

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

Research Report by

Joan Horsley

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Revised 2010*

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

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. abt. 1838, 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; d. 1799?, prob. York Co., SC

Also possibly:

Rachel  
Elizabeth  
Mary

\*These children are supported by primary records, but I have found no documented evidence for Rachel, Elizabeth and Mary except possibly from the number of people in James' household in 1782 whose names were not given. The additional daughters' names come from *Horsley Families of America 1650 to 1986* Vol. 1 (1986) by Scott and Horsley, but they give no documentation or source.

Also, these authors list James Jr.'s son William with the middle initial "N.", but the only proved primary record found for him has no middle name or initial. Evidence discussed under 1798 in Part II: Timeline of Records indicates that the William N. Horsley, whom the authors found in York Co., SC in 1836, was not James Jr.'s son William. Instead, William N., born c1812, was James' great-grandson, a son of Richard's son David Horsley.

These authors also include a James Horsley (III) as a son of James Jr., but 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 DESCENDANTS:  
THE ROAD SOUTH FROM MARYLAND**

By Joan Horsley  
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Revised 2010

JAMES HORSLEY JR., son of James Horsley Sr. and Mary Seward, was born in 1731<sup>1</sup> in Queen Anne's County, Maryland. He grew up on a portion of Bishopsfield, land that had been in his mother's family since 1675 and deeded by Mary's father to James Sr. and Mary<sup>2</sup> a month after their marriage on 3 February 1728/9 in St. Luke's Parish, Queen Anne's County.<sup>3</sup> None of James Sr. and Mary's children are included in St. Luke's Parish christening records, but indirect evidence of place, time, and people associated on records with the Horsley's indicates that James Horsley Jr. had at least three siblings: an older sister Hannah Horsley who married Thomas Tharp,<sup>4</sup> and two younger brothers, Thomas Horsley who married the widow Mary Connikin,<sup>5</sup> and Richard Horsley.<sup>6</sup> James Jr. and his siblings grew up surrounded by his Seward grandparents and numerous uncles, aunts, and cousins from his mother's thirteen sisters and brothers. In 1748, when James Jr. was listed in the Queen Anne's County Militia at age 17, five of his Seward uncles were members as well.<sup>7</sup>

James' father James Horsley Sr. died earlier in 1748,<sup>8</sup> and his mother Mary re-married in St. Luke's Parish, Queen Anne's County on 26 Feb 1749/50 to Joseph Slocum.<sup>9</sup> We do not know if they had children, but none are mentioned in St. Luke's records. James Jr.'s step-father Joseph Slocum died prior to 1769 and possibly as early as 1754.<sup>10</sup> In 1783 in Queen Anne's County there were brothers Joseph Slocum in Corsica District and John Slocum in Tuckahoe District,<sup>11</sup> and each of their wills names a sister Ann whose married name was Smith or Goldsmith,<sup>12</sup> but who their parents were is not clear. The age of John Slocum's only daughter indicates there is a small chance that he and his siblings might be Joseph and Mary's children; however, this seems unlikely since so far nothing in the records indicates they lived near or were involved with the Horsley's or their associated families.

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>13</sup> (*Horsley Families of America* by Brenda Scott and Roy Horsley infers that he and his parents lived on Kent Island,<sup>14</sup> but evidence in land surveys, quit rent lists and militia rolls shows they lived on the mainland about 25 miles upriver from Kent Island. Even so, residents of both areas often were well-acquainted.) People who have been to the Church Hill, MD area recently say it looks much as it must have appeared in James' day—rural, with small farms on softly rolling hills crisscrossed by tributaries, streams and creeks from the river. Just across the Chester River from Church Hill is Chestertown, the county seat of Kent County. By today's standards Chestertown is a small county seat, yet historically well-preserved and with a fine liberal arts college.<sup>15</sup> 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 was "one of the gayest places in Maryland."<sup>16</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>17</sup> This deed is the only primary record I have found in their residences of Maryland, Virginia and South Carolina that gives us her name, and 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*, published in 1986, 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>18</sup> I searched for seven years for any leads in the records that would support James' wife as Margaret Valentine, but 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>19</sup> although the *Horsley Families* book says Richard's wife's name was Susan (perhaps because Richard did have a sister and daughter Susannah/Susan). If 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.

The surname of Valentine may have been presumed from the fact that James Jr. had a son named Valentine. 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>20</sup> For this service he received Revolutionary War Bounty Land in the part of Virginia that is now Kentucky or Ohio, and 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>21</sup> 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, nor does he seem to be a relative of Edward Valentine.

(It is possible that James and Patience Horsley's son Valentine Horsley may have been named for Valentine Carter of Kent Island, MD, a prominent man of Kent Island 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, abstract books of Maryland wills and deeds show that the name Valentine was somewhat popular around the time Valentine Horsley was born, so there may be no more than that in his 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, although his 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 was a Baptist.<sup>22</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 Patience is often found in Quaker names. 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 fairly well. One indication comes from the fact that in the 1760’s James was a security on the administrative bonds for two separate estates in probate, the estate of John Preston and the estate of Charles Gafford (sometimes spelled Garford).<sup>23</sup> Maryland State Archives records show John Preston died in Queen Anne’s County by 1766 when his estate’s administrative papers were filed.<sup>24</sup> Charles Gafford’s will was proved in Queen Anne’s County Court on 13 Oct 1768. His will was written three years earlier on 26 Aug 1765, and two of the three witnesses were James Horsley and Richard Horsley, James’ younger brother.<sup>25</sup> To qualify as security (or surety) for an administrative bond, a person had to be deemed by the Court to have adequate funds to cover, along with any other securities, all costs to the estate in the event the administrator of the estate was neglectful, incompetent, or illegal in his duties and forfeited his bond. Often an administrative bond could be as much or more than the worth of the estate itself. James Horsley was only in his mid-30’s when he secured these two overlapping bonds.

Since James Jr. apparently had good financial resources but is recorded as having only the 50 acres of Bishopsfield land, it seems likely that James Jr. was not a farmer/planter by profession but probably a store keeper or a craftsman instead. All of James’ records show him signing by mark rather than signature so he apparently did not serve a formal apprenticeship in a craft, as those contracts routinely included being taught to read and write. Master craftsmen qualified to have apprentices were not common at that time and place, and James’ father, a trained skilled carpenter who likely did qualify for apprentices, died about the time James Jr. would normally begin such an endeavor. However, many Colonial craftsmen learned their trade in other ways, and James Jr. could have acquired skills as a carpenter, cooper, or even a cordwainer (shoemaker) simply from his father or other family and friends who we know from records were in those occupations.

The children of James and Patience Horsley were all born and grew up on the Bishopsfield land that had been in the family almost 100 years<sup>26</sup> and for which James Jr. paid the yearly quit rent tax after his father’s death.<sup>27</sup> Even so, by about 1773, as the Colonies were approaching the Revolutionary War, James, then around age 40, moved his family 300 miles southwest to Halifax County, Virginia, at the Dan River near the North Carolina border.<sup>28</sup> Although most families migrated long distances in the company of related families and neighbors, I have found no Maryland associates of James Jr. or his family with him later in Virginia as we would normally expect (although Patience’s family might have had ties in both places). In fact, from the records there seems to be an unusual and pronounced lack of shared associates and mutual interactions 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 connections with Quakers in both locations (however there is no information that James Horsley Jr. or Sr. were Quakers themselves) and with other religious dissenters, particularly the Baptists in Halifax, VA. Quakers in

Maryland and Virginia were in contact through their organizational structures, and cross-colony contact on a less formal basis held also for Baptists (most of whose early church records in these areas no longer exist), so James easily could have learned of a community in Halifax where he thought the family would feel welcomed, which records indicate they indeed were.

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 was probably 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 shortly turned into false hope. His eldest son, Richard, was drafted from Halifax County into a Virginia militia unit for Revolutionary War service at age 26 in 1780,<sup>29</sup> and his son Valentine, then age 22, either enlisted or was drafted also.<sup>30</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>31</sup> Gen. Greene's strategies, more akin to guerilla warfare than formal campaigns, saved the war for the Patriots, but the fighting in South Carolina was especially savage.<sup>32</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>33</sup> One wonders, however, what James and Patience must have thought and 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 within a few miles of the Horsley's Halifax home, with Cornwallis' British at their heels, 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, Virginia. A strong force of Gen. George Washington's Patriot armies soon converged and laid siege to the town.

James' sons Richard Horsley and Valentine Horsley took part in the siege of Yorktown, VA where Lord Cornwallis surrendered to the Colonial forces on 19 October 1781, eight months after the Crossing of the Dan. Perhaps ironically for the brothers and their parents alike, that victory at Yorktown, which signaled the beginning of a successful end to the war for American independence, took place only 100 miles down the Chesapeake Bay from where both James and his sons had grown up and so recently 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 was named.<sup>34</sup> The number of persons is the sole indication I have found that might support James and Patience's having daughters Rachel, Elizabeth, and Mary. These three are listed as James' children in *Horsley Families of America*, but the authors give no source or any further information about them.<sup>35</sup> However, one or more of the additional household members enumerated could as well be farm laborers, orphans, household help, or others not related to the family. The authors also say that James had a son James (III), with no documentation; 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 a son of James Jr.'s brother Thomas Horsley, or less likely perhaps 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>36</sup>

The 1782 Halifax enumeration also included James' son Richard Horsley, recently married to Margaret Brandon.<sup>37</sup> There were 2 listed in their household, so as yet they had no children. However, 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>38</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 were close neighbors of the Horsley's.<sup>39</sup>

By the Halifax County enumeration of 1785 there were 6 "white persons" in James Horsley's household.<sup>40</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 and land tax records for Valentine Horsley indicates he and Sarah lived on his parent's land until Valentine moved his family to South Carolina about 1788.<sup>41</sup> As in the 1782 enumeration, James and Patience's son William, born 1767,<sup>42</sup> would be another in the household, which leaves one person unidentified in 1785, who again could be related or not. If there were other daughters in 1782, they may have married or died in the interim since no records have been found for them.

A York County, SC deed of 1798 shows that James and Patience's son, age 21 in 1788, was named William Horsley.<sup>43</sup> That deed from James Horsley does not name William with any middle name or initial, so it is highly unlikely that he had one, especially since middle names were not common in the South until the early 1800's and none of James' other children are on records with middle names or initials. Thus the William Horsley in 1798 would not be the same person as the William N. Horsley, whom authors Scott and Horsley say was James Horsley's son. They mention a record (but give no citation) for a William N. Horsley in York County, SC in 1836 regarding a property boundary dispute.<sup>44</sup> However after investigating the people involved in the dispute as well as the U. S. census records from 1800 through 1880, I have found good evidence that William N. Horsley, who was living in Sevier County, TN in the 1860 and 1870 censuses, was a son of James' grandson David Horsley whose father was James' son Richard. (I discuss this evidence at length under the deed of 1798 in Part II: Timeline of Records, as well as the mystery of what became of James' son William, for whom no later records have yet been found.)

From 1787 through 1790 the Halifax County, VA land tax lists show James had 100 acres and his son Richard had 200 acres,<sup>45</sup> which matches the amount of Halifax land each bought in 1775 and 1778 respectively.<sup>46</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 and lived there over twice as long as in Halifax.

Yet James Horsley, then about 60 years old, and his family migrated again around the end of 1790 or early 1791, this time to York County, SC.<sup>47</sup> 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 Halifax, in addition to the common threat of property loss due to war debts, a cabal of early Virginia Scots immigrants was able to gain a stranglehold on the credit market which then began a large-scale exit from Halifax County that continued for decades and from which it never recovered.<sup>48</sup>

On the other hand South Carolina, like its neighbors Georgia and Alabama, was attempting to attract "white" settlers by offers of cheap land in order to establish settlements in areas from which the Native Americans, by broken treaties and promises and by force, were being "removed." James' son Richard Horsley had served during the Revolution in Camden, SC and near Charlotte, NC, not far over the South Carolina/North Carolina border from York County and at times Gen. Greene's headquarters. His brother Valentine Horsley may also have been in the vicinity of York County, near where the important battles of Kings Mountain and Cowpens took place. Perhaps they had found in the climate, the landscape and the new opportunities in 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. 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 sons Richard and Valentine, daughter Susannah Matthews and her husband Samuel, Valentine's wife Sarah's Kendrick family, and the Brandon's (who were Halifax neighbors and in-laws) were soon together in the York County, SC area. It is interesting that living near them in the York County 1800 census was Luke Vickery, related to Mary Vickery/Vickers who in 1697 in Talbot County Maryland married Richard Horsley, likely related to James Horsley's line (see my report on James Horsley Sr.). Although I find no Vickery or Vickers in Halifax County, VA during James' stay there, frequently families 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.

The area of York County, SC where the Horsley families moved was known as Mill Creek, about 12 miles east of present-day Clover, SC.<sup>49</sup> It is located at the South Carolina/North Carolina border south of Charlotte and Gastonia, NC. James' son Valentine was on a crew of neighbors responsible for the upkeep of the road from the North Carolina border to the ford of Crowders Creek,<sup>50</sup> a large stream feeding into the west side of present-day Lake Wylie which divides York County, SC from Mecklenburg County, NC. (The border between York Co., SC and Mecklenburg Co., NC was in flux in the late 1700's and some records in each were recorded in the other. However, extensive searching in Mecklenburg County, NC records of deeds, wills, tax lists, guardians/estates, etc. through at least the 1820's has found no Horsley in Mecklenburg.)

