

X16041

Dear Mr. Whitlock, I've had this sitting for some time on my desk, hoping I'd have time to type as well T. Whitlock's estate sale. But I've not finished so I'll mail this now & that in future. I'll be in D.C. this week, & hope to obtain a copy of T. Whitlock's Revolutionary War record, which I'll also forward. Hope all's well.

October 16, 1993

Dear Brooks/Whitlock Cousins:

LDL

I recently had a chance to drive up to Wythe Co., Va., and spend a day doing research there, and I have a few pieces of information that I believe make it more likely that the Thomas Brooks who married Sarah, daughter of Thomas and Hannah Phillips Whitlock, was the son Thomas named in the 1804 will of Thomas Brooks of Wythe Co.

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The first interesting piece of information is that, in 1804, Thomas Brooks bought land from a man named Thomas Harbert/Herbert, and in 1805, Thomas Whitlock sold land to Thomas and William Harbert/Herbert. The 1804 transaction is in Wythe DB 5, pp. 67-8. The 1805 transaction is in DB 4, pp. 288-9. The land that Thomas Brooks was on the east side of New River, crossing Poplar Camp Creek. Since it bordered on Foster's land, I wonder if it was in the vicinity of the present community of Foster's Falls?

The land that Thomas Whitlock sold in 1805 was also on the east side of New River, on both sides of Little Reed Island Creek.

I realize that these two land transactions won't be news to some of you who have already seen these deeds. What was new to me, however, was the Herbert/Harbert connection. While selling and buying from the same person doesn't necessarily prove that Thomas Brooks and Thomas Whitlock were closely related, it seems to me to indicate that such a connection is possible. When one notes as well the closeness of these two parcels of land, the likelihood of a connection appears to increase.

I wonder, by the way, whether the Thomas Brooks of the 1804 transaction could have been Thomas, Jr.? Nothing in the deed clearly indicates whether Sr. or Jr. was the buyer of the land--except that I am pretty sure Thomas, Jr., had moved to Ky. by 1799, and the deed states that Thomas Brooks who bought the land was of Wythe Co.

I also have an idea that when Thomas and Hannah Whitlock were selling their parcel of land (340 acres, for \$1500), they were selling out to move to Ky. As many of you will probably already know, on the same day, 8 May 1805, Thomas and Hannah also deeded to their grandchildren Agnes and Hannah Whitlock, daughters of

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Charles Whitlock and Mary Davies, 199 acres. I think that these two parcels of land on both sides of Little Reed Island Creek were their homeplace.

One of the reasons I think this is that I found another record that appears to indicate the location of the land rather precisely, and that suggests that this land was Thomas' home plantation. This record is an essay entitled "The Iron Industry of Wythe Co. from 1792," by James Whitman, in Wythe Co. Chapters, ed. James S. Presgraves (James S. Presgraves, Wytheville, Va., 1972), pp. 79-116.

On p. 103, the essay notes that a forge called the High Rock Forge was located in the extreme east portion of Wythe Co. on Little Reed Island Creek, and was quite a business center, dating back to the latter part of the 18th century. The essay then gives a history of the forge, stating that the land for the forge was sold to Thomas and William Herbert on 8 May 1805 by Thomas Whitlock (340 acres), and in 1811, the Herberts erected the forge on it. The essay also notes that the post office at High Rock eventually became Patterson.

Patterson is still a community in southeast Wythe Co. I drove out to it; there's not much there, other than a cluster of buildings around a crossroads. Present-day maps do not show that Little Reed Island Creek empties into New River any longer. There is a creek flowing into Patterson, but it doesn't seem to be called Little Reed Island Creek. In fact, I asked several people in the community if they knew where Little Reed Island Creek was, and they said that they had never heard of; they knew only of Reed Creek.

From the Whitman essay, I'm pretty sure that the home of Thomas and Hannah Whitlock was around the present community of Patterson. Names that appear in several deeds involving the Whitlock and/or Brooks families--e.g., Sanders and Colfee--show up just north of Patterson. I wonder if this might indicate that the exact location of Thomas and Hannah Whitlock's home was somewhere north of Patterson?

