

The Drakeford Family Land in Virginia, America 1660

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1) Introduction

My wife, Georgina and I moved to our home in Findon, Sussex, a village on the South Downs, in the south of England in 2009. Shortly afterwards a friend in Guildford sent a press cutting with the headline 'Drakeford makes GOLD'.

Naturally, this was worth reading and our interest was even more intense when it became clear that this was not me winning a prize for my book about the Abbotswood Estate in Guildford. Instead it was in relation to an African-American who had joined 'Guildford Heat', a basketball team using the Guildford Spectrum sports centre at the time. His name is Aaron Drakeford.

I thought no more of it until I discovered that in 2014 there were far more Americans with the name Drakeford than other countries. Of the 2,024 Drakefords in the United States an estimated 85% were black, that is 1720 of African-American descent and 303 white. Source: Website Forebears

Figures at 2014 not just of the America Drakefords, but worldwide:

England	394
Wales	39
Ireland	23
France	17
United States	2,024
Canada	28
Paraguay	309
Hong Kong	<10
New Zealand	19
Australia	99

At that time 'Drakeford' was the 147,282nd most Common surname in the world. Approximately 3,000 people bear this surname. They were most prevalent in the United States and had their highest density in Paraguay.

The difference in numbers between the white and African-American Drakefords is explained by the likelihood that over the years slaves were working for a slave owner with the name Drakeford or perhaps a foreman who had that name, and when they became free, they took that name.

We know that some of the Drakefords were in Virginia where they were in business producing tobacco, and later probably cotton too, when living in Tuskegee, Alabama.

We are aware that our Drakeford relatives were slave owners but there is no evidence that they were instrumental in that awful process of capturing and/or trading for them and the transporting of slaves in overcrowded ships from Africa to the Americas.

This study paper is written with two aims, firstly to inform those in the UK how the family initially emigrated to America in the 17th century, and secondly inform our American relatives where they came from in England and the sort of people who were part of this 17th century Drakeford family. Accepting that there are more African-Americans named 'Drakeford' in America than white in the whole world, we should mention that they are also looking into their heritage.

As ever, there must be an element of conjecture. Information provided by Jeremy Drakeford and his American contacts led me to make various assumptions.

When reading this manuscript, the writer has included relevant historical information about America that may help to put into context the lives of the early Drakeford family.

2) The Arrival of Drakefords in Virginia

An important quote believed to record the first Drakefords to immigrate to America is found in the following publication:-

'**The Virginia Genealogist**' dated April-June 1995, Vol. 39, Number 2 records that:-

*Very few of the surname Drakeford immigrated to America. The earliest known were **William and Ann Drakeford** who appear as headrights of Thomas Ludwell. Ludwell received a patent in **Henrico County** on 16th June 1663 for the transportation of 20 persons, including the Drakefords, and also Wm Broadrib, William Hughlett, Robt. Jarrett, Rich.Crome, Rich Talbot, Tho Barton, James Duckett, Robert Heywood, Robt. Ward, John Venne, Dan. Cormacke, Hugh Berry, Ralph Parkson, Seth Bobson, and Phill Ludwell.*

There is no certainty that Ludwell actually paid for the transportation of any of these people. He may have purchased some or all the headrights from another. Additionally, there can be no assurance that the transportees arrived at the same time. It was quite common for many years to pass between the arrival of a person and the appearance as a headright.

An explanation for the Headright System in Virginia Source: Wikipedia

It quickly became apparent that gold and silver did not exist in appreciable amounts in eastern North America, a fact that left the colony without a cash crop and therefore the resultant threat of bankruptcy.

The advent of the tobacco economy in the 1610s changed the course of Virginia's development. Tobacco production required large tracts of land and many workers. The county held title to tremendous amounts of land, but had few workers at their disposal.

In 1618, the headright system was introduced as a means to solve the labour shortage. It provided the following:

- Colonists already residing in Virginia were granted two headrights, meaning two tracts of 50 acres each, and a total of 100 acres of land.
- New settlers who paid their own passage to Virginia were granted one headright. Since every person who entered the colony received a headright, families were encouraged to migrate together.
- Wealthy individuals could accumulate headrights by paying for the passage of poor individuals. Most of the workers who entered Virginia under this arrangement came as indentured servants — people who paid for their transportation by pledging to perform five to seven years of labour for the landowner.

The ability to amass large plots of land by importing workers provided the basis for an emerging aristocracy in Virginia. Plantation owners were further enriched by receiving headrights for newly imported slaves.

ooooOOOoooo

Referring to the mention of **William and Ann Drakeford** above.... Nothing further is known of their headright(s), save that we can assume that with his connections in Stafford **and** Norton-on-the-Moors William Drakeford was able to afford to pay for the passage of both of them as part of the Ludwell group of 20.

The following information is of formal record and it indicates that William was part of a thriving community when the 'currency' was bales of tobacco.

On 6th January 1671 William Drakeford and Charles Winter witnessed a power of attorney from Abr. Wheelock to John Squibb to serve as his attorney in a case against Thomas Hansford in York County court.

*The estate of merchant and store keeper Jonathan Neil, deceased, of York County shows accounts of 1677: New York County: Will. Drakeford Account to be settled. No further references found for this William. No evidence found to connect William Drakeford of York County to Richard Drakeford. ***

*About 1690 **Richard Drakeford** came to the area which was then in **Stafford County**, but is now within the area of Fairfax County as a tenant to the plantation of Nicholas Spencer. In 1674 Nicholas Spencer and **George Washington** had patented 5,000 acres of land in the 'freshes of Pottomeeke River'. This patent was later to become the site of the Mount Vernon Plantation. In 1690 the tract was divided between Lawrence Washington and 'Madame Spencer' who received the southern half of the tract. Drakeford lived in the south-west corner of the Spencer half.*

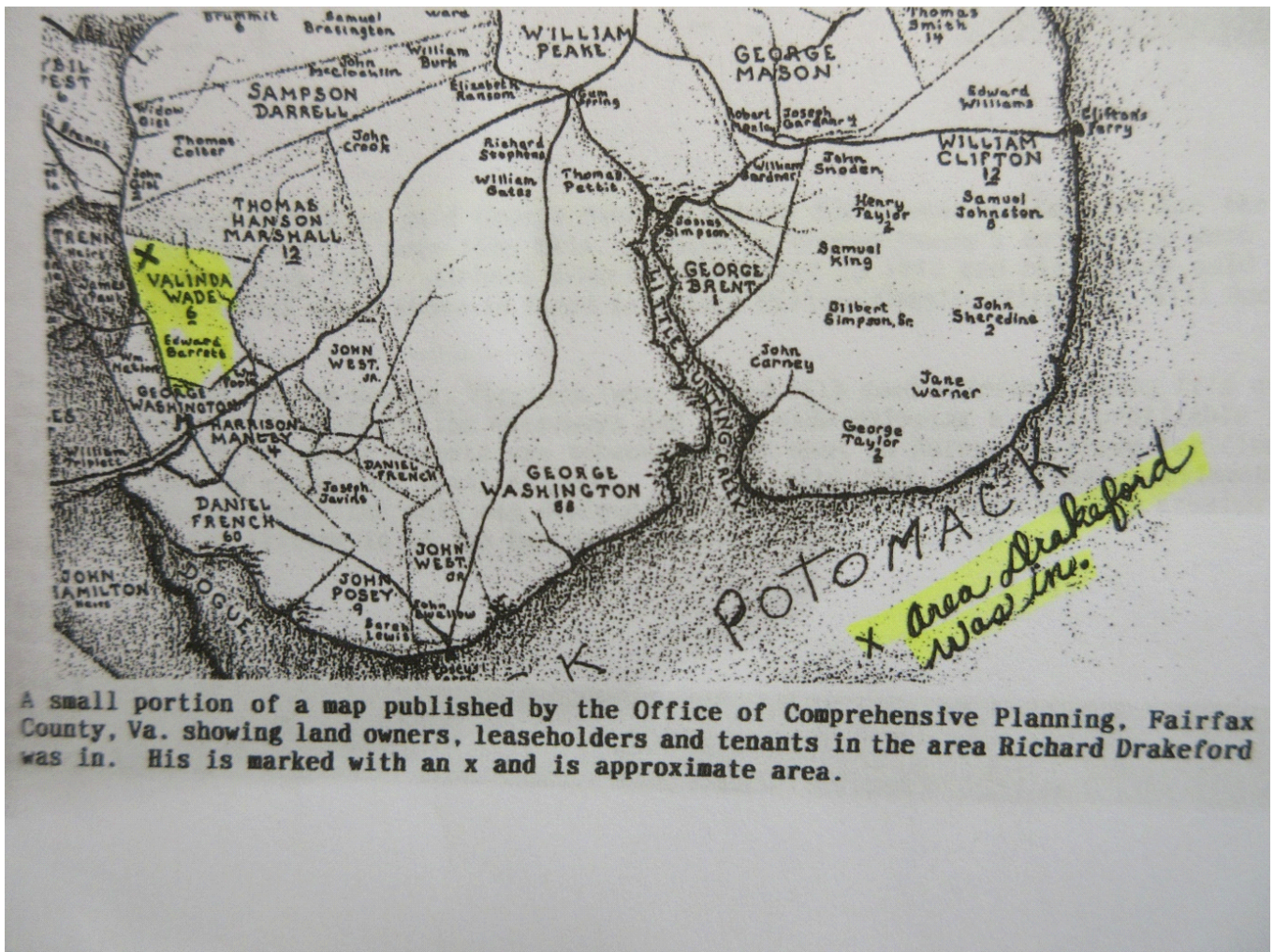
** Those writing 'Drakefords in America' on page 225 et al, indicate that Richard may be the son of William and Ann Drakeford, based purely on the fact that his age would indicate this. Details of Richard's life are provided later. At the end of 2019, using new DNA testing it has resulted a very high probability that there is a family connection and further detail follows in this Study Paper.

The George Washington Connection There is a tenuous connection to George Washington, through his father, Augustine Washington.

Mentioned in Richard Drakeford's Will dated 1740 was Bryant Allison, a tailor by trade who was described as a servant. He had been brought over to Virginia after a business trip to Britain by Augustine Washington in 1737.

In 1786 Bryant Allison was a witness before the court in Alexandria and was questioned by the opposing lawyer. Allison denied that he was an imported convict and gave details of his emigration and the terms of his indenture to Augustine Washington. He was with him only one year and his contract was sold to Richard Drakeford, and thus listed on his estate as an asset when he died in 1741. George Washington was only a boy of five when Bryant Allison was at the family home making his clothes. He was called back to assist as a tailor at Mount Vernon from 1760 to 1772.

A map showing the location of the area in Virginia where the Drakefords lived.



A small portion of a map published by the Office of Comprehensive Planning, Fairfax County, Va. showing land owners, leaseholders and tenants in the area Richard Drakeford was in. His is marked with an x and is approximate area.

Source: Drakefords in America

3) The Formation of Stafford County, Virginia

Stafford County lies in what is now North Virginia. The Native Americans' first recorded encounter with Europeans in this area was in 1608, with John Smith of the Jamestown Settlement. During a time of recurring tension between the early English colonists and local Native Americans, the colonists led by Samuel Argall captured Chief Powhatan's daughter, Pocahontas, while she was living with her husband, Kocoum. The colonists took her from the eastern part of this county, to a secondary English settlement, known as Henricus (or Henrico Town). Alexander Whitaker converted Pocahontas to Christianity during her captivity. He renamed her as "Rebecca" at her baptism. Rebecca/Pocahontas married English colonist John Rolfe on April 5, 1614 in Jamestown. Their mixed-race descendants were among the First Families of Virginia.

The English colonial government of Virginia imposed its own order on the land and peoples. In 1664 it established Stafford County from territory previously part of Westmoreland County (which had been created from Northumberland County in 1653). It was named after Staffordshire, England, a name taken from the home county in England of Captain George Mason and Captain Gerard Fowks, both early leaders in Stafford, and of many other Cavalier followers of Charles II. Many of the cavaliers whose property was confiscated by Cromwell sought refuge in Virginia, a colony still faithful to the English king. As originally delineated, Stafford County included a much larger area than its current borders. It is part of the area now considered Northern Virginia. The formation of Stafford County practically coincided with the arrival of William and Ann Drakeford, and their connection with Henrico City, the area stipulated in the Ludwell Patent.

It is pure chance that the Drakeford name originated from a settlement in Staffordshire, England before the Norman Conquest as explained below.

1615 Date Check:

In England James I was on the throne. **Richard Drakeford (1576-1639)** purchased Forebridge Hall in 1615, having been a major player in appealing to the king for a Royal Charter to allow the new regulations for the running of Stafford, and placing Matthew Craddock as the first mayor in 1614. Richard became mayor in 1620.

Norton City, Virginia, USA. One can ask if there is a connection between Norton City and Norton-in-the-Moors in Staffordshire, England. Alas, this was not named after Norton-in-the-Moors. In fact the American settlement was originally known as "Prince's Flats" but in a bid to convince the Louisville and Nashville Railroad to build a depot there, the town was renamed after the then current head of the railroad, Mr. Eckstein Norton!

Norton is quite a common English surname which is derived from a geographical locality 'of Norton,' i.e. the north town, as distinct from the west town (v. Weston) or the south town (v. Sutton). In medieval times from 476 AD to 1453 individuals were normally known by their Christian names. When they needed to be identified for contracts or court business, they would be referred to their place of living or their job, such as cooper or smith. The Drakefords were known as de Drakeford, 'of a place' called Drakeford near Tunstall or Wolstanton in Staffordshire, and in the case of Norton, that would be de North Town, abbreviated to de Norton.

4) Early Connections with England

There is no doubt that anyone with the name Drakeford has, or is connected to someone who has ancestors emanating from the village, hamlet or homestead named Drakeford in Staffordshire that once existed near to the **Manor of Tunstall** and within the **Parish of Wolstanton**. The latter covered a large area from Stoke-on-Trent up to Astbury, which in turn covered Congleton, another place where the family expanded. We are satisfied that William and Ann Drakeford from Norton-in-the-Moors are the most likely pair to be in the Ludwell patent.

Even if we were to be certain about the source of **William and Ann Drakeford**, the first known settlers in Virginia, there is still no definitive and substantiated written family connection with the erstwhile founder of the American Drakeford dynasty being Richard Drakeford born around 1660 in Virginia or elsewhere. There is no written evidence such as church or civic records to prove this. However, it is through this Richard that a number of Americans can lay claim to their connection with the English Drakeford Family proven by the use of DNA techniques. The absence of a written document does not deter or weaken this claim.

The American Drakefords can trace their ancestry back to this Richard of 1660 by way of family records, and recently their connection with the English Drakeford Family has been proved using YDNA. Thus there is a formal link through to Norton-in-the-Moors, Stafford and Congleton. This also shows the same link to the English Drakefords by the Layton family evidencing that we are indeed all blessed with a common ancestry.

It seems that it was the son Richard who did well in the tobacco business and 'employed' slaves, whilst his father William was less involved or perhaps less successful in that field.

- **William and Ann Drakeford and the Stafford line – See Study Papers 4 & 5**

We know that **Richard Drakeford, 'The Merchant'** (1576 – 1639) and his wife **Mercy** had numerous children starting with **Littleton**, who died in 1614. **Mercy** was the next child, date of birth unknown, and then **Mary** born in 1608. Six further children followed until a penultimate child, **William** who was baptised 5th August 1621 at St Mary's Stafford.

At the age of 19, **William Drakeford (1621 – Death unknown)** married **Ann Mellor** at the parish of Norton-in-the-Moors on 29th January 1639/1640. Ann had been baptised 28th November 1619, at Norton Church, Norton-in-the-Moors, being the daughter of Richard and Catherine Mellor. *Source: Norton Church records.*

Ancestry.Com identifies William Drakeford as a primary immigrant. This, we understand is sourced by a tally of 20,000 immigrants compiled in *cavaliers and Pioneers, Abstract of Virginia Land Patents and Grants (1623-1666)* by Nell Marion Nugent.

The American researchers believe that the couple were parents to **Richard Drakeford who was baptised or born in September 1660 in Virginia**. Source: *family tree created on Ancestry.com through Steve Glasscock and another site through GENI, which also gives his marriage to Mary Anne Trammell*. A Photostat of an Ancestry.com copy page which states '*Richard Drakeford, B: Sep 1660, Virginia, USA D: 13 Mar 1740 Truro Parish, Virginia, USA*'. We should ask how the date 'Sep 1660' arrived at? Perhaps it was civil or church records or was it someone's guesstimate? The fact that his wife described him as 'old' when he died does not help at all. The GENI site gives details of the Trammell family, and for Richard gives a source as '*England, Staffordshire, Church Records 1538-1944*'. A check of those records has not identified this Richard Drakeford.

Let us consider the assumption that Richard Drakeford b.1660 was the son of William and Ann. If this were the case, is it possible that William and Ann were in Virginia some three years prior to the headright agreement described above. On the other hand, this is explained away by the comment in the above description of a Headright Agreement that the date of the headright agreement is said not to be an indication of when the named persons arrived in America. So be it. Richard's date of birth may be later.

This was a time of the increasing exodus of people to America and the record of the Headright of 1663 covering William and Ann Drakeford was produced indicating that William would have been 42. To have another child at that time would not have been unusual.

Our records from the Norton parish register show the Staffordshire **William and Ann Drakeford** had a daughter Ellin (Ellen) baptised on 26th February 1642/43. They then went on to produce two sons. William was baptised on 19th January 1644/65 and Thomas on 22nd November 1646. Thomas died and was buried on 11th May 1647. All these events took place at Norton-in-the-Moors.

At this point we must question if William and Ann would have left their two children at home, and travelled to America.

Let us visualise William's position. He came from a wealthy Stafford family, but as ever the family wealth would have been left to the eldest. In this case it was Richard Drakeford (1610-1679), a much older brother, who had married well. His wife Ann Babington, was of royal descent. William, of a young age, married beneath himself, and having moved back to the family roots in Norton had two children, now teenagers. Perhaps he thought he could make his fortune abroad. The American dream was appearing on the horizon.

In those days, assuming you had no profession or apprenticeship, life could be tough. The possibility is that he arranged for his son William jnr. to get an apprenticeship*. His daughter could be parked with a relative, and wait for a husband to be found. Later in this Study Paper there is a section about a connection to the British Royal family and also on pages 24 and 52 a duplicated family tree starting with Richard the 'Merchant' of Stafford. Richard had a son Edward Drakeford (1656-1709), brother of William who emigrated with Ann, who, also as a younger son, left Stafford for London and had the opportunity to start with an apprenticeship as an ironmonger. The full story is in Study Paper 4, featuring the Stafford arm of the Drakeford family.

*Note** Centralised recording of apprenticeship indentures only began in 1710, when stamp duty became payable on them. Before that there were records of London Livery Company apprenticeships abstracts of which are often on line, and these do include details of some of the Stafford Drakefords but none list William Drakeford. On the other hand it might have been an arrangement for another type of job that did not involve a London Livery Company.

Importantly, we do not see a burial for William or Ann in the Norton Church register, which would support the fact they were no longer in the town and quite possibly did indeed settle in America.

Their son William had married Ann(ae) Burne at Norton in October 1670 and they had twins Thomas and William baptised on 20th August 1671 and a daughter Hellena baptised 29th September 1672. These parents, William and Ann(ae) went on to have six further children. The dates fit well, because William would have been 25/26 years old at the time of his marriage.

All did not go entirely to plan because. It was in 1671/2 that a boy, Johannes was baptised as illegitimate to Ellenae Drakeford on 7th January. Ellen would have been 30 years of age.

A William Drakeford was buried on 28th October 1714, which is likely to be either the William who married Anne Burne, or their son William baptised in Norton in 1671.

Conclusion:

With a little bit of imagination and hope we have little doubt that it could be William, the son of Richard and Mercy who travelled to and lived in America to find his fortune with his wife Ann Mellor. At this point there seemed to be no further records, when by chance we were contacted by Cliff Layton living in the United States. His cousin Dan Layton had in November 2019 taken a DNA test and Clifford was writing to all those he could find on the DNA files with the name Drakeford. On checking our files, it was discovered that Dan, at markers 37 and 67 was related to the Drakeford clan, even more closely than some others of the name Drakeford who we could trace. The story about the 21st Century Drakefords and links to the Layton family also in the USA, is described under the section entitled **Linking the 21st Century Drakefords with the Layton Family.**

The further genealogy of the American Drakefords is shown below in the 'History of Richard Drakeford' detailed below.

