

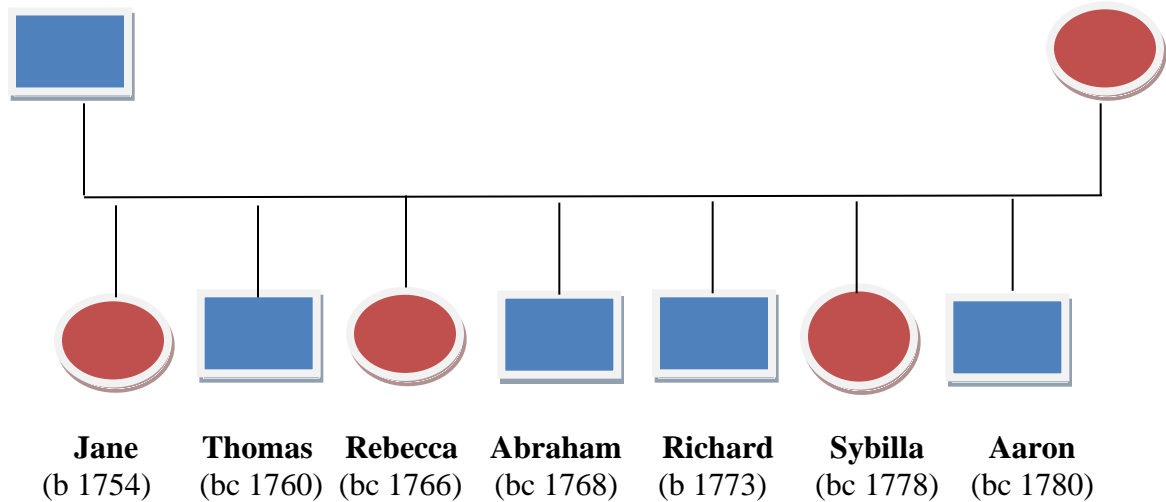
**Narrative of Thomas Linvill (bc 1732-dc 1798)**  
(Linville Database #1798)

Evidence for relationships in the 18<sup>th</sup> century frontier of the American Colonies requires use of a wide variety of sources, particularly for a family where there are limited land records, no extant probate records, and sons and grandsons born either too late or too early to participate in the Revolutionary War. The following narrative describes the life of one man born on the Pennsylvania frontier to a family migrating on the early frontiers of Virginia, North Carolina, and Tennessee, whose family came of age during the migration. It provides an illustration for the use of a variety of other sources and the importance of focusing on geography.

**Thomas Linvill (bc 1732 – dc 1798)**

son of Thomas Linville (bc 1703-dc 1761)

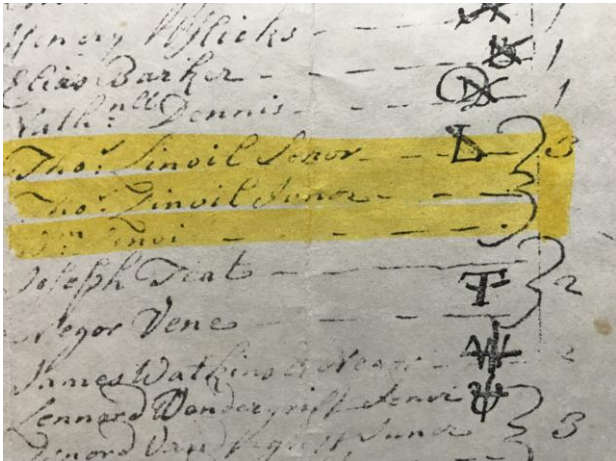
**Unknown wife or wives**



Others possible (especially daughters) but not known.

**Thomas Linvill**<sup>5</sup> (Thomas<sup>4</sup>, John<sup>3</sup>, Richard<sup>2</sup>, Thomas<sup>1</sup>)<sup>1</sup> was likely born by 1732 either at Conestoga or Corderus Creek, Pennsylvania, as his father Thomas Linvill<sup>4</sup> (born c1703) was already living west of the Susquehanna near present-day Gettysburg.<sup>2</sup> His father's family moved to at least the northern part of the Shenandoah Valley in Virginia by the mid-1730s,<sup>3</sup> making the Shenandoah Valley along Linville Creek where he spent his childhood.<sup>4</sup> Thomas's

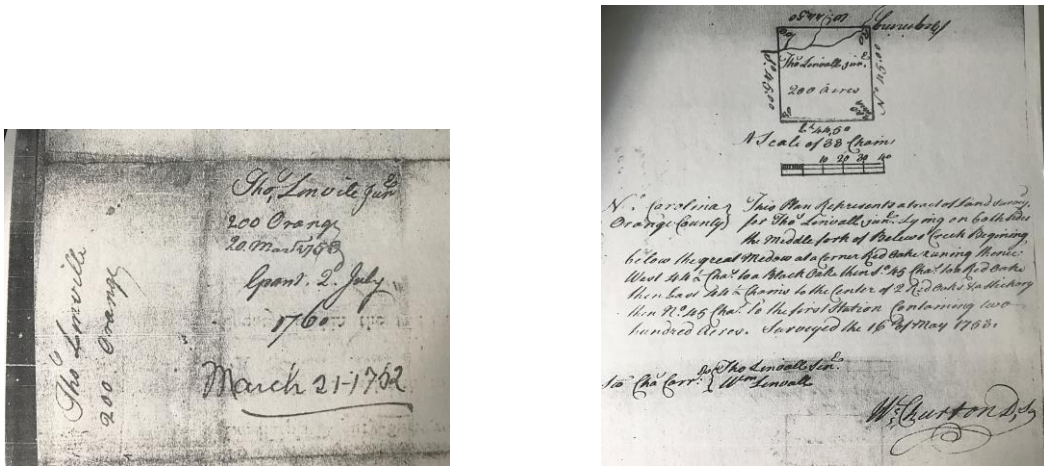
birth date (circa 1732) is developed from his appearance and disappearance on tax lists in North Carolina, where the taxable age was 16 years for a male in his father's (or someone else's) household and age 21 when males were taxed on their own and able to buy land.<sup>5</sup> Then, after 1784, the upper age limit for poll tax for males was established as 50 after which they were only taxed for land.<sup>6</sup> His father and uncle William Linville had established a 1500 acre enclave in Linville Creek, Virginia near present Edom, Virginia in Rockingham County. Until his early teens, there were few families around except those migrating down the Great Wagon Road from Pennsylvania to points south.<sup>7,8</sup> By the time Thomas had reached taxable age of 16, his parents had sold their Linville Creek land in Virginia in 1746.<sup>9</sup> The family is then found in the Dan River watershed in what became Rowan County, North Carolina. The first extant tax for that area, 1751, lists Thomas Linville “Senor” (*sic*) as head of household with two boys of taxable age --Thomas “Junor” (*sic*) and William in his household.<sup>10</sup>



