# My Search for Old John and Isabella Scott Martin



Great Valley and Upper Roads - to North Carolina

#### R. Eden Martin

This book is mostly for my family and their future families. Special thanks go to my wife Sharon for her support, patience and enlightened criticism. Thanks also to Grandfather I.J. Martin for preserving his memories of family history so many years ago. Aunt Mabel George provided her own memories and saved and organized family letters, which were made available to me by her grandson and my law partner, John Martin George. My brother Philip Martin has read and improved countless drafts of my scribblings about family history over the past 40 years. My son-in-law Gareth Breunlin has been invaluable in all phases of book design and printing.

— R. Eden Martin

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#### Preface

O ne should generally not tell the end of the story at the beginning. Yet this book is about my search for my earliest Martin and Scott family origins; and because others may be curious about the results, they should not have to wade through this entire volume to find out whether there are any.

John Martin, whom I have come to call "Old John," was born about 1755 and died in Illinois about 1823. He was my Grandfather I.J. Martin's grandfather's grandfather. Old John's wife, Isabella, may have been born a little after 1755 but died in Illinois about the same time. They first appear for sure in Logan County, Kentucky, in 1797. Before that, we do not know with certainty where they were.

However, extensive research over the past four decades in Virginia, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, and Kentucky, as well as the recent availability of DNA evidence, now support – but do not compel – the conclusion that our Martin and Scott ancestors (along with the Neelys) came to America from the North of Ireland about 1740, moved to the back-country of Pennsylvania and Virginia during the colonial era, then lived during the early years of the Revolution in western North Carolina (probably old Rowan County), where Old John and Isabella met and (hopefully) married. They moved about 1778-1779 to Central Kentucky (probably the Goose Creek community of Jefferson County, near Louisville), and then moved again in the mid-1790s to Logan County in southern Kentucky near Russellville. Two decades later, in 1817-18 Old John and Isabella and several of their adult children and families moved up to Southern Illinois, which was not yet a state, to Bridgeport Township, which was then in Edwards County.

These tentative findings are consistent with the leads provided by my Grandfather I. J. Martin in his memorandum of Martin family history, which appeared in my book, *Fragments of Martin Family History*, 1990. Without the leads Grandfather provided, the DNA evidence that has become available in the last decade, and the expert assistance of many talented family researchers in half a dozen states, these findings of "probable" facts would not have been possible. I am particularly grateful to Jason Duncan, who helped with the DNA research and the most recent digging in North Carolina.

I am aware that this account will reflect mistakes – some made by me, others passed on by me. Sorry about that. I hope that as more old records are uncovered and digitized, and as more people choose to analyze and publicize their own DNA, other family researchers may find and correct these mistakes, as well as fill in and complete the story.

#### \* \* \*

My first memories of my Grandfather I.J. Martin (b. 1859, d. 1953) date back to about 1944, when I was four years old. Grandfather lived in an old two-story frame house in the southwest part of Sullivan, in east central Illinois, where our family lived.

Our family consisted of my father, Robert (Bob) Martin, son of I.J., and mother, Ruth Pifer Martin, and my brother Philip and me. Grandmother Pifer lived in a little house just behind ours.

I remember Grandfather Martin seated in his cushioned chair in his first floor living room. A table stacked with books, magazines or newspapers was next to his chair. To his left was a picture window looking south to his side lawn. The wall facing his chair consisted of multi-tiered shelves lined with books. At the time I am remembering, Grandfather was about 85, a little older than I am now. He was born November 7, 1859, on a farm near Whitley Creek in southeastern Moultrie County, about 10 miles southeast of Sullivan, perhaps the sixth child of John Neely Martin and Rachel Elvina Martin.

I.J. had been named "John Ivory." The "John" came from both his father and his grandfather; and the "Ivory" came from a friend of the family. My grandfather was initially called "Ivory." When he started to school, he signed his name "John I." but because people confused him with a cousin named "John," Ivory began signing his name "Ivory J." or "I.J." That's the version that stuck.

The story of I.J.'s upbringing, his work on the Whitley farm, his minimal schooling, his curiosity and his efforts to satisfy it, and his career as a teacher, then printer and newspaperman, and preparer of abstracts of title, is told in his biography, *Ivory J. Martin, Sullivan Newspaperman*, 2019.

I.J. grew up in a family immersed in its own history. The Martins had been in Illinois since 1817-18 when they came up from Kentucky to Southern Illinois. By 1830-31, the family of I.J.'s great-grandfather, James Scott Martin, along with the families of James' brothers, Samuel and William Harvey Martin, had moved further north, to the Kickapoo Creek settlement in Coles County, not far from present-day Mattoon.

The first settlement by European descendants in what is now Moultrie County was made in 1826 by members of the Whitley family, followed shortly by the Waggoners. The Martins came not long after, probably in 1835 or 1836. The brothers' families lived near each other in Coles County and Whitley Point. Also nearby was Jane Martin Neely (widow of Charles Neely), sister of James Scott, Samuel and William Harvey, along with her extensive Neely relations.

Lots of cousins played together and went to church together. Inevitably, romances occurred, as did genetic concentrations of Martins and Neelys. One of James Scott Martin's sons – named simply John Martin – was I.J.'s paternal grandfather. Another of James Scott's sons – named Joel Feagley ("Figley") Martin (John's brother) – was I.J.'s maternal grandfather. Another of James Scott Martin's sons who lived nearby was Reason C. Martin, known as "Rezin."

John Martin's son, John Neely Martin, married Joel Figley Martin's daughter, Rachel Elvina. The marriage of these two first cousins yielded their son, Ivory J. Martin.

As these Martin and Neely families lived near each other and socialized with each other, stories of the earlier Martins were remembered and told around dinner tables. I.J. remembered the Martin grown-ups recounting stories of Indian attacks in Kentucky during the period of the Revolution and the Indian Wars. Old John's wife, Isabella – I.J.'s greatgreat-grandmother – had entertained her granddaughters by telling them how she had helped mold the bullets that were used in repelling an Indian attack on a blockhouse where they were under siege. I.J. remembered the Civil War, particularly his uncles joining the army; and he remembered hearing the news that President Lincoln had been assassinated.

Grandfather was a writer and amateur historian. He had worked as a newspaperman on a small, hometown Sullivan weekly paper, which meant he wrote news articles, columns, and editorials. He carried on an extensive correspondence with friends and his adult daughters, who had moved away from Sullivan. Some of his writing about the early history of Moultrie County appeared in local papers. In 1926 two of his essays appeared in the *Sullivan Herald*, which he edited. From 1927 to 1936 he also prepared a separate "Common Place Book" of county history, focusing on people he had known and events he had witnessed. He also wrote long notes on the history of Moultrie County, the history of Sullivan, the Lincoln-Douglas speeches in Sullivan in 1858, and the history of Sullivan's newspapers.

At some point in the late 1930s, I.J.'s youngest son, Bob (b. 1895) – my father – suggested that I.J. write down what he knew about the family's history. I.J. took on the project. He wrote in a sturdy cloth-bound record book, composing in long-hand on the right-hand page and leaving the left-hand page for notes added later. From internal evidence, it appears that he began to write about 1939 and completed the work in 1941 when he was 81 years old. Later he wrote a shorter version, which he completed in 1943.

In late November 1941, shortly after his 82nd birthday, I.J. was struck by a car while walking home from a movie. The collision fractured his right leg in two places. He was in the hospital for almost three months, and then lodged in a rest home in Sullivan for an additional recovery period. After that he was never able to climb the steep stairway to his abstract office on the second floor of a Sullivan office building.

I.J.'s family memoranda were based entirely on his memory – not prior records and not independent research. The early part of the story was based on what he remembered being told by the older members of his family. The later years, following the Civil War period, no doubt reflected a mix of hearsay and what he himself remembered.

Although I.J. did not do independent research, he did remember a few factoids that either he or some other family member had read somewhere. One was about a man named John Martin who had been present in an Indian attack on Logan's Fort in Kentucky; when one of the defenders was injured outside the stockade, this John Martin had first volunteered to help with the rescue but then changed his mind and left the rescue to others. I.J. said his father (John Neely Martin) had pointed out "there was no evidence that this particular John Martin was our ancestor. ... Uncle Jim thought that he did the prudent and wise thing." *Fragments of Martin Family History*, at 102.

Another was a report that a "John Martin" had been one of the riflemen who fought the British at the battle of Kings Mountain. *Id.*, at 101.

The Logan's Station story had probably first been reported in Ledger A of the Henderson Company, included in the Lyman C. Draper Manuscripts, and then repeated in several books about Kentucky history. See *Fragments of Martin Family History*, 34-36. I.J. or others in the family likely read about it in one of these books. The "Captain John" who was at Logan's Station had earlier settled Martin's Station on Hinkston's Fork of Licking River. He had been in Kentucky several years before our Old John. He lived in Lincoln County, and his wife's name was Nancy – not Isabella. He died in Lincoln County in 1821. He was not our ancestor. A "Captain John Martin" was at the Battle of King's Mountain in South Carolina 1780, but there is no basis for believing he was our "Old John." There is no evidence or tradition that our ancestor was a "captain" of any military unit or that he was even in the military.

Not surprisingly, I.J. was uncertain about some details in his family history, and he got a few things wrong. Perhaps the main one was in reporting that Old John's wife's maiden name had been "Sarah" Scott. There is no basis today for thinking he got the Scott name wrong; but land and church records in Logan County, Kentucky, indicate that Old John's wife's first name was "Isabella." There is no evidence or tradition that he was married twice.

In his Martin family history memorandum, I.J. wrote about possible Scott relatives in Moultrie County (*Fragments*, 1990 at 100):

The Scotts are a widely scattered people but nowhere appear so numerous as the Martins. The three Scott brothers, Andrew, Samuel, and Doddridge, who came to this county were relatives of Sarah Scott Martin.

I.J. and his wife, Rose Eden Martin, had five children who survived into adulthood: Olive, John Eden, Neely (called "Uncle Bill" within the family), Bob, and Mabel. When inquiries came to the family about Martin history, Olive, Mabel and sometimes Bob would dig into I.J.'s memos and provide answers. But no one made a complete hand-written copy; and that was in the days before Xerox.

Grandfather died on April 8, 1953, at the age of 93. I was then 12 years old. Our lives had overlapped a little more than his had overlapped with his own great-grandfather, James Scott Martin, born about 1778-9 and raised during the Revolution. But I had been too young to talk much with him. During the late 1940's and early 50's, I.J. had been handicapped by age and the after-effects of the automobile injury. When our family visited him at his home, the conversations were among the adults and tended to focus on politics, national and local, or history, or writers, or literature, or whatever I.J. had just read in one of the national journals or newspapers he received. I did not know enough to ask him about history or politics, let alone family history. What I mainly remember is a kindly, frail, old man in a dark suit, vest and tie, seated in his cushioned chair, with books and papers covering nearby flat surfaces. He asked about school and baseball. I don't remember that he ever complained about disability or discomfort. He sometimes would recite a few lines of poetry from memory, but those were aimed at his adult visitors, mostly Olive and Mabel. I remember thinking then, as I did later, that he made it ok – admirable really – to live surrounded by books and learning. Conversations about politicians, writers and books – that's what grown-ups did.

After Grandfather died in 1953, any interest in Martin history went dormant within our immediate family. When outside folk wrote letters asking for information, they were answered by Olive, Mabel or Father based on what they could mine from I.J.'s writings. So far as I know, no one sought to expand the knowledge base. But fortunately, Olive, Father, Mabel, and Mabel's son John George, a teacher and administrator in the Urbana schools, all took the time and care to save I.J.'s scrapbooks, papers, and letters, as well as the letters exchanged by Olive and Mabel.

I.J.'s family memo would become the basis, or at least the starting point, for most of my research into early history of the Martins and the Neelys.

On July 5, 1973, large chunks of I.J.'s writings about the history of Sullivan and Moultrie County were printed in the "Centennial Edition" of the *Moultrie County News*.

My years passed, filled with high school in Sullivan, university in Urbana, five years in Cambridge, and then, beginning in 1967 law practice in Chicago with the firm then known as Sidley, Austin, Burgess, and Smith – later simply Sidley Austin. Family and career occupied most of the hours: marriage in 1969, Father's illness and death in 1970, children at regular intervals beginning in 1971, work for Arthur Andersen & Co. in Chicago from 1973-75, back to Sidley Austin, then Sidley's Washington office from 1978-84, with work for litigation clients and firm management filling up the days.

My interest in family history was sparked by reading a book published privately in Dallas, Texas, in 1982. Entitled *Neely and Martin Descendants*, it was "compiled by descendants" and edited by LouiseY. Neely. The book

reflected extensive research and included detailed family trees and other information about both Neelys and Martins, including the descendants of Charles Neely and Jane Martin Neely, who had married in Logan County on September 23, 1797. Jane was apparently the oldest daughter of Old John and his wife, whom Louise Neely referred to as "Sarah Isabel," thereby acknowledging both the Martin family tradition that her name was "Sarah" and the Logan County deed showing her name to be "Isabella."

For the Neely family background, Mrs. Neely had relied on the work of Mrs. Grace Renshaw, "a researcher and published genealogist of Memphis." For the Martin side, she relied on the research of Mrs. Nellie Hacksma, Wenatchee, Washington, Louis H. Martin, Martinez, California, and Mrs. Evelyn Sosabee, Weatherford, Texas. Lou Martin had received some of his information about the Martins in Moultrie County from I.J.'s memos via my father.

Mrs. Neely's book was the first place I learned that my early Martin ancestors had lived in Logan County, in southwestern Kentucky, at least as early as 1797 – the year Jane Martin married Charles Neely in Logan. We did not know where the Martins were before 1797. Yet Grandfather had written that they had come to central Kentucky 20 years or so earlier.

Where had they lived in Kentucky? And where had they lived before Kentucky? Or before Virginia? And why had they moved – first to Kentucky, then to Illinois?

### Preliminary Excavations In Kentucky

Grandfather had recorded a Martin family tradition that the first of the family to immigrate had been three brothers, who came from the south of England before the Revolutionary War. Our "Old John" descended from one of those brothers. He had married "Sarah Scott," who was supposedly related to General Winfield Scott, also a Virginian. John and his wife were thought to have come to Kentucky about 1777; their family lived in or near a fort "on or near the Kentucky River" during the Indian Wars in Kentucky.

I.J. did not know where the Martins lived in Kentucky or when or why they moved north to Illinois. He also did not know where or when Old John had died. He thought that John's wife and four of her sons and their families had come to Illinois from Kentucky about 1803. One son reportedly remained in southern Illinois; and three – James Scott, Samuel, and William Harvey – later moved on up to Coles County "about 1820." One son who did not come up to Coles was named John.

In those primitive times, family historians did their research by looking in old family Bibles, scrapbooks, and correspondence files, and writing letters to relatives and county clerks or librarians. Documents had to be copied on xerox machines and shared by mail. The internet did not come into the public domain until the 1990s. Digital photography did not then exist. Folks knew about DNA, but DNA testing for family historians did not become available until 2000.

I began, four decades ago in early 1983, by turning to the sources Louise Neely had relied on in writing her Neely-Martin book. I can also roughly date the point at which my research began in earnest from the fact that I purchased a copy of F.B. Kegley's *Virginia Frontier*, 1938, in June 1983 (as noted on the opening flyleaf).

Grace Renshaw's privately published book, *Neely Narrative*, 1976, was interesting but no help to me. It was entirely about the Neely family.

Nellie Hacksma sent me a typed memo excerpted from I.J. Martin's shorter (1944) family memorandum. Unlike Grandfather, who wrote down only what he remembered being told about the early years, Nellie had done a great deal of diligent research – contacting county clerks, obtaining copies of wills, deeds and court orders. Interspersed in Nellie's typed extracts from Grandfather's memo were her peppery notes: "No," "This is not correct," "Very little of this data is correct," "Confused," "Wishful thinking."

I wrote Nellie a letter with a few questions. She replied:

It is a shame you were not there to question your Grand Father, when he was writing his Genealogy on the Martin Family. Maybe your questions would have forced him to do some <u>real</u> research, instead of all the wild statements, with no basis. People believed he <u>really</u> knew what he stated, and a few die-hards find it hard to accept <u>court records</u>, which prove the material is incorrect. The Courts of Coles Co., and Moultrie Co., were available to him, but I find no instance where he ever tried to look for records, to back up any part of his material. (Emphasis in original.)

Nellie's factual corrections related mostly to what Grandfather had remembered being told about the Martins after they came to Illinois – not to their earlier life in Kentucky (about which he had written very little). Through her research Nellie had learned that the Martins had lived in Logan County, Kentucky and that James Scott Martin's wife's maiden name had been spelled "Feagley" rather than "Figley," which is the way I.J. and others in the family had heard and remembered it.

Nellie was, however, helpful in one respect. She gave me the name and address of Louis H. Martin, of Martinez, California. Lou was working on his own book about the Martin and Neely descendants. He had written to the Sullivan Public Library on November 23, 1965, asking for information about the Martins; and the library had referred his letter to Father, then a Moultrie County Judge. Father sent Lou information about the Martins in Illinois and about the Lynn Creek Cemetery, where several ancestors were buried. They later spoke by phone, and Father sent him another letter, this time enclosing a copy of I.J.'s shorter family memorandum.

I wrote to Lou in early September 1983. Before retirement at the end of 1978, Lou had edited a union newsletter reporting on labor-related news in California. Lou replied to my letter graciously, sending me a copy of his write-ups on the families of Old John and James Scott Martin, as well as copies of grantor-grantee abstracts from Moultrie County and other records. He wrote:

> Your father, while not really interested in family history, gave me the first clue to our common ancestry. He was very kind and went out of his way to help a stranger. I planned on meeting him, but it was not to be. (Letter, September 15, 1983.)

Lou's material would later help shape the summaries of the Old John and James Scott Martin families that appeared in my first volume, *Fragments of Martin Family History*, 1990.

Thanks to the breakup of the Bell System mandated in early 1982, I had a chance to meet Lou Martin. The breakup led to a dispute between the surviving AT&T and the Bell Operating Companies over the "cash flow" provisions of the divestiture agreement. The dispute triggered an arbitration before a three-judge panel, convened in San Francisco. I was asked to head up the team representing AT&T, which our Sidley firm had earlier represented in the antitrust litigation with the Justice Department. While in San Francisco, I arranged to visit Lou Martin in nearby Martinez. Lou was a gracious man, generous with his time and eager to explain the research he had done and the compilation on which he was still working. He had collected voluminous information about the Martins and the Neelys, including the later generations of families which had moved from Illinois to Dallas in the 19th century and branched out from there. He had the material on his computer and in three-ring binders, which he intended to turn into a book to be sold to interested descendants of both families. But his health was not good, for causes he never explained to me.

After my San Francisco arbitration was concluded, I stayed in touch with Lou intermittently. He sent me updated versions of his summaries of the two early Martin families: Old John's and that of his son, James Scott Martin. Then there came a time when we had not spoken for several months. I tried calling him but got no answer. I wrote to him, but the letter was returned. I thought it might be possible to find his children or other relatives and perhaps arrange to obtain copies of his binder materials. But there was no such contact. And his binders disappeared, at least from my range of view.

Nellie Hacksma's research and Lou Martin's family summaries were very helpful as far as they went. They established that the Martins had appeared in Logan County in 1797 when daughter Jane married Charles Neely; and they showed where the other members of the family had owned land. But they told me nothing about where the family had been before 1797 – either in Kentucky or Virginia.

Nellie and Lou were diligent, hard-working amateur researchers and they had added considerably to our knowledge base; but by mid 1983 I felt the need for more professional help.

### From the Amateurs to the Pros

By the 1980s there was enough interest throughout the country in family history to warrant the emergence of a group of professional researchers. To some degree, that interest had always been there. But in the pre-internet era, not everyone could afford to travel to other counties or states to do family history research in local court houses. Telephone calls and xeroxing were expensive, and the mails took a long time.

The Church of the Latter-day Saints, the Mormons, had added to that interest, at least in the case of their own fellow church members. In their faith, as it has been explained to me, deceased ancestors could be baptized by proxy if they could be identified. In 1894 the Church created a family history library, which could be used by the public; and in the 1940s and 50's they microfilmed state and local records, from court files, probate records, deeds and other property transfer documents and church records, which could be used in neighborhood libraries around the country.

Interest continued to grow after 1976 when Alex Haley published his novel *Roots: The Saga of An American Family*; and in early 1977 the TV series by that name took off.

In general, professionals then had an advantage over most amateurs. No one could have been more diligent or painstaking than our family researcher Louis Martin. But professionals were then typically close to the original records, some of which had not yet been microfilmed. They knew where stuff could be located; and they had experience in dealing with it when they found it.

The Filson Historical Society of Louisville, Kentucky, was -- and remains today -- one of the places where such work is done. Founded in 1844 it was named in honor of John Filson, Kentucky's first historian. The Filson has published great books on Kentucky's history, and it maintains a fine library and research facility as part of its campus.

Sometime in 1983 I called Martin Schmidt, the director of the Filson Society, seeking research help in their great library. He kindly referred me to Col. Robert C. Jobson, an expert researcher in nearby Jeffersontown. He became my first compensated family history researcher. (But not my last.)

In June of that year, I also wrote to another local expert – this time in Kingsport, Tennessee. I told the Kingsport researcher: "I have done some research on my own in various Kentucky histories and other sources (including the Draper manuscripts) and have found out quite a lot about Martins in general, and John Martins in particular, but the John Martins I have found seem to have wives with different names than Sarah or Isabell."

One might wonder why I sought help from a Tennessee researcher. Based on Grandfather's memorandum, I believed that Old John and his family probably came from Virginia with perhaps a stopover in North Carolina on the way to Kentucky. James Scott Martin had told a census taker in 1850 that he had been born in North Carolina. However, in 1860 he told the census taker he was 81 and had been born in Kentucky. Tennessee remained a part of North Carolina until 1790.

I.J.'s brother, Joel Kester Martin, was a local Sullivan lawyer. In *Courts and Lawyers of Illinois*, 1916, he reported that his paternal ancestors had "emigrated from North Carolina to Kentucky at the beginning of the

American Revolution," though the same report added that James Scott Martin had been born in Kentucky. (*Id.*, at 868.)

I.J.'s own family memorandum had stated that James Scott Martin had been born in a Kentucky fort in 1779. However, a book entitled *Portrait and Biographical Record, Shelby and Moultrie Counties, Illinois,* Chicago Biographical Publishing Co., 1891, in its squib about I.J. Martin, no doubt based on information supplied by I.J. himself, reported that I.J. was a grandson of "James Martin, a Virginian ... who was very young when the family came to Kentucky ...."

By late 1983, I was hip-deep in the muddy waters of Kentucky history. The Draper manuscripts were a fine source of information, but they were on microfilm. I got a microfilm reader; and I acquired, gradually, the published indices to the various potentially relevant Draper collections.

Col. Jobson, the expert recommended by the folks at the Filson, searched in at the Filson library and in Frankfort at the Kentucky Historical Society Library. He checked the standard reference books and turned up lots of wills, lists of marriages, tax lists, and deeds showing the presence of a "John Martin."There appeared to be a dozen or more "John Martins" in Kentucky and Virginia during the relevant time frame, not to mention more in Tennessee and North Carolina. Where the "John Martin" appeared possibly to be "ours," as in the Logan County tax lists, he recorded additional useful information (size of family, property owned) but found nothing to indicate where the family had come from.

Col. Jobson was the first to explain to me how the Kentucky system of land acquisition worked: land warrants, surveys, and then grants; and he sent me copies of the October 1798 warrant to John Martin for purchase of 200 acres on the sinking branch of Muddy River for \$70.93, the survey on November 16, 1798, and the grant, issued in December 1808, as well as the sale of the property in 1809, signed by both John and "Isabella."

For his work, which totaled 16 hours at the Filson and in Frankfort, Col. Jobson charged me \$50. (That tells us something about the economic changes over the past 40 years.)

Col. Jobson had looked in Logan and nearby Washington County (where many Neelys lived), but had not looked in Nelson County, where Bardstown was located. I got in touch with Margaret Mary Thompson of Russell Hall, Nazareth, who taught in the Catholic school system and was recommended as an expert researcher. She made copies of summaries of land grants and deeds in Nelson County and other nearby counties. She charged me \$32 to cover the cost of copying, plus \$18 for her time -2 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> hours. Another indicator of changed economic times.

Penny Seay of Russellville, Logan County, worked with a local surveyor to identify where the property surveyed by John Martin was located.

As the Kentucky research was yielding nothing definitive, I took a blind stab at Virginia. After all, I.J. thought the family had come from Virginia, and Isabella Scott was said to be related to the famous Virginia General Scott. Perhaps we would get lucky and find some family linkage between Martins and the great Winfield. Mr. Charles Cella of Powhatan, Virginia, agreed to help, and examined standard sources. He was efficient, did his search, and after a couple of half-day efforts, found John Martins galore, but no marriage to an Isabella Scott and no connections via the General. June Whitehurst Johnson searched in Fairfax, Prince William and Loudon Counties, but likewise found nothing.

A trial dig in the North Carolina materials, with the help of Mrs. Stacey Linn in Salisbury, Helen F.M. Leary in Raleigh, and Carol Treadway in Greensboro, turned up little: plenty of John Martins and Scotts, but nothing to connect them to each other or to Old John.

Ms. Treadway did find several references to Quaker Martins, but none involving a "John":

- Hannah Martin disowned for having an illegitimate child;
- George Jr., disowned for "having carnal knowledge of her who is now his wife";
- Margaret Brown, formerly Martin, disowned for marrying out of unity;
- Adam Martin disowned "for appearing in a war-like way amongst warriors."

Her findings reminded me that family history research might unearth a few embarrassments.

The main problem, of course, was how to distinguish "our" Old John from all the others. There were several possibilities:

- 1 A will, possibly from the father or grandfather, or even uncle, of Old John, identifying him by location or by his wife's name;
- 2 A deed or some other land transfer document mentioning his wife Isabella's name (or Sarah?). Wives generally had to release their dower interest in the transferred land.
- 3 A family Bible or family history prepared by some early generation Martin or Scott identifying John and Isabella, or possibly one or more of their children.
- 4 Any document linking a James Scott, either Sr. or Junior, with Isabella Scott, at the same time and in the same place as John Martin. We suspected then as now that Old John and Isabella named their oldest son "James Scott" after Isabella's father (or possibly brother).
- 5 Less promisingly, court papers, tax records or deeds might link Charles Neely and a family of Martins before the fall of 1797, when Charles married Jane Martin in Logan County. Such a linkage could be relevant if the Martins and Neelys had moved to Logan at the same time, and therefore perhaps from the same place.

# Moving Up To The Yankees

My most serious step in the direction of professionalizing my family research was in contacting the Newberry Library in Chicago, which was a client of the Sidley law firm. I had been aware of the Newberry since 1968 when I had done a few small legal projects for the librarian; and I had learned that it was not only a great library and research institution but that it had a respected department of specialists in local and family history research, with a collection of documents and microfilm materials relating to many sections of the United States.

In early February 1984, while Sharon and I were still living in Washington, I arranged a meeting in Chicago with David Thackery, the head of Newberry's local history department. I provided summaries of what my research so far had disclosed, and asked his help in researching Old John, the Scotts and the Neelys. In particular I asked David to check his Illinois materials, including the published histories of Southern Illinois communities, and the Draper materials.

David did a wonderfully thorough job. He had access to, and made copies of records that I did not know existed: Virginia and Kentucky land surveys, treasury warrants, land grants, Kentucky county tax records, ... He enormously expanded my pile of references to John Martins. We also now knew more about the Martins who had lived in Logan County and moved from there north to Illinois. But we still had no way to connect any of them to other or earlier Martins.

### On-The-Ground Research

The years passed. My busy days were spent on our family, my law practice with Sidley Austin, and my increasing firm management responsibilities. Our children were growing up: John (b. 1971); Elizabeth (b. 1973); Ann (b. 1975), and Kate (b. 1981 in Washington). We moved back to the Chicago area from Washington in 1984, and the older children entered grade school in Glencoe.

I had served as Managing Partner of Sidley's Washington office from 1978-1984 and continued to serve on the firm-wide Management Committee after returning to Chicago in 1984. I became Chairman of the firm's Management Committee in 1989. And I continued my regulatory and appellate litigation practice for railroad and electric utility clients. There was not much free time for frivolous digging in the genealogical woodpile.

Yet despite the conflicting demands on time, the infection was never completely cured.

Sharon and I did not take many vacations, but we did manage to fit in one – our first trip to Kentucky – in the first week of August 1989. I spent most of four days that week at the Filson Club library in Louisville, where I read more about the history of Kentucky and expanded my focus to include tax records of counties other than Logan, hoping that some factoid might lead us back to the pre-Logan era. I found many references to John Martins in Lincoln, Bourbon, Clark, Nelson and Washington Counties, as well as to other Martins who might be related.

Of particular interest, I found concentrations of Neelys – including a Charles – in Washington County, which had spun out of Nelson in 1792. There were also plenty of Feaglys, Whitakers, and Scotts, one or more of whom might point us in the direction of the "right" earlier generation of Martins.

Nothing turned up in the documentary records that enabled me to reach back with assurance before 1797; but the on-the-ground research turned out to be worthwhile.

We believed that Old John had been a Minister of the Gospel, and that several of his sons and grandsons had been Baptist ministers in Illinois. Research had disclosed that there had been a minister in Logan County named John Martin. In December 1805, the Logan County court had granted leave to this John Martin to perform marriages. We thought he was "ours," but it would be nice to be sure.

The standard work on Kentucky Baptists, *A History of Kentucky Baptists*, J.H. Spencer, 1886, had recorded that the Providence Baptist Church in nearby Warren County (created out of Logan in 1796) had been "constituted" in 1804 by John Hightower and John Martin. Martin had served as pastor in 1804 and 1808 but had been called again In September 1813 when "Eld. Martin was appointed to supply place of [the] pastor, who ... was drafted with his son, to fight the English."

The Center Baptist Church in Logan County was constituted on June 16, 1810, with 20 members, not including any Martins or Neelys. But after that beginning, the name John Martin appeared in the record.

On a pleasant Sunday morning in early August 1989, Sharon and I drove our rental car into the parking lot of the present-day Center Baptist Church of Logan County on Coopertown Road near Russellville. The original structure had been replaced by a newer one, but the cemetery appeared to be the original, dating back to the early 19th century.

Sunday morning service was underway. Sharon was shy about entering a Sunday service where no one would know us. I assumed the congregation would be friendly, wandered in and sat down in a back row. When the service had finished, I went up to the preacher and introduced myself. I explained that I thought my ancestor had been one of the early ministers of the Church and asked if they had any records that might have information about him or his family.

The minister, whose name I do not remember, welcomed me graciously. He took me back to his office, opened a desk drawer and pulled out a file of what appeared to be ancient records. The Church's web site today identifies their collection as "photocopies of the record books ... from 16 June 1810 to 2 December 1969." Although my memory could be faulty, I remember seeing what appeared to be the original, aged pages. They have since been reproduced in a book entitled *Center Baptist Church, 1810-1847*. See also *Pioneer Baptist Church Records of South-Central Kentucky and the Upper Cumberland of Tennessee, 1799-1899. 1985*, 405-405.

Paging through the old record, I soon found that on February 13, 1813, the church "received a petition from Brothern [sic] John Martin, Charles Neeley, Samuel Martin, Moses Williams, Willis Blanchard & Sisters Izebelah Martin, Jane Neeley, Sarah Martin & Lizzey Martin requesting help from us to look into there [sic] standing and constituting them into a church if found ripe for the same."

At the next Center Church meeting, March 13, 1813, the church received into full fellowship by letter "James Martin & Jane his wife" – almost certainly James Scott Martin and Jane (or Jenny) Feagle Martin. Three weeks later, on April 1813, they "received the return of the arm which received into full fellowship James Moore & Biddy his wife & William Martin and Abigail his wife, by letter" -- referring to William Harvey Martin and his first wife, Abigail Whitaker Martin.