This DNA discovery, using the YDNA, linking the Drakeford family with Daniel Layton is significant in other ways because it also links everyone through to the Norton/Stafford/Congleton lines. Dan initially, tried autosomal DNA (blended) in Ancestry and 23andMe with no positive results. Details of the Layton connection will follow.

As an aside, the Drakeford patriarch in **Norton-in-the- Moors**, England, at the time was **John Drakeford** (Will no. 29 dated 1640)* who married to Agnes Thursfield in February 1608. He had sons William and Thomas, both described as Yeomen in the will, and daughters Joan and Margaret. After John's death on October 4th 1640, there is marked 'Widow Drakeford' as being buried on January 30th next. We assume that this is Agnes. Son William is the subject of will No. 44*, dated 13th March 1670/71, and he is described as Yeoman but now living at Congleton, and having a sister Joan 'Smith'. However, this is unlikely to be the same William because Joan is known to have married John Booth, although this is not in the Norton register. One wonders if Joan remarried or it is just too many by the name of William.

Other counties had Drakeford families and specifically two areas had people of the right age and circumstances, but they were excluded by other non-complying factors such as later evidence of children after 1660 or burials of the subjects.

* The wills numbered 29 and 44 above are part of a collection along with 70 others assimilated by George Fitch, all relating to the UK Drakeford family dating from 1537 to the 1800s. The earliest in 1537 was for Richard Drakeford in Wolstanton, Staffordshire near where we think the village of Drakeford once existed. These wills start prior to church records when in 1538 Cromwell, from the court of Henry VIII, ordered that every wedding, baptism and burial was to be recorded.

Full details of much of the George Fitch research is to be found in the Study Paper **The Drakeford beginnings: Wills, FONS, Wolstanton and Norton-in-the-Moors.**

5) Richard Drakeford (1660 – 1740/41*) of Virginia

* The exact date of death is not known but it will be between the date of his will on 13th March 1740 and the 25th May 1741 when the will was attested.

The assumption is that Richard Drakeford is the son of William and Ann Drakeford. We wish to concur. Whether or not this is actually the case Richard's personal contribution to the history of the name in America is worthy of note. Richard became a tobacco planter.

There are no records showing that he emigrated from England. He was possibly born and baptised in Virginia around 1660. As previously mentioned this is not proven and it appears it could not have been assessed by subsequent records and later evidence although his known family line supports his connection through William and Ann to Staffordshire.

A search of the 'Drakeford Family records' as we know it for Staffordshire and Congleton, Cheshire shows that there are no births of a 'Richard' that are unaccounted for. A search of Drakeford births at the churches used by Drakefords being the three churches in Stafford, Wolstanton and that at Norton-in-the-Moors show nothing that would indicate Richard was born in England. Because the American research shows that Richard Drakeford was born in Virginia September 1660, this will form the foundations to our assumptions. The death given is actually the date of his will, being the 13th March 1740. The estate was being assessed in May 1741, so we can assume he was buried shortly before that.

*Sourcing: Much of the information provided below is based on work by American genealogists. However, our **Roger Hall** has compiled a family tree covering 13 generations from Richard (1660-1740/41) of Virginia, up to the present day. Not all this is transcribed in this study paper, which is intended to cover just the 17th, 18th and early 19th centuries, evidencing the range of the family from this Richard Drakeford onwards and coverage in the Southern United States. Where there are discrepancies about dates, I have mainly relied on those produced by Roger. {See Family Tree paper No. 3. Descendants of Richard Drakeford of Virginia (d.1740/41)}*

We assume that **Richard Drakeford** was born in 1660 and that he died as an old man in 1741 after a considerable career in the tobacco industry as a tenant farmer. During the time of his career there was known to be a merchant named as Richard Drakeford in Bristol, England. It seems quite possible that this was Richard Drakeford (1660-1740/41) and he might well have travelled there from Virginia at some point to make contacts as this was the source of labour for the tobacco plantations. People such as Richard were involved in acquiring white indentured labour. Our example is the time when Bryant Allison and Margaret Poor were brought over from England by Augustine Washington, the father of the future president George Washington; it is then understood that the contracts for these two were sold to Richard Drakeford, and appear in his will as chattels. The source of the link to Bristol is to quote: 'The Bristol Registers of Servants sent to Foreign Plantations, 1654-1686' Richard Drakeford is referred to as 'Mr Richard Drakeford of Queen Street, Merchant'. This reference is indicative of a young businessman aged 26 years or less.

The Drakeford's were certainly not slave traders but, as with all other plantation owners, used slaves as labour to farm the land.

Richard married a lady named **Ann(e) Trammell (est.1692-1766>)**. Previously we only knew Ann's age and date of birth because of a court deposition in 1748 when she said she was 56 years of age. This made her year of birth 1692. Anne was therefore 49 when her first husband Richard died at the probable age of 80, but we have not proved 1660 as his birth date. There was quite an age difference between them. Initially we believed that Anne died at the age of 81 in 1773, but it may have been earlier, but certainly after 1766.

These dates were mainly confirmed by information on FamilySearch by the GENI website giving the following for Anne:

(Mary) Anne Trammell was the daughter of John Trammell (1675-1755) and Mary Gerrard Hutt (1675-1738) and they were married on 10th September 1698 in Westmorland, Virginia, British Colonial America. They had the following 9 children – **Mary Anne Trammell (1692-1758)**, John Trammell II (1700-1758), Colonel Gerrard Trammell (1702-1786), Baby Girl 1704 DY, Mary Trammell (1704-1706), William Trammell (1704-1754+ he witnessed a deed, see page 30 of Drakefords in America), Daniel Thomas Trammell Snr (1707-1777), Thomas Trammell (1710-1807), and Sampson Trammell (1712-1794).

The connection for Richard Drakeford is given as '*Anna Drakeford*' in the entry for '*Richardus Drakeford, England, Staffordshire, Church Records, 1538-1944*'. The information continues stating that they married 'about 1711, Virginia'. The spelling of Anne's name with an 'e' is accepted rather than the 'Anna'.

A check of the Norton Church records for a reference to Staffordshire and a link with Norton-in-the Moors has not brought up any reference to '*Anna Drakeford and Richardus Drakeford*', nor is there a reference to any of the Trammell family; which is not expected as they are referred to as being 'of Virginia'.

The date for the birth of Mary Anne at 1692 fits in with that already worked out based on other documents and the court case involving Anne, but would seem to be in conflict with the date of the marriage of her parents shown as 1698. Perhaps her birth date should be 1699 and her court testament is somewhat adrift, conversely this would make her 12 when she married? Thus it could be that she was born out of wedlock, or by an earlier marriage for Mr Trammell.

The reference to the date of 1758 for Anne's death is wrong. Information gleaned from '*The Virginia Genealogist*' provides evidence that Anne was alive as Mrs Spencer in August 1766 when she was charged for the purchase of material at £3.13.0 and other sundries to her own account at John Glassford and Company's Alexandria Store. The charge was paid by charge of tobacco on Hunting Creek with Brand JB.

Examination of the 'Drakefords in America' shows several mentions of Colonel Gerrard Trammell. Firstly he was a witness in 1740 to the will of his brother-in-law, Richard Drakeford. After Richard's death he helped with the estate. His signature is there to see. It is also mentioned that he was one of the many settlers, who along with Richard's son, Captain John Drakeford, he moved from Fairfax and Prince William Counties in Virginia to Craven County, later called Kershaw County. His brother William Trammell witnessed a deed in 1754; this is also shown in the book. All this indicates a close link between the two families.

In summary, it is confirmed that there is little doubt that Richard Drakeford married Mary Anne Trammell in around 1711, and they went on to produce the Drakeford dynasty that we can see today.

They had three children who were described in his will as Captain John Drakeford* (1719-1789) who married Sarah Cole, Elizabeth Drakeford (1720-1755) who married John Gray (1719-1783), and Mary Drakeford (1730-1820). *See description of 'the Drakeford House 1810' below.

A strong reason for expecting Richard (1660-1740/41), to be part of the Stafford side of the family through Richard and Mercy is that he takes the family name of Richard. Having thus commented, it was a popular name at the time!

The destruction of many for the records for Stafford County-USA, and a portion of those for Prince William and Fairfax counties mean that information about Richard is sparse. Nevertheless, the following are snippets of information gleaned from 'The Virginia Genealogist - Richard Drakeford and his descendants' that indicate he was active in the community at a high level:

- 1723: He witnessed a will for a deed of land from Peter Cornwall to William Champ
- 1732: He hired John Mercer to represent him in an action against a Mr Jackson
- 1739 Richard Drakeford and Thomas Ford acted as '*securitees for Anne Guess, administratrix for Joseph Guess deceased*'.

From 1735, and no doubt previous to this, Richard was a successful farmer and able to pay rent in tobacco to George Mason because this was the local currency. This was recorded as 500lbs in 1735, 900lbs in 1736, 700lbs in both 1737 and 1738, 849lbs in 1739, and 730lbs in 1740. In 1741 his executors paid by another 730lbs.

A very interesting list in the vestry minutes of Truro Parish, Pohick Church, Virginia gives amounts paid to all and sundry. For example the Clerk of the church received 1,000lbs tobacco, the Re. Doctor 16,000lbs, sexton 500lbs, Abraham for mending said pews 80lbs, Elizabeth Russell for maintaining a poor child 500lbs, Robert Bowie for his sheriffs account 85lbs, the widow of John Christmas, late sextant of Pohick 125lbs..... and much more.

The Will of Richard Drakeford (1660 – 1740/41) dated 13th March 1740

Source: 'Drakefords in America'

In the name of God Amen, I Richard Drakefoot of the parish of Truro in the county of Prince William being infirm in body but sound in mind do in a lively hope of being raised up again bequeath my body unto the Earth to be buried at ye discretion of my friends & after my just debts are paid dispose of my Estate as followeth

*Imprimis I do give & Bequeath to my daughter **Elizabeth Drakefoot** one horse called Silver; one cow & calf, a bed and furniture, two pewter dishes & six plates, and iron pot & a Ewe & Lamb 2 Barrows & two brooding Sows.*

*Item. I do give & bequeath to my daughter **Mary Drakefoot** one Horse or ye Mare called Bonny, one Cow and Calf, a Bed & furniture, two pewter dishes, six plates, an Iron pott, a ewe & Lamb 2 Barrows & two Brooding Sows.*

*Item. I do give & bequeath unto my beloved wife **Anne Drakefoot** & to my sone **John Drakefoot** all the residue & remainder of my Estate after my just debts & Legacies are paid, I do hereby constitute & appoint them the said **Anne & John Drakefoot** to be the **sole Executors** of this my last will & Testament intirely revoking & disannulling all former Wills & Testaments. In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand & affixed my seal the Thirteenth day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred & fourty.*

Richard Drakefoot (Seal)

Present Cha. Green , John Gray (mark)

Gerrard Tamol (mark), Anna Gift (mark)

To summarise, when Richard died, by his will dated 13 March 1740 he left to his **daughter Elizabeth** a horse called Silver, a cow and a calf, a bed and furniture, two pewter dishes, six plates, an iron pot, a ewe and a lamb, two barrows, and two breeding cows.

To his **daughter Mary**, he left a horse or the mare called Bonny, one cow, one calf, a bed and furniture, two pewter dishes, six plates, and iron pot, a ewe and lamb, 2 barrows and two breeding cows. Clearly he was a fair man. He left the remainder to his wife Ann and their **son John**.

The will was proved at court on 25th May 1741.

The reference to the family name of **Drakefoot** in this copy made by the County Clerk is corrected to Drakeford in later attestations.

The subsequent court dealings reveal that John Drakeford refused the burden of being an Executor, a role his mother undertook. Subsequently the list of assets mentioned included two indenture servants, plus Bryant Allison, his tailor, and Margaret Poor.

The will was written when he was living in the Parish of Truro in the County of Prince William. There is a list of the contents of the estate, but there is nothing, as far as the writing can be read, to show immense wealth. Indeed, a simple addition of the asset values amounts to about £130. What the value of a lb of tobacco would have been to determine rentals mentioned in this paper, we do not know. What value was attributed to the land utilised by William, we do not know. It appears for a while at least his son John operated the business.

oo00oo

The tale of the widow, Anne Drakeford (est.1692-1766 and onwards)

Source: The Drakefords in America

Anne Drakeford was considerably younger than her husband Richard by 32 years and she died at the age of 81 in 1773. Assuming that Richard was born in 1660, his children mentioned in his will are John born 1719, Elizabeth 1720, and Mary in 1730. At the time of these births Richard would have been 59, 60 and 70 when his wife Anne conceived. She would have been a reasonable age of 27, 28 and 38 respectively.

Richard married a lady named Ann(e) Trammell (est.1692-1766>). Previously we only knew Anne's age and date of birth because of a court deposition in 1748 when she said she was 56 years of age. This deposition was with regard to court case, Marshall & Sampson, when Anne was a witness when Bryan Allison was proving his connection to Richard Drakeford in Prince William County, (source: Drakefords in America by Lavonne Sanders Walker). This made her year of birth 1692. Ann was therefore 49 when her first husband Richard died at the probable age of 80, but we have not proved 1660 as his birth date. There was quite an age difference between them. Initially we believed that Anne died at the age of 81 in 1773, but it may have been earlier, but certainly after 1766.

Richard had rented land from George Mason IV, whose son, also George Mason was a witness signatory to the deposition above. A further deposition was brought by Penelope Osborn, previously married to Richard Osborn, son of Secretary Osborne, in 1716. They had a son, William Spencer who married the widow Anne Drakeford sometime before 1753. At that time she was 60 and William just 36. Richard Drakeford had been 32 years older than Anne, and William was 24 years younger.

This would have been frowned upon, not just because of the difference in ages but also because William Spencer was from a different social background. His grandfather had been Col. Nicholas Spencer, Burgess of the Council, Acting Governor, and Secretary of State and former landlord of Richard Drakeford. Nicholas Spencer had been a wealthy man, and before he reached his majority William was the inheritor of his grandfather's portion of the 'patent'. This is noted above as being some 5,000 acres of land held jointly with the **Washington family**.

William was considered to be a spendthrift, and possibly a gambler. He had first married when he was 21, and during the next few years he sold 2,400 acres of his inheritance. His first wife left him and was provided with maintenance through income from land set aside for the purpose. She died in 1744 and he was free to marry again, this time the widow Anne Drakeford.

William's mother had been widowed in 1720 and was left with William who was just 3. She married Richard Osborne. In turn he wrote his will in 1748 and left just £50 to his step-son William, for it to be spent on clothes by a payment of £5 each year after the deceased's death. Clearly William's reputation was well known and a further relative did the same thing, trying to ensure the inheritance was not wasted.

The mystery deepens. A post-nuptial agreement dated 7th August 1753 was created in which Anne (Drakeford's widow) was allowed to keep four slaves, four feather beds, pewter dishes, two horses, cows etc. after the marriage. Just 20 days later William managed to get Anne to sell two of the slaves, who was Jenney and her child Joan. William, sold them to William Brummitt and in turn they were conveyed to William in trust for the use of Anne for and during her natural life. By a further indenture in 1754 the other two slaves and Anne's belongings were to be held for her natural life. In 1756 her assets were all sold and Anne had to give up all her rights.

William was selling everything he could. In 1758 he sold the property that he had made available to provide her with an income in order to support himself.

As already mentioned above, in August 1766, Anne was still spending and benefitting from the wealth of Richard, her first husband. She died not long after, leaving William to marry again. This he did with a new wife, Mary. She also fell for his persuasive powers and she assigned via some merchants in Baltimore Town all sums of money and tobacco she owned to William. No will or estate has been found for him.

Before we embark on the family journey, we should consider the political troubles that were brewing at the time. These would forever shape the economy and life of all Americans.

6) The American War of Independence

We start by putting the period into context with this most difficult time of national strife. Throughout the course of the war, an estimated 6,800 Americans were killed in action, 6,100 wounded, and upwards of 20,000 were taken prisoner. Historians believe that at least an additional 17,000 deaths were the result of disease, including about 8,000–12,000 who died while prisoners of war. The British lost approximately a total 20,000 from all these causes.

Now follows a summary provided mainly by **Sande Layton**. This is an incredible and indeed fascinating description showing the effect on the Drakeford family during this time.

American War of Independence, 9th April 1775 – 3rd September 1783

This was also called the Revolutionary War. Many people do not know that a significant amount of the Revolutionary War was fought in the Southern colonies and though both sides suffered significant casualties, it was in the South the tides of the war changed in favor of the Americans. In South Carolina alone almost 200 battles were fought and quite a bit of the action took place in our backwater area where the Drakefords were living.

The last British governor in South Carolina was Lord William Campbell who took office in Charleston in 1775 and three months later fled to the safety aboard a British ship in the harbor. Charleston at this time was the largest port in the South and the second largest in the colonies so this change got the attention of the British Government. The Whigs/Patriots established a Council of Safety and sent out representatives to those in the backwaters requiring people sign a 'Continental Association'. There was a strong Loyalist following in the backcountry and those who didn't sign the paper were harassed and sometimes physically attacked. While many did not agree with their treatment by the British government, they did not want to take up arms against it either. The two groups clashed but by the end of the year the Patriot militia could be disbanded and there was an uneasy peace until the British Regular forces arrived.

In 1776 the British Navy arrived, planning to retake Charleston and restore home rule. They had not planned the operation well and when their effort was thwarted, the fleet returned up North. In 1778, the British returned en-masse to begin a Southern Campaign, taking first the port of Savannah, Georgia. The following year, British General, Sir Henry Clinton issued a proclamation promising freedom to slaves of rebel Americans who escaped to British lines and supported their cause. All around in the Southern colonies slaves were leaving to join the British. 1780 would prove to be a very eventful and challenging year for all of the people in South Carolina.

The Siege of Charleston 29 March – 12 May 1780. On the 29th March, 1780 British Vice Admiral Arbuthnot entered the harbor with 40 ships and 4,500 personnel. The siege on Charleston had begun. A few weeks later, British troops under General Sir Henry Clinton arrived from Savannah and Charleston was completely surrounded. On 21st April and again on 7th May after the fall of Fort Moultrie, the Continental Forces commander in Charleston, Major General Benjamin Lincoln, requested surrender with honors of war but was rejected. When the British fired on to the city on 11th May, Charleston's citizens urged surrender and it followed the next day. 76 British were killed, and 89 wounded; 89 Americans were killed, and 138 wounded.

The American militiamen in Ninety Six and Camden also surrendered. With 6,577 Americans against 17,347 British, the Americans were outmanned and outgunned. In the end the British captured 5,466 prisoners, 15 regimental colours, 49 ships and 120 boats, plus flour, rum, rice and indigo. Charleston was the largest surrender in American history until 1862. The American prisoners were sent to prison ships, old barracks and dungeons. Parole was granted to the militia and civilians who promised not to take up arms. Now it is the American Whigs/patriots who had to sign a document that read:

I, _____ of the parish of _____ in the Province of South Carolina, acknowledge myself to be a prisoner to his Majesty's Troops, and hereby promise upon my parole of honor, that I will repair to John's Island (notifying the place of my residence to the Commissary of Prisoners at Charles Town, either two days after my arrival, or before the 14th day of June next) and there remain until regularly exchanged, or permitted or ordered to remove; and while a prisoner, I will not write, speak or act directly or indirectly against his Majesty's interest, and that I will surrender myself at any time and at any place, when ordered by the commander-in-chief or any other of his Majesty's Officers.

Note: The British occupied Charleston from May 1780 – April 1782. When they departed, they took with them the Loyalists who wanted to leave and almost 5,000 slaves. The slaves that had joined their efforts during the war were given their freedom as promised and taken to the Caribbean or Canada. During their time in South Carolina, the British took around 25,000 slaves from their owners and resold them back into slavery.

Meanwhile Colonel Abraham Buford of the Virginia Continental Army had been sent in to help defend Charleston but did not arrive in time. British Lieutenant Colonel Banastre Tarleton and 270 Loyalist troops caught up with them on 29th May in an area between the Carolinas known as Waxhaws. This is in Lancaster County just north of the Drakeford home sites in Kershaw County. Buford refused the initial demand to surrender but when his men were attacked and overpowered, there was chaos and some of the Americans threw down their arms. No one knows exactly what happened after that but there was a massacre. Of the 400 or so Continental patriots, 113 were killed with sabers, 150 were so severely injured that they could not be moved and 53 were taken prisoner. This brutality of 'the Battle of the Waxhaws' convinced many more to join in the Patriot cause and during the ensuing battles in the Carolinas, neither side took many prisoners using the term 'Tarleton's Quarter'.