**List of Tythables on Dan River for 1751 [State Archives of North Carolina]**

Consequently, Thomas of this narrative would have been at least 16 years old by 1751, but almost certainly older because he was old enough to acquire a warrant for a survey of land on 16 May 1753 when he is identified as Thomas Linville, Jr. in a Lord Granville Land Grant labeled as in Orange County, part of the distribution of western North Carolina land.<sup>11</sup> The

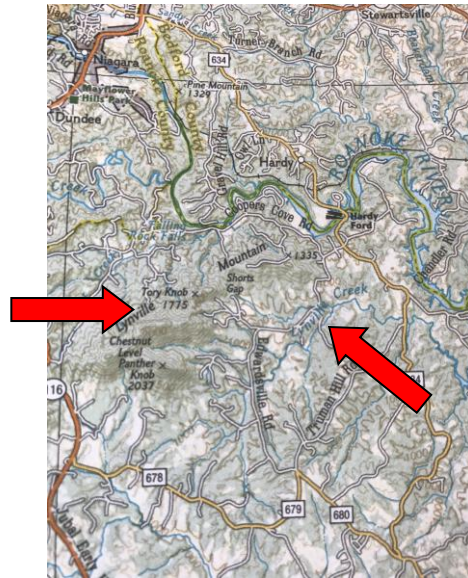
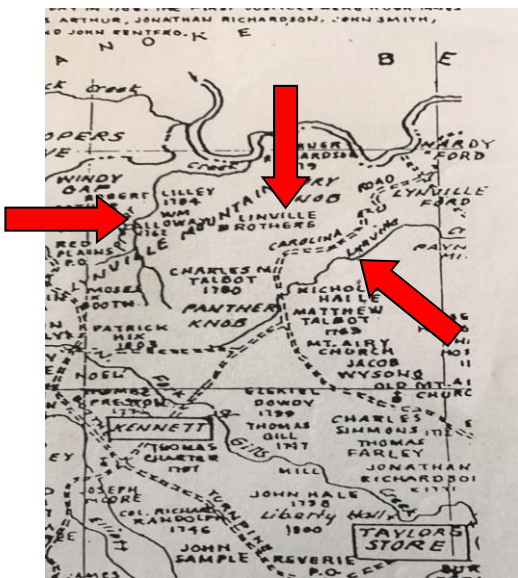
official land file in the state archives indicates that a grant and deed were granted in "Orange County" (sic) 1 July 1760. And no deed for the sale of his or his father's grant seem to have been recorded. The survey of 200 acres fell on both sides of Great Meadow, Middle Fork of Belews Creek. His father Thomas Linvill Sr., who had his own land grant nearby, and his brother William Linvill (bc 1735) were chain carriers for the survey.<sup>12</sup> Considered with the 1751 tax list, this is the indirect evidence – and the only evidence to date – of their relationship as father and sons.



**Thomas Linville Jr.’s Belews Creek (Orange County) North Carolina Survey and Grant**

Thomas (Jr.) – the subject of this narrative – apparently held this land at least until moving to western North Carolina in the 1770s. No deeds for the sale for his or his father's grant appear to have been recorded in North Carolina county records.<sup>13</sup> It is possible some may have been recorded in Orange County, NC (since the grants were issued in that county before the formation of Rowan County).<sup>14</sup> As a consequence, there is no evidence of a wife for him found in land records. Before 1784, a wife would have had common law rights and should have signed any deeds.<sup>15</sup> It seems likely his land simply stayed with the remaining Linville family after the father Thomas Sr.’s (bc 1703-dc 1761) death<sup>16</sup> and the son’s Thomas Jr.’s (the subject of this narrative) move to western North Carolina.

There is also a possibility that despite being fully established in Belews Creek, North Carolina during the 1750s, parts of the family readily moved up and down the Great Wagon Road to Virginia throughout the decade. Present-day Franklin County, Virginia historical maps list "Linville Brothers" along the Carolina Road near "Lynville Creek," "Linville Ford" and "Lynville Mountain" near today's Hardy, Virginia.<sup>17</sup> County deeds and tax records<sup>18</sup> do not reveal exactly which Linville brothers this could be, but it seems likely that they could be two of Thomas Sr.'s oldest sons -- Thomas Jr. and William who were on the 1751 tax records with him. Research on this possibility continues.