These names match up with the known family names of Old John and Isabella and their children and sons-in-law. The men and women were listed separately, and the lists suggested that the order was in declining age. Thus, Old John was matched with "Sister Izebelah." Charles Neely was married to Jane. Sam was married to Sarah Martin. (After Sam died a few years later, Sarah married Moses Williams.) And Willis Blanchard married "Lizzey." They were leaving to form a new church at the same time brother James Scott Martin and wife Jane were arriving, along with brother William Harvey Martin and wife Abigail.

Old John and the first group were approved to form the Bethany Church. James and William with their wives went into the Stoney Point Church. It is impossible to know for sure today why the two groups separated into different churches. I think it is likely because of where they lived in relation to the different church congregations. A few years later, these families moved together north from Logan County to southern Illinois; and Old John then lived with his son William Harvey in Edwards County.

If any doubt remained after seeing Isabella's name (rather than "Sarah") on John Martin's deed selling his Logan County land, it had now surely been eliminated by the appearance of their names together in this old church record.

But as to where Old John and Isabella were before they showed up in Logan County in 1797, I remained essentially clueless. Or, more accurately, there were too many clues. Based largely on the fact that during the years before 1780 many Neelys and Martins were concentrated in southwestern Virginia near Roanoke, I had a hunch that we might someday tie our Old John to the John Martin who owned property not far from Roanoke on Back Creek, near the North Carolina state line. But the fact that the search was not finished did not seem a good reason to delay preserving what I had.

# Making and Preserving A Record

By the winter of 1989-90, I was ready to package up what I had gathered or written about the Martin family, print it in book form, and move on. Life was very busy. The children were growing up. John (b. 1971) had begun his university work in Urbana. Liz (b. 1973) was doing her high school work at Lake Forest Academy. Ann was at New Trier; and Kate was in grade school. Sharon was not getting as much help from me as she deserved. I was juggling work for regulatory clients and Sidley firm management responsibilities.

The package to be put together was not limited to Old John Martin and Isabella. With the help of Lou Martin, I had a full deck of material on the Martins both in Logan County and Illinois, as well as the families of their children. My opening chapter about Old John made clear that we did not know where they were before 1797 in Logan County. The best I could do was canvass some two dozen "John Martins" whose names had come to the forefront in the research, and then dismiss most of them from contention based on their wives' maiden names and their residence in other counties than Logan after 1797.

Also, I had edited several of I.J.'s memoranda about the family and the history of Sullivan and Moultrie County, and was finishing a long chapter

about my Father, Robert. Mabel George, I.J.'s youngest daughter, contributed a chapter on her father and mother, Rose Eden. These would make a substantial volume for private publication – mostly for the family, but also for a few friends and local libraries.

1990 was only about midway technologically between Gutenberg and the present (2023). Book pages were still typed, printed and bound without the assistance of computers. I typed and proofread the pages myself and engaged Congress Printing Company on the south side of Chicago to do the printing and binding. They also prepared a separate "paperback" version of the chapters written by I.J. Martin that dealt only with the history of Sullivan and Moultrie County. The full version – including the family materials – ran to 379 pages, not counting the unpaginated pictures. The shorter version for folks outside the family – just the local history – was 86 pages.

Congress Printing bound the full version in a serviceable tan buckram binding, no jacket. A handful of copies were bound specially in leather for the immediate family. I distributed the buckram version to the family, a few friends, and a handful of libraries. I gave several dozens of the shorter, local-history-only version to the Moultrie County Genealogical and Historical Society (MCGHS) to do with as they pleased. They sold them to folks who visited the MCGHS history center in Sullivan.

Then I went back to work. I was finished with looking for Old John.

That was over 30 years ago.

#### **Detours and Diversions**

During the 1990s I continued to serve as Chairman of the Sidley Management Committee and to represent clients in regulatory matters, mostly electric utilities. The children went off to university. I was asked to join several corporate and non-profit boards. Somehow, there was a little time for family history research.

In late October 1994 I received in the mail an auction catalogue from Swann Galleries in New York. It described several hundred lots of rare printed and manuscript materials that would soon be sold at auction. One item was described as:

> Manuscript ledger book of two attorneys practicing in Shelby County, Illinois during the 1830s and 1840s. Over 400 pages, with clients' names indicated, the nature of their legal concern, the finding of the court, and fines and charges. Small folio, contemporary <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> sheep, worn.

Much of what later became Moultrie County had once been part of Shelby County. I called Swann's and spoke with the cataloguer. He explained that the ledger book was unindexed and hard to read. The estimated price was \$1,000 - \$1,500, which seemed a lot for a ledger that might have nothing of interest. I put in a low bid, which was unsuccessful. The winner was a rare book and manuscript dealer in Boston.

A year later, in October 1995, the dealer issued his own catalogue, in which he described the ledger book as a record of justices of the peace. I called the dealer, who offered to send it to me on condition that I could return it if I was not satisfied.

When it arrived, I opened the package and found an account book, well worn, with about 400 pages of handwriting. The first page was dated June 28, 1834. The last third of the manuscript appeared to be a store account book. Inside the front cover was a note: "Store was at what is now called the Old Hunt Farm about 4 miles Northeast of Gays." I knew that Gays was in Moultrie County, not Shelby. It was near the old Whitley Point settlement, a few miles southeast of Sullivan. Whitley Point was where my Martin ancestors had lived -- the first settlement of European descendants in Moultrie County.

Then I found an index to the store account. The first name on the index was John Martin – the name of Old John's grandson and I.J. Martin's grandfather. John's account was for the year 1845. Just two years earlier, in 1843, Moultrie County had been carved out of Shelby County; and the new town of Sullivan was then being surveyed so lots could be sold. John Martin's pages in the account record noted that in September 1845, his son had purchased 25 cents worth of tea. I.J's father – John Neely Martin – would have been 12 years old earlier that year.

The accidental discovery and acquisition of the old Whitley Point record book triggered another round of part-time research in evenings and on weekends, culminating in my 339-page *Whitley Point Record Book*, 1996.

A year later I completed an edition of the courtship correspondence of Ivory J. Martin and Rose Eden, daughter of John R. Eden, a local lawyer and Congressman. I called it *Ivory and Rose: A Year's Courtship*, 1997. The book won a prize from the Illinois State Historical Society, though any merit arose not from my editing but from the inherent interest of the letters written in 1885-1886 by my two grandparents. Sometime in 1997 or early 1998, I had a visit with the then-head of the local Moultrie County historical society, MCGHS. I thought digital technology – specifically the internet – was going to revolutionize access to records, and that the society ought to consider creating a web site, which many other state and local societies were then doing. A computer in the society's office would facilitate research by staff and visitors. The head of the society told me they did not believe in digital records or research. They wanted only paper files and records. That seemed unnecessarily old-fashioned. With the help of a young computer whiz in Chicago (my son-in-law), I created my own local history web site and arranged to digitize dozens of books, maps and documents relating to both family and local (city and county) history. The web site went live on June 15, 1998 – a quarter century ago. I've added to it regularly, including digitized copies of surviving local newspapers and some school yearbooks.

I also continued to work on family history other than the search for Old John's origins. The first product was a memoir written by Rose Eden's brother, Walter Eden: *Memoirs of a "Boy Mayor." Recollections of Sullivan, Illinois from the CivilWar to 1909*, 1999. Then came John R. Eden, 1826-1909, A Compendium of Materials (edited), 2012. And Rose Eden's Family Letters, 2012.

A remarkable lady, Eileen Bridges of Windsor, a volunteer historian at the Shelby County Historical Society, was extraordinarily helpful in using digital technology to help track down my mother's ancestors – the Whites, Davises, Tulls, Kellers, Taylors and Pifers – in connection with my book on the maternal side of the family, which I called *Hattie* & *Ruth* (2011). She refused to accept any compensation for all the time and expertise she volunteered.

After more than 20 years of law firm management responsibilities, I passed those on to others and, while remaining a Sidley partner, assumed in 1999 a new role: President of the Commercial Club of Chicago and its Civic Committee. The Commercial Club was the oldest and leading organization of business, financial and professional people in the greater Chicagoland area. It led to my being invited to join several corporate boards of directors and to involvement in a broad array of civic and political issues, including airport expansion, school reform, city and state

finance, and related subjects like pension reform. The work was considerably less intense than my previous combination of regulatory litigation and law firm management.

By the end of 2010 (at age 70), after over a decade of work in the civic and corporate arenas, I handed off the civic stuff to others and then mostly retired – though remaining Senior Counsel at Sidley, a director of CBOE, and writing regular columns for the *Chicago Sun Times*. I now had more time to dabble. And scribble.

## Digging In Kentucky

By 2011, with the advance of technology, the possibilities for successful local history research had become wider. In the earlier days of research, local historians and amateurs had done their work by slow mail or visits to the county clerks' offices. The Mormon microfilming of local records which began in 1938 and the distribution of these films through local Family Search offices throughout the country had greatly improved efficiency. Then in the late 1990s, Family Search began digitizing the microfilm records, a process facilitated by improved technology. Much of the research that had been done only on microfilm readers could be done more efficiently via the internet. More and more amateurs were putting their records and research on the web site ancestry.com. More and more texts of histories and biographies published before copyright protection kicked in (in the "public domain"), now 1927, were being digitized and, thanks in part to Project Gutenberg, made available via the internet.

Because the Martins and Neelys had apparently turned up together in Logan County in 1797, it seemed possible – even likely – that they had known each other before that. Grandfather I.J.'s memo and the family oral tradition had been clear that the Martins had been in Kentucky since about 1779. If we could discover where they had lived before Logan County, it might lead us back to where they had been before Kentucky.

After a little canvassing of options, in mid-2012 I got in touch with Gail Jackson Miller, a professional family and local historian based in Bowling Green, Kentucky. The assignment was to research both Martins and Neelys beyond Logan County – including Nelson and Washington Counties, where we knew some Neelys had been before 1797 – to try to identify "our" John Martin and Isabella and to find out what we could about them.

Gail proved to be an energetic and skilled professional. She initially thought her principal assignment was to research the Neelys; so she focused almost exclusively on them. Her first research report, dated November 2, 2012, noted that "the goal of establishing the identity of Jane Martin's parents and grandparents ... was added secondarily after the original goals and can only partially be dealt with." From my vantage point, Old John and his antecedents had always been the principal – not secondary – objective. After a clarifying discussion, Gail took a broadened view of the assignment, which led to additional work.

The net result of this 2012-13 work in central Kentucky was a much fuller base of knowledge about the Neelys, including the parentage of Charles Neely, husband of Jane Martin. The untangling of litigation records relating to a land contract (the Hambrick/Bosthick litigation) enabled me to determine that Charles Neely was a son of Major James Neely and his wife Ann. Major James had come to Kentucky from the area of Neelytown, Orange County, New York. Earlier "best guesses" about the Neely origins had been made before the availability of those litigation records. My research on the Neely family is summarized in *The Neelys of Neelytown, NewYork* (2016).

It soon also became clear that Charles Neely and his wife Jane had spent several years – 1808-1811 – in Tennessee, possibly Giles County. (In a deposition, Charles referred to the fact that "between September 1808 and April 1811 which time I had my Residence in the State of Tennessee ....") During those years, Charles did not pay taxes in Logan County. Charles Jr. was born in Tennessee in 1810.

Some – perhaps all -- of the related Martin families apparently also moved to Tennessee about the same time as the Neelys. The first child of William Harvey Martin and Susan, James Martin, was reportedly born in Tennessee in 1810. The first child of Samuel Martin and his wife Sara Jane was Hannah, reportedly born about 1812 in Tennessee.

Old John and Isabella probably also went to Tennessee with their children. On April 15, 1809, they sold their two parcels of land on the sinking branch of Muddy River. They were listed in Logan County in the 1810 census.



So was James Scott Martin, -- with 16 people in his household, including one male over 44. Perhaps Feagle in-laws?

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Thomas Chark	1	1	No.	11	1	2	223	1	Ling	2	1.5	10
Miles Buce	2	2	11	1	13	2	195	1	185		1	3
Samuel Barnes	3	2	11	1	A.P.	3	2	A.A.	1	N		
Thomas Bur	13	2	199.1	1		3	2		1		12	100
James Martin	4	2	1	1	1 del	2	3	1	2	1	1	1000
John Janoner	2	1	2	1	1419	3	2	1	1		1	5

But Old John was not shown as paying taxes in Logan County in 1810, 1811, or 1812. He reappears on the tax rolls in 1813. Likewise, the Logan County tax records contain no entries for any of Old John's sons (James Scott, William, Samuel, John Jr.) in 1810, 1811, or 1812.

The tax records show that Charles Neely and these Martins all returned to Logan County by 1813, a few years before moving up to Illinois. *More Fragments*, at 99.

There remained the question of where the Martins had been before 1797. Because there had not been time in 2012 to complete work on the Martins, Gail did follow-up research in January 2013 in state archives in Frankfort and at the university library in Bowling Green. There were lots of references to Martins – Nathaniel, Aquilla, William, Thomas, Samuel – even a John. But, as Gail summarized it in her report of January 9, 2013, "John Martin does not seem to have lived in either Washington or Nelson County during the time when the Neelys were there." (p. 8.)

Gail suggested doing further research in Logan on the neighbors and associates of John Martin, since people often traveled to new areas with family members, associates, and neighbors. I think that was the first time I heard about the FAN research technique I've later come to call "FAN club analysis."

"FAN" analysis is builds on the recognition that during the period of Western expansion, groups of families and others often traveled together for protection, economic or religious reasons. If "John Smith" turned up in XYZ community in 1780 at the same time a group of other people turned up at the same place and time, there was a reasonable chance that they all came from the same place. The identities of the FAN Club might thus provide a "bridge" for tracking John Smith back to that earlier place.

On the other hand, if the group was small, or if its individuals did not arrive at the same time, or if they did not settle near each other, then the FAN analysis was to that extent weakened. The common arrival of a few people might be regarded as nothing more than unrelated coincidences of the kind that occurred when large numbers of people were on the move.

Gail also suggested further work in Lincoln, Nelson and Washington counties on "early chancery loose papers and ordinary court papers ...."

I authorized that additional work. I will not report how much all this new research in Central Kentucky was costing. The answer might be used against me in some future commitment proceeding. Gail looked at lots of surveys and deeds for Martins and neighbors. She looked at loose records of equity suits. She looked at tax lists for potential FAN Club members. She looked in both Logan and Nelson counties. She found a "John Martin" in the Nelson tax lists, along with Thomas and William and Aquilla and Samuel. To distinguish him from the others, I took to calling him "Nelson County John."

In her summary, Gail wrote: "The total movement of families from Nelson to Logan as well as the finding of John Martin in Nelson County seems to suggest that the John Martin in Nelson County was the same one that moved to Logan County." Logan County John "does seem to have lived in Nelson County prior to his move to Logan County."

Though her finding was expressed in qualified terms ("seems to suggest," "seem to have lived"), Gail basically concluded that Nelson County John was probably the same person as Logan County John.

I summarized the status of all the research done up to this point – including Gail's reports – in my 2014 book, *More Fragments of Martin Family History*. As to where Old John was before 1797, although it was far from a sure thing, I wrote that Gail was likely right about Nelson County (p. 2). One of the John Martins --

> ... was living near the Neelys, not far from Bardstown in north-central Nelson County. We do not know the name of his wife, but his profile seems to fit 'our' John. This Nelson County John was within the right age range; he had no land (ours would later – in 1797 – buy his Logan County land on credit); and the ages of his two sons as reported on the 1792 and 1793 tax lists roughly fit the ages of our John's oldest sons. Moreover, this Nelson County John was living where I.J. reported he was -- in central Kentucky, not far from the Kentucky River.

### A Hail Mary – Back To Virginia

The connection with the Neelys had seemed a possible way to track backwards before 1797 and find the John Martin family in Nelson or Washington County. With Gail Miller's help, we had learned much about our Neely antecedents, but we still could not with confidence pick our Old John out of the lineup of Martins named John.

Another possible route toward that objective lay through the Scott family. The tradition was strong that Isabella was a Scott, and they had after all named their oldest son James Scott Martin. If we could find a James Scott with a daughter Isabella next door to a Martin family, that might prove to be the key. Also, there was the tradition – or family joke – about being related to General Winfield Scott, the Virginian.

I was encouraged to think the Virginia Scotts might provide the bridge we needed. An enthusiastic and energetic researcher, Maggie Burrows, had uncovered a settlement in Monongalia, Virginia, that included "a clutch of Martins descended from John Martin of Monongalia County, Va., ... intermarried with a family descended from Alexander Scott (same county) ...." One of the Scott brothers, Adonijah, had a daughter named Sarah. There were even Neelys in the mix. She wrote: "I am just certain that these are our people, and that this is the location of our ancestors prior to their move to Kentucky." Email, July 31, 2008.

In August 2012, I got in touch with Victor Dunn, a highly regarded genealogist in Virginia; and he agreed to help. I sent him my books and Gail's research reports. Victor advised that research in Virginia without more would be a long shot. He suggested more work in Kentucky on the Martin FAN Club – family, associates, neighbors – to see where they had come from. Of course, one of those potential FAN Club members was a James Scott.

Victor looked at the Winfield Scott family genealogy but found nothing useful. He looked at Martin families in Virginia, North Carolina, and Pennsylvania. But he found nothing to connect any of them to our Logan County John; and without such a connection, it was just random flailing. Victor did not want to waste his time or my money – and he was right. He was and is a pro.

We needed either to give up or go back to Kentucky for a more thorough FAN Club analysis.

Victor did provide one intriguing lead. The science around DNA has grown exponentially in recent years. Historians and anthropologists can now trace migration paths of groups. As I write this, it has just been announced that a Swedish geneticist has won the 2022 Nobel Prize for his work on 40,000 year-old bones, launching the field of ancient DNA studies.

Doctors and scientists use DNA in research and healing. Criminologists and lawyers use it in legal investigations and trials. So it should not be surprising that genealogists – both professional and amateurs – have figured out how to use so-called Y-DNA and MtDNA tests to look at specific locations on a person's genome to find ancestral genealogical relationships. A standard DNA metric is used to assess the amount of DNA that two people are likely to have inherited from a common ancestor. Researchers can track paternal ancestry by looking at the Y chromosome, which fathers pass on to male children. Maternal ancestry can be found in mitochondrial DNA, which mothers pass along to all of their children. One of my colleagues in Neely research, a retired scientist named Jim Neely, was familiar with how the DNA test results can be analyzed. He helped me dig out relevant information about my own DNA test results and send them along to Victor in 2019.

In March 2020 Victor sent me an encouraging report. He found that my DNA results matched with a Robert Martin, who was descended from a David Martin, who was born at Clover Bottoms, Virginia, presently part of Mercer County, Virginia. Back then, it would have been a part of Montgomery County, which was formed from Fincastle in 1777, which had earlier been in Botetourt, and earlier in Augusta County.

I pressed Victor as to what the results meant: how close was the relationship? He replied in March 2020 that, "You match with 35 out of 37 markers, which is just as close as the others who appear to descend from your John Martin. ... There is an 88.33% chance that you share a common ancestor within eight generations." Old John was six generations before me. Through contact information related to the DNA results, I got in touch with one of the relatives of my DNA-related Robert Martin, a resident of Mississippi. This Robert Martin traces his ancestry back through (1) John T. Martin (b 1775), and (2) his father David Martin (b. 1743) to (3) a John Martin (reportedly married an Isabella) who came to America from Ireland about 1740.

The relative of Robert kindly pointed me to a privately published book: *The History and Descendants of the Greer, Martin and Related Families of Claiborne and Hinds Counties, Mississippi*, Janice Martin Stockton, 1993. Much of the information in the book had been provided by Daniel McNair Martin, a settler in Scottsboro, Alabama, whose earliest Martin ancestor was the John Martin who reportedly came to America about 1740. This John Martin, born in Ireland and almost certainly of Scotch-Irish ancestry, had arrived in Philadelphia and "stayed on in Pennsylvania, where he established a school and married a lady named Isabella, also an immigrant from Ireland. Later they moved to a place called the 'Clover Bottoms' in Virginia." (*Id.*, 249.) Later they settled near Camden, South Carolina.

This early John Martin (immigrant about 1740) had three sons who served in the Revolutionary war: David, Robert, and Samuel. Unfortunately, no John. One of David's sons was Daniel M., who had written a letter in 1870 recounting some of the family's history:

Ella will tell Mr. Newton that my Great-grandfather came from Ireland about the year 1740. His name was John Martin. He landed in Philadelphia, married an Irish Lady, settled in Pennsylvania, moved from there to the Clover Bottoms of Virginia. Moved from there to Kershaw District, near Camden in South Carolina. His three sons' names were David Martin, Robert Martin and Samuel Martin. He and his sons lived there some time after the Revolutionary War. The three sons served in it in the Rebel Army.

David was my grandfather. He was married before the Revolutionary War came on. My father's name was John Martin. He was born November the 21st, 1775, the very year that the Revolution began. My father had four brothers and one sister: William Martin, Sherwood Martin, Francis A. Martin, Green Martin, and sister Betsey Martin.

Continuing, quoting a daughter of Daniel M.:

His grandfather's name was John Martin [NOTE: D. M. Martin said John was his <u>great-grandfather.</u>] He was born in Ireland and was educated for the ministry. There were just two of the children and his brother William was educated for a lawyer and was practicing when John left Ireland but I have forgotten the place. His father was a farmer and they lived between two towns whose names I've forgotten. John was the baby and his mother was very indulgent and let him have all the money he wanted to spend so, by the time he graduated, he said he was too wild to go into the ministry.

His father chartered a ship and loaded it with Irish wanting to come to America. John was to sell them out and load the ship with flax seed and go back to Ireland. When John landed in New York (NOTE: D. M. Martin said it was <u>Philadelphia</u>], there was not enough flax seed to load his ship, so he waited and sold out his Irish (bound them out to colonists for passage money) and, as he was used to doing, had a good time until his money was all gone. Then he was at his wit's end, as to work he did not know how! So he got a school and was successful. He built up a fine school and married an Irish woman. I do not know how long he stayed there but he was persuaded to go to Virginia and establish a school there; then to Camden, South Carolina. If I could see you I could tell you better than I can write it.

He educated all his family well and then had them learn a trade. My father's father (that was John T. Martin, born November 21, 1775) was a tailor but he taught school more than he worked at his trade.

Despite these somewhat conflicting accounts, we have here a memory of an immigrant John Martin from Ireland, who arrived in Pennsylvania (or New York?) about 1740, and then moved to a place in Virginia remembered by the family as "Clover Bottoms," before moving on to South Carolina. These Martins had not been able to identify where Clover Bottoms was.

One place called "Clover Bottom" was near what is now Nathalie, Virginia, not far from Roanoke and near the North Carolina border. The "Clover Bottom Cemetery" is still there.

There was also a "Clover Bottoms" on the Bluestone Creek – at that early time in Fincastle County, Virginia, now in Mercer County, West Virginia. A horrifying Indigenous American massacre occurred there in 1783 in which several children of the Clay family were killed – one, a teenage boy, by being burned at the stake. In the sparse historical references to this massacre, I have found no mentions of Martins.

(Another place in Virginia with a similar name was "Clover Flat," a place on Fox Grape Creek, a branch of Tygart's Valley River, in western Virginia in Monongalia County, on the north-south route connecting western Virginia and Pennsylvania. Early settlers there included John and Ashael Martin.)

Victor Dunn's main point was this: DNA analysis says there is a very high probability that our Martin line descending from Old John Martin shares a common ancestor within eight generations with this immigrant John Martin from Ireland. But we have been unable to identify any relative of this related south-bound Martin group who might have peeled off and headed west to Kentucky.

Would a Northern Ireland origin be inconsistent with the family tradition that our Martins came from England? I do not think so. Ireland in the 1700s was part of Great Britain. The Northern six counties of Ireland had been settled by transplanted Scots and Northern English. The Scotch-Irish immigrants in America, most of whom were no doubt poor, were forced by economics to make their homes in the unsettled lands of western Pennsylvania, Virginia and North Carolina. Our Neely ancestors, also Scotch-Irish, had initially settled in upstate New York and then found their way to Pennsylvania, Virginia, North Carolina, and later Kentucky and points west. Old John and his descendants would have naturally thought of themselves as English – as distinguished from their neighbors the "Dutch" (who spoke "Deutsch").

### **Back To Kentucky**

At Victor Dunn's suggestion, in December 2020 I contacted Rachal Mills Lennon, another of the top pros in the business who specializes in research in Kentucky and Tennessee. She began her work by focusing on two issues:

- 1 Who was the James Scott who in September 1799 had surveyed 200 acres of land in Logan County next door to Old John Martin's survey? After all, Old John and Isabella had named their oldest son "James Scott Martin," and Isabella's maiden name was supposed to be "Scott." It seemed highly likely that this next-door neighbor was somehow related to her. If so, he probably came from the same place as the Martins.
- 2 Was the Nelson County John Martin earlier identified in the tax records by Gail Miller the same person as the Logan County John Martin who first appeared in 1797?

Against all my expectations – and, I might add, hopes – Logan County James Scott turned out to be apparently unrelated. The similarity of his name to the Martin's first son was evidently a coincidence. James Scott and his father Jacob had lived in Tennessee before their appearance in Logan. There was no evidence that Logan County John Martin had been in Tennessee with them or that the Tennessee Scotts had come to Logan with the Martin family.

As to the second issue, the possibility that the Nelson County John Martin might turn out to be our Old John also dissolved under the acid of Rachal Lennon's close scrutiny. Gail Miller and I had thought Nelson County John and a man named Thomas Martin were likely brothers, and that they lived on Kimbley's Run, near Cox's Creek, northeast of Bardstown. Rachal concluded that Thomas and Nelson John were indeed brothers. She also found that there were two Johns – one "Senior" and the other "Junior."

County tax records showed that both Thomas and the two Johns were living in the Brashears Creek community – which was in Nelson County in the mid 1780's, and later in Shelby County (created in 1806). (In the records, this creek is sometimes spelled "ear" – sometimes just "er.") The tax records showed Thomas to be at that place in David Cox's district in 1788.

Then we come to the Nelson County tax summaries from the 1790s (*More Fragments*, 43-45):

1790: List of William May – John Martin – 1. List of Gabriel Cox – Thomas Martin, John Paul – 2.

1791: List of William May – William Martin – 1
Thomas Martin – 1.
List of Thomas Morton – John Matin [Martin] – 2.

1792: Gabriel Cox's District – John Martin – visited November 6. 1 white male above 21, 1 white male above 16 and under 21, 2 horses, 9 cattle. No land. [So – one son probably born between 1772 and 1776.]

Thomas Martin – visited November 14. 1 white male above 21, 1 horse, 6 cattle. No land.

1793: Gabriel Cox's District – John Martin – visited October1. 1 white male over 21, 2 white males above 16 and under 21,

3 horses, 12 cattle. No land. [So, a second son, probably born in 1777.]

Thomas Martin – visited September 30. 1 white male above 21, 4 horses, 12 cattle. Listed with 100 acres.

Shelby County was created out of Nelson on June 28, 1792. Both John Martin and Thomas Martin dropped off the Nelson rolls permanently after 1793. Rachal points out that, "Brashears Creek ran close to the 1788-93 Nelson neighborhoods we have established for both John and Thomas." After 1793, both John and Thomas appear on land near Brashears Creek in Shelby County. Moreover, there were now two John Martins.

1794: John Martin Srn. – 1 white 21 +, 3 horses, 9 cattle, 0 land.

John Martin – 1 white 21+, 2 horses, 16 cattle, 150 acres.

15 August 1795: John Martin – Glasses transfer to John Martin, "all of Shelby" 150 acres on waters of Brashears Creek.

17 August 1795: John Martin – Buskirks transfer to John Martin 80 acres "on waters of Brashears Creek."

1796: 8 April. John Martin – 80 acres Brashears Creek. 1 white 21 +, 2 horses, 7 cattle.

: Thomas Martin – 100 acres, Brashears Cr. 1 white 21+, 1 horse, 6 cattle.

: 3 May. John Martin – 150 acres, Brashears Creek. 1 white 21 + 2 horses, 18 cattle.

1797: 26 May. John Martin - 80 acres, 1 white 21+, 3 horses.

: June 27 June. John Martin 150 acres, 1 white 21+, 3 horses.

The disappearance of Thomas, John Sr., and John Jr. from Nelson County after 1793 coincides with the appearance of John Martin in the new county of Shelby in 1794 and 1795.

Rachal Lennon, an expert researcher with meticulous attention to detail, concluded that the John Martin and Thomas Martin of Nelson were related to each other. Also, the evidence "strongly suggests one of the two Johns of Brashears Creek was the John Martin of 1790-93 Nelson County."

But neither of those two Brashears Creek Johns could have been our Old John of Logan County in 1797 and thereafter. The two Brashears Creek John Martins – Senior and Junior – continued to report taxes on their lands under their own names until 1816. In that year, John Sr. drops off the list and Elizabeth Martin begins reporting. She was almost certainly his widow.

Likewise, John Martin Jr. reported on his 150 acres up to 1804. In 1806, a Jane Martin began reporting on it. She was almost certainly John Jr.'s widow.

Ergo neither Nelson County John Sr. nor John Jr. was the same person as our Old John of Logan County. As Rachal Lennon put it, without qualification: "According to new findings, the John Martin of Nelson County is *not* the Logan County man." (Report No. 3.)

Ugh!

# What About the John Martin Who Owned Large Tracts On Plum Creek, Brush Creek and Green River?

Nope.

A John Martin of Jefferson County had obtained a warrant for 1000 acres in Virginia, and then arranged for a survey of those acres on Plum Creek in 1784. It turned out that this John was married to an Elizabeth and they lived in Clark County, Kentucky in the early years of the 19th century.

This same John acquired large acreage on Brush Creek and along Green River. Analysis of the dates of the entries convinced Rachal that, "All this evidence leaves little doubt that these tracts ... belonged to the John [Martin] of Clark County." Report no. 4, February 22, 2022. This John Martin and his wife Elizabeth were living in Clark County in the early 1800s at least until 1819. He could not be our Old John in Logan.

Because I.J. Martin's family history had reported that the Martin family in Kentucky had lived near the Kentucky River, I was also interested in a John Martin who obtained a warrant in 1780 for 400 acres, assigned 200 acres to a James Knox that same year, had it surveyed in 1784, and then they both sold that acreage to John Cockney Owings in 1786. The land was in modern Frankfort. Rachal Lennon's careful analysis convincingly showed that this was the same John Martin who lived in Clark County and was married to a wife named Elizabeth.

## What About John Martin of Upper Jefferson County, Near Goose Creek?

Jefferson County included Louisville and nearby lands around the Falls of the Ohio River. The original Jefferson County territory included everything south of the Kentucky River. Nelson County was formed out of Jefferson in 1785. Much of the remaining territory was taken by Shelby County when it was formed in 1792. The land adjacent to Goose Creek remained in Jefferson. The earliest settlements in the county were (a) in what is now downtown Louisville, and (b) northeast of Louisville along the principal creeks – Beargrass, Floyds Fork, Harrod Creek, and Goose Creek. Goose Creek was just north of Beargrass. (*Survey of Historic Sites*, 1981, pp. 405.)

In December 1781, the names John Martin and William Martin appeared on a list of people "entitled to 400 acres by an Act of Assembly passed May last." This 1781 Act allocated 400 acres to each poor and landless family in Jefferson, Lincoln, and Fayette Counties. It stipulated that the applicants would be eligible only if they had no other lands. *More Fragments*, 22.

Could the 1781 applicant John Martin be our guy?

Grandfather I.J. wrote that our Martins lived in a fort "or within easy reach of one" during the Indian wars and that the family defended the stockade during the Indian attacks. Several "stations" in Jefferson County were located near Beargrass and Goose Creek: Dutch Station, Floyd's Station, Hogland's Station, Linn's Station, and Sullivan's Station. Abraham Lincoln's grandfather (also named Abraham) was killed by Indians in 1786 near the family cabin on Floyd's Fork. The future President's father, Thomas, had witnessed the killing.



Stations near Beargrass and Goose Creeks.