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>51</sup>

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

The Horsley's and their relatives and friends became an active part of those small farming communities. At least James' son Valentine and family were known to be York County Baptists<sup>52</sup> and perhaps members of Flint Hill Baptist Church. The minister John Rooker was a close neighbor of Valentine Horsley, and Rev. Rooker was named by Valentine's brother Richard Horsley as a 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 was Robert Mursh, 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>53</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.

(A brief aside: Valentine's grandson Leroy Horsley in Alabama married Elizabeth Davis whose ancestors had lived in early King William County, VA, the home of the Pamunkey Indians, and were closely involved with the early Hawkins family of Rev. Rooker's wife. When Valentine Horsley and his family left York County in the early 1820's, he moved to Monroe County, Georgia where the Davis's were living at the time. "Coincidences" such as these no longer surprise me, for I have found them to be a normal part of the generational intertwining of our early families' communal web. The homeland of the Pamunkey Indians that became King William County was first York County, Virginia, where both the early Davis family and Robert and Ralph Horsley lived in the 1640's. Part of York County became New Kent County, where a Rowland Horsley lived around 1700, near where the Davis family lived before the formation of King William County in 1701. Thus, this is another connecting thread that needs further tracing for our James Horsley family, because records show that Ralph Horsley and Robert Horsley of York County, VA were involved with and may have resided earlier in Maryland, to which at least one descendant, Joseph Horsley, and possibly others returned, and where we first find James Jr.'s father James Horsley Sr. in the records in 1712. Though we have found no evidence that James Sr. was directly descended from Robert Horsley or Ralph Horsley, there seems a distinct

possibility that the Horsley's in Virginia and the Horsley's in Maryland in the later 1600's could be related in some way, and more research is needed.)

James and Patience continued to live on their Mill Creek York County land purchased upon their arrival, adjacent to their sons Richard's and Valentine's families, with their daughter Susannah Matthews and her family living nearby. Apparently their youngest child, William, was still living with his parents and likely was assuming the bulk of the farming and upkeep, since James was then in his later 60's. On 3 Aug 1798, James sold his land to William, then age 31. Oddly, though, less than two years later, William does not appear in the 1800 census in York County or anywhere else. Since he is not the "William N. Horsley" in York County in 1836, and since no further record of him has been found in South or North Carolina or elsewhere, it appears James and Patience's son William may have died in York County about 1799. (For more details, see notes for the 1798 deed in Part II: Timeline of Records.) The 1800 census shows James still living on the same land, with only himself and a woman of the same age category, presumably Patience, in his household.

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

The Mill Creek Cemetery, near the creek about eight miles east of Clover, SC still has identifiable gravesites of Horsley and related Brandon and Kendrick family members.<sup>54</sup> While the grave markers of James and Patience cannot be located today, they too may have been laid to their final rest in this York County, SC cemetery.

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 of them 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 stop there for a number of James and Patience Horsley's family. While some, such as their daughter Susannah Matthews and their son Richard's son David Horsley, moved to the Lincoln and Gaston County area of North Carolina just north of York County, SC, their son Valentine and many of James and Patience's' grandchildren soon moved further south into Georgia. They settled in what was then the western edge of central Georgia at the border of Creek Indian territory, and some later spread into eastern Alabama, covering an area in both states where a number of their descendants still live today.<sup>55</sup>

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)

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### **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> 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>3</sup> Marriage of James Horsley and Mary Seward. St. Luke's Parish, Queen Anne's County, MD Marriage, Birth, and Death Records. MSA. Annapolis, MD.

<sup>4</sup> Married 10 Oct 1749. St. Luke's Parish Records, Queen Anne's County, MD. MSA, Annapolis, MD.

<sup>5</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>6</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>7</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>8</sup> *Ibid.* Note: See discussion of this under 1748 in Part II: Timeline of Records.

<sup>9</sup> Joseph Slocum married Mary Horsley by publication (ie, banns). St. Luke's Parish, Queen Anne County Marriage Records. MSA. Annapolis, MD.

<sup>10</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>11</sup> 1783 Queen Anne's County 1783. Index to Maryland Assessment of 1783. MSA S1437. MSA, Annapolis.

<sup>12</sup> Leslie Keddie. *Queen Anne's County Maryland Orphans' Court & Registrar of Wills* (Salisbury, MD: Family Tree Bookshop, 2001) 1786 Will of John Slocum, Vol. 10, p. 40; 1789 Will of Joseph Slocum Vol. 11, p. 22.

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<sup>13</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>14</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>15</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>16</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>17</sup> Halifax County, VA Deed Book 14, p. 616. Halifax County Courthouse, Halifax, VA.

<sup>18</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>19</sup> Halifax County, VA Deed Book 16, p. 396 and Deed Book 18, p. 53. Halifax Courthouse, Halifax, VA.

<sup>20</sup> Revolutionary War Pension File S30490, Series M805, NARA. Online image at HeritageQuest.

<sup>21</sup> Revolutionary War Bounty Warrants Records Images, Library of Virginia, Richmond, VA.

<sup>22</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>23</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. Thanks to Bill Horsley for alerting me to James' sureties by e-mail Aug 2008.

<sup>24</sup> Probate Records, Colonial, Index, P, 1634-1777, SE4-16. QA No. 2064. MSA.

<sup>25</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."

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<sup>26</sup> *Horsley Families of America* says James' son Valentine was born in "Monforth, Maryland" with no source or documentation (p. 10). I have not been able to learn of any place called Monforth (using various spellings) in county histories, historical maps, tax district lists, and rent roll estates, or in 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." Although Sarah almost certainly was born in Virginia, a Welsh heritage is possible, and there are two places in northeastern Wales with names close to "Monforth." If the place-name came through down through family story, we frequently find family lines and generations get confused in the stories over time. Knowing from whom or where "Monforth" originated might help us unravel this puzzle.

<sup>27</sup> Queen Anne's Co. Debt (Quit Rent) Book 1734-1775. MSA. Annapolis, MD.

<sup>28</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>29</sup> Revolutionary War Pension File S9354, Series M805, NARA. Online image at HeritageQuest.

<sup>30</sup> Obituary of Valentine Horsley.

<sup>31</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 units.

<sup>32</sup> Walter Edgar. *Partisans & Redcoats: the Southern Conflict that Turned the Tide of the American Revolution*. (New York : Morrow, 2001).

<sup>33</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>34</sup> List of Inhabitants 1782-1785. Miscellaneous Reel 1263. Library of Virginia, Richmond, VA.

<sup>35</sup> Scott and Horsley, p. 6. Note: Their list of children's names may have come from 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>36</sup> For more census details, see page 45 of my report on James Horsley Sr. at [www.joanhorsley.org](http://www.joanhorsley.org)

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<sup>37</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>38</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 listed as security on the bond. I was first informed of this marriage bond by e-mail from researcher Bill Horsley.

<sup>39</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>40</sup> List of Inhabitants 1782-1785. Miscellaneous Reel 1263. Library of Virginia, Richmond, VA.

<sup>41</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>42</sup> William first appears as a male 21 or over in James Horsley's household in the 1788 Halifax personal property lists. (Halifax PP Taxes 1782-1800. Reel 147. Library of Virginia. Richmond, VA.)

<sup>43</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>44</sup> Scott and Horsley, p. 19.

<sup>45</sup> Halifax County VA Land Tax 1782-1800A. Reel 128. Library of Virginia, Richmond, VA.

<sup>46</sup> Halifax Deed Book 10, p. 90; Halifax Deed Book 11, p. 353. Halifax Courthouse, Halifax, VA.

<sup>47</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 land tax lists after 1790.

<sup>48</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>49</sup> York County SC Deed Book C, p. 414. York County Courthouse, York, SC.

<sup>50</sup> Laurence K. Wells. *York County, South Carolina, Minutes of the County Court, 1786-1797* (1981). p. 139. Citing York County Minute Book B, p. 76.

<sup>51</sup> York County (SC) Convention and Visitor's Bureau Website. Online at:

<<http://www.visitryorkcounty.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)>

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<sup>52</sup> Obituary of Valentine Horsley.

<sup>53</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>54</sup> Epitaphs copied Dec 1971 by Joseph E. Hart, Jr. York County Historical Society, York, SC.

<sup>55</sup> There is a Horsley Family Reunion in this area each year for Horsley descendants of James Horsley Jr. and of Theophilus T. Horsley and John B. Horsley. It is usually held around LaGrange, GA with alternate years held in the same vicinity of adjacent Alabama. That makes it convenient to the majority of "old Horsley families" spread around the area from Gadsden, Birmingham, Alexander City, and Montgomery in Alabama, to Dawson, Columbus, Carrollton, and Atlanta in Georgia. A primary coordinator each year is Alabamian Brenda Horsley Scott, co-author of *Horsley Families of America*. The reunion is a small country affair, fitting for a relatively small family line with deep rural roots. An early version of this report was shared with Gerald Horsley in Summer 2006 for his personal use at the Horsley Reunion.

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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:**

Based on James' given age at this deposition, he was born in 1731 according to the calendar in use today. However, if James was born between Jan 1 and Mar 25, he would have been born in 1730 by the "old style" calendar used at that time. The Julian or "old style" calendar began the year on March 25 and was in use in the Colonies until 1752. This court record in 1756 was based on the Gregorian or "new style" calendar still used today, which begins the year on January 1.

Dates from Jan 1 through Mar 24 prior to 1752 are often shown as "double dates" (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.]

**Note:**

This definitely would be James Jr., not Sr. First, because James Sr. almost certainly was age 21 or over by 1712 when he first appears in Maryland records, making 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 or 18, according to the deposition above. Secondly, Thomas Seward, whose father Thomas was still living, 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 "Private Thomas Seward Jr." and also brothers of James Horsley Jr.'s mother Mary Seward, the eldest of her father's 14 children by two wives. John Seward and Isaac Seward on this militia list are known to be children of Mary's father's second marriage. (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 (see 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).

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### **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:

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 the Horsley and Seward families 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 likely his younger brother, especially since no other Horsley families have been found in the area at the time except James Sr.'s family, and no alternate father for Richard has been found in Maryland. (James Jr. had a son Richard, but he would be 11 at this time, and not of age to witness a will.) This witness Richard Horsley was born 1737 according to a Queen Anne's court deposition Richard gave in 1784. [*Peden, More Maryland Deponents*, p. 57] By a tax list index for 1783 he was living in the same part of Queen Anne's County where James Sr. and Jr. had lived. [*QA Assessment of 1783 Index, MSA*] Richard Horsley is not in the 1800 census for Maryland, so may have died by that time. (See more information about this Richard Horsley in my research report for James Horsley Sr. and family.)

While the *Calendar of Wills* compiler F. Edward Wright does not include whether a person signed by signature or mark, Leslie Keddie's abstract does specify that both James and Richard signed by mark, and indeed on all James Horsley's Virginia records, he signs 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 was more difficult. The officially-established Anglican Church also found this a problem and in the South had more difficulty enforcing mandatory church attendance 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, 20 miles or more from Bishopsfield, and it was poorly attended, under-funded, ill-housed, and had difficulty obtaining and keeping qualified teachers. As was the rule, the school was also heavily influenced and operated by the teachings and vestrymen of the Anglican Church, which 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.

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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 Elizabeth Preston [sic; should be widow, Elizabeth 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 Preston’s in Dorchester, where the early Richard Horsley (d. 1718) had lived and who may be James Sr.’s father, were intermarried with Edmondson’s, also associated with James Sr. and Mary Seward Horsley’s earlier families, and a James Edmondson was paid from John Preston’s estate. Verifying the identity of this John Preston may help to strengthen the evidence of connections between the early Horsley’s in Maryland and James Horsley Jr.’s family, as discussed in detail in the paper on James Horsley Sr.

Also notable among those paid by John Preston’s estate were Benjamin Gould, with 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, then Mary Slocum, 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, apparently 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.

Once again, we see the estate paid debts owed to Benjamin Gould and Thomas Wright, as with the John Preston 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 written in 1754, 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, 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 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 husband, 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 in that sometime shortly thereafter, her son James Horsley Jr. and his family, including grown children, moved to Halifax County, Virginia, indicating the possibility that Mary may have gone with them. Thomas Wright would not have resided on this land, having his own plantation of residence along with numerous investment properties. Thus, as was customary by arrangements with the new owner, Mary and James Jr. with his family probably continued to live on Bishopsfield as they made their 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 (which was probably in 1748 and at least before Feb 1749/50, when his widow Mary remarried). 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, to be passed on to "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 some of the history of the Bishopsfield land, which had been in Mary's family since 1675. The description on the original patent to Seward 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.

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 James' family apparently 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 in 1843 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 commonly people 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 he 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 "of Halifax Co." bought Halifax County land (record below).

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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. The 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 have proof that James' son Richard Horsley, who witnessed this deed, was living in Halifax County by early 1775, although in his pension statement of 1832 at age 78 Richard says he moved to Halifax County about 1780, likely the influence of inexact memory at that age. (This 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*]) Further evidence of Richard's earlier Halifax presence comes from his own purchase of Halifax land in February 1778 (see record below).

