

John Murphey of Butler County, Alabama, Part 4: The Adult Years of Edward Murphey, Father of John Murphey of Butler County, Alabama

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Chapter 1: Introduction

My ancestor is John Murphey of Butler County, Alabama. Prior to migrating with his family to Alabama, John Murphey can definitively be traced back to Jones County, Georgia. For an extensive treatment of John Murphey in Jones County, please refer to my earlier paper, "Establishment of the Origin of John Murphey of Butler County, Alabama, as Jones County, Georgia, and his History therein" (hereafter referred to as "John Murphey, Part 1") as found at the link below:

<http://theusgenweb.org/al/butler/pioneers/murphy/murpheyjohn-ga.htm>

In that paper, I demonstrated that there was only one John Murphey living in Jones County from 1807 until he left in 1815 to move to Alabama. His first recorded deed in Jones County specifically names his origin as Hancock County, Georgia. Please see my paper entitled "John Murphey of Butler County, Alabama: His documented History in Georgia prior to Migrating to Jones County, Georgia" (hereafter referred to as "John Murphey, Part 2") for events when John lived within Hancock County, Georgia, from 1794 through 1807. This link will take you to this paper:

<http://alabamahoming.com/murpheyjohn-in-hancock-ga.pdf>

Having tracked John Murphey of Butler County, Alabama, back to his father Edward Murphey, I wrote a third paper to document my research and further expand the story of John's adult life in Hancock and Jones Counties, Georgia. Of great importance is the fact that John's siblings and in-laws have now been identified and were revealed with some details. These findings explain some of the facts found in the timelines presented in my two earlier papers covering John Murphey's adult life in Georgia:

<http://alabamahoming.com/murpheyjohn-earliest-origins.pdf>

This fourth paper now discusses the life of John's father, Edward Murphey, as evidenced through recently uncovered documents. This paper's resultant timeline for John's father will further illuminate John's childhood and the background of his upbringing.

Chapter 2: Historical Context of the South Carolina Backcountry before the War of Independence

Fortunately, the name of "Edward Murphey" is not common. Researching Edward's origins back from his estate sale as documented in [John Murphey, Part 3](#) proves to be rather easy when looking at the general area around Warren County, Georgia and into nearby South Carolina. What we find, and will cover in depth in the next Chapter, is that Edward's father can be found in the 1760's petitioning for land in the old Ninety-Six District, more specifically located in today's Newberry County, South Carolina. To understand the circumstances at the time of these petitions, please read this short description from: "**Historical and Architectural Survey of Newberry County, South Carolina**" by Jennifer Revels – a PDF of the entire document is found at

<http://nationalregister.sc.gov/SurveyReports/NewberryCounty2003-2.pdf>

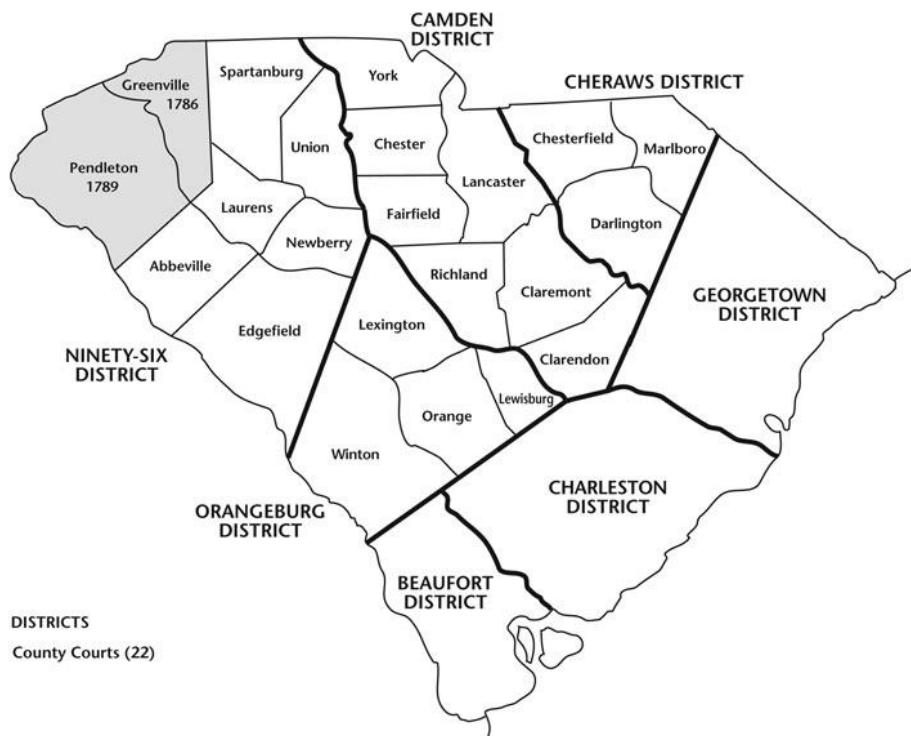
"By the mid-eighteenth century, attacks by the Cherokee became so frequent that further settlement in the South Carolina backcountry was discouraged by the state legislature. Frightened residents of the Ninety-Six district took refuge in forts that were scattered along creeks and rivers in the area. Beginning in 1759, several stockade forts including Turner's Fort and Brooks' Fort on the Bush River near the present day city of Newberry were built in present-day Newberry County along the Broad, Enoree, and Bush Rivers as refuges for scattered inhabitants of the Dutch Fork (named as the area in the fork between the Broad and Saluda Rivers). Cherokee attacks on towns such as Long Cane and Ninety-Six drove settlers into the forts for protection. Within the forts, disease and corruption were rampant. Those who took refuge withstood the vicious attacks, but at a high price. The commanders embezzled money provided by the state legislature for the refugees, and in turn charged high prices for essential food and supplies while militiamen outside the forts pillaged their abandoned houses.

In May 1760, Colonel Archibald Montgomery and 1,200 regular Scots highlanders marched from Charleston with the purpose of expelling the Cherokee from the midlands. Montgomery and his men were ambushed and, after suffering only a handful of losses, retreated from the area. A mass exodus of settlers from the backcountry followed Montgomery's defeat as residents fled to Saxe Gotha Township (previously known as Congaree Township, located within today's city of Columbia) or further toward the coast. Colonel James Grant led a second campaign against the Cherokee in 1761. Grant raided the Cherokee lands, setting fire to Indian camps and leaving fifteen villages in ruin. The Treaty of Charleston signed later that year officially ended the Cherokee War and the Indian occupation of the midlands.

There was a large wave of immigration to the South Carolina backcountry following the Cherokee War, which resulted in a greater influx of white settlers as compared to the Township program established forty years earlier. By 1748, more than 50 people were living in the area and by 1749 there had been 125 warrants for 21,150 acres of land with a population of 423 persons. In 1759, eighteen hundred German settlers and one thousand British settlers occupied the Broad River Valley. In the post-war years between 1760 and 1770, the percentage of the colony's white population living in the backcountry rose from about 50 percent to 75 percent.

While the Treaty of Charleston ended any threat that the Indians posed to the backcountry settlers, the post-war years were filled with chaos and lawlessness. Abandoned homes across the backcountry invited theft and vagrants stole horses and cattle on a regular basis. The existing form of colonial government failed to bring the derelicts under control and local authorities were powerless to stop it. The closest courts were more than 100 miles away in Charleston, and local authorities, lacking real jurisdiction, could only issue warrants. Prosecutors and witnesses had to make the long trip to Charleston for trials, which from some points in the upstate could take up to two weeks, with no guarantee of a conviction.

The situation improved with the passage of the Circuit Court Act of 1768, which divided the state into six districts, establishing the Courts of General Sessions and Common Pleas in each. Following closely behind was the Circuit Court Act of 1769, which was an improved version of the previous year's act. This legislation divided the state into seven judicial districts: Ninety-Six, Orangeburg, Cheraws, and Camden Districts would serve the residents of the upstate, with Beaufort, Charleston, and Georgetown serving along the coast. Soon after the local courts were established, residents of the Ninety-Six District, which included present day Newberry, Edgefield, Abbeville, and Laurens Counties, began meeting to lobby for independence from Charleston's control and for legislation that would aid local improvements."



Chapter 3: Identifying Edward Murphey's Parents and their Earliest Documented Location

Early in 1768, Edward Murphey is named in a deed of sale, as found in a film ordered through the Family History Library of Salt Lake City, Film #24233 of the “**Newberry County, South Carolina, Mesne Conveyance Book A-B**”, from which can be abstracted:

Mesne Conveyance Book A, pages 1070-1075: Lease and Release. 7 & 8 Feb 1768, Edward Murphey and Sarah his mother, in Berkeley County, South Carolina, to Isaac Morgan of same, planter, for £50 South Carolina money, 150 acres on waters of Cannons Creek in Craven County adjoining John Pearson, granted to James Murphey, father to said Edward Murphey, on 30 Oct 1767.

Signed: Edward Murphey (Seal), Sarah Murphy (her mark “c”) (Seal)

Witnesses: Daniel Horsey, Sarah Horsey, Elizabeth Lindsey

The sales document states that while the land on Cannons Creek was located in Craven County according to its 1766 survey (image shown later in this chapter), the place of origin for Edward and his mother was “Berkeley County, South Carolina”, perhaps indicating that they were situated on another property near the town of Charleston. These counties pre-date the Judicial Districts (like Ninety-Six District) discussed previously. Between 1682 and 1686, the Lords Proprietors created 4 counties described as:

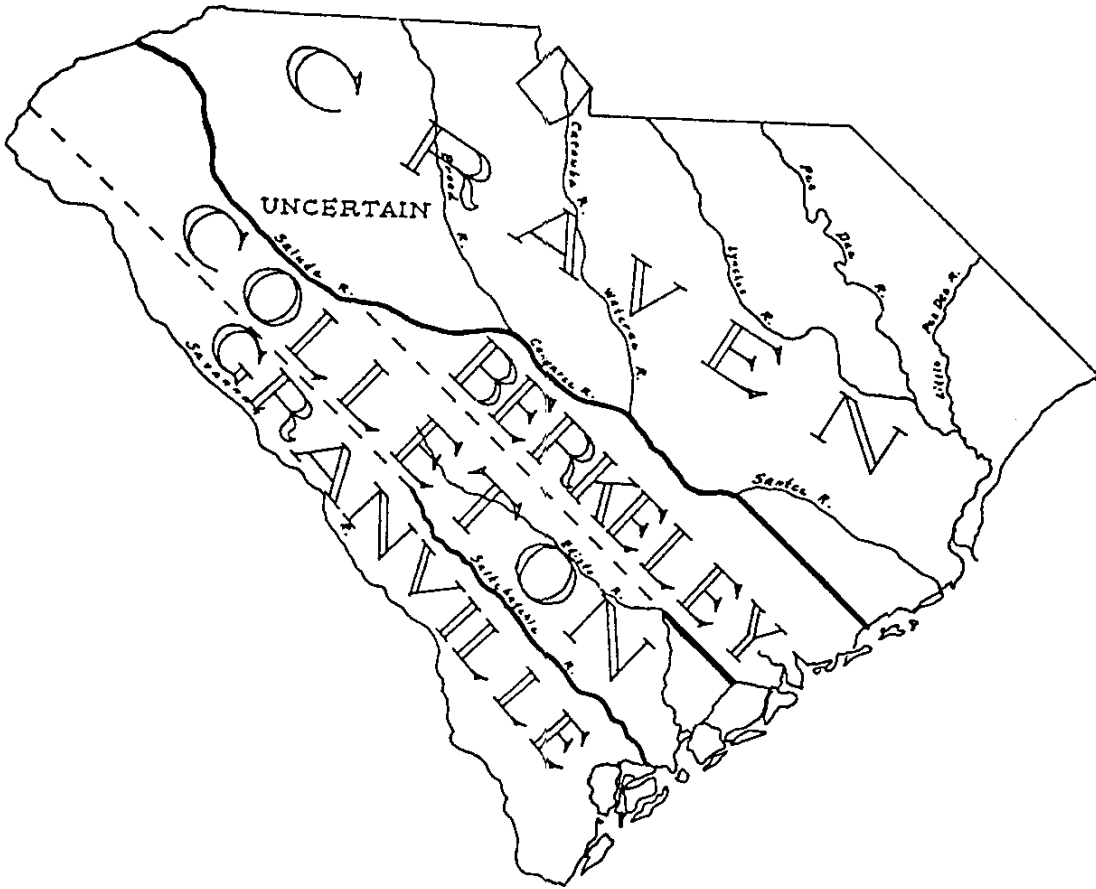
Berkeley – Area around Charleston; combined with Colleton County later in 1769 to form Charleston District

Craven – Area north of Berkeley County to the North Carolina border

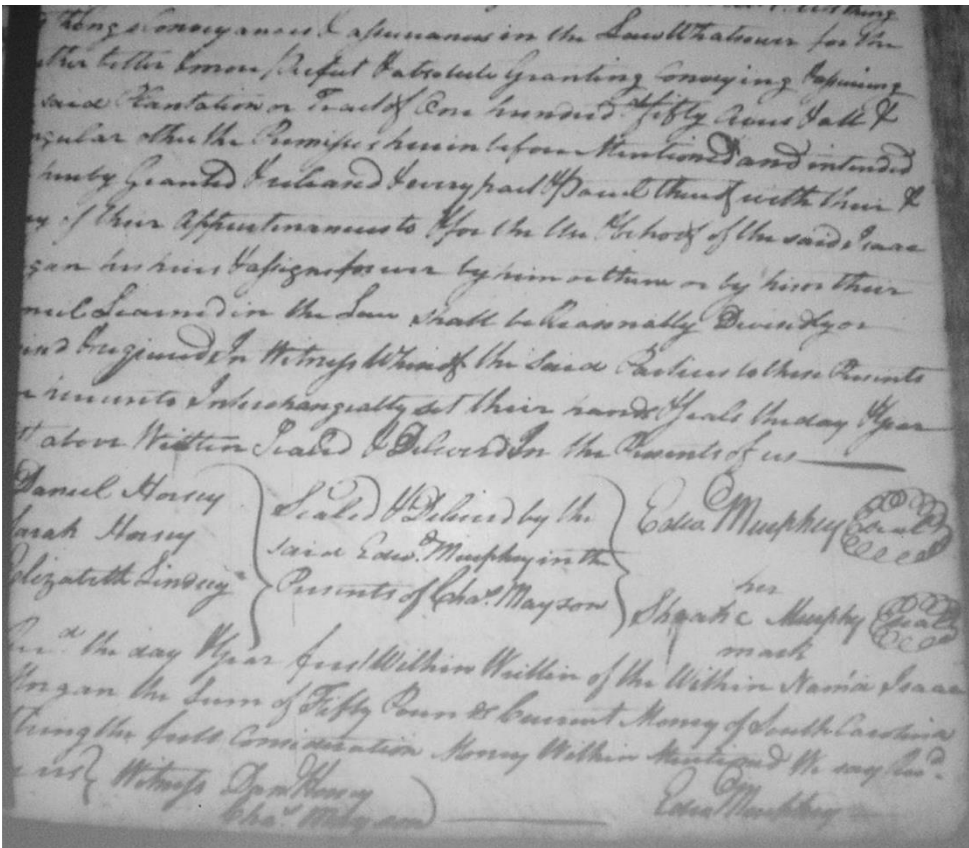
Colleton – Area south of Berkeley County to the Combahee River; combined with Berkeley County in 1769 to form Charleston District

Granville – Area south of Colleton County to the Georgia border

We see these laid out in the map below found at http://sc.tories.tripod.com/county_boundaries_1682-1785.htm. It is worthy to note that the land between the Saluda and Broad Rivers, which is where Cannons Creek is located, was ambiguously designated – sometimes as Craven County and sometimes as Berkeley County. So, according to the time of description, the land on Cannons Creek was in Craven (or Berkeley) County (1682 – 1769), the Ninety-Six District (1769 – 1785) or Newberry County (1785 – Present).



Deriving more information from the image below of page 1074 from the film, we see that Edward signed his name while his mother used a mark looking like a “c”. It is worth noting that Edward Murphey always signed his deeds of sale with his signature, whereas his mother and wives always used a mark. Remembering back to our John Murphey of Butler County, Alabama, John always signed with a mark – typically looking like “©”. This leads to my interpretation that Edward was schooled so that he could read and write, suggesting that he had been raised as a child in a more privileged and stable environment, most likely not on the frontier.

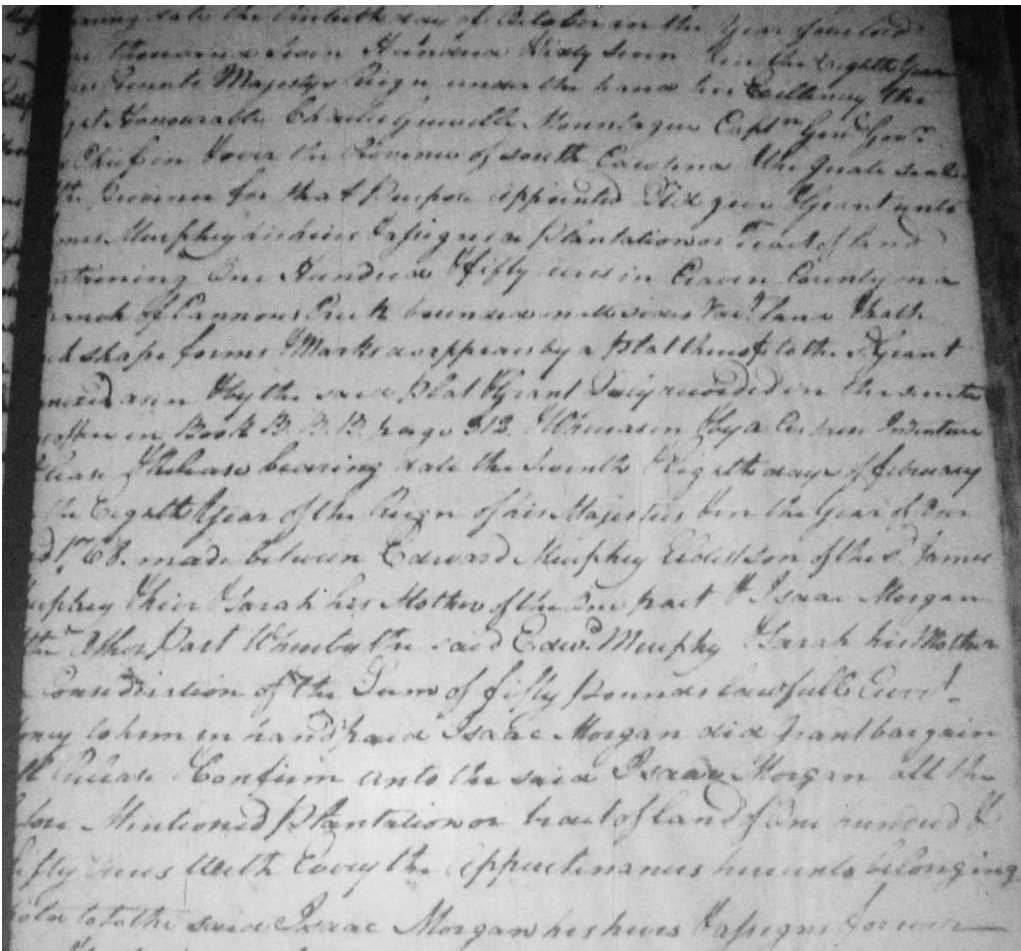


The next page in the film record provides more information about Edward Murphey from a later sale of this same 150 acre property originally granted to James Murphey. Below is an abstract of the Lease and Release (older style of a “deed of sale”) containing a history of prior sales in “**Mesne Conveyance Book A**”, pages 1076-1081:

*Lease and Release. 25 & 26 Dec 1775, John Pearson of the fork of Broad & Saluda Rivers in Craven County, South Carolina, Ninety Six District, Blacksmith, to Terrence Riley of same fork, planter, for £350 SC money, tract granted 30 Oct 1767 to James Murphey, 150 acres in Craven County on a branch of Cannons Creek, recorded in Book BBB, page 313, and conveyed 7 & 8 Feb 1768 from **Edward Murphey, eldest son of said James Murphey & Sara his mother**, to Isaac Morgan, and Isaac Morgan 1 & 2 May 1769 to John Pearson.*

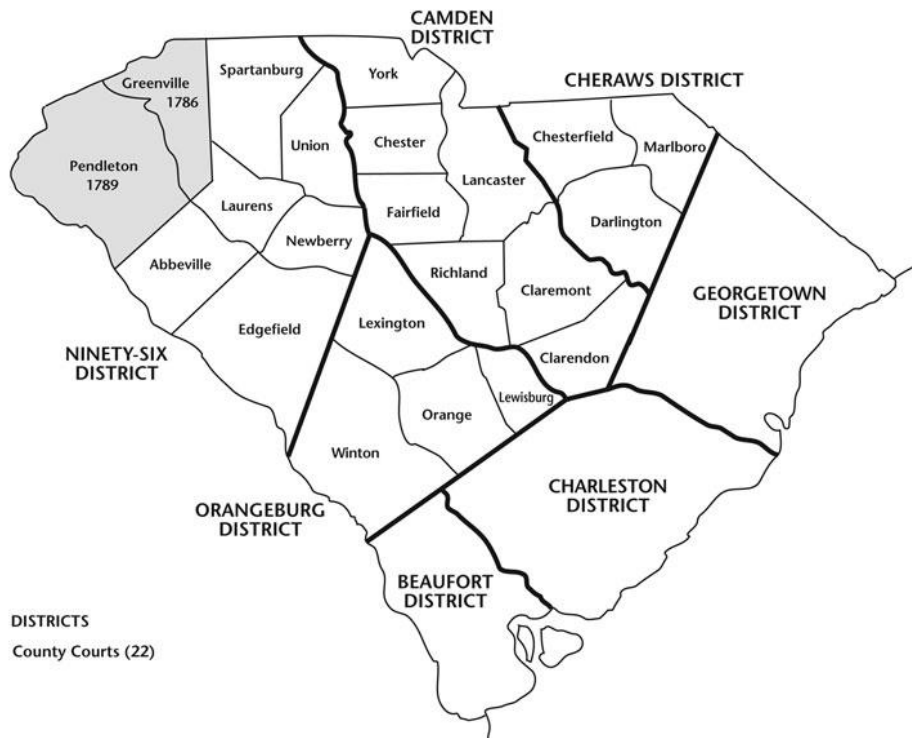
John Pearson (Seal), Jean Pearson (her mark) (Seal)

Going to the source, we see below the image of “**Mesne Conveyance Book A**”, page 1078:



So, we have documentation stating that Edward's father was James Murphey and his mother was named Sarah. Also, because it is mentioned that Edward is the "eldest son", the implication is that Edward had one or more younger brothers. My research has uncovered that there was another James Murphey living later in the same area, who could have been Edward's brother. However, due to the commonness of that name, I have not been able to track this James Murphey with any reliability nor derive any further information about other proven members of the Murphey family.

Having the description of the 150 acre tract of land granted by James Murphey, we can locate it within the old Ninety-Six District of South Carolina, but more specifically in the area outlined by today's Newberry County as seen in the map below:



To derive more information about James Murphey and the size of his family, we must understand the process by which people were able to secure title to open land in South Carolina at this time. Below is a succinct explanation in **“Petitions for land from the South Carolina Council Journals, Volume VI (1766-1770)”** by Brent H. Holcomb:

“Prior to the year 1755, land was granted to persons coming into the province of South Carolina on a “headright” of 50 acres per person, whether they were male, female, free or slave, white, or black. In the year 1755, this practice was altered slightly to allow 100 acres for the head of the household, and 50 acres for each additional person in the household. BPRO film Volume 26, pages 314-6,4 November 1755, in instructions to Governor William Henry Littleton, ‘That one hundred acres of Land be granted to every person being Master or Mistress of a family for himself or herself and 50 acres for every White or Black man, Woman or Child, of which such persons shall consist at the actual time of making the Grant ...’ However, it appears that this change was not actually in effect until about 3 August 1756, when the applications appear to reflect a number of petitions for 100 acres and bounty for one person only.

The normal process for initiating a land grant in colonial South Carolina required the grantee to appear in person before the Governor's council in Charleston to petition for a warrant and to verify the headrights upon which the granted acreage was to be based. This placed hardships on backcountry settlers.”

Searching the records of South Carolina Colonial Grants in **“Petitions for land from the South Carolina Council Journals, Volume VI (1766-1770)”** by Brent H. Holcomb, we find:

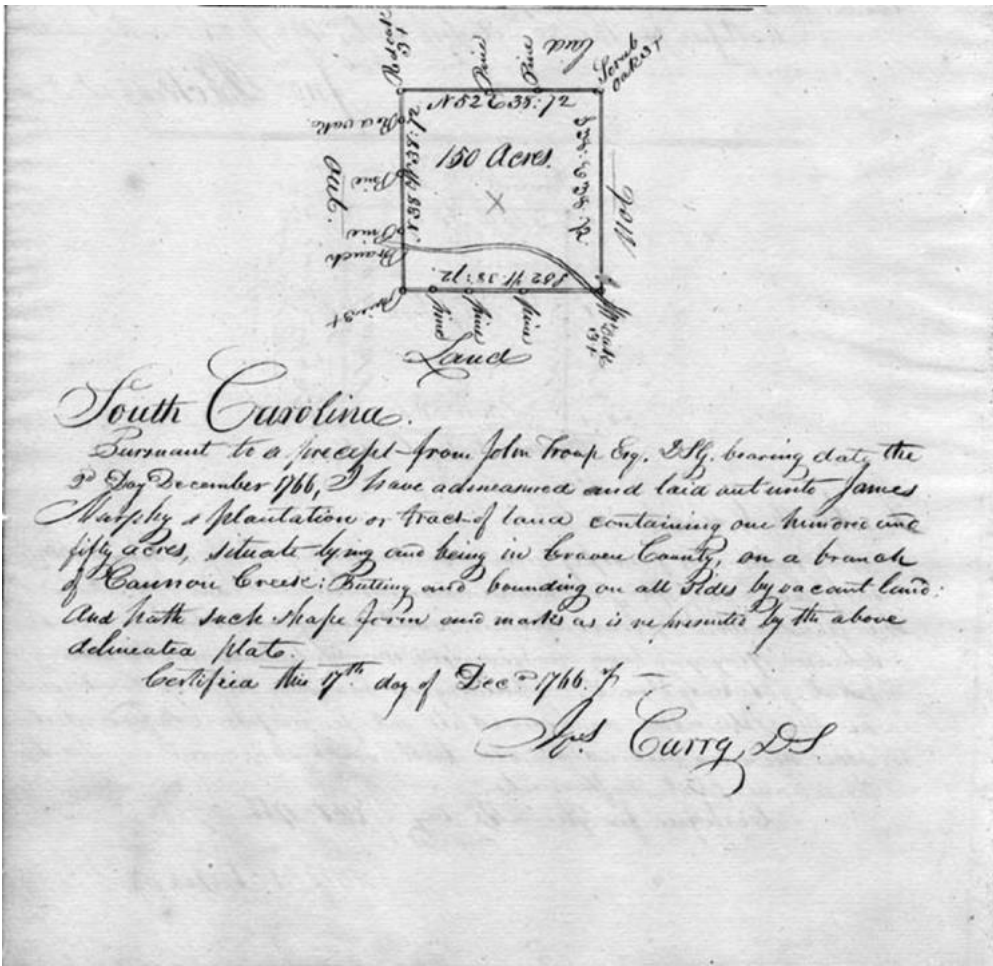
PETITIONS FOR LAND FROM SOUTH CAROLINA COUNCIL JOURNALS

[Meeting of Tuesday 2 December 1766]

Isaac Horsey Sen'r	150 Second Creek between Broad & Saludy R's
Thomas Dodd	150 Waters of Santee
<u>James Murphey</u>	<u>150 Broad and Saludy R'r, Cannon Creek</u>
William Ward	100 Saludy and Savannah River
Jacob Warley	100 Between Edisto and Santee River
Wm Kirkland	150 Waters Santee
Samuel Jenkins	250 Waters of Peedee
James Johnston	300 Waters of Peedee
Dennis Crosby	150 Waters of Santee
William Clark	300 North side of Broad River calld Wilsons Creek

Above, we can see that for James Murphey on Cannons Creek, his petition was granted and a warrant for survey issued on December 2, 1766. Using the information from above concerning the number of acres petitioned, it could be deduced that James' petition only covered himself and one dependent, his wife Sarah. This would indicate that Edward and at least one younger brother (so that Edward could be described as the "eldest son" in the 1768 deed of sale) were both already over the age of 21, meaning that by December 2, 1766, Edward could have been as young as 22 years old with a younger brother aged 21. These inferences suggest that Edward was born in 1744 or earlier.