The Jefferson County tax lists were not made (or at least not saved) until 1789. From 1790 to 1794, a landless John Martin appears in the tax summaries for Jefferson County, as follows:

1790: John Martin: 1 tithable (taxable) 21+, 0 whites 16-21, 0 blacks, 0 horses, 0 cattle, 0 land. (So, a landless John with no animals and no children as old as 16. This landless John apparently did not get 400 acres under the 1781 Act. Of if he did, he sold them before 1790.)

1791: John Martin: 1 male 21+, 0 males 16-21, 0 blacks, 1 horse.

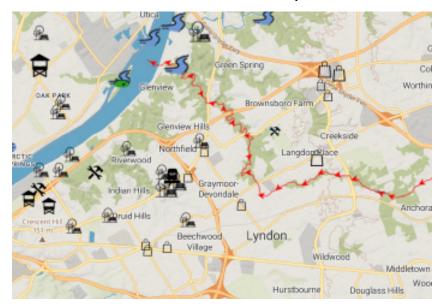
(A little wealth improvement.)

1792: John Martin: 1 males 21+, 0 blacks, 1 horse, 8 cattle, 0 land. (A little more.)

1793: John Martin: 1 male 21+, 1 horse etc, 12 cattle, 0 blacks, 0 land.

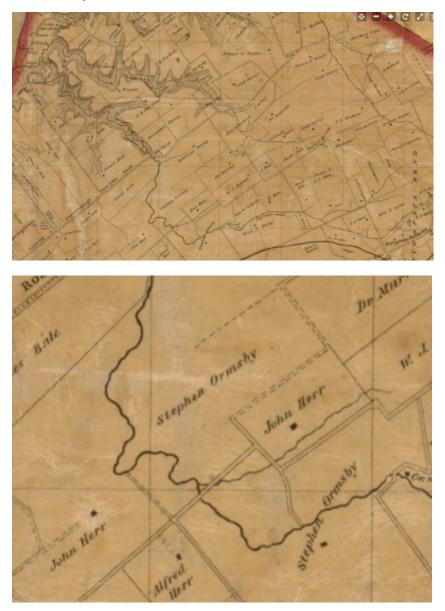
1794: John Martin: 1 male 21+, *1 male 16-21*, 0 blacks, 2 horses, 8 cattle.

This John Martin was in the tax district of an accessor named Slaughter in 1790, 1791, 1792, and 1793, which enabled Rachal Lennon to place this John Martin in the Goose Creek community a few miles northeast of Louisville. (Report No. 4, p. 12.) Goose Creek is a feeder into the Ohio River, north of Beargrass creek. During that four-year period, John Martin reported taxes on the same day as several other households who lived in the Goose Creek area, including: the McClures (one of whom was Daniel), the Ashbys, and Moses McCann.



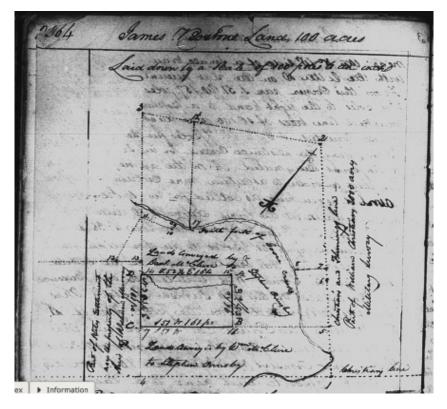
Goose Creek is marked in red on the modern map below

An 1858 map shows there were two forks of Goose Creek—"Big Goose Creek" and, just to the north, "Little Goose Creek."



Ormsby parcels on south fork; 1858 map magnified.

On the south fork – Big Goose Creek – in the bottom/center of the map immediately above appears the name Stephen Ormsby, on two connected parcels of land. It appears that Ormsby had been deeded these parcels by two of the McClures – Daniel and Richard. (Map in deposition, James Boston Land, Minute Book 3, 1790-1793, Jefferson County Court; Family Search, Jefferson County, figure 304.) Daniel McClure was associated with Goose Creek John and Samuel Martin.



Lands conveyed to Stephen Ormsby by Daniel and William McClure.

The John Martin who lived near Goose Creek cannot have been the same person as the Nelson County John, who lived near Thomas Martin on or near Cox's Creek. According to the Nelson tax lists, the Cox's Creek John was there – in Nelson County – in 1791, 1792, and 1793. During those years "Goose Creek John" was in Jefferson County. Goose Creek John Martin does not appear on the Jefferson tax lists in 1795 or thereafter. Our Old John of Logan County shows up in Logan in 1797. That "fit."

Best news: this Goose Creek John had a son who reportedly became 16 in 1794. That would have made him born about 1778. That's when our Old John's oldest son, James Scott Martin, was reportedly born.

Another man who had qualified for 400 acres of land in Jefferson County was named Samuel Martin, who appeared on the March 1782 list of land entitlements. Samuel Martin was sued in 1783 by a couple of distinguished fellow citizens – Benjamin Logan and James Harrod – for debt in the amount of "One Pound Eleven Shillings and five Pence." Whether he paid up is not known.

Samuel was associated with John's Goose Creek neighbors. In April 1784 he gave security for the administrator of the estate of Adam McClintock, a Goose Creek-er. In May 1784 he was involved in a lawsuit with Daniel McClure.

Samuel Martin died in 1785 – apparently killed by aggrieved Indigenous Americans. On November 3, 1785, Daniel McClure was appointed administrator of Samuel's estate. (In October 1785 a lawsuit, Martin vs. Squire Boone, was "abated" because of "Pl'tfs death." Squire Boone was a younger brother of the famous Daniel.)

According to *Our Haddon, McClure, Curry and Allied Families*, by Brevoort E.H. McClure, Evansville Ind, 1952, the McClure family came from Londonderry to Pennsylvania, and after the Revolutionary War moved on to Kentucky. There were four brothers and a sister: John (b. 1745), George (b. 1757), Daniel (b. 1753), William (b. 1749), and sister Jane (b. 1759), who married one James Scott. After a few years in Jefferson County, Kentucky, the family moved north to Knox County, Indiana.

Another Goose Creek neighbor, John Murphy, married Sam's widow, Margaret; and Dan McClure provided security. According to John Murphy's will, he had known the widow Margaret Martin since "boyhood." She was born probably in the 1750s, and died in 1835. Murphy wrote in his will that he wished to be buried next to Margaret: "... by the side of my deceased wife who was even when living the companion of my bosom truly and sincerely, and for whom I have ever since her death felt *the same devoted love which was inspired in my boy hood.*" After dying in 1835 she was interred in the Quertermous-Martin Cemetery near Okolona, just south of Louisville. (Emphasis supplied.)

The report that brother Samuel was killed by Indians comes from a Quertermous family history on the internet. Samuel Martin's daughter, Mary "Polly," married a man named James Quertermous, Jr., a resident of Jefferson County. The family history says: "Samuel Martin, father of Mary 'Polly' Martin who married James Quertermous Jr., served in 1782 in a campaign against the Shawnee Indians on the Big Miami River under George Rogers Clark. Samuel Martin *was killed by Indians below the falls of Ohio (Louisville)* in 1784." The family later remembered the killing but apparently got the year wrong.

The two children of Sam Martin and Margaret – James and Mary "Polly" -- were raised by their stepfather John Murphy and his new wife, Margaret (Sam's widow). James Martin, apparently the older of the two children, later reported to the 1850 census that he had been born about 1779 in Pennsylvania.

If the older son of Sam and Margaret was born in Pennsylvania, and if John Murphy had known Margaret in "boyhood," then it is likely that John Murphy had lived near John and Samuel Martin in Pennsylvania. That seemed to be a useful clue.

In his will, August 24, 1848, John Murphy left 100 acres "now occupied by James Martin on the Flat Lick road to William Martin & Joseph Martin, the part on the east side of the said Flat Lick Road to William, and the portion on the west side of the said road to Joseph. But their Father [James] and Mother are to have the use of it during their lives."

It seems possible if not likely that the Flat Lick road property had originally belonged to Samuel and Margaret and had been owned by Margaret after she married John Murphy. So giving it to James and then his surviving sons was a way of keeping it in the family. Why do we think John Martin and Samuel Martin were related – perhaps brothers? That they shared a last name and that both had applied in 1781/82 for 400 acres of free land from Jefferson County is suggestive, but far from proof of relationship. Add a dollop of likelihood for the fact that Dan McClure's sister married a James Scott; our Old John married Isabella Scott; and they named their second (we think) son Samuel Martin.

Rachal Lennon, the diligent researcher, found that John Martin – Goose Creek John – was in Jefferson County during the period between the 1781 tax entitlement list and the 1790 tax list. John witnessed a promissory note obligating one John McCasland to pay a debt with bushels of salt in September 1785. (Salt served as currency.) Three years later, in November 1788, after Sam Martin had been killed, his Administrator, Dan McClure sought to collect a debt from John McCasland. Mc-Casland was a resident of Louisville. These connections between the two Martins and John McCasland seem to increase the likelihood that the Martins were related.

Rachal Lennon concluded: "In all likelihood, they [John and Samuel] were brothers who moved into the Louisville-Goose Creek region about 1780." (Report No. 6., at 12.)

The James Scott connection via the McClures also provides a whiff of possible linkage between Goose Creek John and our Logan County John Martin. John and Isabella named their oldest son (b. c 1779) James Scott Martin; and given the prevailing naming conventions, there is some like-lihood that Isabella's father was named James Scott. (Or that her brother was ... or that both father and brother were.)

"James Scott" was assessed taxes in Jefferson County in 1790 and 1800. As noted above, he married one of Dan McClure's sisters – Jane Mc-Clure. Dan McClure and his wife Martha sold 100 acres of Goose Creek land to James Scott on September 3, 1803.

#### \* \* \*

Here's another but fainter whiff of possible connection:

James Scott in 1786 had acquired 300 acres of land on Brashears Creek in Jefferson County from Meriweather Nichols for 30 pounds (Vol. 1, 159). An *Andrew* Scott had acquired 74 acres on Floyd's Fork from Robert Floyd (Vol. 4, 67). Floyd's Fork flows through eastern Jefferson County. Were James Scott and Andrew Scott related; and why is this possibly relevant?

The diligent reader (if ever there may be one) will recall that I.J. Martin in his family history memo had noted that there were three prominent Scott brothers in Moultrie County -- Andrew, Samuel, and Dodridge (*Fragments*, at 100); and that they "were relatives of Sarah Scott Martin," Old John's wife. (I.J. got her first name wrong, but there is no reason to doubt that her maiden name was Scott.) In 1870 one of the several brothers – Samuel – lived in Whitley Township near the Martins.

The Combined History of Shelby and Moultrie County, 1881, using information no doubt provided by the Scott family, recited that the grandfather of these three Scott brothers was one Andrew Scott, and that he had been born in Scotland, emigrated to America, settled in Pennsylvania, and then removed to Kentucky in 1782.

Central Committee. For several years he has been chairman of the Moultrie County Democratic Central Committee. A.E.D. SCOTT WHO since 1877, has served as treasurer of Moultrie county, is a native of the county, and was born in the present Whitley township, on the twenty-third of December, 1848. He is descended from a Scotch-Irish family. His greatgrandfather, Andrew Sc ott, was born in Scotland, emigrated to America, and settled in Pennsylvania. He removed to Kentucky in the year 1782, when his son, Arthur, was five years old, and settled in the present Bourbon county. He was one of the pioneer settlers, making his home in the state in the time of Daniel Boone. Mr. Scott s grandfahrer was named Arthur Scott, His father, Andrew Scott, was born on the seventh of September, 1803. He was raised in Kentucky, and in the year 1829 came with the family to Illisois, and settled on Kickapoo, in Coles county. In 1832 they removed to Whitley creek. Andrew Scott served through the Black Hawk war. On the twenty-eighth of June, 1839, he married Martha J. Waggoner, daughter of Arnos and Narcissa (Jay) Waggoner. Her parents were both bor n in Rutherford county, North Carolina, and emigrated from that state to Illinois in April, 1828, and settled on Whitley creek, and were among the first families to make their home in that part of the county. Andrew Scott was a mason by trade. He was the contractor and builder of the first courthouse, and of the seminaries at Shelbyville and Sullivan. He served for several years as county commissioner, and assisted in laying off the original town of Sullivan. He removed to Missouri in 1855, and died in Su llivan county of that stare in 1857.

Andrew's son A.E.D. is the subject of the above clipping. (1) Andrew the Immigrant was A.E.D.'s great-grandfather. (2) Arthur, b 1777 in Pennsylvania, was the grandfather. (3) Andrew b 1803 in Jefferson County, Kentucky; he married Martha Waggoner; and then (4) the prominent Moultrie County brothers – William, Andrew E.D., James Arthur (and also a sister, Susan "Isobel" Scott).

The Moultrie county history says (1) immigrant Andrew settled in Bourbon County, Kentucky. Might the family have misremembered the name of the county? There was an Andrew Scott on Floyd's Fork, in *Jefferson* County; in April 1784 Andrew witnessed the last will and testament of George Grundy there. On June 5, 1784, Andrew Scott "of Jefferson County & State of Virginia" entered into a bond with the Sheriff for 100 pounds to assure the appearance of one John Hutchison in court the following month. (Must have been a good and reliable friend.)

(2) Arthur Scott, born 1777, was a son of this immigrant Andrew and father of the second Andrew.

(3) Then the second Andrew, born 1803 in Jefferson County, Kentucky and raised there. This grandson Andrew married Martha Waggoner (daughter of the early settler, Amos Waggoner). Andrew was prominent in Moultrie County and was the contractor who built the first courthouse.

(4) The next generation included several of the immigrant's great-grandsons who lived in Moultrie County. (5) Andrew Edward Doddridge (A.E.D.) Scott served as Moultrie County Treasurer.

The lead about Andrew Scott being born in Jefferson County in 1803 seemed pretty good. Perhaps he was a nephew of the James Scott who was there, or of Isabella Scott Martin? So I tried to chase it down. I found a book entitled *Arthur Martin Scott, 1777-1858, His Ancestors and His Descendants,* written by a descendant, E. Harrison Scott, 1951. Middle name – "Martin." Wow! Great lead!! Fireworks!!!!

Genealogical research teaches one to temper enthusiasm and to practice humility. This Scott book says that Arthur Martin Scott (b 1777) was the son of Arthur Scott (b. 1736) and *Jean Ross*. So Arthur Martin Scott did not get his middle name from a maternal grandfather.

Worse, the book lists 14 children of Arthur Martin Scott and Rebecca Elizabeth Samuels (p. 96); and none of them was named Andrew or Samuel or Dodridge. (Or Isabella.) Compounding the bad news, the Waggoner family history reports that the wife of Arthur Martin Scott (b 1777) – and mother of son Andrew (b. 1803) – was not a Rebecca Elizabeth but rather Jane Anderson, b 1775.

Something must be garbled. What is the likelihood that there were two Arthur Martin Scotts in central Kentucky, both born in 1777?

Perhaps I.J. was right that these three Scott grandsons were related to Old John Martin's wife Isabella; and perhaps the connection was in Jefferson County, Kentucky – linking James Scott (Isabella's brother?) and the immigrant grandfather, Andrew, or one his sons. If so I have not found it.

It is also possible that I.J. was just speculating that because these three local Moultrie men had the same last name as Old John's wife, and because they had lived in Kentucky, they *might have been* related to Isabella. After all, he got her first name wrong. And there had been speculation in the family about a possible relationship with General Winfield Scott, apparently based on nothing more than the same last name.

On the other hand, I.J. wrote that the three Scott brothers "were relatives of" Old John's wife. Not "might have been ..." These Scotts – including their immigrant grandfather Andrew, and their father Arthur -- apparently lived for some time in Jefferson County – where Goose Creek John Martin lived; and Goose Creek John was our John (according to Rachal Lennon, anyway.) A James Scott also lived there, cheek by jowl with Goose Creek John, his wife Isabella, and his putative brother Samuel.

But it is still speculation, with no documentary support.

\* \* \*

There remain two big questions:

First, why do we think it was Goose Creek John who moved to Logan County and became our Old John?

Second, if they were the same person, where did Old John and his deceased brother Samuel come from *– before* Goose Creek? Rachal Lennon diligently looked for potential linkages to identify Goose Creek John with Old John of Logan. The evidence she found convinced her that they were likely the same person; but in my judgment, it is at best a "probable."

The main problem was that do not know what Goose Creek John's wife's name was. He apparently had no real estate, so he had no land to sell, which would have required a wife's abandonment of dower rights.

FAN Club analysis might have been helpful, except for the fact that in the case of Goose Creek John there appears to have been no such club. Because of the opening up of land below Green River, people were indeed moving into Logan County in the period 1795-96. But they were moving there from all over Kentucky and Tennessee. The Kentucky legislature had passed a law which authorized acquisitions by newcomers and squatters alike provided that the new owner "reside thereon one year, clear and fence two acress of ground and tend it in corn." (Act of 1797, Section 1.)

Old John obtained the necessary certificate and arranged for a survey of a 200-acre tract on November 16, 1798. This means he and Isabella must have settled on their land no later than the fall of 1797, which is when their daughter Jane married Charles Neely.

Settlers were moving in from lots of places to take advantage of the new land-owning opportunity. The Neelys, including son-in-law Charles, came in from Washington County and settled on acreage next to Old John's. Samuel Orr came from Nelson County and also settled next door. FAN logic might suggest that Old John came from one of those places. Yet careful analysis has not connected our man with either Nelson or Washington counties.

Rachal Lennon identified a couple of other newcomers to Logan County who had previously lived in Jefferson County. However, there is no evidence that they came in a FAN group with John and Isabella, or that they came from the same community in Jefferson County, or that they came at the same time. Their roughly similar trajectory and arrival may have been coincidental. Also, Rachal identified a possible explanation for the departure of Goose Creek John from Jefferson County. She found a circuit court case file containing the following record:

Circuit Court Case 3181, Moses McCann vs. John Martin

4 June 1794. Petition. Writ issued to the sheriff of Jefferson County to take and have John Martin before the Justices at the courthouse on the first Tuesday of August next to answer Moses McCann of a plea of Trespass to damage of £30.

6 June 1794. "I do hereby agree to enter myself appearance for the within named John Martin as the Law Directs." Signed John Jackson.

\_\_\_\_ August 1795. Deputy sheriff return "Executed [served] John Jackson aparance & bail."

August 1795. Case dismissed "no Declaration."

The report shows that McCann sued John Martin for trespass and sought damages of 30 pounds. "Trespass" probably did not mean John had strayed into McCann's property. It likely meant he had been living on it – as a squatter, or as someone with a conflicting and inferior claim.

McCann's lawsuit shows that John Martin was still in Jefferson County in June 1794. But by August 1795 John Martin had left Jefferson County.

The dispute with McCann over land occurred just as opportunities to get new land in the southwestern part of Kentucky were opening. It appears that the opportunity initially required that the new settler live on the new land by the end of the year 1795.

Kentucky was becoming notorious for its confusions and lawsuits over land titles. Lands had been reserved for Indian tribes, Richard Henderson (in return for his giving up an earlier claim to vast Indian lands), and troops who had served in the Revolutionary War. Virginia had also sold lands to individuals through state land offices. Settlers were allowed pre-emption rights to more acres for marking and improving their grants. Tracts surveyed were irregular, based on watercourses, trees, and neighboring tracts. Warrants were bought and sold, and sometimes lost. Titles claimed were sometimes disclaimed.

Lands south of Green River – including Logan County – had been reserved for the military but only until 1797. During this "closed" period, many immigrants with no military warrants had settled on these lands. The Kentucky Legislature saw the need to protect these settlers. Littell, Statute Laws of Kentucky, Vol. 1, 349.)

"An Act for the relief of the Settlers on the south side of Green River."

Approved December 21, 1795:

\$ 50

#### NOVEMBER SESSION,

1795. Preamble.

WHEREAS a number of people have settled themselves on the vacant land south of Green river, under a belief that they were no longer liable to be taken by military warrants, and that the legislature would grant them settlements therefor, on paying a moderate price for the same ; and it is therefore thought proper to pass an act for that purpose. Therefore,

entitled to a fettlement.

· Where.

The quantity of land,

body of ore. of.

SECTION 1. BE it enacted by the General Assembly, Certain perfons That every house keeper or other free person above the age of twenty-one years, who shall have actually settled himself or herself on any land within that boundary, set apart for the said officers and soldiers on the south side of Green river, or any other vacant land within this state, which shall not have been previously taken by a military. warrant, on or before the first day of January next, and shall actually reside thereon at that time, shall be entitled to hold any quantity of such land not exceeding two hundred acres including such settlement. Provided, they Not to include shall not include any salt lick, or any body of ore : that a falt lick or he or she shall on or before the first day of August next, When to make an entry thereof in the office of the surveyor of an entry there- the county where the land lies, and pay for the same according to the directions and provisions of this act. And. for the purpose of ascertaining who shall be entitled to

> Settlements veyed and re-

SEC. 7. And beit further enacted, That the lands located by virtue of this act, shall be surveyed within six when to be furmonths from the said first day of August, and a platt and giftered. certificate thereof lodged in the register's office, within the space of six months from the date of such survey, upon which the register shall issue a grant for the usual fees; provided that the owner of every such survey shall pay the sum of thirty dollars for every hundred acres, and money. the same rate for every greater or lesser quantity contained in his said survey; the money aforesaid shall be paid to the treasurer, and his receipt for the same, specifying therein for what it was paid, shall be by the party

land under this act,

Confideration.

1793. Land to revert to the flate if claimed by virtue of this act, be not lodged with the register, and the money due on such survey be not paid on or before the first day of November, in the year 1796, then the said survey shall revert to the state.

In March 1797 the Kentucky legislature enacted further legislation with respect to the Green River country:

Any widow or free male person of 21 years of age, every other person having a family who shall settle upon vacant and unappropriated land south of Green River on or before July 1, 1798, and reside thereon one year, clear and fence two acres of ground and tend it in corn, shall be entitled to two and not less than one hundred acres to include such improvement.

The rate for first rate land was \$60 dollars per hundred acres; the rate for second rate land was \$40 dollars per hundred acres. Payment could be made on the installment plan over ten years.

Old John obtained his certificate of entitlement to 200 hundred acres of second-rate land on October 5, 1798, which meant he had resided there a least one year – and perhaps longer. Daughter Jane had married Charles Neely on September 23, 1797.

In fact, John Martin and his family had almost certainly lived on their Logan 200 acres *earlier* than the fall of 1797. I had earlier suspected that the Martins had been in Washington County before Logan, and that Charles and Jane had become acquainted there. But we are now reasonably sure that Old John and his family did *not* live in Washington County before taking up residence in Logan. The implication is, therefore, that Charles and Jane became acquainted *in* Logan, *after* becoming neighbors. That is, sometime – at least a few months? – before the marriage in September 1797.

Charles Neely had appeared on the Washington County tax lists for the first time in 1794 but ceased to be listed in Washington after the listing was done in 1796. John Neely, probably an uncle of Charles, had surveyed 200 acres in Logan County on Big Muddy as early as October 5, 1796. He was also there on January 24, 1797, meeting with the county judge on business. (John Neely was listed in the Logan County tax records for 1797 as still having 100 acres on Cartwrights Creek, Washington County.) *More Fragments*, at 138.

In the spring or summer of 1795, Goose Creek John may well have been one of those people who settled on vacant land south of Green River "under a belief that [such lands] were no longer liable to be taken by military warrants, and that the legislature would grant them settlements therefor, on paying a moderate price ...."

In any event, by August 1795 the Jefferson County deputy sheriff had filed his return showing it was executed on John Jackson, but not on John Martin, who had vamoosed from the county.

Old John and family may have moved to Logan County by the fall of 1795, and the Neelys may have showed up a year or so later, perhaps in late 1796.

Enough time to become neighborly before the marriage in September of 1797.

## What Do Two Signatures Tell Us?

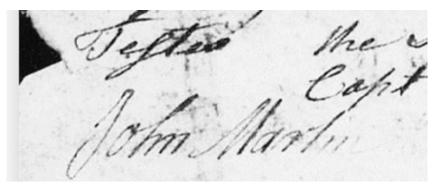
Rachal Lennon's research in Jefferson County turned up microfilmed scraps from the court case showing that Goose Creek John had been a witness to a promissory note in which one John McCasland promised to pay Buckner Pitmon three bushels of salt. (Salt served as a kind of currency.) The note was signed September 17, 1785, and witnessed by "John Martin."

This shows a John Martin was in Jefferson County in the mid- 1780s, years before his name appears on the tax rolls. It also appears to show his actual signature – not just some subsequent clerk's copy of that signature.

John Martin. Witness, 17857

1prom ause tobe Vaid unto Imm ano 1han atm 6

Circuit Court case #1744; James Pillars vs. John McCasland 17 September 1785



Separately, we also have what appears to be an authentic signature by John Martin of Logan County 24 years later, in 1809, when he and Isabella transferred 29 of their 200 acres to the purchaser, George W. Hopkins. *More Fragments*, at 108. The handwriting of the *text* of the indenture appears different than the handwriting of the two written *signatures*, though the similar handwriting of the signatures suggests that John might have written Isabella's name for her. Claim or Claims of all Bevery Jesson or "Surfong Whattoover. In Witness whereoff the said John Martin & Isabella his wife and year above written." " Signed & Sealers

in prenece of j

Indenture of John and Isabella Martin

The Moulin Tyebolla Hartin

In assessing the likelihood that the two signatures – 1785 and 1809 -were written by the same John Martin, we must keep in mind that 24 years had passed. By 1809, Logan County Old John was in fact old for that time – in his mid-50s. Moreover, it was a time when poor farmers in rural Kentucky probably did not often have a need to write their signatures long hand – or anything else. They may not have developed a practiced, consistent signature.

Comparing the two, the initial capital "J" looks similar in both. However, the connection between "h" and "n" in the first name appears different. The "r" in Martin also looks different.

Rachal Lennon, the thorough researcher, took another look and concluded, "The 1785 and 1809 John Martin signatures do not discredit him being as the same man." "If one compensates for the poor quality of the 1809 image and the shakiness of the penmanship in the much later sample, its 'J' and 'M' are the same as those of 1785. Indeed, the only letter that appears to be different in the signatures is the 'r.'" (p... 2, 5, Report No 7.)

Rachal is the expert; but these two signatures look very different to me.

# XIII

# A Nagging North Carolina Problem

As reported above, a problem remained that I could not easily surmount. Three pieces of evidence:

> 1 James Scott Martin told a census taker in 1850 that he had been born in North Carolina. However, in 1860 he told the census taker that he had been born in Kentucky. (North Carolina included Tennessee until it became a separate state in 1790.) Did the later 1860 census report trump the earlier?

Here is the census report from 1850, when James Scott Martin and family were living in nearby Coles County. He apparently told the census taker that he was born in N.C. – North Carolina:

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solar of single	India - unio	The Rose of every Penne whole and plan of shole on the Inti day of Jose, 1900, was in the Smilly.	4		Color Martin	Pashadan, Gampadan, or Tasks of and Male Penne over 18 ymm of age	Value of Real Re-	Protes or Room Naming the State, Territory, or Country.	And the state	Personal Property lies	White hat a
		12.43.41	4	8				è	10 11	19	- 19
		Robert Miller	18	m				10			
		James Mastin	15	-							
-		Eliza 1 4	11	1			-		1		
	1	Chorle "	y	an.	_						
	_	Thermon Miller	5	+#	_		2000				
	_	Rashel	1	4	_				11		-
13.5	133	James I Martin	20	-		Former	900	ert.			
	_	form in	69	4	_					1	
		Archibald hand	17	-			_	see	11		
		Rashel Martin	17	1	1				11	1	

Here is the report from 1860, when the family had moved to Moultrie County and James Scott Martin had passed the responsibilities for managing the farm to his adopted son, Archibald Lane. This year the census taker reports he was born in Kentucky:

Sanah	1. 14		1	
72 773 Archibald Sa	41. 26 ML	Harmer 1	570	
Baster 1 "	24 94			
Louisa "	10 74			11 .
James S.	2 71			14
Connesd Man	tin 81 M	Farmer 1	600. 1200	Ry
Jane "	80 94		1	2
Isaac Seus	10 24 M	Harmer )	150	2010
Bharles w	12 22 M.	Labour J	1.0	
Maplander Whi	12121 XL	Farmer V	110	(Mermout-

The old man was 81 in 1860. It is at least possible that he himself provided the information to the census taker 10 years earlier, when he was 71 and still head of the household, but that a family member answered the questions in 1860, by which time Archibald Lane was listed first in the family. Or perhaps his memory got fuzzy in his early 80s. It does happen.

- 2 I.J.'s brother, Joel Kester Martin, also a great-grandson of James Scott Martin, was a lawyer in Sullivan. In 1916 a book, *Courts and Lawyers of Illinois*, reported that Joel Kester's paternal ancestors had "emigrated *from North Carolina* to Kentucky at the beginning of the American Revolution," though the same report added that James Scott Martin had been born in Kentucky. (*Id.*, at 868). The editor almost certainly got his information from I.J.'s brother, Joel Kester.
- 3 In an interview with a reporter on his 91st birthday, I.J. Martin told the reporter that the Martin family "had come to Kentucky from the Virginia – N. Carolina border." *More Fragments*, at 184.

On the one hand, we have a persistent family recollection that the Martins came from Virginia with a stopover for some period in North Carolina.

On the other hand, we have some evidence that Old John came to Logan County from the Goose Creek area of Jefferson County (near Louisville, on the Ohio River). The Goose Creek Martins had apparently come there from Pennsylvania – probably, I then supposed, via the Ohio River.

Could the family recollection and the evidence be reconciled?

# XIV.

# Did Goose Creek John Martin Come To Jefferson County From Pennsylvania?

Goose Creek John Martin might have come to the Louisville area directly from Pennsylvania, which is where others in his FAN club came from. He and they could have traveled via one of the Pennsylvania feeder waterways, down the Ohio River to where Goose Creek empties into the Ohio.

On the other hand, it now appears to me much more likely that if the Martins and/or Scotts were once in Pennsylvania, they travelled south from there through Virginia to North Carolina, and from there into Kentucky, travelling up to the north-central area of the state near Louisville.

In family history research as in life generally, one becomes accustomed to living with uncertainty. Not to mention circuity.

Goose Creek John – the man my Kentucky researcher believes was probably "our" John Martin – may be the same man by that name who was listed in the minute book of Jefferson County on December 3, 1781, as a person "entitled to 400 acres by an Act of the Assembly passed May last." (*More Fragments*, at 22.) William Martin was registered on the same day. Three months later, on March 5, 1782, Samuel Martin and Ann Martin were also listed. For John or Samuel Martin to be so "entitled," they must have been "actually resident in that country or the parts adjacent ..."

The fact that Samuel and Ann Martin were listed on the same date suggests that at least those two were related. And as we now think Samuel and John may have been brothers, that would obviously suggest that Ann may have been a widowed mother or sister-in-law.

The McClures and their brother-in-law, James Scott, likely came to Jefferson County from Pennsylvania. We are told in a McClure family web site that Dan McClure had served in the second battalion of the Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, militia under command of Capt. John Carrothers. Also, one descendant of the brother-in-law, James Scott, in an SAR application, asserted that Scott had served in Captain James "Mc-Farline's" Company, 2nd battalion, Cumberland militia, along with the McClure brothers; and another, in a pension application, said that James Scott had been married to Jane McClure, and that he had served as a private, 3rd class, in Captain James McFarland's company, 2nd battalion, in 1781.

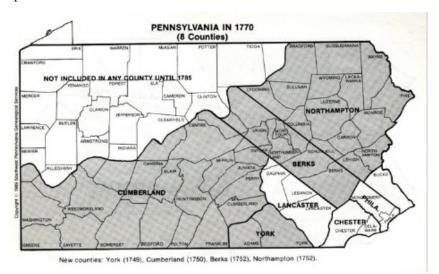
Because (a) John and Samuel Martin were nested geographically and socially with the McClures in Jefferson County, Kentucky, (b) Dan McClure had served as administrator of Samuel Martin's estate, and (c) the possibility that James Scott was a brother of John's wife Isabella, it seemed natural to suspect that they had all come from the same place in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, at about the same time.