Richard's mark seems very unusual, a kind of stylized R on its side. Obviously from the records the recording clerks found it difficult to copy, as the marks sometimes barely resemble each other, and in 1832 the clerk recording Richard's Rev War pension statement simply entered an "x". It is interesting that Richard, James' eldest son, could not sign his name, whereas James' second son, Valentine, could write. Especially given his complicated mark, one wonders if Richard was indeed literate but had a hand injury or malady, perhaps even from his Revolutionary War service as is commonly found, but this is merely speculation.

James Horsley's deed of purchase is recorded, after being "proved" in court by the oaths of the witnesses, immediately following the deed of Thomas Kendrick purchasing land from John Dameron

(see record below). That land of Thomas Kendrick was adjacent to James Horsley and dated 6 Jan 1776, a year after James' purchase, although 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)*] Thomas Kendrick was the father of Sarah Kendrick who married James' son Valentine Horsley about 1785.

Looking to identify the grantor Joseph Patterson, among miscellaneous Patterson records I found this, showing Thomas Kendrick to be living in the same immediate area as James Horsley's 1775 purchase and among others on later records with both Thomas Kendrick and James Horsley:

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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 wife's dower by the above-named William Patterson (next record below). [*HDB10:90*] Even with these and other Patterson records I located, I cannot learn much background information about the Halifax County Patterson's, who originally may have come from Augusta County, VA.

What seems certain is that none of the Patterson's were related to James Horsley or seem to have any prior connection with James or his family in Maryland. So the Patterson's do not help answer the question of what or who motivated James Horsley to move himself and his family from Maryland to Halifax County, VA. (See notes for deed of 6 Jan 1776 below for more on this subject.)

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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 John Horsley, a grandson of James Horsley Jr., in Georgia in 1824. However, a "Thomas White" was 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 generations of Thomas Kendrick's descendants. There were early Lawson families in Gloucester County, VA, although to my knowledge the Halifax Lawson's 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.

**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 January 1775, and which he sold by deed dated 26 November 1789, prior to moving to South Carolina. Thomas Kendrick sold this tract of 160 acres in 1781 to John Moore (see record below). Thomas and his family moved to York County, SC about the same time as the Horsley families did, including Thomas' daughter Sarah, wife of James' son Valentine Horsley.

Searching for an answer to James' motivation to move to Halifax County, VA, records for James' adjacent neighbor and later in-law Thomas Kendrick may give us more clues. By 1761, Thomas Kendrick had connections in Halifax County with a McBee family (spelled variously 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 Horsley Jr.'s father was recorded as residing in those Maryland counties, approximately between 1712 and 1720. Also, 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 Halifax 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, I have found no record in Maryland or Virginia that 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 seem to be the primary (perhaps only) continuity between James' life he left in Maryland and his new life in Virginia. Unlike the majority of long-distance migrants, James Horsley and family in Halifax did not seem to arrive or live near anyone who had been a neighbor or associate in Maryland (unless there are so-far unknown connections with James' wife and her 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?

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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 Horsley and

Richard Horsley, 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 is likely related to Thomas Kendrick's wife Nancy, whose daughter Sarah Kendrick married James Horsley's son Valentine shortly after his 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. William Brandon is also said to have had a brother David Brandon whose Halifax will is dated 16 Mar 1769 and proved 17 July 1778, but who 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. (Richard's father James Horsley was another witness to that deed.) Richard Horsley married about 1781 to Margaret Brandon, an heir and apparent daughter of John N. Brandon, possibly a 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, and Lawson families of Halifax County, and that the will witness Samuel Matthews was among the same group of people.

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### **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 in Halifax and in York County, SC 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.

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### **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 to whom Thomas Kendrick sold land and personal property in 1773. 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).

Marriage Bonds and Ministers' Returns of Halifax County, Virginia 1753-1800 by Catherine L. Knorr (1982), p. 53, says that Thomas Lawson married Hannah Fuqua 4 January 1782. Joseph Fuqua, Sr. guardian of Hannah consents. The bond was secured by John Moore (presumably the same as on deed from Thomas Kendrick above) and witnessed by Henry Goare.

Richard Kirby, named as a bound on this land along with James Horsley, is most 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).

### **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 how each state would be taxed by the US government needing to pay for the almost ruinous costs of the war. This Virginia census in 1782 counted the whites and blacks (mostly slaves). The Virginia census in 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 enumerations 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 probably married shortly before this census, as his first child was born at the end of 1782 or beginning of 1783. 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, who may or may not be related. It does leave open the possibility that the Rachel, Elizabeth and Mary named in the 1940 Dale Grammar Hopper affidavit as daughters of James Horsley Jr. and repeated in *Horsley Families of America* (1986) could be three of those unidentified in this census. However no documentation, records or other indication of them have been found, and not all are still in James' household three years later in the 1785 (see record below).

### **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 married about 1785.

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

2 Aug 1784 – Caswell County, NC

Marriage of Samuel Mathis [MATTHEWS] and Susannah HORSLEY

Bondsman or witness: 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). This or a closely-related 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. Records give evidence that Samuel Matthews was also of Halifax County, so it is unclear why they went to Caswell County to marry. Sometimes a church's membership or a traveling minister would cover a several county area, and they may have married where a church or minister was located at the time. In Virginia if a son or daughter was under age 21, parental consent was needed to marry. North Carolina laws need to be investigated to see if the same held there, since couples sometimes crossed into an adjacent colony with less strict marriage requirements. However, in this case, there is

no sign of family disapproval, since Samuel and Susannah Horsley Matthews went with the Horsley families to York County, SC, lived next to them there, and Samuel is on a number of Horsley records.

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 may have been previously married and already had children when he married Susannah in 1784, possibly including a John, Samuel, and Joseph Matthews. A John Matthews in York County, SC, seems of an age to be Samuel's son, and Samuel sells him 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 Samuel who was born 1783 according to the 1850 York County census (although census ages are often inexact). One of the witnesses to the 1797 deed from Samuel Matthews to John Matthews was Joseph Matthews, who may be another son of Samuel, and if so, he too was born before Samuel and Susannah were married. In the 1820 Lincoln County, NC census, he was age 45+, married about 1810 with a much younger wife and small children. Because of the large age categories in early censuses and gaps in the census records, all this is very inexact, but enough at least to speculate that Samuel could have been previously married and had children from his first marriage.

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). If this is not the same Samuel, then the Samuel who married Susannah would likely be in this household or in the household of John Matthews in Halifax in 1782, with 7 "whites" and 4 "blacks" (usually indicating that this earlier John Matthews was older than Samuel due to John's having more wealth, based on his owning a higher number of slaves than average for this 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, in this case indicating the families lived near each other. 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 on tax lists as "etc," but this is only speculation. (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 SC, there is still a James and Joseph Matthews on tax lists in Halifax, who may be brothers of Samuel. Susannah Horsley's husband Samuel's possible sons were also named James and Joseph and were heading households in Lincoln County NC (where Samuel and Susannah moved about 1802) in the 1810 and 1820 censuses respectively, as was the possible son Samuel Matthews discussed above. James Matthews, age 16-21 in 1810, and one or more of the other Lincoln County Matthews 1810-1820 (Abram, Nathan, William, and Anderson) could be sons of Samuel and Susannah Horsley Matthews.

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 supposedly (but not

yet proved) 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 recorded with interchangeable spellings. Thus we cannot separate one family line or set of early relationships from another based simply on the spelling of their names.

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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 often 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, 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 not be included in James' tax list since Valentine was then responsible for his own taxes as head of his own family. 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 to each state, not for individual tax purposes. Thus



once again Valentine, if indeed he and his wife Sarah were living on James' land and in his household as it seems, would not need to be listed separately as a head-of-household even though he probably was head of his own family by now. (Valentine's eldest son was born in 1786.) 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.

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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 wealthiest, 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 each or both James and Richard were leasing the slave from his or her owner and paying tax as part of the agreement.

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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.]

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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 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 known son, William. We learn from the 1786 tax list that this son is not yet 21, since James has only 1 male tithe 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 perfectly 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 left Halifax County probably late 1788, since he witnessed the York County, SC deed of his brother-in-law Samuel Matthews on 28 Jan 1789, and tax payments were not due until December. 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.

### 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.

### 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 in late 1790 or early 1791. James, however, sold 38 acres more than are accounted for in deeds or land taxes, but this may be due to a resurvey rather than an unrecorded deed.

### 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 ensealing 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 & appurtinances [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 done 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 and proved 28 Jan 1799 that names Richard Horsley and Abner Rodden as legatees of John N. Brandon, indicating Richard's wife was John N. Brandon's daughter, as Abner Rodden's wife would be also. (See deed record 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 possibly 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 inherits 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 seems possible 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 Horsley and Valentine Horsley and whose son James married Valentine's daughter Anna.

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 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 source or explanation for Richard's wife's name, and I have found the book to have numerous errors in its information on the early Horsley's. Richard did have a daughter named Susannah who was sometimes called Susan, which may be the source of confusion. According to Scott and Horsley, Richard Horsley and Susan Horsley were involved in a boundary dispute in York County, SC in 1836, but since Richard's son David is also involved, it appears this Susan would be Richard's daughter and heir Susannah/Susan, who never married.

#### **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 (I) 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 (although "Pleasents" 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 that the spelling of the name in the deed is different from the spelling at the signature.

This deed is so far the only record I have been able to find anywhere in Maryland, Virginia, and South Carolina, their places of residence, that gives the name of James Horsley's wife, and nothing in the records indicates James had been previously married. That his wife's name was not Margaret Valentine as Brenda Scott and Roy Horsley's *Horsley Familie* proposes came as no surprise. Seven years of searching primary records for any evidence or support for the surname Valentine yielded nothing of substance. (See more details above 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 the York County, SC area intermarried with Horsley and Kendrick. Thomas Kendrick's wife 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 a John Lawson who died with land in Halifax County. A Halifax County deed of 4 Jan 1799 says Richard Horsley and Abner Rodden were legatees of John N. Brandon indicating Richard's wife was a Brandon, as would be Rodden's (see discussion above).

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The grantee Elisha Dodson is likely the elder, but possibly his son of the same name. Elisha Dodson Sr. was dismissed (ie, 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 seem to be 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.

Jean Frazier Freshour's "Descendants of John Dodson" says that Elisha's son Elisha Dodson Jr. married widow Hannah Fuqua Lawson on 22 Oct 1789, just a month before the sale of James Horsley's land, so he may be the purchaser instead of his father. However, "Jr." would usually be added to his name on the deed, since his father was still alive and in the same area.

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Francis Lawson, a witness to James and Patience's deed, is said to be a son of John Lawson and his wife Priscilla. Halifax County connections between Lawson, Dodson, Brandon, and Horsley families abound.

Francis' brother Thomas Lawson died about 1788, leaving three small children and a widow Hannah Fuqua whom he had married 4 Jan 1782 in Halifax. (Thomas Lawson's land inherited by his orphans is a bound on James and Patience's deed.) It appears to be Thomas Lawson's widow Hannah Lawson (nee Fuqua) who married Elisha Dodson Jr. Another sibling, Margaret Lawson, is said to have married a John Fuqua, Hannah's brother. The Lawson siblings' sister Elizabeth Lawson married John Irvine, a witness to Richard Horsley's sale of inherited Brandon property in 1799 with Abner Rodden (see record below). The guardian of Thomas Lawson's orphans, Smith and Susannah Lawson, was Theoderick Carter, another witness to Richard Horsley's 1799 Halifax deed. Theoderick Carter also witnessed the 1773 deed to John Lawson from Thomas Kendrick, father of Sarah Kendrick who married James Horsley's son Valentine, and Thomas Kendrick's wife is thought to be a Lawson.



In 1791, a guardian account for Thomas Lawson's orphans presented by Theoderick Carter showed payment to James Horsley (see below). According to Halifax County Pleas (Court Orders) Book 18, October Court 1797, p. 336, "Theoderick Carter, Guardian of Smith Lawson orphan of Thomas Lawson, deceased returned his account with the said orphan's Estate..."

On 24 June 1799, Elisha Dodson (Jr.) became "Guardian of Smith Lawson, orphan of Thomas Lawson, deceased." The guardian bond for \$10,000 was secured by Isaac Medley, John Cooke, Presley Dodson, and Charles F. Wall, and witnessed by John Barksdale. [*Halifax County, Virginia, Guardian Bonds, 1790-1799. Virginia Genealogical Society Quarterly, Vol. XXIX, number 2, (1 May 1991).*]

Thomas' orphan Susannah Lawson married Major Price 3 October 1803 in Halifax County, Virginia. [*Bond details online at: <<http://lawsondna.org/Media/virginiacounties/Halifax.html>>*] The marriage bond was secured by Smith Lawson and witnessed by Smith Lawson and John Dotson (sic). Elisha Dotson (sic) gave consent, indicating Elisha Dodson was still Susannah's guardian and she was still under age 21.

Also, a David Lawson married Winifred Dodson 12 October 1794 in Halifax County, Virginia. Interestingly, there was a significant court case in Maryland in 1714 involving a William Dobson and James Horsley's father, James Horsley Sr. James Sr. also was co-witness to a Queen Anne's County, MD will in 1722 with a James Dobson or Dodson. Whether these have any connection with the Dodson's in Halifax is not known, but if so, they would be the first link I have found between Horsley associates in Maryland and those in Virginia. Research on this continues.

