas Mills, witnessed a deed for William Cabell, who was a Mills-Bays-Watts neighbor on the waters of the Pedlar. Eleonor Stone is the name traditionally given for Mrs. Edward Watts, mother of Thomas who married Sarah Mills. *I should investigate the possibility that two Watts siblings may have married two Mills siblings—* i.e., Thomas Watts married Sarah Mills, and Thomas Mills married Eleonor Watts.

12 APRIL 1754

ALBEMARLE COUNTY

Land survey

"Nicholas Davis Gent, 25,000 ac; April 12, 1754; on both sides Fluvanna River [south branch of the James]; 3,450 acres part thereof was formerly granted 21,550 acres New Land included by Order of Council and survey'd by William Cabell; joining Colo Fry & Company, N. Davis, Jno. Anthony, Rev'd Wm Stith, Rich'd Burk Braton & Co., Carrington & Mayo, **Wm Mills**, Jno. Davis, Rob't Davis, Cornelius Nevil (400 ac), Nich. Davis. Shows the following watercourses: Hunting Creek, Tuckahoe Creek, Cabbin Creek,

¹⁰⁶ See E. S. Mills, "William Mills of Haile's Tithe List, 1750, Lunenburg Co., Virginia: Identification Needed," report to file dated 20 June 2018; archived at *Historic Pathways* under the "Research" tab.

¹⁰⁷ For this John Mills and his wife Patty Ewing, see E. S. Mills, "Mills: Bedford County, Virginia: Extended Survey of Resources," report to file dated 28 August 2018; archived at *Historic Pathways* under the "Resources" tab.

¹⁰⁸ June Banks Evans, *Lunenburg County, Virginia: Order Book 2 ½-B, 1753–1754* (New Orleans, LA: Bryn Ffylliaid Publication, 1998), 50; citing Order Book 2 ½-B: 562.

¹⁰⁹ See E. S. Mills, "James Mills (bef.1750—c1823–24) & Wife [?Octavia Breckinridge?]: Research Notes," a work-in-progress last updated 28 August 2018; archived at *Historic Pathways* under the "Research"

¹¹⁰ Eric G. Grundset, "Land lying in the County of Albemarle:" *Albemarle County, Virginia Surveyors' Plat Books, Volume 1, Parts 1 and 2, and Volume 2, 1744–1853 [and 1891]* (Fairfax, VA: Privately printed, 1998), 56; citing vol. 1, p. 244.

Indian Camp Creek, Vineyard Creek, Tumblin Creek, Cold Camp Creek, Wide Mouth Creek, Salt Creek, and **Pedlar River** along with numerous islands in the river.”¹¹¹

SEPTEMBER 1754

BEDFORD COUNTY, VA

Road order

“Nicholas Welch is appointed Surveyor of the Road in the room of **John Mills**, and it is ordered that he, together with all the hands that assisted the said Mills on the said Road, do forthwith clear and keep the same in repair.”¹¹²

OCTOBER 1754

BEDFORD COUNTY, VA

Associate

“George Walton, Plaintiff, against **John Partree Birks**, Defendant, In Debt. This day came the Plaintiff by his attorney, and the defendant in his proper person, and **Ambrose Mills** came into Court and undertook for the Defendant that in case he shall be cast in this suit that he shall satisfy and pay the condemnation of the Court or render his body to prison in execution for the same or that the said Mills will do it for him, and the said Defendant acknowledging the Plaintiff’s action, therefore it is considered by the Court that the Plaintiff recover against the Defendant 7£ 18 shillings and 3? pence, the debt in the declaration mentioned, and his costs. But this judgment is to be discharged by the payment of 3£ 9 shillings and 4 pence half penny, together with 5% interest from March 1, 1754, and the costs, and the plaintiff agrees to stay execution of this judgment one month.”¹¹³

COMMENT:

- Note that Ambrose Mills is supporting Birks in this suit lodged by Walton. Genealogists have long asserted that Ambrose’s mother was one *Mary Walton*.¹¹⁴ None have presented evidence, to my knowledge.
- Ambrose’s support for Birks is notable in light of the 1745–48 Watts vs. Birks suit, wherein Ambrose’s in-law Edward Watts sued Birks for assault, battery, and slander. Both Ambrose and his father William were summoned as witnesses. His father appeared and was paid for substantial service (ten days), while Ambrose declined to appear.
- Before May 1755 (see below), apparently to clear this debt, John P. Birks and his wife Sarah would sell a tract of land on **Elk Creek** adjoining “Watts.” Edward Watts had earlier bought Elk Creek land from George Walton.
- On 15 July 1793, “**William Lavender & Sarah** his wife and **William Walton & Mildred** his wife” sold to Lewis Tindal of Buckingham Co., for 160£, 246 acres described as adjacent to **John Portree Burks**; the land apparently had been granted to Charles Lavender and then inherited by his son William Lavender Sr.¹¹⁵

¹¹¹ Eric G. Grundset, “*Land lying in the County of Albemarle: Albemarle County, Virginia Surveyors’ Plat Books, Volume 1, Parts 1 and 2, and Volume 2, 1744–1853 [and 1891]* (Fairfax, VA: Privately printed, 1998), 63; citing vol. 1, p. 277.

¹¹² TLC Genealogy, *Bedford County, Virginia, Order Book 1, 1754–1761* (Miami Beach, FL: TLC Genealogy, 2000), 17; citing original Order book 1-A, p. 18.

¹¹³ TLC Genealogy, *Bedford County, Virginia, Order Book 1, 1754–1761* (Miami Beach, FL: TLC Genealogy, 2000), 23; citing original page 29.

¹¹⁴ Mrs. P. W. Hiden, “Nicholas Mills of Hanover County,” *Tyler’s Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine* 14 (1933): 237–42; 15 (1933): 38–64; reprinted as *Genealogies of Virginia Families; From Tyler’s Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine*, Gary Parks, ed. 4 vols. (Baltimore: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1981), 2: 700–1.

¹¹⁵ William Lavender (Private Capt. Allen’s Co., Col. Taylor’s Regt., Virginia Line), no. W20189 in “Revolutionary War Pensions,” *Fold3* (<https://www.fold3.com/image/25255701> and 33 subsequent numbers).

- **George Walton** in 1760 owned land adjacent to the newly chosen Elk Creek grant of **Thomas Learwood**, Ambrose's brother-in-law. Walton appears often in Bedford Co. deeds, owning and selling land on Butterums Branch, Elk Creek, a branch of Elk Creek, Rock Castle Creek, North side of Stanton River. His Elk Creek holdings spanned 4 tracts, in addition to the fifth on a Branch of Elk. One of those lay adjacent to "the land sold by Walton to Edward Watts."¹¹⁶

DECEMBER 1754

BEDFORD COUNTY, VA

Legal suit

"Archibald Buchanan, John Bowman and Co., Plaintiffs, against **Ambros Mills**, Defendant, **in debt**. This day came the Plaintiffs by their attorney, and the Defendant in his proper person, and the Defendant acknowledging the Plaintiff's action, therefore it is considered by the Court that the Plaintiffs recover against the Defendant 7 £, the debt in the declaration mentioned, and his costs. But this judgment, except as to the costs, is to be discharged by the payment of 3 £ 16 shillings, with 5% interest from May 3, 1753."¹¹⁷

MARCH 1755

BEDFORD COUNTY, VA

Legal suit

"William Armstead, Plaintiff, against John Anthony and **Matthew Mills**, Defendants, in debt. This day came the Plaintiff by his attorney, and Defendant Anthony in his proper person, and the Defendant acknowledges the Plaintiff's action. Therefore it is considered by the Court that the Plaintiff recover against the Defendant Anthony, 368 £, the debt in the declaration specified, and his costs. But this judgment, except as to the costs, is to be discharged by the payment of 168 £ 5 shillings, with 5% interest from October 1, 1753, and the Plaintiff acknowledges to have received of this judgment, last September 24, 8 £ 13 shillings and 9 pence, and last October 27, 20 £ 10 shillings, and also to have received, this day, 13 £ and 9 pence. And as to the Defendant **Mill** {sic}, this suit is ordered to be dismissed."¹¹⁸

COMMENT:

Matthew was an offshoot of the Nicholas Mills family, centered in the Mechum's River area.

AUGUST 1755

BEDFORD COUNTY, VA

Legal suit

"Ordered that the Sheriff of this County summon **Ambros Mills & Edward Watts** to appear at next Court to answer the complaint of Robert Ewings, Gent."¹¹⁹

COMMENT:

- No further mention of this case has been found. Ambrose Mills left Bedford about this time.
- This Robert Ewing or a namesake who left a Bedford Co. will in 1786, was father-in-law to John Mills of Lunenburg, Bedford, Augusta, and Botetourt.

¹¹⁶ Ann Chilton, *Bedford Co., Va., Deed Book A-1, 1754–1762* (Signal Mountain, TN: Mountain Press, 1987)

¹¹⁷ TLC Genealogy, *Bedford County, Virginia, Order Book 1, 1754–1761* (Miami Beach, FL: TLC Genealogy, 2000), 33-34; citing original p. 49.

¹¹⁸ TLC Genealogy, *Bedford County, Virginia, Order Book 1, 1754–1761* (Miami Beach, FL: TLC Genealogy, 2000), 46; citing original pp. 70-71.

¹¹⁹ *Ibid*, 69; citing original p. 108. For more on the Ewings and the John Mills who married Patty Ewing, daughter of Robert, see the previously cited "Extended Survey of Resources for Bedford County."

AUGUST 1755

BEDFORD COUNTY, VA

Legal suit

“**John Mills**, Plaintiff, against Patrick Downey, Defendant, on an Attachment. For reasons appearing to the Court, this suit is ordered to be dismissed.”¹²⁰

26 SEPTEMBER 1755

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Will

William Mills of Albemarle Co., “mentions the following persons: *wife Mary son Ambrose, dau. Sarah Watts, to son Wm.* the 350 [330] a of land that is unsettled (evidently the land for which the patent was recorded in 1766), *dau. Elizabeth Learwood and Ann Mills, son Jesse Mills, dau. Milly Mills, son Thos. Mills’s* children, viz., **Ambrose Mills, Jr.**, and **Elizabeth Mills**, son and dau. of Thomas Mills, deed [decd?]. Wife & Thos. Jopling exors. Witt: John Staples, Isham Davis, Wm. Floyd, Charles Truly (aka Turley, Tuley), and Robt. Davis.”¹²¹

COMMENT:

Jopling first appears in Albemarle/Amherst deeds in 1750, amid the Roses and Davises who were neighbors of William Mills. However, later deeds place his land on **Green Creek**, a site the deeds don’t associate with Mills, Watts, or Lavender.

- “1749 Folder ... Order to summon **Thomas Jopling** to answer suit of Allen Howard, Gent., for threatening to pull down Howard’s mill dam if Howard built his mill.”¹²²
- 13 May 1756 “1756 Folder #2: Order to Summon Lee Harris as witness for Allen Howard, Gent., in case agst Thomas Jopling, dated 13 May.”¹²³
- “10 Apr 1750 Ro. Rose, Clerk [obsolete term for a form of minister], to Jno. Parks, planter; rents and covenants – 100 acres, part of 3,700 acres pat. To Rose – during lives of Wm. Parks & John Parks, Jr. – to pay on 26 Dec each year 436 pds. Tobacco. Wit: Matthew Davis, Gilbert Hay, **Thos. Jopling**, Philip Davis.¹²⁴
- “9 March 1758, **Thos. Jopling** to Saml. Bailey for £10, 134 acres both sides of Green Creek adj. grantor; Ralph Jopling. Wit: Jno. Peters, Nathan Bond, Lee Harris. [also] 24 Dec 1757 Ralph Joplin to Jno. Cox for £50, 400 acres **Green Creek**, branches, adj. Col. Epes’ **Green Mt.** tr. Wit: Jno. Griffin, Rich. & Perrin Farrar. Katherine, wife of Ralph Joplin.”¹²⁵
- “20 Aug 1760 Jno. Wright, Orange, N.C. to **Thos. Jopling** for £100, 400 acres **N side of Rockfish**; part of 800 acres bought from Col. Jno. Chiswell, adj. Alex. Montgomery,

¹²⁰ TLC Genealogy, *Bedford County, Virginia, Order Book 1, 1754–1761* (Miami Beach, FL: TLC Genealogy, 2000), 68; citing original p. 107.

¹²¹ Mrs. P. W. Hiden, “Nicholas Mills of Hanover County,” *Tyler’s Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine* 14 (1933): 237–42; 15 (1933): 38–64; reprinted as *Genealogies of Virginia Families; From Tyler’s Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine*, Gary Parks, ed. 4 vols. (Baltimore: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1981), 2: 700–1. For the will, Hiden cites “probated Aug. 4, 1766 ... Amherst Co. Rec. W. B. 1, p. 73.”

¹²² Benjamin B. Weisiger III, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Papers, 1744–1783* (Richmond, VA: P.p., 1987), 7.

¹²³ Benjamin B. Weisiger III, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Papers, 1744–1783* (Richmond, VA: P.p., 1987), 7.

¹²⁴ Bailey Fulton Davis, *The Deeds of Amherst County, Virginia, 1761–1807 and Albemarle County, Virginia, 1748–1763* (Greenville, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1979), 18; citing Albemarle Deed Book 1: 225.

¹²⁵ Bailey Fulton Davis, *The Deeds of Amherst County, Virginia, 1761–1807 and Albemarle County, Virginia, 1748–1763* (Greenville, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1979), 32; citing Albemarle Deed Book 2: 32.

Chiswell.”¹²⁶

- “4 April 1761 **Thos. Jopling** to David Enicks for £20, 400 acres, pat. 20 Aug. 1760, on head branches **Geady and Briery Creeks**, adj. his own line; Mary Upton, Jno. Snyder. Witnesses: Wm. Cox, Robt. Johnson, Jno. Peter.
- “1 Dec 1761 **Thos. Jopling**, AC [Amherst County], to John Roberts, AC, 25 pds. For 300 acres ... North side of South Fork of **Rockfish**. Lines: Widow Upton, Widow Johnson. Mark of Thos. Jopling. Wit: Thomas Farrar, William Cox, James Jopling. Court held at Henry Key’s 7 Dec 1761 ... This first courthouse was in what is now **Nelson County**.”¹²⁷
- “25 May 1763. John Robinson, King and Queen, to **Thomas Jopling**, AC, 22 pds. For 258 acres, S side of Rockfish and part of larger tract pat. To John Chiswell and now property of Robinson. Lines: William Harris, on S side of **Rockfish**; James Montgomery, John Montgomery. Wit: William Cabell, Jr., Cornelius Thomas, Joseph Cabell.”¹²⁸
- “3 October 1763. James Nevil, David Crawford, Cornelius Thomas, **Thomas Jopling**, & Howard Cash, AC, [bond] ... Nevil appointed Sheriff of Amherst ... Marks of Jopling & Cash.”
“4 Feb 1765 James Nevil, **Thomas Jopling**, Henry Key, & Geo. Seaton. ... Nevil ... is hereby bonded to collect taxes.”¹²⁹
- “3 Nov 1766. Jos. Upton, Alb[emarle] to **Thomas Jopling**, AC, for 60 pds, 400 acres. Lines: **Bryary Branch**. Wit: Geo. Seaton, **Edmund Wilcox**, Neill Campbell.”¹³⁰
- “4 July 1769. **Thos. Jopling**, AC, to
 - Benj. Childers, AC, for love borne by Jopling for his son-in-law, Benj. Childers – 200 acres S side of **Rockfish**. Lines: Col. Jno. Chiswell, Michael Montgomery, Josiah Jopling.”
 - His son Josiah Jopling, 530 acres N side and joining **Rockfish**.”
 - Jno. Griffin, his son-in-law, AC, 323 acres. Lines: Wm. Harris, Jas. Mountgomery, John Mountgomery, Chiswell, Benj. Childers, S side of **Rockfish**.”¹³¹
- 4 April 1774.” Elliz. Cox – Book 1, Page 250 – Guardian Bond – **Thos. Jopling** and Jas. Nevil, April 4, 1774, for **Thos. Jopling** as guardian of Eliz. Cox, orphan of Jno. Cox, deceased.”¹³²
- “2 Aug 1779. Ro. Davis & wife Jenny, AC (signed Jean) to Philip Thurmond, AC, for £2000, 375 acres both sides **Wilderness Run**. Lines: Ro. Davis, Jno. Floyd. Wit: **Thos. Jopling**, Edmond Powell, Ro. Davis, Jr.” Also, same to same, “90 acres on **Davis’s Spring Branch**.” Same witnesses.”¹³³

¹²⁶ Bailey Fulton Davis, *The Deeds of Amherst County, Virginia, 1761–1807 and Albemarle County, Virginia, 1748–1763* (Greenville, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1979), 49; citing Albemarle Deed Book 3: 32.

¹²⁷ Bailey Fulton Davis, *The Deeds of Amherst County, Virginia, 1761–1807 and Albemarle County, Virginia, 1748–1763* (Greenville, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1979), 71; citing Amherst Deed Book A: 15.

¹²⁸ Bailey Fulton Davis, *The Deeds of Amherst County, Virginia, 1761–1807 and Albemarle County, Virginia, 1748–1763* (Greenville, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1979), 77; citing Amherst Deed Book A: 120.

¹²⁹ Bailey Fulton Davis, *The Deeds of Amherst County, Virginia, 1761–1807 and Albemarle County, Virginia, 1748–1763* (Greenville, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1979), 78, 85; citing Amherst Deed Book A: 142, 299.

¹³⁰ Bailey Fulton Davis, *The Deeds of Amherst County, Virginia, 1761–1807 and Albemarle County, Virginia, 1748–1763* (Greenville, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1979), 99; citing Amherst Deed Book A: 179.

¹³¹ Bailey Fulton Davis, *The Deeds of Amherst County, Virginia, 1761–1807 and Albemarle County, Virginia, 1748–1763* (Greenville, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1979), 107; citing Amherst Deed Book A: 323–25.

¹³² Bailey Fulton Davis, *The Wills of Amherst County, Virginia, 1761–1865* (1985; reprint, Greenville, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1998), 82.

¹³³ Bailey Fulton Davis, *The Deeds of Amherst County, Virginia, 1761–1807 and Albemarle County, Virginia, 1748–1763* (Greenville, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1979), 184; citing Amherst Deed Book E: 157–59.

- “6 Sep 1779. Wm. Loveday and wife Sarah, late of AC, to Wm. Cabell for £600, 200 acres branch of **Purgatory Swamp** and branch of **Joe’s Creek** below **Fendley’s Gap**. Part of 400 acres pat. To Walter King 10 Apr 1751. Conveyed by King to Lunsford Lomax, the Elder, 1 Dec 1764 ... Wit: Wm. Newton, Groves Harding, **Thos. Jopling**, Jas. Ward, Jno. Bibb, Abraham Warwick.”¹³⁴
- “6 May 1782. Francis West & wife Eliz., AC, to Wm. Cabell, AC, for £15, 110 acres **Mayo Creek** and pat. To West by Commonwealth on 20 Jul 1780. Lines: Moses Going. Wit: Jno. Martin Jr., Abraham Warwick, **Thos. Jopling**.¹³⁵
- “8 Oct 1787. Thos. Davis, Lincoln Co. – power of attorney to **Thos. Jopling**, AC to receive of Thos. Upton, Albemarle, 1400 acres in Montgomery County – S side of the **great Canaway which my father Robt. Davis**, bought of Jas. Mooney ... my seven sisters: Nannah (Hannah?), Abigale, Jane, Martha, Lucy, Ann & Polly Davis and ... my two brothers, Robt. & Olander Davis. **Wit:** Rich. Farrar, Michl. Thomas, **Thos. Jopling**, Sherrod Griffin. Orig. del. To Jopling, Sept. 1788.”¹³⁶
- “2 July 1787. **Thos. Jopling**, AC, to Jos. Smith, AC, for £40, 300 acres both sides **Rockfish**.” 19 Jan 1789, **Thomas Jopling**, AC & wife **Hannah**, AC, to Wm. Ball of Albemarle, for £200, 400 acres **Briery Creek** on S side and joining **Rockfish River**. Lines: Edwd. Harding, David Enix, Thos. Farrar. Wit: Michl. Thomas, Gideon Crews, Michl. Thomas Jr., Ralph Thomas.”¹³⁷
- “5 Sept. 1785. Jas. Matthews, AC, to **Thos. Jopling**, AC, for £40, 92 acres head branch of **S fork Rockfish**. Lines: Abraham Eades Jr. Pat. To grantor 15 Jun 1773.”¹³⁸
- “10 Aug 1789 **Thos. Jopling** – Book 3, Page 116 – August 10, 1789, written: September 7, 1789, probated. Witnesses: Henry Martin, Jos. Thomas, Thos. Farrar, Jno. Jopling. Executors: sons, Jas. And Jos. And friend, Henry Martin, **Ux, Hannah** – Gladys Creek land; grandson, **Jesse Jopling** – if without heirs; sons, Josiah and Jas. – **Piney Mountain** land bought of Jesse Martin; **son, Thomas**; Jno. Griffin who married my daughter Martha; my daughters: Ann Childers, Jane Davis, Lucy Powell, Rebecca Martin, Hannah Allen. Book 2 (3?), Page 126 – Inventory – December 1, 1789 – L 534-17-6.”¹³⁹
- “30 Oct 1806. **Thos. Jopling**, Bedford, to Jno. Harris, AC, for £600, 210 acres **Buck Creek**. Lines: Jno. Diggs, Bennett Jopling, Henry Roberts, grantor. Wit: Jno. W. Harris, Asa Varnum, Benj. Rucker, Jr., Wm. Lee Harris.”¹⁴⁰

COMMENT:

- Past 1789, the Thos. Jopling entries are clearly to a younger Thomas.