But old Cumberland County, before it was broken up into smaller county units, was a very large place. One natural route to better and cheaper western lands lay to the south, through Virginia. (See the map on the cover of this book.)

There were lots of Martins and Scotts scattered throughout Cumberland County.

Cumberland County in 1770 included most of southwestern Pennsylvania. By the end of the Revolutionary War, it had given birth to new counties – both to the northwest and the southwest. The reduced-in-size

Cumberland County was a prime settlement area, as was Mifflin County, spun off from Cumberland in 1789.



The *History of Cumberland and Adams Counties*, 1886, is replete with references to McClures, Martins, and Scotts. There were Martins in old Cumberland County as early as 1762-63. One of them, a man named John Martin, lived in Big Cove with his wife, three sons, and three daughters. On November 1, 1755, a group of Shingas Indians raided the Martin home while John was away getting supplies. When he returned he found that the Indians had taken his captured wife and children to Kittanning. One of the daughters was beaten and died. Other children were sold or traded to the French. After the French and Indian War, a few of them were liberated. (*Id.*, at 18, 78.)

Another family of Martins in and around Shippensburg descended from a Paul Martin, "one of eight brothers who came to this country from the North of Ireland in the year 1725 and settled in Delaware County, Penn. In 1730, a part of the family of eight brothers moved into Cumberland Valley." (*Id.*, at 445.)

By the time of the Revolution, there were apparently dozens of Martins living in old Cumberland County. Several were named John. But which one of these (if any) was our Old John Martin – the man who later lived on Goose Creek, Kentucky, and after that in Logan County? We begin with the fact that John and Samuel Martin were part of a Goose Creek, Kentucky community that included Daniel McClure and his brothers, and James Scott, and that these McClures reportedly came from Pennsylvania. But where in Pennsylvania?

Listings of militia units below are taken from *Pennsylvania Archives, Fifth Series, Volume VI*, edited by Thomas L. Montgomery, 1906.

# 1 West Pennsborough, Cumberland County; Second Battalion of Militia.

West Pennsboro Township today is just west of center in the present Cumberland County, west of Carlisle.

In the period before 1780, most of today's separate townships did not exist. The 1886 *History of Cumberland and Adams Counties* reports that originally "Pennsborough Township ... embraced nearly all of the territory which is now Cumberland County. As early as 1737 it began to be called east and west, and shortly afterward north and south parts of Pennsborough but it was not until 1845, when the latter were dropped, that the division of the township into East and West Pennsborough seems to have been definitely recognized." (p. 275) Fermanagh, Lack and Tyrone townships were apparently recognized by 1767; they remained in Cumberland County until Mifflin was created in 1789.





The identification of the captains in whose companies Dan McClure and James Scott served during the Revolution provides a starting point. According to reports from their descendants, McClure had reportedly served under John Carrothers in the second battalion. James Scott had served under James McFarline or McFarland, also in the second battalion.

Cumberland militia records identified James McFarlane as commander in 1780 of the 2nd Battalion, 2nd company, with militia members identified as coming from *West Pennsborough Township*. Indeed, McFarlane attested to the list of the members of his company as "inhabiting or residing within my Company District," West Pennsborough.

John Carrothers was captain of the 2nd Battalion, 4th company, also from *West Pennsborough Township*. (Also in 1780, in the 3rd battalion, 7th company, John Carrothers was captain – this time for militiamen from East Pennsborough Township. But Dan McClure had reportedly served under him in the 2nd battalion – not the third.)

# 2nd Battalion, 1777

#### **Commanding Officers:**

Col. John Davis

# 2nd Battalion, 1780

# Commanding Officers:

Lt. Col. Thomas Gisson

	1777	1780
Township (if known)	Company	Company
Middlecon Township	bst Company: • Capt. Matthew Gregg • Capt. James Douglass	3rd Company. • Capt. James Douglass
West Pennsborough Township	2nd Company: • Capt. Thomas Kenniedy	2nd Company: • Capt. James McFarlane
West Pennsborough Township	3rd Company: • Capt. William Donaldson	7th Company: • Capt. William Donaldson • Capt. William Swansea
Carlisle	4th Company: • Capt, Andrew McKee • Capt, Asa Hill	6th Company: • Capt, Asa (Isaiah) Hill
West Pennsborough Township	5th Company: • Capt. William McClure	4th Company. • Capt. John Carothern
Carliale	6th Company: • Capt. Thomas Cisson • Capt. John Jordon	8th Company: • Capt. John Jordon (Cordon)
West Pennsborough Township	7th Company: • Capt. William Denny • Capt. William Moor	Ist Company: • Capt. William Moor
West Pennsborough Township	8th Company: • Capt. Charles Leeper • Capt. Walter Denny	5th Company. • Capt. James Irwin

West Pennsborough thus seemed a likely place to look more carefully. It turned out that there were many men named McClure living in West Pennsborough. One group had been living in that area at least since 1752. A second group had come later — not long before the Revolution. It appears from McClure family information on the web that the father of this second group had died not long before or shortly after they arrived; and that the widowed mother, Jane, then settled in West Pennsborough. Probably the second group was related to the first settlers of that name.

This second group of McClures included Daniel who later administered Samuel Martin's estate, along with brother William, brother George, and sister Jane, who would later marry James Scott.

Tax records published in *Provincial Papers: State and Supply Transcripts of the County of Cumberland for 1778, 1779 1780, 1781, 1782 and 1785*, edited by William H. Egle, 1898, show that a John Martin was in West Pennsborough during the relevant time period.

1778 - First State Tax year, West Pennsboro, Cumberland County:

Show a John Martin with no acres, and 1 horse. As he was not listed as a "freeman," apparently he was then married. A widow McClure as well as Robert and William McClure, were also there.

1779 – Transcript of Taxables, West Pennsboro (Supply Rates)

Show a John Martin – no acres, 1 horse, 2 cattle. Also Widow McClure "at the Gap – 50 acres," and other McClures. Also a James Scott, a "freeman," hence likely unmarried.

1780 - Supply Rates, West Pennsboro

Show John Martin with <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> acre, 2 horses, 2 cattle. Also several McClures. And a "freeman" named Peter Murphy

1781 – Transcript of Taxables, West Pennsboro

John Martin – no acres, no horses no cattle.

Perhaps he had left the township, taking his horse and two cows with him. "John Martin" shows up on the Jefferson County, Kentucky list of poor people entitled to 400 acres in December 1781.

James Scott is still in West Pennsboro in 1781 – no acres, 2 horses, 2 cattle, but not as a "freeman" (so married?). Also several McClures.

1782 - Transcript of Taxables - West Pennsboro

John Martin – no acres, no horses, no cattle. [Again, perhaps this means he had left.] One freeman listed is Alexander Martin.

Muster lists for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, Cumberland Militia, in addition to listing Captains McFarlane and "Caruthers," list lots of McClures, including Daniel McClure in John "Carothers" Company (p. 181), and James Scott in McFarlane's company (p.182).

Also: a list of Pennsylvania soldiers entitled to "depreciation pay" in 1782 included "John Murphy, private Second Regiment," "James Martin, private Second Regiment," and "James Scott, Matross Artillery Artificers." (p. 46.)

We thus have reason to believe that the McClures and James Scott were in West Pennsboro at the relevant time period, and that they are the same people who turn up a few years later in Goose Creek. Also, in West Pennsboro township tax rolls appears a John Martin. And he drops off the tax rolls there just at the right time to appear in Jefferson County, Ky., before late 1781. Seems like that should be dispositive.

But it is not dispositive, for several reasons:

- 1 There were other John Martins in old Cumberland than the one in West Pennsborough; for example East Pennsborough.
- 2 If our hypothesis were correct, why was not there a Samuel Martin, supposedly John's brother, also in West Pennsborough?
- 3 Where was the Scott family with the daughter Isabella, who married John Martin about 1778?

4 And where was John Murphy, who married Samuel's widow Margaret \_\_\_\_\_, whom he claimed in his will to have known during his "boyhood"?

However, the biggest problem with this West Pennsborough John Martin is that we now have reason – based on DNA evidence summarized below – to believe that our Old John and Isabella Scott were in or around old Rowan County in North Carolina during the mid-to-late 1770's. *Infra*, at 111 et seq. This DNA evidence does not preclude the possibility that Old John served in a military unit somewhere during the Revolution; and it is possible that he lived and served in Pennsylvania before moving to Virginia or North Carolina. However, if we have confidence in the DNA analysis and the approximate birth-year of James Scott Martin, it appears highly unlikely, to say the least, that our Old John was living in West Pennsborough in the period 1778-1782.

Similarly, the civil and military records in other Pennsylvania townships show the presence of other John Martins during the 1770s and early 1780s. They appear possibly consistent with the notion that Goose Creek John of Jefferson County, Kentucky, came there directly from Pennsylvania and was our Old John. But, if we are convinced by the DNA evidence, it is difficult to conceive how any one of these Pennsylvania John Martins could have been the same person as the John Martin who was in Rowan County about 1778, as well as Goose Creek John of the early 1780s.

Because of the possibility that the DNA evidence may not be convincing to some readers, as well as the possibility that one of the Pennsylvania Martin families may have gone south to Virginia or North Carolina during the mid-1770s, I include here a summary of the evidence showing the presence of John Martins in Pennsylvania during the relevant period.

What are the other possibilities – township origins other than West Pennsborough?

#### 2 East Pennsborough, Cumberland County; Third Battalion.

A John Martin had been reported as a taxpayer in 1778 in <u>East Pennsboro Township</u>, as a "freeman" with no land and no animals. That appar-

ently means he was not married at that time. This could "fit," as our Old John and Isabella apparently had their first child, James Scott Martin, sometime in 1779.

In addition, the following persons were reported in East Pennsboro in these years:

1779 - Cumberland County Supply Rates.

John Scott – 200 acres, 5 horses, 19 cattle Freemen: John Martin – no land. Also, Samuel Orr.

1780 - Supply Rates.

Hugh Martin — no acres, 1 horse, 2 cattle. James Martin — weaver — no land. Freemen: John Martin (tax of 200); and Samuel Orr.

1781 - Transcript.

Hugh Martin James Martin – 1 horse, 2 cattle John Scott – 66 acres Freemen: David Martin. Thomas Scott

1782 – Taxables

Hugh Martin – 1 horse, 2 cattle James Martin – 1 horse, 2 cattle John Martin – no acres; 2 horses, 2 cattle. John Scott – 66 acres

The Third Battalion of the Cumberland County militia was drawn from several townships, including East Pennsborough. One of the captains in 1780 of the 7th company of the Third Battalion was John "Carothers." Other companies in the Third Battalion captained by Sam Agnew, John McCormick, and James Bell also came from East Pennsborough.

#### 3rd Battalion, 1780

#### **Commanding Officers:**

Lt. Col. Samuel Irvine

	1777	1780
Township (if known)	Company	Company
Allen Township	1st Company: • Capt. John Mateer	5th Company: • Capt. Thomas Laird
East Pennsborough Township	2nd Company: • Capt. John Trindle	7th Company: • Capt. John Carothers • Capt. Samuel Agnew
Middleton (South) Township	3rd Company: • Capt. James Laird • Capt. James Floyd	8th Company: • Capt. James Floyd • Capt. David White
Allen Township	4th Company: • Capt. John Lamb	4th Company: • Capt. John Lamb
Allen Township	Sth Company: • Capt. Samuel Wallace	6th Company: • Capt. James McCurdy
East Pennsborough Township	6th Company: • Capt. James Semple	3rd Company: • Capt. John McCormick
East Pennsborough Township	7th Company: • Capt. James Wood	1st Company: • Capt. James Bell
Middleton (South) Township	8th Company: • Capt. Robert Sanderson	2nd Company: • Capt. John Stewart • Capt. William Drennon

In March 1778, in the 3rd Battalion, 7th "class," served Samuel Martin. (p. 209).

Also listed in March 1778, in the 3rd Battalion, 8th "class," serving under Captain Robert Sanderson, was John Martin. (Also John Orr, Jr.) (Captain Sanderson was also listed as Captain of the 3rd Battalion, "Eighth Company". Robert Sanderson was reportedly captain of a unit drawn from Middletown South, which was between East and West Pennsborough.)

In July 1778, Third Battalion, 4th "class," served Samuel Orr. (p. 215.)

In April 1779, Captain James Floyd's company "of the 3d class of Cumberland County Militia" included:

John Martin, Private. (604)

On June 22, 1779, "musterd then Cap't. James Floyd's company, as specified in the above Roll." James Floyd's troops reportedly came in 1777 and 1780 from Middletown South Township.

CL DELTN	THOMPS CONTINUE
CAPTAIN	FLOYD'S COMPANY.
Class of Cumberland The Service of the Un	t. James Floyd's Company of the 3d County Militica for Pennsylvania, in ited States, Commanded By Coll'a. Wil- nencing April 23th, A. D. 1779. (a.)
	Captain.
	James Floyd.
	Lieutenant.
	Distant
	John Blackburn.
	Sergeants.
John Wimp.	John Fitzgerald.
	Privates.
William Thomas.	Michael Hair.
Andrew Mehaffey.	Patrick Byrons.
John Martin.	Micheal Dun.
William Slone.	Francis Cambel.
Randle McConel.	Jonathan Walker.
John Davis.	George Orris.
James Buchanan.	Alexander McEntire.
Samuel Moor.	Daniel Boyd, deserted April
Joseph Armstrong.	29th.
Legonere, June 22nd, Company, as specified in	1779, Mustred then Cap't. James Floyd's a the above Roll. COL. JOHN THOMSON.

Moving forward to 1780, we find John Carothers captain of the 3rd Battalion, 7th Company. Daniel McClure had reportedly served under him at some point – suggesting that McClure may have resided in East Pennsborough.

In the 3rd Battalion, 8th company, 6th class, served Daniel Martin.

Also in the 3rd Battalion, 8th company, 7th class, served: "Saml. Martin, Serv'd in ye 8th Class." On August 18th, 1780, James Bell, captain, certified that he had "properly summoned the three classes of Militia according to orders ... that is to say the 5th, 6th, and 7th." Bell was listed as captain of the 1st company, 3rd Battalion, from East Pennsborough.

Again, in August 1780 Captain James "Loyd" [probably a typo – perhaps "Floyd"] is listed with the 3rd Battalion, 8th company, which included Daniel Martin (6th class), and in the 7th class, "Saml. Martin, Servd. The next tour."

So there is a possibility that in 1779 John Martin was in James "Floyd's" company; and in 1780 Samuel Martin was in James "Loyd" – or "Floyd's" – company. (There appears to be no overlap in the two lists.)

228 ASS	OCIATORS AND MILITIA.
	STH COMPANY.
	and the second
	August, 1780.
	Capt.
	James Loyd.
	5th Class.
Roht, Elliot.	
Matthew Mellar, Ju	anr., In the troop.
John Ritchey.	
Robt. Dickie, unfit f	or service.
John Fleming.	
Matthew Rogers.	
	6th Class.
Robt. Rogers.	Saml Lamb, Lt.
Danl. Martin.	Jos. Crockel, Ens.
Wm. Goudey.	
	7th Class.
Wm. Webster.	
Saml. Martin, Serve	, the next tour.
John Millars, wrong	g clast.
Jas. Webster.	
Fredk. Doil, Run of	L
John Montgomery.	
Martin Doll.	
Cristy Lefavour, Wi	ong clast.
Matthew Allison.	
Thos. Rogers.	1
Jacob Wise.	
Jas. Peterson.	

Then on March 14, 1781, the 8th class of the 3rd Battalion was called upon to perform another tour of duty, by order dated March 14, 1781:

Here we find .... 3<sup>rd</sup> company, 8<sup>th</sup> class: John Martin. (p. 229)

 3rd Company.

 8th Class.

 John Gilkison.
 Hugh Hamilton.

 Robert Young.
 John Crookshanks.

 Sami. Huston.
 John Calhoun.

 John Martin.
 Alex'dr 'McHolm.

 William Gilmore.
 Archibald Keir—Run off.

No Samuel Martin was listed; but that may be because of the note the prior fall, August 1780, that Samuel Martin "served the next tour" – i.e. March 1781.

Then a month later, the list for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion as of April 1781, shows John McCormick Captain, with "Jno. Martin" in his 3<sup>rd</sup> company. Mc-Cormick headed a unit from East Pennsborough.

This 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 3<sup>rd</sup> company, militia member John Martin would have had time to move from Cumberland County to Jefferson County, Kentucky, in time to show up on the list of poor land applicants, December 1781. Samuel might have followed – with Ann? – in time to get on the list in March 1782.

## 3 Lack and Tuscarora Townships:

A John Martin, Samuel Martin, and several other apparently-related Martins received warrants – authorizations for land purchases in Lack Township – from then-Cumberland County back in 1762. The township was Lack Township, in what is now Juniata County, north of present Perry and Cumberland counties.

When it became necessary to divide Lack Township into two townships, it was natural that the name "Tuscarora" should be given to the new township.



Lands were surveyed for the Martins in Lack in the early 1760s:

John Martin – 150 acres, Lack Township on the "Barrens, September 1762;

Samuel Martin – 50 acres, Lack Township, Tuscarora Creek, September 1762.

Thomas Martin – 100 acres in Lack Township on Tuscarora, September 1762; and

William Martin – On the western corner of William Martin, in right of John Martin, there was laid off ... two acres, September 23, 1802.

George Martin – 100 acres on Branch of Antietam Creek, September 1762; and

Jane Martin – 150 acres, Lack Township, Barren Hill and Tuscarora Creek, September 1762; and

George Martin – 50 acres, Antrim Township, Antietam Creek, September 1762.

Some – probably all -- of these Martins were related to each other. But it seems unlikely that the John and Samuel who received the warrants in 1762 were the same men by those names who apparently began families around 1778-9 and moved to Kentucky in 1780. Perhaps one of them was the parent of "our" John and putative brother Samuel.

It should be noted that the tax and exoneration lists for Lack Township in 1763 and 1767 show no Martins.

However, from 1778-1780 the tax lists for Lack show:

1778 – "First State Tax ... for 1778":

Lack Township: John Martin - no acres, no horses.

1779 – "Supply rates ... for 1779":

Lack Township: John Martin – 50 acres.

Lack Township: James Scott – Freeman. No land. No wife.

1780

Lack Township: John Martin – 50 acres, no animals.

Lack Township: Andrew Martin – 50 acres, no animals.

1781 – Lack. Lacks a John Martin.

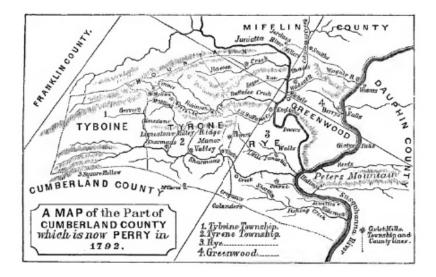
Tuscarora Township was next door to Lack. According to the *History of the Juniata Valley*, John W. Jordan, 1913, p. 171, "Thomas Martin ... John and Samuel Martin had all taken up lands prior to the Revolution."

Also, "James Scott, ... Joseph Scott, and others came in 1767 ...." (p. 155.)

## 4 Greenwood Township

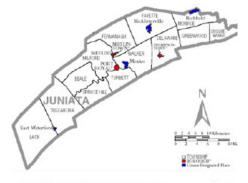
Greenwood Township? (Formed from old Fermanagh Township on March 25, 1767)

Greenwood was one of two neighboring townships in the north part of what became (in 1820) Perry County, just north of present-day Cumberland County; the other was Tyrone Township. Greenwood Township was formed from part of Fermanagh Township, an original township of Cumberland, in 1767.



In map below:

Juniata – Greenwood in upper right.

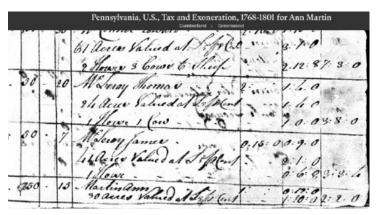






In the tax list for 1778, Ann Martin was listed in Greenwood Township with 250 acres, though 30 acres were valued differently. No John or Samuel Martin was listed in Greenwood that year.

Virtually all other landowners listed were men, which suggests that Ann had become a widow before 1778.



In 1779, Ann Martin had 50 ? acres, no animals. No John or Samuel was listed.

In 1780, the population of Martin landowners in Greenwood had doubled:

John Martin — 100 acres, 2 horses, 2 cattle Ann Martin — 250 acres, 1 horse, 2 cattle In 1781, both John and Ann were gone from Greenwood Township. But a John Martin had appeared in Jefferson County in late 1781, and by March 1782 so had an Ann Martin and Samuel Martin. But so had a William.

Could these men all have been sons of Ann, with John the eldest?

If we could ascertain the name of Ann's deceased husband (assuming there was one), that might lead to more certain information about John and Samuel and their whereabouts before Kentucky.

It is likely that the land owned by John Martin and Ann Martin in 1780 in Greenwood Township was once included in Fermanagh township. Fermanagh was part of Cumberland county in 1767, and became part of Mifflin County in 1789. Juniata County (which included modern Fermanagh township) was created out of Mifflin in 1831.

The original Fermanagh township embraced all the land in Cumberland lying north of the Juniata River. In 1767 the boundaries of Fermanagh, were described as embracing "all the present townships of Fermanagh, Fayette Walker, Delaware, Monroe the north parts of Greenwood and Susquehanna townships in Juniata County, and that part of Greenwood township in Perry County that lies east of the Juniata River and north of Cocalamus Creek, including the site of Millerstown. Its territory remained unchanged until 1789, when Mifflin County was erected, and Fermanagh became one of the townships in that county, losing that part of the territory that now lies in Perry County which was attached to Greenwood township, in Cumberland County." *History of that part of the Susquehanna and Juniata valleys, Embraced in the Counties of Mifflin, Juniata, Perry, Union and Snyder, in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania*, edited F. Ellis 1886. (Pages 808-832.)

The reason this might be relevant to our search is that in 1779, the taxpayer list for Fermanagh (neighboring Greenwood) included 200 acres for William Martin, 100 for David Martin, 100 for James Martin's heirs, and 300 for John Martin's heirs.

10 Rater Jotal 200 0% 100 300 110 100 100 115 4 134 6 200 10 150 150. 30 300 158 2001 200

So what were the names of the widows of the deceased James Martin and John Martin in 1779; and who were their children and heirs?

Apparently NOT "Ann."

It seems likely that the deceased James Martin was a son of William Martin Sr. who died in 1780. It is possible – but not established – that the deceased John Martin was also a son of William Sr.

A WikiTree site, apparently carefully researched, relates that William Martin Sr. 1718-1780 died in Fermanagh Township, Juniata, January 16, 1780. William had married Margaret Smith Martin in 1739 in County Donegal Ireland. Margaret died 1796, age 75. Both are buried at Cocalamus, Fayette Township, Juniata County.

William was a landowner in Juniata as early as 1767. Other Martins there were James (1768) and David (1770).

\* \* \*

A volunteer at the Juniata County Historical Society found an unpublished memo about a Martin family who were there at the right time. *Three Heroes of the American Revolution*, by Raymond Martin Bell, 1990. The memo refers to a Captain Joseph Martin who was "in service January 1777" and "died before his return"; and a John Martin, who seems to have been killed at Paoli, September 20, 1777.

The author believed that the father of both these deceased soldiers was a Samuel Martin. He was on the 1749 Paxton Township tax list. (His father was likely a Joseph, 1685-1750). According to Samuel's will, probated in 1770 in Lancaster, Pa.), his wife was Elizabeth (who died 1772) and their children were:

John Martin, b c 1745, wheelwright. Reportedly married one Elizabeth Clark. Elizabeth was identified as the widow in John's estate. John was killed 1777 in Paoli massacre.

John Jr, b. 1778; died 1813 in Bedford, Pa.

Joseph Martin, b c 1747, miller. Married Ann (or Nancy) Baskins. Died "in an unknown battle or camp" in 1777.

Samuel -- b Sept 17, 1775; died Sept 24, 1842, Mifflin County. (So he could not be our Old John's brother murdered by Indians in Jefferson County a half century earlier.)

James – b c 1749

Jean – b c 1751

Elizabeth, -- b 1753 married John McClelland

Samuel – b c 1755 "Private under Capt. William Bell 1776." An Ancestry.com site that tracks the information above reports that this Samuel died in 1842.

The son John Martin b 1745 and killed in 1777 obviously could not be our "Old John." Could Joseph's widow Ann be the lady who petitioned for land in Jefferson County in 1781 at the same time as a Samuel Martin? Perhaps. And could her brother-in-law, the Samuel b c 1755, be that Samuel? Not if he died in 1842.

\* \* \*

#### 5 Fermanagh Township

The tax lists for Fermanagh Township in 1779 listed James Martin's heirs, 100 acre, and John Martin's heirs, 300 acres.

John Martin's Heirs.

In August 1779, Elizabeth Martin of Fermanaugh Township, widow and administratrix of the estate of John Martin, reported on the balance of his estate – to be distributed to the widow, son John (double share) and to daughters Jean, Mary and Elizabeth. Fred Watt and James Taylor were "appointed guardians of all four children who were minors under 14 years." Cumberland Co. Orphans Court 2:267.

Could this be our "Old John"? The fact that money was distributed to son John and daughters, while guardians were appointed for four children who were under 14 suggests that John was not a minor in 1779. But his mother was "Elizabeth," not "Ann." And there is no sign of a brother named Samuel.

### James Martin's Heirs

What about the James Martin whose heirs had 100 acres in Fermanagh in 1778? The will of William Martin Sr. of Fermanaugh, written August 20, 1778, probated April 1780, left to son William his plantation, to wife Margaret other assets, and money to daughter Elizabeth, Margaret, Sarah, Anne, and children of son James, "namely, Charity, Margaret and George ... and to grandson, William ... or sons David and William. Executors were sons David and William. Cumberland Co. Wills, D:10. So apparently William Sr. had no son "John." And James apparently had no son named "John."

There is no "Ann" in this Fermanagh family network in 1779, and no "Samuel." Whereas in that year there was an Ann Martin in Greenwood; and in the next year, 1780, there were both an Ann and a John.

What about the Ann Martin in Greenwood Township who owned 250 acres, 1 horse and 2 cows in 1780? The Ann who lived near a John Martin?

I had thought it might be the Ann Martin, the widow of a Captain Joseph Martin who died during the Revolution. *The History of Perry County*, H.

H. Hain, 1922, recites that Joseph Martin, a son of Samuel Martin of Paxtang, deeded acreage in Greenwood Township in 1771, that he was joined in the deed by his wife, Ann Martin. Her maiden name was reportedly Ann (Nancy) Baskins. (p. 253.) Later, after her husband died, Ann apparently married a man named McCoy and was known as Ann McCoy. Joseph and Ann reportedly had three children – Samuel, Mary, and Joseph. (p. 253.) But the history also recites that the sons Samuel and Joseph later moved to Lewistown, Pa., where they became rivermen from 1800 to 1823.

This text seems to refute any suggestion that this Ann Martin of Greenwood, widow of Joseph, was the Ann who – with Samuel Martin – showed up on the list of Jefferson County land applicants in March 1782.

In both 1777 and 1780, militia men from Greenwood Township and Fermanagh Township served — in 1777 in the 4th Battalion, and in 1780 in the 7th Battalion. The muster rolls of the companies in the 7th Battalion in 1780 are printed in Pennsylvania Archives, Fifth Series, volume VI, 451 et seq.

In 1777, Privates James McClure and David Martin were in the 7ith. In 1778, William Martin was in Captain Fred Taylor's company.

In 1780 Henry Martin, David Martin and William Martin were in Capt. Hugh McAlister's company of the 7th. "Ja's Scott" was in Capt. Farrier's company of the 7th. "Jas. Martin" was in James McClure's company of the 7th in November and December 1780.

Samuel Orr was there in 1781 as were several other Orrs. Also in 1781, in Capt. Perrier's company was Ja's Scott.

But no John Martin. And no Samuel Martin.

So taxpayer John Martin of Greenwood Township in 1780, probably related to taxpayer Ann Martin, is still a possible candidate because their names show up on the 1781-1782 Jefferson County lists along with Samuel. But the linkage is far from firm.

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West Pennsboro -2^{nd} Battalion
East Pennsboro -3^{rd} Battalion
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Lack – Greenwood – 4<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Battalions But, as the advertisers say, there's more ....

### 6 Armagh Township

The Cumberland and Franklin county histories reported that in 1777 or perhaps 1778 the Fifth Battalion included both a John Martin and a John Murphy: "Most of this regiment was raised in Hamilton, Letterkenny and Lurgan Townships, and its companies at different times were under Capts .... John Murphy was a lieutenant and John Martin ensign."

The tax lists for Armagh Township show no John Martin nor Samuel Martin. (They do list Hugh Martin, and in 1780 and 1781 William Martin, freeman.)

The roster lists for the Fifth Battalion disclose:

	1777	
Township (if known)	Company	
DerriTourskin	Capt.Samuel Holliday	†,  •
Armagh Township	6th Company: • Capt. Thomas Thompson	•
Armagh Township	7th Company: • Capt. Thomas Alexander	•
		+

In 1777, James McClure and William Martin were listed in the Fifth Battalion, 2<sup>nd</sup> company. William Martin was separately listed in "2<sup>nd</sup> class," as "private." (p. 325)

In March 1778, Robert Martin was listed in the Fifth Battalion,  $8^{\text{th}}$  class. (p. 330)

Also in March 1778:

Fifth Battalion, 7<sup>th</sup> class, March 1778, (p 331) Capt. Thomas Alexander, whose company was reportedly drawn from Armagh Township:

James Martin. John Martin. James Scott:

COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND. 321 Henry Montooth. David Barr. Peter Allen. Simon Waub. Robert Kindsay. John Frampton. Alexander Mahaun. John Robertson. Alexander Robertson. Hugh Menil. Robert McCielland. FIFTH BATTALION. 7TH CLASS. IN SERVICE MARCH, 1778. (c) Captain. Thomas Alexander. First Lleutenant. John Means. Second Lieutenant. John Wakefield. Ensign. Aaron More. Privates. James Martin. Richard Johnston. James Martin. Bichard Johnston. Robert Huchanan. William Johnston. Thomas Brown. William Hero. Joseph McKibber.. Hugh McClellan. William Mitchell. Robert Gardner. William Brown. George Mitchell. David Brown. John Kcever. Abram How. John Mitchell. Alexander Jacobs. Thomas Crumb. Landy Junken. John Blair. Jaken McDonald. John Martin. Alexander McDonald. John Martin. 332 ASSOCIATORS AND MILITIA. James Scott. John Gillespie. William Galloway. William White. James Martin. Jacob Server. James Reed. David Coulter. John Graig. Joseph Brown. Tobha Devers. John Role. William Bratten. George Meek. George Gelbreath. Jonathan Wallace. Robert Fergue.

Also:

Fifth Battalion First Class, July 1778 – Christian Martin, 336.

Fifth Battalion Second Class, July 1778 – William Martin, John Scott

Fifth Battalion, Fifth Company, July 1780 – Daniel Martin

Fifth Battalion, Fourth Company, fifth class, August 1, 1780 – John <u>Martin</u>, p. 344.

Fifth Battalion, Nelson's company – 1780 and 1781, Robert Martin, 356.

The standard *History of Cumberland County*, 1886, injects some confusion as between the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Battalions (p. 89):

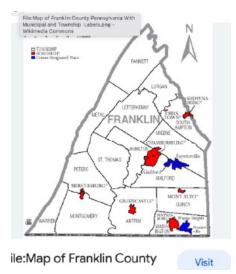
The Fifth Battalion was commanded by Col. Joseph Armstrong, a veteran of the Indian war and of the expedition to Kittanning and in 1756-57, a member of the Colonial Assembly. Most of this regiment was raised in Hamilton, Letterkenny and Lurgan Townships, and its companies at different times were under Capts. John Andrew, Robert Culbertson (for a time), Samuel Patton, John McConnel, Conrad Snider, William Thompson, Charles McClay (at one period), James McKee, James Gibson, John Rea, Jonathan Robinson, George Mathews and John Boggs. John Murphy was a lieutenant and John Martin ensign. ... It suffered severely at the battle of 'Crooked Billet,' in Berks County, May 4, 1778, when Gen. Lacey was surprised and many of his men were butchered without mercy.