In several sources (including the Whitman essay), I found information stating that Andrew and James Crockett had erected a dam on Reed Creek sometime before January, 1805, and that various inhabitants of the area complained that the dam prevented fish from coming down the stream. Stephen Sanders, James Newell, and Thomas Whitlock, gentlemen, were appointed by the Va. General Assembly to adjudicate the matter on 2 Jan. 1805. This dam is

said to have been at the location of present-day Graham's forge, just south of New River, not far from where Reed Creek today runs into the river.

Another bit of information: Thomas Brooks, Jr., shows up on Wythe Co. tax lists for the period 1793-1799--precisely when the Thomas who m. Sarah Whitlock seems to have moved to Ky., as per the places of birth of his children. Actually, the Thomas Brooks who m. Sarah Whitlock patented land in Ky. in 1799, and my understanding is that one had to live on the land a year before one could claim it, but I believe Thomas (or at least his family) remained in Ky. up to 1799.

The 1793 date for Thomas, Jr., is a problem, though. The bible of Thomas and Sarah Brooks says that Thomas Brooks was born in 1775. If he bought land in Wythe Co. in 1793, he would have done so at the age of 18, and as an unmarried man. In fact, he would apparently have moved to the county before his parents did in 1798. Could some of these Thomas, Jr., tax list entries pertain to the Thomas who married a Clancy?

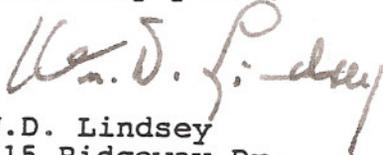
We're still a long way from solving all the mysteries of the Brooks line in Wythe Co., but I'm inclined to believe that the Thomas who m. Sarah Whitlock was the son of Thomas and Margaret Brooks of Wythe Co.

Unfortunately, the estate records of Thomas (d. 1804) do not contain anything more than the will and two inventories. There are no sale records, nor are there any other records I could find that allow one to say more about the Thomas who was the son named in the will.

Wythe Co. does have a set of order books, and the ones from 1796-1808 (4 separate volumes) might be particularly helpful, but they are not indexed. Searching them would be a lot of work, but might turn up more information. If I have the chance, I may order these through LDS microfilm. In the meantime, does anyone know whether these have been indexed? I asked both at the courthouse and the county library, and was told not.

Enough for now. I hope this information will be helpful to all of you. If you have corrections or observations about it, please let me know. I'm enclosing photocopies of a few items.

Sincerely yours,



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Belmont, NC 28012
(704) 825-9287

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FOR ORIGINAL
SEE REF 649-651

WILL OF THOMAS WHITLOCK, CUMBERLAND CO., KY.

I **Thomas Whitlock** of the county of **Cumberland** and State of **Kentucky** do make and ordain this to be my last will and testament in the following manner and form in the first place i allow all my estate both real and personal to be valued by two Juditors and Interested men chosen by my executors for that purpose and as for my negroes I do not wish them to be sold from my family of children and therefore I shall dispose of them in the following manner that is i give and bequeath to my Daughter **Sarah Brooks** my negro woman named **Lucy** and her largest child named **perlina** at their value to be Settled in her part of my estate also I give and bequeath to my daughter **Nancy Bryson** a negro boy named **Elford** and a negro girl named **Kiza** at their value to be settled in her part of my estate I also give and bequeath to my son in law **William Cammak** my negro man named **Ben** at his value to be settled in his part of my estate then all the balance of my estate both real and personal I allow to be sold on a Credit of 12 months and the money arising from Such I shall dispose off in the following manner that is to say first I allow all just debts and demands against me to be Settled and paid and I give and bequeath to my grandDaughters the heirs of my son **Charles Whitlock** Deceased Two dollars in full of their part of my estate then the balance and remainder of the money arising from the Sale of my Estate and one hundred dollars in Silver which I loaned to my son in law **John Hammons** and all other debts due to me I allow to be divided Equally to my three daughters **Sarah Brooks Nancy Bryson** and **Milly Hurst** and to my soninlaws **William Cammak** and **John Hammons** all which is to receive an equal part of the money from the Sale and the other debts due to me Counting the value and price of the negroes in their part of my estate to whom they are Bequeathed I likewise do Constitute make and ordain **George Swope** and **William Wood** Gentlemen Sole executors of this my last will and testament I do hereby utterly disallow revoak and disanul every former will and testament ratifying and confirming this alone and no other to be my my last will and testament in witness whereof i have hereunto Set my hand and seal this 22d of January 1824.

