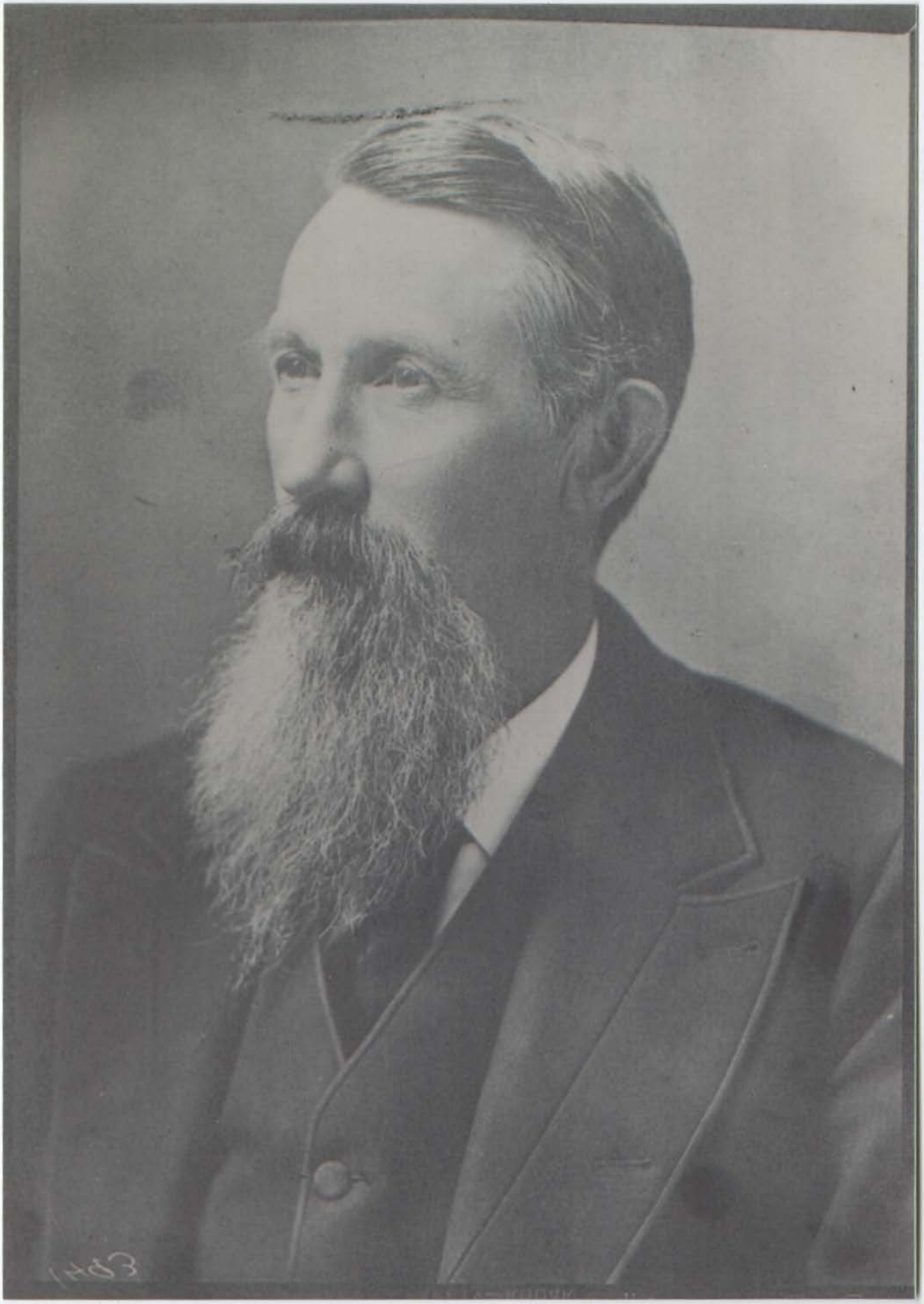


TYRA YORK

Roberta Himebrrok

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Surry County Genealogy Society,

Recently I visited the Family History research room at the Community College Library in Dobson. I noticed in the Family folders in the file cabinet you had copies of the narratives I did many years ago. I have found more information and would appreciate it if you would toss those old narratives and replace them with the new ones which I have enclosed.

Thank you,

Roberta Himebrook

James & Nancy (Whitaker) York

By Roberta Harkey Himebrook
email: HimebrookRL@totacc.com

JAMES' ANCESTORS

The main theory, which has the ancestors of James' line arriving in America in 1635, has not been verified. This theory traces James' ancestors ten generations to Sir Richard York of England who lived from 1460 to 1498 and his wife Joan Mauleverer through their son John (born c1495, married Catherine Patterdale). It list James York's great-great-great-great-great-grandfather as possibly Sir John York, (son of John and Catherine (Patterdale) York), who was born about 1535 in England and married Anne Smyth about 1555. Their children[1] included Henry York (born about 1580, married about 1600, died in London). Henry York's son, Edward Yorke (born about 1600)[2] may have been James York's great-great-great-grandfather.[3] Edward Yorke married about 1628 and his children[4] included William (Sr) (born 1635-1640 in either England or Virginia).[5] Edward is believed to have been a member of the Puritan group that separated from the Church of England and a part of the group of 40 that came with Richard Bennett, a non-conformist to the Nansemond Virginia area in 1635. His wife and children were not listed in that group hence it is believed they came later.[6] James York's great-great-grandfather may have been William (Sr), Edward York's youngest son.[7] William (Sr) owned a lot of lands in Baltimore County[8] He had three wives; first he married Elizabeth by 1669, then Ann by 1673 and lastly he married Mary who was born about 1633 in England. William (Sr) died in 1690 leaving a will naming Mary and 5 sons, none of whom were 16. William (Sr) and Mary's children included[9] William who may have been James York's great-grandfather.[10] William, born 1660[11] in Baltimore Maryland, married Elizabeth about 1692. William and wife Elizabeth lived in Baltimore County[12] and their children[13] included Jeremiah (born c1697), and Richard (born c1700).[14] William died about 1704.[15] There is some question concerning which of William's sons could have been James' grandfather. Richard, who is one possibility, married Mary (born c1702) in about 1724, and their children,[16] included William (born c1725).[17] The

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[1] John & Catherine (Patterdale) York's other children included: Alan York (born c1565), Peter York (born c1567), William York (born c1569), Sir Edmond York (born c1571), John York (born c1573), Rowland York (born c1574), & Richard York (born c1578) [Molly Peck Coon]
[2] Steve York's family tree
[3] Molly Peck Coon's Descendants of Richard York & Lois York Hamilton's York Pedigree
[4] Edward Yorke's other children included Ann (born c1629), & Henry (born c1631). [Molly Peck Coon].
[5] Molly Peck Coon's Descendants of Richard York & Lois York Hamilton's York Pedigree
[6] Abstracts of Virginia Land Patents p 550
[7] Molly Peck Coon's Descendants of Richard York & Lois York Hamilton's York Pedigree
[8] William's land in Baltimore Co included 200 acres York's Hope, 125 acres York's chance, 300 acres Edwards lot, 150 acres Bridewell Dock & a plantation on Brush Creek. On 31 July 1669, he & Elizabeth had paid 4,500 lbs of tobacco for the tract "York's Hope on the north side of Gunpowder River. On 26 Mar1670 he paid 5500 pounds of tobacco for 150 aces on the east side of Brush River, & on 2 Jun 1671 he bought Cabbins Neck , 100 acres on the west side of Brush River. Also on 2 Jun 1671 he sold "Small Hopes", 50 acres, near the mouth of Deep Creek on the eastern side of Gunpowder River. [Baltimore County Families, 1659–1759 p712 & Baltimore Co Land Recordsp 11, 12, 17, 23]
[9] William & Mary's other children included Oliver, John, George, and James (died 1724). [Baltimore County Families, 1659–1759 p712]
[10] Baltimore County Families, 1659–1759 p712
[11] Steve York's family tree
[12] William was on the Baltimore County taxable list - North side of Gunpowder River in Jul 1692 .[Inhabitants of Baltimore Co 1692-1763, p 2]
[13] William & Elizabeth's other children included: Jesse (born c1698). [Molly Peck Coon]
[14] Molly Peck Coon's Descendants of Richard York & Lois York Hamilton's York Pedigree
[15] Baltimore County Families, 1659–1759 p712
[16] Richard & Mary's other children included Daniel (born about 1727). [Lois York Hamilton]
[17] Molly Peck Coon's Descendants of Richard York & Lois York Hamilton's York Pedigree

other possibility for James' grandfather is Jeremiah who also had a son William.[18] A William York reportedly moved from Maryland to Pittsylvania County, Virginia to Surry County, North Carolina. By 1746, he was in the area of Lunenburg County Virginia that became Halifax County in 1752 (in 1753, was living on the road that goes from Fall Creek to Sweeting's Fork[19]) and became in Pittsylvania County in 1766. William later moved across the state line into Surry County, North Carolina[20]. Since the two Williams were about the same age, this information could apply to either William. No proof has been found relating James to either. However, a family tree posted by Steve York gives James' father as William, (born 1725), the son of Richard and Mary, and hence the grandson of William and Elizabeth.[21] Therefore, all that can be stated is that James's great-grandparents were possibly William and Elizabeth; his father may have been William his grandfather maybe was Richard (born about 1700).

JAMES' FATHER – WILLIAM YORK

Although not verified, there are numerous listing which indicated James' father was William York.[22] Most have William born in 1725, and descending from the Baltimore Yorks, however one has him born in England, [23] and one has him born 1715.[24] One list James' father as William son of Richard and states William was born in Surry County, North Carolina (however it is doubtful they were in Surry County area as early as 1725 as there are no Yorks in a listing for 1749[25] and the early settlers in the portion of Surry County that became Yadkin County where James' land was didn't start arriving until about 1750.[26]). William is listed in one place as having died in Surry Co in 1789.[27] Another listing states William was alive in 1789 and over 65,[28] while a third listing has he died in Randolph County NC after 1790.[29]

Reba Wooldridge stated that the Duke title from England fell to our Yorks and the English lawyers came over and our ancestors signed away the title. She said the castle was in disrepair and money was needed to fix it up. She indicated that our ancestors who signed away the title were William and John.[30] This story fits in principle with a story Lula York Johnson wrote in which she said her father, Nathan York (James' grandson) told her. There is only one or two generations' difference in the two stories but it is significant that two different lines have the same basic story. From Lula York Johnson, "Nathan stated: Our family was established in western North Carolina by an English nobleman who, securing a grant of land in the early settlement of the Carolinas made his home there."[31] Lula went on to write "He also told me about something which occurred when he was about 17 years old. It seems in the other branch of

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[18] Copy of letter from Lois on York Pedigree
[19] History of Pittsylvania Co p 61
[20] William may have married in NC with their children possibility all born in the area of Surry Co that at the time was either Rowan or Anson Co. However, he could have married in VA & his first children born there [Molly Peck Coon]
[21] Steve York's family Tree
[22] Reba Wooldridge, Steve York's family Tree, Webtree posting by Virginia Binkley Hagan , Molly Peck Coon, a posting 2006 by Trish "tyork62" on Ancestry, and Anita Pace
[23] Steve York's family Tree
[24] Anita Pace
[25] No Yorks on the couple of dozen families listed in the Surry County area as early as 1749 [History of Surry County pg 14-16]
[26] The Heritage of Yadkin County p 3
[27] Virginia Binkley Hagan
[28] Molly Peck Coon
[29] Steve York's family Tree
[30] Reba Wooldridge
[31] Letter by Lula Ann York Johnson Emmons to Marion Harkey 26 March 1936

the family in England, the Earl having died, that the title of Earl fell to my grandfather. [32] But he, saying the former Earl being a spendthrift, had heavy debts hanging over the estates in England & grandfather said, 'they want my good American dollars to pay off those debts & they will not get them.' So six English attorneys came over to have him sign over his rights to the title & estates in England, which he & his oldest son did."[33] In hearing this story, Reba said that James and Mark were too late, it was William and John who were earlier.[34] Also in an article written in 1879 on James' grandson, James W York, stated "His grandfather, James York, was an Englishman who immigrated to North Carolina, and married a young lady named Whittaker.[35] James's father, William, rather than James may have been the one who came to America as it was indicated James was born in Surry County 1750-1760 and his father emigrated from England in 1730.[36] This matches with William being born in England. He could have come to America later than 1730 and with perhaps some of his sons born in England. William had a son John which also fits. However am not sure how this ties into the Baltimore York's or if it does as the proposed line through these Baltimore York's does not have William descending through the oldest sons.

There are three listing of William's children,[37] including James, with the same birth dates and two have the same death dates. [38] William's children are listed as: James (born c 1750 who is the subject of this narrative); Richard[39] (born c 1755, married #1 Anne McCarter[40] #2 Rebecca Hazel Glenn of Pend, South Carolina,[41] went to South Carolina by 1783[42] or before the Revolutionary War and served in the South Carolinas Militia then moved to Tennessee settling in Heritage Springs Clay Co. Tennessee along with some of his brothers by 1804[43] and died in Tennessee[44] about 1815); John (born c 1757, married Catherine Greenwood[45] or married Susanna of Laurens Co SC, [46] died in Surry County 1785); and William (born c 1758, married Nancy of Franklin Co Georgia[47] died in Surry County 1830).[48] No documentation was given and based on the English title story; James should be the eldest.

Surry County, North Carolina was formed from Rowan County in 1770 There has been no record found for an early William, so perhaps he had moved on by then. Also there is no record found for his son Richard, but Richard was in South Carolina by the time of the

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[32] Nathan's grandfather was James but James died about 12 years before Nathan was born. Lula's grandfather was Mark York
[33] Letter by Lula Ann York Johnson Emmons to Marion Harkey 26 March 1936
[34] Reba Wooldridge
[35] History of Macoupin County, Illinois p 205
[36] Biography: Joel York on Rootsweb.com
[37] The third one list: James (b c 1750 Surry CO), Richard and John [Steve York's Family Tree]
[38] Webtree posting by Virginia Binkley Hagan & Molly Peck Coon have some birth and death dates while the listing by Trish gives only same birth dates.
[39] An email from Anita Pace in 2008:" Her gggg grandfather: Richard York 1755-1815 (b Surry Co. NC m Hazel Rebecca Glen 1770-1844 (gggg grandfather' father : William York 1715 - ?) In Surry Co. NC. Also, gggg grandfather Richard and his brothers moved to TN in 1804, moved to SC. before the Revolutionary War & served in the SC. Militia then to TN. settling in Heritage Springs Clay Co. TN."
[40] Children inc: Robert (b c 1784 SC m Elizabeth), Richard York Jr (b c 1786 SC m Jane Jennie Hibbitt, d aft 1860 Macon TN) [post by Trish]
[41] Molly Peck Coon
[42] Virginia Binkley Hagan
[43] Anita Pace
[44] Virginia Binkley Hagan
[45] Virginia Binkley Hagan
[46] Molly Peck Coon
[47] Molly Peck Coon
[48] Virginia Binkley Hagan's Tree on Webtree

Revolution. The first York identified in Surry County was a John York on the 1771 tax list[49] who according to an article on James was either his father or brother.[50] This could not be the John born in 1757 as he would only be 14 in 1771. So either the birth date is wrong or it is another John. (If it is James' brother, he would have probably been the oldest son since the others are not listed. He could have been born about 1741 when his father was 16 to 26.) This could be the same John York who received payment for the Revolutionary War support by the Salisbury District,[51] and was on the 1774 poll tax list along with a John Jr, a James Yorke and a James York (the James York is the one in this narrative).[52] This John Jr would indicate that John Sr was the eldest. If John (Sr) was born in 1741 and had a son John (Jr) when he was 16 in 1757, that John (Jr) would have been the John identified on the family list who would have been 17 and could appear on a poll tax list in 1774. The James Yorke was also in Capt Freeman's district and has not been identified. In 1785 tax list, Capt Atkins District, there was the extra James and a William York (poll only).[53] Probably the extra James was James' nephew (son of John (Sr)) and likely the William was the younger brother of James who was born about 1758 in North Carolina, served in the Revolution in Dixon's Company 1777-1779[54], and was a witness on a land sale in the area where James lived in 1784[55], moved to Georgia where he died about 1830[56]. In 1786's tax list, the only other York was a John York with 100 acres and poll,[57] who was probably James' nephew John Jr as John Sr may have died in Surry County in 1785. Note, all of this is theory and has not been verified.

JAMES' YOUTH

James York was probably born about 1750[58] or 1755 in England.[59] However, he could have been born in America, perhaps Maryland, Virginia or North Carolina. As a young man, he probably lived in the shadow of the Blue Ridge Mountains on what was the western frontier.

NANCY'S YOUTH

Nancy Ann[60] Whittaker was daughter of Thomas and Mary "Polly" (Wilson) Whittaker who are featured in a family narrative by Marion and Lanice Harkey (Volume 6 Chapter 2 Section a). Nancy was probably born about 1750[61] in Frederick County, Maryland and in the middle of their seven children.

JAMES' & NANCY'S MARRIAGE

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[49] Notes on 1771 taxes Surry Co records
[50] The Heritage Of Surry Co NC, Vol II p 417
[51] Index to NC Rev. War Pay Vouchers
[52] Surry Co 1774 tax list p 21-2
[53] Surry Co 1785 tax list p 33
[54] DAR Patriot Index & Revolutionary War Records
[55] Surry Co Land Records Bk C, p 48-9
[56] DAR Patriot Index & Revolutionary War Records
[57] 1786 Taxables at Rootsweb.com
[58] The Heritage Of Surry Co NC, Vol II p 417
[59] Vonda Lee Hampton Cooper's DAR application Supplement (# 073689)
[60] Middle name Ann in Perry Family Tree on Ancestry
[61] The Heritage Of Surry Co NC, Vol II p 417

About 1770 or 1771 James York married Nancy Whittaker.[62] They were probably married in Surry or Rowan County, North Carolina. Nancy family arrived in late 1770 or 1771. (Surry County was formed 5 Dec 1770 from Rowan County.) James and Nancy settled in Surry County, probably in the area on the Yadkin River across from Rockford in the area known as Barney Hill. This area was settled around the close of the revolution by the Farmers and included the Farmers, Yorks, Gadberrys and Williams. [63] It was here in the area which today is Yadkin County that James and Nancy raised their family. They appear to have had eleven children[64]. They were: Thomas York, born 1772[65] Jonathan born 1773[66] or 22 Feb 1778[67] Richard born c 1775[68] or 1771[69]; Mary born 1777[70]; Jean born 1779[71]; Joel born 1783[72]; John[73] born 1785[74]; Nancy born 1787[75]; Marcus Alexander "Mark" born c1790[76]; Nimrod born c1795[77]; and Sarah "Sally" born 1800.[78] Thomas was listed as a bondsman for the 1792 marriage of Aaron Wright in Surry County;[79] however he is not mentioned in the will or any documentation and had left the area by 1800.

SURRY COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

Surry County is one of the most western counties, bordering Virginia on its north. It was formed in 1770 from Rowan County, which was formed in 1753. In the 1740's and 1750's English speculators were receiving large grants and subdividing these into smaller grants of one to three hundred acres for individual settlers. During the years from 1754 to 1770 the inhabitants of Rowan County quadrupled. Small farmers dominated the landscape. Land grants were kept small, mostly between 100 and 300 acres. Many farmers on the frontier did not bother to take out land titles. The majority of the farmers were busily cultivating the soil primarily for their own sustenance, were making their own clothing and furniture, and if they had a surplus, were taking it to the local merchant to buy salt, rum, or molasses.[80] The History of Surry county describes the early settlers who came into Surry County as "practical people who met the problems of their times in a way that seemed expedient for their age and conditions. The furnishing of their cabins were of the simplest sort; consisting chiefly of articles fashioned by the master of the home, such articles that were brought from the previous homes were cooking utensils, spinning wheels, and the necessary parts of the loom which could not be easily made at

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[62] The Heritage Of Surry Co NC, Vol II p 417; Perry Family Tree states they were married in 1767 in Surry County, adds 2 children (James Louis born 1791 & died 1880; Deborah born 1794(and combines 2 other children (list Mary Jean as 2 children.) but these do not fit the census and no documentation is provided.
[63] The Heritage of Yadkin County p 11
[64] The Heritage Of Surry Co NC, Vol II p 417
[65] Perry Family Tree on Ancestry
[66] The Heritage Of Surry Co NC, Vol II p 417
[67] Perry Family Tree on Ancestry
[68] The Heritage Of Surry Co NC, Vol II p 417
[69] Perry Family Tree on Ancestry
[70] The Heritage Of Surry Co NC, Vol II p 417
[71] The Heritage Of Surry Co NC, Vol II p 417
[72] The Heritage Of Surry Co NC, Vol II p 417
[73] Middle initial D on Perry Family Tree on Ancestry
[74] The Heritage Of Surry Co NC, Vol II p 417
[75] The Heritage Of Surry Co NC, Vol II p 417
[76] Birth dates: #1 1779 [1983 tombstone reading] #2 1781 [2004 reading] #2 1789 [1850 & 1860 census] #3 c1790 [1790, 1800 & 1810 census]
[77] The Heritage Of Surry Co NC, Vol II p 417
[78] The Heritage Of Surry Co NC, Vol II p 417
[79] The Heritage of Surry County NC Vol II p 417
[80] Society in Revolutionary North Carolina p 4,9,20

the new home. The axe, the gun, and ammunition were indispensible articles for use by the men."[81]

The first record found for James York was a poll tax in 1774 in Capt Samuel Freeman's district in Surry County[82]. In 1777, James York paid taxes in Surry County, Jebez Jarvis District, on 11 cattle (value $33), 2 horses (value $65), 1 improvement (value $60) and cash on hand 4:0:1 (4 pounds, 0 shelling, 1 pence).[83] The York family had more than most families as six was the average number of cattle per owner in western North Carolina about 1780. The Carolina farmer did not put a lot of time into taking care of their livestock. "The cattle must provide for themselves or starve. Cattle, hogs, sheep - all livestock - roamed loose and fended for themselves; especially the hogs who primarily lived on acorns and pine seeds. More care was provided the cattle. As one traveler pointed out: 'by penning up the calves, and throwing out a little corn every day, the milk cows have been accustomed to come up to the dwelling-house from time to time to be milked.' But in the winter cattle also lived off the land, primarily on moss."[84]

REVOLUTION WAR YEARS

During the Revolutionary War time, the county was new, having been formed in 1770 and new to the minds of the inhabitants of the area. Most of the people living in the county were fairly new to the area and it was sparsely settled. There wasn't a strong sense of community. By 1774 differences between those loyal to the crown and those in favor of independence grew into open resentments and hostilities. Although the British did not enter the area until late in the war, the bands of Tories were a problem from the very beginning—stealing and burning whenever they found a house unprotected. No man left home without a gun. In the summer of 1776, the war cry of the Indians was heard. They were siding with the British and began raids when they thought the British fleet had captured Charleston. The colonists knew that the Indians could continue attacking at any time. Hence the Carolinas and Virginia organized expeditions to put an end to the Indian threat. Men from Surry County participated in a successful attack on the upper villages of the Cherokee in summer of 1776. Hence, in addition to the Revolution War, Surry County was experiencing a civil war of Whig vs. Tory and at the same time engaged in an offensive war against the Indians.[85]

On 12 May 1779, James was one of the men to "view road out of road leads from Richmond to Allin Iron Works, crossing Yadkin at White Rock [became Rockford in 1790] into road leads from Richmond to Salisbury near Deep Creek"[86]. Deep Creek is on the south side of the Yadkin River. A few days later, the court minutes indicated the ferry rates as set by the court which were: "Loaded Wagon and Team 2:0:0; Empty Wagon and Team 1:0:0; Loaded Cart 1:10:0; Empty Cart 1:0:0; Man and Horse 0:4:0; Foot Man 0:2:8; Single Horse and cattle per head 0:2:8; Hogs and Sheep 0:1:4."[87]

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[81] The History of Surry County p 33-34
[82] Surry Co 1774 tax records p 20
[83] Notes on Surry Co 1777 taxes
[84] Society in Revolutionary North Carolina p 11-12
[85] The Revolutionary War & Surry Co, p19, 24-26
[86] Abstract Vol I & II Surry Co Court Minutes, p 12
[87] Abstract Vol I & II Surry Co Court Minutes, p 13

James York was granted 352 acres of land from the State on 11 Jan 1780 on the south bank of the Yadkin River in Surry County. Today this would be in Yakin County, however at that time it was in Surry County. It was based on a 400 acre warrant # 1919. It was surveyed 13 March 1808. It was bordered on the north by the Yadkin River west by Greenwood's, and the east by Gersham Bill's, Daniel Bill's and a branch of Yadkin River. It had a creek going through eastern third of his land.[88] His land was entered in the County Deed books on 14 Jan 1806, and he paid 50 shilling per acre.[89] As this was the custom at that time, he had probably been living on the land several years.

Although there is no York Creek on today's map, during James life a Yorks Creek was listed in land records in 1778.[90] In a land warrant issued about 1779, Linsey's land was described as "on the 7 Island Creek, the waters of the Yadkin River and adjoining James York's line."[91] There are several other references to a York Creek: In 1778 John Allen got 640 acres on Yorks Creek including Lindsey's improvement and Thomas Stone entered 200 acres of land on the head of Yorks Creek adjoining Round Hill.[92] Also Longino is listed as having acreage on Fall Creek across the river from Rockford adjacent to that of Alex Bohannon, James York and Stephen Hide.[93] A land deed indicated Longino got land lost by Abner Greenwood on Falls Creek adjacent to Alex Bohannon, James York, James Lindsay and Stephin Hide.[94]

By 1780 the war against the British was getting closer to home. Men from Surry helped defeat the British at the Battle of Kings Mountain while the Tories in the county were joining together to help the British. On 14 October 1780 Major Cloud of Virginia with 160 Carolina and Virginia militia met Wright and his Tories at Shallow Ford in present day Yadkin County (Surry County at the time). The patriots won this battle. The Patriots of Surry County and other counties began to play a major role in delaying and impeding every possible way they could Cornwallis armies advance into North Carolina. Cornwallis did enter Surry County via Shallow Ford in Feb 1781 and moved on to Bethania where he camped for the night. The next day, he moved through Salem and on chasing the Patriot General Green. In Late February Cornwallis gave up the chase and moved to Hillsboro. That was the extent of battle on Surry County soil. The next major battle was 15 February at Guilford County Courthouse. A number of Surry men fought in the battle. Hostilities of the Tories vs. the Patriots during the war continued for some time after the war. Hate and resentments are not easily forgotten. Following the war there was a period of migration from Surry to Georgia, Tennessee and beyond. Some of it was to settle on land grants received in those places for their military service.[95]

During time of the American Revolution, James and Nancy were living in Surry County, North Carolina and probably had three to four children. There was a payment authorization (6 pounds, 10 shillings, 6 pence) to James York in August 1782 by the Salisbury District (which

[88] Land grant #2498; folder No 0117
[89] Surry Co Deed Book M p 29
[90] Abstract of Surry Co NC Land Entries 1778-1781 p 80
[91] Surry Co NC Land Entries 1778-1781, p 128 # 1472
[92] Surry Co land Entries pg 80 and 138
[93] The Story of Rockford p 6
[94] Surry Co Deed Bk D pg 155
[95] The Revolutionary War & Surry Co, p 28-30

included Surry County). This was for public claims by the Upper Board of Auditors and would have been for service or supplies supporting the Revolution[96]. Another listing of pay in the Army accounts list J York on line 1174 with 6:10:6[97] and 1:16:4 in the next column; and on line 1152 again list J York with 9:6:0 and 2:12:3.[98] Lula York Johnson wrote that her father told her his father told him: "His father was in the Patriot army fighting for American Independence. About the hardships the family endured during the Revolutionary War. Said at one time in the Spring of the year they had nothing to eat but green wheat which they pickled and boiled."[99]

POST WAR YEARS

On 1 Aug 1782 James paid money due to the estate of Robert Turner. [100] According to one account his brother John died c 1785.[101] In 1784 he paid on 300 acres and 1 pole in Adkins District. Also listed there was John York and William York as poles only.[102] In 1785[103] and 1786[104] James was listed 300 acres[105] and 1 poll in Capt Atkin's district. Captain Atkins' District was located in the southern region of present-day Surry along the Yadkin River.