¹³⁴ Bailey Fulton Davis, *The Deeds of Amherst County, Virginia, 1761–1807 and Albemarle County, Virginia, 1748–1763* (Greenville, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1979), 185; citing Amherst Deed Book E: 174.

¹³⁵ Bailey Fulton Davis, *The Deeds of Amherst County, Virginia, 1761–1807 and Albemarle County, Virginia, 1748–1763* (Greenville, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1979), 198; citing Amherst Deed Book 3: 334.

¹³⁶ Bailey Fulton Davis, *The Deeds of Amherst County, Virginia, 1761–1807 and Albemarle County, Virginia, 1748–1763* (Greenville, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1979), 229; citing Amherst Deed Book R: 223.

¹³⁷ Bailey Fulton Davis, *The Deeds of Amherst County, Virginia, 1761–1807 and Albemarle County, Virginia, 1748–1763* (Greenville, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1979), 238; citing Amherst Deed Book E: 169, 380.

¹³⁸ Bailey Fulton Davis, *The Deeds of Amherst County, Virginia, 1761–1807 and Albemarle County, Virginia, 1748–1763* (Greenville, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1979), 242; citing Amherst Deed Book F: 10.

¹³⁹ Bailey Fulton Davis, *The Wills of Amherst County, Virginia, 1761–1865* (1985; reprint, Greenville, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1998), 199.

¹⁴⁰ Bailey Fulton Davis, *The Deeds of Amherst County, Virginia, 1761–1807 and Albemarle County, Virginia, 1748–1763* (Greenville, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1979), 457; citing Amherst Deed Book K: 560.

- The 30-plus appearances that Thomas Jopling makes in this set of deed abstracts spotlight several curious situations:
 - None place him in the presence of William Mills, the man who appointed him executor of his estate.
 - These two men live in different parts of Albemarle/Amherst.
 - They had almost no associates in common.
 - Joplin *did* have a grandson named Jesse—but that Jesse was also the grandson of Jesse Allen whose daughter Alsey married a Jopling.¹⁴¹

SO: Why would William Mills name him as a co-executor, together with the widow? The most logical answer would seem to be that he was a kinsman of Mary or they knew each other in a prior locale.

ADDENDA

Transcript from diary of Rev. Robert Rose:

“247-On September 16, 1729, Thomas Joplin, and his 'tithables' assisted in clearing the road from **Tuckahoe Creek** mill to the main "river road" (Three Chop Road), which traversed the area between Richmond to Woods (now Jarman's) Gap. **Joplin's road was then Goochland County, Later in Albemarle County**, Joplin replaced John Johns as surveyor of the road from **Rockfish River to Hardware River** (on June 27, 1745). Joplin's son married *Catherine Farrar*, daughter of John Farrar. ... Joplin lived near where **Joplin's Ford Bridge** now crosses **Rockfish River** via Route 722 between Albemarle and **Nelson County**. In 1761, the river became part of the line between Albemarle and Amherst and Nelson (formed in 1808 from Amherst).”

“938-Three families who lived on **Rockfish River** where Parson Rose might have had his breakfast were those of **Thomas Joplin**, *John Farrar*, and *Allen Howard*. From there, Rose rode to the new Ballenger's Creek Church near present Boiling Springs in Albemarle County ...”¹⁴²

“August 16th, 1842

“Be it remembered that it is in proof satisfactory to the court that Robert Davis & Hannah Smith are creditable persons and the said Robert Davis and Hannah Smith upon their oaths state they have long been acquainted with *Lindsey Powel* of Casey Co, KY who was the son of **Edmond Powel**, that his mother's maiden name was **Lucy Joplin** and she was the daughter of **Thomas Joplin** of Amherst County, State of Virginia who lived on **Rockfish**, that said Lucy intermarried with said Edmond Powel by whom she had six children namely William, Frances (who intermarried with Charles Kavanauh), Mary (who intermarried with John T. Marshall), Hannah (who intermarried with Robert Simpson), Lindsey, and James and that said Lucy Powel departed this life about twenty years ago in the state of Tennessee and Edmond Powel, father of said Lindsey departed this life some years ago in Casey County, Kentucky.”

“Be it remembered that it is proof satisfactory to the court that Lindsey Powel is a creditable man and the said Lindsey Powel upon his oath states he is well acquainted with Robert Davis and Landon Davis of Casey County, Ky and Hannah Smith of Lincoln County, KY who were the children of Robert Davis that their mothers maiden name was Jane Joplin and she was the daughter of Thomas Joplin of Amherst County State of Virginia that said Jane intermarried with said Robert

¹⁴¹ Bailey Fulton Davis, *The Wills of Amherst County, Virginia, 1761–1865* (1985; reprint, Greenville, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1998), 3.

¹⁴² Grant Pinnix, “Yadkin County and Caswell County,” forum, *RootsWeb* (<http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=grantpinnix&id=I004773> : accessed 25 May 2016), message “ID: I004773, Thomas Joplin”; citing “Goochland County Order Book 1, p. 148; Albemarle County Order Book, 1744-48; Moore, p. 37; Hiden, p 52,” with no citation for Rev. Rose's diary. That well-known source for the Albemarle area is available as Frederick T. Bowes, ed., “Diary of the Rev. Robert Rose, 1747–1751,” MSS 10886, Special Collections, University of Virginia, Charlottesville.

Davis by whom she had eleven children namely John, Thomas, Hannah, Abigail, Jane, Robert, Patsey, Anne, Landon, Lucy, and Polly and that the said Robert Davis was many years ago killed by the Indians and Jane the mother of the said Robert, Landon & Hannah has departed this life many years ago."¹⁴³

The poster of these notes adds: "Carol Seales, sent this concerning his date of death:

"I found Thomas Jopling's actual death date. 'Colonial Virginia Source Records 1600s-1700s, Abstracts from 18th Century Virginia Newspapers, Surnames I-J, Page 188: Jopling, Thomas the elder, of Amherst Co., d. on Mon. the 24th ult. in a very advanced age (VIC 9 Sep 89); e.a.w. his ex., James and Josiah Jopling (VIC 9 Dec 89). (The Virginia Independent Chronicle).' This would place his death 24 Aug 1789. The paper was dated 9 Sep 89. (ult is prior month) therefore 24 Aug 1789. "

"Marriage: b: ABT 1710;

"Married Hannah Freeman: 3 OCT 1735 in probably Amherst Co., VA"

"Children:

Ralph Joplin b: ABT 1731

Josiah Joplin b: ABT 1733 in Amherst Co., VA

James Joplin b: ABT 1735

Thomas Joplin b: 1745 [1735? 1736?] in Albemarle Co., VA

Jane Joplin b: ABT 1738 in Amherst Co., VA

Martha Joplin b: ABT 1739 in Amherst Co., VA

Anne Joplin b: ABT 1741 in Amherst Co., VA

Royal Joplin b: ABT 1743 in Amherst Co., VA

Lucy Joplin b: ABT 1747 in Amherst Co., VA

Rebecca Joplin b: ABT 1749 in Amherst Co., VA

Hannah Joplin b: ABT 1751 in Amherst Co., VA"

COMMENT (BY ESM)

None of this provides any *obvious* reason as to why William Mills chose Thomas Jopling as his executor. The 1766 Amherst probate proceedings show that Jopling declined to serve.

18 NOVEMBER 1755

CUMBERLAND COUNTY (FORMERLY GOOCHLAND)

Neighbor

"Deed, Zachariah Terry, of Cumberland, to William Daniel, of Caroline, 200 acres in Cumberland, lying on both sides of Randolph road, part of a tract **formerly belonging to William Mills**. Daniel Coleman a witness."¹⁴⁴

COMMENT:

This is the William Mills who received grants on the ridge between Willis River and the Guinea.

JANUARY 1756

BEDFORD COUNTY, VA

Legal suit

¹⁴³ Pinnix says this "transcribed court record relating to the Davises, Joplins and Powells" was supplied by "Renee Bunck"; he cites "Casey County, Kentucky - Circuit Court Records - Civil Court Book 5 page 231."

¹⁴⁴ W. B. Newman, "Captain William Daniel, of Middlesex: Some of His Descendants, and Other Daniels of Virginia," *Tyler's Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine* 14 (1833): 237-42; 15 (1933): 38-64; reprinted as *Genealogies of Virginia Families; From Tyler's Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine*, Gary Parks, ed. 4 vols. (Baltimore: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1981), 1: 507.

“Archibald Buchanan, John Brown and Co., Petitioners, against **Thomas Leirwood** and James Wheeler, Defendant, on a Petition. This day came the Petitioners by their attorney, and the Defendant did not appear. Therefore it is considered by the Court that the Petitioners recover against the Defendant, 3 £ 3 shillings and 5 pence and their costs and a lawyer’s fee.”¹⁴⁵

COMMENT:

- Thomas Leirwood/Leerwood married Elizabeth Mills, daughter of William and Mary, before 26 September 1755.
- I’ve not yet identified a family for James Wheeler, but he was in Bedford as early as 23 December 1754, in the neighborhood of the land grant Thomas Learwood sold to Moses Helm. Note that Thomas, himself, was not assigned to this neighborhood road-crew list:

“**Moses Helm**, William Moore, Thomas Franklin, John Bollings tithes, William Rutherford James Murphey, **James Wheeler**, John Golloway, Archibald Campbel, James McRunnals, Edward Phair, Nicholas Hayse, Lewis Franklin, Edmond Franklin, John Thompson, John Pleasants tithes, Natth’l Patteson, & John Carson, are added to the hands that work on the Road whereof John Beard is Surveyor.”¹⁴⁶

10 MARCH 1756

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land grant

In consideration of 35 shillings paid to the Receiver General of Revenues for the colony, a grant is hereby made and confirmed unto **Thomas Mills**. 335 acres in Albemarle County “on the **Branches of Pedlar River** bounded as follows:

“Beginning at a small white Oak in **Robert Davis’s** line_[,] running thence new line North eighty degrees East one hundred and six? Poles to Pointers_[,] South thirty five degrees East nineteen Poles to **Arthur Tuley’s** Corner_[,] thence on Tuley’s Line South seventy five degrees East one hundred Poles to Pointers in **Edward Watts’s** line_[,] and on the same South one hundred and sixty six Poles to Pointers_[,] thence new lines South one and an half degree East fifty four Poles crossing a **Branch** to Pointers_[,] South sixty three degrees West one hundred and fifteen Poles to Robert Davis’s Corner at Pointers_[,] thence on Davis’s Line North seventy four degrees West forty five Poles to Pointers_[,] North forty seven? Degrees West forty five Poles to Pointers_[,] North fifteen to Pointers_[,] thence North fifteen degrees East forty eight Poles to a white oak Saplin North nine¹⁴⁷

COMMENT:

- The record ends at the bottom of the page and appears to need a closure, but a new document starts at the top of the next page.
- Thomas is said to be dead in the 1755 will of his father. His land, after the patent was received, would not be sold. The abstracts that follow contain references to this land through 1777, at which time the land was sold by one Elizabeth Turner and husband James, without

¹⁴⁵ TLC Genealogy, *Bedford County, Virginia, Order Book 1, 1754–1761* (Miami Beach, FL: TLC Genealogy, 2000), 87; citing original p. 136.

¹⁴⁶ TLC Genealogy, *Bedford Couty, Virginia, Order Book 1, 1754–1761* (Miami Beach, FL: TLC Genealogy, 2000), 35; citing Order Book 1–A, pp. 51–52.

¹⁴⁷ Library of Virginia, “Land Office Grants,” database with images, *Virginia Memory* (http://image.lva.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/GetLONN.pl?first=40&last=&g_p=P34&collection=LO_Patent : downloaded 20 May 2016), “Mills, Thomas, grantee ... Albemarle County ... 335 acres on the branches of Pedlar River”; citing “Land Office Patents No. 34, 1756–1765, p. 40 (Reel 33-34).”

any apparent deed of purchase on record.¹⁴⁸ That Elizabeth appears to be Thomas's daughter of that name.

13 MARCH 1756

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land grant

In consideration of 35 shillings paid to the Receiver General of Revenues for the colony, a grant is hereby made and confirmed unto **William Mills** 350 acres in Albemarle County "on the **Branches of Buck Creek of Pedlar River** bounded as follows:

"Beginning at a Poplar and running thence With thirty five degrees east along **Peter Buck branch** two Hundred and twelve poles to Pointers on **Maple Creek**_[,] North sixty? Degrees West at ten poles a branch at eighty six poles crossed it again to **Edward Watts Junr.** his corner Maple_[,] and with his Line South eighty four degrees west two hundred and twenty poles to pointers_[,] a new Line South forty degrees west forty eight poles to Pointers in **Thomas Mills's** Line_[,] and with it South sixteen Poles other? Pointers_[,] the same course continued on a new Line in all one Hundred and ninety two Poles to Pointers_[,] and North eighty three degrees east two hundred and sixty eight poles to the Beginning.¹⁴⁹

UPDATE:

The grantee is William Sr. I've found no evidence that William Jr. stayed in the region after he married. By c1751, when William Jr.'s son Jesse was born, he lived on "Deep River, Chatham County" (then Orange Co.) NC, according to Jesse's RW pension application.¹⁵⁰ When William Jr. next made a cameo appearance in 1770 to sell inherited land, he identified himself as a resident of NC.

8 SEPTEMBER 1756

LUNENBURG COUNTY, VA

Court order

"**Jas Mills** on attachment agst Jeremiah Moray dfndt in debt; dfndt's debt not fully recovered by public sale attachment, further execution ordered."¹⁵¹

COMMENT:

The records covered in this project yield no suggestion that this James Mills may have belonged to the Nicholas Mills family or the William Mills family. It is more likely that he was the immigrant James whose importation was reported in 1741 in Orange County and/or the James who appeared briefly in Albemarle in 1751. (See notes above, for both.)

NOVEMBER 1756

BEDFORD COUNTY, VA

Bounty sale

¹⁴⁸ Bailey Fulton Davis, *The Deeds of Amherst County, Virginia, 1761–1807; and Albemarle County, Virginia, 1748–1763* (Greenville, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1979), 179; citing Amherst Deed Book E:91.

¹⁴⁹ Library of Virginia, "Land Office Grants," database with images, *Virginia Memory* (http://image.lva.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/GetLONN.pl?first=696&last=&g_p=P32&collection=LO_Patent : downloaded 20 May 2016), "Mills, William, grantee ... Albemarle County ... 350 acres on the branches of Buck Creek of Pedlar River"; citing "Land Office Patents No. 32, 1752–1756 (v.1 & 2 p.1-715), p. 696 (Reel 30)."

¹⁵⁰ Jesse Mills Pension Application, image 25852219 for Jesse's statement of birthplace. Jesse stated that he did not know his age. Considering that his father, in 1769, gave him goods to set up housekeeping while Jesse simultaneously applied for public land, it is likely that he married about that time. If he were at least eighteen, his birth would have occurred by 1751.

¹⁵¹ June Banks Evans, *Lunenburg County, Virginia: Order Book 24: 1755–57* (New Orleans, LA: Bryn Ffylliaiad Publication, 1998), 38; citing Order Book 4: 198

To Thomas Prather, Assignee of **Ambrose Mills**, 1 ditto [old wolf's head], December 29, 1755, Marck Cole, 100."¹⁵²

13 JUNE 1757

LUNENBURG COUNTY

Land grant

On payment of 15 shillings, grant made and confirmed unto **Thomas Leerwood**, 154 acres in Lunenburg County "on the head branches of **Reedy Creek** by the north side of **Pilot Mountain**," bounded as follows:

"Beginning at **Wathen's** Corner pointers on **Beard's Old Path**, thence new lines North sixty five Degrees East one hundred and thirty four poles to a Hicory, North eighty five Degrees East seventy four poles to a Hicory[,] North sixty five Degrees East thirty six poles to a white Oak [,] North fifteen Degrees East thirty poles to a white Oak[,] South sixty five Degrees East one hundred and twenty poles to three white Oaks[,] South twenty Degrees East forty four poles to a Chesnut[,] South seventy five Degrees West seventy six poles to a white Oak[,] North eighty three Degrees West thirty eight poles to a Hicory[,] South seventy Degrees West eighty poles to a white Oak[,] North eighty Degrees West one hundred and forty poles to a white Oak[,] South fifteen Degrees West forty poles to a Spanish Oak in **Wathens** line and thence along his line North twenty eight Degrees West fifty four poles to the first Station."¹⁵³

COMMENT:

The Fry-Jefferson map (see Map 6) shows a Reedy Creek in the Walton area *considerably* southeast of the Pedlar River region where Elizabeth's family lived at the time. While the grant places the land in Lunenburg, when they sold the land three months later to Moses Helm, they identified themselves as residents of Prince Edward—a new county created in 1754 from the region between the Staunton River and the Fluvanna. This Fry-Jefferson map does not show Prince Edward County.

24 SEPTEMBER 1757

BEDFORD COUNTY, VA

Land Sale

Thomas Leerwood and wife **Elizabeth** of **Prince Edward County**, to Moses Helm, 55? Pounds, land on headwaters of Reedy Creek, 154 acres. Signed Thomas (W his mark) Leerwood; Elizabeth (X her mark) Leerwood. Witnesses: Nathaniel Patterson, Joseph McMurtray, James Patterson.¹⁵⁴

SEPTEMBER 1757

BEDFORD COUNTY, VA

Land sale.

"A deed from **Thomas Leerwood** and **Elizabeth, his wife**, to Moses Helm was acknowledged by the said Thomas Leerwood and Elizabeth his wife, and ordered to be recorded."¹⁵⁵

¹⁵² TLC Genealogy, *Bedford County, Virginia, Order Book 1, 1754–1761* (Miami Beach, FL: TLC Genealogy, 2000), 116; citing original p. 184.

¹⁵³ Library of Virginia, "Land Office Grants," database with images, *Virginia Memory* (http://image.lva.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/GetLONN.pl?first=370&last=&g_p=P33&collection=LO Patent: downloaded 20 May 2016), "Leerwood, Thoms, grantee ... Bedford County ... 230 acres or [on] west side of Elk Creek"; citing "Land Office Patents No. 33, 1756–1761 (v.1,2,3 & 4 p.1-1095), p. 799 (Reel 31-32)."

¹⁵⁴ Bedford Co., VA, Deed Book 1: 139–41. Note that Ann Chilton's abstract (her p. 18) omits the difficult-to-read amount, as well as the fact that Thomas and wife were of Prince Edward County.

¹⁵⁵ TLC Genealogy, *Bedford County, Virginia, Order Book 1, 1754–1761* (Miami Beach, FL: TLC Genealogy, 2000), 134; citing original p. 213.

COMMENT:

Regarding the buyer of the Leerwood grant, one Helm researcher reports:

“Moses Helm had multiple properties. One is refer[r]ed to in the December 23 1754 Bedford County Court Book, where Moses Hellum, James Wheeler and others were ordered to work on the road where John Beard is Overseer. That property of Moses Hellum (Helm) was on Fish Pond Creek. That property was prior to 1754 in Albemarle County, and in 1754 became part of Bedford County Virginia. That property would later become part of Buckingham County Virginia, and is now in Appamattox County Virginia. This places the Wheeler property near a road known by various names that went from near Willis Mountain and the headwaters of Willis River, and the headwaters [o]f the Appamattox River.

