

**JAMES HORSLEY JR. (1731-c1815) and FAMILY:  
THE ROAD SOUTH FROM MARYLAND**

Research Report by

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*Revised 2011 [2015]*

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**FAMILY of JAMES HORSLEY JR. and wife PATIENCE**  
**Overview**

**JAMES HORSLEY, JR.**

Son of James Horsley Sr. and Mary Seward  
Born 1731, St. Luke's Parish, Queen Anne's County, Maryland  
Died 1810-1820, York County, South Carolina

Married **PATIENCE** (Maiden Name Unknown) c1752, Maryland  
Born c1731, probably Maryland; Died 1800-1810, York County, South Carolina

CHILDREN of JAMES & PATIENCE HORSLEY  
All born Queen Anne's County, Maryland

**Richard** - b. 1754; m. c1781 Margaret Brandon, Halifax Co, VA; d. c1838, York Co, SC

**Valentine** - b.18 Jan 1758; m. c1785 Sarah Kendrick, Halifax Co, VA; d.18 Sep 1843, Upson Co, GA

**Susannah** - b. c1763; m. 2 Aug 1784 Samuel Matthews, Caswell Co, NC; d.1810-20, Lincoln Co, NC

**William** - b. 1767; unmarried; d. c1799, York Co, SC

These children are proved by primary records. *Horsley Families of America 1650 to 1986* Vol. 1 (1986) by Scott and Horsley also lists daughters Rachel, Elizabeth and Mary with no source or documentation, and no records for them have been found. Instead, these may be daughters of James Jr.'s son Richard Horsley, whom censuses show had three unnamed daughters so far unidentified.

Also, these authors incorrectly list James Horsley Jr.'s son William with the middle initial "N." The authors confused James Horsley Jr.'s son William Horsley (who had no middle name) with William N. Horsley, born c1812, who was James Jr.'s great-grandson and a son of Richard's son David Horsley.

The authors also mistakenly include a James Horsley (III) as a son of James Jr. This younger James (III) was in Queen Anne's County, MD in the 1800 census, and records indicate he was a son of one of James Jr.'s brothers instead. (See report below and report on James Horsley Sr. for details.)

For the story of James Horsley Jr.'s parents and ancestors researched from primary records, see my report:

***James Horsley Sr. of Maryland (c1685-c1748) and Our Horsley Family Beginnings*** Rev. ed. (2010) Available online at: [www.JoanHorsley.org](http://www.JoanHorsley.org)

For the continuing story of James and Patience's son Valentine and family, see my report:

***Valentine Horsley and Sarah Kendrick Family: The Georgia Years*** at: [www.JoanHorsley.org](http://www.JoanHorsley.org)

**PART I: NARRATIVE**

**JAMES HORSLEY JR. (1731-c1815) and FAMILY:  
THE ROAD SOUTH FROM MARYLAND**

*By Joan Horsley*  
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Revised 2011

JAMES HORSLEY JR. was born in 1731<sup>1</sup> in Queen Anne's County, Maryland, across the Chesapeake Bay from Annapolis, the state capital. He was the eldest son of James Horsley Sr. and Mary Seward who married in St. Luke's Parish, Queen Anne's County on 3 February 1728/9.<sup>2</sup> James Sr. was a skilled carpenter by profession, but like all colonial families, he needed land to farm for the family's basic needs. A month after his marriage to Mary, her father, Thomas Seward Jr., deeded James and Mary fifty acres of Bishopsfield,<sup>3</sup> a 400-acre tract of land that had been in Mary's family since 1675.<sup>4</sup> James Horsley Jr. was born and raised on this portion of Bishopsfield, and later his own children were born there as well.

None of the children of James Horsley Sr. and Mary Seward are included in St. Luke's Parish christening records, indicating James Jr.'s parents were not active Anglicans at the time. However, evidence from primary records<sup>5</sup> shows that James Horsley Jr. had at least three siblings: an older sister, Hannah Horsley, who married Thomas Tharp,<sup>6</sup> and two younger brothers, Thomas Horsley, who married the widow Mary Connikin,<sup>7</sup> and Richard Horsley,<sup>8</sup> whose wife's name is unknown. James Horsley Jr. and his siblings grew up surrounded by their Seward grandparents and numerous uncles, aunts, and cousins from their mother's thirteen sisters and brothers. When James Jr. was listed in the Queen Anne's County Militia at age 17, five of his Seward uncles were in the same unit.<sup>9</sup>

James Jr.'s father, James Horsley Sr., died in 1748<sup>10</sup> when James Jr. was 17 years old. His widowed mother, then only 38 years old, was left with four minor children. As was customary in such circumstances, Mary soon re-married. James Jr.'s stepfather was Joseph Slocum, whom Mary Seward Horsley married in St. Luke's Parish, Queen Anne's County on 26 Feb 1749/50.<sup>11</sup> No information was found regarding Joseph, and it appears he and Mary had no children together.<sup>12</sup> Joseph Slocum died prior to 1769 and possibly before 1754<sup>13</sup> when his step-son James Jr. would have been age 23.

Bishopsfield, where James Horsley Jr. lived his first 40 years, was near Church Hill, Queen Anne's County, MD on a branch of the Chester River.<sup>14</sup> The 1986 book *Horsley Families of America* by Brenda Scott and Roy Horsley indicates that James and his parents lived on Kent Island.<sup>15</sup> However, land surveys, quit rent lists, and militia rolls prove they lived on the mainland about 25 miles upriver from Kent Island and the Chesapeake Bay.

The Church Hill area at the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century looks much as it must have appeared in James Jr.'s day—a rural countryside with small farms on softly rolling hills crisscrossed by tributaries, streams and creeks from the river. Across the Chester River from Church Hill is Chestertown, the county seat of Kent County and not far from where James' grandfather Thomas Seward Jr. was born and raised. By today's standards Chestertown is still a small county seat town, yet one that is historically rich, well-preserved, and home to a fine liberal arts college dating back to the Revolution.<sup>16</sup>

During James' youth in the 1740's, Chestertown was a vigorous and prosperous trading port and one of Maryland's oldest links with the larger world. Among the architecturally beautiful grand homes of James' day was the Abbey, "home of a coterie of light-hearted young Englishmen who took their duties at the port anything but seriously" and "one of the gayest places in Maryland."<sup>17</sup> During the Revolution, General George Washington often dined in the town at Worrell's Tavern. In the 1770's, Chestertown was a center of Maryland's Anglicans and the site of the convention that in 1790 split the American Episcopal Church from the Anglican Church of England. With merchant, fishing and military vessels plying the Chesapeake Bay at the mouth of the Chester River off Kent Island and the seat of Maryland politics and society just across the bay at Annapolis, James' world was hardly a small or isolated one.

James Horsley Jr. married about 1752 at age 21, according to the ages of his children. By a 1789 Halifax County, VA deed of sale we learn his wife's name was Patience.<sup>18</sup> This deed is the only primary record found in their residences of Maryland, Virginia and South Carolina that gives us her name, but nothing in the records found so far suggests that James was married more than once. Neither James nor Patience could write, so the recording clerk entered their names phonetically at their deed signature marks as "James Hosley" and "Peashents Hosley," which incidentally gives us an interesting insight into how their names were pronounced in the accents of the time.

*Horsley Families of America* states that James Jr.'s wife's name "is believed" to be Margaret Valentine, but as with most of their information, the authors give no source or other explanation.<sup>19</sup> After searching seven years for any leads in the records that would support James' wife being a Margaret Valentine, I found no evidence for that claim. However, I did find information that might explain how the confusion came about.

First of all, James Jr.'s son Richard Horsley was married to a woman named Margaret, daughter of John N. Brandon<sup>20</sup> (although the *Horsley Families* book says Richard's wife's name was Susan, perhaps because Richard did have a sister and a daughter Susannah/Susan). If, as it seems, the name Margaret came down through oral family history, it is a common occurrence to find that through generations of telling, names get attached to the wrong people or the wrong ancestral family line.

Secondly, the alleged surname of Valentine for James Jr.'s wife may have been based on their son Valentine Horsley, whose name was then presumed to be his mother's maiden name. Oddly, there is a Valentine family connected with another James Horsley family in Virginia. This other James Horsley lived in Culpeper County, VA, and served in the Revolution from there.<sup>21</sup> For this service he received Revolutionary War Bounty Land in the part of Virginia that is now Kentucky or Ohio. He assigned the land to one Edward Valentine, a Captain in the Revolution who lost the use of a hand and suffered other war injuries<sup>22</sup> (although no relationship is implied). This James Horsley of Culpeper County, VA later moved to Greenup County, KY, where he applied for pension in 1842. So far as we know from research to date he was not close kin of our James Horsley Jr. of Halifax County, VA.

It is possible that James and Patience Horsley's son Valentine Horsley may have been named for Valentine Carter, a prominent man of Kent Island, MD and a friend of James Horsley Sr. The Carter, Seward and Horsley families have documented associations, and some knew each other for several prior generations in Maryland. On the other hand, Queen Anne's County records and abstract books of Maryland wills and deeds show that the given name Valentine was not unusual around the time Valentine Horsley was born, so there may be no more to his name than simple preference. In any case, no evidence was found for the name Valentine being his mother Patience's maiden name.

James and Patience's marriage is not recorded in the St. Luke's Parish records in Queen Anne's County, MD, nor are the christenings of any of their children. His father James Horsley Sr. was married in St. Luke's Parish, but none of James Sr.'s children have records of being baptized there either. Interestingly, James Sr.'s daughter Hannah was married at St. Luke's after her father's death, and his widow Mary Seward Horsley remarried in St. Luke's. Given both father's and son's on-going associations with non-Anglicans, they may have had "dissenter" leanings themselves, and at least James Jr.'s son Valentine and his family were a Baptist.<sup>23</sup>

Research is continuing to try to learn more about Patience and who her family may have been. James Sr. and James Jr. had many friends and neighbors who were Quakers or from earlier Quaker families, and the name "Patience" is often found in Quaker records. Some of the earliest Quaker Meetings in the Colonies were on Maryland's Eastern Shore (where Queen Anne's County is located), and in general Quakers kept good birth records, many of which still exist. Perhaps in time such research can help identify James' wife Patience.

We do not know what James Horsley Jr. did for a living, but he seems to have prospered in his work. One indication comes from the fact that in the 1760's James was a security on the administrative bonds for two overlapping estates in probate, the estate of John Preston and the estate of Charles Gafford.<sup>24</sup> John Preston died in Queen Anne's County by 1766 when his estate's administrative papers were filed.<sup>25</sup> Charles Gafford's will was proved in Queen Anne's County Court on 13 Oct 1768. (Gafford wrote his will three years earlier on 26 Aug 1765, and two of the three witnesses were James Horsley and James' younger brother Richard Horsley.<sup>26</sup>) Preston's probate was completed in 1769 and Gafford's in 1770. To qualify as security (or surety) for an administrative bond, the Court had to be satisfied that a person was trustworthy, financially responsible, and had adequate funds to cover, along with any other securities, all costs to the estate in the event the administrator was neglectful, incompetent, or illegal in his duties and forfeited his bond. An administrative bond was usually an amount equal to or sometimes more than the worth of the estate itself, and James was only in his mid-30's when he helped secure these two coinciding bonds.

Since James Jr. apparently had good financial resources but is recorded with only 50 acres of land, he probably was not a farmer by profession but provided a service or craft instead. All of James Jr.'s records show him signing by mark. This was common for his day and place, but it indicates James did not serve a formal apprenticeship in a craft, since those contracts routinely included being taught to read and write. Master craftsmen who qualified to have apprentices were relatively scarce in the Colonies, and James' father, a trained skilled carpenter who likely did qualify for apprentices, died during the time James Jr. would be in formal training. However, many Colonial craftsmen learned their trade in other ways, and James Jr. could have acquired skills such as a carpenter or cooper from his father or other family and friends who were recorded in those occupations. Carpenters were also the coffin-makers and undertakers, so it is particularly interesting that James' land in York County, SC had a large one-acre grave yard where neighbors as well as family were buried.<sup>27</sup>

James and Patience Horsley's four known children—Richard, Valentine, Suzannah, and William—were born and raised on the Bishopsfield land that had been in the family almost 100 years.<sup>28</sup> Yet when James was around 40 years old and the Colonies were approaching the Revolutionary War, he and his family left Maryland behind and moved 300 miles south into Virginia. They settled in the far southwestern part of Halifax County at the Dan River, near the North Carolina border about 1773.<sup>29</sup> Families usually migrated long distances in the company of related families and neighbors or joined old friends in the new place. Contrary to what we would normally expect, none of James' siblings or known relatives moved with him, and I have found no Maryland associates of James or his family

with him in Virginia (although Patience's family, so far unknown, might have had ties in both places). In fact, from the records there seems to be an unusual and pronounced lack of mutual interactions and shared associates in common among all the families in Queen Anne's County encountered in this research. This discontinuity and apparent weakness in close communal ties may have contributed to James and his family's desire to move.

The only interlinking pattern to their migration found so far seems to be Horsley family associations with Quakers, Baptists, and other religious dissenters. Quakers in Maryland and Virginia were in contact through their organizational structures. On a less formal basis, Baptists also had cross-colony contact. In such ways James easily could have learned of a community in Halifax where he thought the family would feel welcome, which indeed they were, judging by the network of friends and neighbors with whom they quickly became a part.

Overall one of the primary reasons for migrating was to obtain more and better-quality land, the sustenance of an agriculture-based economy, and particularly to enable one's grown children to obtain sufficient land for their own families' prosperity. Land in Halifax County, with its rolling hills, rivers, and rich soil not yet depleted by generations of cultivation, was available, abundant, and affordable, making it a popular relocation area of the time. Situated near a major Colonial north-south transportation and migration route, immigrants to Halifax came from the Northeast and New England as well as from neighboring counties and states. Many of those who were farmers also took advantage of the larger land tracts available in southwest Virginia to branch out into cattle-raising, which was becoming a more profitable endeavor than growing tobacco, the long-time Virginia income crop. In many ways, Halifax County was entering its prime. Although there still were occasional dangers from displaced and angered Indians, it probably was considered a much safer place than the Chesapeake area with its heavy inter-colony and trans-Atlantic commerce and its trade and government centers posing prime wartime targets as the Revolution came to full boil.

If James had moved his family to southern Virginia at least in part for greater safety in wartime, that turned into false hope. In 1780, his eldest son, Richard, then age 26, was drafted from Halifax County into a Virginia militia unit for Revolutionary War service,<sup>30</sup> and his son Valentine, then age 22, either enlisted or was drafted also.<sup>31</sup> During part of his service, Richard fought in South Carolina, and like most men in Virginia units at that time, Valentine probably served there as well. General Nathanael Greene took overall command of the Southern Campaign in December 1780 after the devastating Patriot defeat at Camden, SC, where at least Richard fought.<sup>32</sup> Gen. Greene's strategies, more akin to guerilla warfare than formal campaigns, ultimately saved the war for the Patriots, but the fighting in South Carolina was especially savage.<sup>33</sup>

In February 1781, Gen. Greene succeeded in a tactical retreat of the Southern Patriot army ahead of Cornwallis' pursuit known as the Crossing of the Dan, a masterful military maneuver.<sup>34</sup> One wonders, though, what James and Patience Horsley must have felt as the focus of the entire Southern Campaign troop movements and war strategies narrowed to an epic race through rain, snow, and red clay mud to Irwin's and Boyd's ferries on the Dan River in Halifax, within a few miles of the Horsley home, with Cornwallis' British at their heels and at times less than five miles behind.

Foiled in his efforts at the Dan River to defeat or capture the Southern Patriot army and suffering severe losses a month later in his technical victory at Guilford Courthouse in nearby Greensboro, NC, Cornwallis eventually moved his British forces on to Yorktown, VA. A strong force of French regiments and Gen. George Washington's Continental Army regiments along with three brigades of Virginia Militia soon converged and for three weeks laid siege to the town.

James Horsley's two oldest sons, Richard and Valentine, took part in the siege of Yorktown and were present when Lord Cornwallis surrendered his British forces on 19 October 1781, eight months after the Crossing of the Dan. Perhaps ironically for the brothers and their parents alike, the victory at Yorktown, which signaled the successful end to the war for American independence, took place at the opposite end of the Chesapeake Bay from where both James and his sons had been born and grew up and so recently had left.

By the next year's heads-of-house enumeration in 1782 for Halifax County, James Horsley had 9 "white persons" in his household, but only the head of each household is named.<sup>35</sup> The number of persons is the sole indication I have found that might support James and Patience's having daughters named Rachel, Elizabeth, and Mary. These three are listed as James' children in *Horsley Families of America*, but the authors give no source or information about them.<sup>36</sup> No records were found for any daughters of James other than Susannah. On the other hand, York County, SC censuses 1800-1820 indicate Richard Horsley had three unknown daughters, one of whom appears to be an Elizabeth, born 1798,<sup>37</sup> so the three names may be Richard's daughters instead. In any case, one or more of the additional household members enumerated in James' 1782 household could be other relatives as well as farm laborers, orphans, household help, or others not related to the family.

The *Horsley Families* book also says that James Horsley (Jr.) had a son James (III), with no source or documentation given.<sup>38</sup> However, there is no other James Horsley besides the elder James (Jr.) in Halifax County, NC or York County, SC records. There was a James Horsley living in Queen Anne's County, MD in the 1800 census, but the 1790 and 1800 Queen Anne's censuses indicate he was most likely a son of James Jr.'s brother Thomas Horsley, or less likely but possibly a son of their brother Richard. According to census information, this James (III) would have been too young a child to be left behind when James Jr. moved his family to Virginia.<sup>39</sup>

The 1782 Halifax County, VA enumeration also included James' son Richard Horsley, recently married to Margaret Brandon, daughter of John N. Brandon.<sup>40</sup> There were only two persons in their household, so as yet they had no children, although later census records show their first child David was born not long after this enumeration. Two years later James and Patience's daughter Susannah Horsley married Samuel Matthews by a bond dated 2 Aug 1784 in Caswell County, NC, just over the Dan River from Halifax County, VA.<sup>41</sup> (Samuel's surname is sometimes spelled Mathis as it was on the marriage bond.) Then about 1785, James and Patience's son Valentine Horsley married Sarah Kendrick, daughter of Thomas and Nancy Kendrick, whose family lived next to the Horsley's.<sup>42</sup>

James and Patience's youngest known child was William Horsley, born about 1767.<sup>43</sup> In recent decades, their son William has been confused with their great-grandson William N. Horsley and also mistakenly thought to be the father of Theophilus T. and John B. Horsley.<sup>44</sup> The only record found for James' son William was a 1798 deed in York County, SC.<sup>45</sup> That deed, whereby William's father James sells him their family land, does not record William with any middle name or initial. Middle names were not common in the South until the early 1800's, and records show none of James' other children or his ten known grandchildren had middle names. Nevertheless, James' son William Horsley has been mistakenly assumed to be the same person as William N. Horsley who witnessed an 1836 York County, SC boundary settlement involving the land Richard Horsley gave to his grown children David and Susannah ("Susan").<sup>46</sup> Evidence from the settlement record as well as U.S. censuses from 1800 through 1880 shows that William N. Horsley was the eldest son of Richard Horsley's son David and born about 1812, not James and Patience Horsley's son William. (See the 1836 record in Part II: Timeline of Records for more about William N. Horsley.)



Also contrary to earlier assumptions, DNA testing and records evidence now confirm that James and Patience's son William Horsley was not the father of John B. Horsley and Theophilus T. Horsley.<sup>47</sup> Instead, records reveal the father of John B. and T.T. was a William Horsley of Burke County, NC, who died there about 1809.<sup>48</sup> Although DNA shows their line was related to James Horsley's line, the most recent common ancestor shared by the two lines was most likely within the generation of James Horsley Sr.'s great-grandfather to two generations earlier, born in the time frame of 1550-1600.

By the Halifax County enumeration of 1785 there were 6 "white persons" in James Horsley's household.<sup>49</sup> (Only once, in 1786, was James listed in personal property taxes with a slave.) This number probably included Valentine and his wife Sarah. The absence of any deed or land tax records for Valentine Horsley indicates he and Sarah lived with his parents until Valentine moved his family to South Carolina around the end of 1788.<sup>50</sup> James and Patience's son William would be another in the 1785 household, which leaves one person unidentified, who again could be related or not. As we only have an approximated year of 1786 for the birth of Valentine and Sarah's oldest child, Joseph, the additional person could be their son Joseph, born actually in 1785 instead.<sup>51</sup>

From 1787 through 1790 the Halifax County, VA land tax lists show James Horsley had 100 acres and his son Richard had 200 acres,<sup>52</sup> which matches the amount of Halifax land each bought in 1775 and 1778 respectively.<sup>53</sup> Deed and court records dating from James' arrival in Halifax show James and his family were surrounded by and involved with a close-knit community that appears to have far more cohesion and shared interaction than the Maryland area they left, even though James had been born in Queen Anne's County, MD and lived there over twice as long as in Halifax.

The Horsley families' close friends and neighbors in Halifax included the family of Thomas Kendrick and his wife Nancy,<sup>54</sup> whose daughter Sarah married James' son Valentine; John Lawson, whose daughter Mary married John Brandon; and John Brandon's extended family, who were related by marriage to James' son Richard through Richard's wife Margaret Brandon. A daughter of Valentine and Sarah Kendrick Horsley and three children of Thomas and Nancy Kendrick eventually married four children of John and Mary Lawson Brandon. The Horsley-Kendrick-Brandon-Lawson family connections that began in the 1770's in Halifax County, VA extended at least to 1870 in Texas when Valentine and Sarah Kendrick Horsley's grandson Jacob Horsley married their great-granddaughter Mary Brandon, who was also a great-granddaughter of John Brandon and Mary Lawson.<sup>55</sup>

James Horsley Jr. was almost 60 years old when his Halifax County, VA sojourn of nearly two decades came to an end. In late 1789 or early 1790, James and Patience and their son Richard and his family moved south again, this time to York County, South Carolina.<sup>56</sup> James and Patience's children Valentine with wife Sarah Kendrick, Susannah with husband Samuel Matthews, and probably William, who apparently never married, had already moved to York County, SC in the later part of 1788 to prepare the way and purchase property there.<sup>57</sup>

A number of factors probably influenced their decision to migrate again. For all of its earlier promise, Halifax County after the Revolution was experiencing an even more severe economic depression than the general post-war condition. Of all the former colonies, Virginia was hit particularly hard economically by the war. In addition to the wide-spread threat of property loss due to war debts, in Halifax County a cabal of wealthy landowners was able to gain a stranglehold on the supply of necessary goods and services and the credit necessary to purchase them. This began a large-scale exodus from Halifax County that continued for decades and from which it never recovered.<sup>58</sup>

On the other hand, the entire county was on the move, expanding south and west out of its pre-Revolution confines and into new frontiers and new possibilities. South Carolina, like its neighbors Georgia and Alabama, was attractive to settlers for its available land and developing communities and commercial markets, enhanced by the “removal” of Native Americans from their former tribal territories. By some accounts, Horsley friends and relations John and Mary Lawson Brandon had already moved from Halifax to York County around 1784. James and Patience’s son Richard Horsley had served during the Revolutionary War in Camden, SC and near Charlotte, NC, which at times was Gen. Greene’s headquarters and not far over the South Carolina/North Carolina border from York County. Richard’s brother Valentine Horsley probably was also in that vicinity during the war, and York County was near where the important battles of Kings Mountain and Cowpens took place. Perhaps the brothers had found in the climate, the landscape and the new opportunities of South Carolina both a solution to the difficulties of Halifax and a way to start anew, as many were eager to do in the victorious aftermath of the long and punishing Revolutionary War.

The custom when moving south was to travel in the winter, between the harvesting of fall crops and the spring planting time. The Horsley families likely made the journey of about 200 miles from Halifax by the long-established and well-traveled Great Wagon Road that ran from Philadelphia through their part of Virginia to Charlotte, NC and into York County, SC before ending at Augusta, GA.<sup>59</sup> In fact, an 1826 deed for the former Horsley land mentions a boundary point “above the Great Road,” which probably refers to this major highway of their day.<sup>60</sup> This time James and his family did move with, or around the same time as, extended family, in-laws, and neighbors. Thus, the families of James Horsley, his married children, John Brandon, Thomas Kendrick, Kendrick in-law John Irby and other Halifax connections were soon together again in the same area of York County, SC.

It is interesting that living near them in the York County 1800 census was Luke Vickery. He was related to Mary Vickery, who in 1697 in Talbot County, MD married Richard Horsley, possible father of James Horsley Sr.<sup>61</sup> Also living nearby in York County was a John Pindar, possibly related to William Pinder of Queen Anne’s County, MD and a close neighbor and friend of James Horsley’s family.<sup>62</sup> Families frequently parted then reunited several migrations, and even multiple generations, down the road. Ours was a mobile society from its beginnings, but people rarely moved in isolation from their family and their surprisingly far-reaching communal networks.

James and Patience Horsley and their grown children’s families lived side-by-side in their new York County home. Their son-in-law Samuel Matthews “late of Virginia” had purchased 300 acres on Crowders Creek in January 1789, shortly after he and his brother-in-law Valentine Horsley arrived from Halifax County, VA.<sup>63</sup> A year later, Valentine purchased 385 acres of almost-adjacent land on Mill Creek.<sup>64</sup> When Valentine’s father James and brother Richard arrived, Valentine sold each of them an equal portion of his land.<sup>65</sup>

The area of York County, SC where the Horsley families lived was about 10 miles east of present-day Clover, SC, in the far northeast corner of the county. Their land was only two miles or so from the North Carolina border, just south of Charlotte and today’s Gastonia, NC. James’ son-in-law Samuel Matthews and son Valentine Horsley successively were “overseers” or coordinators of the crews of neighbors responsible to the county court for the upkeep of the road from the North Carolina border to the ford of Crowders Creek.<sup>66</sup> This road was probably close to or along today’s State Road 274. Mill Creek and Crowders Creek flow near each other as they join the Catawba River (at today’s Lake Wylie) that divides York County, SC from Mecklenburg County, NC.

The York County Visitors' Bureau says this about the area around the time James Horsley and his children's families lived in York County:

York County was home to the Catawba Indians, known as the "river people," when Scotch-Irish settlers arrived in the mid-1700s. Fiercely independent, these settlers established simple farms and churches. Their quiet lives were disrupted by war. Several skirmishes led to the Battle of Kings Mountain, where the British forces met a defeat that proved to be a turning point in the war for American independence.

Following the conflict, the area returned to farming and trading. A few large cotton plantations developed, but most of the farms were small. Meanwhile, the Catawba Indians, greatly reduced by European diseases, moved to a small reservation near Rock Hill [in York County]. Although most of the tribe joined the mainstream society, it preserved its traditional tribal skills, notably pottery making.<sup>67</sup>

There was a small but important community of Catawba Indian potters still in existence in 2007, continuing their traditional art and passing it on to children of the tribe.

The Horsley families and their relatives and friends became an active part of those small farming communities. At least James' son Valentine and his family were known to be York County Baptists.<sup>68</sup> They likely attended church at "Rookers Meeting House," about a mile up the main road from where they lived. This was the same place where Mill Creek Baptist Church was established in 1840.<sup>69</sup> The Baptist minister John Rooker lived next to Valentine Horsley on the opposite side from his brother Richard Horsley,<sup>70</sup> and Rev. Rooker gave witness to Richard's character and veracity on his 1832 Revolutionary War pension application.

Rev. John Rooker established several Baptist churches in the area, including Sugar Creek/Flint Hill Baptist Church north of Fort Mill, SC, and felt called to a particular mission to the Catawba Indians. His assistant pastor, Robert Mursh, was a full-blooded Pamunkey Indian with a Catawba Indian wife. Rev. Rooker also set up an Indian school in Lancaster District, having himself been a teacher of reading, writing, and arithmetic in North Carolina prior to moving to York County, SC. Louise Pettus includes this interesting insight in her biographical sketch of John Rooker: "David Hutchison, a state-appointed commissioner for Catawba Indian affairs, once wrote that Reverend Rooker settled near the Catawba towns 'with a view of teaching and preaching. I had high hopes that he would be successful...and I believe [he] exerted himself to the best of his abilities. The result of which he candidly acknowledged to me was, that he thought he left them worse than he found them...'"<sup>71</sup> It was an unusual man, especially a minister, of Rev. Rooker's day to grasp the effect on the Indians brought by rapid dissolution and loss of their traditional culture, lifeways and religion.

While James and Patience's married children, Valentine, Richard, and Susannah, were engaged with their own families and busy raising the elder couple's grandchildren, their youngest son, William, continued to live with his parents, probably assuming the bulk of the farming and property upkeep as his father grew older. On 3 Aug 1798, James, at age 67, sold his land to William, then age 31.<sup>72</sup> Oddly, though, less than two years later, William does not appear in the 1800 census in York County or elsewhere, and James and Patience were still living on the land they sold to him. Extensive research found no further records for or mentions of their son William. (As discussed above, their son William was neither William N. Horsley nor William, the father of Theophilus T. and John B. Horsley.) The land William bought from James was sold after James' death by his brother Valentine, inferring that William's siblings were his heirs by law.<sup>73</sup> Taken together, all evidence indicates that James and

Patience's son William Horsley died in York County about 1799, leaving no wife or children. (For more details, see notes for the 1798 deed in Part II: Timeline)

James' wife Patience Horsley died in York County, SC between 1800 and 1810, and by the 1810 census, James was living with his son Richard and family. James Horsley Jr. died in York County, SC within the next ten years, prior to the census of 1820 when he would have been 89 years old.

After James and Patience died and their land on Mill Creek was sold, subsequent deed records mention a one-acre grave yard on their property that was reserved with free access and "for the use of the former connection or any other of the neighbours that may wish to bury their dead in said grave yard."<sup>74</sup> Undoubtedly, this was the grave yard where James and Patience and likely their son William were buried. It probably was also the burial place for their son Richard, who died about 1838, his wife Margaret Brandon, who died 1830-1840, and daughter Susannah Horsley, who died in 1851, as their land was adjacent to James and Patience. Since the grave yard was fairly large, who knows how many others of their family and neighbors were buried there as well. Sadly, this grave yard does not still exist, and there is no record of the ones buried there except in the memory of their descendants.

This grave yard may have been used by the Horsley family's Mill Creek community for many years. In 1840, Mill Creek Baptist Church was established about a mile away and later had its own cemetery. Actual burials in that cemetery appear to begin mid-1850, although there still remain "memorial markers" for people who died much earlier. (For example, one memorial stone reads, "Sacred to the memory of Saml. Lambeth who departed this life March 17<sup>th</sup> 1818." Samuel was related to James Horsley Jr. through Horsley/Kendrick family marriages. For the last 26 years of his life, Samuel and his family lived next to James, so Samuel's actual grave was probably in the grave yard on James' land.) As of 1971, Mill Creek Cemetery still had identifiable memorials and grave markers for some Horsley and related Brandon, Kendrick/Lambeth, and Matthews family members.<sup>75</sup>

Over their lifetimes, James and Patience Horsley saw the height of the British Colonial times and lived through the eight years of a hard and by all accounts communally divisive and often savage war for independence. They made two major moves, migrating from established "civilization" in Maryland to successively newer frontiers in Virginia and then South Carolina. Unlike so many of their day, both James and Patience lived to see their children grown and to be surrounded by grandchildren, whose future in the new country and new land they had helped to secure.

The road south from Maryland did not end there for a number of James and Patience Horsley's family. The families of their daughter Susannah Matthews and their son Richard's son David Horsley remained in the same general area when they moved into Lincoln and Gaston County, NC just north of York County, SC. However, the families of their son Valentine and of Valentine's eight children soon moved about 250 miles further south and settled in what was then the western edge of central Georgia at the border of Creek Indian territory. While today many of James and Patient's descendants remain in the South, others span the United States from Maine to Florida, Washington, DC to California, Idaho to Texas and numerous points in-between, all carrying with them our Horsley heritage of which James and Patience were a vital part.