On 10 August 1785, James was on a jury that heard five cases.[106] Then on 16 November 1785 he was on another jury. This one heard two cases involving assault and battery. They fined the first man 5 pounds and the second one 10 shillings.[107] The court records for Feb 1788 indicated there was a law suit Joshua H Speer vs. James York. This was followed by the comment "no suit", so what ever their problem was, the court did not hear it or perhaps they solved it.[108] Also in 1788 was a law suit "William York vs. Joshua Speer". It is not known if William was James' brother or if this was the same Joshua Speers.[109] In 1790, James was the only York listed on the Tax list and he was located in Captain Meridith's District. He had 350 acres and one poll.[110]

There was a steady and growing migration into Surry County as the Indians no longer posed a threat. In a 1786 census there were 1,559 people listed in the county; however 4 years later, by first U. S. Census in 1790 there were 7,181 folks.[111] In 1790 there were two James York families Surry County, North Carolina. One of the James York's was probably the James of this narrative and had 2 males over 16 (James 40 and Jonathan 17 or Richard 19), 3 males under 16 (Richard 15 or Jonathan 12, Joel 7 and John 5), and 4 females (wife Nancy 40, Mary 13, Jean 11, and daughter Nancy 3).[112] The other James York was also over 16 and he had 5 females in his

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[96] Revolutionary War Pay Vouchers Reel 136 Frame 1688-1689
[97] Documentation for Patriot by the Daughters of the American Revolution. [Vonda Lee Cooper's DAR application Supplement (# 073689)]
[98] Treasurer and Comptrollers Papers Revolutionary Army Accounts Reel 58 Vol: VI Pages 61.1 &69.3
[99] Letter by Lula Ann York Johnson Emmons to Marion Harkey 26 March 1936
[100] Surry Co Will Abstracts pg 40
[101] Virginia Binkley Hagan's Tree on Webtree
[102] List of Property Owners for 1784 pg 40
[103] Surry Co 1785 Tax list p 33
[104] 1786 Taxables at Rootsweb.com
[105] There is no record found of him selling 52 acres
[106] Abstract Vol I & II Surry Co Court Minutes, p 72
[107] Abstract Vol I & II Surry Co Court Minutes, p 86
[108] Abstract Vol I & II Surry Co Court Minutes, p 132
[109] Abstract Vol I & II Surry Co Court Minutes, p 148
[110] 1790 Tax List Surry Co
[111] The Revolutionary War & Surry Co, p 30
[112] 1790 Census for Surry Co NC p 512 [Journal of Surry Co Genealogical Assoc, Vol 9 Bk 1 p 15]

home.[113] Not sure how this James was related. Thomas would have been 18 and had probably moved on as in 1800 he was in Randolph County and he married Francis Mitchell that year in Rutherford, NC.[114]

James was mentioned several times in the Surry County Court Minutes between 1796 and 1800. He was one of the men ordered to view and lay out a road the nearest and best way from Joseph Smith's Mill on Hunting Creek to the court house at Rockford.[115] He was appointed to serve on a jury, and they assessed damage.[116] On 10 May 1799 he was one of the men ordered to lay off a road from Esquire Dan'l Bill's the nearest and best way to the end of the Fox Nobs and then the nearest and best way to Smith's Mill on Hunting Creek.[117] Daniel Bill would have been his neighbor.

Son Jonathan married Anne Holt[118] on 11 August 1797;[119] and son Richard married Barbara Johnson by 1800.[120] On 30 Dec 1779, daughter Mary married John Farmer and moved to Haywood County, North Carolina.[121] By 1800, son Joel was 17 and had left home. Thomas had also moved on probably to Wilson Tennessee where he died in 1815.[122] The 1800 census list Richard[123] and Jonathan[124] living near James. In James household was 1 male over 45 (James 50), 2 males 10 to 16 (John 15, Mark about 10), 1 male under 10 (Nimrod 5), 1 female over 45 (Nancy 50), 1 female 26 to 45 (Jean 21) and 1 female 10 to 16 (Nancy 13).[125].

In December 1806, James and his son Richard were part of an inquest investigating a hanging on 25 December of that year. They decided that the man "in a manner & form aforsesaid as a felon of himself feloniously voluntarily & of his malice aforethought himself killed strangled & murdered against the peace of State."[126]

On 2 September 1800 daughter Jean married Richard Murphy.[127] Son John married Margaret "Peggy" Wadden in 6 Mar 1806 with his brother Richard as bondsmen.[128] The next year, on 9 April 1807, son Jonathan married Rebekah Hinshaw with his brother Joel York as bondsmen,[129] however this was second marriage. On 2 January 1810, son Mark married Clary Durham.[130] By 1810 Joel had gone to Tennessee where he married Talitha Jackson on 2 Jul 1810 in Williamson County.[131] The 1810 census listed James, son Jonathan[132], son John[133] and son

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[113] 1790 Census for Surry Co NC p 520 [Journal of Surry Co Genealogical Assoc, Vol 9 Bk 1 p 17]
[114] Woodruff Family Tree
[115] Abstract Vol II Surry Co Court Minutes, p 98-99
[116] Abstract Vol II Surry Co Court Minutes, p 101-2, 106
[117] Abstract Vol II Surry Co Court Minutes, p 152
[118] Transcription of the Court House marriage record listed Ann Holt married John Luark on 11 Aug 1797.
[119] The Heritage Of Surry Co NC, Vol II p 417
[120] The Heritage Of Surry Co NC, Vol II p 417
[121] The Heritage Of Surry Co NC, Vol II p 417
[122] Perry Family Tree on Ancestry
[123] Richard's listing: Males 2 under 10, 1 26-45; Females 4 under 10, 1 26-45 [1800 Census for Surry Co NC, p 703 on usgenweb]
[124] Jonathan"s listing: Males 1 under 10, 1 26-45; Females, 2 under 10, 1 26-45 [1800 Census for Surry Co NC, p 703 on usgenweb]
[125] 1800 Census for Surry Co NC, p 703 on usgenweb
[126] Journal of Surry County Genealogical Association Vol 10 Bk 1 p8-9
[127] The Heritage Of Surry Co NC, Vol II p 417
[128] Surry County NC Marriage Bonds by The Genealogical Society Salt Lake City, p 256
[129] Surry County NC Marriage Bonds by The Genealogical Society Salt Lake City, p 256
[130] Surry County NC Marriage Bonds by The Genealogical Society Salt Lake City, p 256
[131] Biography: Joel York on Rootsweb.com
[132] Listing: males; 2 under 10, 1 16-26, 1 26-45: females; 4 under 10, 3 10-16, 1 16-26 [1810 Census for Surry Co NC, p Srr 655/173]

Mark[134] all living in Surry County. Son Richard and his family had probably moved to Wilson County, Tennessee. James was listed with 1 male over 45 (James 60), 1 male 10 to 16 (Nimrod 15), 1 female 26 to 45 (Nancy 23) and 1 female over 45 (Nancy 60).[135] Daughter Sarah (age 10) was not listed, although she could have been counted in the home of her brother John or Jonathan. It is possible that son Richard remarried as one source listed his marriage as 26 Dec 1812 to Barbara Shumate in Williamson County, Tennessee.[136] Son John remarried in 1812 and his second wife was probably Catherine Greenwood Atkins.[137] She may have been Catherine Greenwood (widow of Robert Adkins)[138] However, according to one report his Uncle John married a Catherine Greenwood;[139] but according to another his wife was Suzanna[140]. It is suspected that Nancy either died between 1810 and 1814 or married and moved away or according to another source after the death of her parents Nancy lived with Nimrod until her marriage to Lewis Williams 7 Sept 1833,[141] however she is not listed on either of her parent's estates. According to the 1812 Surry County tax list, James (with 352 acres), along with sons Mark and John were in Capt Thomason's District while son Jonathan (with 264 acres) was in Capt Badgett's District. Richard was not listed which supports he had moved.[142] In doing research on James's family, note at least 5 of his sons named a son James, and many remained in the same area which can lead to confusion.

JAMES' DEATH

James York died in 1814 by April 10.[143] He would have been about 64 years old and had been married about 44 years. From his estate it was obvious he was quite well off for a pioneer in the back hills of North Carolina.

The inventory of his property, taken 10 April 1814 by son Jonathan & witnessed by son John, included: 2 horses, 2 mares, 8 head of cattle, 9 head of sheep, 19 head of hogs, 4 plow irons, 2 shovels, 2 cutters, 4 hoes, 3 axes, 2 mattocks, many different types of irons[144], 1 hand ax, 2 cleavers, 1 argon, 1 drawing knife, house and kitchen furniture, 4 feather beds with furniture, 2 men's saddles, 1 women saddle, 1 chest and buckboard, 1 table with 7 setting chairs, 2 flax wheels, 1 cotton wheel with a pair of sheep shears, 1 dresser, 4 white plates, 6 pewter plates, a set of cups and saucers, 1 large pewter dish, 5 tin cups, 3 crocks, 1crock pail, 3 water pails, 1 tub, 2 large iron pots, 1 dutch oven, 1 frying pan, 1 small skillet, 2 powdering tubs, 3 barrels,3 bags and 1 rifle gun. His eldest son Jonathan was appointed administrator in August 1814. He sold the items and reported the value of the estate as income from sales and cash 137:9:0; outstanding notes 93:73:2. Family purchasing items included his widow Nancy 20:2:0; son-in-law John Farmer 14:0:0, and sons Mark 0:2:13, Jonathan 1:10:6, Nimrod 12:17:0, and John 14:0:0.[145] On

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[133] Listing: males; 1 under 10, 1 26-45: females; 4 under 10, 26-45 [1810 Census for Surry Co NC, p Srr 650/170]
[134] Listing: males; 1 16-26,: females; 1 16-26 [1810 Census for Surry Co NC, p Srr 655/173]
[135] 1810 Census for Surry Co NC, p Srr 654/172 on Rootsweb.Com
[136] Vonda L Cooper Family group sheet [Williamson Co TN marriage records CD RDM #229}
[137] Evans Family Tree
[138] The Heritage Of Surry Co NC, Vol II p 417
[139] Virginia Binkley Hagan's Tree on Webtree
[140] Mary Polly Coons
[141]The Heritage Of Surry Co NC, Vol II p 417
[142] Taxable Property Surry Co 1812, p 2-3 & 13-14
[143] Date of inventory of estate
[144] 2 iron wedges, 2 pr of iron bases, 2 iron cleavers, double three irons,
[145] Surry Co Estate Records

the 1815 tax list, 350 acres were listed for the administrators (list Jonathan, John, Mark & Nimrod) of James York, valued at $800 on the Yadkin River adjacent to Greenwood.[146] (The tax list was in dollars where as the inventory was in shillings etc.)

In the 15 Aug 1816 Court minutes, two of the following three men (Matthew Hughes, Gabriel Hanby, & Edwin Chaffin Esqrs) were appointed a committee to settle with the administrators of James York dec'd.[147] Statements signed by each of his children listing items received from their father during his lifetime were: John on 12 May 1814 (1 mare and colt and 1 two year old yearling); Jonathan on 12 May 1814 (1 cow and calf 101 pence's, colts 10 pence's); Nimrod on 12 May 1814 (1 colt). Joel on 18 Feb 1815 (5 shillings); Richard on 18 Feb 1815 (a little horse and yearling); Mark on 12 May 1817 (1 colt, 1 cow and shoat, and 50 bucle backs); Mary Farmer on 12 May 1817 (1 sow, 6 pigs and 1 mare); and Richard Murphy for wife Jean on 4 August 1817 (1 calf, 1/2 dozen delft plates and 1 punch bowl). All were signed by mark except for Joel's. Children Thomas, Nancy, and Sarah did not sign. Daughter Sarah was legally dependent. Then in the minutes for 14 May 1817, it was noted "a settlement to the estate of James York dec'd was returned by admr & ordered to be recorded.[148]

After James death, his widow Nancy and daughter Sarah lived with son Nimrod. Nancy was probably about 65 and they had been married about 43 years. Nancy was appointed guardian to Sally York a women not capable of managing her business or in a state of lunacy. Nancy entered into bond in the sum of one hundred pounds with John Farmer & Edwin Chaffin her securities for her faithful performance[149]. On 20 September 1818 Nimrod married Mary Reece with his brother Mark York as bondsmen[150].

NANCY'S DEATH

Nancy died in 1820. Her will, 7 July 1820, named Nimrod and Sarah York only. It stated: "In the name of God amen, I Nancy York being of perfect mind & memory, weak in body & strength & knowing the certainty of death & uncertainty of life have thought proper to make & ordain this my last will & testimony. Item 1st I will and bequeath to my loving son Nimrod York my mare & 1 feather bed ___. Item 2nd I leave to my loving daughter Sally York 1 feather bed, bed sheets 2 cover lids & 2 bed quilts. During her natural life but at her death it is my will that the said property belong to names York. This exclusively. Item 3rd I will and bequeath to my loving daughter Sally York all my wearing apparel. Item 4th I will and bequeath to my loving son Nimrod York one half of all the rest of my worldly goods I have not mentioned above. Item 5th I leave to my loving daughter Sally York during her natural life the other half of all my worldly goods I have not mentioned above but at her death I will the said property to my loving son Nimrod York & it is my will that he & his heir enjoy it forever. I do hereby appoint him in trust to take care of all the property I have and to my daughter during her life. I do hereby appoint Nimrod York executor of this my last will & testament, signed with own hand this 7th day of July 1820."[151] The will was received in the August Court 1820.[152] Nancy was probably about 70 and

[146] Surry County NC Tax List 1815
[147] Abstract of Surry Co NC County Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions, Vol VI p70
[148] Abstract of Surry Co NC County Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions, Vol VI p91
[149] Surry Co NC Court Minutes 1815-1819, p 13
[150] Surry County NC Marriage Bonds by The Genealogical Society Salt Lake City, p 256
[151] Surry Co Estate Records

had outlived her husband by 6 years.

Both Nancy and James were probably buried on their land. This could be at a private Cemetery located in Fall Creek Township, Yadkin overlooking Farmers Creek and Yadkin River which was on their land. To get there go west on Highway 1510 one mile on 1524. The cemetery is listed as the Gadburry Cemetery has several unreadable markers with identified markers for James Gadburry 1839, Rebecca York 1843 and Littleton Fleming 1829.[153]

Nimrod was still listed as guardian for Sally in 1832 and 1834. There was a report which he filed with the county in 1834 stating he still had on interest $75 for Sally as guardian and he had paid $20 for the Negro's and certain articles of clothing.[154]

JAMES' LAND GRANT

Probably, James's 352 acres allotted 1/3 of his land for his widow which was common at the time. The rest of his land may have been divided between the 8 children that signed the estate papers, or the 6 that were still living in Surry County. This would have left about 112 acres for Nancy and about 30 to 36 acres for each child. This is approximations and there is no proof. His widow, Nancy, left everything she had to her youngest son Nimrod and her dependent daughter Sally. In 1823, Nimrod sold land for himself and as guardian of Sarah York. The land was a jagged 118 acres with one corner of the banks of the Yakin River at Greenwoods, then proceeding down the old line about half way to Jonathan's corner, up to Mark's corner, down to John York's corner and back to the Yakin R and along the banks to the start. The deed stated "being part of the lands of James York Deed which was divided among the heirs of said Deed by the consent of the heirs then owing the same.[155] Then in 1833, Mark got about 150 acres of land that had belonged to his brother John.[156] This would have given him 268 acres of his father's, James', land plus what he inherited which could have been 30 to 36 or more acres giving Mark close about 304 acres. By the 1850's Mark gave his sons Nathan and Lewis about 304 acres of his father's estate without filing a deed for the transfer.

Aric Wilhelm at the Yadkin County Court House (in Sept 2012) said a member of his family, Rachel Williams, had purchased ½ the old York land (150 acres) in 1862 from Lewis York.[157] Wording on the deeds is the same for the east side and half of the north and south sides of both Lewis' land and James' grant.[158] Aric had grown up on the land and said there was an

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[152] Surry County NC Will Abstracts p 149

[153] Aric Wilhelm, Yadkin Co Court House

[154] Surry Co Record of Estates, 1831-34, C.R. 092.501.5 p 148

[155] Surry Co Deeds Book T pg 207

[156] Surry Co Deeds Book U 426 &7

[157] Yadkin Co Deeds H 549

[158] James' grant description: "Beginning at a sourwood at Greenwoods corner on the South bank of the Yadkin River & running south 44 chains & 50 links to a post oak sapling, **East 60 chains to a black oak in Gersham Bills line. North with Bills line 35 chains & 50 links to a poplar in Daniels Bills Sr line, North 37 degrees West 20 chains to a Locust stump & maple at the branch on the bank of the Yadkin River thence up the river with meanders of the water to the beginning**." Lewis deed description: "Beginning at the Bull sluce [shoal] on a round rock on the *south bank of the Yadkin River and runs south 38 degrees east with Nathan York's line 28 chains & 50 links to a post oak Nathan York's corner, thence with his line south 17 degrees west 26 chains & 50 links to hickory Nathan York's corner,* thence east with the old line, **34 chains & 75 links to a stake in the Rockford road, thence north with the old line (formerly Bill's line) 35 chains & 50 links to a popular in the old line (formerly Daniel Bill's line) thence north 37 degrees west, 20 chains with McIness (sp?) line to a Locust stump & maple at the mouth of a branch on the bank of the river and thence up the River as it meanders to the beginning.**" The bold print proves it is the same land.

old cemetery, an old log cabin, lots of flint and some ore. According to Aric, Nathan York had sold the other half (154 acres). Nathan sold his portion to John Hemilin in 1857.[159] That leaves 48 acres which Mark's son John D had sold to Thomas H Reece in Jan 1854.[160] This sale contained more than James original land grant as it was for 180 acres and contained 4 tracts bought at different times from various persons adjoining lands of Abram Reece, Daniel Reece and Nathan York.[161] Aric gave me a map indentifying where his family's land was. Hence we know James' land grant was between 7 Island Creek and Falls Creek along the south side of the Yakin River on Barney Hill and contained Farmer's Creek.

Notes on their children

Thomas & Frances York's children may have included:[162] John William (*b 1796, d 1880*), Andrew (*b 1799, d 1840*), Jesse Russell (*b 1806, d 1865*), Thomas (*b 1808, d 1867*), Charoltte (*b 1809*), Isaac Jefferson (*b 1811, d 1880*), William (*b 1814, d 1871*), Nancy Ann (*b 1815, d 1881*), Andrew J (*b 1819, d 1867*), Mary Polly (*b 1821, d 1906*), Laura (*b 1824*), Uriah (*b 1825, d 1865*), Elijah (*b 1835, d 1923*) and a daughter (*b 1836*). He had probably left that area by 1800 and by 1830 Thomas had moved to Fentress, Tennessee where he died at Bill Creek either in 1840[163] or 1850.[164]

Jonathan & Ann's children included a son & two daughters.[165] From the 1820, 1840 and 1850 census assume the son was James (*b 1798, m Margaret*[166]) who was listed with Rebecca. Jonathan and Rebecca York's children included: James; William (*b 1810,m Tempy Glen 26 Aug 1829 Surry Co NC*); Rebecca Ann (*b 1812, m John Frost 2 Sep 1832 Surry Co NC, d 1 Jan 1877 Blue Rapids KS*); Julia Ann (*b 1813, m Samuel Howe*); Nancy (*b 1814, m Lewis Williams 7 Sep 1833 Surry Co NC*); Keziah (*m Sion Spencer*); Deborah (*m Bailey Holder*); Sally (*m Daniel Reece*); Mary Ann (*m James Belvin 3 Feb 1814 Surry Co NC*); Jane (*m Abraham Reece*); Elizabeth (*m John Burch*); Jonathan (*b 1817, m Sarah Pauline Shore, d 1849 Jackson Co MO*); Emily "Milly" (*b 1819, m John Powell, d 1893*); Thomas Marion (*b 1822, m Cynthia Ann Sloan, d 1854*); Mark York (*b 27 Jun 1827 Surry Co NC, m Lucinda Jane Guthridge 29 Apr 1854, d 22 Oct 1879 Ukiah Mendocino CA*); and Matilda. Jonathan died in Apr 1834 or 16 April 1833[167] in

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[159] Nathan' deed description: "Beginning at a sourwood on the south and of the Yakin River Reeces corner and coming south 26 (?) chains & 50 links to a post oak & east 21 chains & 66 links to a Spanish oak south 18 chains to a hickory east 20 chains to a *hickory in the __(?) line the__(?) corner north 17 degrees east 26 chains & 50 links to a post oak in the edge of an old field north 38 degrees west 28 chains 50 links to a rock on the bank of the river opposite the fishing at the lower end of the Seven Islands* [Aric said these islands disappeared in a flood] thence up the meanders of the River to the Beginning and adjoining the lands of Moses E Buellruff formerly Reece, Thomas H Reece and Issac Reece and Mark York." The italics matches the west side of Lewis' land however in 1854 it still belonged to Lewis' father Mark York. [Yadkin Co Deeds B 524]

[160] Yakin Co Deeds A 345

[161] John D's land description: "Beginning at a black gums on the west bank of the road leading from Rockford road to Thomas H Reece's Abram Reece's corner & runs east 32 chains & 94 links to a stake Daniel Reece's corner nor 8 chains & 75 links to a stake (at a grave) east 2 chains & 50 links to a stake north 20 chains & 50 links to a Hickory East 8 chains to a stake in the old York line south 11 chains & 50 links to a stake (originally a post oak) Nathan York's corner near a road east 22 chains to a Spanish oak bush & holly bush south crossing 7 Island Creek 19 chains to a hickory & sassafras Nathan York's corner in the old York back line west 1 chain & 65 links to a bunch of alders on the east bank of said creek south crossing said creek again 7 chains & 50 links to a stake near a large apple tree west 20 chains & 75 links to a stake in the old Biddin line in the edge of an old field south 16 chains to a white oak a little east of some old Pointers west 33 chains & 50 links to a red oak in the old Lindley line. Thence north 71 (?) degrees west 25 chains & 32 links to the beginning.

[162] Woodruff Family Tree

[163] Woodruff Family Tree

[164] Individual Records on Ancestry

[165] NC 1800 Census

[166] NC 1850 census p 236-237

[167] Perry Family Tree on Ancestry

Surry Co NC. Mark was appointed guardian of his youngest children: Jonathan, Milly, Julia, Thomas, Matilda and Mark on Aug 1834.[168] Jonathan's family was in Jackson Co MO by 1838.[169]

Richard and Barbara York — no information on family. They moved to Wilson Co TN where Richard died. May have died about 1815.

Mary and John Farmer — no further information

Jean and Richard Murphy — no further information

Joel and Tabitha York's children included: James W (*b 28 Oct 1813 Maury Williamson Co TN, m #1 Mary A Kaplinger Feb 1838, #2 Hester Hamilton Jan 1876, prosperous stock farmer in Honey Pt Township, Macoupin Co, IL, d 24 Jun 1895 Maury Co TN*); Joseph (*b 1820 Maury TN, m Mary F Lewis 11 Mar 1845 Macoupin Co IL, d Macoupin Co IL*); Wesley (*b c1822 Maury TN*); William C (*b 1 Feb 1828 Bedford TN, m Mary, d 4 Sep 1873 Honey Point Macoupin IL*); Rebecca (*b c1824 Maury TN*); Nimrod K (*b 1835 Morgan Co IL, m #1 Sarah C Wallace, #2 Elizia A Colclasure, d 1902 Lawton* KS)[170] and Joel Jr (*b 1815 Maury Williamson Co TN*). Joel moved from Williamson to Bedford County, TN. In 1828, he moved his family to Morgan County, IL near Jacksonville. He had 10 children. Then he moved with the younger children to Macoupin County, IL. Died in 8 August[171] 1847 in Carlinville, Macoupin Co, IL[172].

John and Peggy York's children may have included: Edmond Giles (*b 1801,*[173]*m Martha d 1850*) and Thomas Adam (*b 1802 m Christina Panther 15 Dec 1822*[174]).[175] John and Elizabeth's may have children included James Alfred Burgess (*b 1809, d 1902*), George Henry (*b 13 Jun 1813, d 1880*), Catherine (*b 1820*), Aaron (*b 1821, d 1862*) and Alfred (*b Feb 1847, d 1902*).[176] John died in NC in 1847 or 17 Nov 1846 in Surry Co.[177]

Nancy – no further information

Mark and Clary York's children were: John Durham (*b 1810 Rockford, Surry Co NC, m Mary Fleming 1 Jan 1835 Surry Co NC, d 1860 KS*); James Frederick (*b 1811 Rockford Surry Co NC, m #1 Maryann Chrisman 15 Oct 1832 Surry Co NC, #2 Sarah Grant 1844, d 1877-1888 TX*); Adam Napolean "Poley" (*b 13 Jun 1813 Rockford Surry Co NC, m Mary Woodruff 31 Dec 1832 Surry Co NC, d 1889 Surry Co NC*), Pheraby "Ferrebee" (*b 1815 Rockford Surry Co NC, m Alfred Shugart 3 Nov 1830 Gordon Co GA, d 1870-1880*); Nancy (*b 1817 Rockford Surry Co NC, m William T Richardson 26 Dec 1862 Surry Co NC, d 1883*); Edward Michael (*b c1825 Surry Co NC, m Nancy, d by 1874*); Mark Jr (*b 1825 Surry Co NC, m Adeline Elizabeth Crumpler 12 Mar 1851 Surry Co NC, d by 8 Aug 1864*) and Nathan (*b 9 Oct 1826 Surry Co NC, m #1 Elizabeth Johnson 29 Mar 1854, #2 Sarah Ann McGuffin 30 Aug 1860 Surry Co NC, d 7 Aug 1899 Polo Twp Carroll Co AR*). Mark married Nancy Gadberry 29 Oct 1833[178] after the death of his first wife in 1831. Mark and Nancy York's children included: Lewis (*b 1835 Surry Co NC, m Wilmouth Joyce 2 Feb 1859 Yadkin Co NC, d 1893 Surry Co NC*); Tyre (*b 4 May 1836 Surry Co NC, m Eliza Anna Crumpler 1858 Surry Co NC, member NC State Legislature, d 28*

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[168] Surry Co NC Court Minutes p 83
[169] Alice Kinard from Jonathan York descendent
[170] Biography: Joel York on Rootsweb.com
[171] Perry Family Tree on Ancestry
[172] Biography: Joel York on Rootsweb.com
[173] 185 Surry Co census p 187
[174] 1850 Surry Co census p 207 & Surry Co Marriage records p 226
[175] Evans Family Tree
[176] Evans Family Tree
[177] Perry Family Tree on Ancestry
[178] Surry County NC Marriage Bonds by The Genealogical Society Salt Lake City, p 256

Jan 1916 Trap Hill Wilkes Co NC); Elizabeth (*b 1838 Surry Co NC*); Annie America (*b 4 Jun 1840 Surry Co NC, m Daniel F Holcomb 8 Sep 1865 Surry Co NC, d 16 Apr 1916 Surry Co NC*); Laura Frances (*b 1842 Surry Co NC, m James H Maxwell 13 Mar 1860 NC*); Carolina Cornelia (*b 1844 Surry Co NC*); Lovelet Eliza (*b 1845 Surry Co NC, m William Saunders Blackwood 21 Mar 1876 NC*); Little C (*b 1847 Surry Co NC, m Alice Anderson 27 Sep 1890 Surry Co NC*); Jasper Newton (*b Jan 1852 Surry Co NC, d 27 Jan 1915 Surry Co NC*) and Claude E (*b 3 Nov 1854 Rockford NC, d 6 Aug 1894 Rockford NC*). Mark and Clary York are featured in a family narrative by Marion and Lanice Harkey (Volume 6 Chapter 2 Section a). Mark remained in the Rockford area where he died 11 Feb 1867.[179]

Nimrod and Mary York's children include: James (*b 8 Jun 1819 East Bend Surry Co NC, m Mary B Poindexter 24 Sep 1848, d 11 Oct 1902 Bristol Washington Co VA*); Levi (*b 1821, m Sarah*); Lewis William (*b 1823, m Elizabeth Darnell 6 Sep 1845 Surry Co NC, d 1919*); Sarah (*b 10 Dec 1825, m William Darnell 1847 Surry Co NC, d 15 Nov 1905*), Daniel (*b 1827 Surry Co NC*); Nancy (*b 1829 Surry Co NC, m Harmon Young Walker 9 Mar 1853 Yadkin Co NC*); Jesse F (*b 1831 Surry Co NC*), Susan (*b 1834*), Mary K. (*b 1838 Surry Co NC, m Meredith Thorton 7 Feb 1860 Wilkes Co NC*), and Miles (*b 1843*). Nimrod was a farmer who lived in Surry Co and Yadkin Co.[180] In 1832 he was indebted to three men and deeded over to them 97 ½ acres of land, a wagon, 3 horses and 5 head of cattle if he could not pay off the debt by 29 Jun 1838.[181] By 1860 he was in Helton Twp Ashe Co. NC.[182] He moved to Wilson Cr Grayson Co VA where he died.[183]

Sarah York's guardian was her brother Nimrod. The last guardian's report found was for 1834.