“Two other adjoining properties of Moses Helm were on the **north side of Pilot Mountain, on what was then called Reedy Creek**. One of these properties is the **property Moses Helm purchased from Thomas and Elizabeth Leerwood**, in 1757. Part of that property is now in Campbell County Virginia, and the other part in Appomattox County.¹⁵⁶

Helm’s website also states:

“September 1, 1780, page 357 [book not identified]. Moses Helm had 40 acres surveyed in 1767, to begin the process of obtaining this land grant that is not completed and signed until 1780. This property adjoins his property purchased from **Thomas Leerwood** in 1757. It also adjoins property Captain Thomas Helm [his son] received by grant in 1780, which includes Pilot Mountain. Most of the property lines established in the Thomas Leerwood grant in 1757, and the Moses Helm survey in 1767, are still in use today.”¹⁵⁷

Helm also writes:

“There are three Reedy Creek locations: one as shown on [the] Joshua Fry and Peter Jefferson map, in Lunenburg County; **a second refer[r]ed to in the Leerwood grant and sale to Moses Helm**, and other deeds and land grants during the 1700’s. [As for] the third, current USGS maps show one on the south side of Pilot Mountain. The lat[t]er are a branches [sic] off Falling River. And Fish Pond Creek is a tributary near the head waters of the Appomattox River. These place the Leerwood property and the Wheeler p[r]operty closer to other properties” owned by Elizabeth (Mills) Leerwood’s family.¹⁵⁸

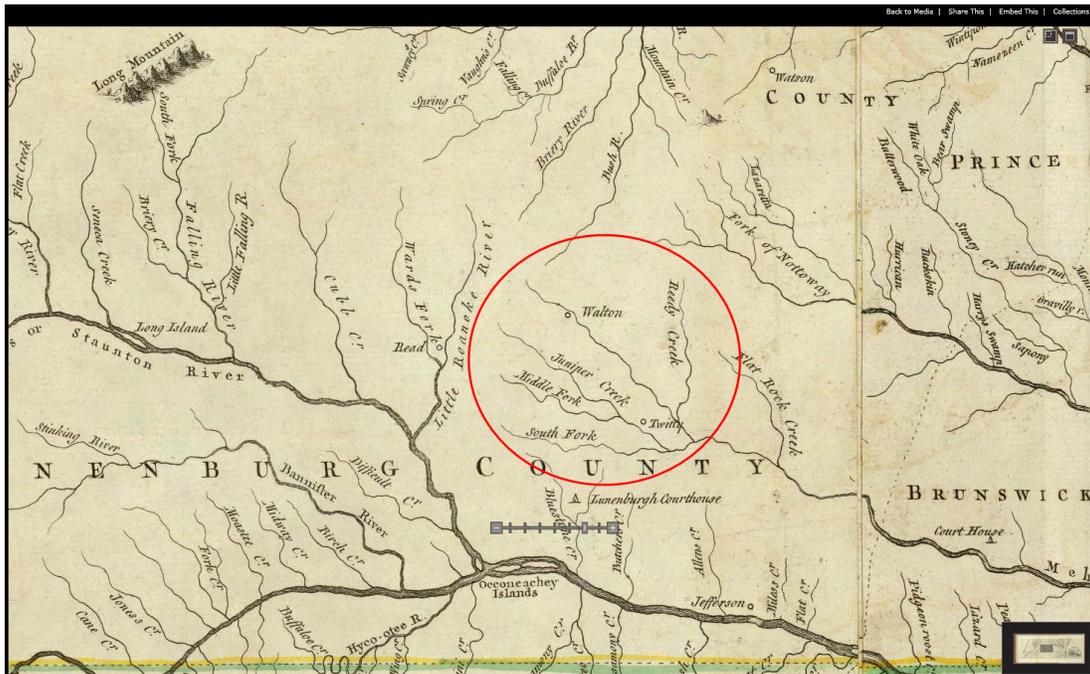
See Maps 6 and 7, below. The Reedy Creek near Concord—Helm’s placement of the Leerwood land—is shown on Map 7.

¹⁵⁶ Gary Helm (gary@garyhelm.net) to Elizabeth Shown Mills, email, “Mills, Leerwood, Helm Genealogy Research – in Virginia,” 24 October 2016.

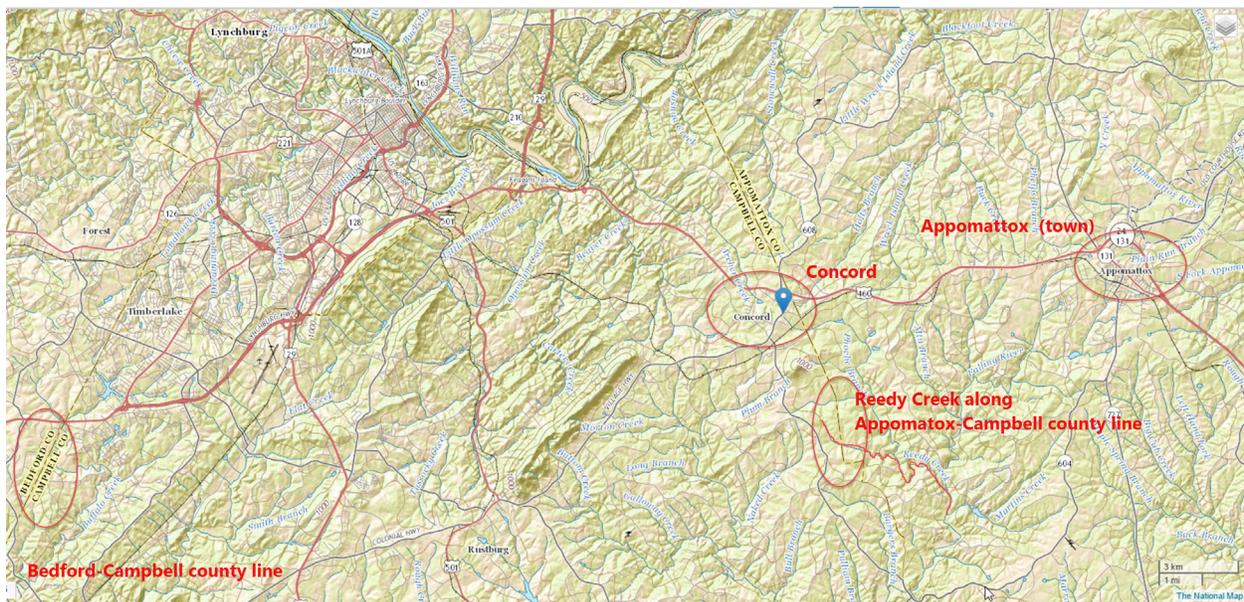
¹⁵⁷ Gary Helm, “Moses Helm, Farms and Home Found,” *Information Technology Outfitters* (<http://www.garyhelm.net/Life%20and%20Times%20of%20Moses%20Helm.htm> : accessed 25 October 2016).

¹⁵⁸ Gary Helm (gary@garyhelm.net) to Elizabeth Shown Mills, email, “Mills, Leerwood, Helm Genealogy Research – in Virginia,” 24 October 2016. For more detailed study of Moses Helm and his property, see Gary Helm, “Moses Helm, Farms and Home Found,” *Information Technology Outfitters* (<http://www.garyhelm.net/Life%20and%20Times%20of%20Moses%20Helm.htm> : accessed 25 October 2016).

Map 6
Reedy Creek—Walton Area, Lunenburg County, Va.¹⁵⁹



Map 7
Reedy Creek along Campbell & Appomattox County Line, Virginia.¹⁶⁰



¹⁵⁹ The above map snippet is from Joshua Fry and Peter Jefferson, "A Map of the Most Inhabited Part of Virginia," 1775; imaged at *David Rumsey* (<http://bit.ly/1TEYmPT> : accessed 20 May 2016).

¹⁶⁰ This map snippet is from United States Geological Survey (USGS), *The National Map* (<http://viewer.nationalmap.gov/basic/> : 25 October 2016), accessed through USGS *Geographic Information Names System (GNIS)* (<http://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/f?p=136:1:11631886055376>).

NOVEMBER 1757

BEDFORD COUNTY, VA

Legal suit

“**John Mills**, Plaintiff, against William Woods, Defendant, in case. The parties having agreed the difference between them, it is ordered that this suit be dismissed.”¹⁶¹

COMMENT:

This John Mills is an Augusta County settler of the 1740s who also operated in Bedford and Lunenburg, with numerous landholdings. After various county splits he ended up in Botetourt.¹⁶²

C1755–58

BEDFORD COUNTY, VA

Military

“The following entries are taken from William Waller Hening’s collection of the laws of Virginia. During the French and Indian War, the House of Burgesses passed an act for the defense of the frontier of the colony on 14 September 1758. The soldiers mentioned in the schedule attached to this act appear below: ...

Augusta County: “**Edward Watts**

Bedford County: “Jeremiah Early, Jacob Henderson, Ambrose Bryan, Samuel Brown, James Fair, Charles Bright, **John Watts**, and John Handy, 0.4.0 each.

“Jeremiah Earley, Lt., 8.2.0; **George Watts, Sgt.**, and Edmund Fair, Sgt., 3.12.0 each

“James Fair, Samuel Brown, James Callaway, Richard Woodard, Sr., Charles Bright, Edward Bright, John Jones, Richard Maples, Richard Woodard, Richard Burks, William Burks, Bolling Burks, William Woodard, John Woodard, James Orchard, and **Edward Watts**, 2.14.0 each. Richard Pritchard, 2.4.0; John House, 1.17.0; Thomas Duly, James Duly, and Thomas Maclin, 1.11.0 each; James Wine, 0.16.0; **John Watts**, 0.14.0; Jeremiah Early, Lt., 8.11.0; **George Watts, Sgt.**, and Jacob Anderson, Sgt., 3.16.0 each

“Edmund Fair, James Callaway, Samuel Brown, Richard Woodward, Charles Bright, James Fair, Edward Bright, Richard Maples, John Jones, Thomas Thirman, Richard Woodward Sr., and John Hughes, 2.17.0 each; James Bromlet, 2.14.0; Richard Burks, Jr., William Burks, Boling Burks, **Edward Watts**, and James Orchard, 2.11.0 each; William Woodward, John Bush, John Woodward, Isaac Woodward, Michael Poore, and Richard Pritchard, 2.6.0 each; Andrew Poore, 1.16.0; Leonard Hall, for conducting Indians, 1.10.0; John Hues, for conducting Indians, 2.0.0.”¹⁶³

COMMENT:

No Mills, Lavender, Learwood.

¹⁶¹ TLC Genealogy, *Bedford County, Virginia, Order Book 1, 1754–1761* (Miami Beach, FL: TLC Genealogy, 2000), 140; citing original p. 226.

¹⁶² See the following reports archived at Mills, *Historic Pathways* (<https://www.historicpathways.com>) under the “Research” tab:

- E. S. Mills, “Augusta County & the Virginia Frontier, Mills & Watts: Initial Survey of Published Literature ...,” report to file dated 8 February 2019 (updated 12 April 2021).

- E. S. Mills, “Mills & Associates: Botetourt County, Virginia: Initial Survey,” report to file 28 August 2018 (updated 24 June 2019).

- E. S. Mills, “Bedford County, Virginia: Extended Survey of Resources,” report to file, 28 August 2018.

¹⁶³ Lloyd DeWitt Bockstruck, *Virginia’s Colonial Soldiers* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1988), 201–2, 208–9.

13 DECEMBER 1759

BEDFORD COUNTY, VA

Debt

“Venable vs. **Mills** – Attachment, the Defendant not appearing, judgment is granted the Plaintiff 4 £ 1.7.7 and costs and William Callaway, garnishee, declares he has sufficient of the Defendant’s Estate in his hands. Ordered that he satisfy this judgment and costs out of the same to the Plaintiff.”¹⁶⁴

COMMENT:

- This Mills reference is likely to Ambrose, who sold 898 acres to William Callaway as mentioned in a later deed recorded 27 April 1761 (see below).
- I have not been able to locate the alleged grant to Ambrose.

13 DECEMBER 1759

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Neighbors

“This indenture ... Between **Thomas Smith** of the **Parish of St. Anns** in County of Albemarle of one part and John **Tooley [Tuley, Truly]** of the same County & Parish Witnesseth that Thomas Smith for sum of ten pounds Curr. money of Virginia to him paid doth sell John Tooley & to his heirs one certain parcell of land containing three hundred & fifty acres (be the same more or less) which sd parcell of land was granted to the sd Thomas Smith by Patent at Williamsburg bearing date the twentieth day of March one thousand seven hundred & fifty nine lying in the County of Albemarle on **Pedlar River** and bounded [as follows]:

Beginning at pointers in **William Mills’s** line & with his lines North & East to pointers & North & West crossing **Maple Creek** to **Edward Watts’s Junr.** his corner Maple on the same thence up the Creek with his line according to its meanders to **Stone’s** line & with the same South & East cross **Pedlar River** to pointers by the River thence down the same according to its meanders to other pointers thence South & West to a Sorrell Tree South & West crossing Pedlar River to pointers North & West to Maple Creek one hundred & four poles to Pointers & North twenty three degrees West ninety two poles to the Beginning [Signed] **Thomas + Smith.**

“At a Court held for Albemarle County the thirteenth day of December 1759

“This Indenture Memorandum & Receipt was acknowledged by Thos. Smith party thereto & ordered to be recorded. **Sarah Wife of the said Thomas** personally appeared in Court & being first privately examined as the Law directs Voluntarily relinquished her right of Dower to the Estate conveyed in the said Indenture.”¹⁶⁵

COMMENT:

- This land adjoins the new grant of William Mills Sr.
- Thomas Smith in 1749 witnessed the sale by Thomas Watts and wife Sarah Mills of the Pedlar River land TW had just been granted.
- In the actual deed (which I examined as part of the Watts project in 2014–15) three different samples of Smith’s mark shows that he placed his + or X within a circle.

13 DECEMBER 1759

¹⁶⁴ TLC Genealogy, *Bedford County, Virginia, Order Book 1, 1754–1761* (Miami Beach, FL: TLC Genealogy, 2000), 166; citing original Order book 1-B, p. 106.

¹⁶⁵ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1758–1761* (N.P., The Antient Press, 1988), 59; citing Deed Book 2: 205–6. (Checked the actual deed.)

AMHERST COUNTY, VA

Neighbors

“Thos. Smith & wife Sarah to Jno. Tooley for £10, 350 acres pat. 20 Mar 1759, on **Pedlar, adj. Wm. Mills, Maple Creek**, Edwd. Watts, Jr.”¹⁶⁶

FEBRUARY COURT 1760

BEDFORD COUNTY, VA

Debt

“Stone vs. **Mills** – abates by Plaintiff’s death.”¹⁶⁷

COMMENT:

Considering that Ambrose Mills m. Mourning Stone, the defendant in the above case is likely Ambrose.

29 MARCH 1760

BEDFORD COUNTY, VA

Land grant

On payment of 25 shillings, grant made and confirmed unto **Thomas Learwood**, 230 acres in Bedford County “on west side of **Elk Creek**:

“Beginning at **Waltons and Callaways** corner red Oak on the said Creek_(,) thence along their lines West eighty Poles to **William’s** corner white oak in the same_(,) thence along his line North two hundred and twenty four Poles to his corner white Oak in **Kay’s (Ray’s? Key’s?)** line_(,) thence along his line North eighty Degrees East one hundred and fifty Poles to his corner two red Oaks in Callaway’s line_(,) Thence along his line South ten Degrees East ninety four Poles to a red Oak South forty Degrees West forty Poles to a Pine_(,) South fifty Degrees East sixty four Poles to the Creek aforesaid, thence down the same as it Meanders to the first.”¹⁶⁸

COMMENT:

See Map 6 under 1754 above..

1760

BEDFORD & HALIFAX COUNTY, VA

Land grant

“7465 Joyce Summary 1760 Prince Edward.

Reedy Ck. William Moore of Bedford Co and Anna wife convey 190 ac of land to Moses Watkins of Bedford, located on both sides of **Reedy Ck in Bedford** adj to **George Walton, Thomas Learwood, Thomas Franklin**, and Bolling. Wit Robert Rutledge, William Bumpas, and William Jamerson.”¹⁶⁹

COMMENT:

¹⁶⁶ Bailey Fulton Davis, *The Deeds of Amherst County, Virginia, 1761–1807 and Albemarle County, Virginia, 1748–1763* (Greenville, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1979), 41; citing Albemarle Deed Book 2: 205.

¹⁶⁷ TLC Genealogy, *Bedford County, Virginia, Order Book 1, 1754–1761* (Miami Beach, FL: TLC Genealogy, 2000), 166; citing original Order book 1-B, p. 106.

¹⁶⁸ Library of Virginia, “Land Office Grants,” database with images, *Virginia Memory* (http://image.lva.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/GetLONN.pl?first=799&last=&g_p=P33&collection=LO Patent: downloaded 20 May 2016), “Learwood, Thomas, grantee ... Bedford County ... 230 acres on west side of Elk Creek”; citing “Land Office Patents No. 33, 1756-1761 (v.1, 2, 3 & 4 p.1-1095), p.799 (Reel 31-32).”

¹⁶⁹ Roberta J. Estes (restes@comcast.net), “Re: Moore in Charlotte and Prince Edward Counties,” 24 June 2007; posted at “Moore-L Archives,” *RootsWeb* (newsarch.rootsweb.com/th/read/MOORE/2007-06/1182731829 : accessed 23 May 2016). No citation of the source is provided in this extensive list of abstracts focusing primarily on the Watkins family.

- This abstract appears in a set of online abstracts relating primarily to the Watkins family. It carries no explanation by which we can interpret the set of six words and numbers on its first line. The reference to Prince Edward suggests that the deed may be there, but Prince Edward's deeds are supposedly destroyed.
- On 11 Sep. 1760, George Walton lived in Cumberland County when he sold to Orlando Hughes 400 acres that were part of an 8[00?] acre tract Walton patented in 1757, "adj. Jno. Palmer, grantor, Tonkhart Pullen, Alex. Trent, Drury Scruggs. Wit: Benj. Wilson, Thos. Tabb, Robt. Brown, Jacob Winfrey, Jr."¹⁷⁰

6 NOVEMBER 1760

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

William Wallace of Albemarle to William Woods & David Gass of same, sale for 28£ 300 acres in Albemarle on **branches of Michams River**, described as

"bounded Beginning in pointer in **David Mills** line & with it South & West to pointers of John Lawsons_[,] & with his line South & East to a pine_[,] thence on new lines North & East to pointers_[,] South & East to pointers_[,] North sixty seven Degrees West at one hundred & thirty six poles to a branch two hundred & thirty poles to the beginning. ... granted unto the said William Wallace by Patent bearing date" 16 August 1756."

Signed: William [his mark \] Wallace. Witnesses: Michael Woods; John Wallace; Michal Wallace. Acknowledged 13 November 1760, in court, by William Wallace.

BEFORE 1761

BEDFORD COUNTY, VA

Land sale

Ambrose Mills sold to William Callaway 898 acres, surveyed for him by George Walton, **adjacent to land of George Walton**. Deed has not been found but is mentioned in this deed abstracted by Chilton:

"Callaway, William, Deed from William Callaway to Thomas Pullen, 204 acres for 23 Pounds beginning at a white oak binding on the land Thomas Pullen bought of George Walton. (This being part of 898 acres which Geo. Walton surveyed for Ambrose Mills, who later sold it to Wm. Callaway). Rec. April 27, 1761. Pg. 430."¹⁷¹

COMMENT:

- I've found no grant of land for Ambrose Mills in the Library of Virginia's online database of colonial land grants.
- The 1757 grant to Ambrose's brother-in-law, Thomas Learwood, also adjoined Walton, whose land lay in Cumberland County in 1760. (See above.)
- Chilton's abstracts from Bedford's Deed Book A shows Callaway owning land on Elk Creek, Buffalo Creek, and Little Otter River.

1762

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Court order

¹⁷⁰ Bailey Fulton Davis, *The Deeds of Amherst County, Virginia, 1761–1807 and Albemarle County, Virginia, 1748–1763* (Greenville, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1979), 46; citing Albemarle Deed Book 2: 324.

¹⁷¹ Ann Chilton, *Bedford Co., Va., Deed Book A-1, 1754–1762* (Signal Mountain, TN: Mountain Press, 1987), 8.

“1762 Folder Order to arrest **Robert Napier** to answer Delmus Johnson on a charge of trespass.”¹⁷²

20 MARCH 1762
ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

David Gass of Albemarle to William Woods of same, sale for 100£ “current money of Virginia,” sale of 300 acres lying in Albemarle on Branches of **Meechams River** and bounded as follows:

Beginning at pointers in **David Mills’s** line and with it South & West to pointers of John Lawson’s_(i,j) and in his line South & East to a pine_(i,j) thence new lines North & East to pointers_(i,j) South & East to pointers_(i,j) North & West to a pine North & West at one hundred and thirty-six poles to a branch_(i,j) two hundred and thirty six poles to the Beginning.”