Below is the plat for this December 2, 1766 warrant after the land had been surveyed and described. That survey was certified soon after on December 17, 1766 and finally granted to James Murphey on October 30, 1767, as described in the deeds reviewed previously. Now we know from the Lease and Release that Edward and his mother Sarah sold this land on the 7th and 8th of February, 1768, indicating the date of death for James Murphey as being in the short period defined between the dates of October 30, 1767 and February 7, 1768. (Note: To search the South Carolina online archives for colonial plat images go to this link: <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/onlinearchives/search.aspx>)



I propose that another inference which can be drawn from this short time span between the land grant and its sale to Isaac Morgan (that is, October 30, 1767 until February 7, 1768 – just a few days more than a 3 month span), is that this land was not being used by James' widow, Sarah, for her domicile. Therefore, Sarah was living somewhere else such that this land could be sold without her losing her homestead. I mentioned earlier that Edward and his mother Sarah were described as being in "Berkeley County, South Carolina", which is the area around the port town of Charleston. However, I have not found any recorded LW&T (or Last Will and Testament) nor estate sale records for our James Murphey anywhere in South Carolina. This scenario has led to a real conundrum in trying to track back to Edward and James' origins. One scenario is that James and his family directly immigrated to South Carolina from Northern Ireland (as they were Scotch-Irish and not Irish Catholics) into Charleston and so had virtually no estate to settle. In addition, I have not identified any records for James Murphey to place him within South Carolina prior to his petition discussed in the next paragraph. Alternatively, James may have emigrated from a northern colony. In the next Chapter, we will look at James Murphey's neighbors to determine their origins, but to this date I have been unable to identify James as being collocated with any of his neighbors' original locations in the other colonies.

However, investigation does reveal one earlier petition for warrant of survey for our same James Murphey, father of Edward Murphey. We know that the petitioner is the same person based upon the proximity of the two warrants and the fact that this warrant was transferred due to James Murphey's

death. Looking again at **“Petitions for Land from the South Carolina Council Journals, Volume V (1757-1765)”** by Brent H. Holcomb:

PETITIONS FOR LAND FROM SOUTH CAROLINA COUNCIL JOURNALS

& the Bounty and encouragement given by the King & the Province to the Settlers that not only they but many others would come here and Reside.

That Petitioner is afraid to communicate those Particulars by Writing to his relations let his Letters should be intercepted which might prove of great hurt & detriment to them.

That as he came into this Province & in very poor and distress circumstances he is as yet unable without your Honour will be pleased to afford him some assistance to proceed to Great Britain and France which he is very desirous of doing as he apprehends it will be the cause of settling his Relations & several other of his Countrymen in this Province in Ease and happiness.

He therefore humbly prays your Honour to take his case into your Consideration and order him such assistance as your Wisdom shall see fit. Jacob L'Angers (+).

The Board taking the matter into this Consideration were of Opinion that the Prayer of it should be granted and advised his Honor to Issue an Order to the Public Treasurer to pay to the Petitioner One Hundred pounds Currency out of the Township Fund which his Honor was pleased to do accordingly.

Meeting of Tuesday 6 August 1765

Pages 580-586: The following Petitions for Warrants of Survey addressed to his Honor the Lieutenant Governor were presented and read, Viz

Thomas Thomson	100 Tyger River
Michael Tombert	100 North side of Broad River
Daniel Hoffman	100 D'o
Samuel Canon	200 South side D'o
James Hardage	100 at the Waterrees
Ben'n Reader	200 So side of Jefferes Creek
Wm Pratt	100 Waters of Lynch Creek
Moses Daniel	150 D'o
Charles Thomson	200 North side of Tyger River
<u>James Murphy</u>	<u>200 on the Waters Broad River.</u>
Joshua Snowden	250 on Lynch Creek or Waters thereof
Wm Hamilton	150 Waters Ennoree notwithstand'g a former Survey

Above we see that this earlier petition for survey of 200 acres of land “along the Broad River” is dated August 6, 1765, which is a little more than a year prior to the warrant for the previously discussed 150 acre tract along Cannons Creek. From the source **“Petitions for land from the South Carolina Council Journals, Volume VI (1766-1770)”** by Brent H. Holcomb, this earlier 200 acre warrant is for land specifically described as lying on “Williams Creek”, which is located north of the 150 acre tract on Cannons Creek.

[Meeting of Tuesday 6 September 1768]

Jefferson Williams 500 part whereof has been surveyed for Daniel Wallahon in 1762

On the Bounty

William Camlin	100 Waters of Saludy or Broad River
Thos Cunningham	100 in Colleton or Granville County
Mary Sheltwine	100 d'o
Peter Martin	150 on fair forrest
Henry Eaton	150 in Berkeley County
John Oppel	150 Waters of Santice
David Hewson	100 in Colleton or Granville County
Mary Dunn	100 d'o
Hugh McWalter	100 d'o
Ann Spradling	100 in South Carolina
Abram Jones	400 in South Carolina
Thomas Hopkins	200 d'o on Kings Bounty

To Certifie Platts

Charles Sparks	100)
John Wright	200)
Wm Loveing	250) In Craven County
Samuel Lamb	100)
Robert Brown	100)
Nath'l Foosee	200)
George Strother	100)
Jacob Earnest	100)
Samuel Chew	150)
Dorman Hanson	450)
William Glover	96 In Colleton County
William Glover	54 d'o
Mathew Gillaspie	200 In Granville County
William Brazel	300 d'o
Josiah Carmichael	150)
James Cowen	100) In Granville County
Walter Trimble	200)
Jonathan Williams	150 on Peedee
Giles Williams	250 on Long Canes
Peter Pye	150 on Lynches Creek
Cornelius Cockran	200 on Bush River
John Bradshaw	200 Great Saludy Surveyd for Chidey Davis
Richard Carrel	300 Craven County William Griffen
Reuben White	100 d'o George McCall

[Meeting of Tuesday 6 September 1768]

John Trimble	100 Granville County	John Pickens
<u>James Warden</u>	<u>100 on Williams Creek</u>	<u>James Murphy</u>
Benjamin Edwards	300 South Side Saludy	Pearce Crosbie
George Wearson	300 on Congaree River	Peter Short
Garret FitzPatrick	250 Amelia Township	Wm Hickie
William Day	300 St. Barth'w Parish	John Gray
Peter Rubell	250 Berkeley County	David Hammer

To Prolong Warrants

William Hilborn	150 Mouth Pemento branch
Drury Harrington	100 on the Waterrees
James McCracken	100 South Carolina Bounty
John Gracey	200 Berkeley Craven or Gran'l County (on Bounty)
James Snead	100)
Thomas Snead	300) In Craven or Granville County
Mary Snead	100) On the Bounty
Robert Snead	100)

Meeting of Thursday 15 September 1768

Page 249: The following Persons presented Petition[s] praying for Warrants of Survey on the Bounty having arrived on the encouragement given by the late Act of the General Assembly.

Margaret Skillen	200)
John Skillen	100) In Berkeley or Craven County.
Elizabeth Skillen	100)

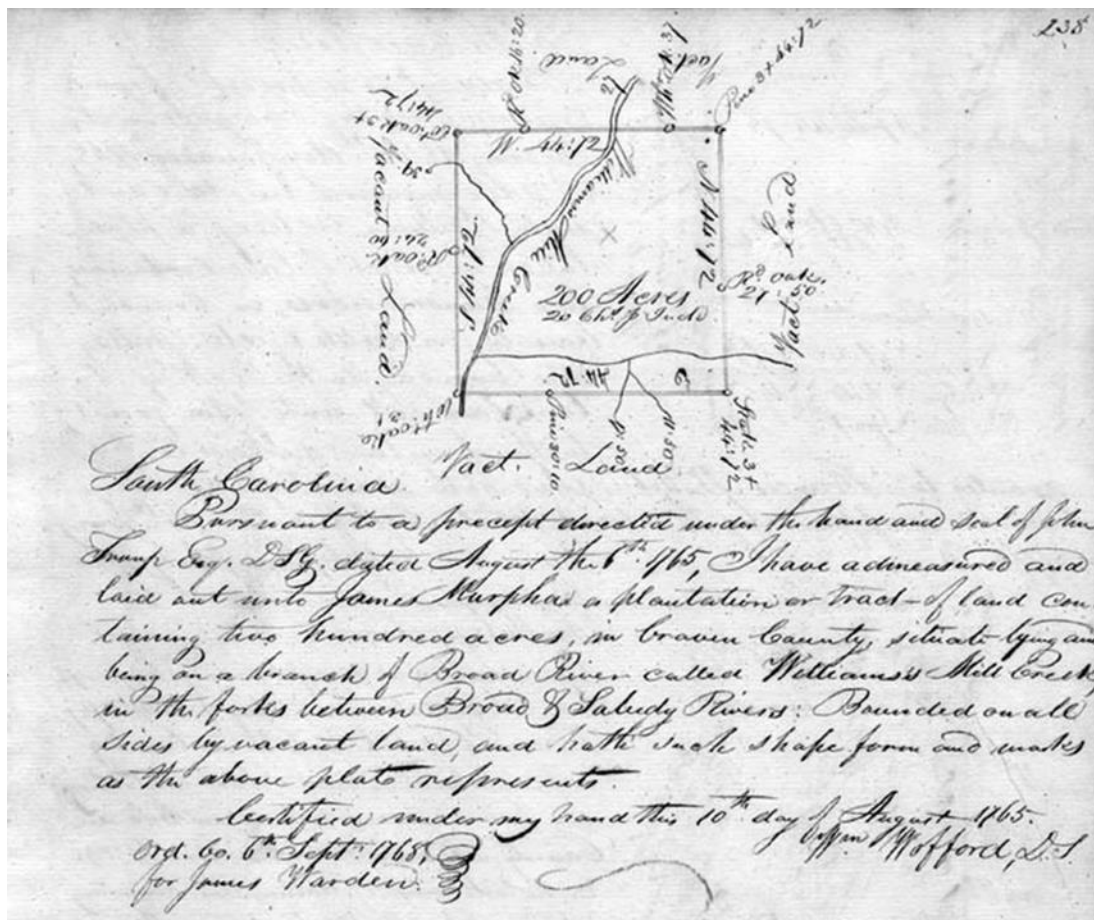
Ordered that the Secretary do prepare Warrants of Survey accordingly.

Meeting of Fryday 23 September 1768

Page 250: Read the petition of George Wilks setting forth that he arrived in this Province from England about four months ago in the ship Little Carpenter, Richard Maitland, Commander, on the encouragement of the Bounty given by this province and is now Engaged with Mr. De St. Pierre to go to Hillsborough Township to keep a School.

Ordered that the Secretary do prepare a Warrant of Survey & the public Treasurer to pay him the said Bounty.

The page above also shows us that on September 6, 1768, the original James Murphey survey was certified and re-ordered for James Warden. (Note that the acreage is incorrectly noted as “100” instead of “200”. This is just one example of how individual reference documents can be incorrect in certain specifics and why it is important to find multiple lines of evidence to uncover the “true” story.) This land was assigned to James Warden after James Murphey’s death prior to February 7, 1768 (as determined from Edward and Sarah’s Lease and Release detailed previously). The fact that 200 acres were requested in the original petition implies that at this earlier date of August 6, 1765, James Murphey had two dependents, that is, one more in addition to his wife Sarah. I propose that we could be seeing in James’ first petition the youngest brother who turns 21 between the two warrant petition dates of August 6, 1765 and December 2, 1766. Below, we see the image of the certified survey re-ordered to James Warden showing the correct number of acres in the plat as “200” along Williams Mill or Williams Creek.



In any respect, James Warden was soon after granted the 200 acre parcel on December 12, 1768. Within about a month, we see in the deed abstract below that James Warden sold the land to the same Daniel Horsey who witnessed Edward and Sarah’s deed of sale for James Murphey’s 150 acre tract along Cannons Creek.

Deed Book N-5, pages 506-508: Lease and release. 4 & 5 Oct 1773, **Daniel Horsey** of Craven County, Ninety Six District, planter, and Sarah his wife, to Jacob Gilder of same place, planter, **by grant dated 12 Dec 1768 to James Warden**, 200 acres in Craven County and now in Ninety Six district on a branch of Broad River, Williams Creek, in the fork between Broad and Saludy Rivers, **conveyed to Daniel Horsey 27 & 28 Jan 1769**, recorded in Book N. No 3, page 282, 23 June

1769, now for £400 SC money. Daniel Horsey (LS), Sarah Horsey (LS), Wit: Reuben Gilder, **Abraham Anderson, Isaac Morgan**. Proved 5 Sept 1778 by the oath of Isaac Morgan before **John LINDSAY**, J.P. in Ninety Six District. Recorded 12 Dec 1785. [page 130]

This “Williams Mill”, or just “Williams”, Creek was named after Paul Williams, a Quaker from Pennsylvania who moved into the area earlier in the 1750’s, a fact worth remembering as we investigate Edward Murphey’s “Quaker Connection” in the Chapter 5. Though James Murphey’s warrant was later reassigned and certified on September 6, 1768 to James Warden, I have not made any connections between James Murphey and James Warden. However, I can share that James Warden was reported in 1782 to have been killed in a Patriot depredation during the Revolutionary War.

Coming back to James Murphey’s grant along Cannons Creek, it was located just off the “Road to the Congarees” which leads all the way to Charleston and was a major thoroughfare into the backcountry. Congarees was the township site later called “Saxe Gotha”, located in today’s city of Columbia, South Carolina. We can see on the map below, found at:

<http://www.libs.uga.edu/darchive/hargrett/maps/1779n44.jpg>, where I have highlighted this road in red within the Ninety-Six District on this map from 1799:



Zooming in on the middle part of Robert Mill’s 1825 Atlas, shown below with named creeks, helps us to place the two James Murphey tracts more specifically (one on a branch of Cannons Creek and the earlier one on Williams Mill/Williams Creek) within the red oval. We will also be looking at neighbors whose adjoining land is described as being along Second Creek. To make the location easy to find on modern maps, know that within the red oval the NW to SE road is today’s US-176 and that South Carolina-34 is the NE to SW road running between Second Creek and Williams Creek. US-176 is placed on the old roadbed of the “Wagon Road to the Congarees”.



Chapter 4: Investigating Neighbors to James Murphey's Two Land Warrants and Their Origins

Neighbors that we will be investigating in this Chapter are:

Isaac Morgan – Purchaser in Edward Murphey's deed of sale for James Murphey's 150 acres on Cannons Creek

Daniel Horsey – Witness to Edward and Sarah Murphey's deed of sale for James Murphey's 150 acres on Cannons Creek and later Purchaser of James' originally warranted land of 200 acres on Second Creek re-ordered to James Warden

William Wadlington – Neighbor to James Murphey's 150 acres on Cannons Creek

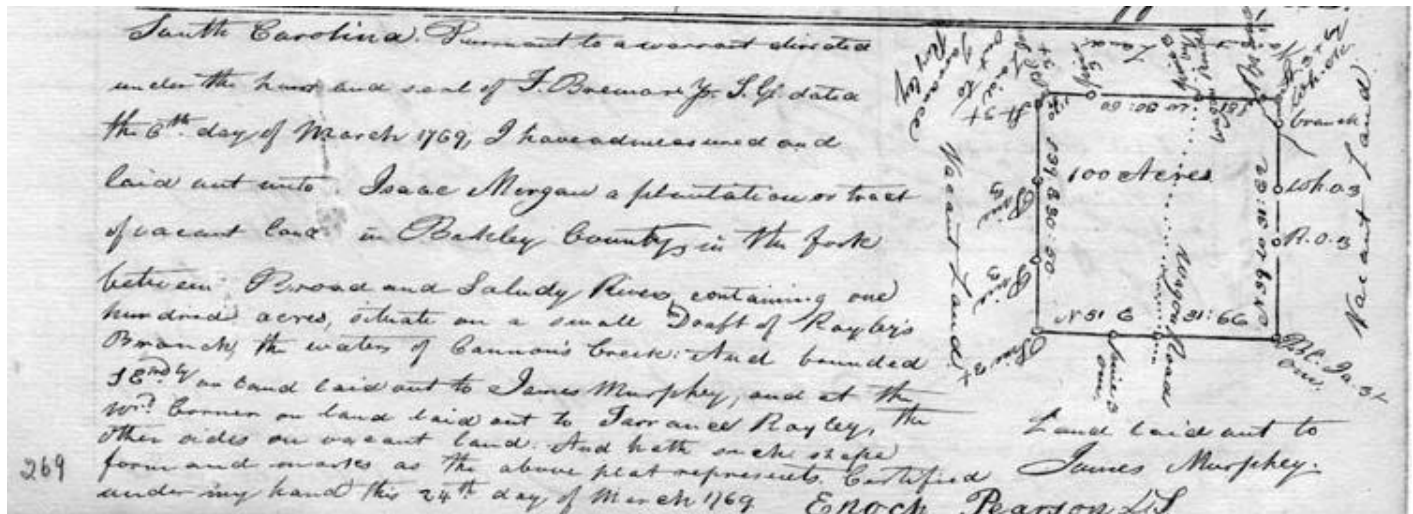
Moses Lindsey – Father to Dennis Lindsey who becomes a brother-in-law to Edward Murphey

Isaac Morgan

Isaac Morgan was born about 1739 and documented as a son of Richard Morgan in Richard's 1763 LW&T filed in the Will Book 3 of Frederick County, Virginia. Richard was born in Wales in 1700 and having received large grants of land from Thomas Lord Fairfax under King George II in the year 1734, settled on this land near Shepherdstown in then Frederick County, Virginia, where he died in 1763. He built one of the first houses ever erected in the Shenandoah Valley. Richard Morgan was a

Captain in the French and Indian War. His sons and grandsons were officers and soldiers in the French and Indian and Revolutionary Wars.

Isaac Morgan petitioned for 100 acres on Cannons Creek adjoining James Murphey's land on March 6, 1769 as shown in the plat below, so that we know that he had migrated to South Carolina by that time.



Isaac continued his family's military tradition, fighting for American independence as a Lieutenant and Captain under Colonels Lisle (or Lyle) and Waters over a number of years during the Revolutionary War. Isaac Morgan began to sell his landholdings along Second and Cannons Creeks with the 150 acre tract purchased from Edward and Sarah Murphey in 1769 and continued until this last known sale abstracted below:

Newberry County, South Carolina - Deed Book A, p97:

Isaac Morgan to Robert Rutherford of Chatham County, North Carolina, Planter, 250 acres by Daniel Horsey and William Dawkins on Horsey's Branch of Second Creek. Dated December 5, 1778

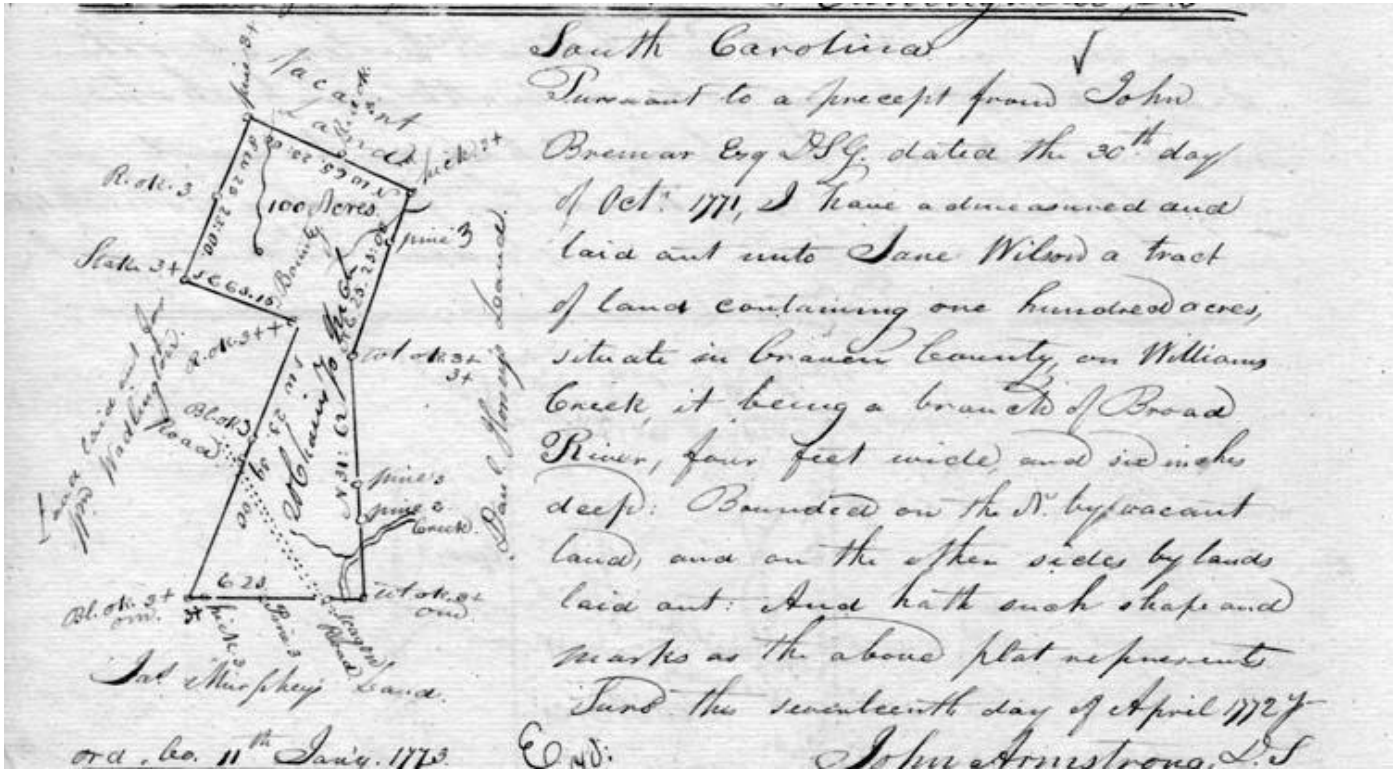
We notice in this deed of sale that the purchaser is Robert Rutherford (Senior), who moves from Chatham County, North Carolina, in about 1778 to live until his death in South Carolina as attested by his LW&T filed in Newberry County in 1814. It was either this Robert or more likely his son, Robert Rutherford (Junior) who, along with Allen Beckham, witnessed for John Murphey of Butler County in John's deed of purchase dated November 3, 1807 for 202.5 acres in Jones County, Georgia. It was after this purchase when John Murphey moved his young family from Hancock County. (See abstracted deed in [John Murphey, Part 1](#))

After the Revolutionary War, Isaac Morgan acquired title to land in nearby Greenville County, one grant being 640 acres along the Enoree River, where he moved and continued public service as a Justice of the Peace by 1789. He is reported to have died in Greenville County in 1796.

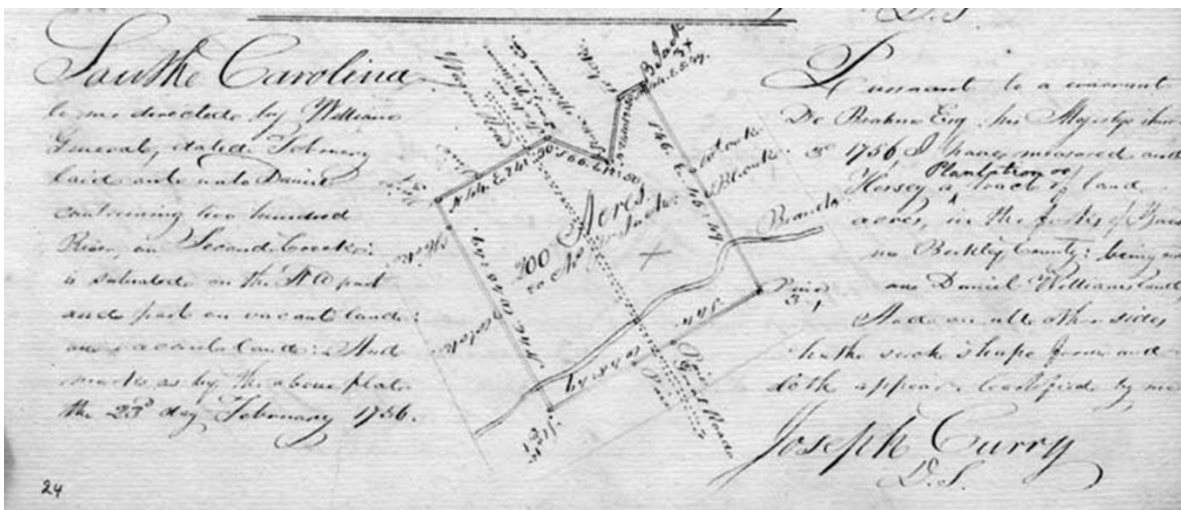
Daniel Horsey

Below, we have a plat from April 17, 1772 which shows how the Daniel Horsey who acted as witness to Edward and Sarah's deed of sale, along with William Wadlington (to be investigated next), adjoined James Murphey's tract, most likely being James' 200 acre tract along Williams Creek. By the description of Williams Creek being "four feet wide and six inches deep", we know that we are close

to the headwaters of Williams Creek, allowing us to locate the red circle confidently on the map above.