This family narrative was written by Marion and Lanice (Parsons) Harkey in 1984. Roberta (Harkey) Himebrook updated it in 1995, 1996, 1997 and revised it in 2000. Updated 2002&3, 2007&8, 2010, 2012. Information from:

Letter of Lula Ann York Johnson Emmons to Marion Harkey 26 March 1936
Surry County, NC, land & court records
Surry Co NC Court Minutes Vol I & II 1768-1789 Abstract by Mrs. W. O. Absher
Surry Co NC Court Minutes Vol 1796-1800 Abstract by Agnes Wells & Iris Harvey
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US Census records
Society in Revolutionary NC by Alice E Mathews NC Dept of Cultural Resources 1976
Material from Carolyn Garber & Alice Kinard
Vonda Cooper's, records
Vonda Lee Hampton Cooper's DAR application Supplement (# 073689)
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Baltimore County Families, 1659–1759 by Robert Barnes; Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc
Baltimore Co Land Records 1665-1687 fr Maryland Historical Magazine, Clearfield Press
History of Pittsylvania Co, Virginia
"The Revolution War & Surry Co" by Dennis Cameron in The Journal of Surry Co

[179] Narrative 6-2-1-2
[180] 1820-50- Surry Co Census
[181] Surry County land Deeds X -58
[182] 1860 census
[183] The Heritage Of Surry Co NC, Vol II p 421; The Revolutionary War & Surry Co, p19, 24-26

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1786 Taxables, Atkins District, Surry Co NC at Rootsweb.com

1790 Tax List Surry Co NC at www.newrivernotes.com

Biography: Joel York by Jacque York Sparks 1 Jan 1998 on Rootsweb.com

Revolutionary War Pay Vouchers Reel 136 Frame 1688-1689

Abstract of Surry Co NC Co Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions, Vol VI 1815-1819, by Iris Harvey and Agnes Wells

Molly Peck Coon's Descendants of Richard York

Lois York Hamilton's research

History of Pittsylvania County

Surry Co NC – Land Entries 1778 – 1781

Virginia Binkley Hagan's tree on Webtree at http://Webtree.com/jentzy49/Binkley-Brannon-Branches

The Story of Rockford by Lucy Hamlin Houck 31 Aug 1972, edited & Updated Jun 2000

List of Taxable Property in Surry Co NS for the Year 1812 on Ancestry

Perry Family Tree on Ancestry 2010, owner marchandhc

Woodruff Family Tree on Ancestry 2010 owner asullivan 56

Individual Records on Ancestry

Evans Family Tree on Ancestry 2010 owner Brokecountyboy

The History of Surry County by J. G. Hollingsworth, Higginson Book Company 1935

Anita Pace emails 2008 at nitathemystic@yahoo.com

Steve York Family Tree on Ancestry 2010 – owner YORKSW1474

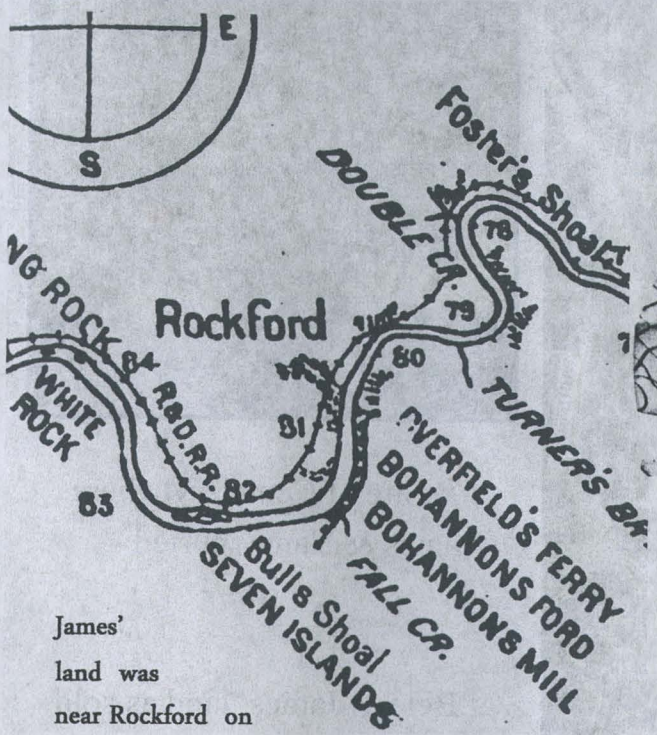
Posting on Ancestry 8 May 2006 by Trish, tyork62

The Heritage of Surry Co, Frances Casstevens, Yadkin County Historical Society 1981

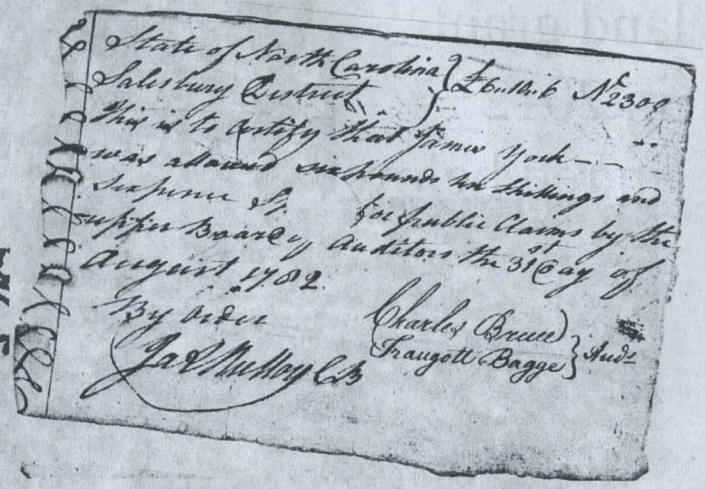
List of Property Owners for 1784 transcribed by Luther Byrd 1947

Aric Wilhelm – met Sept 2012 working in the land records section of the Yadkin Co Courthouse.

YADKIN RIVER, N.C.

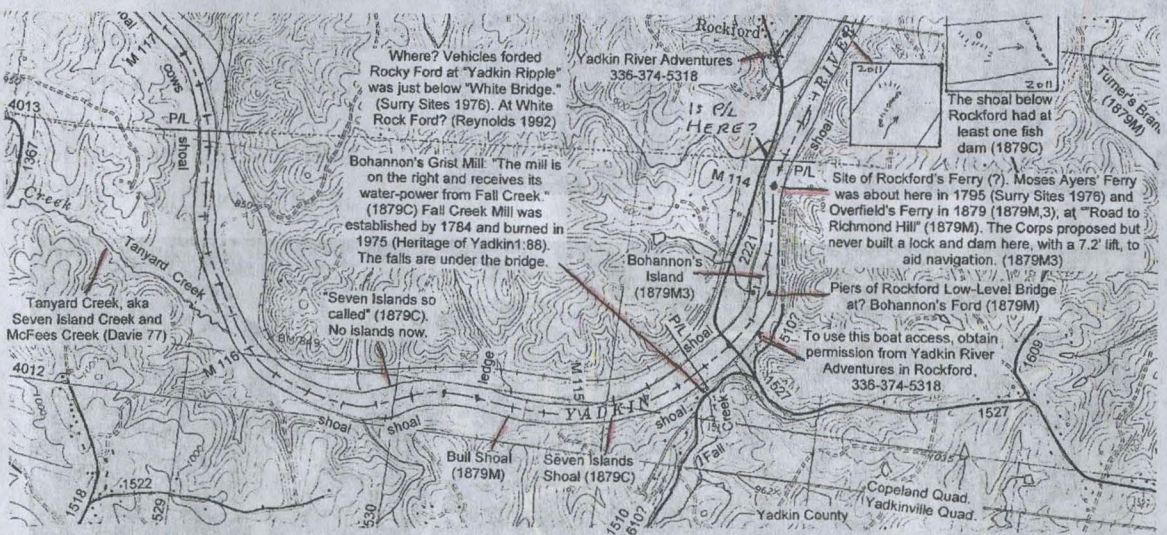


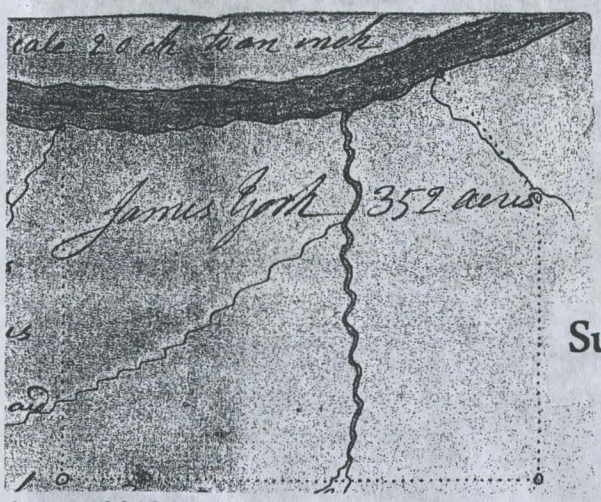
James' land was near Rockford on South side of Yadkin River between Seven Island Cr & Falls Creek with Bulls Shoal & Seven Islands in center


State of North Carolina } Ent. No. 2309
Salisbury District }
This is to certify that James York —
was allowed six hundred and thirteen pounds
Seven shillings & six pence for Public Claims by the
Auditors the 31st day of
August 1782.
By order
Charles Bruce
Traugott Bagge } Aud.
Jas Mulloy Clk

Receipt for James York's Rev War Support

Area is Yadkin County...then was Surry County





Survey of James York's land

Updated: Sept 2012

James York's land grant in 2012 (in red below)



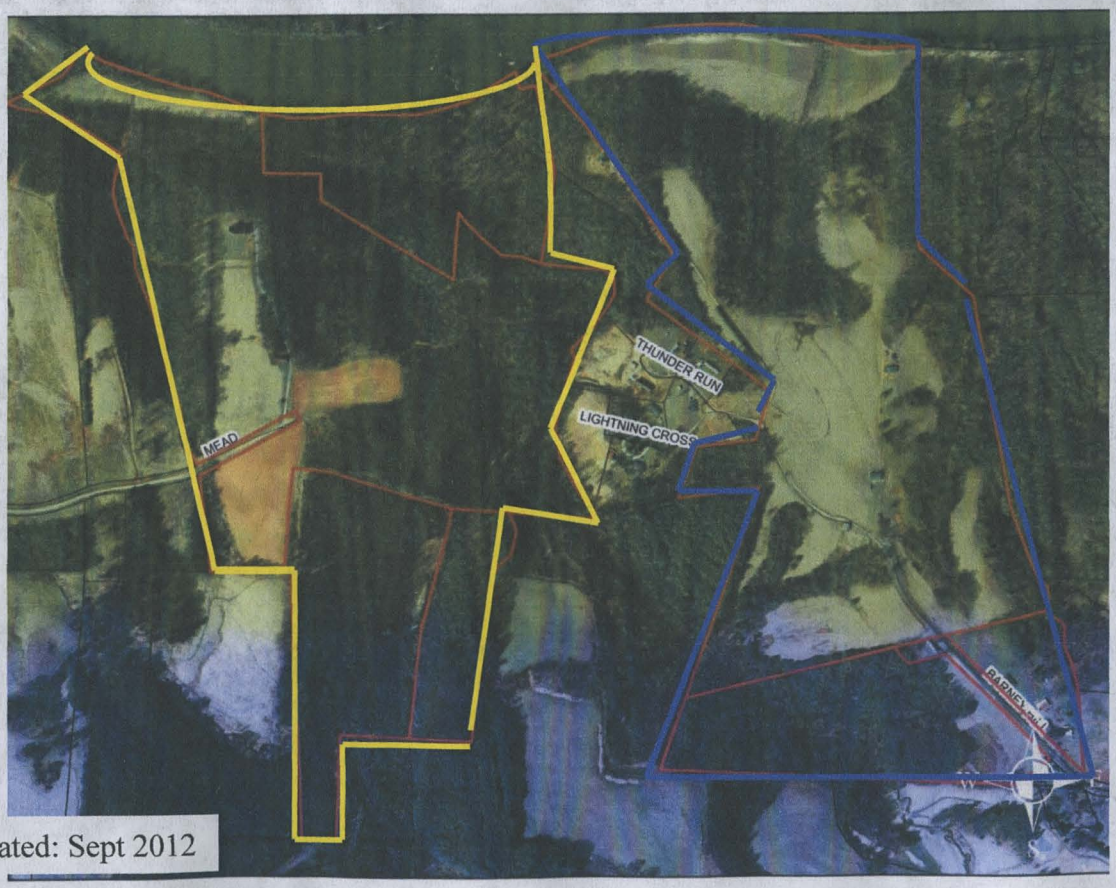


* Site of Cemetery where James & Nancy buried

Below: James' land as sold by grandsons:

Blue outline: some of land in Louis York's deed

Yellow outline: some of land in Nathan York's deed



Updated: Sept 2012

James & Nancy (Whittaker) York

Gr-gr-grandparents of Zelma Johnson (*Roberta Harkey's Grandmother*)

JAMES'S ANCESTORS IN ENGLAND

James York was from one of the early families in Surry County, North Carolina. Surry Co. was formed from Rowan Co. in 1771. Some researchers have traced his ancestors ten generations to Sir Richard York of England who lived from 1460 to 1498 and his wife Joan Mauleverer through their son John (born c1495, married Catherine Patterdale) and his son John (lived c1535 to c1581 and married Anne Smyth). John and Anne Smyth were married c1555 and their children included Alan York (born c1565), Peter York (born c1567), William York (born c1569), Sir Edmond York (born c1571), John York (born c1573), Rowland York (born c1574), Richard York (born c1578) and Sir Henry York (born c1580, married c1600, died in London). Sir Henry York's son, Edward, christened at St. Dunstan, Stepbery Parish, Middlesex England 1605, came to America.

JAMES'S ANCESTORS CAME TO AMERICA-1635

Edward Yorke married c1628 and his children included Ann (born c1629), Henry (born c1631) and William (born c1632 or after 1635). Edward is believed to have been a member of the Puritan group that separated from the Church of England. He was a member of the group of 40 that came with Richard Bennett, a non-conformist to the Nansemond VA area in 1635. His wife and children were not listed in that group hence it is believed they came later. According to some accounts his youngest son was born in England and according to others he was born in America. Edward may have crossed the border and settled in the Albermarle area of North Carolina as there was a record of an Ann York, born in England and there died 1679 after two marriages).

JAMES'S ANCESTORS IN MARYLAND

By 1658, Edward's youngest son William was in Baltimore Co., Maryland where he testified in a court case concerning Richard Bennett's stepson. William had various lands in Baltimore Co including 200 a York's Hope, 125 a York's chance, 300 a Edwards lot, 150 a Bridewell Dock and a plantation on Brush Creek. He had three wives. First he married Elizabeth by 1669, then Ann by 1673. His third and final wife was Mary who was born c 1633 in England. William died in 1690 leaving a will naming Mary & 5 sons, none of whom were 16. William and Mary's children included William (born in Baltimore, married Elizabeth in about 1692, died c1704), Oliver, John, George, and James (died 1724).

JAMES'S GR-GRANDPARENTS–WILLIAM & ELIZABETH YORK

It is believed that William & Mary's son William was the great-grandfather of James York, the subject of this narrative. However, there is debate which son of William's sons was James's grandfather. William and wife Elizabeth had at least three children: Jeremiah (born

c1697), Jesse (born c1698) and Richard (born c1700), and daughter Elizabeth. Richard, who may be the grandfather of the subject of this narrative, married Mary (born c1702) in about 1724, and had at least two sons, William (born about 1725 & may be James' father) and Daniel (born about 1727). It is believed he migrated south and made his home in area of Surry County, North Carolina. Others have traced James' line from Jeremiah (born c 1697) through his son William who reportedly moved from Maryland to Pittsylvania Co VA to Surry Co. NC. However, I have not found any proof relating James to either. Therefore, all that can be stated is that James's great-grandparents are probably William and Elizabeth; his father, William and his grandfather either Richard (born c 1700) or Jeremiah (born c 1697).

JAMES'S FATHER – WILLIAM YORK

William left Maryland, went to Pittsylvania Co. Virginia and then into North Carolina. There is a William York in Halifax (Pittsylvania) Co., Virginia across the line from NC in1753. In 1753 settlers from Pennsylvania and Maryland were continuing to pour south, seeking homes and cheaper lands and many settled in Western Halifax. They came bringing all they owned. The prosperous drove big wagons in which were packed all their household goods and farming utensils and in which the women and children rode. The men walked or rode horseback driving before them such cattle as they owned. Some had no wagons and traveled on horseback, or walked with packhorse carrying bedding, a few farming implements, cooking utensils, a bag of corn and the Bible. Some lacking even a packhorse, walked all the way, carrying their entire property. The emigrants usually left after the harvest was over, reaching Virginia before hard winter set in. Between 1735 and 1775, more than 1,000 families moved to the Yadkin area of North Carolina from Virginia and Pennsylvania. About 1757, some of the settlers in southern Virginia were alarmed as a result of the Cherokee War and fled to the Carolinas because they expected to find shelter with the friendly Catawtos against the inroads of the northern Indians. William was probably among these emigrants and he moved to North Carolina on the Yadkin River.

William was probably in North Carolina when he married (his wife was born c1724. Their children were all born in the area of Surry County (at that time probably Rowan or Anson Co) and included James, the subject of this narrative (born c1750), Richard (born c1755; m #1 A. McCarter, m #2 R. Glenn of Pend, SC; died c1814), John (born c1757; m Susanna of Laurens Co SC; probably the first York listed as a taxpayer in Surry Co NC, died 1785) and William (born c1757; m Nancy of Franklin Co GA; died 1830).). William lived to be over 65 (was alive in 1789).

JAMES AND NANCY WHTTAKER MARRIED IN SURRY CO NC

About 1770 /71 James York married Nancy Whittaker who was born in the Surry County area in 1750. They were probably married in Surry Co. NC. She was daughter of Thomas and Mary "Polly" Whittaker who are featured in another narrative.

A great-granddaughter of James and Nancy York, Lula York Johnson, in her later years, to preserve some of the family history she wrote her memories. She remembered her father Nathan York telling, "Our family was established in western North Carolina by an English

nobleman who, securing a grant of land in the early settlement of the Carolinas, made his home there." Surry County is one of the most western counties, bordering on Virginia on its north. It was formed in 1770 from Rowan County, which was formed in 1753. In the 1740's and 1750's English speculators were receiving large grants and subdividing these into smaller grants of one to three hundred acres to individual settlers. During the years from 1754 to 1770 the inhabitants of Rowan County quadrupled. Small farmers dominated the landscape. Many farmers on the frontier did not bother to take out land titles. Settlement had pushed westward, and as a result, the majority of the farmers were busily making their own clothing and furniture, and if they had a surplus, were taking it to the local merchant to buy salt, rum, or molasses.

James York was granted 350 acres of land #3064 on 11 Jan 1780 on the south bank of the Yadkin River in Surry County. This could have been the land he had on Fall Creek across the river from Rockford. As this was the custom at that time, he had probably been living on the land several years. His father-in-law Thomas Whittaker who lived nearby on both sides of the Double Creek also received a grant.

AMERICAN REVOLUTION TIME PERIOD

By the time of the American Revolution James and Nancy were living in Surry County, North Carolina and probably had three to four children. There is a payment authorization (6 pounds, 10 shillings, 6 pence) to James York in August 1782 by the Salisbury District (which included Surry County). This was for either service or supplies supporting the Revolution. Lula York Johnson wrote also of the hardships the family endured during the Revolutionary War including "having nothing to eat but green wheat which they pickled and boiled", when "...his father [James] was in the Patriot army fighting for American Independence."

In 1777, James York, whose land was on the Yadkin River (from estate records), paid taxes in Surry County on 11 cattle and 2 horses. One study concluded that the average number of cattle per owner about 1780 ranged from a high of sixteen cattle per owner for the eastern counties to six for the western counties. This put the York family above the average for the frontier. The Carolina farmer did not put a lot of time into taking care of their livestock. "The cattle must provide for themselves or starve. Cattle, hogs, sheep - all livestock - roamed loose and fended for themselves; especially the hogs who primarily lived on acorns and pine seeds. More care was provided the cattle. As one traveler pointed out: 'by penning up the calves, and throwing out a little corn every day, the milk cows have been accustomed to come up to the dwelling-house from time to time to be milked.' But in the winter cattle also lived off the land, primarily on moss"

JAMES & NANCY'S FAMILY GROWS

The first U. S. Census in 1790 showed two James York families Surry County, North Carolina. Believe the younger James was a son of one of James's brothers, as he does not appear in any estate papers. The number of Yorks on the census grew rapidly in each subsequent census, with considerable repetition of family given names. James appears on the 1790, 1800, and 1810 census. They appear to have had about twelve children. Thomas (born c1772) was not listed on the estate papers, but some believe he was their oldest son. James and Nancy's other

children were: Jonathan (born 1773); Richard (born c 1775); Mary (born 1777); Jean (born 1779); Joel (born 1783); John (born 1785); Nancy (born 1787); Mark A. (born c1789); James Louis (born 1791); Nimrod (born c1795); and Sarah "Sally" (born 1800).

Son Jonathan may have married Anne Holt in 1797. She was listed in the Surry Co Heritage book as his wife; however the Court House marriage record indicates Ann Holt married John Luark on 11 Aug 1797. Son Jonathan was living nearby in 1800, as was Richard had married Barbara Johnson by then. In about 1797 daughter Mary married John Farmer and moved to Haywood Co, NC. Then in 1800 daughter Jean married Richard Murphy. The 1800 census has an extra female 26-45 and is missing one son under 10 (either James 9 or Nimrod 5). Son Joel had already gone to TN. (Son Thomas was not in Surry County; there was a Thomas York in Granville Co in 1784 but may not be the same one.)

Son John married Piggy Wadden in 1806 with his brother Richard as bondsmen. The next year, 1807, son Jonathan married Rebekah Hinshaw with his brother Joel York bondsmen. In 1810, son Mark married Clary Durham with his father James York bondsmen. The 1810 census showed James, son Jonathan, son John and son Mark all living in Surry County. Son Richard and his family had moved to Wilson Co., TN. Son James (19 years old) was elsewhere and nothing is known about son Thomas. A 26-45 yr, old female was listed which could have been the female from 1800 or daughter Nancy (age 23). Son Nimrod was still at home with James and Nancy. Daughter Sarah (age 10) was not listed -- perhaps she was with one of her older brothers. It is possible that son Richard had left the area and remarried as one source list his marriage as 26 Dec 1812 to Barbara Shumate in Williamson County Tennessee

JAMES & NANCY'S DEATHS

James York died in 1814, by April 14th. From his estate it was obvious he was quite well off for a pioneer in the back hills of North Carolina. There was a listing of what items his children had received from his estate before his death. The items are: 5 shillings (Joel); a little horse and yearling (Richard); one colt, one cow and shoat, and 50 buclebacks(?) (Mark), one sow, six pigs and one mare (Mary Farmer); one calf, one half dozen delft plates and one punch bowl (Richard Murphy for wife); one mare and colt and one two year old yearling (John); one cow and calf and (?) colts (Jonathan); and one colt (Nimrod). The inventory of his property included: two horses, two mares, eight head of cattle, nine head of sheep, nineteen head of hogs, four plow irons, two shovels, two cutters, four hoes, three axes, two mattocks, many different types of irons, house and kitchen furniture, four feather beds, two men's saddles, one women saddle, one chest and buckboard, seven setting chairs, two flax wheels, one dresser, dishes and one rifle gun.

After James death, his widow Nancy and daughter Sarah lived with son Nimrod. In 1818 Nimrod married Mary Reese with his brother Mark York as bondsmen. Nancy died in 1823 and she only named Nimrod and Sarah York in her will. Nimrod was executor. In 1823, Nimrod sold land for himself and as guardian of Sarah York that had belonged to James York. One corner of the land touched Jonathan York's land and another touched John York's land. The Heritage of Surry County, NC, Volume II reports that Sarah married Daniel Reece in 1819, Nimrod's brother-in-law and moved to Missouri. (Not sure as she was listed in 1820 & 1823

with York as her last name.) It also reported that daughter Nancy lived with Nimrod after the death of her mother until she married in 1833 to Lewis Williams.

Notes on their children:

Jonathan & Rebecca Hinshaw's children included William (m Tempy Glen 1829, in Missouri by 1838) and Mark York (m Lucinda Guthridge 1854). Jonathan died in 1833-34 in Jackson Co Missouri according to one account and by another account he died in 1837 in Surry Co NC.

Joel married Talitha Jackson in Tennessee. He moved from Williamson to Bedford County, TN. In 1828, he moved his family to Morgan County, IL near Jacksonville. He had 10 children, the oldest male being James W. York. Then he moved with the younger children to Macoupin County, IL when he died in 1847. His son James W. York was a prosperous stock farmer in Honey Pt Township, Macoupin Co, IL.

John's second wife was Catherine Greenwood (widow of Robert Adkins, born 1780, daughter of Samuel & Sybell Street Greenwood.) John died in NC in 1847.

Mark York remained in the area and had 18 children. He died in 1867. His story is the feature of another family narrative.

James and his first wife had a large family. In 1832 he married Margaret Crissman and their children included Sarah, Susan, Elisa, Ruth, Mary J., James M., and Jonathan C.

Nimrod, a farmer lived in Surry Co, Yadkin Co. By 1870 he was in Helton Twp of Ashe Co. NC. His and Mary's children include: James (b 1819), Levi (b 1821), Lewis William (1823-1919), Daniel (b 1825), Sarah (1827-1906), Nancy (b 1829), Jesse (b 1832), Susan (b 1834), Mary K. (b 1838), and Miles (b 1843).

This was compiled by Lanice Harkey in 1984. It was updated by Roberta Harkey Himebrook in 1995, 1996, 1997, 2000 Information from:

Letters of Lula Ann York Johnson Emmons
Surry County, NC, land & court records
US Census records
Society in Revolutionary North Carolina by Alice E Mathews
Material from Carolyn Garber
Vonda Cooper's, records
The Heritage of Surry County, North Carolina Vol. II
Molly Peck Coon's records
Lois York Hamilton's records
Baltimore County Families, 1659 – 1759
History of Pittsylvania Co, Virginia

Updated: 12 May 2002

lady from ~~CA~~ NM
Roberta Himebrook
602 Sunglow Ave.
Alamogordo, NM 88310-4131

Mark & Clary (Durham) York

By Roberta Harkey Himebrook
Email: HimebrookRL@totacc.com

MARK'S YOUTH

Marcus Alexander York was known as Mark A York.[1] He was born in North Carolina probably about 1790, not many years after the end of the American Revolution. The 1850 census shows him as 61, and the 1860 census indicates he was 71 which would have made his birth year 1789; however he was not counted in his father's household in 1790.[2] Thus, he was probably born in 1790 after the census was taken or 1791 as indicted in a book on Rockford[3]. However, according to his tombstone, he was born in 1779 or 1781 as his age was recorded as 88[4] or 86[5]. Perhaps since the stone was done several years after his death[6] whoever gave the information did not know how old he really was.

Mark's parents were James and Nancy (Whittaker) York of Surry County, North Carolina and he was the ninth of their eleven children. James and Nancy are featured in a family narrative by Marion and Lanice Harkey (Volume 6 Chapter 2 Section a Narrative 3). Mark grew up in the northwest corner of North Carolina next to Virginia and the mountains which today is Yadkin County. Then it was Surry County and his parents had been there since before 1774.[7] This was the frontier then, and probably schools were not available. Mark would have helped his father with the business of farming. We know Mark developed a good business sense from his success in later life however he did not go to school as he could not read or write according to later census.[8] Surry County is a little east of the mountain chain which was the early barrier to westward expansion and which marked the western boundary of several of the original colonies. Surry County was formed in 1770. The north and south portions of the county were somewhat evenly divided by the Yadkin River which flows eastward from the mountains, and in 1850 the area south of the Yadkin River became Yadkin County while the area north of the river remained Surry County. Mark's life revolved around the area on the Yadkin River and he was on both sides of the river. On the river, in the approximate center of the new county, the town of Rockford was established by 1790. It was the county seat of Surry County and the location of some of Mark York's activities.

CLARY'S PARENTS — JAMES & PHAREY ANGELA (FERREBEE) DURHAM

It is believed that Clarissa "Clary" Durham was the daughter of James and Pharey (Ferrebee) Durham.[9] However, her line has not been verified. Some researchers have listed her

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[1] The Heritage of Surry Co NC Vol II pg 420
[2] Surry Co Census 1790 for James York pg 512; 1850 pg 356 taken 30 Oct; 1860 Census pg 79 taken 9 Aug
[3] The Story of Rockford p 21
[4] Surry County cemetery Survey Publication # IV pg 84
[5] Visit to cemetery
[6] Nancy who died in 1894 was listed on the other side of the headstone
[7] Surry Co 1774 tax records p 20 [James York Narrative]
[8] Surry Co Census 1840 & 1850 listing for Mark
[9] The Heritage of Surry Co NC Vol II pg 420

parents as James and Parey (Anglea) Durham (son of James and Betty Durham Sr. of Cumberland County Virginia); but further research has uncovered records showing this James was in Cumberland County Virginia when Clary's father was in North Carolina,[10] therefore the Cumberland County Durhams would not be her line. Also, there is a family story written by Mark's granddaughter, Lula York Johnson, in 1936, which stated in reference to Mark "He visited old England when a young man & married a beautiful Irish lady of a titled family in Dublin, Ireland."[11] However, according to Surry County marriage records Mark York & Clary Durham were married 2 Jan 1810 in Surry County.[12] Also, in the 1880 census Nathan York parents are listed as being born in North Carolina.[13] Therefore, Lula's note is either off a few generations, or maybe just based on Clary being of Irish descent. One last idea … there was a James Durham paying taxes in Perquimans County on the east coast of North Carolina in 1772[14] and in 1769 in the adjacent county to the north, Pasquotank County, there was a James Ferrebee paying taxes[15]. It is not known if this fact is related in any way to the James Durham and Clary Ferrebee of this narrative. More research needs to be done on Clary's ancestors.