**Historical Northern Franklin County, VA**

**Present-day Northern Franklin County, VA**

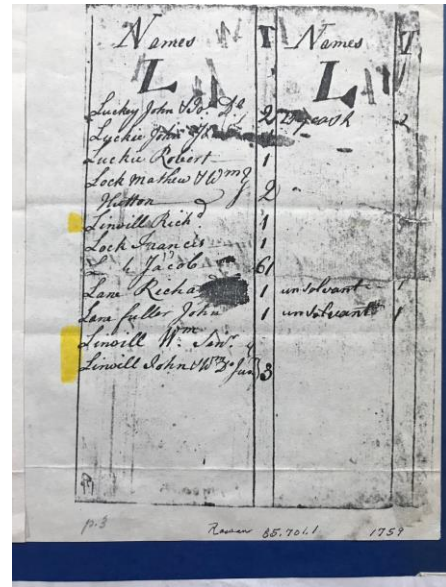
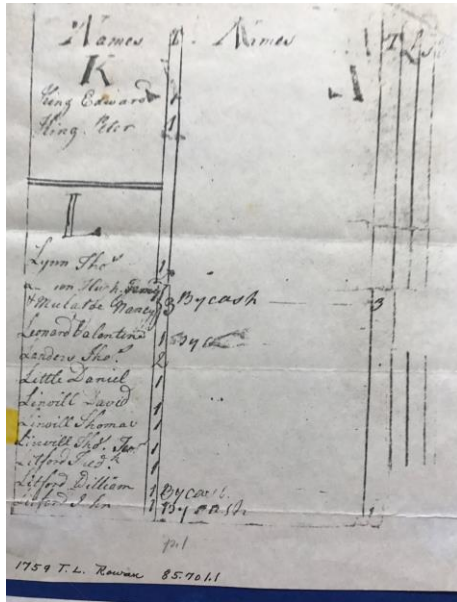
Thomas Linville (of this narrative) likely married about the time of his land acquisition (1753-4), possibly to a woman named either Catharine or Jane. His oldest known child, Jane, was born by 1754.<sup>19</sup> Whether the family was living only in North Carolina or helping to maintain a waystation along the Carolina Road in Virginia at the time is not clear since there are no record of Linville activities in Belews Creek between 1755 and 1758.

It also is possible he was married more than once. There is a large enough break in the births between known children to suggest that. And there is one reference in a church record to a Catherine Linville in 1799-1800 (see discussion below), which could suggest either a daughter or a wife. With the first daughter named Jane (possibly named for a mother or an aunt) and second son named Abraham, there has been a suggestion for a possible connection to the Abraham Vanderpool family, neighbors of the Linvilles at Belews Creek and later both Beaver and Cove creeks farther west in North Carolina. The given names of Abraham, Jane, and Catherine all appear in that family who were definitely related to the Linvilles a generation later. But the Vanderpools appear to still be in northern Virginia not Belews Creek until about 1757.<sup>20</sup> At this point the connection to the Vanderpools before the family was living near Beaver Creek in western North Carolina is speculative, but as this description of Thomas Linville's life reveals, he was closely allied with the Vanderpools. What the nature of their relationship was beyond their children and grandchildren intermarrying along the migratory trails from Belews Creek to Wilkes County, North Carolina; Campbell County, Tennessee; western Missouri; and on to Oregon is not known. Both families have incomplete genealogies between 1750-1800.<sup>21</sup>

Although there are no extant tax records for Belews Creek between 1752-1758, Thomas Linville Jr. (bc 1732) appears as constable "in the room of Isaac Young" in the Belews Creek settlement in a Rowan County, North Carolina court record 13 Oct 1754.<sup>22</sup> The first extant tax list for the geographic area covering all of Rowan County was for 1759.<sup>23</sup> There are two groups of Linvilles on it: one was the group settled at Belews Creek, including Thomas Linville Sr., and his sons Thomas Jr. (bc 1732 of this narrative), David, and Richard (son William conspicuously missing); the second group – Thomas Sr.'s (bc 1703-dc 1761) brother William



(bc 1708-d 1766)<sup>24</sup> was grouped with his sons John and William Jr. – at the forks of the Yadkin on the other side of Wachovia settlement about 35 miles west. This is also the last reference to Thomas Linville Sr. (bc 1703-dc 1761) in North Carolina records. After 1761, all references to Thomas Linville belong to his son, who became the new Thomas Linville, Sr. (subject of this narrative) for the next generation.



**Rowan County, North Carolina 1759 Tax List [State Archives of North Carolina]**

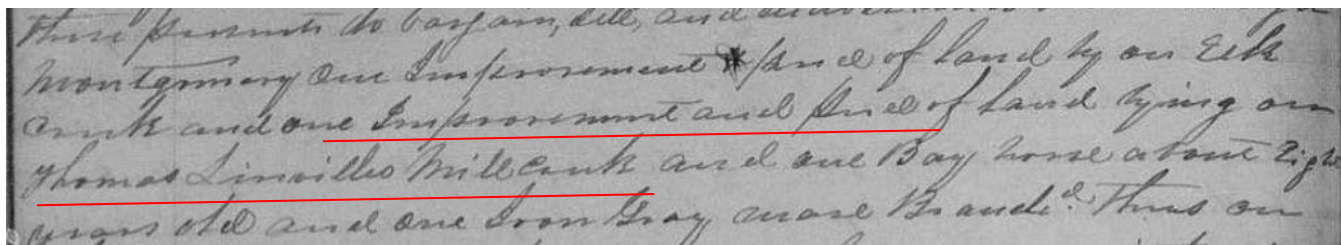
Six years later, Thomas, along with his younger brother Aaron Linville presented a claim for killing several wolves on 8 Dec 1764 at Rowan County, NC.<sup>25</sup> Rowan County paid them in a 1765 list of men for killing wolves, panthers, and cats.<sup>26</sup> Thomas Linville and David Linville were on a road jury 14 Jul 1767 to lay out a road from Capefear near New Garden Meeting House (today, Guilford County) in a direct line to Daniel Dillon's Mill to join the Town Fork Road near David Linville's.<sup>27</sup> Abraham Vanderpool was an overseer for another road from David Linville's to the Moravian settlement in Salem.<sup>28</sup> Later that year, on 15 Oct 1767, Thomas Lingwell (*sic*) and David Lingwell (*sic*) were on a road jury to lay out a road from Belews Creek settlement to Salem through the most convenient place to Cornelius Cook's in