After the fall of Charleston, the British took control of the back country, embedding themselves in Georgetown, Cheraw, Camden, Ninety Six and Augusta. The situation for the whole state looked grim.

The Battle of Camden. General George Washington sent in Continental troops from Maryland and Delaware under the command of Baron DeKalb but then switched command to General Horatio Gates, American hero at the Battle of Saratoga. When Gates met up with them in North Carolina, they left straight for Camden, South Carolina. On 7th August Gates' troops were joined by 2,100 North Carolina militia men, then 700 more from Virginia.

American troops start building defense works about 5.5 miles north of Camden, which is where Lord Lieutenant Colonel Rawdon had 1,000 British troops quartered. Hearing about the Americans' arrival, General Cornwallis marched in more troops from Charleston on Aug 13th, bringing the total of British troop totals to 2,239. Gates ordered his 3,052 troops on a night march on 15th August to meet the British. The Americans were sick, tired and hungry and had not fought together. The Battle of Camden began in the early morning of 16th August. 800 experienced British Fusiliers advanced with bayonets towards the 2,500 militiamen from North Carolina and Virginia. Having never used bayonets before, most of these men on the left flank fled - with the exception of Baron DeKalb. The British then turned on the Continental troops who were now surrounded on 3 sides. The British cavalry broke the Patriots up and after an hour of combat the Americans were defeated.

General Gates escaped, taking refuge 60 miles away in Charlotte NC but Baron DeKalb was shot nine times attempting to find an officer to surrender to. 68 British were killed, 245 wounded, 11 missing; 240 Americans were killed, 290 wounded and about 1,000 were taken prisoner. The Americans also lost all their artillery. Camden was the biggest loss to the Americans in the Revolutionary War. (The Camden Battlefield is 5.5 miles north of Camden and just a few miles from the old Drakeford, Layton and Sanders home sites. It is now an historical site of 479 acres owned by Palmetto Conservation Foundation).

Immediately after the Battle of Camden, Lord Cornwallis issued the following order to his troops across the backcountry.

“I have given orders that all inhabitants of this province who have subscribed and have taken part in this revolt be punished with the greatest rigor; and all those who will not turn out that they may be imprisoned and have their whole property taken from them. I have likewise ordered that compensation should be made out of their estates to the persons who have been injured or oppressed by them. I have ordered in the most positive manner that every militiaman who has borne arms with us and afterwards joined the enemy shall be immediately hanged”.

“For about a year the sway of the enemy was marked by murder and rapine, by burning mills and homes, by sequestration of estates, and by war against helpless women and children. No section of the state suffered more than Camden”.*

**rape and plundering*

Both paragraphs are from *Historic Camden* (pg 202, 203) by Thomas J. Kirkland, Robert MacMillan Kennedy.

The British now held outposts from Augusta, Georgia through all of South Carolina. Camden was in the middle of them, still under the control of Lieutenant Colonel Rawdon and our early families in the Kershaw area suffered greatly according to the Cornwallis orders. The British did not leave Camden until the spring of 1781. However, the tides began to turn before then.

In October 1780, the Americans gained victory in the Battle at King’s Mountain, South Carolina then again in January 1781, in the Battle of Cowpens, South Carolina.

For the next few months the Americans harried the British troops. Francis Marion, the ‘American Swamp Fox’, in particular was a true thorn in the side of the British after Camden. He and his small band of men employed guerilla warfare tactics, attacking supply lines, troops trying to reach the main body, rescuing small groups of American militias and killing black slaves attempting to join the British.

In March 1781, there was one last primary battle in the Carolinas - the Battle of Guilford Court House, North Carolina. 93 British were killed and 408 wounded versus 79 Americans killed and 211 wounded. Having inflicted significant casualties on the British, the Americans fled the scene to engage another day. The British had by now taken substantial losses and headed to Yorktown, Virginia. They were met there by General George Washington and French troops under Marquis de Lafayette and a siege resulted between 28th September and the Official Surrender of General Cornwallis on 19th October.

Where were our families during this war? (Given dates of 1775-1781 for Camden/Kershaw area participation in the War), Father John I-(1719-1789) was 55-61, son Richard (1755-1826) was 25-31 and son John II (1768-1850) was 8-13).

Richard is described as 'a gallant Patriot soldier'. In the fighting he suffered a sword cut on the head and was desperately wounded. He survived, recovering to produce and raise a large family and died in 1826.

In Internet Documentation on South Carolina during the Revolutionary War at https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_cane_brake.html

CAPT Drakeford (first name unknown) was with the Camden District Regiment under COL Richard Richardson in the Battle of Great Cane Brake (22 Dec 1775). This is most likely John I (father) as John is also identified as CAPT in the pension claim of Dan McMillan. In this Pension Claim (s32397) in Illinois in 1832, Daniel lists CAPT John Drakeford amongst other officers he served with for two weeks in June 1776 in COL Joseph Kershaw's Camden Militia Regiment.'

This **Wikipedia** statement is also worth reading as a more catholic description of the war.

- **The American Revolutionary War (1775-1783)**

The American Revolutionary War/The American War of Independence, was fought primarily between the Kingdom of Great Britain and her Thirteen Colonies in America; it resulted in the overthrow of British rule in the colonies and the establishment of the United States of America.

After 1765, growing constitutional and political differences strained the relationship between Great Britain and its American colonies. Patriot protests against taxation without representation followed the Stamp Act and escalated into boycotts, which culminated in 1773 with the Sons of Liberty destroying a shipment of tea in Boston Harbour. Britain responded by closing Boston Harbour and passing a series of punitive measures against Massachusetts Bay Colony. Massachusetts colonists responded with the Suffolk Resolves, and they established a shadow government which wrested control of the countryside from the Crown. Twelve colonies formed a Continental Congress (with the exception of Georgia) to coordinate their resistance, establishing committees and conventions that effectively seized power.

British attempts to disarm the Massachusetts militia in Concord led to open combat and a British defeat on April 19, 1775. Militia forces then besieged Boston, forcing a British evacuation in March 1776, and Congress appointed George Washington to command the Continental Army.

Concurrently, the Americans failed decisively in an attempt to invade Quebec and raise insurrection against the British. On July 2, 1776, the Second Continental Congress voted for independence, issuing its declaration on July 4. Sir William Howe launched a British counter-offensive, capturing New York City and leaving American morale at a low ebb. However, victories at Trenton and Princeton restored American confidence. In 1777, the British launched an invasion from Quebec under John Burgoyne, intending to isolate the New England Colonies. Instead of assisting this effort, Howe took his army on a separate campaign against Philadelphia, and Burgoyne was decisively defeated at Saratoga in October 1777.

Burgoyne's defeat had dramatic consequences. France formally allied with the Americans and entered the war in 1778, and Spain joined the war the following year as an ally of France; by the end of September 1779, Spanish troops composed of Puerto Ricans, Venezuelans, Dominicans, Salvadorans, Nicaraguans and Mexicans had cleared British settlers from the entire region around the Mississippi. The British mounted a "Southern strategy" led by Charles Cornwallis which hinged upon a Loyalist uprising, but too few came forward. Cornwallis suffered reversals at King's Mountain and Cowpens. He retreated to Yorktown, Virginia, intending an evacuation, but a decisive French naval victory deprived him of an escape. A Franco-American army led by the Comte de Rochambeau and Washington then besieged Cornwallis' army and, with no sign of relief, he surrendered in October 1781.

Whigs in Britain had long opposed the pro-war Tories in Parliament, and the surrender gave them the upper hand.

In early 1782, Parliament voted to end all offensive operations in America, but the war against France continued overseas. Britain remained under siege in Gibraltar but scored a major victory over the French navy. On September 3, 1783, the belligerent parties signed the Treaty of Paris in which Great Britain agreed to recognize the sovereignty of the United States and formally end the war. French involvement had proven decisive, but France made few gains and incurred crippling debts. Spain made some territorial gains but failed in its primary objective of regaining Gibraltar. The Dutch were defeated on all counts and were compelled to cede territory to Great Britain. In India, the war against Mysore and its allies concluded in 1784 without any territorial advantages.

7) The Descendants of Richard and Anne Drakeford

- **Captain John Drakeford (1719-1789)** married **Sarah Cole**. John, along with many other Fairfax County residents moved from Virginia to Craven County, South Carolina. He left the area shortly after his father's death in 1741. Perhaps his move was because of the marriage of his mother to the unsuitable William Spencer. Having arrived at Camden in Craven County, South Carolina where he became a Captain of Militia at Granny's Quarter Creek in St Marks Parish in Camden District. It was 1752, when George Mason leased 200 acres of land to Thomas Halbert, '100 acres thereof being the land that was plantation whereon John Drakeford lately lived'.

John Drakeford was shown in the pension file of a former soldier, Daniel McMillan, army No. 32397. Daniel stated that he enlisted in June 1776, and was a Private, serving under Captain John Drakeford and Colonel Joseph Kershaw in South Carolina. Daniel was a resident of Camden Dist., when he enlisted. He applied for the pension on October 29, 1832, noting that he was born in Ireland in 1752. **Source:** *L.W. & Catawaba-Wateree Genealogy Society, Volume 1, Issue 3 of July, August, Sept.. 2012*. This is additional proof that John Drakeford was a Captain in the Revolutionary War.

Land titles evidence that John was present in 1754. He died in Flat Rock, Kershaw County, South Carolina around 1789.

- **Elizabeth Drakeford (1720-1755)** moved to Gallatin County, Kentucky, marrying **John Gray/Grey (1719-1783)** shortly after the death of her father.

John Gray was a witness to John Drakeford's will and was a leaseholder in Henry Fitzhugh's Ravensworth Tract where the couple continued to live. Elizabeth had moved to Kentucky with her husband and son, Drakeford Gray.

There is a memorial stone in the Corn Creek cemetery marked 'Elizabeth, the mother of Drakeford Gray' shown below giving the date 4th Jan 1755.

In 1783, at the age of 83, John Gray died intestate in Fairfax County with an estate valued at £113.2s 1d. He was buried in the cemetery of the Corn Creek Baptist church, Trimble County, Kentucky.

Born in 1740, their son **Drakeford Gray** died in 1804 at the age of 64, having married Jemima Gladden (or Gladin) and they had up to 12 children. He was also buried at the Corn Creek Baptist Church cemetery.

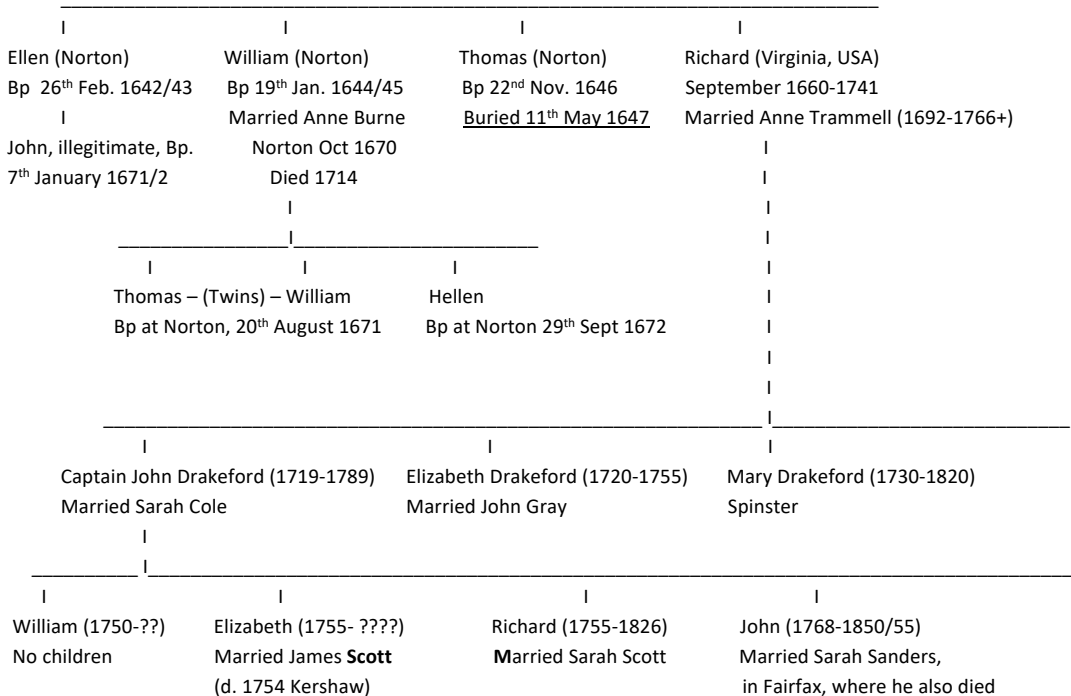
- **Mary Drakeford (1730-1820)** was probably unmarried, and lived to the great age of 90.

The following family tree appears twice. This is to facilitate easy reference as this paper is read.

North American Origins for the Drakeford Name, showing William and Ann to the Laytons

Richard the Merchant of Stafford (1576-1639) had a boy William who was baptised on 5th August 1614 at St Mary's Church, Stafford:

William Drakeford = Ann Mellor (baptised (Bp) Norton-in-the Moors 29th January 1621)



Elizabeth and James Scott had 4 children:

- 1) **Richard Scott**
- 2) **Isaac Scott**, married **Jane Jones**
- 3) **Jane Scott** born 1780 married **Noel Killingsworth**
- 4) **A further daughter** married **Edward Watson**

Richard(1755-1826) and Sarah Scott had 8 children

- 1) **Colonel William Scott Drakeford** (1788-1871) married Elizabeth McAdams in 1819. Their children were a) Nancy Susanna (1820-1822) b) Richard Columbus (1822-1870), c) Elizabeth Angeleen (1824 1871), d) Mary Vermelle (1826-1884), e) Alethia Theodosia (1827-1848), f) William Hiram (1830-1883), g) Captain Joseph James (1822-1883).
- 2) **Susanna Drakeford** married **David Evans**
- 3) **Mary Drakeford**, born 1775 married **Archibald McDowell**
- 4) **Sarah Drakeford**, born 1778 married **Hugh McClester**. Their children were Archibald and Elizabeth.
- 5) **Nancy Drakeford** (1779-1852) married **James Sanders** (1779-1832). They had nine children all born in Kershaw: Drakeford Sanders (1801-1878), Margaret (1803-1878), Richard (1805-1873), James (1808-1852), Nancy (1820-???), William (1823-1852). There were three further children, but the names are not known
- 6) **Elizabeth Drakeford**, Married **Turner Cockrum**.
- 7) **Jane Drakeford**, born 1790. She married **Joseph Layton** and they had three children. They were Archibald Layton, Charles Layton (1819-1880), and Elizabeth Layton, born 1834.
- 8) **Delilah Drakeford** (1793-1878) married **Patrick Layton** who died 1851. They had three children. Sarah Elizabeth Layton - married Alfred Peach, Susanna Caroline Layton - married Lewis Kenard Gardner, and Charles Layton. **Joseph** and **Patrick Layton** were brothers.

John (1768-1850/55) and Sarah Sanders had 7 children:

1) Sarah Drakeford, (1795 – 1857) married **Thomas Gaskin** (1796-1874). They had nine children being James Gaskin (1819-1853), Ann Gaskin (1821-????), Margaret Gaskin (1823-1863), Ransom Gaskin (1825-1863), Nancy Gaskin (1829-1876), Mary Gaskin (1830-1845), Richard Gaskin (1832 -????), Dennis Gaskin (1834-????) and Harriet Gaskin (1836 – 1845).

2) John S. Drakeford (1799-1858) married **Sarah Ann Carlos** (1813-1859). They had nine children: Mary A. Drakeford (1832-1926) Thomas Carlos Drakeford (1833-1919) married Sarah Caroline Dyer (1839 – 1902)- Thomas had two boys, John Hamilton Drakeford (1872-1934) and Dr William Calhoun Drakeford (1876-1907) - William H Drakeford (1835-1863) John Sanders Drakeford (1838-1915) Carolina Elizabeth Drakeford (1842-1900) Richard Powers Drakeford (1845-1848) Paul D Drakeford (1847-1913) Alexander Hamilton Drakeford (1848-1923) Sallie Drakeford (1850-1937)

3) James Drakeford Born 1802, married Mary, born 1815 and they had three children: Henry born 1835, James Jackson Drakeford born 1840 and a further child, details unknown.

4) Joel Drakeford Born 1807

5) Richard Drakeford Born 1810

6) William Drakeford Born 1810

7) Anna Drakeford, birth date unknown

Because there is no definite link between Malinda Layton who had a child James Madison Layton, and the Drakeford father, we cannot show their lineage in the above tree. It is up to the reader to decide how this link is continued (see Section 10 for up to date explanation).

A summary of the descendants of Richard Drakeford 1660-1740/41

The Family tree above gives brief details of the children of William Drakeford and Ann Mellor from England on the basis that Richard is their son. It shows the line prior to the Layton family through which the link to the Drakeford family emanating from Congleton, Norton and Stafford has been established using DNA. There is a separate section below describing the descendants of the Layton family and how they relate to the Drakefords.

The information that follows adds meat to the bone, and shows how the dynasty established itself and survived to the present day.

William and Ann Drakeford do not appear to have had further children after Richard, who was probably born during their journey from England, or very shortly thereafter.

Richard married Anne Trammel. We do not know exactly when or where. The papers relating to the contents of Richard's will dated 1740 detail specific assets including two indenture servants, plus Bryant Allison, his tailor, and Margaret Poor.

Anne was considerably younger than Richard by 32 years and she died at the age of 81 in 1766 or shortly thereafter. This does give us food for thought. Assuming that Richard was born in 1660, his children, mentioned in his will, are John born in 1719, Elizabeth in 1720, and Mary in 1730. At the time of these births Richard would have been 59, 60 and 70 when his wife Anne conceived. She would have been a reasonable age of 27, 28 and 38 years respectively.

Anne's age is initially based on a court deposition in 1748 when she said she was 56 years of age. Anne was therefore 49 when her first husband, Richard died at the probable age of 80. This is quite a difference in age.

Richard and Anne had three children.

Thanks to his last Will and Testament dated 13th March 1740, we can start with the will of Richard Drakeford born about 1660, and who died in 1741. The will identifies his three children as firstly John, then Elizabeth, and finally Mary. Some may say that it is John's line that holds sway and provides the most interest historically. The children already listed above are **John Drakeford** (1719-1789) **Elizabeth Drakeford** (1720-1755) and **Mary Drakeford** (1730-1820).

Thus the direct 'Drakeford' male line was through the children of Capt. John Drakeford (1719-1789).

8) The Drakefords in South Carolina and Kershaw Land Purchases

Hitherto the family had been living in Virginia. We continue the story with John and Sarah living in Kershaw, South Carolina.

Captain John Drakeford (1719-1789) married **Sarah Cole** and they had four children:

- I) **William (1750 - ????)** He was unmarried, a merchant and a Colonel in the Patriot Army. We would assume that this 'army' continued after 1783. He lived in Georgetown South Carolina and has no known descendants.
- II) **Elizabeth (1755-????)** She married **James Scott***. James was born about 1750 and died about 1794 in Kershaw. Their children included:
 - a) **Richard Scott**
 - b) **Isaac Scott**, who married Jane Jones.
 - c) **Jane Scott**, who was born in 1780 in Kershaw, and married Noel Killingsworth.
 - d) A.N. Other -There was a further female child but no other details are known except she married Edward Watson.
- III) **Richard (1755-1826)** married **Sarah Scott***. Richard and John's parents moved from Fairfax County, Virginia and settled on Flat Rock Creek in the upper part of Kershaw County in the middle of the 18th century, before 1754. Richard was most likely to be the one responsible for the building of the Drakeford house shown later.

IV) John (born c.1768 – 1850/55) was a farmer and married **Sarah Sanders** on 3rd November 1795 in Kershaw. She was the daughter of John and Sarah Sanders. John was a captain in the Kershaw County Militia around 1812. He was a farmer. John died between 1850 and 1855 in Kershaw, South Carolina.

*It is not known if James Scott and Sarah Scott were related, and possibly even brother and sister.