James and Pharey were each born sometime between 1756 and 1765,[16] but it is not known where. They were probably married sometime between 1775 and 1784,[17] however where is again unknown. It is not known when they moved to Surry County or if they followed family there. In 1774, there were other Durhams in Surry County[18] -- a John Durham[19] living near James York and a Humphrey Durham next to John York Sr[20]. It is believed James was in Surry County by 1777 as the records list a James Durham in the Jabez Jervis district with the York's. He paid tax on 1 horse (value $45) and had 10 pounds, 2 shillings.[21] James decided to settle in the area and obtained a land grant (#1886) for 200 acres in the forks of Morris Creek adjoining Benjamin Whealess,[22] west side of Branend's old field, branch on the south side of the Yadkin River (application 13 Nov 1778, granted 8 Feb 1794, surveyed 15 April 1797 and recorded 11 June 1799).[23] He paid 50 shillings per 100 acres for the land and had to register it within 12 months.[24] An Abstract of Grants lists James Durham as having received a grant for 150 acres on Forbis Creek in 1778-81;[25] however it is debatable if he received this grant as no other records other than the abstract have been found for this land & his tax records only list 300 acres. James paid taxes in 1782 in Surry County[26] and was listed on the 1785 tax list with the Yorks in Capt Atkins District (largely in what is now Upper Yadkin County), and paid tax on 300 acres and a

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[10] 1791 & 1800 Cumberland Co VA tax records [Ancestry]
[11] Letter to Marion Harkey from Lula York Johnson 26 March 1936
[12] Surry Co Marriages pg 226
[13] 1880 Census Steward Stafford Kansas pg 8
[14] North Carolina Taxpayers 1701-1786 p 59
[15] North Carolina Taxpayers 1679-1790 Vol 2 pg 68
[16] 1790,1800 and 1810 census
[17] Birth of first child from 1790,1800 and 1810 census
[18] Surry Co Taxes (notes from a tax book)
[19] John received a grant for 400 acres on the water of Deep Creek near Round Hill in 1783, and was still there in 1786 [State census … 1 male 21-60, 3 males either under 21 or over 60, 5 females].
[20] Humphrey was listed as Umphrey Durum in 1777. He died by 1795 and had children Humphrey, James and Margaret [Surry Co will abstracts pg 59 & documents assigning orphans as his widow Ursley died by 1802. Court Minutes 1796, 1798 & 1802,]
[21] Surry Co Taxes (notes from a tax book)
[22] Found many different spellings of this name with 1 or 2 "s" at the end. Others were: Wheless, Wheliss, Whelus
[23] Land grant records…entered Surry Co Land Entries 1778-1781 pg 85 & Book 104 pg 146
[24] Vol 1 pg 282
[25] Surry Co Land Entries 1778-1781 pg 137
[26] North Carolina Taxpayers 1701-1786 p 59

pole tax.[27] A transcription of the 1786 taxable's in Cpt Atkins District of Surry Co list a "Issac Durham" paying tax on 300 acres which could be James.[28] Then James Durham was listed as oath for a deed between Benjamin Whealess and Lewis Whealess in 1786[29] and as a witness for a deed on 9 Nov 1787[30]. On 12 October 1790 a deed was filed where he bought 100 acres for 200 pounds current money on the south side of the Yakin River Morrises Creek adjacent to Benj Wheless. This would have been adjacent to his first land grant.[31] James was probably close to his neighbors the Whealess as he served as the bondsman for the marriage of Sarah Whealess in 1798.[32]

James and Pharey's first child was probably James Jr born between 1775 and 1784. Then they likely had a girl in 1784 and another daughter between 1785 and 1790.[33] The family is listed Surry County in 1790 census with the 5 individuals - 1 males over 16 (James), 1 males under 16 (James Jr) and 3 females (Phary + 2 girls).[34] Their family continued to grow and there were probably two children born in 1790 (a girl and a boy), then a male before 1793 followed by Clary about 1794[35] and a son by 1800.[36] The 1800 census has the family living in Salisbury District and shows an extra female 16 -25 living with them. It listed 2 males under 10, 1 male 10-16, 1 male 26-45(James Jr), 1 males over 45 (James) 1 female under 10 (Clary), 2 females 10-15, 2 females 16-26, 1 female over 45 (Pharey).[37] Then by the 1810 census there were two more children, a boy and a girl.[38] Also James Jr. had married Elizabeth Summers 21 December 1808[39] and was living near them with their grandchild in 1810.[40] Clary married Mark York 10 January 1810 and was also gone from the family home,[41] but still living in Surry County. The extra female in the house from 1800 was gone in 1810; however there was an extra female who was born 10-16. The listing was 1 male under 10, 1 male 10-15, 2 males 16-25, 1 male over 45 (James), 1 female under 10, 1 female 10-15, 3 females 16-25 and 1 female over 45 (Pharey).[42] By 1810, some of the children may have married and moved out, or married and brought their spouse to live at home with their parents. In 1810 there was a possible 26 yr old William Durham, married with family in Peters Creek, Surry Co.[43] Could this be a son? On 15 Sept Elizabeth Durham married Allen Whealess (neighbor?) and on 12 Sept 1805 Polly Durham married Patrick Ryon.[44] Could these be their daughters with one of them living with her parents along with husband and little children in 1810 as neither was found on the 1810 census[45]? There are more marriages in Surry County which may or may not be their children … Winney Durham

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[27] Surry Co Taxes (notes from a tax book)
[28] 1786 Taxable's Atkins District
[29] Surry Co Court Minutes pg 16
[30] Surry Co Deed book E pg 119
[31] Surry Co Deed book E pg 120 (purchased from John Branham who received it as a land grant in 1787)
[32] Surry Co Marriages 1779-1868 pg 39
[33] 1790,1800 and 1810 census
[34] 1790 Surry Co census pg 5
[35] Perry Family tree list birth as 1783 but does not fit with census data
[36] 1790,1800 and 1810 census
[37] 1800 Surry Co census
[38] 1790,1800 and 1810 census
[39] Surry County Marriage 1779-1868 pg 59
[40] 1810 Surry census pg 653 [1 male under 10, 1 male 26-44 (James Jr, 1 female 16-25]
[41] Surry County Marriage 1779-1868 pg 226
[42] 1810 Surry Co census pg 652
[43] 1800 Surry Co census pg 556
[44] North Carolina Marriage Bonds 1741-1868 [Ancestry]
[45] The Whealess were not found on the 1810 census. There was a John Ryon in Surry County.

Yorks, Gadberrys, Williams, and the Farmers.[58] Mark's father also lived there south of the Yadkin River in what is today Yadkin County.

SURRY COUNTY/YADKIN COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

Mark York and Clary were in 1810 Surry County census with no children and "16 to 26" years old.[59] Nearby were brothers Jonathan York (26-45), John (26-45), and his father James (over 45) and his father-in-law James Durham (over 45).[60] Mark was listed on the 1812 tax list with no land in the same Capt Thomason's District where his father and brother lived.[61] In 1812 he was appointed overseer for the road work from Gersham Bills (a neighbor of his father) to where the road was lately laid off and intersects the Wilkes Road.[62] His father died in 1814 and he probably received a little of his father's land on the Yadkin River. Mark, along with his brother Nimrod York and John York were appointed hands to work on the Yadkin River from the mouth of Fishers River to the ford at Rockford in the 5 May 1818 court minutes.[63] Mark was bondsman for his brother Nimrod's marriage on 20 Sept 1818.[64]

The first purchase clearly identified as Mark's was on 4 January 1818 when he bought 158 acres from Archibald Donnaldson for $300. The land, near Rockford, was on the south of the Yakin River, bordered Big Fall Creek on the west side and Gersham Bill's land on the east side.. His father James's land was on the west side of Gersham Bill's so they were near each other. The land description stated in part, "...on the west bank of Big Fall Creek in Nathan Chaffin line and running up the said creek with the meanders of the same 20 chains and 50 links to a white oak near the mouth of Ash (or Sear) Branch ... to a horn on the bank of Little Fall Creek (or Creek Someta) ... Gersham Bill line then north." [65]

The 1820 census listed Mark York and Clary both 25-46 in Capt Winfreys District. He was engaged in agriculture. Five small children were counted in the family. Mark and Clary's first five children were:[66] John Durham born in 1810; James Frederick born in 1811; Adam Napolean "Poley" born 13 Jun 1813[67]; Pheraby, Phoebe or Fereby born in 1814 or 1815; and Nancy probably born in 1817.[68] Two older girls were listed as living in the household, but they did not appear on subsequent census enumerations. Brothers John and Nimrod lived nearby in Capt Winfrey's District.[69] Brother Jonathan and a James which was probably Jonathan son Capt were in Marrian's District.[70]

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[58] Heritage of Yadkin County p11

[59] 1810 Census Surry Co NC, p173

[60] James Durham: males 1 under 10,1 10-16, 2 16-26,1 over 45 females 1 under 10, 1 10-16,3 16-26,1 over 45 p172. John York: males 1 under 10, 1 26-45, females 4 under 10, 1 26-45 1 over 45 p171. James York: males 110-16, 1 over 45, females 1 26-45 1 over 45 p173. Jonathan York: males 2 under 10, 1 16-26, 1 26-45, females 4 under 10, 3 10-16, 1 16-26 p173 NC 1810 Census .

[61] Surry Co 1812 Tax List p 13-14

[62] Surry Co Oversees of Roads p 20

[63] Surry County NC Court Minutes 1815-1819

[64] The Heritage of Surry County NC Vol II p 421 & Marriages of Surry Co pg 226

[65] Surry Deed Book N pg 540-2 & Yadkin Co Deed Bk G-92

[66] The Heritage of Surry County NC Vol II p 420 and Mark's estate papers

[67] The Heritage of Surry County NC Vol II p 417

[68] According to Vonda Cooper Nancy was born in 1823 but that does not fit the 1820 and 1830 census.

[69] John: males 2 under 10, 2 10-16, 1 26-46, females 3 under 10, 1 10-16, 1 16-26, 1 26-45. Nimrod: males 1 under 10, 1 26-45, females 4 under 10, 2 10-16, 1 26-45. NC 1820 census pg 786

[70] Jonathan: males 3 under 10, 1 26-45, females 1 under 10, 3 10-16, 2 16-26, 1 over 45. James: males 2 under 10, 1 26-45, females 2 under 10, 2 10-16, 1 16-26, 1 26-45. NC 1820 Census p 736

Mark probably inherited about 30 acres or more of his father's land.[71] Then, on 5 March 1823, Mark bought 118 acres (of his father's land) in Surry County (now Yadkin County as south of the Yadkin River) from his brother Nimrod, who was also guardian for his sister Sarah York for $200. His mother had died in 1820 and this was 1/3 of the land his father had had. The description of the land states "on the Yadkin River, south side beginning at a ___ road on the south bank of said river at Greenwood's corner ... to a post oak Jonathan Yorks corner...to a post oak Jonathan York corner … being part of the Lands of James York Deed which was divided among the heirs of said Deed." John also signed as a witness.[72]

During this period, Mark was again overseer of road from Rockford to Huntsville from the Ford of the River to the crossroads where the Scritchfield Road intersects it. He held this position at least twice, each time for about 2 years, from Aug 1821 and Nov 1825.[73]

The 1830 census listed Mark and Clary's household (they were each 40-49) with eight children and three slaves (1 male 10-23 and another male and female each under 10). Their other three children listed on the census were:[74] Michael Edward probably born about 1825, Mark Jr born about 1826 and Nathan was born 9 Oct 1826 or 1827. Mark's brothers John, Nimrod and Jonathan with a William who was probably Jonathan's son were also in Surry County.[75] Edward was only mentioned in the estate settlement and in combining the records this was probably either Michael Edward or Edward Michael or Ned. According to Lula Ann York Johnson (Mark's granddaughter), Nathan was the youngest of eleven children and this only listed eight. They would have had to have had 11 children in 16 years which is unlikely without multiple births (8 in 16 years is pretty good.) Nathan's birth date could be wrong however data supports a 1826 or 1827 date. Although some could children could have died as infants, neither the census, estate records nor other family tradition support 11 children for Clary and Mark. Of their children, only Adam, and Mark Jr remained in Surry County after they were grown.[76]

An index for a Rockford Daybook 1831-1832 list Mark along with his sons Adam, James, and John D. His brothers John, Jonathan, and Nimrod are also listed along with some of their sons.[77] Although they were living south of the Yadkin River, Rockford would have been their closest town and where they did business. Also, twice between 1831 and 1833 his hands were appointed to work on the road from the Ford of River at Rockford to John Farmers.[78]

Lula York Johnson, Mark's granddaughter, wrote the following about her grandparents: "It seems they were in the habit of going to Raleigh, the state capitol, to enjoy the social life there during the winters and my Grandmother was called the most beautiful woman at the capitol. While I never saw her, Father told me what she was like - of medium height, very fair skin with natural rosy checks, deep blue Irish eyes and auburn hair which fell in natural curls below her

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[71] James York Narrative
[72] Deed book T pg 208
[73] Surry Co Oversees of Roads p 51,58,63, 67 & 75
[74] The Heritage of Surry County NC Vol II p 420, census and Mark's estate papers
[75] John: males 1 10-14, 1 15-19, 1 50-59 females 1 under 5, 1 10-14, 1 15-19, 1 20-29, 1 5-59 p 106. Nimrod: males 1 under 5, 2 5-9, 1 10-14, 1 30-39 females 2 under 5, 1 30-39, 1 50-59 p138. Jonathan: males 1 under 5, 1 5-9, 1 10-14, 1 20-29, 1 60-69 females 2 5-9, 1 10-14, 2 15-19, 1 40-49 p 123. William: males 1 10-14, 1 20-29, females 1 under 5, 1 20-29. NC 1830 NC census
[76] Perry Family Tree
[77] Rockford Day Book Index
[78] Surry Co Oversees of Roads p 95, 105

waist. … Her husband, Mark York, even in old age, was tall and straight as an Indian with flashing black eyes and black hair."

CLARY'S DEATH

Clary York died about 1832[79] when their youngest child, Nathan, was only five years old. Clary was probably about 38. She and Mark had been married 22 years and had at least 8 children, with probably 5 children still at home. Family history related that their daughter, Nancy (perhaps named after her grandmother Nancy York) was like a mother to young Nathan. Nancy would have been about 15. Since there has been no cemetery listing found, Clary was probably buried at home which would probably have been on their land on the south side of the Yadkin River in present day Yadkin County or in a cemetery on the land of her father-in-law James York, which was nearby.

When Clary died, there were three children likely or married within the year. These were: daughter Ferrebee "Phebe" married Alfred Shugart probably on 2 Sept 1832[80]; son James Frederick[81] married Maryann Crissman on 15 Oct 1832[82], and son Adam A "Poley" married Mary "Pollie" Woodruff on 31 Dec 1832. [83]

Mark continued buying land and purchased land from Mathew Hughes and William Haynes in 1833. This land had belonged to his brother John and John turned it over to the Haynes so that Stephen Haines as trustee could auction the land on the court house steps in order to raise the $150 John owed the bank at Salem. Mark was the highest bidder, and paid $100 for 134 acres. It would have probably been part of his father's land and part of the description refers to the old line, as well as states the land was on the bank of the Yadkin River at Mark York's corner, and was adjoining Mathew Hughes.[84] Then the same day John sold Mark 15 ½ acres for $50. This was probably also part of their father's land. The land description states it was on the south side of the Yadkin River at the canoe landing and was bounded by what had been Nimrod York corner.[85]

MARK REMARRIED — NANCY GADBERRY

About a year after Clary's death, Mark married Nancy Gadberry. The ceremony took place on 29 October 1833 in Surry County with F. K. Armstrong serving as bondsman.[86] Nancy was 23 and approximately 10 months older than Mark's first child John D. When they married 3 of Mark and Clary's 8 children were married with their oldest son, John Durham marring Mary Fleming on 1 Jan 1835, Lewis Gadberry bondsman.[87] That left the four youngest children from Mark's first marriage. Mark and Nancy had 11 children of their own over some 25 years as determined from estate and census records. Therefore Mark had at least 19 sons and daughters,

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[79] The Heritage of Surry County NC Vol II p 420
[80] Vonda Cooper [NC marriage records]
[81] may have married Regina Campbell 1st with no children [Perry Family Tree] but nothing verifies this
[82] Marriages of Surry Co pg 226
[83] The Heritage of Surry County NC Vol II p417
[84] Deed Book U pg 426
[85] Deed Book U pg 427-8
[86] Marriages of Surry Co pg 226
[87] Marriages of Surry Co pg 226

with 18 of them living to adulthood.

Between 1833 and 1836, Mark served on more than a dozen jury's.[88] Once, he was also testified for a defendant along with his son John D, Brother John and a Thomas York. They all lived with 4 miles from Rockford.[89] In 1834 Mark was appointed guardian for the youngest six children (Jonathan, Milly, Julia, Thomas, Matilda and Mark) of his brother Jonathan who had recently died.[90] In 1834 an election was ordered for people to vote on having assembly to amend the Constitution, and Mark was one of two to appoint as inspectors for this election in Rockford.[91] In 1836, Mark was one of three people that put up bonds for the Clerk of the Court.[92] Also in 1836 he entered into a bond with his brother James and Aaron Crissman, the brother of James' wife Margaret Crissman, for the administration of the estate of Charles Crissman, Margaret & Aaron's father.[93]

ROCKFORD, SURRY COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

Another change in Mark's life appears to be that he acquired land on the north side of the Yadkin River across the river from where he and Clary had lived which included a lot in Rockford. Perhaps Nancy wanted a town house or perhaps Mark saw a business opportunity there. Regardless of why, now Rockford was not just the nearest town where Mark did business, but a place where he owned a part. On 3 August 1838, Mark purchased what is believed to be his first land in Rockford for $4,000 from Mathew Hughes. It included a "parcel of land situated in the town of Rockford known as distinguished in the plan of said town by Lot No 2 beginning at the corner … to the corner of Lot No 1 now owned by H K Armstrong then to the beginning including a part of said Armstrong's purchase … containing ½ acre of land." Also the deed included ½ acre in the Yadkin now called and known by the name of Bushy Island being the first island above the white rocks ford near the Town of Rockford. There was another deed listed the same day between the same men for $4,000 (hence am not sure if he paid $4000 for both or $4000 apiece). This included "a part of Rockford beginning on Dobson corner … to Holyfield's corner … to a small hickory near a spring … to a stake on the old road … to the banks of the river … to a rock in the mouth of Fall Creek … to Hawkins Corner below the fish trap then down the river … then below the white Rockford … while back on the south side … to the north west corner of Henry Brays … to his corner on high Street … to the corner of the Court House … to a stake in High Street then north … to the corner of Burrus Whitaker … to a stake in __ Whitakers line … to Haynes & Wilkins corner … on the banks of the River below the mouth of the __ Yard Branch including all the Hughes improvements and containing 1,100 acres. Also the deed excluded "2/3 of 2 fish traps on the north side of Brushy Island and 1 trap below Rockford and … the length of the ford of the river.[94] Hence, his land was where the river crossing was and he had to give the land for the river ford. His land purchase probably included Lot 2 (1/2 acre) where there may have been a shoe shop, Lot 3 (1/2 acre which he owned in 1855) and may have been the location of DD Tailor shop, Lot 10 (1/2 acre), Lot 11 (1/2 acre), Lot 12 (1/2 acre), and

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[88]Surry Co NC Court Minutes 1833-1836, p 5, 6,12,23,30,33,115,116,117,118,& 160
[89]Surry Co NC Court Minutes 1833-1836, p 5
[90]Surry Co NC Court Minutes 1833-1836, p 83
[91]Surry Co NC Court Minutes 1833-1836, p 93
[92]Surry Co NC Court Minutes 1833-1836, p 163
[93]Surry Co NC Court Minutes 1833-1836, p 167
[94] Deed Book X p 52-54

Lot 13 (1/2 acre) where Mark may have lived.[95] To have paid either $4,000 or $8,000 for land was a lot of money in those days and it is not known if Nancy's family had money to contribute. However, there is no indication of Mark selling a lot of land to raise the money.

The Rockford Story touched briefly on Mark York's land acquisitions in the Rockford area. It mentioned that "in 1837 he acquired considerable land around Rockford from Matthew Hughes. … The land included a portion of Rockford, was adjacent to the Court House. The land included half of the Bushy Island--the other half was owned by Emmanuel Shober. The remainder of York's land came from Watson Holyfield and was adjoining Holyfield, Dobson, Haynes, and Bray corners. Mr. York operated the York Tavern which shared the distinction of entertaining many notables of that era. The tavern still stands."[96]

An account of Mark York's life would be incomplete without including the history of Rockford as Mark obviously was one of the prominent leaders in the area. In 1789, the North Carolina Assembly divided Surry County with the eastern half becoming Stokes County (including present day Forsyth). A Committee, appointed by the Assembly, selected a site at White Rock Ford on the Yadkin River near the center for the county seat of the new smaller Surry County, which at the time included Yadkin County. The village of Rockford was laid out on 53 acres of land on the north side of the Yadkin River at a point where the river was wide and shallow with a rock bed, making an easier crossing for the inhabitants from the lower half of the county. It had three principal streets – High, Cabin and Water.[97] The land was bought from Thomas Ayers who had a farm nearby. Although his farm land was comparatively flat, the newly laid out town of Rockford was hilly and there were no roads leading to it, but there was a ford there. One can spot the white rock ford just below the town when the water is low. Two huge white rocks mark the spot.[98] "Rockford was an important place for lawyers. Student lawyers lived in homes in Rockford, in law officers (log dormitories), the York Tavern, and the Grant-Burrus Hotel, so they could attend classes at the famous Richmond M Pearson Law School at Richmond Hill, just across the Yadkin River."[99] "In 1829, the court decided a new hall of justice should be built and acquired a square acre of land on a hill overlooking the town and river where the courthouse was constructed. [100] "In 1830 the County Clerk moved into a handsome brick structure two stories high, with brick reportedly shipped from England."[101] The building had a porch on one side flanked by arches of brick. Four large round columns reaching to the roof added dignity to the front of the building. In the little settlement of Rockford which grew along the river, the stately courthouse building was an object of community pride. Three men who were later to become Presidents of the United States may have attended court here: Andrew Jackson, Andrew Johnson, and James K. Polk." It served until 1850 when Surry County was divided along the Yadkin River. The south half became Yadkin County and the north half remained Surry County with the county seat for Surry County being moved northwest to Dobson, a more central location in the smaller county. [102]

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[95] Juanita Carpenter
[96] The Story of Rockford p21
[97] The Story of Rockford p 2
[98] Ruth Minick's article
[99] Heritage of Surry Co Vol 1 pg 634
[100] The Story of Rockford pg 20
[101] Heritage of Surry Co Vol 1 pg 634-5
[102] Foot Prints in the Hallows by William Franklin Carte Jr.

The Rockford Preservation site stated: "It is believed that he [Mark York] added on to an existing building to create the Mark York Tavern, a boarding place and social center for visiting travelers, law students and guests. Many notables of the era were entertained at the tavern."[103] However Mark may have had built as well as operated the York Tavern. According to many, his sons, James Frederick and Mark Jr. build the York Tavern.[104] At the time Mark purchased the land, James was 27 and Mark Jr was 12, old enough to help his brother. However, Mark is remembered in Rockford history as the owner of the York Tavern. It was a frame building put together with wooden pins and with the corner post of the frame being huge logs the sides of which were 18 inches each way. Many of the supporting logs have had to be replaced over the years, however, there are still some there. The tavern was built in a great L shape. The L, which extended many feet, was used for a kitchen and long dining room on the first floor. On the second floor were rooms for the lawyers. Servant quarters stood a short distance away in the back.[105]

A story on Rockford stated, "Not only is the courthouse still standing, keeping watch above the river as of old, but there still stands York's Tavern with its legends of long ago days. The building has changed very little; the same winding stairway goes up to the second floor where Johnson had a front room. Another stairway leads up to the attic where one can see some of the original woodwork held together with wooden pins."[106] A newspaper article stated Andrew Johnson, who practiced law in the old courthouse, made the York Tavern his headquarters. This was in 1830's or 1840's." One article indicates Andrew Johnson lived in the upper right room facing the street[107] while several other newspaper articles indicate he lived in a downstairs room[108], and in fact one identifies the room stating: "The York Traven is where Andrew Johnson is said to have stayed when he made Rockford his headquarters as a young lawyer. He lived in the downstairs corner room nearest the camera [right front]".[109] Therefore we do not know if Andrew Johnson was in an upstairs or downstairs room but assume it was in the front.

In 1978, the York Traven was donated to the Rockford Preservation Society[110] which described it as follows: "Located on .60 acres, the Tavern is a two-story frame building with interior end chimneys with corner fireplaces and about 1200 square feet of space. There is a porch extending from the first and second floors with access into the main foyer and upstairs landing. Each floor has four rooms, and each room has a corner fireplace enhancing it architectural charm. Although the building was somewhat altered in the early 1900's, a Federal-style stair, six-panel doors and several Federal mantels remain."[111]

Mark and most of his family probably primarily lived in Rockford in the York Tavern. Some could have lived on their other land which was close by however from the 1840 census it appears that only some of his married sons could have been living on the farms as the family was

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[103] http://www.rockfordpreservationsociety.com/york_tavern.htm
[104] Reba Wooldridge
[105] Newspaper Stories About Jackson & Johnson
[106] Foot Prints in the Hallows by William Franklin Carte Jr
[107] Winston –Salem Journal and Sentinel 1951
[108] Greebsboro Daily News, Sunday Oct 11, 1970
[109] Presidents Lawyered in Old Rockford
[110] In 1988 they replaced some interior walls and flooring as well as a new sheet-metal roof.
[111] http://www.rockfordpreservationsociety.com/york_tavern.htm

at the York Tavern. By 1840, Mark and Nancy had 3 children of their own – Lewis born in 1835, Tyre born 4 May 1836 and Elizabeth (or Susan Elizabeth)[112] born in 1838.[113]

The 1840 census listed 18 individuals in Mark's household. These were: 1 males 50-60 (Mark 50), 2 males 20-30 (unknown), 2 males 15-20 (Michael c 15 & Mark Jr c 14); 1 Males 10-15 (Nathan 13 or 14), 1 males 5-10 (Lewis 5), 1 males 0-5 (Tyre 4), 1 female 30-40 (wife Nancy 30), 1 female 20-30 (Daughter Nancy 23), 1 female 5-9 (Elizabeth c 2), 3 males slaves under 3, 1 male slave 10-23, 1 male slave 36-54, 1 female slave under 10 and a female slave 24-35. They were listed in the division allotted to E Houghs. If they were counted at the York Tavern, then the two unknown males were most likely guest. The enumeration of the household listed five in "agriculture" one in a "learned profession" and one in a "manufacturing trade". The 5 in agriculture could have been Mark, Michael, Mark Jr and the two oldest male slaves, with the other two being the guest. Mark was the white person over 20 who could not read or write.[114] Mark's brothers John and Nimrod were still in Surry County.[115] (Brother Jonathan had died in 1837[116].) Two James' lived close to his brother John. One appears to be Mark's son James (with wife and 4 children) while the other may have been Jonathan's son James.[117] Son John D (with wife and 4 children) and Thomas (probably a nephew - John's son) were also in Surry County[118] as well as son Adam (wife with 4 children).[119] Hence all his sons were still in the area but daughter Phoebe was apparently in Floyd County Georgia with her husband although they did return to North Carolina 1843-1848.[120] Mark and Clary's son James remarried in 1843 as his first wife died and he married Sarah Grant.[121]

Mark's granddaughter, Lula York Johnson related a happening reported to have occurred about 1843 "when Nathan was a young boy of about 17." It centered on the English title of Earl becoming Mark's because of the death of the heir to the title in England.[122] In light of the fact it appears Mark was the fifth son of James, and Reba Wooldridge has a similar story concerning Mark's grandfather William, this is recorded in the James York Narrative. There has been no documentation found to verify this story concerning Mark and often time's family tradition mixes up facts and skips generations.

Mark had accumulated over 1500 acres over 20 years (1818-1838) plus what he inherited from his father according to the 5 deeds recorded in the Surry Co Court House. His first sale of land was the year the year he made a big purchase. In 1838, he sold Thos Reece 14 acres on the south side of the Yadkin River which was Lot #5 in the downy of Sypell Greenwood dec. that

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[112] Sue Blackman
[113] Vonda Cooper's group sheet
[114] Surry Co 1840 census p 63
[115] John: males 1 60-70, females 1 20-30, 1 60-70 p106. Nimrod: males 1 5-10, 1 10-15, 2 15-20, 1 40-50, females 1 under 5, 1 5-10, 1 10-15, 1 40-50 p 117. Surry Co 1840 census pg 117 & 106
[116] The Heritage of Surry Co NC Vol II p 417
[117] Mark's son James: males 1 5-10, 1 20-30, females 2 under 5, 1 5-10, 1 20-30. Jonathan's son James: males 40-50, females 3 under 5, 1 5-10, 1 30-40. Surry Co 1840 census p 106
[118] John D: males 2 under 5, 1 15-20(John was 30), females 2 under 5, 1 20-30. Thomas: males 2 under 5, 1 5-10, 1 10-15, 1 30-40, females 2 under 5, 1 30-40. Surry Co 1840 census p 112
[119] Adam: males 1 under 5, 1 5-10, 1 15-20 (Adam was 27), females 2 under 5, 1 20-30. Surry Co 1840 census p 79
[120] Family tree Maker Genealogy Site Descendents of John (NC Branch Shugar
[121] Vonda Cooper Group Sheet
[122] Lula York Johnson

fell to John Greenwood by heirship for $75.[123] It is not known when or how he got this land.

Then, on the North side of the Yadkin River out of his 1100 aces, he sold the following land: in 1839 a ¼ area to Harden Holyfield in Rockford for $50[124], in 1845 ¼ he sold an acre for $15,[125] in 1847 he gave ½ acre in Rockford to the Islands Baptist Church including school house & graveyard,[126] in 1848 he sold Crumpler 3 acres near the old meeting house for $105,[127] in 1848 he also sold 3 acres in Rockford for $15,[128] as well as selling the same year an acre near Rockford for $41.50,[129] then in 1849 he sold an acre in Rockford for $150,[130] the same year he also sold 6 acres on Rockford Road for $500, then in 1850 he sold 4 acres for $50,[131] and in 1851 he sold ½ acre in Rockford for $30.[132] This is only 20 ½ acres on the north side of the river meaning he still had almost 1080 acres left there.