Dan River Road.<sup>29</sup> The following year Thomas appeared on the 1768 tax list for Belews Creek, Rowan County, North Carolina. Thomas Linville and his younger brother Moses are listed together in one household; David Linville and "brother" Aaron are listed together in a second.<sup>30</sup> Again, William is conspicuously missing. That same year the Rowan County Pleas and Quarter Sessions records indicate that 15 Jan 1768 Thomas Linvill was an overseer for the road that was already laid out from David Linvilles to the river with the "hands living in Blews (*sic*) Creek settlement."<sup>31</sup> A few months later on 19 Apr 1768, Thomas, David, and Richard Linville were all ordered to appear to qualify to lay out the road from Cape Fear near New Garden Meeting House to David Dillon's Mill to Town Fork near David Linville's.<sup>32</sup> All of these references to a "Thomas" Linville in Belews Creek seem likely to be for Thomas Jr. (bc 1732) and not his father who died around 1761. David, Richard, Aaron, and Moses continued to live in Belews Creek<sup>33</sup> while Thomas of this narrative started moving west, becoming the next generation of Thomas Linville in the records.

In 1771 Surry County was created from Rowan with the first Surry County tax taken and published alphabetically. It included Thomas Linville, as well as apparent brothers Aaron and Richard each in individual households with only one poll.<sup>34</sup> This tax record, though, put the land of the previous generation of two Linville brothers' – Thomas (bc 1703-dc 1761) and William (bc 1708-d July 1766) – in separate counties for the first time since moving from Virginia to North Carolina. William's family remained at the forks of the Yadkin, still in Rowan County, while Thomas's family at Belews Creek fell in Surry County jurisdiction.<sup>35</sup> In 1772, the original alphabetical tax list for Surry included Thomas Linville (on Belews Creek) and in separate households, apparent brothers Richard, Haren (*sic*), Moses, and David -- the

latter with 2 poles in the household.<sup>36</sup> Wynant, Jacob, Abraham (2 polls) and John Vanderpool were also in Belews Creek area.<sup>37</sup>

By 10 Sept 1772, the Belews Creek Linville families began moving their households farther away. On that date, Benjamin Angel of Surry County sold two parcels of land along with three horses and a note of Charles Burns(?) to Hugh Montgomery of Salisbury, Rowan County. One parcel was described as on Elk Creek and one on Thomas Linville's Mill Creek.<sup>38</sup> Witnesses were John Brown and William Allison, adjacent landowners on Beaver Creek. The land is located about 80 miles west of Belews Creek along Route 421 to Wilkesboro and Route 268 to near Ferguson, North Carolina on both sides of the (now) Wilkes/Caldwell county line. Both Elk Creek and what is now Laytown Creek (but was Thomas Linville's Mill Creek)<sup>39</sup> are on the north side of the Yadkin, a short distance upstream from the land indicated in a deed Thomas Linville later recorded in 1788 on Beaver Creek.<sup>40</sup> Clearly, given the reference in Angel's deed to an improvement on Thomas Linville's Mill Creek, the Linvilles had a presence in the area before 1772 though no other land purchases or acquisitions appear to have been recorded.<sup>41</sup> This seems to have been a typical pattern for the Linvilles -- go and find some land that no one is on, settle it, make improvements, and then (if at all) record the deeds.



### **Thomas Linville's Mill Creek and "Improvement"-1772**

This new land of Thomas Linville's in western North Carolina, where they lived through the Revolution, was still in Surry County until 1777 when Surry was split to create Wilkes County.<sup>42</sup> In the 1774 Surry County tax list his name appears next to Abraham, Wynant, and



John Vanderpool.<sup>43</sup> The Vanderpools not only had previously lived nearby in Belews Creek,<sup>44</sup> but became neighbors at Elk Creek, in Surry/Wilkes County,<sup>45</sup> and later at Cove Creek in now Watauga (originally Wilkes) County.<sup>46</sup> In 1777 the lands west of Surry and Rowan were used to create Wilkes County<sup>47</sup> that included the Thomas Linville land around Beaver Creek, as is evidenced by his appearance in Wilkes county records, as follows.

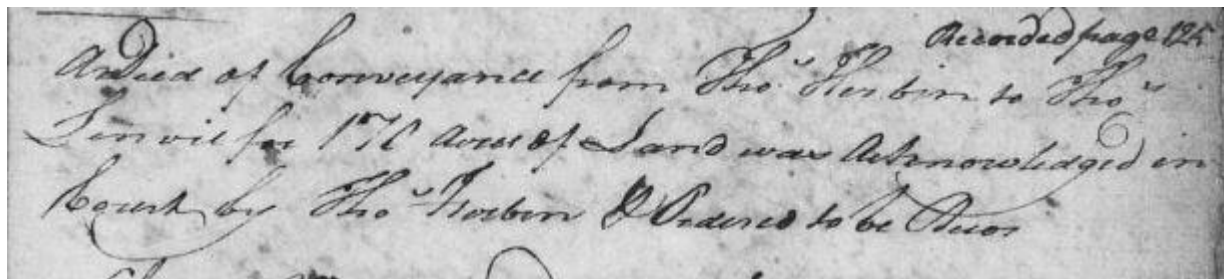
On 12 June 1778, Thomas Linville was still living in the Thomas Linville's Mill Creek (now Laytown Creek)/Elk and Beaver Creek areas in Wilkes County where Abraham Vanderpool entered 150 acres on the south side of the Yadkin along a line made by Thomas Linville, including the improvement where Abraham Vanderpool Sr., and Jr., lived.<sup>48</sup> Two deeds recorded on the following pages in the deed book also indicate "Linville's Mill Creek" on the north side of the Yadkin. Thomas Linville was summoned on 1 Dec 1778 by the Wilkes County sheriff to appear before a jury to testify for Ruth Barton's claim against John Brown's land entry involving a land dispute between neighbors in the Beaver Creek/Kings Creek area.<sup>49</sup> Then, the following spring on 3 Mar 1779, Abraham Vanderpool sold to Micajah Bennett the 150 acres he had previously entered and just obtained rights to on the south side of the Yadkin adjacent to Simpson's and Linville's lines.<sup>50</sup> And, on 8 June 1779, Thomas Linville, John Vanderpool, and Thomas Holeman were among the men chosen on jury to view a road from near Thomas Johnson's up the Yadkin River into the other road near "Linville's old Meeting House."<sup>51</sup> Whether this is on the north side of the Yadkin (Linville's Mill Creek) or the south side (Beaver Creek), it is clear that there was a meeting house - probably Baptist given the family's later church records - in this area before 1779. Records or any other notice of this meeting house appear not to have survived. Parts of both the Linville and Vanderpool families were involved in the origin of Cove Creek Baptist Church 20 years later.<sup>52</sup> Thomas was chosen