The Sixth Battalion was commanded by Col. <u>Samuel Culbertson</u>, who had been a lieutenant-colonel in the First but was promoted to the command of the Sixth. .... <u>Joseph Culbertson</u> ... at some periods captains." (Emphasis supplied.)

According to this passage, John Murphy and John Martin were both in the Fifth Battalion, and at one time Robert Culbertson was a captain of one of its companies. This seems an important piece of evidence: the first linking John Martin with a John Murphy in Pennsylvania – and a John Murphy later married the widow of probable-brother Samuel Martin. Reports indicate that men from both the  $5^{th}$  and  $7^{th}$  battalions were killed or injured at Crooked Billet.

# 7 Letterkenny Township

Letterkenny Township became part of Cumberland County in 1750, and became part of Franklin County in 1784. During the period of the Revolution, including the 1770s and early 1780s, the township was thus part of Cumberland.



The tax lists for 1778-1781 for Letterkenny Township disclose no John or Samuel Martin. They do list William Martin, Isaac Martin, Andrew Murphy, Hugh and Robert Scott.

The Sixth Battalion in 1777, commanded by Col. Samuel Gilbertson, included the 5<sup>th</sup> Company, commanded by Captain Joseph Culbertson. The 5<sup>th</sup> Company included militia men drawn from Letterkenny Township.

The Sixth Battalion lists:

1777 – William, private

1778 –5<sup>th</sup> "class," Capt. Joseph "Cuthbertson": William Martin, private John Martin, p. 382

1780 – Six Battalion, August 1780, p. 387 Wm. Martin 7<sup>th</sup> class James Scott, 6<sup>th</sup> class, 392 Hugh McClure, 7<sup>th</sup> class, p. 394

Sixth Battalion, Peeble's Company, 394 Matthew Scott, 4<sup>th</sup> class, 395 William Martin, 7<sup>th</sup> class, 396

Hodges Company, October 4, 1780: James Scott, sixth class, 403

Finston's Company, p. 444 – Thomas Martin, Charles Martin, Paul Martin, Archibald Martin, David Martin, William Martin, Henry Martin, Jas. Martin, David Martin

Antrim Township; present Franklin County.

On the southern boundary of the county.

The tax list for 1778 for Antrim Township, then Cumberland County, disclose:

John Murphy - no acres, 1 horse, 1 cattle

Widow Martin – 22 acres, 1 horse, 1 cow William Martin – no acres, 2 horses, 2 cows.

In sum – no John Martin and no Samuel Martin.

But possibly the John Murphy who was in the Fifth Battalion? And possibly the John Martin reportedly an ensign?

And could the Widow Martin have been Ann?

\* \* \*

My survey of the *Pennsylvania Archives*, county histories, and other sources available on the internet served to focus on locations where further local Pennsylvania research in county records or local historical societies might be profitable. But where might I get help doing that local Pennsylvania research?

I asked Victor Dunn, my principal Virginia researcher. He suggested a researcher named Michael Ramage, in Wynnewood, Pa. He in turn thought I should have someone in the western part of the state, nearer the county seats of the western counties, and suggested Pam Anderson. She thought I needed someone based in or near Carlisle, the county seat of Cumberland County.

I called the library Dickinson College in Carlisle, which has a American Studies department. They could suggest no one.

A woman at the Cumberland Historical Society said they could not help me. They relied mainly on volunteer researchers and had no one available. She would not suggest anyone for me to contact.

A search via Google turned up the name of a firm that did family research: Heritage Consulting, in Salt Lake City. A principal of that firm, Stan Lindaas, read my summary of my Pennsylvania research – said it was "fabulous, ... a yeoman's job," but the probability of their "finding anything of significant and definitive value in less than an exorbitant amount of time is extremely low." He turned down the job. (Email, January 6, 2023.)

A member of a local historical society in Cumberland County, Pa., suggested the name of a local Pennsylvania research firm. The firm's web site said that for over a decade "our team has equipped enterprise-level corporations to [sic] genealogy hobbyists with the knowledge they need to turn their past into legacy-level narrative." I think it best not to publish the name of that firm or its "Principal" here.

On January 10, 2023, I called the head of the firm. She was happy to help me but insisted on being paid in advance for several days of work. I took a chance and sent her \$1,200. I also sent her a summary of work done by previous researchers and myself. She replied on the same day

– January 10 – acknowledging payment, and: "If you could be so kind, please help spread the word about my business. I'm taking genealogy and history project commissions this year."

That sounded like genealogy was a new line of business for this researcher. The work product – months later – tended to confirm it.

\* \* \*

I now think that it is possible to reconcile a possible Pennsylvania origin with a later movement south via Virginia to North Carolina, and then west to central Kentucky. The route from the Philadelphia area west to Gettysburg, and then south via the Great Valley Road or the Upper Road to Virginia and North Carolina, was probably the way most settlers would have moved from Pennsylvania to Kentucky.

More to the point, most of the Scotch-Irish settlers who left Philadelphia or the Upper Chesapeake for new homes in the West did not have any idea where the search for new homes would lead them. The process of searching for good – or better – land, over a half century or more, was opportunistic, not teleological.

It is not difficult to imagine families saying to themselves in Pennsylvania that they hoped to find good, cheap land in valleys of central Virginia, only to find that better land lay ahead in North Carolina. Then perhaps they ran into land title problems and saw better opportunities to the west in Kentucky. Once into the beautiful heartland of central Kentucky, they kept going until they found opportunities to stake out their claims.

At the beginning of their circuitous journey decades early in Pennsylvania, the alternative of a more direct Ohio River route vs. a longer, winding land route was likely never seen or considered.

The problem is not the circuitous route; it is the timing. Our Old John might have grown up in Pennsylvania – then served in the militia during the Revolution – then moved south through Virginia to North Carolina – then met and married Isabella Scott around 1778 before moving west to Kentucky. But as we are about to see, any later arrival by a Pennsylvania John in Rowan County does not fit the DNA evidence.

## One More Look At North Carolina – The DNA Evidence.

Because of the apparent differences between the signatures of Goose Creek John Martin and the later Logan County John Martin, as well as the persistent family tradition that the family had come from a place near the Virginia – North Carolina border, I decided to take one "last" look at the North Carolina haystack. Perhaps we could find a so-far missing connection between our Martin line and a family that included a James Scott near that border.

In mid-January 2023 I got in touch with an historian in Wilkes County, North Carolina, named Jason Duncan, a retired engineer volunteering at the Wilkes Heritage Museum. He agreed to check the local historical library records in Wilkes and other nearby western counties.

It turned out that Jason was also very knowledgeable about DNA evidence. I sent him a summary of the work done earlier by Victor Dunn, who had identified the possible connection with the Clover Bottoms, Virginia, Martins. Jason encouraged me to order a further DNA test – an "autosomal DNA" test – which would help identify cousins on all branches of our tree.

# The Martins of Clover Bottoms, Virginia, and Kershaw County, South Carolina.

Jason began by looking at an updated list of Martin Y-DNA matches with both known shared ancestors and unknown shared ancestors. The matches with known ancestors confirmed my DNA connections with men who were already known to be descended from Old John and Isabella.

The more interesting group was the list of Y-DNA matches with men with whom I shared an unknown ancestor. There were six:

The table below shows your six Y-DNA matches with an unknown shared ancestor.

MyID	Test Taker	Steps	Predicted Birth of MRCA	Ancestor
1	Billy W. Martin	4 of 111	1700 CE (1500-1850 CE)	Samuel (1799 Kershaw SC)
2	Robert Martin	5 of 111	1650 CE (1450-1800 CE)	David (1743 Clover VA->SC)
4	Franklyn Doyle Martin Sr	2 of 67	1700 CE (1450-1900 CE)	John M. (1755 VA)
14	Mark Wayne Martin	3 of 37	1500 CE (1000-1800 CE)	Samuel James (1842 IN)
15	David Martin	10 of 111	1250 CE (800-1600 CE)	Robert (1729 IRE)
19	Gilbert Mack Martin	4 of 37	1300 CE (650-1750 CE)	William W. (1786 SC)

Table 2: Y-DNA matches without an identified common ancestor.

Below is additional information on each of these matches as provided on FTDNA.

#1 Billy W. Martin. Descends from Samuel Martin (born 10/28/1799 Kershaw SC) who married Rebecca Fleming.

#2 Robert Martin. Descends from David Martin (born 1743 Clover Bottoms VA) who married Susannah Jubb/Goff (born 1759 SC). He moved to Kershaw SC where his son John T. Martin was born in 1775. David is listed as a son of John Martin (born Ireland) and his wife Isabella.

#4 Franklin Doyle Martin Sr. Descends from John M. Martin (born 1755 VA). No other information.

**#14 Mark Wayne Martin**. Descends from Samuel James Martin (1842 IN – 1906 IN) who married Amanda Warren. Trees on Ancestry suggest Samuel James Martin might be the son of Samuel Martin who was born in either KY or VA in 1795. Beyond that, the online trees aren't consistent.

**#15 David Martin**. Descends from Robert Martin Sr (1729 Ireland – 1811 Fairfield SC) who married <u>Rebeccab</u>. His line is through their son Edward (born 1754 SC) who married Mary Jane Aiken who was born in Ireland.

**#19 Gilbert Mack Martin.** Descends from William Washington Martin (1786 SC – 1865 GA) who married Elizabeth Neil. His father is listed as born in Ireland.

The second man named on the list, "Robert Martin," was the same connection earlier reported by Victor Dunn, the Virginia researcher. (*Supra*, at 43) That line reportedly traced back from Kershaw, South Carolina to Clover Bottoms, Halifax County, Virginia, and before that to Philadelphia and before that, Northern Ireland.

The first man named on that list, "Billy Martin," descended from a Samuel Martin who had also lived in Kershaw, South Carolina.

As Jason explained, the low number of markers that were different between me and the match strongly suggests a close relationship:

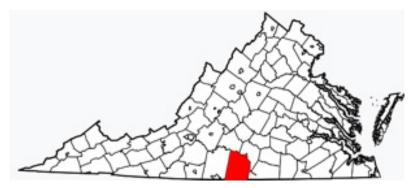
> The "Steps" column represents how much Y-DNA the match shares with you. The notation "4 of 111" means that four of the 111 tested markers are DIFFERENT between you and the match. FTDNA lists this as "4 steps". The more markers you share with a match, the more closely related you are. Conversely, the more steps you are away from a match, the more distantly you are likely related. This suggests there has been more time available for additional genetic mutations of the Y-chromosome.

Jason's tentative conclusion:

It looks like a branch of the Martin family went to South Carolina. This wasn't necessarily your John Martin, but perhaps a brother or uncle. Four of your six matches have ancestors who were in SC in the late 1700s. Matches #4 and #14 might have as well, but they didn't provide enough information. Perhaps one or more Martins moved from Virginia to the northern part of South Carolina between Charlotte, NC, and Columbia, SC. The two SC towns that are mentioned in your matches' trees, Kershaw and Fairfield, are only 50 miles apart.

Perhaps your Martin line immigrated from Ireland in the early 1700s. They might have settled in Virginia near Clover Bottoms in Halifax County, Virginia. By the 1750s or 1760s, some of the family moved to South Carolina. If your John Martin was in that group, he moved northwest to Kentucky in 1779, about the time that your James Scott Martin was born.

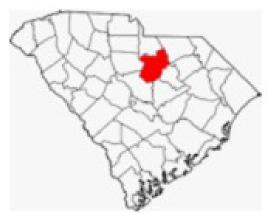
Jason agreed to see if he could find documentary or other evidence linking Old John's family to any of the Martins who were in Halifax County, Virginia, and later Kershaw County, South Carolina.



Halifax County, Virginia



Clover, Halifax County



Kershaw County, South Carolina

So far, the DNA results we had been using to identify possible Martin relatives were Y-DNA or male chromosome matches. The Y-DNA test used only one chromosome, the sex chromosome, to identify men who are related only on the patrilineal line. The new Family Finder test uses all of the other 22 chromosomes to identify cousins on all branches of my family tree.

#### The Scott Families of Rowan and Tryon Counties, North Carolina. (But Which Family?)

On April 7, 2023, Jason wrote with important news. He had identified one John Bartlett Scott, born about 1800 in Buncombe County, North Carolina, as an "exciting clue to identifying the ancestry of your Isabella Scott." He explained that he had found three matches on Chromosome 5 (161-174), all tracing back to John Bartlett Scott. Similar matches appeared on chromosome 4 (6-12) and chromosome 6 (41-46).

> Not only that, but one descendant is from a child with his first wife, and the other is from a child with his second wife. That means John Bartlett Scott — and not his wife — is their only shared ancestor. Since the John Bartlett Scott group and the Isabella Scott group (which includes you) share the same segment, your shared ancestor is likely on this Scott side.

Now we had two DNA connections – one with the Martin line that apparently came down from Philadelphia, through Virginia, Clover

Bottoms, and then to South Carolina; and the other with the Scott line that was in Rowan or Tyron County, North Carolina. Where had those two lines come together? Or, to be more precise, where the lives of Old John Martin and Isabella Scott come together?

To answer that, we needed to know who were John Bartlett Scott's ancestors, where did they come from, and where had they lived along the way?

John Bartlett Scott was reportedly born on August 25, 1800, or 1801 near Black Mountain in Buncombe County, North Carolina, east of Asheville. By 1823 he was in Alabama.

According to unverified WikiTree reports, his father may have been James Dewitt Scott, and his mother Elizabeth Perkins. The father, James, apparently married a second time – Nancy Montague in Rutherford County, N.C., on May 6, 1803.

The question posed by these two segments of DNA evidence is: when and where did the DNA connection between Martins and Scotts occur? Where did Old John and Isabella live when they met and married? Who were their parents? And where had they come from?

#### The Martin DNA Line.

As to the Martin line, the information about the Clover Blossoms line in the Stockton book comes from a descendant who remembered what he had been told generations earlier. That line traced back to a John Martin who came to America (Philadelphia) from Ireland about 1740. The descendant may have been right about his own line — descended from one of Immigrant John's three sons, named David. There were supposedly two other sons: Robert and Samuel. We know nothing about them — where they lived, who they married the names of their children. We do not even know if those were their names, or whether were other brothers whose names were not remembered. Descendants usually remember much more about their own direct ancestral line than about collateral lines that parted company several generations earlier.

Grandfather I.J. Martin's own family history memorandum confirms the point: he was much stronger on the details of his own line tracing back

to James Scott Martin, but far less knowledgeable and fuzzier on the names of the descendants of the other children of Old John and Isabella – particularly those who had gone on to live in other places than southern and central Illinois.

My Martin line could have spun off from the line that included David, at Clover Blossoms. Or we could have spun off from the descendants of one of his named brothers, Robert or Samuel, or some other forgotten brother. But there is no evidence to support any of those alternatives.

#### The Scott DNA Line.

As to the Scott line, research and analysis naturally focus on who were the predecessors of John Bartlett Scott, our DNA connection supposedly born in neighboring Buncombe County, North Carolina, about 1800.

We do not know who "Bartlett's" father was. Perhaps a James Dewitt Scott. And we do not know who "Dewitt's" father was. Some reports suggest a man named John Scott, sometimes called "Junior."

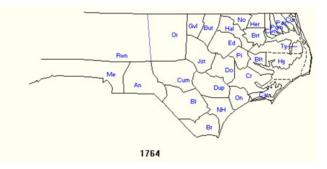
WikiTree reports several families of Scotts living in Rowan or Tryon County during the colonial period. Any one of these could be the predecessors of John Bartlett Scott, our DNA match. It is also possible that these families were not "separate" – that they had been genetically connected at an earlier generation.

Both counties were in the western part of North Carolina. Tryon county, later Rutherford, was just to the south of Rowan. It is almost impossible to keep the changing boundaries of these counties in mind without the aid of maps.

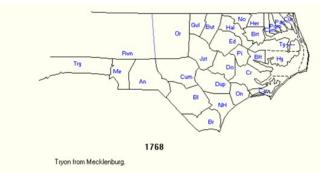
Start in 1760 – with Rowan to the north, and Anson to the south.



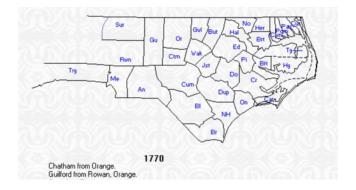
In 1764 Anson is divided, with new Mecklenburg on the west, below Rowan.



In 1768 Tryon is created out of Mecklenburg on the west.



In 1770 Rowan was divided, to create Guilford on the east (extending to the state border) and a smaller Rowan on the west.



A few years later, Rowan divides again: Rowan to the east, Burke to the west.



Then in 1779 the Tryon name is wiped out, replaced by Lincoln and Rutherford. (Rowan and Burke are still to the north.)



Then Lincoln nibbled into Burke on north and Rutherford on the south.



Then Iredell is created out of western Rowan.



Finally, for our purposes at least, Buncombe ("Bun" on the map below) is created on the west, out of Burke and Rutherford, in 1791.



Buncombe County = Bun

It may help to think about it this way: Our DNA-relative, John Bartlett Scott (whom I'll now sometimes call "Bartlett"), was reportedly born in Buncombe about 1800. His parents and grandparents could have been first in Anson, then, without moving, Mecklenburg -- then Tryon – then Rutherford – then southern Buncombe. Or they could have been in Rowan, then Burke, then northern Buncombe.

Given the DNA connection and the reported approximate year of Bartlett's birth, I think the connection with our Isabella Scott Martin (born 1755-1760?) was probably in Bartlett's grandfather's generation.

In 1760, the northern part of what later became Buncombe was in Rowan County; and the southern part was in Anson (later Mecklenburg, and still later Tryon). Bartlett's Scott predecessors could have been in either place.

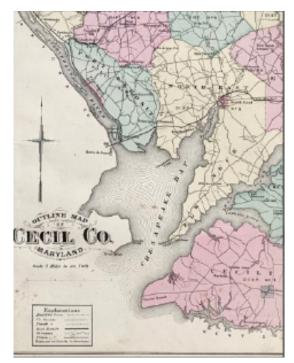
#### The Scotts of Rowan County

Some background on the settlement of Rowan County may be helpful. It can be found in a fine book, *Carolina Cradle, Settlement of the Northwest Carolina Frontier, 1747-1762*, Robert Ramsey, 1965. Another great resource is the Heritage of Iredell County, 1980, Miller, Mildred, editor, much of which was written by W.N. Watt. Also, I must not fail to mention the web information of Linda LaRue, an expert researcher on the Scott family in western North Carolina.

After 1700 large numbers of Scotch-Irish from Ulster crossed the Atlantic and entered the colonies, arriving in Cecil County, Maryland, where the Susquehanna River flows into the head of Chesapeake Bay. Many of these immigrant families moved on from Maryland and settled in the western portion of North Carolina during the early 1750s. (*Id.*, at 25.) One of the first immigrants to the Rowan area was James Carter, who had earlier been in jail in Cecil County for debt. He moved first to the Augusta area of Virginia in 1744 and was in the Rowan area by 1747. (*Id.*, at 27.)

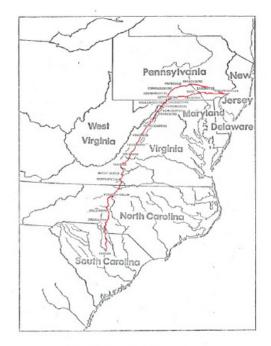
One of the first of these growing population centers in Rowan County was called the "Irish settlement," sometimes also referred to as the "Cathey Settlement," after its principal early leader. The Cathey family and others in the Scotch-Irish community arrived by 1749. In 1753, the "Irish Settlement" had erected a meeting house known as Cathey's. Its first formal church service was reportedly held in the fall of 1755. It was later known as the Thyatira Church. *The Great Wagon Road of the Carolinas*, Richard George Remer, William & Mary, masters thesis.

Upon arriving in America, James Cathey had first settled in Cecil County, Maryland, where he had purchased a tract of land from one James Scott sometime between 1719 and 1724. That James Scott may well have been one of our Scott ancestors.



Cecil County, Md., at the head of Chesapeake Bay.

James Cathey soon relocated to Pennsylvania. One Cathey family report says that they moved by the Great Wagon Road to the valley of Virginia and settled near Staunton where they lived between 1730-1743.



The Great Philadelphia Wagon Road

By 1749 James Cathey and his relatives were located about 10 miles west of Salisbury on the headwaters of Second Creek, Rowan County, North Carolina, which feeds into the Yadkin River. The town of Salisbury was formed a few miles to the east by 1753, when the first court in Rowan convened, sometimes in the home of George Cathey. Just below Second Creek, and flowing parallel to it, is Crane Creek.

The family of the James Scott from Cecil County, Maryland – the man who had sold property to James Cathey back in the early 1720s – apparently remained associated with the Cathey family after they moved to North Carolina. About twenty of the newcomers to the Irish Settlement, dating back to 1747-49, originated among Maryland families in Cecil County. Four families are specifically mentioned as part of that settlement: the Thompsons, the Todds, the Robinsons, and the Scotts – "John Scott, John Scott, Jr., and James Scott." Ramsey notes that, "Branches of the numerous Scott family resided in every Maryland County prior to 1725, appearing first in Baltimore (1670) ...." (Ramsey, at 124-5.) By the early 1750s these families had arrived in Rowan County.

"James Scott" was one of the subscribers to two petitions to the King from Rowan County in 1759. A John Scott was on the 1759 Rowan County tax list as well as the 1760 Rowan County militia list.

In a short but carefully researched "genealogical compilation" published privately in 1991, Marion Stark Craig summarized the history of this family of Scotts – which I will hereafter refer to as the Rowan County Scotts -- as follows:

- John Scott I, born c 1709; was in North Carolina by 1734; migrated to the Irish Settlement "around 1755." (LaRue.) Signed his will in August 1760 in Rowan County. Will Book A, page 147; probated 1760.
- John Scott II son of John I; born c 1735; married Agnes Reed c 1760. He was executor of his father's will and received all his real estate. He also received land from his brother-in-law John Burnet in 1761 on both sides of Crane Creek. In 1772 he was in Tryon County, on land that was later in Rutherford County. In 1802 he sold his land on Crane Creek, and moved to Livingston County, Kentucky, where he died in 1811-2.
- James Scott another son of John I; born c 1736; married Lydia Martin November 1759. Acquired 242 acres on Reedy Branch of Crane Creek, which he sold in 1764. (A "James Scott" reportedly died in 1771 and his will was probated in Mecklenburg County, just south of Rowan. That will referred to a brother William, a brother John apparently deceased, and an Alexander deceased.)
- Mary Scott a daughter of John I; married John Burnet, who in 1751 and 1756 also acquired acreage on Crane Creek.

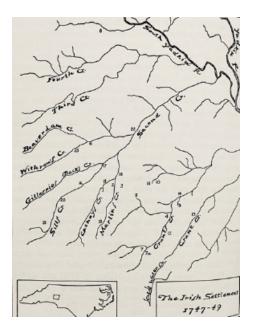
The Craig account has been expanded by an expert researcher, Linda LaRue. In summary, she traces the Scotts from Cecil County Maryland as follows:

- Walter W. Scott Sr., 1670-1729. Married Esther.
- Walter W. Scott Jr. 16998-1760
- George Scott, 1703-1741

- Charles Scott, 1706-
- John Scott I of Cecil Md., 1695-1760, Rowan County. Married Mary.
  - John Scott II 1728-1811, born Cecil; Rowan. Married Agnes Reed.

 "Children: Joseph, Joshua, Elizabeth, Sarah, John, Mary, James, Anna, Nancy." (Email June 28, 2023.)

- Mary Scott, 1733 -
- James Scott, 1736-1771. Married Lydia Martin 1759.



The Irish Settlement, 1747-49. Cathey's Creek feeds into Second Creek. Crane Creek just to the east of Grant's Cr.



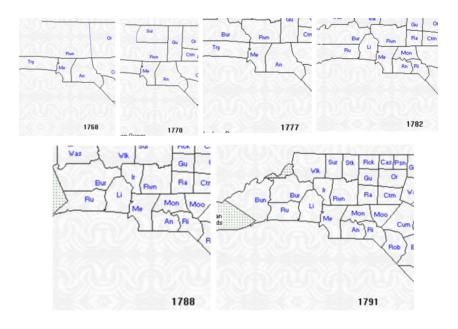
## Portion of John Collet Map of North Carolina, 1770. Shows "Cane" Creek east of Grants, adjacent to the "Trading Path."

"Cane" creek is in the same location as "Crane" creek. My guess is that Collet's London typesetter just made a mistake.

A Presbyterian church was soon founded to serve the Cathey settlement. The deed for the land on which the church and cemetery are located was made on January 17, 1753. Two years later the name was changed to "Cathey's Meeting House." It later became known as Thyatira church. *Thyatira Presbyterian Church*, Walter L. Lingle, nd.

On August 30, 1760, John Scott signed his will, in which he referred to his sons James and John, and to his daughter Mary Burnet. His son John was named his Executor.

Rowan County was split in 1777, with the western portion becoming Burke County. The Cathey settlement, sometimes called the Irish Settlement, and the Thyatira church were in the eastern part – which remained Rowan County (Rwn below).



From Rowan/Tryon to Buncombe.

Scott family members – presumably descendants of the Scotts associated with the Catheys – also lived in the western part, Burke County during the 1780s and 1790s. We find references to Thomas Scott, George Scott and William Scott in the Burke County court records during that period.

Also, we should recognize the possibility – probability? – that some of the Scott families of Rowan/Guilford/Burke and Tryon/Rutherford, and possibly Mecklenburg – were related to each other.

## The Scotts of Guilford County.

In 1770 Rowan was divided by hiving off territory in the east to comprise the new Guilford County. A different family of Scotts was centered there; I'll refer to them from now on as the Guilford County Scotts. It is not clear when this Scott family appeared in Guilford – whether they had been in Rowan before the division in 1770 or whether they came later.

Though the Ancestry sites setting forth the members of this family are not documented adequately to permit verification, they report that the first of that family to immigrate to America was: Captain William Thornton Scott, born c 1680 in Northern Ireland; married Martha Margaret Scott. Died October 8, 1739. Lancaster, Pa.

The next (2<sup>nd</sup>) generation included: Samuel Scott, Sr., 1701 - ? Elizabeth Margaret Rebecca Mary

Samuel Scott, Sr. married a Mary Scott and produced a 3<sup>rd</sup> generation, including:

Samuel Scott, Jr. b c 1730; died 1778 in Guilford County, NC. Sam Jr. reportedly married Mary MacDonald Scott; they were the parents of a 4<sup>th</sup> generation:

William, b 1750, Orange County Va. Died Guilford about 1801. Married Rebecca Meek. Samuel Jane Mary Anne

The children of William and Rebecca would have been a  $5^{th}$  generation in America. They reportedly included:

Adam Walker Scott, b 1772 – 1838. Married Jane Barr. Thomas William Daughters Mary, Margaret, Nancy, Rebecca

Some family trees found on Ancestry.com suggest, without evidence, that Adam Scott was the father of our John "Bartlett" Scott.

## The Scotts of Old Tryon (later Rutherford and part of Buncombe) County

Another Scott family in the area settled just south of Rowan, in Tryon County, later Rutherford. I'll call them the Tryon County Scotts.

WikiTree summaries are unreliable and generally do not provide sources. But they may be accurate or provide leads that provide reliable results. Such summaries suggest that the first Scott of this line to come to America was John (David?) Scott (1725-1816); that he was born in Selkirkshire, Scotland; and that he married Letitia McKendrick in 1749 in what would become Rutherford, N.C. Where he arrived in America and where he spent the years between immigration and 1749 are unknown, at least by me.

Letitia McKendrick Scott's parents were reportedly Patrick McCandrick (sic) and Sarah. Patrick "of Anson County" wrote his will in 1761 leaving his property to his wife and daughter Lettice. He left a saddle to William Cleghorn, who served as his executor. John Scott, who would marry Cleghorn's daughter Letitia, was one of the witnesses. (Will Book B, pp. 106-107; 1764.)

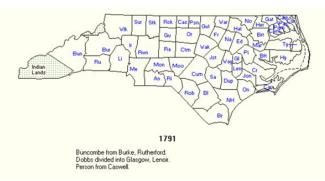
John David Scott reportedly had two sons who married into the William Cleghorn family. One son was John Scott, Jr. (b. about 1750, married Letitia Cleghorn), and the other was James Scott (b. about 1758, married Jane Cleghorn).

William Cleghorn had been a blacksmith in Augusta County, apparently quite a successful one. In 1754 he reportedly sold a chunk of land on Cedar Creek, a branch of the James, in Augusta County to one Mary Chittam. *Records of Augusta County*, Chalkley, Lyman, Vol. III, at 320. It was probably shortly after that when he and his family moved south to North Carolina. In 1755 Cleghorn was on a list of tax delinquents in Augusta County, suggesting that like others on the list he had left the county. (*Id*, Vol. II, at 418.) Another name on the same list for that year was John Scott. (*Id.*, 418.) Also, one of Cleghorn's daughters, Jane (who later married James Scott), was reportedly born about 1756 in Tryon (later Rutherford) County. (Tryon existed only after 1768, so in 1756 this would have been Anson County.)

In 1764, the Crown Governor of N.C. granted some 2000 acres of land in then Tryon County to one John McDowell, who sold the land in 1775 to William Cleghorn. It became known as the Cleghorn Plantation, and part of it survives today in the Cleghorn Golf and Sports Club at Tryon Resort.

For all we can tell from the WikiTree listings, the two young Scotts brothers probably became acquainted with the Cleghorn family in Anson/Mecklenburg/Tryon County during the 1750s and 1760s, though it is possible the families had been acquainted earlier in Augusta County.

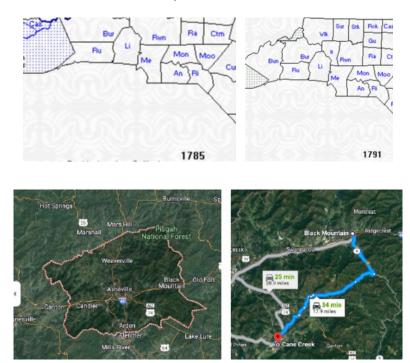
Our DNA-related Scott relative — John "Bartlett" Scott — was reportedly born in Buncombe County, western North Carolina, about 1800. Isabella and Old John had already left for Kentucky a couple of decades earlier. Let's remind ourselves what happened to the county names over that period. In and before 1776 the north part of Buncombe had been in Rowan, and the south part had been in Tryon. The north part then in 1777 became Burke — and later, in 1791, Buncombe. The south part had become Rutherford — and then Buncombe.



So John "Bartlett" Scott's parents and grandparents might have lived in Rowan and then, without moving, in Burke and then Buncombe. Or they might have lived in Mecklenburg/Tryon/Rutherford and then, without moving, in Buncombe.

Court minute orders in Rutherford during the 1780s show that both John Scott and James Scott were present in Rutherford at that time: John Scott (Film 007640784, 13/905; 111/905; 81/905); and James Scott (121/905). One 1783 record shows John Scott proving a deed from John Huddleston to James Scott for 97 acres of land on Cleghorn's Creek, adjoining Cleghorn's land (112/905; and 126/905), which supports the notion that these two Scotts were related. John Huddleston was their brother-in-law. Their father-in-law, the old blacksmith from Virginia, William Cleghorn, was in Rutherford too; he got himself charged with some apparently-minor indiscretion and was found not guilty. (116/905.)

One Rutherford court entry in 1785 may offer a hint at where this John Scott family lived. The court appointed a group of local citizens to figure out the best way for a road; the group included ... "John Scott of Cain Creek." In 1785, at the time of the court record, the northern part of the creek was in Burke County, but most of the creek was in Rutherford County. Today, Cane Creek is in southern Buncombe County, about 18 miles from Black Mountain. (This is clearly not the same creek as the "Cane" Creek in Rowan County.)