It is said that Mr. York was not a church member, but his son was a Baptist (Nathan was the 3rd Baptist minister there) and a son-in-law, (Dr. Holcomb) preached at the Methodist Church. So, we he gave the land on 10 November 1847 to the Island Baptist Church, all the people of the community, Methodists and Baptists, joined in, however, to erect the one-room house of worship. The church sat on a hill where the cemetery is located and was surrounded by hickory and oak trees, the land was graveled and rough, but well drained so it was not muddy when the rains came. The first graves were located to the back and south of the building. For more than 60 years the two groups came together and worshipped in the same building.[133] On November 6, 1847, 3 people including a Mark York which was probably his son were appointed commissioners to superintend the building of the Baptist Church house in Rockford. The church was founded in 1847 and it is thought services were first held in a log school building which stood on a knob which is today below the Rockford Baptist Church parking lot. The old church stood in front of the old cemetery which today is to the left and center.[134]

Mark and Nancy's family continued to grow. Their children born between 1840 and 1850 were: Annie America born 4 Jun 1840[135], Laura Francis born 1842[136], Cornelia Caroline or Carolina Ruth born 1844[137], Eliza Lavalette or Lavalette E[138] born about 1845[139], Little C born about 1847 or 1848[140] and Robert Gaspee born Sept. 1849.[141] The 1850 census, taken 1 October, list Mark and his family living in Rockford. Mark (61) is a farmer with $4800 in real estate who could not read or write and has a wife Nancy (37). Children of Mark's and Clary's still at home

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[123] Surry Deed Book Y p 235
[124] Surry Co Deeds 1 -379
[125] Surry Co Deeds 4-427
[126] Surry Co Deeds 5-196
[127] Surry Co Deeds 5-239
[128] Surry Co Deeds X-228
[129] Surry Co Deeds 5-240
[130] Surry Co Deeds 7-478
[131] Surry Co Deeds 7-363
[132] Surry Co Deeds 7-463
[133] The Heritage of Surry County Vol 1 pg 636
[134] The Heritage of Surry County Vol 1 pg 637
[135] Surry Co Cemetery Survey & tombstone
[136] Combining information from Vonda Cooper's group sheet and Sue Blackman's & 1850 census
[137] Combining information from Vonda Cooper's group sheet and Sue Blackman's & 1850 census
[138] Marriage license
[139] Combining information from Vonda Cooper's group sheet and Sue Blackman's & 1850 census
[140] Combining information from Vonda Cooper's group sheet and Sue Blackman's & 1850 census
[141] Combining information from Vonda Cooper's group sheet and Sue Blackman's & 1850 census

were Michael (25 – clerk), Nancy (27 – could not read or write), and Nathan (23 – student). Also there were the nine younger children of the second wife, Nancy which were Lewis (15 – farmer), Tyre (14), Elizabeth (12 – in school), America (10 – in school), Laura (8 – in School), Carolina (6), Eliza (5), Little (3) and Gaspee (1/12). Additionally, DD Tiller, (27 – "taylor"), and Susan Franklin (23) were with them – probably guests at the York Tavern.[142] His and Clary's sons were still in Surry County as the census list John D in the South Division;[143] James in the Southern Division[144], and Adam, in Northern Hotel district[145]. The South Division which will become Yadkin County is the area where Mark had his initial land and where his father's land was. Mark and Clary's son Mark A was not located. He married Adeline Crumpler on 13 Mar 1851[146], purchased 1 ½ acres from Dobson in 1852 [147] probably in Rockford where he remained. Mark's brother Nimrod[148] was listed in the southern division (Brother John had died about 1847).[149] Also listed in the southern division were several probable nephews: Edmund (son of John)[150], James (son of Nimrod)[151] near John D, Thomas (son of John)[152] next door to John D and James (son of Jonathan)[153] near Adam. The only other Yorks to have land in Surry County 1850 were Mark's son John D (value $114), Nimrod's son James (value $175) and Jonathan's son James (value $250).[154] Although none of the other Yorks had slaves, Mark was listed with 5 slaves.[155]

After 1850, when Yadkin County was formed from the land in Surry County south of the Yadkin River (which included Mark's original land), the county seat was moved from Rockford to Dobson which was more centrally located for the new Surry County. This effected Rockford and there were no longer visitors to the courthouse on business. Probably the number of guest at the York Tavern decreased, however Mark still had all his farm land.

He kept much of his initial land south of the Yadkin River as the 1851 tax list for Yadkin County formed in 1850 list Mark York's land on the south side of the Yadkin. He was listed with 425 acres in Speer's District with 200 acres on the Yadkin River worth $600 which would

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[142] NC 1850 census p356-7

[143] John (40 – farmer, real estate value $114), Mary (39), Alexander (14 – school), Elizabeth C (12 – school),Job(11 – school), Susan D (10 – school), Gilbert MDL(9 – school), Lodica (7), Rachel J (5) & Robert AW (2), NC 1850 census p206-207

[144] James (38 – farmer, could not read or write, no real estate value) Sarah (25 – could not read or write), Mark (17 – farmer, school), Mary A (15 – school), Louisa (13 - school), Nathan D(6 – school), Feribe E (4) & Sarah J (1). A laborer Henry Swaim (21)was also there. p 226. Two of his children from his first wife were in listed the nearby home of John Campbell – Nancy (10 – in school) and Emanuel (7- school). p 227 NC 1850 census

[145] Adam (37 – farmer, could not read or write, no real estate value), Mary (39 – could not read or write), Joel (16 – laborer, school), Cornelius (14 - school), Clarrisa (12 - school), Mary (11 - school), Enoch (9), John (7), Tennessee (4), & Cinderella (3). NC 1850 census p239

[146] Marriages of Surry Co pg 226

[147] Surry Co Deed Book 8-293

[148] Nimrod (55 – farmer, no real estate value), Mary (52), Nancy (21), Jesse F (18 – school), Mary K (12 – school), & Miles (7 – school). NC 1850 census p228

[149] The Heritage of Surry County Vol II pg 417

[150] Edmund (49 – farmer, no real estate value), Martha (47 – could not read or write), Aaron (20 – laborer – could not read or write), Joseph (15 - laborer), & James (13). NC 1850 census p187

[151] James (31 – farmer, real estate value $ 175), Mary B (25 – could not read or write) & Jesse D (1). NC 1850 census p 237

[152] Thomas (48 – farmer, no real estate value), Christina (47 – could not read or write), Edward (21 – farmer), Sally A (18), William L (14), Delonia (12), James AW (11) & Leucnetia (6). Next door was Catherine York (70 – b VA, could not read or write, no real estate value) & Catherine (30 – could not read or write.) The 30 year old Catherine was Thomas' ½ sister. Could Catherine be step mother who is listed as Elizabeth? NC 1850 census p 207.

[153] James (58 – farmer, real estate value $ 250), Margaret (45 – could not read or write), Sally (16 - school), Susan (15 – school), Elisa (12 – school) Ruth (11 – school), Mary J (8), James M (6) & Pohnathan C (4). NC 1850 census p 236-7

[154] NC 1850 census

[155] Age 40 male, age 40 female, age 17 male, age 16 female & age 13 male. 1850 slave schedule

have been his father's land (had probably about 304 acres which is what he gave two sons in the 1850's - had purchased 268 and inherited probably 36 acres), 150 acres on Fall Creek worth $225 (first land purchase was 158 acres on Fall Creek in 1818), and 75 acres on Deep Creek worth $350 (no record of this land purchase but is a record of a partnership sale of 282 acres on Deep Creek) just indicates in headwaters of Deep creek and may be land of his father's. [156] There were no polls[157] as he was living in Rockford. Also listed in Speer District was Jno. D. York who was probably his son with 145 acres worth $175 on Long Branch.[158] Also on the 1851 tax list in the Quaker Meeting House District there was a John York with 93 acres worth $100 on Falls Creek.[159]

On 12 Aug 1852, Mark York and Jno M Cloud sold 282 acres[160] on south Deep Creek to S. S. Arnold for $475.[161] There has been no deed found for this purchased; however, it could have been indexed under his partner's name. By the mid to late 1850's Mark's father's land was owned by three of Mark's sons: Nathan with 154 acres[162], Lewis with 150 acres[163] and John D with 52 acres[164]. Since there have been no deeds found for Nathan or Lewis obtaining the land, their land could have been a gift from their father about the time they married which is consistent with Mark having 304 acres of his father's land.

Mark and Clary's son Michael Edward married Nancy and son Nathan married Elizabeth Johnson on 29 Mar 1854. [165] From June 30, 1851 to October 30, 1856, son Mark A. York was postmaster of Rockford.[166] Mark and Nancy's children started marrying. Lewis, married Wilmouth Joyce on 2 Feb 1859, Tyre married Elizabeth Anne Crumpler in 1857[167], Susan Elizabeth married Jesse W Galispie on 10 April 1857.[168] Mark and Clary's daughter Nancy had moved in with her brother Mark Jr who lived next door to his father in Rockford[169] and son Nathan married Sallie Ann McGuffin on 30 Aug 1860 after his first wife died.[170] Mark and Nancy had more children: Jasper Newton born in December 1853[171], and Claude E born 13 Nov 1854.[172]

In the 1860 census, taken 9 August, Mark, age 71, was listed in the village of Rockford as a farmer, with $9,000 value of real estate, and $4,945 value of personal property. Nancy's age was 45. Robert Gaspee was not listed in this census so he probably died. The census listed their seven youngest of ten children still at home. These are: Ann (19), Laura (17), Cornelia (15),

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[156] The 1851 Yadkin County Tax List
[157] The 1851 Yadkin County Tax List
[158] The 1851 Yadkin County Tax List
[159] The 1851 Yadkin County Tax List
[160] Land Description included following: John Holcomb's corner, Charles Johnson's line (now William Collins), John Bryan Tract [Yadkin Co Deeds Bk A 261]
[161] Yadkin Co Deeds Bk A 261
[162] Yadkin Co Deeds Bk B 524
[163] Yadkin Co Deeds Bk H549
[164] Yadkin Co Deeds Bk A 345
[165] Marriages of Surry Co pg 226
[166] The Story of Rockford p 74
[167] Vonda Cooper group sheet
[168] Sue Blackburn
[169] NC 1860 census
[170] Marriages of Surry Co pg 226
[171] NC 1900 census pg 213 & 1860 census Death certificate states Jan. 1852. The Hertiage of Surry Co pr 420 states he was born 1850 and the 1 month old on census which has listed as Robert Gaspee
[172] Vonda Cooper's group sheet & 1860 census

Lavalette (13), Little (11), Jasper (9) and Claude (5).[173] Son Mark A (34 – merchant) lived next door and his sister Nancy was living with him.[174] Also appearing on the census in the area were sons Adam (a tenant) at Elkin, Surry Co[175], Nathan (a missionary Baptist pastor) at Mt Airy Surry Co[176], Lewis (a physician) at Boonville, Yadkin Co NC[177] and Tyre (a physician) at Trap Hill Wilkes Co NC.[178] Son John D had died in 1855 in Kansas.[179] Son James had moved to Champaign Illinois[180] by 1853[181]. Son Michael was not located, nor did I locate Elizabeth who had married Jessie Galispie. Two of the daughters living at home as York girls in the 1860 census are reported to have been married prior to the census date – Laura is said to have married J H Maxwell 13 March 1860, and Cornelia to have married Alison Bray in 7 April 1857.[182] There is obviously some error on these marriage records.

By 1860, Brother Nimrod had moved to Ashe County[183], however nephews were still in the area – James (Jonathon's son a farmer at Bala Knob Yadkin Co)[184], Thomas (John's son a farmer at Mt Nebo Yadkin Co)[185] and James (Nimrod's son a laborer at East Beno Yadkin Co).[186] On the 1860 slave schedule, Mark was listed five slaves (a male 45, a female 45, a female 31, a male 23 and an female 8) and one slave house.[187] In 1862, the "45-year-old spinster, Nancy York of Rockford" who was the daughter of Mark and Clary married Billy Richardson, a "well fixed widower from Pittsylvania County Virginia who settled in the late 1850's on a farm on Snow Creek".[188]

Mark did continue to sell land his land north of the Yadkin and in 1862 he sold Watson Holyfield ¾ an acre for $12.[189]

THE CIVIL WAR YEARS

At the time of the Civil War Mark was over 70 years old so his role would have been very limited. The extent of the involvement of his sons and grandsons is not fully known. There are two known cases involving his sons. In 1861, the Governor sent orders to each county to call out the existing militia. Surry County brought forth two groups who were designated the 73th and

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[173] NC 1860 census p265
[174] Mark ($3070 real estate, $4945 personal), Adeline (25), Edwin (8), Eliz (1) & Nancy (43 – sister). NC 1860 census p 265
[175] Adam (47 - $121 personal), Mary (49), M A (20), Enoch (19), John (17), Tennessee (15), Lucinda (12), Adam (9) & Nathan (7) NC 1860 census p 15
[176] Nathan (33 - $1000 real estate, $300 personal), Letica (5) & W J (3). Son Wm [P] D (2) in home of Rufus Roberts. NC 1860 Census p 12
[177] Lewis (25 - - $500 real estate, $200 personal), Wilmoutht (21) & Cora (5/12) NC 1860 census p 3
[178] Tyre (24 - $500 Personal), Eliza (21) & Emma (2)NC 1860 census p 129
[179] Vonda Cooper
[180] James (51 – farmer $600 real estate, $720 personal), Sarah (36),James (18), Nathan (16), Mary (14), Sarah (12), Frances (10), Laura (7), John (5) Township 20N Range 9E Champaign Ill 1860 census p 166
[181] Had child born in IL in 1853
[182] Sue Blackwell
[183] Nimrod (67 – farmer $200 personal), Mary (63)& Miles (18) NC 1860 census p 136
[184] $500 real estate $248 personal 3 children (19-14) NC 1860 Census p 105
[185] $205 Personal 4 children (25-16) NC 1860 census p 10
[186] $40 personal 3 children (11-6) NC 1860 census p 21
[187] 1860 slave schedule p 129
[188] The Heritage of Surry Co NC Vol I pg 451. His children from his first marriage to Mary were Martha A m Yancy Holt, (Killed at Gettysburg – [The Heritage of Surry Co Vol 1 pg 289] Mary Ann m Abram Chaney Jr, , Nancy, Sarah m Henry Dunagan 1863 with Nathan York officiating, William D who died in the Civil War, and Frances m Mr Burrus a widower late in life. Martha and Yancy's son, James Henry Hot grew up in the home of his grandfather and Nancy.[Heritage of Surry Co Vol I pg 289]
[189] Surry Co Deeds 12-467

74th Regiments of the 18th Brigade of the North Carolina Militia.[190] His and Clary's son, Mark A York of Rockford, was a Major and third in command of the 74th Regiment.[191] Mark York Jr may have died as a result of his participation in the war as he died 8 Aug 1864 in Rockford[192] Mark and Nancy's son Little C. York, enlisted 18 March 1862 in Company B of 28 Regiment of the North Carolina troops in the Confederacy. He was wounded and prisoner at Gettysburg.[193] In a listing of the Confederate Prisoners of War, states that L C York a Private in the 28th NC Co A was taken prisoner on 3 July 1863 at Gettysburg and sent to Fort Delaware in July 1863.[194] Nothing more is known, however, he did return, and married in 1890.[195] Son Lewis was listed as having served in the 75th Reg 18th Brig Militia.[196]

Although there were no battles in Rockford, the troops were there. Only a week before Gen Lee's 1865 surrender, a detachment of Union Gen George Stoneman's Raiders came through Surry County on April 1-2.[197] "It is said that when a detachment of soldiers from Stoneman's Army came through Rockford, the people had been warned and the York animals had been relocated with Negro attendants to parts unknown, presumably the outlying wooded areas—or the Brushy Island. When the officer in charge reached the York home, he found Mrs. York churning with her young son, Jasper—who was not quite normal, by her side. The officer plied her with questions concerning the whereabouts of the stock, but received no answer. Mrs. York just kept right on churning. After repeatedly asking and receiving no reply, the soldier threatened to take her son with him. Mrs. York stopped her churning long enough to look at him and said, "and you'll pay the devil" then went back to her churn. The troops left with no supplies from the York place."[198]

North Carolina was a part of the Confederacy. The slaves who formerly helped in farming and in the Tavern may have departed. Quite possible the Reconstruction was adding more than a little chaos to the local economy in Rockford. Mark and Nancy's children continued to marry. Annie married Daniel F. Holcomb on 8 Sep 1865.[199] Son Nathan moved to Illinois in 1866.[200] Only two of Mark and Clary's eight children remained in Surry County – Adam, and Nancy. Two, had died by 1867 – John and Mark Jr. James, Pherby (Shugart), Edward and Nathan left the area. Eight of his and Nancy's 9 children remained in the Surry/ Wilkes area of North Carolina – Lewis, Tyre, Annie (Holcomb), Little, Jasper and Claude. Two left the area - Laura (Maxwell) and Lavalette (Blackwood) only Laura returned to the area in later life. One had died, Robert Gaspee and it is not known what had happened to the other two – Elizabeth (Galispie) and Cornelia (Bray). Among his sons had been successful farmers, merchants and post master, a minister, and two physicians with one a member of the state legislature. Quite an accomplishment!

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[190] Surry County Soldiers in the Civil War p 347
[191] Surry County Soldiers in the Civil War p 348
[192] Perry Family Tree
[193] Roster of NC troops Vol II p 435
[194] Selected Records of the War Dept
[195] Vonda Cooper
[196] H Yakin Men in the Military 1861-1865 p 285
[197] Rockford Preservation Society
[198] The Story of Rockford p 30
[199] Vonda Cooper
[200] Roberta Himebrook's Nathan York narrative

Mark himself was one of the most successful of his siblings. Not only did he operate the York Tavern, but he had quite a bit of land. The oldest Surry County deed record books show numerous purchases and sales of land of different "York's" over the years. It appears, Mark was a plantation owner of about 1400 acres as mentioned in the settlement of his estate, however it is known he had purchased over 1100 acres north of the Yadkin River (20 acres of which he had sold) and had 537 areas south of the Yadkin (304 acres he had gave to his sons) giving him 1637 acres he owned at some time. His crops included corn, wheat, rye, oats, stock fodder, and straw.[201] He had even owned a blacksmith shop in Rockford,[202] and the lot with the old courthouse.[203] In 1860 he had $9,000 is real estate and $4,945 in personal property which indicates a successful business man.

MARK'S DEATH

Mark died little more than a year after the end of the Civil War. He died 11 February 1867, being then 77 years old. He was buried in the Rockford Baptist Church Cemetery.[204] He and Nancy had been married about 34 years. There may have been 3 children at home – Lavalette (about 21), Jasper (about 14) and Claude (about 13). Although Little returned to NC after the war, it is not known if he was living with his parents. Mark's wife Nancy lived another 27 years, dying in 1894.[205] Mark left no will, but lots of heirs, and it took 14 years and three Administrators to settle the estate. The photocopies of the estate papers consist of 41 pages of court records, in script, some hardly legible, from 12 or 13 separate documents or court actions, being the numerous petitions, inventories, reports, and final decree.[206]

The first was Nancy's petition in the May 1867 court term to allot to her the dower of one third of the land adjoining John Jervis, Watson Holyfield & J H Dobson deceased and the home to which she was entitled for the duration of her natural life. The first two petitions, for Nancy requesting her dower enter in May and Nov 1867 named 14 of Mark's children, including four daughters whose husbands were also named, and three children of a deceased son Mark Jr.[207] In all, 16 of Mark's 19 children were mentioned in the various court papers, including some who were deceased (leaving children) and four who had left North Carolina. Those not mentioned were Robert Gaspee (born 1849, died by 1860), Elizabeth or Susan Elizabeth (born 1838 & may have married Jessie Galispie 1857) and Cornelia Caroline or Caroline Ruth (born 1845 & may have married Alison Bray in 1857). It is assumed these three died without heirs before Mark died. The third document, entered in May 1867, was Nancy's request for a share of stock and provisions to support her and her family for one year.[208]

A son-in-law, (Maxwell, Laura's husband) was one of the first two co-Administrators appointed by the court. The first report by the estate Administrators contained a seven-page list of items, prices, and buyers resulting from the sales of farm and household equipment, stock, and

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[201] Mark York Estate Papers - E
[202] Mark York Estate Papers - K
[203] Mark York Estate Papers - L
[204] Surry Co Cemetery Survey
[205] The Yadkin Valley News Thursday 9 Aug 1894
[206] Mark York Estate papers
[207] Mark York Estate papers-A, B
[208] Mark York Estate papers-C

crops in July and August of 1867. The amounts received for many items are of interest, in that they may reflect something about money values of the times. For instance, a shovel and a pitchfork sold for $.05 each. Most hand tools such as hammers, hand saw, scythe, etc. went for $.05 to $.50 each. One crosscut saw did bring $1.40 and the best of several axes sold for $.75. The spinning wheel was bought for $1.95. The four-horse wagon was worth $14 and two-horse wagon went for $10. A one-horse harrow and plow was priced at $.25 while a turnover plow as $.75. While a saddle brought $2, a sidesaddle was only good for a quarter. Perhaps ladies weren't using them now! House furniture didn't do much better. A dining table sold for $.10. Other tables were $.15, $.25, and up to $2.50 maximum. There were at least 6 or 7 bed steads and furniture which varied from a low price of $2.50 to the highest at $6.25. Most chairs were $.10 or $.15 to $.25, but one set of eight was priced at $.40 for the set! There was a spinning wheel which sold for $1.95, a bookcase for $1.50, History MS for $3.10, and even a clock for $0.50. Noted were 2 wagons, a two horse wagon for $10.00, and a sinus wagon for $0.75,[209]

The livestock did somewhat better. A yellow mule was highest at $165, though a mouse-colored mule was only $75. A sorrel mare sold for $94. Hogs were $.90 to $3 each, a cow was $5. The fact that many of the buyers, particularly of household and personal items, were York heirs (including the widow, Nancy) may have had a restraining effect on the bidding. Total collected at the sale was $6553.57 1/2 [210] This was not noticeable among the buyers of harvested crops, where corn averaged about $8.04 a bushel, wheat over $2, and rye about $1.25. (There were a number of lots of each commodity.) The eight stacks of hay sold from $1 to 3.40 per stack.[211] These prices for crops compared well with those sold three years later when the Administrator sold the estate rent for the year, consisting of corn, wheat, rye, oats, etc. [212] In November 1870 there was a petition to sell the crops.[213] Such income from crop only occurred two years, 1870 and 1874, of the estate administration between 1867 and 1881.

Then there was a petition to remove the 2 administrators which mentioned Holcomb (son-in-law, Annie's husband) was guardian of Jasper and Claude, the two minor children. [214] Then in March 1874, there was a petition that Holcomb be administrator as of Dec 1873. There was an inventory of crops sold in Nov 1874 which was $123.59. This document also lists all 16 heirs or their children and request request a paper listing searching for Alfree Shugart, James York, Nathan York, and the heirs of Mark A York, Edward York, & John D York who had left the area.[215]

The estate Administrator reported to the court that the estate was in debt and wanted approval to sell 340 acres on the Yadkin River to the highest bidder for $1600 on 1 March 1874. which was S T Bohannon. This was to pay estate debts and administrative costs up to that point[216]. The next document on 13 Dec 1880 reviewed $1400 had been spent during the first two administrators for debts and supporting the widow. It was now in debt $1500 besides the cost of

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[209] Mark York Estate papers-D
[210] These included: Mrs. N York (Nancy), Mrs. Holcomb (Annie), Miss L York (Lavalette), L C York (Little), Mrs. Richardson (Nancy), A York (Adam),N York (Nathan) [Mark York Estate Papers – D]
[211] Mark York Estate papers-D
[212] Mark York Estate papers-G
[213] Mark York Estate papers-E
[214] Mark York Estate papers-F
[215] Mark York Estate papers-G
[216] Mark York Estate papers-G

the administration which was about $300. Holcomb had petitioned the court to sale some land. He requested to sale more land and stated that Mark at the time of his death, had 1200 or 1400 acres [actually had 1080 acres] in and around Rockford on the Yadkin River and 150 acres or more in Yakin Co [actually had 158 acres as hold sold the Deep Creek land] joining John Hobson, Jesse Suget. A portion of this land cannot be sold as it is in the widow dower. This document also gives a list of the out-of-state heirs with a request for them to appear in 20 days.[217] The real estate sold was not sufficient to cover the debts.

In Feb Holcomb request to sale the rest of the land including town lots in Rockford, except the widow's dower, breaking it up into parcels and includes a sketch of the parcels which included over 455 acres. He request that this sale be allowed after a notice searching for the out-of-state heirs is in public places in Surry and Yadkin Counties.[218] March 1881, the Administrator sold the 9 parcels of land which included a blacksmith shop at public auction to close the estate. Interestingly, the top price for the city lots, varying from half to three acres in size, was $225. However that lot contained the old courthouse. But the buyers refrained from bidding on the smallest lot, which Nancy got for $1.00.[219] Another document reports Holcomb has sold land except the widow's dower and it covered all the debt except the cost of administration. Holcomb request the out-of-state heirs be summoned. [220]The court issued the decree on 2 May 1881 closing the estate. It summarized the sale of the last parcels of land on 24 March 1881 which were: 192 acres at the bottom on the Yadkin River for $1510.00 (purchased by W B Holyfield),40 acres for $130 (purchased by W H Fleming), 106 acres west of Rockford for $400 (purchased by W B Holyfield), town lots which included the old court house lot -1 acre for $225, the blacksmith shop lot -3 acres for $10.00 and the Jack lot – 2 acres for $30.00 (purchased by W H Fleming), another lot in Rockford was the "Ben" lot – ½ acre for $1.00 (purchased by the widow York), 84 acres for $432.00(purchased by John G Burrus) and 155 acres in Yadkin Co for $473.00(purchased by John Hobson).This list a total of about 482 acres for $3211.[221] This plus the 340 acres sold earlier is 822 acres which should be roughly 2/3 of his land. At the time of his death he would have had 1238 acres (1080 north of the Yadkin and 158 south of the Yadkin) when at one point he had 1525 acres. It is interesting to note none of his children purchased any of his land; however his son-in-law, Holcomb did later buy the old courthouse for his and Anne's residence.[222]

During the 14 years it took to settle the estate there were numbers of changes in the status of Mark's children. Son Edward died by March 1874 as his heirs-at-law were mentioned in the estate papers, [223] they had left the state and Holcomb did not know their names.[224] Mark's son Lewis died by 1880 and his heirs are named in the estate papers.[225] Also Mark A heirs moved out of state by 1880.[226] Daughter Lavalette married William S. Blackwood 21 on Mar 1876 and

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[217] Mark York Estate papers-H
[218] Mark York Estate papers-J
[219] Mark York Estate papers-K
[220] Mark York Estate papers-I
[221] Mark York Estate papers-K & L
[222] The Story of Rockford p 38
[223] Mark York Estate papers-F
[224] Mark York Estate papers-H
[225] Mark York Estate papers-H
[226] Mark York Estate papers-I

Little C, at the age of 40, married Alice Anderson on 27 Sep 1890. [227] Daughter Nancy became a widow as her husband, William Richardson about 1879.[228]. In 1881, when the estate was settled, of the 18 children, less than ½ were still living in North Carolina. These were Adam (in Bryan Twp, Surry Co)[229] Nancy Richardson (in Marsh, Surry Co)[230], Tyre (in Traphill, Wilkes Co)[231], Annie Holcomb (in Rockford Surry Co)[232], Laura Maxwell (in Morning Star Twp, Mecklenburg Co)[233], Lavalette Blackwood (in Marsh Surry Co)[234], Little (in Rockford Surry Co)[235], and Jasper and Claude (both with their mother in Rockford, Surry Co)[236]. However probably a few years later his daughter Nancy died as she wrote her will 10 July 1883.[237]

Nancy lived 27 years as a widow in Rockford. Her two youngest sons, Jasper and Claude lived with her most of the time.[238] In 1891 she sold ½ acre in Rockford on High Street adjoining the Masonic Lodge for $100.[239] Nancy died 6 Aug 1894, [240] at age 84. She was buried in the Rockford Baptist Church Cemetery next to Mark.[241] She would have had about 411 acres in her dower right and it is not known what happened to that land. Her son Claude died the same year and was also buried at the Rockford Baptist Church .Cemetery.[242] It is unusual for them to die the same day and the newspaper does not mention any accident or epidemic. There was a notice in the paper 3 December 1894 petitioning non-resident heirs of Claude by his estate administrator L C (Little) York listing some of his siblings and some of his nieces and nephews.[243]

Notes on his children

John Durham and Mary York's children included: Alexander (*b 1836*), Elizabeth C. (*b 1838*), Job A. (*b 1839*), Susan Dorinda (*b 7 Feb 1840, m Fleming[244], d 16 Dec 1917 Wilton, Little River, AR*), Gilbert MDL (*b 1841*), Lodicia (*b 1843*), Rachel J. (*b 1845, m Bruton[245]*) and Robert SW (*b 1848*). They left NC and moved to KS in 1850's where John died about 1855. By 1860 both he and his wife had died as their oldest daughter Alexander was head of a household

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[227] Marriage license – note since listed as a York think marriage for her to Nathaniel Stultz 26 March 1857 was not correct....besides she would have been 11; and was in her father's household in 1860 as a York.