as member of another road jury to view most convenient way around John Kees, Sr. (Keese?) plantation on 9 Jul 1779 at Wilkes County, North Carolina.<sup>53</sup> A printed transcription of Wilkes County court records lists a "William Linville" as appearing on a jury. However, the original, when viewed clarifies that this is a transcription error and the original entry refers to a William Smith, not Linville.<sup>54</sup>

By the 1780s, clearly established in Beaver/Elk Creek area of Wilkes County, Thomas's offspring begin to add to the record of the family. By the time Thomas Linville appeared on the 1782 tax list for Keese District, Wilkes County, North Carolina,<sup>55</sup> his apparently oldest child – a daughter, Jane, was married to Edward Smith in Wilkes County.<sup>56</sup> Others in Keese's 1782 district included people whose names are mentioned as interacting with either the Linvilles or the Vanderpools: Micajah Bennett, Edward Smith [Thomas's daughter Jane's husband], Thomas Brian, John Bradley, Ann Wisdom, Thomas Harbin, Thomas Holman Sr. and Jr., William Allison.<sup>57</sup> Thomas's 1782 tax was for 60 acres and two slaves - one 1-7 years old and one 50-60 years old.

Two years later Thomas Linville appeared on the 1784 tax list for Wilkes County, North Carolina.<sup>58</sup> It is also the first tax list on which any of Thomas Linville's sons start to appear with him. Thomas "Lenvil" was taxed that year for 130 acres and 2 polls, suggesting that his first son (who would be Thomas Jr.) had just turned 16 since the last tax (1782) -- old enough to be taxed, but not to own land or pay his tax himself (age 21). Others who were also in the 1782 Keese District tax list continued to appear in 1784, this time with locations noted: Thomas Bryan and Edward Smith [Jane Linville's husband] on Kings Creek [now Caldwell County] - one creek upstream from the Linvilles who were on Beaver Creek at the time; Thomas Harbin

on the Yadkin itself; John Vanderpool 1 poll and 50 acres also on the Yadkin; John Bradley 1 poll listed "between Washington on Cove Creek."<sup>59</sup>



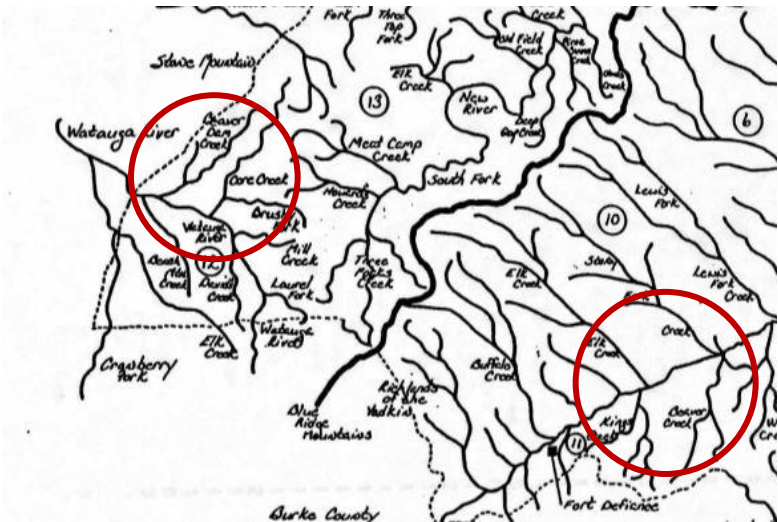
**Wilkes County Court Records 27 April 1784 [FHL Film 7,856,631, digital image 154]**

In April 1784, Thomas Harbin indicated in court that he sold 170 acres to Thomas Linville.<sup>60</sup> The land is presumed to be the land on Beaver Creek although the actual deed appears not to have been recorded. A later deed chain when Linville sold some of this land identified it as on Beaver Creek.<sup>61</sup> Thomas Harbin later sold 230 acres of land on Beaver Creek on south side of the Yadkin to Elinor Triplett, identified as joining Thomas Linville, being part of 400-acre tract deeded Harbin by Elijah Isaacs,<sup>62</sup> providing additional evidence for the location of Linville land.