A prelude to the Battle of Kings Mountain had been fought at Cane Creek, near the boundary between then Rutherford and Burke counties, on September 12, 1780. Probably the court identified John Scott "of Cain Creek" in this way to distinguish him from some other John Scott living at that time in the area.

Some WikiTree summaries report that our DNA-linked Scott relative – John "Bartlett" Scott – was a son of James Dewitt Scott and a grandson of the John Scott, Jr. who married Letitia Cleghorn. However, no sources are cited to support those names or connections.

John Scott Jr. died in Rutherford County and his will was acknowledged on October 16, 1818. In his will John Scott, Jr. mentions his wife Letitia, son James, the children of John Cleghorn of Georgia, son Dunlap/ op, son Moses, daughter Letitia, son William, daughter Mary, daughter Elizabeth, son Patrick, daughter Sarah Finley, daughter Rebecca Young, son-in-law John Cleghorn, husband of deceased daughter Abigail; wife Letitia Scott and sons Dunlap and Moses were to be Executors. But there was no mention of any son named John or James "Dewitt" or any grandson named "Bartlett."

## The Scotts of Mecklenburg County.

Mecklenburg County had preceded Tryon/Rutherford. Tryon had been created in 1768 out of the western part of Mecklenberg.

One James Scott left a will dated December 28, 1771, filed in Mecklenburg County. In it he refers to an unnamed widow, a brother William, a deceased brother John, and a possibly deceased brother Alexander. Each of these three brothers had a son named James.

In his will Mecklenberg James mentions no sons or daughters of his own. However, in the probate file for his will appears a summary of gifts of his personal property, apparently made outside the will:

Widow (unnamed) – received a Tennet saw, a dresser, table and other furniture.

Robert Scott John Hains Joseph Hains Marion Scott

#### Robert Brown

So there apparently was a widow; we just do not know her name. Robert was apparently an adult son. Marion was perhaps an adult son.

The James Scott estate file also contains a note that William Scott had been appointed "guardian of Abram Scott, orphan of James Scott, deceased." [A Robert Scott was issued a certificate for a land grant on December 21, 1763, in Mecklenburg County NC. Robert left a will probated in 1829 in Mecklenburg County. The administrator was James Black.]

The estate file for Mecklenburg James in 1772 refers to other Scott family members:

There is a reference to "James Scott, Senyer" – Senior – who had a claim for care of horses and yards of home spinning. James Senior was almost certainly the father of the deceased James whose estate was being processed.

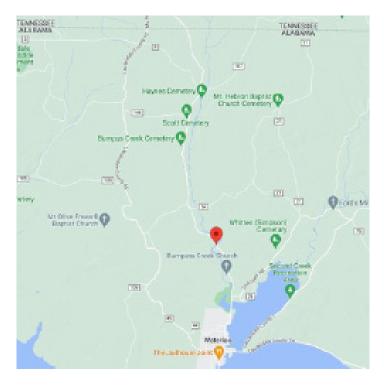
There were also references to an inventory of the estate of "John Scott Deceased, late of Mecklenburg County," which bears a note signed "by me Mary Scott, Administrator," dated April 1767. This is probably the deceased brother of James; it is clearly not the John Scott who wrote his will in Rowan in 1760; nor is it the John Scott Jr. who wrote his will in 1818 in Rutherford. This John Scott had been a resident ("late of...") Mecklenburg.

The references to the two Haynes ("Hains") men in the 1772 James Scott estate file may reflect a connection between the Mecklenburg James Scott, deceased, and the Haynes family who a generation later were close to the John Scott family in Lauderdale County, Alabama in the 1820s and later. The Scott-Haynes cemetery was located in a field near Bumpass Cree Road on land that had been purchased by John (non-Bartlett) Scott. John and William Haynes were in Lauderdale then, and our DNA connection John Wesley Scott, b 1822 Lauderdale, reportedly married Mary Jane Haynes in 1849.

North Carolina, U.S., Wills and Probate Records, 1665-1998 for James Scott Wills and Estate one Bannet dow to the Quidow di 20 Do ond Jethove to Rob! Jeak no to Mille 19 gillo John Hain 100 Jeat . toil to Role 510 John Hay Soll. 140 No Joseph Hains X to. 200 inditag 250 Doleph 90 to 05 180 Sollas to Rob. B The 11 Sollor 120 Juejoh Tun to to Morion Death 660 formiter to the avidan 100 Dolo ge Dable to 100 Dellas to to gette us and geard to Ditto OB 200 Dollo tanned Latter John 180 Loughlin sho as. Ohin 555 Seathed Collard to Rob Brown 2 075 of Briddle Bitt. m Quark X 150 hiffler to the Quidows 59 iz 

Mecklenburg County NC James Scott, 1771 Estate file.

We know the Haynes folks were associated with the family of Rutherford John a half century later. So perhaps the Haynes connection with Mecklenburg James so many years earlier suggests that the deceased James was linked to the Rutherford Scotts. That seems at least as likely as the possibility that the Mecklenburg Scotts were a separate and unrelated group.



#### Modern Map, Lauderdale County, Alabama Scott and Haynes Cemeteries, Bumpass Creek.

These notes in Mecklenburg James' estate file suggest that just as there was a John Scott, Sr. who had been the head of the Old Tryon branch of the family, (a) there may have been a James Scott, Sr., who had been the head of the Mecklenburg branch, and (b) just as the Tryon James had sons named John and James, the Mecklenburg James seems to have had sons so named.

If Tryon John Sr. and Mecklenburg James Sr. were brothers, then our Isabella Scott, the wife of Old John, could have been linked to either of these branches of the Scott tree.

### James Scott and Lydia Martin Scott, Rowan County.

There remains the tantalizing fact, which emerged from Rowan court records, that: (1) a John Martin died in 1757; (2) his widow was named Lydia; and (3) a James Scott married Lydia two years later, in

1759. This shows that Martins and Scotts were living near each other in the right place and right time.

It is possible (even likely?) that John/Lydia had their own children — maybe including our Old John. In that case, James Scott would have been an adopting father of Old John – not the natural father of Isabella Scott.

Lydia Martin, Widow of John Martin Dec'd. 1757.

	North Carolina, U.S., Marriage Records, 1741-2011 for James Scott				
Sectt, James x	Lidia <sup>M</sup> artin	26 Nov. 1759	(w) Alexander Breden (w) John Mitshell John Burnet Jas. Garson (w) John Frohesk		

Lydia Martin Marries James Scott, 1759.

The James Scott of Rowan in 1759 almost certainly lived near other Scott relatives. In that case, it is also possible that any orphans of the deceased John Martin – including a possible John, Jr. – may have been living next to an Isabella Scott, who might have been a daughter of his brother John, or some other Scott.

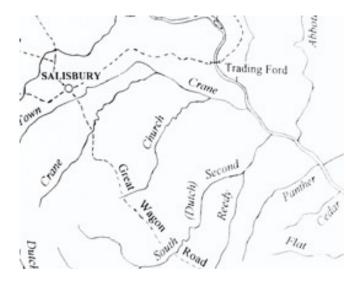
Note too that one of James Scott's bondsmen was James Carson. That is a name to be remembered in this search for our Scott origins. Scott Carson quoted from a *Carlson Family History* by Dr. F.T. Carson in his 2008 essay about the legendary scout Kit Carson. James Carson migrated from Pennsylvania to Rowan County around 1740 along with other members of his family. *Carolina Cradle*, Ramsey, at 111. He obtained a Granville land grant in 1759 on Grant's Creek along with several others in the Yadkin River basin. James Carson died in 1774, leaving wife Honour and several children.

It was about at this point in my research that a bright light suddenly flared. What if a son of the deceased (as of 1757) John Martin of Rowan and his wife Lydia had been raised by Lydia's second husband, James Scott? What if that son was named John – and what if he turned out to be our Old John? What if he had married a nearby Isabella Scott? Might not they have named their first son to honor John Jr.'s adopting father rather than Isabella's genetic father?

James Scott married (bond date) "Lidia" Martin on November 26, 1759. (North Carolina, Index to Marriage Bonds, 174101868; bond 000129260; Image 005094; County Rowan.) One of his bondsmen was John Burnet. Also, one of the daughters of the first-generation John Scott from from Cecil County, Maryland was named Mary; and she married John Burnet. They lived on Crane Creek, near or part of the Irish Settlement, James having bought the property in 1751 when it was still part of Rowan County.

James and Lydia Martin Scott also lived on Crane Creek, near his sister Mary and her husband, John Burnet. Shortly before he married Lydia, on August 6, 1759, James Scott of Rowan entered 242 acres "on both sides of the Reedy branch waters of Crane Creek." (Book No. 6, page 217).

Crane Creek flows into the Yadkin River just east of Salisbury, Rowan County. "Reedy Br" appears to flow into Second Creek nearby.

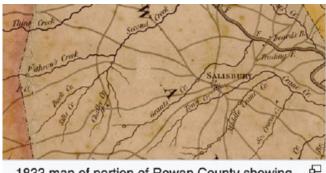


From 1780 map of Rowan County NC. Crane Creek; Reedy Creek to the east.

James and Lydia Scott kept their land on Crane Creek until 1765, when they sold it: the court minute says in October 10-11, 1765, James Scott, "planter, and wife, Lydia Scott, sold to Thomas Hill, by lease and release, 225 acres on both sides of Reedy Branch of Crane Creek on the south side and on both sides of a path from Cathey's Settlement to Pee Dee River. Land is in Rowan County and all parties are residents of said county. Said land granted to James Scott by Granville by a deed of sale dated 6 August 1759 for 242 acres." (608/731)

The land sale in 1765 did not mean that John and Lydia were leaving Rowan County. In 1766, James Scott was approved as constable for the district that included "Cathey's Settlement" in which the current justice was Alexr. Cathey. In 1768 and 1769, James remained on the Rowan County tax list.

These fragmentary records enable us to focus on where James and Lydia Scott probably lived while in Rowan County. Alexander Cathey "was the justice who presided over the first courts of Rowan County that were held in 1755." He lived "on Cathey's Creek, near Thyatira Church." Rumple's *History of Rowan County*, 67-68. As noted above, in October 1765, James Scott had sold 225 acres "on both sides of a path from Cathey's Settlement to Pee Dee River."



1833 map of portion of Rowan County showing location of Thyatira Church on Cathey's Creek

The composers of some of the WikiTree bios for the James Scott who married Lydia Martin assert – without evidence – that this is the same James Scott whose will was probated in nearby Mecklenburg County in 1772. But nothing in that estate file suggests that the 1772 Mecklenburg James was the same James who had earlier married Lydia Martin in Rowan in 1759. In his will, the Mecklenburg James identified a brother named William, the Executor, another brother named Alexander, and a likely third brother named John, deceased. The Rowan James did not have reported brothers with those names. Also, there was no mention of Lydia, though she could have predeceased him.

Accordingly, it seems to me unlikely that this deceased (1771) James in Mecklenburg is the man who married Lydia, the widow of John Martin of Rowan County.

#### Martins in Rowan and Tryon Counties.

We are looking for the place where the DNA lines of the Martin and Scott families crossed. So it is useful to know that John Martin (deceased in 1757) was not the only Martin in Rowan during the relevant period. A Rowan court record shows James Martin served on a jury in two cases in 1763. (Microfilm, 008195477, 451 and 452/731.) James Martin served on another jury in 1764. (518/731.) See also, (477/731.) (008182832; 95/566.) There were also Martins in Rowan County with first names other than John and James. Whether they were related to deceased John or to each other is anybody's guess. We find William Martin in Rowan in 1768 (56/408); Isaac Martin on a Rowan jury in 1769 (141/408); and Moses Martin laying out a road in 1769 (103/408) and appointed constable in Rowan in 1769 (155/408).

John "Marten" was listed on the Rowan tax list in 1758 along with "Asse Marten."

In 1768 "James Martan & son John" were listed in Rowan County as taxable.

When Rowan County was divided in 1777, the western part became Burke. A number of Martins were there – and remained there after Old John and Isabella had left for Kentucky perhaps in 1778-79. Court records are incomplete prior to the 1790s, but during that decade, we find in Burke County: Isaac, Thomas, and Henry Martin.



We also find a John Martin in Burke during the 1790s: serving on juries and assisting in laying out roads. (Film 007894570 image 40/351, 49, 50, 52, 54.) It is possible that he was a relative of our Old John.

Also, just to the south there were Martins in Tryon and later Rutherford Counties. One was the well-known and active attorney named Alexander Martin, who appeared frequently in court.

A James Martin served on a Tryon grand jury in 1775; and James Martin and Agnes his wife, deeded away 470 aces in 1772.

John Martin deeded 200 acres to Thomas Prince in Tryon on June 16, 1774. (Court minute orders, microfilm 007764092; at 189/343.)

A William Martin won a civil case for debt in 1775.

## Captain Samuel Martin

Probably the most prominent Martin in Tryon County during this period was Samuel Martin, b, March 26, 1732-1836. He was in Tryon by 1771, when he received a land grant for 188 acres. (Answers to War Department Interrogatories for pension application.) In those answers, Samuel testified that he had immigrated from Ireland first to Pennsylvania, then moved from there to Tryon, where he lived during the Revolution and after. In his book on *King's Mountain and Its Heroes*, 1881, Lyman Draper noted that the Samuel Martin who had married Margaret McCurdy had served in the French and Indian War before removing to North Carolina, and that during the Revolution he was at the Battle of King's Mountain. (*Id.*, at 478.)

Captain Samuel seemed sure he was born in 1732 Ireland; he knew the year because of the closeness of his age to a relative who was the same age. He would have been roughly the right age to have sons born in the early to mid 1750s.

A Samuel Martin was on the list of taxables in East Pennsborough township of Cumberland County, 1750. (*History of Cumberland and Adams Counties*, at 11.)

Captain Samuel was reportedly married twice – first to Jane Hightower (no date), then to Margaret McCurdy, on July 17, 1766, in Adams County Pa. Unverified web sites suggest that Jane Hightower's family was from Virginia; the standard *History of Cumberland and Adams Counties* contains no reference to the Hightowers. However, it shows many references to men named McCurdy. Samuel would have been about 34 at the time of his second marriage to Margaret in 1766 – thus old enough to have had one group of children with Jane, then another with Margaret.

Draper wrote that this Samuel Martin had seen service in Pennsylvania during the French and Indian War (1756-63). Pennsylvania Archives, Fifth series, Volume 1, lists soldiers who served during that period. Many Martins are listed, including a Samuel (p. 37); but nothing connects him with Hightowers or McCurdys, or, for that matter, with our Martin family. Neither of Samuel's marriages is listed in the list of Marriage Licenses in Pennsylvania Previous to 1790. (Pennsylvania Archives, Second Series, Vol. II, 1896.)

After he married in Pennsylvania, reportedly in 1766, we find Samuel Martin living in Tryon County in 1771 when he received a land grant for 188 acres in Tryon on Heykendales Creek. Yet Rowan County court minutes show a deed from Samuel Martin to John Benton in 1772. (Microfilm 008182832; 18/566.) Samuel served as Constable in Tryon in 1773. He served in the Revolution and was referred to as "Captain Samuel." Samuel Martin was named as a plaintiff in Tryon court in 1776. (005819935;89/147.)

When Tryon was renamed and divided into Lincoln and Rutherford counties in 1779, Samuel wound up in Lincoln County. He was there serving on a jury in 1781. (Microfilm 008189308; 20/81.) He was there according to the census in 1790. He reportedly died November 26, 1836, at the remarkable age of 104 in Lincoln County.

One of the sons of Samuel and Margaret McCurdy Martin was reportedly – though not verified -- a John Martin.

Because our Old John and Isabella named their supposedly-first son James Scott Martin, and as Isabella's maiden name was reportedly Scott, it seemed logical that the next son might have been named after the paternal grandfather Martin. And their next son – born after James Scott – was named Samuel.

Could this "Captain" Samuel Martin, born in Ireland in 1732, who lived in Tryon and then Lincoln County, have been one of the three sons of the Immigrant John who came to Philadelphia about 1740? The reader who has not yet gone to sleep may remember that the modern-day Robert Martin with whom we have a strong DNA connection traced back through Clover Bottoms to a John Martin who reportedly came to America about 1740. Born in Ireland, he had three sons (according to the Stockton book): David, Robert, and Samuel. Some of these Martins had spent some time in Virginia at Clover Bottoms before moving on to South Carolina. Perhaps that Samuel was the predecessor of our Old John.

Or perhaps David's other brother – supposedly named Robert – was our predecessor. Lincoln County court records show a Robert Martin was deeded 145 acres there in December 1779. (Microfilm 008189308; 40/81.)

It is possible Sam and/or Robert traveled with Immigrant John from Philadelphia to southwestern Pennsylvania, then went south to Clover Bottoms or somewhere else in Virginia, then on south to North Carolina. The "Great Valley Road" was one pathway of Scotch-Irish immigrants from Philadelphia to the Great Valley of Virginia and points south and west. The "Upper Road" was another – leading from the head of the Chesapeake in Maryland through Virginia to Salisbury N.C.

\* \* \*

A few other factual points should be preserved for possible future reference.

In 1772, Samuel Martin appeared on the Fort Dobbs tax list for 1772, for Rowan County, associated with James Morrison and son James.

On May 4, 1779, Samuel Martin married in Rowan County; his wife's name is not provided by the record. John Snoddey was the bondsman. (Rowan Marriages 1753-1868.)

In 1773 James Scott in Tryon County granted a power of attorney to Sam. Scott, "empowering him to dispose of a tract of land lying on little Catawba in Tyron County," and "authorizing him to assign scalps." (Presumably claims for wolf scalps.) (Microfilm 007764092; 172/343.)

Who was Sam Scott? Likely a relative – possibly a father – of James Scott, who may have been raising Lydia's Martin children?

In 1786 North Carolina made a state land grant no 48 to James Scott, for the sum of 10 pounds paid for every 100 acres into the treasury by Samuel Scott, deceased, 640 acres in Davidson County, which was surveyed for James Scott on 29 March 1785, with James Kerr and William Oar, chain carriers ....."

In 1795 Scotts named Elias, Jacob and James were living in Logan County; and James Scott had acreage adjoining Old John Martin and Isabella. Jacob was probably the father. Samuel Orr was also an adjoining neighbor and served as a chain carrier for Old John Martin.

## Two Wild Goose Chases

Before leaving North Carolina, I should record here the results of two wild goose chases. The first has to do with a lady named Barzilla or Barzillai.

There were many "John Martins" in southern Virginia and North Carolina. One might have expected – even hoped – that our guy and his wife Isabella Scott might have left traces. One of these Virginia John Martins seemed a possible candidate to be our ancestor because his wife's name was Sarah. This John and Sarah had a daughter named Barzillai; and according to family trees posted on Ancestry.com, this Barzillai was a daughter of "our" Old John Martin.

The apparent source of this natural mistake was a family memoir of the Gordon Family in North Carolina, compiled and published by Isaac Martin Gordon in 1910. This memoir quoted an "Old Gordon Bible" in the possession of one of the Gordons. The Bible entry recited that a John Martin and his wife Sarah were the parents of Barzillai Martin, who was born August 27, 1754, and married a John Gordon.

Grandfather I.J. Martin had believed that our Old John Martin's wife's name was Sarah. Drafts of his family history memorandum had circulated among people interested in Martin family history during the period 1950-1990. During that period, Martin family history buffs and others might easily have assumed that because the Gordon family's John and Sarah Martin both had the same names as our Logan County John and Sarah, they must have been the same people.

But there is no evidence that the Gordon family's Martins ever lived in Kentucky. A variety of maiden names other than Scott are attributed to Barzillai Gordon on the Ancestry.com sites. More compelling, it became clear after my *Fragments* book of family history was published in 1990, that our Old John's wife's name – based on both land and church records in Logan County – was Isabella, not Sarah.

Barzillai, born 1754, was most assuredly not a daughter of our Old John and Isabella.

Another understandable error stemmed from the fact that several family trees reported on Ancestry.com asserted that our Old John was the son of Isaac Martin, a resident of Halifax County, North Carolina. Isaac reportedly had a son named John, born in 1756, about the same time as our John.

It is easy for researchers who do not know how many John Martins there were in this area of the country to assume that if they find a John about the right age, he must be the one they are looking for.

The difficulty, as I pointed out in my *More Fragments of Martin Family History*, 2014 (p. 81), is that Isaac's son John was one of the executors of his father Isaac's will in 1798 in North Carolina – a time when our John was hundreds of miles away to the west – in Logan County, Kentucky. Moreover, the wife of Isaac's son John was apparently Elizabeth Green; he died in 1810 and his will was recorded in Wilkes County, N.C. Isaac's son "John" was not "our" John.

Isaac also had a brother named John – as well as a nephew (son of his brother, Ambrose) named John. John, brother of Isaac, married Hailey Jones and lived in Virginia. John, nephew of Isaac, stayed in Wilkes County where he inherited family land; he was a witness to the signature of his mother's will in April 1792 – a time when our John was way to the west in Kentucky.

# XVI.

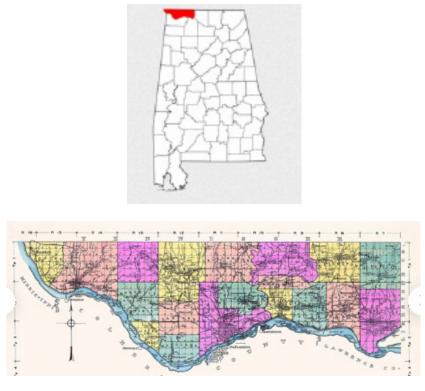
# Alabama Links In The DNA Chain.

We still have not nailed down how John "Bartlett" Scott was connected to our Martin-Scott line – in particular, Isabella Scott Martin.

Sometimes it is best to go back to the beginning. The reason we were looking at John "Bartlett" Scott is because descendants of John Wesley Scott, a reported son of John Bartlett Scott, shared with us matches on a segment of chromosome.

# John Scott, Lauderdale County

In early June 2023 I wrote to Connie Lawson, who maintained a family history site available through Ancestry.com. Her site contained information about "John Bartlett Scott, 1801-1884" who had come to Alabama from North Carolina and had died in Lauderdale County, Alabama. Perhaps she could help me with information about his parents and grandparents.



Lauderdale County, Alabama. Waterloo Township – second from left end.

Connie wrote back with fascinating information, and we then spoke on the phone. John Bartlett Scott's father, she said, was Dunlap or Dunlop Scott, born about 1770 in North Carolina; and Dunlap/op's father was the John Scott, 1750-1816, who had married Letitia Cleghorn.

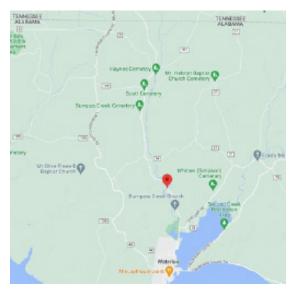
She confirmed that the middle name of the John Scott who lived on Bumpass Creek in Lauderdale County, Alabama, was "Bartlett." She told me that John Bartlett Scott's father – Dunlap/op – had married Mary Bartlett Scott, which would explain his middle name.

It all seemed to fit: the "Bartlett" name and the genetic links back through Dunlap/op to John Scott – whose dates seemed to make it likely that he was a brother of our Isabella Scott, born about 1755.

To make it even better, one of John Bartlett Scott's sisters was supposedly named Isabelle: she had married Scott Lambert, in Lauderdale County. Perhaps she was named after a great aunt!

John "Bartlett" Scott was reportedly buried in a small, ancient cemetery called Scott-Haynes Cemetery, on nearby Bumpass Creek. And John Wesley Scott's wife had been Mary Jane Haynes.

The Scott-Haynes cemetery in Lauderdale was located on land that had been purchased by John Scott. John and William Haynes were in Lauderdale then, and our DNA connection John Wesley Scott, b 1822 Lauderdale, reportedly married Mary Jane Haynes in 1849.



Modern Map, Lauderdale County, Alabama Scott and Haynes Cemeteries, Bumpass Creek.

Though there was no documentation or source for "Bartlett's" middle name or parentage, it seemed to hang together. What was best, it seemed to clear up the mystery of what Bartlett's father's name had been, and how he connected back into the Rowan/Tryon group of Scotts. I should have known better.

The first thing to do was to find confirmation of "Bartlett's" middle name in some record, such as the census records or a will.

A careful report by the Frewell Baptist Church in Lauderdale County, Alabama, says that John Scott – no middle name -- was the father of the Lauderdale Scott family; describes him as born 1800 in North Carolina and died in Lauderdale in 1880; and that he donated the land for the church and helped build it.

The census records for 1830, 1840, 1850, 1860, 1870 and 1880 refer to the man only as "John Scott." That's the name he used in writing his will in 1884. Again, no middle name. The graves in the "John Scott-Haynes" cemetery were so old that the stones or inscriptions were lost.

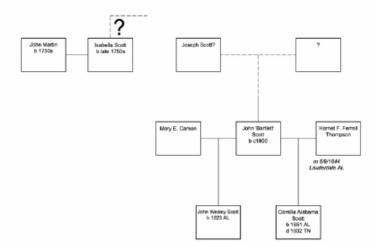
A landowners' map I found for this area of Lauderdale County shows many Scotts – including John Scott and William Scott – but no "John Bartlett." Also, no Dunlap. See Sections 12 and 13 below.



According to the census records and the will written by "John Scott" of Lauderdale County, Alabama, John died in 1884 in Lauderdale County. He chose his son John Wesley to be his Executor. He is the key link in our DNA chain of connection. That is what is important – not whether his father had the middle name of "Bartlett."

John Scott of Lauderdale County had been married twice: first, to Mary Elizabeth Carson, and then to Harriet Frances Ferrell Thompson; he had several children with each wife. (Remember the name Carson!) One of the children of his first marriage was John Wesley Scott, born Tennessee about 1822 (the predecessor of one of my DNA connections). One of the children of his second marriage was Camilla Alabama Scott (the predecessor of another of my DNA connections).

Family of John 'Bartlett' Scott of Lauderdale, AL



#### Dunlap Scott, Benton County

As to Lauderdale John's father's name, reportedly "Dunlap," the spelling I will use from now on, by some stroke of luck I found microfilmed handwritten notes of the record of administration of Dunlap's estate, in Benton County, Alabama, 1840. Lauderdale County, where our John Scott lived, is in the northwestern part of Alabama. Benton County was in the northeastern part of Alabama, separated by several counties from Lauderdale. Benton was formed in 1832 from the Creek Cession and renamed Calhoun in 1858.



Dunlap first appeared in Benton/Calhoun in the 1840 federal census, with one white male between 20 and 29, and one white female between 20 and 29. They had four children under 5.

Dunlap died in 1841, leaving no will; and his estate was administered by his brother, William. The notes indicate that Dunlap had been married to "Phalby Scott," – not a woman named Bartlett. Dunlap's heirs did not include any "John Bartlett Scott."

A list of heirs of Dunlap's estate included:

Phalby M. Tinley, formerly Phalby M. Scott, widow of Dunlap Scott, now wife of Hugh L. Tinley;
James Scott, brother of Dunlap Scott, decd.
Patrick Scott
Moses Scott
Rebeccah Young, sister of Dunlap Scott decd.
Sarah Findley
Lettice Caruth
Polly Blackwell, wife of James Blackwell
Abigail Cleghorn heirs, sister of Dunlap Scott.

This Dunlap Scott, who died in 1841, was the son of Rutherford County John Scott and Letitia Cleghorn Scott. Rutherford John's will, signed in 1816, listed his wife as Letitia, and his sons: James, Dunlop, Moses, and Patrick. His listed daughters were: Abigail Cleghorn, Letitia, Mary, Elizabeth, Sarah Findley, and Rebecca Young. Rutherford John's widow, Letitia, also listed in her 1824 will her sons Dunlap and Moses.

Now we have what seems an accurate and tight link back from this Alabama Dunlap back to Rutherford John and Letitia.

But we do not yet have such a link back from Lauderdale John to Rutherford John and Letitia – or to anyone else, for that matter.

Connie Lawson, my new Alabama family researcher, had written that Dunlap, born about 1770 in North Carolina, was the father of John "Bartlett" Scott. The problem was that Dunlap had first appeared in the 1840 census age 20-29, with no children over 5. Those data are obviously not consistent with the notion that "John Bartlett Scott" had been born about 1801 in North Carolina.

For what it is worth, a WikiTree site found on Ancestry.com which focuses on Dunlap Scott, reports that he died in Benton County, Alabama, and says he had three children: son William, son Dunlap Jr., and daughter Phalby. It lists no John and no "Bartlett."

If Dunlap was not Lauderdale John Scott's father, who was? Does it matter?

One candidate, according to "Find a Grave" is James <u>Dewitt</u> Scott, Jr. born about 1780 – died 1847 in Mississippi. A related report says Dewitt was a brother of Dunlap and that he married Nancy Montague in 1779. It is hard to prove a negative; but I have seen no evidence to support Dewitt's parentage of Lauderdale John.

# If John (Bartlett) Scott Had been Born in Buncombe County, N.C., Who Were His Parents?

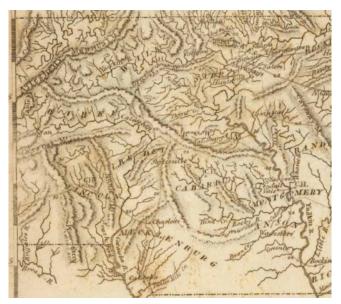
If neither Dunlap nor Dewitt Scott was John (Bartlett) Scott's father, who was?

Connie Lawson, my Alabama Scott relative, had told me that John "Bartlett" Scott had been born on August 25, 1800, or 1801, in Buncombe County, North Carolina. Family tree summaries appearing on Ancestry.com say that he was born in Black Mountain, Buncombe, the son of James Scott and Elizabeth Perkins Scott. Black Mountain is now a town 18 miles east of Asheville. It was named for the Black Mountain range of mountains bordering the town to the north.



Black Mountain, eastern part of county.

The mountains were traversed by the Swannanoa Gap. After the Revolutionary War, the land west of the mountains was opened to settlement. The land was first part of Rowan County; then Burke; then in 1791 Buncombe was hived off and became a new county. (See *supra*, at 152.) The early settlers built a community in the Swannanoa Valley near Bee Tree Creek in the mid 1780s. Two men named William Davidson and a relative named Samuel Davidson were reportedly among the first settlers. "Settlement of Buncombe County, North Carolina," Caswell County North Carolina web site. An early map showing the western counties of North Carolina is Carey's 1804 atlas, portions shown below.



Carey's 1804 Atlas of North Carolina – Rowan, Mecklenburg, Burke, Rutherford.



Carey's 1804 Atlas of North Carolina – Western Part, including Buncombe.

I have found no document confirming that John "Bartlett" Scott was born in or near Black Mountain or that a person with that name lived in Buncombe County before moving to Lauderdale, Alabama. That does not mean he was not there. Family memories and traditions can be valuable authority for details, even in the absence of documentary confirmation. I.J. Martin's manuscript history of the Martin family, written from memory of what he had been told, has stood up in many – though not all – its details. Also, it may be that the Scott family members who have passed along the story of the name of John "Bartlett" Scott and where he came from may have had documentary evidence available to them that has been lost or forgotten. It is also possible that Scott descendants inserted the middle name "Bartlett" in order to preserve the maiden name of his mother, or the full name of his maternal grandfather – "John Bartlett."

Let's assume for the moment that the name of our DNA link was "John Scott" – with no middle name.

An early history of the county, *Asheville and Buncombe County*, F.A. Sondley, 1922, provides nothing helpful about the Scotts.

Is there anything in the surviving records that bears on the accuracy of the story of Lauderdale John Scott's origins? One possible source of insight is a comparison of the early census records of Lauderdale County, Alabama, with the earlier ones of Buncombe County, N.C.