“Signed: David Gass. Witnesses: Archd. Woods, Andrew Wallace, Michl. Woods. Proved 10 June 1762 at court by oaths of Archibald Woods, Andrew Wallace and Michael Woods.”¹⁷³

13 AUGUST 1762
ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

“**David Thompson and Catey his Wife to David Mills of Albemarle County & Fredricksville Parish,**” sale for 55£ “currant money of Virginia” all their “parcel of land in “said county and Parish “containing by estimation” 524 acres “granted to David Thompson by Patents “ consisting of 250 acres dated 16 August 1756 and 274 acres patented 10 August 1759, described as

“beginning at a corner chesnut near the Ledge_(i,j) running thence South & West to a chesnut Sapling_(i,j) thence South & West to a chesnut_(i,j) thence South & West to a beach_(i,j) thence South & East to a chesnut_(i,j) thence South & East to a hickory thence South & East to a large white oak near a Spring_(i,j) thence North & East to a chesnut_(i,j) thence North & East to a chesnut_(i,j) thence North & West to a chesnut_(i,j) thence North & East to a chesnut_(i,j) East thirty six poles to a white oak_(i,j) thence North to a chesnut_(i,j) thence North & East to a white oak_(i,j) thence North & West to a corner tree in the old line_(i,j) thence South & East to a locust_(i,j) thence South & East to a chesnut_(i,j) thence South to a forked chesnut oak_(i,j) thence South & East to a chesnut red oak_(i,j) thence South & East to a small chesnut_(i,j) thence South & East to a chesnut_(i,j) thence South & East to a large chesnut_(i,j) thence South & East to a red oak_(i,j) thence South & East to a chesnut red oak_(i,j) thence South & East to a hickory saplin_(i,j) thence North & East to a chesnut red oak_(i,j) thence North & West to a hickory_(i,j) thence North & West to a small chesnut_(i,j) thence North & West to a large chesnut_(i,j) thence North & West to a hickory_(i,j) thence South & West to a chesnut_(i,j) thence North & West to a Locust_(i,j) thence North & West to a forked Maple saplin on a branch of **Lynches River**_(i,j) thence South & West to a chesnut red oak_(i,j) thence South & East to a red oak saplin_(i,j) thence South & East to a chesnut_(i,j) thence South & East to a chesnut red oak_(i,j) thence South & West to a chesnut_(i,j) thence South four degrees West forty two poles to the beginning.”

Signed: David Thompson, Catey Thompson. Witnesses: Nichs. Meriwether, John Lewis Junr. Proved 13 August 1762 by acknowledgement of David & Catey Thompson at court.¹⁷⁴

9 SEPTEMBER 1762
ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

¹⁷² Benjamin B. Weisiger III, compiler, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Papers, 1744–1783* (Richmond: P.p., 1987), 22.

¹⁷³ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1761–1764* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1988), 59; citing Deed Book 3: 46.

¹⁷⁴ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1761–1764* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1988), 54; citing Deed Book 3: 208–11.

David Mills and wife Lucy of Albemarle County to John Shifflet of same, sale for 16£ current money of Virginia, sale of 100 acres in Albemarle described as

“Beginning at *Coursey’s* line thence with Coursey’s line South & West to three white-oak saplins in Courseys line_[,] North & East to two red oaks and chesnut on the Road_[,] thence North & East to a pine_[,] thence South & East to three pines in *William Davis’s* line_[,] thence South & West along Davis’s line to the Beginning one hundred and five poles.”

Signed: David Mills. Acknowledged 6 September 1762 in court by David Mills.¹⁷⁵

COMMENT:

- The next document recorded is one of 4 October 1762 by “William Coursey Senr.,” planter of Albemarle, to wife Anne Coursey, a gift of slaves witnessed by John Foster, John Ripto Junr., Mary Ripto.”¹⁷⁶
- On a [blank] day in 1767, John Dickason & wife Mary sold to “John Rippito,” all of Albemarle, 500 acres on South Side of Payne Mountain “Beginning at a Pine Corner in **Jacob Watts** cleared ground”¹⁷⁷
- This Jacob Watts might be the brother of Edward Watts, whose son Thomas m. Sarah Mills. Both of their names appear as sons in the Orange/Culpeper Cos. will of their putative father, Thomas Watts.¹⁷⁸

8–9 DECEMBER 1762

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

John Lockhart and David Lockhart of Albemarle Co., to John Kinkead of same. Sale for 80£, via lease and release, 356 acres in Albemarle on **South Branch of North Fork of Mechums River**, described as

“Beginning at **Matthew Mills** pointers in John Lockharts line and thence on Mills’s line North & East to a pine North & West crossing two branches to pointers North & East to pointers of Bushes North & East to pointers South & East to a red oak in George Davidson’s line South & East to pointers South & East crossing a Branch to pointers North & East to a red oak South & East to pointers South & East to a white oak South & West to a white oak North & West to the beginning.”

Signed John Lockrd, David Lockhart. No witnesses: acknowledged by the Lockharts at court on 9 December 1762.¹⁷⁹

2 FEBRUARY 1763

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

John Cowan of Albemarle Co., to William Woods of same. Sale for 25£, 68 acres on **Spring Branch and Mechams River**, described as

“Beginning at a chesnut on the North side of the River & runing thence a new line North & West to pointers thence on **David Mills** line North & West to pointers thence South & West to pointers thence

¹⁷⁵ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1761–1764* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1988), 63; citing Deed Book 3: 235–36.

¹⁷⁶ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1761–1764* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1988), 63; citing Deed Book 3: 236–37.

¹⁷⁷ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1768–1770* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1990), 115; citing Deed Book 5: 234–35

¹⁷⁸ Culpeper Co., VA, Will Book A: 10.

¹⁷⁹ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1761–1764* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1988), 71; citing Deed Book 3: 269–72.

new line South & East to a pine then South & East to a corner Gum of *William Woods* Spring Creek thence down the same fifty two degrees East thirty six poles to Mechams River down the same North thirty six degrees East nineteen poles to the first station ... land was granted to the said John Cowan by Patton [*sic*] bearing date” of 25 March 1762.

Signed: John Cowan. Witnesses: Michael Woods, David Lewis, Archibald Owens. Proved 10 March 1763 by oaths of Woods and Owen.¹⁸⁰

12 NOVEMBER 1763

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land lease

David Mills to William Coleman & wife Betty, all of Albemarle. “In consideration of rents & Covenants herein after mentioned on the part of the said William Coleman and Betty his Wife to be paid and performed hath farm let unto said William Coleman and Betty his Wife one hundred acres of land except all Mines Minerals & Quarries whatsoever lying in the **Parish of Frederickville** in Albemarle County,” described as

“Beginning at David Mills Corner white oak in William Thompsons line the North side **Piney Run**,^[i] thence on Thompsons line South & East to two dogwoods in his line on the North of the Run,^[i] thence North & East to a red oak saplin,^[i] thence North & West to a white oak in David Mills line by a branch thence on his line South 45 West 110 poles to the Beginning.”

Land is leased for 10 years, beginning 3 January next “if either of them live so long, but if they do depart this Life before the Ten years has expired ... then this Lease shall immediately cease.” Payment: First four years, 1£ 5s; other six years, 1 £. Rents are due on 3 January of each year. Signed: David Mills, William Coleman, Betty + Coleman. Witnesses: Wm. Michie, James Keaton. Proved by David Mills at court on 14 June 1764.¹⁸¹

Signed: David Mills. Witnesses: Saml. Dolton, James Keaton, Bradley Merideth. Proved 8 March 1764 by oaths of the witnesses.¹⁸²

COMMENT:

- David’s wife Lucy was not involved here because this was a lease, not a sale.
- Note the lengthy duration of the lease: 10 years.

28 FEBRUARY 1764

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Will

“I, David Mills of Albemarle County do make this my Last Will and Testament. Imprimis I appoint my dear Wife, **Lucy Mills**, Executrix and my particular friends, **Isaac Davis** and **William Barksdale**, together with **my Son, Zachariah Mills**, ... Executors ... and bequeath unto my Executors ... all my lands (excepting such part thereof as is herein after particularly devised) together with all surveys, the sum or sums of money or whatever else shall be due to me from any person ... to the intent that they ... as soon as conveniently may be after my death shall sell the said lands and lay out the money ... after paying all my

¹⁸⁰ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1761–1764* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1988), 76; citing Deed Book 3: 290–91.

¹⁸¹ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1761–1764* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1988), 110; citing Deed Book 3: 446–48.

¹⁸² Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1761–1764* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1988), 98; citing Deed Book 3: 395–97.

debts and funeral charges) in purchasing young female slaves which they are to divide equally among my Children....

“Item. Whereas I have a large survey of land on **Buck Mountain Creek** [to be divided] as follows: Beginning on Buck Mountain Creek and continuing up the same to the lines of the first survey to the **Musterfield Path** nigh John Davis’s, from thence round the Fence to the mouth of a little Creek, from thence to the highest part of the back line and from thence down the said line and round on the lines of the first survey to the beginning ... I give and devise to my son **Zachariah Mills**.

“Item. I give and devise to my Executors [400] acres of land above the Road, which shall include my dwelling house and be included in the above survey for my Son, Zachariah Mills, with this express proviso ... that they ... suffer my beloved Wife, Lucy Mills, to have and occupy the said land and dwelling house ... during her widowhood and til her death if she shall never marry again and then ... to my Son, Zachariah Mills.

“Item. I give and devise to my **Son, David Mills**, and his heirs forever all the residue of my **Buck Mountain** Tract Survey.

“Item. I give and devise unto my **Son, Wyat Mills**, and his heirs forever all my **Beaverdam Swamp** tract of land.

“Item. I give and devise to my **Son Joseph Mills**, and his heirs forever a thousand acres of land adjoining **Beaver Creek**.

“Item. I give and devise to my Son Zachariah Mills {and David Mills omitted}, and to their heirs forever Epperson’s Survey and Coursey’s Survey and my will and desire is that my Executors divide the said tracts into two parts equal with respect to quality and that David have that part adjoining Thomas Ballard’s line and Zach: the other.

“Item, I give and devise to my Sons, Zachariah Mills, David Mills, Wyat Mills and Joseph Mills and their heirs forever, all that tract of land lying on the **Great Mountains** which I bought of David Thompson [executors to divide].

“Item. I give and devise to my **Daughters, Ann Mills and Elizabeth Mills**, and their heirs forever the [800] acres of land which was in the possession of *James Ceaton* ... and that Anna have that part which shall include the **Garden Spot** and Elizabeth that which joins *Garlick’s* line [executors to divide].

“Item. I give and devise to my Daughters, **Mary Mills** and **Lucy Mills**, and their heirs forever, [800] acres of land which shall adjoin *Twyman’s*. [Executors to divide the land] in such a manner that it shall extend from *Twyman’s* to the line below **Fishing Creek**, and then divide it into two parts equal with respect to quantity and quality and that Mary have that adjoining *Twyman’s* and Lucy that adjoining the line below Fishing Creek.”

Other provisions regarding executors, slaves, household furniture. Signed: David Mills. Witnesses: William Michie, David Thomson, Hannah her mark ✗ Epperson.¹⁸³

COMMENT:

- Many online trees identify (without evidence) David’s wife as Lucy Wyatt—thus the name Wyatt Mills for a son.
- Some researchers have questioned whether David’s daughter Ann might be the wife of Lewis Witt who named her first son Mills Witt. I’ve found no known record or online tree that validly identifies a husband for David’s daughter Ann. The above reference to her by her maiden name implies that she was not married here in 1764. In that event, she can be eliminated from consideration as Anne Witt, who bore eight children to Lewis before his

¹⁸³ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Wills, 1752–1764* (2000 reprint; N.P., The Antient Press, n.d.), 7–9; citing Will Book 2: 173–75.

death in 1774.¹⁸⁴ No other candidate named “Anne Mills” has been found who fits known details for the wife of Lewis Witt.

6 [JAN-MARCH] 1764

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

David Mills to James Merideth, both of Albemarle. Sale for 16£, a parcel “by supposition one hundred acres more or less lying in Albemarle County” described as

“Beginning at a Scrubby white oak corner of the said David Mills and running thence along the said **David Mills** corner line West to a scrubby white oak corner of the said David Mills, thence North & East to a pine & two red oak bushes thence North & East to a white oak saplin thence South one hundred & twenty poles to the Beginning.”

Signed: David Mills. Witnesses: Saml. Dolton, James Keaton, Bradley Merideth. Proved 8 March 1764 by oaths of the witnesses.¹⁸⁵

16 MARCH 1764

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

Nicholas Rice of Louisa County to Alexander Baine, “Merchant in Henrico.” To secure payment of 27£ 13s 11p, bearing interest from 31 January 173 due to Baine—and for another 5s paid now by Baine, Rice conveys to Baine “one certain tract or parcel of land lying & being in the County of Albemarle being my full share proportion & dividend of the land left to me by the Last Will & Testment of **Nicholas Mills Senr., deceased,**” as may more fully appear reference thereto being had on the records of Hanover County. Signed: Nicholas Rice. Witnesses: Thomas Perkins, John Bullok, David Ross. Acknowledged 11 September 1770 before Merth. Price, Wm. Garrott, Wm. Pettitt, John Walker, and Dabney Carr. Proved at November 1770 court, Albemarle County, by oaths of Price, Walker, and Carr.¹⁸⁶

2 JULY 1764

BEDFORD COUNTY, VA

Land sale

“Jul 2, 1764 from Alexander Sayers of **Augusta County** to Israil Christian of same, for 40£ and by virtue of [etc. as per deed above] one certain lot of 6 acres of land ... No. 37. Signed – Alex’r Sayers. Wit – Anthony Bledsoe, Francis Thorp, **John Mills**, James McFall, Thomas Barnes, Francis **Smith**. Recorded Feb 26, 1765.”¹⁸⁷

(BEFORE) 26 JULY 1764

BEDFORD CO., VA

Witness

“Deed from Alexander Sayers of Augusta Co., to Israil Christian. 6 Acres adj. New London Town. Wit. An

¹⁸⁴ Ann Chilton, *Bedford Co., Va., Will Book 1, 1759–1787; Will Book 2, 1787–1803* (Signal Mountain, TN: Mountain Press, 1988), 18; citing Will Book 1: 211 (Lewis Witt). Also Bedford Co., Will Book 4: 276–77 (Ann Witt will) and 287 (Ann Witt inventory and accounts), previously consulted for my work on William Mills-Witt of Franklin Co.

¹⁸⁵ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1761–1764* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1988), 98; citing Deed Book 3: 395–97.

¹⁸⁶ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1768–1770* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1990), 117–18; citing Deed Book 5: 243–44

¹⁸⁷ TLC Genealogy, *Bedford County, Virginia, Deeds, 1761–1766* (Miami Beach, FL: TLC Genealogy, 1991), 45-46; citing Deed Book 2: 515.

Bledsoe, Fran Thorp, **John Mills**, James Mfall, [sic] Thos. Barnes, Francis Smith. Rec. July 26, 1764. Teste Ben Howard CBC.”¹⁸⁸

11 OCTOBER 1764

ALBERMARLE COUNTY, VA

Proof of will

Lucy Mills, widow of David, appeared in court and renounced all benefit and advantage from his will. Executors did not appear and she was granted administration.¹⁸⁹

11 OCTOBER 1764

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

John Lawson and Margaret his wife to Gilbert Marshall, all of Albemarle Co. Sale for 72£ 10s, 300 acres on **Licking-hole Creek, a branch of Mecham’s river**, described as

Beginning at a White oak of *Henry Kerrs* four poles from a point of Brocks, *John Cowans* Corner & with Cowans line North East to pointers in *William Wallace’s* line thence on new lines North to a Pine & North West to pointers in **David Mills** line & with his lines South West to pointers & North West to pointers in *Andrew McWilliams* line & with it South East to pointers in *Henry Kerrs* line and with his lines North East to pointers & South East to the Beginning ... granted to the said John Lawson by Patent” 10 August 1759.”

Signed: John Lawson; Margeret Lawson. “Memorandum that peaceable possession was given by John Lawson unto Gilbert Marshall,” signed John Lawson. Proved by John at court on 11 October 1764, at which time Margaret was examined separately to relinquish her right of dower.¹⁹⁰

JUNE 1765–JULY 1767

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Court order

“John Graham & Co. shows **Robert Napier** is indebted to them. Account of Mr. Robert Napper (sic) with John Graham & Co., June –Nov. 1765. Summons to Napier in above suit, dated July 13. (3 items).”¹⁹¹

1 AUGUST 1765

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sal

David Lewis of Albemarle to Christopher Shepherd of same, sale for 50£, 200 acres on **Branches of Michim River**, described as

100 acres “Beginning at **Mathew Mills** pointers in said Lockharts line and runing thence on Mills line South West to a Hickory_[i,j] South West crossing two Branches to pointers [in] the said line_[i,j] thence new Lines South to a Chesnut tree near the top of a Mountain East crossing a Branch to pointers_[i,j] North East crossing a Branch to pointers North West to Pointers in said Lockhards line_[i,j] and on the same North West crossing a Branch to the first Station. Likewise ...” 100 acres joing the above 100, which “likewise joynes *David Lewis, John Kinkead and Christopher Shepherd.*”

Signed: David Lewis Jr. Witnesses: Henry Hays, William Grayson, James Colrey. Proved 8 August 1765 by David Lewis Jr. at court.¹⁹²

¹⁸⁸ Ann Chilton, *Bedford County, Virginia, Deed Book B2* (Signal Mountain, TN: Mountain Press, 1992), 33, citing B-2: 515.

¹⁸⁹ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Wills, 1752–1764* (2000 reprint; N.P., The Antient Press, n.d.), 7–9; citing Will Book 2: 173–75.

¹⁹⁰ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1764–1768* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1989), 3; citing Deed Book “1764–1768,” pp. 8–9.

¹⁹¹ Benjamin B. Weisiger III, compiler, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Papers, 1744–1783* (Richmond: P.p., 1987),28.

4 OCTOBER 1765

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

John Kinkead of St. Anns Parish in Albemarle to David Lewis Junr. Of same county and parish, for 35£, sale of a parcel of land, size unspecified, on **Branches of Mechims River**, described as

“Beginning at **Mathew Mills** Pointers in *John Lockharts* line & running thence on Mills line_(,) North East crossing to a Branch to Pointers_(,) thence New lines North East to pointers of *Bushes* South East to a Red oak in *George Davisons* line_(,) & with the same South East to pointers_(,) North East to pointers of *William Woods* in said line_(,) thence a new line South East crossing a branch to pointers in *John Lockharts* line_(,) & on the same South West crossing a Branch to the first Station.”

Signed: John Kinkead. Acknowledged October Court 1765 by John Kinkead and wife Margaret who relinquished her dower.¹⁹³

20 OCTOBER 1765

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

John Coffey of St. Anne’s Parish, Albemarle, planter, to James Garland of same. Sale for 55£, 100 acres “on the head of the **South Branch of Middle Hardware** in the North Garden,” described as

“Beginning and to join on the land of said *James Garland* purchased of *James Coffey* on the North West end_(,) and runing thence on said *John Coffeys* Entry_(,) and runing thence on a straight course to a poplar in a branch_(,) thence up the said Branch Coffeys line on the same course to the foot of a **Mountain**_(,) and a long the said line to the land of *James Garlands* on the South East.”

Signed: John Coffey. Witnesses: Charles Lambert, Claudius Buster, **Menan Mills**. Acknowledged by Coffey at court on 10 July 1766.¹⁹⁴

4 JULY 1766

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

James Coffey of Amherst Co., planter, to Robt. Fields of St. Anne’s parish, Albemarle Co., overseer. Sale for 52£ 10s, a tract of 175.23 acres on the **South branch of Mitcham’s [Mechum’s] River in the Ragged Mountains**, “being two thirds of a tract of land granted to sd James Coffey as by Patent bearing date at Williamsburgh July the 26th 1755,” described as

Bounded on *Henry Terrills* and **Matthew Mills** land & *Jno. Coffey Junr.* Land.

Signed: James Coffey. Witnesses: Nicholas Morran, Jno. Coffey, Cha. Lambert. Proved 10 July 1766 at court by oath of Nicholas Moran, Jno. Coffey & Chas. Lambert.¹⁹⁵

10 JULY 1766

¹⁹² Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1764–1768* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1989), 28; citing Deed Book “1764–1768,” pp. 115–17.

¹⁹³ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1764–1768* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1989), 43; citing Deed Book “1764–1768,” pp. 195–97.

¹⁹⁴ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1764–1768* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1989), 53; citing Deed Book “1764–1768,” pp. 238–40.

¹⁹⁵ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1764–1768* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1989), 54–55; citing Deed Book “1764–1768,” pp. 251–53.

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

Lucy Mills of Fredericksville Parish, Albemarle Co., to David Spradling of Trinity Parish, Louisa County, sale of 327 acres in Fredericksville Parish, Albemarle on South side of **North Branch of North Fork of James River** described as

“Beginning at a Red Oak near the bank of the River in *Mr. Webbs* line_{i,j} running thence along the same to *Mr. Carr’s* Corner several Oak saplins_{i,j} thence North East to a red oak saplin by a Branch_{i,j} thence South East to Carr’s Corner white oak on top of a hill_{i,j} thence North East to a Dogwood saplin on the River_{i,j} and thence up the same by the water courses making a straight line to the Beginning.