When Thomas Linville appeared on the 1785 tax list for 270 acres in Wilkes County, North Carolina, he was again listed with 2 polls, suggesting that either Thomas Jr. had still not turned 21 or just hadn't acquired land yet.<sup>63</sup> Part of Wilkes County became Washington County, State of Franklin, but was reconstituted as Washington County, North Carolina in 1787-1788 right before the land was ceded back to North Carolina.<sup>64</sup> No one really moved; the boundaries just changed. This is reflected in the tax records for 1787. Thomas Sr. appears on the tax lists for both jurisdictions in 1787. First, father (bc 1732) and son, Thomas Jr. (bc 1760), were listed in Washington County, Tennessee tax list: Thomas Linville with 100 acres and 1 poll; a second

Thomas Linville with 100 acres and 1 poll.<sup>65</sup> Since Thomas Linville Jr was listed in a household by himself this is a good indication that he had turned 21 since the previous tax year - 1785 - and old enough to own land. However, the Wilkes County tax list for 1787, only has one Thomas Linville with no polls and 270 acres.<sup>66</sup> This would still be the Beaver Creek land that wasn't sold until a year later in 1788. The fact that the family appeared to be moving between 1787-1788 may explain their absence on the extant 1787 North Carolina state census for Wilkes County.<sup>67</sup> Thomas Linville Sr. apparently never appeared again as paying a poll tax for himself on a tax list -- only land tax, suggesting that he was definitely older than 50.<sup>68</sup>

At the time Thomas Linville sold his land in southeastern Wilkes County in 1788 and moved to Cove Creek in western Wilkes County, the latter area on the North Carolina/Tennessee border and had gone through some quick changes in jurisdiction. Cove Creek, the area around the Watauga River on the Tennessee/North Carolina border, was in the District of Washington created in 1776, prior to the creation of Wilkes County.<sup>69</sup> However, by the time Thomas Linville died in North Carolina about 1798, the Cove Creek land he had owned fell into Ashe County. Today, it would now be in Watauga County.<sup>70</sup>



**Wilkes County Tax Districts 1786**  
 [Samuel E. Sebastian, *Wilkes County, North Carolina Taxables*]

## Linville Land on Beaver Creek 1772-1788; Cove Creek 1788-1800

Thomas Linville Sr. of Washington County, North Carolina sold 50 acres in Wilkes County to John Norris, in the presence of Thomas Linville, Jr. (then, clearly over 21 years) on 11 Oct 1788.<sup>71</sup> This is the first of two deeds disposing of his land on Beaver Creek that he had apparently acquired from Thomas Herbin/Harbin in an unrecorded deed.<sup>72</sup> A month later, on 12 Nov 1788 Thomas Linville of Washington County, North Carolina sold to Thomas Holeman the remaining 120 acres on both sides of Beaver Creek, described as "part of the 400 acre grant of Elijah Isaacs to Thomas Harbin."<sup>73</sup> Isaacs's deed to Harbin and his North Carolina land grant definitely place where the Linvilles had been living on Beaver Creek between 1772-1788.<sup>74</sup>



### Elijah Isaacs North Carolina Grant<sup>75</sup>

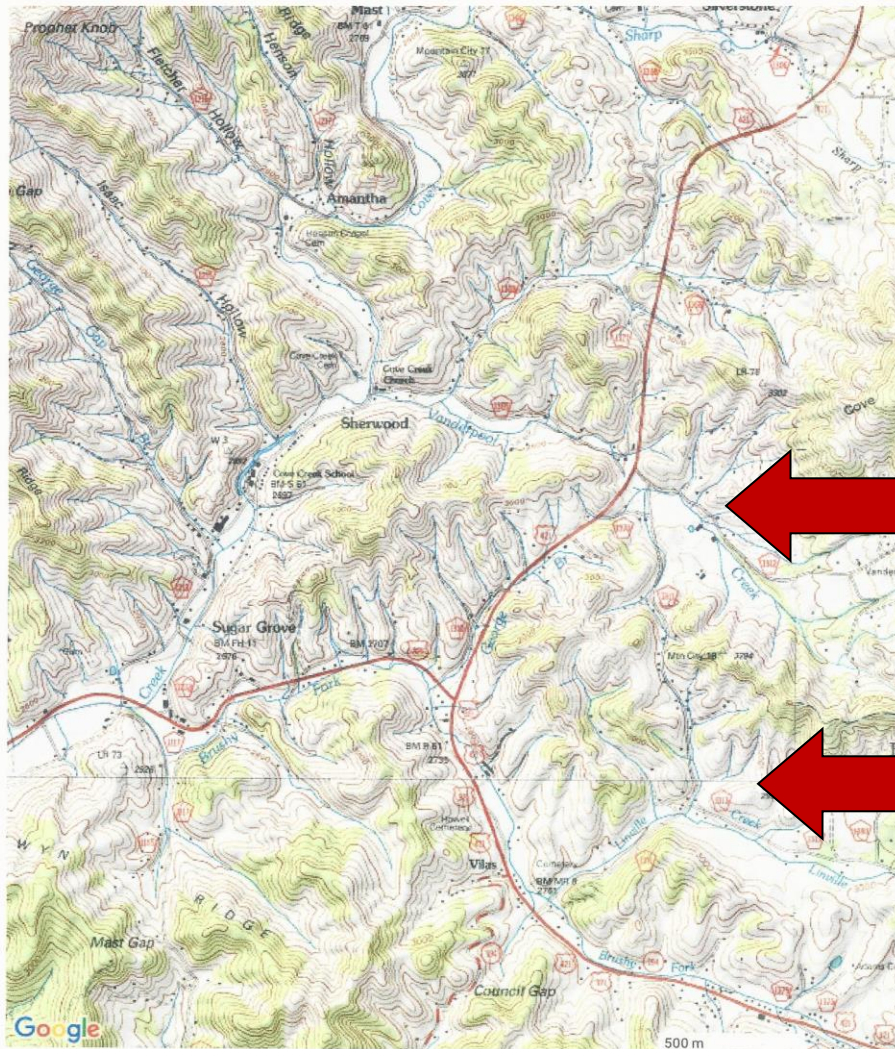
No wife signed either Linville deed to Harbin or Norris, apparently the only two extant deeds located regarding Thomas Linville's land in North Carolina. As of 1784 and until mid-19th century, North Carolina stopped the common law practice of dowers' rights.<sup>76</sup> For that

reason, Thomas was not required to get his wife to sign off on her rights in land transfers. Therefore, because there is no wife's signature, nothing can be assumed about who she was, whether she was still living, or if there was more than one.

