

*Coffeys in Wilkes Co.*

**PAULA J. SANDUSKY  
617 CORDELIA CIRCLE  
VACAVILLE, CALIFORNIA 95687**

June 16, 1997

Surry County Genealogical Society  
Box 997  
Dobson, North Carolina 27017

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am researching my g.g.g.grandfather, Lewis Moran Coffey, who was born on November 1, 1798, somewhere in Stokes County. He married Delilah Turpin who was born June 27, 1802 somewhere in Stokes County. Date of Marriage unknown, however, their first child was born October 1, 1819, a daughter, named Nancy. I believe she may have been born in Stokes County but I am not sure. Their second child, James W. Coffey, born May 5, 1822, is believed to have been born in Pulaski County, Kentucky.

While reading the Handybook for Genealogists, I discovered that Surry County is the parent county for Stokes County which is why I am writing to you. Also, I could not find a genealogy society listed for Stokes County. I have hit a brick wall.

Would any records (birth, marriage, death, land owned) from that far back exist today? More than anything, I am trying to discover the names of Lewis' parents. Any assistance or direction you may provide is greatly appreciated. Enclosed please find a self-addressed and stamped envelope.

Thank you so much for any assistance you may provide. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

*Paula Sandusky*  
Paula J. Sandusky

SURRY COUNTY GENEALOGICAL ASSOCIATION  
P. O. BOX 997  
DOBSON, NC 27017

August 16, 1997

Paula J. Sandusky  
617 Cordelia Circle  
Vacaville, CA 95687

Thank you for your letter dated June 16, 1997 regarding the Coffey family of Stokes Co, NC. Stokes Co. formed from Surry Co. in 1789. Surry Co. formed from Rowan Co. in 1771.

It appears James Coffey was in Surry Co. during 1778 and 1779. He had many land deals as you can see on the enclosed information. More than likely he was in Surry until Stokes formed from Surry. He could possibly be the father of your Lewis Moran Coffey who had a son James W. Coffey. You might want to see if you can find a will for James Coffey. Write Department of Cultural Resources, Div. of Archives and History, 109 E. Jones Street, Raleigh, NC 27601-2807.

If you want copies of James Coffey deeds in Surry County, write Register of Deeds, P. O. Box 303, Dobson, NC 27017. Copies are 25 cents each.

James Coffey is not listed on the Hughes Map of early Surry settlers but is listed on the Stokes Co. Map (1784 is the date by his name).

We suggest you write The Genealogical Society of Rockingham & Stokes County, NC, P. O. Box 152, Mayodan, NC 27027-0152. If you want a copy of the Stokes Co. Hughes Map with Index, write Stokes County Government Center, Register of Deeds Office, P. O. Box 67, Danbury, NC 27016. The map is \$2 and the index is \$2. No charge for mailing.

Surry County did not keep birth and death records until 1914. There are some delayed birth records that go back to the 1870s. Did not find any Coffey's listed. Surry has marriage records back to 1771 but did not find any Coffey's listed. Early land deeds from 1771 are at the Surry County Courthouse. Address is above (Register of Deeds in Dobson).

We invite you to send a query for our journal and surname cards for our file. Information is enclosed.

If you feel we can help you in the future please write us again.

*WJH*  
RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Enclosures