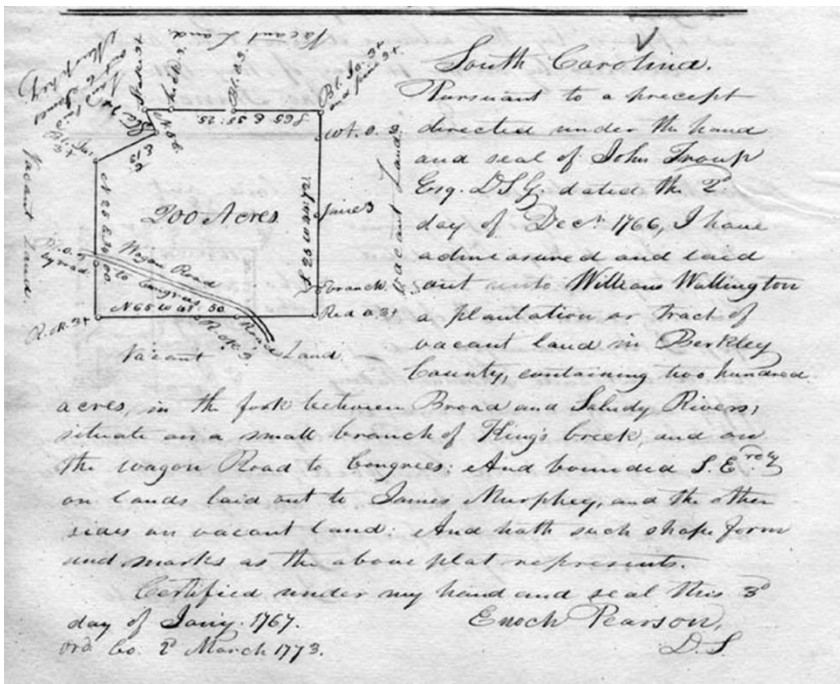
Research into Daniel Horsey's background reveals that he is a son of Stephen Horsey and grandson of Revell Horsey, early colonists of the state of Maryland. Daniel has a younger brother, Isaac Horsey, who migrates with him to South Carolina where both acquire land along Second Creek starting as early as 1756 as seen below. This plat also shows Daniel's first land warrant straddling the "Wagon Road" (also figuring in the two plats above). This road was built in 1747 and later became known as the Old South Carolina State Road. Today, that road going through Newberry County is U.S. Route 176, allowing us to locate the area of James Murphey's tract even more specifically.



In terms of documenting Daniel and Isaac Horsey's origin prior to moving to South Carolina, Isaac Horsey was a witness to the LW&T of one Israel Friend, whose estate inventory was filed on Nov 10, 1750 in Frederick County, Virginia, while his will was also filed in Maryland. This is the second neighbor of James Murphey shown to have migrated from Frederick County, Virginia.

William Wadlington

The next image shows land laid out to William Wadlington in 1767 straddling the "Wagon Road to Congarees" and adjoining James Murphey. Note that this tract is described as "on a small branch of King's Creek" and with James Murphey situated to the southeast. Considering the August 1765 date of survey for James Murphey's first warrant (later re-ordered to James Warden as covered previously) and the proximity of King's and Williams Creeks shown on Robert Mills' 1825 Atlas map on page 14, it appears that William Wadlington's property may be the same as referenced in Jane Wilson's plat above, which I believe also shows William's tract adjoining James Murphey's first warranted land along Williams Creek.



William Wadlington's family history is well documented. I will share a snippet pulled from posted notes found on Ancestry.com, showing that William's father was Thomas Wadlington:

"Ole Tom (Thomas Wadlington) was born in the year of our Lord 1715. He married Sarah Wyatt about 1735 in Virginia. By 1749 they lived in Fairfax County where he was a planter, and moved to Frederick County, Virginia in 1753. He kept a store, served as Justice of the County Court, and as Vestryman and Church Warden for Frederick Parish.

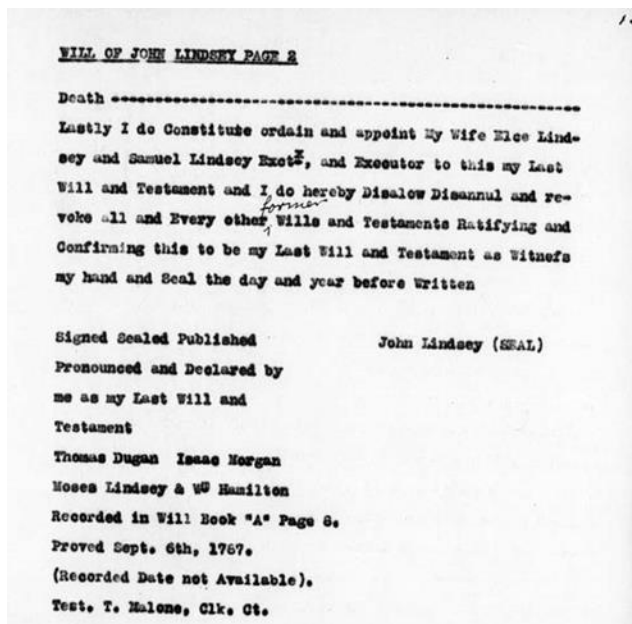
Having already purchased land in present Newberry County in 1767, Thomas and Sarah moved their family to South Carolina in 1770 - he received a Royal Grant for land 19 September 1770, in Berkeley County, in the fork between Broad and Saluda Rivers on a "small branch of Enoree River called King's Creek" (now Newberry County). Thomas was appointed a Justice for 96 District, Newberry County, 1770-1776. Thomas Wadlington died 24 March 1777 at age 62 years. He was buried in the Wadlington Cemetery, on his land. This cemetery is on a hill above the Gilliam Springs, near

the Enoree River. Thomas and Sarah had seven children: William born 4 Dec 1736 and died 1800, married Sinah Bounds Hooper. The other six were Ann, Thomas Jr., Sarah, James Wm., George Wm. and Edward."

Both Thomas and William Wadlington can be found listed on Frederick County, Virginia, Rent Rolls in 1759 and 1766 on Ancestry.com. The bottom line is that William Wadlington is the third neighbor to James Murphey who came from Frederick County, Virginia and relocated to South Carolina at the same time that James received his warrants for land along Williams and Cannons Creeks.

Moses Lindsey

Moses Lindsey appears to be related to the Justice of the Peace "John Lindsey" whose name we have seen on several of the deeds previously covered concerning sales of the tract granted to James Murphey. We find evidence of the relationship between the two Lindseys and the trust of a close neighbor in the proving of John Lindsey's LW&T on September 6, 1787, when Moses Lindsey and Isaac Morgan signed their names as witnesses.



From the South Carolina Online Archives at <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/onlinearchives>, we search and find a listing for Moses Lindsay (Lindsey) on February 2, 1765 with the note of "UNRECORDED PLAT FOR LAND NOT GRANTED, 300 ACRES ON SECOND CREEK, ENOREE RIVER, BETWEEN THE BROAD AND SALUDY RIVERS..." This description refers to the Second Creek area between the Williams and Cannons Creeks where James Murphey's land was located. Several family trees on Ancestry.com suggest Frederick, or nearby Orange or King George, County as Moses Lindsey's place of birth. However, further research suggests that there was a family relationship between the Lindsey, Horsey and famous Hogg families from when they were all living in Frederick County, Virginia.

To see how the families were interrelated, we know that Lewis Hogg was born about 1700 and died 1747 in Frederick County, Virginia. He married Mary Margaret Lindsey in 1725, daughter of another John Lindsey and Elizabeth Bethwell. Lewis Hogg's son was John Hogg, who was born in 1732 in the town of Winchester, Frederick County, Virginia, and died October 12, 1782 in Newberry County,

South Carolina. John Hogg married Sarah Margaret Elizabeth Horsey, daughter of Thomas Horsey and Elizabeth Becker.

Newberry County records indicate that John Hogg relocated to Newberry, South Carolina, along with other settlers fleeing Indian troubles in Frederick County, Virginia. According to online descriptions by family historians, "John Hogg arrived in South Carolina by 1767 with members of the Lindsey family". He received a land grant in 1771 for 200 acres first surveyed March 25, 1767, on a branch of the Enoree River, near King's Creek, in Ninety-Six District. King's Creek is located just north of Williams Creek along which James Murphey's original warrant was surveyed.

Moses Lindsey is important as he is the father of Dennis Lindsey (born about 1760), who in the 1790's lived near Edward Murphey in Warren County, Georgia and was a brother-in-law to Edward. Edward Murphey's second marriage was to Elizabeth Harville-Holliday and Dennis Lindsey was married to Elizabeth's sister, Lucy Holliday.

In summary, we have investigated several neighbors to James Murphey and can point to their origins from one common location, that is, Frederick County, Virginia. From "**The Annals of Newberry**" by John Belton O'Neill, we find James Murphey specifically mentioned in his list of early Newberry County settlers:

*"The original settlers were the Lyles (or Lisles), Jones, Sashal Grasty, the Kellys, Chandlers, Bonds, Gorees, Fergusons, Hills, Hancocks, Stewarts, Gordons, Curetons, Dicksons, Nolands, Avereys, Andersons, Caldwells, **Wadlingtons**, John Clarke, **James Murphy**, the Littletons, Greens, Robisons, Shadrack Vessels, Daniel Mackel Duff, the Maybins, (William and Matthew,) Thomas Wilson, Thomas Perry and John Walker. They were generally immigrants from North Carolina and Virginia, except the Maybins, who came from near Ballymena, Antrim, Ireland."*

Despite the proven origin of James Murphey's immediate neighbors, I have not found any solid documentation for a James Murphey in Frederick County within the years 1740 to 1765. As an alternative, there were some early settlers in the Second and Cannons Creek area who came from South Carolina homesteads located closer to the coast. A good example is John Cannon (the namesake for Cannons Creek) whose abstracted petition is recorded on page 116 in "**Petitions for Land from the South Carolina Council Journals, Volume II (1748-1752)**" by Brent H. Holcomb:

(Meeting February 5, 1749/50) "John Cannon, settler of the South side of the Santee River and with family of 12 persons, himself, wife, 9 children and 1 servant, prays for 600 acres of land on a creek called Cannon Creek or Briery Creek of the Broad River. Ordered that only 550 acres be warranted for survey."

While John Cannon's petition is about 15 years earlier than James Murphey's, it exemplifies the fact that there were very early settlers living in South Carolina who moved to land in the backcountry as it was opened. And as pointed out earlier in this paper, the 7 & 8 Feb 1768 Lease and Release from Edward Murphey and his mother states that Edward and Sarah hearkened from Berkeley County, which could be associated with the area around Charleston. And as stated previously, I believe that James Murphey's wife, Sarah, was living somewhere other than the land granted along Cannons Creek or it would not have been sold out from under her so soon after James' death. However, I have not found in the South Carolina records any detailed petition description for James Murphey like that of John Cannon's, only those entries which have been shown earlier in this paper. Likewise, I

have not identified any other South Carolina colonial records which definitively tie to this same James Murphey, his wife Sarah or son Edward to reveal any other landholdings or history.

Chapter 5: Proven Quaker Contacts for Edward Murphey in South Carolina prior to joining the Wrightsborough Community

The Quakers or “Religious Society of Friends” arose in the mid-1600’s in England and soon faced persecution. The state of Pennsylvania was founded by William Penn in 1682 as a safe place for Quakers to live and practice their faith. Quakers have been very influential in the history of reform, such as in the abolition of slavery, equal rights for women, promotion of education and the humane treatment of prisoners and the mentally ill, although the Society of Friends may be best known as pacifists who eschewed violence against other men. They set up a formal structure of monthly (local) and quarterly (regional) meetings, at which they took copious notes which today serve to be great sources of genealogical information. This group also marked the timing and movement of the great American migration along the frontier by setting up meetinghouses from Pennsylvania to the south along the Great Wagon Road. Historic meetinghouses were built southward along the route, as seen with the 1734 Hopewell Meeting in Frederick County, Virginia, to the 1751 Cane Creek and 1754 New Garden Meetings in North Carolina, to South Carolina’s 1770 Bush River Meeting (the Quaker cemetery is located just a couple of miles southeast of the town of Newberry), and ending with the southernmost Quaker assembly at the Wrightsborough Meeting in Georgia in 1773.

We can see some of the early history and names of these Bush River Quakers described in Newberry County, South Carolina, in “**The Annals of Newberry**”, pages 28-35 by John Belton O’Neill (accessible online at <http://genealogytrails.com/scar/newberry/quakersettlement.htm>)

*“The Quaker settlement was on Bush River and the Beaverdam. It extended from three to four miles on each side of the river... Certain it is that William Coate, before ‘62, lived between Spring Field and Bush River, and that Samuel Kelly, a native of King’s County, Ireland, but **who came to Newberry from Camden**, settled at Spring Field in ‘62, John Furnas at the same time, and adjoining, made his settlement. David Jenkins, about the same time, or possibly a few years before, settled on the plantation where Major Peter Hare resides. Benjamin Pearson and Wm. Pearson lived on the plantation, as early as ‘69. Robert Evans... **came also from Camden**, probably between ‘62 and ‘69. ... James Brooks, ... (Big) **Isaac Hollingsworth**, ... Isaac Cook, ... Thos. Pearson, **the two Enoch Pearsons**, Samuel Pearson, ... were residents of the same tract of country before or during the revolution, and were Friends or were ranked as such by descent.”*

What we learn from this published history above is that during the 1760’s a number of people began moving into the area around the present town of Newberry from an earlier settlement in South Carolina, that is, Camden, and so may be analogous to James Murphey’s movements although I have found no evidence to confirm this story of his origin. One of the highlighted Quaker names is Enoch Pearson. You may recognize his name as the surveyor on several of the plats shown previously. He was obviously familiar with the South Carolina backcountry and its inhabitants due to the nature of his job.

(From an online discussion thread) “Enoch Pearson (born 1718) so disliked the nasty smelling lime kiln which his father built and worked in Bucks County, Pennsylvania that he decided to become a surveyor instead, and went to Virginia to learn from a young George Washington. George Washington introduced Enoch to Tabitha Jacock. They were smitten with love and in 1751, Enoch and Tabitha married in the Friends Meeting House, which was about 6 miles north of Winchester (Frederick County, Virginia), called the Hopewell Meeting. Because of the Indian hostilities, Enoch and Tabitha and their growing family moved back to Solebury, Bucks County, Pennsylvania in late 1756. In 1765 they joined the migration south of Quaker Friends and settled in South Carolina, purchasing a plantation of over 1000 acres. Enoch was in his late fifties and a Quaker pacifist who didn’t believe in fighting, but he couldn’t let his good friend General George Washington down, so he joined the forces of Washington’s men and stood in the defense of Charleston. He was wounded and died from the rigors of the Revolutionary War in 1780 at age of 62. Enoch was buried in the Pearson Cemetery, Union County, South Carolina on land that was originally his.”

We further see connections built in Frederick County, Virginia between neighbors Enoch Pearson and another Quaker Friend, Isaac Hollingsworth, as listed in this deed abstract from “**Virginia Northern Neck Land Grants**” compiled by Gertrude E. Gray:

*April 11, 1760: Rebecca and Ann Calvert returned their warrant in the name of Robert Rutherford who purchased same. 400 acres to **Robert Rutherford of Frederick County. Adjoining Enoch Pearson, Isaac Hollingsworth, the Great Wagon Road, Richard Calvert***

The abstract above tells us that our old friend discussed previously, Robert Rutherford, was also in Frederick County, Virginia, which we knew. However, note that the same Enoch Pearson and Isaac Hollingsworth who were neighbors in Frederick County, Virginia, are later listed as early members of the Bush River Quakers meeting in Newberry, South Carolina (list from “**Annals of Newberry**” quoted earlier in this Chapter).

As an aside, another interesting connection to John Murphey of Butler County, Alabama, can be seen through a daughter of Enoch Pearson and his wife Tabitha, that is, Mary Pearson (born 1753). From an internet genealogy discussion I have found this:

*Mary Pearson (Daughter of **Enoch 1718 & Tabitha**) married Josiah Prather. Josiah was brother to **Basil/Bazil Prater/Prather**.*

In looking at a deed abstract, we can see that Basil Prather was a neighbor to John Greer, a relative of Josiah Greer.

“Laurens County, South Carolina, Deed Book B”, Page 416-418 – August 22 & 23 Aug 1788

*Lease & Release; John Greer Sr. (Ninety-Six Dist.) to Ruth Adair (same), for £50 Sterling sells 150 acres on a small branch of Duncans Creek in sd. Dist... part of 300 acres whereon John Greer now liveth. Bordering **Basil Prather**. Witness John Owins, **Josiah Greer**, John Robinson. Signed John Greer Sr.*

Josiah Greer was probably closely related to John Greer, evidenced by having witnessed John Greer’s deed of sale and who lived nearby on Allison’s Branch of Duncan Creek, in what is now Laurens County, adjoining Newberry County to the northeast. Understanding this relationship is important when we look again at our John Murphey of Butler County’s first land purchase in Hancock County, Georgia, from [John Murphey. Part 2:](#)

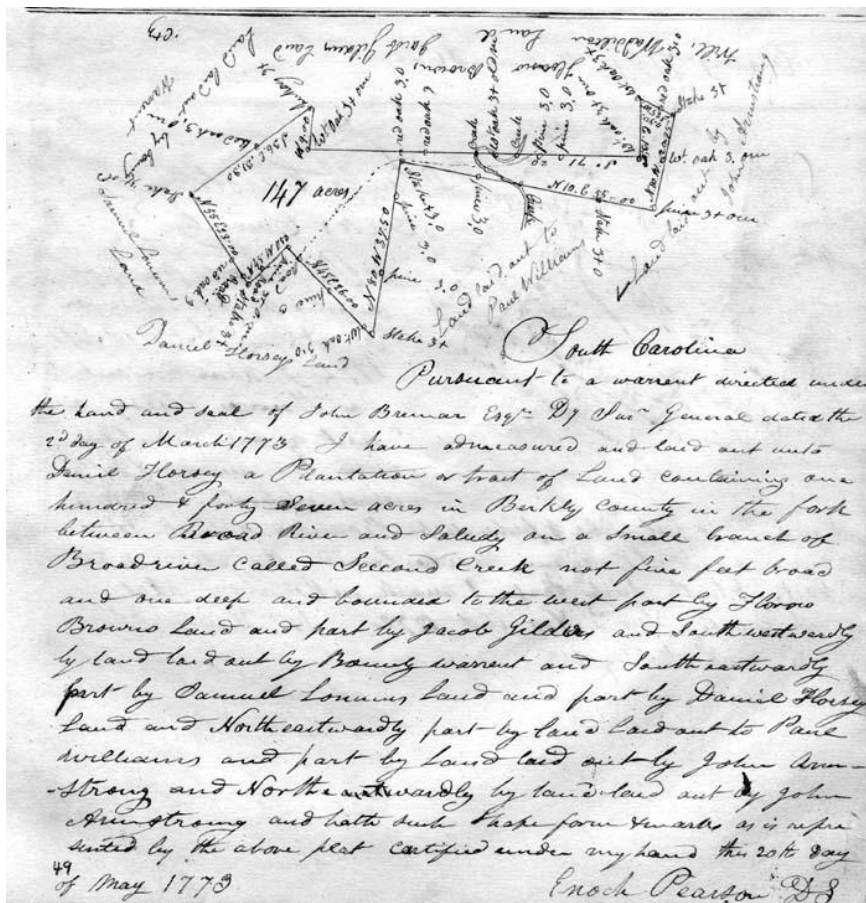
Hancock County Deed Book B, Page 421 – 8th March 1797

Josiah Greer of Laurens County, South Carolina to **John Murphey** of Hancock County for thirty pounds sterling for a tract of land in Hancock County and waters of Derriso Creek containing 107 acres bounded eastwardly by Graves' land, southwardly by Seaborn Jones' land and westwardly by Call's land, same granted to said **Josiah Greer** on 10th February 1797. Signed: **Josiah Greir**

Wit: *Isa Ilands* (CFM Note: *Isa* is short for *Isaiah*, so it is "Isaiah Eilands") and *W. Hutchinson* (CFM Note: *William Hutchinson*)

In [John Murphey. Part 2](#) I could not explain how John Murphey was connected to Josiah Greer or how John was able to secure such a favorable purchase price suggestive of almost a family-type relationship. (Please compare land prices in the other deed abstracts found in [John Murphey. Part 2](#) for proof that the price paid by John Murphey for his 107 acres in Hancock County was unusually low.) Now that connection may be explained. John's father, Edward Murphey, was likely familiar with the Pearson family and through them may have known the Greers living in the Ninety-Six District. Another explanation may simply be that Josiah Greer was a Patriot who fought in South Carolina and may have come to know Edward Murphey as they fought on the same side during the Revolutionary War. In either case, we can now say that John Murphey's relationship with Josiah Greer came through John's father, Edward.

As seen previously in Daniel Horsey's plat for the 147 acre tract along Second Creek which names Paul Williams as an adjoining landowner, Paul Williams lives in the same area as James Murphey's warranted land. Remember that Paul Williams' mill was the namesake for "Williams Mill Creek" which soon became shortened to just "Williams Creek".



Below is an abstracted description of Paul William's petition found on page 157 in "**Petitions for Land from the South Carolina Council Journals, Volume II (1748-1752)**" by Brent H. Holcomb:

(Meeting November 29, 1750) "Paul Williams, lately come from Philadelphia, with family settled on Second Creek above the Broad River, with House and Mill. Came with daughter married to John Pearson with son and settled a mile above Paul Williams"

From an online genealogy thread, Harriet Imrey <himrey@ntelos.net> wrote that this John Pearson was a Quaker:

*One Williams family settled in the Newberry Co region in 1750. Paul and Martha Williams lived on a branch that became known as Williams Mill Creek. They were Sabbatarian Baptists from Philadelphia; their daughter **Jean** had married Philadelphia Quaker **John Pearson**.*

From "**Newberry County, South Carolina Deed Abstracts, Vol I: Deed Books A-B**" by Brent H. Holcomb, we read:

Newberry Deed Book A, p978-983 – December 24 & 25, 1775

*Lease and Release, **John Pearson** of Craven County, South Carolina, Blacksmith and planter, to Terrence Riley of same, planter, for £150 SC money, tract granted 5 Jul 1769 to Isaac Morgan, 100 acres in Craven County in the forks of Broad and Saludy Rivers on Cannons Creek **adjoining James Murphey**, Terrence Riley, and said Isaac Morgan for £100 did convey to John Pearson 1 & 2 May 1770. **John Pearson** (seal), **Jean Pearson** (mark) (seal)*

The deed of sale above lists seller, John Pearson, as having purchased in 1770 Isaac Morgan's tract adjoining James Murphey on Cannons Creek and is also signed by his wife, Jean Pearson, proving that we are looking at the same Quaker Pearson couple described above. Going back to read the 1768 Lease and Release of James Murphey's 150 acres on Cannons Creek signed by Edward and his mother Sarah indeed confirms that John Pearson is named as adjoining the tract to the east.

Familiarity with Enoch Pearson and John Pearson is borne out through documents, but it is expected that Edward Murphey knew a great many of his neighbors in the lightly populated frontier community that was then the Ninety-Six District. Certainly Edward was familiar with the country, which proves to be invaluable during his role fighting as a Patriot in the Revolutionary War and in hiding his family during this time in the frontier region of South Carolina. But before that time, we can suppose that this familiarity from living near and dealing with the Bush River Quakers in the Newberry area provided Edward Murphey with the necessary contacts to gain acceptance by the Quakers so that he could join their start-up community in Georgia at Wrightsborough.

Chapter 6: Documenting Edward Murphey's Military Experience in Georgia prior to joining the Wrightsborough Community

With the reality of living on the frontier and under constant threat of murderous Indian attacks, the pacifist Quakers often invited good, reliable men of action who could defend their community to live in

their communities. As has been shown in the previous Chapter, the Bush River Quakers located in Newberry County must have been known to Edward Murphey. Now, Edward gains some military experience and builds familiarity with the land in Georgia by joining the Georgia Rangers. This is evidenced from “**Colonial Soldiers of the South, 1732-1774**” by Murtie J. Clark, where we see the listings:

Second Troop of Georgia Rangers Pay Bill, Capt. James Edward Powell, 01 Oct 1766 to 01 Jan 1767 - Private Edward Murphy

Second Troop of Georgia Rangers Pay Bill, Capt. James Edward Powell, 01 Jan 1767 to 31 Mar 1767 - Private Edward Murphy

From October 1, 1766 through March 31, 1767, Edward is documented as having served in the Georgia Rangers. After March 31, 1767, the Rangers were disbanded due to lack of funding. Despite only six short months of service, this would account for Edward being in Georgia and having gained some familiarity with the land in the colony just prior to applying for his grant in Wrightsborough. From <http://hsgng.org/legacy/pages/gacolonialrangers.htm#Davis> we can extract a brief description of Georgia's Colonial Rangers:

General James Oglethorpe, Georgia's founder, held colonial provincial Rangers in high regard. Such mounted troops could patrol vast frontier areas, wherever and in whatever numbers they were needed. Unlike the citizen militia, the Rangers were a permanent professional military force. They did not require mustering or operate under special legal restrictions. Oglethorpe's troop numbered as many as fifteen officers and 122 enlisted men; and they were with him at his great victory at Bloody Marsh in 1742. With the end of his war with Spain and the removal of the British regulars in 1749, the Rangers were disbanded. Georgia's defenses against the neighboring French and Spanish provinces consisted of only the poorly equipped, indifferently trained militia. Until long after the American Revolution, most of the province's boundaries adjoined the Cherokee and Creek lands. War parties could potentially reach anywhere within the colony in a day, even to the capital at Savannah.

Many Georgians called for the return of Rangers... On September 10, 1756, James Lambert reported that four Indians attacked the settlement where he and Andrew Clement lived, near present-day Louisville... The colonial commons house of assembly urged [Governor John Reynolds] to raise a troop of Rangers to consist of six officers and seventy enlisted men. By December, Reynolds enlisted a troop of forty men under Captain John Barnard, Oglethorpe's former Ranger commander.

The British government authorized the creation of the Second Troop [in 1760]...

*The officers of the two troops were wealthy and prominent Georgia landowners, traders, or merchants. Perennial colonial office holder **James Edward Powell (CFM note: Edward Murphey's Captain)** commanded the Second Troop. Powell remained loyal to the King during the American Revolution, for which the new state of Georgia had him banished.*

The enlisted men were not so prominent and many of them apparently were recruited from outside of Georgia (CFM note: like Edward Murphey from South Carolina). Few of these common soldiers owned any land (CFM note: like Edward Murphey at the time of his enlistment) and some of them may have even been criminals. When not on special assignment, the Rangers were divided among a number of permanent outposts throughout the colony, notably Fort George near Savannah; Fort Barrington on the southern frontier; and the fort at Augusta. They maintained patrols that

arrested criminals and unruly settlers; watched for marauding Indians; and captured escaped slaves. Recruitment also became a continuous task.

... In 1760, during South Carolina's troubles with the Cherokees, the Rangers worked to keep the war from spilling over into Georgia. They were aided by friendly Indians working for scalp bounties. When Georgia Governor James Wright traveled to Augusta for a meeting of southern governors and Indian leaders in 1763, he had an escort of fifty Rangers under Second Lieutenant Moses Nunez Rivers of the First Troop ... Rivers also acted as an Indian translator.