On 29 July 1789, Thomas Linvill, "Senr" of Washington County, North Carolina finally recorded the deed for the 50 acres he previously sold in Nov 1788 to John Norris on the east side of Beaver Creek on the corner of Linville's line, which was part of Elijah Isaacs, state grant of 400 acres. Witnesses were Thomas Linville, "Jr" (clearly over 21 now), David Magee and Andrew Welch.<sup>77</sup> Certainly, by 1789 the Linvilles – Thomas Sr. and his adult or nearly adult children— pulled up stakes on Beaver Creek and settled in the Watauga watershed in the Cove Creek area. Maps with Linville Creek and Vanderpool Creek in present-day Watauga County mark the location near Vilas, North Carolina where the North Carolina Land Grants eventually fell to both Thomas Sr.<sup>78</sup> (subject of this narrative) and his son Thomas Jr. (bc 1760).<sup>79</sup> This move also brought associations with the Campbell and Yount<sup>80</sup> families in the next decade— families who provided spouses for four Linville children.<sup>81</sup> Just to be clear, during the late 1770s through 1790s, there were a number of land jurisdictional changes in the western part of North Carolina. Thomas Linville lived in only two places geographically after leaving Belews Creek - the Elk and Beaver creeks area in southeastern Wilkes County and Cove Creek area in western Wilkes County near the Tennessee line. The ownership of the Beaver Creek land put him in Surry County, Washington County, and Wilkes County records during the time period.<sup>82</sup>



## Vanderpool Creek Topo Map in Watauga County North Carolina



Map provided by TopoZone.com

Through 1790 census records, marriage records of three daughters, tax records for the 1790s, and family records kept by descendants of his four sons, Thomas Linville's family constellation comes into view. The military district #8 of Wilkes County in the 1790 census included 34 families—both Thomas Linvilles being two of those families.<sup>83</sup> The elder Thomas had a household of three males over 16, one male under 16, and one female—presumably,

Thomas and sons Abraham and Richard over 16, and Aaron under 16 were the males as they come into taxable age in the same district. Thomas Jr. had one male over 16, one male under (presumably, Thomas and his son, also Thomas, and therefore grandson of Thomas of this narrative) and 4 females (presumably, wife Jemimah, and three daughters).<sup>84</sup> The two households were separated by two Whittendon families and an Estepp.

Champa Yewin	1	1	2	
Tho: Linville	3	1	1	
Mr Whittendon	2	3	5	
Shad Estepp	2	2	5	
Mr Whittendon	1	-	2	
Tho: Smode	1	1	4	✓
Ben King	1	1	3	

**1790 North Carolina Census, Wilkes County, Whittendon District, p. 158, col 2**

Apparent daughters Jane and Rebecca were already married and in households of their own. Jane had been married to Edward Smith for 10 years and had at least four or five daughters before 1787.<sup>85</sup> Rebecca Linville married James Campbell in Washington County, Tennessee 23 Feb 1789.<sup>86</sup> James and his bondsman, Jeremiah Campbell (possibly a father or brother) managed the bond although it may not have been as steep a price as that paid by John Mynatt for his marriage a few years later to Rebecca's sister, Sybilla, in Knox County, Tennessee, and Thomas's apparent third daughter.<sup>87</sup> A few years before sister Rebecca's marriage to James Campbell along the Tennessee/North Carolina border Thomas Linville Jr. married James's probable sister Jemimah Campbell. Though there is no official record, the information is prominent in family bible and family records of several descendants.<sup>88</sup> Although youngest daughter, Sybilla, would not marry for a few years she may not be the lone female in Thomas Sr.'s 1790 household, if his wife was still living. Sybilla may have been one of the females in other Linville households (Jane's or Thomas Jr's) helping out with younger nieces

and nephew. If so, that would make the lone female in the 1790 household a wife of Thomas Sr. who might have been the Catherine who appeared by herself joining and then leaving the Cove Creek Baptist Church congregation in 1799-1800.<sup>89</sup> The hope for more definitiveness about who Catherine was may emerge in the Linville family DNA project with FamilyTreeDNA.com.<sup>90</sup> Descendants of three Thomas Linville male lines through sons Thomas, Richard, and Aaron share the same Y-DNA signature with each other.<sup>91</sup>

The Cove Creek area land grant that Thomas Linville, Sr. obtained when he moved to western Wilkes County provides additional evidence of family relationships as well as suggested ages of two sons. He obtained a transfer of Joshua Curtis's warrant for 100 acres on Cove Creek in Washington County, Tennessee as a North Carolina grant on 4 Sept 1790.<sup>92</sup> The warrant for survey was issued and carried out 27 Jul 1791 with both Abraham Linville and Richard Linville as chain carriers.<sup>93</sup> The warrant file indicated that the original Curtis grant was for 100 acres "above" Baker King on the creek. Thomas Linville (Jr) and King are listed next to each other on the 1790 census with Thomas Sr. four lines before King.<sup>94</sup> Thomas Jr.'s (bc 1760) land is discussed in his own narrative.