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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 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., who married Thomas Lawson's widow Hannah Fuqua. Although many of the Bates families remained Quaker, there seem to be a number of Baptist ministers in this family line, including another Fleming Bates.

Perhaps related to this group of Virginia Bates families was a John Bates in 1800 in York County, SC, who enumerated the census for the district that included James Horsley and his sons Richard and Valentine Horsley. [*NARA Reel M32-49, York District, York Co, SC*]. Also included in that district enumeration was a Luke Vickery, who may be of the Vickers/Vickery family group of Mary Vickers who married a Richard Horsley in Talbot County, MD, who I believe is related to James Horsley Sr. Another in that 1800 York County, SC census was John Pindar, who may be related to the William Pinder who lived near James Horsley Sr.'s family in Queen Anne's County, MD, and whose will James Horsley Sr. witnessed in 1736. (To my knowledge, there was not a Vickers in Halifax, VA at the time our Horsley's were there, but there was a John Pinder somewhere in Halifax in the 1782 Heads of Households census.) These families need more research, as it may be instructive to know if or to what extent James Horsley might have re-connected with Maryland Horsley associates once he moved to York County, SC.

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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.

### **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:**

Although James Horsley and his son Richard both executed deeds of sale of their lands in late 1789, they apparently still were residing on that land since they were included in these 1790 land tax lists, collected in the early part of each year.

However, this is the last year that they do appear on the land tax lists (1794 was last year checked), and they purchased land in York County, SC in September 1791 from their son and brother Valentine Horsley (see deeds below). Thus it seems that all of the Horsley families had left Halifax County for South Carolina by the end of 1790 or early 1791.

### **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 of 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 the south side of Mill Creek near Crowders Creek, which almost meets Mill Creek just before they both 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.

When Valentine's father James and brother Richard and their families arrive in York County from Halifax within the next year, Valentine sells each a portion of this Mill Creek land (next records below), probably his 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. 415-416

*[record continues with transcription next page]*

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 corning 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, Alienated, 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 about three years before. The land being sold is part of Valentine's original York County purchase in 1790 (see record above). The deed is witnessed by James Horsley's son Richard, whose family moved from Halifax with James and family, and by his son-in-law Samuel Matthews, husband of James' daughter Susannah. The Matthews family had come earlier from Halifax Co., VA with Valentine Horsley's family (see Samuel's 1789 deed above).

By the next deed below, we see that Valentine sold another part of his original land to his brother Richard Horsley. These deeds plus later census and land records show that the three Horsley families continued to live adjacent, with Samuel and Susannah Horsley Matthews living nearby.

One of the adjacent land owners (“bounds”) on this land to James Horsley was Samuel Lambeth, whose family named changed spelling to “Lambert” by the 1820 census. Samuel Lambeth appears to be the likely father of Sarah Lambert who married Thomas Kendrick Jr., brother of Sarah Kendrick Horsley, Valentine’s wife. Sarah’s brothers Thomas and Anthony and her widowed mother Nancy Kendrick were shown to be living near the Horsley’s York County in the 1800 census.

### **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 thirty acres, more or less, within the bounds mentioned. And the said Valentine Horsley hath for himself his Heirs and Assigns Given, Granted, Bargained, Sold, Alienated, 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 late 1790 or early 1791, the year 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 the land inherited by Thomas Lawson's "orphans" (meaning they were under 21), was adjacent to James Horsley. This Thomas Lawson was the son of John and Priscilla Lawson, the "Capt. John Lawson" named as a bound on James Horsley's 1775 deed of purchase. These Lawson's are likely related to Sarah Kendrick Horsley's mother, thought by Kendrick family researchers to be a Lawson herself.

**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, with the other males tithables in their households and their slaves, who lived along the road. Each year the county court divided the roads

into segments, named the landowners on each section, and appointed one of them to be the coordinator or “overseer” responsible to the Court for each section’s maintenance that year.

We see from this record that Samuel Matthews’ land was near the North Carolina border (to the north), as were the properties of the Horsley families nearby. In 1794 Valentine Horsley was appointed overseer for maintenance of this same road section (see next record below).

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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. Samuel Matthews’ land was 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 where they entered the Catawba River was 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). From various deed records as well as today’s topographical maps we can see that Valentine lived on the north side of Samuel Matthews’ land, and both were fairly near the Catawba River.

The road for which they each served as overseer probably followed the path of today’s Route 274 along Catawba River-Lake Wylie north about 2 miles to the NC border. It is probably the road referred to in some later deeds as the “wagon road.” Route 274 runs by the old Mill Creek Cemetery where some later Horsley and Matthews families have grave markers or memorial stones still visible at least in the 1970’s. Route 274 then goes north to Gastonia, NC, the county seat of Gaston County where Richard Horsley’s son David Horsley moved 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 Caroline Archives index for this land grant plat (as well as for the other plats listed below in this Timeline) include the people named in the land survey report. These people usually would be the

owners of the adjacent properties (i.e., bounds on the plat), the name of the person applying for the land grant for whom the survey was made, and the name of the surveyor.

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.

In 1802 when Samuel and Susannah Matthews move to adjacent Lincoln County, NC, Valentine Horsley bought 347 acres of Samuel's land, including this 27 acres recorded in 1795. The bulk of Samuel's land is described on the north side of Crowders Creek but apparently was close enough to Mill Creek for him to own land adjacent to the Horsley's Mill Creek land.

Mill Creek was a branch of the Catawba River. 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 a 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 [McCaw]

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:**

John Irby, a bound on this plat record, married Anne Kendrick, sister of Sarah Kendrick who married James and Patience's son Valentine Horsley. The Thomas Kendrick for whom the original survey was done in 1793 appears to be Anne's and Sarah's father rather than brother of the same name. It seems likely that their father Thomas Kendrick (Sr.) had surveyed the land as part of a grant application but then died about 1794 before acquiring the grant title deed itself. Thomas Kendrick Jr. married in York Co. about 1796 and was still living in the Mill Creek area in the 1800 census, so it makes little sense for him to have forfeited a land grant in the same place and time.

That the original survey was for Thomas Kendrick Sr. is supported by the 1800 York Co. census showing widow Nancy Kendrick living next to Thomas Kendrick Sr.'s sons Thomas Jr. and Anthony. Nancy Kendrick was a head-of-household age 45+, with a son and daughter the ages of Thomas Sr.'s youngest two children. Thus, Nancy appears to be Thomas Kendrick Sr.'s widow. (Nancy was a standard Virginia nickname for Ann, and Thomas Sr.'s second daughter was named Anne.)

Robert Patrick, another bound, was likely the husband or close relative of the "Mrs. Patrick" who was a bound in the 1821 survey plat on Mill Creek that included Horsley, Biggers, and Sarah Kendrick



Horsley's brother Anthony Kendrick. (See record below) Robert Patrick was also listed near James, Valentine, and Richard Horsley and Samuel Matthews in the 1800 census.

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**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 [but plats indicate Mill Creek]

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

Signed: William Alexander Witnesses: James (his mark) 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 may be part of land 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 witnesses son Valentine's deed above.

### **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.

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

Witnesses: James Faries, Robt Lowrey, John Fearis 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, Robt Lowrey, John Fearis

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. The absence of the seller's wife on a deed was not uncommon, despite the 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. Technically, a widow could re-claim her dower land that had been sold without her explicit formal release of dower. Whether a wife's signature on the deed was legally acceptable in place of a formal dower release is not clear. (For further explanation and an example of a formal release of dower, see notes for the deed of 1837 below.)

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, and another Brandon sibling married Valentine's daughter.

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 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 from the adjacent bounds 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.

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### **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 (J) 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:

The 120 acres sold in this deed is the same land that James Horsley's son Valentine sold to James in 1791 (see deed above). Witness Samuel Mathis/Matthews is the husband of Susannah Horsley, James' daughter and Valentine's and William's sister.

As in the above deed from Samuel Matthews to his likely son John, there is no signature or release of dower for James Horsley's wife, even though Patience did not die until after the 1800 census. A wife's absence on deeds, though not proper by law, is often found in this time and place, as demonstrated by a number of other York County deeds for this family group.

The grantee William Horsley appears to be the youngest son of James and Patience Horsley. We have confirmation 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 white male age 21 or over for the first time that year. (Both of James' older sons Richard and Valentine were already listed in Halifax tax lists under their own names.) Thus, William Horsley would be about 31 years old at the time of this deed. It was not unusual for a father to sell rather than gift land to a son, and according to census and deed records, this land was James and Patience Horsley's residence where they continued to live even after the sale to William.

Another piece of the evidence that William was James and Patience's son is the fact that there are no other Horsley's in records for Halifax Co., VA or York Co., SC who could be William's parents. Since William was born about 1767 (and in any case had to be at least 21 by this deed), he could not be Richard's son. Richard, born 1754, had only himself and his newly-wedded wife in his household in the 1782 Halifax census. (Their first child was born later in 1782 or early 1783.) According to the known and approximate ages of Valentine Horsley's children, Valentine, born 1758, did not marry and begin his family until about 1785, so Valentine is not a candidate for William's father either.

Strangely, just two years after this deed 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. Nor is William Horsley 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 in August 1798.

So, what happened to William Horsley? I have found no William Horsley in any censuses from 1800 through 1880 who could be this one. From other records I have explored and from discussions with other Horsley family researchers, nothing else has been learned of this William Horsley, and the only record so far proved for him is his 1798 deed. (As we discuss shortly, James and Patience's son William Horsley is not the same person as "William N. Horsley," their apparent great-grandson.)

Could William Horsley have moved over the line into North Carolina around 1800, particularly since Mecklenburg and Lincoln County, NC were then adjacent to York, SC and just across the Catawba or a few miles upriver from where he and the other Horsley's lived? That is highly questionable.

First, because William's absence in one census would not be unusual, but his missing in all subsequent censuses surely would be, unless he had died. Secondly, it seems that a man who had just purchased already-prepared farmland would have little reason immediately to move elsewhere where he had to acquire land anew, and no child of his ever acquired his York County land.

Thirdly and most significantly, no record has been found for William Horsley in North Carolina. In particular, surviving records from about 1770 to 1870 for the North Carolina counties then adjacent to York County, SC, namely Mecklenburg, Lincoln, and Rutherford, have been searched extensively. With the exception of a Lincoln Co., 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 was born in Lincoln), no other deed in these three counties mentions a 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. (See the bibliography for sources searched so far.)

Thus, the evidence to date indicates that James Horsley's son William Horsley died, with no heirs, in York County, SC about 1799, shortly after the 1798 deed from his father.

Scott and Horsley's book *Horsley Families of America* mistakenly assumes that James Horsley's son William was the same person as "William N. Horsley," who in 1836 "witnessed a settlement of boundary line dispute between Richard, David, and Susan Horsley and James L. Wright, et. al." [*p. 19*] (The authors do not cite their source or give any other information about the case or the land. I could not locate such a record at the York County Courthouse, and repeated requests for more information to one of the authors were not answered.) Apparently the disputed land was in York County, since all the participants whom the authors name were residents there in the 1830 census.

However, the assumption that William N. Horsley was James Horsley's son William is erroneous. Assuming undocumented middle names commonly leads to misidentification. For one thing, middle names are not generally found in the South (except for some of German, French, or Scots-Irish descent) until the early 1800's, particularly around the War of 1812, and none of James Horsley's other children have middle names or initials on their records. More importantly, the above 1798 deed is strong evidence that James' son William Horsley had no middle name, as he is not named there with a middle name or initial, even by his own father. If James Horsley's son William was not the same person as William N. Horsley, the next question becomes, who was William N. Horsley?

The other Horsley's whom the authors name as being involved in this 1836 boundary settlement would be James Horsley's son Richard Horsley and Richard's children David and Susannah, called "Susan" in an 1830 deed from her father and in the 1840 census. We know Richard Horsley was alive in October 1832 when he applied for a Revolutionary War pension, and a notation on his pension file says, "Order to pay 12 Dec 1837," indicating that Richard was still alive at that time.

I finally located the elusive William N. Horsley said to have witnessed this boundary settlement. He was born about 1812, and the evidence strongly indicates he was a son of Richard's son David Horsley, both of whom were parties in the land dispute, along with Richard's daughter Susan.

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 Mahew/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 would be in, which is not the age group for David's other sons. (The 1850 census has no son of his age in David's household, and William N. appears to be "William Hosley," born SC, living in Knox County, TN, adjacent to Sevier.) In addition to right age and birthplace, the names of some of William N. Horsley's children - Jane, Margaret and David - give additional evidence he was a son of David Horsley. David himself had a daughter Jane and a mother and a daughter both named Margaret. David's wife's father was named William, 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 Newton. Also, William N. Horsley is listed in 1860 as a miller, the same occupation as David's son Reason.

William N. Horsley's age, birthplace, and apparent father David also provide evidence he is the William N. Horsley who Scott and Horsley say witnessed a York County, SC settlement of boundary line dispute in 1836. 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 suit involved Richard Horsley and his two children David and Susan, 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.