The Rangers were mustered out of existence on March 31, 1767 (CFM note: the last date of Edward Murphey's service). The troopers received bonuses to help them return to their home colonies although some of them would later settle in Georgia (CFM note: like Edward Murphey who settled in the Wrightsborough community).

*Governor Wright reestablished a troop of Rangers in 1773, paid for from proceeds from the sales of the newly acquired Ceded Lands, today's Wilkes and surrounding counties on Georgia's then northern frontier. These soldiers were stationed at Fort James and the **fort at Wrightsborough**, as well as at other outposts in the new territory.*

In summary, Edward Murphey is documented to have served as a Georgia Ranger from October 1, 1766 through March 31, 1767 under Captain James Edward Powell. During this time, Edward Murphey gained military experience and familiarity with the land in Georgia. From the description of the Ranger role, Edward would have learned how to fight Indians and outlaws, skills that made him very attractive to the new Quaker community at Wrightsborough. Confidence in these skills likely played a role in Edward's decision to move his young family out of Georgia and into the frontier area of South Carolina during the Revolutionary War. This same confidence was demonstrated by Edward's eldest son, John Murphey of Butler County, when John purchased his first farm in Hancock County right next to the edge of white settlement in Georgia (the border being the Oconee River at that time) and later in 1815 to make the daring move into Butler County, Alabama with his own 14-year-old son "when Butler County was still in the hands of the Indians" (from Wilson Murphey's obituary published in "The Greenville Advocate, Vol. XIII, Number 39" from Greenville, Butler County, Alabama, Thursday, August 8, 1878).

Chapter 7: Edward Murphey in the Quaker Settlement of Wrightsborough

It is established that Edward Murphey was known to the Bush River Quakers in Newberry County, South Carolina, and that with his experience in the Georgia Rangers, he would have been a desirable candidate for inclusion in the new Quaker community being built at Wrightsborough, located west of the town of Augusta in then St. Paul's Parish, Georgia (today in McDuffie County, Georgia). With their settlement "adjoining the Indian Line" and within easy reach of raids, the pacifist Quakers sought out morally upstanding men who were willing to fight in defense of their own homes and families. Below is the account of how Wrightsborough came into being from the book "**Wrightsborough 1768**" by Dorothy M. Jones:

"No further action was taken by any Quaker until September 1, 1767, when Joseph Stubbs presented to the Governor and

Council (of Georgia) a petition of 'sundry families, at present residents in Orange County in the Province of North Carolina but lately from Pennsylvania, setting forth that they were desirous to remove into and become settlers in this Province, and praying that a reserve of land for that purpose might be made for a certain time.' The minutes for that day read: 'It is ordered that a reserve be made for the petitioners until the 1st day of February 1768, of 12,000 acres of land adjoining the Indian Line from Little River; and in case ten families of them, by that time, come in, apply for and settle upon the said lands, then a further reserve shall be made of the residue of the said 12,000 acres until the 1st day of January 1769.'

The first petition to the Governor and Council for a grant of land was presented on July 25, 1768 by Joseph Maddock for a tract of 200 acres for the purpose of building a gristmill. The settlement grew faster than was at first contemplated and the original reserve proved inadequate. Accordingly, Joseph Maddock and Jonathon Sell, who appear to have become the leaders of and spokesmen for the settlement, presented another petition to the Governor and Council on December 6, 1768, pointing out that seventy families had already arrived and settled and that more were expected."

Next we read from the records of the Council held in the Council Chamber at Savannah on Tuesday, February 7, 1769 that Edward Murphey petitioned for 150 acres of land in Wrightsborough Township:

On reading a Petition of Joseph Maddock and Jonathan Sell two of the People called Quakers on the behalf of themselves and the rest of the Friends lately come to settle in this Province from North Carolina Setting forth (among other things) that sometime Since there was a reserve of Lands ordered to be made for Forty Families of their People it being then supposed not more than that Number would Settle in the Province but that there were already about Seventy Families come in and actually Settled and praying that a larger Extent of Land might be allotted and reserved for them for a further Term they expecting a considerable Number of their Friends might yet join them. And also praying that their several Lands might be laid out; and Grant for the same passed; and a Road from their Settlement run; agreeable to the encouragement formerly given them on the faith whereof they were come into the Province. It is Resolved that the Land on both Sides Germany's Creek to the Head thereof and from thence to continue the same Course 'till it intersects the Indian Line (not taken up by the People already come) be reserved for the same purpose for twelve Months next ensuing; that a Road be run from their Settlement; their Lands Surveyed in the several Tracts and proportions following and grants for the same passed and perfected to the respective persons herein after named that is to say:

To Thomas Watson 500 Acres;

Joseph Maddock ... 300 Acres + 200 Acres (Purchased) Which said 200 Acres is the same Tract ordered him in August last; Deborah Stubbs 300 Acres; Robert McClen 300 Acres; Thomas Jackson 250 Acres;

James Morrow 350 Acres; John Stubbs 100 Acres; Peter Perkins 500 Acres;

Jonathan Sell 300 Acres; John Oliver 350 Acres; Joseph Mooney 550 Acres; Henry Ashfield 350 Acres;

Ann Stubbs Widow 150 Acres; William Elam 250 Acres; John Jones 200 Acres;

Absalom Jackson 200 Acres; Francis Jones 250 Acres; John Slater 400 Acres; Isaac Low 250 Acres;

Joseph Hollingsworth.... 100 Acres; James Hart 250 Acres; John Whitsit 200 Acres;

Thomas Hart 200 Acres; John Whitsit Junr. ... 250 Acres; Richard Jones 150 Acres; Stephen Day 200 Acres;

Daniel McCarty.... 400 Acres; James Emmitt 200 Acres; Samuel Oliver 250 Acres; Hugh Tennen 200 Acres;

Richard Moore 100 Acres; Thomas Ansley 200 Acres; Thomas Linn 250 Acres;

Cornelius Cochran 300 Acres; Isaac Vernon 350 Acres; John Sidwell 300 Acres; Amos Vernon 200 Acres;

George Morrow 300 Acres; Oliver Matthews 250 Acres; John Perry 250 Acres;

Laurence Thompson... 350 Acres; John Howard 250 Acres; John Hodgkin 300 Acres;

*George Beck 150 Acres; Benjamin Dunn 150 Acres; **Edward Murphey 150 Acres;***

Benjamin Jackson 150 Acres; William Miles 100 Acres; Isaac Jackson 350 Acres;

William Fanner 550 Acres; Walter Jackson 100 Acres; William Mitchell ... 100 Acres; John Canon 450 Acres;

*Richard Bird 100 Acres; John Murry 100 Acres; Peter Phillips 100 Acres; **Samuel Wilson 200 Acres;***

Alexander Oliver 100 Acres; James Oliver 100 Acres; John Hunter 200 Acres;

From other sides..... 15,000 Acres

And it is further Ordered that one Thousand acres of Land out of the said Reserve be Surveyed and Laid out in a proper Spot for a Township (to be called Wrightsborough) And that a Plat of the same be certified and returned to the Clerk of the Council.

Ordered that Secretary do prepare a Warrant accordingly
(signed) Chas. Watson

We find that the actual grant date of Edward Murphey's petitioned 150 acres is July 3, 1770 from the online book available at <https://books.google.com/books?id=bGsfAQAAMAAJ>, "**The Colonial Records of the State of Georgia Compiled and Published under Authority of the Legislature, Volume X, Proceeding and Minutes of the Governor and Council from January 6, 1767, to December 5, 1769**" by Allen D. Candler:

Murphey, Edward

Town Lot #41, Wrightsboro, St. Paul Parish;
150 acres, Wrightsboro Township, St. Paul Parish
Surveyed April 15, 1769 Plat Book C, page 183
Granted July 3, 1770 Grant Book I, page 139

It is in these records that Edward Murphey and Samuel Wilson (future friend to Edward Murphey and father of John Murphey's very close friend in Hancock County, Georgia) were both listed in the February 7, 1769 petition and later granted land within Wrightsborough Township. At another Council Meeting, Ambrose Holliday (friend and future father-in-law to Edward Murphey) also petitioned, perhaps as one of the original 70 families from North Carolina (which is where he came from). Below is the listing of the grants for these three men:

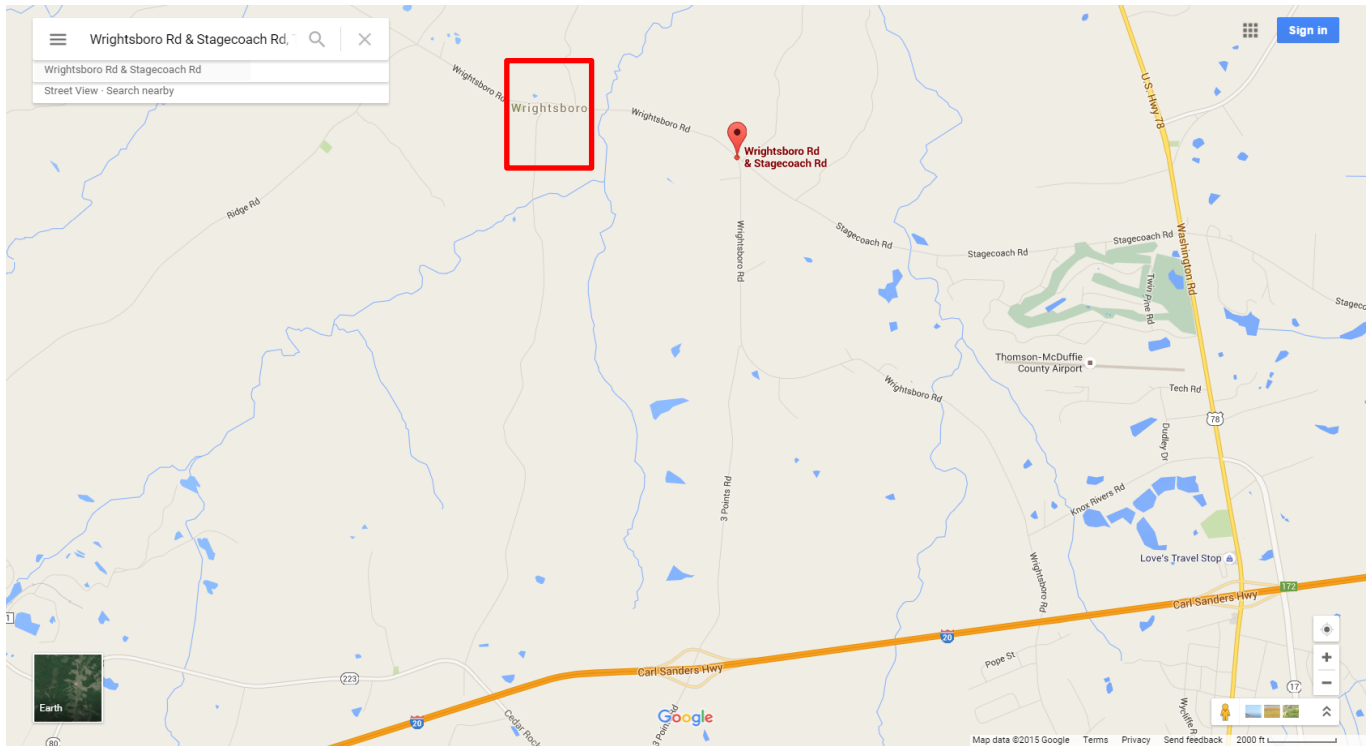
Name		Town Lot #	Acres of Land	Grant Date	Grant Book	Page #
Murphey,	Edward	41	150	July 3, 1770	I	139
Holliday,	Ambrose	88	100	July 3, 1770	I	617
Wilson,	Samuel	13	200	July 3, 1770	I	163

A valid question to ask is where Edward's original 150 acre tract was located. (An excellent reference is "**Richmond County, Georgia, Land Records, Boundaries as of 1777**" by Daniel Nathan Crumpton which shows maps with Edward's grant in relation to his neighbors.) Otherwise, I have not found a proper description but we do see this later sale describing the land as being along Germanys Creek, just as was requested in the Council Meeting notes above from February 7, 1769:

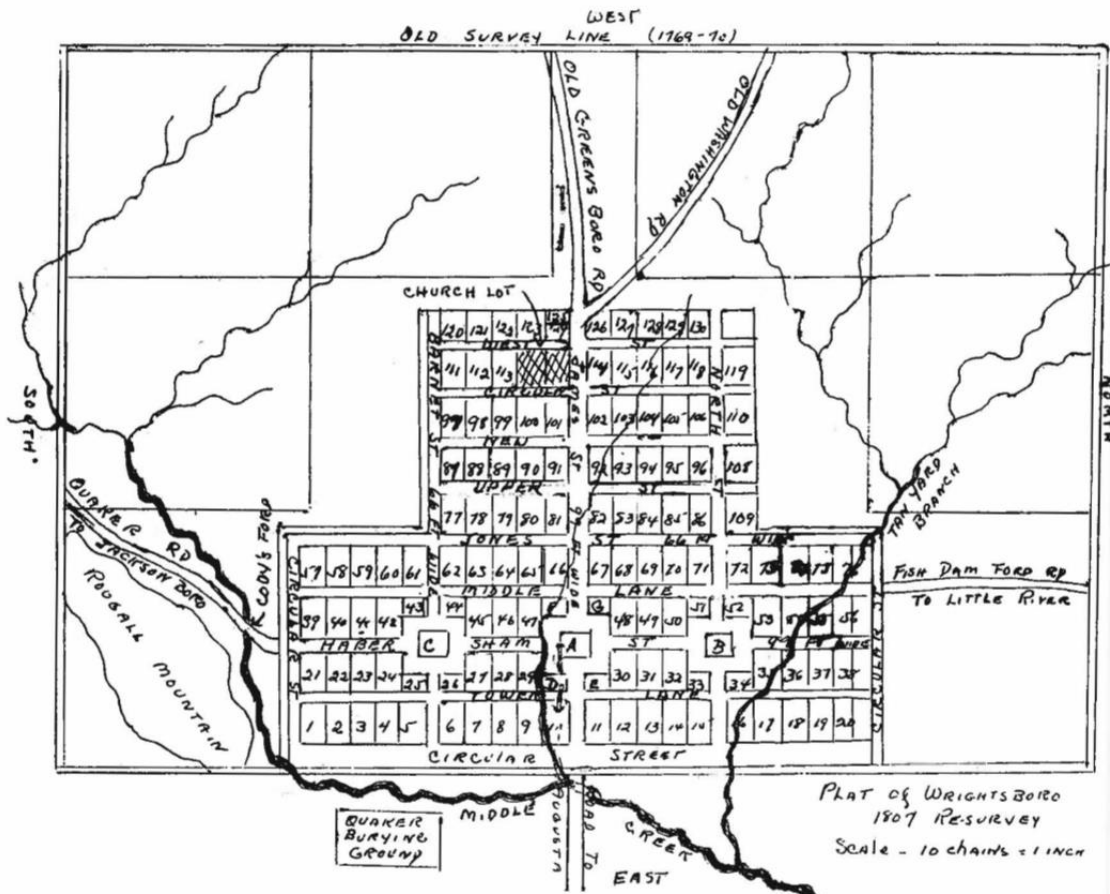
Columbia County Deed Book - Sept 2nd 1801:

BENJAMIN FEW to IGNATIUS FEW for \$1000, sells 150 acres on waters of Germany Creek. Originally granted to EDWARD MURPHY, July 3rd 1770 (recorded: May 27th 1803)

Curiously, I have never found the deed of sale from Edward Murphey to Benjamin Few, perhaps because the sale was never officially recorded. This is why a number of deeds tell their own history of ownership to clear up any doubt of title. From the number of acres granted in the listing above, we can deduce that as of the petition date of February 7, 1769, Edward Murphey was married with no children (150 acres), while Samuel Wilson was married with one child (200 acres). On the other hand, Ambrose Holliday had not yet married Margaret Harville and taken charge of all her minor children when he petitioned for his 100 acres.



The town of Wrightsborough was surveyed before July 3, 1770 as that was the date of the first granted town lot. The town was located with its southeast corner touching on Middle Creek (also known as Town Creek) which ran northerly into the Little River. Edward Murphey owned town lot number 41, Ambrose Holliday had town lot 88 and Samuel Wilson had town lot 13. Below is the 1807 map of the town lots within Wrightsborough (from the book **“Wrightsborough 1768”** by Dorothy M. Jones):



The wagon road to Augusta (as seen in the town plat above), ordered on December 6, 1768, was completed by May 2, 1769 and it was called the "Quaker Road" as it ran southeast from Wrightsborough. The route of the old Quaker Road is today followed for part of its route by State Highway 232 from Augusta to Appling.

Between 1768 and 1774 various petitions, orders, and other matters affecting the town and township of Wrightsborough were noted in the minutes of the Governor and Council. Perhaps the most serious matters were Indian depredations, because marauding bands continually stole horses and cattle, with practically no protection given to the Quakers by the government. In 1769 there was such a total loss of stock that they could barely plant and cultivate any crops. From fear of Indian raids, 25 heads of families left the settlement in 1771, but of these 13 soon returned (one of those being Ambrose Holliday). During the time between 1768 and 1774, the government appropriated only £100 for their protection, plus £50 for a fort built in 1774.

The town and Township of Wrightsborough reached its peak population by March 1775. There were then 124 identified men holding grants to 30,650 acres of land in the township, and of that number 82 also owned lots in town. But the political unrest of that year was already having its effect, so that when the Revolution came, some of the citizens were found to be Loyalists while others were Revolutionaries. In August and September 1774, when the residents of all of the Georgia parishes were drawing up resolutions condemning the attitude of the British government in its disputes with the New England colonies, 114 persons in the Parish of St. Paul signed their own resolutions

condemning the actions of the other parishes. (Note: Edward Murphey was not a signer.) Of those signing, 38 were Quakers residing in Wrightsborough Township. As the 114 signers represented 30 percent of the freeholders in the Parish of St. Paul, the other 70 percent must have been favorable to independence or wanting to remain neutral. With the outbreak of the Revolution, the difference between the two factions became more distinct. Militia companies for both armies were raised in the Township of Wrightsborough, and the fortunes of war brought first one army and then the other into possession of the town; held by the Americans in 1777 and 1778, by the British in 1780 and 1781, and afterwards by the Americans. The early Quaker leaders, Maddock and Sell, both then elderly, had sided with the British, but by the end of 1781 both were refugees from the town. The ongoing Quaker emigration to Ohio was completed by 1803 and the town of Wrightsborough continued its steady decline to where all that remains on the site today is the old Wrightsboro Methodist Church and cemetery.

Chapter 8: Introducing Edward Murphey's First Wife

It was mentioned in the preceding Chapter that Edward Murphey's petition for 150 acres in Wrightsborough Township on February 7, 1769 indicates that at this time Edward was married with no children. We know from [John Murphey, Part 3](#), that our John Murphey of Butler County was named as the co-executor of Edward Murphey's estate, pointing to John as Edward's eldest son. We have also found that John Murphey's listings in the 1830 and 1840 Federal Census Records from Butler County, Alabama, indicate that John was born about 1770. So, the deduction for John's birth year as 1770 and the date of the petition arguing that Edward did not have any children at that time in February, 1769, are in complete alignment. Another piece of information from [John Murphey, Part 3](#), is that we know that John's siblings, Ruth and James, were born between 1771 and 1777. The next question raised is, who was Edward Murphey's wife (and John Murphey's mother) during the time period from February 7, 1769 through 1777? We find the answer in the deed of sale for a piece of property in South Carolina in January, 1777. Below is the abstract of the Lease and Release, or deed of sale, as found in the "**Charleston County, South Carolina, Book of Mesne Conveyance, Vol. A-5**", pages 373 – 379 (available by order on Film number 23556 from the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah).

*Lease and Release. 17 & 18 Jan 1777, **Edward Murphy & Mary his wife** to Hugh Turpin, James Moore & Field Perdue, for £110 South Carolina money, 100 acres in Granville County on a small spring branch waters of the Beaverdam branch adjoining land layed out to Robert McCuchin, John Caldwell, James Harkins, Robert Goudey, **granted to Mary Smith 16 June 1768. Edward Murphy (LS), Mary Murphy (her mark "+") (LS)**, Wit: Jacob Warley, William Moore. Proved 21 Jan 1777 before John Troup, J. P., by the oath of William Moore. Recorded 31 Jan 1777.*

Below is a photo of the bottom of the January 17, 1777 Lease and top of the recorded January 18, 1777 Release clearly showing that this was sold by "Edward Murphy & Mary Murphy his Wife". We see at the top of the image where Edward signs his own name (again, unlike his son John) to the Lease whereas his wife Mary signs with a mark ("+") indicating that she is most likely illiterate.

to accept and take a Grant and Release of the said Property and in her
name of the same to them and their heirs for ever. ³⁷⁸ M M M M
whereby the said Parties to these Presents have hereto interchang-
ably at their hands and Seals, the Day and Year first above written.

Edw. Seal & Deliv'd
in Presence of us
Just. Warley
William Moore

Edward Murphy (18)
her
Mary + Murphy (15)
mark

Recorded and Examined thirtieth day of January 1777

South Carolina
Edward Murphy & To
Hugh Turpin & Release, This Indenture made the
Eighteenth Day of January in the Year of our Lord One Thousand
Seven Hundred and Seventy Seven BETWEEN Edward Murphy
& Mary Murphy his Wife of the one Part and Hugh Turpin, James
Moore and John Jordan of the other part WITNESSETH That
for and in Consideration of the Sum of One Hundred & ten Pound
South Carolina Currency to the said Edward Murphy & Mary

So, where did the title to this land come from and how did Edward and Mary come into possession of this land? Below is the image of the plat from the South Carolina Online Archives showing the same description of the land:

South Carolina
Pursuant to a Warrant Granted
by his Excellency the W. Gov. G. C.
Charles O'Connell Montagu Esq.
to me directed by Egerton Leigh
Esq. Surg. Genl. bearing date the
12th January 1768 I have admea-
sured and laid out unto Mary
Smith a plantation or tract
of Land containing One hundred
acres in Granville County on a small
Spring branch Waters of Beaver Dam branch bounded to the S. E.
Laid out to Robert M. Hutchins & to the S. W. part by Land Laid out to
John Caldwell & part vacant Land & to the N. W. part by Land Laid out
to James Atkins & part by Land of Robert Gouders & on all other
sides by vacant Land and hath such shapes and marks as the above
plat doth represent Surveyed the 30th March 1768 by W. Anderson L.S.

vacant Land
145 6 17 50
11 15 6 35 00
100 acres
15 11 10 10 50
Bounty
29 14 11 5 14 2
100 acres
15 11 10 10 50
100 acres
15 11 10 10 50
100 acres
15 11 10 10 50
100 acres
15 11 10 10 50
100 acres
15 11 10 10 50

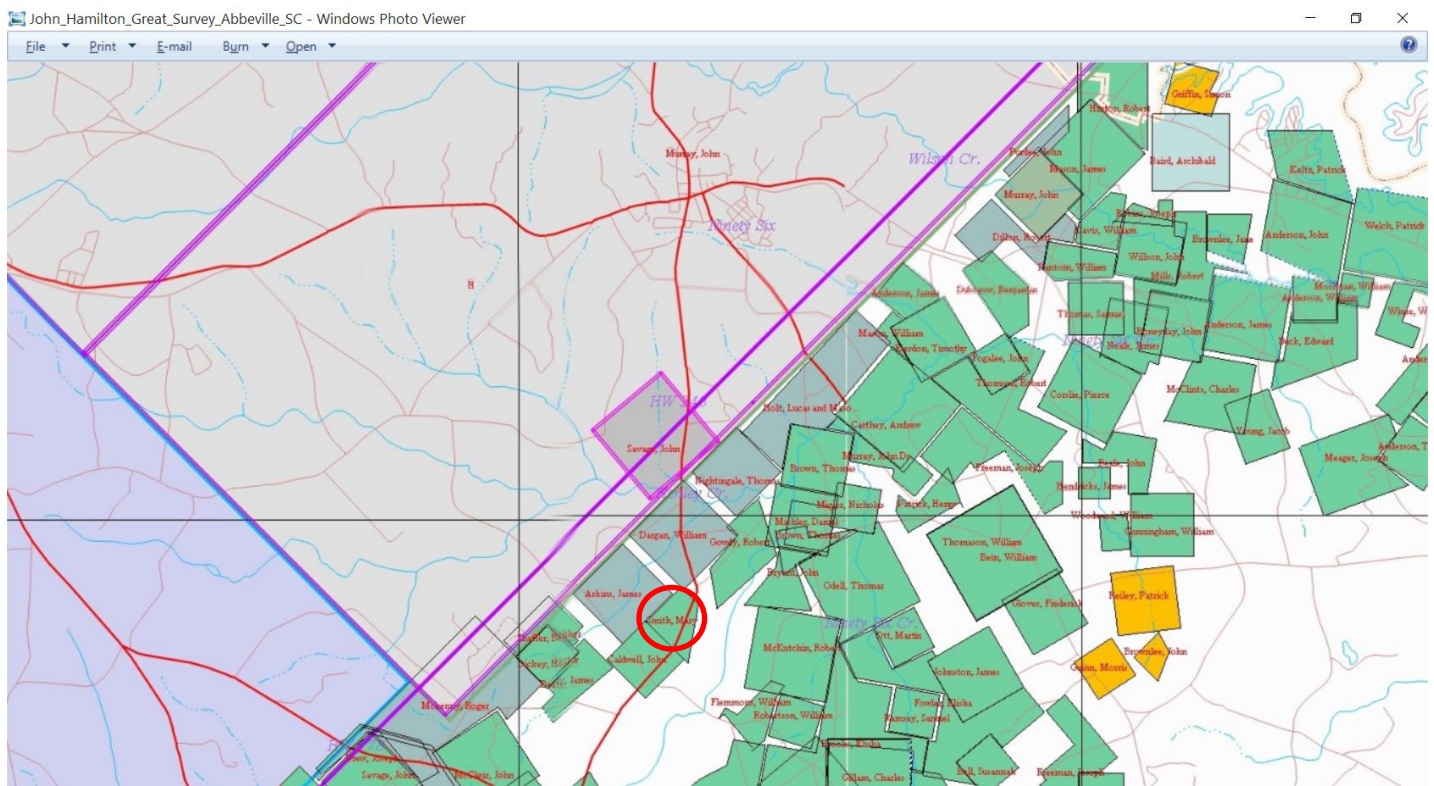
The above plat shows that a warrant to Mary Smith for 100 acres of land, indicating a single adult woman, was issued on January 12, 1768 and that the plat was subsequently surveyed on March 30,

1768. Matching the grant date description in Edward and Mary's Lease and Release, we see that the land was fully granted to Mary Smith just a short time later on June 16, 1768, based on the abstract found in the book **"South Carolina's Royal Grants, Volume 2, Grant Books 10-17, 1760-1768"** by Brent Holcomb:

Grant Book 17, Entry 389: *"BOUNTY. Mary Smith, 100 acres in Granville County on a small spring branch, waters of Beaver Dam Branch, adjoining Robert McCutchen, John Caldwell, James Arkins, Robert Goudey, 16 June 1768. Plat certified 30th March 1768."*

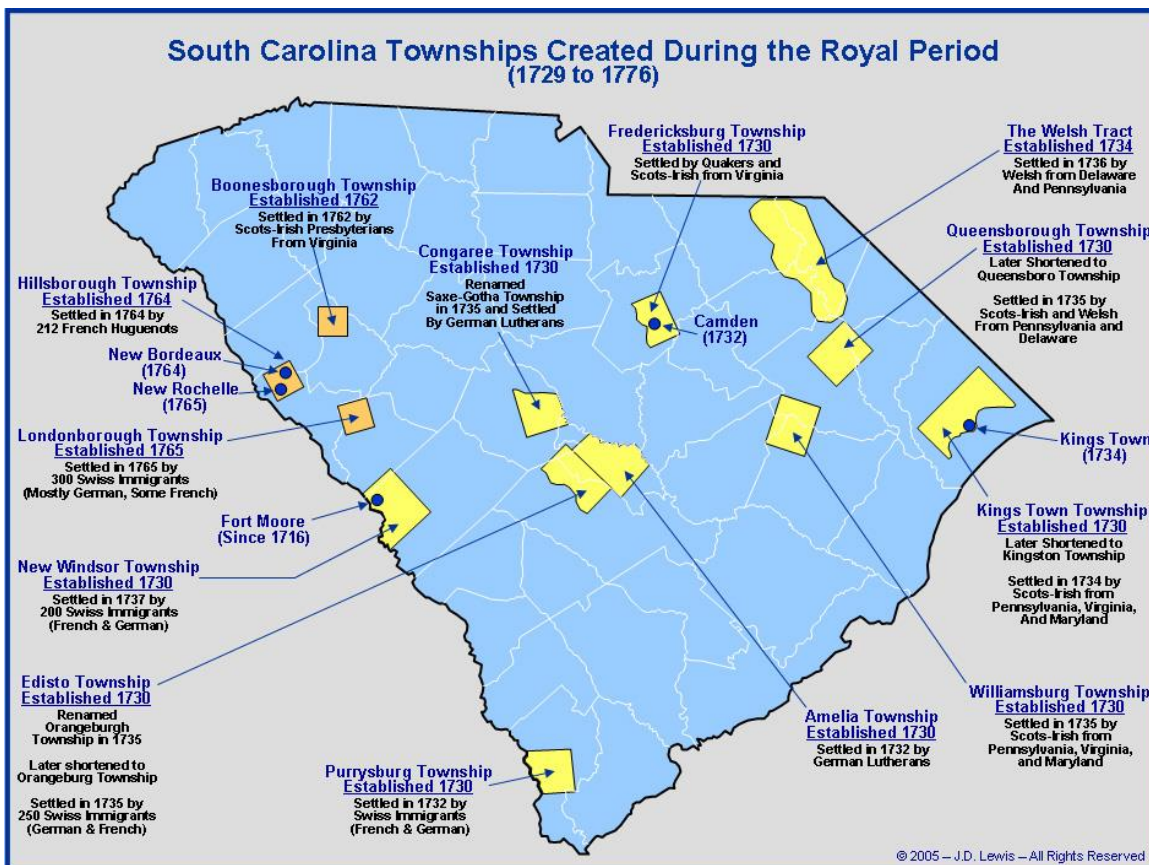
Since this land was originally granted to Mary Smith and subsequently sold by Edward and Mary Murphey, it may be that "Mary Smith" and "Mary Murphey" refer to the same person, unless there is documentation proving that the land was conveyed from Mary Smith to Edward and/or Mary Murphey prior to its sale in January, 1777. After researching the colonial deeds records and carefully reading the images of Edward and Mary's original Lease and Release, I have found no references to a prior sale placing title for this tract into the hands of Edward and Mary Murphey. The logical conclusion is that Mary Smith married Edward Murphey after she was granted the 100 acres along Beaver Dam branch. So, what other information can be gleaned about Mary Smith and how she acquired this land?