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The story of James and Patience's son Valentine and his family after their arrival in Georgia continues in my research paper *Valentine Horsley and Sarah Kendrick Family: The Georgia Years*. Available online at: <[www.joanhorsley.org](http://www.joanhorsley.org)>

### **Endnotes**

See “Part II: Time Line of Records for James Horsley Jr. and Children” following these endnotes for full records with transcriptions and extensive explanatory notes.

<sup>1</sup> Henry C. Peden, Jr. *More Maryland Deponents 1716-1799* (Westminster, MD: Family Line Publications, 1992), p. 57. "James Horsley, age 25, in 1756. (QA 3:8)"

<sup>2</sup> Marriage of James Horsley and Mary Seward. St. Luke's Parish, Queen Anne's County, MD Marriage, Birth, and Death Records. Maryland State Archives (MSA). Annapolis, MD.  
Note: "Double dates" such as 1728/9 reflect a change made in 1752 from the Julian Calendar, which began a new year on March 25, to the Gregorian Calendar still in use today, which begins the year January 1. Thus, the first year in a double date is according to the old calendar in effect at the time of the record; the second year is according to the current calendar.

<sup>3</sup> Queen Anne's County Land Records Rent Roll - Bishopsfield. Surveyed 1675, 400 acres, granted to William Bishop (cousin of Mary Seward Horsley's grandfather). Entry dated 21 Mar 1728/9, 50 ac. to "James Horsley and wife Mary" from "Thos. Seward [Jr.] et ux [and wife]." Also see: Queen Anne's County Debt Book 1734-1775 (Quit Rents). Both records located at Maryland State Archives [MSA], Annapolis, MD.

<sup>4</sup> Maryland Land Office Patents. Liber W. C., folio 351. Microfilm SR 7549 (1726 Transcript: Book 19, p. 479, Microfilm SR 7360). Maryland State Archives, Annapolis, MD Note: Bishopsfield was part of a 760-acre land grant deeded 23 Nov 1675 to William Bishop, a cousin of Mary's grandfather Thomas Seward Sr. William Bishop bequeathed Bishopsfield to Mary's father Thomas Seward Jr. in 1685.

<sup>5</sup> Primary records are those made at the time of the event, such as deeds, wills, county tax lists, and censuses. Even though such records sometimes have errors, they are our most reliable source for valid information and form the basis for indirect evidence of relationships when no direct evidence is available.

<sup>6</sup> Married 10 Oct 1749. St. Luke's Parish Records, Queen Anne's County, MD. MSA, Annapolis, MD.

<sup>7</sup> Queen Anne's Co. Probate Records. Liber 57, Folio 233. MSA. Annapolis, MD. Note: Mary wife of Thomas Horsley was named as the widow and administratrix of John Connikin's estate with first entry in 1766.

<sup>8</sup> For details of siblings and parents of James Horsley Jr. see my Research Report: *James Horsley Sr. of Maryland (c1685-c1748) and Our Horsley Family Beginnings*. (Rev. ed.) Raleigh, NC: J. Horsley, 2009, Rev. 2010. Available online at: [www.JoanHorsley.org](http://www.JoanHorsley.org)

<sup>9</sup> Murtie J. Clark. *Colonial Soldiers of the South, 1732-1774* (Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1999) p. 42, citing MHR [Maryland Hall of Records, now MSA] Box 1:29.

<sup>10</sup> *Ibid.* Note: See discussion of this under 1748 in Part II: Timeline of Records.

<sup>11</sup> Joseph Slocum married Mary Horsley by publication (ie, banns). St. Luke's Parish, Queen Anne County Marriage Records. MSA. Annapolis, MD.

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<sup>12</sup> For explanation and evidence, see *James Horsley Sr. of Maryland (c1685-c1748) and Our Horsley Family Beginnings* p. 50-51.

<sup>13</sup> In 1769, Mary (Horsley) Slocum "widow" sold land in her own right which she could not do as a married woman. (QA Liber RT No. 26 p. 356, MSA) Four years after Mary married Joseph Slocum, her father named her as Mary Horsley in his will dated 16 Feb 1754 with no mention of Slocum. (QA Wills, Liber 31, Folio 265, MSA).

<sup>14</sup> Description of location from patent for "Bishops Field" to William Bishop dated 23 Nov 1675. Land Office Patents 1633-1681, Liber WC:351. Film No. SR7549 (Trans: Book 19, p. 479, Film SR7360). MSA.

<sup>15</sup> Brenda Horsley Scott and Roy Deris Horsley Jr. *Horsley Families of America 1650 to 1986*. Vol 1. (Cullman, AL: Gregath Co., 1986), p. 5.

<sup>16</sup> Washington College in Chestertown, established in 1782 under the patronage of George Washington, was the first U. S. college founded after the Revolution and still today is noted for its culture and scholarship. Website at: <[www.washcoll.edu](http://www.washcoll.edu)>

<sup>17</sup> Chestertown, MD, Tercentenary Commission. *A History of Chestertown*. Online at: [www.chestertown.com/C-300/history.htm](http://www.chestertown.com/C-300/history.htm) [URL defunct 2010]

<sup>18</sup> Halifax County, VA Deed Book 14, p. 616. Halifax County Courthouse, Halifax, VA.

<sup>19</sup> Scott and Horsley, p. 5. Note: This is the earliest published mention of Margaret Valentine as James Horsley Jr.'s wife that I can find, and all subsequent web files, etc. seem to draw only upon that book's comment. The authors give no source or documentation and write only: "It is believed that [James Jr.] married Margaret Valentine." I did not receive a reply to several requests for their source and further explanation.

<sup>20</sup> Halifax County, VA Deed Book 16, p. 396 and Deed Book 18, p. 53. Halifax Courthouse, Halifax, VA.

<sup>21</sup> Revolutionary War Pension File S30490, Series M805, NARA. Online image at HeritageQuest.

<sup>22</sup> Revolutionary War Bounty Warrants Records Images, Library of Virginia, Richmond, VA.

<sup>23</sup> Obituary of Valentine Horsley: "Died. Another Revolutionary Soldier at Rest."

Note: My copy is from Gerald Horsley from an unnamed newspaper in Macon, GA published the week of 27 Sep 1843, which was located at the Washington Memorial Library, Macon, GA by Gerald Horsley. An abstract of this obituary was posted by Joyce McMurray to the GA-Roots RootsWeb message board 9 Sep 2000, citing Macon County Newspaper "Messenger" (probably the "Georgia Messenger") See Part II: Timeline for transcription.

<sup>24</sup> V. L. Skinner. *Abstracts of the Administration Accounts of the Prerogative Court of Maryland 1768-1771*. (Westminster, MD: Family Line Pub., 1995-), p. 53, p. 105.

Note: Preston accounts dated 6 Apr 1769. Gafford dated 9 Jul 1770. (Gafford also spelled Garford.) Thanks to Bill Horsley for alerting me to James' sureties by e-mail Aug 2008.

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<sup>25</sup> Probate Records, Colonial, Index, P, 1634-1777, SE4-16. QA No. 2064. MSA.

<sup>26</sup> F. Edward Wright. *Maryland Calendar of Wills 1744-1777*. (Westminster, MD : Family Line Pub., 1991) Vol. 14, pg. 62. (Ref: Book 36, p. 626). Transcribed there as "Garford," but Keddie's abstracts of Queen Anne's County Registrar of Wills (2001) Vol. 7, p. 22, spells the name "Gafford."

<sup>27</sup> York County, SC Deed Book I, p. 472. Note: This deed, dated 28 Feb 1822, is the first surviving deed after James Horsley's death 1810-1820 for the portion of James's land where his house and orchard stood [*per YDBM:289*], designated in this deed as "formerly the land of Valetnine Horsley." This deed was for 60 acres "with the exception of one acre for the use of the former connection or any of the neighbors that may choose to bury their dead in [the] said grave yard"

<sup>28</sup> *Horsley Families of America* says James' son Valentine was born in "Monforth, Maryland" with no evidence or documentation (p. 10). There seems never to have been a place called Monforth (using various spellings) in Queen Anne's County according to county histories, historical maps, tax district lists, rent roll estate names, and conversations with the Queen Anne's County Clerk, a county surveyor, several local historians and area realtors. The *Horsley* book also says Valentine's wife Sarah Kendrick was "of Wales." Records for her father prove Sarah was born in Virginia, but a Welsh heritage seems possible. Two place names resembling Monforth are in northern Wales. Also, there is a historically notable town called Montford in Shropshire, England at the border with Wales that since at least the Early Middle Ages has had a significant Welsh population. The *Horsley* book information apparently came down through family story. Frequently such stories confuse family lines and generations over time, which appears to be the case here. In any event, James Jr.'s son Valentine was born in Queen Anne's County, MD and not a place called Monforth.

<sup>29</sup> The obituary of James' son Valentine Horsley says he moved to VA at age 15 (1773). James' last MD quit rent was 1769, but 1770-1775 records are missing. A probate record with James listed as security for the estate of Charles Gafford is dated 9 Jul 1770, but that may be only the filing date. [*Skinner, Admin Acct, p. 105*] James' first record in Halifax Co. VA was a land purchase 28 Jan 1775 [*HDB10:90*]. Son Richard's pension application dated 3 April 1833, York Co, SC says he moved to Halifax about 1780, but that late date appears to be a result of inexact memory at his then-advanced age, since Richard witnessed his father's Halifax deed purchased in 1775.

<sup>30</sup> Revolutionary War Pension File S9354, Series M805, NARA. Online image at HeritageQuest.

<sup>31</sup> Obituary of Valentine Horsley.

<sup>32</sup> Authors Scott and Horsley say Valentine served under Gen. Greene (p. 10) but give no documentation or source. This may have come from family story assumed from the fact that Valentine named a son Greene, although naming a son after Gen. Greene was popular in general in the South after the war. There is no service record in NARA files to provide details of Valentine's service and he made no pension application that would provide them. However, most Virginia troops sent outside the state at that time went to support the Southern Campaign, over which Gen. Greene took command in Dec 1780, but those serving directly under Gen. Greene were not at the siege of Yorktown, VA, while Richard's pension application and Valentine's obituary say they were at Yorktown, as were most men who served in Virginia militia units at the time.

<sup>33</sup> Walter Edgar. *Partisans & Redcoats: the Southern Conflict that Turned the Tide of the American Revolution*. (New York : Morrow, 2001).

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<sup>34</sup> Halifax County Historical Society. Permanent Exhibit "Crossing the Dan." The Prizery Center for the Performing Arts. South Boston, VA. For more historical information see online at:  
<[http://www.prizery.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=139&Itemid=222](http://www.prizery.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=139&Itemid=222)>

<sup>35</sup> List of Inhabitants 1782-1785. Miscellaneous Reel 1263. Library of Virginia, Richmond, VA.

<sup>36</sup> Scott and Horsley, p. 6. Note: Their list of children's names matches the list in the 1940 El Paso County, TX affidavit of Dale Grammer Hopper, much of whose information in that document has been proved in error. (See my report on James Horsley, Sr. for details.)

<sup>37</sup> *The Quarterly* March 2000 (Rock Hill, SC: York County Genealogical and Historical Society) p. 32. York County, August 11, 1838 #211-Elizabeth Horsely [sic], single, female, [age] 40..."

<sup>38</sup> See Endnote 35

<sup>39</sup> For more census details, see page 45 of my report on James Horsley Sr. at [www.joanhorsley.org](http://www.joanhorsley.org)

<sup>40</sup> For Richard's wife's first name, see Halifax Co. VA Deed Book 16, p. 396. For evidence that she was a daughter of John N. Brandon, see Halifax Co. VA Deed Book 18, p. 53.

<sup>41</sup> Katharine Kerr Kendall. *Caswell County, North Carolina Marriage Bonds, 1778-1868*. (Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Pub. Co. Inc., 1981,1990), p. 68. Note: John Brandon was security on the bond. No witness given. I was first made aware of this marriage by e-mail from Bill Horsley.

<sup>42</sup> Halifax County VA Deed Book 10, p. 89. Halifax Courthouse, Halifax, VA. Note: The year of Valentine and Sarah's marriage is based on the approximate ages of their children.

<sup>43</sup> Halifax County VA Personal Property Taxes 1782-1800. Reel 147. Library of Virginia. Richmond, VA. Note: In 1788, James Horsley is taxed for the first time for "a son" in his household, indicating this son had recently turned 21 years old. Sons Richard and Valentine were taxed in their own names.

<sup>44</sup> Scott and Horsley, p. 19. The authors mistakenly assumed James Jr.'s son William and William N. Horsley of an 1836 York County, SC boundary record were the same person and also the father of John B. and Theophilus T. Horsley.

<sup>45</sup> James Horsley to William Horsley dated 3 August 1798, recorded 3 Dec 1798. York County SC Deed Book E, p. 227. York County Courthouse, York, SC.

<sup>46</sup> York County SC Deed Book M, p. 289-290

<sup>47</sup> DNA testing on 111 makers through Family Tree DNA testing service in early 2011. Results available at: <[www.Ysearch.org](http://www.Ysearch.org)>

<sup>48</sup> For records, evidence, DNA interpretation, and more information, see: Joan Horsley. *William Horsley and Hannah Ryan: Parents of Theophilus T. Horsley, John B. Horsley, and Mary Horsley Parton* (Raleigh, NC: J. Horsley, 2011) Available online at: <[www.joanhorsley.org](http://www.joanhorsley.org)>

<sup>49</sup> List of Inhabitants 1782-1785. Miscellaneous Reel 1263. Library of Virginia, Richmond, VA.



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<sup>50</sup> Valentine Horsley left the Halifax personal property tax lists after 1787 and witnessed a York County, SC deed of Samuel Mathews on 28 Jan 1789. York Deed Book C, p. 264. York County Courthouse, York, SC.

<sup>51</sup> 1850 census, Randolph Co, GA gives Joseph Horsley's age as 64; but census ages are often inexact or in error due to faulty memory, an informant's lack of information, enumerator error, etc.

<sup>52</sup> Halifax County VA Land Tax 1782-1800A. Reel 128. Library of Virginia, Richmond, VA.

<sup>53</sup> Halifax Deed Book 10, p. 90; Halifax Deed Book 11, p. 353. Halifax Courthouse, Halifax, VA.

<sup>54</sup> Joan Horsley. *Thomas Kendrick ad Family of Halifax County, Virginia and York County, South Carolina* (Raleigh, NC:J Horsley, 2011) Available online at: <[www.joanhorsley.org](http://www.joanhorsley.org)> Note: Thomas Kendrick's then-widow Nancy's name is proved by the 1800 census York County, SC

<sup>55</sup> Texas Marriages, 1851-1900. Ancestry.com Database: Texas Marriage Collection, 1814-1909 and 1966-2002, Provo, UT, 2005. Note: Van Zandt Co, TX marriage record dated 19 May 1870 for Jacob (J.K.) Horsley (son of Valentine's son Thomas) and Mary Brandon (daughter of Valentine's daughter Anna and husband James Brandon's son Alexander).

<sup>56</sup> James Horsley and son Richard and their wives sell their Halifax County land in November 1789. Halifax Deed Book 14, p. 616 and Deed Book 16, p. 396. Neither is in Halifax County personal property tax lists (which showed residence) after 1789.

<sup>57</sup> York County Deed Book C, p. 264 - Samuel Mathews purchase deed 28 Jan 1789 witnessed by Valentine Horsley; York County Deed Book B, p. 157 - Valentine Horsley purchase deed 9 Jan 1790; William Horsley not included in James Horsley's PP taxes in Halifax Co, VA in 1789.

<sup>58</sup> First word of this came to me from Gerald Horsley who was told of it by a local Halifax County historian whose family had lived there for generations. My follow-up examination of deed and court records and abstracts from 1780 through 1820 confirms the large number of land forfeitures and property seizures at the hands of a few men who had gained control over the primary supply sources, such as mills, granaries, and general stores, and had accrued large land acquisitions as well.

<sup>59</sup> "Great Wagon Road." North Carolina Museum of History, Office of Archives and History, N.C. Department of Cultural Resources, 2005.

<sup>60</sup> Deed from Thomas J. Boyd to William Smith. York County Deed Book K, p. 429. York County Historical Center, York, SC.

<sup>61</sup> Married 9 May 1697, St. Peter's Parish, Talbot Co, MD. Edward Wright. Maryland Eastern Shore Vital Records 1648-1725 (Silver Spring, MD: Family Line Pub., 1982-1986) p. 62. Note: Mary Vickery would not be the mother of James Horsley Sr. (b. c1685-1690), but she need not be the first wife of Richard Horsley (b. c1660).

<sup>62</sup> James Horsley Sr. witnessed the will of William Pinder 27 May 1736 and was recorded in probate as a primary creditor of his estate. Their properties were nearby, on the north side of Church Hill.

<sup>63</sup> York County Deed Book C, p. 264, York County Courthouse, York, SC. Deed witnessed by Valentine Horsley.

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<sup>64</sup> York County Deed Book B, p. 157. York County Courthouse, York, SC.

<sup>65</sup> York County SC Deed Book C, p. 415-17. York County Courthouse, York, SC.

<sup>66</sup> Laurence K. Wells. *York County, South Carolina, Minutes of the County Court, 1786-1797* (1981). p. 100, 139. Citing York County Minute Book A, p. 324 and York County Minute Book B, p. 76.

<sup>67</sup> York County (SC) Convention and Visitor's Bureau Website. Online at:

<<http://www.visitorkcounty.com/about/history.htm>>

A chronological history of the Horsley's area of York County is online at:

<[http://www.riverhillsplantation.com/item\\_list.asp?subcat=52&subtitle=History+of+River+Hills](http://www.riverhillsplantation.com/item_list.asp?subcat=52&subtitle=History+of+River+Hills)>

<sup>68</sup> Obituary of Valentine Horsley.

<sup>69</sup> Claude Henry Neuffer, Ed, *Names In South Carolina*. Book 3, Volume 24. "Historic Names in York County" by Robert H. Mackintosh, Jr. (Spartanburg, SC: The Reprint Company, 1983) p. 36. Reproduce online by USC Institute for Southern Studies.

<sup>70</sup> York County Deed Book K, p. 430. York County Historical Center, York, SC.

<sup>71</sup> Louise Pettus. "John Rooker's Revolutionary War Pension." Published 2005 online at: <[www.rootsweb.com/~scyork/LouisePettus/rookers.htm](http://www.rootsweb.com/~scyork/LouisePettus/rookers.htm)> (No contact information given.)

<sup>72</sup> York County Deed Book E, p. 227. Court County Courthouse, York, SC.

<sup>73</sup> Deed platting shows that Valentine Horsley sold part of James/William's land along with his own adjacent residence on 17 Oct 1821. [YDBI:506] The first sale deed for the other portion of James/William's land is missing, but by 28 Feb 1822 John Feares owned that portion [YDBI:472], described in his deed as "formerly the property of Valentine Horsley," who was likely also the seller.

<sup>74</sup> York County Deed Book I, p. 472. York County Historical Center, York, SC.

<sup>75</sup> Epitaphs copied Dec 1971 by Joseph E. Hart, Jr. York County Historical Society, York, SC. See end of Timeline of Records for specific Horsley-related names.

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*End of Part I*

**PART II:  
TIMELINE OF RECORDS for JAMES HORSLEY JR.  
And CHILDREN**

**1731 - Birth Date of JAMES HORSLEY [Jr.]**

Deposition - Queen Anne's County, MD Court (QA 3:8)  
"James Horsley age 25 in 1756"

[Source: Henry C. Peden, Jr. *More Maryland Deponents 1716-1799* (Westminster, MD: Family Line Publications, 1992) p. 57]

**Note:**

Ages in depositions are not always precise; however, this is the only source we have for when James was born. Based on James' age in this deposition, he was born in 1731 according to the Gregorian calendar still in use today, which begins the year on January 1. Prior to 1752, the Julian calendar was used and began the year on March 25. That means if James' actual birthdate was between Jan 1 and Mar 25, he would have been born in 1730 by the "old style" Julian calendar used at that time.

For original records prior to 1752 dated from Jan 1 through Mar 24, the year is often shown as a "double date" (e.g., 1 Jan 1730/1), as the following record entry shows.

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**1748 - JAMES HORSLEY [Jr.] in Queen Anne's County, MD Militia**

A List of Militia under the Command of Capt. James Brown  
Queen Anne's County, Maryland 22 February 1748/9

Private - HORSLEY, James

Also:

Seward, Thomas Jun'r [b. c1712]

Soward, Daniel [b. c1727]

Soward, John [b. c1731]

Soward, Isaac [b. c1732]

Serjeant - Soward, William [b. c1718]

[Source: Murtie J. Clark. *Colonial Soldiers of the South, 1732-1774*. (Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1999) p. 42-43. Ref: MHR Box 1:29. Approximate birth years in brackets added for reference. ]

**Note:**

This record is for James Jr., not Sr. First, because James Sr. almost certainly was age 21 or over by 1712 when he first appears in Maryland records. This makes him at least 57 years old in 1748 and thus too old for the Colonial militia, which generally included males age 16 to 50. James Jr. in 1748/9 would be about age 17 according to the deposition above. Secondly, Thomas Seward, whose father Thomas was still living at this time, is listed as "Jun'r," but James Horsley is not, indicating that this

was the only James Horsley in the area and that his father James Sr. was already deceased. James Sr.'s widow Mary Seward Horsley remarried a year later in February 1749/50.

"Thomas Seward Jun'r" in this militia list is actually Thomas Seward III. He is the son of "Thomas Seward Jr." (who died 12 years later in 1761), and grandson of "Thomas Seward Sr." (d. 1688).

The Seward/Soward males on this muster were all brothers of James Horsley Jr.'s mother Mary Seward, the eldest of her father's 14 children by his two wives. Mary's mother died c1727, and at least John Seward and Isaac Seward on this militia list were children of Mary's father's second wife Rebecca. (Approximated ages of these Seward males came from information sent to me by descendant and family researcher Alvin Soward.)

Militia rolls for residents of Kent Island were on a separate list. Since James Horsley is not on that list, it is further proof, in addition to Queen Anne's Quit Rent Rolls [*records below*], that he did not live on Kent Island, as is currently thought based on undocumented information in Scott and Horsley's *Horsley Families of America* (1986).

### **1765 – JAMES HORSLEY and brother Richard HORSLEY witness a Queen Anne's Co. will.**

Will of Charles Gafford - Queen Anne's County, MD;

Written: 26 or 21 Aug 1765; Proved: 13 Oct 1768

Wife: Rachel. Children: Charles; mentioned younger children. Tracts: "Maclin's Beginning"

Executor: Rachel Gafford.

Witnesses: RICHARD HORSELY (by mark), JAMES HORSELY (by mark) Jeremiah Grasingham.

(Ref. 36.626)

[Sources: F. Edward Wright. *Maryland Calendar of Wills 1744-1777*. (Westminster MD: Family Line Pub., 1991) Vol. 14, p. 62 (spells name Garford); Leslie Keddie. *Queen Anne's County Maryland Orphans' Court & Registrar of Wills* (Salisbury, MD: Family Tree Bookshop, 2001) Vol. 7, p. 22 (spells name Gafford) Caps added.]

#### Note:

After Gafford's death, James Horsley Jr. was also security on the administrative bond of Charles Gafford's estate [*see record below*]. Connections between James' family and the Gafford family go back at least to the 1720's. Depositions in April 1765 by James' mother, Mary (Seward Horsley) Slocum, and three of her brothers indicate that the Gafford's lived near to the Horsley's and had been involved with James Horsley Sr. and the Seward family since before James Sr. married Mary Seward. (See report on James Horsley Sr. for transcriptions and more details.)

James Horsley's co-witness Richard Horsley is his younger brother rather than his son Richard, who was only 11 years old at this time. James' brother Richard was born in 1737 according to a Queen Anne's court deposition Richard gave in 1784. [*Peden, More Maryland Deponents, p. 57*] In 1783, ten years after James moved to Virginia, Richard was still living in the same part of Queen Anne's County where their father James Sr. and James Jr. had lived. [*QA Assessment of 1783 Index, MSA*] Richard Horsley is not in the 1790 or 1800 census for Maryland and has not been located thereafter, so either he had moved to a state where early censuses have not survived, or he had died by that time. (See more about James' brother Richard Horsley in my research report for James Horsley Sr. and family.)

Leslie Keddie's abstract of Gafford's will specifies that both James and Richard signed by mark rather than signature, and indeed James signed all his Virginia records by mark. This is not unusual, since

literacy was not common among people of their generation, particularly in the South where available, affordable, and/or public schooling was less accessible than in some Northern colonies. This was due to some extent to the areas' different communal structuring, since people in the North often congregated in or near towns (with their legendary Town Meetings), while Southerners were more likely to be spread out some distances among farms and plantations where access to a central town school was more difficult. During Colonial time, the officially-established Anglican Church also found this a problem and had more difficulty enforcing mandatory church attendance in the South because of the distance to a central town church. [Ref. Gaustad & Schmidt, *The Religious History of America* (2002), p. 40-42]

According to Frederic Emory's *Queen Anne's County: Its Early History and Development* (1887), there was a school in Queen Anne's County when James Jr. and Richard were growing up. However, it was located in Queenstown, at least 20 miles from Bishopsfield, and was poorly attended, underfunded, ill-housed, and had difficulty obtaining and keeping qualified teachers. As was common, the school was heavily influenced and operated by the teachings and vestrymen of the Anglican Church. This may also have been a negative to James Jr.'s father, since there is no record that James Sr. ever had his children christened in the Anglican faith even though he married in an Anglican church.

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#### **1766 – 1769 - JAMES HORSLEY security on John PRESTON estate bond**

John Preston Estate Probate – Queen Anne's County

Administration recorded - 1766-1769 (No. 2064)

Inventory recorded- 1767 (Liber 93, folio 53)

Accounts recorded - 1769 (Liber 61, folio 74)

Final Distribution recorded - 1769 (Liber 5 , folio 152)

[Source: Maryland Indexes (Probate Records, Colonial, Index) P, 1634-1777]

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6 Apr 1769 – John Preston Estate Administration Account – Queen Anne's County

Sureties: **James Horseley** [Jr] and Charles Warner

Administrators: David Preston and Elisabeth Boyles (widow, late Elisabeth Preston)

Representatives: Elisabeth (widow) now wife of Christopher Earle Boyles, 5 children: Mary (age 13), John (12), Elisabeth (8), David (7), Alexander (4).

Payments to: Benjamin Gould, Joseph Sudler, Jeremiah Grasingham, John Ruth, Thomas Ward, James Edmondson, Charles Goldsborough Esq., Walter Dulaney Esq., Thomas Wright, Abner Dudley.

[Source: V. L. Skinner. *Abstracts of the Administration Accounts of the Prerogative Court of Maryland 1768-1771* (Westminster, MD: Family Line Pub., 1995), p. 53]

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6 Apr 1769 – John Preston Estate Final Distribution

Sureties: **James Horsley** [Jr] and Charles Warren [Warner?]

Distribution to widow (unnamed) 1/3; residue to 5 children equally: Mary, John, Eliza, David, Alexander.

Administrators: David Preston & his wife Elizabeth, late Elisabeth Preston [sic; should be widow, Elisabeth Preston Boyles]

[Source: Debra Smith Moxey. *Abstracts of the Balance Books of the Prerogative Court of Maryland 1763-1770*. (Westminster, MD: Family Line Pub.1995) p. 71]

Note:

James Horsley Jr. and Charles Warner/Warren were sureties or securities on the administrative bond for John Preston's estate, meaning they were responsible for covering the administrative bond in the

event the administrators erred or defaulted on their legal duties. The bond usually was of an amount equal or more than the estate, and the Court would ensure that the men named as securities had adequate resources to cover the bond.

I have been unable to learn anything definite about this John Preston. He may be the same whose estate was also filed in Kent County at the same time period. (Probate was usually filed in all counties where the deceased owned land.) He may also be a descendant of the family of Richard Preston, “the Great Quaker,” with whom the early Joseph Horsley in Calvert County in the 1660’s had close associations. The related Preston’s in Dorchester, where James Sr.’s possible father Richard Horsley (d. 1718) had lived, were intermarried with Edmondson’s, also associated with James Sr. and Mary Seward Horsley’s earlier families, and here a James Edmondson was paid from John Preston’s estate. Verifying the identity of this John Preston may help to strengthen the evidence for relationships between the early Horsley’s in Maryland and James Horsley Jr.’s family, as discussed in detail in the paper on James Horsley Sr.

Notable among those paid by John Preston’s estate were Benjamin Gould, of whose father’s estate James Horsley Sr. was a primary creditor, and Thomas Wright, the wealthy landowner and public official to whom James Jr.’s mother sold their Bishopfield land in 1769.

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#### **1768 – 1770 – JAMES HORSLEY security on Charles GAFFORD estate bond**

Charles Gafford Estate Probate – Queen Anne’s County

Will proved: 13 Oct 1768 by witnesses **James Horsley, Richard Horsley**, Jeremiah Grasingham.  
[Wright, *MCW*, Vol. 14, p. 62]

Inventory filed - 1769 (Liber 98, folio 189)

Accounts filed - 1770 (Liber 63, folio 135)

Final Distribution filed - 1770 (Liber 6, folio 4)

[Source: Maryland Indexes (Probate Records, Colonial, Index) G, 1634-1777, SE4-7]

9 Jul 1770 – Charles Gafford Estate Administration Account – Queen Anne’s County

Sureties **James Horsely** [sic; Jr.] and Charles Gafford [Jr.]

Received from: Valentine Downey, John Kirkpatrick.

Payments to: Joseph Sudler, William Twyford, William Kelley, Morgan & Slubey, Jr., Charles Gafford {Jr.}, Jacob Boots, Thomas Wright, Walter Dulany Esq., Abner Dudley, Benjamin Gould

Representatives: Accountant, 7 children: Charles (of age), Valentine (of age), James, Elisabeth, Nathaniel, Alexander, Joshua (the last 5 noted as “under age”).

Executrix: Rachel (widow), now wife of Thomas Downey

[Source: V. L. Skinner. *Abstracts of the Administration Accounts of the Prerogative Court of Maryland 1768-1771* (Westminster, MD: Family Line Pub., 1995) p. 105]

4 Jul 1770 – Charles Gafford Estate Final Distribution

Sureties: **James Horsley** [Jr.] & Charles Gafford [Jr.]

Distribution to widow (unnamed), residue to children (unnamed)

Executors. Rachel Downey, [now] wife of Mr. Thomas Downey

[Source: Debra Smith Moxey. *Abstracts of the Balance Books of the Prerogative Court of Maryland 1770-1771*. (Westminster, MD: Family Line Pub.1995) p. 1.]

**Note:**

James Horsley Jr. and his brother Richard Horsley witnessed the will of Charles Gafford in 1765. As mentioned above, the Horsley and Gafford families along with the Seward's had ongoing connections since at least the 1720's, when James Jr.'s father first arrived in Queen Anne's County from Maryland's Western Shore.

Gafford's estate also paid debts owed to Benjamin Gould and Thomas Wright, as did John Preston's estate discussed above.

**1769 – JAMES HORSLEY JR.'s mother, then widow Mary Slocum, sells the Bishopsfield land.**Abstract

From: Mary Slocum, Widow, of Queen Anne's Co, MD

To: Thomas Wright, Gentleman, of same

Dated: 12 Jun 1769

Description: 50 acres Bishops Fields, Queen Anne's County, MD. Deeded to Mary, then wife of James Horsley, on 21 Mar 1728/9 by Thomas Seward, to be inherited by lawful children born of Mary

For: £40 current money of Maryland

Signed: Mary (+) Slocum (her mark) Witnesses: John Brown, John Thompson [Justices]

Recorded: 27 Jun 1769, Queen Anne's County Court

[Source: Queen Anne's County Court (Land Records) [MSA CE 143-12] Liber RT, No. 26, p. 356. MSA, Annapolis, MD. Abstract by Joan Horsley. For full transcription and more details, see my paper *James Horsley Sr. and our Horsley Family Beginnings* at [www.joanhorsley.org](http://www.joanhorsley.org).]