At this point – for the sake of clarity- having accepted that William (1750-?) died without issue, and the little we know about Elizabeth is already explained above, we will split the two remaining family lines between Richard Drakeford (1755-1826) and John Drakeford (1768-1850/55).

We will take the family history to around 1850, when the link with the Layton family is established with the children of Jane Drakeford/Layton and Delilah Drakeford/Layton and Malinda Layton. This starts with 3rd generation Richard and the following four generations. Please refer to the family tree paper by Roger Hall for the next five generations!!

Richard Drakeford (1755-1826) and Sarah Scott

He is described as ‘a gallant Patriot soldier’. Sande Layton tells us that the phrase ‘gallant soldier’ oft repeated is sourced by ‘Historic Camden, Colonial & Revolutionary’ by Thomas J Kirkland, Robert MacMillan Kennedy. We must assume that his time as a soldier was for the latter period of the ‘American Revolutionary War’ against the British, ending in 1783, when he was 28. In the fighting he suffered a sword cut on the head and was desperately wounded. He survived, recovering to produce a large family. His grandchildren and those of his brother John (1768-1850) would be fighting for the Confederate forces in the American Civil War. The previous description of the Civil War gives graphic details of the dreadful cost in lives to the Drakeford family. Richard was a Justice of the Peace for Kershaw.

Richard Drakeford married **Sarah Scott in 1768** at Fairfax. He died at Flat Rock Community, Kershaw in 1826.

There is often no better way to tell the story of an individual than by starting at their end with the will, which serves to provide names of children alive at the time of the writing of the document. They give a good idea about wealth and status. In this case we must ask ourselves why there is no wife mentioned.

Whereas in England at this time the testator would refer to the monarch, and sometimes the years they had been on the throne, in this instance the important date is the period since the date of independence, being ‘...*the fifty-first Year of independence of the United States of America*’.

The Will of Richard Drakeford (1755-1826) dated 15th July 1826

State of South Carolina, Kershaw District *In the name of God Amen* I Richard Drakeford of the State and District aforesaid, being Weak and low in body but in perfect mind and Memory do make this my last Will and testament in the Way and manner following...

First I will and bequeath to my son **William Drakeford** and his heirs forever. All my Lands lying on the Flat Rock Creek and the Waters of the Same Whereon I now live it being in Sundry tracts also five Negroes Namely Isom, Robin Hester, Maria and child Ceasar, together with their increase forever

Second I will and bequeath to my Daughter **Susanna Drakeford** and her heirs forever four Negroes Namely Lucy & Child Nelson, Dick and John together with their increase forever. **Third** I will and bequeath to My daughter **Delilah Drakeford** and the heirs of her body four Negroes Namely Milly, March, Daniel, and Joe together with their increase forever. **Fourth** I will and bequeath to My Daughter **Nancy Sanders** and the heirs of her body forever four Negroes Namely Jude, Jim, Hannah and child George together with their increase forever..

Fifth I will and bequeath to My daughter **Mary McDowell** and the heirs of her body forever four Negroes Namely Rose, Abram, Cela and Reubin together with their increase forever. **Sixth** I will and bequeath to My Daughter **Jane Layton** and the heirs of her body forever four Negroes Namely Chana, Henry, Old Will and Young Will together with their increase forever. **Seventh** I will and bequeath to My daughter **Sarah McClester** and the heirs of her body forever three Negroes namely Fillis, Silvy and Lewis together with their increase forever.

Eighth I will and bequeath to My daughter **Elizabeth Cockrum** and the heirs of her body forever four Negroes Namely Sile, Ben Cate and Isaac together with their increase forever. **Ninth** I will and bequeath to my Daughter Sarah McClester's two children Archibal and Elizabeth my bed and furniture and two cows. **Tenth** I will and bequeath to my Daughters Susanna and Delila the balance of the beds and furniture With all other household and Kitchen furniture to be equally divided between them.

Eleventh I give and bequeath to My Daughter Susanna Drakeford My Gig and Gid Horse **Twelfth** I will and bequeath all the balance of My Stock of Horses, Cows and Hogs to be equally divided between My Son William Drakeford and My Daughter Susanna Drakeford. **Thirteenth** I will and bequeath to My Son William Drakeford My Gin Waggon, Black Smith tools and plantation tools.

Fourteenth I will and bequeath to my Grand Son **Richard Columbus** Drakeford and his heirs forever one Negroe girl Named **Eliza** together with her increase forever. *Fifteenth.* I will and bequeath to My Grand Daughter **Elizabeth Angeleen** Drakeford And the heirs of her body one Negroe Girl Child by the Name of **Serener** together with her increase forever. *Sixteenth* I do Nominate and appoint My Son **William** Drakeford My Executor to execute this my last Will and Testament to Which I have set my hand and Seal this fifteenth day of July in the year of our Lord one thousand eight Hundred and twenty six and in the fifty-first Year of independence of the United States of America.

Richard Drakeford (seal)

Signed, Sealed and Acknowledged

In the presence of us by the Testator

to be his last Will and Testament and

at his request we Subscrib.d our

*names as Witnesses: **John Drakeford Snr.**, **Jacob Cole**, **James Drakeford***

These witnesses are Richard's brother, **John Drakeford Snr.**, a family friend, **Jacob Cole** and Richard's nephew, **James Drakeford**.

Richard with his Wife **Sarah Scott** had the following eight children:

- 1) '**Colonel**' **William Scott Drakeford (1788-1871)** married **Elizabeth McAdams (1795-1855)** in December 1819. Both were born in Kershaw District. He has an unmarked grave at Kershaw cemetery in the Drakeford plot, beside his wife, Elizabeth, who predeceased him. William Drakeford was the sole male and had seven sisters. He was a planter and innkeeper.

It is believed the title 'Colonel' was complimentary, possibly an acknowledgement of the community or his cliental, as no evidence of military service has been found. However, in 2012 the following account was discovered and is provided by Simon Drakeford. It refers to an African American soldier called Washington:

*Washington is the last African-American in Kershaw County to draw a Confederate pension; his grandson, Quay Drakeford, and his family are trying to preserve his legacy. Washington was born in 1842. **He was a slave owned by Col. William Drakeford**, who fought in the Florida Seminole War of 1836. William was a wealthy plantation owner in the Flat Rock area of Kershaw County; an 1830 Census showed he owned 21 slaves, some of whom were inherited from his father's estate. During the Civil War, Washington **served under William's son, Capt. Joseph Drakeford**. From 1862 to 1865, Washington served as a cook and a general hand in CO E 2 SC Regt, Confederate States Army, according to documents from the County Pension Board.*

The 'Colonel' and Elizabeth produced seven children, three of which were boys, each joining the Confederate Army in the Civil War:

- a) **Nancy Susanna Drakeford** (1820-1822) died aged 1
- b) **Richard Columbus Drakeford** (1822-1870) **Confederate Army, 1st Sgt. Co.C South Carolina State Troops.** Married **Ellen Verona Reed** (1849-1847) on 23.12.1847. They produced five children.
- c) **Elizabeth Angeleen Drakeford** (1824-1871) she married **Dr John Isaac Trantham** (1820-1881) on 22.12.1846. They had eight children..
- d) **Mary Vermelle Drakeford** (1826-1884) She married secondly **William F Perry** on 20.12.1853, and they moved to Florida.
- e) **Alethia Theodosia Drakeford** (1827-1848) dying at the young age of 21 with childbirth complications on 26.10.1848. She had married **James L Reed** on 7.10.1848, and their child **Alethia Theodosia Reed**, born on 16.10.1848 survived.

It is worthy of note that Alethia's brother also married a Reed, by the name of **Ellen Verona**.

- f) **William Hiram Drakeford** (1830-1871) He married **Laura E Brown** (1839-1867) in 1862. **He fought in the Civil War** as a private in the Battalion (Enfield Rifles) S. Carolina Infantry (Nelson's Batt.) They had three children.
- g) **Captain Joseph James Drakeford** (1833-1883) buried Unity Cemetery, Fort Mill, York, South Carolina. He married **Laura Eugenia Jane Haile** (1848-1939) on 10.3.1868 and they then moved to Fort Mill, South Carolina where they had seven children.

Captain Drakeford fought with the Confederate Army in the Camden Volunteers Co. E 2nd S. Carolina Infantry (2nd Palmetto Regt.).

Sometime after Joseph died in 1883. Laura, who was the Fort Mill postmistress, moved to Asheville, South Carolina to live with her sons, dying in 1939 at the age of 91 having been a widow for 56 years.

- 2) **Susanna Drakeford**, married **David Evans**. No further details available.

3) **Mary E. Drakeford**, born in 1775 or 1782 in Kershaw. Mary married **Archibald McDowell** (1774-1859) and she died 1871 in Flat Rock, Kershaw. They had 12 children:

- a) **Margaret McDowell** b. 27.3.1802 he died young.
- b) **Elizabeth McDowell** b. 13.11.1803, married **George Stratford**
- c) **Nancy Amanda Mc Dowell** b. 26.2.1806 Married **William Richard Johnson**
- d) **William Drakeford Mc Dowell** b. 16.7.1808 Died on 23.3.1853, buried at Damascus Methodist Cemetery, Kershaw. He married firstly 'Elizabeth', and secondly **Jane Fletcher**.
- e) **Alethia Mc Dowell** b. 31.3.1811, married **William Russell**
- f) **James L. Mc Dowell** b. 15.5.1815, Died 14.12.1876 Married **Elizabeth Reaves**
- h) **Martha Mc Dowell** b. 29.6.1817 unmarried
- i) **Mary Mc Dowell** b. 29.7.1817 (error or Poss. twin with above).Died young
- j) **Archibald Mc Dowell** b. 10.4.1818 Married **Mary Hayes Owen**
- k) **Emma Leiaza Mc Dowell** b. 4.11.1820 Died 23.7.1855 Married **George Kelly***
- l) **Alison Alexander Mc Dowell** b. 25.4 1823 Died 2.3.1902, in Camden, Kershaw
Married **Mary Ann Reaves** (Possibly related to **Elizabeth Reaves** above?)
- m) **Sarah Jane Mc Dowell** b. 22.8.1826 Married **George Kelly** (*as above??)

4) **Sarah Drakeford**, born 1778. Married **Hugh McClester**. They had two children,

- a) **Archibald McClester**
- b) **Elizabeth McClester**
(No dates available nor further details)

5) **Nancy Drakeford**, born 17.8.1779, Kershaw, married **James Sanders** (<1779-1832) and died 20.6.1852, Olney, Pickens, Ala. and buried at Unity Cemetery, Aliceville, Pickens Alabama. Nancy and James Sanders had nine children, all born in Kershaw. They were:

- a) **Drakeford Sanders** (1801-1870) died in Lee Mississippi and buried at Petty Cemetery, Verona, Miss. Married a **Mary**, surname unknown.
- b) **Margaret Sanders** (1803-1878) Died in Carroll, Miss, buried Nebo Cemetery. Married **Nathaniel West**
- c) **Richard Sanders** (1805-1873). Died in Cedar Creek, Scott, Arkansas and buried in Parks Cemetery, Arkansas. He married **Mary (Polly) Strickland**.
- d) **James Sanders** (1808-1852) Died in Olney, Pickens and buried in Unity Cemetery, Aliceville, Pickens Ala. He married **Charlotte** (Surname unknown).
- e) **Nancy Sanders** (1820-????) No further details.
- f) **William Sanders** (1823-1852) Died in Olney, Pickens and buried in Unity Cemetery, Aliceville, Pickens Ala. Married **Ann Corder**.
Three further children, names unknown were born in 1810, 1810 to 1820, and 1825.

6) **Elizabeth Drakeford** married **Turner Cockrum**. No further details known.

7) **Jane Drakeford** (1790- ????). She married **Joseph Layton** and they had three children:

- a) **Archibald Layton** No further details
- b) **Charles Layton** who was born in 1819 in Flat Rock and died in 1880 in Aliceville, Pickens Alabama. Married **Clarinda (surname unknown)**
- c) **Elizabeth Layton**, born in 1834 in South Carolina. No further details.

8) **Delilah Drakeford** (1793 – 1878) married **Patrick Layton** (1790-1851).

They moved to Bethany in Pickens Co., AL from Kershaw, SC around 1840. Patrick died 1851. In 1860 Delilah was living with Nathaniel and Margaret (Drakeford) West. She moved with this family to Carroll MS, where she died in 1878 and was buried in Mount Nebo Cemetery, Carrollton. They had three children:

- a) **Sarah Elizabeth Layton**, who married **Alfred Peach** in Olney AL in 1855 and then moved to Saltillo, MS.
- b) **Susanna Caroline Layton** married **Lewis Kenard Gardner**.
- c) **Charles Layton**.

The second line of the family is for John Drakeford (1768 – 1850/55), brother of Richard (1755-1826)

The facsimile of the **Will of John Drakeford** is supplied by **Sande Layton**:

Will of John Drakeford

The last will of John Drakeford Senr of Kershaw District South Carolina

I John Drakeford Senr, considering the uncertainty of this mortal life, and being of sound mind and memory do make this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following: that is to say:

***Firstly** All my just debts must be paid out of my Estate: **Secondly** I will and bequeath to my son Richard Drakeford all my land lying on both sides of the little Flat Rock Creek, two beds and bed furniture, one mahogany Table, One bay Horse Governer and eight negroes vis: Edmund, Henry, March, Winny & her four children-William, Willis, Jack and Edmund together with their increase, to my son Richard his heirs and assigns forever.*

***Thirdly** It is my Will and desire that the remainder of my property not included in any previous Clause of this will be equally divided among my children Sarah, John, James, Anna, William & Joel, their heirs or assigns to have and hold forever. **Fourthly** I hereby appoint my son Richard Drakeford sole Executor of this my last Will and Testament revoking all former wills by me made.*

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the seventh of March Anno Domini One Thousand Eight Hundred Fifty.

*Signed Sealed & Deliver in
The presence of
William Drakeford
William H Drakeford
Joseph J Drakeford*

*Recorded in Will Book A, Page 250
Recorded Apr 13th, 1855
Ord, ED, Joy
Apt. 21 Pkg 730*

Comment: This simple will was copied for the formal will book on 13th April 1855. A copy is shown below. Presumably the signed original has been either lost or filed elsewhere.

The contents inform us that John's son Richard is his executor and main benefactor, receiving his land on both sides of Little Flat Rock Creek. Alas the map below shows Big Rock Creek, the Drakeford House, but not Flat Rock Creek.

This tells us that his eldest son Richard is his executor and main benefactor, receiving his land on both sides of Little Flat Rock Creek. Alas the map shown on Page 40 shows Big Rock Creek, the Drakeford House, but not Flat Rock Creek.

It defines the assets in the house, the horse and the eight Negroes named as Edmund, Henry, March, Winny and her children William, Willis, March and Edmund. No mention is made of the house, but that could be as in English deeds, it is the land the house is on that people agree to buy, not the house itself.

The will also names his children as Richard, Sarah, John, James, Anna, William and Joel. Correctly they are all alive at the time of the making of the will. What does stand out is that Richard was not the oldest son, who would normally inherit. It is accepted that John S. Drakeford had moved to Tuskegee, AL, along with James, who had moved away too, after Melinda Layton had become pregnant and Joel who we know little about. Thus it is quite possible that Richard was the one that stayed loyal and importantly able and willing to continue the family business.

Edmund Drakeford, Henry Drakeford, Edmund's daughter Winny Drakeford, all listed in the will, and Washington Drakeford can be found living in the Flat Rock area on the 1870 census. There are other 'assumed' freed black slaves carrying the name of Drakeford as well as William Scott Drakeford and some of his remaining family listed.

We are led to believe that a large number of the existing African American Drakeford family are said to have been descended from slaves named as Simon and Sally, and their children, Elizabeth and Little Lewis, who were owned by John Drakeford. They do not appear on the will and further research is required.

Unfortunately, we do not have an inventory to show the assets John left. This is a particular shame because a large number of the existing African-American Drakeford family are said to have been descended from the named slaves, Simon and Sally, and their children, Elizabeth and Little Lewis.

WILL OF
JOHN DRAKEFORD

The last will & Testament of John Drakeford Senr. of Kershaw District South Carolina.

I John Drakeford Senr. considering the uncertainty of this mortal life, And being of sound mind and memory do make this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following: that is to say:

Firstly All my just debts must be paid out of my Estate.

Secondly I Will and bequeath to my son Richard Drakeford all my land lying on both sides of the little Flat Rock Creek, two beds and bed furniture, One mahogany Table, One bay Horse Covenor, and eight negroes vis: Edmund, Henry, March, Winney & her four Children-William, Willis, Jack & Edmund together with their increase, to my son Richard his heirs and Assigns forever.

Thirdly It is my Will and desire that the remainder of my property not included in any preceeding Clause of this Will be equally divided among my Children Sarah, John, James, Anna, William & Joel, their heirs or assigns to have and hold forever.

Fourthly I hereby appoint my son Richard Drakeford sole Executor of this my last Will and Testament revoking all former wills by me made.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and Seal the seventh day of March Anno Domini One thousand Eight hundred and fifty.

Signed Sealed & delivered in the presence of

John Drakeford (L.S.)

William Drakeford
William H Drakeford
Joseph J Drakeford

Recorded in Will Book A Page 250
Recorded April 13th, 1855
Ord, KD, J. R. Joy
Apt. 21 Pkg. 730

John (1768-1850/55) and Sarah (1795-1857) had the following seven children:

- I) **Sarah Drakeford**, lived her life in Kershaw and in 1818 at Flat Rock, Kershaw married **Thomas Gaskin** (1796-1874). Both are buried in the family cemetery at Kershaw. They had nine children being James (1819-1853), Ann (1821-????), Margaret (1823-1863), Ransom (1825-1863), Nancy (1829-1876), Mary (1830-1845), Richard (1832 -????), Dennis (1834-????) and Harriet (1836 – 1845).
- II) **John S. Drakeford (1799-1858)**, born Kershaw 25th August 1799, died Tuskegee, AL, 1858 aged 59. John was a farmer in South Carolina and a merchant in Alabama. He was buried in the cemetery at Tuskegee. See headstone photograph below.

John S. Drakeford married **Sarah Ann Carlos**. The cemetery stone shown below for Sarah A. Drakeford confirms that she was born in Kershaw District S.C. on 14th December 1813, and was buried in Tuskegee on 5th April 1859. As the tombstone shows a birth date 25th August 1799 for John there is no doubt that both moved from Kershaw, South Carolina to Tuskegee. In 1836 the family moved from South Carolina to Montgomery, Alabama, moved to Tuskegee the next year, remained a year or two, went back to Montgomery for another year and final settled in Tuskegee. *Source: Memorial Record of Alabama (Madison WI 1893) pp446-7.*

It is established that a John S. Drakeford held the larger house in Tuskegee, Alabama shown below.

John and Sarah produced nine children:

- a) **Mary A. Drakeford** (1832-1926) Buried in Pinewood Cemetery, West Point, Troup, Georgia.
- b) **Thomas Carlos Drakeford** (1833-1919) married **Sarah Caroline Dyer** (1839 – 1902), and was buried at Tuskegee cemetery. On the stone is a steel plate '1st ALA Partisan Rangers, Confederate States Army, 1833-1919'. Thomas Carlos Drakeford built the Drakeford House in the 1890s. He and his wife had two sons, John Hamilton Drakeford and Dr William Calhoun Drakeford.
- c) **William H Drakeford** (1835-1863) Died at Gettysburg, Adams Pennsylvania.
- d) **John Sanders Drakeford** (1838-1915) Buried in Tuskegee Cemetery.
- e) **Carolina Elizabeth Drakeford** (1842-1900) Buried in Tuskegee Cemetery
- f) **Richard Powers Drakeford** (1845-1848) Buried aged 3 in Tuskegee Cemetery
- G) **Paul D Drakeford** (1847-1913) Buried Tuskegee Cemetery
- h) **Alexander Hamilton Drakeford** (1848-1923) buried Tuskegee Cemetery
- i) **Sallie Drakeford** (1850-1937) She was the baby of the family born 18 years after her sister Mary and lived to the age of 86, while Mary died at the age of 94. While Sallie died in Tuskegee, she was buried on 10th February 1937 in Lexington, Fayette, Kentucky. One can but wonder if she latterly returned home to her family but wanted to be buried near her husband.

III) **James Drakeford** Born 1802. Married **Mary**, who was born in 1815 in Georgia. They had three children:

- a) **Henry Drakeford** born 1835
- b) **James Jackson Drakeford** born 1840
- c) and a further child, details unknown.