Scott and Horsley also say William N. Horsley, whom they mistake for James' son William, is the likely father of apparent brothers Theophilus T. Horsley and John B. Horsley, since both of them named their first sons William. First of all, James Horsley's family line did not follow this Germanic or any other recognized naming pattern. Secondly, William N. Horsley could not be their father, since censuses show he was born in late 1811 or early 1812, and Theophilus T. and John B. were born in

1803 and 1806 respectively. Nor was William N. Horsley their brother, since David Horsley had no sons in the 1810 census. Besides, both John B. and Theophilus T. Horsley are recorded on census records as born in North Carolina, not South Carolina.

Scott and Horsley say that in the 1840 census, John B. and Theophilus T. Horsley were both in Benton County, AL (later re-named Calhoun Co.), although I was unable positively to identify Theophilus Horsley in that census (see notes with record below). Theophilus T. ("T. T.") Horsley is in the 1850 census for Benton County, AL, listed as born about 1803, and the 1850 census for then-adjacent Carroll County, GA lists John B. Horsley as born 1806 (which coincides with the *Horsley Families* book's birthdate for him of 25 July 1806). Both are listed as born in North Carolina. John B. and T. T. could have been born anywhere in North Carolina and not necessarily close to York County, SC. They might even be from another Horsley family line entirely (unusual names like "Theophilus" are not found among early members of James Horsley's family line, nor did any of James' 4 children and 10 proved grandchildren have middle names). However, in 1825 at about age 19, John B. Horsley married York County, SC native Pamela "Permelia" Huff in York County. (York County was a popular migration destination, so this could also be mere coincidence.)

Since these two assumed brothers were not the sons of any other York County Horsley, could they be sons of James' son William Horsley? The first problem is that William seems to disappear from all records, including South and North Carolina, 5 to 8 years before the birthyear each brother gives. Secondly, the only York County properties that John B. Horsley owned were on Turkey Creek and Bullocks Creek at the opposite side of York County from the other Horsley's, almost two days away by horseback. (See John B.'s deeds 1830-1839 in this Timeline.) There is no record of Theophilus T. Horsley ever being in York County or in South Carolina. Thirdly, and most significantly, there is no record or even an indication that John B. or T. T. acquired William Horsley's land purchased from James Horsley, which any children of William would have inherited by law.

Another approach to solving the mystery of what happened to William Horsley and the identity of John B.'s and T.T.'s father is to try to ascertain what indeed did happen to the land William Horsley bought from his father James. Theoretically this should go far in solving whether William ever had any children, based on the laws of inheritance at the time. Since no will in South or North Carolina has been found for William, then his children, if any, would automatically inherit equal shares of their father's land. If William had no children, the land would likewise automatically be inherited by William's siblings and should show up later in their deeds of sale.

For example, in 1830 Richard Horsley deeded 84.5 acres on Mill Creek to his daughter "Susan" [YDBL:334] and 91 acres on Mill Creek to his son David. [YDBL:608] Although each of Richard Horsley's deeds to his children reference the land Richard bought from Valentine in 1791, in fact he gave them 45.5 acres more than the 130 acres he bought from Valentine (which is the only land purchase recorded for Richard in York County). Did Richard inherit some of the 120 acres on Mill Creek which his father James sold to his brother William Horsley in 1798? If so, this could indicate that William Horsley had died without heirs and his land was divided among his siblings or their heirs in accordance with the usual inheritance laws of the day. Thus platting the various deeds of the early Horsley families in York should reveal if any of them got portions of William's land.

All Horsley and related family deeds in York County were obtained at the York County Courthouse. Unfortunately, none of the 10 deeds involving Valentine's original land purchase of 385 acres are precise enough to make fully accurate plats. However, it appears from the various land descriptions and general plat approximations that part of the extra land to Richard's children was indeed land first

owned by his father James, which James sold to William Horsley in 1798. The same is evident for Valentine Horsley, based on the deed descriptions of the land tracts he bought and sold over time (some of which are not recorded but referenced in various other deeds).

Very oddly, none of the 10 deeds involving parcels of the land Valentine Horsley first bought in York County, which he then divided with his father and brother, make any mention of James or William Horsley's "lines" or "corners", even though all the properties were adjacent. This further supports that the land was absorbed into the parcels that Richard and Valentine sold, whose corners and lines do appear on each other's post-1798 deeds. We know from the grantee/grantor index to York County deeds that James/William's parcel was never sold as a whole by any Horsley, and so far we have found no reference to their parcel by their names in deeds for non-Horsley adjacent properties.

Thus, the only explanation I can find so far from my examination of the deeds and from working to match land descriptions with what actual platting could be done is that James' land that he sold to William reverted back to William's siblings when William died, apparently shortly after he purchased James' land. Then after James died between 1810 and 1820, that portion of Valentine's original land (where James and Patience had continued to reside) was shared between William's siblings Valentine and Richard, their sister Susannah Matthews having left for Lincoln County, NC in 1802.

This much is certain: There is no record or other indication that John B. Horsley or Theophilus T. Horsley ever owned any of William Horsley's land, which they would have inherited if they were William's sons. This strongly supports the accumulation of evidence that William Horsley died about 1799 with no heirs, and his siblings inherited his land instead.

Given this evidence, and since we have eliminated James' other sons, Valentine and Richard, and his grandson David as a possible father for John B. and T. T. Horsley, another option remains to connect them with James Horsley's family: Were these apparent brothers John B. and T. T. sons of a Horsley daughter? They could have chosen to use their mother's name rather than their father's, as did sometimes happen. Or perhaps she never formally married, not all that uncommon an occurrence at the time. This often carried little or no stigma, especially when the family was a stable one. These possibilities are still only speculation (and DNA testing could eliminate them), but there does appear to be at least one Horsley daughter who could qualify as a candidate.

The 1800 census does not show any unidentified females in James' or his son Valentine Horsley's household. However, censuses do show there were younger females in Richard Horsley's household from 1800 through 1820 who have not been accounted for, one of whom could be eligible by her age group to be John B. and T.T.'s mother. In 1800, in addition to Richard's wife Margaret and known daughter Susannah, there were also 2 females under 10 years old and 1 female age 10-15. While these females need not necessarily be Richard and Margaret's daughters, they are of an age that they could be. In 1810, there were still 2 females then age 10-15, but the one who was age 10-15 in 1800 is now missing. (In the 1820 census, the only unknown female still in Richard's household is one of the youngest, then age 15-26.) In none of these censuses were there any unidentified males. It seems that all the unidentified females, if they were, indeed, Richard's daughters and not orphans, relatives, etc., may be deceased by 1830. First, because there are no unidentified females in Richard's household that census. Secondly, because in 1830 Richard divided his land only between his children David and Susan, and he did not leave a will providing for any others. In any case, the female in Richard Horsley's household age 10-15 in 1800 and missing from Richard's household in 1810 could be the mother of T.T. and John B., born 1803 and 1806 respectively.



On the other hand, strange things sometimes happen. If James' son William Horsley did have small children whom he raised elsewhere, he may have transferred his land back to his siblings informally, although that would have risked an invalid deed and later claims against the land by his children. Also, if William was deceased with young children, their guardian would be remiss in disposing of any inherited property, especially without proper deed title. However unlikely, even if such was the case, we still would be left with numerous questions. For example, if William was the father of John B. and T.T. Horsley and if he died when the boys were very small, did they go to live with friends or relatives in North Carolina and thus not realize they were born in South Carolina instead? If they were orphaned young, did they have their birth years wrong and were born closer to 1798, the year of the last record found for William? Was William living with someone else in North Carolina (e.g., a wife's family) when these children were born? If William was not head-of-house and owned no land, he would not appear by name in pre-1850 censuses, and might not be named in extant county records.

However, other facts argue against any of those hypothetical cases. We first know of John B. Horsley in York County, SC at his marriage 22 Sep 1825 [*Scott & Horsley, p. 22*] when he was 19 years old. He marries a woman whose family had been living since at least the 1800 census in a part of York County diagonally opposite from where the other Horsley families lived and who show no known associations with the other Horsley families. The only properties of record for John B. are also in that opposite part of the county, and none of the people named on his five deeds as bounds, witnesses, buyers or sellers have any known association with the other Horsley families. If John B. Horsley was William Horsley's son, this lack of any apparent involvement with William's brother Richard or other Horsley relatives still in York County, and John B.'s and T.T.'s lack of apparent connections with William's brother Valentine or his children later in Georgia and Alabama, seems very strange indeed, especially for a family group whose records show them to have such close and on-going ties.

We now know that Theophilus T. and John B. Horsley were not sons of William N. Horsley, who was born after they were. Furthermore, James' son William Horsley is an unlikely father since: 1) he appears to be deceased before they were born; 2) no record has so far been found for him in North Carolina, where they were born; 3) they did not inherit his land, as any children of his would by law; and 4) neither assumed brother shows any direct connection with the James Horsley family. Thus, research in primary records continues. Also, DNA test results from descendants are needed to prove that the apparent brothers were actually brothers and not another relation instead. DNA could also show if they were of James' Horsley family or another, such as one of James' brothers, Thomas or Richard, or one of the early Virginia Horsley lines. Hopefully as we share our findings and obtain DNA test results, other clues and information will come to light that can help solve this mystery.

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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

*[record continues with transcription next page]*

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 is the evidence that Richard Horsley's wife Margaret was Margaret Brandon, a daughter of John N. Brandon who died with no surviving will in Halifax Co. December 1794. (More about John N. Brandon and Abner Rodden in notes for 20 Nov 1789 above).

The land that Richard Horsley and Abner Rodden inherited, apparently through their wives, is on Wynns/Winns Creek, where Richard and wife Margaret's land was located as well. William Wesley, named as a bound on this deed may be the William Wesley to whom Richard sold his land in 1789, and bound John Foster may be the "Foster" who was a bound Richard's 1789 deed. (A "bound" was an adjacent property owner.)

There are several odd things about this 1799 deed, which seem due to the recording clerk's errors. First, Richard Horsley was a resident of York County, SC at this time and not Halifax County, VA, although Abner Rodden did not move from Halifax to York County until after the 1800 census and before 2 Aug 1802, when Richard's brother Valentine Horsley sold Abner Rodden land. Richard sold

his land in Halifax County in 1789, the same time as his parents sold their land, and James' and Richard's last land taxes through 1794 (the last year examined) were in early 1790, after which they both left for South Carolina. Richard then bought land in York Co., SC in 1791 and witnessed John Brandon Sr.'s will there in 1799. There was no Horsley on the 1798 Halifax Co., VA personal property tax lists, which show people actually residing in the county. (Land tax lists include all property owners regardless of their residence.)

Secondly, as recorded it looks as though Richard signed his name by signature, since no mark is noted. On all other records found for Richard, he signs with his mark. There is no other known Richard Horsley in Halifax or York County at this time, and the land here has similar bounds to the land Richard sells before leaving for SC. So it seems the omission of the mark is also a clerical error, and one I have seen in other cases.

Thirdly, once again neither Richard's nor Abner's wife was included in this deed, but both wives were still alive. As discussed above, this was not uncommon even though not in accordance with dower law. However, in this case it seems unusually strange, since it is 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, has not been searched. However, from the location of this land, names and locations of two Halifax deed he witnessed, and Brandon family wills and deeds, John N. Brandon lived directly among them and could well be a brother or at least cousin of William Brandon, father of John Brandon "Sr." whose 1799 York County, SC will was witnessed by both Richard Horsley and his brother Valentine Horsley (see next record).

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 Horsley sold Abner Rodden 233 acres in York County, SC on Mill Creek, where the Horsley's also lived (see deed below). Abner and Agnes Brandon Rodden are the likely parents of Phoebe Rodden who married Valentine Horsley's son Joseph in York County about 1810, shortly before Valentine's daughter Anna married John Brandon "Sr.'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 [husband of Lucy Kendrick, Sarah Kendrick Horsley's sister], Francis.

Land: 247 ac. Halifax Co., VA on north side of Dan River bequeath 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. Three of Valentine's wife Sarah Kendrick Horsley's siblings married John Brandon's children. And 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. In addition, Richard's wife Margaret Brandon was a kinswoman of John Brandon, and John Brandon's wife, a Lawson, was likely related to the Kendrick siblings' mother. Earlier in Halifax County, VA, John Lawson, Sr., father of John Brandon's wife, owned adjacent land to James Horsley whose land was adjacent to 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 1791. They lived near each other in York County for the 9 years or so before John Brandon died and continued to do so for years after.

(Most online files for "John Brandon Sr." list him as "John M. Brandon," but I have not seen any record for him where a middle name or initial are included. That he does not even include a middle initial in his will, which he signed by signature, is good evidence he did not have one. In all genealogy research, assuming or adding a name or middle initial not proved by a primary record can cause serious research problems. Also online files say this John Brandon was the one who got land in South Carolina on Turkey Creek in 1764, but my investigation into the land grants, wills and other available online records at SC Department of Archives and History indicates this was a misidentification among several men named John Brandon in pre-1800 SC and that there was more than one Turkey Creek in South Carolina, the 1764 grant most likely being in the coastal area.)

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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 on Mill Creek.

Samuel Matthews is listed next to, and lived next to, John Matthews (age 26-44), who by the deed of 26 Dec 1797 from Samuel to John was also adjacent to Valentine Horsley's land. 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 he 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.