**Note:**

According to the terms of the original 1728 deed from Mary's father Thomas Seward to James Sr. and Mary shortly after their marriage, as well as the terms of Thomas Seward's will, James Jr.'s mother, Mary Seward Horsley, became full owner of these 50 acres of Bishopsfield upon the death of James Horsley Sr. By the time of this deed of sale, and perhaps by 1754 when Thomas Seward wrote his will, Mary's second husband, Joseph Slocum, also had died.

A widow was usually allowed "life rights" to the use of only 1/3 of her deceased husband's land and had no right to sell or will the land, which would revert to her deceased husband's heirs upon her death. However, if she re-married, her new husband would have full rights to the entire property for his lifetime, and he could sell or will the land to whomever he pleased, which in theory could leave out his wife's children completely. As discussed in more detail in my research paper on James Horsley Sr., it appears that Mary's father was concerned for her financial security should her then-husband James Sr., at least 20 years her elder, die before her. Thus, Thomas Seward ensured by the deed and his will that Mary would be full owner at James Sr.'s death and that only Mary's legal natural children ("born of her body") could inherit the land at her death.

It appears from Thomas Seward's will and from the quit rent debt rolls that Mary continued to live on Bishopsfield along with the family of her son James Horsley Jr., who, as heir by primogeniture, was held responsible for and duly paid the annual quit rent due on the land.

Mary sold the land to "Thomas Wright, Gentleman," a delegate to the Maryland Assembly, county court justice, and in 1765 a Queen Anne's County deputy commissioner. The timing of Mary's sale of her land in 1769 is interesting. Shortly thereafter, her son James Horsley Jr. moved his family to Halifax County, VA, indicating the possibility that Mary may have gone with them. The purchaser Thomas Wright would not have resided on this land, since he had his own plantation of residence along with numerous investment properties. Thus, as was customary by arrangement with the new owner, Mary and James Jr. with his family probably continued to live on Bishopsfield while James made preparations to move to Virginia within the next year or so.

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### 1734 - 1769 - JAMES HORSLEY in Queen Anne's County, MD Quit Rent Rolls

50 acres of "Bishops Fields" taxed to James Horsley:  
1734 (1735-46 missing), 1747 (1748-62 missing), 1763, 1765, 1766 (as Harsley), 1767, and 1769 (1770-1775 missing)

[Source: Queen Anne's County Debt Book 1734-1775. Maryland State Archives, Annapolis, MD]

#### Note:

Records from surviving Queen Anne's quit rent debt lists from 1734 through 1769 show a James Horsley was paying the quit rent (essentially a tax) for 50 acres of "Bishops Fields" or "Bishopsfield" in Queen Anne's County, MD. This would refer first to James Sr., then to James Jr. after his father's death about 1748. The land was deeded to James Sr. and wife Mary six weeks after their marriage by Mary's father Thomas Seward and his second wife Rebecca (Mary's step-mother) for "love & affection wch he hath & doth bear unto his daughter Mary Horsely" and 100 lbs. of tobacco, and could be inherited only by Mary's "heirs of her body lawfully begotten." [*Bishopsfield Rent Roll Book, entered 21 Mar 1728/9, MSA, and Queen Anne's County Court (Land Records) [MSA CE 143-4] Liber IK C, p. 0215. MSA, Annapolis, MD*]

My research report on James Horsley Sr. and wife Mary Seward tells the history of the Bishopsfield land, which had been in Mary's family since 1675. The description on the original patent to Thomas Seward's kinsman William Bishop shows the land was on a branch of the Chester River on the north side of today's Church Hill, Queen Anne's County, MD, about 25 miles up-river from Kent Island at the Chesapeake Bay.

Rent Rolls and the yearly Debt Books recorded who was responsible for paying the annual "quit rent" charges, which in essence were taxes owed by a land owner to the King or the King's appointed Proprietor, who in Maryland was Lord Baltimore.

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### 1770-1775 - JAMES HORSLEY and family move to Halifax County, Virginia

It is difficult to know exactly when James Jr. moved his family to Halifax County, VA. As discussed above, by a deed dated 12 Jun 1769, James' mother, then the widow Mary Slocum, sold the 50 acres of Bishopsfield where she apparently had been residing with James Jr. and family, and the family probably continued to live on Bishopsfield until their move. We have confirmation from the above rent rolls that James and his family were in Queen Anne's County, MD through 1769 and perhaps to mid-1770, when Charles Gafford's estate filing still named James Horsley as a security. An obituary [*below*] for James' son Valentine says Valentine moved from Maryland to Virginia when he was 15 years old, which would be 1773, but the obituary was written 70 years later and may not be correct about the



exact year. The first record we have for James Horsley in Halifax County, VA is for land he bought in January 1775 [*record below*], but people often lived in an area several years or more prior to formally purchasing land. James's son Richard Horsley's Revolutionary War Pension statement says he moved from Maryland to Halifax County, VA about 1780. Although this was the year Richard was first drafted into the Revolution, apparently his memory was blurred by the time of his statement at age 78. In fact, Richard was a witness to his father's Halifax deed of purchase in January 1775. Also, by a deed dated February 1778, Richard Horsley, already "of Halifax County," bought Halifax County land [*see deed below*].

The land roughly between today's towns of Sutherlin and Paces in Halifax County

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### **1775 - Deed to JAMES HORSLEY from Joseph PATTERSON, both of Halifax County, VA**

#### Abstract

28 January 1775 – Joseph PATTERSON of Halifax County to JAMES HOSLEY of same, for £30 current money, 100 acres in Halifax County on the branches of BYRD'S CREEK, bounded by Capt. John LAWSON and Thomas CARSON, and also by the "Old Spring Branch it lying on the south side of the said branch and part of a larger tract." [No metes included]

Signed: Joseph Patterson, Frances Patterson [both by signature]

Witnesses: John BATES, William HUGHES, RICHARD (his mark) HOSLEY, John LAWSON, William BRANDON

Partly proved in Court of 16 Feb 1776. Fully proved and recorded 15 Aug 1776.

[Source: Halifax Deed Book 10, p. 90-91. Reel 4. Library of Virginia, Richmond, VA. Abstract by J. Horsley. Original spelling retained, caps and comments in brackets added.]

#### Note:

Byrds Creek is in the southwest corner of Halifax County not far from Danville, Pittsylvania County, VA to the west and near the North Carolina border to the south. From this and other records, James Horsley's land was near the Dan River between today's towns of Sutherlin and Paces, VA. Byrds Creek flows into the north side of the Dan River several miles west of South Boston, VA, which today is the primary town in Halifax County. Though still small, it is filled with a long and interesting history.

By this deed we know that James' son Richard Horsley, who witnessed this deed, was living in Halifax County by early 1775, even though his pension statement of 1832 at age 78 says he moved to Halifax County about 1780. (This witness could not be James' brother Richard Horsley, as he was still living in Queen Anne's County, MD until at least 1784 when he gave deposition in Queen Anne's Court. [*Peden, More Maryland Deponents 1716-1799, p. 57*]) James' son Richard purchased his own Halifax land by a deed dated February 1778 [*see record below*].

Richard's signature mark is unusual, a kind of stylized R on its side. The recording clerks obviously found it difficult to reproduce, as the marks copied into the record books sometimes barely resemble each other. In 1832, the clerk recording Richard's Revolutionary War pension statement simply entered an "x". It is interesting that Richard, James' eldest son, could not write, whereas James' second son, Valentine, could. Especially given Richard's complicated mark, one wonders if he

actually was literate but had a hand injury or other malady, perhaps even resulting from his Revolutionary War service as is commonly found, but these are merely speculations.

James Horsley's deed of purchase, after being "proved" in court by the oaths of the witnesses, was recorded immediately following a deed to Thomas Kendrick, whose daughter Sarah later married James' son Valentine. The land Thomas Kendrick bought was adjacent to James Horsley. His deed is dated 6 Jan 1776, a year after James' land purchase, but Thomas Kendrick had been in this immediate area of Halifax County since at least 1761. *[Halifax Co. Court Orders 1759-1762, (Plea Book No. 3)]*

The following 1770 court road order with Thomas Kendrick and Joseph Patterson (from whom James Horsley bought his land in 1775) includes others who were neighbors of James and Thomas and on records with them. Landowners along various sections of a road were responsible for its maintenance, and the group's leader (called the "surveyor" or "overseer") changed periodically.

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Halifax County Court April 1770. "THOMAS KENDRICK is appointed Surveyor of the Road from the Double Creek to Tobys Creek, and it is ordered that he, with the male laboring tithables belonging to John MOORE, William Hopson, John CARTER, William Boyd, Richard KERBY, John LAWSON, John Mount, John Hancock, William PATERSON, JOSEPH PATTERSON, and William SEAL, do forthwith clear and keep the said Road in repair." (p. 489)

*[Source: Halifax County, Virginia Court Orders 1767-1770 (Plea Book No. 6) by TLC Genealogy, p. 315, cited by Mary Ann at GenForum Kerby Family, message #363]*

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In April 1775 James Horsley witnessed the sale of a wife's dower by the above-named William Patterson *[next record below]*. The Halifax County Patterson's may have come from Augusta County, VA, but their relationship with James Horsley seems only as Halifax neighbors.

Since none of the Patterson's seem related to James Horsley and none seem to have any prior connection with James or his family in Maryland, they do not help answer the lingering question of why James Horsley chose to move to Halifax County in the first place. (See notes for deed of 6 Jan 1776 below for more thoughts on this.)

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### **1775 - JAMES HORSLEY and Thomas KENDRICK witness deed of William & Mary PATTERSON to John LAWSON**

1 April 1775

"To all Christian People to whom these presents shall come know ye that we WILLIAM PATTERSON and MARY Patterson, wife of the said Patterson of the County of Halifax do sell unto Captain JOHN LAWSON of said County the one third part of 233 areas of land lying on Dan river joining to said Lawson's line, being the Dowry of said Mary Patterson, wife of said William Patterson, for the term of life for the consideration of 25 pounds... all the said Dowry of my wife Mary during the said term of her life from any person or persons whatsoever during... and the said Patterson is to give said Lawson quiet and peaceable possession on the first day of October 1775 and said Patterson, Patterson is to stay on the land until such time as he makes use of tother, that is the 1 April 1775."

Signed William (x) Patterson and Mary (x) Patterson.

Witnesses Thomas Whitan, Thomas KENDRICK, JAMES (†) HORSLEY (his mark)

Halifax County, VA – Pleas (Court Orders) Book 9, September Court 1776, p.168 – A Deed between William Paterson and Mary, his wife to John Lawson was recorded 19 September 1776.

[Source: Carl L. Lawson, "Halifax County Virginia Lawsons" citing Halifax Deed Book 10, 1775-1778, p. 108. Online at <<http://lawsondna.org/Media/virginiacounties/Halifax.html>> Caps and James' usual mark added.]

**Note:**

The above record comes from research of Carl L. Lawson, as cited above. He transcribed the witness as "Thomas Whitan," which could refer to a Virginia family named Whitten or Whitton, possibly related to Cinthia Whitton who married James Horsley's grandson John Horsley in Georgia in 1824. A "Thomas White" was recorded as a witness to a deed of sale by James Horsley for land once adjacent to Thomas Kendrick, and so possibly the witnesses "Thomas Whitan" and "Thomas White" were the same person. *[See deed of 26 Nov 1789 below.]*

The grantee in the above deed, John Lawson, owned land adjacent to James Horsley, and other Lawson families were also close neighbors of James Horsley and Thomas Kendrick. Long-time Kendrick researcher Rose Kendrick believes that Thomas Kendrick's wife (and Sarah Kendrick Horsley's mother) was a Lawson, since the Lawson name comes down through some of Thomas Kendrick's descendants. There were early Lawson families in Gloucester County, VA, although to my knowledge the Halifax Lawsons have not been definitively linked with those. However, it is interesting that some researchers believe the father of the James Horsley in Culpeper County, VA during the Revolution was the son of a John Horsley of Gloucester. Whether any of this is significant or just coincidence is not yet clear, but it does provide avenues for further research.

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**1776 - JAMES HORSLEY a witness and bound on Halifax land to Thomas KENDRICK**

Abstract

6 January 1776 - John DAMERON of Surry County, North Carolina to THOMAS KENDRICK of Halifax. 160 acres on branches of Byrd's Creek, for £30 current money of Virginia. Bounded by: Richard KIRBY, John LAWSON, JAMES HOSLEY [sic], Thomas CARSON back to Richard Kirby's line. [No metes given.] Signed: John Dameron  
Witnesses: Flem. Bates, Jr., John Moore, JAMES (†) HOSLEY (his mark), John Bates  
Recorded: 15 August 1776

[Source: Halifax Deed Book 10, p. 89-90. Reel 4, Library of Virginia, Richmond, VA. Abstract by J. Horsley. Original spelling retained, caps and comments in brackets added.]

**Note:**

The land of James Horsley that is listed as a bound in this deed is the land he bought by deed dated 28 Jan 1775 and sold by deed dated 26 Nov 1789, prior to moving to South Carolina. Thomas Kendrick sold this 160-acre tract in 1781 to John Moore *[record below]*. Thomas and his family remained in Halifax until 1790 when they moved with the Horsley's to York County, SC.

Searching for an answer to why James Horsley chose to move to Halifax County rather than somewhere else, records for his adjacent neighbor and later in-law Thomas Kendrick may give us more clues. By 1761, Thomas had Halifax connections with a McBee family (also spelled Magbe, Macby, Magba, etc) *[Halifax Court Orders 1759-1762, (Plea Book No. 3)]* who had lived in Ann Arundel and

Prince George's County, MD at the same time that James' father lived in those counties, c1712-1720, and McBee's still lived in that area. Even though James Jr. lived in another part of Maryland, he may have known old McBee family friends and learned of Halifax through them. Another thought is that Thomas Kendrick bought his first Halifax County land in 1762 from Moses Ayers [HDB4: 48], son of Nathaniel Ayers. Nathaniel Ayers, Vardry Magba/McBee, and a number of Thomas Kendrick's and James Horsley's neighbors (in caps below) are mentioned in this 1758 Quaker record:

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"On 16 Dec 1758, The Journal of Proceedings for the South River Monthly Meeting (which encompassed Bedford and Halifax counties in Virginia at that time) contains this entry on page 5: "At a Monthly Meeting held at South River Bedford County the 16 of the 12 Month 1758 [16 Dec 1758] The representatives being called appeared.

"The Friends appointed to enquire into the failure of those before appointed to recommend such as they thought worthy to be received into Membership at Hallifax have rendered a reason to Friends satisfaction also those formerly appointed think proper to recommend the following persons as worthy to come under the notice of Friends, To Wit, Vardry MAGBA and Hannah MAGBA his wife, Henry Farmer and Agness his wife, Moses Kendrake [Hendrake, Hendrick(s)] and Ruth his wife, Richard KIRBY and Elizabeth his wife, John KIRBY and Johanna his wife, RICHARD KIRBY JUN'R, John KIRBY, Elizabeth Cothrun, Mary PAYN, Isham Wammack, John COLDWELL [CALDWELL], William Payn [PAYNE] and Ruth his wife, & NATHANIEL AYRS [AYERS] who are accordingly receiv'd as members..."

*[Quoted and cited by J. Patrick Childress in his Childress/Mathis Family Tree online at <<http://worldconnect.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=patchildress&id=I3957>>]*

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As previously mentioned, no record in Maryland or Virginia indicates James Horsley himself was a Quaker, but both his father's and mother's families were associated with Quakers in Maryland, and James Jr.'s wife Patience bears a commonly-found Quaker name. In fact, it is the continued association with Quakers, Baptists, and other "dissenters" that seems to be the primary (perhaps only) continuity between James' life in Maryland and his new life in Virginia. Unlike the majority of long-distance migrants of his day, James Horsley and family in Halifax did not seem to arrive with or live near anyone who had been a neighbor or associate in Maryland (unless there are unknown connections with Patience's family). Since Baptists, as James Horsley may have been, and Quakers shared much history and often compatible beliefs, did James bring his family to Southside Virginia at least partly for religious reasons? At least he may have learned of Halifax through dissenter friends.

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### **1778 (Jan) - Samuel MATTHEWS witnesses the Halifax County will of William BRANDON**

Will of William BRANDON of Antrim Parish, Halifax County, Virginia

Dated 28 Jan 1778, Proved 17 Sep 1778 [online information says died 19 Jun 1778]

Names wife Elizabeth, sons John, Ervine, David and Thomas Brandon

Negroes Kate, Hannah, Rachall, Patt, Sal; Ned, Frank, Joseph, Charles, Jack, Minge and Hairy

Executors: sons John BRANDON and Thomas Brandon

Witnessed by: Theo Carter, Andrew Ferguson, SAMUEL MATTHEWS, David (x) BRANDON

[Source: Halifax Co., VA Will Book 1, p. 233. Cited and transcribed on Ancestry.com files of Cindy Bishop Fentress, "Bishop/Fentress Families." Abstracted by J. Horsley. Original spelling retained, caps and comments in brackets added]

**Note:**

The will witness Samuel Matthews was the same, or else a close relative of, Samuel Matthews (sometimes spelled Mathis) who married James Horsley's daughter Susannah Horsley in 1784.

This William Brandon of the above will is said to be the father of the "John Brandon Sr." whose own will was witnessed 20 Aug 1799 in York County, SC by James Horsley's sons Valentine and Richard, along with Zadok Darby, John Farley, and Thomas Brandon *[see record below]*. This John Brandon and his wife Mary Lawson were the parents of James Brandon who married Valentine Horsley's daughter Anna in 1811 in South Carolina. Mary Lawson may be related to Thomas Kendrick's wife Nancy, whose daughter Sarah Kendrick married James' son Valentine Horsley shortly after James' daughter Susannah Horsley's marriage to Samuel Matthews.

Will witness Theoderick Carter later became the guardian of the orphans of Thomas Lawson. Theoderick Carter paid James Horsley in Halifax County prior to 26 Sep 1791 as part of the expense accounts for his Lawson wards *[see record below]*.

A David Brandon was another witness to William Brandon's will, as well as the name of one of William's sons and legatees named in this will. However, often beneficiaries of the will were excluded as witnesses, so the witness may be William Brandon's brother David. William's brother David Brandon's own will is dated 16 Mar 1769 and proved 17 July 1778, but he still could be the witness to William's will written Jan 1778.

A David Brandon was also a bound on the land that James Horsley's son Richard Horsley purchased the month following the writing of William Brandon's will *[see deed below]*. A witness to that deed of Richard Horsley was also a William Brandon (along with Richard's father James Horsley). Richard Horsley married about 1781 to Margaret Brandon, an heir and apparent daughter of John N. Brandon, another brother or at least cousin of the elder David Brandon and the William Brandon of this will.

Thus we see the interconnections among the Horsley, Brandon, Kendrick and Lawson families of Halifax and how will witness Samuel Matthews was among the same group of people. No wonder James Horsley's daughter Susannah would marry this Samuel or his close same-name relation.

### **1778 (Feb) - JAMES HORSLEY's son Richard HORSLEY buys land in Halifax County, VA**

#### Abstract

2[6?] February 1778 - James Dyall of Halifax Co. to RICHARD HORSLEY of Halifax Co.  
 Description: 200 acres in Halifax County on WINNS CREEK. For: £28 Virginia currency  
 Bounded by: Edwards, David BRANDON, MacKnite, Micajah Sneed, Bankes[?] Robinson; land formerly granted by deed from Cala [Caleb?] Well[s] to Daniel Duane [No metes given]  
 Signed: James (x) Dyall, Nancy (x) Dyall (signed by marks) Rec. 21 Oct 1779  
 Witnesses: W. Watkins, JAMES (†) HORSELEY (his mark), Andrew Boyd, William BRANDON

[Source: Halifax Deed Book 11, p. 353. Reel 4. Library of Virginia, Richmond VA. Abstract by Joan Horsley. Original spelling retained, caps and comments in brackets added.]

**Note:**

Winns Creek flows into the south side of the Dan River opposite the mouth of Byrds Creek on the Dan's north side, which was the area where Richard's father James Horsley and family lived. Both families lived on their same lands until selling in 1789 prior to their move to South Carolina.

Richard's father James Horsley was a witness to this deed. Adjacent landowner David Brandon and witness William Brandon are part of the Brandon families closely involved with the Horsley's for at least another hundred years and related to Richard Horsley's wife Margaret Brandon, heir and apparent daughter of John N. Brandon.

There is a Memorandum of Livery of Seisen at the end of this deed acknowledging the ancient ceremony in England where the parties would go to the land and the seller gave the buyer a "turf and twig of the ground" to symbolize and finalize the transfer of ownership.

### **1781 - JAMES HORSLEY a bound on Halifax Co. land sold by Thomas KENDRICK**

#### Abstract

28 April 1781 - Thomas Kendrick of Halifax Co., VA to John Moore of same

Description: 160 acres in Halifax Co. For £40

Bounded by: Richard Curby [Kirby], Thomas Carson, James Horsley, John Lawson

Signed: Thomas Kendrick [wife did not sign or release dower] Rec: 15 Nov 1781

Witnesses: John Johns, Alexander Moore, John Lawson [Jr], Thomas Lawson, Harmon Miller

Source: Halifax County Deed Book 12, p. 163

#### Transcript

This indenture made this twenty eight day of April one thousand seven hundred and eighty one [28 April 1781] between THOMAS KENDRICK of the County of Halifax of the one part and John MOORE of the said county of the other part, witnesseth that the said Thomas Kendrick for and in consideration of the sum of forty [40] pounds current and lawful money to him in hand paid the receipt whereof the said Thomas Kendrick doth hereby acknowledge hath granted bargained and sold unto the said John Moore his heirs and assigns all that tract or parcel of land situate lying and being in the County of Halifax and containing one hundred and sixty [160] acres by estimation and bounded as follows: Beginning at a corner pine on Richard CURBYs [KIRBY] line, thence along his line to a corner on Thomas CARSONs line, thence along his line to a corner on JAMES HORSLEYs line, thence along his line to a corner on John LAWSONs line thence along his line to the beginning [etc]

Signed: THOMAS KENDRICK

Witnesses:

John JOHNS, Alexander MOORE, John LAWSON [Jr], Thomas LAWSON, Harmon MILLER

Memorandum: That quiet possession and seisen of the said land was taken by me within named John Moore of the within named Thomas Kendrick this date within written. /s/ Thomas Kendrick [Recording clerk's error. This should be John Moore signing, acknowledging delivery of property]

Wit: John JOHNS, John LAWSON JR, Alex.r MOORE, Thomas LAWSON, Harmon MILLER

Received in full of the sum within mentioned of the within named John Moore according to the effect of the within deed date as within. /s/ Thomas Kendrick

At a Court held for Halifax County 15th day of November 1781 this indenture with the memorandum of livery of seizen and receipt hereon indorsed between Thomas Kendrick of the one part and John Moore of the other were proved by the oaths of three of the subscribing witnesses hereto to be the act and deed of the said Thomas and the same were ordered to be recorded. Teste: Geo. Carrington CHC Truly worded: Geo. Carrington CHC

[Source: Halifax County Deed Book 12, p. 163, Halifax Courthouse, Halifax, VA. Excerpt transcribed by J. Horsley. Original spelling retained, cap and comments in brackets added.]

Note:

This is the land Thomas Kendrick bought from John Dameron of Surry County, NC by Halifax County deed dated 6 January 1776. James Horsley was a bound on this land, and he and John Moore (the purchaser) were also witnesses to Thomas Kendrick's original purchase.

John Moore was listed as a bound on land sold by Francis Carter dated 2 Aug 1794 on Tobys Creek (close to Winns Creek) whose deed was witnessed by John N. Brandon, father of Richard Horsley's wife Margaret Brandon. [HDB16:293]

John Moore also posted security bond 4 Jan 1782 for the marriage of Hannah Fuqua and Thomas Lawson, son of John Lawson and brother of Mary Lawson who married John Brandon. John Moore also participated in the inventory of Thomas Lawson's estate when he died six years later in 1788. Thomas Lawson's widow Hannah then married Elisha Dodson (Jr), either the same or son of the purchaser of James Horsley's Halifax land in 1789 [see record below].

Richard Kirby, named as a bound on this land along with James Horsley, is likely one of the Richard Kirby's mentioned in the 1758 Quaker records of the South River Monthly Meeting on 16 Dec 1758. There is a Henry Kirby living in Halifax at this time with a son Richard, and some of his children's birthdays are recorded in a Quaker Monthly Meeting held in Bedford Co, VA. This Henry Kirby was also a bound on land bought from John Lawson by Theoderick Carter, guardian of Thomas Lawson's orphans, who inherited land adjacent to James Horsley. Theoderick Carter also paid James Horsley in 1791 from Thomas Lawson's orphans' guardian account [see record below].

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## 1782 – JAMES HORSLEY & son Richard in Halifax Co. Heads of Household Census

JAMES HORSLEY: 9 white persons, 0 blacks

Richard HORSLEY: 2 white persons, 0 blacks

[Source: List of Inhabitants 1782-1785. Miscellaneous Reel 1263. Library of Virginia, Richmond, VA]

Note:

Several special censuses were taken shortly after the Revolution between 1782 and 1785 as part of determining the proportional share each state would be taxed by the U.S. government to pay for the almost ruinous costs of the war and to maintain the new federal government. The Virginia censuses in 1782 and 1783 counted the whites and blacks (mostly slaves). The Virginia censuses in 1784 and 1785 attempted to assess the value of improvements (houses and other buildings) on the land. Value of the land itself was assessed by the records of the yearly land tax already in place.

Halifax County is highly unusual in that most of its lists for both kinds of enumerations (1782 and 1785) have survived. The vast majority of Virginia counties have no extant lists from either census,

and other counties have only parts of one or the other. The 1790 US census records for six states including Virginia were destroyed when the British burned Washington, DC during the War of 1812. The extant Virginia census enumerations 1782-1785 were used to compile a substitute 1790 Heads of Household census for the state.

Richard Horsley had bought his own land in 1778, then was called into war service in 1780 and 1781 during the Revolution. He apparently married Margaret Brandson shortly before this 1782 census, as their first child, David, was born later in 1782 or early 1783 according to later U.S. censuses. James Horsley's three other known children would still be at home with James and wife Patience. This leaves us with four unidentified white members of his household. One could be his mother, Mary, who may have moved with James to Virginia and would be 72 years old this year. Three perhaps could be the Rachel, Elizabeth and Mary named in the 1940 Dale Grammar Hopper affidavit and repeated in *Horsley Families of America* (1986) as daughters of James Horsley Jr. However no documentation, records or other indication of them have been found, and these two sources contain many known errors. Also, U.S. censuses in 1800-1820 show that James' son Richard had three unnamed and previously unknown daughters who could be the three ascribed to James.

The unknown household members need not be children or relations. Many households also included hired farm workers, household help, community orphans, boarders, etc. not related to the family.

### **1783 – JAMES HORSLEY & son Richard on Halifax Co. Personal Property Tax Lists**

JAMES HORSLEY: 2 free males above 21, no slaves, 5 horses, 10 cattle.

Richard HORSLEY: 1 free male above 21, no slaves, 3 horses, 7 cattle

[Source: Halifax County VA PP Taxes 1782-1800. Reel 147. Library of Virginia. Richmond, VA.]

Note:

The second white male age 21 or over in James' household would be his son Valentine, born in 1758. Valentine did not marry for another year or two, and James' son William was only about 16..

### **1784 – JAMES HORSLEY's daughter Susannah marries Samuel MATTHEWS**

2 Aug 1784 – Caswell County, NC

Marriage of Samuel Mathis [MATTHEWS] and Susannah HORSLEY

Bondsman: John BRANDON

[Source: Katharine Kerr Kendall. *Caswell County NC Marriage Bonds, 1778-1868*. (Baltimore, MD: Clearfield, 1990) p. 68. Thanks go to Bill Horsley of NC who brought this marriage to my attention.]

Note:

John Brandon of this marriage record is likely the "John Brandon Sr." whose 1799 will was witnessed in York County, SC by Susannah's brothers Valentine and Richard Horsley [see below]. Samuel Matthews witnessed the will of John Brandon's father William Brandon in Halifax in 1778 [see record above].



Caswell County, NC, where Susannah and Samuel married, was adjacent to Halifax County, VA, and a short distance south of where Susannah Horsley's family lived near the Dan River. At that time, the Caswell County Courthouse was in Leasburg, NC, which was easily accessible to where Susannah, Samuel, and their bondsman John Brandon lived in Halifax and may have been more convenient than the Halifax County Courthouse some 20 miles northeast. (For the same reasons of proximity and accessibility, sometimes deeds were recorded in an adjacent county from the land being sold.) Neither Susannah nor Samuel had known family in Caswell, they continued to live near their families in Halifax, and Samuel became an integral part of Susannah's family, so likely they married in Caswell rather than Halifax either for convenience or because their minister traveled and was currently located there.

There are indications in later records for York County, SC and the censuses for York and adjacent Lincoln County, NC that Susannah Horsley's husband Samuel Matthews was previously married and already had children when he married Susannah in 1784. These children may include John and Joseph Matthews. John Matthews of York County, SC was born between 1770-1775, according to censuses of 1800-1830. Samuel sold John part of his own York County land in 1797, about the same time that John married. John Matthews married Elizabeth Brandon before her father John's will of 1799, and in 1800 the only children in their household were one female under 10 and one female 10-15 (who does not seem likely to be a daughter of this marriage). In the 1800 census, Samuel Matthews had 9 children in his York County household, the eldest being a male 16-25. This may be a son Joseph Mathews, age 45 or older in the 1820 Lincoln County, NC census, who apparently married about 1810. One of the witnesses to the 1797 deed from Samuel Matthews to John Matthews was a Joseph Matthews, who could be this son, born about 1775. Samuel's first son with Susannah Horsley appears to be Samuel (Jr.), born about 1785, according to the 1860 York County census. Because of the large age categories in early censuses and gaps in the census records, all this is inexact but enough at least to speculate that Samuel could have been previously married and had children from his first marriage, including John Matthews and Joseph Matthews.

If this is correct, then Susannah Horsley's later husband would be the Samuel Matthews in the 1782 Halifax County heads-of-household census, with 6 "whites" in the household (usually meaning a husband and wife with 4 children, but other possibilities always exist). Also in this 1782 Halifax census was the household of John Matthews, with 7 "whites" and 4 "blacks," who could be Samuel's father or brother. (That this John Matthews was older than Samuel is speculation based on John's apparently having more wealth, based on his owning slaves while Samuel did, and John owned more slaves than average for the others listed in their area.)

Samuel Matthews and the likely-older John Matthews in Halifax in 1782 were living in the same tax district as James Horsley and Richard Horsley and not far separated on the list. Others on the same list were proved Halifax neighbors of James Horsley, including Lawson, Kirby, and Dodson families.

*[List of Inhabitants 1782-1785. Misc. Reel 1263, LVA]*

Then in the 1785 Halifax County personal property tax list, listed two below James Horsley, was the household of "Samuel Matthews etc," with one other male in the household beside himself who was 21 or older. (Females were not included in tax lists unless they were heads-of-household.) The "etc" may refer to a brother or father of Samuel, since adult sons in the household were not usually designated this way. (I did not find a John Matthews in the Halifax tax lists 1783 forward.) In 1799, after Samuel and Susannah Horsley Matthews had moved to South Carolina, there is still a James and Joseph Matthews on tax lists in Halifax. They may be brothers of Samuel, who also had probable

sons named Joseph and James (Susannah's child). Samuel and Susannah Matthews moved about 1802 to Lincoln County, NC, where probable sons Joseph and James were heads-of-house in Lincoln in the 1810 and 1820 censuses. One or more of the other Lincoln County Matthews 1810-1820—Abram, Nathan, William, and Anderson—could be sons of Samuel and Susannah as well. Samuel's likely son John Matthews remained living near the Horsley families in York County, SC, as did Samuel and Susannah's likely son Samuel (Jr.), who died there between 1860-1870.