IV) **Joel Drakeford** Born 1807 (per Sande Layton). Named in his father's will.

V) **Richard Drakeford** Born 1810, and the main beneficiary of his father's will

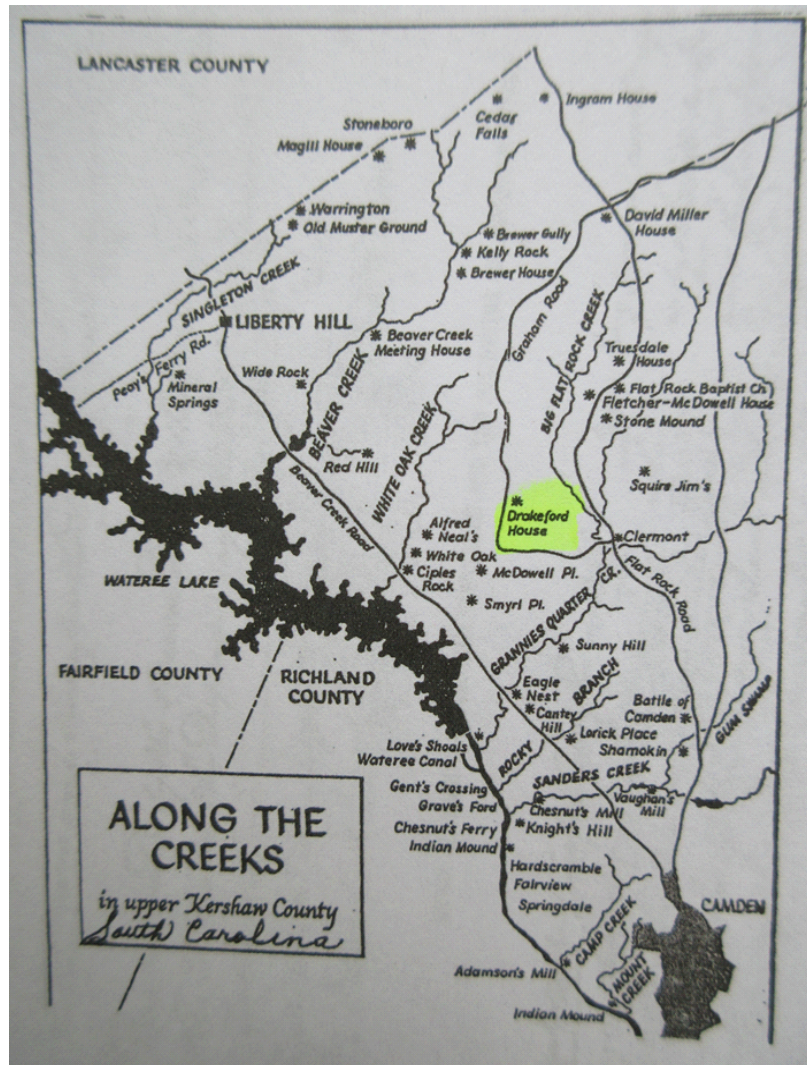
VI) **William Drakeford** Born 1810. Named in his father's will

VII) **Anna Drakeford**. Named in her fathers will.

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This list of the family is stopped at the point where the descendants of Richard Drakeford born in 1660 have reached the 4th generation. **Roger Hall** did an exemplary job taking the numerous family lines where possible into the 20th century and the 11th generation of Drakefords. What I have tried to show is how some had big families, some no children at all. Some had many boys and others a few. In other words it was a great dynasty, perhaps not wealthy, but nevertheless a family that helped America to become what it is today.

Land Purchases, Kershaw



Map of Upper Kershaw County SC, and the Drakeford House 1810 shown centre

From the very beginning, the Drakefords in Virginia worked the land initially as tenant farmers. The information available includes the following holdings, many of which can be identified on the map above as well as the site of the Drakeford House.

It is worth reminding ourselves that after Richard Drakeford died around 1741, his only son John (1719-1789) left his mother when she married William Spencer. John moved to the Kershaw area. It was in 1754 that he received his first allocation of land by way of a Colonial Grant. Before that, it is known that John had lived on plantation land owned by George Mason in 1752 when he leased 200 acres of Land to Thomas Halbert, '100 acres thereof being the land that was plantation whereon John Drakeford lately lived'.

In 1749, one of the first Colonial Grants in the area of Kershaw off the Wateree went to Oliver Mahaffy and Michael Brannon. Soon after the first of the Drakefords was granted land and the records show the following and associated holdings.

1754	John Drakeford	100 acres,	Wateree River
1755	John Drakeford	100 acres,	Wateree River
1755	James Sanders	150 acres,	Granny Quarters Creek
1762	John Drakeford	100 acres,	Granny Quarters Creek
1769	Patrick Layton(Ladon)	200 acres,	Granny Quarters Creek
1769	John Drakeford	150 acres,	Little Flat Rock Creek
1770	John Drakeford	50 Acres,	Little Flat Rock Creek
1771	Richard Drakeford	100 acres,	White Oak Creek
1771	John Scott	100 acres,	Flat Rock Creek
1772	Patrick Layton(Ladon)	300 acres,	Flat Rock Creek
1772	David Sanders	150 acres,	Flat Rock Creek

The Drakefords and the Laytons were still holding large plantations in 1810.

The list shows holdings by not only the Laytons, who were married to Jane Drakeford and Delilah Drakeford in around 1815 and 1827 respectively, but also Nancy Drakeford (1779-1852), daughter of Richard Drakeford, who married James Sanders about 1800

Comment from another source has been provided to the effect that as mentioned above, John Drakeford received an early grant for land abutting on the Wateree River. Land was available in South Carolina and the normal process of obtaining a land grant at this time required the grantee to appear in person before the Governor's council in Charleston to petition for a warrant and to verify the number of people upon which the grant was based. Before 1755, fifty acres was allowed for each person whether they were male, female, free or slave, white or black, which was perhaps a continuation of the Headright system.

The following information comes from **Lavonne Walker**, who advises that British copies of these Council Journals (CJ) are available for research. Listed below are some extracts appertaining to our ancestor **John Drakeford** (1719-1789):

Page 68 (CJ), This seems to be a summary and states that at the meeting of Tuesday A. M. on **November 5, 1754**. *The humble petition of John Drakeford setting forth that he hath two children for whom he never yet has obtained any land, prays to lay out 100 acres on or near Santee River or the waters thereof and that he may have a grant for the same. The prayer thereof was granted.* The full petition follows.

Page 80 and 81 (CJ): *'The petition of **John Drakeford** humbly setting forth that the petitioner is lately come from Virginia with intent to settle in this Province and find a proper place to settle at on the Wateree River. He hath a wife in family for her nor yet for himself hath any land been granted in this Province, prays to lay out 100 acres of land on Wateree River and being desirous of having a plantation on the same. Char's Town (Charleston), the 5th Feb'ry 1754. John Drakeford'.* The prayer thereof was granted.

It is interesting that preceding this entry on page 80 is *'a Petition of **William Scott** humbly setting forth that the petitioner lately came from Virginia in order to settle himself and family in this province on some part of the Wateree River. He hath a wife in family for nor yet for himself hath any land been granted in this Province, prays to lay out 100 acres of land on Wateree River or the waters thereof and that he may have a grant for the same. Charles Town, the 5th Feb'ry 1754. William Scott'.* The prayer thereof was granted.

Lavonne considers that this seems to confirm that the Drakefords and Scotts were long-time friends and may have moved together from Virginia to S. C. Their land joined each other. As mentioned above John Drakeford's son, **Richard (1755-1826) later married Sarah Scott in 1768.** Also, the area they wanted the land grant in was considered the "back country" requiring a long journey to Charleston to appear in person and receive the grant. Lavonne believes they traveled together on that journey, since they appear on the same day and the entries in the journal are together.

Page 117 (CJ) Meeting of Monday A. M. **February 2, 1756.** *The petition of **William Gess (Guess)** humbly setting forth that the pet'r had two children and one indented servant for whom and himself he never had any warrant of survey or grant of land in this province, prayed to lay out 150 acres of vacant land on a branch of Peals Creek, a branch of Pedee, and that he might have a grant for the same. Dated Febr'y 3d, 1756. Will'm Gess (W). The prayer thereof was granted.* The Gues/Gist/Guess families were right by the Drakefords in Fairfax County, Virginia.

Earlier in this study paper, it is mentioned that Richard Drakeford, in 1739 was also involved with the Guess family viz. **'Richard Drakeford and Thomas Ford** acted as securitees for **Anne Guess**, administratrix for Joseph Guess deceased'.

In Book D-3, Page 401(CJ), **15 March 1762**, Lease and Release, **John Drakeford, planter**, to **John Elkins**, shoemaker, both of Craven Co., for 130 lbs. currency, 100 acres on SW wide of Wateree River, bounding SE on **William Scott** & vacant land; SW and NW on vacant land; which Gov. James Glen on 9 Jan. 1756 granted to Drakeford. Wt. Robert Elkins, John Elkins, Jr. Before John Newman Oglethorpe, J. P.' Recorded 8 July 1765 by Fenwicke Bull, Register.

At the bottom of the list of land purchase above, there is '1772 David Sanders 150 acres, Flat Rock Creek'. By chance Lavonne adds in her series of notes from the Council Journals:

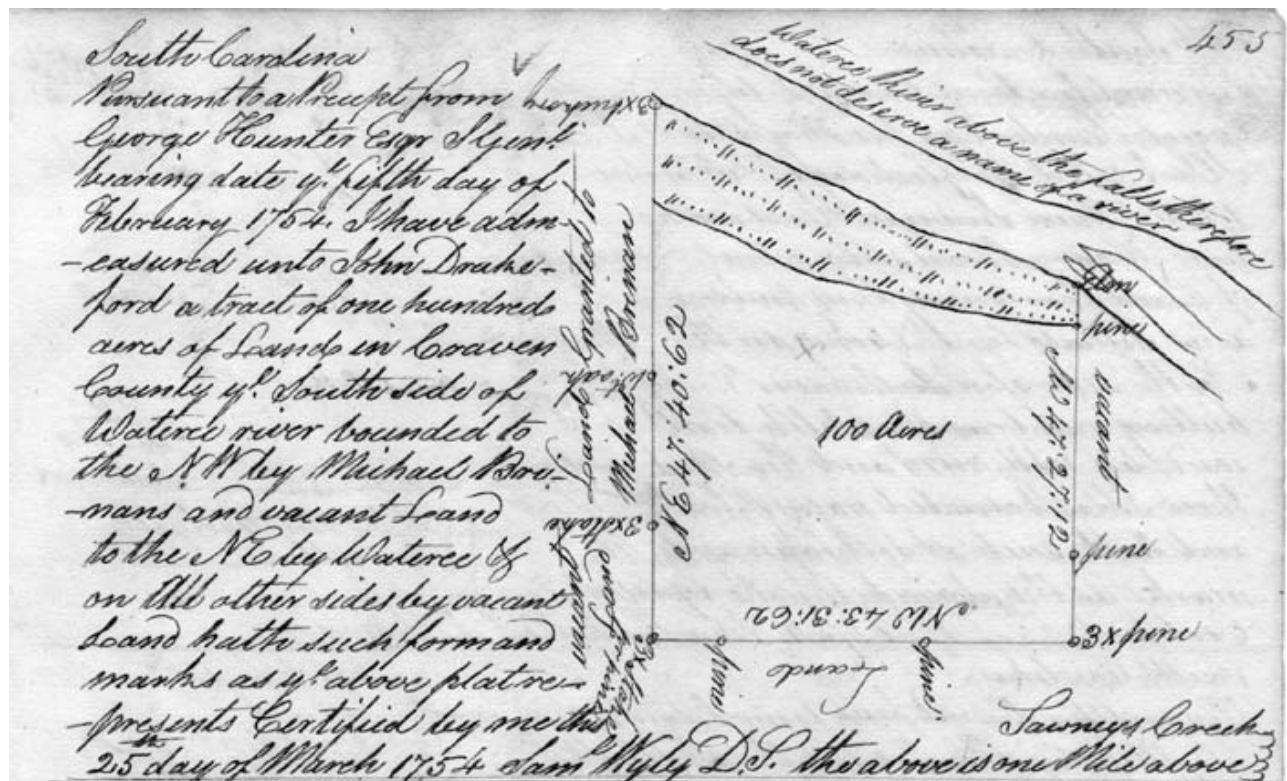
Kershaw District, Deeds and Mortgages **David Sanders to John Drakeford*** P.403 For \$100
 David sold to John Drakeford on the east side of Little Flat Rock Creek 50 acres it being a part of a tract
 of 100 acres originally granted to William Dunlap, bounded NW on land laid out for John Sanders and
 on the west by the Creek and on the other sides vacant at time of that survey supposing fifty
 acres Witnesses: Wm. Drakeford and Wm. Adkins. Signed: David Sanders. Oct. 22. 1807.

*This is young John (1768-1850/55) because old Captain John (1719-1789) is dead by 1807. (LW)

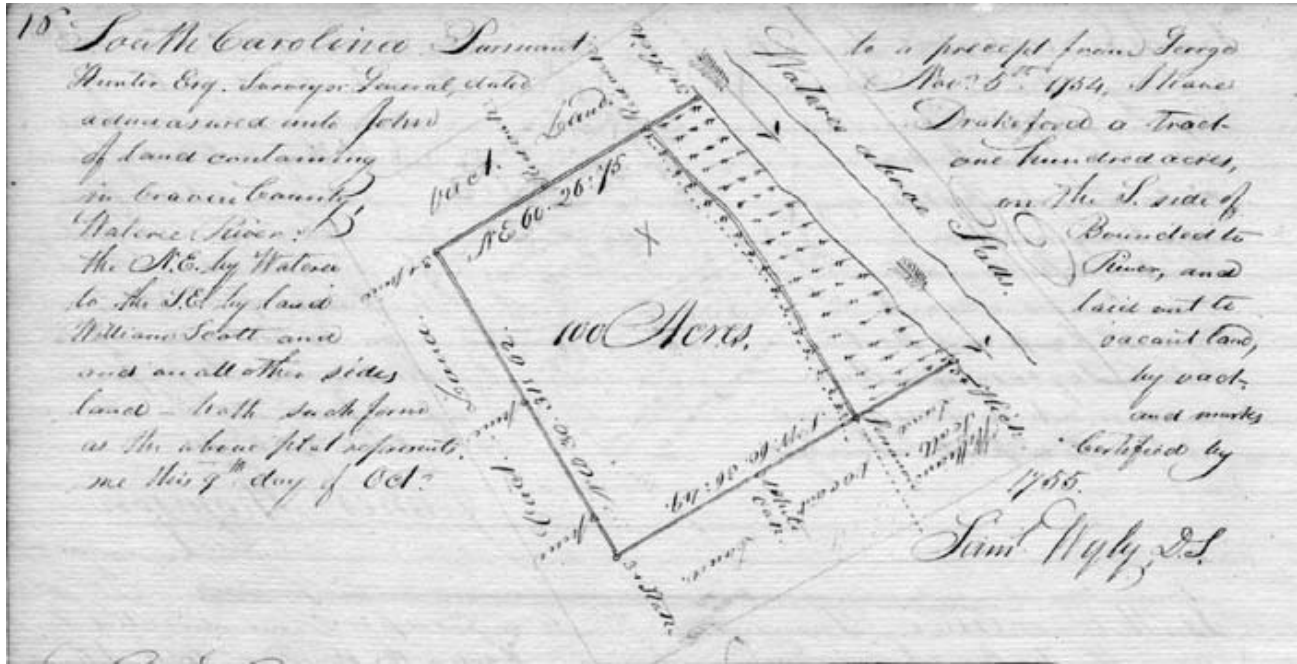
Clearly, deals were still going on well into the 19th century.

The following images of Land documents are provided by **Sande Layton**:

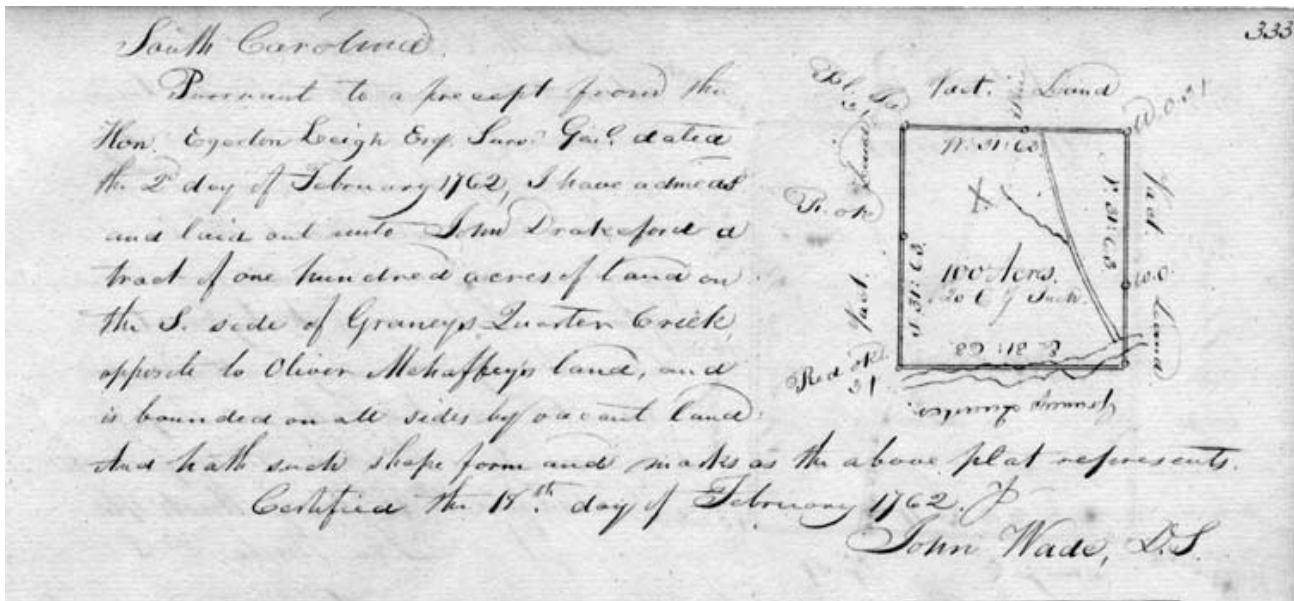
Purchased by John Drakeford 100 acres of land on south side of Wateree River
 from George Hunter Esq., Surveyor General on 5th February 1754



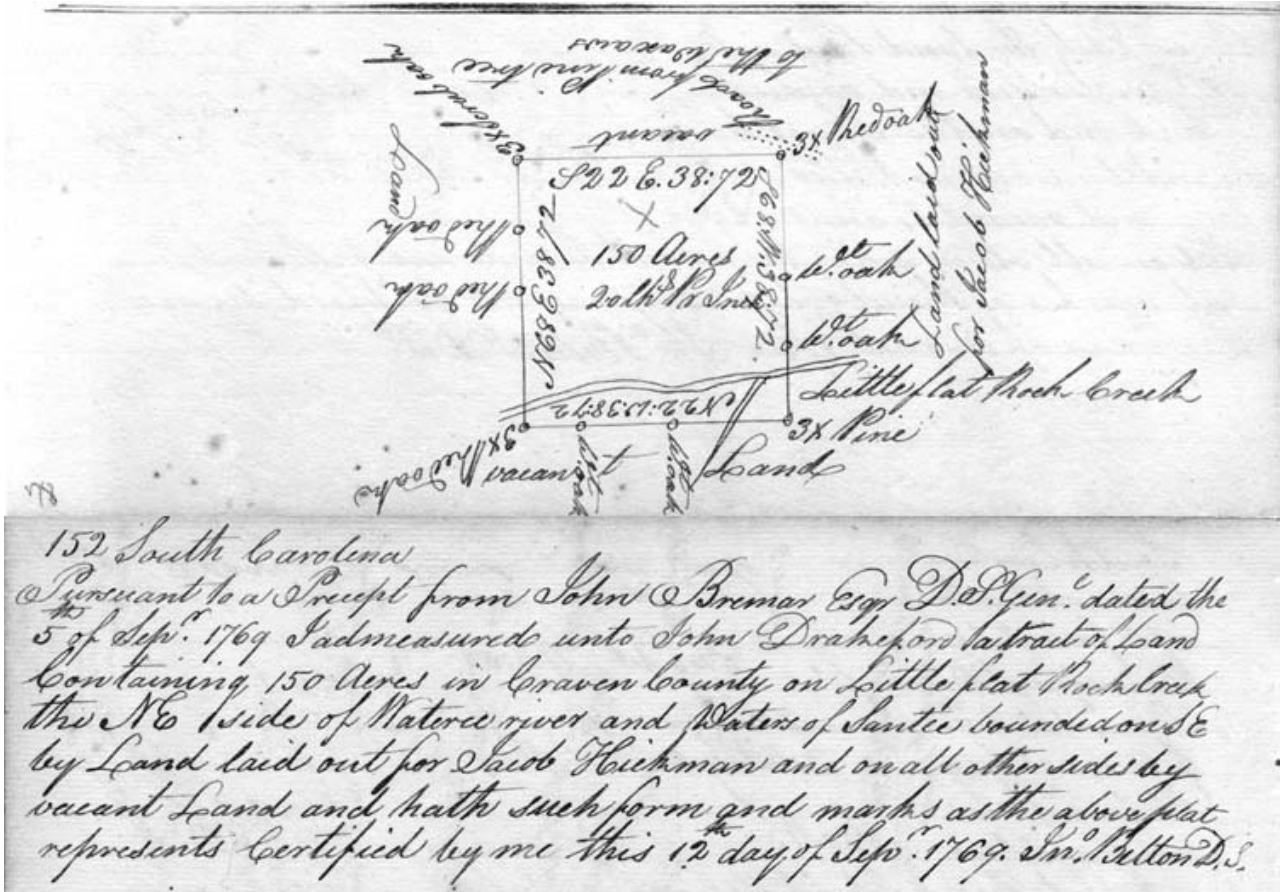
Purchased by John Drakeford 100 acres of land on south side of Wateree River from George Hunter Esq., Surveyor General on 5th November 1754