### **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 Horsely 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 Horsely 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 Frebruary(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:

We know from the U.S. censuses that Samuel Matthews with his wife Susannah Horsley and their family moved several miles up the road to adjacent Lincoln County, NC between 1800 and 1810. From this deed and Samuel's absence in later records, it appears they left York County, SC in 1802, although a John Matthews ("Mathis") is still in the same area of York County in the 1810 census.

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.

One tract's adjacent owner John Howe was brother of Thomas Howe whose son David D. Howe married Richard's son David Horsley's eldest daughter Jane Horsley about 1832 in York County. John and Thomas Howe's brother William Howe, later of Georgia, is my ancestor through my mother's line; Horsley is my father's line. William Howe married Jane Armour, whose father Andrew Armour previously owned the York County, SC land that Valentine Horsley bought from John Oliver in 1790. My Georgia mother and Alabama father met on a blind date in 1930, and their families had not lived in the same states for 120 years. The idea of "genetic memory" is a fascinating one.

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**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 Faries, James Faries, 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.

### **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 married Joseph Horsley. These two parcels were adjacent to Valentine's main property on the north side of Mill Creek and 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 a woman born in Lincoln Co., NC, adjacent to York Co., SC's north side. 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," probably referring to this land Valentine Horsley gave to his son Joseph.

**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

**Note:**

JAMES HORSLEY appears to be in son Richard's household and Patience is now deceased. (Some census sources index the Horsley names as here Harsley, but it looks properly spelled to me.)

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Samuel and Susannah Horsley Matthews now 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+)

Also in Lincoln Co., NC were families of James Matthews and "Saml Matthews," both age 16-25. They may be sons of Samuel Matthews and Susannah Horsley, or at least closely related.

**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 Lincoln Co. 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. Lincoln County, NC was only a few miles up the Catawba River 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 had witnessed the 1791 York County, SC deeds from Valentine to his brother Richard and to their father James Horsley (whose deed was also witnessed by Samuel Matthews).

Others in Lincoln County, NC at the time of this deed were formerly neighbors of the Horsley family in York County, SC or had 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 a woman born in Lincoln Co., NC. By a 1816 Lincoln Co. deed (below) naming "Horsly" as a bound and witnessed by Thomas Horsley, it appears Thomas and his wife Sarah lived after their marriage in Lincoln Co., NC (perhaps on Valentine's land?) before moving to Georgia by 1818.

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**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, "HORSLY," begins at a gum on E. bank of South Fork, joins Iaca (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, 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. By 1818, they moved to Jasper County, GA with Thomas'

brothers Joseph and James Horsley and his sister Anna Horsley Brandon's family. Valentine and wife Sarah with their remaining children joined them in Georgia about 1822.

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

JAMES HORSLEY now deceased. These remain:

Richard HORSELEY (sic): Males: 1(45+); Females: 1(16-26), 1(26-45), 1(45+); 1 in agriculture.

David HORSLEY [s/o Richard]-Males: 2(<10), 1(26-45); Fem: 3(<10), 2(10-16), 1(26-45); 1 in ag.

Valantine (sic) HORSLEY:

Males: 0(16 - under 18), 2(16-26), 1(45+); Females: 1(16-26), 1(45+); 5 in agriculture; 6 slaves

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Samuel MATTHEWS, husband of Susannah Horsley, is no longer in any Lincoln Co., NC censuses. Thus it appears that he, and likely Susannah as well, died between 1810-1820.

After 1810, I found no Samuel Matthews (of various spellings) in records of Lincoln Co., NC or nearby counties, but in the 1820 census, a Samuel Matthews, age 26-45, is in then-adjacent York Co., SC:

Samuel Matthews: 2(under 10), 1(26-45); Females: 2(under 10),1(26-45), 1 in Agriculture

This Samuel Matthews is living near John Matthews, age 45+. John had no sons in the 1800 census, and 2 males under 10 in 1810, so this Samuel in 1820 is not likely John's son. Also, the elder Samuel Matthews had lived next to a likely son John Matthews before going to Lincoln Co, NC, so it may be this is Samuel and Susannah's son Samuel who went back to the same area of York Co. where he and his parents had previously lived.

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," and Joseph Matthews and Anderson "Mathews" in the district labeled "West of South Fork Catawba River." (None had females 45+ in their households who might be Susannah Horsley Matthews.) Mill Creek in York County, SC, where the lands of the Horsley's and Samuel and Susannah Horsley Matthews were located, was off the South Fork of the Catawba River (which in York Co. is now Lake Wylie).

In the 1830 census, a Samuel Matthews is still in the York County census, age 40-50, thus born 1780-1790, which corresponds with Samuel and Susannah Horsley Matthews marrying in 1784. This younger Samuel Matthews appears to be same Samuel Matthews in the 1850 census in York Co., SC, listed as born in Virginia about 1783 (age 67). If this is Samuel and Susannah's son, his census age would be off a few years, which is often the case, or like John Matthews of York Co., the younger Samuel may be the elder Samuel's son by an earlier marriage. Also in York in 1830 is a Joseph Matthews, possibly the same or related Joseph Matthews in Lincoln Co., NC in 1820.

Obviously more research needs to be done with primary records to try to identify the children of Samuel and Susannah Horsley Matthews and learn more about the families of Samuel and John Matthews of York Co., SC.

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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. Anthony married Sarah Brandon, daughter of John Brandon "Sr." whose York County will of 1799 was witnessed by Valentine and his brother Richard Horsley (also married to a Brandon), as well as by Zadoc(k) Darby named in the plat index above.

The above-listed John Kincaid witnessed the 1798 York County deed of James Horsley to William Horsley, along with Samuel Mathis (Matthews), husband of James' daughter Susannah Horsley. George Duff, another bound on this survey, witnessed Valentine Horsley's 1808 deed to his son Joseph, probably the "Horsly" named on this survey.

John Rooker, also named as a bound above, was the Baptist minister who established Flint Hill Baptist Church, among others in the area. He 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.)

### **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 [poles?] to a Stake Thence N'o63E 5.00 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 covenat(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 a younger brother of Valentine'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.

Although the above York County deed of sale and others relating to Valentine's lands are too incomplete for exact platting, it appears that the property sold here is comprised of sections of the land Valentine first bought from John Oliver in 1790 (parts of which Valentine then sold to his father and brother), some of the 40 acres he got from William Alexander in 1797, and parts of other transactions both recorded and unrecorded. It also appears to include some of the land Valentine sold to his father James Horsley, who then sold his share to son William. This is one of the indications that William Horsley died with no heirs, and the land reverted to William's siblings in accordance with inheritance laws of the time. (See notes for James Horsley's deed to son William in 1798 and for Richard Horsley's deed to son David in 1830 for more discussion.)

This is the last deed entry for Valentine Horsley in York County, SC. Shortly thereafter he moved his family to Georgia, where four of his grown children and their families already lived. Valentine was a resident of Monroe County, Georgia by the 1827 Georgia Land Lottery in which he won land in the newly-formed Lee County (but never resided on it). [1827 LL Grants, Lee Co., Dist 29, p. 14]

From the above 1821 York County deed of sale, it appears Valentine would have qualified for the 1827 Georgia Land Lottery by being a resident of Georgia for at least 3 years. However, the 1827 Land Lottery waived the usual residency requirements plus allowed an extra "draw" for those with Revolutionary War service, regardless which state they served from. The lottery grants that designate the lottery winner as a Revolutionary soldier are often confused with Georgia's Revolutionary War

bounty land grants, which were limited only to Revolutionary veterans who fought as residents of Georgia or as “refugee soldiers” who had to flee their Georgia homes after the British occupation and serve from another state. Valentine Horsley was a resident of Halifax County, VA when he served in the Revolution and thus did not qualify for Georgia bounty land. The deed to Valentine for his 1827 lottery land designates him as Valentine Horsley “R. Sol.,” giving documented proof of his service in the Revolution even though war records of his service apparently have not survived.

The story of Valentine and Sarah Kendrick Horsley and their children after their move to Georgia, including further explanation of the Georgia Land Lotteries and records found there so far, continues in my report on the Valentine Horsley Family 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:

Crowders Creek and Mill Creek meet the Catawba River a short distance from each other and just south of the York County border with North Carolina, and the land being surveyed was bounded by both waterways. This plat survey shows some now-familiar names, such as Biggers, Neel (sometimes written Neely) and Rooker, who comprised the neighborhood where the related families of Horsley, Kendrick, Matthews, and Brandon lived in York County.

The grant applicant for whom this survey was made, William Campbell, later witnessed deeds from Valentine's brother Richard Horsley to Richard's children Susan/Susannah and David (see next deeds below). Adjacent landowner John Rooker is the Baptist minister discussed in Part I.

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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 to David Horsley [formal 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

*[record continues with transcription next page]*

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.

Recorded 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's daughter's will names her and gives her signature (by mark) as Susannah Horsley, which was also the name of Richard's sister. [YWB3:245] However, this younger Susannah Horsley obviously went by Susan, as her father calls her in the above deed and as she is listed in the 1840 census.

(See more on this land Susan receives under notes for the deed to her brother David below, and also under notes for James Horsley's deed of 1798.)

Census records show that Susannah/Susan lived in her parents' household until their deaths in the 1830's. She then headed her own household as a single woman, possibly continuing to farm the land herself as many single and widowed women did, until her death in 1851 at about 67 years of age. Susannah's will devised her land to her nephew Richard R. Horsley, second son of her brother David.

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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 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 "for love and natural affection" and where David is then residing, was part of Richard's original purchase from his brother Valentine Horsley in 1791. Richard had given another part of his original purchase to his daughter Susannah/Susan (who never married).



Richard's deed to Susan Horsley says he gave David his land on the same day; however, for some reason Susan's deed is dated 2 Feb 1830 and David's deed is dated 17 May 1830.

As discussed above under the 1798 deed from James Horsley to William Horsley, the land Richard gives to his children Susan and David is 45.5 acres more than he originally bought from Valentine in 1791 and appears to include land that James Horsley bought from Valentine then sold to William Horsley in 1798. In deeds made after James Horsley and (apparently) William Horsley died, such as these from Richard Horsley to his children and Valentine's deed of sale in 1821, neither James nor William are mentioned. Their land seems to be referred to simply as Valentine Horsley's land.

Three years after Richard Horsley gave his son David this land, on 23 Mar 1833 David Horsley mortgaged this 91 acres to secure a bond for \$120.25 to Andrew Hoyle and Andrew Greer "formerly merchants of Lincoln County, NC" of the firm Hoyle and Greer. [*York Deed Book L, p. 607; No. 967*] The bounds of David's land at that time were James Graham, William Nolan, Mitchell Bradley, Susan Horsley (David's sister) and Robert Johnston. The 1833 mortgage deed was witnessed by William Campbell and J. L. McCarver and recorded 21 Aug 1833, the same day the deed for this land from Richard Horsley to David was recorded.

David apparently paid his debt with interest to Hoyle 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 of his 91 acres to Andrew Hoyle of Lincoln County, NC for \$250.50. [*York Deed Book N, p. 466, No. 458*] The bounds of the portion David and Rachel sold were James Graham, Mitchell Bradley, Susan Horsley, and David Neely, with a corner of the property at "Thompson's" line. There is no indication in the wording of the deed that this sale was in payment of any debt.

David's sister Susannah Horsley wrote her will 30 Dec 1850 and died a year later. [*Will proved 30 Dec 1851, York Will Book 3, p. 245*] Susannah had continued to live on the land her father Richard gave her adjacent to David, and in her will she devised that land to David's son Richard R. Horsley and his heirs. "R. R." Horsley moved to Gaston County, NC prior to the 1860 census, but there is no deed for any sale he made of Susannah's York County, SC land (although one or more of R.R.'s daughters may have sold the land later under their married names).

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### **1830 (Mar) – John B. HORSLEY buys his first York County, SC land**

#### Abstract

14 Mar 1830 - John Horsley from John McClure Jr., both of York District, SC  
3.7 acres, York County, waters of Turkey Creek, part of Waggoner Survey. For: \$18.50  
Bounded by J[?] Hope, Daniel McElmoyl  
Signed: John McClure Jr.  
Witnesses: James Hope, Isaac L. McClean Rec. \_\_\_, 1830.

[Source: York Deed Book L, p. 369, No. 604. York County Courthouse, York, SC. Abstracted by J. Horsley]

#### Note:

This deed was for John B. Horsley according to deeds of sale. (The only other John Horsley in the York County Horsley families was a son of Valentine, born 1799, who had moved to Meriwether County, GA by the 1830 census.) *Horsley Families of America* says John B. Horsley married

Permelia Huff 22 Sep 1825. [p. 22] Apparently they married in York County, since her parents were York County residents. Although she is named as "Permelia" in the 1850 and 1860 censuses in Georgia, the authors say that in her father's estate settlement she is named Pamela. "Pamela Horsley" is also how she signed her name, by signature, on a release of dower in 1837. She does not include any middle name or initial (see record below).