Teste

Thomas Whitlock (seal)

Isaac Taylor
Wm. M. Peery
James Peery

ESTATE INVENTORY OF THOMAS WHITLOCK

At the request of Abner Bryson and Thomas Brooks administrators of the estate of Thomas Whitlock deceased with the will annexed we William Wood and Pleasant H. Williams being foresworn have on the 15 day of June 1830 at the late residence of the decedent in Cumberland County Kentucky produced to value the Items of the said Estate to us Exhibited to wit

		\$
Negro man Ben		400.--
Negro woman Lucy	300.	
Negro girl Pelina	200.	
Negro boy Alfred	300.	
Negro girl Kizza	175.	
Negro girl Amay		162.50
Negro boy David		100.--
one pair of hand Irons and Hone (?)	1.25	
one spade & 2 smoothing irons		2.00
four Chissols one gouge three augers one round shave (?)	2.00	
one pair of steelyards		1.00
one scooter & shovel plow	1.00	
1 jointer 1 bit 2 bells 3 sleys & 1 powder horne		.75
1 crosscut saw & hand saw		1.25
2 odds(?) trowel drawing knife & Iron		2.00
one steel trap Mattick & grubbing hoe		4.00
4 axes wedge mill pick (?) & four Cart boxes		3.00
ladle lockehairs stretchers & old irons		2.00
fire tongs & 2 pot racks		3.00
tea Kettle & coffy mill		2.00
gearing for 2 Horses Bridle & Breeching		2.00

3 hoes & pick fork		1.50
2 wheels Hackle & sythe		2.00
old saddle cowhide and pad		2.00
2 gunns and Tobacco tubb & trunk		2.00
table 3 Keggs & 6 Chairs		4.00
2 barrles sott 2 riddles		2.50
1 saddle 2 bridles & blanket		4.00
leather pales tubb half bushel & can		3.50
plow & fixing & wool		3.00
Tread (?) & fixing & 2 pair of shears		1.50
Shot gun & horn		5.00
Cupboard Table Books & other small articles		8.00
3 bedsteads & furniture with beads (=beds?)		30.00
3 pots, hooks & oven		7.00
about 400 lbs Bacon Laird tubs sope		3.00
Pewter, jugs knives forks spoons bottles box &c	10.00	
trunk & Kegg		1.00
Corn in the crib		25.00
Fodder gums Cutting box & knife		5.00
21 head of hoggs		14.00
2 head of horses at \$80 each	160.00	
12 head of cattle		35.00
8 head of sheep		6.00
oats in a pen		1.50
1 pair of shoes		1.00
250 acres of land	100.00	
one lott in the town of Burkesville No 40	50.00	
one watch		3.50

We certify the foregoing to be a correct statement of the Items (?) exhibited to us together with our valuation thereon given under our hands the first mentioned date

Wm. Wood
P.H. Williams

State of Kentucky Cumberland County SCT

I **Milton King** clerk of the county court for said county do certify that the within will of Thomas Whitlock deceased was fully proven in open court at the May Term 1830 by the oaths of **Isaac Taylor** and **William M. Peery** two of the subscribing witness thereto and ordered to be recorded which is truly copied of record in my office in will book B. page 123,
Given under my hand this 2d day of June 1830 **Milton King**

(A transcription of a copy of the original by William D. Lindsey, Oct., 1993. Spelling and punctuation as in original; boldface added by WDL).

State of Kentucky Cumberland County SCT

I **Milton King** Clerk of the County Court for said County do Certify that the within appraisal of the Estate of **Thomas Whitlock** was fully appraised by the two subscribing witnesses and I have truly recorded the same together with this certificate this 19th day of January 1831 in Will Book B page 429.

(A transcription of a copy of the original by William D. Lindsey, Oct., 1993; spelling and punctuation as in original; boldface added by WDL. Words with question marks were ones WDL could not read clearly).