[228] 1The Heritage of Surry Co Vol I p 451

[229] Adam (67 farmer); Mary (68 wife); Martin (10, grandson) 1880 NC census p 14

[230] Nancy (68 housekeeping) Fannie (33 [step]daughter) 1880 NC census p 7

[231] Tyra (44, physician), Eliza (42, wife), Alice (17, daughter) 1880 NC census p2

[232] DF Holcomb (44 farmer), Ann A (39 wife), Vigil (15 son), Oscar (12 son) Annie L (9 daughter), Basson (1 son) J W Johnson (26 farmer) Milly Keile (16 servant) 1880 NC census

[233] James H (46 farmer), Laura (40 wife), Suber (19 daughter club foot), James (17 son), Robert (16 son), Joseph (13 son), Willy (11 son), Cornelia (9 daughter),Charles (7 son), Claude (5 son),Nannie (2 daughter club foot) 1880 NC census p 23-4

[234] W S (35 farmer), E L (35 wife) L A (3 daughter), M n (2 son) E C (1/12 born May daughter) 1880 NC census p 5

[235] Little (33 tobacco roller, lived in a boarding house) 1880 NC census p 4

[236] Nancy (70 farmer), Jasper (26 son) Claud (son, 21) 1880 NC census p 1

[237] Will, written 10 July 1883, included a nephew Edgar [Edwin]York, son of Mark York Jr, and niece Letitia York daughter Nathan along with grandchildren of her husband. Surry Co Will Bk 6 pg 85

[238] 1880 NC census

[239] Book 27 pg 46

[240] The Yadkin Valley News Thursday 9 Aug 1894 & tombstone

[241] Surry Co Cemetery Survey

[242] Surry Co Cemetery Survey

[243] Non-resident heirs included siblings (James, Nathan, Ned, Ferrebee Sugart & husband, Laura Maxwell), children of Adam (Adam, John, Mary Pardue, Tennessee Morrison), children of Mark Jr (Edwin & Lizzie), children of John D (Susan D Fleming, Rachel J Burton),Children of Lewis (Wallace LE, Etta Dobbins & husband), step-grandchild of Nancy Richardson (W H Dunnagan) The Yadkin Valley New Dec 6, 1894 & Surry Co Will Book 6 pg 118

[244] Surry Co Will Book 6 pg 118

[245] Surry Co Will Book 6 pg 118

containing his three youngest children in Jefferson Co KS.[246]

James Frederick and Mary Ann York's children included: Mark (*b 1833*), Mary Ann (*b 1835 NC, m William R Collins 23 Dec 1854 Champaign Co IL*[247]*, d 24 Nov 1931 Reserve Catron Co NM*), Louisa (*b 20 Jun 1837 NC, m William Reed Allen,*[248] *d 27 Oct 1914 Sumas Whatcom, WA*), Nancy R (*b 1839 NC*) and James Emanuel (*b 1842 NC*). James and Sarah's children were: Nathan Durham (*b 26 Jun 1844 NC, m Sarah Ann Lewis 1864 Urbana IL*[249]*, d 16 Apr 1898 Marshall Logan Co OK*), Ferrebee E[250](*b 1846 NC*), Sarah Jane (*b 1848 NC, d TX*), Francis Stella (*b 27 Jun 1850 NC ,m Nelson D Lewis 29 Jun 1868 Champaign IL*[251]*, d 5 Dec 1917*[252] *Prairie Grove Washington AR*[253]), Laura C (*b 2 May 1853 IL, m Charles Parker,*[254] *d 19 Oct 1911 Prairie Grove Washington AR*), John Henry (*b 1855 IL, m #1 Julia Donahue 12 Nov 1872 Cark Co IL, #2 Louisa A Gilmore 7 Dec 1873 Champaign Co IL div, # Martha Rye Kaufman Co TX, descendent Reba Wooldridge family researcher, #4 Elizabeth C Craft 30 April 1890 Cole Co II*)[255], and Amanda Jane (*b 1864 IL*).[256] James left NC[257] and moved to Champaign Co IL[258] by 1853[259]. In the 1870 census[260], there was a second John Henry listed in his household born 1869, a grandson, [261] who was not there in 1880. By the 1880 census[262], James was in Lawrence, Kaufman Co TX and had several grandchildren living with him as well as an orphan. He was probably a minister or judge as he married people. James donated the land where the Insane Asylum was built in Terrell, TX and also donated land in Lawrence for a church.[263] James died in Lawrence, Kaufman Co TX in 1886 or 87.[264]

Adam Napoleon "Poley" and Mary " Pollie" York's children included: Joel Durham (*b 23 Nov 1833 Elkin Surry Co NC, m #1 Elizabeth Ann McKaughn 18 Nov 1860, #2 Lydia E "Betie" Maxwell 11 Oct 1866 Surry Co NC, #3 Louisinda Elizabeth Casper Killian 12 Jun 1913, d 29 Aug 1916 NC*); Cornelius Wesley (*b 29 Jul 1836 Surry Co NC, m Louisa Phillips 18 Aug 1858 Surry Co NC, d 22 May 1919*); Clarrisa Jane (*b 18 May 1838 Surry Co NC, m #1 Alfred R. Day 1857, #2 Thomas C. Chipman 20 Feb 1862, d 24 Apr 1905*); Mary Ann, (*b 1840 Surry Co NC, m John M G Pardue 10 Aug 1863*); Enoch Howard (*b 1842 Surry Co NC, m Kezziah Cummings 5 Feb 1867 Surry Co NC*); John Wesley (*b 1844 Surry Co NC, m #1 Margaret Kimmer 4 Mar*

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[246] Jefferson Co Kansas 1860 census p 39

[247] Marriage records from Reba Wooldridge

[248] Steve Yorks' family Tree

[249] Steve Yorks' family Tree

[250] 1860 census does not list Ferbie b 1846 but instead list only Mary b 1846. The Heritage of Surry Co only list Ferbie. Reba Wooldridge list Ferrebee E.

[251] Marriage records from Reba Wooldridge

[252] Perry Family tree, The Heritage Of Surry Co Vol II pg 420

[253] Reba Wooldridge

[254] Reba Wooldridge

[255] Marriage records Reba Wooldridge

[256] Children are listed combining 1860, 1870 IL census, 1880 TX census, Perry Family tree, The Heritage Of Surry Co Vol II pg 420,& Reba Wooldridge.

[257] James may have also lived in Ohio, and Missouri [Vonda Cooper] however not verified

[258] 1860 census Champaign Co IL list: James 51, Sarah 36, James 18, Nathan 16, Mary 14 Sarah, 12 Frances 10, Laura 7 and John 5 [pg452] and in the nearby home of William & Mary York Collins: Manuel 18 and Sarah 12 [Reba Wooldridge]

[259] Birth places of his children

[260] 1870 census Somer Champaign IL list: James 57, Sarrah 45, Sarrah J 22, Laura C 17, John h 16, Amanda J 6 and John Henry 1 [pg 309b]

[261] some researchers have indicated in error that he was a son [the Perry Family Tree & the Heritage Of Surry Co] however he was a grandson [Reba Wooldridge]

[262] The 1880 census for Lawrence, Kaufman Co TX list: James 67, Sarah 55 wife, Charles 9 grandson, Sarah J daughter, Jemmie Fink 15 orphan, William Lewis 11 grandson & Mary Johnson Boarder. Next door was son John H 25 with Martha 21 wife, Nathan W 4 son, Sarah O 3 daughter, Frances 1 daughter, & James H born in May son. [pg 205]

[263] Reba Wooldridge

[264] Reba Wooldridge

1867 Surry Co NC, #2 Elizabeth Collins Easley); Susan Tennessee, (*b 1846 Surry Co NC, m Lewin Morrison 10 Dec 1868*); Lucinda Cinderella (*b 10 Jun 1848 Surry Co NC, m John Fletcher Brendle 20 Oct 1868, d 7 Jun 1909*); Adam (*1850 Surry Co NC, m Sarah Jennings 14 Nov 1869 Surry Co NC, went to AR after wife's death leaving son with parents & had another family, d 1889 AR, Shannon Cavanaugh descendent of AR family*); and Nathan (*b 1852, went to AR with brother*). Poley and Pollie made their home on the outskirts of Elkin NC raising 10 children and a grandson, Martin York. Poley died in 1889 in Surry Co NC and was buried at the Grassy Creek Methodist Church on State Route 1 Surry Co NC.[265] This area is in Hotel Township of Surry Co.

Ferrebee "Pheraby" and Alfred Shugart's children included: Nancy Caroline (*b 14 Jan 1832*); Mary Ann Teressa (*b 1 Dec 1835, m Joshua L Wade 17 Sep 1852 Floyd Co GA*); Louise Elizabeth (*b 4 Apr 1838*); Nancy Indiana (*b 25 Feb 1841*); Louisiana (*b 26 Feb 1843*), Marcus Sewell (*b Jul 1846, m Mary A Kerce 22 Sep 1867 Floyd Co GA*); Sarah Virginia (*b 17 Feb 1848 NC, m James O Winfrey 25 May 1867 Floyd Co GA, d 3 Feb 1924 Rome Floyd Co GA*); and Alfred Canaday (*b 14 Jun 1853, d 14 Apr 1898*). [266] Ferrebee died 4 April 1898 in Gorden Georgia.[267]

Nancy was William Richardson second wife and they had no children. One of William's son-in- laws, Yancy Holt, was killed at Gettysburg and his son James Henry lived with until William died in 1879.[268] William's youngest daughter, Fanny also lived with them and lived with Nancy until after her death.[269] Nancy's will was probated 23 April 1888.[270]

Michael Edward and Nancy had children but names unknown. They moved out of state. Starting in 1874, estate papers list the heirs of Edward so assume he had died by then.[271]

Mark and Adeline York's children were: Thomas Edwin [272] (*b Nov 1852 Rockford Surry Co NC, m Missouri Campbell*); Elizabeth A[273]. (*b 1858 Rockford Surry Co NC, m T J McElroy Bellefonte Boone AR, d 16 Sep 1895 Erath, TX or 16 Sept 1880*); and Mary "Mollie" (*b 12 Feb 1864 Rockford Surry Co NC, m Fayette Smith Franklin 16 Sep 1880 Bellefonte Boone AR, d 19 Oct 1939 Los Angeles CA*). [274] Mark died at Rockford Surry Co NC before 8 Aug 1864, leaving his heirs as minors, who left the area.[275] His estate papers included cash assets such as Bank Notes ($903.00), Treasury Notes ($723.00), Confederate Money ($133.00), small change ($70.05) Bonds ($1,000.), a long list of books (algebra, botany, astronomy, chemistry, philosophy, geometry, piano instruction, a public document, livestock, grain, crops inc. cabbage, farm equipment, household goods, etc. There was a listing of notes and accounts payable which were scaled and still came to $1139.27. His land, a house in Rockford with 30 acres adjacent was not sold until 1874.[276]

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[265] The Heritage of Surry Co Vol II p 417

[266] Family tree Maker Genealogy Site Descendents of John (NC Branch Shugar

[267] Wheeler Family Tree

[268] Heritage of Surry Co Vol I p289

[269] 1870 and 1880 NC census

[270] Will, written 10 July 1883, stated that any funds from her father's estate be divided between Edgar [Edwin]York, son of Mark York Jr, Letitia York daughter Nathan and Willie Dunnahan, son of Henry Dunnagan [step grandson] and any property from her husband's estate be divided among Mary Chaney, Fanny Richardson, Willie Dunnagan, James and Mary Holy. Surry Co Will Bk 6 pg 85

[271] Mark York Estate papers

[272] 1860 census

[273] Perry Family Tree list as Sharah Elizabeth but only one that did

[274] Children's birth and death dates from combing the Heritage of Surry Co Vol II p 420 with the Perry family tree and records of Mollie Peck Coon and 1860 census

[275] Mark York Estate Papers

[276] Mark A York estate papers

Nathan and Elizabeth York's children were: Leticia Lucinda (*7 Feb1855 Surry Co NC, d 13 Nov 1885 Mt Airy Surry Co NC*); William Johnson, (*29 Jun 1856, m Ada E. Greenwood 3 Feb 1887 Mt Airy Surry Co NC, d 4 Mar 1920 Stewarts Creek Surry Co NC*); and Philip Durham (*20 May 1858 Surry Co NC, d 31 Dec 1892 Mt Airy Surry Co NC*). After Elizabeth's death, Nathan married Sarah "Sallie" Ann McGuffin. Nathan and Sarah York's children were: Lula Ann (*b 23 Mar 1865 Rockford Surry Co NC, m #1 Oscar Robert Johnson 6 Mar 1884 Steward twp Stafford Co KS, (Researchers Carolyn Garber and Linda Johnson are descendents) #2 Ira Willis Emmons 19 May 1933 Modesto Stanislaus CA, d 4 Jul 1943 Hughson Stanislaus Co CA*); Hattie Burton (*b 21 Jun 1870 Freedom Wayne IA, m John Earl Richardson 5 Jan 1890 Huntsville Madison Co AR, d 26 Apr 1956 Caldwell Canyon ID*); and Emma Estelle (*b 27 Feb 1872 Freedom Wayne Co IA, m Isaac Andrew Causey 18 Aug 1889 Huntsville Madison Co AR, d 10 Apr 1939 Modesto Stanislaus Co CA*). Nathan and Sarah York are the subjects of another family narrative by Marion and Lanice Harkey (Volume 6 Chapter 2 Section a Narrative 1). Nathan died 7 Aug 1899 in Polo Twp Carroll Co AR and was buried at Marshall Cemetery there.[277]

Lewis and Wilmouth York's children included: Cora C (*b c1860 Yadkin Co NC, m Aquilla E. Shore, d 29 Dec1883*); Wallace Luther (*b 1862 Yadkin Co NC);* Luther Edward (*b 1863 Yadkin Co NC, m Sallie L Casstevens*[278]); Marritta M or Mary Etta (*b7 Apr 1866 Yadkin Co NC, m #1 Will Dobbin #2 Mr May?, d 21 Dec1940*); Walter S (*b 1869 Yadkin Co NC, m Amanda Melissa Prim*[279]); Lillie Maud (*b 13 Apr 1871 Yadkin Co NC, m Sebon Earnest Shugart, d 1951*); Dovie Hadallah (*b 27 Mar 1875 Yadkin Co NC, d 19 Jun 1919*); and Edward "Bud" Eugene (*b 1879, grandson is David York who is son of Fred Edgar York, d 1562*).[280] He may have served in the 75th Reg., 18th Brig Militia.[281] He obtained 150 acres of the James York homestead which he sold in 1862. On 12 May 1869 he purchased 28 ¾ acres for $86.25 from A R Prin in Yadkin Co.[282] Lewis was not found on the 1880 census.[283] Lewis, a doctor, lived in the Mt. Nebo, a Quaker Community in Yadkin Co NC. He froze to death probably in the winter of 1879 on the way home from attending a sick patient.[284] In the 1880 census his wife is listed as a widow with all the children listed at home. Also starting in 1880, the estate papers for Mark list Lewis as deceased and names his heirs. In 21 Feb 1881 there was a court case to name a guardian for the children. However Lewis lands were not divided among his heirs until 6 July 1894.[285] He was buried in Deep Creek Friends Church Yadkin Co NC. [286]

Tyre and Eliza York's children included: Emma (*b 14 Feb 1859 Trap Hill Wilkes Co NC, m #1 Joseph Hillard Cockerham 13 Apr 1876, d 3 Jun 1936*)[287]; Eulalia "Eula" (*b 1862 Trap Hill Wilkes Co NC, m Mr Bryan, d 5 Feb 1929 or 2 May 1928*) and Alice Pearl (*b 19 Apr 1863 Trap Hill Wilkes Co NC, m Benjamin F Taylor, d Feb 1966*).[288] He studied medicine at Charleston

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[277] Roberta Himebrook narrative on Nathan York

[278] Yadkin Men in the Military 1861-1865 p 285

[279] Yadkin Men in the Military 1861-1865 p 285

[280] These children and dates were obtained from the Heritage of Surry County Vol II, pg 420, the 1880 census, Mark York Estate papers and Surry Co Will Book 6 pg 118 & Cemetery Records provided by David York from Deep Cr Fiends Church Yadkin Co NC

[281] Yadkin Men in the Military 1861-1865 p 285

[282] Yadkin Co Deed Bk C 579

[283] Mark York Estate papers and his wife is listed as a widow on the 1880 census.

[284] The Heritage of Surry Co pg 129.

[285] Yadkin Co Deed Bk N218

[286] The Heritage of Surry Co Vol II p 420

[287] Heritage of Surry Co Vol 1 pg 117

[288] Perry Family tree, NC 1870 census, Vonda Cooper and The Heritage of Surry Co Vol II pg 420 Also list a second marriage for Emma (Dallas Woodruff 1892) which does not appear on death certificate

Medical College. About 1869 Tyre settled in Traphill section, Wilkes Co.[289] Rode an old mule named Jackson and treated soldiers who had run away from the army in the Civil War. He was known for going into the mountains and caves in that area.[290] After the Civil War, he considered moving to Arkansas but after a trip there returned to Traphill where he remained. In 1870 he was elected to the Legislature.[291] He was a member of the state legislature for 18 years, and was an unsuccessful Republican candidate for governor in 1884. He also established a school at Trap Hill.[292] In 1896 he was elected as the Presidential Elector for the 8th NC district.[293] In the 1900 census he was a widow at home with his daughter Eula Bryant and 2 grandchildren.[294] Tyre died 28 Jan 1916 in Trap Hill Wilkes Co NC[295] and was buried in a home cemetery. [296]

Elizabeth and Jesse Galispie — no further information & not mentioned in estate settlement.

Annie America and Daniel Holcomb's children included: Virgil E (*b 1866, d 1909*); Oscar C (*b 1867, d 1938*); Clarence Way (*b 1869, d 1870*); Annie Laurie (*b 1872 Rockford NC, m Robert L Snow*[297]*, d 1903*) and John Bascomb (*b 1879, d 1944*).[298] Her husband bought the old courthouse, added a dining room, kitchen & porch, was a family doctor, and the local Methodist preacher.[299] Annie died 16 Apr 1916 in Rockford NC and was buried at the Baptist church cemetery at Rockford.[300]

Laura and James Maxwell's children included: Luber (*b c 1861*), James (*b c 1863*), Robert (*b c 1864*), Joseph Warren (*b 17 Sept 1867, d 28 Feb 1928*), Willy (*b c 1869*), Cornelia (*b c 1871*),Charles (*b c 1873*), Claude (*b c 1875*), & Nannie (*b c 1878*). [301] By 1880, they were living in Morning Star Mecklenburg Co NC.[302] After her husband's death in 1893, Laura moved to North Wilkesboro, Wilkes Co where she died 25 April 1916.[303]

Carolina and Alison Bray — no further information & not mentioned in estate settlement.

Lavalette Eliza and William Saunders Blackwood's children included: L Albert (*b c 1877*), Mark N (*b c 1878, d 20 Dec 1948 Lincoln, Washington*), Eulalia C (*b 18 May 1880, d 16 Sept 1955 Seattle, King, Washington*); William L (*b Dec 1883 NC*) and Ethel May (*Mar 1890 NC, d 1955 Ritzville, Adams, Washington*).[304] In 1880 they were in Marsh Township, Surry Co NC.[305] They moved to Washington State[306] where Lavalette died 17 Apr 1930 and was buried at Ritzville, Adams Co, WA.[307]

Little C and Alice York — probably no children. Little died by 1897[308] and was buried at

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[289] Historical Sketches of Wilkes Co p32
[290] Shannon Cavanaugh
[291] Historical Sketches of Wilkes Co p32
[292] The Story of Rockford p 34
[293] Historical Sketches of Wilkes Co p32
[294] 1900 NC Census
[295] The Heritage of Surry Co Vol II p 420
[296] Vonda Cooper
[297] Surry Co Cemetery Survey & tombstone
[298] These children and their birth & death dates were obtained from the Heritage of Surry County Vol II pg 420,
[299] The Story of Rockford p 38
[300] Surry Co Cemetery Survey & tombstone
[301] 1880 NC census p 23-4 & Perry Family Tree
[302] 1880 NC census p 23-4
[303] Perry Family Tree
[304] 1880 NC census p 5 & Perry Family Tree
[305] 1880 NC census p 5
[306] The Heritage of Surry Co Vol II pg 23
[307] Perry Family Tree
[308] Wife remarried in 1897. [The Heritage of Surry Co Vol II p 420]

the Baptist church Cemetery at Rockford.[309]

Robert Gaspee York — probably died before age 10.[310].

Jasper Newton never married. In 1900 he was on the census living in Rockford as head of the household, with J R Burrus (25) in the house also listed as head. They rented their home and both were farmers[311] He died 27 Jan 1915 in Rockford NC[312] and was buried at the Baptist church Cemetery at Rockford.[313]

Claude E never married and died 6 Aug 1894 in Rockford NC and was buried at the Baptist church Cemetery at Rockford.[314]

This family narrative, Volume 6 Chapter 2 Section a Narrative 2, was written by Marion and Lanice (Parsons) Harkey in 1984. Roberta (Harkey) Himebrook updated it in 1987, and revised it in 1996. Updated 1999, 2003, 2010 & 2012. Information from:

Letters of Lula Ann (York) Johnson Emmons
Surry County, NC, land & court records
Yadkin County NC, land records
North Carolina State Achieves
Surry County library historical section
US Census records
Conversation with Paul Johnson
Material from Carolyn Garber
Vonda Cooper's records
The Heritage of Surry County, North Carolina, Volume I & II
Surry County Soldiers in the Civil War, Editor Hester Bartlett Jackson
Sue Blackburn
The Journal of Surry County Genealogical Association
http://www.rockfordpreservationsociety.com/york_tavern.htm
Surry County cemetery Survey Publication # IV by Wallace Kallam 1983
Marriages of Surry County North Carolina 1779-1868 by Brent H Holcomb, Genealogical Publishing Co inc 1982
North Carolina Taxpayers 1679-1790 Vol 1 & 1701-1786 at Ancestry
The Story of Rockford by Lucy Hamlin Houck 31 Aug 1972, edited & Updated Jun 2000
List of Taxable Property in Surry Co NS for the Year 1812 on Ancestry
Perry Family Tree on Ancestry 2010 – Owner marchandhc
Wheeler Family Tree on Ancestry 2010 - Owner Nascarmom1950
1851 Yadkin County Tax List
Article by Ruth Minisk 22 Nov 1998 "County Seat of Rockford Was Planned Community"
Newspaper clipping "Stories About Jackson And Johnson Who Later Became Presidents Are Still Told At Rockford" by Allan Jessup
Foot Prints in the Hallows by William Franklin Carte Jr.

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[309] Surry Co Cemetery Survey
[310] Not on 1870 census
[311] NC 1900 census pg 213
[312] Death certificate, & Heritage of Surry Co Vol II pg 420
[313] Surry Co Cemetery Survey
[314] Surry Co Cemetery Survey

Family Tree marker's Genealogy Site

Roster of NC Troops in the War Between the States on Ancestry

Selected Records of the War Dept Relating to Confederate Prisoners of War 1861-1865 on Ancestry

Mark York Estate Papers in possession of Roberta Himebrook (A. Nancy York form petition to have her dower in said land May 1867; B. Nancy York petition to have her dower in said land Nov 1867; C. Nancy York request share of stock, provisions, etc May 1867; D. Inventory of estate sale June 1867; E. Petition to sell crops Nov 1870; F. Holcomb petition to remove Maxwell & Norman as adm.; G. Petition to have Holcomb adm. as of Dec 1873 Mar 1874 & Inventory Property sold Nov 1874 & 75; H. Petition to sell land 1880; I Petition for final Settlement; J Common tenets on selling land 1881; K. Land sold at public auction; L Decre of confirmation 2 May 1881)

The Yadkin Valley News

Surry Co Cemetery Survey

Historical Sketches of Wilkes Co by John Crouch ; The Chronicle Job Office 1902

Heritage of Yadkin County, Frances Casstevens, Yadkin County historical Society 1981

Shannon Cavanaugh

Reba Wooldridge

Steve York Family Tree on Ancestry 2010 – owner YORKSW1474

Juanita Carpenter, inc notes fr talk at Rockford Reunion Sept 2010 JCarpenter123@centureylink.net

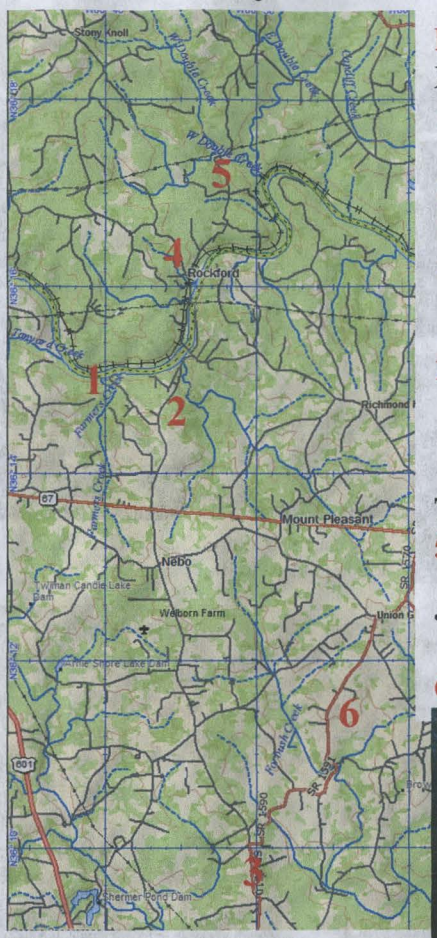
Rockford Story, Ghosts of Presidents Hover Over Village, Greensboro Daily News, Sunday Oct 11, 1970

Two Presidents Once Practiced Law in Surry Village, Winston-Salem Journal and Sentinel Sunday Aug 19.1951

Yadkin Men in the Military 1861-1865

Surry Co NC Oversees of Roads 1807-1833 Compiled by Agnes Wells & Carol Snow

Surry Co NC Court Minutes 1833-1836 Compiled by Iris M Harvey & Agnes M Wells



Land Approximate Locations

Mark's York's land included:

1. 304acres on the south side of the Yadkin River
   (probably his father's land)
2. 158 acres on Fall Creek
3. 75- 282 acres on Deep Creek *(partnership)*
4. 1100 acres around Rockford

James York's (Mark's Father) land was:

1. 325 acres on the south side of the Yakin River.
   (*Mark inherited some & bought some from brothers- Mark's sons - John D, Nathan & Lewis - sold it 1852-1862.*)

Thomas Whittaker's land (James' father-in-law) was:

5. 200 acres on Double Creek

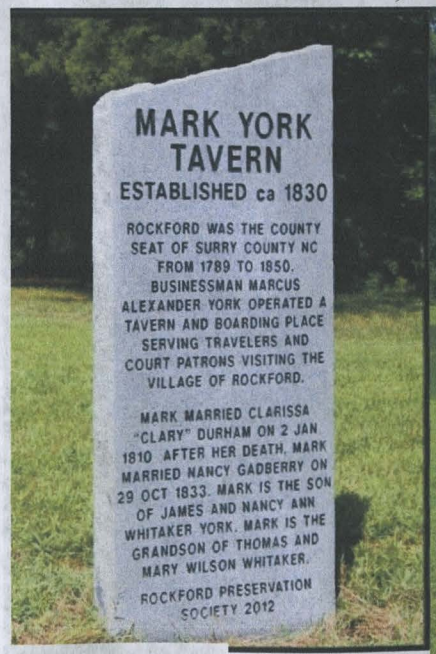
James Durham's (Mark's Father-in-law) land was:

300 acres on Morris Creek (Location not indicated)

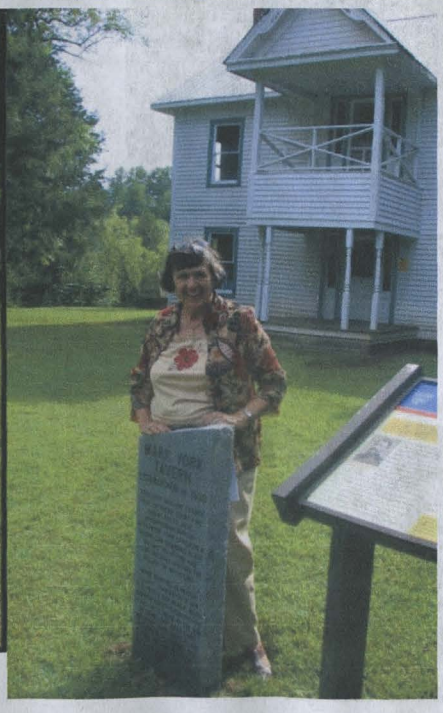
6?. 150 acres on Forbis (Forbush?) Creek

2012
Dedication of Marker
at York Tavern
for Mark York by
Roberta Himebrook
(one side for Thomas Whittaker
That dedication in 5-2-a-4)





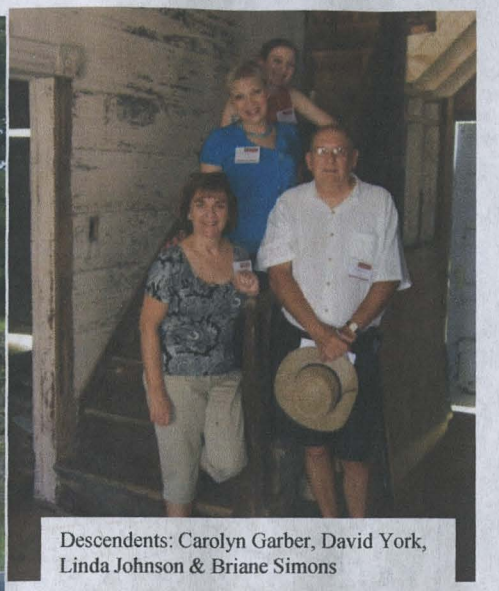
Updated 2012





Logs were used as support beams in York Traven and you could even see the knots in them.