### 1830

If John Scott had been born in 1800/01, his name would first appear in the 1830 census. In that year, the census of <u>Lauderdale</u> County includes these names and age ranges:

John Scott 20-30 William Scott 20-30 James Scott 20-30 Samuel Scott 20-30 Joseph Scott – 20-30; also male 40-49; another 80-89. And 3 boys under 5. And one woman 40-50; another 50-60. The Joseph Scott household appears to include a principal head of household in his 20s along with a set of parents in their 40's and possibly a grandfather in his 80s.

It is a good bet that the others – John, William, James, and Samuel – are Joseph's brothers. John, the first on this list, is a good candidate to be our John "Bartlett" Scott.

# 1820

Now, let us go back 10 years, to 1820 – to <u>Buncombe</u> County, North Carolina. John and the other teenagers do not appear as householders.

However, we find a Joseph Scott with 5 boys under 10, 1 man under 45? 1 woman under 45. (Enumeration date, August 7, 1820.) There is also William Scott, Esq. over 45, and no one else in his household. (Same enumeration date, August 7, 1820.)

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#### 1810

Go back another decade. In 1810 in Buncombe we find three Scott households:

Joseph Scott – with 1 male adult; 2 women adults.

Robert Scott – 1 male adult.

John Scott – 1 male adult 16-25; 1 female same; 1 male under 10. (This young male under 10 could have been John "Bartlett" Scott.)

These 1820 and 1810 census reports suggest to me – though they do not prove – that the 1830 Lauderdale Scotts were the same family as the Buncombe Scotts two decades earlier. Based on my experience with these records (not statistical analysis of data), Joseph is a much less common name than John or James. To find a Joseph Scott in 1830 in Lauderdale – with 1 head of family in his 20s, another male in the household in his 40's, and still another in his 80's, is quite unusual. It seems to fit with the Buncombe Joseph Scott in 1820 who was under 45, along with a female that same age. In other words, the Joseph in 1830 who was in his 40's seems like to be the same Joseph who in 1820 was under 45 and who had five young boys, as well as the same Joseph who was a young adult in Buncombe in 1810.

To be clear, this is not a suggestion that a Joseph Scott was the father of our DNA connection, John "Bartlett" Scott. It is, instead, a suggestion that the Lauderdale Scotts were the same family as the earlier Buncombe Scotts.

# 1800

Moving back 10 more years, we find in Buncombe in 1800:

Joseph Scott – 3 males 10-15; 1 16-25; 1 45 and older; 1 female 10-15; 1 female 16 thru 25; 1 female 45 and over. 11 in the household. Appears to be two generations: one with children under 15; the other a couple over 45.

James Scott – 1 male 10-15; 1 26-44; 1 female 45 and older. Assuming the lady 45 and over was James' wife, it's likely James was nearer 44 than 26. If he was 44 he would have been born about 1755. (About the same year we think Old John's Isabella Scott was born.) This James does not appear in the 1810 Buncombe census, so he may have died in the meantime. His widow could be the second woman over 45 in Joseph's household in 1810.



For what little additional value it may be worth, we find on Ancestry. com an undocumented reference to a father and son in Buncombe County, both named Joseph Scott:

\* \* \*

In addition to the census records, we have indications in the court minutes of the presence of Scotts in Buncombe County during the relevant period.

Joseph Scott: in 1801 acquired 400 acres from Joseph Dobson in Buncombe, proved in court by "W Scott." "W" is probably William. There seem to be few men with W as the first letter of their name who are not William.

Keep in mind: in 1820 William Scott "Esq." – over 45 -- was on the Buncombe census list.

At about the same time, Joseph acquired 640 additional acres from Joseph Dobson, also proved by "W. Scott, one of the subscribing witnesses thereto." (Family Search: Microfilm 008531759; 149/406.)

And another 200 acres from Dobson. (Microfilm 008531759; 150/406.)

James Scott: In April 1796, acquired from William Davidson 204 acres in Buncombe. (008531759; 84/406.) William the seller was a member of the family which built a frontier fort at the beginning of the Revolutionary War called "Davidson's Fort" – the present town being called "Old Fort," then in Burke County, now McDowell County.

James Scott also served on a jury in Buncombe in January 1796, and testified in another matter in 1795.

James Scott registered his mark for animals in April 1794. (008531759; 31/406.) (On the same day, apparently at the same time, Robert Orr registered his own mark.) Attentive readers will no doubt remember that Samuel Orr in 1798 was one of the next-door neighbors of Old John and Isabella in Logan County, Kentucky. *Supra*, at 66.

This Buncombe landowner James Scott (1790s) could not be the same James who was listed in the 1830 census as between 20-30.

The ages suggest that in 1800 there were two Scott brothers in Buncombe County – Joseph Sr. and James. Given the difference in their ages, William Scott, Esq and his wife may have been their parents. James may have died before the 1810 census was taken.

In 1800/01 was born John ("Bartlett") Scott. He had several brothers. They all appear on the Lauderdale Ala.1830 census as John, William, James and Samuel.

This John could have been the son of either Joseph Sr. or James.

If the two senior Buncombe Scotts – Joseph and James -- were brothers, as appears, they would carry the same DNA markers.

That would make either Joseph or James a good candidate to be Isabella's nephews. William Scott, Esq. – over 45 in 1820, and in his 80s in 1830 (thus born around 1750 or earlier) -- would be a good candidate to be Isabella's brother. It would also explain why the same markers were carried in Isabella and her (possible) great-nephew Lauderdale John.

# Joseph and James – Before They Were in Buncombe County?

We have evidence of Joseph and James in Lauderdale, Alabama in the 1830 census. Before that, we have evidence of Joseph and James in Buncombe, N.C. in 1820, 1810, and 1800. Given the relative unusualness of Joseph's name, we think these may be the same families. So where were they before 1800 (perhaps before the mid-1790s)?

Geography suggests a couple of possible answers.



The north part of Buncombe traces its county roots back through Burke to Rowan. The southern part traces back through Rutherford to Tryon and Mecklenburg.

Unverified reports assert that John "Bartlett's" family lived in Black Mountain in Buncombe. Black Mountain appears in east-central Buncombe, near the border between Buncombe and Burke. Settlers there appear as likely to have come from Rowan on the north as from Tryon/ Rutherford on the south.



Black Mountain, Buncombe County (East center)

We have already canvassed three families of Scotts who could have produced the Joseph and James Scotts of Buncombe County:

1 The Rowan/Burke/Iredell group:

John Scott I, born c 1695, signed his will in Rowan in 1760. He had children: John, Mary, James. John I named his son John II his executor. John Scott II, 1728-1811, married Agnes Reed; children reportedly were: Joseph, Joshua, Elizabeth, Sarah, John, Mary, James, Anna, Nancy. (Linda LaRue, email June 28, 2023; see Mercer Family Tree on Ancestry,com.)

John had land on Crane Creek while James was on Reedy branch of Crane Creek. John Scott and James Scott were both in Rowan in 1759.

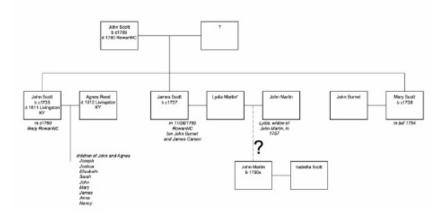
John and James Scott and their families were part of the group that came with James Cathey from Cecil County, Maryland, first to the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia, and then to Rowan County, N.C. James Scott was one of those who in 1759 petitioned the King to exempt them from having to pay taxes to support the Church of England. Also, in August 6, 1759, James Scott acquired from Earl Granville 242 acres in Rowan County.

James served on juries and in 1765 was appointed constable in Cathey's Settlement district. He was listed in Rowan tax lists in 1768 and 1778.

As pointed out above, Rowan court records show that: (1) a John Martin died in 1757; (2) his widow was named Lydia; and (3) James Scott married Lydia two years later, in 1759, about the same time he acquired the Granville acreage. One of the bondsmen for the marriage was another acquirer of Granville land – a neighbor, James Carson. This shows that Martins and Scotts were living near each other in the right place and right time. They sold land in 1765 but did not leave Rowan County. James remained on the Rowan tax list in 1768 and 1769.

After Burke County was hived off from Rowan in 1777, a James Scott entered 200 acres on Canadays Fork in Burke County on January 25, 1779, with a note that the amount owed on the land was "unpaid." (Microfilm, 007538686, 256/596.)

#### Family of John Scott of Rowan Co, NC

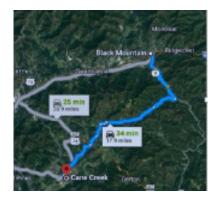


#### 2 The Tryon/Rutherford group:

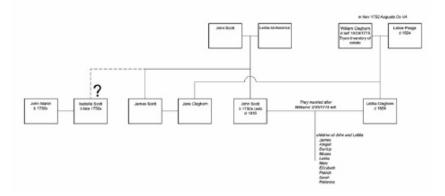
A John Scott reportedly had two sons – John Jr. and James, both b c 1750 – who married Cleghorn daughters. John Jr.'s will in 1818 mentions several sons, including a James – but no Joseph.

Isabella, Old John's wife, would have been about the same age as these two sons of Tryon John Scott. (But if she had been their sister, then her father would have been "John" – not "James.")

One John Scott, probably "Jr.," was identified in a 1785 court minute as "of Cain Creek." The northern part of the creek was in Burke, but most of it was in then Rutherford. Cane Creek appears on a modern map as about 18 miles south of Black Mountain.



#### Scott/Cleghorn of Old Tryon and Rutherford Co, NC

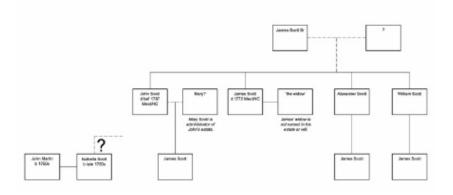


#### 3 The Mecklenburg group:

James Scott's will signed 1771 and probated in Mecklenburg, mentioned brothers: John (deceased, "late of" Mecklenburg), William, and Alexander, as well as an adult son Robert, who left a will probated in 1829 in Mecklenburg county. (So he was not the Robert Scott who showed up on the Buncombe tax list in 1810.) There were also references to men named "Hains." Notes in the estate file suggested that there had been a "James Sr." as well, probably the father of the deceased will writer.

But no "Joseph."

#### Scott of early Mecklenburg Co, NC





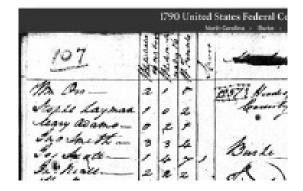
The whereabouts of Joseph Scott might be a possible key to this puzzle – the link between (a) the Lauderdale, Alabama Scotts and (b) their genetic predecessors in North Carolina. "Joseph" is a more uncommon name than James or John, so there is a tad more reason to suspect that two men by that name in the same general area are the same person. Where was Joseph Scott before Lauderdale, Alabama, and Buncombe, North Carolina in 1800?

#### The case for Rowan/Burke/Iredell:

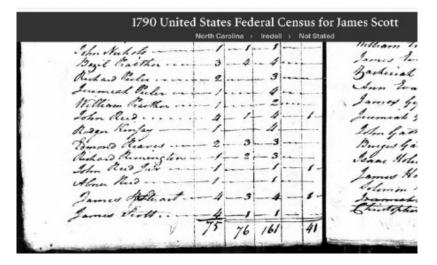
Burke County was hived off from western Rowan in 1782. Iredell was carved out of Rowan in 1789. Buncombe was then carved out of western Burke in 1791. So the territory in all three counties had in the 1750s been part of Rowan. We take them one at a time:

We do not find Joseph Scott or James Scott in Rowan County in the 1790 census.

However, we do find "Jos Scott" in the 1790 census for Burke County – with 1 white male 16 or above, 4 white males under 16, 7 white females, and 1 slave. (We also find William Orr nearby, a few lines above in the census list.) There was no James Scott in Burke in 1790.



In the 1790 census for Iredell County, although we find no Joseph, we do find James Scott: with 4 white males 16 and over, 1 white male under 16, one 1 female, no slaves.



Apart from the census, we find a record of James Scott entering 200 acres on Canadays fork in Burke County on January 25, 1779, with a note that the amount owed on the land was "unpaid." (Microfilm 007538686, 256/596.) Other possibly-related Scotts in Burke County during this period include George and Thomas.

In the court records of Iredell, we find both a John Scott and a James Scott. One of the 1790 entries shows John Scott living in Iredell between 3rd creek and 4th creek. John Scott was deeded land by the county on August 13, 1790. (344/975.) James Scott deeded 150 acres to Henry Clegit on September 4, 1790, and was involved in litigation the next year. (38/975) See also, John Scott, Iredell, deed for 640 acres, 1791, 71/975; and for 90 acres, 1794, 83/975; also 89 and 90/975. And James Scott, Iredell, deed for 160 acres to Will ?, November 1792, 64/975; James Scott and Robt Scott to Will Watt, 375 acres, 1792; 56/975.

Moreover, according to Linda LaRue's research report, James Scott reportedly first married Martha "Fanny" Carson (b. c. 1776) in 1790; she was reportedly from Iredell Co. (The attentive reader may remember that one of the bondsmen at the earlier marriage between James Scott and the widow Lydia Martin in 1759 was one James Carson.) Linda LaRue's research indicates that this James (b. c 1774-1860) – the one who married Fanny Carson – was part of the Cecil, Maryland, or Rowan County, group, and that his father was John Scott II, 1728-1811.

In addition, our DNA-related John ("Bartlett") Scott of Buncombe County reportedly first married Mary Elizabeth Carson. One of the children of that first marriage was John Wesley Scott, the predecessor of one of my DNA connections.

To sum up: before 1800 (by which time Joseph and James Scott were in Burke County and a James Scott in or near Iredell County – both previously part of Rowan. It seems likely that Rowan/Burke/Iredell is where the Buncombe Scotts came from.

Also, in all those places – Rowan in the 1750s, Burke/Iredell in 1790, and Buncombe in the 1820s – the Scotts and Carsons were in each other's "FAN clubs" – friends, associates, neighbors.

# The case for Tryon/Rutherford:

The Scott families associated with the Cleghorns settled in Tryon, later Rutherford; and these Scotts included the two brothers – John and James. We don't see a Joseph in the Wikitree lists of family members.

Yet there were apparently as many as three Joseph Scotts in Tryon/Rutherford:

One family listing on Ancestry.com reports that a Joseph Scott married Sarah Meglamery, and later lived and died in Smithland, Livingston, Kentucky. This Joseph's marriage bond, dated June 30, 1785, relating to Sarah was filed in Rutherford County. (North Carolina, U.S., Marriage Records, 1741-2011; 4413/5583.) This Rutherford Joseph and his wife Sarah did live later in Livingston County, Kentucky (1810 census), where Joseph's will was signed on March 31, 1817, leaving his property to "Sarah Scott my beloved wife." (Kentucky, U.S. Wills and Probate Records, Livingston.)

Joseph and Sarah apparently had a son – let's call him Joseph Jr., b June 1, 1781, in Rutherford County. He married Sarah Jones on October 7, 1801, in Livingston Ky., according to his marriage bond, and reportedly died in Livingston in 1817.

Neither of these two men – Joseph Sr. or Joseph Jr. – could have been the same person as the Joseph Scott who appeared in Lauderdale County, Ga., in the 1830 census, or earlier in Buncombe County, N.C. in the 1820 census.

Yet, there apparently was a third – and earlier -- Joseph Scott in Tryon. On October 25, 1770, a Joseph Scott and wife Mary sold 200 acres in Tryon to Alexander Wells. (Img 117/343; Tryon Archives, County Court Minutes.)

J Sal from South Sont Sm.

Four years later, on September 2, 1774, Henry Johnston and his wife Katherine deeded 260 acres to a Joseph Scott. Img 196/343; Tryon Archives, County Court Minutes.)

🕻 Image 🛛 196 🔹 of 343 🕥 Print Print Vale from Henry Johnston And hathe 260 00 · wite o yourk -A detele G.A n' leiden comouls. 2 A. ale rom tub tas Mes mand to bin

The presence of this earlier "Joseph Scott" in Tryon in the 1770s is a possible indicator that these Scotts may have been the same family as the Scotts who show up in Buncombe and Lauderdale in 1800 and thereafter.

#### The Pasquotank County, N.C. Possibility.

Pasquotank County is an old county named after an Indian tribe located in the eastern part of the state, just south of the Virginia state line. It was established as a precinct of Albemarle County in 1668 and became a county in 1739. Elizabeth City is its county seat.



Early settlers included a Joseph Scott, b c 1620 in Virginia, who moved to North Carolina by 1663, when he patented 640 acres of land south of the Perquimans River, next door to Pasquotank County.

The tax list for 1754 for Pasquotank included Samuel Scott, Joseph Scott, "Joshua Scott & Sons, Caleb and Joshua Scott,"

A will of Stephen Scott Sr. written 1752 and submitted to court in 1753, lists sons: Joseph, Samuel, and daughter Mary Conner. Also grandchildren: Joseph, Mary. Executors and sons: Joseph and Samuel sons. These are likely (a) the sons of Stephen, and (b) the Josephs Senr and Junr who appeared on the 1790 list of households.

The 1769 tax list for Pasquotank included Samuel Scott, <u>Joseph Scott</u> Senr, Joseph Scott Junr, Alexander Scott for self, Neaves Scott, Samuel Scott Junr., and Mary Scott.

The 1786 census for Pasquotank listed <u>Joseph</u> Scott with 4 white males in his household under 21 and over 60. Also, a William Scott with 1 male 21-60.

A 1790 list of heads of households in Pasquotank County is reproduced below. It includes Joseph, Joseph Jur. And several others.

Page 251					
Head of Household					
White Males 16 and over					
White Males Under 16					
White Females					
Other Free Person					
Slaves					
919469					
SIMONS, Jesse 2	7	4	2	2	
SYMONS, Jeremiah	1	0	0	0	5
SMALL, Samuel 2	2	2	0	1	5
SMALL, Joseph 1	0	0	0	ō	
SYMONS, Absala 0	2	2	0	õ	
SHAKESPEAR, Samuel	3	2	1	õ	1
STANTON, Andrew	1	ō	1	õ	2
SHIPPERD, Smith	1	0	ō	õ	17
SIMSON, Elizabeth	ò	5	4	0	0
SCOTT, William 1	4	4	0	4	0
SIMSON, Thomas 3	1	6	õ	ò	
SCOTT, Joseph 1	2	4	0	16	
SAWYER, Jane 2	1	3	0	0	
SCOTT, Joseph, Jur.	1	0	2	õ	23
STAFFORD, Samuel	1	3	1	0	0
SIMSON, William	3	2	5	õ	0
	2	1	5	ő	13
SMITHSON, John, Jur. SPROCK, John 1	2	2	0	0	1.5
brucent count a		0	4	0	6.0
SWANN, John, Esquire	1	3	9	0	60
SIKES, Levi 2	4	2	0	0	
SIMSON, Joab 1	3		-	-	
SCOTT, Stephen 4	3	3	0	0	
SCOTT, Samuel, Jur.	1	0	0	0	0
SCOTT, Robert 1	2	2	0	0	
SCOTT, John 1	0	0	0	0	
SIMSON, Josiah 1	1	1	0	0	
STAFFORD, John 1	1	4	0	0	-
SCOTT, Samuel, Senr.	2	0	3	0	2
SCOTT, Simson 1	1	2	0	0	
SCOTT, Marmaduke	1	0	2	0	6
SIMSON, William, Jur.	2	2	2	0	0
SAWYER, Prissilla	1	1	5	0	0
SMITHSON, John 4	1	3	0	0	
SHARBOROUGH, Luke	2	1	1	0	0
STAFFORD, Stephen	2	2	4	0	0
SCOTT, Abraham 1	1	2	0	0	
SHARBOROUGH, Joseph	1	0	0	0	0

A printed "Other free" heads of Households in 1790 North Carolina Census lists no one named Joseph Scott.

See also Heads of Families, First Census of the United States: 1790. State of North Carolina. (Reproduces in print the typed list above.)

There is no reason for optimism that these listings of Joseph Scott, Sr. and Jr., in Pasquotank, help us identify our Buncombe County Joseph and James Scott. There is no basis for assuming that either of the Josephs on the 1790 Pasquotank list is the person who showed up in Buncombe in 1800. Moreover, there was no James Scott on the Pasquotank list, and we have some reason to suspect that the Buncombe Joseph and James were brothers. Joseph without James is no more convincing than James without Joseph.

### The Caswell, N.C. Possibility

One other North Carolina County that in 1790 apparently had household heads named Joseph Scott and John Scott was Caswell County, formed in 1777, northeast of Rowan.



In 1783 James Scott granted 300 acres in Caswell County "adjacent to John Scott." Caswell Co. Deed Book F, p. 187. John Scott was on the 1784 tax list with 350 acres.

One problem is that John Scott, the father, made his will on January 21, 1795, he named his wife Mary and sons James and Joseph Scott. He named son Joseph as his executor – in Caswell County – at a time when the Joseph who was father or uncle to our misnamed John "Bartlett" Scott was apparently living in Buncombe County.

\* \* \*

A return to the basics seems warranted now. We have two significant elements of DNA evidence.

Martins who were predecessor relations of mine came down from Philadelphia and Pennsylvania in the mid 1700s – with a stop in Southern Virginia near the North Carolina border – then on through North Carolina, to South Carolina near Camden.

Scotts who were predecessor relations of mine came down from Maryland or Pennsylvania at about the same time – passing through Southern Virginia, with a stop in western North Carolina and at least one family moved on to Lauderdale County, Alabama. Lauderdale John Scott (b. c 1800) is DNA-linked to Isabella Scott, who was born some 45 years earlier – likely two generations. This Lauderdale John told census takers his parents were from North Carolina. There were Scott families in many counties in western North Carolina. Regrettably, we do not have either paper (microfilm) records or DNA evidence linking Lauderdale John to any of those families. But it seems likely that Lauderdale John descended from either the Rowan/Burke/Iredell Scott family or the Tryon/Rutherford family. There were "Josephs" in both.

The Martin and Scott family trajectories surely crossed about 1778, or perhaps a little earlier or a little later. They crossed when Old John and Isabella Scott met and married and generated a son they named James Scott Martin. For that reason, we may reasonably guess – though we cannot prove – that Isabella's father, or possibly Old John's adopting father was named James Scott.

Old John's father was born perhaps around 1730. Isabella's father – perhaps James Scott – was born around the same time. Given that the prevailing pathways of immigration were southward and westward, we may suspect that these parents were born in, or spent time in, Virginia and then North Carolina.

Martins and Scotts were ubiquitous, as were "John Martins" and "James Scotts." But there is only one place in all of Virginia and North Carolina where we find a John Martin and a James Scott in close proximity at the right time: in Rowan County, in the mid 1750s, when (a) a John Martin died in 1757, and (b) a James Scott married his widow, Lydia, two years later, in 1759.

Rowan County is where a John Martin lived, probably had children, and died too young. It is likely where one of his boys played with and fell in love with a young girl in the Scott family. It is also a place where James Scott and his new wife, the widow Lydia, might have raised either a young "Old John," or a young Isabella, or perhaps even both — in the same household: a double incentive to name a first son "James Scott Martin." Though it could be a coincidence, we find Carsons snarled in with Scotts in each place and time.

Mecklenburg is also a possible place of connection. There were several men named James Scott there: the deceased (1771) James, his father, and his three nephews. But "Joseph" appears to be a connecting name joining the Buncombe Scott family and an earlier county residence; and we see no "Joseph Scott" in Mecklenburg.

Tryon/Rutherford is another possibility, but we do not find there a "James Scott" of the right age to father an Isabella in the mid 1750's.

We deal now with probabilities – in a world where absolute sureties do not exist, where probabilities are all we can have.

If any reader, now or ever, can point to a place and time where there appears a greater probability that the Martins and Scotts intermingled their DNA, I hope they will let me know while I can still appreciate the news. (edenmartin@me.com.)

# XVII.

# Gone To Illinois.

When did the Martin and related Neely families move to Illinois, which was a territory rather than a state prior to December 3, 1818? Grand-father I.J. Martin had not known when the Martins moved up from Kentucky. He thought it might have been "about the year 1803 or soon thereafter."

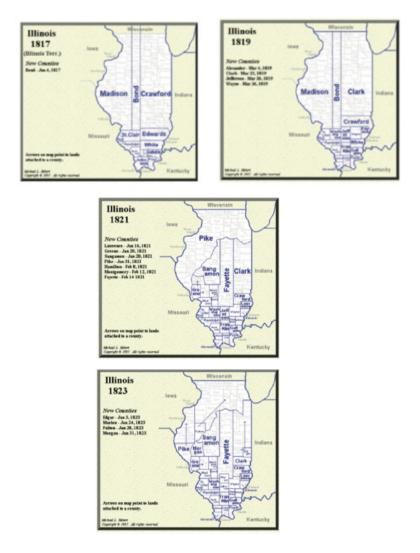
In my *More Fragments of Martin Family History*, 2014, I summarized what we had learned about the family's move to Illinois. In 1817, John Martin Sr., James Martin, and William Martin, as well as Charles Neely, were still in Kentucky, listed as taxpayers on land they owned in Logan County. (*Id.*, 102. Sometime in late 1817 or 1818 they moved to Illinois.

James Scott Martin "of Logan Co.," sold his land in Logan in late 1817. (*Id.*, 169 185.) His family settled in Crawford County, on land that later became part of Clark County.

Charles Neely, husband of Jane Martin Neely, acquired 400 acres of land in Walnut Prairie, Crawford County, near the Wabash River, in 1816. 1815 was the last year in which Charles paid taxes in Logan County. He sold 194 acres in Logan County in August 1818. He had already moved by that time as he was identified in that transaction as "Charles Neely of Crawford County, Illinois." (*Id.*, 164). The surveying of Illinois bounty lands had been delayed by the war of 1812, but it progressed rapidly during 1816-1817. Warrants were issued after October 1817, and land was distributed by lot, with sales made to both settlers and speculators. Land along the Wabash River, where the Martins and Neelys settled, was sold by the land office in Vincennes. Land was offered at auction for \$2 or more per acre; it could also be purchased at the land office in 80 or 160 acre tracts, one-twentieth down and 25% due in 40 days – the remainder over four years. *Illinois in 1818*, Buck, 1917, at 43-46.

Probably the Martins and Neelys traveled from southwest Kentucky to Southern Illinois via Louisville and Clarksville, on the Indiana side of the Ohio, and then via the "Buffalo Trace" to Vincennes, Indiana, where they would have crossed the Wabash River. The Buffalo Trace road followed roughly the route of today's U.S. 150. The trackway from the Falls of the Ohio to the Wabash near Vincennes had been formed by millions of migrating bison and was well known and used by American Indians. A ferry began operating across the Wabash at Vincennes as early as 1805. In 1817-18 the 114-mile trip from Clarksville on the Ohio to the Wabash on horseback would have taken about three days likely longer in a wagon. *Lost and Forgotten Historic Roads: The Buffalo Trace*, Sam Snell and Angie Krieger, at p. 5.

The Martins apparently moved from Kentucky to Illinois at different times, which might explain why one group settled near Darwin and the other near Bridgeport. Analysis of the locations is complicated by the fact that the county boundary lines in Illinois shifted as the population expanded.



The families of James Scott Martin, Samuel Martin, and Charles and Jane Neely settled near what would become Darwin, on the Wabash River. In late 1817 and 1818 that place was part of Crawford County, Illinois Territory. Statehood occurred on December 3, 1818. In 1819 the northern part of Crawford was hived off to form Clark County, which included Darwin.

The 1818 Illinois state census lists James Martin, Samuel Martin and Charles Neely in Crawford County. In the 1820 census they were in Clark. James Martin – almost certainly our James Scott Martin – was listed there as head of a household of 14. Also, there was Moses Williams, who had married brother Samuel Martin's widow Sarah and was now the head of that household. Charles Neely and his wife Jane were also there. *More Fragments*, at 176-177. Charles died there December 4, 1824.

In the 1830 census, "James S. Martin" was listed in Clark County with a household of 11, including one male 50-59 and one female 40-49. After Coles County was created out of Clark in December 1830, James S. Martin became one of the early county Commissioners. *History of Coles County*, 1879, at 246.

William Harvey Martin's family settled in 1817 about 45 miles south of Darwin, in or near Bridgeport township in what would become Lawrence County. In 1817 that place was part of Edwards County, just south of Crawford. On January 16, 1821, Lawrence County was created out of Edwards.

The parents of the Martin clan, Old John and Isabella, settled near their son William Harvey. *The History of Edwards, Lawrence & Wabash Counties, Illinois,* Philadelphia, 1813, reports that (at 327-28):

William Martin, a Yankee, as the early settlers termed him, also came in the year 1817. He located with his family on section 18, where he erected a cabin, tilled some ground and lived for about ten years, and then left the county.

The county history also reports that after the arrival of William Martin in 1817: "His father, John Martin resided with him until his death, which occurred a few years after he came." (*Id.*, at 327.)

William Harvey apparently first "squatted" on the land, building a cabin on it, and then purchased land on May 2, 1818, in Section 13, T. 3N, Range 13 West (*Early Land Record Book*, p. 105, now retained in the Courthouse at Lawrenceville). *The History of Edwards, Lawrence & Wabash Counties, Illinois*, Philadelphia, 1883, reports that the Martins came to the Bridgeport area in 1817. The county history also reported: On "May 12<sup>th</sup>, 1818, William Martin entered the N.E. quarter of section 13 (T.3 -13). Frequently the settlers would 'squat' on the land and make an improvement and live on it for a time before entering the tract." (*Id.*, 327-28.)

William Harvey Martin and his family may have moved from Section 13 to Section 18 soon after they acquired their first land. As indicated above, the county history reported that William Martin located on Section 18, just southwest of Bridgeport. The county history also reported that, "The first school was taught by John Martin, on section 18, in a little log cabin, in the year 1819 (pp. 327-28, 73).

Although the county history recites that William's father, John Martin, resided with him until his death, it does not say they came to Illinois at the same time; and there is reason to believe that Old John did not move - or at least did not finally move -- until early 1820. A court record found in Logan County recites that on March 31, 1820, "John Martin Senr." signed a bond for \$92.42 to protect an adverse litigant, Thomas Shannon, while Martin took an appeal from a judgment of the Logan Circuit Court. Shannon claimed that Martin "is indebted to him by act [account?] the sum of Forty-five dollars and 46 cents current money." Martin lost in the trial court but apparently obtained a stay of judgment and appealed. On March 23, 1820, Shannon told the judge, "that the said Martin is removing himself out of the County or conseals himself so that a warrant cannot be served upon him." Shannon asked the court "to attach the Estate of the said John Martin or so much thereof as shall be of value sufficient to satisfy the said debt and cost ...." A note in the file states, "Executed on one bay horse and sorrel mare," dated March 23. If Old John had left for Illinois in 1817, he at least left behind a couple of his animals.

The appeal dragged on for a while. In October 1820 several witnesses, including "John Martin Jr.," were summoned to appear before the Logan Circuit Court in Russellville during November term to testify in the case of Shannon v. Martin. (The sheriff of Butler County was commanded to summon John Martin Jr. to appear in Russellville, Logan County, to testify on November 3, 1820.) The case was then bounced from November to May 1821. Then the file is silent. One may guess that with Old John

in Illinois, the appeal was abandoned. Probably Shannon had to settle for the horse and mare.

Whether or not Old John and Isabella came to Bridgeport Township in 1817 with their son William Harvey Martin, or a few years after, the 1820 census for then Edwards County shows both households were there by then. Old John and William Harvey Martin both had their homes in Section 13, Township 3-13; and the 1820 census shows that they maintained separate households:

John Martin – 1 male between 10 and 15, one male 45 and over, and one female 45 and over.

William Martin (listed just below John Martin) -1 male under 10, 3 males 10-15, one male 26 through 44, 4 females under 10, and one female 26 through 44.

The first of these entries is important evidence that Old John's wife, Isabella, was still alive in 1820, after they moved from Kentucky to Illinois.

Though they may have lived initially in Section 13, Old John taught school about a mile to the east, in Section 18, "in a little log-cabin in the year 1819." Within a year or two, a new log structure with greased paper windows was built just to the east, on the southwest corner of Section 17, near where "about the same time" the New Light Christians built a hewed log church known as the Spring Hill church. The county history reported that the new Spring Hill church was "used as a schoolhouse" and was "open to other denominations." *Id.*, at 328.)