*Horsley Families* authors Scott and Horsley say that Pamela/Permelia's father Jonathan Huff was a son of Powell Huff who died in York County, SC in 1816. However, the will of Powell Huff ("Powel Hoff") dated 25 Mar 1816 names only a daughter Jane Hoff and does not mention or indicate any other children. [WBD:127, SCDAAH trans.] The executors were his wife Prudence and his "son in law" Francis Carson, whom Huff family researchers confirm was Jane Hoff's husband. Thus it appears from Powell Huff's will that Jonathan Huff of York County was not his son, but other probate records may exist that clarify Powell Huff's family. (My mother was a Huff, and I have discovered that there were numerous unrelated Huff families living in NC, SC, and GA at that time, and separating the various lines in the same county or state requires firm proof from the records.)

The authors continue, "John B. and Permelia bought a considerable acreage of land in York County where six of their children were born." John B.'s deeds of record show he acquired a total of 258 acres between 1830 and 1835, then sold 80 acres in 1837. According to his final deed of sale before leaving York County in 1839, John B. and his family were residing on a tract of 168 acres (see record below).

This deed above and his later ones show John B. Horsley had basically two tracts of land on Turkey Creek and Bullocks Creek; however, their exact location is unclear. Since they were sold in different acreage parcels from how they were bought yet the totals are roughly equal, it appears the properties were somehow adjoining. Turkey Creek and Bullocks Creek both flow into the Broad River a short distance apart near the town of Lockhart, just south of what seems to be the area where John B.'s lands were located, since Turkey Creek and Bullocks Creek get farther apart after they leave the Broad River. Thus, John B. appears to have resided in the far southwest part of York County near the eastern border of Union County and northwest corner of Chester County. This was on the opposite side of York County from the other Horsley families, who were in the far northeastern corner of York. (John B.'s lands could not be any part of the land William Horsley bought from James Horsley, indicating John B. did not inherit that land as William's son, as discussed in more detail above.)

Also striking is the fact that the witnesses and adjacent landowners named in John B.'s five deeds of record are not people named with, or having any obvious associations with, the other Horsley families in York. Add in that Theophilus T. Horsley, assumed to be John B.'s brother, has no records of ever being in York County, and the question of how John B. met his York County wife since his census records say he was born in North Carolina, and we only add to the mystery of John B. and T. T. Horsley's beginnings. If, as it appears, John B.'s lands were in southwest York County, he lived some 35 miles (almost 2 days' horseback ride) from the North Carolina line, not just 2 miles down the road like the other Horsley families did. By at least the 1800 census, Pamela/Permelia Huff's father Jonathan "Hoof" and family were living near a number of families with the same surnames and in the same location as on the later records of John B. Horsley.

The area of John B.'s part of York County, SC was then south of Lincoln County and Rutherford County, NC. Records for Lincoln, Rutherford, and Mecklenburg County (east of Lincoln) have been checked extensively for John B.'s and T. T.'s possible Horsley family, but none have been found.

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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)

Note:

Richard Horsley's daughter Susannah (who never married) and his wife Margaret Brandon are in Richard's household. Richard's son David Horsley is listed next to Richard on page 385 of this non-alphabetized census, indicating they lived adjacent, as their deeds prove.

John B. Horsley was listed on page 372, supporting the fact that he did not live in the other Horsley's immediate vicinity. The eldest female in his household may be his mother-in-law, Agatha Huff.

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Theophilus T. HORSLEY was not found in this census. He was recorded in 1832 as a resident of Habersham County, GA in that year's land lottery, winning land in the original Cherokee County, 3rd Section, 23rd Dist, Lot 8. [*James F. Smith. The Cherokee Land Lottery (1838; Gen Pub Co 1969), p. 283*]  
Habersham Co. is in the northeast corner of GA, near the borders of western NC and SC.

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1830: Upson Co., GA

Valentine HORSLEY with wife Sarah Kendrick were living with their son James Horsley in the 1830 Upson County, GA census, as the male and female age 60-70 in this household.

**1831 (Jan) – John B. HORSLEY acquires more land on Turkey Creek, York County**Abstract

18 Jan 1831 - Court of Equity, York District, SC

John Horsley v Elizabeth McElmoyl and the minor children of Daniel McElmoyl, dec'd

Suit found in favor of John Horsley awarding him title to:

173 acres, York Co., waters of Turkey Creek

Survey for Daniel McElmoyl, recorded 3 Apr 1826

Bounds by survey included Kennedy, McKnight "and others"

Signed by J. M. Martin, C.E.Y.D.;

Witnesses: Wm. Wright, Daniel McElmoyl [Jr.] - Rec. 24 Feb 1831

Source: York Co. Deed Book L, p. 408, No. 660. York Co. Courthouse, York, SC. Abstract by J. Horsley

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Following the above entry in the deed book is the deed from Elizabeth McElmoyl, for herself and "infant children," meaning they are under 21 years of age:

Abstract

18 Jan 1831 - Indenture "between John Horsley and Elizabeth McElmoyl and the Infant Children of Daniel McElmoyl Dec'd...Witnesseth that she said Elizabeth McElmoyl by Virtue of a Decretal order of the Court of Equity made July term 1830 is required to Execute a release and Conveyance as well for

herself and for her wards the Infant Children of Daniel McElmoyl Dec'd hath granted, Bargained Sold" [etc., following the order of the Equity Court abstracted above]

Signed: Elizabeth McElmoyl (by signature) Wit: E. N. Gaither, [?] McNeel; Rec. 24 Feb 1831

Source: York Co. Deed Book L, p. 409, No. 661. York County Courthouse, York, SC. Abstract by J. Horsley

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Survey of the land acquired by John B. Horsley referred to in above deed records:

8 Mar 1826 - Survey made for Daniel McElmoyle

For 173 acres on Turkey Creek, York District, Surveyed by Thomas Reid.

Names indexed: Kennedy; Daniel Leehorn; Daniel McElmoyle; George Mcnight; Moultree; Mary Pursley; Thomas Reid.

Locations: Broad River; Turkey Creek; York District

[Source: Online Index to State Plat Books (Columbia Series) 1796-1868. Series: S213192, Vol. 48, p. 31]

Note:

I have not obtained a record of the court case for this suit (if, indeed, it still exists). Equity Court cases involved situations not strictly covered by statutes and laws and were argued on the basis of fairness or equitable settlement. Although only speculation, this case may be a situation where John B. and Daniel McElmoyl were in the process of an agreement or transaction that was not completed before McElmoyl died and to which his widow did not agree. Whatever the details, John B. Horsley won the case and acquired the land, with no cost recorded.

### **1831 (Feb) – John B. HORSLEY a bound on land on Turkey Creek, York County**

15 February 1831 – Survey Plat for James Stewart

For 212 acres on Dry Branch, York District, Surveyed by Andrew M. Hanna.

Names Indexed: [Grant applicant] James Stewart; [Bounds, etc] JOHN HARSLEY(sic), E. A. Cranshaw, William McClure, Persly; [Surveyor] Andrew M. Hanna.

Locations: Broad River; Dry Branch; Turkey Creek; York District

[Source: Online Index to State Plat Books (Columbia Series) 1796-1868. Series S213192 Vol. 49, p. 300, Item 2. SC Archives Online at: <<http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/onlinearchives/RecordDetail.aspx?RecordId=222770>>]

Note:

John B. Horsley purchased land on Turkey Creek in 1830 from John McClure Jr., probably kin to William McClure, a bound of the land being surveyed in this deed (as is "John Harsley"). The land John B. acquired from the Widow McElmoyl in January 1831 was adjacent to his 1830 land on Turkey Creek.

Interestingly, in the 1820 census a William McClure was living near "Aggurth Huff," a widow with several younger males and one female 16-26 in her household. "Aggurth" is almost certainly Agatha Huff, mother of Pamela/Permelia Huff who married John B. Horsley in 1825. Agatha's husband, and Pamela's father, Jonathan Huff died between 1810 and 1820 according to census records. His family probably continued to live on the same land since 1800 when that census shows Jonathan "Hoof" in the same area and among some of the same families later on records with John B. Horsley. Turkey Creek, as well as Bullocks Creek where John B. buys his next land (see record below), were branches of the Broad River that flowed between the west side of York County and the east side of

Union County, SC, and went up into North Carolina at what was then the border of Lincoln and Rutherford County, NC.

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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 [sic] 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  
[16 Oct 1832, York County, South Carolina]

#### 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.

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.]

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### **1835 – John B. HORSLEY buys York County land on Bullocks Creek**

#### Abstract

14 Aug 1835 - John Horsley from Hugh Cain, both of York District, SC  
 82 acres, York Co., Headwaters of Beaverdam Branch of Bullocks Creek - For: \$175  
 One half of a grant to Dickey; where Charles G. Simonds now lives  
 Bounded by John Hartness  
 Signed: Hugh Cain  
 Witnesses: N. P. Kennedy, Charles G. Simonds - Rec. 11 Nov 1836  
 Source: York Deed Book M, p. 184, No. 292. York County Courthouse, York, SC. Abstract by J. Horsley

#### Note:

Although this land John B. Horsley buys in 1835 is on Bullocks Creek and his previous land was described on Turkey Creek, they apparently were adjacent at some point, based on the parcels John sells in 1837 and 1839. The 1839 deed of sale mentions a Britchen Branch instead, but either name could be the clerk's copy error. In any case, a Beaverdam Branch of Bullocks Creek was different from the large Beaverdam Creek that ran through another part of York County. (Counties often had a number of small streams named "Beaverdam" for obvious reasons, and interestingly many changed names later, perhaps because the term "Beaverdam" no longer applied.)

This deed was witnessed by N. P. Kennedy. A "Kennedy" was a bound on the land John B. acquired through his Equity Court suit, who may be the same as N. P. Kennedy, or a related family..

### **1837 – John B. HORSLEY sells York County land on Turkey Creek**

#### Abstract

16 Jan 1837 - John Horsley to Jenkins Pressley, both of York District, SC  
 80.3 acres - Waters of Turkey Creek, part of Waggoner Old Survey & part of the McElmoyle tract.  
 For: \$200  
 Bounded by James Hope & John B. Horsley  
 [Also by William Wylee, John McClure, James Stewart Jr., William Ingram, Thomas Bratton. These names were cut off this deed when the original was pasted into a new record book binding, but they are included in the deed for the same land sold by Jenkins Pressley, the next entry in the deed book.]  
 Signed: J. B. Horsley Witnesses: Wm. Jamuson, William Ingram - Rec. 24 Feb 1837  
 Release of dower:  
 Signed - Pamela Horsley (by signature), W. Jamuson Q. U. [Justice of the Quorum] - 7 Feb 1837.  
 Source: York Deed Book M, p. 226, No. 356. York County Courthouse, York, SC. Abstract by J. Horsley

#### Note:

A year and a half after John B. Horsley buys land on Bullocks Creek, he sells half of his land on Turkey Creek. The rest of the Turkey Creek land was included in his final sale of York County land in 1839, the whole tract then described as being on Bullocks Creek. The 1837 purchaser above, Jenkins Pressley, immediately (by next deed book entry) sold the same property for the same amount of money to James Stewart Jr., the son or other kin of the James "Steward" for whom the survey was made and recorded 15 February 1831 with a bound of "John Horsley" (see record above). A portion of the deed book record from J. B. Horsley has been cut off of the bottom of the original when pasted into a new deed book, but the additional bounds are included in Pressley's deed of sale, which otherwise exactly matches the deed from John B. to Pressley.

Of the 26 Horsley-related deeds obtained from York County, this is one of only two that includes a formal release of dower. (The other was a release in 1843 by Rachel Horsley, wife of Richard Horsley's son David.) Such a release was legally required for all land sales by any married man; however, this often was ignored (as York County records illustrate). By law, a wife was entitled to lifetime use of 1/3 of all real property owned by her husband should her husband die before her. In order for him to sell any land, the wife was required to formally release her dower portion, under oath and apart from her husband, in order for the sale to be binding. (In fact, suits could be and were brought to reclaim the wife's dower if her formal release was not included in the deed transaction.) The dower laws often were strictly enforced prior to the Revolution in the well-established portions of the Colonies. In frontier areas, which expanded rapidly after the Revolution, some county courts became much more lax in abiding by and enforcing these laws. Sometimes it seems the wife's signature on the deed was deemed adequate to meet the intentions of the law even when she was not named as a co-seller in the body of the deed and did not formally release her dower, but in York County (and others) often both the wife's signature and her dower release are absent.

The release of dower was a specific process by the laws of most, if not all, colonies and later states whereby a wife would be examined privately and apart from her husband by a justice or other agent of the court. She was required to state under oath that she gave her permission for her dower portion to be sold, and that she was under no threat, duress, or coercion to do so. In situations where a wife could not "conveniently" travel to the county courthouse, the court would appoint justices to go to her home to obtain the release. These laws go back at least to the 1600's in the Colonies, and were used for very practical purposes, since the care of a widow with no means of support was the responsibility of the county courts or parish vestry. Thus, protecting her dower portion for her livelihood during widowhood saved what were often very limited and stretched county and parish tax revenues.

This dower release of John B. Horsley's wife, which she signed apparently by her own signature as Pamela Horsley, is an example of some of the typical wording for formal releases of dower.