As we shall see in later records, the name of Samuel and his family is often spelled Mathis as well as Matthews, sometimes in the same document. I have Mathews ancestors also from Virginia who were in north-central South Carolina by the Revolution, then moved to Georgia. In researching them as well as Susannah Horsley's husband Samuel Matthews, it became obvious that Matthews, Mathews, and Mathis were used interchangeably. Thus, we cannot separate one family line from another based simply on the spelling of their names in the records.

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#### **1784 – Richard HORSLEY on Halifax Co. Personal Property Tax Lists**

Richard HOSLEY: 1 free male above 21, no slaves, 3 horses, 8 cattle

[JAMES HORSLEY missing from surviving lists this year.]

[Source: Halifax County VA PP Taxes 1782-1800. Reel 147. Library of Virginia. Richmond, VA.]

#### **Note:**

Here the name is spelled Hosley, as it often is, indicating how the name was heard by the recorder. James Horsley is missing from this list. This happens frequently in the tax list records for a number of possible reasons, such as a segment of the lists have not survived or the person's name was missed by the clerk or recorder, not necessarily because a person had moved or did not turn in his or her list for that year. (Those in arrears often are listed at the end of the district's compiled list, but James Horsley does not appear among them.)

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#### **1785 – JAMES HORSLEY & son Richard on Halifax Co. Personal Property Tax Lists**

JAMES HORSLEY: 1 white over 21, no slaves, 4 horses, 6 cattle

Richard HORSLEY: 1 white over 21, no slaves, 2 horses, 7 cattle

[Source: Halifax County VA PP Taxes 1782-1800. Reel 147. Library of Virginia. Richmond, VA.]

#### **Note:**

James' son Valentine is not in the personal property tax lists this year. Valentine married Sarah Kendrick about this time (their oldest child was born about 1786), but Valentine never bought land in Halifax and was probably using part of James' land and living with his wife in James' household, as supported by the 1785 Halifax head-of-house census (see next record). However, even living in James' household, Valentine would still need to be listed separately as head of his own family and responsible for his own tax. Thus apparently Valentine is simply missing from this year's tax lists, as often happens with these lists, but he is on the tax lists for 1786 and 1787.

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#### **1785 – JAMES HORSLEY & son Richard in Halifax Co. Heads of Household Census**

JAMES HORSLEY: 6 white persons, 1 dwelling, 0 other buildings  
 Richard HORSLEY: 4 white persons, 1 dwelling, 0 other buildings

[Source: List of Inhabitants 1782-1785. Miscellaneous Reel 1263. Library of Virginia, Richmond, VA]

**Note:**

As discussed above under the census of 1782, this enumeration was to determine the state's improved properties for federal government taxing of each state and was not for individual tax purposes. Thus, unlike the personal property tax lists, if Valentine and his wife Sarah were living in his father James' household as it seems, Valentine would not need to be listed separately for this enumeration.

If we include in James' household himself, his wife Patience, their youngest son William, and Valentine and Sarah, we are still left with one unidentified white person in the household, who again may or may not be related to them. Since we only have an approximate year of 1786 for the birth of Valentine's oldest child, the additional person could even be his son Joseph.

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**1786 – JAMES HORSLEY, sons Richard & Valentine on Halifax Personal Property Tax Lists**

JAMES HORSLEY: 1 white male over 21, 1 slave over 21, 3 horses, 6 cattle  
 Richard HORSLEY: 1 white male over 21, no slaves, 2 horses, 6 cattle  
 Valentine HORSLEY: 1 white male over 21, no slaves, 2 horses, 2 cattle

[Source: Halifax County VA PP Taxes 1782-1800. Reel 147. Library of Virginia. Richmond, VA.]

**Note:**

Here James Horsley and his two married sons are each taxed for their own personal property. (James and Richard owned their own land, but Valentine apparently worked part of his father's.) Their number of horses and cattle show them to be comfortably well-off relative to the rest of the county, though certainly not among the wealthy, who tended in Halifax to own more than the state-wide average of slaves per family.

This is the only surviving personal property tax list where James Horsley was taxed for a slave, This one was age 21 or over and could have been male or female. The next year Richard is taxed for one slave, age 16 or over (the column headings being different this year), again the only year with a slave listed for Richard. It seems highly unusual for someone to buy a slave for one year or even two, although not impossible. Another possibility is that either or both James and Richard were leasing the slave from his or her owner and paying tax as part of the arrangement.

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**1787 – Richard and Valentine HORSLEY on Halifax Co. Personal Property Tax Lists**

May 22

Valentine HORSLEY: 1 white male 21+, no white males 16-21, no slaves, 2 horses, 2 cattle

Jul 3

Richard HORSLEY: 1 white male 21+, no white males 16-21, 1 slave 16+, 2 horses, 5 cattle

[JAMES HORSLEY is missing from this year's list]

[Source: Halifax County VA PP Taxes 1782-1800. Reel 147. Library of Virginia. Richmond, VA.]

Note:

This is the first year that the tax official was required by law to go door-to-door to collect the tax lists rather than having an individual's list delivered to him, and the date of his visit was recorded. [*Henning XII:246*] James' land, where Valentine was living, and Richard's land were on opposite sides of the Dan River, so their collection dates did not reflect that the families lived fairly close to each other.

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**1788 – JAMES HORSLEY with son William HORSLEY on Halifax Personal Property Tax Lists**

May 10

JAMES HOSLEY: "one son", 2 white males tithes 21+, no slaves, 3 horses  
(As of this year, cattle were no longer taxed.)

[Richard Horsley is missing this year. Valentine moved to York County, SC this year.]

[Source: Halifax County VA PP Taxes 1782-1800. Reel 147. Library of Virginia. Richmond, VA.]

Note:

This record is crucial for establishing the age of James and Patience's youngest son, William. We learn from the 1786 tax list that this son is not yet 21, since James has only 1 male tithe age 21 or over (21+), that being himself. James is missing from the lists in 1787, but here in 1788 he is listed specifically with "a son" who would have turned 21 in the last two years. Thus we can approximate William's birthyear as 1767, which turns out to fit well with the pattern of birthyears for the three older children—Richard born 1754, Valentine born 1758 (both of which dates are documented in records), and Susannah born about 1763 (based on her marriage in 1784). This tax lists also proves that the generally-accepted approximated year of 1775 for William's birth is in error.

Valentine Horsley probably left Halifax County late 1788, since people often migrated after harvest, tax payments were not due until December, and he witnessed the York Co, SC deed of his brother-in-law Samuel Matthews on 28 Jan 1789. In any case, Valentine would not have been listed as "a son" in James' household even if he was living with James, since Valentine had already been recorded in 1786 and 1787 as responsible for his own taxes, being a married man with his own taxable personal property. Richard Horsley is still in Halifax County this year, but missing from the tax lists.

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**1789 – JAMES HORSLEY & son Richard on Halifax Co. Personal Property Tax Lists**

JAMES HOSLEY: 1 white male 21+, no sons 21+, no slaves, 2 horses [cattle no longer taxed]  
Richard HOSLEY: 1 white male 21+, no sons 21+, no slaves, 2 horses [cattle no longer taxed]

[Source: Halifax County VA PP Taxes 1782-1800. Reel 147. Library of Virginia. Richmond, VA.]

Note:

Since here James has no other white male over 21 besides himself, it appears that his son William moved to South Carolina with his brother Valentine and brother-in-law Samuel Matthews in the later part of 1788.

This is the last year that either James or Richard are listed in Halifax personal property tax lists prior to their move to South Carolina late 1790 or early 1791, although they do still appear on the 1790 land tax lists [see record below]. Unfortunately, personal property tax lists for York County, SC do not exist for the time period the Horsley families lived there. This is a loss for us since, as we have seen, these lists can provide significant information on the families that is not available in other records.

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### **1787 through 1789 - JAMES HORSLEY & son Richard on Halifax Land Tax Lists**

1787, 1788, 1789

JAMES HORSLEY - 100 acres (spelled Hosley in 1787)

Richard HORSLEY - 200 acres (spelled Hosley in 1787)

[Source: Halifax County Land Tax 1782-1800A. Reel 128. Library of Virginia, Richmond, VA]

#### **Note:**

Land and personal property taxes for Virginia began in 1782. Since we have deeds showing that both James and Richard Horsley owned land prior to 1782, either they were missed in the 1782 tax lists or, in this case more likely, their district's list has not survived. Land tax lists for 1783 through 1786 gave only "alterations" (transfers of land ownership). The number of acres for which James and Richard were taxed 1787 through 1789 match the acres each bought. Richard's 200 acres matches the land he sold in late 1789 before leaving for South Carolina. James, however, sold 38 acres more than are accounted for in deeds or land taxes, but this is probably due to a resurvey rather than an unrecorded deed. Deed acreages were usually approximated and often included the phrase "more or less."

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### **1789 (28 Jan) - Samuel MATTHEWS buys York Co., SC land, witness Valentine HORSLEY**

#### Abstract

28 Jan 1789 - Samuel Matthews "late of Virginia" from Widow Anne Stephenson of York Co., SC

Description: 300 acres, York Co. For £200.

Bounded by: North side of Crowders Creek, Robert Leeper, John Howe, Robert Patrick.

Signed: Anne Stephenson (her mark)

Witnesses: Valentine Horsley, Robert Henderson. Rec: 10 Dec 1793

Source: York County Deed Book C, p. 264

#### Transcription

No. 125

This Indenture made the twenty-eighth day of January in the Year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and Eighty nine [28 Jan 1789]. Between Widow Anne STEPHENSON of York County State of South Carolina of the one part & SAMUEL MATTHEWS late of Virginia of the other part.

Witnesseth that for in consideration of the sum of two hundred [200] pounds to me in hand paid by the said Samuel Matthews before the Sealing and Delivery of these presents, the Receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, have Bargained Sold, Alien, Convey & Confirm to the s'd Samuel Matthews all that tract or parcel of Land containing three hundred acres being Conveyed to me by John McCaw Esq'r Clerk of s'd County. & by David Neel to s'd Mr. McCaw as by Conveyances will appear, the said Land lying on the NORTH SIDE OF CROWDERS CREEK, joining Robert LEEPERS line. Beginning

at a Hickory Robert Leepers corner & runing (sic) thence with his line NE 80 poles to a Black Oak, then S'o12E't 86 poles to a White Oak, then N62E't 156 poles to a Pine then S'o19E't 108 poles to a Black Oak corner to John HOWE, then with his line S'o10E't 82 poles to a Hickory then S'o30E't 70 poles to a Pine. then S'o26W 92 poles to a White Oak, then S'o70W 70 poles to a Pine, and thence N46W 356 poles to the Beginning, containing four hundred acres, one hundred acres being conveyed to Robert PATRICK And the s'd Widow Anne Stephenson hath for herself her Heirs and Assigns Given, Granted, Bargained, Sold Aliened, Conveyed and Confirmed, and by these presents doth Grant, Bargain, Sell, Alien, Convey and Confirm unto the said Sam'l Matthews all the aforesaid Plantation or Tract of three hundred acres of Land with the Appurtenances lying and being as afores'd. And all Houses, Buildings [etc]...In Witness whereof the said Widow Anne Stephenson hath hereunto set her Hand and affixed her Seal the Day and Year first above written.

/s/ Anne Stephenson (her mark- a sideways "s")

Signed, Sealed & delivered in presence of  
VALENTINE HORSLEY  
Robert Henderson

South Carolina, York County

VALENTINE HORSLEY came before me and made Oath that he saw Ann Stevenson Sign, Seal and deliver the within Deed or Instrument of writing to Samuel Matthews for the uses and purposes therein mentioned, and that Robert Henderson with himself subscribed their names as Witnesses to the same. Sworn to before me this 10th Day of Dec'r 1793. /s/ Jno. McCaw C.C.

/s/ VALENTINE HORSLEY

[Source: York County SC Deed Book C, p. 264-267. York County Courthouse, York, SC. Abstracted and transcribed by J. Horsley. Original spelling retained, caps and comments in brackets added.]

Note:

Samuel Matthews was the husband of James and Patience's daughter Susannah Horsley and brother-in-law of their son Valentine Horsley. This deed shows that the families of Samuel and Susannah Matthews and of Valentine and Sarah Kendrick Horsley left Halifax County probably in 1788. This land that Samuel buys is near the land that Valentine buys a year later *[record below]*.

The land described here as being on the north side of Crowders Creek is later included in land descriptions as south side of Mill Creek, the two creeks almost meeting before they flow into the Catawba River, now at Lake Wylie. (See notes for records of 1794 and Dec 1797.)

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### **1789 (20 Nov) - Richard HORSLEY and wife MARGARET sell their Halifax Co., VA land**

#### Abstract

20 Nov 1789 – Richard Horsley & wife Margaret of Halifax Co. to William Wesley of same.

Description: 200 acres in Halifax Co. For: £50 current money of Virginia

Bounded by: Winns Creek, Foster, McKnight

Signed: Richard (mark) Horsley, Marget (x) Horsley (her mark) [No release of dower]

Witnesses: Joseph Pulliam, John Brandon, John Jones, James Brandon Rec: 27 Jul 1795

Source: Halifax Deed Book 16, p. 396

Transcription

This indenture made this twentieth day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred eighty nine [20 Nov 1789] between RICHARD HORSLEY [sic], MARGET HORSLEY his wife of Halifax County of the one part and William WESLEY of said county of the other part witnesseth that the said Richard Horsley and his wife Marget Horsley for & in consideration of the sum of fifty [50] pounds current money of Virginia to them in hand paid by the said William Wesley at and before the ensembling and delivery of these presents the receipt whereof we do hereby acknowledge we the said Richard Horsley and Marget Horsley his wife hath given granted bargained sold aliened released and confirmed and by these presents doth give grant bargain sell alien release and confirm unto the said William Wesley his heirs & assigns one certain tract or parcel of land containing by estimation two hundred [200] acres more or less situated lying being in the county of Halifax on the upper side of WINS CREEK and bounded as followeth to wit, beginning at a corner white oake in FOSTERs line thence [oft or ofl follows each thence] south 72 east 61 chani [with interlined e above the a, should be chain] in to a red oak thence south 16 west 11 chain to a white oak saplin thence south 72-1/2 west 95 chain to pointers in McKNIGHTs line thence north 50 west 48 chain to a pine thence 38 east 81-1/2 chain to a large pine thence along a deviding line to the beginning, with all wood under woods swamps marshes low ground houses out houses water & water courses profits advantages appertenance & appurtenances [etc]

In witness whereof we the sd Richard Horsley & Marget Horsley his wife hath hereunto Interchangably set [interlined: each of] our hand [unto?] the day and year first above written.

Signed: RICHARD (mark) HORSLEY, MARGET (x) HORSLEY [both signed by mark]

Signed sealed and delivered in presents of us:

Joseph PULLIAM, John BRANDON, John JONES, James BRANDON

At a Court held for Halifax County the 23 August 1790 the within written indenture was prove by the oath of two of the witnesses thereunto subscribed to be the act of deed of the within named Richard Horsley party thereto I was ordered certiyed and at another court held for said County the 27th day of July 1795 the said indenture was further proved by one other of the witnesses thereunto subscribed to be the act and deed of the said Horsley party thereto and was ordered to be recorded. Test: G. Carrington CHC

[Source: Halifax Deed Book 16, p. 396, Halifax County Courthouse, Halifax, VA. Excerpt transcribed by J. Horsley. Original spelling retained, caps and comments in brackets added.]

**Note:**

This is the only record I have found in Virginia or South Carolina that gives the first name of Richard Horsley's wife (here spelled phonetically as Marget). Margaret Horsley appears to be the daughter of John N. Brandon who died with no surviving will by December 1794 when an inventory and appraisal of his estate was ordered by the Halifax Court. The appraisal and inventory were made by Caleb Towns, William Richardson, and John Farley and recorded on 26 Jan 1795. [*Halifax Will Book 3, p. 158*]

The evidence of Margaret's last name and father comes from a Halifax County deed dated 4 Jan 1799 that names Richard Horsley and Abner Rodden as legatees of John N. Brandon. This indicates Richard and Abner owned the land by right of their wives who were daughters of John N. Brandon, as married women could not own land separately from their husbands. [*See deed below*]

In addition to his estate inventory, I have found only two Halifax records with John N. Brandon, each time as a deed witness in 1792 and 1794 [*HDB15:373, HDB16:293*], although numerous earlier records include a John Brandon, some of whom could be this one as well. In the two deeds witnessed by John N. Brandon, the locations of the land being sold, the bounds on the properties, and the other witnesses, as well as his land that Richard Horsley inherited through Margaret, all place John N. Brandon squarely in the same place and with the same people on records for the other Halifax Brandon families as well as Horsley and Kendricks families. It appears that John N. Brandon could be a brother, or at least cousin, of William Brandon whose 1778 will was witnessed by Samuel Matthews and a David Brandon, possibly William's brother David, whose own will was proved seven months later. (David's will dated 1769 was witnessed by William, Francis, and John Brandon, with at least the first two being brothers according to Brandon family research.) This William Brandon (d. 1778) was the father of John Brandon "Sr." whose 1799 York County will was witnessed by Richard and Valentine Horsley and whose son James Brandon married Valentine's daughter Anna Horsley.

Marriage Bond: Abner Rodden & Agnes Brandon 22 Nov 1790. Bondsman: Irvin Brandon. Wit. Joseph Martin, John Owen. Consent for Agnes signed by Rebecca Brandon (no relationship given). Married by Nathaniel Holloway [Catherine Lindsay Knorr. Marriage Bonds and Ministers' Returns of Halifax County, Virginia 1753-1800. (Pine Bluff, AR, 1957), p. 80]

Online information says Abner Rodden's wife was named Agnes Brandon (although her parents are not given in files I found). Another Agnes Brandon was the daughter of David Brandon and married Joseph Pulliam (Jr.) in Halifax County, VA on 4 Jan 1798. This Joseph Pulliam is said to be the son of Joseph Pulliam (Sr.) who married Sarah Ann Brandon, likely sister of the older Halifax Brandon brothers. It is not clear which Joseph Pulliam who married a Brandon (ie, father or son) is the witness to Richard and Margaret's deed of 1789, but either one is an additional indication that Margaret Brandon Horsley's father John N. Brandon could be another brother of the older Brandon generation of Sarah Brandon Pulliam and William, David, and Francis Brandon.

*Horsley Families of America* by Scott and Horsley says Richard's wife was named Susan. However, the book gives no documentation for her name, and I have found the book to have numerous errors in its information on the early Horsley families. Richard had a daughter Susannah Horsley who never married and was sometimes called Susan, which may be the source of the authors' confusion. According to Scott and Horsley, Richard Horsley and Susan Horsley were involved in a boundary dispute in York County, SC in 1836. The actual record [*see below*] shows that she was Richard's daughter Susan, as it concerned land Richard had given to her in 1830 [*deed also below*].

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### **1789 (26 Nov) - JAMES and PATIENCE HORSLEY sell their Halifax County, VA land**

#### Abstract

26 Nov 1789 – James Horsley & wife Patience of Halifax Co., VA to Elisha Dodson of same

Description: 138 acres, in Halifax Co. For: £69 Virginia currency

Bounded by: Thomas Lawson's orphans, Seal's old field, Carson's spring branch

Signed: James (his mark) Hosley, Peashents (x) Hosley [No release of dower]

Witnesses: Thos. White, William Brandon, Fleming Bates, Francis Lawson Rec: 26 Jun 1790

Source: Halifax Deed Book Vol. 14, p. 616

#### Transcription



This indenture made and ended this twenty sixth day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred eighty nine [26 November 1789] between JAMES HORSLEY of Halifax County and state of Virginia of the one part and ELIZHA DODSON [Elisha Dodson] of the aforesaid county and state of other part. Witnesseth that the said James Horsley for and in consideration of the sum of sixty nine [69] pounds Virginia currency to him in hand paid by the said Elizha Dodson the receipt whereof the said Horsley doth hereby acknowledge have bargained and sold and by these presents doth hereby bargain and sell &c unto the said Elizha Dodson his heirs and assigns for Ever one certain massuage, tract or parcell of land lying and being in the aforesaid said county and state begining at a corner of a pine belonging to Thomas LAWSONs olphens [orphans] from thence north 41 degrees west 88 poles to a little dead read [red] oak thence north 25 degrees west 94 pole to an old dead tree then north 51 degrees east 140 poles to a pine at the edge of Sealsold [sic, SEAL's old] Field at the head of CARSONs Spring Branch then down the branch as manders [meanders] to a popular [poplar] in the said branch in Carsons line then along his line south 23 [or 28] degress west 149 pole to the Begining containing by estimation one hundred thirty eight [138] acres be the same more or less....[etc]

*[record continues next page]*

Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand & seal the day and year above within.

Signed: JAMES (✠) HOSLEY, PEASHENTS (x) HOSLEY [both sign by mark]

Signed Sealed and Delivered in presents of us:

Teste: Thos. WHITE, William BRANDON, Fleming BATES, Francis LAWSON

At a Court held for Halifax County the 26 day of June 1790 The within written Deed Poll was Proved by the Oaths of three of the Witnesses thereunto subscribed to be Acts and Deed of the within named James Horsley & Pleasents [sic] Horsley parties thereto & was ordered to be recorded. Teste: Geo. Carrington CHC Examined Truly Recorded. Teste: Will. Thomson DCofC

[Source: Halifax Deed Book Vol. 14, p. 616, Halifax County Courthouse, Halifax, VA. Transcription J. Horsley. Original spelling retained, caps and comments in brackets added.]

**Note:**

Here we have evidence that the wife of James Horsley (Jr.) was named Patience. Her signature was entered as a mark, indicating she was not literate, and her name was spelled "Peashents," clearly a phonetic spelling (as was Hosley) following the common practice of the day. Nevertheless, her name is indexed in Halifax County Deed Grantee-Grantor records as "Patience Horsley."

When the clerk recorded this deed after it was proved in court six months later, he entered her name as "Pleasents". Based on numerous deeds I have obtained that were copied into the record book by this same clerk, he was not the most accurate or careful of clerks. Thus it seems he was simply careless in writing her name Pleasents in the memo of proof (even though "Pleasants" was not usually used for a female first name, only male). It is at least possible that the clerk, not recognizing a name spelled "Peashents," picked a name with which he was familiar. There was a Jesse Pleasants family in Halifax at the time whose family line is said to have come from England to Henrico County, VA then spread westward, and they seem to have been fairly well-known regionally. Online files say that the Halifax County clerk George Carrington's family was in Cumberland County where Jesse Pleasants was married, so likely Carrington at least had heard the name or known the family himself.

Even though the body of the deed spells James' name "Horsley," at their signature marks the surname is spelled "Hosley" (a common early alternate spelling in both Maryland and Halifax County primary records for this family line and likely the way the name was often pronounced). When a grantor could not write, another person would write the name in the grantor's presence after reading the deed aloud, and the grantor then affixed his/her mark. The person who wrote the grantor's signature name was not necessarily the one who had written the deed nor the clerk who entered it into the records. Thus, since spelling was phonetic, it is not uncommon to find the same name spelled various ways within the same document.

This deed is so far the only record I have been able to find anywhere in their places of residence—Maryland, Virginia, and South Carolina—that gives the name of James Horsley's wife, but nothing in the records indicates James had been previously married. That his wife's name was not Margaret Valentine as Scott and Horsley's *Horsley Families* proposes came as no surprise. Seven years of searching primary records for evidence or support of the surname Valentine yielded nothing, and the name Margaret appears a confusion with Richard Horsley's wife Margaret, who the authors thought was named Susan. (See more details in Part I: Narrative.)

Since Patience was a favorite Quaker name, and since both the Horsley's and Seward's in Maryland had numerous connections with families who at some time were Quakers, it may be that James' wife Patience came from a Quaker family. Although this might be somewhat of a long shot, it seems worthwhile to research surviving Quaker records for the area surrounding Queen Anne's County, MD around 1750 for Quaker families with a daughter named Patience. Knowing her maiden name could answer a number of questions about Horsley family connections in Maryland and Virginia.

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Regarding other names on this deed: Brandon and Lawson families of Halifax County, VA and later of York County, SC intermarried with Horsley's and Kendrick's. Thomas Kendrick's wife Nancy may be a Lawson, since the name Lawson comes down through Thomas Kendrick's line. Valentine and Sarah Kendrick Horsley's daughter Anna married James Brandon, son of John Brandon Sr. whose York County, SC will was witnessed by Valentine Horsley and his brother Richard. The will states that John Brandon's wife was Mary Lawson, daughter of John Lawson, who owned Halifax County land next to James Horsley and Thomas Kendrick. A 1799 Halifax deed [below] names Richard Horsley and Abner Rodden as legatees of John N. Brandon, indicating their wives were his daughters.

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The purchaser Elisha Dodson is probably Elisha Jr., as his father Elisha Sr. moved a short distance across the Halifax County line into Pittsylvania County about 1787. [*Kay Haden, "Some Descendants of Charles Dodson" online; citing Pitts tax lists*] Elisha Dodson Sr. was "dismissed" (meaning released to move membership elsewhere) on 4 December 1762 by the Broad Run Baptist Church in Fauquier County, VA to go to Halifax County. [*Church minutes transcribed on Pittsylvania RootsWeb Project*] There were several Baptist ministers in this Dodson family group. According to notes about these church minutes, one of the Halifax/Pittsylvania Baptist churches was on Birch Creek which flows from Pittsylvania County into the north side of the Dan River in Halifax not far from where Byrds Creek (where James Horsley lived) and Winns Creek (where Richard Horsley lived) both flow into the Dan. The church members came from the whole area of southwest Halifax and southeast Pittsylvania, and could have been the Horsleys' church as well, since we know that shortly in York County, SC at least Valentine Horsley and his family were Baptists.

Elisha Dodson Jr. married Hannah Fuqua Lawson in Halifax County on 21 May 1789, six months before purchasing James Horsley's land. [*Carrington, History of Halifax County*] The land was adjacent to land then belonging to the orphans of Thomas Lawson, Hannah Fuqua's first husband whom she had

married in Halifax on 4 Jan 1782. Her brother John Fuqua Jr. married Thomas' sister Margaret Lawson. Their brother Francis Lawson was a witness to James Horsley's deed to Elisha Dodson. Another Lawson sibling, Elizabeth Lawson, married John Irvine, a witness to Richard Horsley's sale of inherited Brandon property in 1799 with Abner Rodden [see below]. Thomas Lawson died about 1788, leaving his widow Hannah and three small children. The guardian of Thomas Lawson's orphans Smith and Susannah Lawson was Theoderick Carter, another witness to Richard Horsley's 1799 Halifax deed, and in 1791 James Horsley was paid by Carter from the Lawson orphans' guardian account [see below]. Theoderick Carter had also witnessed the 1773 deed of the Horsley's in-law Thomas Kendrick, whose wife Nancy is thought by some to be a Lawson herself. Thomas Kendrick had sold his land to John Lawson, father of the above-named Lawson siblings and father of Mary Lawson who married John Brandon whom we discussed above.

For more information and records for John Lawson, see my report *Thomas Kendrick and Family* at: <[www.joanhorsley.org](http://www.joanhorsley.org)>

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Deed witness Fleming Bates was most likely of the family line of John Bates and Susannah Fleming, Quakers of York County, VA. Their sons James and John Forest Bates are said to have died in Halifax County. Online information says their granddaughter Susannah Bates (daughter of John Bates) was the wife of John Fuqua Sr., whose daughter Hannah married first Thomas Lawson then Elisha Dodson Jr., and whose son John Fuqua Jr. married Thomas' sister Margaret Lawson, both mentioned above. Their granddaughter Elizabeth Bates (d/o James) married Presley Dodson, son of Elisha Dodson Sr and brother of Elisha Dodson Jr. Although many of the Bates families remained Quaker, there seem to be a number of Baptist ministers in this family line, including a Fleming Bates.

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The pattern emerging from this deed and other records in Halifax County connecting James Horsley's family with Baptists and Quakers continues the same kind of associations found earlier in Maryland between Horsley's, Seward's and various kinds of "dissenters." Even though earlier in England the Quakers and Baptists at times were contentious adversaries, Quakers and Baptists share much of the same early religious history and later in the Colonies often became allies together with Catholics against religious persecution of all three groups. This was a time of great flowering for Baptists in Virginia, and Baptist ministers in the 1770's were the vanguard of the push for religious liberty and separation of Church and State, a focus for Quakers since their beginning. Also, many Quakers became Baptists either by conversion or when they married outside the Quaker fellowship. Thus, it seems natural for James Horsley to have close friends and neighbors among both groups.

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### **1790 - JAMES HORSLEY and Richard HORSLEY on Halifax Land Tax Lists**

James Horsley - 100 acres  
Richard Horsley - 200 acres

[Source: Halifax County Land Tax 1782-1800A. Reel 128. Library of Virginia, Richmond, VA]

#### **Note:**

This is the last year that James Horsley and his son Richard Horsley appear on Halifax land tax lists. They each executed deeds of sale of their lands in November 1789, but changes in the tax lists of the responsible landowners sometimes lagged until after the deed was recorded or the transfer was otherwise officially noted. Thus, James and Richard may not still be living in Halifax this year. They

are both missing in 1790 personal property tax lists as were their in-laws Thomas Kendrick and John Irby, who likely all moved from Halifax to York together.

### **1790 - JAMES HORSLEY's son Valentine HORSLEY buys land in York County, SC**

#### Abstract

9 Jan 1790 - Valentine Horsley of York Co., SC from John Oliver of Abbeville Co., SC

Description: 385 acres in York Co. For: £200.

Bounded by: [Mill] Creek, John Armour

Witnesses: John McCaw, Robert Crawford, John Campbell. Rec: \_\_\_1790

Source: York County Deed Book B, p. 157

#### Transcription

No. 69

This indenture made this ninth day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred & ninety [9 Jan 1790] between John OLIVER of the state of So. Carolina and Abbeville County of the one part and VALENTINE HORSLEY of the State afs. & County of York of the other part. Witnesseth that the said John Oliver for and in consideration of the sum of 200 pounds Proclamation money to him in hand paid by the sd. Valentine Horsley at or before the ensealing and delivery hereof the rec./t whereof is hereby acknowledged have Bargained, Sold, Aliened, Enfeoffed, & Confirmed and by these presents doth Bargain, Sell, Alien, enfeoff & confirm unto the sd Valentine Horsley his Heirs and Assigns forever all that tract & parcel of Land Situate, lying & being in the State & County afs'd and Beginning at al Pine thence So. 50 E 246 poles to 3 pines thence So 20 W 226 poles to a White Oak thence So 80 W 170 poles to a Black Oak thence No 46 E 20 poles to a White Oak near the CREEK thence up the Creek to a Stake on John ARMOUR's line, thence along the said line to the Beginning, Containing by estimation three hundred & eighty five [385] acres of Land be the same more or less & hath such form & shape as by a plat belonging to the same may more fully appear being part of a tract of land bought by Andrew ARMOUR from Robert LEEPER & by sd. John OLIVER from sd. Andrew ARMOUR. And also the Reversion & Reversions, Remainder & Remainders, Rents, Issues & profits of the sd premises, and all the Estate, Right Title, Interest, Claim or Demand whatsoever of him the sd John OLIVER & his heirs of in & to the sd premises or any part thereof. To have and to hold the sd tract or parcel of land & premises with all and singular the Appurtenances thereunto belonging or in any wise appertaining to the sd Valentine Horsley his Heirs & assigns, to the only proper use & behoof of him the sd Valentine Horsley his heirs and assigns forever; free and clear of every incumbrance whatsoever, and the sd John Oliver his Heirs Executors and Administrators doth hereby Covenant Grant and agree to and with the sd Valentine Horsley his heirs and assigns by these presents that he the said John Oliver and his Heirs the sd tract or parcel of Land and premises abovementioned and intended to be hereby bargained and sold and every part thereof against him the sd John Oliver his heirs and assigns, to the sd Valentine Horsley his heirs & assigns shall and will Warrant and defend by these presents.