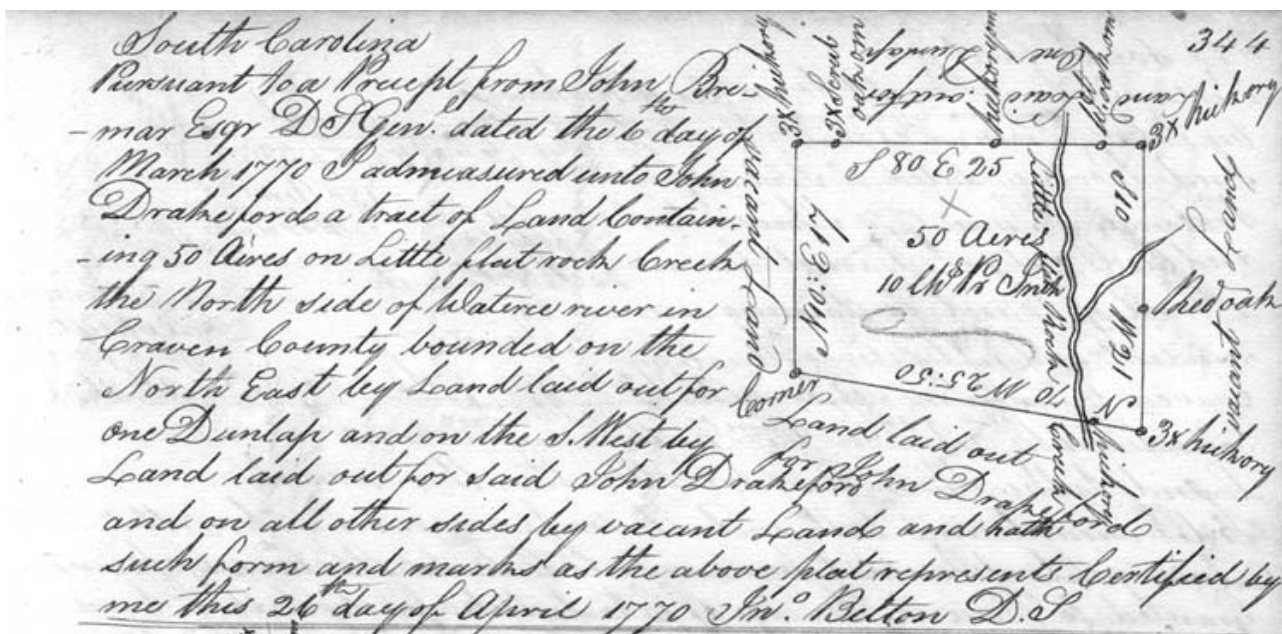
Purchased by John Drakeford, 100 acres of land on the south side of Granny's Quarter Creek from the Hon. Egerton Leigh Esq., Surg. Genl. On 2nd February 1762



Purchased by John Drakeford, 150 acres of land on Little Flat Rock Creek from John Bremar Esq., Dep. General on 5th September 1769



Purchased by John Drakeford 50 acres of land on Little Flat Rock Creek, the north side of Wateree River, from John Bremar Esq, Deputy General on 6th March 1770



9) The American Civil War

Again, let us pause to consider the other most terrible time of strife with the civil conflict, which left families fighting amongst each other, and destruction on a scale not seen before. Over 700,000 souls were lost during this conflict known as the American Civil War.

As you read this script be aware that Roger Hall noted in his Congleton Lecture in 2012, that the grandsons of both Richard and John fought on the Confederate side in the American Civil War lasting from 12 Apr 1861 to 9 Apr 1865, being waged between the northern United States and the southern United States. The civil war began primarily as a result of the long-standing controversy over the enslavement of black people.

We are particularly concentrating on the impact for the Drakeford families in South Carolina.

12th April 1861 – 9th April 1865

Source: Wikipedia

The American Civil War was a civil war in the United States fought between the northern United States (loyal to the Union) and the southern United States (that had seceded from the Union and formed the Confederacy). The civil war began primarily as a result of the long-standing controversy over the enslavement of black people. War broke out in April 1861 when secessionist forces attacked Fort Sumter in South Carolina shortly after Abraham Lincoln had been inaugurated as the President of the United States. The loyalists of the Union in the North, which also included some geographically western and southern states, proclaimed support for the Constitution. They faced secessionists of the Confederate States in the South, who advocated for states' rights in order to uphold slavery.

Of the 34 U.S. states in February 1861, seven Southern "slave states" were declared by their state governments to have seceded from the country, and the Confederate States of America was organized in rebellion against the U.S. constitutional government. The Confederacy grew to control at least a majority of territory in eleven states, and it claimed the additional states of Kentucky and Missouri by assertions from native secessionists fleeing Union authority. These states were given full representation in the Confederate Congress throughout the Civil War.

The two remaining "slave states", Delaware and Maryland, were invited to join the Confederacy, but nothing substantial developed due to intervention by federal troops.

The Confederate states were never diplomatically recognized as a joint entity by the government of the United States, nor by that of any foreign country. The states that remained loyal to the U.S. were known as the Union. The Union and the Confederacy quickly raised volunteer and conscription armies that fought mostly in the South over the course of four years. Intense combat left between 620,000 and 750,000 people dead. The Civil War remains the deadliest military conflict in American history, and accounted for more American military deaths than all other wars combined until around the Vietnam War.

The war effectively ended April 9, 1865, when General Robert E. Lee surrendered to General Ulysses S. Grant at the Battle of Appomattox Court House. Confederate generals throughout the southern states followed suit, the last surrender on land occurring June 23. Much of the South's infrastructure was destroyed, especially the transportation systems. The Confederacy collapsed, slavery was abolished, and four million black slaves were freed. During the Reconstruction era that followed the war, national unity was slowly restored, the national government expanded its power, and civil and political rights were granted to freed black slaves through amendments to the Constitution and federal legislation. The war is one of the most studied and written about episodes in U.S. history.

I am far from an expert about the Civil war, but **Tim Drakeford** has kindly offered in 2019 the following additional comment:

- *It is a long time since I looked at the American Civil War but I feel that the above comment by Wikipedia overly stresses slavery as a cause. It was certainly a factor and later generations saw it as the major factor but I suspect that at the time the Civil War was rather like Brexit: there were many drivers and different people were fighting for different things. The basic issue was the power of the federacy over the independence of the states. Those in the North saw the federacy as a way to make the United States in general, and the Northern states in particular, stronger, both economically and politically, while those in the South resented the growing strength of the North and saw the Federal interference as a tool of Northern expansion. Each side is then fighting to defend or advance a way of life and one of the distinguishing features of those ways is slavery. Robert E. Lee provides an interesting example. He was a Virginian, with life-long service to the Union, who at the start of war was offered the command of the Unionist armies. He was an opponent of both session and slavery but considered himself too much a man of the South to accept, so rejected the offer and joined the Confederacy.*

The following essay is kindly provided by **Sande Layton** to whom we are most grateful. Their local and detailed knowledge is far beyond that which we could offer: MWD

“The outbreak of the Civil War forever changed the future of the American nation and perhaps most notably the future of Americans held in bondage. The war began as a struggle to preserve the Union, not a struggle to free the slaves but as the war dragged on it became increasingly clear to President Abraham Lincoln the best way to force the seceded states into submission was to undermine their labor supply and the economic engine which was sustaining the south—slavery.”

https://www.battlefields.org/learn/articles/reconstruction-amendments?pk_vid=0cbf6eb359f491c21591902064c210ba

During the war, all of our Drakeford families lived in the South, and all had men in the Confederate forces. Whether they were slave owners or not, this war changed their lives forever. When President Lincoln sent 75,000 Federal volunteers south, able bodied men volunteered to fight thinking it would not last. But it did and as things were looking grim, men between ages 18 to 35 (later 45) were drafted and those younger/older ages 16-18 and 35/45+ to 65 were kept in the reserves.

Some of the Drakeford family were still living in Camden, South Carolina when the Civil War broke out. 46% of South Carolina households owned slaves and Drakefords were amongst them. Slaves had been an institutional evil for continuing the plantation systems needed for the state's major export- cotton for several hundred years now. South Carolina was where the war first started, with its declaration of secession in Dec 1860 and firing on Fort Sumter in 1861. There were few battles fought in South Carolina, most being primarily around the ports at Charleston and by the end of 1861 federal troops occupied that area, blockading imports and exports and crippling the economy. Towards the end of the war in early 1865, Union General William T. Sherman marched his troops through the state destroying everything he could with a vengeance. In Columbia, capital of the South Carolina and 30 miles from Camden, one third of the buildings were burned down. Because of its closeness to the Wateree River, by now a major source for transporting goods East, Camden had been a major Confederate supply point and hospital area during the war and it too was significantly burned. Over 60,000 South Carolinians participated in the war and by the time it ended 23% of those had died.
<http://www.scencyclopedia.org/sce/entries/civil-war>

As you read this please note that the dates for John I, were 1719-1789, John II, 1768-1850/55 and John III, 1799-1858. That might well help identify family members involved in this fascinating history of the time featuring hardship and valour –MWD.

In the family line of Richard Drakeford (1755-1826) and Elizabeth McAdams (1795-1855), only son William Scott Drakeford (1788-1871) was still living in the Camden area before the war and three of his sons and four grandsons were pulled into the war effort. Two of the family members did not return and due to scarce recordkeeping on the Confederacy, were assumed killed.

In Apr 1861, at age 38, Richard Columbus Drakeford (1823-1870), William Scott's first born son volunteers as a sergeant in Company C, 4th Regiment (SC State Troops) Following in his grandfather's footsteps, he most likely only saw action in the defense of Charleston, approximately 125 miles away during 1861-1862.

In 1862, at age 14, William J Drakeford (1849-XX), son of Richard C and grandson of William Scott, volunteered as a private in Company C, 7th Battalion, SC Infantry. The whole family thought there would be little to no fighting yet William J did not return.

In May 1861, at age 28, Joseph J Drakeford (1833-1883) also volunteered as his older brother did just a month later and came in as a sergeant in Company E of the 2nd Regiment (2nd Palmeto). Before the war ends, Joseph J was promoted to captain.

In 1862, at age 32, William H Drakeford (1830 - ?) enlisted as a private with his nephew William J in Company C, 7th Battalion, SC Infantry, (Nelson's Enfield Rifles). Neither of them returned from the war.

Other family members of William Scott Drakefords were also affected.

William Dunlap Trantham (1847-1911), son of William Scott Drakeford's (WSD) daughter Elizabeth Angeline Drakeford Trantham (1824-1871), daughter of William Scott was drafted in the 2nd Regiment (2d Palmetto), the same unit his uncle Joseph J was in.

William Clyburn (1831-1901), son of WSD's granddaughter Althea Theodosia Reed Clyburn (1848-?) served in the Light DeKalb Rifles, Gregg's 1st Regiment. When his term of service was up, he returned home, as a captain in Nelson's 7th Battalion, SC Infantry. He was captured at Fort Wagoner in 1863 and imprisoned at Johnson Island.

Alexander Perry (1830-1897), husband of Mary M Drakeford Vermelle Perry (1827-1910), WSD's daughter, was a sergeant for CAPT Perry's Co, Florida's Light Artillery.

In the lines of John Drakeford II (1768-1850-55) and Sarah Sanders (1773-1871), their family was also involved. In South Carolina, four were involved and two died. Of those that had moved off to Alabama, seven went off to war and one died.

John II's eldest daughter Sarah Drakeford (1795-1857) and husband Thomas Gaskin (1796-1874) were also living in the Kershaw area of South Carolina during the war and their children were involved.

In 1862, younger son Richard W Gaskin (1832-1900) came in as a private, Company I of the 53d AI Regiment. In Dec that year, he was wounded in the shoulder serving in Wood's Brigade at Murphreesboro, TN.

In 1863, firstborn son Ransom Gaskin (1825-1863) was a private with the 7th Bn, South Carolina Infantry (Nelson Enfield Rifles) and died that year.

In 1864, at age 30, son Dennis Gaskin (1834-1865) was conscripted as a private, in Manigault's Bn, SC Volunteers. Family stories say he died during the Civil War.

Nancy Gaskin married James S Click (1829-1912) from Tennessee who served in the Tennessee Cavalry with Company H. then in the Tennessee 8th Cavalry & 39th Regiment, 7th Mounted, W.M. Bradford, 3d Regiment.

Other family members had moved from South Carolina to new lands in Alabama in the 1830s. Alabama had few battles fought on its soil (primarily around the ports of Mobile), but contributed 120,000 troops to the war effort and 28,000 were killed. (Family Search WIKI) John Drakeford III (1799-1858) and his wife Sarah A Carlos (1813-1859) married in Camden, SC but moved off with their family to Macon County, Alabama during the 1830's. John III had died before the war but all of his sons were involved in the fighting.

In 1861, two of John III's sons volunteered for the same unit which was Company C of the 3 Regiment, South Carolina Infantry.

At age 23, John Saunders Drakeford (1838-1915) comes in as a private. In Jun 1862, it is recorded John S was sick and could not fight during the Battle of Seven Pines (Virginia) - the original regiment had only 9 officers and 93 men left after the battle.

At age 25, William H Drakeford (1835-1863) also comes in as a private. According to 'Memorial Record of Alabama', William was not seen after the Battle of Gettysburg.

In May 1862, at the age of 28, John III's first born, Thomas Carlos Drakeford (1833-1919) was drafted as a private for Company A, 3d AL Regiment, Infantry, but moved on to the 15th Battalion Partisan Rangers. Thomas Carlos was wounded at the Battle of Seven Pines.

In 1864, at age 17, youngest son Paul D Drakeford (1847-1913) is conscripted as a private in Co D, 63d Regiment Infantry Reserves, (also 2nd Alabama Reg).

Daughter Mary A (1832-1937) married William L Benham (1822-1901) who served in the Alabama Home Guard.

James Drakeford (1802 - ?) son of John Drakeford II and brother to Susan and John III above married Mary 'Polly' Jones (1815-1863) in Alabama and their two sons Henry and James fought in the Civil War. In 1861, at age 26, Henry Drakeford (1835-1864) volunteers with Company B, 4th Alabama Infantry Regiment. He was captured in 1862 at Stone Mountain, GA, then exchanged, wounded at Chickamauga, GA in Sep 1863 and lost his life at Gettysburg, PA. In 1863, at age 26, James Jackson Drakeford (1837-1872) enlists as a private with Company E, 61st Regiment, AL Infantry.

ooo000ooo

Over the years, government leaders discussed how to handle freed slaves, anticipating it would eventually happen. Even then, many of them seeking to free the slaves considered them to be inferior. Some recommended giving them free land when new territories opened up however they were not eligible for these 'homesteads' until the passage of the Fourteenth Amendment in 1868 which made them citizens. The American Colonization Society settled thousands in Liberia between 1816 and 1860. But there was no good answer and now there was no turning back.

As the Union troops came in, fugitive slaves escaped to their lines. Some tried to tag along, others were settled in refugee camps. Taking care of them became a significant undertaking and distraction for the military. Congress passed the Confiscation Act of 1861 in which any property belonging to someone who had taken up arms against the federal government could be confiscated. In Virginia, escaped slaves fled to the Union troops at Fort Monroe and the local white residents fled. When the Union army attacked Port Royal and took over the Sea Islands of South Carolina, the planters fled there also, leaving 10,000 slaves behind on plantation lands. Congress then passed the Confiscation Act of 1862 which said the lands could be sold to pay off delinquent taxes and Northern investors bought the lands, taking advantage of the situation. (Read about the Port Island Experiment on the Internet). Some Union generals offered freed slaves land as they passed through, creating a false expectation that land would be given to all. In Jan 1863, President Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation and now 3 million African-Americans would be free. [This and much more from WIKIPEDIA "Forty Acres and a Mule"](#)

Confederate soldiers returned home to a new world order - the Reconstruction of the South between 1865 and 1877. Federal troops were left behind to ensure freed slaves were not harmed and a Freedmen's Bureau was set up to help freed slaves with food, housing, medical aid, legal advice and education. In 1865, Congress passed the 13th Amendment, abolishing slavery. As soldiers returned home to devastation, they were angry about the loss of land and income. However, when Andrew Johnson, a Southerner himself, became President in the summer of 1865, he reversed the land confiscations orders. He believed States should be able to determine some of these things for themselves – that they should only be required to uphold the freeing of the slaves, swear fealty to the Union and pay off the war debt if they were going to come back willingly. In 1866, Congress passed the Civil Rights Amendment, granting freed slaves citizenship, which Johnson vetoed; however, his veto was overridden. There were frequent clashes between the President and Congress and in 1868 President Johnson was impeached. Congress passed the 14th Amendment saying no state could deny any citizen life, liberty or property outside the legal process. When the new U.S. citizens were prevented from voting, Congress passed the 15th Amendment in Feb 1870 granting them the right to vote. It appears no one won during these trying times. Local laws were harsh on the African-Americans and if they were jailed, their labor was sold out to whoever needed them (whether a Northerner taking possession of confiscated lands, or the reduced former plantation owner, now a small farmer). [History.com/Reconstruction.](#)

*Let's look at one of the Camden South Carolina Drakeford families a few years after the war. William Scott Drakeford born in 1788 did not fight during the war but may have been involved in some other way. Three of his sons and four of his grandsons went to war. The value of William Scott Drakeford's real estate in 1860 was \$13,000 (with 28 slaves) and \$2,800 in personal estate. On the 1870 census his real estate property value has been reduced to \$4,950 and personal increased to \$4,200. Was a significant portion of his land confiscated as well as the slaves freed? On this same census we find 28 African-Americans with the Drakeford name living in the same Flat Rock, Kershaw area. Washington Drakeford (aged 23), Henry Drakeford (63), George Washington Drakeford (21) and Edmund Drakeford (62) are listed as farmers. Polly (19), Agnes (16), William W (18) and Winifred Drakeford (25) work as farm laborers and Elizabeth (69) and Janie Drakeford (13) work as domestic servants. The remaining women are keeping house and the younger children are living with them at home.”**

“The Civil War left a culture of death, a culture of mourning, beyond anything Americans had ever experienced or imagined” says David Blight, a Civil War historian at Yale University. “It left a degree of family and social devastation unprecedented for any Western society.

10) Linking the 21st Century Drakefords with the Layton Family

It was initially believed that through investigation there had been discovered a link with Cliff Layton who was thought to have been descended through a **Delilah Drakeford**, born 1793, died 2nd February 1878. She **married Patrick Layton** and in 1840 they moved from Kershaw District to Bethany in Pickens County. Patrick died in 1851 and was buried in Bethany Cemetery. They had three children. Two of them were girls with **Sarah Elizabeth Layton** marrying **Alfred Peach**, and **Susanna Caroline Layton** marrying **Lewis Kenard Gardner**. Their son, Charles Layton is not known to have either married or had any children.