Henry Bennett, an Ohioan, came here in the fall of 1817, and settled on the N. E. quarter of section 17, almost within the present limits of the town of Bridgeport. He reared a small family and died about the year 1828, soon after which his wife and family returned to Ohio. William Martin, a Yankee, as the early settlers termed him, also came in the year 1817. He located with his family on section 18, where he erected a cabin, tilled some ground and lived for about ten years, and then left the county. His father, John Martin, resided with him until his death, which occurred a few years after he came. Thomas Fish, a native of the state of Early Schools and Churches, The first school was

taught by John Martin, on section 18, in a little logcabin, in the year 1819. Among the scholars were David D. Lanterman, Lettie Lanterman, the Miller children and the Fish children. In a year or two, 1820-21, a log school-house, with greased paper windows, was built on the southwest corner of section 17, T. 3-12, near which was built a hewed log church by the "New Lights," (Christians) about the same time, which were known as the Spring Hill church and school-house, so named on account of there being a perennial spring near by.

William Kinkaid was the earliest resident preacher in the neighborhood. Among the traveling preachers were, Rev. James Hughes, John Rogers, David Mc Donald and Elijah Gooden.

A burial ground was started here, and the first person interred therein was James Flanigan.

After Edwards County was divided in 1821, Section 18 was in the new Lawrence County. See also, "Historical Notes on Lawrence County, Illinois," Mary Tracy White in *Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society*, April 1917, at 367, 376, 380.

We can be sure that this John Martin and his son William were "our" Old John and his son William Harvey Martin because land William purchased in 1826 on Section 18 was sold in 1847 by William H. Martin and Cynthia Martin of Moultrie County.

William Harvey had first married Abigail Whitaker in Logan County in 1805. She had made the move to Illinois with the family and was in the household when the 1820 census was taken, but she died not long after. At that time William Harvey's household included four males under 15 and four females under 10, so it is not surprising that he did not remain without a wife for long.

William Harvey married his second wife, Cynthia Clarke, on December 13, 1821, in a marriage performed by "John Martin, M.G." That was his father -- our Old John, the Logan County preacher.

When Illinois performed another census in 1825, William and Cynthia were no longer listed. Apparently, they had moved to Clark County by then, though they kept their property in Section 18 near Bridgeport.

# XVIII.

# Gone To Rest – But Where?

A report on an internet site not verified by me says that John Martin of Bridgeport died in Lawrence County on September 10, 1823. That fits in neatly between the late-1821 marriage of his son and the 1825 Illinois census, which did not list John and reported that William and Cynthia were no longer in the county. Apparently, they had moved to Clark County by then, though keeping their property near Bridgeport.

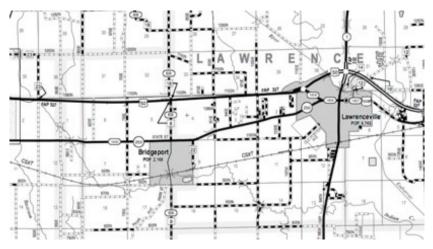
The death date of September 10, 1823, appears in a family tree of Nelson N. Martin, one of the sons of William Harvey Martin and his second wife, Cynthia. Nelson was reportedly born in 1828 and married Emma Clark in Moultrie County, February 3, 1848. They moved to Texas before their first son Franklin Martin, was born in 1855. The report as to Old John's death date apparently comes from one of these descendants of William Harvey – which stands to reason. Old John was living with or near William Harvey when he died. His other children – daughter Jane, James Scott, and the family of Samuel – were living in Clark and then Coles County.

I got in touch via Ancestry.com with the Martin descendant who had posted the information that Old John had died September 10, 1823, in Bridgeport. I asked her if there was a source for that date, perhaps a family bible or some other record preserved in her family. She responded (on November 20, 2022):

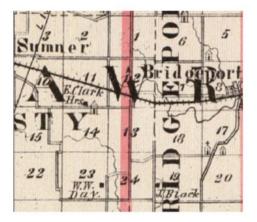


We do not have any report as to when or where Isabella passed.

In mid-June 2017 my wife Sharon and I took a drive from Glencoe down through east-central Illinois. We stopped at Darwin, on the Wabash River, near where James Scott Martin and Charles Neely and his wife Jane Martin Neely had lived in Clark County. We then went on the few miles to Bridgeport and Section 18, just to the southwest, near where Old John and Isabella spent their last years.



The initial households of Old John and William Harvey were in Section 13. The county history says William and his father later resided in Section 18, which is where the log-cabin school in which Old John taught was located. Perhaps he also taught later in the newer structure at the southwest corner of Section 17. The church and other structure – probably the school – appear at the southwest corner of Section 17 in the following map.



Clip from Map of Richland and Lawrence Counties, Warner & Beers, 1876.

Sharon and I viewed the old Spring Hill cemetery near where the Martins had reportedly lived, near the first log church where they worshipped and where Old John taught school. No trace of that old church remains, or of the "new" Spring Hill church and schoolhouse built on the southwest corner of Section 17 in 1820-21.

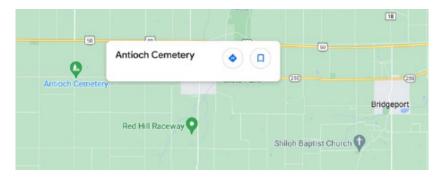
There are four church cemeteries near where the Martins lived:

- 1 Shiloh Baptist Church, just southwest of Bridgeport
- 2 Spring Hill cemetery in Section 17.
- 3 Antioch cemetery a few miles west of Bridgeport, once in Lawrence County, now in Richman County. The church no longer stands.
- 4 Union Baptist not far from Antioch. Again, the church no longer stands.

The Shiloh Baptist Church according to its web site has existed "since 1839." A Resolution of the Illinois House of Representatives in December 2014 celebrated Shiloh on the occasion of its 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary "of the church's founding": "... A small band of people met just south of Bridgeport in order to form the first Baptist church in Lawrence County on December 9, 1839 ...." (HR1350.) So that's too late for our folks.

A pleasant young woman volunteering at Shiloh on a warm Sunday afternoon directed us to the Spring Hill cemetery, a mile west on the same road. It had been constituted as early as 1815 by William Kinkaid as a congregation of "New Lights," later known as the "Christian" church. The church facility "was open to other denominations," according to the county history. Unfortunately, there are not any old records or surviving gravestones as early as the mid 1820s. Early church records do not mention our Martins. See *History of the Disciples of Christ in Illinois*, 1819-1914, Nathaniel Smith Haynes, Cincinnati, 1915, pp. 255-258; *Springhill Christian Church cemetery (New Light), circa 1819-1853: Bridgeport Township, Lawrence Co., Illinois*, Margaret Ruth Fish, 1972.)

Early Antioch church records say that that church was organized "about 1823" and, "Elder William Martin, a pioneer from Kentucky, was the first pastor." The Antioch Church, once in Lawrence County, is now in nearby Richland County, west of Sumner and east of Olney. It would have been an easy matter for William and his family, and Old John and Isabella to ride by buggy from their first home in Section 13 to Antioch Church, via the old Vincennes-St. Louis "Buffalo"Trace, today's U.S. route 50. Readers of I.J. Martin's family history may remember that he had written that the Martin family first settled in Illinois near Olney.



The list of early Antioch church members does not include a William or John Martin, suggesting perhaps that William Harvey was a visiting preacher there but not a member. (See "Church and Family History Research Assistance for Primitive Baptist Churches in Richland County, Illinois," internet site.) The first log meeting house "may have been built as early as 1822; it was also used for a school." It is possible that this is the building where Old John taught school. The county history of Richland County – as it appears in *Counties of Cumberland, Jasper and Richland, Illinois*, Chicago, 1884 – confirms that William Martin was the "preacher usually in attendance" at Antioch church.

Union Baptist church was organized a little later -- in late 1827; the cemetery of that church is sometimes now referred to as Brinkley. It was a few miles west of the earlier Antioch church; and both are only a few miles west or Bridgeport. A few years ago, it was reportedly in a wooded area with few tombstones remaining. A short surviving list of burials at Union/Brinkley lists no Martins. *Cemetery Inscriptions of Richland County*, Barbara Craddock.

Some early records of the Union church are reprinted in "Footprints Past and Present" Richland County Genealogical Society (Vol. 7, No. 4). (Courtesy of John M. King.) The earliest show that the "Union Primitive Baptist Church" was constituted by "the arm of the Baptist Church of Christ at Antioch" which met on November 7, 1827, and that one of the three Brethren helping from Antioch was "Wm. Martin." The presbytery was composed of "Elders Daniel Parker, William Martin, and ...." We know from I.J.'s family history that the Martins were associated with the well-known minister Daniel Parker. The assembled Brethren on that day were found to be "in Gospel order" and pronounced to be "a Gospel Church, by two Elders: Daniel Parker and Wm. Martin, along with Deacon Thomas Carney."

On November 23, 1827, the Church, "Agreed that we chuse a supply or preacher and accordingly chose brother William Martin." John M. King told me that Willis Blanchard was listed as one of the Union church members. Blanchard had been with the Martins at the Center Baptist Church in Logan County. *More Fragments*, at 92. (Blanchard had married Betsy Montgomery – the aunt of "Polly" Montgomery, who married Phillip Wesley Martin (b. 1801), the youngest son of Old John and Isabella.

Less than a year later, on August 23, 1828, the Church met and, "By request of Brother Wm. Martain agreed that we give him a letter of recommendation." This indicates that William Martin was about to leave or perhaps had already left the community and wanted evidence that would enable him to join or minister to a church somewhere else.

If Old John died in 1823, he may have been buried in the cemetery of the earlier Spring Hill Church or in the cemetery at the Antioch Church. We were told during our visit that no records survive for early burials in the Spring Hill cemetery. Robert L Webb, an expert on the Baptist Churches in Illinois, informs me that there are not any early cemetery records for the Antioch church cemetery.

Though both the Section 18 log structure and the Section 17 newer Spring Hill church and school are now gone, the old Spring Hill cemetery is still there. No headstone survives back as far as the 1820s.



Sharon Martin – Old Spring Hill cemetery.

Old John and perhaps Isabella may rest nearby.

# XIX.

# Where Does All This Leave Us?

Are there any conclusions that may be drawn from this jumble of names, dates, facts and supposed probabilities?

Lawyers sometimes use terms like "clear and convincing evidence," or "the preponderance of the evidence." Whatever standard one uses, the evidence here does not permit us to make any definitive findings about where Old John and Isabella were before Logan County in 1797.

However, we know more than we did four decades ago when I started researching our family origins. The problems are both "too much" and "too little." We find dozens of "John Martins" in Virginia, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, Kentucky, and Tennessee. We have dozens more "James Scotts." There are haystacks of information relating to the Martin and Scott families. We can be certain that "our" John Martin and wife Isabella were in Logan County, Kentucky, after 1797. Though I think they were probably in the Goose Creek Community of Jefferson County before that, "probably" leaves room for uncertainty.

As to the pre-Kentucky period, the period before 1779, the DNA evidence is compelling. The short form of the syllogism is this:

DNA evidence shows that members of one of the Scott families in

the Rowan/Tryon area of North Carolina in 1800 and earlier were related to our Martin line;

- The connection is through Isabella Scott, mother of James Scott Martin, born about 1779;
- Therefore, both Isabella and Old John were likely in Rowan/Tryon in 1778-79.

This DNA evidence is consistent with the family stories of coming from near the Virginia / North Carolina border, as well as James Scott Martin's statements to a census taker in 1750.

Other fragments of both DNA and documentary evidence help fill in some of the gaps. Here's the longer form of the syllogism stated in terms of probabilities:

- 1 It is highly probable that my line of Martins, stretching back to Old John Martin, born c 1755, is related to the Immigrant John Martin who arrived in Philadelphia from the North of Ireland about 1740. Some of that Martin family lived for a time in southern Virginia, at a place called Clover Bottoms.
- 2 That Irish Immigrant was named John Martin, and he had several sons, one of whom was named David. The evidence comes from a letter written in 1870 by a great-grandson of Immigrant John named Daniel M. Martin.

I think his reported details about Daniel's ancestor, David, and his descendants were probably accurate. The letter writer belonged to their line; and these details – about settling in Pennsylvania, then living in Clover Bottoms, and then South Carolina – would have been known by his grandparents and parents.

That there were several brothers seems highly probable. Immigrants tended to travel in family groups for protection and mutual assistance. Some of the sons' families probably travelled together from Pennsylvania south through Virginia and beyond. But whether there were three or perhaps more, and whether their names were David, Robert and Samuel? ... We can be reasonably sure only of the brother David, the head of Daniel M.'s line.

- 3 The DNA evidence from the Scott side makes it highly probable that my line of Martins were related to a family of Scotts who were in western North Carolina in the last two decades of the 18th Century.
- 4 Isabella Scott was the connecting link. Her son, James Scott, Martin, was born about 1779, which is about the time the family left for Kentucky. Isabella was probably about 18 – plus or minus 3 years – in 1779. She could have been a daughter of either John Scott II of Rowan, or his brother James. Old John Martin was in the same place at the same time. Because they named their son James, it seems likely that James was Isabella's father.
- 5 We know only one place in Rowan/Tryon where the Martin and Scott families overlap -- where (a) John Martin dies in Rowan in 1757; (b) John's widow Lydia becomes "Administrator" of his estate; and (c) in 1759 Lydia Martin marries James Scott. We do not know whether John and Lydia had children before he died, but it is possible, if not probable.
- 6 What about Old John's genetic father? Immigrant John from Northern Ireland was supposed to have had three sons: David, Robert and Samuel?

There was an old soldier in Tryon called "Captain" Samuel Martin. He reported to pension officers that he had been born in Northern Ireland in 1732, which would have made him about 23 in 1755, approximately when our Old John was born. According to the Stockton book, Immigrant John had had three sons, one of whom was named Samuel. The family had spent some years in Pennsylvania before moving south to and through Virginia. Could Samuel have been the father of Old John – the link between the Immigrant John line and our Old John?

Or was the John Martin who died in Rowan in 1757 also a son of the Immigrant John – and thus possibly a brother of "Captain" Samuel? These are intriguing possibilities – but there is no evidence. (Though after naming their supposedly first son "James Scott Martin," they named two other sons – John Martin and Samuel Martin.)

7 Did Old John and Isabella marry in North Carolina and travel to Kentucky sometime in the period 1778-79?

As reported above, James Scott Martin told a census taker in 1850 that he was 70 and that he had been born in North Carolina. Ten years later, in 1860 he -- or someone (perhaps his Lane adopted son, who had become head of the household) -- told the census taker that he was 81 and had been born in Kentucky. I'd assign a higher probability to the earlier statement about being born in North Carolina.

8 Did Old John and Isabella first settle somewhere in central Kentucky, or did they move immediately southeast-to-northwest through Kentucky to Washington County and settle in the Goose Creek community northeast of Louisville?

The John Martin who appeared in December 1781 on a list of people entitled to 400 acres of land in Jefferson County could have been Old John. There are no Jefferson County tax lists until 1789, so we have little other evidence until 1790 when the name John Martin appears on the list for the Goose Creek community.

Goose Creek John had a son who likely became 16 in 1794. That fits with our family. John then drops off the Jefferson rolls in 1795 and shows up in Logan County in 1797. That also fits. Rachal Lennon, my expert family historian in Kentucky, thinks it was our guy.

But the signatures of the two "John Martin" (separated by decades) look very different.

On the one hand, we've eliminated all the other known candidate "John Martins." On the other hand, there may still be "John Martins" over whom we have not yet tripped. It now seems less important to be able to nail down the details that show up on family trees -- marriages and the places and dates of birth and death — and more important to understand the overall structure and shape of the flow of family lives. (Perhaps that is because I cannot nail down many of our family's details.)

Whether the Martins came from the North of Ireland via Philadelphia, and whether they passed through Pennsylvania or Virginia or both, we can now be reasonably confident that our Martin predecessors came from Northern Ireland and that they were Scotch-Irish – meaning, as we now use the term, lowland Scots and English Protestants, descended from folks who had been transplanted to Northern Ireland by the Stuarts. They were not Highlanders from northwest Scotland or Irish/ Gaelic Catholics from the southern counties of Ireland.

These Scotch-Irish came to America in sailing ships, in primitive and dangerous conditions, often paying their way by agreeing to work as indentured servants when they arrived. Our Martins appear to have come without having to indenture themselves; but we do not know about the Scotts.

After some time in a destination port such as Philadelphia, with their money running out, those who were not trapped by indentures resettled ("squatted"?) on or near the back country frontier. They endured hunger, hard weather, pestilence and disease without much help outside their extended families.

They lost children in infancy and wives and sisters in childbirth. They survived by building their own cabins, making their own clothes, drawing their own water, clearing new ground, growing their own crops (kitchen garden and some tobacco for cash and trade), killing their own game, and defending themselves and their families from attacks by Indians. (It seems silly after all these decades to use the term "Indigenous Americans." Old John and Isabella would not have known what "indigenous" meant.) These Scotch-Irish ancestors fought the French, the English (twice) and the Indians. In the fighting both sides did foul things to each other. The newcomers who survived often hid from bill collectors and were tormented by absentee landowners and lawyers who found or invented defects in their land titles.

As families grew larger, sometimes with as many as 10 or more children, the numbers of people living under one roof and in one room multiplied. Cleanliness may have been next to Godliness, but privacy was certainly next to impossible. Grandparents, uncles, aunts, and cousins lived on neighboring farms and attended the same nearby churches. Cousins grew up playing with cousins, and then frequently married them. In frontier townships, particularly where the terrain was difficult, the roads primitive and transportation mostly by "shanks' mare," communities were dispersed yet still local, consisting of intersecting networks of intermarried families.

The lives of these ancestors centered on their church communities. They attended worship services, meetings, weddings and funerals in log and later frame structures which often doubled as schools. Without many books, newspapers or magazines, the Bible was their main literary text, the basis for sermons and religious and moral teaching, and the ground for fervent dispute. Church sects divided and subdivided, and congregations split up, over what now seems like doctrinal trivia. Revivals and church meetings were social as well as religious events.

Local sheriffs caught horse thieves, who could be prosecuted in and punished by local courts; but the local congregations almost certainly did more than the sheriffs to regulate domestic behavior, enforce moral standards and preserve community order.

Some of our male predecessors, if not most, were literate. Immigrant John of the South Carolina family was said to be educated for the ministry and was trusted to manage the contracting out of his shipboard Irish colonists as indentured servants; and he reportedly established a school in Philadelphia. He educated his family, and at least one of his sons later taught school. Our Old John, the "M.G." – Minister of the Gospel in Logan County, surely could read the Bible. He could sign his name. He taught school. His son James Scott Martin later served two terms as Coles County Commissioner. James' brother William Harvey Martin was described by I.J. Martin as the "ablest and most distinguished" of the sons of Old John and was a well-known Baptist minister.

But Old John and his descendants made their livings more with their backs, shoulders, and hands than their minds. Ministers did not make a living by preaching. Men cut the timber, cleared the land, broke the sod, took care of the animals, and raised and harvested their crops. Women raised the children, prepared the meals, made the homespun cloth, sewed and repaired the clothes, did the cleaning, and shared in the physical farm labor, with occasional time off for childbirth and caring for sick children.

When better or more land became available, families moved on – perhaps prodded by debt collectors and land lawyers. Open lands first beckoned in the back country of Pennsylvania -- then Virginia and North Carolina – then Kentucky – then some other place in Kentucky – then Southern Illinois – and then Central Illinois. The frontier was more than a thesis; impermanency, relocation, jeopardy and poverty shaped their lives.

These were chapters, as Thomas Gray once wrote, in "the short and simple annals of the poor." One would like to think that despite the hardships, they were mostly happy chapters.

# Appendix A

# Martin DNA Connections Jason Duncan To REM, March 9, 2023

March 9, 2023

Eden,

I started studying your Y-DNA matches by looking at the Martin group project on FTDNA. Most of your matches are in Group 30 of the project, but for some reason your test is not listed among them. Instead, your test is listed in the large uncategorized group at the end. My guess is that the volunteer(s) who manage the group have a backlog of tests to sort. With such a common name, there are lots of tests to analyze and maybe they haven't looked at yours yet. This isn't a problem. No common ancestor has been identified for this group, so this doesn't provide any immediate answers.

I then turned to your list of Y-DNA matches who have taken a test with at least 37 markers. The more markers that are used, the more precisely an estimate can be made about the number of generations back to a shared ancestor, and 37 markers is the smallest amount that is really useful. I also only looked at the matches with the last name Martin. Those with other last names must have a non-paternal-event (NPE) somewhere in their lineage, and their trees aren't helpful in identifying your Martin ancestors. This left 14 tests to study. I reduced the list of useful matches even further because 3 of them haven't provided a tree or an earliest known paternal ancestor. Perhaps they could be contacted and asked to provide information on their Martin line, but my experience is that maybe one in ten people reply to my messages asking to collaborate. For now, that leaves 11 tests to study.

5 of the 11 tests provide a tree that identifies a shared ancestor with you. They either share your James Scott Martin (born 1779) or his parents John Martin and Isabella. This list is shown below.

MyID	Test Taker	Steps	Generations to Shared Ancestor	Predicted Birth of MRCA	Actual Birth of MRCA
5	Ronald Allen Martin	4 of 111	5	1700 CE (1500-1850 CE)	1779
7	Lewis Edward Martin	5 of 111	5	1650 CE (1450-1800 CE)	1779
8	Grady Lynn Martin	3 of 111	6	1750 CE (1600-1900 CE)	1750
10	Phillip Edward Martin	3 of 37	5.5	1500 CE (1000-1800 CE)	1779
12	Frank Martin	7 of 111	6.5	1500 CE (1200-1750 CE)	1750

#### Table 1: Y-DNA matches with a known shared ancestor.

Table 1 shows your five Y-DNA matches who share a known ancestor based on their provided trees. I created the "MyID" column to provide a unique number for each match. Some of your matches have similar names, and this helps keep them separate.

The "Steps" column represents how much Y-DNA the match shares with you. The notation "4 of 111" means that four of the 111 tested markers are DIFFERENT between you and the match. FTDNA lists this as "4 steps". The more markers you share with a match, the more closely related you are. Conversely, the more steps you are away from a match, the more distantly you are likely related. This suggests there has been more time available for additional genetic mutations of the Y-chromosome.

The "Generations" column is the number of generations back to your shared ancestor. If you are 5 generations from James Scott Martin, and your match is 6 generations from him, this is shown as 5.5 generations.

The "Predicted Birth of Most Recent Common Ancestor" is the estimate from FTDNA based on the number of steps, or different markers, you

have with your match. They provide a median year and a very large range for when that ancestor was likely born.

I also showed the "Actual Birth of MRCA" using an estimate of 1750 for John Martin. You can compare the two columns to show how accurate the prediction was. I noticed that the actual date is always in the latter half of the predicted range. This might be predictive when we look at the matches without a known common ancestor.

The table below shows your six Y-DNA matches with an unknown shared ancestor.

MyID	Test Taker	Steps	Predicted Birth of MRCA	Ancestor
1	Billy W. Martin	4 of 111	1700 CE (1500-1850 CE)	Samuel (1799 Kershaw SC)
2	Robert Martin	5 of 111	1650 CE (1450-1800 CE)	David (1743 Clover VA->SC)
4	Franklyn Doyle Martin Sr	2 of 67	1700 CE (1450-1900 CE)	John M. (1755 VA)
14	Mark Wayne Martin	3 of 37	1500 CE (1000-1800 CE)	Samuel James (1842 IN)
15	David Martin	10 of 111	1250 CE (800-1600 CE)	Robert (1729 IRE)
19	Gilbert Mack Martin	4 of 37	1300 CE (650-1750 CE)	William W. (1786 SC)

#### Table 2: Y-DNA matches without an identified common ancestor.

Below is additional information on each of these matches as provided on FTDNA.

**#1 Billy W. Martin.** Descends from Samuel Martin (born 10/28/1799 Kershaw SC) who married Rebecca Fleming.

**#2 Robert Martin.** Descends from David Martin (born 1743 Clover Bottoms VA) who married Susannah Jubb/Goff (born 1759 SC). He moved to Kershaw SC where his son John T. Martin was born in 1775. David is listed as a son of John Martin (born Ireland) and his wife Isabella.

**#4 Franklin Doyle Martin Sr.** Descends from John M. Martin (born 1755 VA). No other information.

**#14 Mark Wayne Martin**. Descends from Samuel James Martin (1842 IN – 1906 IN) who married Amanda Warren. Trees on Ancestry suggest Samuel James Martin might be the son of Samuel Martin who

was born in either KY or VA in 1795. Beyond that, the online trees aren't consistent.

**#15 David Martin**. Descends from Robert Martin Sr (1729 Ireland – 1811 Fairfield SC) who married Rebeccah. His line is through their son Edward (born 1754 SC) who married Mary Jane Aiken who was born in Ireland.

**#19 Gilbert Mack Martin**. Descends from William Washington Martin (1786 SC - 1865 GA) who married Elizabeth Neil. His father is listed as born in Ireland.

## Conclusions

It looks like a branch of the Martin family went to South Carolina. This wasn't necessarily your John Martin, but perhaps a brother or uncle. Four of your six matches have ancestors who were in SC in the late 1700s. Matches #4 and #14 might have as well, but they didn't provide enough information. Perhaps one or more Martins moved from Virginia to the northern part of South Carolina between Charlotte, NC, and Columbia, SC. The two SC towns that are mentioned in your matches' trees, Kershaw and Fairfield, are only 50 miles apart.

Perhaps your Martin line immigrated from Ireland in the early 1700s. They might have settled in Virginia near Clover Bottoms in Halifax County. By the 1750s or 1760s, some of the family moved to South Carolina. If your John Martin was in that group, he moved northwest to Kentucky in 1779, about the time that your James Scott Martin was born.

# Appendix B

# Scott DNA Connections Jason Duncan to REM, March 31, 2023

March 31, 2023 Eden,

I found something interesting that I wanted to share. I'm skipping the more formal report (for now) so that I can go ahead and pass it along. It looks like I've found a connection to your Scott line. Chromosome 5 (position 162-175) must be from Isabella Scott. The attached spread-sheet shows several of your DNA matches in this range. Many of them – those in blue, red, and black text – are known descendants of the Martin, Feagley, and Nealy lines. Based on their lines of descent, we know where the DNA must have come from. For instance, the DNA you share with your cousin Kathleen Martin must have come from John Neely Martin and/or his wife Rachel E. Martin.

- Those in blue text must share DNA with you from the Martin, Scott, Feagley, Nealy, or Clemens lines.
- Those in red must share DNA from the Martin, Scott, or Feagley lines (because they are more distant cousins).
- Those in black must share DNA from the Martin, Scott, or Nealy lines.

Since I've uploaded your DNA test to gedmatch and to MyHeritage, I'm able to prove whether these matches share DNA with EACH OTHER.

(FTDNA doesn't provide this tool.) Everyone with an "a" in the SIDE column absolutely match each other. That is, all 11 of you received DNA from the same ancestor.

That means this segment on chr05 must be from the Martin or Scott family – because those are the only two names that all of these KNOWN cousins have in common. That's great, because we've proven that this piece of your DNA came from John or Isabella! But which one of them?

The three matches shaded in yellow provide the answer. They are UN-KNOWN cousins because we don't know exactly how they're related to you. However, all three of them SHARE ancestor John Bartlett Scott (born 1800 Buncombe Co, NC). Two of them are mother/daughter (Shanda and Madison), but Piper Howard is their 4<sup>th</sup> cousin. Before, I had found DNA matches who had Scott in their trees, but never matches from two different lines of the same distant ancestor on the same chromosome segment. One match could be a coincidence. Two matches is a pattern!

John Bartlett Scott is shown as the son of James Scott (b1770s NC) who married Nancy Montague (b1773), then to John Scott (1725-1816). There is conflicting information online about this family and I'm not sure what is correct yet. This is a will for John Scott in Rutherford Co, NC, in 1816:

#### https://www.wikitree.com/photo.php/f/f3/Scott-10337.jpg

To summarize what the DNA shows us so far, your Isabella Scott appears to be closely related to John Bartlett Scott (b1800). His grandfather could be Isabella's father or brother. I'm going to continue pouring through the other matches that you have on this chromosome segment to see if any of them have Scott in their family trees.

I know this is a lot to process if you're not familiar with DNA matching and how it all works. And I hope the attached spreadsheet doesn't make it even more confusing! We can talk on the phone if we need to, and as I look at more matches, the picture might become clearer.

MatchName	chr	chr Start End		Cm Segs		Side	AncestorNotes		Co
							2C. I think descendant of bro of Ivory John Martin (1859). So shares John Neely Martin (1833) and wi		
Kathleen Martin	5	155,001,507	163,185,967	8	2955		Rachel Elira Martin (1832).		
							6g to Rev William Martin (1772 Alb VA-1847 IN) m Mary Ann Cook. He son of David John Martin (1737		
Shawn R Heyse	5	161,670,428	168,437,170	11	1587		IRE) m Anne Ellison (1739 VA)		
							SHARE: James Scott Martin m Mary Feagley. John Martin (1809) m Susanna Martin (1812). He of Wm		
Frank Carl Martin	5	161,919,482	175,570,290	26	8576	a	Harvey Martin (1784) -> John and Isabella. She of James Scott Martin m Mary Feagley.	T422727	FH
							paternal line: Osacar M. Scott (1910 CO) -> G. W. Scott (1864) -> John W. Scott (1823) -> John Bartlett		
							Scott (1800 BuncNC) -> James DeWitt Scott (1780 NC-1845TN) -> John Scott (1725 RuthNC -1816		
Shanda Lynn Scott	5	161,919,482	174,023,808	22	7552	а	RuthNC) m Letitia McKendrick (1729 VA) -> David Scott (1694 SCO) m Lucia Gordan (1700 SCO)		н
							4g to George Walter Robertson (1889 TN) -> George W. Robertson (1853) m Camille Alabama Scott		
							(1850 AL - 1932 TN) -> John Bartlett Scott (1800 BuncNC) -> James Scott (1773 NC) m Nancy Montague		
Piper Howard	5	162,511,267	174,550,930	23	7680	a	(1773)	YW4967368	FH
Eathel Martin	5	162,761,108	180,715,140	36	11263	a	SHARE: Ivory John Martin (1859) m Rose Eden.		н
Mair Joanna Brooks LEWIS									
(born EVANS)	5	162,761,108	177,005,613	27	8832	a	WAL: Evans, Brooks, Jones, Humphreys, Roberts		н
							3X John and Isabella (ch Wm Harvey 1784 x2; Jane E. 1781). to Thomas Whitaker Martin (1814) m Jane		
Patricia A Willett	5	162,761,108	175,570,290	26	8192	a	Neely. And to William W. Martin (1830). SHARE Charles Neely (1779) m Jane Martin (1782).		н
							ICW R C Davis. Buckler, Canter. ggdau of Oscar M. Scott (1910) -> George W. Scott -> John Wesley Scott		
Madison Buckler/Edelen	5	163,883,301	174,022,174	20	4627	a	(1823) -> John Bartlett Scott (1800)		FH
Janet Kaye Lowe	5	164,899,890	179,608,360	31	6727		maiden Martin. Feagley, Martin, Neely (no tree provided)		
R C Davis	5	165,309,208	172,210,945	13	3058	a	5g to John Martin (1809) m Susanna Martin. 2 lines to John and Isabella.	A269097	
							aunt of Frank Carl Martin. John Martin (1809) m Susanna Martin (1812). He of Wm Harvey Martin		
Barbara Joan Martin	5	165,705,205	179,246,415	29	8704	a	(1784) -> John and Isabella. She of James Scott Martin m Mary Feagley.		н
8 Davis	5	166,062,376	179,312,595	28	6066	- a -	4g to John Martin (1809) m Susanna Martin. 2 lines to John and Isabella	T393963	

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