In witness whereof the sd John Oliver hath hereunto set his hand & Seal the day and year above written. Signed: John Oliver Witnesses: John MCCAW, Robert CRAWFORD, John CAMPBELL

State of So. Carolina York County - Personally appeared John McCaw before me William Hill Esq., Justice of the Peace for the County aforesaid and made oath according to Law that he saw John Oliver Sign Seal & deliver the within Deed to VALENTINE HORSLEY for the uses and purposes therein mentioned and that Robert Crawford and John Campbell subscribed their names thereto as

Witness with himself. Sworn before me this [full date & signature of Wm Hill cut off my copy] /s/ John McCaw

[Source: York County Deed Book B, p. 157, York County Courthouse, York, SC. Abstracted and transcribed by J. Horsley. Original spelling retained, caps and comments in brackets added.]

**Note:**

This land of Valentine on Mill Creek's north side became his residence, although he later also owned land on the south side of Mill Creek near Crowders Creek. The two creeks run near each other as they flow into the Catawba River. That part of the Catawba is now Lake Wylie which is in both York County, SC and what then was Lincoln County (now Gaston County), NC, adjacent on York's north side. Lake Wylie also separates northeastern York County from Mecklenburg County, NC.

Valentine had been in York County at least a year before this purchase deed. When his father James Horsley and brother Richard arrived with their families in York County from Halifax, Valentine sold each one a portion of this Mill Creek land *[next records below]*, probably his original intention when buying this property.

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**1791 (Sep) - JAMES HORSLEY buys land in York Co., SC from son Valentine HORSLEY**

Abstract

4 Sep 1791 - Valentine Horsley of York County, SC to James Horsley "of South Carolina"  
 Desc: 120 acres, York Co. [part of Valentine's tract of 385 ac. from John Oliver, 1790] For: £60.  
 Bounded by: North side of Mill Creek. John Craig, Samuel Lambeth  
 Signed: Valentine Horsley (by signature) and wife Sarah (x) Horsley (by mark) [No dower release]  
 Witnesses: William Gregory, Richard (mark) Horsley, Samuel Matthews Rec: 28 Oct 1794  
 Source: York Deed Book C, p. 415

Transcription

No. 198

This Indenture made the fourth day of September in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred & Ninety one [4 Sep 1791]. Between VALENTINE HORSLEY of York County State of South Carolina of the one part, and JAMES HORSLEY State of South [Carolina] of the other part. Witnesseth, That for in consideration of the sum of Sixty [60] pounds paid by the said James Horsley, before the Sealing and Delivering of these presents, the Receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged. Have Bargained, Sold, Alien, Convey & Confirm to the said James Horsley one hundred and twenty [120] acres, being now in my possession conveyed to me by Valentine Horsley [sic, John Oliver], the said Land lying on the North side of MILL CREEK Joining Samuel LAMBETH's line, Beginning at a White Oak and running thence with his line to John CRAIG's line and cornering upon a Pine, thence running E. N. 48 poles on Craig's line and coming upon a Post Oak from thence South to the dividing between VALENTINE HORSLEY and JAMES HORSLEY to a Black Oak, from thence running with his dividing line to the Beginning, containing one hundred and twenty acres, more or less, within such bounds mentioned And the said Valentine Horsley hath for himself his Heirs and Assigns Given Granted Bargained, Sold, Aliened, Conveyed and Confirmed, and by these presents doth Grant, Bargain, Sell, Alien, Convey and Confirm unto the said James Horsley all the aforesaid Plantation or Tract of one hundred twenty acres of Land aforesaid and all Buildings and Profits whatsoever, within the bounds mentioned, and all Estate Right I Valentine Horsley my Heirs and Assigns do Warrant and

Defend for ever by these presents In Witness whereof the said Valentine Horsley hath hereunto set his Hand and fixed his Seal, the day and Year first above written.

/s/ VALENTINE HORSLEY, SARAH (x) HORSLEY (her mark)  
Signed Sealed & delivered in presence of  
William Gregory, RICHARD HORSLEY R [his mark], SAMUEL MATTHEWS

State of So. Carolina, York County  
RICHARD HORSLEY came personally before me, and made Oath according to Law, that he was present and saw VALENTINE HORSLEY, AND SARAH HIS WIFE, Sign, Seal and Deliver the within Deed or Instrument of writing to JAMES HORSLEY for the uses and purposes therein mentioned, and that William Gregory Samuel MATTHEWS and himself were present & subscribed their names as Witnesses to the same, at same time. Sworn to & Subscribed before me this 28th day of October 1794. /s/ Jno. McCaw C.C.  
/s/ RICHARD (his mark) HORSLEY

[Source: York County SC Deed Book C, p. 415. York County Courthouse, York, SC. Abstracted and transcribed by J. Horsley. Original spelling retained, caps and comments in brackets added.]

**Note:**

Here James Horsley buys land from his son Valentine who had moved from Halifax Co., VA to York Co., SC in late 1788. The land being sold is part of Valentine's original York County purchase in 1790 *[record above]*. The deed is witnessed by James Horsley's son Richard, whose family moved from Halifax with James, and by his son-in-law Samuel Matthews, husband of James' daughter Susannah, who had moved from Halifax Co., VA with Valentine *[see 1789 deed above]*.

One of the landowners adjacent to James Horsley was Samuel Lambeth (later Lambert). Samuel was the father of Sarah Lambert who married Thomas Kendrick Jr., brother of Valentine's wife, Sarah. Her brothers Thomas Jr., Anthony, and William and their then-widowed mother Nancy Kendrick lived on Mill Creek near the Horsley's at least by 1800 and probably since Thomas Sr. and family arrived with the Horsley's c1790. Thomas Kendrick Sr. appears to have died in York County c1794.

By the next deed below, Valentine sold another part of his original land to his brother Richard Horsley. The three Horsley families continued to live adjacent on the north side of Mill Creek, with Samuel and Susannah Horsley Matthews living nearby across Mill and north of Crowders Creek.

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**1791 (Sep) - JAMES HORSLEY's son Richard buys York Co. land from brother Valentine**

Abstract

4 Sep 1791 - Valentine Horsley of York County, SC to Richard Horsley "of South Carolina"  
Description: 130 acres, York Co. For: £50.  
Bounded by: North side of Mill Creek. Robert Leeper, Robert Johnston, John Craig, James Horsley, line between Valentine Horsley and James Horsley.  
Signed: Valentine Horsley (by signature) and wife Sarah (x) Horsley (her mark) [No dower release]  
Witnesses: William Gregory, James Horsley (by mark), Samuel Matthews. Rec: 28 Oct 1794  
Source: York County Deed Book C, p. 417

Transcription

No. 199

This Indenture made the fourth day of September in the Year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred & Ninety one 4 Sep 1791. Between VALENTINE HORSLEY of York County, State of South Carolina of the one part, and RICHARD HORSLEY State of South [Carolina] of the other part. Witnesseth, That for in consideration of the sum of fifty [50] pounds paid by the said Richard Horsley, before the Sealing and Delivering of these presents, the Receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged. Have Bargained, Sold, Alien, Convey & Confirm to the said Richard Horsley, one hundred and thirty acres [130] of Land, being now in my possession, conveyed to me by Valentine Horsley [sic, John Oliver], the said Land lying on the North side of Mill Creek, Joining Robert Leepers line. Beginning at a Pine and runing (sic) thence N[?] with his line to Robert Johnstons cornering upon a Pine, from thence W't with his line to John Craig's line cornering upon a Hickory, from thence [interlined above: W't] to James Horsleys, cornering upon a Post Oak from thence S'h to the dividing between Valentine Horsley and James Horsley, from thence runing with his line E't to the Beginning, containing one hundred and thrity acres, more or less, within the bounds mentioned. And the said Valentine Horsley hath for himself his Heirs and Assigns Given, Granted, Bargained, Sold, Aliened, Conveyed and Confirmed, and by these presents doth Grant, Bargain Sell, Alien, Convey and Confirm unto the said Richard Horsley all the aforesaid Plantation or Tract of one hundred thirty acres of Land aforesaid and all Buildings and Profits whatever, within the bounds mentioned, and all Estate Right I Valentine Horsley my Heirs and Assigns do Warrant and defend for ever by these presents In Witness whereof the said Valentine Horsley hath hereunto set his Hand and fixed his Seal, the Day and Year first above written.

/s/ VALENTINE HORSLEY, SARAH (x) HORSLEY (her mark)

Signed Sealed & delivered in presence of

William Gregory, JAMES (I) HORSLEY, Samuel MATTHEWS

State of So. Carolina, York County

JAMES HORSLEY came personally before me, and made Oath according to Law, that he was present and saw VALENTINE HORSLEY & SARAH HIS WIFE, Sign, Seal and deliver the within Deed or Instrument of writing to RICHARD HORSLEY, for the uses and purposes therein mentioned, and that William Gregory, Samuel MATTHEWS & himself were present and subscribed their names as Witnesses to the same, at same time. Sworn to & subscribed before me this 28th day of October 1794. /s/ Jno. McCaw C.C. /s/ JAMES (I) HORSLEY

[Source: York County SC Deed Book C, p. 417-418. York County Courthouse, York, SC. Abstracted and transcribed by J. Horsley. Original spelling retained, caps and comments in brackets added.]

**Note:**

Here James' son Valentine Horsley sells another part of his original York County land to Richard Horsley, Valentine's brother, on the same day Valentine sells part to his father James Horsley. This deed was witnessed by Valentine's father James Horsley and his brother-in-law Samuel Matthews, who also witnessed Valentine's deed to James [see above].

**1791 (Sep) - JAMES HORSLEY paid by guardian of Thomas LAWSON's orphans**

Thomas Lawson Accounts Current 1791 - Theo. CARTER, guardian to the orphans [of Thomas LAWSON] to: pd. John Ball store acct. do. James Chalmers, Merchant, do. Thomas Lawson, do.

JAMES HORSLEY, do. David Clark for tax, do. John Wimbish for tax, do. William Keen Sheriff tax, do. Joseph Kerby B'smith.

Returned 26 September 1791 by Theoderick Carter their guardian.

[Source: Marian Dodson Chiarito and James Hadley Prendergast. *Halifax County, Virginia Will Book 2 1783-1792*. p. 92. Posted to GenForum Kerby Family by Mary Ann 27 Sep 2002.]

**Note:**

James Horsley moved from Halifax County, VA to York County, SC prior to the time this guardian account was entered into the Halifax Court record. James likely was paid for the service he provided towards the orphans' upkeep before leaving Virginia.

James' deed of sale of his Halifax County land shows that it was adjacent to land inherited by Thomas Lawson's "orphans" (ie, under age 21). Thomas Lawson, who died about 1788, was the son of John and Priscilla Lawson, the "Capt. John Lawson" named as a bound on James Horsley's 1775 deed of purchase [*above*] and also a bound on Thomas Kendrick's lands bought in 1762 and 1776 [*HDB4:48, HDB10:89*]. Some Kendrick researchers believe that John Lawson was related to Thomas Kendrick's wife (and Sarah Kendrick Horsley's mother) Nancy, as some descendants of Thomas Kendrick Jr. passed on Lawson as a given name. (See details in my report on Thomas Kendrick.)

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**1791 (Oct) – Susannah HORSLEY's husband Samuel MATTHEWS appointed road overseer**

Court of October 1791 (Intermediate Court) - Ordered that Samuel MATTHEWS be appointed Overseer of the Road from the North Carolina line near Dr. McClain's Mill to the Iron Works.

[Source: York County Minute Book A, p. 324. Laurence K. Wells. *York County, South Carolina, Minutes of the County Court, 1786-1797* (Columbia, SC: SC Magazine of Ancestral Research, 1981) p. 100.]

**Note:**

Road maintenance was the responsibility of the landowners who lived on the road along with the other males tithables in their households and their slaves. The county court routinely issued "road orders" to divide the roads into segments, name the landowners on each section, and appoint one of them to be the coordinator or "overseer" responsible to the court for each section's maintenance.

We see from this record that Samuel Matthews' land was near the North Carolina border, as were the properties of the related Horsley families nearby. In 1794 Valentine Horsley was appointed overseer for maintenance of this same road section [*see below*].

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**1792, 1794 – Valentine HORSLEY on York County Court Juries**

Valentine Horsley is named as a Juror for court cases heard on July 6<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> in 1792. Also, on 5 Jul 1794, Valentine Horsley is included in the list of those drawn to serve on the petit jury during the next court session.

[Source: York County Minute Book B., pp. 3-4, 81. Laurence K. Wells. *York County, South Carolina, Minutes of the County Court, 1786-1797* (Columbia, SC: SC Magazine of Ancestral Research, 1981) p. 110-111, 140.]

**Note:**



A "petit jury" is a trial jury that deliberates the facts of a court case, as opposed to a "grand jury" impaneled to formulate the accusations brought against the person to stand trial.

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### **1794 – Valentine HORSLEY becomes road overseer in place of Samuel MATTHEWS**

Court of May 1794 (Intermediate Court) - Valentine HORSLEY [appointed overseer of the road] from the North Carolina line near Dr. McClain's Mill to the ford of Crowders Creek in the room of Samuel MATTHEWS.

[York County Minute Book B, p. 76. Laurence K. Wells. *York County, South Carolina, Minutes of the County Court, 1786-1797* (Columbia, SC: SC Magazine of Ancestral Research, 1981) p. 139.]

#### **Note:**

Valentine Horsley resided on his land on the north side of Mill Creek, adjacent to Samuel Matthews' land on the south side of Mill Creek and north side of Crowders Creek. Mill Creek and Crowders Creek run somewhat parallel southeast from North Carolina and when they entered the Catawba River were about a mile apart (now somewhat obscured by the damming of the Catawba River which formed Lake Wylie, into which both Mill and Crowders Creek now run).

The road for which they each served as overseer probably followed the path of today's Route 274 along the Catawba River-Lake Wylie north about 2 miles to the NC border. Route 274 runs by Mill Creek Baptist Church Cemetery, former site of Rookers Meeting House where Valentine's family likely attended. Route 274 then goes north to Gastonia, NC, the county seat of Gaston County where Richard Horsley's son David moved his family in the mid-1850's.

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### **1795 - HORSLEY recorded on plat for York Co. land surveyed for Samuel MATTHEWS**

29 January 1795 - Survey made for: SAMUEL MATTHEWS

Plat for 27 acres on Mill Creek, Camden District, Surveyed by John McCaw.

Names Indexed: [Grant applicant] Samuel Matthews; [Bounds] HORSLEY, Biggins [Biggers]; [Surveyor] John McCaw

Locations: Camden District; Catawba River; Mill Creek

[Source: - Online Index to State Plat Books (Charleston Series) 1784-1860. S213190 Volume: 0033, Page: 00045, Item: 004. SC Archives Online at:

<<http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/onlinearchives/RecordDetail.aspx?RecordId=200211>>]

#### **Note:**

The South Carolina Archives index for this land grant plat (as well as for the other plats listed below in this Timeline) includes the people named in the land survey report. These people usually would be person applying for the land grant for whom the survey was made, the name of the surveyor, and the owners of the adjacent properties (i.e., bounds on the plat).

From this we can see that the land grant for which Samuel Matthews is applying by this survey was adjacent to "Horsley" on Mill Creek. Samuel married James and Patience's daughter Susannah Horsley in 1784. Her brother Valentine Horsley bought land on Mill Creek in 1790, then sold two parcels of his land to his father James Horsley and brother Richard Horsley in 1791. All those tracts were on the north side of Mill Creek, but it was Valentine's parcel that bounded the creek.

In 1802 when Samuel and Susannah Matthews move to adjacent Lincoln County, NC, Valentine bought 347 acres of Samuel's land, including this 27 acres. The bulk of Samuel's land is described on the north side of Crowders Creek but parts are described elsewhere as the south side of Mill Creek. The two creeks flow into the Catawba River (now Lake Wylie) a short distance from each other.

This survey identifies the land as being in Camden District. York District (which officially became York "County" only in 1868) was formed from Camden District in 1785. Even though at this survey the land was in York not Camden District, often the names on such surveys were taken from earlier plats and grants and the original names and designations were simply repeated on later ones.

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### **1796 - Mill Creek land surveyed for Thomas Kendrick of Valentine HORSLEY's wife's family**

28 January 1796 -Stephen Brown – Survey Plat for 18 acres on Mill Creek, Camden District  
 Surveyed by John Mccaw for THOMAS KENDRICKS[sic] on 10 December 1793.  
 Names Indexed: [Grant applicant] Stephen Brown; Thomas Kendrick; [Bounds, etc.] John IRBY,  
 Edward Mellon, Joseph Neel, Robert Patrick; [Surveyor] John Mccaw[sic]  
 Locations: Camden District; Catawba River; MILL CREEK; York County

[Source: Online Index to State Plat Books (Charleston Series) 1784-1860. Series: S213190 Vol. 32, p.567, Item 2. SC Archives Online at:  
 <<http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/onlinearchives/RecordDetail.aspx?RecordId=199772>>]

#### **Note:**

The Thomas Kendrick for whom the original survey was made in 1793 appears to be Thomas Kendrick Sr. rather than his son of the same name. Halifax County, VA personal property tax lists show Thomas Kendrick Sr. was alive in 1789, the last year that he as well as James Horsley and son Richard appear on the lists. Shortly thereafter, the Horsley's and Kendrick's with other relations moved to the Mill Creek area of York County, and there is no indication that Thomas Sr. was not among them. It seems likely that Thomas Kendrick Sr. had surveyed the land as part of a grant application but died about 1794 before acquiring the grant title deed itself. Grant land was inexpensive and usually was forfeited only because the applicant died or moved away. Thomas Kendrick Jr. married in York County about 1796 and was still living at Mill Creek in the 1800 census, so it makes little sense for him to have forfeited a land grant in the same place.

That the original survey was for Thomas Kendrick Sr. who died about 1794 is supported by the 1800 York County census showing the widow Nancy Kendrick living next to Thomas Kendrick Sr.'s sons Thomas Jr. and Anthony and near son William. Nancy Kendrick was a head-of-household age 45+, with a son and daughter the ages of Thomas Sr.'s youngest two children. Thus, this Nancy Kendrick surely would be Thomas Kendrick Sr.'s widow. (Nancy was a standard Virginia nickname for Ann, the name of Thomas Sr.'s second daughter.)

John Irby, a bound on this plat record, was the husband of Thomas Kendrick Sr.'s daughter Anne. John Irby's Revolutionary War pension application states he moved to York County from Halifax County, VA in 1789, around the same time as the Horsley and Kendrick families.

Robert Patrick, another bound, was likely the husband of the later widow "Mrs. Patrick," named as a bound in an 1821 survey for Mill Creek land that included Horsley, Biggers, and Anthony Kendrick, son of Thomas Sr. and brother of Valentine Horsley's wife Sarah [see below]. Robert Patrick was also listed near James, Valentine, and Richard Horsley and Samuel Matthews in the 1800 census.

### 1797 (Mar) – Valentine HORSLEY buys land witnessed by his father JAMES HORSLEY

#### Abstract

6 Mar 1797 - Valentine Horsley from William Alexander

Desc: 40 acres "that I now live on." For: \$100. Bounds: None

Also selling variously priced animals, furniture, farming utensils, etc. Sale total \$200.

Signed: William Alexander Witnesses: James (✚) Horsley, Jos. McKenzie Rec: 22 May 1797

Source: York Deed Book D, p. 317-372

#### Transcription

No. 152

Know all men by these presents that I William ALEXANDER for & in consideration of the sum of two hundred Dollars [\$200] to me in hand paid by VALENTINE HOSLEY [sic] whereof I do hereby acknowledge my self fully satisfied, have bargained, Sold & Delivered, in plain & open Market, according to the due form of Law in that case do Bargain, Sell, & deliver unto the said Valentine Hosley, one sorrell horse, 5 years old valued thirty dollars [\$30], one black Coult, two years old, ten dollars [\$10], one Cow, three yearlings & one Calf at fifteen dollars [\$15], To a tract of Land that I now live on containing Forty [40] Acres more or less with all the appertainences thereunto belonging, at one hundred dollars [\$100], to nine head of hoggs at ten dollars [\$10] together with all my Household furniture of all kinds & farming utensils at 35 dollars, of which particulars I have given the said Valentine Hosley and Inventory sign'd with my own hand, bearing date with these presents the said goods & Chattels, to have & to hold to the proper use & behoof of him the said Valentine Hosley, his heirs, Exet'rs & Admn'rs for ever & I the said William Alexander for my self, my heirs, Executors & Administrators, shall & will warrant & for ever defend the aforesaid Goods & Chattels against all lawful Claims, as Witness my hand & Seal this 6th day of March 1797. /s/ William Alexander

Witness present: JAMES (✚) HARSLEY [sic; signed by mark], Jos. McKenzie

State of South Carolina

Personally appeared before me the Subscribing Justice JAMES HORSLEY & made oath as the law directs that he was present and saw William Alexander, Sign, Seal, and as his act his deed Deliver the within Instrument of writing unto VALENTINE HORSLEY, for the use & purposes therein mentioned, and that Joseph McKenzie was present, and subscribed his name as a concurring witness with him to the same. Sworn and subscribed to before me this 22nd day May 1797.

/s/ Robert Faries, JP; /s/ JAMES (✚) HORSLEY

[Source: York County SC Deed Book D, p. 371-372. York County Courthouse, York, SC. Abstracted and transcribed by J. Horsley. Original spelling retained, caps and comments in brackets added.]

#### Note:

Although the above deed gives no location or bounds for the land included this sale, the land could be part of the 75 acres surveyed for William Alexander recorded 2 Oct 1795. [State Plat Book, Series: S213190, Vol. 32, p. 466, item 3]. That land was on Mill Creek, with bounds of John Irby, Edward Mellan, Robert Patrick, and John Kincaid, the first three of whom were on the 1793 Mill Creek survey for Thomas

Kendrick discussed above. The fourth, John Kincaid, witnessed a 1798 deed from James Horsley, whose land was also on Mill Creek and who witnessed son Valentine's deed above.

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### **1797 (Dec) – Samuel MATTHEWS sells York Co. land to John MATTHEWS**

#### Abstract

26 Dec 1797 - Samuel Mathis [Matthews] of York County, SC to John Matthews of same

Description: 100 acres, York Co., "part of 3 surveys" For: \$50.

Bounded by: South side of Mill Creek, Biggers old corner, [Valentine] Horsley's line, "near the Waggon Road."

Signed: Samuel Matthews [wife did not sign or release dower]

Witnesses: James Faries [Faris], Robt Lowrey, John Fearis [Faris] Rec: 6 Aug 1798

Source: York County Deed Book E, p. 200-201

#### Transcription

No. 119

Know all men by these presents that I SAMUEL MATHIS [MATTHEWS] of York County and State of South Carolina, have bargained, Sold, and conveyed unto JOHN MATHEWS of the County & State aforesaid for & in consideration of the sum of fifty Dollars [\$50] to me in hand paid before the sealing & delivery of these presents, the receipt and payment is hereby acknowledged, hath Bargained Sold & conveyed unto the said John Mathis, that tract piece or parcel of Land, situate lying & being in the County of York and the State of South Carolina on the SOUTH SIDE OF MILL CREEK, beginning at a Hickory, BIGGERS old corner, and runs N45E 88 poles to a black oak corner on HORSLEYS line, thence a long said line N80E 110 perches to a ash near a Branch, thence down said branch N7E 18 p to a ash on the Creek, thence down the Various courses of the creek 15 per. to a Red oak & beach on the bank of s'd Creek, thence 67 per. near the WAGGON ROAD to a post oak thence S36W 46 per. to a pine, thence S60W 116 per to his line and Biggers, thence N47W 84 per., along s'd line to the Beginning containing one Hundred [100] acres more or less being part of the tract of Land s'd Mathis including part of 3 surveys, with all the appurtenances thereunto belonging To have & to Hold the above mentioned premisses free and clear of all incumberances, and the said Samuel Mathis for himself, his heirs Executors & administrators doth covenant and agree with the said John Mathis that he will Warrant and forever Defend the abovementioned premisses & every Part thereof against lawful claims unto the aforesaid John Mathis, his heirs, ex'rs Administrators & assigns, the Taxes only excepted as they become due as Witness my hand & Seal this 26th day of December 1797 [26 Dec 1797]

Sign'd Sealed & Delivered - /s/ SAMUEL MATHEWS

In presence of us James Faries [Faris], Robt Lowrey, John Fearis [Faris]

South Carolina York County

Personally appeared before me the subscribing Justice, John Fearis and made oath as the law directs that he was present and seen SAMUEL MATHEWS Sign Seal & Deliver the within Instrument of writing for the use & purpose therein mentioned and that he seen Robert Lowrey and James Faries Sign their names as concurring witnesses with himself Sworn to & Subscribed before me this 6th day of August 1798. /s/ Robt Faries JP /s/ John Fearis

[Source: York County Deed Book E, p. 200-201. York County Courthouse, York, SC. Abstracted and transcribed by J. Horsley. Original spelling retained, caps and comments in brackets added.]

**Note:**

Here Samuel Matthews, husband of James Horsley's daughter Susannah, sells part of his land to John Matthews, apparently Samuel's son by a previous marriage (or less likely, a much younger brother). As this deed shows, the name "Matthews" was sometimes recorded as "Mathis," at times both ways within the same document.

Samuel's wife, Susannah Horsley Matthews, is missing from this deed, even though she was still alive in 1802 when she and Samuel sold their York County land [deed below]. The absence of the seller's wife on a deed was not uncommon, despite the long-standing law requiring that a wife formally relinquish her 1/3 dower right for the deed to be legally binding. Particularly after the Revolution, we frequently find deeds without either the wife's signature or her dower release, especially in the newer areas in the south and west. A widow could, and sometimes did, re-claim her dower land that had been sold without her explicit formal release of dower. The dower right not only protected the widow from becoming destitute at the death of her husband, but also protected limited county funds that would be required to support an indigent widow.

Purchaser John Matthews was married by 1799 to Elizabeth Brandon, named in her father's York County will of that year that was witnessed by Valentine Horsley and by Richard Horsley, whose wife was also a Brandon. Three of Elizabeth Brandon Matthews' siblings married Kendrick siblings of Valentine Horsley's wife Sarah, and another Brandon sibling married Valentine's daughter Anna.

Samuel Matthews' original York County land purchase in 1789 was described as being on the north side of Crowders Creek. However, it was in an area just south of Mill Creek, and Samuel expanded his land northward by a grant on Mill Creek in 1795 and by unrecorded land from Valentine Horsley (mentioned in Samuel's 1802 deed of sale below). The parcel Samuel sells here to John Matthews is adjacent to Valentine Horsley, whose primary land was on the north side of Mill Creek (adjacent to his father James and brother Richard) but whose purchase in 1797 appears to be at least partially on the south side of Mill Creek. Mill Creek and Crowders Creek enter the Catawba River (now Lake Wylie) a short distance from each other, which is the area where the Horsley and Matthews lands adjoined.

The mention of the "Waggon Road" is particularly interesting. In an 1826 deed for Valentine Horsley's former land, this same road is called the Great Road. [YDBK:429] They appear to refer to the Great Wagon Road. Used by indigenous Indians long before white settlement, this trail progressively widened during the 1700's as it became the primary trade and migration route between Philadelphia, PA and Augusta, GA. It passed through York County on its way from Charlotte, NC to Camden, SC.

Witnesses James and John Faris (spelled variously as Feares, Fearis, Faires, Faries, etc.) were brothers who owned a number of properties in the county. John "Feares" obtained James Horsley's land after James' death, apparently purchasing it from James' son Valentine, as we discuss in the note for the following deed.

**1798 - JAMES HORSLEY sells York County land to son William HORSLEY**Abstract

3 Aug 1798 - James Horsley of York Co., SC to William Horsley of same

Description: 120 acres in York Co., purchased originally from Valentine Horsley. For: £60.

Bounded by: North side of Mill Creek, Samuel Lambeth, James Glenn (formerly John Craig), line between Valentine Horsley and James Horsley.

Signed: James Horsley (his mark) [wife did not sign or release dower]  
 Witnesses: John Kincaid, Sam'l Mathis [Matthews], John Gibbs. Rec: 3 Dec 1798  
 Source: York County Deed Book E, p. 227

Transcription

No.. 141

This Indenture made this third day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred & ninety eight [3 Aug 1798]. Between JA'S HORSLEY of York County and State of South Carolina of the one part, and WILLIAM HORSLEY of the State and County aforesaid of the other part - witnesseth that for in consideration of the sum of Sixty [60] pounds paid by the said William Horsley before the sealing & delivering of these presents the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged have bargained, Sold, Alienated, Conveyed & confirmed to the said William Horsley one hundred & twenty [120] acres of Land, being now in my possession, conveyed to me by VALENTINE HORSLEY the said land Lying on the N. Side of MILL CREEK, Joining Sam'l LAMBETH's line Beginning at a white oak and runing thence with his line to John CRAIG's line, now James GLENN's, & cornering upon a pine, thence runing E. N. 48 poles on Craig's (now Glenn's line) cornering upon a post oak from thence South to the dividing line between VALENTINE HORSLEY & JAMES HORSLEY, to a black oak from thence running with the dividing line to the Beginning, containing one hundred and twenty acres more or less with in such bounds Mentioned and the said James Horsley hath for himself his heirs & assigns given granted bargained Sold Aligned conveyed & confirmed & by these presents, doth grant, Bargain, Sell Alien convey & confirm, unto the said William Horsly[sic] all the aforesaid plantation or tract of one hundred and twenty Acres of Land aforesaid and all Buildings & profits whatever within the bounds mentioned, and all Estate right, I James Horsley my heirs & Assigns do Warrant and Defend forever by these presents In Witness where of the said James Horsley hath here unto Set his hand & affixed his Seal the day & year first above Written

/s/ JAMES (I) HORSLEY

Sign'd Sealed & Delivered in presence of  
 John Kincaid, Sam'l Mathis [SAMUEL MATTHEWS], John Gibbs

State of South Carolina

John Kincaid came personally before me & made Oath in due form of Law that he was present & saw JAMES HORSLEY sign Seal & deliver the within deeds or Instrument of writing to WILLIAM HORSLEY & that Sam'l MATTHIS [Matthews] & John Gibbs were also present who together with himself, Subscribed their names as Witnesses thereto, Sworn to & Subscrib'd before me this 3'd day of December 1798 /s/ John McCaw /s/ John Kincaid

[Source: York County SC Deed Book E, p. 227. York County Courthouse, York, SC. Abstracted and transcribed by J. Horsley. Original spelling retained, caps and comments in brackets added.]

Note:

This 120 acres James sells to William was their family residence, adjacent to James' sons Valentine and Richard, where James' family had lived since his purchase from Valentine in 1791 [see deed above]. (The bounds in this deed are not complete or current, simply copied from the 1791 deed, which is why Richard is not named as a bound.) Witness Samuel Matthews ("Mathis") was the husband of James' daughter Susannah Horsley and lived just across Mill Creek from the three Horsley families.

Once again contrary to law, the deed includes no signature or release of dower by the seller's wife, even though James Horsley's wife, Patience, did not die until after the 1800 census. As discussed

previously, a wife's absence on deeds, though not legally proper, is often found in this time and place, as demonstrated by a number of other York County deeds for this family group.

The purchaser William Horsley, then about age 31, was the youngest son of James and Patience Horsley. We know by the Halifax County, VA personal property tax list of 1788 that William was born about 1767, since "a son" of James Horsley was listed as a tithe (i.e., white male age 21 or over) for the first time that year, and James' other sons Richard and Valentine were already taxed separately under their own names by then. It was not unusual for a father to sell rather than gift land to a son, and according to other deeds and census records, James and Patience continued to live on this land after they sold it to William.

Strangely, just two years after purchasing the land where he and his parents resided, William Horsley is not named as a head-of-house in the 1800 census in South Carolina or nearby North Carolina or any other state with extant 1800 census records. William is not indicated by age group in the household with any of his siblings or with his parents, yet James and Patience are still living on the land William purchased from them two summers before. In fact, no William Horsley in any census from 1800 through 1880 could be this one, and no other record for him has been found except for this 1798 deed. (Contrary to previously-held assumptions, James and Patience's son William Horsley was not the same person as William N. Horsley who witnessed a York County boundary settlement in 1836. William N. Horsley, born c1812, was a son of David Horsley and great-grandson of James and Patience. For more information, see the 1836 deed record below.)