Signed: Lucy Mills. Acknowledged at court 10 July 1766, by Lucy Mills.¹⁹⁶

14 AUGUST 1766

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

Lucy Mills of Fredericksville Parish, Albemarle Co., “Widow & Executrix of **David Mills** deced.” To William Pettit of Trinity Parish, Louisa County. Sale for 10£, 100 acres described as

“Beginning at a Red oak and two Hickory saplins on the side of a Branch thence South West to two white oaks in Daivd Eppersons line_{i,j} thence South East to pointers_{i,j} thence North West to a Pine and three oak saplins in *William Davis’s* line_{i,j} then South West to a forked Pine in *Coursey’s* line thence South to a Red oak Corner in said Coursey’s line_{i,j} thence South West to the first station.”

Signed: Lucy Mills. Acknowledged at court on 14 August 1766 by Lucy Mills.¹⁹⁷

4 OCTOBER 1766

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

James Meridith and Lucreshea his wife to Thomas Walker, all of Albemarle County, sale for 12£, 100 acres described as

“Beginning at a Shrubby Oak in Leatherdales line thence a Strait line to a Pine in **Mills** line from thence to a white oak in **Mills** from thence along Leatherdales line to the first Station.”

Signed: James + Meridith; Lucreshea + Meridith. Witnesses: John Clark, Samuel Sampson, Thos. Garth, Geo. Martin. Proved Oct. Court 1766 by oath of Jno. Clark. Further proved 12 March 1767 at court by Saml. Sampson. Further proved 19 April 1767 at court by Geo. Martin.¹⁹⁸

COMMENT:

The “Mills” in this case should be **David Mills**.

11 DECEMBER 1766

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Court order

“1766 Folder ... Promissory note: **Jacob Watts** of Albemarle Co. to Andrew Cochran, Robert Donald & Co., dated 11 Dec. 1766 (torn)”¹⁹⁹

¹⁹⁶ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1764–1768* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1989), 52; citing Deed Book “1764–1768,” pp. 235–36.

¹⁹⁷ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1764–1768* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1989), 57–58; citing Deed Book “1764–1768,” pp. 264–66.

¹⁹⁸ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1764–1768* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1989), 81; citing Deed Book “1764–1768,” pp. 368–69.”

31 MARCH 1767

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Inventory

Estate of Doctor Arthur Hopkins, appraised by Giles Tompkins, William Moon, Solomon Hancock, before John Fry, Gent., J.P. "Credits taken from the books and papers of the deceased ... **David Mills, deced.**"²⁰⁰

9 APRIL 1767

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

William Garratt of Louisa County to John Armour Finley of Albemarle. Sale for 18£, 249 acres in Albemarle on **Pounding Branch**, described as

"Beginning at **Matthew Mills's** corner red oak and running thence with his line North East to a Chesnut_[,] thence South West to pointers_[,] thence North West to a Hiccory_[,] thence North to pointers in the said Mills line_[,] thence on his line South East to the first Station."

Signed: William Garrat. Acknowledged by Garratt at court 19 April 1767.²⁰¹

8 JULY 1767

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale.

John Coffey of Amherst County, planter, to Robert Fields of Albemarle. Sale for 35£, 242 acres on the **head Branches of Mitchums River under the Ragged Mountains**, described as

"Beginning at a red oak Henry Terrils and **Matthew Mills's** Corner of their Dividing line and runing thence on Mills South East to pointers thence new lines South East to pointers thence North West to a Chesnut Tree thence South West to a hiccory on the sd Terrels line thence with his line North East to the first Station."

Signed: James Coffey. Witnesses: Marvel Nash, Michael Israel, Chas. Lambert. Proved by oath of the 3 witnesses at court on 19 July 1767.²⁰²

13 JULY 1767

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Court order

"John Graham & Co. shows **Robert Napier** is indebted to them. Account of Mr. Robert Napper (sic) with John Graham & Co., June –Nov. 1765. Summons to Napier in above suit, dated July 13. (3 items)." ²⁰³

7 AUGUST 1767

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

Nicholas Mills of **Hanover County** to David Lewis of Albemarle, sale for 10£ 100 acres in Albemarle County described as

¹⁹⁹ Benjamin B. Weisiger III, compiler, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Papers, 1744–1783* (Richmond: P.p., 1987), 26.

²⁰⁰ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Wills, 1752–1764* (2000 reprint; N.P., The Antient Press, n.d.), 34–35; citing Will Book 2: 118–22

²⁰¹ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1764–1768* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1989), 79; citing Deed Book "1764–1768," pp. 359–60.

²⁰² Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1764–1768* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1989), 93; citing Deed Book "1764–1768," pp. 416–18.

²⁰³ Benjamin B. Weisiger III, compiler, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Papers, 1744–1783* (Richmond: P.p., 1987), 28.

“Beginning at a red oak on the **North side of Michums River** and running thence North West to pointers on John Rodes line_{i,j} and with it South West to a white oak_{i,j} thence on new lines South East to a Maple Saplin on the North side of Michums River_{i,j} & thence down the meanders of said River South East to the first Station.”

Signed: Nicholas Mills. Witnesses: David Rodes, John Marks, Zachariah Mills. Proved at November 1767 court by David Rodes, John Marks & Zachariah Mills.²⁰⁴

COMMENT:

Note, below under 22 March 1768, that Marks also witnessed the sale of David Lewis land adjoining Matthew Mills on Ivy Creek—the watercourse on which Edward Watts, the Callaways, and the Woodwards owned land.²⁰⁵

22 MARCH 1768

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

David Lewis Junr. Of St. Ann’s Parish to Ricxhard Woods, Joel Terrell and Samuel Woods of Fredricksville Parish, all of Albemarle except Samuel Woods who is of Amhurst Co. Sale for 40£ 356 acres on **Ivy Creek**, “which formerly belonged to David Lockhart which lyes joining **Matthew Mills**, Christopher Shepherds, John Woods, and tract of land which formerly belonged to David Lewis Junr.” Signed David Lewis Jr., Witnesses: Samuel Boyd, Thomas Anderson, John Marks. Proved by oaths of Boyd, Anderson and Marks at April Court, 1768.²⁰⁶

12 MAY 1768

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

Benjamin Brown of St. Martin’s Parish, Hanover Co., to James Harris of Fredricksville, Albemarle Co., sale for 20£, 22 acres described as

“Beginning at James Harrises Corner Red Chesnut running thence Noth West to pointers_{i,j} thence South West to a Red oak_{i,j} thence North East to a red oak_{i,j} thence North East to the beginning.”

Signed: Ben Brown. Witnesses: **Zachariah Mills**, Thomas Langford, John Mullins Junr. Acknowledged at Albemarle County court 12 May 1768 by Benjamin Brown.

1 APRIL 1769

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

David Lewis Junr. of St. Anne Parish, Albemarle, to Henry Tilley of same. Sale for 30£, 129 acres on **South Branch of Mechums River**, described as

“Beginning at a Corner white Oak of *William Littles* and with his line South fourteen degrees East sixty poles to a Pine saplin_{i,j} North eighty degrees East ninety nine to a white Oak in *John Woods* line_{i,j} and with his line South thirteen degrees West Eighty poles to pointers_{i,j} South thirty degrees East eighty two poles **crossing the South Branch of Mechums River** to corner red Oak & white Oak saplins in **Mathew Mills’s** line_{i,j} & with his lines South sixty two degrees West ninety eight poles to a white oak_{i,j} South twenty five

²⁰⁴ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1764–1768* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1989), 104; citing Deed Book “1764–1768,” pp. 456–57.

²⁰⁵ See Elizabeth Shown Mills, “Watts: Literature Survey of Colonial & Revolutionary Bedford, Brunswick, and Lunenburg Counties, Virginia,” report to file, 5 January 2015.

²⁰⁶ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1764–1768* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1989), 118; citing Deed Book “1764–1768,” pp. 504–5.

degrees West twenty eight poles to a Pine_[,] thence on new lines North thirty seven degrees West twenty six poles to pointers in *Samuel Blacks* line_[,] and with his lines North forty degrees East twenty poles to pointers_[,] North eleven degrees East one hundred & four poles **crossing the South Branch of Mechums River** to a Pine_[,] North sixty two degrees West seventy two poles to pointers round a Rock_[,] North forty five degrees West fifty six poles to a Pine_[,] a new line North thirty six degrees West fifty two poles to pointers in *Thos. Read's* line_[,] and with his line North Eighty one degrees East eight poles to the beginning.”

Signed: David Lewis Jr. Acknowledged that delivery was made same day. David then acknowledged the deed before Albemarle County court on 8 June 1769.²⁰⁷

21 JUNE 1769

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

Gilbert Marshall of Augusta County to Abraham Music of Albemarle, sale for 30£, 330 acres on **Lickenhole Creek** in Albemarle described as

“Beginning at a white Oak of Henry Kerrs four poles to a point of Rocks *John Cowens* Corner_[,] and with Cowens lines North eighty two degrees East seventy eight poles to pointers_[,] then with new lines North seventeen degrees West one hundred & twelve poles to a Pine_[,] and North forty nine Degrees West One hundred & thirty two poles to pointers in **David Mills** line_[,] and with his line South fifty degrees West one hundred and thirty six poles to pointers_[,] and North seventy two degrees West one hundred and sixty poles to pointers in *Andrew McWilliams* line_[,] & with it South thirteen degrees East two hundred & forty poles to pointers in *Henry Kerr's* line_[,] & with his lines North thirty three degrees East one hundred poles to pointers_[,] and South eighty five degrees East two hundred & ten poles to the beginning.

Signed: Gilbert Marshal. Witnesses Henry Carr, Samuel Carr, Terrell Music. Memorandum that possession passed on 21 June 1759. Proved August Court 1769 by oath of the three witnesses.²⁰⁸

12 OCTOBER 1769

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

Thos. Walker to John Shiflet, both of Albemarle Co., sale for 14£, 100 acres described as

“Beginning at a Shrubby Oak in Leatherdale’s line, thence a strait line to a Pine in **Mills’s** line, from thence to a white Oak on **Mills** line, from thence along Leatherdales line to the Beginning, together with the apputenances thereunto belonging.”

Signed: Thomas Walker. Witnesses: **Thos. Smith**, Danl. Smith, Nichols. Meriwether, William Lewis. Proved by oaths of all the witnesses at November court, 1769.²⁰⁹

COMMENT:

When Walker bought the land in 1766 (above), that deed also identified the adjacent owner only as “Mills.” Despite the “Thomas Smith” appearance, the neighborhood seems to be that of David Mills.

JULY–NOVEMBER 1770

²⁰⁷ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1768–1770* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1990), 50–51; citing Deed Book 5: 93–94.

²⁰⁸ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1768–1770* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1990), 57–58; citing Deed Book 5: 107–8.

²⁰⁹ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1768–1770* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1990), 74; citing Deed Book 5: 142–43.

LUNENBURG COUNTY, VA

Court papers

“Bond of Leonard Phillips of Albemarle Co. to James & Robert Donald & Co., Merchants in Glasgow, dated 13 June 1770, witnesses: John Miller, David Shepherd. Account of Leonard Phillips, Sr. to above company, July-Nov. 1770, mentions **Joseph Mills**. Order to arrest Phillips in above suit, 18 May [1773] (3 items).”²¹⁰

COMMENT:

David Mills’s will of 1764 names son Joseph. Shepherds were also in his neighborhood.

27 AUGUST 1770

PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY <HALIFAX <LUNENBURG

Land grant

On payment of 40 shillings, grant made and confirmed unto **William Mills and Elizabeth (his wife)**. 400 acres in **Pittsylvania County** “on both sides of **Matrimony Creek** bounded as follows:

“Beginning at a white Oak [r] thence North eighty one Degrees west one hundred and fifty nine Poles to a red Oak North [r] fifty seven Degrees West seventy four Poles to a white Oak [r] North seven Degrees East seventy Poles to a Dogwood [r] North forty Degrees West ninety one Poles to a Chesnut [r] North three East forty eight Poles to a white Oak [r] North seventy-nine Degrees East ninety Poles to a Gum [r] North sixty two Degrees East forty two Poles to a hickory [r] East seventy Poles to a red Oak [r] South sixty six Degrees East one hundred and thirty two Poles to a red Oak [r] South eighteen Degrees East fifty two Poles to a hickory [r] South one hundred & seventy Poles to Pointers [r] East two hundred and forty five Poles to a poplar [r] South seventy five Degrees East sixty four Poles to an Ash [r] South fifty two Degrees West one hundred Poles to a white Oak [r] South one hundred and thirty five Poles to a hickory [r] West two hundred and thirty eight Poles along the Country(?) Line to Pointers in the same [r] North sixty nine Poles to the Beginning.”²¹¹

COMMENT:

Pittsylvania County would subsequently become Henry, then Franklin—the county in which William Mills-Witt (b. c1783) first appeared on a tax roll in 1806. The William Mills of this land record would remain in Pittsylvania and Henry, where he had a son William Fontaine Mills (variously called William F. and William Jr.). That William Jr. was a contemporary of William Mills-Witt, but both younger Williams appear simultaneously in Franklin and Henry County records, with different wives and neighbors.²¹²

5 SEPTEMBER 1770

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

John Goodall and **Elioner** his wife, Tristan Snow and Elizabeth his wife, Frances Johnson and Mary Johnson, coheirs of John Johnson dec’d of Orange County, St. Thomas Parish, all sell to Ephraim Simonds of same county and parish, for 40 £, a tract of 400 acres “by estimation” in Albemarle County on Branches of Beverdam Swamp described as

²¹⁰ Benjamin B. Weisiger III, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Papers, 1744–1783* (Richmond, VA: P.p., 1987), 45.

²¹¹ Library of Virginia, “Land Office Grants,” database with images, *Virginia Memory* (http://image.lva.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/GetLONN.pl?first=223&last=&g_p=P39&collection=LO Patent: downloaded 20 May 2016), “Mills, William, grantee ... Pittsylvania County ... 400 acres on both sides of Matrimony Creek”; citing “Land Office Patents No. 39, 1770–1771, p. 223 (Reel 39).”

²¹² See E. S. Mills, “Mills: Henry and Pittsylvania Counties, Virginia: Preliminary Survey,” report to file, 28 August 2018; archived at *Historic Pathways* under the “Research” tab.

“Beginning at **Mills’s** Corner Poplar runing thence on new lines West one hundred & twenty poles to two Hickory saplins_{i,j} North twenty five degrees East two hundred & thirty poles crossing two branches to a Pine & Gum saplin on the side of a Mountain_{i,j} thence East two hundred & three poles to a red Oak in *Mr. Webbs* line_{i,j} thence on the same South two hundred poles to **Webbs & Mills** corner two red Oaks_{i,j} thence on Mills line South sixty four degrees West one hundred & thirty nine poles to the first station. Together with all houses gardens watercourses thereunto belonging.”

Signed by all the grantors, who acknowledged having received the full sum. Witnessed by W. Bell, Elizabeth Bell, Ann Rhodes. Acknowledged in Albemarle Court November 1770 by John Goodall & Elioner his Wife, Tristan Snow & Elizabeth his wife, Frances Johnson & Mary Johnson.²¹³

COMMENT:

Webb appears earlier as neighbor of David Mills.

17 AUGUST 1771

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Court order

“Order to arrest **Robert Napier** at suite of Delmus Johnson for trespass, dated 17 August.”²¹⁴

1771–21 AUGUST 1773

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Court order

“Richard Harvie and Co. shows that **John White** is indebted to them. Account of Mr. John White with Harvie & Co., 1771. Summons to White, 21 Aug. (3 items).”²¹⁵

[N.D.] 1772

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

Thomas Johnson and Anne his wife of Albemarle Co. to William Coleman of same. Sale for 12£ 9s 9p, 150 acres described as

“Beginning at a Corner white Oak of **David Mills**_{i,j} thence North West to a Hicory corner in *Keaton’s* line_{i,j} thence South West to a Chestnut corner in Keatons line_{i,j} thence South West to a white Oak corner in Keaton’s line_{i,j} thence South West to several marked trees in *James Ennis’s* line_{i,j} thence North West to two pines in the said Ennis’s line_{i,j} hence North East to a red Oak on the side of the Mountain_{i,j} thence North East to a Spanish Oak sapling by a Branch_{i,j} thence along the said Mills line South West to the beginning. Together with all houses orchards gardens waters.”

Signed: Thomas Johnson; Anne Johnson (A, her mark). Witnesses: none. Acknowledged by Johnson and wife at Albemarle Court, July 1772.²¹⁶

21 JANUARY 1772

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

²¹³ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1768–1770* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1990), 114; citing Deed Book 5: 230–32.

²¹⁴ Benjamin B. Weisiger III, compiler, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Papers, 1744–1783* (Richmond: P.p., 1987), 52.

²¹⁵ Benjamin B. Weisiger III, compiler, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Papers, 1744–1783* (Richmond: P.p., 1987), 48.

²¹⁶ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1772–1776* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1992), 2; citing Deed Book 1772–1776, pp. 4–6.

Elizabeth Buster, Claudius Buster and Dorcas his wife to William Gilham, all of Albemarle County, sale for 50£, 167 acres in Albemarle on North Fork of Harware **[Hardware] River**, conveyed to Elizabeth Buster by Thomas Fitzpatrick, described as

“Beginning at a Gum, corner in John Bolin’s line at the head of a Spring_{i,j} thence along a chop line between *Claudius and John Buster’s* a West course to a corner red Oak in the back line on the side of the **Little Mountain**_{i,j} thence along *Tomlin’s* line North thirty nine degrees East to a Chesnut Oak_{i,j} and South seventy degrees East ninety four poles to a red Oak in John Bollin’s line_{i,j} thence on the same South nineteen degrees West to the first station.”

Signed: Elizth: Buster, Claudius Buster, Darcus Buster. Witnesses: Chas: Lewis, William Watson, **Menan Mills**. Acknowledged by Claudius Buster at Albemarle Court, April 1777, after separate questioning of his wife Dorcas regarding her voluntary relinquishment of dower rights.²¹⁷

COMMENT:

Menan Mills was not named as a son in the 1764 will of David Mills.

28 OCTOBER 1772

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

John Webb Gent. & Judith his wife of Hanover County, to William Bell of Orange County. Sale for 90£ 812 acres “according to Plats being in Albemarle County on the **Branch of the Beaver Dam**, “joyning the lands of said John Bell, John Ogg and **Mills** [no first name given] described as

“Beginning at two red Oaks corner in the old line joyning of **Mills’s** Land, thence South East to two red Oaks an old Corner, thence South East to a white Oak Spanish Oak and Hickory on Beverdam, thence North East to two Gums and Spanish Oak, thence North to a Chesnut, thence along the said Bell’s line North West to several small Pines corner of the said Bells old line, thence along the old line due South to the beginning; Together with all houses orchards woods.”

Signed: John Webb; Judith Webb. Witnesses: James Causey, James Ruckier, John Bell. Proved by the witnesses in Albemarle Court, November 1772.²¹⁸

COMMENT:

The compiler of this set of abstracts indexes this entry under the name of David Mills.

23 NOVEMBER 1772

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Court order

“John Payne, assignee of Robert and Archer Payne, who were assignees of Samuel Mosely, complain of Godfree Jones, for debt made 20 Nov. 1766. Four orders to arrest Jones, dated dated [*sic*] 13 July, 13 Aug., 14 Nov. and undated. **Thomas Napier** says he knows of no such man in his bailiwick. **(5 items)**.

“Bond of Rene Woodson of Albemarle Co. to John Johnson of Hanover County, that he will repay debt, dated 23 Nov. 1772, witnessed by **Tho. Napier, Rich’d Napier** and William (blurred).”²¹⁹

²¹⁷ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1776–1778* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1997), 19; citing Deed Book 1776–1782, p. 40.

²¹⁸ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1772–1776* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1992), 11; citing Deed Book 1772–1776, pp. 36–38.

²¹⁹ Benjamin B. Weisiger III, compiler, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Papers, 1744–1783* (Richmond: P.p., 1987), 35.

1773

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Court order

“Three orders to arrest **Robert Napier** at suit of Delmus Johnson for trespass, assault and battery, dated 11 June, 14 July and 10 Oct. (3 items)”²²⁰

19 JANUARY 1773

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Court order

“1773 folder No. 2 ... Order to attach the goods of John Goolsby, Sr. to satisfy 221 Pounds, 4 shillings, dated 19 Jan., in case brought by James & Robert Donald & Co. (attached one table fork. **Signed: Tho. Napier.**”²²¹

COMMENT:

Napier appears to be a constable or deputy sheriff in 1773.