The precise location of Mary Smith's grant is less than a mile south along one of the main roads from the town of Ninety-Six, South Carolina, as shown below in the John Hamilton Great Survey reconstruction of land tracts granted to early settlers in the area (Link to map: http://www.bfthompson.com/abbeville_colonial_plats/abbeville_colonial_plat_map.htm). Mary's tract is located about 30 miles west-southwest from James Murphey's grant on Cannons Creek just east of the present town of Newberry, South Carolina.



(As an historical aside, near the town of Ninety-Six is found the “Ninety-Six National Historic Site”, which was the scene of the “Siege of Ninety-Six” late in the Revolutionary War. From May 22, 1781, Continental Army Major General Nathanael Greene led 1,000 troops against the 550 Loyalists in the “Star Fort”, until forced to lift the siege when Lord Rawdon approached from Charleston with British troops on June 18, 1781. After Lord Rawdon's retreat from Ninety-Six, Greene rested his men for most of July and August in the High Hills of the Santee before engaging the British again in the last major battle in the South, just outside Charleston at Eutaw Springs on September 8, 1781.)

To provide the proper background for researching Mary Smith’s origin, it is important for the reader to know that over 4,000 Protestant refugees from Europe immigrated to South Carolina between 1763 and 1773 under the “Bounty Act” passed on July 25, 1761 by the General Assembly of the Colony of South Carolina. Though I have not found the original wording of the Bounty Act, this Act obligated the government of South Carolina to pay for the passage of “poor Protestants” from Europe, grant them land (the number of acres based upon the headcount of family members) and provide them money for basic supplies so that grantees could begin farming their grants immediately. As seen below in a map by J.D. Lewis, there were a number of townships laid out in the backcountry after 1761 to take immigrants from various countries, such as Germany, France, and Ireland, although a number of grants were located outside of these townships. Exactly how the location of the granted land was determined under the Bounty Act, I do not know, although I suspect that the grantee had a large degree of input. From the original South Carolina Council Journals, we find a tremendous amount of information captured in the petitions for lands under the Bounty Act such as the names of the immigrants, along with their age, country of origin, the name of the vessel on which they arrived, as well as the date, location and number of acres granted.



This quote from an article in the February 20, 1767 edition of the “**South Carolina and American General Gazette**” gives the Bounty Act credit for effectively attracting poor Protestants to take the dangerous and uncomfortable 2-month trip from Europe:

The Earl of Hillsborough sailed for South Carolina from Belfast on Christmas Eve 1766. She reached Charleston February 19, 1767 "with two hundred and thirty protestant settlers, encouraged by the large bounty given by this province, and the success their countrymen have met with in their several settlements here."

Pertaining to the documented arrival of Edward’s first wife, Mary Smith, the snow “James and Mary” with 186 passengers arrived early from Larne in Northern Ireland and entered Charleston Harbor on December 31, 1767. A “snow” is a type of ship which was the largest of the two-masted ships and was differentiated by having a snow-mast stepped directly behind the main mast, among other riggings. This picture below by Charles Brookings in 1759 is from Wikipedia:



Passengers taking this ship from Larne probably came from County Antrim and from the northern portions of Counties Down and Armagh, as the owners had agents in Larne and Ballymena as evidenced by the wording from this Shipping Advertisement for the snow “James and Mary” as published in an Irish newspaper later in 1773:

For CHARLESTOWN in SOUTH-CAROLINA,

THE Snow JAMES and MARY, Burthen 250 Tons, John Workman, Master, So remarkable for Short Passages will sail from hence the 15th May next. Those that chuse [choose?] to embrace this good Oppertunity [Oppurtunity?] to go to the Port aforesaid are desired to apply to James McVickar or John Moore, Merchants in Larne, or John McVickar at Ballymena who will agree with them. As the Character of the Vessel and Captain are so well established, think it unnecessary to enlarge here upon it : Those that go in said Vessel may depend upon the best of Provisions being put on board, and plenty of Water.
Dated at Larne, this 12th April, 1773.

It is interesting to see in this 1773 advertisement the name of “John Moore, Merchant in Larne” who is no doubt the same “John Moore, Master from Larne” we will see documented as the ship’s captain in the Council Journal records from January 12, 1768 when Mary Smith arrived in Charleston.

(As a total aside, I found something interesting on the “Murphey Project” Y-DNA site <https://www.familytreedna.com/public/MURPHY%20DNA-All%20Spellings/default.aspx?section=yresults>, a listing of the Y-DNA counts from an “Edward Murphy” who lived in Lurgan, County Armagh, Northern Ireland about 1800. My own Y-DNA counts display a number of similarities, indicating a possible family tie in the distant past, and so points to the area around Lurgan as a possible origin for our Murphey line in the “old country”.)

From the book “**Petitions for Land from the South Carolina Council Journals, Volume VI (1766-1770)**” by Brent H. Holcomb, we find documentation describing Mary Smith’s arrival:

Meeting of 12 January 1768

Pages 24-33: *The Clerk reported that he had in pursuance of his Excellency the Governors directions been on board **the snow “James and Mary”, John Moore, Master from Larne, and administered the oaths to such of the poor protestants as were of age who had lately arrived in her into this Province on the encouragement and Bounty given by an Act of the General Assembly of this Province passed the 25th July 1761 agreeable to the following list:***

(Excerpted List is below)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>
...		...	
Alexander Davidson 48		Elizabeth Owens 6	
Jannet Davidson 36		James Dunsheth 27	
Samuel Glegney 30		Mary Dunsheth 31	
Mary Glegney 28		William Dunsheth 2	
Joseph Glegney 21		Henry McCallaster 20	
Agnes Taylor 35		James Corry 43	
William Taylor 12		George Corry 16	
Margaret Taylor 10		John Corry 7	
Samuel Taylor 44		William Turner 50	
Mathew Gelespy 23		Margaret Turner 57	
Martha Gelespy 26		Alexander Turner 20	
Alexander Kanny 34		John Turner 16	
Margaret Kanny 36		James Turner 12	

Agnes Kanny 8
Isabell Kanny 4
Mary Watson 17
Robert Rowan 55
Sarah Rowan 35
William Rowan 7 1/2

Thomas McWhirter 19
Mary Smith 49
Robert Miller 40
John Bouys 20
Nancy Gordon 25
Alexander Gordon 7

Note that the above excerpted list contains the “poor protestants” names and ages, arranged with families together, with the father and mother listed first and then followed by their children. From the fact that Mary Smith is listed alone, we know that she is travelling without family. And as we have seen before with old documents, her listed age of “49” may be incorrect, although we do know that Mary is a single adult as she next submits her own petition for land.

Continuing with the same Council Meeting held on January 12, 1768 from the book “**Petitions for Land from the South Carolina Council Journals, Volume VI (1766-1770)**” by Brent H. Holcomb, we find this excerpted list of Bounty warrants issued to these same “poor protestants”:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Acres Warranted for Survey</u>
...	
Mary Smith	100
Robert Miller	100
John Bouys	100
Mary Gordon	150
Charles McClinton	250
Patrick McGill	300
Archibald Paull	400
...	

Ordered that the Secretary do prepare Warrants of Survey as prayed for by the petitioners.

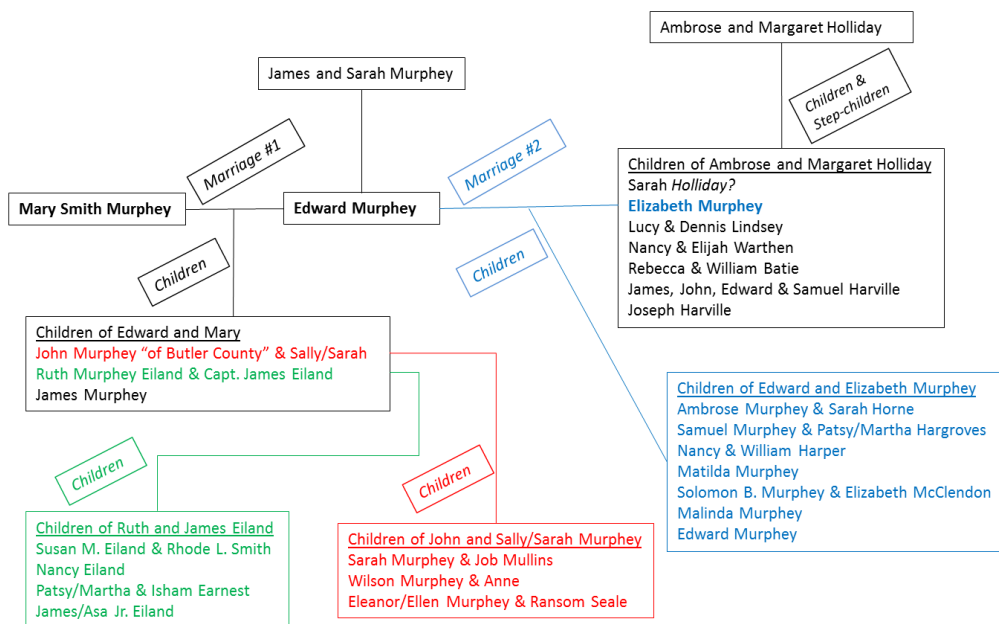
To summarize what we know about Mary Smith: she boarded the snow “James and Mary” departing from Larne, Northern Ireland, and after about 2 months sailed into Charleston Harbor on December 31, 1767, where she petitioned for herself a “Poor Protestant Bounty Grant” of 100 acres on January 12, 1768. Her desired tract was located far from the coast in the Ninety-Six District, surveyed on March 30, 1768, and then formally granted on June 16, 1768. Strangely, I have not identified any other of her shipmates in her immediate neighborhood. While it is not known if Edward met Mary before or after she immigrated to South Carolina, it certainly appears that Mary did not remain single for very long upon arriving in America. The grant’s location may argue against her knowing Edward Murphey prior to arrival, as the tract is located some 30 miles away from James Murphey’s warranted land on Cannons Creek, and so leaves the mystery of why she chose this remote location.

What is also known is that within 14 months after Mary’s arrival in South Carolina, Edward Murphey files a petition for 150 acres in the new settlement at Wrightsborough on February 7, 1769, implying that he is married without children. And since Edward and his wife Mary, sell Mary Smith’s land grant (with no history in the Lease & Release describing past sales for the property to clarify title) on January 17 & 18, 1777, it is obvious that Mary Smith is the same person as Edward’s wife. We also know that since Edward Murphey’s eldest son, John Murphey, was born about 1770, Mary Smith can

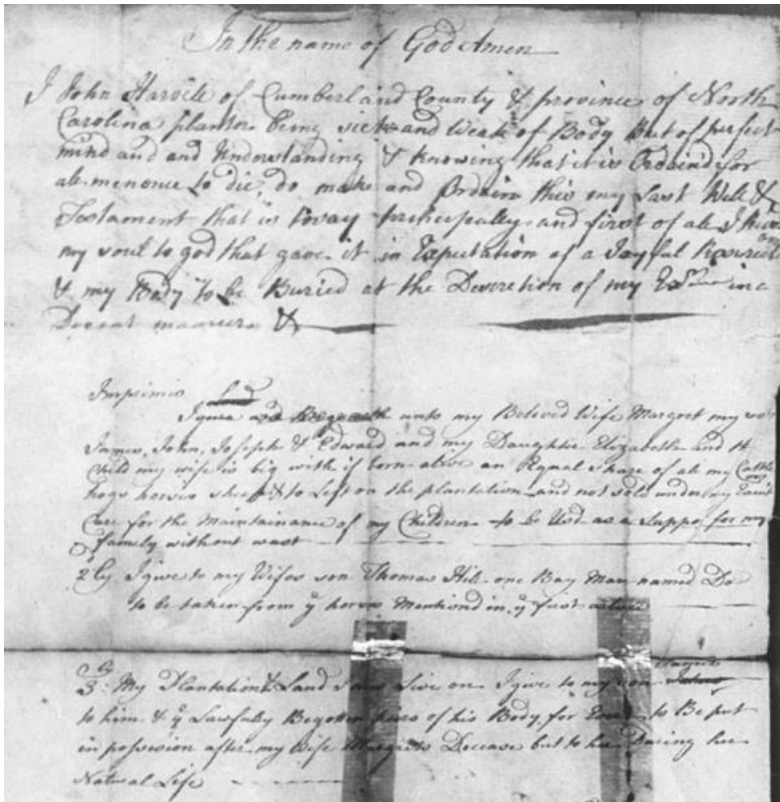
be named as his mother. Another conclusion which can be drawn is that the listing of Mary Smith being age “49” in the Council Meeting records from January 12, 1768 cannot be correct if she later bears John, James and Ruth in the years 1770 to 1777. Those facts would place her ages at the childbirths from 51 to 56 years old – leading to the conclusion that her recorded age as reported in the Council Journal is most likely incorrect. Janie Revill’s “**A Compilation of the Original Lists of Protestant Immigrants to South Carolina, 1763-1773**” also transcribes Mary Smith’s age as “49”, meaning that it is likely not a transcription error but the original document which has her age wrong.

Another approach is to look at Mary’s age while speculating on Edward Murphey’s possible age at the date of their proposed marriage in late 1768 to January 1769. We know that Edward was a legal adult, so at least age 21, when he sold James Murphey’s 150 acre tract on Cannons Creek in February 7 & 8, 1768. This would place his birth year at the latest as January 1747 or just 1746. Taking account of the number of acres in James Murphey’s two petitions for land in South Carolina and how that speaks to James’ family make-up (as presented in Chapter 3 of this paper), we surmised that Edward would have most likely been born in 1744 or prior. I like this date as it would place Edward at age 21 to 22 when he joined the Georgia Rangers in October 1766 as a Private, which is the lowest rank of soldier and suitable for a young man. With a proposed date of marriage to Mary Smith of sometime in late 1768 to no later than January 1769 (due to Edward’s petition at Wrightsborough), this would make Edward about 24 years old when married, with 100 acres of land available to farm through Mary’s grant. It appears very unlikely that Edward would have married a 49-year-old woman to bear his children. So by looking at the facts that we do have, it can be argued that Mary’s age may have been more correctly listed in the Council records as “29” and that an error was made in the Council Journal recording.

While we will look at Edward’s children from his second wife, Elizabeth, in Chapter 12 of this paper, at this point it would be advantageous to review Edward Murphey’s family situation as compiled from various sources and presented in this Relationship Graph below as first explained in Chapter 4 of [John Murphey, Part 3](#).



Please refer to Chapter 4 of [John Murphey, Part 3](#) for more information on how Elizabeth Harville-Holliday was identified. I am describing Elizabeth's last name as "Harville-Holliday" to denote that while she was the biological daughter of John Harville, Ambrose Holliday became Elizabeth's step-father in Georgia. We know this through the 1766 LW&T of John Harville of Cumberland, North Carolina (one of the witnesses to that LW&T being the same Ambrose Holliday who later married John Harville's widow, Margaret Harville, in Georgia). The image of that LW&T can be found at FamilySearch.org (image 13 of 210 under North Carolina Probate Records, 1735 – 1970, Cumberland, Wills, 1766 – 1795) and is shown in part below:



Here is a partial transcription:

*In the name of God, Amen, I, **John Harvile of Cumberland County & province of North Carolina**, planter, being sick and weak of Body but of perfect mind and understanding & knowing that it is ordained for all men to die, do make and ordain this my last Will & Testament, that is to say...*

*I give and bequeath unto my beloved **wife, Margret**, my sons, James, John, Joseph, & Edward and my **daughter Elizabeth** and the child my wife is big with if born alive in Equal shares of all my cattle, hogs, horses which ... left on the plantation and not sold under my estate...for the maintenance of my children...*

(month and day illegible) Anno Domini 1766

*Signed sealed... and declared to being Last Will & Testament in the presence of John ("H" his mark) Harvile, James Hill, **Ambrose Holladay ("X" his mark)**, Thom Hill*

Since Elizabeth was named in John Harville's 1766 LW&T, she was most likely at least a year old at the time because her mother was "big with" another child, so that Elizabeth was born in 1765 or

before. Therefore, at the date of Edward Murphey's marriage to Elizabeth in 1782, Elizabeth was at least 17 years old while Edward was at least age 38.

Now we can begin a timeline with some of the major events in Edward Murphey's life:

1744 (or earlier): Proposed birth year for Edward Murphey

October 1, 1766 – March 31, 1767: Edward Murphey in Georgia as a Georgia Ranger

October 30, 1767 – February 7, 1768: Death of James Murphey, father of Edward Murphey

February 7 & 8, 1768: Edward Murphey & his mother Sarah sell James Murphey's 150 acre grant in South Carolina

June 16, 1768: Mary Smith granted 100 acres near town of Ninety-Six, South Carolina

Mid-1768 – January 1769: Proposed Marriage of Edward Murphey to Mary Smith in South Carolina

February 7, 1769: Edward Murphey, as a married man, petitions for 150 acres in the Quaker settlement of Wrightsborough, Georgia

1770: Birth of first child to Edward and Mary, John Murphey of Butler County, Alabama

1771 – 1777: Ruth and James are born to Edward and Mary in Wrightsborough area

January 17 & 18, 1777: Edward Murphy & his wife Mary sell Mary Smith's 100 acre grant in South Carolina

1777 – 1782: Mary Smith Murphey dies within this time period

1782: Proposed Marriage of Edward Murphey to Elizabeth Harville-Holliday in Georgia

September 5, 1783: First child of Edward's second marriage, Ambrose Murphey, born to Elizabeth Harville-Holliday Murphey

Chapter 9: Edward Murphey – Revolutionary War Soldier in the “Regiment of Refugees”

In Chapter 5 of [John Murphey, Part 3](#), I introduced the fact that Edward Murphey was a Revolutionary War Soldier who served in the “Regiment of Refugees”. Below is an image of the memorial for Revolutionary War Soldiers who were buried in Warren County, which includes the name of “Edward Murphy”. The monument is found in the Courthouse Square of the Warren County seat of Warrenton, Georgia. Though it mentions that these men were “buried in Warren County”, I have found no records indicating where the grave of Edward Murphey is located and my request to the Burkhalter Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution in Georgia has remained unanswered.



Wayne Lynch, an historian focused on researching the Southern Campaign of the Revolutionary War, wrote an outstanding article named "Victory for the Georgia Refugees" published in the online magazine "Journal Of The American Revolution" at <http://allthingsliberty.com/2014/09/victory-for-the-georgia-refugees/>. Please look at this article for more details on the experiences of the Regiment of Refugees.

The larger "Regiment of Refugees" consisted of a number of loose Georgia militia regiments which continued to fight as an insurrection after their defeat by the British at the first siege of Augusta in 1780. When the Georgia colonial government collapsed, these various voluntary Patriot regiments fell back onto their original county militia roots, banding together like-minded, trusted neighbors to resist the British and colonial Loyalists in their own Georgia communities as well as in neighboring South Carolina. Such was the "The Refugee Regiment of Richmond County" (Warren County was formed later in 1793 from part of the original Richmond County) when history records that the unit was enlisted at the direction of Colonel Elijah Clark, Colonel Commandant of Georgia refugee forces on September 15, 1780, to serve "till the British are totally expelled from this state". However, indications are that, well before this date, Georgia residents had already picked sides, Patriot or

Loyalist, and had been actively working to further the goals of their faction for some time within the state and across the border in nearby South Carolina. One account is that the official regiment was small, initially containing one Colonel, one Major, three Captains and 65 Privates formed into three companies. However, research quickly reveals that there were a number of Patriot Colonels besides Elijah Clarke, including William Candler, Greenberry Lee, Benjamin Few, James McNeil and others. The regiment was disbanded on June 5, 1781, at the fall of Augusta, Georgia, to the Patriots. Since the regiments fought as an insurgency and because Patriots and their families were sought out by the British army and Loyalist militias for harsh treatment, including looting and burning of their houses and farms, as well as torture and death, it is difficult to find records listing the men fighting under the various regiments. As replacements, researchers have used the petitions of men applying for Bounty Grants after the War to build various lists. The relationships forged during this time of intense danger influenced Edward Murphey's life from that time forward. Please refer to Chapter 5 of [John Murphey, Part 3](#) to see the various documented relationships and how they affected the Murphey family. The two facts to highlight about Edward Murphey's life during the Revolution are that 1) Patriots in the Regiment of Refugees had to move their families out of Georgia and farther into the backcountry for their own survival and 2) Edward Murphey was a member of the Regiment of Refugees as attested by Colonels James McNeil and Greenberry Lee in Edward's applications for Bounty Grants.

We can pick out from the reconstructed list of Colonel Greenberry Lee's Regiment of Richmond Refugees (as found at

https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=3&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKewj4m6Tw54zNAhVB92MKHdUTDNqQFggoMAI&url=https%3A%2F%2Farchive.org%2Fstream%2Fgeorgiasrosterrev00knigrich%2Fgeorgiasrosterrev00knigrich_djvu.txt&usg=AFQjCNFeaMIZzEQ_smA8yA99eyB1DbOgaA) the names of Edward Murphey and a number of others who appear closely associated with Edward as neighbors and witnesses to his deeds of purchase and sale at various times of his life in Georgia:

Edward Murphy

Samuel Wilson

Capt. John Wilson

Wm Jr. and Ignatius Few

Henry Candler

Simon Beckham

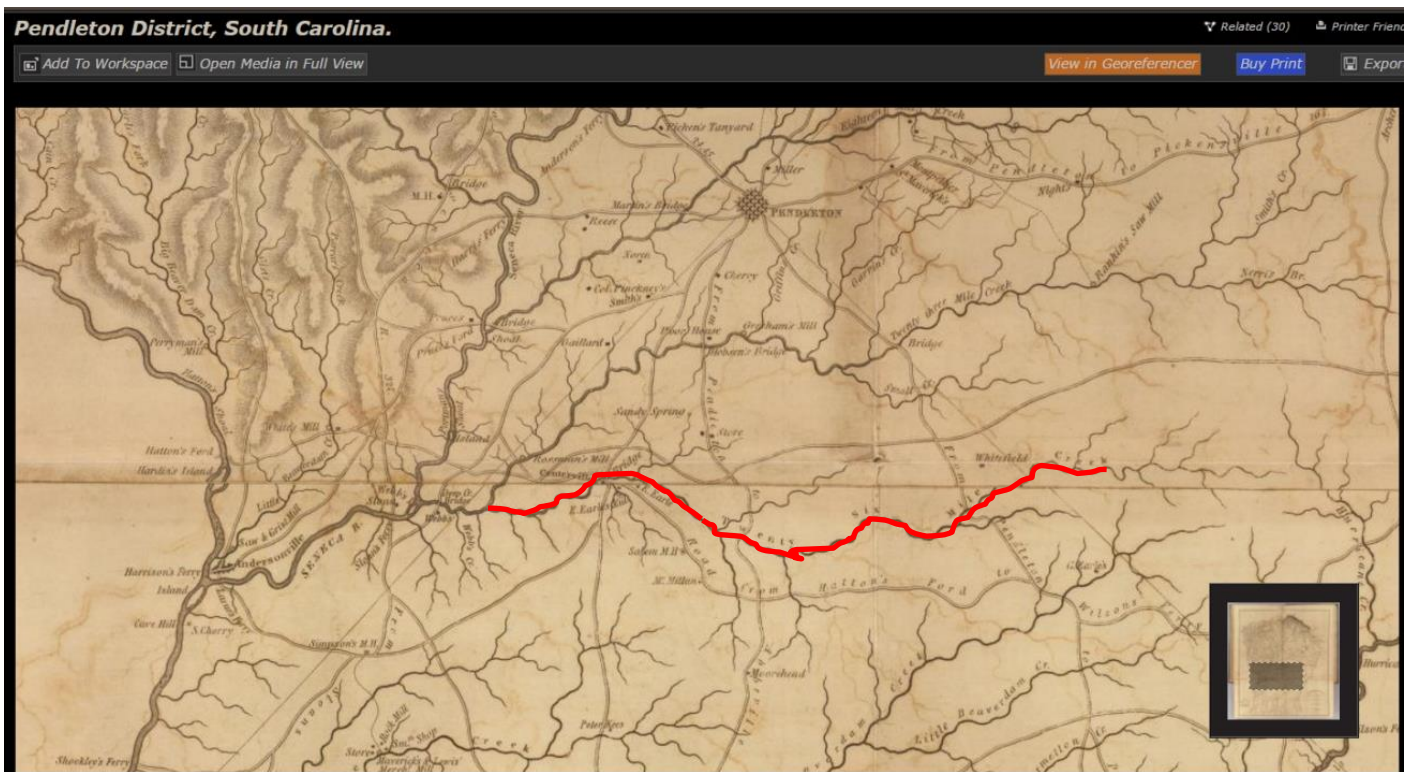
Roger and Peter Qualls

David Robeson

One of the questions to ask is where did Edward take his family while they were Refugees? I believe that the answer can be found for this from "**South Carolina's State Grants, Volume One: Grant Books 1-6: 1784-1790**" by Brent H. Holcomb:

Grant Book 2, Entry 293: “Bounty grant to Edward Murphy, 200 acres in the District of Ninety Six on the waters of Twenty Six Mile Creek, 4 July 1785.”