So, what happened to William Horsley? Could he, like his sister Susannah Matthews' family, have moved over the state line into North Carolina around 1800? Such a move most likely would be into Mecklenburg or Lincoln County, NC, as they were then adjacent to York, SC and just across the Catawba River, or alternately a few miles up-river, from where he and the other Horsley's lived. However, that possibility appears unlikely for a number of reasons.

First, William's absence in one census would not be unusual. His missing in all subsequent censuses certainly would be unusual unless he had died or was not living on his own land as head of his own household, which for this family would be equally unusual. Besides, it seems that a man who so recently purchased already-prepared farmland would have little reason to move elsewhere where he had to acquire land anew.

Secondly, there is no York County deed record whereby William sold his land back to his father or to anyone else, and William's parents continued to live on that same land. Also, William's father was then in his late 60's and may have depended on William to help farm their land.

Thirdly, no deed or other record has been found for William Horsley in nearby North Carolina counties. Surviving records from about 1770 to 1870 for the North Carolina counties then adjacent to York County, SC—namely Mecklenburg, Lincoln, and Rutherford (slightly further west)—have been searched extensively. With the exception of a Lincoln County, NC sheriff's land sale to Valentine Horsley in 1810 [LDB27:82] and an 1816 Lincoln County deed [LDB29:710] witnessed by Valentine's son Thomas (whose wife and first child were born in Lincoln), no other deed in these three counties mentions any Horsley as buyer, seller, witness or bound. No wills in these counties are for a Horsley or have a Horsley included; e.g., as a witness, legatee, executor, etc. Likewise, surviving tax records list no Horsley, nor do any extant records of estates, administration, wards, and guardians.

Records were also searched in North Carolina counties near to where William and his family had lived in Halifax County, VA in case William had returned to that area for marriage and then raised his family close to his wife's home. No records were found in abstracted deeds, wills and estates, or court records for Granville, Person, Caswell, Halifax, Orange or Wake County, NC (the latter two being popular migration places from the other border counties of northern North Carolina).

Since we could not find William himself, could we find evidence that he left any children? Since no will was found for William and no deed whereby he sold the Mill Creek land, then his children, if there were any, would have inherited that land equally by right of inheritance laws. If he died without children, the land would have been inherited by his siblings. Again, no York County deed was found whereby any children or their legal guardian obtained or subsequently sold William Horsley's land.

On the other hand, descriptions and plats of the adjoining Horsley lands according to twelve related deeds between William's 1798 purchase to 1845 show that William's brother Valentine Horsley ended up with William's land, as Valentine would have done as an "heir by law" if William died intestate without wife or children. Before leaving for Georgia, on 17 Oct 1821 Valentine sold to Thomas Boyd the property where he resided as well as a portion of James/William's property, and the two properties were sold as a whole piece belonging to Valentine [deed below]. Four months later on 28 Feb 1822, John Feares (Faris) sold to Thomas Boyd the remainder of the James/William parcel, which included a grave yard. [YDBI:472] There is no surviving deed showing who sold James/William's land to Feares, but the land is identified as "formerly the property of Valentine Horsley," the likely seller. Four months earlier, Valentine's deed to Boyd did not name a different owner ("line" or "bound") for the remaining adjacent property that James sold to William, as it normally would if Valentine himself was not the owner. (One bound, John Lambeth, acquired his tract less than three years before [YDBH:446], showing that the bounds named were recent ones.) These factors and platting subsequent deeds that finally give exact measurements clearly show Valentine had possession of the land James sold to William after William died in York County with only his siblings as legal heirs.

Also, in the twelve deeds subsequent to their 1798 deed that refer in some way to the land James sold to William, William is never named, even though James, Valentine, and Richard Horsley are all named as bounds or former owners in various deeds. Deeds frequently referenced land by the name of the owner who held it the longest or whom everyone would remember owning it. The six deeds after 1798 specifically for the northern half of James/William's parcel began in 1822 and were tracked through 1836 [see 1836 notes]. In each deed it was Valentine Horsley who was named as the former owner, with mentions of Richard's line, James' and Valentine's line, and where James Horsley's "old house" and "old orchard" stood. These deeds give the definite impression that William had, indeed, owned the land only a very short time and that his brother Valentine had obtained the land by the laws of inheritance.

Extensive research also found strong evidence that James Horsley's son William was not the father of John B. and Theophilus T. Horsley, each born in North Carolina in 1806 and 1803. This evidence is contrary to the assumption published in 1986 in *Horsley Families of America* that the brothers' father was James' son William. The research evidence that this William was not their father was confirmed in Spring 2011 by DNA testing. Research further discovered their father was a William Horsley of Burke County, NC, who DNA shows was only very distantly related to our James Horsley Jr. [For details, see my report *William Horsley and Hannah Ryan: Parents of Theophilus T. Horsley, John B. Horsley, and Mary Horsley Parton* (2011), available online at: <[www.joanhorsley.org](http://www.joanhorsley.org)>]



Combing all the evidence and finding no indication to the contrary, it appears that James and Patience's son William Horsley died about 1799 in York County, SC with no children.

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**1799 (Jan) - JAMES HORSLEY's son Richard HORSLEY, legatee of John N. BRANDON, sells Halifax Co., VA land to William BRANDON**

Abstract

4 January 1799 - Deed from Richard Horsley and Abner Rodden of Halifax Co., Legatees of John N. Brandon, to William Brandon of same

Description: 42 acres on Wynns Creek, Halifax Co. For: £24 Virginia currency

Bounded by: Thomas Brandon, Henry Mitchell, John Foster, William Wesley.

Witnessed by: Theo. Carter, Thomas Carter, John Carter, Samuel Carter, John Irvine, David Brandon

Signed: Richard Horsley, Abner Rodden [Wives did not sign or release dower] Rec: 28 Jan 1799

Source: Halifax Deed Book 18, p. 53

Transcription

This indenture made the fourth day of Janry in the year seventeen hundred and ninety nine [4 Jan 1799] between RICHARD HORSLEY and ABNER RODDEN of the county of Halifax of the one part, and WILLIAM BRANDON of the same county and state of the other part, witnesseth that the said Rich/d Horsley and Aberner [Abner] Rodden for and in the consideration of twenty four [24] pounds current money of Virg/a to them the said Rich/d Horsley and Abner Rodden in hand paid the receipts whereof they the said Rich/d Horsley and Abner Rodden doth hereby acknowledge and thereof doth acquit and discharge the said William Brandon his heirs ex/rs [executors] and am/er [administrators] forever by these presents hath granted bargained and sold and by these presents doth grant bargain and sell unto the said William Brandon and to his heirs and assigns forever one certain tract or parcel of land lying and being in the aforesaid county on WYNNS CREEK containing forty two [42] acres be the same more or less and bounded by the lines of Thomas BRANDON, Henry MITCHELL, John FOSTER, and William WESLEY. It being a part of a certain tract of land belonging to JOHN N. BRANDON decd [deceased] which fell to the said RICHARD HORSLEY AND ABNER RODDEN AS LEGATEES in the said tract of land to have and to hold the said tract of land and all and singular the rights members and appurtenances unto the said William Brandon [etc]

In witness whereof the said Richard Horsley and Abner Rodden hath here unto set their hands and affixed their seals the day and year above mentioned.

/s/ RICHARD HORSLEY, ABNER RODDEN

Signed sealed acknowledge and delivered in presence of

Theo. CARTER, Thomas CARTER, John CARTER, Samuel CARTER, John IRVINE, David BRANDON

At a Court held for Halifax County the 28th day of January 1799 [28 Jan 1799] the within written indenture was proved by the oaths of three of the witnesses thereto subscribed to be the respective acts and deed of the within named RICHARD HORSLEY and ABNER RODDEN parties thereto and ordered to be recorded. Teste: John Wimberk CHC Truly recorded Teste: Berryman Green DCHC

[Source: Halifax Deed Book 18, p. 53, Halifax County Courthouse, Halifax, VA. Excerpt transcribed by J. Horsley. Original spelling retained, caps and comments in brackets added.]

Note:

This deed provides the evidence that Richard Horsley's wife Margaret was Margaret Brandon, an heir and presumed daughter of John N. Brandon who died intestate in Halifax County by December 1794.

*[See more about John N. Brandon and Abner Rodden in notes for 20 Nov 1789 above.]*

Richard Horsley and Abner Rodden apparently inherited this land through their wives who were daughters of John N. Brandon, but wives could not own land independent of their husbands. The land was on Wynns/Winns Creek, where Richard and wife Margaret Horsley's land also was located. William Wesley, named as an adjacent landowner ("bound") on this deed, is probably the William Wesley to whom Richard sold his land in 1789, and the bound John Foster may be the same "Foster" who was a bound on Richard's 1789 deed. Thus, it appears Richard had lived next to his father-in-law.

There are several odd things about this 1799 deed, most of which seem to be recording clerk's errors. First, Richard Horsley was a resident of York County, SC at this time, not Halifax County, VA, although Abner Rodden was still in Halifax. (Abner Rodden moved to York County between the 1800 census and 2 Aug 1802, when he bought York County land from Richard Horsley's brother Valentine.) Richard sold his Halifax County land in 1789, the same time as his parents, and James' and Richard's last Halifax personal property taxes were that same year. They left shortly for York County, SC, where Richard bought land in 1791 and witnessed John Brandon Sr.'s will in 1799. There was no Horsley in the 1798 Halifax personal property tax lists, which only include people actually residing in the county. (Land tax lists include all property owners regardless of their residence.)

Secondly, the deed as recorded makes it appear that Richard signed his name by signature, since no mark is noted. On all other records found for Richard, he signs by his mark. There is no other Richard Horsley in Halifax County, and the land here has similar bounds to the land Richard sells before leaving for South Carolina. So it seems the omission of the mark is also a clerical error.

Thirdly, contrary to law, neither Richard's wife nor Abner's wife was included in this deed either by release of dower or by signature, even though both wives were still alive. As discussed above, such omissions were not uncommon for the time and place. However, in this case the omissions seem unusually negligent, since it was only through their wives that Richard and Abner inherited the land.

I have not found a Halifax County deed of purchase for this land of John N. Brandon, but records for Lunenburg County, from which Halifax was formed in 1752, have not been searched. Based on the location of this land, the names and locations of two Halifax deeds he witnessed, and Brandon family wills and deeds, John N. Brandon lived directly among the other Halifax Brandon's. He could well be a brother or at least close cousin of William Brandon, whose Halifax will was witnessed by Samuel Matthews in 1778. William was the father of John Brandon "Sr." whose York County, SC will was witnessed by both Richard Horsley and his brother Valentine Horsley in 1799 *[next record below]*.

By August 1802, Abner Rodden, husband of John N. Brandon's daughter Agnes, moved from Halifax to York County, SC where Richard Horsley's brother Valentine sold Abner Rodden 233 acres on Mill Creek, where the Horsley families also lived *[deed below]*. Abner and Agnes Brandon Rodden are the likely parents of Phoebe Rodden who married Valentine's son Joseph Horsley in York County about 1810, shortly before Valentine's daughter Anna Horsley married John Brandon's son James.

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### 1799 (Aug) - JAMES HORSLEY's sons Richard & Valentine witness will of John BRANDON

Will of "John Brandon Senior"

York County, SC - Written 20 Aug 1799, Recorded 5 May 1800

Legatees:

Wife: Mary, daughter of John Lawson Senior [the will indicates her father, formerly of Halifax Co., VA, was then deceased]

Children: Elesabeth wife of John Matthew [probable son of Samuel Matthews, husband of James Horsley's daughter Susannah], George Brandon (age 7), Sarah wife of Anthony Kindrick [brother of Sarah Kendrick Horsley, Valentine's wife], John Brandon, James Brandon [later husband of Anna Horsley, Valentine's daughter], Pressillah [later wife of William Kendrick, Sarah Kendrick Horsley's brother], Sussey, Irvine, Joseph [later husband of Lucy Kendrick, Sarah Kendrick Horsley's sister], Francis.

Land: 247 ac. Halifax Co., VA, north side of Dan River, bequeathed by wife's father, John Lawson Sr.

*[record continues next page]*

Slaves: Harry, Nedd, Fann, Patt, Daniel, Toby, Dice & Hannah

Executors: "wife Mary Brandon...my two said sons John & James Brandon, Robert Johnston & David Gordon all of York Co'ty & State of South Carolina..." Signed: John Brandon

Witnesses: VALENTINE HORSLEY, Zadok Darby, RICHARD HORSLEY (his mark), John Farley, Thomas Brandon

[Source: York County SC Will Book A, p. 11 (Case 52, File 18). Online Will Typescript (Estate Packet: Case 52, File 2283), SC Archives and History. Abstracted by J. Horsley. Original spelling retained, caps and comments in brackets added.]

Note:

As I have indicated in the will abstract, a number of John Brandon's children were intermarried with Horsley family members. John Brandon's son James married Valentine's daughter Anna Horsley 3 Jan 1811 in York County, SC. Three of Valentine's wife Sarah Kendrick Horsley's siblings married John Brandon's children. John Matthews, likely son (or other close relative) of Valentine and Richard Horsley's brother-in-law Samuel Matthews, married John Brandon's daughter Elizabeth, and Richard's wife Margaret Brandon was John Brandon's kinswoman. As his will states, John Brandon's wife, Mary Lawson, was a daughter of John Lawson, who owned Halifax County, VA land next to James Horsley and Thomas Kendrick.

All these families who intermarried and had other close ties in Halifax County, VA came to York County, SC within a few years of each other by about 1790. They lived near each other in York County for the nine years or so before John Brandon died and continued to do so for years after.

Most online files for this "John Brandon Sr." list him as "John M. Brandon," but I have not seen any record for him where a middle name or initial is included. He does not include a middle initial even in his will that he signed by signature. All this is good evidence he did not have one. Also, online files mistakenly say this John Brandon got a SC land grant on Turkey Creek in 1764, but the SC land grant was for another John Brandon, based upon land grants, wills and other online records at the SC Department of Archives and History. These SC land grants were only available to men who lived in SC, and there were several other John Brandon's in SC at the time of the grant. This "John Brandon

Sr." was raised and married in Halifax Co., VA; he did not leave there until the 1780's; and after moving to York Co., SC, he did not live on or near Turkey Creek. Also, there was more than one Turkey Creek in South Carolina, and the one in the 1764 grant may be the coastal one instead.

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### **1800 - US Census - York District [County], SC**

JAMES HORSELY (sic): Males 1(45+); Females 1(45+)

Richard HORSELY (sic):

Males: 1(10-15), 1(45+); Females: 2(under 10), 1(10-15), 1(16-25), 1(45+)

Valentine HORSELEY (sic):

Males: 2(under 10), 2(10-15), 1(26-44); Females: 1(under 10), 1(10-15), 1(26-44)

Samuel MATTHEWS:

Males: 2 (under 10), 3(10-15), 1(16-25), 1(45+); Females: 2(under 10), 1(10-15), 1(26-44)

Note:

James Horsley, his sons Valentine and Richard, and son-in-law Samuel Mathews are listed on same census page, and deeds show they all lived around Mill Creek.

Samuel Matthews is listed next to, and actually lived next to, John Matthews (age 26-44), who also lived adjacent to Valentine Horsley. *[see deed of 26 Dec 1797]* John Matthews married Elizabeth Brandon, daughter of John Brandon Sr., who died York Co. with a will dated 1799 that was witnessed by Valentine and Richard Horsley *[record above]*. As previously discussed, John may be Samuel Matthew's son by an earlier marriage before Samuel married Susannah Horsley.

Interestingly, in this census John Matthews is living next to John Pindar, possibly related to the Pindar/Pinder family living near and connected with James Horsley Sr. in Queen Anne's County, MD.

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### **1802 (Jan) – Samuel & Susannah Horsley MATTHEWS sell land to Valentine HORSLEY**

#### Abstract

2 Jan 1802 - Samuel & Susannah Matthews and John & Elizabeth Matthews of York Co., SC to Valentine Horsley of same

Description: 347 acres, York Co. For: \$900.

Consisting of 3 tracts:

- 1) 300 acres purchased from Ann Stephenson and part conveyed later to John Matthews,
- 2) 27 acres obtained by grant and surveyed 9 Dec 1793 [recorded 29 Jan 1795],
- 3) 20 acres "conveyed by Valentine Horsley to Samuel Matthews and John Matthews" [no deed exists for this transaction]

Bounds for each tract as follows:

- 1) 300 ac., north side Crowders Creek, Robert Leaper [Leeper], John Howe, Robt. Patrick
- 2) 27 ac. bounded by "said Matthews," Valentine Horsley, Biggers
- 3) 20 ac. bounded by north side Mill Creek

Signed:

Samuel Matthews, Susannah [Horsley] Matthews, John Matthews, Elizabeth [Brandon] Matthews

Witnesses: Davis Collins, Abner Rodden, Joseph Matthews Rec: 4 Feb 1804

Source: York County Deed Book F, p. 291-292

Transcription

No. 188

Know all men by these presents that that(sic) we Samuel Matthews & John Matthews of the District of York and State of South Carolina, have bargained Sold and conveyed unto Valentine Horseley of the District & State aforesaid, for & in consideration of the sum of nine hundred dollars [\$900] to us in hand paid by the said VALENTINE HORSELY (sic) before the sealing and delivering of these presents, the receipt and payment is hereby acknowledge, have Bargain Sold and conveyed unto the said Valentine Horseley all these Tracts of Lands lying on the NORTH SIDE of CROWDERS CREEK [an error; one was on Mill Creek], one of which was conveyed by Ann STEPHENSON to the said Samuel Matthews part of which he (sic, the) said SAMUEL MATTHEWS conveyed to the Said JOHN MATTHEWS, joining Roberts LEAPER's [Leeper's] line. Beginning at a Hickory said Leapers Corner & running thence with his line NE 80 poles to a Black Oak, thence S'o12E't 86 poles to a White Oak, thence N62E't 156 poles to a pine, thence S'o19E't 108 poles to a Black Oak, Corner to John HOWE, thence with his line S10E 82 poles to a Hickory. thence S'o30E 70 poles to a pine thence S'o26W 92 poles to a white oak, thence S70W 70 poles to a Pine & thence N46W 356 poles to the Beginning. Containing 400 Acres, One Hundred [100] Acres being conveyed to Rob't PATRICK, and the Other three [300] to Samuel Matthews. Also a certain tract of Land GRANTED TO SAMUEL MATTHEWS containing twenty Seven [27] Acres. Bounded by Said Matthews SE & NE VALENTINE HORSELY Lin & Biggers lines. Surveyed for him the 9th day of December 1793 [9 Dec 1793]. And also a certain Tract of Land lying & being in District and State aforesaid Beginning at a Wahoo on the NORTH SIDE of MILL CREEK & running S20W 66 poles to a White Oak old Corner, thence along the Old line S80W 78 poles to an Elm at a Branch, thence down Said Branch to Mill Creek, thence down said Creek the various courses to the Beginning. Containing twenty [20] acres be the same more or less, and hath such form & shape as above Mentioned being conveyed by the said VALENTINE HORSELY to the Said SAMUEL MATTHEWS & JOHN MATTHEWS together with the two before Mentioned Tracts or parcels of Land, containing in the Whole three hundred & forty Seven [347] acres be the same more or less, with all the appurtenances thereunto [etc]

As Witness our hands and Seals this 2'd day of January one thousand eight Hundred & two  
Signed Sealed & Delivered [by]:  
SAMUEL MATTHEWS, SUSANNAH MATTHEWS,  
JOHN MATTHEWS, ELIZABETH MATTHEWS

In presents of Davis Collins, ABNER RODDEN, JOSEPH MATTHEWS

State of South Carolina

Personally appeared before me Davis Collins and made Oath in due form of Law and saith that he was present and Saw Samuel and John Matthews, sign seal and deliver the within deed or Instrument Writing to Valentine Horseley; as his act & Deed for the use & purpose therein mentioned and that Abner Rodden & Joseph Matthews, and signed as Subscribing witness with him at the same time. Sworn & Subscribed to before me this 4th day of Freburary(sic) 1804 [4 Feb 1804].  
/s/ Rob't Johnston J.P. /s/ Davis Collins

[Source: York County SC Deed Book F, p. 291-292. York County Courthouse, York, SC. Abstracted and transcribed by J. Horsley, with caps and comments in brackets added.]

Note:

Shortly after this deed of sale, Samuel and Susannah Horsley Matthews and family moved several miles up the road to adjacent Lincoln County, NC. Co-sellers John and Elizabeth Brandon Matthews were still living in this same York County area in the 1810 census, where they remained through at least 1830..

Witnesses to this deed include Abner Rodden, who was Richard Horsley's brother-in-law, and Joseph Matthews, who like John, was a likely son of Samuel Matthews from a marriage prior to Susannah.

John Howe, a bound on this land Valentine, purchased, was close kin to Thomas Howe, whose son David D. Howe married Jane Horsley, eldest daughter of Richard Horsley's son David, about 1830 in York County, SC. Another Howe kinsman, William Howe, married Jane Armour, whose father Andrew Armour previously owned the York County land that Valentine Horsley bought in 1790. William and Jane Armour Howe moved from York County to Georgia in the early 1790's, and almost 160 years later they became my ancestors through my mother's line. (Horsley is my father's line.) My Georgia mother and Alabama father met on a blind date, and their families had not even lived in the same state for 75 years. The idea of "genetic memory" is a fascinating one.

### **1802 (Aug) – Valentine HORSLEY sells York Co. land to Abner RODDEN**

#### Abstract

2 Aug 1802 - Valentine Horsley of York District, SC to Abner Rodden of same

Description: 233 acres, York Co. For: \$600

Bounded by: South side of Mill Creek, Leeper's old line, [John] Howe's old line, [Robert] Patrick

Signed: Valentine Horsley, Sarah (x) Horsley [No release of dower]

Witnesses: John Faris [Faris], James Faris [Faris], John Irby Rec: 4 Feb 1804

Source: York County Deed Book F, p. 305

#### Transcription

No. 196

Know all men by these presents that I VALENTINE HORSELEY of York District and State of South Carolina, have bargained, sold & and Conveyed unto ABNER RODDEN of the District & State aforesaid for and in Consideration of the full Sum of Six Hundred dollars [\$600] to me in hand paid before the Sealing and Delivery of these presents, have Bargained Sold and conveyed unto the said Abner Rodin all that tract piece parcel of Land Situate lying and being in the District and State aforesaid, on the SOUTH SIDE OF MILL CREEK, being part of a tract of Land Granted by patent unto David Niel bearing date the 21st day of April 1764. Beginning at a white Oak, on the SOUTH SIDE OF MILL CREEK on LEEPERS old line and runs with Said line So20W 58 poles to a White Oak Leepers old Corner, thence along his other line N'o76E't 52 poles to a pine thence along HOWEs old line S'o20E 114 poles to a Black Oak, PATRICKS Corner, thence along his line S'o10W't 84 poles to a Hickory S'o70W't 188 poles to a Hickory on the old line, thence N'o46W't 102 poles to a pine, thence N'o60E 116 poles to a Pine N36E't 46 perches to a Post Oak thence N 67 perches to a red Oak & Beach on Mill Creek, thence down the Meanders of Said Creek to the Beginning, Containing by Estimation Two Hundred and thirty three acres [233], be the same more or less with all the appertainances thereunto belonging [ect.] As Witness our hands and Seals 2 day of August 1802 [2 Aug 1802]

/s/ VALENTINE HORSLEY, SARAH (x) HORSLEY (her mark)

Sign'd Sealed & Delivered in presents of us: John Faries, James Faries, JOHN IRBY

Personally appeared JOHN IRBY before me and made Oath in due form of Law, and Saith that he was Present & Saw VALENTINE HORSLEY Sign seal and deliver the within Deed or Instrument of Writing to ABNER RODIN as his act and Deed for the uses & Purposes therein Mentioned and that John & James Faries was Present and Signed as Subscribing Witnesses with him at Same time. Sworn & Subscribed to before me this 4 day of February 1804 [4 Feb 1804]. /s/ Robt Johnston JP  
/s/ JOHN IRBY

[Source: York County Deed Book F, p. 305-306. York County Courthouse, York, SC. Abstracted and transcribed by J. Horsley, with caps and comments in brackets added.]

**Note:**

This land to Abner Rodden was about two-thirds of the land that Valentine bought from his brother-in-law Samuel Matthews eight months before in January 1802. Valentine gifted most of the remaining portion of that land to his eldest son Joseph in 1808 *[next record below]*.

Abner Rodden was married to a sister of Richard Horsley's wife Margaret, as shown by the deed to Richard and Abner as legatees of John N. Brandon *[see record above]*. Thus, Abner Rodden was an in-law of Valentine Horsley as well. In 1808 Valentine gave his son Joseph land adjacent to this land to Abner Rodden. Shortly thereafter Joseph Horsley married Phoebe Rodden, likely daughter of Abner and Agnes Brandon Rodden. (In addition to evidence of long-standing family ties, Abner was the only Rodden listed in the 1810 census for York County, SC or any other nearby county.)

Witness John Irby was the husband of Anne Kendrick, sister of Valentine's wife Sarah Kendrick. Witness John Faris later acquired James Horsley's old land next to sons Valentine and Richard Horsley. Faris probably purchased it from Valentine prior to Valentine's move to Georgia c1822.

**1808 – Valentine HORSLEY gives York Co. land to his son Joseph HORSLEY**

Abstract

31 Oct 1808 - Valentine Horsley of York District, SC to Joseph Horsley

For: "Parental affection I bear to my beloved son Joseph Horsley"

Description: 100 acres, York Co. Bounded by Biggers (now Rookers) corner, Mill Creek, wagon ford on Mill Creek, Hurt's Cabin

Signed: Valentine Horsley, Sarah (x) Horsley

Witnesses: David Horsley, George Duff, Thomas Horsley Rec: 12 Nov 1808

Source: York County Deed Book G, p. 248

Transcription

No. 362

Know all men by these presents that I VALENTINE HORSELEY of the District of York and State of South Carolina for the parental affection I bear to my beloved son JOSEPH HORSELEY, do give, grant and make over to him a certain tract, or parcel of land, lying in the aforesaid District and bounded as follows, vitz. Beginning at a Hickory formerly BIGGERS now ROOKERS corner, running N45E 88 poles to a Black Oak on V. HORSLEY's line, thence along said line N80E 110 poles to an Ash a corner, thence N7E 18 poles to an Ash on the Bank of MILL CREEK, thence down said Creek S80E 14 poles to a Red Oak a Beach near the WAGGON FORD on said Creek, thence S 67 poles to

a post Oak, thence S36W 46 poles to a pine & post Oak, thence S60W 116 poles to Bigger's formerly now Rookers line near HURTS Cabbin, thence N46W 84 poles along said line to the Beginning, by Estimation 100 acres, be the same more or less. The which herein mentioned land, I do hereby warrant and forever defend to him the said Joseph Horsley his Heirs &c against the lawful claim or claims of all and every other person or persons whomsoever. In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand & Seal this 31st day of October A.D. 1808 [31 Oct 1808].

Signed; VALENTINE HORSLEY

Signed Sealed & delivered in presence of us  
DAVID HORSLEY, George Duff, THOMAS HORSLEY

State of South Carolina York District

Personally appeared THOMAS HORSLEY before me and being duly sworn saith that he was present and saw VALENTINE HORSLEY sign seal and deliver the within deed or Instrument of Writing to JOSEPH HORSLEY for the use and purposes therein Mentioned and that DAVID HORSELY(sic) and

George Duff was also present and signed as Subscribing Witnesses with him at the same time. Sworn & Subscribed before me this 12th day of November 1808 [12 Nov 1808].

/s/ Robert Johnston JP /s/ THOMAS HORSLEY

[Source: York County Deed Book G, p. 248-249. York County Courthouse, York, SC. Abstracted and transcribed by J. Horsley, with caps and comments in brackets added.]

Note:

This tract of 100 acres that Valentine gives to his eldest son Joseph is most of the remainder of the land on the south side of Mill Creek that Valentine bought from Samuel Matthews in January 1802 totaling 347 acres. Valentine had sold another 233-acre tract of this land in August 1802 to Abner Rodden, whose daughter Phoebe married Joseph Horsley. These two parcels were adjacent to Valentine's main property on the north side of Mill Creek, where he lived next to his brother Richard and father James.

Witness David Horsley is Valentine's nephew, the son of his brother Richard Horsley. Witness Thomas Horsley is Valentine's second son who married about 1814 to Sarah Huson of Lincoln Co, NC, adjacent to York Co., SC. The third witness, George Duff, is named as a bound on a survey in 1821 for Valentine's brother-in-law Anthony Kendrick that was also adjacent to "Horsley."

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### 1810 - US Census - York District, SC

Richard HORSLEY: Males: 2(45+); Females: 2(10-15), 1(16-25), 1(45+) - No slaves

David HORSLEY - Males: 1(26-45); Fem: 2(<10), 1(26-45) - No slaves

Valentine HORSLEY

Males: 1(<10), 2(10-15), 2(16-25), 1(45+); Fem: 1(10-15), 2(16-25), 1(45+) - 4 slaves

[Some online census sources index the Horsley names here as "Harsley."]

Note:



James Horsley's wife Patience appears now to be deceased, and James is living in son Richard's household with Richard's wife Margaret, daughter Susannah, and two younger daughters whose names are not known. Richard's son David Horsley had married his wife Rachel Mayhew c1803.

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Samuel and Susannah Horsley Matthews are in Lincoln Co., NC, then adjacent to York Co., SC.

1810: Lincoln County, NC

Samuel MATTHEWS: Males: 1(10-15), 1(16-25), 1(45+); Females: 1(10-15), 1(16-25), 1(45+)

Note:

Samuel and Susannah moved to Lincoln Co., NC around 1802. Also in Lincoln Co., NC this census were the households of James Matthews and "Saml Matthews," both age 16-25 and recently married. They were likely sons of Samuel Matthews and Susannah Horsley.

### **1810 (Jul 6) – Valentine HORSLEY of York County, SC buys land in Lincoln County, NC**

6 Jul 1810 – John Allen, high sheriff (of Lincoln Co.) to VALENTINE HASSLEY [sic; HORSLEY] (of YORK DIST., SC); for \$34; sold 100 acres; Border: begins at a hickory near John Glen's line, joins a branch, & Gregory; sold Apr 19, 1810 at courthouse in Lincolnton due to 3 *venditioni exponas* from Lincoln Co. Court to sell William Gregory's 100 acres to satisfy (a) [suit by] Henry Craig's executors with execution for \$32.31 and costs and (b & c, 2 suits) [by] John Black for £33.13.3 and costs. (Signed) John Allen, shff; (Witness) Wm. J. Wilson; acknowledged court session of Jan 1816. Lincoln County Deed Book 27, p. 82, entry no. 525.

[Source: Albert Bruce Pruitt. *Abstracts of Deeds, Lincoln Co, NC*. Books 26 & 27. (North Carolina: A. B. Pruitt, 2001) p. 50. Caps and comments in brackets added.]

Note:

James Horsley's son Valentine lived next to his father and brother Richard in York County, SC and continued to do so after this land purchase. The border of Lincoln County, NC was about two miles up the road from the Horsley's land on Mill Creek. Valentine's sister Susannah and her husband Samuel Matthews had moved their family to Lincoln County about 1802, after selling their York County land to Valentine.

As the above deed describes, the land Valentine bought from the Lincoln County, NC sheriff 's auction had been owned by William Gregory, who lost this land by court order to pay for several debt suits. William Gregory witnessed the 1791 York County, SC deeds from Valentine to his father James and brother Richard after the latter two had left Virginia to join Valentine in York County.

There were others in Lincoln County, NC at the time of this deed who were former neighbors of the Horsley family in York County, SC or had land or relatives there, such as the Glen, Craig, and Leeper families. A John Dameron was also in Lincoln County, and in 1776 a John Dameron, then of Surry County, NC, sold his Halifax County, VA land to Valentine Horsley's later father-in-law Thomas Kendrick.