1773

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Court order

“1773 Folder #1 ... Bond of **Thomas Watt** of Albemarle Co. to Richard Harvie & Co. for debt, dated 11 May 1773, witnessed by John Moore, Jr. Order to arrest Watt, dated 30 Aug. (2 items)”²²²

1773

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Court order

“1773 folder #5 ... Ten orders to arrest Ambrose Jones, Jr. at suit of Alexander Speirs & Co., various dates, for trespass. (On back of all of them: ‘Not found’ signed **Tho. Napier**) (10 items)”²²³

5 OCTOBER 1773

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

David Frazer and Barbara his wife, of Augusta [County] to James Ennis of Albemarle. Sale, for 30£, 200 acres in Albemarle on **Branches of Rockey Creek** described as

“Beginning at Rockey Creek being a white Oake_[,] to the Middle Fork to South Fork of Rockey Creek_[,] to a small red Oak_[,] and thence South East to a knoby white Oak in **James Merideths** line_[,] thence along his line North at Rock Creek to a red Oak and two white Oaks_[,] and thence North East to the beginning; with all woods houses gardens.”

Signed: David Frazer; Barbary Frazer. Witnesses: **Barnet Mills, Nathen Mills**, Martin {W, his mark} Ennis. Proved by the oaths of all witnessese at Albemarle Court March 1774.²²⁴

COMMENT:

James Ennis owned land adjacent to David Mills. See “N.D.] 1772,” above.

10 NOVEMBER 1773

²²⁰ Benjamin B. Weisiger III, compiler, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Papers, 1744–1783* (Richmond: P.p., 1987), 36.

²²¹ Benjamin B. Weisiger III, compiler, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Papers, 1744–1783* (Richmond: P.p., 1987), 42.

²²² Benjamin B. Weisiger III, compiler, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Papers, 1744–1783* (Richmond: P.p., 1987), 40.

²²³ Benjamin B. Weisiger III, compiler, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Papers, 1744–1783* (Richmond: P.p., 1987), 47.

²²⁴ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1772–1776* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1992), 65–6; citing Deed Book 1772-1775, pp. 253-43.

LUNENBURG COUNTY, VA

Witness

“1770 Folder ... Bond of Benjamin Taylor and John Jones, both of Albemarle Co., to John Henderson, Jr., Sheriff, 10 Nov. 1773, because of writ of trespass levied agst estate of Benjamin Taylor by John McCue on a negro woman of the estate, that the debt will be paid. Witness: **Menan Mills**. Order to attach estate of Taylor to satisfy debt. (2 items).”²²⁵

30 NOVEMBER 1773

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Mordecai Hord, late of Albemarle Co., to Richard Durrett Junior of same, sale for 140£, 440 acres on **South Fork of Jacobs Run**, described as

“Beginning at a corner white Oak saplin, a corner of the Patten_t, thence along the Patten lines South West to a red & white Oak saplins_t, thence South East to two white Oaks & a Pine in **Henry’s or Millses line**_t, and along the said Line North East to a white Oak saplin_t, thence South East to a stooping white Oak_t, thence South East to a corner red Oak on the said line_t, thence leaving the Patten line runing North East to a corner at several Pines_t, thence North West to corner between a white Oak, red Oak & Pine_t, thence North West to the beginning.”

Signed: Mordecai Hord. Witnesses: Jno. Moore, Jas. Quarles, Micajah Clark, Jr. Proved by oaths of witnesses at December Court, 1772.²²⁶

COMMENT:

The compiler of this set of abstracts indexes this entry under the name of David Mills.

1774

BEDFORD COUNTY, VA

Probate

“Appraisement of estate of **Lewis Witt**. By: Robert Mitchell, Thomas Robinson, William Adams. Recorded May 23, 1774. Teste: **James Steptoe**.²²⁷

COMMENT:

This Lewis Witt, who died leaving a son *Mills* Witt by his wife Anne, is widely believed to have married Anne Mills, sister of Ambrose and sister of Sarah who married Thomas Watts.

TO DO:

- Get this estate and all documents relating to it.
- Work all Lewis Witt deeds, court records, etc., in Bedford.

15 FEBRUARY 1774

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Court order

“1774 folder ... Summons to Alexander **Toney** to answer petition of David Cochran & Co. for debt., 15 February.”²²⁸

16 APRIL 1774

²²⁵ Benjamin B. Weisiger III, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Papers, 1744–1783* (Richmond, VA: P.p., 1987), 32.

²²⁶ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1772–1776* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1992), 19; citing Deed Book 1772-1776, pp. 71-73.

²²⁷ Ann Chilton, *Bedford Co., Va., Will Book 1, 1759–1787; Will Book 2, 1787–1803* (Signal Mountain, TN: Mountain Press, 1988), 18; citing Will Book 1: 211.

²²⁸ Benjamin B. Weisiger III, compiler, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Papers, 1744–1783* (Richmond: P.p., 1987), 34.

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Court order

“1774 folder ... “Eleven orders to arrest **Ashford Napier** at suit of Hart & Marshall, various dates. (On back: ‘Not found’ **Rich. Napier**) Attachment agst goods of Ashford Napier, dated 16 April (12 items).”²²⁹

25 APRIL 1774

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Court order

“Leonard Smith shows **Elizabeth Napier** in debt to him. Account of **Mrs. Elizabeth Napier** with Leonard Smith, April–May 1773. Order to summon Elizabeth Napier to appear, 25 April.”²³⁰

23 MAY 1774

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Court order

“1774 Folder ... Bond of **Daniel Tilman** and **Edward Tilman** to Beverly Low for debt, dated 23 May 1774, witness: George Thompson, Jr.”²³¹

10 OCTOBER 1774

BEDFORD COUNTY, VA

Military

“Captain Buford’s Volunteers in 1774. List of Captain Thomas Buford’s Volunteer Company, raised in Bedford County, who formed part of the army under General Andrew Lewis at the battle with the Indians at Point Pleasant, the 10th of October 1774. ...”²³²

COMMENT:

No Watts, Woodward, Witt, Mills, or known associate appears on this list.

9 JANUARY 1775

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

Abraham Musick to Henry Wood, both of St. Ann’s Parish, Albemarle. Sale, for 45£, 200 acres on **Licking Hole Creek, a Branch of Michems River**, described as

“laid out by a new line, the said line joins *Henry Carr, John Bowen & David Mills* line and also all houses fences fruit trees woods and all other appurtenances.”

Signed: Abraham Musick. No witnesses. Musick acknowledged deed at January 1775 term of court.²³³

23 FEBRUARY 1775

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

George Rogers & Frances his Wife to Giles Rogers. Sale for 48£, 800 acres in Albemarle County on both sides of **Piney Run** and **other Branches of Buck Mountain Creek**, described as

²²⁹ Benjamin B. Weisiger III, compiler, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Papers, 1744–1783* (Richmond: P.p., 1987), 52.

²³⁰ Benjamin B. Weisiger III, compiler, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Papers, 1744–1783* (Richmond: P.p., 1987), 51.

²³¹ Benjamin B. Weisiger III, compiler, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Papers, 1744–1783* (Richmond: P.p., 1987), 51.

²³² *Historical Sketch of Bedford County, Virginia, 1753–1907* (N.P., N.p., n.d.), 44.

²³³ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1772–1776* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1992), 106; citing Deed Book 1772–1775, pp. 409–11.

MILLS: Mills & Associates of Albemarle, Goochland & Southside, VA: Initial Survey 2016 (Rev. 2022)

“Beginning at John Reeds corner two red Oak saplins_[,] thence with his line South West to a red Oak bush_[,] North West to a red Oak_[,] and North West to pointers in **David Mills** land_[,] thence on the same South West to his and *William Keatons* corner two pines_[,] thence on Keatons line South East to *Martins & John Reeds* line_[,] thence on the same North West to the beginning ... with its appurtenances.”

Signed: George Rogers. Witnesses: Charles Burrus, Richd. Snow (+), Randolph Rogers. Proved by oaths of the witnesses at Albemarle court, July 1775.²³⁴

25 MARCH 1775

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Court order

“1775 Folder ... Bond of **Richard Napier**, factor for David Cockran & Co., with **Patrick Napier** of **Albemarle** Co., security, to William Craig for Napier’s attachment agst Craig’s estate, 25 March 1775, Robert Thompson, witness. At court 13 April 1775 David Cockran & Co. obtained an attachment agst William Craig, who has removed himself from the county, on a horse, bridle and saddle. Bond of William Craig of Albemarle to David Cockran & Co., 12 June 1774, witness: Francis Irvin. Complaint of **Richard Napier** agst Craig. (4 items)”²³⁵

[N.D.] BEFORE OCTOBER 1775

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

John Spencer of Albemarle Co., to Thomas Woolfolk of Orange County. Sale for 80£, 240 acres on **Pounding Branch** in Albemarle, described as

“Beginning at **Matthew Millses** corner red Oak and runing thence on his line North East to pointers, thence new lines South East to a Chesnut tree, then South East to pointers, thence South West to a Hickory, thence North West to pointers, thence South West to a Hickory, thence North East to pointers on said Mills line, thence on his line North East to a white Oak, thence South to the first station; and now in possessions of said Thomas Woolfolk with all houses and advantages belonging.”

Signed: John Spencer. No witnesses shown. Acknowledged by Spencer in October 1775 term of court, at which time his wife Rosannah was questioned separately and voluntarily relinquished her right of dower.²³⁶

12 JANUARY 1776

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Will [nutshell]

Reuben Terrell’s will. Wife Milly. Estate to be kept together as much as possible for education and support of children until “daughter Mary arrives to lawful age or marries.” “After the death of my wife Milly ... estate I have lent to her real and personal shall be equally divided among *all my children*. If *either* of my children should died before they marry or come of age” Witnesses: John Wood, Thomas Collins, **John Mills**. Henry Emmerson, Amea Emmerson, Ephra U {his mark} Rucker. Proved November Court 1776.²³⁷

²³⁴ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1772–1776* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1992), 114–15; citing Deed Book 1772–1775, pp. 433–34.

²³⁵ Benjamin B. Weisiger III, compiler, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Papers, 1744–1783* (Richmond: P.p., 1987), 54.

²³⁶ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1772–1776* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1992), 124; citing Deed Book 1772–1776, p. 473.

²³⁷ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Will Books 1752–1756; 1775–1783* (reprint, 2002; N.P., The Antient Press, n.d.), 124; citing Will Book 1: 347.

COMMENT:

I have spotted no clues to the identity of this John Mills—except for the fact that the Emmersons and Woods were neighbors of David Mills. However, John was not named as a son in David’s will. Possibly he was a brother or grandson.

This does not appear to be the John Mills who settled Lunenburg c1749 and was cut away into Bedford. By 1769, that John (an inlaw of the Ewings) had moved back to Augusta County²³⁸ and would subsequently live in Botetourt.²³⁹ I’ve found nothing to place him in Albemarle.

8 FEBRUARY 1776

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

Robert Gentry and wife Judah of Albemarle to John Woodson of same, sale for 65£, 234 acres in Albemarle **on Branches of Ivy Creek**, “agreeable to two Patents granted Samuel Arnold” dated 10 September 1764, and another 30 acres. No metes and bounds given. Signed: Robert Gentry; Judah Gentry (J, her mark), **Menan Mills**, John Miller, Thos: Staples. Acknowledged by Robert and Judith at February Court 1776.²⁴⁰

COMMENT:

Minan Mills is note named as a son of David, in David’s will.

25 DECEMBER 1777

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

Michael Wood of Montgomery County and William Wood of Albemarle County, sell to William Brisco of Albemarle, for 35£, 300 acres in Albemarle on **Branches of Mechum’s River**, described as

“Beginning at pointers in **David Mill’s** line and with it South fifty degrees West two hundred twenty poles to pointers in **Henry Wood’s** line_[,] and with his line South forty nine degrees East one hundred thirty two poles to a Pine_[,] thence on new lines North sixty nine degrees East one hundred seventy four poles to pointers_[,] thence south eighty seven degrees, East fifty six [to] a Branch at one hundred thirty eight another_[,] in all one hundred fifty poles to pointers_[,] thence North sixteen degrees West at one hundred thirty six poles to a Branch_[,] in all two hundred thirty six poles to the first station; And all houses orchards and water courses.”

Signed: Michael Wood, William Wood. Witnesses: Michael Wallace, Wm. Shelton, Josiah Wallace. 27 December, acknowledgment of payment received. Proved by oath of witnesses at Albemarle Court, January 1778.²⁴¹

18 NOVEMBER 1777

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

Samuel Stockton and wife Prudence of Albemarle to Richard Wood of same, sale for 300£, 284 acres in Albemarle on both sides of **Meachum’s River**, described as

²³⁸ Ann Chilton, *Bedford County, Virginia, Deed Book C-3* (Signal Mountain, TN: Mountain Press, n.d.), 50; citing p. 508.

²³⁹ Bedford Co., VA, Deed Book 7, 1780–87: 697–98.

²⁴⁰ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1772–1776* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1992), 128–29; citing Deed Book 1772–1776, pp. 486–87.

²⁴¹ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1776–1778* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1997), 68–68; citing Deed Book 1776–1782, pp. 138–40.

“Beginning at pointers on *Thomas Stockton’s* Corner pointers and running thence South eighty eight degrees East seventy six poles to a Locust Stake on **Matthew Mills’s** line_(,) and with it North thirty five degrees one hundred fifty four poles to pointers in the Fork of a Branch_(,) thence South seventy six degrees East thirty six poles to pointers on two large Pines and red Oak_(,) thence North thirty eight degrees East sixty four poles to a red Oak_(,) thence North sixty two West seventy poles to a corner red Oak_(,) thence South forty five degrees West sixty poles to a white Oak_(,) thence North forty five degrees West at thirty poles crossing Stockton’s Branch in all one hundred fifty six poles to a Stake between pointers_(,) thence South forty five degrees West two hundred and two poles to a Maple_(,) thence South forty five degrees East ninety six poles to the Ford crossing the said Branch_(,) thence new lines and by the meanders of the Road East twenty six poles to a white Oak saplin between fences_(,) thence South six degrees West twenty two poles to a white Oak saplin on the old line_(,) thence South forty five degrees East thirty two poles to the first station.”

Signed: Samuel Stockton; Prudence her mark Stockton. Witnesses: William Grayson, John Grayson, **Minian** [*sic*] **Mills**, Philomon Snell, Thomas Stockton. Proved by oath of “three of the witnesses” at April Court 1778.²⁴²

[N.D.] 1778

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

Ephraim Musick and wife Isabela to Neill McFall, all of Albemarle Co., sale for 60£, 100 acres in Albemarle on both sides of **Lickinghole Creek**, described as

“Beginning at *Henry Karr’s* corner white Oke and with his line runing thence South thirty three degrees West one hundred poles to pointers on *Hugh McWilliams’s* line_(,) and with it North thirteen degrees West two hundred forty poles to pointers on **Mills’s** line_(,) and with it South seventy two degrees East one hundred two poles to a red Oke saplin_(,) thence on new lines South thirty three degrees West thirty three poles to a small red Oke saplin_(,) thence South six degrees West eighty three poles to a white Oke on North side of Licking hole Creek_(,) and down the Creek and by the meanders North forty seven degrees East forty four poles to the first station, and all houses orchards and water courses to the same belonging.”

Signed: Ephraim Musick; Isabela Musick. No witnesses named. Acknowledged by Ephraim Musick at Albemarle Court, December 1778, after wife Isabela was separately examined and she voluntarily relinquished her dower rights.²⁴³

COMMENT:

This Mills reference should be to the land of the late David Mills.

24 JANUARY 1778

BEDFORD COUNTY, VA

Will

“Will of **Richard Woodward**. January 24, 1778. Wife Elizabeth. Sons: Lance, Randolph, Isaac, John, William, Richard, Warwick. Daughters: Urcilia Hall, **Frances Taylor**. Exec: wife Elizabeth, son Lance. Witnesses: Richard Gilliam, Zacharias Gilliam, Peter Ferguson, Leonard Hall. Recorded April 24, 1786. Teste James Steptoe.²⁴⁴

²⁴² Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1776–1778* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1997), 90; citing Deed Book 1776–1782, pp. 186–88.

²⁴³ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1778–1780* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1997), 54–55; citing Deed Book 1776–1782, pp. 336–38.

²⁴⁴ Ann Chilton, *Bedford Co., Va., Will Book 1, 1759–1787; Will Book 2, 1787–1803* (Signal Mountain, TN: Mountain Press, 1988, 55; citing Will Book 1: 505. Checked. The original document is at 1: 505–6, with inventory at p. 517.

COMMENT:

- Richard Woodward was a close associate (and possible father-in-law) of George Watts, whose brother Thomas m. Sarah Mills.²⁴⁵ If George did marry a Woodward daughter, then his widow has remarried a man named Taylor.
- The actual document shows the will was proved 24 April 1786. Elizabeth Woodward, widow, and Lance Woodward were appointed executrix and executor. The inventory was conducted by Joseph Poindexter, **Simon Mills**, and Richard Gilliam.
- This Simon Mills has not been fitted into the family of either David or William Mills.

28 JANUARY 1778

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

Samuel Stockton of **Rutherford Co., NC**, to Samuel Wood of **Amherst Co.**, sale for 250£, “a certain tract of land and Mill on it, the lot of land containing twenty eight acres more or less lying in Albemarle County on the waters of **Mechum’s River** and bounded by the line of James Garland, David Cook, John Harlow and John Dollins.” Signed: Samuel Stockton. Witnesses: Jas: Brooks, **Chas: Mills**; William Grayson, John Grayson. Proved at Albemarle Court, March 1780, by James Brooks, William Grayson, and John Grayson.²⁴⁶

COMMENT:

- Mechum’s River is the area of David Mills, but David’s will did not name a son Charles.
- The fact that Charles Mills witnessed the deed but did not appear in Albemarle Court to prove the deed suggests that he did not reside in Albemarle. Amherst or Rutherford would be the likeliest places to search for him.
- Rutherford, at this time, was the home of Ambrose Mills and his brother William Mills Jr. Ambrose’s offspring did not include a Charles. No known record identifies any children for William aside from a son Jesse and (allegedly) a daughter Mary who married James Step.²⁴⁷

4 APRIL 1778

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

Richard Wood and wife Elizabeth to Augustine Shepherd, sale for 34£, 49.5 acres in Albemarle described as

“Beginning at pointers_(,) running thence new lines eighty-eight degrees West ninety poles to a white Oak saplin_(,) North seventy seven degrees West thirty poles to a white Oak_(,) thence West twenty one poles to a white Oak_(,) South twenty one poles West to a white Oak saplin on **Minian Mills’s** line_(,) running thence with Mills’s line South fifty degrees East sixty one poles to a red Oak saplin_(,) hence with *Christopher Shepherd’s* line North seventy five degrees one hundred and sixty poles to a white Oak_(,) thence a new line North sixty degrees West forty six poles to the first station.”

Signed: Richard Wood. No witnesses shown. Acknowledged at Albermarle Court, April 1778, by Richard Wood.²⁴⁸

²⁴⁵ See Elizabeth Shown Mills, “Watts: Literature Survey of Colonial & Revolutionary Bedford, Brunswick, and Lunenburg Counties, Virginia,” report to file, 5 January 2015; archived at *Historic Pathways* under the “Research” tab.

²⁴⁶ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1778–1780* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1997), 99–100; citing Deed Book 1776–1782, pp. 427–28.

²⁴⁷ See E. S. Mills, “Mills & Associates: Rutherford County, NC, Its Parent Counties ... & Offshoots: Initial Survey,” report to file, 28 August 2018; archived at *Historic Pathways* under the “Research” tab

²⁴⁸ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1776–1778* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1997), 88; citing Deed Book 1776–1782, pp. 182–83.

9 APRIL 1778

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

Zachariah Mills to Henry Austin, sale for 62£, 390 acres in Albemarle County, described as

“Beginning at **David Mills’s** corner two red Oak saplins in *Mr. Wills’s* line on the **Branches of Beaver Dam**,^[i,j] running thence along Mr. Wills’s line South two hundred ninety two poles to his corner shrubby white Oak in *Mr. Robinson’s* line, thence on *Robinson’s* line East two hundred poles to a Pine on the side of a **small Mountain**,^[i,j] South thirty four degrees East three hundred forty two poles to two red Oaks and a Chesnut in *Mr. Webb’s* line,^[i,j] thence on Mr. Webb’s line North thirty four degrees West one hundred and sixty poles to two white Oaks on the spur of a Mountain,^[i,j] and North thirty four degrees West three hundred twenty poles to the first station.”