The tract was surveyed and certified by April 7, 1785, and is found in South Carolina Plat Book A on page 252 (according to the book “**Index to Commissioner of Locations plat books A & B, 1784-1788**” by R. Wayne Bratcher), before being granted to Edward Murphey on July 4, 1785. This land is located far in the backcountry of South Carolina, a few miles south of the town of Pendleton in Anderson County, South Carolina, along the creek today known as “Six and Twenty Creek”. A large part of that creek is now flooded under the Northlake branch of Hartwell Lake which forms the border between South Carolina and Georgia. This area was Cherokee land ceded May 20, 1777 to South Carolina and is near the so-called “Cherokee Foothills” which are the southernmost peaks of the Blue Ridge Mountains. So, if Edward was trying to get his young family away from the action of the Revolutionary War, this location was certainly at the edge of white settlement. We can find the creek named (highlighted in red) in the map published for the Pendleton District, South Carolina in 1825 by Robert Mills:

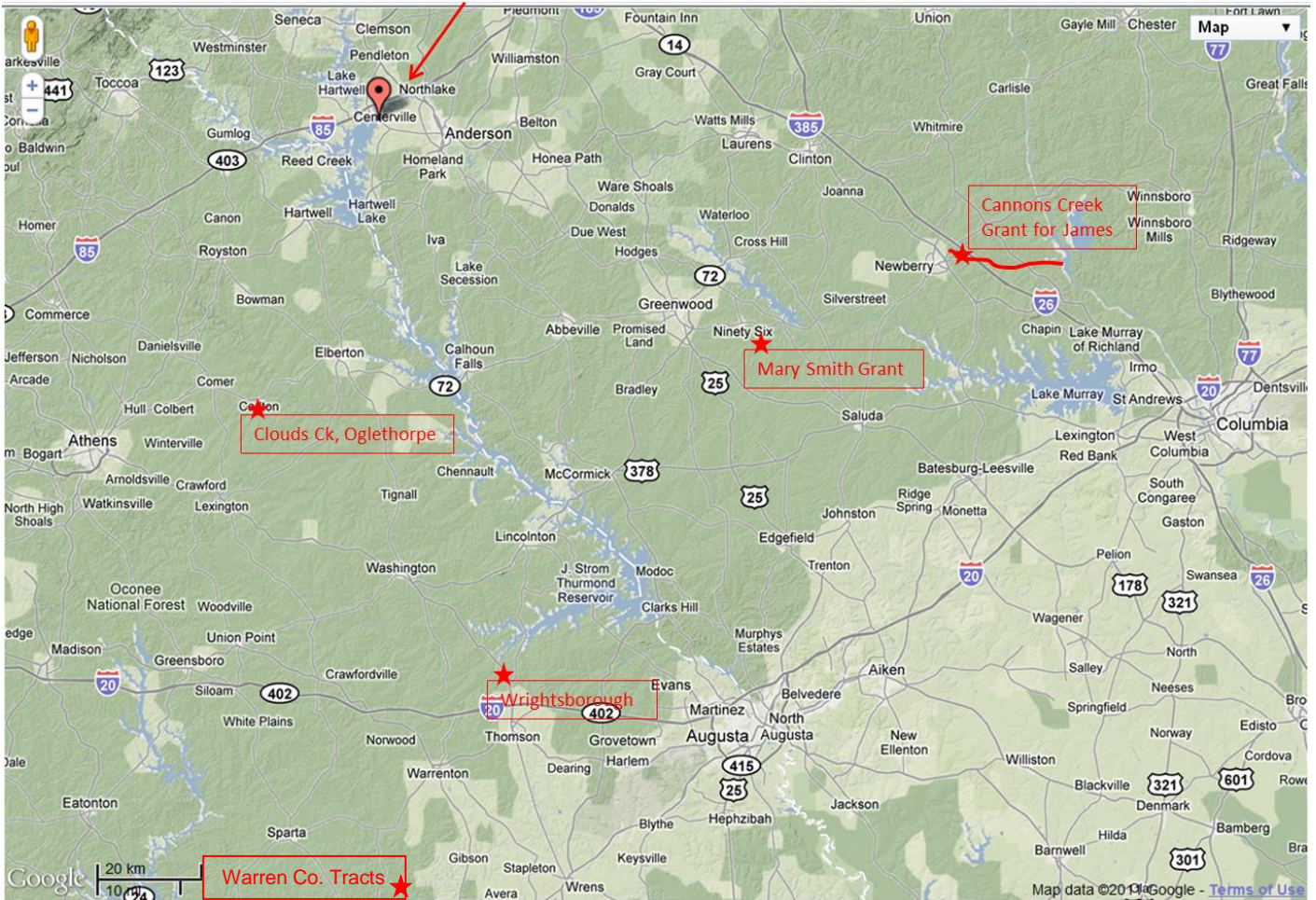


(Above map found at:

<http://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~23875~860042:Pendleton-District,-South-Carolina->)

To date, I have not found any deed of sale for this property, so I can give no further information on its exact location nor its subsequent disposition. In any case, this land was located about 100 miles away from the community at Wrightsborough and at least 50 miles northeast of Mary Smith’s 100 acre grant near the town of Ninety-Six, as seen in the map below.

Location of Edward Murphey Grant on 26 Mile Creek



Just to show how dangerous it was for both Patriots and Loyalists during the Revolutionary War, here is the appropriate place to share the following information about the James Warden who received James Murphey's warrant for 200 acres along Williams Creek, as discussed in Chapter 3 of this paper. This was abstracted from "***The Carolina Herald and Newsletter, Official Publication of the South Carolina Genealogical Society; Scenes of Columbia, South Carolina; Vol. XXX October-December 2002 No.4***", entitled "Fletchall's Address":

Colonel Thomas Fletchall of the South Carolina Militia was in charge of the area between the Broad and Saluda Fork which was a hot bed for the rebels. Three hundred men said to have been murdered by the American "rebels" were named in a letter dated April 18, 1782, written to his Majesty the King, saying the "usurpers in this Province have murdered about three hundred men, some after and some without pretense of trials, on a suspicion of their being attached to your Majesty's government." James Warden is the 300th name on this list.

"In Giving the above List of Persons Massacred in this Province, we have confined us to 96 District, the Southern part of Camden, and the upper parts of Orangeburg, with five in Charleston, and from every Account we can safely say that at least thrice the number have been Butchered and have in like manner - not one of those named fell in Action---were killed at their plantations or after they had been made Prisoners..."

This quote captures the nasty reality of the Southern Campaign in the Revolutionary War, as colonial residents took sides and exacted retribution on each other for each offense. So we see that Edward's service as a Patriot in the "Regiment of Refugees" forced him to move his family out of Georgia and into the lightly inhabited frontier to keep them safe from atrocities being committed by whites upon each other.

So, in this Chapter we have seen documentation that Edward Murphey fought as a Revolutionary War Soldier in the Regiment of Refugees and have identified a likely location out of Georgia and deep in the backcountry of South Carolina where he could have placed his family to keep them safe from Loyalists. Growing up in the tumultuous time of the American Revolution must have been very disruptive to the education of Edward and Mary's three children, none of whom appeared able to sign their own names as adults. Also, if Mary had died early within the 1777 to 1782 time period, the children may have been passed around to various families for their upbringing until Edward could establish a consistent homestead and marry again, which he did sometime between late 1782 and January, 1783. It appears that Edward's first brood of three children with Mary, that is, John, James and Ruth, later lived their lives quite independently as opposed to living close to each other and did not interact frequently in business transactions as did Edward's later brood resulting from his marriage with Elizabeth Harville-Holliday.

After surviving some of America's darkest days, the light begins to shine brightly. In the next Chapter, we look into the heady post-war years of American independence when Americans become emboldened and believe that there is nothing standing in the way of each citizen's own personal success. It is at this time that Edward Murphey begins to accumulate significant wealth.

From where we left our timeline in the previous Chapter, we can now insert the minimum term of Edward Murphey's service as a Revolutionary War Soldier:

1777 – 1782: Mary Smith Murphey dies within this time period

September 5, 1780 – June 5, 1781: Edward Murphey serves in Regiment of Refugees (so-named because soldiers' families have been moved out of Georgia) in Revolutionary War

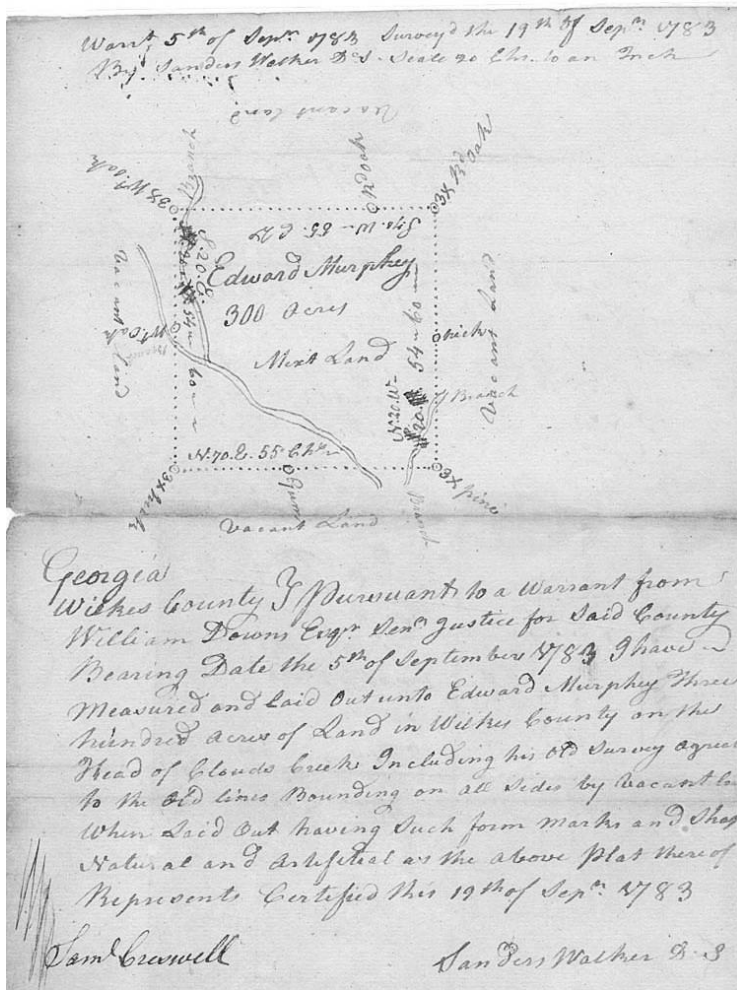
1782: Proposed Marriage date of Edward Murphey to Elizabeth Harville-Holliday in Georgia

September 5, 1783: First child of Edward's second marriage, Ambrose Murphey, born to Elizabeth Harville-Holliday Murphey

Chapter 10: After the Revolutionary War, Edward Murphey aggressively acquires Land

After the War, Edward Murphey aggressively acquired land in Georgia. The "Treaty of Paris" ended the Revolutionary War when signed by the United States and Great Britain on September 3, 1783. Congress ratified the treaty on January 14, 1784. Below is a warrant for 300 acres dated September 5, 1783, on "the head of Clouds Creek" in then Wilkes but now Oglethorpe County, Georgia. It is by

coincidence that September 5, 1783 is also the birthdate of Ambrose Murphey, Edward and Elizabeth's first-born offspring. As seen in the later deed of sale of this land, not only is Edward's old friend Samuel Wilson adjoining this same Wilkes County property, but my research further reveals that Elizabeth's step-father, Ambrose Holliday, also has land nearby.



We know that this is our same Edward Murphey as we have him and his wife identified in this deed of sale from “Oglethorpe County, Georgia, Deed Books A - E, 1794 – 1809” by Michal Martin Farmer:

Deed Book B, 1795 – 1798, page 226: 23 January 1798, **Edward Murphey & Elizabeth, his wife, of Warren Co., Ga.,** to Robert Smith of Lunenburg Co., Va., for \$500, 300 acres in Oglethorpe Co., Ga., adjoining Robertson and **Wilson** (CFM note: Samuel Wilson), on Clouds Creek.

(signed) Edward Murphey, Elizabeth (x) Murphey.

Wit: **James (x) Murphey**, Arthur Fort, J.P.

As mentioned before, note that Edward signed his name but that his wife Elizabeth Harville-Holliday Murphey and son James Murphey (from Edward's previous marriage with Mary Smith) both signed with just a mark, an “x”. This is similar to what is observed with Edward's eldest son, our John

Murphey of Butler County, Alabama, who never signed his name but with a mark (which looked like “©”).

By this time, land speculation was already a very common pursuit for ordinary Americans. Edward used his status as a Revolutionary War Soldier, just as was seen with the Bounty Grant for 200 acres in South Carolina discussed previously in Chapter 9, to acquire multiple land grants in Georgia starting with this petition carried on his behalf and others who had served as soldiers in the Regiment of Refugees by Edward’s friend John Wilson as seen below:

*Account of **Bounty Land Certificates** issued to persons claiming as **Refugees**, or Citizens, by resolve or Act of the 19th & 20th August 1781, by his Honor Governor Houstoun in the year 1784, Continued Columns: Persons Claiming, Quantity mentioned in each Certificate, Vouchers of such Claim to being entitled, No. [of certificate], Persons taking up such Certificates for themselves or others.*

28 Feb. 1784

*Ambrose Holliday, 250 ac., Greenbury Lee, Col., 415, Ambrose Holladay
John Wilson, Capt., 250 ac., Greenbury Lee, Col., 423, John Wilson
Samuel Wilson, 250 ac., Greenbury Lee, Col., 431, John Wilson for Samuel Wilson
Edward Murphy, 250 ac., Greenbury Lee, Col., 433, John Wilson for Edward Murphey
Simon Beckham, 250 ac., Greenbury Lee, Col., 434*

Next we look at a Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) listing of petitions for Revolutionary War Soldiers' Bounty grants in the new Washington County, Georgia, under the signature of yet another Colonel in the Regiment of Refugees:

MURPHY, EDWARD. Certificate of Jas. McNeil, Col., Mar. 15, 1784. Petitioner prays bounty in Washington County. Also prays head rights in Washington County for six whites in family.

As seen below, Edward Murphey sells his Wrightsborough Town Lot on Feb. 18, 1785 to James McDonald (as recorded in “**Richmond County Deed Book B-1**”, page 72) for £40, perhaps to generate cash for other land acquisitions:

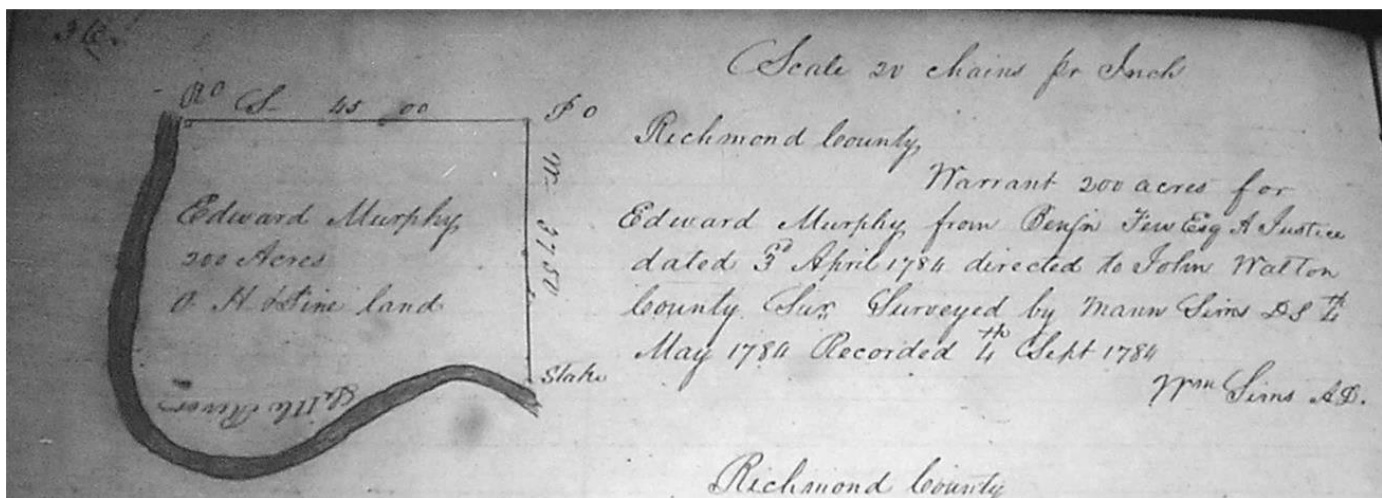
The screenshot shows the Ancestry.com interface for historical collections of the Georgia chapters, Daughters of the American Revolution. It includes a search bar with the text "Volume II. Richmond County Georgia. Dee", navigation buttons like "Return to Search Results", "View All", "Print", "Order", "Options", and "Share", and a zoom control set to "Custom". The main text of the deed is as follows:

MURPHY, EDWARD, planter,—Page 72—Feb. 18, 1785. To, James McDonald, Lot No. 41 in Wrightsborough, orig. granted said Murphey. Test: Solo. Beckham.

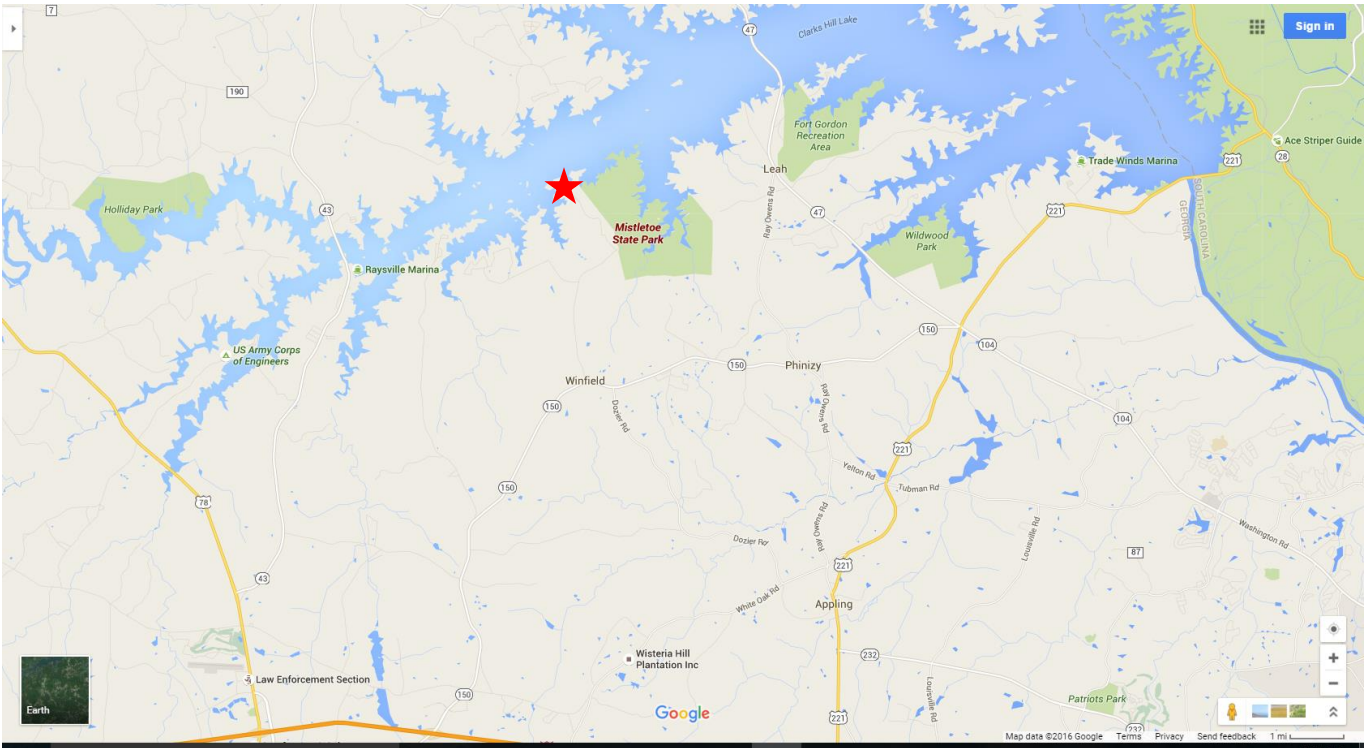
Also in 1785, in the area around Wrightsborough which was then in Richmond County but redistricted to Columbia County in 1790, Edward receives two more land grants as described in the listing below:

Entry #	Name	Acres	Date of Grant	Land Description
58	Edward Murphy	100	29 Jul 1785	NE-German, NW-Walton, SE-Boswell
59	Edward Murphy	200	29 Jul 1785	N & W-Little River, E-Sullivant

While I have not been able to precisely place Edward's original 150 acre grant dated July 3, 1770 along Germanys Creek in Wrightsborough nor the 1785 grant of 100 acres, the 1785 grant of 200 acres has been located. Below, from "**Richmond County Plat Book A**", is the plat for the 200 acre tract described above with the Little River bounding on the north and west. (Note that plats do not follow the usual convention of the north direction being to the top of the survey nor do they show a North Arrow to show the tract's true orientation.)



Daniel N. Crumpton has reconstructed this above 200 acre grant to be located where the red star is placed in today's Columbia County, Georgia, as seen in the map shown below:



So, we have already shown that Edward had by late 1784 acquired via grants 2 tracts and a town lot in Georgia:

Edward Murphey – 150 acres in St. Paul Parish (Wrightsborough land) in 1770 (Grant Book I, page 139)

Edward Murphey – Town Lot 41 in in St. Paul Parish (Town of Wrightsborough) in 1770 (Grant Book I, page 139)

Edward Murphey – 300 acres in Wilkes County in 1784 (Deed Book EEE, page 19)

As evidence of Edward’s continued exercises in land acquisition via grants after 1784, below is an excerpt from “**Index to the Headright and Bounty Grants of Georgia, 1756-1909**”, edited by Silas Emmett Lucas, Jr.

Edward Murphy – 100 acres in Richmond County in 1785 (Grant Book HHH, page 123) (CFM note: Wrightsborough area)

Edward Murphey – 200 acres in Richmond County in 1785 (Grant Book HHH, page 139) (CFM note: Wrightsborough area)

Edward Murphy – 287.5 acres in Washington County in 1785 (Grant Book GGG, page 135)

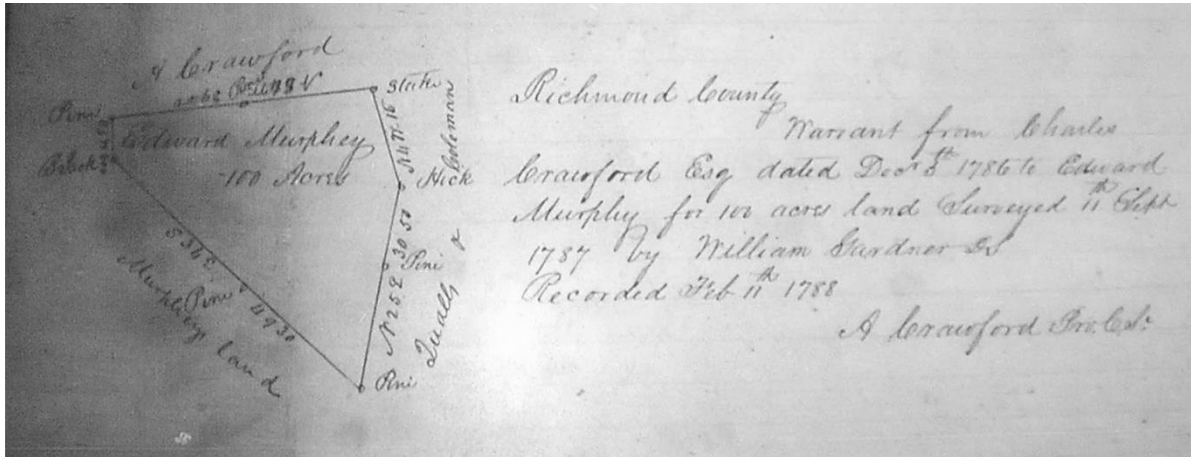
Edward Murphy – 100 acres in Richmond County in 1791 (Grant Book VVV, page 250) (CFM note: Ogeechee area)

Edward Murphy – 268 acres in Washington County in 1797 (Grant Book AAAAA, page 167)

Edward Murphy – 200 acres in Warren County in 1802 (Grant Book EEEEE, page 127)

Edward also purchased 100 acres for £50 from Thomas Yarbrough on March 13, 1786. We see that Edward acquired more land within this same area via a warrant issued by State Official Charles Crawford on December 5, 1786 for 100 acres as shown below. Notice that the plat identifies an

adjoining tract as "Murphey's Land". This adjoining land either refers to the land purchased from Yarbrough in the deed referenced immediately above or yet another tract.