To confuse matters, an elder sister of Delilah, **Jane Drakeford**, married **Joseph Layton**, South Carolina and Alabama, and they too had a son Charles!

Patrick and Joseph Layton were brothers - both sons of Patrick Layton (1751-1835). *Source: Layton etc. tree.* Investigations continue.

Roger Hall has been able to show that the ancestry can be traced from today and back for five generations, until we come to Malinda Layton (b. 1794), the great-great-great grandmother of both Daniel and Clifford Layton. She was a contemporary of Jane (Drakeford) Layton and Delilah (Drakeford) Layton.

Initially, we considered the fact that both **Jane Drakeford** and **Delilah Drakeford** married two Layton brothers was an indication that was the direct line. This was from Captain John Drakeford (1719-1789) and of his two sons Richard (1755-1826) and John (1768-1850/55), specifically the line of Richard, through the marriages of these, his two daughters.

The problem with this was that the DNA follows the male line through the Y chromosome. This means that the DNA would follow the early Layton family line from Delilah and Jane, and not a Drakeford line. Later evidence was presented that the likelihood was that the line was from the John Drakeford (1768-1850/55) instead. This is based on the premise that the Laytons had purchased land adjacent to that of John Drakeford and that Richard had moved to Tuskegee. In fact it was John S. Drakeford and his son James who ended up in Tuskegee and not Richard. Richard's will, dated a few months before he died, shows that his residence by his will was Kershaw, and his lands were at Flat Rock Creek. In fact in 1771 he purchased 100 acres at White Oak Creek.

When in 2019 Daniel Layton carried out the DNA test at stage 67, it was shown that his relationship was firmly in the English Drakeford camp with the following readings, which include the very close English Peplowe/Peploe/Pepler family:

Daniel Layton: Roger 3, David, 4, Jeremy & Michael 5.

David Drakeford: Jeremy & Roger Hall -1, D. Pepler-2, Michael -3, **Daniel Layton**-4, Simon -6.

Jeremy Drakeford: A. Peploe & David -1, Roger -2, D. Pepler-3, Michael -4, **Daniel Layton** -5, Simon -6.

Michael Drakeford: Roger-2, David & A. Peploe -3, Jeremy -4, **Daniel Layton** -5, Simon -7.

Roger Hall/Drakeford: A. Peploe & David -1, Jeremy & Michael -2, **Dan Layton** & D. Pepler -3, Simon -5.

Simon Drakeford: Roger -5, David, Jeremy & A. Peploe all 6, D. Pepler -7.

No connection is shown at stage 67 between Daniel and Simon. When Daniel moved one step further to the more sensitive 111 test, we, the English Drakefords disappeared from the markers. This is because for his matching there are insufficient markers from the English Drakefords to reach the 111 requirement on Daniel's reading. Both the Y-37 and Y-67 markers do prove the Drakeford link, but not being at Y-111 level implies there have been many mutations in the Y-111 genes between us. This does not invalidate the 67 findings.

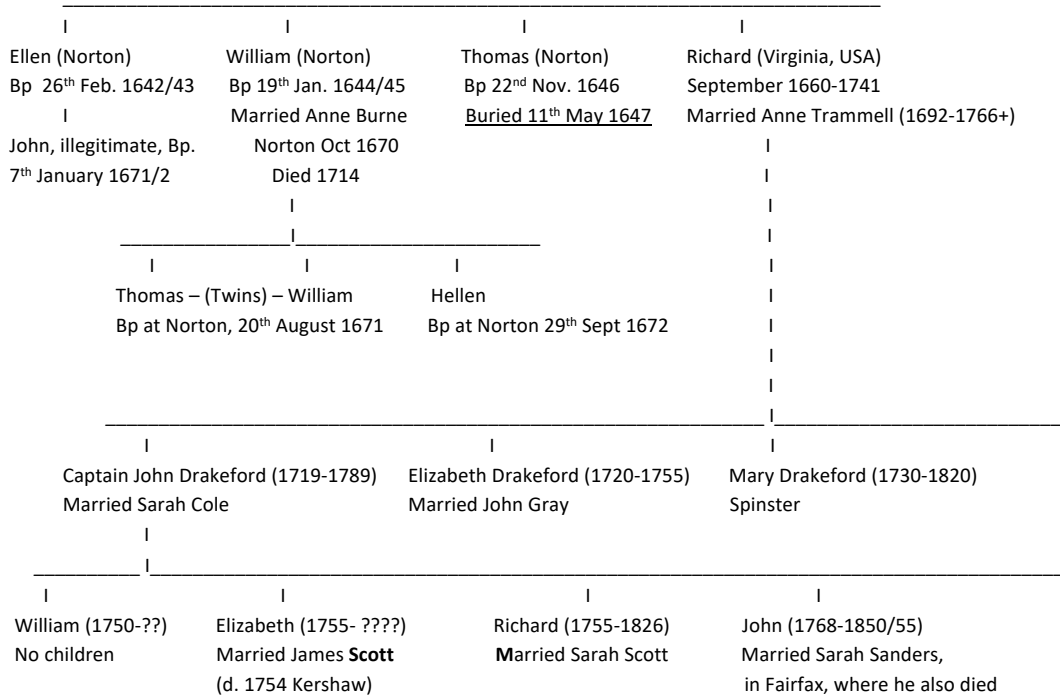
The chart below is duplicated from above, but is useful to follow the various family lines.

North American Origins for the Drakeford Name, showing William and Ann to the Laytons

To put this into context, there follows a short version of the family tree showing the descent from the Stafford family in England. This is replicated later in the text for ease of reference.

Richard the Merchant of Stafford (1576-1639) had a boy William who was baptised on 5th August 1614 at St Mary's Church, Stafford:

William Drakeford = Ann Mellor (baptised (Bp) Norton-in-the Moors 29th January 1621)



Elizabeth and James Scott had 4 children:

- 1) **Richard Scott**
- 2) **Isaac Scott**, married **Jane Jones**
- 3) **Jane Scott** born 1780 married **Noel Killingsworth**
- 4) **A further daughter** married **Edward Watson**

Richard(1755-1826) and Sarah Scott had 8 children

- 1) **Colonel William Scott Drakeford** (1788-1871) married Elizabeth McAdams in 1819. Their children were a) Nancy Susanna (1820-1822) b) Richard Columbus (1822-1870), c) Elizabeth Angeleen (1824 1871), d) Mary Vermelle (1826-1884), e) Alethia Theodosia (1827-1848), f) William Hiram (1830-1883), g) Captain Joseph James (1822-1883).
- 2) **Susanna Drakeford** married **David Evans**
- 3) **Mary Drakeford**, born 1775 married **Archibald McDowell**
- 4) **Sarah Drakeford**, born 1778 married **Hugh McClester**. Their children were Archibald and Elizabeth.
- 5) **Nancy Drakeford** (1779-1852) married **James Sanders** (1779-1832). They had nine children all born in Kershaw: Drakeford Sanders (1801-1878), Margaret (1803-1878), Richard (1805-1873), James (1808-1852), Nancy (1820-???), William (1823-1852). There were three further children, but the names are not known
- 6) **Elizabeth Drakeford**, Married **Turner Cockrum**.
- 7) **Jane Drakeford**, born 1790. She married **Joseph Layton** and they had three children. They were Archibald Layton, Charles Layton (1819-1880), and Elizabeth Layton, born 1834.
- 8) **Delilah Drakeford** (1793–1878) married Patrick Layton who died 1851. They had three children. Sarah Elizabeth Layton - married Alfred Peach, Susanna Caroline Layton - married Lewis Kenard Gardner, and Charles Layton. **Joseph** and **Patrick Layton** were brothers.

John (1768-1850/55) and Sarah Sanders had seven children:

1) Sarah Drakeford, (1795 – 1857) married **Thomas Gaskin** (1796-1874). They had nine children being James Gaskin (1819-1853), Ann Gaskin (1821-????), Margaret Gaskin (1823-1863), Ransom Gaskin (1825-1863), Nancy Gaskin (1829-1876), Mary Gaskin (1830-1845), Richard Gaskin (1832 -????), Dennis Gaskin (1834-????) and Harriet Gaskin (1836 – 1845).

2) John S. Drakeford (1799-1858) married **Sarah Ann Carlos** (1813-1859). They had nine children: Mary A. Drakeford (1832-1926) Thomas Carlos Drakeford (1833-1919) married Sarah Caroline Dyer (1839 – 1902).- Thomas had two boys, John Hamilton Drakeford (1872-1934) and Dr William Calhoun Drakeford (1876-1907) - William H Drakeford (1835-1863) John Sanders Drakeford (1838-1915) Carolina Elizabeth Drakeford (1842-1900) Richard Powers Drakeford (1845-1848) Paul D Drakeford (1847-1913) Alexander Hamilton Drakeford (1848-1923) Sallie Drakeford (1850-1937)

3) James Drakeford Born 1802, married Mary, born 1815 and they had three children: Henry born 1835, James Jackson Drakeford born 1840 and a further child, details unknown.

4) Joel Drakeford Born 1807

5) Richard Drakeford Born 1810

6) William Drakeford Born 1810

7) Anna Drakeford, birth date unknown

Because there is no definite link between Malinda Layton who had a child James Madison Layton, and the Drakeford father, we cannot show their lineage in the above tree. It is up to the reader to decide how this link is continued (see Section 10 for up to date explanation).

The Layton tree follows:

Daniel Layton

|

Milburn D Layton (1921-1972) [married Pearl Aline Willis]

|

Daniel Harrison Layton (1878-1962) [married Callie Ada Dillingham]

|

James William Layton (1848-1920) [married Cecilia Ann Stubbs]

|

James Madison Layton (1826/28*-1910) [married Martha Marzell Rankin]

| *census period

For common-law partner SEE BELOW. [partnered Malinda Ann Layton (1794<1850).

Malinda was the daughter of William Layton (1756-1829 or 1765-1840-per Sande Layton). This William was the brother of Patrick (1751-1835), making Malinda the first cousin of Patrick and Joseph who were the Layton brothers marrying Delilah and Jane Drakeford respectively.

Hence **James Madison Layton was born in 1826 by virtue of a Drakeford father** in the 1800s, a part of the Drakeford line back to Richard Drakeford born around 1660 in Virginia. James lived with his mother and his grandmother Elizabeth Layton (1765-1840) in Kershaw District. His grandfather William (1758-1821) had already died. Malinda, James and Elizabeth lived in Mississippi by 1837. Sometime before 1850 Malinda and her mother disappeared from public records.

James Layton himself was not a quiet sole and **Sande Layton** writes:

*I worked out **James Madison Layton (JML)** and his mother Malinda's unsettled beginning. James Madison Layton is a very unique individual as he left South Carolina, lived in Mississippi only about 10 years before the Civil War (became a prisoner sent to Illinois and had to walk back barefoot), then went on to settle in Texas. Today I was working on the Laytons living in the Kershaw area during the Revolutionary War - the major Battle of Camden was fought just a few miles from the Drakeford and Layton plantations and it looks like our line were possibly Loyalists.*

We had been tracking the lineage of my husband Daniel Layton for several years and always came to a road block with his 2nd Great Grandfather James Madison Layton (1826-1910). All censuses related to him said he was born in South Carolina but he had no acknowledged father. James Madison Layton first shows up at the age of 25 on an 1850 census in Simpson County, Mississippi and we knew from other documents, the family came out of Kershaw County. We know from official records the two families lived side by side for several generations in Kershaw County, South Carolina.

What we know about this Layton family? The Laytons are American frontiersmen. The Layton story starts with Patrick Layton Senior (- d 1789) who was one of the early settlers in the outpost area of Kershaw, South Carolina in the 1760s. In 1810, the Drakeford and Layton families each had about 500 acres and were growing cotton which their wives and daughters manufactured into cotton material for sale. However by the 1830's the cotton had depleted most of the soil and the young people moved off to the 'greener pastures' opening up in Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi. James Madison Layton (JML), his mother, grandmother and uncles were part of that great wagon train migration off to the new frontiers. In 1859, JML bought 80 acres in Mississippi next to family members however just a few years later the Civil War started. In 1861 his eldest son Thomas Isiah (1847-1863) joined the Confederate forces at the age of 14. The following year JML joined.

Thomas Isiah was captured at the Battle of Port Gibson in Mississippi under General Grant's Vicksburg Campaign and carried off to an Illinois POW camp. He died there the following year of meningitis. JML was captured at the Battle of Nashville in 1864 and also taken to a prison camp in Illinois but a different one, most likely not knowing his firstborn has died before him. The family story is that when the war ended, JML had to walk all the way back to Mississippi, wearing out his shoes and arriving barefoot. In all, JML married twice and had six sons and three daughters. In 1876 fleeing the post Confederate environment and unable to survive on his Mississippi lands, JML and the majority of his family left ending up in Ennis, Texas. This area was fairly safe at this time but son James William Layton went farther West into the frontier lands of Texas as a private in the Army and Texas Ranger. JML lived in Ennis until he passed away at the age of 83. Today Daniel is just one of many Laytons from this branch that came out of South Carolina and he carries the pioneer spirit.

We are grateful to Sande for this very clear and interesting account of the Layton family.

There follows an analysis of **who the father of James Madison Layton** might be:

The DNA test shows that the father of Malinda's child must be a Drakeford, and she is assumed to have conceived in 1825 at the age of around 31. She was clearly a Layton by birth, and we have yet to determine if Malinda had other children.

The other possibility is that the father was **not of the line from Richard** Drakeford (1755-1826), but instead his **brother John Drakeford (1768-1859)**. Their father, **John Drakeford (1719-1789)**, had moved from Fairfax Virginia before 1754, when he received one of the Colonial Grants of land, so both were born in Kershaw District. The Layton family were also recipients of Grants from 1769. This opens up the possible father of James Madison Layton to include various Drakeford males, having in mind that fact that Malinda would have become pregnant in 1825. Malinda was 31 years of age, which might have a bearing on the matter, with her having been considered 'on the shelf' at that time.

The ages of the males at the time of conception are provided below and enable us to consider the possible father.

The side of Richard Drakeford (1755-1826)

- 1) **Richard, born 1755** and aged 70 in 1825, most unlikely to be the father due to age and infirmity as indicated in his will of July 1826. He was living in Kershaw at his death in 1826.
- 2) **'Colonel' William Scott Drakeford, born 1788**, aged 37 in 1825, brother of Delilah and Jane. Living in Kershaw, he is a **possible**. This was the only son of Richard (bn. 1755). The 'Colonel' had three boys: Richard Columbus born 1822, William Hiram born 1830, and Joseph James born 1833, all of which were too young to be considered. The fact that the 'Colonel' was a contemporary and closely associated with the Laytons through his sisters must put him on the front line.

The side of John Drakeford (1768-1850/55)

- 1) **John, born 1768** and aged 57 is a **possible** candidate. He was a resident of Kershaw and he had five sons, all worthy of consideration.
- 2) **John S. Born 1799**, aged 26, is a **possible** candidate. He had six male children being Thomas Carlos born 1833, William H, born 1835, John Sanders born 1838, Richard Powers born 1845, Paul D born 1847 and Alexander Hamilton born 1848, all being too young. In 1836 the family moved from South Carolina to Montgomery, Alabama, moved to Tuskegee, AL, the next year, remained a year or two, went back to Montgomery for another year and finally settled in Tuskegee.
- 3) **James Drakeford born 1802**, a **possible** being 23 in 1825. He had a son Henry born 1835. James, who left Kershaw between 1825 and 1830 (per Sande). Possibly he was embarrassed by his impending fatherhood. He married around 1834, when his wife Mary would have been 19. It seems likely they were in Alabama, where their second child James Jackson was born in 1840 and from where he moved to Tuskegee to die at the early age of 32.
- 4) **Joel born 1807**, possibly, but a bit young at 18, when Malinda was 31.
- 5) **Richard born 1810**, probably too young for such an affair.
- 6) **William born 1810**, probably too young for such an affair.

This broadly comes down to **four** likely **probable** fathers, John Snr., 'Colonel' William Drakeford and John S. Drakeford all being family patriarchs with the other candidate being John S. Drakeford's son James who co-incidentally and perhaps significantly left Kershaw around the time of Malinda's confinement!

We will never know who the father is, but whoever that was the DNA tests link Dan and Cliff Layton to the Richard of Virginia and the English Drakefords!

If I was a betting man, I would give evens for the publican '**Colonel**' **William** everyone's friend, and **James** who left the area at perhaps an auspicious time.

11) Additional Information about the Drakeford Family

The Drakeford House built around 1812



The following information is provided at 'Historic Camden' in Camden, S.C.

History: The little log house standing nearest the Town Wall at the Historic Camden visitor's centre was originally located about twelve miles north of Camden near Granny's Quarter Creek in flat Rock community. Tradition holds that it was built there about 1812 by Richard Drakeford, whose descendants now own the site.

The land on which the house was built was originally surveyed in 1794 for one John Coats, however, he did not acquire the property, settling instead somewhat to the north. The first title was held by Lewis Cook who in 1806 received 285 acres in a grant from Governor Pinckney. Two years later Cook sold this grant to John Booker, who in January 1812 sold 100 acres of it to Richard Drakeford.

One source reports that Richard Drakeford was born in Prince William County, Virginia, about 1750 and came to Kershaw with his father John Drakeford about 1754. Another source claims he came from Fairfax County with his brother John. At any rate it is recorded that he had a brother named John and that both brothers fought in the Revolution, Richard sustained a severe head wound.

At the time he bought this land from John Brooker, Richard Drakeford already owned a substantial acreage in that area of Kershaw County in the early 19th century except that a nicety of detail and finish sets it a bit apart. The beautifully turned staircase and the well finished wall and roof members (marked in sequence with hacked Roman numerals for proper matching in place) attest to a discriminating taste.

The first (*incorrect – MWD*) Richard Drakeford (1755-1826) was a man of some means and at his death in 1826 left a sizable estate. The amount of furniture (walnut tables, cupboards, four sets of bedroom furniture, a pine writing table, mirror, eleven chairs, and two sets of fireplace equipment) makes one wonder where it was all kept. However, as Richard Drakeford was by that time an old man, it may be at that time of his death he was living elsewhere with one of his seven daughters; this is suggested by the wording of his will. An additional two rooms (discarded in reconstruction) were of a later date than Richard's lifetime and there is no record of a more imposing early Drakeford dwelling than this simple log cabin.

All of his land was bequeathed to his only son*, William Scott Drakeford. 'Colonel' Drakeford was a Mason and apparently serves as something of a 'squire' in the neighbourhood. It is interesting to note that he was an administrator of the estate of one David Bartling of Pennsylvania, who died in Kershaw County in 1822, after residence of three years as a Master Builder, of Bethesda Presbyterian Church in Camden. William Drakeford had a family of four daughters and three sons.

How long he occupied the log house is not known. He died in 1871, a year after the death of his son Richard Columbus Drakeford who apparently was living there at the time of his death. The inventories of the estates of both William and Richard C. Drakeford suggest William may have been living with one of his daughters, while Richard who with his brother Joseph James held a lease on all their father's land, was probably occupying the house and farming the land. (Joseph James Drakeford had previously moved to Fort Mill, S.C.). This opinion is borne out by the wording in the next title to the land when, in 1906, the sons and daughters of Richard C. Drakeford devised the property to one brother in a deed referring to the site as a tract 'whereon is located the residence of our father, the late Richard C. Drakeford'.

The property has passed through two more generations and is now owned by Mr & Mrs E.H. Drakeford of Colombia, S.C. When Mr & Mrs Drakeford learned that the Camden District Heritage Foundation wished to relocate a log house at the visitor's center to hold museum exhibits, they generously offered this one which had been in the family for over 150 years.

The house was completely dismantled and rebuilt altering it to reflect the original log house having the original one room and a sleeping loft.

*There were two further sons, William Hiram (1830-1883) and Captain Joseph James (1833-1883).

The building has an interior staircase, which was unusual in a log house of that time. For anyone who has visited the very similar log house in the grounds at Osborne House on the Isle of Wight, they will see the staircase on the outside.

oooOOOooo

The house of John S. Drakeford in Tuskegee, Alabama, shown top left



This postcard features six important Tuskegee houses, that of John S. Drakeford is top left.