Signed: **Zachariah Mills**. No witnesses shown. Acknowledged by Mills at April term of court.²⁴⁹

20 MAY 1778

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Neighbor

“Jno. Coleman, AC, to Tyree Slading, AC, for blank sum, 100 acres. Lines: near **Huff Creek**, top of the Mt., Jno. Coleman, Benj. Nowel, **Jas. Byas**. Wit: Jno. Daniel Coleman, Wm. Peter, Moses Sweeney. Orig. del. to Slading.”²⁵⁰

11 SEPTEMBER 1778

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

Samuel Simpson and wife Mary to Francis Birchhead, sale for 70£, 177 acres in Albemarle adjoining John Hall, William Carr, Josiah Wood, and McGilligitt. [No metes & bounds shown.] Signed: Saml. Simpson. Witnesses: Wm. Michie, **David Mills**, Jas: Redd. Acknowledged by Simpson at Albemarle Court, September 1779.²⁵¹

28 OCTOBER 1778

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

Nicholas Mills of Hanover to Samuel Morton of Charles County, Maryland, sale for 600£, 52 acres on **Spring Creek** Albemarle Co., described as

“Beginning at a Pine saplin running thence North sixty eight degrees East at one hundred six poles [to] **Spring Creek**, at one hundred twenty six left the same, in all one hundred thirty four poles to pointers,^[i,j] South eighty degrees East one hundred forty two poles to pointers,^[i,j] North sixty seven degrees East thirty two poles to a red Oak saplin on the side of a Hill,^[i,j] North fifty six degrees East ninety six poles to a Maple saplin on North side **Meachum’s River**,^[i,j] thence North twenty one degrees West ninety two poles to a white Oak,^[i,j] thence on Moorman’s line South forty four degrees West forty two poles to a red Oak, white Oak, and Dogwood,^[i,j] North twenty five degrees West one hundred sixty two poles to a Spanish Oak bush,^[i,j] thence on new lines West four hundred forty poles to a white Oak saplin,^[i,j] South thirty degrees West at

²⁴⁹ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1776–1778* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1997), 90; citing Deed Book 1776–1782, p. 185

²⁵⁰ Bailey Fulton Davis, *The Deeds of Amherst County, VA (1762–1852) & Albemarle County, VA (1948–1807)* (Greenville, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1979), 176; citing DB E: 41.

²⁵¹ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1778–1780* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1997), 71; citing Deed Book 1776–1782, pp. 368–69.

one hundred eighteen poles to the North fork of Spring Creek at two hundred and four the South Fork in all three hundred poles to pointers_[,] and South sixty degrees East two hundred ten poles to the beginning.”

Signed: Nicholas Mills. Witnesses: William Michie, **Zachariah Mills**, John [his mark MR] McRea. Proved by William Michie and Zachariah Mills, Albemarle Court, 10 December 1778.²⁵²

28 DECEMBER 1778

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

Thomas Whary to John Norris, both of Fredericksville Parish, Albemarle, sale for 95£, 325 acres in Albemarle on both sides of **Spring Creek of Moorman River**, described as

“Beginning at Daniel Maupine’s pointers in the Fork of two small Branches_[,] and running thence on Maupine’s line North six and a half degrees West one hundred fifty six poles crossing to a Branch to pointers in a Branch_[,] and North forty five degrees East one hundred thirty two poles crossing the said Creek to pointers_[,] thence new lines South thirty five degrees East one hundred fourteen poles to a red Oak_[,] South forty five degrees East one hundred forty five poles crossing a Branch to pointers in **David Mills’s** line_[,] thence on Mills’s line_[,] South twenty nine degrees West one hundred eighty eight poles crossing the said Creek and a Branch to pointers in the said line_[,] and thence a new line North fifty five degrees West one hundred eighty eight poles crossing two branches to the first station; Together with all houses orchards and water courses.”

Signed: Thomas Wharey. Witnesses: William Norris, his mark [a crude W]; William Norris, Junr., Elizabeth [her mark X] Norris. Proved by witnesses at Albemarle Court, June 1779.²⁵³

21 MAY 1779

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

John Norris and wife Sarah to Townill Johnson, all of Albemarle, sale for 150£, 325 acres in Albemarle on both sides of **Spring Creek of Moorman River**, described as

“Beginning at Daniel Maupine’s pointers in the Fork of two small Branches_[,] and running thence on Maupine’s lines North six and a half degrees West one hundred fifty six poles crossing a Branch to pointers in a Branch_[,] and North forty five degrees East one hundred thirty two poles crossing the said Creek to pointers_[,] thence new lines South thirty five degrees East one hundred fourteen poles to a red Oak_[,] and South forty five degrees East one hundred forty five poles crossing a Branch to pointers in **David Mills’s** line_[,] thence on Mills’s line South twenty nine degrees West one hundred eighty eight poles cross the said Creek and a Branch to pointers_[,] in said line and thence a new line North fifty five degrees West one hundred eighty eight poles crossing two Branches to the first station; and all houses orchards and water courses.”

Signed: John Norris; Sarah [her mark X] Norris. Witnesses: William Morris, Junr., Elisabeth [her mark B] Norris, William his mark W Norris. Proved by witnesses at Albemarle Court, June 1779.²⁵⁴

10 JUNE 1779

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

²⁵² Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1778–1780* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1997), 49–50; citing Deed Book 1776–1782, pp. 329.

²⁵³ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1778–1780* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1997), 36–37; citing Deed Book 1776–1782, pp. 305–6.

²⁵⁴ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1778–1780* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1997), 41–42; citing Deed Book 1776–1782, pp. 314–16.

Land sale

John Shiflet and Joyce his wife to John Stephens, sale for 65£, 100 acres “bounded by the lands of William Davis and **Mr. Mills.**” Signed: John his mark X Shiflet; Joice her mark Z Shiflet. Acknowledged by John Shiflett at Albemarle Court, June 1779, after wife Joyce was separately examined and relinquished her dower rights.²⁵⁵

10 JUNE 1779

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

Ephraim Simmonds and wife Mary to John Dun, all of Albemarle. Sale for 75£, 300 acres “by estimation” in Albemarle County on **Branches of Beaver Dam**” described as

“Beginning at two Hiccorys corner of William Roger_[i]’s and running South twenty five degrees West one hundred fifty poles to two Hicory saplins_[i] then due East one hundred twenty poles to a Poplar corner of **Mills’s**_[i] thence with his line North eighty six degrees East one hundred eighty to two red Oaks corner to Webb’s and Mills’s_[i] thence on Mills’s line North two hundred poles to a corner in Webb’s line_[i] thence West eighty five poles to a fork’d red Oak corner to William Roges [*sic*]_[i] thence with his line South one hundred forty two poles to a single and double Maple another corner of said Roger’s_[i] thence along his line North sixty five degrees West one hundred sixty eight poles to the first station; together with all houses orchards and water courses to the same belonging.”

Signed: “Ephraim’s signature less readable than before”; Merey her mark X Simmonds. Acknowledged by Ephraim Simmons at Albemarle Court, June 1779.²⁵⁶

COMMENT:

This is David Mills’s land.

13 JUNE 1779

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Will (nutshell)

Thomas Ballard of Albemarle. Daughter Mary; sons Thomas Ballard, Bland Ballard. Daughter-in-law Mourning Ballard “to live on and use and occupy that part of [my land] where she now lives during her natural life and I will and require the land to be equally divided between them so that Bland enjoy that part whereon he now lives. ... to the natural daughter of my daughter Frances, named Rachel, now wife of Gabriel Mullins. To my daughter Susanna Pettit ... land in Louisa County” then “the said land unto her ... eldest son then surviving and his heirs.” Rest of my estate to be divided between my five children Thomas, Bland, Anna, Maupin, Frances Ballard, and Susanna Pettit. Witnesses: William Michie, **Zachariah Mills, Joseph Mills.** Proved 6 May 1784 by William Michie and **Zachariah Mills.**²⁵⁷

21 SEPTEMBER 1779

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale inquisition

Inquisition taken on the land of John Ledderdale, Albemarle County, before Peter Marks, Gent. Escheator for the county, regarding an estimated 800 acres on waters of **Buck Mountain**, Albemarle County, adjoining lands of **Zach: Mills, David Wills** [*sic*], Henry Austin and others. Upon the oath of Giles Rogers,

²⁵⁵ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1778–1780* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1997), 38; citing Deed Book 1776–1782, p. 308.

²⁵⁶ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1778–1780* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1997), 39–40; citing Deed Book 1776–1782, pp. 310–12.

²⁵⁷ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Will Books 1752–1756; 1775–1783* (reprint, 2002; N.P., The Antient Press, n.d.), 72–74; citing Will Book 1: 396–97.

Foreman, Lewis Davis, John Miller, Robert Davis, Henry Austin, David Dolton, Cornelius White, Benjamin Huntsman, John Davis, Richard Durrett, Thomas Johnson, Bartlett Davis, and James Kitten, it is determined that the land is the property of John Leatherden [*sic*] a British subject, and ought to be vested in the Commonwealth. Signed: Giles Rogers, Peter Marks.²⁵⁸

15 OCTOBER 1779

AMHERST, ALBEMARLE & BUCKINGHAM COUNTIES, VA

Petition

“Petition of freeholders and inhabitants of the counties of Amherst, Albemarle, and Buckingham counties to repeal the act ‘for laying a tax payable in certain enumerated commodities,’ as thereby the poorest man in the state is compelled to pay as much as those of the most opulent fortunes for the conduct of the present war with Great Britain. ... [*skip 14*] Thomas Jopling Junr., [*skip 21*] **Jhn Tinsley, Jesse Mills**, Jas Rouse, Jno Thurmond, Bolinger Wade [*skip 11*] **Isaac Tinsley**, Richard Powel, Jereh Whitney, Isaac Staples [Buckingham Co. Staples?],” and about 200 more.²⁵⁹

26 OCTOBER 1779

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

Miles Gathright and wife Elizabeth of Albemarle County and Parish, to **John Mills of Caroline County and Parish**, for 1000£, sale of 198 acres “joyning the lands of John Epperson and Charles Lambert and also Alexander Ramsay on the North Branch of **Meachum’s River** ... it being the land purchased of James Nailor and the Land Pattented to Michael Craft.” Signed: Miles Gathright, Elizabeth her mark + Gathright. Witnesses: John Epperson, Bradley Berrey, Martin Martin. Acknowledged by Miles Gathright at Albemarle Court, November 1779.²⁶⁰

COMMENT:

The Emmersons were neighbors of David Mills.

10 NOVEMBER 1779

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

William Wood and wife Sarah to Micajah Via, all of Albemarle, sale for 25£, 68 acres in Albemarle on “**Spring Creek and Mecham’s River**,” described as:

“Beginning at a Chesnut on North side the River and running thence on new line North twenty three degrees West one hundred ten poles to pointers, thence on **David Mills’s** line North eighty two degrees West fifty four poles to pointers, thence Southsixty seven degrees West one hundred poles to pointers, thence new line South sixty two East one hundred poles to a Pine, thence South seventy eight East sixty eight poles to a corner Gum of William Wood’s on Spring Creek, thence down the same South fifty two East thirty six poles to Meachum’s River, down the same North thirty-six East nineteen poles to the first station.”

Signed: William Wood. No witnesses recorded. Acknowledged by William Wood at Albemarle Court, November 1779.²⁶¹

²⁵⁸ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1778–1780* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1997), 81–82; citing Deed Book 1776–1782, pp. 389–90.

²⁵⁹ Jean Pickett Hall, “Legislative Petitions from Virginia Counties with Significant Record Losses: 1. Buckingham County,” *Magazine of Virginia Genealogy* 28 (May 1990): 87–114, specifically 91.

²⁶⁰ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1778–1780* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1997), 88–89 citing Deed Book 1776–1782, pp. 401–2.

²⁶¹ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1778–1780* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1997),

29 JANUARY 1780

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale

William Shields of Augusta County and Miles Gathright and Elizabeth Gathright his wife of Albemarle, to Richard Wood of Albemarle, sale for 2500£, 400 acres in Albemarle on both sides of **Virgin Spring Branch**, described as

“running thence [from the branch] North eighty six degrees West one hundred seventy five poles to pointers_(,) South eighty degrees West forty poles to pointers_(,) South seventy six degrees West one hundred forty poles to a black Oak [at] Colo. Cheswell’s Corner_(,) North eighty degrees West seventy five poles to pointers_(,) North one hundred sixty two poles crossing the VirginSpring Branch near the head to pointers_(,) East four hundred twenty poles to pointers_(,) South one hundred forty two poles crossing the Virgin Spring Branch to the first station.”

Signed: William Shields, Miles Gathright, Elizabeth [her mark X] Gathright. Witnesses: **Menan Mills**, Nath: Garland, William Grayson, Alexander Fretwell. Proved by oaths of Garland, Grayson and Fretwell, with Elizabeth Gathright separately examined, Albemarle Court, March 1780.²⁶²

18 SEPTEMBER 1780

LUNENBURG COUNTY, VA

Witness

“1782 Folder ... Benjamin Dawson and David Rodes of Albemarle Co. promise to pay William Sharpe 660 Pounds, 18 Sept. 1780, witnesses: **Zch’h Mills, Wyatt Mills**. Order to arrest Dawson and Rodes, 17 June. (2 items).”²⁶³

24 DEC 1781

BEDFORD COUNTY, VA

Neighbors

“Deed from William Dunwodey of Bedford County to *Nath’l. Patteson* of Bedford Co. for 113 pounds—190 acres—beginning at **Geo. Walton’s** and **Walter Learwood’s** corner, *Thomas Franklin’s line, Boling’s* line. [Signed] William Dunwodey, L.S.”²⁶⁴

COMMENT:

- I have not been able to find anyone in this era named Walter Learwood. Odds are good that this published abstract has a misreading and that the passage should be “**Walton and Learwood’s corner.**”
- None of these individuals are found on the two tax lists for Bedford, published in Schreiner-Yantis and Love’s *The 1787 Census of Virginia*. Part of Bedford was cut away in 1786 to create Franklin County.
- Searching for these individuals statewide, I find these possibilities:
 - Thos. Franklin, Campbell, Mecklenburg, Henrico, Richmond, Princess Ann
 - Nathaniel Patteson [& variants]: No.
 - Geo. Walton: No

86; citing Deed Book 1776–1782, pp. 397–98.

²⁶² Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1778–1780* (n.d.; reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, 1997), 102–3; citing Deed Book 1776–1782, pp. 432–34.

²⁶³ Benjamin B. Weisiger III, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Papers, 1744–1783* (Richmond, VA: P.p., 1987), 60.

²⁶⁴ *Genealogies of Virginia Families; From Tyler’s Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine*, 4 vols. (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1981), 1:603, “Notes on Dinwiddie Family,” compiler unidentified; citing “**Bedford Co., Va., Book ‘G,’ Pg. 100, Aug. 20, 1781.**” Get this deed to verify or correct.

1782

LUNENBURG COUNTY, VA

Legal suit

“1782 Folder ... “Order to attach the estate of Anderson Bryan to satisfy **Menoan Mills**, 9 May.”²⁶⁵

11 APRIL 1782

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Surety

29 January 1780, will of Thomas Stockton, Gent. of Albemarle, Colony [*sic*] of Virginia. Wife Rachel. Son Newbery. Daughter Jermine. Son Thomas. Son John. Son Dan. Daughter Rachel. Son Jesse to have the “hole” of his land after death of wife. Proved 11 April 1782. Thomas and John Stockton, executors provide bond with sureties **Menan Mills** and Jesse Stockton.²⁶⁶

1783

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Court order

“1783 Folder ... Albemarle County: Reuben Jordan complains of **Mathew Walton** and Mathew Gambrell that in 15 Oct. 1783 they became indebted to him. Order to arrest Walton and Gambriel, 11 April and 9 May.”²⁶⁷

COMMENT:

There’s a problem with this abstract. If the debt was incurred on 15 Oct. **1783**, then the orders to arrest for nonpayment would not have been issued in April and May of 1783.

Supposedly, Matthew Walton was b. c1754 as son of Sherwood Walton and grandson of Robert. He is said to have died in Springfield, KY, on 18 January 1819.²⁶⁸

1783

LUNENBURG COUNTY, VA

Court papers

“A List of Insolvents, Errors and Removals [from tax rolls] ... **David Mills**.”²⁶⁹

19 MARCH 1783

LUNENBURG COUNTY, VA

Legal suit

“Order to attach goods of **Menan Mills** that John Nicholas recovered, 19 March.”²⁷⁰

AUGUST 1783

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Surety

6 August 1783, will of William Watson. “Imprimis I will there be an equal division of my lands on the western waters as soon as they be patented made between my sons John & Matthew Watson and in

²⁶⁵ Benjamin B. Weisiger III, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Papers, 1744–1783* (Richmond, VA: P.p., 1987), 45.

²⁶⁶ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Will Books 1752–1756; 1775–1783* (reprint, 2002; N.P., The Antient Press, n.d.), 83–84; citing Will Book 1: 407.

²⁶⁷ Benjamin B. Weisiger III, compiler, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Papers, 1744–1783* (Richmond: P.p., 1987), 61.

²⁶⁸ Wilmer L. Kerns, *Waltons of Old Virginia and Sketches of Families in Central Virginia ...* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2009), 29.

²⁶⁹ Benjamin B. Weisiger III, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Papers, 1744–1783* (Richmond, VA: P.p., 1987), 61.

²⁷⁰ Benjamin B. Weisiger III, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Papers, 1744–1783* (Richmond, VA: P.p., 1987), 61.

case my wife who are [sic] now pregnant have a son, that in equal division be made between thrice sons of the above lands. Lands in Albemarle to be divided between sons. Daughter Elizabeth. Daughters Sally, Lucy, Molly, Anna. Executors: Robert Michie, David Wood, John Key and son John Watson. Proved August Court 1783. Surety for executors: John Michie and **Zachariah Mills**.²⁷¹

10 OCTOBER 1787
AMHERST COUNTY, VA
Mortgage

“**Wm. Lavender**, AC, to Alex. Brydie, factor for Irving Galt & Co. Deed of Trust – 5 sh. For debt a new Glasgow store: knife; negress. Wit: Wiate Powell, Jas. McNain.”²⁷²

COMMENT

- The non-appearance of William’s wife in this document cannot be taken as an indication of whether she was still living. Women were not required to consent to a husband’s mortgage, only to the sale of land purchased during the marriage.
- Records of this mercantile firm should be sought for possible additional information on Lavender.

1787
BUCKINGHAM COUNTY, VA
Tax roll abstract

Tax List A:

“L” section

Low, Daniel Jr.

Land, John

Lewallen, Alexr. McGruder

Learwood, Josiah	tax charged to Josiah
	0 male 16–21
	0 blacks 16+
	0 blacks –16
	2 horses, mares, etc.
	2 head of cattle

[end of “L” section]

“R” section,

Robertson, Nicholas

Ransome, Flamsted

Ransone, Ambrose

Right, Gabriel

Ripley, Richard	tax charged to Richard
	0 male 16–21
	1 blacks 16+
	2 blacks –16
	3 horses, mares, etc.
	12 head of cattle

²⁷¹ Ruth and Sam Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Will Books 1752–1756; 1775–1783* (reprint, 2002; N.P., The Antient Press, n.d.), 409–11; citing Will Book 1: 409–10.

²⁷² Bailey Fulton Davis, *The Deeds of Amherst County, Virginia, 1761–1807 and Albemarle County, Virginia, 1748–1763* (Greenville, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1979), 239; citing Amherst Deed Book F: 243.

Roy, Peter
Reveley {?}, John
[end of "R" section]

Tax List B:

"M" section
May, Littlebury
Mays, John
Moore, William

Mills, Mary	tax charged to Mary
	0 male 16–21
	10 blacks 16+
	23 blacks –16
	7 horses, mares, etc.
	30 head of cattle
	"not tithable"

Mosely, John
Mosely Arthur
Mathews, James
Mathews, Thomas
Miller, Frederick²⁷³

COMMENT:

- **Learwood:** This Josiah Learwood of Buckingham is the only Learwood (or variant spelling) entry in the whole state index.
- **Mills:** This Mary Mills has not been identified. Mary, mother of Elizabeth (Mills) Learwood, died in 1776.
- **Ripley:** No John Ripley, Elizabeth Ripley, or either name alleged for her sons (Ambrose or Pleasant) or son-in-law "Equiviler" (likely Aqually) Yearns. Searching statewide, Gloucester County has a John, Richard, and Andrew. One "John Murray" (the name alleged for a son-in-law) is in Nelson County, cut from Amherst.

Richard Tankersley, in this statewide compilation of tax data, appears in Amherst County, List A, the list on which we find his alleged mother-in-law's sister, Mily (Mills) Lavender. Denny's are also on that list, but no Benjamin or Charles.

Charles Denney appears on these tax rolls in Montgomery County.

Benjamin Denny appears in Frederick County.

Aquilla Yearns—one man of that name—was a Kentucky soldier in the War of 1812, "Killed October 1, 1814." On "Roll of Captain David Holt's Company, Kentucky Infantry."²⁷⁴

1787

HENRY COUNTY, VA

Tax roll abstract

²⁷³ Netti Schreiner-Yantis and Florene Speakman Love, *The 1787 Census of Virginia: An Accounting of the Name of Every White Male Tithable ...*, 3 vols. (Springfield, VA: Genealogical Books in Print, 1987), 1: 682 (Learwood), 684 (Ripley), 689 (Mills).