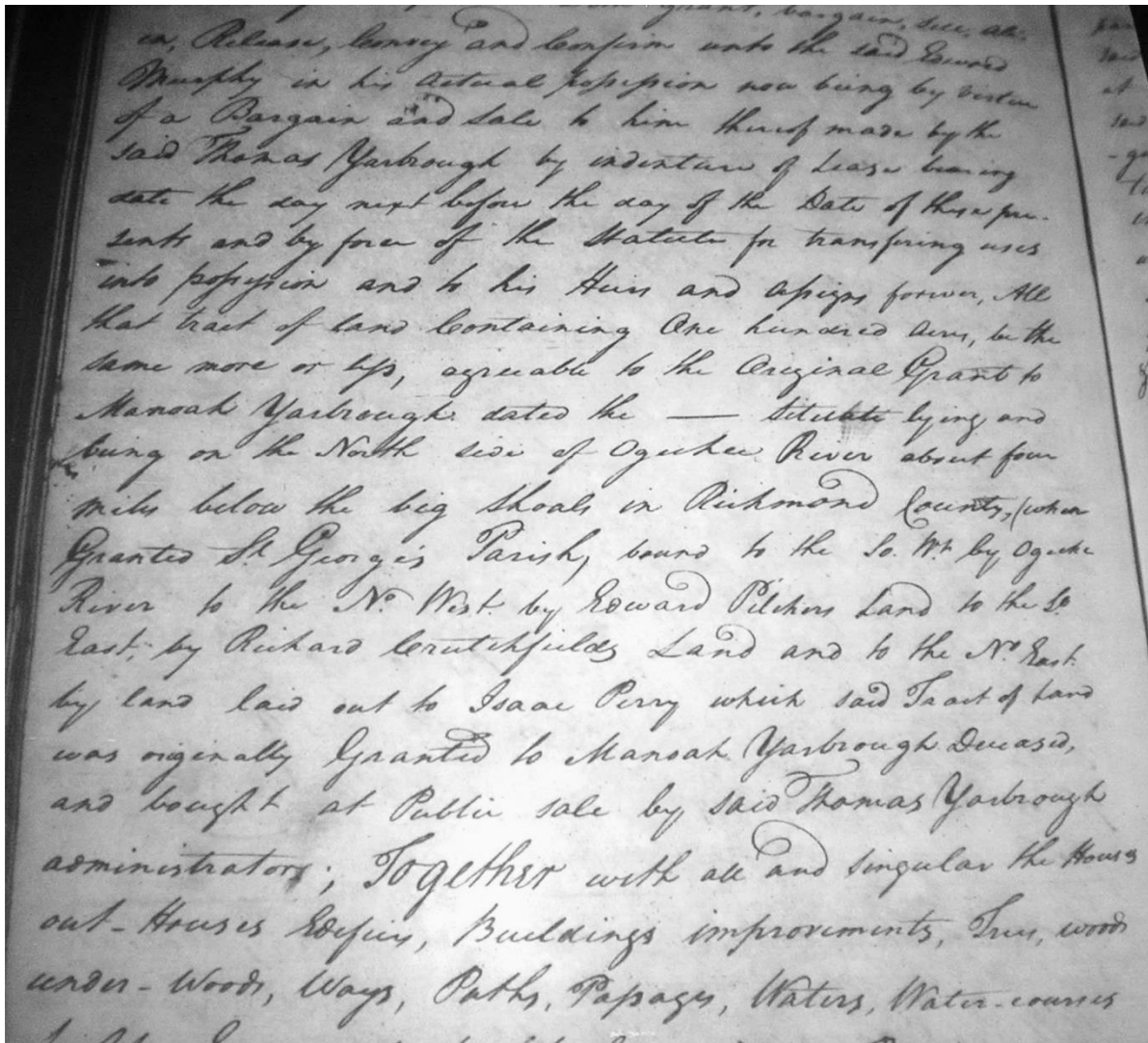


This same plat above is now identified as "246C" (with "ED. Murphey" written below it) as highlighted with a red circle in the map compiled by Daniel Nathan Crumpton on page 4 in his excellent book entitled "**Richmond County, Georgia, Land Records, Boundaries as of 1777**". Crumpton's map definitively locates Edward's land such that it can be found today from its position relative to modern roads as shown below.



In any respect, it appears that just a few years after the War, Edward becomes very attracted to this area of land bordering the Ogeechee River which is then in Richmond County before being redistricted to Warren County, Georgia, in 1793 (today it is in Glasscock County). The extended family, including in-laws, of Edward and his wife Elizabeth Harville-Holliday as described in [John Murphey, Part 3](#) all came to live in this area along the Ogeechee. More details can be extracted from the previously mentioned deed of purchase found in the “**Richmond County Deed Book F-1**”, page 151, when Edward Murphey buys 100 acres on March 13, 1786, in this area for the price of £50 from the estate of Manoah Yarbrough through the estate’s Administrator, Thomas Yarbrough. This deed describes Edward at this time as being a resident of Richmond County, Georgia, which I believe refers to him living in the area around Wrightsborough. However, after this 1786 purchase Edward moves his family to the land beside the Ogeechee River. In the deed below, the tract is described as being “*on the North side of the Ogeechee River about 4 miles below the big Shoals in Richmond County, when Granted St. George’s Parish, bound to the SW by Ogeechee River, to the NW by Edward Pilcher’s land, to the SE by Richard Crutchfield’s land and to the NE by land laid out to Isaac Perry*”, which from the names mentioned and found on Crumpton’s map above, you can suppose that this land was located southwest of his previously located grant identified as “246C”, along the

Ogeechee and just to the south of Harrison's Bridge, on the south side of the Agricola Road indicated by the dashed road in Crumpton's map above.

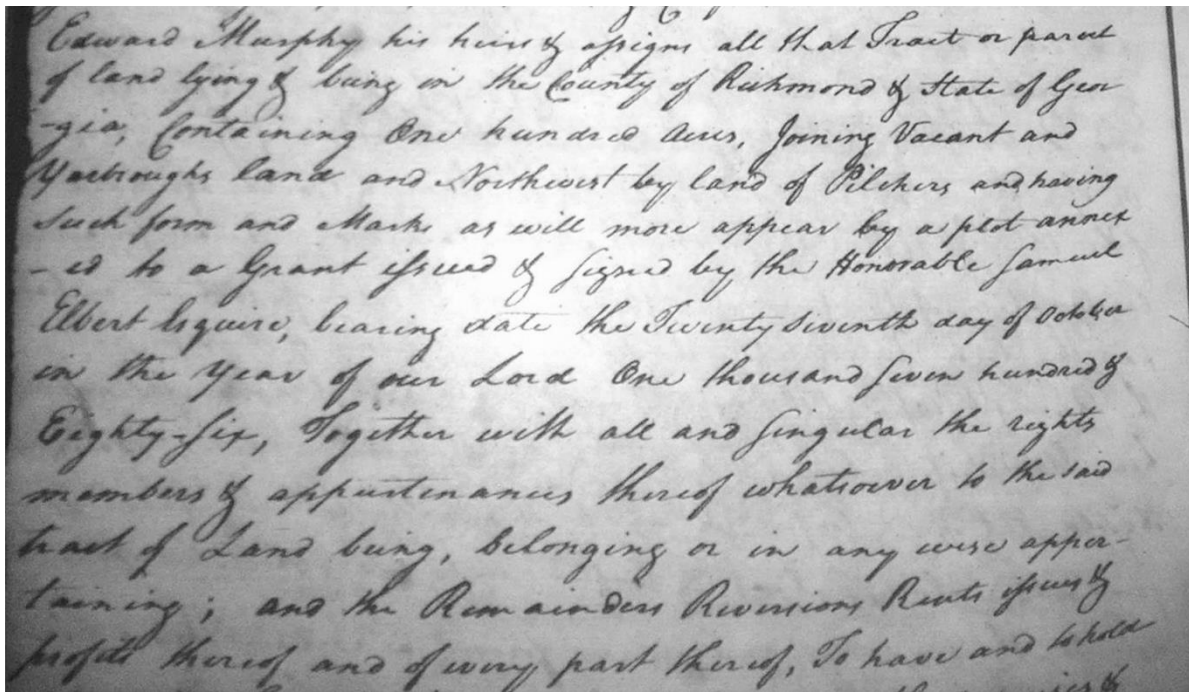


...grant, bargain, sell, etc.
...Release, convey and confirm unto the said Edward
Murphy in his actual possession now being by virtue
of a Bargain and sale to him thereof made by the
said Thomas Yarbrough by indenture of Lease bearing
date the day next before the day of the Date of these pre-
sents and by force of the Statute for transferring uses
into possession and to his Heirs and Assigns forever, All
that tract of land containing One hundred Acre, in the
same more or less, agreeable to the Original Grant to
Mansak Yarbrough dated the — situated lying and
being on the North side of Ogeechee River about four
miles below the big Shoals in Richmond County, (where
Granted St. George's Parish, bound to the So. W. by Ogeechee
River to the N. West by Edward Pitchers Land to the So.
East by Richard Kerutickfields Land and to the N. East
by land laid out to Isaac Perry which said Tract of land
was originally Granted to Mansak Yarbrough Decedent,
and bought at Public sale by said Thomas Yarbrough
administrators; Together with all and singular the Houses
out-Houses Offices, Buildings improvements, Trees, wood
under-Woods, Ways, Paths, Pastures, Waters, Water-courses

Below is the deed of sale (from the same "**Richmond County Deed Book F-1**", page 164) dated October 27, 1786 for another tract in this same area in which Richard Warthen (father to Edward's brother-in-law, Elijah Warthen, who became Guardian to several of Edward's children after Edward's death as described in [John Murphey, Part 3](#)) sells 100 acres on the Ogeechee River to Edward Murphey.

1786. Oct 27/1786 35 pounds 100 Acres
Richard Warthen to Edw. Murphy Deed.
L.P. 22^d. June 1787
State of Georgia. This Indenture made the Twenty-
seventh day of October in the year of our Lord One thousand seven
hundred and eighty-six, and in the Eleventh year of the
Independence of the United States of America, Between
Richard Warthen of Washington County of State aforesaid, of
the one part and Edward Murphy of Richmond County of State
aforesaid Planter of the other part, Witnesseth that the said
Edward Murphy for & in consideration of the sum of thirty-
five pounds lawful money of the said State to said Richard
Warthen in hand well and truly paid by the said Edward
Murphy at or before the sealing and delivery of these presents
the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, hath granted
bargained, sold, Released and Confirmed & by these presents do
grant, bargain, sell, Release & confirm unto the said
Edward Murphy his heirs & assigns all that Tract or parcel
of land lying & being in the County of Richmond of State of Geo-
gia, containing One hundred Acres, Joining Vacant and

We further see below in the description of the property that it is adjoining land that is "Yarbroughs" and "Pilchers". This agrees with the description of the properties that Edward is still holding in the 1801 Warren County Tax List, meaning that Edward continued to live in this same area for at least 15 years until his death.

A snippet of a handwritten document in cursive script. The text describes a land grant in the County of Richmond, State of Georgia, containing one hundred acres. It mentions the grant was issued and signed by the Honorable Samuel Albert Esquire on the 27th day of October in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred & Eighty-six. The document also refers to the rights, members, appurtenances, and profits of the land.

It is also interesting to read in the two images above that the sales date is the same as the grant date for the 100 acre tract, that is, October 27, 1786. This means that Richard Warthen is selling this tract to Edward on the very same day when Richard receives clear title. According to the official Georgia Archives website, land that had been surveyed for an individual was subject to taxation even though the land had not yet been granted to that individual. Many land grants in Georgia were not finalized until years after the land had been warranted by petition or by a fortunate lottery draw. Edward's situation appears analogous to what occurred with Edward's son, our John Murphey of Butler County, Alabama, who bought his 107 acres on Derriso Creek from Josiah Greer of Laurens County, South Carolina, as documented in [John Murphey, Part 2](#). The interpretation of this situation is that Edward was already living on the property and making improvements, such as clearing the land for crops and building a house, but could not yet hold the property as clear title was lacking. There must have been a pre-existing agreement in place that the property would be purchased at a reasonable price once title was obtained by the third party from the government, indicating a very high level of trust. In Edward's case, the price was £35 versus the price of just £30 for John Murphey's 107 acre Derriso Creek property purchased in 1797. From my experience, both of these prices are extremely low for attractive, fertile land, further indicating some type of pre-arrangement between very close friends or family members.

We can continue building out Edward Murphey's timeline starting with the last entry:

September 5, 1783: First child of Edward's second marriage, Ambrose Murphey, born to Elizabeth Harville-Holliday Murphey

September 5, 1783: Edward Murphey receives warrant for 300 acres on Clouds Creek in today's Oglethorpe County, Georgia

28 February 28, 1784: Edward petitions for 250 acres of Bounty Land attested by Col. Greenberry Lee

March 15, 1784: Edward petitions for Bounty in Washington County, Georgia attested by Col. James McNeil and for headright grant for his family of 6 people

July 4, 1785: Bounty grant to Edward Murphey for 200 acres on Six and Twenty Mile Creek in South Carolina

1785: Edward granted 100 acres and 200 acres in Richmond County in Wrightsborough area (Grant Book HHH, page 123 and 139)

1785: Edward granted 287.5 acres in Washington County (Grant Book GGG, page 135)

March 13, 1786: Edward purchases 100 acres on Ogeechee from Yarbrough and moves his family to this land

October 27, 1787: Edward purchases 100 acres on Ogeechee from Richard Warthen

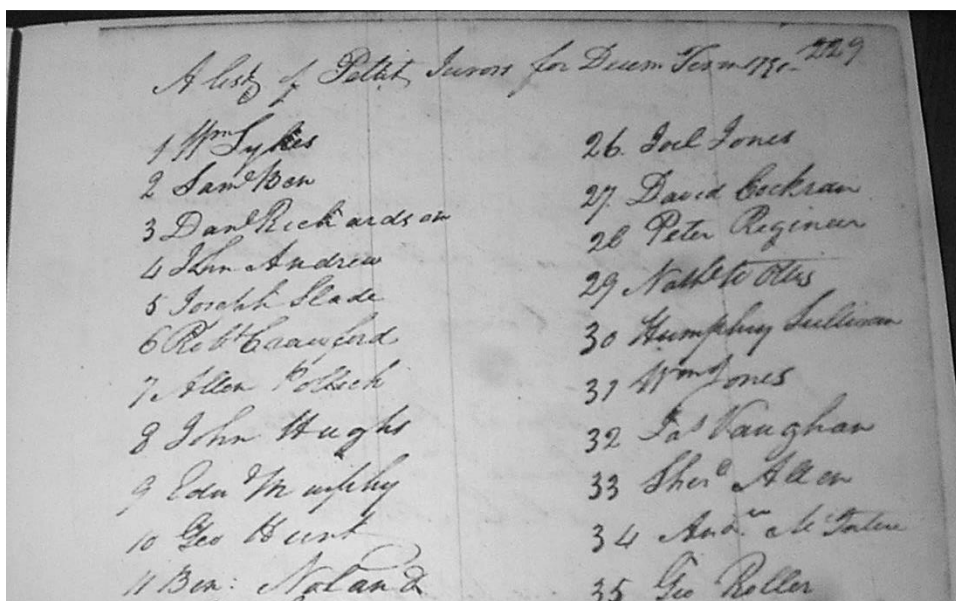
1791: Edward granted 100 acres in Richmond County along Ogeechee in soon-to-be Warren County (Grant Book VVV, page 250)

1797: Edward granted 268 acres in Washington County (Grant Book AAAAA, page 167)

1802: Edward granted 200 acres in Warren County (Grant Book EEEEE, page 127)

Chapter 11: Edward Murphey builds Wealth in Warren County, Georgia

Documenting that Edward Murphey was a resident of Richmond County in 1791 (prior to this area by the Ogeechee becoming Warren County in 1793), we find him listed as Juror #9 in the County's Petit Juror listing shown below:



I have been able to find only three Tax List records listing Edward Murphey – all in Warren County. The first record is the 1794 Tax List in Captain Hatcher’s District with one 30 acre and another 270 acre tract located on the Ogeechee River by (Stephen) Mitchell. Since no tracts are listed as being in other counties, it could be assumed that those land parcels outside of Warren County had already been sold. However, since we know that the 300 acre tract located in today’s Oglethorpe County was not sold until 1798, it may be that Edward listed those parcels in their respective counties. Nevertheless, I have not identified any such listings under his name in other counties. Looking below in an image of the 1794 Warren County Tax List, Edward “Murfey” has 6 slaves enumerated in the 4th column, demonstrating considerable wealth by this time as compared to his neighbors.

Name	Land Value	Slaves
James [unclear]	200	10
John [unclear]	100	5
George [unclear]	350	30 12
Thomas [unclear]	150	15
George [unclear]	200	15
Robert [unclear]	500	42 16 3
William [unclear]	200	6 13
Joseph [unclear]	250	11 18
Henry [unclear]	200	10
Richard [unclear]	120	6
Edward Murfey	300	16 11
Henry [unclear]	100	10
William [unclear]	200	10
John [unclear]	400	27 10
Samuel [unclear]	150	6 14 7 6
James [unclear]	100	5
William [unclear]	250	12 10
George [unclear]	200	15 2 6

The 1798 Direct Tax was assessed in Georgia as result of a February 2, 1798 Act (reference “**1802 Marbury and Crawford's Digest**” by Horatio Marbury and William Crawford, p. 680). This Act was passed in compliance with a demand from the Federal Government for support. As far as can be determined, the Direct Tax consisted of three lists - dwelling houses & land lots, wharves and slaves. From Georgia, it appears that the Direct Tax is extant for only three counties: Burke (Georgia Archives MF #186/6), Franklin (Georgia Archives MF #258/14), and Warren (Georgia Archives MF #186/6). Looking below at this 1798 Warren County Direct Tax Assessment List, we now find Edward

Murphey with a total of 12 slaves, but with only 5 enumerated for taxation because of their ages (Virginia law at this time typically set these ages to be taxed as 12-60 years old, inclusive). For comparison, Edward's father-in-law Ambrose Holliday also shows on this image with a total of 9 slaves, but with just 4 enumerated.

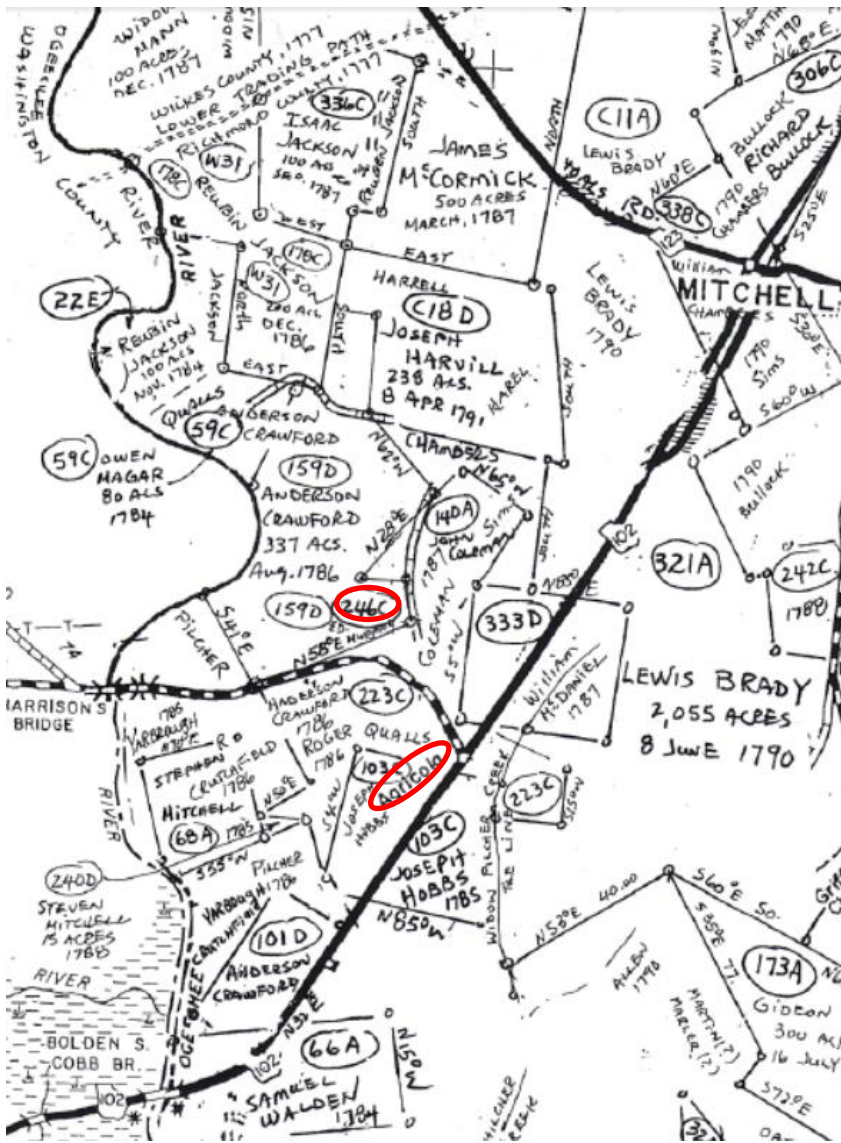
	Name of Superintendent	Name of The Owner	In what County or Town Employ'd	Number of Slaves of all Ages	Number of Slaves Exempt from Taxation	Number of Slaves Subject to Taxation
		Amount brought forward		147	2	82
G		Gardner Prior	Warden	5		3
		Green Polg for Robt Polton	do	1		1
		Graham Moses	do	1		1
		Goga Joshua	do	1		1
				105	2	87
H		Hicks John	do	9		5
		Howel Samuel	do	3		1
		Howard Joseph	do	4		3
		Hamill John	do	5		3
		Hatcher John	do	3		1
		Holladay Ambrose	do	9		4
		Howard Thomas	do	1		1
				102	2	105
I		Jordan William	do	14		4
		Jones Adam	do	3		2
		Jenkins Arthur	do	3		1
		Jackson Thomas	do	2		2
				214	2	114
K		Keeling Cadet	do	1		1
		Keeling Jesse	do	1		
		Keener Jacob	do	2		1
		Keene William	do	4		1
				222	2	117
L		Ledbetter Fredrick	do	5		1
		Love James	do	3		3
		Lawson John	do	13		4
				243	2	128
M		Medlock George	do	18		4
		Medlock George for Estate Chas Medlock	do	5		1
		M'Cravy Matthew	do	3		3
		M'Hamley Joseph	do	5		2
		Murphy Edward	do	12		5
		Mitchel Benjamin	do	1		1
		Moone Olive	do	4		1
		M' Dowel William	do	1		1
		Matthews Benj ⁿ	do	1		1

Three years later, we turn to Capt. Barrett Brewer's Militia District in the 1801 Warren County Tax List below, which shows the listings for Ambrose Holliday ("Abrose Holiday") and Edward Murphey ("Edward Murphy"). Taking advantage of the County Tax Lists' consistency in enumerating slaves, we can see that Edward's taxable slave count in 1801 has increased to 12 compared to the 6

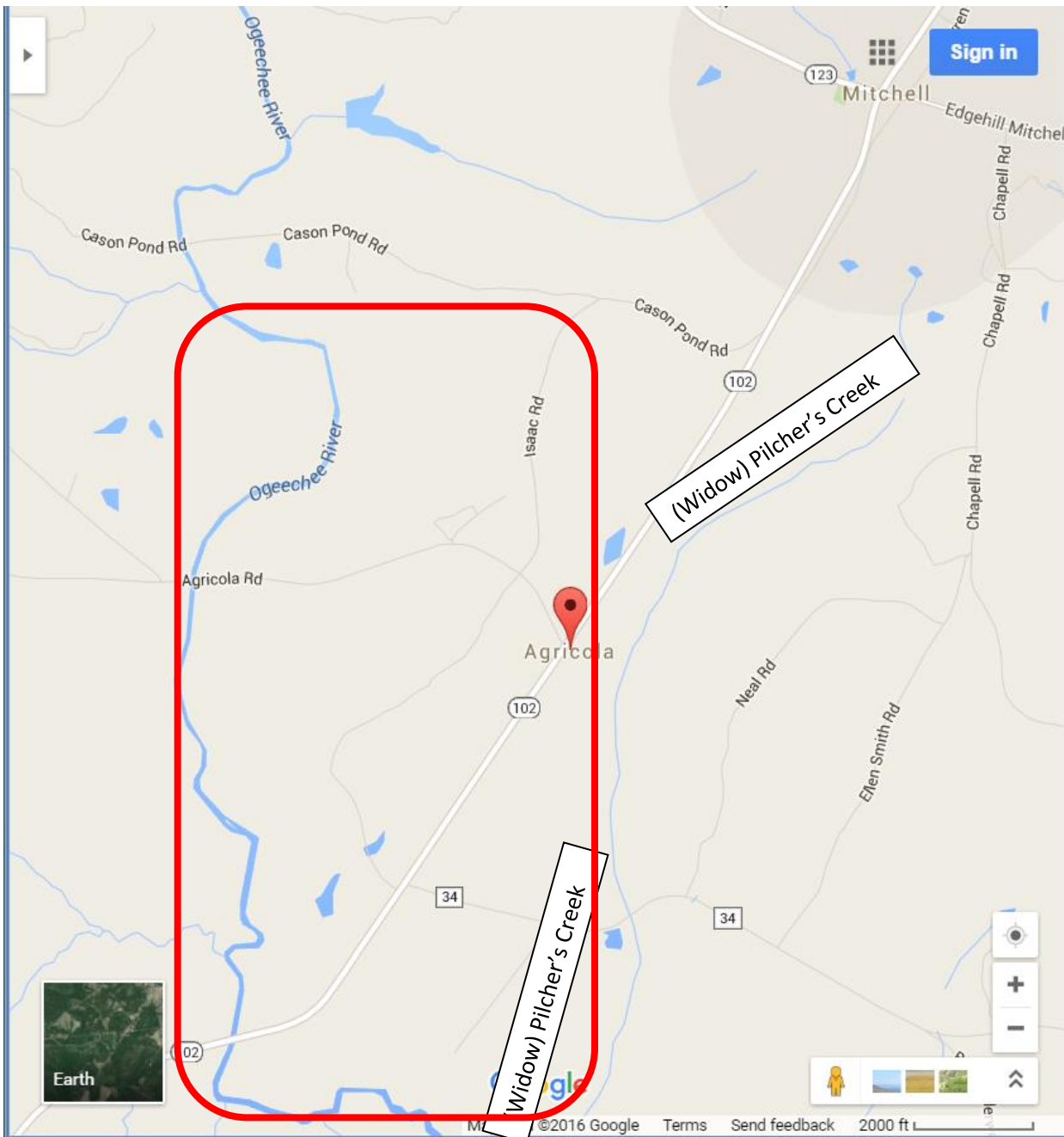
recorded in the 1794 Tax List, indicating a sizeable increase in wealth over the preceding 7 years. Likewise, Ambrose Holliday's listing increased from 6 to 11 slaves over this same time period.