About 1814, four years after Valentine purchased this land, his son Thomas Horsley married Sarah Huson who was born in Lincoln Co., NC. They remained in Lincoln, and an 1816 Lincoln Co. deed [next below] naming "Horsly" as a bound was witnessed by Thomas Horsley. (Perhaps they were living on Valentine's land there?) Thomas and Sarah Horsley moved to Jasper Co., GA about 1817.

### 1816 – Valentine HORSLEY's son Thomas in Lincoln County, NC deed record

16 Apr 1816. – Richard Featherston (Lincoln. Co.) to Philip Hoover (of same); for \$570. Sold 57 ac. on South Fork of Catawba River. Border: joins Philip Hoover, "HORSLEY," begins at a gum on E. bank of South Fork, joins laca (or Jaca) Hoover & mouth of Hoover's Spring Branch; part of tract laid off to Richard Featherston by the commissioners appointed to divide real estate of Richard Featherston deceased. (Signed) Richard Featherston; (Witnesses) THOS. HORSLEY & John Marnar; acknowledged in court Jul 1821.  
Lincoln County Deed Book 29, p. 710, entry no. 1955.

[Source: Albert Bruce Pruitt. *Abstracts of Deeds, Lincoln Co, NC*. Books 28, 29 & 30. (North Carolina: A. B. Pruitt, 2001) p. 111. Caps added.]

#### Note:

Thomas Horsley, born about 1787, was the second son of Valentine and Sarah Kendrick Horsley. The 1850 U. S. census for Van Zandt Co., TX shows Thomas' wife Sarah Huson was born about 1796 in Lincoln Co., NC. Thomas and Sarah married about 1814, and their oldest child, Andrew, was born in Lincoln Co. in 1815. [1850 census, Van Zandt Co, TX]. Whether they lived on the land Valentine bought in 1810 is not clear from the deed abstracts. About 1817, they moved to Jasper County, GA with Thomas' brothers Joseph and James Horsley and their sister Anna Horsley Brandon's family. Valentine, his wife, and three remaining children joined the others in Georgia about 1822.

### 1820 - US Census - York District, SC

JAMES HORSLEY died 1810 – 1820 in York County, SC. These remain:

Richard HORSELEY [sic]: Males: 1(45+); Females: 1(16-25), 1(26-44), 1(45+); 1 in agriculture.  
David HORSLEY [s/o Richard]-Males: 2(<10), 1(26-44); Fem: 3(<10), 2(10-15), 1(26-44); 1 in ag.  
Valantine [sic] HORSLEY:

Males: 2(18-25), 1(45+); Females: 1(16-25), 1(45+); 5 in agriculture; 6 slaves

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SUSANNAH HORSLEY and her husband SAMUEL MATTHEWS apparently died between 1810-1820 in Lincoln Co., NC, as neither was found in any census after 1810.

Their probable son Samuel Matthews (Jr.) is back in York Co., SC this 1820 census:

Samuel MATTHEWS - Males: 2(under 10), 1(26-45); Females: 3(under 10),1(26-45), 1 in agriculture

Living near Samuel in York is his probable half-brother John Matthews with wife Elizabeth Brandon:

John MATTHEWS - Males: 2(10-15), 1(45+); Females: 1(16-25), 1(45+); 3 in agriculture

Samuel Matthews Jr. and John Matthews are living in the same area of York Co. where their parents had lived near the Horsley families, who are listed on the next census page this year.

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In the 1820 census for Lincoln County, NC, there are Abram, Nathan, and William MATTHEWS in the district labeled "East of South Fork Catawba River." By their age groups, they fit with the age groups of Samuel and Susannah Horsley Matthews' children in the 1800 and 1810 censuses and may be their sons. The York County, SC properties of the Horsley's and Samuel and Susannah Horsley Matthews were also off the South Fork of the Catawba River. (None had females 45+ in their households who might be Susannah Horsley Matthews.)

In the 1820 Lincoln County, NC census for "West of South Fork Catawba River" district there was a Joseph Matthews. He may be the same Joseph Matthews who witnessed Samuel Matthews's York County deed to his likely son John in 1797 and who appears to be another son of Samuel by his first wife. Also living in this district was Anderson "Mathews", who was born 1740-1750, according to the 1830 Lincoln County, NC census. He is in the age range of Samuel Matthews and could be related.

Obviously more research needs to be done with primary records to try to identify the children of Samuel and Susannah Horsley Matthews. Hopefully the above information may give some clues to follow.

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### **1821 (March) – HORSLEY named as bound on Mill Creek survey for Anthony Kendrick**

5 March 1821 - Survey made for Anthony KENDRICK

Plat for 125 acres on Mill Creek, York District, Surveyed by John Jackson.

Names indexed: [Grant applicant] Anthony Kendrick; [Bounds, etc] William Biggers, Zadock Darby, George Duff, HORSLEY, John Kincaid, Mrs. Patrick, John Rooker; [Surveyor] John Jackson

Locations: Catawba River; Mill Creek; York District

[Source: Online Index to State Plat Books (Columbia Series) 1796-1868. Series S213192 Vol. 46, p. 527, Item 1. SC Archives Online at: <<http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/onlinearchives/RecordDetail.aspx?RecordId=220646>>]

#### Note:

This land survey was made for Anthony Kendrick, a brother of Sarah Kendrick who married Valentine Horsley. The Kendrick family had moved to this same Mill Creek area near the Horsley families around 1789, and in the 1820 census Anthony Kendrick is listed two below Valentine Horsley. Anthony Kendrick married Sarah Brandon, daughter of John Brandon, whose York County will of 1799 was witnessed by Valentine and his brother Richard Horsley (whose wife was a Brandon).

Zadock Darby, a bound (i.e., adjacent landowner) on the above survey, was another witness to John Brandon's 1799 will. Other bounds include John Kincaid, who witnessed the 1798 York County deed of James Horsley to his son William, and George Duff, who witnessed Valentine Horsley's 1808 deed to his son Joseph.

John Rooker, another bound and close Horsley neighbor, was a Baptist minister who established a number of churches in the area and felt a special ministry to the local Catawba Indians. Valentine's family, and likely other Horsley families, probably attended church at Rookers Meeting House, later the site of Mill Creek Baptist Church (established in 1840). Rev. Rooker was also the clergy witness for Richard Horsley's application in 1832 for a Revolutionary War pension. (See more about Rev. John Rooker in Part I of this research report.)

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## 1821 (Oct) – Valentine HORSLEY sells remaining York land prior to move to Georgia

### Abstract

17 Oct 1821 - Valentine Horsley of York District, SC to Thomas Boyd of same  
 Description: 200 acres, York Co. Formerly conveyed to Robert Leeper to Andrew Armour to John Oliver to Valentine Horsley. For: \$900  
 Bounded by: North and South banks of Mill Creek "a branch of Catawba River," John Lambeth, Richard Horsley, Samuel Matthews (formerly conveyed by Valentine Horsley), John Armour  
 Signed: Valentine Horsley [wife did not sign or release dower]  
 Witnesses: Aaron Wood, William Kendrick Rec: 22 Oct 1822  
 Source: York County Deed Book I, p. 506

### Transcript

Know all men by these presents that I VALENTINE HORSLEY of York District and State of South Carolina for & in consideration of the Sum of Nine hundred dollars [\$900] to me in hand paid by THOMAS BOYD of the District and State aforesaid Have and do by these presents bargain Sell and convey unto the Said Thomas Boyd his heirs and assigns forever a certain tract or parcel of land Situate lying & being in the York District S'o Carolina on the Waters of MILL CREEK a branch of CATAWBA RIVER being part of a tract of land conveyed by Robert LEEPER to Andrew ARMOUR & by said Armour to John OLIVER by John Oliver to Valentine Horsley. Beginning at a Hickory JOHN LAMBETH's line Thence S'o45E 24.50 [chains] to a Stake Thence N'o63E 5.00 [chains] to a Stake on RICHARD HORSLEYs line Thence S'o20E 80 Poles to a White Oak Thence S'o70E 80 Poles to a Pine Thence S'o20West 34 Poles to an Iron Wood on the North bank of MILL CREEK Thence up the Various Courses of the Creek to an Ash on the S'o bank of Mill Creek at the Mouth of a branch Thence up the branch to an Elm a corner conveyed to SAMUEL MATTHEWS by Said [Valentine] Horsley Thence S'o80West 92 Poles to a Black Oak Thence N'o46E 24 Poles to a White Oak Thence N'o70W 40 Poles to a Stake on John ARMOURS Old line Thence N'o10E 284 Poles to the Beginning containing by estimation two hundred [200] acres be the same more or less. To have & to hold the above Mentioned premises clear of all incumbrances unto the Said Thomas Boyd his heirs and assigns forever. And the said Valentine Horsley his heirs executors administrators or assigns do covenant(sic) and agree with with(sic) the Said Thomas Boyd his heirs executors Administrators or Assigns that they will Warrant and forever defend the Above Mentioned premises Clear of all incumbrances unto the Said Thomas Boyd his heirs and assigns in fee Simple.  
 Signed: VALENTINE HORSLEY

In presence of Witness Aaron Wood, William KENDRICKS(sic)  
 October 17th 1821

State of South Carolina York District

[Formal statement saying that deed was proved by oath of witness Aaron Wood, for himself and witness William Kendrick]

22nd day of Octobre [1822] - /s/ John Henry Q.U. [Justice of the Quorum]

[Source: York County Deed Book I, p. 506. York County Courthouse, York, SC. Abstracted and transcribed by J. Horsley, with caps and comments in brackets added.]

Note:

Deed witness William Kendrick was another younger brother of Valentine Horsley's wife, Sarah Kendrick. Sarah did not die until 1836, so again we have a deed where, contrary to law, the seller's wife is not included.

This is the last York County, SC deed for Valentine Horsley. He is selling the land where his family had lived for over 30 years as well as an adjacent portion of his father James Horsley's land, here sold as Valentine's own land. James had sold his land in 1798 to his son William who apparently died shortly thereafter, and William's siblings inherited the land as heirs-by-law. *[The evidence that some of James' land is included in this sale comes from platting that includes the boundary line drawn by the 1836 settlement (see below), the first time any deed stated the exact full length of James' original eastern side.]* The deed for the first sale of the other portion of James' old land no longer exists, but apparently Valentine sold it also. John Feares owned the other portion by 28 Feb 1822, four months after the above deed from Valentine to Boyd.<sup>[YDBI:472]</sup> Since Feares' 1822 deed identifies the land as "formerly the property of Valentine Horsley" and included the grave yard, apparently it was Valentine who sold both portions of James' original land.

Shortly after this sale, Valentine and Sarah moved to Georgia with their youngest children, Elizabeth (later wife of James Perdue), John, and Green. There they joined their other four children, Joseph, Thomas, James, and Anna (wife of James Brandon), who had moved to Georgia about 1817. Valentine probably went first to Jasper County, GA where these children lived at the time. Gradually the Horsley families spread into adjacent counties. By 1827 Valentine and Sarah were residents of Monroe County, GA, and by 1830, they were in adjacent Upson County. For all the land Valentine bought and sold or gifted in York County, he never purchased land in Georgia (except for lottery grant land where he never resided), and he and Sarah lived their elder years with one or another of their children. Whether this was by choice or by disability or illness is not clear.

For the continuing story of Valentine and Sarah Kendrick Horsley and their children after their move to Georgia, see *Valentine Horsley and Sarah Kendrick Family: The Georgia Years* available at: <[www.JoanHorsley.org](http://www.JoanHorsley.org)>

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### **1821 (Nov.) – Valentine HORSLEY a bound on land between Mill and Crowders Creeks**

1 November 1821 – Survey made for William Campbell

Description: Plat for 600 Acres on Crowders and Mill Creeks, York District

Names indexed: [Grant applicant] William Campbell; [Bounds, etc.] Biggers, Robert Campbell, Dyson; M. Harper, S. Henderson, VALENTINE HORSLEY, W. O. Luper [Leeper], D. Neel, Nichols, B. O. Rooker, John Rooker, A. Rork; [Surveyor] John Jackson,

Locations: Catawba River; Crowders Creek; Mill Creek; York District

[Source: Online Index to State Plat Books (Columbia Series) 1796-1868. Series S213192 Vol. 47, p. 16, Item 1. SC Archives Online at: <<http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/onlinearchives/RecordDetail.aspx?RecordId=220769>>]

#### **Note:**

Valentine Horsley sold his last land two weeks prior to this survey, but that deed was not officially recorded until October 1822. Frequently the bounds were not the actual current landowner.

After Valentine's family left for Georgia, only his brother Richard Horsley with wife Margaret and grown children David and Susannah ("Susan") remained in York County. They continued to live on

Richard's land adjacent to Valentine's and James' old land. The grant applicant for the above survey, William Campbell, later witnessed deeds from Richard Horsley to his children *[next deeds below]*.

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**1830 (Feb) – Richard HORSLEY gives York Co. land to daughter Susannah/Susan**

Abstract

2 Feb 1830 - Richard Horsley of York District, SC to Susan [Susannah] Horsley

For: "The natural love and affection I have for my daughter Susan Horsley"

Description: 84.5 acres, York Co., "Waters of Mill Creek of Catawba River"

Bounded by: James Graham, Robert Johnston, James Glenn, Thomas J. Boyd, and by land Richard Horsley now lives on and conveyed this day to David Horsley [deed dated 17 May 1830] which was conveyed to Richard Horsley by Valentine Horsley 1791 and originally granted to Robert Leeper.

Signed: Richard (his mark) Horsley [wife did not sign or release dower]

Witnesses: William Campbell, Robert Johnston Rec: 19 May 1830

Source: York County Deed Book L, p. 33

Transcription

No. 562

South Carolina York District

Know all Men by these presents that I RICHARD HORSLEY of the District and State aforesaid for and in Consideration of the Natural Love and Affection I have for my Daughter SUSAN HORSLEY I have and do by these presents give Grant Convey and Confirm unto the said Susan Horsley the following Tract piece or parcel Land Situate lying and being in the District and State aforesaid on branches Waters of MILL CREEK of CATAWBA RIVER bounded by lands of James GRAHAM, Robert JOHNSTON, James GLENN, Thomas J. BOYD and land this day conveyed to DAVID HORSLEY being the same the said Richard Horsley now lives on & conveyed to the said Richard by Deed from VALENTINE HORSLEY bearing the 4th day of September 1791 the same being Originally Granted to Robert LEEPER Begining(sic) at a pine Robert JOHNSTONs Corner thence with his line and James GLENN line North53-1/2West 55 chains 67 links passing a Hickory Corner to a post Oak thence South8East 20 chains 25 links to a Black Oak thence South2East 14 chains to a pine thence South29East one chain to a Stake by a Spring thence South25W 30 links to a Sawer Wood [sourwood] thence South221/2E Six chains 75 links to a pine thence North79West 38 Chains to the Begining Containing by Estimation Eighty four and a half [84.5] Acres More or less To Have and to Hold the above mentioned premises unto the said Susan Horsley her Heirs or Assigns for ever [etct] In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this 2nd day of February 1830 [2 Feb 1830]

/s/ RICHARD (his mark) HORSLEY

Syned(sic) Sealed and delivered in presence of William Campbell, Robert Johnston

State of South Carolina York District

[Formal statement saying that deed was proved by oath of witness Robert Johnston for himself and witness William Campbell.] 12th day of May 1830 /s/ Joseph McKenzie Q.U.- Rec. May 19th 1830

[Source: York County Deed Book L, p. 334. York County Courthouse, York, SC. Abstracted and transcribed by J. Horsley, with caps and comments in brackets added.]

**Note:**

Richard Horsley's daughter's 1850 will [see below] names her Susannah, which was also the name of Richard's sister. However, this younger Susannah Horsley obviously was called Susan, as her father names her in the above deed and as she is listed in the 1840 census.

Richard Horsley's York County land, originally purchased in 1791 from his brother Valentine, had been bounded on the west by his father, James, and both of their properties were bounded on the south by Valentine, whose own southern bound was Mill Creek. (At the time of this deed, James was deceased, and Valentine had moved to Georgia. Thomas J. Boyd currently owned James' old land; and William Smith owned Valentine's old land. [See deeds below under 1836].) The land Richard is giving to his daughter Susannah is the northern half of Richard's original property. Richard gave the southern half, where his own house stood, to his son David [next deed below]. The 1836 settlement [see below] concerns the old line between Richard and James that had never been clearly defined.

Susannah "Susan" Horsley never married. In her 1850 will [below] she devises this land to her nephew Richard R. Horsley, son of her brother David. A few years after Susannah died in 1851, Richard R., his father David, and their families moved to Gaston (formerly Lincoln) County, NC. I have found no deeds or wills indicating what became of this property that the Horsley's had owned over 60 years.

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**1830 (May) – Richard HORSLEY gives York Co. land to son David HORSLEY**
Abstract

17 May 1830 - Richard Horsley of York District, SC to David Horsley of same

For: "Love and natural affection I have for my son David Horsley"

Desc: 91 acres, York Co., "Waters of Mill Creek of Catawba River" where David Horsley now lives

Part of a tract to Richard Horsley from Valentine Horsley 1791, originally granted to Robert Leeper

Bounded by: James Graham, William Smith, Thomas J. Boyd, Leepers old line

Signed: Richard (his mark) Horsley [wife did not sign or release dower]

Witnesses: William Campbell, Susan (x) Horsley (her mark) Rec: 21 Aug 1833

Source: York County Deed Book L, p. 608

Transcription

No. 966

South Carolina York District

Know all Men by these presents that I RICHARD HORSLEY of the District and State aforesaid for and in Consideration of the Love and Natural Affection I have for my son DAVID HORSLEY of the District and State aforesaid I have and do by these presents Give grant convey and confirm unto the said David Horsley his heirs or assigns the following Tract piece or parcel of Land Situate lying and being in the District and State aforesaid on Branches Waters of MILL CREEK of Catawba River bounded by lands of James GRAHAM, William SMITH and Thomas J. BOYD being the Track the said David now lives on and part of a Tract conveyed to the said Richard from VALENTINE HORSLEY by Deed bearing the dated the 4th day of September 1791 having been Originally granted to Robert LEEPER. Begining(sic) at a pine on Leepers old line thence North18East 36 chains 25 links to a pine Robert JOHNSTONs Corner thence South79West 45 chains to a Stake on the Old line in the Old field West [sic, s/b East] of the Old Orchard thence South with said Old line crossing the Meadow 13 chains 69 links to a Stake thence South7-1/2East 16 chains to a Black Oak Stump the same course 20 chains to the Begining Containing Ninety One [91] Acres be the same more or less To Have and to hold the abovementioned premises clear of all incumbrances [etc] In Witness whereof

I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this 17th day of May in the year of our Lord One Thousand eight Hundred and thirty.[17 May 1830]

/s/ Richard (his mark) Horsley

Signed Sealed and delivered in presence of William Campbell, Susan (x) Horsley

State of South Carolina York District

[Proved in court by William Campbell for himself and Susan Horsley]

20 August 1833 /s/ Joseph McKenzie Q.U.

Recorded Aug 21st 1833

[Source: York County Deed Book L, p. 608. York County Courthouse, York, SC. Abstracted and transcribed by J. Horsley, with caps and comments in brackets added.]

Note:

This land that Richard gives to his son David and where David is then residing, was the southern half of the land Richard originally purchased in 1791 after arriving from Virginia from his brother Valentine Horsley, who had purchased it the year before. Richard gave the northern part to his unmarried daughter Susannah/Susan Horsley [*deed above*]. Richard's deed to Susan, dated 2 Feb 1830, says he gave David his land on the same day; however, for some reason David's deed is dated 17 May 1830, three months later, but only two days before Susan's deed was recorded on 19 May 1830. David's sister Susan also was a witness to David's deed.

David's land, like the land given to his sister Susan, was where they had grown up. David's land was bounded on the south by their uncle Valentine's old land, owned at this time by William Smith. Susan's and David's lands from Richard were bounded on the west by their now-deceased grandparents James and Patience Horsley's old land, part of which was owned at this time by Thomas J. Boyd. The boundary that formerly was between Richard and James had never been clearly defined and was finally settled by arbitration in 1836 [*see below*].

On 23 Mar 1833, three years after Richard gave David this land where Richard and Margaret (if she was not yet deceased) were still living, David mortgaged the 91 acres to secure a bond for \$120.25 to Andrew Hoyl and Andrew Greer "formerly merchants of Lincoln County, NC" of the firm Hoyl and Greer. [*YDBL:607*] (In 1848, Andrew Hoyl became the first postmaster of Dallas, Lincoln/Gaston County, NC, where David's family later moved.) The bounds of David's land in 1833 were James Graham, William Nolan, Mitchell Bradley, Susan Horsley (David's sister) and Robert Johnston. The 1833 mortgage was witnessed by William Campbell (who also had witnessed the deeds from Richard to his children) and J. L. McCarver. That mortgage deed was recorded 21 Aug 1833, the same day the deed for this land from Richard Horsley to David was recorded. It was not uncommon for a deed to be recorded only when it became necessary in order to sell or mortgage the land.

David apparently paid his debt with interest to Hoyl and Greer before 1 Nov 1833, the date the bond was due, since David did not have to forfeit his land. Ten years later on 29 Dec 1844, David Horsley and his wife Rachel sold 83.5 acres to Andrew Hoyl of Lincoln County, NC for \$250.50, with no indication it was in payment of debt. [*YDBN:466*] The bounds then were James Graham, David Neely, Mitchell Bradley, and Susan Horsley, with a corner at "Thompson's" line. The discrepancy of the acres between 91 and 83.5 was probably largely due to mis-estimation in the earlier deeds, as many of the Horsley property lines had never actually been measured. However, comparing the boundary



descriptions, David did, indeed, sell his total Mill Creek property in 1844, yet David and his family continued to live in York County about another twelve years. [See notes for 1850 census]

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### 1830 - US Census - York District, SC

Richard HORSLEY: Males: 1(70-80); Females: 1(40-50), 1(70-80)

David HORSLEY:

Males: 1(5-10), 1(10-15), 1(15-20), 1(40-50);

Females: 1(<5), 1(5-10), 3(15-20), 1(20-30), 1(40-50)

John B. HORSLEY - Males: 1(5-10), 1(20-30); Females: 2(<5), 1(20-30), 1(60-70)

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1830 – US Census - Upson Co., GA

Valentine HORSLEY with wife Sarah Kendrick were living with their son James Horsley.

Note:

Richard Horsley's daughter "Susan" (who never married) and his wife Margaret Brandon are in Richard's household. They and son David with wife Rachel Mayhew and family are the only remaining Horsley's from James and Patience's family still residing in York County.

The other Horsley listed, John B. Horsley, lived on the opposite side of the county, near where Bullocks Creek and Turkey Creek flow into the Broad River. There is no indication in the records that John B. Horsley was involved with or had any associates in common with Richard Horsley and the other Horsley families on Mill Creek.

DNA testing and records research confirm that the father of John B. Horsley and his brother Theophilus T. Horsley was not James Horsley Jr.'s son William, contrary to what was published in 1986 in *Horsley Families of America* by Brenda H. Scott and Roy D. Horsley. Recent research has also discovered that the father of John B. and T.T. was a William Horsley who died in Burke County, NC about 1809. Although DNA shows that the line of William of Burke and son John B. Horsley was related to James Horsley Jr.'s line, their relationship was a distant one. The last ancestor shared in common was likely no more recently than James Horsley Sr.'s great-grandfather to two generations earlier; that is, born about 1550-1600.

For details about this William Horsley of Burke Co, NC, his wife Hannah Ryan, and their children John B. Horsley, Theophilus T. Horsley, and Mary Horsley (who married Moses Parton), see my research report about them at: <[www.joanhorsley.org](http://www.joanhorsley.org)>

A report on John B. Horsley's York County deeds is on the same website. John B. married Pamela "Permelia" Huff, daughter of Jonathan and Agatha Huff, in York County, SC on 22 Sep 1825, In late 1839, John B. moved his family from York to Benton (now Calhoun) County, AL, where his brother Theophilus T. Horsley was already living.

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### 1832 – Richard HORSLEY applies for pension for Revolutionary War Pension

REVOLUTIONARY WAR PENSION APPLICATION FILE

Certificate of Pension issued 3 April 1833, York Co., SC - File S9354

BRIEF IN THE CASE OF RICHARD HORSELEY (sic) IN YORK DISTRICT IN THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA (ACT OF 7TH JUNE, 1832)

Declaration made in Open Court

Age at petition: 78

Service:

1780: 5 months, Stevens Brigade, VA Militia

1780: 1 month, Locke

1781: 4 months, Capt Bates, Gen. Stevens

Battles engaged in: Camden

Living when entered the war: Halifax Co., VA

Statement supported by traditionary evidence alone

Papers are properly authenticated

PENSION APPLICATION STATEMENT – Extract

16 Oct 1832, York County, South Carolina

Richard Horseley states he was born in Queen Anne's County Maryland and is now in his 78th year.

He entered the service of the United States as a drafted militia soldier from the state of Virginia where he had removed from Maryland in about the year 1780 in Gen. Stevens Brigade, under the command of Col. Glenn, Capt. Waddleton militia. They rendezvoused at Hillsborough North Carolina which was headquarters. They were met by Gen. Gates and Gen. Stevens. They marched from thence to South Carolina near Camden where an engagement took place where Gen. Gates was defeated in which engagement the applicant was. From thence he went with a detachment to Hogans Creek, North Carolina and from thence to Guilford Court House where they were taken under the command of Col. Morris and there he served out his time and was discharged after a service of five months.

In the spring of the same year of 1780 [sic, should be 1781] he volunteered for a twenty day service but served one month which by [?] was to go for three months which was where Gen. Green was retreating before Lord Cornwallis. This service was performed under Col. Locke and was rendered near Charlotte, North Carolina for one month and was discharged.

In the spring or June of 1781 he was again called out into service by virtue of the same original draft and marched to [?] Springs, VA and [beyond?] and thence to York Town then besieged by the American forces. He was placed again under Gen. Stevens command, Col. Ro[?] Regiment, and Capt. Bates company of militia. Here he remained until the capture of Lord Cornwallis after a service of four months.

During all this service, he was a resident of the state of Virginia Halifax County where he had removed from Maryland. Some years after peace, he thinks in 1792, he removed to York County South Carolina where he has lived ever since.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid in open court.

Signed: Richard (x) Horsley

## EXAMINATION IN OPEN COURT OF RICHARD HORSELEY

1. Where and in what year were you born?

State of Maryland, Queen Anne's County, 1754

2. Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

My age was put down in a book which my brother took off to Georgia

3. Where were you living when called into service and where have you lived since the Revolution and where do you live now?

When called into service I was living in Halifax Virginia. From there after the Revolution I moved to South Carolina York District where I now live.

4. How were you called into service, were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute and if a substitute for whom?

I was originally drafted and served for the most part under that at various times. I once acted as a volunteer for a month's service and never as a substitute.

5. State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served. Such Continental and Regular Regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

I served under the command of Gen. Gates, Gen. Stevens, Gen Washington, and one tour acted in conjunction with the 1st Regt. of Virginia Troops.

*[continued next page]*

6. Did you ever receive a discharge, if so by whom signed and what has become of it?

I accrued three discharges signed by Capt. Bates, Waddleton, and Starnes. I have lost them.

7. State the names of persons in your neighborhood to whom you are known and who can testify as to your character, your veracity, and their belief of your service.

I can refer to all my neighbors for my character in any way, but shall name Rev'd. John Rooker, James Glenn, and John Clarke.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid in open court. Signed: Richard (x) Horsley  
[16 Oct 1832, York County, South Carolina]

[Source: Revolutionary War Pension Application. NARA Series M805, Roll 442, File S9354. Microfilm images at HeritageQuest On-Line. Transcription and extract by Joan Horsley; paragraphing added.]

1836 – York Co, SC - Arbitrated Boundary Dispute with Richard, David, and Susan HORSLEY

Abstract

Dated: 18 May 1836

Parties involved: Richard Horsley, David Horsley, and Susan Horsley of the one part  
James L. Wright, Mitchell Bradley, and David Neely of the other part

Boundary involved: Land where Richard, David, & Susan Horsley now reside (deeded to Richard by Valentine Horsley 1791) and  
Land of Mitchell Bradley, sold to him by James L. Wright, and  
Land of David Neely, sold to him by William Nolan

Arbitrators: Larkin Stowe, Hugh Currence, William Campbell

Settlement: New boundary defined and agreed to by all parties; mentions "James Horsley's old house" and his "old orchard," "Valentine and James Horsley's old line," and Richard Horsley's "old corner."

Signed: Larkin Stowe, Hugh Currence, William Campbell (Arbitrators)

Witness: William N. Horsley - Proved 10 Oct 1836 - Recorded: 10 Aug 1837

Source: York County Deed Book M, p. 289-290. Abstract by Joan Horsley

Transcription

State of South Carolina

York District

No. 435

To all whom it may concern whereas a certain controversy having arisen between RICHARD HORSLEY DAVID HORSLEY & SUSAN HORSLEY of one part and James L Wright Mitchel Bradley and David Neely of the other part concerning the boundary of the tract of land whereon the said Richard David and Susan now reside the said tract of land having been conveyed by deed of VALENTINE HORSLEY to the said Richard Horsley bearing date 1791 and the boundary of said tract being also [interlined above: "a part of"] the boundary of Mitchel Bradleys land sold him by James L Wright and also a part of the boundary of David Neelys land sold him by W<sup>m</sup> Nolon [Nolan] And the said parties having agreed to arbitrate and settle all matters and controversies between relating to and having reference to said boundaries did on the 16th day of May 1836 chose nominate and appoint Larkin Stowe Hugh Currence & William Campbell arbitrators to settle upon and fix the proper boundary of Richard Horsleys tract of land as far as it is the boundary of Mitchel Bradleys and David Neelys land—

Now Know ye That we Larkin Stowe Hugh Currence & William Campbell arbitrators as aforesaid having examined the evidence produced and laid before us by the above parties do award as follows viz The division line between said parties shall begin at a Post oak on James Glens line RICHARD HORSLEY & Mitchel Bradleys [formerly JAMES HORSLEY] old corner and run thence South 6-1/3 East so as to just edge the woods directly east of WHERE JAMES HORSLEYS OLD HOUSE FORMERLY STOOD AND OLD ORCHARD NOW STANDS 60.36 chains to a stake on VALENTINE and JAMES HORSLEYS OLD LINE which East corner shall also be a corner of David Neelys land and we do further award that the said parties do remain satisfied with the above named division line and discontinue all disputes and controversies concerning or having relation there unto henceforth & forever Given under our hands and seals this 18th day of May in the year of our Lord One thousand Eight hundred and thirty six [18 May 1836] and of the sovereignty and Independence of the United States of America the sixtieth [year]

Signed: Larkin Stowe, Hugh Currence, W<sup>m</sup> Campbell [all by signature]

Witnessed by: WILLIAM N HORSLEY [by signature]

South Carolina

York District

This day personally came WILLIAM N HORSLEY before me and made oath that he was present and saw the within award signed and delivered by the within named arbitrators and that he subscribit as witness Sworn to this 10th day of October 1836 [10 Oct 1836].

/s/ WILLIAM N HORSLEY

Before me – Jo's McKenzie Q. U. [Justice of the Quorum]

Recorded 10th August 1837 [10 Aug 1837]

[Source: York County Deed Book M, p. 289-290. Transcribed by Joan Horsley from electronic copy of original received 7 Mar 2011 from Historical Center of York County, York, SC. Original spelling and punctuation retained, caps and comments in brackets added. (Deed missing in grantee/grantor indexes; reference with book/page in letter of 2 Nov 1982 from Wayne Howe to Roy Horsley, to me from Roy Horsley Feb 2011)]

**Note:**

The witness William N. Horsley is of particular interest. We shall discuss him in detail after an overview of the history of the Horsley properties that led to the necessity of establishing a clear boundary by this arbitration.