²⁷⁴ Kentucky Adjutant General's Office, *Kentucky Soldiers of the War of 1812: With an Added Index* (1891; reprint, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1969), 352.

Tax List A: "M" section

May, Littlebury

Mays, John

Moore, William

Mills, William **tax charged to William**

1 male 16-21

8 blacks 16+

8 blacks -16

5 horses, mares, etc.

22 head of cattle

Morris, Samuel Coleman

Morriss, Joseph

Martin, Brice,

McKinsey, Sarah

Murphey, William²⁷⁵

COMMENT:

- This William should be the William who, with his wife Elizabeth, had land patented in Pittsylvania in 1770. Henry was cut from Pittsylvania.
- Matrimony Creek, the site of their grant, is a small stream that today straddles the line between Henry County and Rockingham County, NC. Franklin County lies *above* Henry County.
- Other William Millses are in Berkeley (2), Fairfax (Sr. and Jr.), Loudoun, Prince William, and Spotsylvania.

I also checked counties of Albemarle, Buckingham, Campbell, Nelson, Pittsylvania, and Prince Edward. Patrick County was not created until 1791.

FURTHER RESEARCH

This block of work points to several specific issues that need to be clarified and to several geographic areas that need to be searched.

SPECIFIC ITEMS:

Albemarle County

- Sparacio, Ruth and Sam. *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Abstracts, 1770–1772*. I'm missing this volume from my personal set. Get it and study it.
- Weisiger, Benjamin B., *Albemarle County, Virginia, Court Papers, 1744–1893*. Richmond: Privately Printed, 1987.

²⁷⁵ Netti Schreiner-Yantis and Florene Speakman Love, *The 1787 Census of Virginia: An Accounting of the Name of Every White Male Tithable ...*, 3 vols. (Springfield, VA: Genealogical Books in Print, 1987), 1: 623–38.

Amherst County

- Will Book 1:104 (estate inventory of William Mills, 1766) needs to be photocopied. Any and all related records need to be found.
- Deed Book C:178 (Jesse Mills to Thomas Lumpkin), needs to be examined to clarify questions raised by the published abstract.

Lunenburg County

Data extraction needs to be completed for

- Evans, June Banks. *Lunenburg County, Virginia: Order Book 5, 1757–1759*. New Orleans, LA: Bryn Ffyliaid Publications, 1998. James Mills, p. 43, not copied.
- Evans, June Banks. *Lunenburg County, Virginia: Order Book 6, 1759–1761*. New Orleans, LA: Bryn Ffyliaid Publications, 1998. Has several entries for James, John, & William Mills that I did not get for want of time when I had access in SLC.
- *A History of Bedford County; Reprinted from the 1884 Edition of Hardesty's Historical and Geographical Encyclopedia ... Special Virginia Edition* (New York & Richmond: H. H? Hardesty & Co., 1884). No index. Not read.
- *Historical Sketch of Bedford County, Virginia, 1753–1907*. N.P., N.p., n.d. No index. Lightly skimmed first part that deals with 1700s–1800s.

COMPREHENSIVE RESEARCH:

Bedford County

- Library of Virginia: thoroughly examine the following 3 volumes that have not been published:
 - Reel 67 Surveyor's Record No. 1, 1754–1781. Unpaged. Index. 257 pp
 - Reel 67 Surveyor's Record No. 2, 1754–1795. Unpaged. Index. 613 pp.
 - Reel 67 Surveyor's Record No. 3, 1774–1782 "224-228 (index)." 222 pp.

Goochland

- Make a comprehensive search for all known family members and associates
- Verify all information in the Waggle abstracts at notes 16–26

Lunenburg County

- Library of Virginia: Thoroughly study the original title lists, beginning with those omitted from Bell:
 - Reel 11 1748–1756 (Bell stops with 1752)
 - Reel 412 1757–1772
 - Reel 413 1772–1781

Nelson County (split from Amherst, 1807)

- Make a comprehensive search for all known family members and associates

New Kent County

Make a specific search for

- William Mills, pre-1755
- Martha Massie, a potential in-law who moved to Albemarle c1755

Kentucky: Green County

- Investigate Jesse Mills, husband of Rachel Hudson, who was “of Green County, Kentucky” in 1802 when he returned to Amherst to handle the inheritance of his minor child from her grandfather Hudson.

Kentucky: Madison County

- If I don’t find answers for Jesse in Green County, extend to Madison County where William Gillaspie moved with his wife Nancy Ann Hundson.

Tennessee: Maury County

Make a comprehensive search of all records, with emphasis on

- WALTON: Milly (Mills) Walton—and all others
- McDONALD: John & Elizabeth—Milly’s known associates
- McCABE: Samuel & Sarah—migrants from Amherst/Albemarle

RESOURCES USED

- Abercrombie, Janice L. and Richard Slatten. *Virginia Publick Claims: Amherst County*. Athens, GA: Iberian Publishing, c1991. MASSIE, MILLS: No. JOPLING, Thomas and others appear numerous times with claims for bacon, beef, etc. William BURTON donated 400# beef worth L5-9-7 in Oct. 1780 (p. 31).
- Ackerly, Mary Denham and Lula Eastman Jeter Parker. *Our Kin: The Genealogies of Some of the Early Families Who Made History in the Founding and Development of Bedford County, Virginia*. Harrisonburg, Va.: C. J. Carrier Co., 1976.
- Bell, Landon C. *Sunlight on the Southside: Lists of Tithes, Lunenburg County, Virginia, 1748–1783*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1974.
- Bockstruck, Lloyd DeWitt. *Virginia’s Colonial Soldiers*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1988.
- Bradley, Stephen E., Jr. *Brunswick County, Virginia, Deed Books, vol. 1, 1732–1745*. Lawrenceville, Va.: P.p., 1997.
- Bradley, Stephen E., Jr. *Brunswick County, Virginia, Deed Books, vol. 2, 1744–1755, 1764*. Lawrenceville, Va.: P.p., 1997.
- Bradley, Stephen E., Jr. *Brunswick County, Virginia, Deed Books, vol. 3, 1755–1764*. Lawrenceville, Va.: P.p., 1998.
- Bradley, Stephen E., Jr. *Brunswick County, Virginia, Deed Books, vol. 4, 1765–1770*. Lawrenceville, Va.: P.p., 1998.
- Bradley, Stephen E., Jr. *Brunswick County, Virginia, Will Books; vol. 1, Will Books 2 and 3, 1739–1769; 1783–1785*. Lawrenceville, Va.: P.p., 1997. Casey, Joseph J. *Personal Names in Hening’s Statutes at Large of Virginia, and Shepherd’s Continuation*. 1896. Reprinted Baltimore: Clearfield, 1995.
- Chilton, Ann. *Bedford Co., Va., Deed Book A-1, 1754–1762*. Signal Mountain, TN: Mountain Press, 1987.
- Witt: No. Significant items not pursued:
- Chilton, Ann. *Bedford County, Virginia, Deed Book B2*. Signal Mountain, TN: Mountain Press, 1992.
- Chilton, Ann. *Bedford County, Virginia, Deed Book C3*. Signal Mountain, TN: Mountain Press, 1992.
- Chilton, Ann. *Revolutionary War Pensions: Bedford Co., VA* (Signal Mountain, TN: Mountain Press, 1988).
- Davis, Bailey Fulton, Rev. *The Deeds of Amherst County, Virginia, 1761–1807 and Albemarle County, Virginia, 1748–1763*. Greenville, S.C.: Southern Historical Press, 1979).

MILLS: Mills & Associates of Albemarle, Goochland & Southside, VA: Initial Survey 2016 (Rev. 2022)

- Davis, Bailey Fulton, Rev. *The Wills of Amherst County, Virginia, 1761–1865*. (1985; reprint, Greenville, S.C.: Southern Historical Press, 1998).
- Dennis, Earle S. and Jane E. Smith. *Marriage Bonds of Bedford County, Virginia, 1755–1800; Reprinted with Bedford County, Virginia: Index of Wills, from 1754 to 1830 Edited by Rowland D. Buford*. Reprinted, Baltimore: Clearfield, 1975.
- Draper, Lyman C. *Kings Mountain and Its Heroes: History of the Battle of King's Mountain, October 7th, 1780*. Cincinnati: Peter G. Thompson, 1881.
- Elliott, Katherine B., *Early Wills, 1746-1765, Lunenburg County, Virginia*. South Hills, Va.: 1967.
- Evans, June Banks. *Lunenburg County, Virginia: Order Book 2, 1748–1752*. New Orleans, LA: Bryn Ffyliaid Publications, 1995.
- Evans, June Banks. *Lunenburg County, Virginia: Order Book 2 ½-A, 1752–1753*. New Orleans, LA: Bryn Ffyliaid Publications, 1997.
- Evans, June Banks. *Lunenburg County, Virginia: Order Book 2 ½-B, 1753–1754*. New Orleans, LA: Bryn Ffyliaid Publications, 1995.
- Evans, June Banks. *Lunenburg County, Virginia: Order Book 3, 1754–1755*. New Orleans, LA: Bryn Ffyliaid Publications, 1998.
- Evans, June Banks. *Lunenburg County, Virginia: Order Book 4, 1755–1757*. New Orleans, LA: Bryn Ffyliaid Publications, 1998.
- Evans, June Banks. *Lunenburg County, Virginia: Order Book 5, 1757–1759*. New Orleans, LA: Bryn Ffyliaid Publications, 1998. **James Mills, p. 43, not copied.**
- Evans, June Banks. *Lunenburg County, Virginia: Order Book 6, 1759–1761*. New Orleans, LA: Bryn Ffyliaid Publications, 1998. **Has several entries for James, John, & William Mills that I did not get for want of time when I had access in SLC.**
- Evans, June Banks. *Lunenburg County, Virginia: Will Book 1, 1746–1762*. New Orleans: Bryn Ffyliaid Publications, 1999.
- Evans, June Banks. *Lunenburg County, Virginia: Will Book 2, 176–1778*. New Orleans: Bryn Ffyliaid Publications, 1999.
- Evans, June Banks. *Lunenburg County, Virginia: Will Book 2, 1767–1778*. New Orleans: Bryn Ffyliaid Publications, 1991.
- Evans, June Banks. *Lunenburg County, Virginia: Will Book 3, 1778–1791*. New Orleans: Bryn Ffyliaid Publications, 1991.
- Evans, June Banks. *Lunenburg County, Virginia: Will Book 4, 1791–1799*. New Orleans: Bryn Ffyliaid Publications, 1991.
- Fothergill, Augusta B. *Marriage Records of Brunswick Counth, Virginia, 1730–1852*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1976.
- Harrell, Belle Garraghty and June Mackey Slaughter. *Will Book 4-A and 4-B, Feb 1811–Nov 1817; Including Appraisements and Inventories, Sales, and Allotments: Bedford County Circuit Court, Bedford, Virginia*. Athens, Ga.: Iberian Publishing Co., 1998.
- Hart, Lyndon H. III. *Surry County, Virginia, Wills, Estate Accounts and Inventories, 1730–1800*. Easley, S.C.: Southern Historical Press, 1983.
- Haun, Weynette Parks. *Surry County, Virginia, Court Records, 1700–1711, Book VI*. Durham, NC: P.p., 1992. **1 reference to John Mills.**
- Haun, Weynette Parks. *Surry County, Virginia, Court Records, 1712–1718, Book VII*. Durham, NC: P.p., 1993.
- Heinemann, C. B. "Southern Watts, Colonial and Revolutionary Soldiers." *Tyler's Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine* 15 (1933): 32–38. Reprinted as *Genealogies of Virginia Families; From Tyler's Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine*. Gary Parks, ed. 4 vols. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1981. 4: 419–25; particularly 424.

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- Helm, Gary. "Moses Helm, Farms and Home Found." *Information Technology Outfitters*. (<http://www.garyhelm.net/Life%20and%20Times%20of%20Moses%20Helm.htm> : accessed 25 October 2016.
- Hidden, Mrs. P. W. "Nicholas Mills of Hanover County." *Tyler's Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine* 14 (1933): 237–42; 15 (1933): 38–64. Reprinted as *Genealogies of Virginia Families; From Tyler's Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine*. Gary Parks, ed. 4 vols. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1981), 2:657–701.
- Hildebrand, J. R. *Historical Map of the Roanoke Historical Society Showing Bedford County, Virginia, 1750–1865*. N.P.: The Society, 1973. Accessed at Virginia Tech University Library Special Collections, *ImageBase*. <http://spec.lib.vt.edu/imagebase/08MAPS/screen/HM200701241556.jpg> : accessed 4 January 2015.
- Hopkins, William Lindsay. *Surry County, Virginia, Deeds, 1684–1733 and Other Court Papers*. Richmond, Va.: P.p., 1991. **Has a Richard & William Mills.**
- Hopkins, William Lindsay. *Bath Parish Register (Births, Deaths & Marriages) 1827–1897 of Dinwiddie County, Virginia and St. Andrews Parish Vestry Book 1732–1797 of Brunswick County, Virginia*. Richmond, Ca.: P.p., c1989.
- A History of Bedford County; Reprinted from the 1884 Edition of Hardesty's Historical and Geographical Encyclopedia ... Special Virginia Edition* (New York & Richmond: H. H? Hardesty & Co., 1884). **No index. Not read.**
- Historical Sketch of Bedford County, Virginia, 1753–1907*. N.P., N.p., n.d.. **No index. Lightly skimmed first part that deals with 1700s-1800s.**
- Parker, Lula Jeter. *Parker's History of Bedford County, Virginia*, Peter Viemeister, ed. Bedford, Va.: Hamilton's, 1988. **Contains Revolutionary War lists, but no reference to Watts—recheck for Mills.**
- Paulett, Nathaniel Mason and Tyler Jefferson Boyd. *Historic Roads of Virginia: Lunenburg County Road Orders, 1746-1764*. N.P.: Virginia Transportation Research Council, n.d.
- Schreiner-Yantis, Netti and Florene Speakman Love. *The 1787 Census of Virginia: An Accounting of the Name of Every White Male Tithable ...*, 3 vols. (Springfield, VA: Genealogical Books in Print, 1987).
- Sparacio, Ruth and Sam. *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed & Will Abstracts, 1748–1752*. 1990, reprint, N.P.: The Antient Press, n.d. **No Lavender or Larwood/Learwood. Benjamin Witt 1749 p. 4.**
- Sparacio, Ruth and Sam. *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Book, 1758–1761*. N.P., The Antient Press, 1988. **No Lavender, Larwood/Learwood, or Witt.**
- Sparacio, Ruth and Sam. *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Abstracts, 1761–1764*. 1988 reprint. N.P., The Antient Press, n.d. **No Lavender or Larwood/Learwood. Witt entries: Abner, John Juner and John Sener, 7; John 20, 121.** Abner on North River buys adjacent tract 1761 with **Benjamin Maddox** as witness (p. 7). John witnessed deed for Benj. Maddox & wife Mary 1761 on Cunningham Creek, with John Key and Robt. Napier. John witnessed deed for William Barnett Sr. and Christopher MacRae on unstated waterway in St. Ann's parish, 1764. Millses are in Fredericksburg Parish; see notes above.
- Sparacio, Ruth and Sam. *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Abstracts, 1764–1768*. 1989, reprint. N.P., The Antient Press, n.d. **No Lavender or Larwood/Learwood. Witt entries: Abner 106, David 106, John 106, John Junr. 106.** Abner purchases land on waters of Horlies Creek of North River from John Barnard and wife Mary, 1767; other Witts are witnesses.
- Sparacio, Ruth and Sam. *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Abstracts, 1768–1770*. 1990, reprint. N.P., The Antient Press, n.d. **No Lavender or Larwood/Learwood. Witt entries: Abner, Ann, 77.** Sale of land on Hensley's Creek adjoining William Payne (purchaser); witnesses John Martin, Henry Martin, Philip McCrae, Hudson Martin, 1770.
- Sparacio, Ruth and Sam. *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Abstracts, 1770–1772*. **Note, I'm missing this volume. Get it and study it.**

MILLS: Mills & Associates of Albemarle, Goochland & Southside, VA: Initial Survey 2016 (Rev. 2022)

Sparacio, Ruth and Sam. *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Abstracts, 1772–1776*. 1992 reprint. N.P., The Antient Press, n.d. **No Lavender or Larwood/Learwood, or Witt entries.**

Sparacio, Ruth and Sam. *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Abstracts, 1776–1778*. 1997 reprint. N.P., The Antient Press, n.d. **No Lavender or Larwood/Learwood, or Witt entries.**

Sparacio, Ruth and Sam. *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Abstracts, 1778–1780*. 1997, reprint. N.P., The Antient Press, n.d. **No Lavender or Larwood/Learwood, or Witt entries.**

Sparacio, Ruth and Sam. *Albemarle County, Virginia, Will Books, 1752–1756; 17775–1783*. 2002 reprint. N.P., The Antient Press, n.d. **No Lavender or Larwood/Learwood. Witts: John and William, decd., p. 121, citing Will Book 1:21.**

Sparacio, Ruth and Sam. *Albemarle County, Virginia, Wills, 1752–1764*. 2000 reprint. N.P., The Antient Press, n.d. **No Lavender or Larwood/Learwood, Mills, or Witt.**

Sparacio, Ruth and Sam. *Albemarle County, Virginia, Will, 1764–1775*. 2000 reprint. N.P., The Antient Press, n.d. **No Lavender or Larwood/Learwood, Mills. Witt: Abner & John, 17, appraisers (with Benjamin Madox) of estate of Thomas Hickerson; citing Will Book 2: 190.**

Sparacio, Ruth and Sam. *Amherst County, Virginia, Land Tax Books, 1782-1788*. McLean, VA: The Antient Press, 1997. MILLS: Nothing.

Sweeny, Lenora Higginbotham. *Amherst County, Virginia, in the Revolution: Including Extracts from the "Lost Order Book," 1773-1782*. Lynchburg, VA: J. P. Bell Co., 1951.

Sweeny, William Montgomery. *Marriage Bonds and Other Marriage Records of Amherst County, Virginia, 1763-1800*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1980.

TLC Genealogy. *Bedford County, Virginia, Deeds, 1761–1766*. Miami Beach, FL: T.L.C. Genealogy, 1991.

TLC Genealogy. *Brunswick County, Virginia, Deeds, 1740–1744*. (Miami Beach, FL: TLC Genealogy, 1991.

TLC Genealogy. *Brunswick County, Virginia, Deeds, 1745–1749*. (Miami Beach, FL: TLC Genealogy, 1991.

TLC Genealogy. *Brunswick County, Virginia, Court Orders, 1732–1737*. Miami Beach, FL: TLC Genealogy, 1992.

TLC Genealogy. *Brunswick County, Virginia, Court Order Books, 1737–1749: An Every-Name Index*. Miami Beach, FL: TLC Genealogy, 1992.

TLC Genealogy. *Lunenburg County, Virginia, Court Orders, 1746–1748*. Miami Beach, FL: TLC Genealogy, 1990.

TLC Genealogy. *Lunenburg County, Virginia, Deeds, 1746–1752*. Miami Beach, FL: 1990. **No Watts.** (Mills: John, surety for Anne Smith, relict of Edmund Smith, 1:12, 1746.)

TLC Genealogy. *Lunenburg County, Virginia, Deeds, 1752–1757*. Miami Beach, FL: TLC Genealogy, 1990.

TLC Genealogy. *Lunenburg County, Virginia, Deeds, 1757–1761*. Miami Beach, FL: TLC Genealogy, 1990.

TLC Genealogy. *Lunenburg County, Virginia, Deed Books 7 & 8 (1761–1764)* Miami Beach, FL: TLC Genealogy, 1990.

TLC Genealogy. *Lunenburg County, Virginia, Deed Book 9 (1763–1764)* Miami Beach, FL: TLC Genealogy, 1990.

TLC Genealogy. *Lunenburg County, Virginia, Deeds, 1764–1771*. Miami Beach, FL: TLC Genealogy, 1990.

TLC Genealogy. *Lunenburg County, Virginia, Deeds, 1771–1777*. (Miami Beach, FL: TLC Genealogy, 1990).

COMMENT:

From this point on, a new Watts appears: Charles; no other Watts covered in our time frame.

TLC Genealogy. *Lunenburg County, Virginia, Land Patents, 1746–1916*. Miami Beach, FL: TLC Genealogy, 1990.

Viemeister, Peter. *Historical Diary of Bedford, Virginia, U.S.A. from Ancient Times to U.S. Bicentennial*. Bedford, Va., Hamilton's, 1986.

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Virginia, Library of. "Chancery Records Index: Bedford." *Virginia Memory*. <http://www.lva.virginia.gov/chancery/default.asp#res>.