*South Carolina York District*

*I William Jamuson one of the justices of the Quorum for said [state and district] do hereby certify that PAMELA HORSLEY the wife [of] the within named JOHN B. HORSLEY did this day appear before me and upon being privately and separately examined by me did declare that she does freely voluntarily and without any compulsion dread or fear of a person or persons whomsoever renounce release and forever relinquish unto the within named Jenkins Pressley his heirs & assigns all her interests and estate and also all her right and claim of dower of in or to all and singular the premises within mentioned & released Given under my hand & seal this seventh day of February A.D. 1837.[7 Feb 1837] /s/ W. Jamuson Q.U. /s/ PAMELA HORSLEY*

[York Deed Book M, p. 227]

**1839 – John B. HORSLEY sells his last York County land on Bullocks Creek**

Abstract

2 Feb 1839 - John B. Horsley to Jeremiah Tesney, both of York District, SC  
 168 acres, York Co., waters of Bullocks Creek Britchen branch; where John B. Horsley now resides.  
 For: \$517 Bounded by: John W. A. Harkness, Robert Gilfillin, Hugh Cain, Thomas Bratton  
 Signed: J. B. Horsley [wife did not sign or release dower]  
 Witnesses: A. J.[?] Hutchison, J. A. Brown - Rec. 25 Aug 1839  
 Source: York County Deed Book M, p. 489 (new page 512), No. 758. York Courthouse. Abstract by J. Horsley



**Note:**

This is John B. Horsley's final deed transaction before he left York County, SC probably that same year, since he is in Benton County, Alabama in the 1840 census. This tract, where the deed states he was residing at the time, represents the total land John B. still owned from his three land acquisitions described variously as being on both Turkey Creek and Bullocks Creek.

While John B. Horsley was residing in 1850 in Carroll County, GA, then-adjacent to Benton (now Calhoun) County, AL, where his apparent brother Theophilus T. was residing, neither they nor their children's families lived in the same counties or immediate areas as James Horsley's proved grandchildren in Georgia and their children, some of whom later moved into Alabama. Again, as mentioned under the 1798 deed discussion, this seems odd for such an obviously close-knit family group if John B. and Theophilus T. actually were part of this Horsley family line.

**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 HOSLEY [indexed as Hasley] - Males: none; Females: 1(50-60)

**Note:**

Richard's two children David and Susannah ("Susan") are listed two pages apart even though they lived adjacent to each other. On the page between them is Jas. L. Wright, the man involved with them in the "boundary dispute" in 1836 (see notes for the 1798 deed above).

Both Richard Horsley and his wife Margaret Brandon were deceased by this year.

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1840: Upson County, GA

Valentine HORSLEY is the 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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1840: Benton County, AL

John B. HOSLEY

Males: 2(<5), 1(5-10), 1(30-40); Females: 2(5-10), 2(10-15), 1(30-40)

Theophilus Hanley [error for Horsley?]

Males: 1(<5), 2(5-10), 2(10-15), 1(30-40); Females: 1(<5), 1(5-10), 1(20-30)

**Note:**

*Horsley Families of America* says that John B. Horsley and his presumed brother Theophilus T. Horsley were together in Benton County, AL in the 1840 census [p. 19]. John B.'s name is clearly written as "Hosley" (a common early spelling of Horsley) in this census, but verifying Theophilus Horsley is a problem. A Theophilus Lantrun is on the same page as John B. Hosley, and a Theophilus Hanley is listed one page before. The name Hanley is clearly written, and there was another Hanley/Henley family in the county in 1840. "Theophilus Hanley" possibly could be an error for Horsley, except that the wife's age is different from T. T's wife in the Benton County 1850 census, and there is an extra male child who is not found in T. T. Horsley's family information.

### 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 copy of this 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 and parentheses 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. He died 18 (not 8) Sep 1843 and served in the Revolutionary War from Virginia (not Georgia).

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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

Note:

Richard's son David with wife Rachel Mahew/Mayhew and several adult children are the only Horsley's listed in York County, SC in this 1850 census. The next listing was a household headed by "Reason Talbert", age 26, along with David's four grandchildren by his deceased daughter Jane Howe. Perhaps this census listing should be David's son Reason Horsley, since in the 1860 census

Reason Horsley (probably named for his mother's brother Reason Mayhew) was a miller age 38, and David's four Howe grandchildren were living with David. (Could "Talbert" be Reason's middle name?) Howe family information says David's four Howe grandchildren had lived with him since their mother Jane Horsley Howe (wife of David D. Howe) died in the mid-1840's.

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.

David Horsley's wife Rachel died shortly after his sister Susannah, and by the 1860 census David with several grown unmarried daughters and youngest son Reason were living in Gaston County, NC next door to David's son Richard R. and wife Martha Stowe. (Gaston County, NC was formed 1841 from the southern part of Lincoln Co. and is now the adjacent county on York's northeast side.) David also had with him in the household his four Howe grandchildren – Thomas, Nancy, Margaret, and Oates (listed in that census erroneously as "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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1850 Census: Benton County, AL - Theophilus T. Horsley Family

HORSLEY, T T - age 47 [b. c1803] - Farmer – Real Est. \$600 - born NC

J. - fem - 45 - NC

G P - male - 20 - Farmer - GA

J C - male - 18 - Farmer - GA

E - female - 15 - AL

M J - female - 13 - AL

D M - male - 11 - AL

W - male - 9 - AL

T T - male - 5 – AL

Note:

This census for Theophilus T. Horsley's family in Benton County, AL lists that he was born about 1803 in North Carolina and his wife was born about 1805, also in North Carolina. According to his children's ages and places of birth, Theophilus was in Georgia by 1830, but I could not find him in any 1830 census. His children's birthplaces confirm he was living in Alabama by 1835, so he may well have been the "Theophilus Hanley" in the Benton County census for 1840. I could not find Theophilus in any census after 1850. However, we know from family information that by at least the mid-1850's some of his children, as well as some of John B. Horsley's children, were in St. Clair County, AL, adjacent to Benton County on its west. (Benton County was re-named Calhoun County in 1858.)

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## 1850 Census: Carroll County, GA – John B. Horsley Family

HORSLEY, J. B. - age 44 [b. c1806] - Farmer - Real Est. \$1000 - born NC  
 Permilia - 46 - SC  
 Martha - 16 - SC  
 Jonathan - 14 - SC  
 Rob't - 12 - SC  
 Amos - 10 - AL  
 Augustus - 8 - AL [listed as male, but was female]  
 Eveline - 6 - GA  
 Jn'o T. - 4 - GA

## Note:

By this 1850 census, John B. and family had moved to Carroll County, GA which at that time was adjacent to the east side of Benton County, AL.

According to *Horsley Families of America* (one of whose authors is a descendant of John B.), family stories say John B. Horsley left his family in Carroll County, GA between 1854-1860 and went, maybe west, "with a red-headed widow who was a school teacher." [p. 22] They also say that a son of John B., Amos Horsley, told his son Gerome that his father had left, and he (Amos) had "seen the devil [meaning the woman] at church."

There seems to be some truth to this family story, because a John B. Horsley, born about 1803 in North Carolina, is living in Greene County, Arkansas in the 1860 census:

1860 - Greene County, AR (P. O. Herndon)  
 Horsley, John B. - age 57 [b. c1803] - Farmer - Real Est: \$1000, Pers. Est: \$400 - born NC  
 Elizabeth P. E. - 48 - Housekeeper - b. TN  
 Mahala - 21 - Housekeeper - GA  
 Jane - 16 - Housekeeper - SC  
 John T. - 2 - AR

Apparently Mahala and Jane were Elizabeth's daughters, and John T. was a child of John B. and Elizabeth. If the family stories are correct and this is Pamela/Permilia's husband John B. Horsley, then it seems unlikely that John B. and Elizabeth were legally married, although of course in that place and time they would want to appear to be. I can find none of this family in the 1870 census.

Permilia (Pamela Huff) Horsley is shown in the 1860 census in Carroll County, GA (Post Office, Bowden, GA) as head-of-house, age 56, with a daughter age 16 and son age 14 still in the home. She is listed as a farmer with no real estate value and \$100 in personal estate. According to authors Scott and Horsley, Permilia Horsley died in Carroll County, GA on 3 Apr 1888 and is buried in the Horsley Cemetery there.

Like T. T. Horsley's family, some of John B. and Pamela's children and grandchildren moved west into St. Clair County, AL.

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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” presumably are David Horsley’s son Richard R. and wife Martha who moved to Gaston County, NC by the 1860 census. This deceased child James Henry was their youngest.

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.

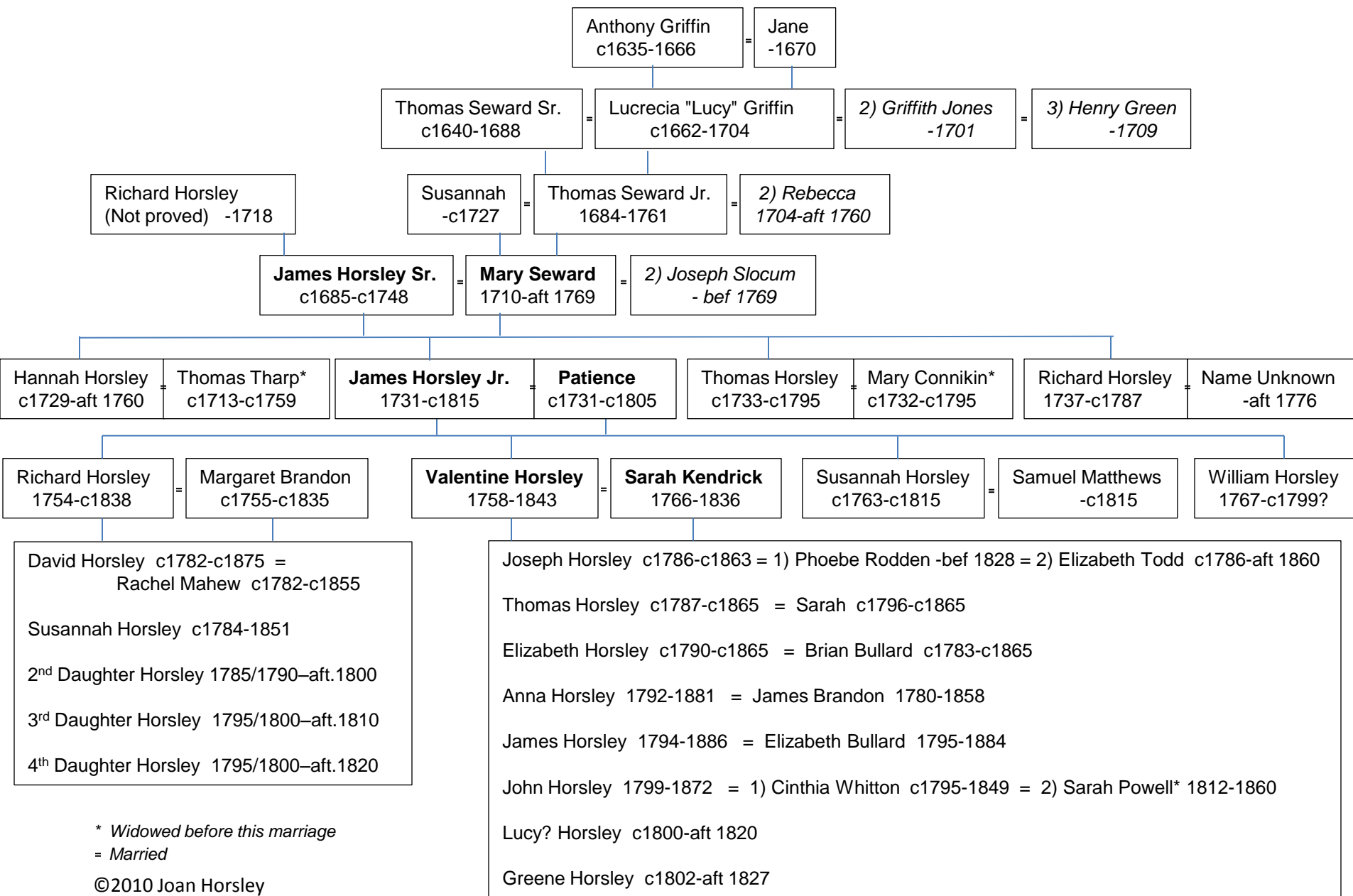
Research on this Horsley family line continues. Questions, documented corrections and additional information are welcome. Any changes will be posted on my website at: <[www.joanhorsley.org](http://www.joanhorsley.org)>

*Joan Horsley*

Fall 2010

Contact: [JHGenResearch-Horsley@yahoo.com](mailto:JHGenResearch-Horsley@yahoo.com)

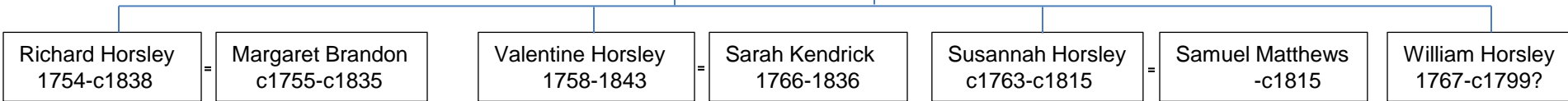
## Horsley Family Tree: Focusing on the Line of James Sr., James Jr. & Valentine Horsley





## 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 c1790-c1865 m. Brian Bullard c1783-c1865  
 John Bullard; also 1 son and 5 daughters, names unknown

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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