Lewis Brady	125 P	21	24	22	do	Booker	Booker	Peter Carlling	58 22
	125 P	3	22	52	do	Booker	Ogeechee	Isabel Lela	
	125 P	21	26	25	do	do	do	do	
	200 P	21	42		do	Booker	Little Creek	Math. William	
	400 P	21	24		do	Widow	Pilchers do	Mr. Dickens	
	200 P	21	22		do	Lewis Brady	do	Wm Chambers	3 1 6
Ambrose Holliday	111 200 P	21	22		do	Yarbrough	Ogeechee	Yarbrough	
	100 P	21	21		do	Crutchfield	do	Eddie Murphy	
	100 P	21	21		do	Stephen Mitchell	do	Wm Pilcher	
	15 P	21	3	15	do	do	do	do	
	150 P	21	31	52	do	Mr. Hubs	Pilchers Creek	do	
	201 P	21	42		do	Roger Qualls	do	Mr. Hubs	
	100 P	21	21		do	Widow Coleman	do	Roger Qualls	4 35 42
Edward Murphey	1 12 65 P	21	13	65	do	Yarbrough	Ogeechee	Ambrose Holliday	
	35 / 161	56	35		do	do	Ogeechee	do	
	100 P	21	21		do	Widow Griffith	do	Elijah Worthen	
	300 P	21	63		do	Widow	do	Ambrose Holliday	4 60 42
Samuel Powell	1 5 20 P	21	2	20	do	Booker	North Creek	A. Post	31 22

Above, I have graphically matched the names to the corresponding lines so that you can see the three columns on the opposite page with (from left to right) the name of the original grantee, the nearest waterway and the name of adjoining landowner for each property. For Edward Murphey, the column listing adjoining landholders names Ambrose Holliday and Elijah Worthen. Referring to Crumpton's map shown again below, we find that the names of the original grantees (Yarbrough, Crutchfield, Stephen Mitchell, Joseph Hubs/Hobbs, Roger Qualls and Coleman) for Ambrose's landholdings along the Ogeechee and (Widow) Pilchers Creek from this 1801 Tax List place Ambrose in the exact same area as Edward Murphey's land (previously identified as tract 246C, along with land originally granted to Yarbrough and Anderson Crawford). The point is that Crumpton's map and the 1801 Warren County Tax List both agree in locating Edward Murphey in the area northwest, west and southwest of the town of Agricola, living alongside Edward's in-laws.



All of this information allows us to look at the modern Google Map below and focus on the area southwest of the town of Mitchell, Georgia, or more specifically, south of Cason Pond Road and between the Ogeechee River and (Widow) Pilcher's Creek, to confine where the 500 acres held by Edward Murphey in 1801 were located (area highlighted within the red box):



An unanswered question is what did Edward Murphey do with much of the land that he acquired from 1785 until his death in late 1801 to early 1802? I have found the two land sales mentioned already of Mary Smith's 100 acre grant in South Carolina and the 300 acres in Oglethorpe County, Georgia, but no others. In this Chapter we saw that the Warren County Tax Lists do not list the large number of acres which Edward was granted and purchased, leaving the disposition of over 700 acres unaccounted in 1801. There must have been a number of undocumented sales, as inferred from this deed abstract previously shown in Chapter 7 specifying Edward as the original owner of this 150 acre Wrightsborough grant long after the fact of its sale:

Columbia County Deed Book - Sept 2nd 1801

BENJAMIN FEW to IGNATIUS FEW for \$1000, sells 150 acres on waters of Germany Creek. Originally granted to EDWARD MURPHY, July 3rd 1770 (recorded: May 27th 1803)

On the other hand, the Tax Lists show Edward increasing his number of slaves over time, which is another measure of wealth for that era. I propose that Edward was acquiring land and using slave labor to clear land, build houses and fences and then, after harvesting a few crops, reselling the tracts as viable farms at higher prices. This appears to be the same set of actions which our John Murphey of Butler County, Alabama undertook after he had inherited 4 slaves from his father Edward. As seen in Chapter 7 of [John Murphey, Part 1](#), John Murphey moved into Jones County in 1807 and was then documented buying and quickly selling a number of parcels of land for profit before he immigrated to Alabama in 1815.

We continue filling out Edward Murphey's timeline adding the documents pertaining to his activity and holdings:

1791: Edward Murphey named on Petit Juror List in Richmond County

1794: Edward on Warren County Tax List with 2 tracts on Ogeechee River and 6 slaves

1798: Edward on Direct Tax Listing from Warren County with 12 slaves

1801: Edward on Warren County Tax List with 4 tracts on Ogeechee River and 12 slaves

Chapter 12: Edward Murphey's Estate Sale and Assignment of Guardians for his Minor Children

We can complete the description of Edward Murphey's life by reporting that Edward dies in Warren County early in late 1801 or early 1802 without a LW&T, placing his age at death at 57 years or older. However, court documents of Edward's estate sale name Edward's Administrators as his widow Elizabeth and our John Murphey of Butler County, who can be assumed to be his eldest son according to the usual custom and according to my research outlined in [John Murphey, Part 3](#).

Among the court documents for the estate of Edward Murphey is the complete list of "buyers" associated with items purchased at his estate sale held on the 2nd and 3rd of December, 1802. Below is the full page image of the estate sales accounting not previously shown in this or any earlier papers. Estate sales records are extremely valuable in defining the wealth and holdings of the decedent and for proving relationships as the buyers were often limited to family, including in-laws, and close friends. Heirs did not really have to pay for their purchases, but rather had credits to buy items from the estate. The sales set values on property and then conveyed title. The result was an equitable distribution of property to descendants and cash generation to pay off creditors. This list of buyers and their associated purchases, along with the purchase prices, at the Edward Murphey estate sale in December of 1802 comes from filmed records of the Warren County Court of Ordinary.

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 A memorandum of property sold on the 2 & 3 of December
 1802 by Elizabeth Murphey Administratrix & John Murphey
 Administrators on the Estate of Edward Murphey
 deced of Warren County

Dennis Lindsey Sr To 1 Head Stead & farm	36	Charles Brooks To 1/2 Stead fodder	5 75
do do do do	30 50	Thomas Miller To Cotton 8 1/2 lb	128 50
James Murphey Jr	37	Elizabeth Murphey To Cotton in field	36
Dennis Lindsey Sr	9	Barnett Brewer 2 pieces of Leather Rind	3
Dennis Lindsey Sr To 2 Trunks	10 50	William Pouchet 2 do	3 25
do do do	3	John Murphey To Negro man Peter	700
John Murphey Sr 1 Chest	1	Elizabeth Murphey do Luomina	506
Dennis Lindsey Sr To 1 Chair	1 50	James Murphey Negro Boy Tom	480
do do To 1 Chair	3 50	Elizabeth Murphey Girl Mary	321
do do To 2 Spring Wheels	5 50	John Murphey do Child Tom	283
do do To 1 Lot of Saddle	8	Sally Murphey do Woman Polly	728
do do To 1 Lot of Leather wear	5	Nick Whitehead To Negro woman	1307
William Earnest To 1 Riffle Gun	8	Elizabeth Murphey do Sylvia	345
Dennis Lindsey To 1 Shot Gun	7 50	do do 10 head of Geese	5 75
do do To 1 Ladies saddle & Saddle	7 50	do do Lot of Wool & Trade	1 50
Matthew Atkins Sr To 1 Saddle	11 25	do do 10 Spring Wheel	1 50
Dennis Lindsey Sr To 1 Chest & Blanket	3 75	Allen Beecham hand saw & wilmington	1 25
John Murphey Sr To Looking Glass	3 50	David Robertson To 1/2 Bus of Rye	6 50
Dennis Lindsey Sr To Basket by Sides	7 75	Elizabeth Murphey 2 pair of Shirts	2
Daniel Simpson To 1/2 of Saddle & Saddle	3 12 1/2	John Spealoch 2 Books	1 50
Elijah Westren To 2 axes & working tools	5	Allen Beecham To Land warrant	2 25
John Spealoch 2 axes & good do	3 25	North Island 1 Negro Man & Child	500 1/4
Abraham Island To 1 Lot of Tools	5 75	Elizabeth Murphey do Doe & do	590
Jacob Thomas To piece of Blue Cloth	9 50	John Murphey Negro Venues	366
Abraham Island To 1 plow	1 25	Allen Beecham Wood Stead	1
Simon Satter To 1 plow	3	OK Broz I do acquit Dennis	
Simon Satter To 1 Bar & horse plow	5	Lindsay of all purchase made	
John Murphey 1 Currier plow	2 50	by him on this Role as they	
John Baker 1 Currier do	2	were made for me and	
Dennis Lindsey To Lot of Tools	2	will account for the same	
Dennis Lindsey To Lot of Clothing	11 60	Except to the amount of	25 75
Allen Beecham Lot of raw hides	4 50	for which I have receivd	
Elyah Westren To 2 wagon Saddle	7 25	his note Eliz ^d Murphey	
Dennis Lindsey To Loam & Clay	5	Thomas Abbot To Corn	10 89 1/2
William Barlow To 15 head of hog	40	John Dickson To fodder	3 12 1/2
Matthew Atkins 2 Cows & calves	24 75	Jacob Kenor 1 Jug	1 37 1/2
Dennis Lindsey 3 Cows & calves	34 50	John Dickson To leather	2 68 1/2
Eliza Howland 2 Cows & calves	20 50	James Murphey To Clevis	75
John Brooks 6 head of cattle	96 25	Elizabeth Murphey 1 Pail	1 50
Simon Satter 5 head of cattle	30 25	Dennis Lindsey To Corn	13 39 1/2
Simon Satter 6 head do	44	Eroneously catd; the true	
do do 7 do	48	amt. is \$7141.59 2/3	586 24 1/2
do do 5 do	25	Copy 642.50	176 1/2 12
do do 4 do	26	1 Cow & calf 10.00	570 90 36
Oliver Johnston 3 head do	27	\$7794.09 2/3 Total estate	
Mr Prichard 1 head do & calf	13		
Elizabeth Murphey 1 horse	100		
Mr Hollaman 1 Mare	148		
Moore Ewy 1 Gray Mare	112		
Matthew Atkins 1 Gray filly	100 50		
Elizabeth Murphey 1 Gray filly	100 25		
Barth Roberts 1 Gray Mare	60		
Robert Hicker 1 head of Sheep	15		
Elizabeth Murphey 7 head of Sheep	16 25		
Mr Johnston Wagon & hand Gees	78		
Jacob Kenor 1 Stall	101		
do do 6 S Fands & Panels	6		
Elizabeth Murphey 300 Bushels of Corn	171		
Jacob Kenor To 100 do	60		
do do To 100 do	60		
John Robertson To 60 do more or less	33		
Elizabeth Murphey To fodder	3		
Dennis Lindsey To do	3		
do do 3 Stacks do	13 50		
Prichard Whitehead 3 do	12		
do do 2 do	7		
do do do	170 1/2 12 1/2		

This information was previously dissected, researched and explained in [John Murphey, Part 3](#), which led to the Y-DNA results proving that Edward Murphey is the father to our John Murphey of Butler County, Alabama.

We saw earlier in this paper that Elizabeth was named as Edward's wife in the deed of sale for 300 acres in Oglethorpe County, Georgia, in January 1798, and that Elizabeth Murphey was consequently

named as Co-Administrator of Edward's estate in 1802. We know that Elizabeth was a daughter of Margaret Holliday, wife of Ambrose Holliday, as named in Margaret's March 11th, 1803, LW&T (from **Warren County, Georgia, Will Book "A"**, page 72). This relationship was investigated in Chapter 4 of [John Murphey, Part 3](#). We find the names of Edward and Elizabeth Murphey's children listed in birth order (from oldest to youngest) from page 377 of "**Warren County, Georgia, 1793-1900: Genealogy II**" by Daniel N. Crumpton, as compiled from court records:

Page 35 of Warren County Court of Ordinary: *(Court date: 10 Aug 1803)*

MURPHEY, Ambrose, orphan of MURPHEY, Edward, deceased; HORN, John is appointed his guardian. (CFM note: Ambrose needs a guardian as he is not yet age 21, only 19 as his birthdate is **September 5, 1783** from Guardian notes found under Records of Inventory Appraisals & Sales. Ambrose Murphey marries Sarah Horne on February 12, 1805 in Warren County)

Page 34 of Warren County Court of Ordinary:

MURPHEY, Samuel (CFM note: Born about 1787; marries Patsy Hargroves on January 19, 1817 in Warren);

MURPHEY, Nancy; (CFM note: Born about 1790; Marries William Harper on January 16, 1818 in Warren County)

MURPHEY, Matilda;

MURPHEY, Solomon; (CFM note: Born 1796 from 1850 & 1860 Census; marries December 29, 1818 as reported in the newspaper "**The Reflector**");

MURPHEY, Malinda;

MURPHEY, Edward;

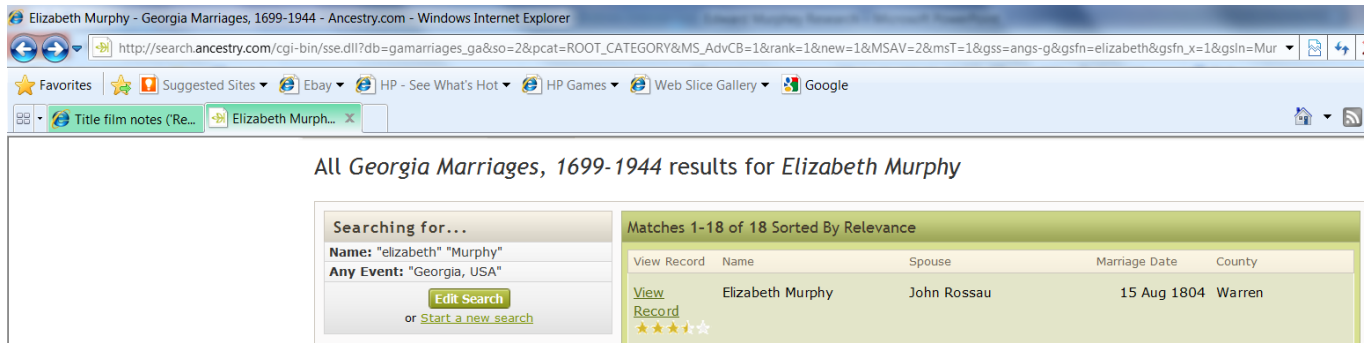
orphans of MURPHEY, Edward, deceased; MURPHEY, Elizabeth appointed their guardian.

We had previously looked in Chapter 10 of this paper at the headrights filing in 1784,

MURPHY, EDWARD. Certificate of Jas. McNeil, Col., Mar. 15, 1784. Petitioner prays bounty in Washington County. Also prays head rights in Washington County for six whites in family.

which confirms that Edward Murphey's family in March of 1784 consisted of 6 individuals and supports my research that identifies Edward's wife and four children from that period: his second wife Elizabeth (step-daughter of Ambrose Holliday), his children John (born in about 1770 as Edward's eldest son and subject of this series of papers), Ruth (born about 1775 who later becomes the widow of Capt. James Eiland), James (born prior to January, 1777), and baby Ambrose (named after his maternal step-grandfather) who was born on Sept. 5, 1783 just a few months before this petition was filed. To see how his two broods of children interacted with each other in adulthood, please refer to Chapter 6 in [John Murphey, Part 3](#). To delve into the history of the children of Edward and Elizabeth Murphey, whose descendants are still in Georgia today, I recommend the excellent book entitled "**Memoirs of Jerome B. Pound, Bound To Me By Ties Of Blood**", copyrighted in 1949 by Jerome B. Pound. This book is out of print and only available through vintage booksellers.

The last piece to tie off Edward Murphey's biography is to report that Edward's widow, Elizabeth, remarried in Warren County on August 15, 1804, to neighbor John Rossau/Rosser.



As seen in [John Murphey, Part 3](#), I believe that Elizabeth's re-marriage and subsequent relocation to Hancock County had two of the older children (then about 18 and 15 years of age) choose to leave their mother and become wards of their Uncle Elijah Warthen in order to stay in Warren County. Their change in guardians is documented just less than one year after their mother's re-marriage from "Warren County, Georgia, 1793-1900: Genealogy II" by Daniel N. Crumpton on page 377:

Page 38 of Warren County Court of Ordinary:

MURPHEY, Nancy and MURPHEY, Samuel minors and orphans of **MURPHEY, Edward, deceased; WORTHEN, Elijah** appointed guardian. (14 Aug 1805).

Elizabeth moved from Warren to Hancock County as evidenced in a newspaper clipping shortly after the marriage. From "Hancock Co., Georgia - Early Newspaper Abstracts", with the newspaper date of June 1, 1807:

Lost or Mislaid. A Note of hand for \$28, given by Maning and Griffin to Elizabeth Murphey or bearer, the 15th of September 1804; due and payable some time in November following. The said Griffin and Maning are hereby forewarned paying off said note to any person but John Rosser.

In 1808, John Rosser dies. Then in 1810, Elizabeth dies as proven by Hancock County Court of Ordinary records dated September 3, 1810. (See below from "Hancock County, Georgia, Court of Ordinary minutes, 1799 – 1817", page 124 by J. Kenneth Brantley). One of the sons of John Rosser Sr., John Rosser (Jr.) is named as her Executor.

Court Term - Sept. 3, 1810

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said orphan for the year 1809 amounting to forty seven dollars, Also hire for the same year amounting to forty seven dollars

Ordered that **John Rosser** be and he is hereby appointed administrator on the Estate of **Elizabeth Rosser** dec'd on giving bond and security in the sum of one thousand dollars, And that **Hamlin Lewis, John H. Bass, Dudley Hargrove, Jackson Harwell, Edmond S. Harris** be and they are hereby appointed appraisers to appraise on oath the personal estate of **Elizabeth Rosser** dec'd {"6.00 rec'd" listed in margin}

It appearing to the Court that legal notice has been Published in one of the public Gazetts of this State that application would be made to this court for leave to sell lott No 26 in the 22nd District of Wilkinson County & no cause having been shewn to the court to the contrary. It is Ordered that for the benefit of the heirs and creditors of **Nathaniel Sledge** dec'd and there having been no cause shewn to the contrary It is Ordered that the administrators of said estate do proceed to sell the same

Now we can finish the timeline for Edward Murphey:

Late 1801- Early 1802: Edward Murphey dies intestate prior to Letters of Administration for widow Elizabeth and son John Murphey dated February 24, 1802

December 2 & 3, 1802: Edward Murphey's estate sale in Warren County, Georgia, administered by wife Elizabeth and eldest son, John Murphey of Butler County, Alabama

August 10, 1803: Edward Murphey's minor orphans are assigned Guardians

August 15, 1804: Edward's widow, Elizabeth, marries John Rosser/Rossau

August 14, 1805: Samuel and Nancy Murphey change Guardian to Uncle Elijah Warthen

Early to Mid-1810: Edward's widow, Elizabeth, dies

Chapter 13: Summary with Complete Timeline for Edward Murphey's Life

In this, the fourth paper of the series tracking back the early history and family of John Murphey of Butler County, Alabama, we have identified and documented John's father and mother, Edward and Mary Murphey, and Edward's parents, James and Sarah Murphey. We started with James Murphey's two warranted tracts in South Carolina and saw that in early 1768, Edward and his mother Sarah sold James' 150 acre grant along Cannons Creek in today's Newberry County. We saw how Edward gained military experience and became familiar with the fertile land in Georgia as a Georgia Ranger in his earliest adult years, before marrying a recent Irish Protestant immigrant to South Carolina, Mary Smith, in about 1768. Then in early 1769, Edward employed his Quaker contacts from South Carolina to join a group petition for land within the new Quaker community of

Wrightsborough in Georgia. In about 1770, our John Murphey of Butler County, Alabama, was born to Edward and Mary. Over the next few years up to 1777, I believe that Mary and Edward worked his grant of 150 acres in Wrightsborough and added Ruth and James to their young family.

However, the fight for American Independence required every resident to take a stand and before 1780 Edward had moved his family to the backcountry of South Carolina for safety from the marauding Loyalist militias and British army. Their refuge was most likely located a few miles south of the modern town of Pendleton in Anderson County, South Carolina, along the creek today known as "Six and Twenty Creek". After serving in the "Regiment of Refugees", so named because of the sacrifices made on behalf of the exiled families of the men serving, Edward returned his family to Georgia sometime after the victories over the British in Augusta, Georgia, on June 5, 1781, and the American victory at the Battle of Eutaw Springs outside of Charleston, South Carolina, on September 8, 1781. These tortuous times took their toll in the lack of education received by Edward and Mary's three children, as evidenced by their inability to sign their own names to any official document over the course of their lifetimes.

Sometime between 1777 and 1782, Mary Murphey died and Edward sought a new mother for his children and a partner to help him build wealth and a strong family in the new United States of America. Edward found his new young partner in the step-daughter of close friend and neighbor, Ambrose Holliday. In late 1782 to January, 1783, Edward Murphey married Elizabeth Harville-Holliday, in Georgia. After the War of Independence was officially over on September 3, 1783, Edward Murphey aggressively began to acquire land using his status as a Revolutionary War Soldier. Starting in earnest on September 5, 1783, the same day when Edward and Elizabeth's first child Ambrose Murphey was born, Edward received a warrant for 300 acres located in today's Oglethorpe County, Georgia. Edward then filed for a number of Bounty Grants attested by various Colonels under which he served in the "Regiment of Refugees", as well as filing headright and other land petitions with the government of Georgia, to acquire title to over 1300 acres in the period from 1785 to 1802. In 1786, Edward bought 100 acres from Yarbrough along the Ogeechee River in then Richmond County, but in an area becoming Warren County after redistricting in 1793. This fertile, attractive land spurred Edward to move his family in 1786 from his holdings in the Wrightsborough area to this new location along the Ogeechee, living beside Ambrose Holliday and Edward's other in-laws. Edward then focused on acquiring land in the Ogeechee neighborhood and used his growing slave labor force to improve farmland and sell some tracts for profit, while he remained on the best farmland until his death in late 1801 or early 1802.

After Edward Murphey dies intestate, his wife Elizabeth and eldest son, our John Murphey of Butler County, Alabama, are named as Administrators of Edward's estate. In December of 1802, Edward's Estate Sale totals \$7794.09, with most of that value distributed to Edward's wife Elizabeth and 3 adult children (John Murphey, Ruth Murphey Eiland and James Murphey) in the form of property and slaves. John Murphey's inheritance of 4 slaves allowed him to build wealth in farming and land sales in Georgia and John continued in the same fashion after he immigrated to Butler County, Alabama, in 1815. For the younger offspring resulting from Edward Murphey and Elizabeth's marriage, these orphans were assigned to their mother as Guardian in August 1803, but for the eldest, Ambrose Murphey (age 19), who was assigned to his future father-in-law John Horne. Elizabeth remarried in

August 1804 to a neighbor, John Rosser. By early to mid-1810, Elizabeth died and her estate was administered by John Rosser's son, closing the story on Edward Murphey's life. However, Edward's legacy continues in his offspring who continue to write their own stories of success and triumph to this day.

So, while years of research has revealed much about Edward Murphey and his parentage, pushing the Murphey family history back further into the colonial days of America leads to an unanswered question; when and where did James Murphey's family first appear in America? Could the answer be that they immigrated directly to South Carolina from Northern Ireland (they definitely fit the definition of being Scotch-Irish, as they were Protestants hailing from Northern Ireland, like Edward's first wife) perhaps shortly prior to 1765, taking a route like Mary Smith did in 1767? Or did James Murphey's parents come to America much earlier and only later did James move his family to South Carolina after a long, tortuous overland journey from a northern colony, much like the stories of his neighbors along Cannons Creek? Though having intensely investigated colonial records from South Carolina and the other American colonies over the last few years, I have found no documentation to support or disprove either scenario. Perhaps you, the Reader, will be the one to push this Murphey Family story back even further in time...

Complete Timeline for Edward Murphey, Father to John Murphey of Butler County, Alabama

1744 (or earlier): Proposed birth year for Edward Murphey

October 1, 1766 – March 31, 1767: Edward Murphey in Georgia as a Georgia Ranger

October 30, 1767 – February 7, 1768: Death of James Murphey, father of Edward Murphey

February 7 & 8, 1768: Edward Murphey & his mother Sarah sell James Murphey's 150 acre grant in South Carolina

June 16, 1768: Mary Smith granted 100 acres near town of Ninety-Six, South Carolina

Mid-1768 – January 1769: Proposed Marriage of Edward Murphey to Mary Smith in South Carolina

February 7, 1769: Edward Murphey, as a married man, petitions for 150 acres in the Quaker settlement of Wrightsborough, Georgia

1770: Birth of first child to Edward and Mary, John Murphey of Butler County, Alabama

1771 – 1777: Ruth and James are born to Mary in Wrightsborough area

January 17 & 18, 1777: Edward Murphy & his wife Mary sell Mary Smith's 100 acre grant in South Carolina

1777 – 1782: Mary Smith Murphey dies within this time period

September 5, 1780 – June 5, 1781: Edward Murphey serves in Regiment of Refugees (so-named as soldiers' families have been moved out of Georgia) in Revolutionary War

1782: Proposed Marriage of Edward Murphey to Elizabeth Harville-Holliday in Georgia

September 5, 1783: First child of Edward's second marriage, Ambrose Murphey, born to Elizabeth Harville-Holliday Murphey

September 5, 1783: Edward Murphey receives warrant for 300 acres on Clouds Creek in today's Oglethorpe County, Georgia

28 February 28, 1784: Edward petitions for 250 acres of Bounty Land attested by Col. Greenberry Lee

March 15, 1784: Edward petitions for Bounty in Washington County, Georgia, attested by Col. James McNeil and for headright grant for his family of 6 people

July 4, 1785: Bounty grant to Edward Murphey for 200 acres on Six and Twenty Mile Creek in South Carolina

1785: Edward granted 100 acres and 200 acres in Richmond County in Wrightsborough area (Grant Book HHH, page 123 and 139)

1785: Edward granted 287.5 acres in Washington County (Grant Book GGG, page 135)

March 13, 1786: Edward purchases 100 acres on Ogeechee from Yarbrough and moves his family to this land

October 27, 1787: Edward purchases 100 acres on Ogeechee from Richard Warthen

1791: Edward granted 100 acres in Richmond County along Ogeechee in soon-to-be Warren County (Grant Book VVV, page 250)

1791: Edward Murphey named on Petit Juror List in Richmond County

1794: Edward on Warren County Tax List with 2 tracts (300 acres) on Ogeechee River and 6 slaves

1797: Edward granted 268 acres in Washington County (Grant Book AAAAA, page 167)

1798: Edward on Direct Tax Listing from Warren County with 12 slaves

1801: Edward on Warren County Tax List with 4 tracts (500 acres) on Ogeechee River and 12 slaves

1802: Edward granted 200 acres in Warren County (Grant Book EEEEE, page 127)

Late 1801- Early 1802: Edward Murphey dies intestate prior to Letters of Administration for widow Elizabeth and son John Murphey dated February 24, 1802

December 2 & 3, 1802: Edward Murphey's estate sale in Warren County, Georgia, administered by wife Elizabeth and eldest son, John Murphey of Butler County, Alabama

August 10, 1803: Edward Murphey's minor orphans are assigned Guardians

August 15, 1804: Edward's widow, Elizabeth, marries John Rosser/Rossau

August 14, 1805: Samuel and Nancy Murphey change Guardian to Uncle Elijah Warthen

Early to Mid-1810: Edward's widow, Elizabeth, dies

1815: Edward's eldest son, John Murphey of Butler County, Alabama, emigrates from Georgia to Butler County, Alabama