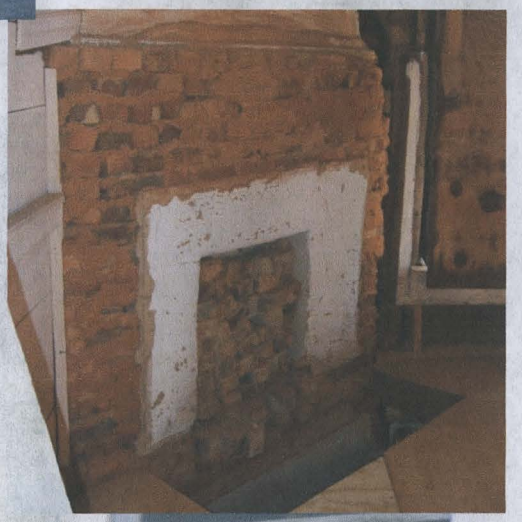


Descendents: Carolyn Garber, David York, Linda Johnson & Briane Simons

York Tavern Rockford NC 2006 & 2010

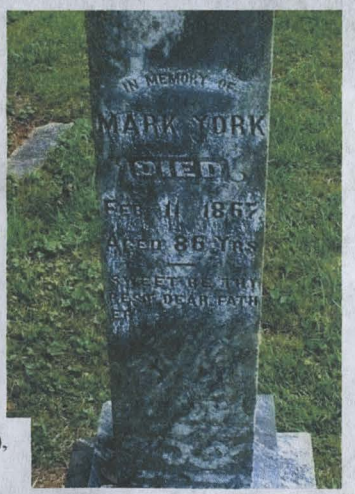
Pictures from Carolyn Garber & Linda Johnson







Briane Simons, Linda Johnson, (Linda's Mom), Carolyn Garber & Shannon Cavanaugh



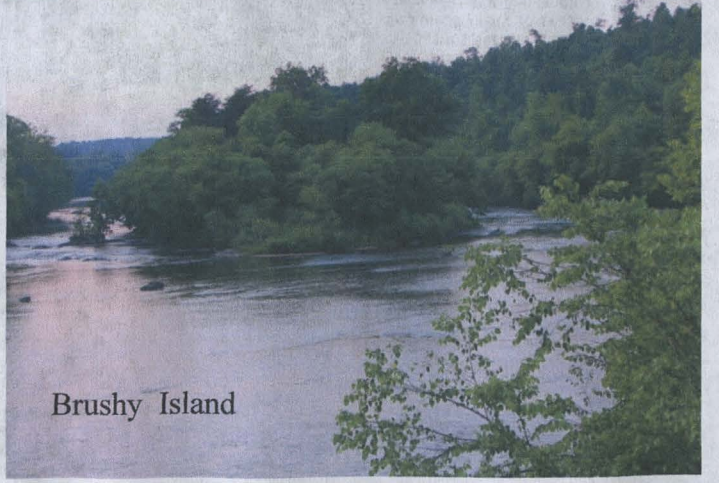






2002 Visit
Roberta Himebrook & Alice Kinard

Updated:
Sept 2011



Brushy Island

Some of Mark's Children

2nd son of Mark & Clary – James Frederick



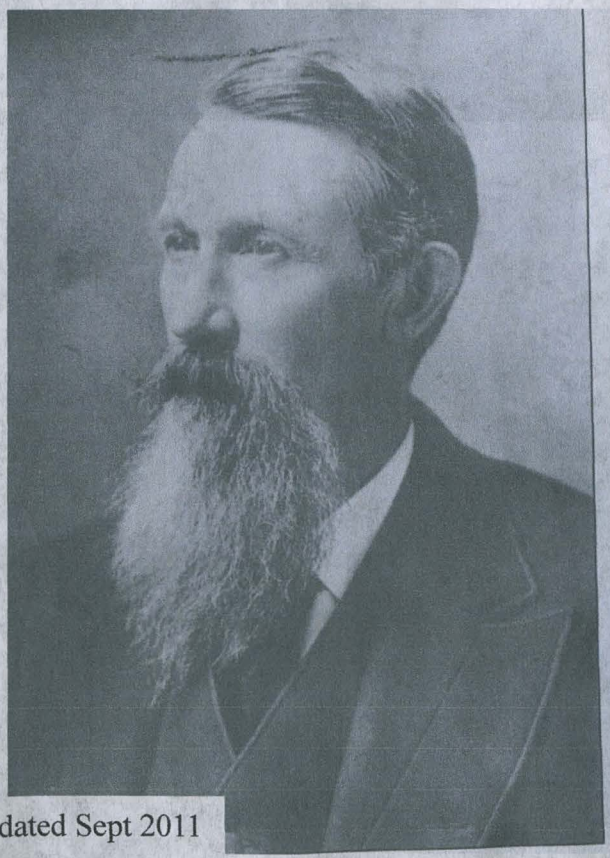
Family of Emmett Wallace York, James' Great-grandson



Top Row L to R:
Jewel Opal Jimenez, Rosa Evedine Lewis, Reba Ruth Wooldridge
Virginia Idell Hood, & Glenda Sue Dunn
Bottom Row L to R:
Joyce Evelyn Harless, Pearl Elizabeth Hyman York (wife),
Larry Don York, Emmett Wallace York, & Sylvia Jean Shan
Note: Son Carroll Eugene York died 1937

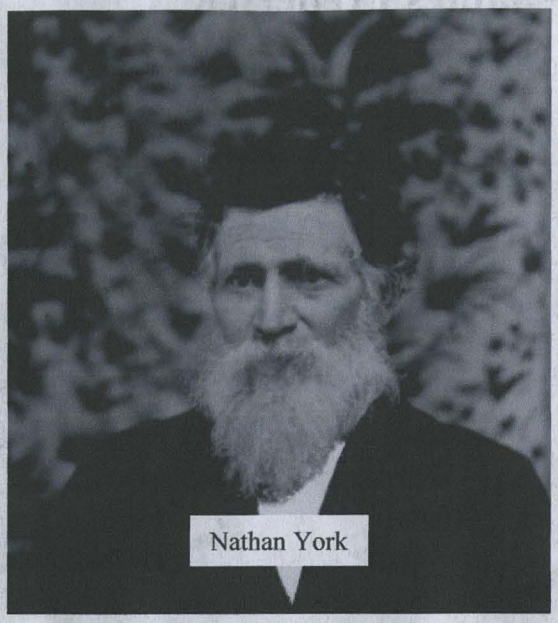
Pictures from Reba Wooldridge

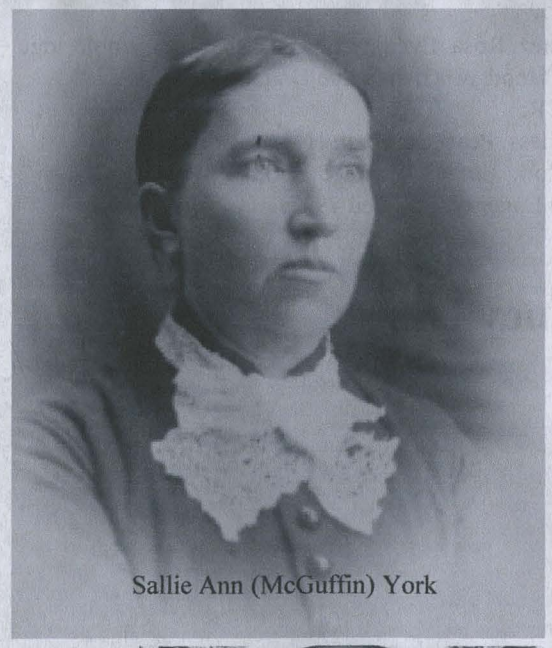
2nd son of Mark & Nancy – Tyre



Unsuccessful Bid for Governor. Dr. Tyre York (1836–1916) was born in Rockford and was the son of Mark and Nancy Gadberry York. In 1884, York ran for governor of North Carolina on the Republican ticket but did not win. He was a member of Congress from Wilkes County, North Carolina. (Courtesy of Jim Cockerham.)

Last child of Mark & Clary – Nathan


Nathan York


Sallie Ann (McGuffin) York


Sallie & daughter Lula

Nathan & Sallie's daughters







Mark & Clary (Durham) York

Gr-grandparents of Zelma Johnson (Roberta Harkey's Grandmother)

MARK'S YOUTH

Mark (Marcus Alexander) York was born in North Carolina in 1790. (The 1850 census shows him as 61, which would make his birth year 1789; however he was not counted in his father's household in 1790. Believe he was born in 1790 and the difference can be attributed to the day the census was conducted.) This would have placed his birth not many years after the end of the American Revolution. His parents were James and Nancy York of Surry County, North Carolina. There is a family narrative about them. Mark apparently grew up in the Surry County area. Surry County is in the northwest corner of North Carolina, with Virginia as its northern boundary. It lays not far east of the mountain chain which was the early barrier to westward expansion and which marked the western boundary of several of the original colonies. Surry County was formed in 1770. The north and south portions of the county are somewhat evenly divided by the Yadkin River, which flows eastward from the mountains. On the river in the approximate center of the new county, the town of Rockford was established in 1790. It was the county seat of Surry County and the location of Mark York's activities.

CLARY'S PARENTS-JAMES & PAREY ANGELA DURHAM

Clarrissa "Clary" was the daughter of James and Parey (Pharey) Angela Durham. According to one source they were born between 1755 and 1765, which would have made them between 37 and 27 when they were married. James and Parey were married Dec 27, 1792 in Cumberland Co. Virginia. James Durham and William Anglea signed their marriage bond. Perhaps Parey's father was William. Unsure who the James Durham was that signed as James' father, James Sr., because believe James Sr. died in the summer of 1792. According to one source Clary was born in 1783 in NC, which would have been 9 years before her parents were married in Virginia. Another source had her born in 1794. Unsure when James and Parey moved to Surry Co. as the James Durham in Surry Co for the 1790 (1M under 15, 1M over 15, 3F), 1800 (2M under 10, 1 M 10-16, 1M 26-45, 1F under 10, 2 F 16-26, 1F 26-45) and 1810 census has more older children than one would expect for a couple married in 1792. Hence, if the James Durham on the census is James and Parey, they are there as part of an extended family group and James is listed as the head. However, feel James and Parey were there by 1810 as that was when their daughter Clary was married in Surry Co. There is a James Durham listed on jury duty in Surry Co in 1809-1810.

CLARY'S GRANDPARENTS-JAMES & BETTY DURHAM SR

Clary's grandparents were James Durham Sr. and Betty. James was born about 1736 and Betty about 1740. James served in the French and Indian War when he was about 22. He served six months under Capt. Robert Munford in Byrds regiment in 1758. It is not know if he served in the Revolutionary War, however most likely he was too old.

Updated 1Jan2000

James Sr wrote his will in December 1789 and it was entered into court in Cumberland Co., Virginia on 27 Aug 1792. He left his whole estate real & personal to his wife Betty during her natural life & after her decease it was to be divided equally between his 8 children. The inventory and appraisal were brought before the court November 1, 1792 and recorded at the session held on December 24. The value was L174 15 6 and it included 2 Negroes, 9 head of cattle, 3 feather beds, a chest & box, a loom & cupboard, a pair flat irons & steelyards, a "saddel" & "bridel", 5 chairs, 3 cotton wheals, 1 side of "lether" & 1 hide, plantation tools, wheals "blooks" & kitchen fur., 1 pair of cart wheals, 8 "hhds" & 4 gees, 1 flax wheal, 1 field of corn & fodder, 1 cask of brandy, 1 cast of cider and 4 hogs.

It is assumed that Betty did not die until 1802 as the next entry in the court record list the settlement of the estate and is shows 257 10 1.5 being paid out from 1792 through May 1802. There are listings for surveying land and paying land lax as well as clothing and doctor bills. The last eight entries are each for about 21 pounds and are for each of his eight children: William, James (Clary's father), Peter Carregain (for his wife Nancy), John Anglea (for his wife Sally), Elizabeth "Betty", Jeff Howel (for his wife Fanny), Nicholius, and William Salmons (for his wife Polly).

MARK & CLARY'S MARRIAGE

According to family history, Mark visited "old England" when he was a young man. He married "a beautiful Irish lady of a titled family from Dublin, Ireland...noted for her beauty." However, North Carolina records show that Mark York and Clary Durham were married in Surry County on 2 January 1810. . Both Mark and the bondsman, James Johnson, signed the marriage bond by mark. Clary was about 16 and Mark was about 20

MARK & CLARY'S FAMILY

Mark York was enumerated in each U. S. Census 1810 through 1860 as living in Surry County. The 1820 census lists in the household one "foreigner, not naturalized". Not sure who this was. Five small children were counted in the family. Two older girls were listed as living in the household, but they did not appear on subsequent census enumerations. The 1830 census shows Mark's household with eight children and three slaves. Of these children, only two remained in Surry County after they were grown. According to estate and census records, Mark and Clary's children were: John D., (born 1810, married Mary Fleming, 1835); James (Fred), (born 1811, married #1 Maryann Crissman, 1832 and married #2 Sarah Grant 1844); Adam A Poley (born 1813, married Mary "Pollie" Woodruff, 1832); Ferrebee " Phebe" (born 1815, married Alfred Shugart by 1840); Nancy (born 1817, married William Richardson, 1862); Michael Edward (married Nancy); Marcus Alexander, Jr. (born 1825, married Adeline Crumpher, 1851); and Nathan (born 1827, married #1 Elizabeth Johnson, 1854, and married #2 Sallie Ann McGuffin, 1860). There is an Edward who is only mentioned in the estate settlement and suspect it is Michael Edward or Edward Michael. According to Lula Ann York Johnson, Nathan was the youngest of eleven children and this lists eight. Perhaps some died as infants

Lula York Johnson, their granddaughter, wrote the following about her grandparents: "It seems they were in the habit of going to Raleigh, the state capitol, to enjoy the social life there during the winters and my Grandmother was called the most beautiful woman at the capitol. While I never saw her, Father told me what she was like - of medium height, very fair skin with natural rosy checks, deep blue Irish eyes and auburn hair which fell in natural curls below her waist. ... Her husband, Mark York, even in old age, was tall and straight as an Indian with flashing black eyes and black hair."

Mark was buying land in Surry County not long after his marriage to Clary Durham. The oldest Surry County deed record books show numerous purchases and sales of land of different "York's" over the years. It appears, Mark was a plantation owner of about 1400 acres as mentioned in the settlement of his estate. However, using the average per acre prices and noting the census valuations of his real estate, he could have owned over 2,000 at one time or another.

The first purchase clearly identified as Mark's was on 4 January 1818 when he bought 158 acres from Archibald Donnaldson for $300. The land description included, "...on the west bank of Big Fall Creek...near the mouth of Ash Branch." In 1823, Mark bought 118 acres of Surry County land from his brother Nimrod, who was also guardian for Sarah York. The deed stated the 118 acres was part of the James York deed (Mark's father) that was divided among the heirs of said deed. This supports the assumption that James and Nancy York must have lived in this area before their deaths. The description of the land continues, "...on the Yadkin River, south side...2 chains and 85 links to a post oak John York corner...and 21 chains and 50 links to a post oak Jonathan York corner." (As these were Mark's brothers, it is most likely that the James York property was that along the Yadkin River.) Recorded also in Surry County in 1829 was a purchase of land from his brother John.

CLARY'S DEATH

Clary York died in 1831 when their youngest child, Nathan, was only five years old. She and Mark had been married 21 years. Family history relates that their daughter, Nancy (perhaps named after her grandmother Nancy York) was like a mother to young Nathan. She would have been about 15.

MARK MARRIED NANCY GADBERRY

About two years after Clary's death, Mark married Nancy Gadberry. The ceremony took place on 29 October 1833 in Surry County with F. K. Armstrong serving as bondsman. She was 23 approximately 10 months older than Mark's first child John D. To this marriage were born ten children over some 25 years. The children of this marriage, from estate and census records appear to be: Lewis "Louis" (born 1883, married Wilmouth Joyce), Tyra (1836-1916, married Elizabeth Anne Crumpler), Elizabeth, (born 1835), Annie America, (1840-1916, married Daniel F. Holcomb), Laura Francis (born 1842, married J. H. Maxwell), Cornelia Caroline (born 1844), Lovelet Eliza (married William S. Blackwood), Little C. (born 1843, married Alice Anderson),

Jasper Newton (1850-1915), and Claude E. (1854-1894). This brings Mark's sons and daughters total to 18. About seven of the second group of children remained in North Carolina after they were grown.

YORK TAVERN IN ROCKFORD, NORTH CAROLINA

An account of Mark York's life is not complete without extensive excerpts for The Story of Rockford, a booklet published by or for the historical society in that town. Mark obviously was one of the early leaders and prominent citizens. In 1789, the North Carolina Assembly appointed a committee to select a new site for the county seat of Surry Co., which at the time included Yadkin Co. The village of Rockford was laid out on 53 acres of land on the north side of the Yadkin River at a point where the river was wide and shallow with a rock bed, making an easier crossing for the inhabitants from the lower half of the county. The road north climbed from the ford straight up a hill.

"In the little settlement of Rockford which grew along the river, the stately courthouse building was an object of community pride. Three men who were later to become Presidents of the United States are said to have attended court here: Andrew Jackson, Andrew Johnson, and James K. Polk." Rockford was the capital of Surry, Yadkin and much of the rest of Northwest Carolina. It was an important place for lawyers. Student lawyers lived in homes in Rockford, in law officers (log dormitories), the York Tavern, and the Grant-Burrus Hotel, so they could attend classes at the famous Richmond M Pearson Law School at Richmond Hill, just across the Yadkin River. About three-fourths the way up was the county courthouse. The first courthouse was built of wood and was destroyed by fire after a few years. The second building was also a frame house and was replaced by a handsome brick structure two stories high, with brick arches over porches and four columns in front. It served until 1850 when Surry County was divided along the Yadkin River. (Mark then owned land in both counties,) The south half became Yadkin County and the north half remained Surry County. The original Surry County had been divided much earlier, losing the eastern portion that became Stokes and Forsyth Counties. The county seat for Surry County was eventually moved northwest to Dobson, a more central location in the smaller county. (Afterwards daughter Anne and her husband Dr. Holcomb lived in the old courthouse.)

In the middle of 1830's, Mark and his brother James built the York Tavern in Rockford. Mark operated the tavern (inn) "which shared the distinction of entertaining many notables of the day." The Story of Rockford continues, "Not only is the courthouse still standing, keeping watch above the river as of old, but there still sands York's Tavern with its legends of long ago days. The Building has changed very little; the same winding stairway goes up to the second floor where Andrew Jackson had a front room. Another stairway leads up to the attic where one can see some of the original woodwork held together with wooden pins." The building now carries a marker on a front column indicating that in the 1976 Bicentennial Year, Surry County designated the tavern as an historical site.

A newspaper article state that A. York Tavern is where two Presidents spent many evenings; while other article states that Jackson stayed in Rockford 1800 to 1812 at the Burrus Hotel (York Tavern was not built then). Other articles give more information: "The York Tavern

where Andrew Johnson is said to have stayed when he made Rockford his headquarters as a young lawyer. He lived in the downstairs corner room. This was in 1830's or 1840's." The York Tavern where Johnson stayed was described as a frame building with the corner post of the frame being huge logs the sides of which were 18 inches each way. The tavern was built in a great L shape. The L, which extended many feet, was used for a kitchen and long dining room on the first floor. On the second floor were rooms for the lawyers. Servant quarters stood a short distance away in the back.

The Rockford story touches only briefly on Mark York's land acquisitions. It says, "...in 1837 he acquired considerable land around Rockford from Matthew Hughes. The land included half of the Bushy Island--the other half was owned by Emmanuel Shober. The remainder of York's land came from Watson Hoylfield and adjoining Hoylfield, Dobson, Haynes, and Bray corners."

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In 1834, an election was ordered for the people to work authorizing assembly for or against a convention to amend the constitution. Rockford appointed Mark York and Jonathan Whitaker. "Mark York gave land for the erection of a church for all denominations, except two which he designated, to worship in. It is said that Mr. York was not a church member, but his son was a Baptist (Nathan became a Baptist minister) and a son-in-law, (Dr. Holcomb) preached at the Methodist Church. The deed to the land was made to the Baptist Church. All the people of the community, Methodists and Baptists, joined in, however, to erect the one-room house of worship. The church sat on a hill where the cemetery is located and was surrounded by hickory and oak trees. The Baptist State Convention was held at Rockford in 1848." According to The Heritage of Surry County "On November 6, 1847, Brethren J. J. Blackwell, Mark York and Thomas Crumpler were appointed commissioners to superintend the building of the Baptist Church house in Rockford." Mark also owned a blacksmith shop in Rockford. We don't know if Mark and his family lived in Rockford in the York Tavern or on his nearby farmlands.

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

Family history relates a happening that would have occurred in about 1843 "when Nathan was a young boy of about 17." Mark's granddaughter, Lula Ann, wrote it as she remembered her father, Nathan York, described the event. "The English title of Earl fell to Mark (Nathan's father) because of the death of the heir to the title in England. Mark refused the title, saying 'he preferred to be an American.' Six lawyers were sent over from England so that he and his oldest son could sign away their rights to the title and estate in England. It rook them several days to complete their 'red tape' during which time the younger York boys enjoyed the quarrels between the Negro slaves and the white servants of the attorneys. Each attorney had brought his own

valet. Grandfather felt like they wanted his good American dollars to build up an estate encumbered with debts, and he preferred to remain a free American." In light of the fact it appears Mark was the fifth son of James, wonder if the other brothers also signed or if this was concerning Mark's oldest brother.

The 1840 census showed ten children in the family and the young wife (one female between 30 and 40). Seven slaves were counted. The enumeration of the household listed one in a "learned profession" five in "agriculture" and one in a "manufacturing trade". The 1850 Census gave not just numbers but names and relationships, showed Mark's occupation as "farmer". Still living at home then were two of Clary's children -- Michael age 22, a clerk, and Nathan age 23, a student -- along with nine younger children of the second wife, Nancy. From June 30, 1851 to October 30, 1856, Mark A. York was postmaster of Rockford.

In the 1860 census, Mark age 71, was still listed as a farmer, with $9,000 value of real estate, and $4,945 value of personal property. Nancy's age was 45 and only the seventh youngest of her ten children were still at home. There were five slaves in the household. On adjacent pages of the 1860 census roll, one notes several adult sons of Mark York living with their families nearby. Mark A. York, Jr. age 34 was listed as a merchant. Lewis York, age 25, appeared as a physician. Do not know where daughter Nancy was however in 1862, the "45-year-old spinster", Nancy York of Rockford married Billy Richardson, a "well fixed" widower from Pittsylvania Co VA who settled in the late 1850's on a farm on Snow Creek. Tyre York, Mark and Nancy's second son was mentioned in the following excerpt from The History of Surry County, by Hollingsworth: "The county voted Democratic in 1880, but in 1884 the county's native son, Tyre York, Republican, received a plurality over Scales, Democrat, in the race for Governor." Despite the unsuccessful gubernatorial race, in a family story in The Heritage of Surry Co., it is stated "Dr.Tiry York was a member of the state legislature for many years." The History of Surry County does say, however, that he "established a school at Trap Hill, which flourished during the time of boarding schools."

CIVIL WAR

In 1861, North Carolina joined the Southern cause in the Civil War. One writer described this time period as follows: "To the farmers of Surry, the land was the living and the living was from the land. The land meant everything. It brought a feeling of security and pride and freedom to live as they chose. ... They were undeniably proud of being descendants of the first families on the land and looked down their noses at outsiders. Their motto was 'Leave me alone.' The Civil War was a threat, and the farmer would fight for home and land." In 1861, the Governor began to prepare for war. Orders were sent to each county to call out the existing militia. Surry County brought forth two groups who were designated the 73thand 74th Regiments of the 18th Brigade of the North Carolina Militia. The extent of the involvement of the York families in the Civil War is not fully recorded. In The History of Surry County by Hollingsworth, there is a notation that "Little C. York", enlisted 18 March 1862. Wounded and prisoner at Gettysburg, Company A, 28th Regt." He was Mark and Nancy's eighth child, born in 1847. Mark A York; residence of Rockford was listed as a Major and third in command of the 74th Regiment. Since Mark A York,

Sr. would have been 72; this was probably his son, Mark A York, Jr., age 35.

There is one story from the Civil war period that relates to Mark Sr.'s second wife, Nancy. "It is said that when a detachment of soldiers from Stoneman's Army came through Rockford, the people had been warned and the York animals had been relegated with Negro attendants to parts unknown, presumably the outlying wooded areas—or the Brushy Island. When the officer in charge reached the York home, he found Mrs. York churning with her young son, Jasper—who was not quite normal, by her side. The officer plied her with questions concerning the whereabouts of the stock, but received no answer. Mrs. York just kept right on churning. After repeatedly asking and receiving no reply, the soldier threatened to take her son with him. Mrs. York stopped her churning long enough to look at him and say, "and you'll play the devil,' then went back to her churn. The troops left with no supplies from the York place."

MARK'S DEATH

Mark York died 11 February 1867, being then 77 years old. His wife Nancy was to live another 27 years, dying in 1894. Mark left no will, but lots of heirs, and it took 14 years and three Administrators to settle the estate. The photocopies of the estate papers consist of 41 pages of court records, in script, some hardly legible, from 12 or 13 separate documents or court actions, being the numerous petitions, inventories, reports, and final decree. The first was Nancy's petition in the May 1867 court term to allot to her the dower of one third of the land and the home to which she was entitled for the duration of her natural life.

In judging the actions of the Administrators in the inventory and sale of estate property, collection and sale of crop rents, and other matters, the state of the economy in Surry County is not known. Mark died little more than a year after the end of the Civil War. North Carolina was a part of the Confederacy. The slaves who formerly helped in farming may have departed. Quite possible the Reconstruction was adding more than a little chaos to the local economy in Rockford.

The first petition named 14 of Mark's children, including four daughters whose husbands were also named, and three children of a deceased son. In all, 16 of Mark's children were mentioned in the various court papers, including some who were deceased (leaving children) and four or five who had left North Carolina. It appears that Mark and Nancy's children included: Lewis (born 1834), Tyre (born 1836), Annie (born 1840, married Daniel Holcomb), Laura (born 1842, married J H Maxwell), Lovelet (born 1846, married William S Blackwood), Little (born 1848), Jasper (born 1850), and Claud (born 1854). A son-in-law was one of the first two co-Administrators appointed by the court. By 1874, these two were replaced by another son-in-law.

The first report by the estate Administrators contained a seven-page list of items, prices, and buyers resulting from the sales of farm and household equipment, stock, and crops in July and August of 1867. The amounts received for many items are of interest, in that they may reflect something about money values of the times. For instance, a shovel and a pitchfork sold for $.05 each. Most hand tools such as hammers, hand saw, scythe, etc. went for $.05 to $.50

each. One crosscut saw did bring $1.40 and the best of several axes sold for $.75. The spinning wheel was bought for $1.95. The four-horse wagon was worth $14 and two-horse wagon went for $10. A one-horse harrow and plow was priced at $.25 while a turnover plow as $.75. While a saddle brought $2, a sidesaddle was only good for a quarter. Perhaps ladies weren't using them now! House furniture didn't do much better. A dining table sold for $.10. Other tables were $.15, $.25, and up to $2.50 maximum. Several items described as "bed and furniture" varied from a low price of $2.50 to the highest at $6.25. Most chairs were $.10 or $.15 to $.25, but one set of eight was priced at $.40 for the set!

The livestock did somewhat better. A yellow mule was highest at $165, though a mouse-colored mule was only $75. A sorrel mare sold for $94. Hogs were $.90 to $3 each, a cow was $5. The fact that many of the buyers, particularly of household and personal items, were York heirs (including the widow, Nancy) may have had a restraining effect on the bidding. This was not noticeable among the buyers of harvested crops, where corn averaged about 804 a bushel, wheat over $2, and rye about $1.25. (There were a number of lots of each commodity.) The eight stacks of hay sold from $1 to 3.40 per stack. These prices for crops compared well with those sold three years later when the Administrator sold the estate rent for the year, consisting of corn, wheat, rye, oats, etc. Such income from crop rents was reported in only two years, 1870 and 1874, of the estate administration between 1867 and 1881.

No reliable tabulation of Mark York's land holdings as of the various periods was attempted. The Surry County Index showed that he sold land at least eight times prior to 1852, mostly in the last four years of that time. The actual deeds were not examined. The estate transactions after his death indicate approximately 1,400 acres, including the one third allotted to Nancy as the widow's dower, and four city lots (up to three acres in size) in Rockford.

The estate Administrator reported to the court that the estate was in debt, and secured approval to sell 340 acres to the highest bidder for $1600 in 1874. This was to pay estate debts and administrative costs up to that point. The estate was in debt again. March 1881, the Administrator sold the rest of the land (excluding Nancy's dower) in separate parcels at public auction to close the estate. Interestingly, the top price for the city lots, varying from half to three acres in size, was $225. But the buyers refrained from bidding on the smallest lot, which Nancy got for $1. The court issued the decree on 2 May 1881 closing the estate.

Notes on their children:

John D and Mary left North Carolina and moved to Kansas in mid 1850's. Their children included: Alexander (b 1836), Elizabeth C. (b 1838), Job A. (b 1839), Susan D. (b 1840), Gilbert MDL (b 1841), Lodicia (b 1843), Rachel J. (b 1845) and Robert (b 1848). John died in 1860's.

James left North Carolina and died in Texas between 1877 and 1888. He had two wives. He and Mary Ann had the following children: Mark (b 1833), Mary Ann (b 1835), Louisa, Nancy R. and James Emenuel. His and Sarah's children were: Nathan D. (b 1844), Ferrebee E (b 1846), Sarah J. (b 1850), Francis S. (b 1852), Laura C., John Henry (died young), Amanda Jane and John Henry.