From 1791 through 1821, the families of James Horsley and his sons Valentine and Richard lived adjacent to each other on land originally purchased by Valentine in 1790, then divided into three almost-equal parts with his father and brother in 1791. Valentine lived on a portion on Mill Creek, and James and Richard were on Valentine's north side, with James west of Richard.

The boundary line that separated James from Richard and ran down to meet Valentine's land had never been clearly delineated or specifically measured. Being all in the family, there was no particular need. In 1830, after James' and Patience's deaths and Valentine's move to Georgia, Richard divided his land where he and his grown children still lived. Richard gave the northern half to his daughter Susan and the southern half to son David. Each of their properties had a western bound with James Horsley's former land. While some attempt had been made to define Susan's line (albeit a squiggly zigzag), David's line was as nebulous as ever: "to a Stake on the Old line in the Old field West of the Old Orchard thence South with said Old line crossing the Meadows," etc.

From around 1821 to the 1836 boundary settlement, James Horsley's old land was owned outside the Horsley family, mostly by land investors whose primary residences were elsewhere in York County, SC and adjacent Mecklenburg County, NC. The northern portion was owned successively by: John Feares [*whose purchase deed is missing but who appears to have bought it from Valentine abt. 1821*], to Thomas Boyd [1822, YDBI:472], to his son Thomas J. Boyd [1825, YDBK:430], to James Mason [*of Mecklenburg Co, NC, deed missing*], to James L. Wright [1832, YDBM:288], to Mitchel Bradley [*also of Mecklenburg, 1832, YDBM:289*]. The southern portion of James Horsley's old land (apparently where his "old house" and "old orchard" stood) was included in Valentine's 1821 sale of his own adjacent land to Thomas Boyd [YDBI:506], and continuing as a single tract it was sold by Thomas Boyd to his son Thomas J. Boyd [1825, YDBK:430], to William Smith [1826, YDBK:429], to William Nolan [1830-1833, *deed not obtained*] to David Neely [*by 1836, deed missing*]. minus a northern portion, previously part of James' old land, that Nolan sold to Mitchel Bradley [1835, YDBM:287] adjoining the portion of James' old land that Bradley already bought from Wright.

Thus, by the time of the 1836 arbitration, most of James Horsley's old land was owned by Mitchell Bradley, bounded on his east by Susan Horsley, and the remaining southern part plus Valentine's original land was owned by David Neely, bounded on his east by David Horsley. Since the original boundary between James Horsley and Richard Horsley and extending south to Valentine Horsley had never been measured and clearly defined, the present owners and their grantors requested arbitration to define a proper and equitable boundary. The resulting arbitrated boundary line to which all parties agreed was a beautifully straight and simple north-south line with little loss of acreage for anyone. Also, for the first time since James' original purchase from Valentine in 1791, we have the specific measurement defining where the southern part of James' property met Valentine's land, which clearly shows that part of the land Valentine sold to Boyd in 1821 had formerly been James' land that James sold to his son William in 1798.

James and Patience Horsley's former land is where lived their last several decades and where they died and were buried. Only by the chain of deeds for their northern portion from 1822 to 1832 do we learn of the relative large one-acre grave yard on their land. These later deeds reserved the grave yard and free access for the use of the "former connections" and for any current neighbors wishing to bury their dead in the grave yard. Undoubtedly, James, Patience, and their son William (d. c1799) were buried there and probably also their son Richard (d. c1838), Richard's wife Margaret Brandon (d. 1830-1840), and his daughter Susannah/Susan (d. 1851), as well as other close friends and neighbors. Bethel Presbyterian Church, several miles west, had long had its own cemetery, but the Mill Creek Baptist Church, a mile up the road from the Horsley's, was not established until 1840. According to Hart's 1971 survey, the earliest actual burials at Mill Creek Cemetery did not begin until at least the mid-1850's. Although Mill Creek Cemetery has memorial stones "to the memory of" others in that church community who had died earlier, some of them were likely buried in the grave yard on James Horsley's land. [See *Mill Creek survey after the 1850 census below.*] Sadly, this grave yard is not known to exist today, and no survey was ever made.

According to the 1870 census, Mitchel Bradley, at age 77, and his wife Nancy, age 83, were still living on James Horsley's old land that included the grave yard, which Bradley had purchased in 1832.

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William N. Horsley

William N. Horsley witnessed the 1836 agreement settling the boundary between James and Valentine Horsley's former lands and Richard Horsley's land that he had divided in 1830 between his children David and Susan.

*Horsley Families of America* (Scott and Horsley, 1986) mistakenly identifies William N. Horsley as James Horsley's son William. [p. 19] The authors apparently drew this conclusion because of the same first and last names, but they neglected the significance inherent in James' son William being recorded with no middle initial while William N. was.

Assuming undocumented middle names or initials for people born before 1800 commonly leads to misidentification. Middle names are not generally found in the South until the early 1800's, particularly beginning around the War of 1812, so we would not expect James' son William, born 1767, to have a middle name. Also, none of James Horsley's other children (or even their children) have middle names or initials on their records. Even when James deeded William the family land in 1798 deed, William's own father does not name him in a formal document with any middle initial, strong evidence in itself that William had none. In any case, we now have clear evidence that James' son William died about 1799 with no children.

Then who was William N. Horsley? The first clue comes from the 1836 document he witnessed that involved Richard Horsley (whose only son was David) and David Horsley, who owned one of the properties concerned. Finally locating the elusive William N. Horsley in censuses and following the trail from there, the evidence strongly indicates that he was the eldest son of David Horsley and his wife Rachel Mayhew.

In the 1860 census, "Wm. Horsely" is living in Sevier County, TN, and in 1870, still in Sevier County, he is specifically named as "William N. Horsley." [NARA Series M593, Roll1559, p. 468b; *HeritageQuest Online*]

He is listed in both censuses as being born in South Carolina between about 1809 [1860 census] and 1812 [1870 census], all of which fits with David Horsley's family and only his. David married Rachel Mayhew in York County, SC about 1803. Their first child was born about 1804 and last child was born about 1822. All of David's children were born in York County, SC.

In the York County censuses for 1820 through 1840, the eldest male child in David's household is in the age group that William N. Horsley, b. c1812, would be in, which is not the age group for David's other sons. The 1850 census lists no son of this age in David's household, and William N. is listed as "William Hosley," born SC, living in Knox County, TN, adjacent to Sevier. (William N.'s later wife, Lucinda, is likely the daughter "Lucindy" in the household of Jacob Kennedy with whom William was then living.) In addition to right age and birthplace, the names of three of William N. Horsley's five children - Jane, Margaret and David - give additional evidence he was a son of David Horsley. David himself had a mother and a daughter both named Margaret and a daughter Jane (who died shortly before William N.'s daughter of that name was born). David's wife's father was named William Mayhew, and the middle initial "N" could come from David's maternal grandfather John N. Brandon. David's wife's brother Reason Mayhew had a son named William N. Mayhew, called Newton, and William N. Horsley likewise had a son called by his middle name of Newton. Also, William N. Horsley is listed in 1860 as a miller, the same occupation as David Horsley's son Reason.

William N. Horsley's age, birthplace, and apparent father David also provide evidence he is the William N. Horsley who witnessed the 1836 settlement. In both the 1830 and 1840 censuses, David Horsley still had in his household an adult male of this William N. Horsley's age, and this male has not been otherwise identified. Since the boundary settlement involved David Horsley's land, William N. Horsley, as David's eldest son, would also have a stake in the settlement by virtue of possible later inheritance. No other possibility for the witness William N. Horsley has been found.

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#### **1840 - US Census - York District, SC**

David HOSLEY - Males: 1(15-20), 1(20-30), 1(30-40), 1(50-60) Females: 3(20-30), 1(40-50)  
Susan HASLEY [sic] - Males: none; Females: 1(50-60)

#### **Note:**

RICHARD HORSLEY, died about 1838. His wife MARGARET BRANDON, died between 1830-1840.

Their children David Horsley, with his wife Rachel Mayhew and children, and Susannah ("Susan"), unmarried, were the only Horsley's remaining in York County by 1840. They are recorded here as "Hosley" and "Hasley," both of which are commonly-found variants for Horsley, indicating how the name was sometimes pronounced.

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1840 – US Census - Upson County, GA

Valentine Horsley is the unnamed male age 80-90 living with his son James Horsley and family. Valentine's wife SARAH KENDRICK died 31 Oct 1836. VALENTINE HORSLEY died 18 Sep 1843.

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#### **1843 - Obituary of Valentine HORSLEY, then of Upson County, GA**

*Died. Another Revolutionary Soldier at Rest*

Departed this life on the 18th instant [18 Sep 1843], at the residence of his Son, James Horsley, Esq., VALENTINE HORSLEY, age 85 years and 8 months. He was born in the State of Maryland, and at the age of 15 he moved to the State of Virginia, where patriotism inspired his young mind with the love of liberty; he entered the service of his country in the Revolutionary War, after much toil and danger, was at the surrender of Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown. He afterwards moved to York District South Carolina, where he became a member of the Baptist Church, where he continued actively engaged in the service of his God nearly fifty years. Humility characterized him in all the transactions of his life. In his latter days, he was called to experience much affliction, during which time he manifested an humble resignation to the will of God. In life his motto was Holiness to the Lord, and in death thy Will be Done.

Thou art gone to the grave, we no longer deplore\* thee,  
 Though sorrows and darkness encompass the tomb,  
 The Savior has passed through its portals before thee,  
 And the lamp of his love is thy guide through the gloom.

[\*Archaic meaning: bemoan, lament, bewail, from Latin "to wail." –jh]

[Source: Article from an unnamed newspaper (probably the "Georgia Messenger") published in Macon, GA the week of 27 Sep 1843. My photocopy of the original article is from Gerald Horsley with note: "Copy Washington Memorial Library, 1180 Washington Ave, Macon, GA" and is included here with his permission. Transcribed by J. Horsley, with caps and comments in brackets added.]

Note:

Valentine and Sarah Kendrick Horsley are buried in the Horsley Cemetery outside Thomaston, Upson County, GA. *Horsley Families of America* describes the cemetery as "located from Thomaston Courthouse square out Waymanville Road one mile east of Wheelless crossroad on the right of the road." [Scott & Horsley, p. 10] Valentine's grave marker, erected in the mid-1900's, has two errors: his day of death and the state he served from in the Revolution. Valentine died 18 (not 8) Sep 1843 and served in the Revolutionary War with Virginia (not Georgia) troops.

The mention in the obituary of Valentine Horsley's presence at Yorktown during the Revolutionary War is the only detail we know of his war service, since Valentine's service records have not survived, and, unlike his brother Richard, he did not apply for a pension. The only official documentation that he served in the Revolution is the deed to "Volentine[sic] Horsley R.S." for the Lee County land he won (but never lived on) in the 1827 Georgia Land Lottery. [1827 LL Grants, Lee Co., Dist 29, p. 14] This fifth land lottery was the first to give special concessions to all Revolutionary War veterans, regardless of the state from which they served.

Lottery land grants that designate former Revolutionary soldiers are often confused with Georgia bounty land grants (which is probably why Valentine's 20<sup>th</sup> century grave marker mistakenly says he served with Georgia troops). Georgia's Revolutionary War bounty land grants were limited only to veterans who served as residents of Georgia or as "refugee soldiers" who had to flee their Georgia homes after the British occupation and then served from another state. Valentine Horsley served from Halifax County, VA, his home both before and after the Revolution, so he did not qualify for Georgia bounty land. However, he did qualify as a Revolutionary veteran for the 1827 Land Lottery, thus giving us documented evidence of his service. (For more explanation of the Georgia Land Lotteries



and the lands Valentine and his sons won in various lotteries, see my report *Valentine Horsley and Sarah Kendrick Family: The Georgia Years* at: <[www.joanhorsley.org](http://www.joanhorsley.org)>

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### 1850 - US Census - York District, SC

HORSLEY, David: age 68 [b. c1782] - Farmer - Real Estate: \$490 - born VA

Rachel: age 68 - born MD [spelled there "Meriland"]

Rebecca - 40 - b. York Dist., SC

Ellenor - 39 - York Dist., SC

Margaret E - 32 [33?] - York Dist., SC

[HORSLEY], "Reason Talbert" - 26 - Laborer - b. York Dist., SC

Howe, Thos - 17 - b. York Dist., SC

Nancy M. - 15 - b. York Dist., SC

Margaret E. - 12 - b. York Dist., SC

Richard O. ["Oates"] - 10 - b. York Dist., SC

#### Note:

Richard's son David Horsley with wife Rachel Mayhew and their children were the only Horsley's listed in York County this census, although David's sister Susannah/Susan was still living there as well.

David and Rachel Horsley sold their land on Mill Creek in 1844 [YDBN:466], and by this census they were living north of Rock Hill near Little Allison's Creek. (The census lists David with real estate valued at almost \$500, but no deed is recorded.)

Listed next to David and Rachel with their three unmarried daughters is "Reason Talbert," a farm laborer age 26, This is a mistaken entry and should be for David's son Reason Horsley. (Talbert may be a middle name?). Listed with Reason (but likely all living with David) were David and Rachel Horsley's four grandchildren by Jane Howe, their deceased eldest daughter. Jane Horsley Howe, wife of David D. Howe, died in the mid-1840's, leaving these four minor children who went to live with their Horsley grandparents after David Howe remarried about 1847 to Mary Glenn and began a new family. (Such situations were not uncommon.) In the 1860 census, both Reason Horsley and the four Howe grandchildren were listed in David Horsley's household. Neither Howe daughter married, and Thomas Howe died of disease in Virginia in 1862 while a soldier in the Civil War. Oates Howe married Francis Olive Ragan after returning from his own Civil War service and died in Gaston County, NC in 1914. [Howe family information from Oates' descendant Wayne Howe.]

In this 1850 census, David Horsley's family is listed two households away from his daughter Nancy Horsley who about 1847 married widower Augustine D. Choate with eight minor children from his previous marriage still at home. Nancy and Augustine did not have children of their own. They continued to live in York County until their deaths in 1890. Both are buried in the Allison Creek Presbyterian Church Cemetery, east of York, SC.

In 1856, David and Rachel Horsley's surviving daughters, Rebecca, Eleanor, and Elizabeth ("Betsy") Horsley and Nancy Choate (with her husband Augustine Choate) sold about 100 acres of land on Little Allison's Creek for \$1100. [YDBR:248] There is no purchase deed or any indication how or when they acquired this land, but it may have been an inheritance, possibly through their mother's family

David Horsley's wife Rachel Mayhew died between 1850-1860, and by the 1860 census David's family moved a short distance north to adjacent Gaston County, NC (formed from Lincoln County in 1841). The census lists David Horsley as head-of-house with his three unmarried daughters, his youngest son Reason, and the four Howe grandchildren. They were living next door to David's son Richard R. Horsley and wife Martha Stowe.

In the 1870 census, David Horsley, age 88, was living near the community of Dallas, Gaston County, about 30 miles northwest of Charlotte, NC. David died within the next 10 years. In the 1880 census his two surviving unmarried daughters, Margaret Elizabeth and Rebecca, were living with their nephew David R. Horsley's family, along with David's granddaughter Margaret Howe. David's son Richard R. Horsley's family was in the same vicinity. Today there are still Horsley families living in the Gaston and Lincoln County areas of North Carolina, just north of York County, SC.

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 Although David's sister Susannah/Susan Horsley is not in the 1850 census, she is still living in York County at this time. Susannah Horsley's will was dated 30 Dec 1850 and was proved in York County Court a year later on 30 Dec 1851. [York Co., Will Book 3, p. 245] Susannah, who never married, left her land "whereon I now reside" to her nephew (David's son) Richard R. Horsley and the remainder of her estate also to Richard R. along with his (then) three children, Abram Robertis, Nancy Amanda Jane, and Susannah Matilda Horsley.

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 Taken out from above:

Susan died in 1851 at about 67 years of age and devised this land to her nephew Richard R. Horsley, son of her brother David. Her will devised her land to her nephew Richard R. Horsley, second son of her brother David. (David's first son, William N. Horsley, left York County after 1840 and appears to be the "William Hosley" living in Know County, TN in the 1850 census.) Several years after Susannah/Susan Horsley died, her brother David and his son Richard R. moved to Gaston Co, NC. I could find no record of when or to whom Richard R. Horsley sold this land that had been in his family for over 60 years.

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 Will of Susannah Horsley - York County, SC  
 Written 30 Dec 1850; Proved 30 Dec 1851  
 York County Will Book 3, p. 245

In the name of God, Amen. I, Susannah Horsley, of the State of South Carolina and District of York, Considering the uncertainty of this life and the certainty of death and being of a sound and disposing mind and memory, do make and publish this my last will and Testament in manner and form as follows, vitz.

First, I give and bequeath unto My Nephew Richard R. Horsley my tract of land whereon I now reside to have and to hold to him and his heirs forever

Secondly, I further give and bequeath unto my sd. Nephew R. R. Horsley for the use and benefit of his three children vitz. Abram Robertis, Nancy Amanda Jane, and Susannah Matilda, to be equally divided between them all the remainder of my property of what nature and kind soever--

Lastly in consideration of the Legacy left to My Nephew R. R. Horsley, I do hereby make it obligatory on him at my decease to pay all my Just debts and funeral expenses--In witness whereof I hereunto

set my Name and affix my seal the 30th day of Decr. in the year of our Lord one thousand Eight hundred and fifty

I appoint R. R. Horsley My Sole Executor

Signed Sealed published and declared -- /s/ SUSANNAH (x) HORSLEY (her mark) LS  
in presence of: Jas. M. Stuart, E. J. Stewart, John A. Lany

Probated December 30th, 1851

[Source: Transcribed by J. Horsley from a typed transcript on the South Carolina State Archives Website, citing original as YWB3:245. South Carolina Will Transcripts (Microcopy No. 9) Series S108093 Reel 31 Frame 344 Record 57, SCDAH Website. Online at:  
<<http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/onlinearchives/Thumbnails.aspx?recordId=300224>> ]

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Valentine Horsley's Descendants after 1850

I follow Valentine and Sarah Kendrick Horsley's family into Georgia and beyond in my research report *Valentine Horsley and Sarah Kendrick Family: The Georgia Years*, online at: [www.joanhorsley.org](http://www.joanhorsley.org)

By the 1850's, some of Valentine Horsley's descendants had moved with their families from Georgia to Tallapoosa County, AL, including his son John Horsley, my great-great-grandfather. It was in Tallapoosa County in 1849 that John Horsley, then a widower and father of nine children, married Sarah Powell, widow of Elisha Lassiter and mother of seven children herself. They and their unmarried children comprised their household in Tallapoosa County, AL where they lived among numerous grown children and related Lassiter families. Sarah Powell Lassiter Horsley died in 1860, leaving John with 3 sons still under 10 years of age (one of whom was my great-grandfather, another the great-grandfather of Gerald Horsley, now of the Atlanta, GA area).

Valentine's son John Horsley died in 1872, and John's son (my great-grandfather) Leroy "Lee" M. Horsley and family along with other Horsley and related families moved to Marshall County, AL near Gadsden, while Gerald's great-grandfather Benjamin Franklin Horsley moved his family to Mississippi. (Ironically, Gerald went to college in that same small town near Gadsden, AL where a number of his Horsley relatives were living but about whom he knew nothing and was unaware until someone at his part-time job asked him if he was related to the other Horsley's in town, thus beginning Gerald's life-long interest in Horsley genealogy.)

About 1929, Lee Horsley's wife, my great-grandmother Elizabeth Davis Horsley became ill with cancer. She died in Lincoln County, NC, where three of their children were then living and nursing her, just north of where their great-great-grandfather James Horsley's family had moved 150 years before and where James and Patience Horsley died.

James and Patience probably were buried in or near what later became Mill Creek Cemetery.

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### **Mill Creek Cemetery, York County, SC**

"Mill Creek Cemetery" by Edgar Bryant

Mill Creek Cemetery is located in York County, S.C., not very far from present day Bethel Presbyterian Church. Go on highway 557 to stop light, turn left, go straight on highway 274 about 2 miles, turn left on Harper Davis Road, go about 1/4 mile. The cemetery is located on the right side of Harper Davis Road in a patch of woods. There is a rock wall in front of the cemetery. It is very old and has not been well kept, but most of the tombstones are still standing and readable. There are several graves that are marked with field stone with no names nor dates.

[Source: Submitted 21 April 2000 by Edgar Bryant to SCGenWeb Archives, York County. Online at: <<http://files.usgwarchives.net/sc/york/cemeteries/millcrk.txt>>]

"Mill Creek Epitaphs" by Joseph E. Hart, Jr.

The old Mill Creek Baptist Churchyard lies two or three miles north of the intersection of State Highways 49 [49/274] and 557 in the north-eastern edge of York County, SC.

[Source: York County Historical Society. Epitaphs copied Dec 1971 by Joseph E. Hart, Jr., Box 496, York, SC 29745. Copy to me from Gerald Horsley]

The following are selected names for Horsley and associated families from the combined lists of Bryant and Hart. (The only significant discrepancy is that Bryant seems to have confused information about Lucy Brandon and John Brandon, as noted below.)

Horsley, James Henry, son of R.R. and M. Horsley, 19 May 1856, 10 Oct. 1856

Brandon, Hugh B., Co. H, 18th. S.C. Inf. CSA

Brandon, Margaret M. E., 15 Jul 1833, Oct 1874

Brandon, James E., d 29 Jul 1854, age 2 years [same headstone as Margaret Brandon]

"Sacred to the memory of Lucy Brandon who departed this life December the 25<sup>th</sup> 1833 in the 46<sup>th</sup> year of her age"

"Sacred to the memory of John Brandon who departed this life November the 30<sup>th</sup> 1834 in the 12<sup>th</sup> year of his age"

[Bryant's list had only this, which seems in error:

Brandon, Lucy, 30 Nov. 1834, age 12 yrs.]

"To the memory of John B. Matthews and Saml. L. Matthews"

"Sacred to the memory of Saml Lambert who departed this life March 7<sup>th</sup> 1818 aged 78 years"

D. H., d. March 29 1830 (Bryant's note: This is a field stone. Not on Hart's.) [poss. a Horsley?]

Note:

"R. R. and M. Horsley" are David Horsley's son Richard R. and wife Martha Stowe who moved to Gaston County, NC by the 1860 census. This deceased infant James Henry was their last child.

The inscription transcribed as "Saml Lambert" is likely Samuel Lambeth who was named as a bound of the Mill Creek land James Horsley bought from his son Valentine in 1791. Samuel Lambeth and his son John Lambeth are the only names listed between Valentine Horsley and James Horsley in the 1800 York County census. (Richard Horsley, who also lived adjacent to James and Valentine, is listed 2<sup>nd</sup> below James.) By the 1820 census, the name Lambeth changed spelling from then on to Lambert, and it was likely Samuel's daughter "Sarah Lambert" who married Thomas Kendrick, Jr., brother of Sarah Kendrick, wife of Valentine Horsley.

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*End of Part II*

### **General Research Notes**

#### Note on Punctuation:

In my research papers I use an apostrophe with an "s" (i.e., Horsley's) as the plural form of a proper name, a usage that in today's American English is often deemed archaic. The advantage for our research purposes is that this form clearly delineates the core surname in a way that simply adding "s" or "es" often does not. Although I find this outdated form very useful for research clarity, I hope other grammar-sensitive readers do not find it overly irritating or distracting.

#### Note on Relationships Among Horsley Family Associates:

Information on the Horsley families' relationships is from my own research based upon primary records, which I attempt to hold to current standards for evidence and proof (or specifically note when that could not be done). However, relationships within families associated with them often are based chiefly on the most reliable secondary sources to which I had access, some of which have more documentation than others. These auxiliary and associated family relationships could not be held to the same proof standards of the primary families in this report due to limitations of time and resources. They are included in this report only as reference points, not necessarily as proved or fully documented relationships.

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### **Acknowledgements**

An early version of this report was shared with B. Gerald Horsley in August 2006 for his personal use. I am grateful to Gerald for his many years of contributing information and encouraging my research on our early Horsley family. Thanks also go to Horsley and Seward descendants Liz Gilbert, Bill Horsley, and Alvin Soward for their crucial contributions. And as always, a particular thank-you and hats off to Phyllis Harrison whose assistance keeps both me and my research going.

I also greatly appreciate the efforts of all those whose public information has assisted and contributed to this research. If I have neglected to give proper credit for material used in this paper, please let me know so I can correct the inadvertent omission.

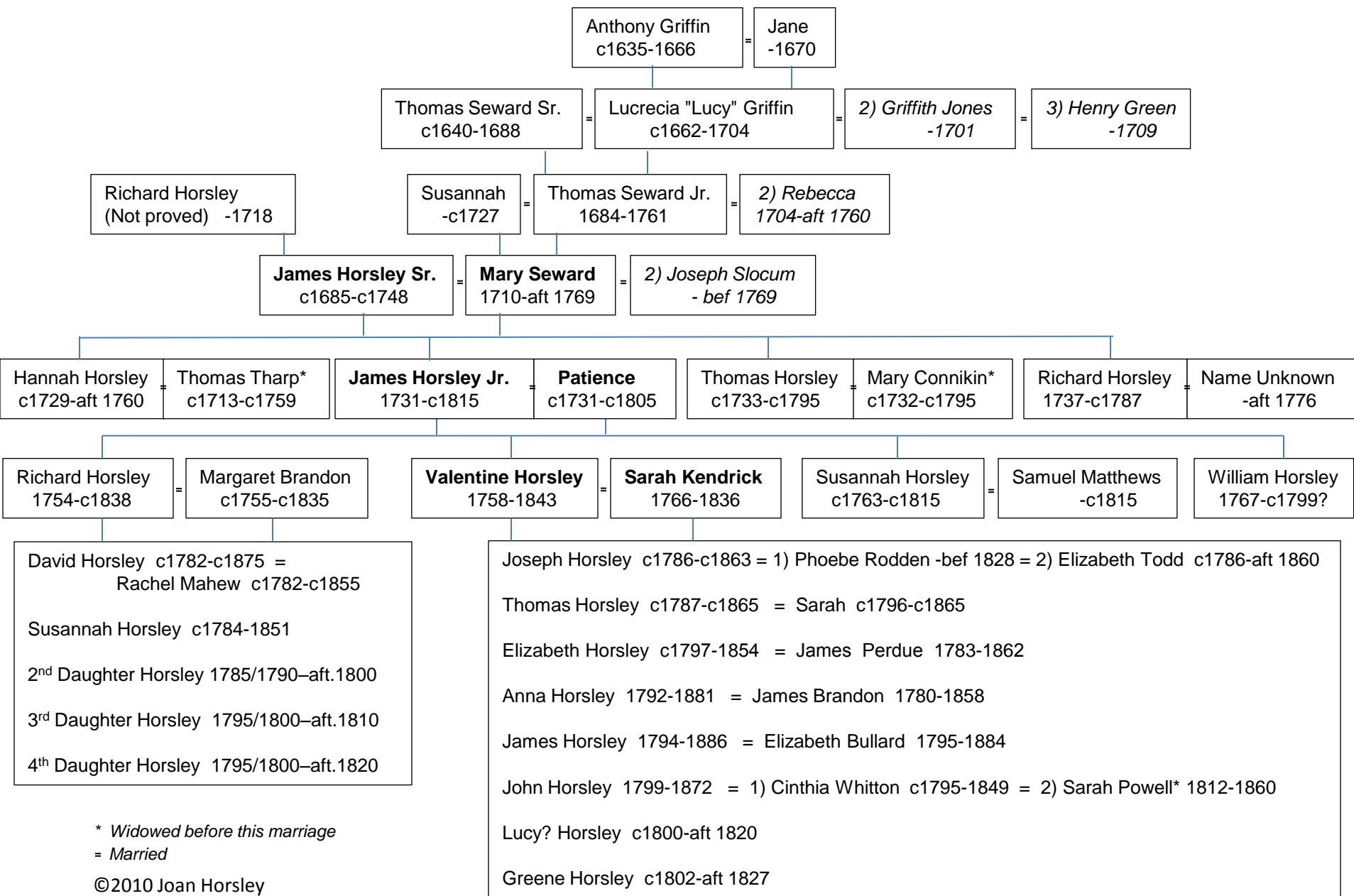
Research on this Horsley family line continues. Questions, documented corrections and additional information are welcome. Any changes will be posted on my website at: <[www.joanhorsley.org](http://www.joanhorsley.org)>

*Joan Horsley*

Fall 2010

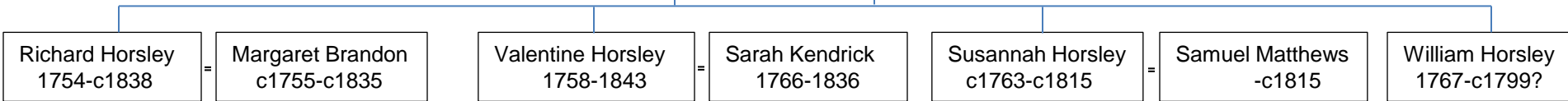
Contact: [JHGenResearch-Horsley@yahoo.com](mailto:JHGenResearch-Horsley@yahoo.com)

## Horsley Family Tree: Focusing on the Line of James Sr., James Jr. & Valentine Horsley



## Horsley Family Tree: Focusing on the Line of James and Patience Horsley

James Horsley Jr. 1731-c1815 = Patience c1731-c1805



1. David Horsley c1782-c1875 m. Rachel Mahew c1782-c1855  
 Children:  
 Jane c1804 - c1844 (m. David D. Howe)  
 Nancy c1807 - aft. 1870 (m. Augustine D. Choate)  
 Rebecca c1810 - aft. 1880 (never married)  
 Elenor "Ellen" c1811 - c1875 (never married)  
 William N. c1812 - c1875 (m. Lucinda c1833-c1865)  
 Margaret Elizabeth c1817 - aft.1880 (never married)  
 Richard R. c1818 - aft. 1880 (m. Martha Stowe)  
 Reason c1822 - c1865

2. Susannah Horsley c1784-1851 (never married)

3. 2<sup>nd</sup> Daughter Horsley 1785/1790–aft.1800

4. 3<sup>rd</sup> Daughter Horsley 1795/1800–aft.1810

5. 4<sup>th</sup> Daughter Horsley 1795/1800–aft.1820

Children have not been identified

Apparently died with no children

1. Joseph Horsley c1786-c1863 m1 Phoebe Rodden d. bef 1828  
 m2 Elizabeth Todd c1786-aft 1860  
 Nancy (Knowles), Smith, Sarah (Brady), Margaret (Clark), Malinda (Hamrick), Greene B., Mary K. (possibly also: Jack, David, Lucinda)

2. Thomas Horsley c1787-c1865 m. Sarah c1796-c1865  
 Andrew J., David V., Jacob K., Abram G., Martha A., Sarah Texas K.

3. Elizabeth Horsley c1797-1854 m. James Perdue 1783-1862  
 Greene H., Caroline, James Kendrick, Hiram, Enock, Elijah

4. Anna Horsley 1792-1881 m. James Brandon 1780-1858  
 John, Alexander, Thomas, Elizabeth, Mary, David, Sarah, Joseph, Greene, James Lawson, William, Nancy

5. James Horsley 1794-1886 m. Elizabeth Bullard 1795-1884  
 Sarah K. (Harp), James B., William G., Nancy Jane (Witchard), Elizabeth A. (Leggett), George W., Lucille "Lucy" A. (Kaigler)

6. John Horsley 1799-1872 m1 Cinthia Whitton c1795-1849; m2 Sarah Powell 1812-1860  
 Children of John & Cinthia: Eliza Ann (Rogers), George W., Joseph R., Green V., John Thomas, Sarah C.  
 Children of John & Sarah: Henry Marion, Leroy "Lee" Moseley, Benjamin Franklin

7. Lucy? Horsley c1800-aft 1820. Children, if any, unknown

8. Greene Horsley c1802-aft 1827. Children, if any, unknown

*For dates and marriages of Valentine & Sarah's grandchildren, see Addendum in "Valentine Horsley and Sara Kendrick Family" at [www.JoanHorsley.org](http://www.JoanHorsley.org)*

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