We are now going to look at these and other houses that were built for the 'well-off' in the town. This will give us some idea of how successful the Drakeford family members had been during the 19th and early 20th century in America. At the same time, in England, family members were involved in the early 19th century as clockmakers and silk mill owners and in the pottery industry, until the mid-20th century. Further Study Papers on this website will show that they were also going abroad to Australia and the far-east to make their mark.

This Study Paper is evidence that the Drakefords were initially involved in the farming of tobacco and later cotton in the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries. We can follow a family line from the founding father who was Richard Drakeford (c.1660-1740) and his son Captain John Drakeford (1719-1789), and his son John Drakeford (1768-1855), his son John S. Drakeford (1799-1858), his son, Thomas Carlos Drakeford (1833-1919), and his sons John Hamilton Drakeford (1872-1934) and Dr William Calhoun Drakeford (1876-1907). This branch of the family started in Stafford County, Virginia, moving to Kershaw, South Carolina, and Tuskegee in Alabama.

John S. Drakeford (1799-1858) was born in Kershaw where he was a successful farmer and moved to Tuskegee, via Montgomery, both in Alabama, where he also succeeded as a merchant. He and his wife Sarah Carlos had nine children; their eldest son was Thomas Carlos Drakeford born in Kershaw, and died in Montgomery and is buried in Tuskegee.

The two Tuskegee houses we are considering feature John S. Drakeford, Thomas Carlos Drakeford, John Hamilton Drakeford and Alexander Hamilton Drakeford.

The **National Register of Historic Places Inventory** lists houses in the North Main Street, including the History of a 'Drakeford House'. <https://npgallery.nps.gov/GetAsset/6c47db67-8db5-4f28-9fc7-1035306e6c30>

A description given below is still known by that name – the **Drakeford House, of 616, North Main Street, 1890**. The others in the postcard also have the name of the residents, being Hark, Smith, Campbell, De Bardeleben and Cord . None of the names, apart from that of Drakeford are listed in the houses listed in the Inventory, but this later Drakeford House is NOT the house in the postcard. Instead, the Drakeford House in the postcard, with the columns is described as number (7). The Drakeford House number (6) has a turret similar to the house at the top middle on the postcard, but it has a different front and slightly different turret.

Why not go on to the link and compare the houses listed and photographed in 1984 and see if you can spot if they are on the postcard above? The photographs also show interior features. The names of the current eight historic houses listed by the National Register of Historic Places include Callaway House, Gibson House, Sadler House, Wright-Varner-Haygood House, Hamilton House, Drakeford House, Wadsworth House (on the postcard this is the Drakeford House)and Carlisle House. It is known that some of these are on the postcard shown above.

The mystery deepened when I saw that a John Drakeford was the owner, yet the historical records show that John S. Drakeford died in 1858, and the 'Drakeford House' on the Inventory was built in 1890. I did not believe his grandson John H. Drakeford (1872-1934) built the house, later founding the City Bank of Tuskegee in 1933. When the house was built he would have been aged just 18, so perhaps his father Thomas Carlos Drakeford (1833-1919) was the first owner (with his father's money), and the postcard was made after Thomas died in 1919 and his son had inherited and the initial was just wrong.

The mystery becomes a little clearer, because Lavonne Walker gives in her book *'Drakefords in America'* not one but two large houses in Tuskegee owned by the family (see pages 92. The earliest was the house with six pillars, featured as J.S. Drakeford's house, which we now know to be 615 and the second also known as the Drakeford house with a shingle corner turret at 616, North Main Street, in the paper by Tom Dolan.

The first one is that in the above postcard, showing John S. Drakeford as the owner. A later photograph of what appears to be the same house, with 6 columns at the front, and additional chimneys on the roof with, in the centre what is probably a viewing platform, with safety railings. The owner is shown as A.H. Drakeford. This is doubtlessly Alexander H. Drakeford, born 1848, the youngest brother of Thomas Carlos Drakeford, and the youngest son of John S. Drakeford, the first owner.

The John S. Drakeford house, built in 1835, shown in less affluent times



A more recent photograph, around 1984 by Tom Dolan



The description of the 'Drakeford House' shown in the postcard was in fact named as the Wadsworth House and provided by the National Register of Historic Places is as follows:

Wadsworth House, 615 North Main Street, built circa 1835, (7). A five bay, two story frame house which seems to be a transition between the Federal Style and Greek Revival period. The massing of the building is Greek Revival, but much of the architectural details Federal. The nine-over-nine windows*, for example, are Federal in proportion. The interior woodwork is likewise Federal in design. The hexastyle portico with tapering square columns is, however, a direct attempt at Greek Revival as is the central entry with transom and sidelights flanked by narrow pilasters. Originally, there was a cantilevered second floor balcony (which can be seen in the early photographs) directly over the main entry. There was probably a doorway out on to this balcony from the second floor**. The doorway, however, may have been converted into a window when the balcony was removed. The interior stairs between the first and second floors may have been altered and reoriented toward the front entry. A former owner reports that the stairs were once orientated toward the back. The house is flanked on either side by two massive chimneys with chimneyheads which are slightly withdrawn from the sides of the gable ends of the house.

* In the UK these are known as sash windows.

** this can be seen in the photograph above directly above the main door with what looks like a pot plant either side of it.

Politics and Government: ... Prior to the Civil War. Probate Judge W.K.Harris designed and built the circa 1835 Wadsworth Home (7)

The description of the second 'Drakeford House' (top centre of postcard) is given as the following:

Drakeford House, 616, North Main Street, 1890 (6)(Pictured on next page)

A very eclectic house, typical of the Late Victorian period. The mass of the house is Queen Anne in style with a corner shingled turret, a gable roof with cross gable extensions and a single story porch curving around two sides of the house. Certain elements of the house, however, suggest the much earlier Greek Revival period. The main entry, for example, is Greek Revival in style with sidelights and transom. The porch columnettes are Ionic, and rest on square piers. A small pedimented portico projects rather awkwardly from the curving porch. Several recent additions have been made to the house including a screened second story porch and a first floor solarium.

**This photograph of the second Drakeford House built in 1890,
by Tom Dole circa 1984**



The Drakeford House (6) was occupied by John Hamilton Drakeford (1872-1934), a successful businessman primarily during the early 20th century. The son of Thomas Drakeford, a Tuskegee merchant known as the "oldest and most successful merchant in Macon County," John H. Drakeford was the founder and president of the City Bank of Tuskegee (established in the early 1900s).

Additional information on the site continues: Another businessman of the period, Thomas C. Drakeford was quickly building another successful general merchandising business. By the late 1890s Drakeford was acclaimed the "oldest and most successful merchant in Macon County." Drakeford's son, John, built the highly ornamental 1890 Drakeford House (6) for his new bride.

This last comment is a bit far stretched as his son John H. Drakeford was only 18 at the time!!

As already mentioned above the link to review all the listed houses is:

<https://npgallery.nps.gov/GetAsset/6c47db67-8db5-4f28-9fc7-1035306e6c30>

As noted in the National Register, John H. Drakeford was founder and president of the City Bank of Tuskegee established on 25th September 1933. Very sadly, aged 61, he died a few months later on 16th February 1934.

In 1977, the name of this bank was changed to Citibanc of Alabama. It is now known as SouthTrust Bank of Tuskegee.

Addendum:

A modern map on the internet and not reproduced here, shows that alongside the historic area that is North Main Street, it is flanked by a small road named **Drakeford Street**.

Reading the descriptions of the two houses by Lavonne Walker, there is reference to the 1835 house that reads:-

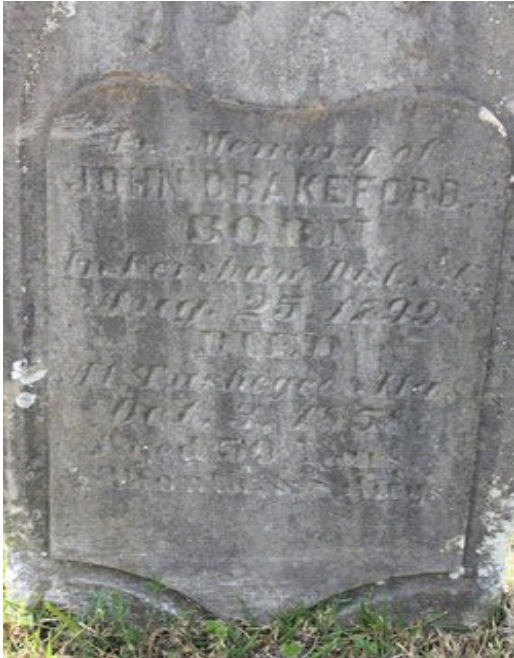
“According to the book, *Truths and Traditions of Old Tuskegee*, Annette Howard, this home of A.H. Drakeford was one of the loveliest of the old Tuskegee homes. Old timers in the town grieved to see the stately old mansion torn away to be replaced by the lovely High School Building”.

This is clearly Alexander H. Drakeford, brother of John S. Drakeford, both of whom lived in the house shown in the postcard. Looking at the plan on the last page of the National Register, it would appear that this house numbered (7) is on the opposite side of the road called North Main Street. Comparing this with the modern map to identify the Historic Area, it could well be that the property was in an urban area on the ‘wrong’ side of the road and is no longer there. However, there is no school shown. The map shown by the national Register of Historic Places of the same date and 35 years old, and a lot changes in that timeframe.

Perhaps, if anyone reading this knows Tuskegee sufficiently well, they can contact us and solve the mystery.

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From the internet, photographs of a number of grave stones relating to the Drakeford Family during this period



John Drakeford, born District of Kershaw, August 25 1799, and Died Tuskegee, AL, 1858.

We can but assume that the photograph on the previous page is the house of this John S. Drakeford who was the grandson of the John Drakeford born c.1719.

It is quite possible that John was involved with the cotton industry, bearing in mind that cotton was responsible for the wealth of this area in and around Tuskegee.

There is also a grave stone for Sarah A. Drakeford 1813 – 1859, his wife, which is shown here below.



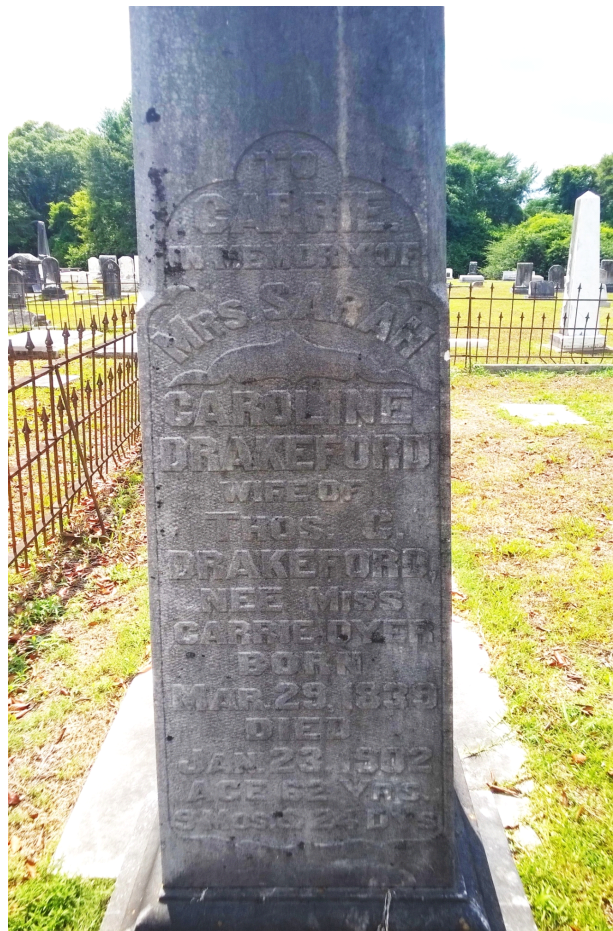
Sarah A. Drakeford 1813 – 1859. Born in Kershaw on December 14th 1813, and dying in Tuskegee on April 5th 1859, this tablet shows that both **Sarah A. Drakeford** and her husband John moved from Kershaw and were most likely to have had a son, **Thomas Carlos Drakeford (1833-1919)**, who later married Sarah C. Dyer, ne Raughton.

Sarah ‘Carry’ Drakeford 1839 – 1902.

Mrs Sarah Caroline Drakeford at Tuskegee, AL. Sarah was born on 29th March 1839, and died 23 January 1902 aged 62.

She was born to Benjamin and Martha Ann Raughton (ne Moore). Sarah had a brother and a sister, Benjamin and Jane. With her first husband, James E Dyer, who died aged 30 in 1864, they produced a son, Thomas Edmond Dyer, 1859-1931.

In 1879 she married Thomas Carlos Drakeford (1833-1919).

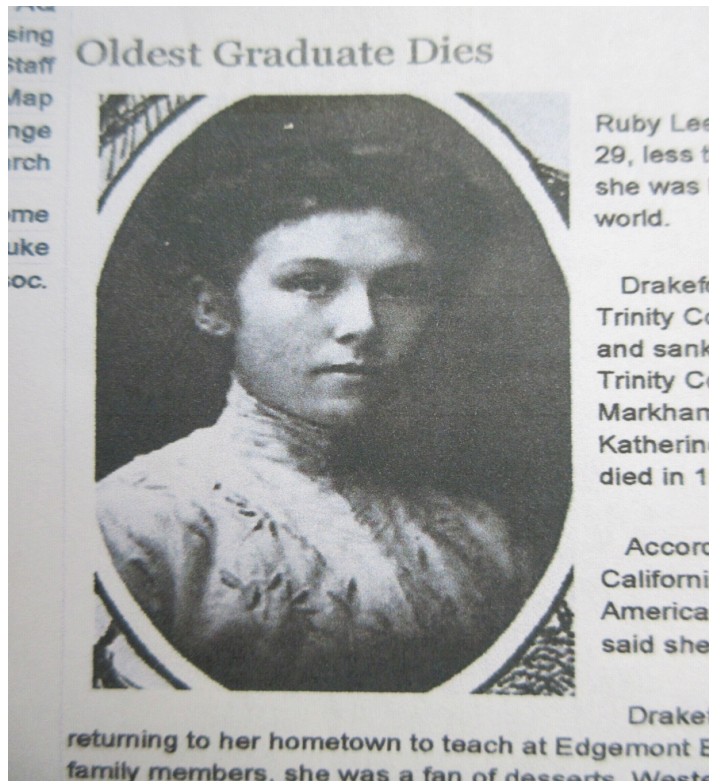


Elizabeth Drakeford Gray

1720 - 4 January 1755 (aged 34–35) Virginia, USA

Corn Creek Baptist Church Cemetery Milton,

Trimble County, Kentucky, USA



**The Teacher,
 Ruby Lee Markham Drakeford
 (1892-2004)**

In March 2005 the Duke Magazine published an obituary for a Ruby Lee Markham Drakeford. She died in December 2004, a month before her 113th birthday. She was a retired school teacher and at her date of death she was North Carolina’s oldest resident and the 10th oldest person in the world.

Her husband, William W. Drakeford died in 1955. They had no children.

Ruby Drakeford was born in Durham, USA on 25th January 1892, and graduated from Trinity College, now known as Duke University, in 1911. Her brothers Allan and Edwin Markham, as well as her sisters Rebecca and Katherine all graduated for Trinity College. Ruby was listed in the 1900 U.S. Census as an eight year old.

Ruby taught in Mount Olive near Goldsboro for a year before returning to her home town to teach at Edgemont Nursery School in Durham. She retired in 1957 and from 1991 until her death lived at Hillcrest Convalescent Centre.

Her nephew, Allan B. Markham commented that “She was a born schoolteacher. She always kept her nephews and nieces in line. Above everything else, she was truly a lady in every respect”.

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12) What are our sources of information?

There are two main sources of information from which I am sincerely grateful to be able to access material for completing this study paper:-

'The Virginia Genealogist' and in particular a section called *Richard Drakeford and his Descendants* written by **Merrill Hill Mosher**, C.G., Coos Bay, Oregon. This is in Volume 39, Number 2 issued April-June, 1995. Merrill Hill Mosher is a descendant of Elizabeth Drakeford Gray.

'Drakefords in America' was created by **Lavonne Sanders Walker**, Shawnee, Oklahoma and published in 1997. This book comprises of 252 pages. It is a great source of information gathered by Lavonne and her three sisters over many years. We are very grateful for her permission to use her book as a source document.

As an aside, Lavonne Sanders Walker is a descendant of Nancy Drakeford born in 1779 who married James Sanders and consequently Richard Drakeford, born around 1660. Her lineage shows Richard to be her maternal 5th great, grandfather.

This can be summarised as follows: Richard Drakeford (b.1660) – John Drakeford (b.1719) – Richard Drakeford (b.1755) – **Nancy Drakeford (b.1879)** married **James Sanders (circa b.1775)** – **Richard Sanders (b.1805)** – **James Gray Sanders (b.1843)** – **Bonnie Mack Sanders (b.1889)** who had a daughter, **Evelyn Lavonne Sanders (Walker) (b.1937)**.

James' parents were George Sanders (1737-1820) and Mary Elizabeth (1746-1842). Just to confuse matters further it is likely that James' brother William married Delitha Layton, a family referred to in the 'Drakefords in America' below.

A lot of the historical information is duplicated within the above two publications, but the information in greater detail and with copies of the source documents is to be found in **'Drakefords in America'**. Where appropriate I have copied some of the information verbatim (*in italics*), and at other times I have paraphrased. Where possible I have also drawn on information from UK Sources, and in particular the Norton-on-the-Moors, Staffordshire Church records.

Sande Layton, wife of **Dan Layton**, and Dan's second cousin, **Clifford Layton**, have been working together for years on the Layton family tree taking it back to Kershaw County, South Carolina in the 1700s. Cliff set up a Layton Facebook group that now has 97 Members and it was through this group that they first learned their second great grandfather, **James Madison Layton**, was illegitimate. Dan graciously submitted his YDNA for the cause and they found the closest relationships were members of this group – Drakefords. As Cliff reached out via email to the highest YDNA matches in the database, Sande remembered the Laytons and Drakefords had land close to each other in those colonial years and the connection was validated.

With the **Drakeford** contact, this story now has proof of definite connections of **Laytons** with the Drakeford family in South Carolina. Both Sande and Cliff were extremely helpful as the story unfolded, providing suggestions for the organization, providing maps and documents and Sande added American history pieces on the American War of Independence in the Southern states and

The American Civil War to help us all understand what our American counterparts were experiencing during those times.

‘Descendants of Richard Drakeford (d. 1740/41) of Virginia’ prepared by **Roger Hall** in 2012 is mostly researched from detail contained in the above-mentioned **‘Drakefords in America’** and is available to view on this website.

The website for **‘National Register of Historic Places Inventory’** dated 1985, was very useful for determining information about the houses lived in by the Drakeford in Tuskegee, Alabama. We are very grateful to the Alabama Historical Commission and Shirley Qualls and Tom Dolan for their work.

13) A connection with the British Royal Family?

For our American friends reading this Study paper, there is a royal connection. It is said that in England you are either descended from royalty or someone hanged for sheep stealing! Those Drakefords with a line back through to the children of Richard (1610-1679), who married Ann Babington, can claim to be directly linked to Edward 1 and Eleanor of Castile and their daughter Joan of Acre who married Gilbert Clare, Earl of Gloucester. These descendants would include Richard the Town clerk and if he had had any descendants, the children of Richard Drakeford, ‘the Mariner’.

Those, descended from William and Ann and their son Richard and his wife Anne, have a link to royalty, but a broken one. Their link is from a generation before the royal Babington connection, and thus no blood link, but through a brother of their descendant William Drakeford 1621- just one generation apart.

Richard and Mercy (produced 11 children)

|

Littleton – Mercie – Mary – William – Richard – William – Edward – Ursula - Jane – William – Alice
+ Ann Babington + Ann Mellor

Littleton = Known to have died in infancy Richard and William were the only surviving males

It would appear that our American cousins are related to our Richard, the Merchant, lawyer and the person who led the petition to King James I for the first charter to create a town mayor of Stafford in 1614. The first mayor was his co-agitator Matthew Craddock. Richard became mayor of Stafford in 1620 and again in 1635. Clearly, only descendants of Richard and Ann Babington would be a direct blood line. A connection ‘by marriage’ through this Richard’s brother **William and Ann Mellor** will have to do!

**The Drakeford Crest and Shield
as present in the Church of St Mary,
Stafford, England**