Updated 1Jan2000

Adam "Poley" and Mary " Pollie" made their home on the outskirts of Elkin NC raising 10 children and a grandson, Martin York. They had the following children: Joel D., (1833-1916, m #1 Elizabeth Ann McKaughn, #2 Lydia E "Betie" Maxwell, & #3 Louisinda E. Casper Killiai); Cornelies (1836-1919, m Louisa Phillips); Clarrisa Jane (1838-1905, m #1 Alfred R. Day, & #2 Thomas C. Chipman); Mary Anne, (b 1840, m J. M. Pardue); Enoch Howard (b 1842, m Kezziah Cummings); John William (b 1844, m Margaret Kimmer); Susan Tennessee, (b 1846, m Lewin Morrison); Lucinda Cinderella (1846-1907, m John Fletcher Brendle); Adam (1850-1889, m Sarah Jennings. Went to Arkansas following death of his wife leaving son with parents); and Nathan (b 1852. Went to Arkansas with his brother).

Ferrebee and Alfred Shugart left North Carolina.

Nancy was William Richardson second wife: no children. One of Williams's son-in-laws, Yancy Holt, was killed at Gettysburg and his son James Henry lived with them. Nancy's will was July 1883.

Michael Edward is believed to have died by 1867 without heirs.

Mark and Adeline's children were: Thomas Edwin (b 1852), Elizabeth A. (b 1858), and Mary "Mollie". Mark died in 1864, leaving his heirs as minors, who left the area.

Nathan and Elizabeth's children were Leticia Lucinda (1855-1885); William Johnson, (1856-1920, m Ada E. Greenwood in 1887), and Philip Durham (1858-1892). After Elizabeth's death, Nathan married Sallie Ann McGuffin. Their children were: Lula Ann (b 1865); Hattie (b 1870); and Emma (b 1872). They left the state and their story is one of the family narratives.

This was compiled by Lanice Harkey and Marion Harkey in 1984 and updated by Roberta Himebrook in 1987, and 1996, 1999. Information from:

Letters of Lula Ann (York) Johnson Emmons
Surry County, NC, land & court records
North Carolina State Achieves
Surry County library historical section
US Census records
Conversation with Paul Johnson
Material from Carolyn Garbers
Vonda Cooper's records
The Heritage of Surry County, North Carolina, Volume I & II
Surry County Soldiers in the Civil War, Editor Hester Bartlett Jackson

Submitted by Roberta Himebrook

Updated 1Jan2000

SURRY COUNTY MARRIAGE BONDS

GROOM	BRIDE	DATE OF BOND	BONDSMAN
Yeates, William	Elizabeth Miller	15 Mar. 1787	George Carver
York, Adam	Polly Woodruff	31 Dec. 1832	Ed. M. Dobson
York, Cornelius	Louesey Phillips	18 Aug. 1858	md. 18 Aug. 1858 by A. J. Roberts, J.P.
York, Enock H.	Keziah Cummings	(3) 5 Feb. 1867	John W. York md. 5 Feb. 1867 by Joel Hurt, J.P.
York, J. D.	Elizabeth McAeghan	18 Nov. 1860	md. 18 Nov. 1860 by A. J. Roberts
York, James	Maryann Chrisman	15 Oct. 1832	Wilson B. Burnham
York, James, Jr.	Mary B. Poindexter	20 Sept. 1848	Richard E. Reeves
York, Joel D. (A)3	Lydia Eley Maxwell	10 Oct. 1866	John W. York md. 11 Oct. 1866 by Joel Hurt, J.P.
York, John	Piggy Wadden	6 May 1806	Richard York
York, John D.	Mary Fleming	1 Jan. 1835	Lewis Gadberry
York, John W.	Margaret Kemmer	4 Mar. 1867	Sinclair J. McMickle md. 4 Mar. 1867 by Joel Hurt, J.P.
York, Jonathan	Rebekah Hinshaw	9 Apr. 1807	Joel York
York, Lewis	Elizabeth Darnall	6 Sept. 1845	Daniel York
York, Mark	Clary Durham	2 Jan. 1810	James Johnson
York, Mark	Nancy Gadberry	29 Oct. 1833	F. K. Armstrong
York, Mark A., Jr.	Adeline E. Crumpler	13 Mar. 1851	Leon H. Cash md. 12 Mar. 1851 by N. H. Blackwood, J.P.
York, Nathan	Elizabeth Johnson	28 Mar. 1854	T. K. Crumpler md. 29 Mar. 1854 by John Robertson, M.G.
York, Nathan	Sally Ann McGuffin	30 Aug. 1860	F. H. Jones md. 30 Aug. 1860 by F. M. Jones
York, Nimrod	Mary Reese	20 Sept. 1818	Mark York

SURRY COUNTY MARRIAGE BONDS PAGE 257

GROOM	BRIDE	DATE OF BOND	BONDSMAN
York, Thomas	Christina Panther	15 Dec. 1822	Benjamin Moore
York, William	Tempy Glen	26 Aug. 1829	James York
Young, Franklin	Genny Eldridge	24 July 1855	md. 24 July 1855 by D. R. Cockerham, J.P.
Young, Isham	Nancy Harvey	11 Mar. 1802	David Welch
Young, Noah	Herret Auberry	31 Jan. 1845	Gideon Barker
Young, William	Margett McCord	19 Oct. 1789	James McCord
Young, William M.	Rebecca C. Morlin	2 Mar. 1845	(? Aron B.)

etery. SISTER TO Josie, Betty Jean, Crawley Jean
B/18/1918

JUDY HAMLIN BRINTLE

Mount Airy.—Mrs. Judy Hamlin Brintle, 27, of Dobson, Route 2, died at an Elkin hospital Monday following an illness of several days.

Surviving are her husband, Arvin Brintle, to whom she was married Aug. 28, 1937; one son, Ivey Gray, of the home; the parents, Claude and Minnie Poindexter Hamlin; three brothers, Clyde Brintle, U. S. Army, stationed at Memphis, Tenn., Crawley and Billy Brintle, both of the home; four sisters, Misses Josie, Betty Jean, Jewell and Brenda Brintle, all of the home. HAMLIN

Funeral services will be conducted this afternoon at 2 o'clock at Fairview Baptist Church. Rev. Scales Draughn, Rev. Walter Calloway and Rev. S. L. Hoffman will officiate. Interment will be in the church cemetery. D. 1945

WALL

Hazel Shugart Wall, 98, of Walkertown, died Monday, May 22, 1995 at The Oaks at Forsyth in Winston-Salem. She was born in Yadkin County October 24, 1896 to S.E. and Lillie York Shugart. She, with her late husband, Arthur Lee Wall, operated a grocery and hardware business in Walkertown for many years. Mrs. Wall was an active member of Love's United Methodist Church and the United Methodist Women as long as health permitted. Surviving are two daughters, Irene Wall Botts of Mount Pleasant, S.C., and Ann Wall Snyder of Springfield, Va.; one son, Kermit A. Wall of Walkertown; 10 grandchildren; and 23 great-grandchildren. The funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday in Love's United Methodist Church in Walkertown. The family will receive friends at Vogler and Sons Main Street Chapel from 7-9 p.m. Tuesday. Memorials may be made to Love's United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 8, Walkertown, N.C. 27051.

DINKINS

Mrs. Amelia York Dinkins, 80, formally of Rt. 2, Courtney Community, died Friday, February 26, 1993 at Yadkin Nursing Center in Yadkinville. Funeral services will be conducted at 11 a.m. Monday at Turners Creek Baptist Church with Rev. Allen Barker officiating. Burial will be in the church cemetery. The family will receive friends from 2 - 4 p.m. Sunday at Eaton Funeral Home in Mocksville. The body will be placed in the church 30 minutes prior to the service. Mrs. Dinkins was born July 15, 1912 in Yadkin County. She had worked for Carolina Sportswear in Mocksville and was also a homemaker. She was a member of Turners Creek Baptist Church. Survivors include three sons, Martin P. White of Vera Beach, Fla., Patrick H. and Bobby R. White of Sebastian, Fla; three sisters, Laura Seagle and Rosebud Caudle of Yadkinville, Betty Peace of High Point; two brothers, Henry York of Courtney Community and Travis York of Advance; 12 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren.

2/28/1993 SUNDAY U-STORM

...low Nov 9 1901 He survives her

Other survivors include four daughters Mrs Ethel Phillips Mrs Jack Boyles and Mrs B B Webb of High Point and Mrs C F King of Greensboro, three sons Carson W and Zeb Whitlow of High Point and James Whitlow of Reno Nev two sisters Mrs Arthur Brown and Mrs Norman Wrenn of High Point four brothers Tom R L and Willie Delappe of High Point and Arthur Delappe of Altavista Va 15 grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren

Funeral services will be conducted at 2 30 p m Monday at Conrad Memorial Baptist Church by the pastor, the Rev G E Richman Burial will be in Oakwood Cemetery.

Wesley A. York

MOUNT AIRY.—Wesley A York, 83, former Surry County register of deeds died at 6 05 p m yesterday at his home in the Beulah section on the Mount Airy-Lowgap Highway

A native of Surry County, he served several terms as register of deeds and was a county school teacher, tobacco warehouse operator and banker. He was a former vice-president and director of the Surry County Loan and Trust Company in Mount Airy

Born March 11, 1870, he was a son of Cornelius and Louisa Phillips York. He married the former Esther E. Davis April 20, 1910.

Surviving are his wife, two sons, John D York of Mount Airy, Route 3, and Wesley A York Jr of Charlotte; three daughters, Mrs Spencer Norman of the home and Mrs Arthur L. Pharr and Mrs. A. M Wrenn of Raleigh; and nine grandchildren

Funeral services will be conducted at 2 p m Monday at the home by the Rev. D D Hodges The body will be taken to the home at 2 p.m today The place of burial has not been set last night.

University of North Carolina He taught in both the Reidsville and Rockingham County public schools

Surviving are two sisters Mrs Lulu Clark of Reidsville and Miss Josephine Bennett of Raleigh, and a brother, James H Bennett of Reidsville

Funeral services will be conducted at 4 30 p m today at the home on the Old Danville Road by Elders Floyd Adams and David Spangler Burial will be in the Bennett family cemetery

etery. SISTER To Josie, BETTY Jean
3/8 1918

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Funeral services will be conducted this afternoon at 2 o'clock at Fairview Baptist Church. Rev. Scales Draughn, Rev. Walter Calloway and Rev. S. L. Hoffman will officiate. Interment will be in the church cemetery. D, 1945

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FEB 1993 SUNDAY W-STOURNAL

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Funeral services will be conducted at 2 30 p m Monday at Conrad Memorial Baptist Church by the pastor, the Rev G E Richman Burial will be in Oakwood Cemetery.

Wesley A. York

MOUNT AIRY —Wesley A York, 83, former Surry County register of deeds died at 6 05 p m yesterday at his home in the Beulah section on the Mount Airy-Lowgap Highway

A native of Surry County, he served several terms as register of deeds and was a county school teacher, tobacco warehouse operator and banker. He was a former vice-president and director of the Surry County Loan and Trust Company in Mount Airy

Born March 11, 1870, he was a son of Cornelius and Louisa Phillips York. He married the former Esther E. Davis April 20, 1910.

Surviving are his wife, two sons, John D York of Mount Airy, Route 3, and Wesley A York Jr of Charlotte; three daughters, Mrs Spencer Norman of the home and Mrs Arthur L. Pharr and Mrs. A. M Wrenn of Raleigh; and nine grandchildren

Funeral services will be conducted at 2 p m Monday at the home by the Rev. D D Hodges The body will be taken to the home at 2 p.m today The place of burial has not been set last night.

University of North Carolina He taught in both the Reidsville and Rockingham County public schools

Surviving are two sisters Mrs Lulu Clark of Reidsville and Miss Josephine Bennett of Raleigh, and a brother, James H Bennett of Reidsville

Funeral services will be conducted at 4 30 p m today at the home on the Old Danville Road by Elders Floyd Adams and David Spangler Burial will be in the Bennett family cemetery

WB 6, p 397 NUNCUPATIVE WILL OF C E YORK. 6 Aug 1894. The following is the last will and testament of C E York dec'd made orally on 6 Aug 1894 having been reduced to writing within 10 days after the death of C E York. After Dr D F Holcomb and Dr Peel are paid, I want my sister Lavilet York and my brother Light York to have the balance of my interest in the estate. Witnesses: O C Holcomb and J T Burris. The Nuncupative Will of C E York dec'd is offered for probate by L C York and W S Blackwood. Summons have been issued to the heirs of said C E York and publication made for the non-resident heirs and no objection being made by answer or othewise. Publication having been made for six successive weeks in the Yadkin Valley News a newspaper published in Mount Airy, Surry Co, NC, and the proceedings are to be heard 17 Nov 1894. The said paper writing being duly proved by the oaths and examinations of O C Holcomb and J F Burris the subscribing witnesses; Nuncupative Will of said C E York dec'd is ordered to be recorded.

NOTICE FROM THE YADKIN VALLEY NEWS (Thurs, Dec 6, 1894):

NOTICE: L C York, Admr of Claude E York, dec'd. Date of Notice - Dec 3, 1894.

NOTICE: L C York et al or Tyre York et al. Adam York, John York, Mary Pardue, Tennessee Morrison, James York, Nathan York, Terrebee Shugart, Alfred Shugart, Edwin York, Lizzie York, the heirs-at-law of John D York, to wit: Susan D Fleming, Rachel I Bruton, Laura F Maxwell, Wallace York, L E York, Etta Dobbins, Will Dobbins, Ned York, W H Dunnagan. Non-resident notice; petition to sell land for partition. Date of Notice - Dec 3, 1894.

TYRE YORK

Tyre York born May 4, 1836 in Rockford, N.C.--studied medicine and practiced at Traphill N.C. during the last of the Civil War. He served as an officer and Doctor in Wilkes County Home Guards, served 4 years in State House of Representatives. and State Senate.

He died in Traphill and is burined in the Traphill Cemetery.

YORK, Tyre, a Representative from North Carolina; born in Rockford, Surry County, N. C., May 4, 1836; attended the common schools; studied medicine at the Charleston (S. C.) Medical College and commenced practice in Traphill, Wilkes County, N. C., in 1859; also engaged in agricultural pursuits; served during the latter part of the Civil War as surgeon of the Wilkes County Home Guards; was a member of the State house of representatives in 1865, 1866, 1879, and 1887; served in the State senate in 1876 and 1881; elected as a Liberal Democrat to the Forty-eighth Congress (March 4, 1883–March 3, 1885); did not seek renomination in 1884 to the Forty-ninth Congress, having become a gubernatorial candidate; unsuccessful candidate for Governor of North Carolina in 1884; resumed agricultural pursuits; died in Traphill, N. C., January 28, 1916; interment in Traphill Cemetery.

file

Subj: **Re: York family**
Date: 3/14/02 9:35:00 AM Eastern Standard Time
From: geneval@pacific.net (Geneva)
To: Wjhiatt@aol.com

Yes, I bought Surrey Co. book when I was at your Historical Society library in Mt. Airy two or three years ago. It was very helpful. Since then Sue Rubattino (York cousin) and I have discovered "cousins" all over the country. Some come directly from Jonathan and Rebekah (Hinshaw) York. A gentleman saw my card at the College genealogy dept. and got in touch with me. Turned out he was from a son of Jonathan. We have followed Rebekah to Calif. and know where she is buried. The best we can find is that Jonathan died in Surrey Co. and must be buried there.

We would be happy to share what little we know with anyone interested. Naturally we would like to know if anyone has gotten past James and Nancy.

Thanks for getting in touch. Geneva
—— Original Message ——
From: <Wjhiatt@aol.com>
To: <geneval@pacific.net>
Sent: Wednesday, March 13, 2002 5:30 PM
Subject: York family

> Geneva,
>
> Do you have the book, "The Heritage of Surry County, NC" Vol. II that has
> the York family histories in it? I didn't remember if I mentioned it to
you
> before or not. There is a history of James and Nancy Whitaker York and
> several more family histories. There is not one on Jonathan but wonder if
> any of those submitters could help you any on your line. I can give you
> their name and addresses if you are interested if you don't have the book.
> Have you ever placed a query in our journal? We can do that also if you
> haven't done so. I write so many people I can't remember who does what.
> Sorry if I repeat myself.
>
> Wilma Hiatt
> SCGA Research Committee
>

———————— Headers ————————
Return-Path: <geneval@pacific.net>
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by mail.pacific.net (8.12.0/8.12.1) with SMTP id g2EEXw3e011318
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From: "Geneva" <geneval@pacific.net>
To: <Wjhiatt@aol.com>

DR. TYRE YORK.

Dr. Tyre York, son of Mike York, was born at Rockford, Surry county, in 1836. He was educated in the common schools of his county. He studied medicine at the Charleston Medical College, from which institution he is a graduate.

He was married to Eliza Crumpler, of Surry county, daughter of Thomas Crumpler and sister of the famous T. N. Crumpler. By this union were born three children--all girls. The oldest married Hilliary Cockerham; the next married M. F. Bryan, and the third married Benjamin Taylor, of Alleghany county.

About 1869 Dr. York located in the Traphill section where he practiced his profession and tended his farm. When the Civil war broke out, he being a physician, was exempted from military service. He was very friendly to those who chose to conceal themselves in the mountains and caves rather than enter the army and he would go to their dens to give them medical attention in time of affliction. Many a poor soul was kept out of the army by his certificates of unsound health.

Immediately after the war Dr. Yord sold his property at Traphill and started for the State of Arkansas to make his future home. He and his wife and children started on the long journey in a wagon. After many daus of weary traveling they reached the Mississippi river. There they camped on the bank of the "Father of Waters." In the morning after their arrival Mrs. York began washing some of their clothes that had been soiled during the long journey and the Doctor started for a day's tour in Arkansas where they intedned to make their future home. In the evening the Doctor returned; Mrs. Yord hadfinished her washing and the clothes were hanging out to dry. The Doctor had seen enough of Arkanasas, and was satified that Wilkes wasthe best place to live, and without waiting for the clothes to dry, he pulled up his tent and started back to Wildes.

After he returned from his Arkansas trip he purchased a farm a mile and a half from Trap Hill and here he was lived ever since except what time he was in the Legislature and Congress.

"Historical Sketches of Wilkes Co." (NC) by Crouch (1902)

York
See if I sent her info in heritage book - no emailed her 3-13-02. about histories in Vol II

Subj: **Yorks**
Date: 7/9/01 3:06:59 PM Eastern Daylight Time
From: geneval@pacific.net (Geneva)
To: wjhiatt@aol.com

Dear Wilma.....
Thanks so much for your letter in March..sorry I haven't gotten back to you sooner, but have been trying to sort things out with Jonathan and Mark.

Jonathan is the son of James York and Nancy Whitaker. Jonathan was married first to Ann Holt. His second marriage was to Rebecca Hinshaw. They had at least three children, but I'm sure there must be more. They are: Thomas Marion; Emily b. 2/23/1819; Mark b. 6/27/1827. Mark went to Missouri with his mother about 1832. His father died in 1833. Rebecca remarried to Jasper Hopper, also from Surrey Co. They went to California in 1849, Mark being around 22 or 23 years old. Eventually settled in Sonoma County where Rebecca died July 14, 1864.

Mark married Lucinda Guttridge (b. 3/6/1835) 4/29/1854. They had four children before moving to Ukiah, Mendocino Co. California. Mark died 10/22/1879 when the upper floor of the granary fell on him. He is buried in Russian River Cemetery, Ukiah, California.

If anyone has more info on Jonathan and his ancestors, I'd be happy to correspond with them. I know some names of ancestors, but not many dates, etc. There are a lot of researchers out there. Just heard recently from a descendant of Thomas Marion York. Hope to get more info soon.

Thanks for your attention.

Sincerely, Geneva York

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<DIV> </DIV>
<DIV>Thanks for your attention.</DIV>
<DIV> </DIV>
<DIV>Sincerely, Geneva York</DIV>

---------- Headers ----------
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    for <wjhiatt@aol.com>; Mon, 9 Jul 2001 11:58:22 -0700 (PDT)
Message-ID: <000c01c108a9$17b4baa0$97f1a23f@oemcomputer>
From: "Geneva" <geneval@pacific.net>
To: <wjhiatt@aol.com>
Subject: Yorks
Date: Mon, 9 Jul 2001 11:57:16 -0700
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X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.00.2919.6600

Wyatt, Melvina (Payne, Grant) 08 Feb 1894
Wynn, Viola (Short, Emanuel) 19 Sep 1897

Yong, Lydia C. (Cooper, William E.) 29 Mar 1877
York, Adam (Jennings, Sally) 14 Nov 1869
York, Alice (Mounce, W. F.) 05 Dec 1897
York, Cassell (Edwards, Lucy) 12 Jul 1899
York, Cinda (Hauser, Bary) 08 Oct 1871
York, James (Whitaker, Nancy) 13 Jul 1893
York, James (Johnson, Malinda) 26 Sep 1891
York, L. C. (Anderson, Alice) 27 Sep 1890
York, L. E. (Blackwood, Wm. S.) 21 Mar 1876
York, Laura (Creed, Martin) 04 Mar 1880
York, Martin (Killum, Sally) 20 Oct 1891
York, Mary J. (Johnson, S. A.) 18 Dec 1884
York, Mattie (Johnson, A. L.) 24 Nov 1888
York, Mollie V. (Brimm, John) 06 Mar 1892
York, Mollie V. (Banner, John) 06 Mar 1892
York, Mollie V. (Bruner, John) 06 Mar 1892
York, R. F. (Stanley, Elizabeth) 02 Nov 1882
York, Sallie (Dawson, Robt. F.) 21 Aug 1890
York, Sarah (McCraw, Jacob W.) 14 Jan 1892
York, Thomas A. (Beamer, Mary J.) 08 Mar 1883
York, William J. (Greenwood, Ada E.) 09 Feb 1887
Young, George W. (Martin, Mary) 16 Nov 1889
Young, Green W. (Barnard, Ruth A.) 01 Feb 1880
Young, J. A. (Hines, Emma E.) 16 Dec 1884
Young, Laura (Chipman, Joshua) 28 Jan 1872
Young, Lucy E. (Thompson, Crafford T.) 04 May 1869
Young, M. M. (Hanks, J. A.) 31 Mar 1872
Young, Mary A. (Bowman, Jessie A.) 02 Jan 1879
Young, Rosey (Tilly, James) 25 Oct 1892
Young, Tiney (Napier, John W.) 17 Mar 1873
Young, William (Hemmings, Augusta) 16 Dec 1887

Zachary, Sarah F. (Hanks, Orvill) 14 Jul 1869
Zachey, Martha Ann (White, James M.) 04 Dec 1873
Ziglar, Mattie E. (Beamer, Logan) 25 Dec 1898
Zigler, Benjamin B. (Flinchum, Sarah J.) 06 Jan 1878

We thank Jessie Bunker Bryant for donating a copy of her new book, **The Connected Bunkers, Descendants of the Siamese Twins Eng and Chang Bunker**, to SCGA. Jessie donated the book in memory of Mrs. Emma Snow Bunker.

We also thank Martha Rowe Vaughn for donating a copy of her new book, **Grandma's Trunk**, to SCGA.

These two books are a great addition to our research room.

Biographical Directory of the United States Congress

1774 - Present

Biography
Research Collections
Bibliography
New Search
House History Page
Senate History Page
Copyright Information

YORK, Tyre, 1836-1916

YORK, Tyre, a Representative from North Carolina; born in Rockford, Surry County, N.C., May 4, 1836; attended the common schools; studied medicine at the Charleston (S.C.) Medical College and commenced practice in Traphill, Wilkes County, N.C., in 1859; also engaged in agricultural pursuits; served during the latter part of the Civil War as surgeon of the Wilkes County Home Guards; was a member of the State house of representatives in 1865, 1866, 1879, and 1887; served in the State senate in 1876 and 1881; elected as an Independent Democrat to the Forty-eighth Congress (March 4, 1883-March 3, 1885); did not seek renomination in 1884 to the Forty-ninth Congress, but was an unsuccessful candidate for Governor of North Carolina in 1884; resumed agricultural pursuits; died in Traphill, N.C., January 28, 1916; interment in Traphill Cemetery.

mtairynews.com January 9, 2002 50 cents

York Named Citizen Of Year

Chamber Award Presented At Annual Dinner

BY ANGELA LEONARD
Editor

The Greater Mount Airy Chamber of Commerce turned the spotlight around Tuesday night when it named Gary York as Surry County's Citizen of the Year.

Well-known for saluting local citizens on the signs of his company, Neighbors, and photographing people at special events throughout the county, York was the recipient of the top award handed out during the chamber's annual dinner at Cross Creek Country Club.

"We all get knocked down sometime in our life," said Paul Belk, president of the chamber, in making the presentation. "The true test of character is what we do when we are at that low point — do we wallow in our demise or do we vow to change our path. Make no mistake, our Citizen of the Year vowed to pick himself up and make himself a better person and his community a better place. He has not only survived but has thrived in his journey to re-invent himself. He has rededicated his life to 'service before self.' His life story would make an inspiring book or movie."

York is candid about his past struggles with addiction, and speaks to student groups about the importance of not only avoiding drugs and alcohol, but becoming contributing citizens of their community.

Belk noted that York, who had not been named at that point, would have been a wonderful choice for Citizen of the Year for many of the past years "but we are pleased to award him this tonight."

Accomplishments highlighted by Belk included:

■ Tutoring at Flat Rock Elementary School for the past several years. "This is remarkable given his schedule," noted Belk. "He furthermore invites his employees to participate in the tutoring program."



Gary York

■ Donating time, money and goody baskets to area agencies including the Salvation Army and Yokefellow Min-

York

Continued from page 1A

istries.

■ Developing a raffle program in which his company, over the past several years, has allowed local civic organizations to raise over $100,000

■ Supporting the March of Dimes and Relay for Life through his company. Partly due to that support both events have gained regional and national attention.

■ Starting and maintaining a very expensive American Legion baseball team which travels and plays over 30 games in the summer. Over 100 kids have played and many have gone on to play in college.

■ Serving on the Mount Airy City School Board as well as serving as a Surry County Commissioner. "You don't serve in those capacities for the money but rather because you love your community.

"We could go on listing his accomplishments," said Belk, "but they would simply validate what we all know — he touches lives on a daily basis. The Greater Mount Airy Chamber of Commerce is pleased to present the 2001 Citizen of the Year to Mr. Gary York."

January 24,2001

I was there in Dobson last October trying to find some information on my husband's great grandfather Mark York b. June 27, 1827 and his gggrandfather, Jonathan b. February 22, 1768, married to Ann Holt and then to Rebekah Hinshaw. We have always thought Rebekah was Mark's mother. We have recorded she was born in 1781 and died in 1864 and is buried in Sonoma Co. California. But I could find nothing matching when I went through county records, etc. at the court house. It was still interesting. Lots of Yorks.

We went out to the Community College, too, but no luck. I would appreciate any help I can get from all those Yorks in your group. I bought the beautiful book, too, that the Association put out.

Thanks for sending the invititation to join.

Sincerely,

Geneva

Geneva York
8390 East Road
Redwood Valley, CA 95470

Email: geneval@pacific.net

P.S. Glad to pay for any copies that might be made.

Researching Mark York:

Mollie Loom, 2029 Douglas, Pocatello, ID 83201

Vonda Cooper, 4742 Victoria Ave., Fremont, CA 94538

Carolyn Farber, PO Box 750755, Dayton, OH 45475

Subj: **Mark York**
Date: 3/20/01 1:43:49 PM Eastern Standard Time
From: Wjhiatt
To: geneva1@pacific.net

Geneva,

In your letter to the Surry County Genealogical Association dated January 24, 2001 you were searching for information on Mark York born 27 Jun 1827 and father Jonathan York born 22 Feb 1768, married to Ann Holt and then to Rebekah Hinshaw. You stated that you were in Dobson at the courthouse and also in our research room at Surry Community College last year but was unable to find any information.

As you probably know there were many Mark Yorks listed in various records in Surry County. The problem is knowing which is which. You did not mention who your Mark York married. Since he was born in 1827 could he have been married in Surry Co. to Adeline E. Crumpler in 1851?

If information was not available in our family file on the York family, we really can't help much with your research at this time. I suppose you looked at all the census books, tax records, deeds, marriage records, will abstracts, P&Q court record books, etc. when you were in the research room.

We can give you names of other researchers working on Mark York but we do not know which generation their interest is in. You might write the following:

Mollie Coon, 2029 Douglas, Pacatello, ID 83201
Vonda Cooper, 4742 Victoria Avenue, Fremont, CA 94538
Carolyn Garber, P. O. Box 750755, Dayton, OH 45475

This bit of information was printed in our SCGA Journal, Winter 1999:

Jonathan York of County of Jackson and State of Missouri to Miller W. Easley of Johnson County Missouri my attorney to collect my legacy due to me from my guardian James York. My interest in 2 tracts of land lying in Surry County, NC now in possession of James York for $25.00 11th May 1838. Registered in Book X page 298. (This information was found in Power of Attorney Loose Records, Broken Series, Miscellaneous File, Surry County in the NC Archives in Raleigh, NC.)

You didn't state whether your Mark York and Jonathan York were actually in Surry County, NC at sometime during their life. We did find the marriage between Jonathan York and Rebekah Hinshaw in 1807 in Surry Co. Do you have a record that states they were in Surry at a certain time? We really don't have a lot to go on since there are so

many Mark York's listed. There are three marriage records for Mark York plus other records for a Mark York.

I wish we could help you more with your research. You might wish to send a query for our journal. We would love to have information on your line of Yorks that had ties to Surry County. If you can think of any specific information you would like for me to look for, please email me.

Wilma Hiatt
Research Committee