Thomas Linville, Sr.'s family also can be followed after the 1790 census using the tax records for Wilkes County. The 1793 tax list for the 12th district of Wilkes County included the first two male descendants of Thomas's.<sup>95</sup> Thomas (Sr.) was listed in 1793 with 1 poll and 400 acres.<sup>96</sup> Thomas Linville Jr. had 1 poll and 64 acres.<sup>97</sup> Abraham Linville was then old enough to be a poll on his own (age 21) although he only had a horse, no land.<sup>98</sup> Abraham's wife's family was likely nearby as by 1800 when the census was taken he appears married with children.<sup>99</sup> On 30 Jul 1793, Thomas Linville, "Senr" was on a jury to view a road from Rich

Mountain to Lewis Stephens on the Watauga River and a bridle way from Cove Creek to the top of Stone Mountain.<sup>100</sup>

In 1794, District #12 (Cove Creek) in Wilkes County belonged to tax collector Dyer. Whether he was related to the Zebulon Dyer who figured in land dealings with Thomas's son Richard in Tennessee is not known. That year, there were no polls in Thomas (Sr.)'s household and he was taxed for 400 acres.<sup>101</sup> Given North Carolina tax records, this could suggest he is over 50 years and no longer taxed for himself - only his land. There were two polls, though, in Thomas, Jr.'s household.<sup>102</sup> Perhaps brother Richard was living/working with his older brother. Abraham still had no land, but 1 poll.<sup>103</sup> That would mean that Aaron was still not 16 in 1794.

*A List of taxable property of Cap<sup>t</sup> Dyer's District for 1795*

<i>Persons Names</i>	<i>Land</i>	<i>polls</i>	<i>Delinquents</i>
Benjamin Dyer	300	1	Joseph White
George Smith	100	1	Richard Crawford
Joseph Mack	140	1	James Halseau
Benjamin Walker		1	Benjamin Ward
David Carter	150		Joshua Ward
Samuel Burns		1	James Ward
John Whitenton		1	John Ward
Simon Hull	150	1	Thomas Lincol jun <sup>r</sup>
David Hull	150	1	Genespy Holder
Lewis Stevens	100	1	W <sup>m</sup> Bennet
William Davis	150	1	Abraham Lovell
Abraham Vandover	200	1	Amber Davenport
Abijah Jones		1	John Doby
Richard Hoachs	10	1	Thomas Hoag
Richard Hoachs		1	Joshua Carter jun <sup>r</sup>
Thomas Lovell Jun <sup>r</sup>	373		
David Hoachs	40	1	
James Campbell		1	
William Whitenton	250		
Eliza Post		1	
Abel Cook		1	
Shadrach Casals	280	1	
Baker King	200	1	
John Quist		1	
Matthias Harmon		1	
John Haffelaw	100	1	
John Coffey		1	
Benjamin Webb	600	1	
Richard Burns		1	
Samuel Hicks	100	1	
George Ho	100	1	
John Post		1	

*43 2*

Wilkes County – Taxes 1795 – Capt Dyers District  
[FHL microfilm 2,439,291, digital image 197]

There was no appreciable change in the tax record for 1795 except that Thomas Linville, Jr. and Abraham Linville were listed as delinquent.<sup>104</sup> Thomas Sr. was recorded with no polls and 373 acres of land.<sup>105</sup> Nearby were Abraham Vanderpool and his 200 acres and 1 poll, John Yount (Yunt) with no land and 1 poll<sup>106</sup> and many Yount females (see 1790 census for him in Surry County<sup>107</sup>), and James Campbell who was, as indicated earlier, married to Thomas Linville Sr.'s daughter Rebecca.<sup>108</sup> These were all listed in the same Capt. Dyers district.

In 1795, Thomas Linville Sr. finally entered the land that he had been living on and taxed for at least five years. Two entries were made: one for 200 acres on the waters of Brushy Fork of Cove Creek beginning in Joshua Curtis's line and running up the Creek to include Linville's plantation;<sup>109</sup> the second for 70 acres lying on Vanderpool's creek beginning at Abraham Vanderpool's line and running up the creek, including the improvements whereon Thomas Linville, Jr. was living.<sup>110</sup> A year later in 1796, the only change in the Linville taxable households was that Abraham Linville had 100 acres and 1 poll; Thomas Linville, Jr. had 64 acres and 1 poll; and Thomas Linville, Sr., had 400 acres and 1 poll, again.<sup>111</sup> This was likely son Richard was back home again with his father - with Aaron still not yet 21. Thomas Linville, Sr. appeared in Washington County, Tennessee court on 19 May 1796 to present an inventory for the estate of Peter Parkinson that was sold by the widow, then married to James Jones.<sup>112</sup> Included in the inventory was a note from Thomas Linville for \$28.33 1/3 and one from Zachariah Campbell for \$18.33. John Carter was the administrator for the estate.<sup>113</sup>

The 1797 tax list for Wilkes County continued to be taken by visitation instead of recorded alphabetically.<sup>114</sup> A Whittendon, neighbor of the Linvilles, was tax collector for the district.<sup>115</sup> Thomas Linville Sr., so identified with 1 poll, had 400 acres, making him the third largest land owner in the district.<sup>116</sup> The poll cannot be Richard because Richard Linville was in

his own household with 1 poll and no land.<sup>117</sup> This poll, then, has to be Aaron Linville in Thomas Sr.'s 1797 household, which means as the youngest son was not yet 21 but over 16. Thomas Linville Jr., had 64 acres and 1 poll.<sup>118</sup> Abraham still had his 100 acres and 1 poll.<sup>119</sup> James Campbell, Abraham Vanderpool, and John Yount were all nearby.<sup>120</sup> Yount had acquired 260 acres of land.<sup>121</sup>

Today, a drive through the Vanderpool and Linville creek areas in Cove Creek vicinity near Vilas, North Carolina gives one a sense about the conclave nature of the convergence of the creeks. These families were definitely close neighbors. The Cove Creek land was finally certified to Thomas Linville (Sr) 3 Oct 1797<sup>122</sup> after which it seems likely that several of his offspring left North Carolina for Tennessee, as only family members Abraham Linville and James and Rebecca (Linville) Campbell remained in the area for the 1800 census.<sup>123</sup> And yet, in March 1798 back in the Beaver Creek area where Thomas Linville's Mill Creek and old meeting house had existed, a deed for the 50 acres continued to use the "Thomas Linville line" as a reference point in deeds even though the family was clearly no longer there.<sup>124</sup>

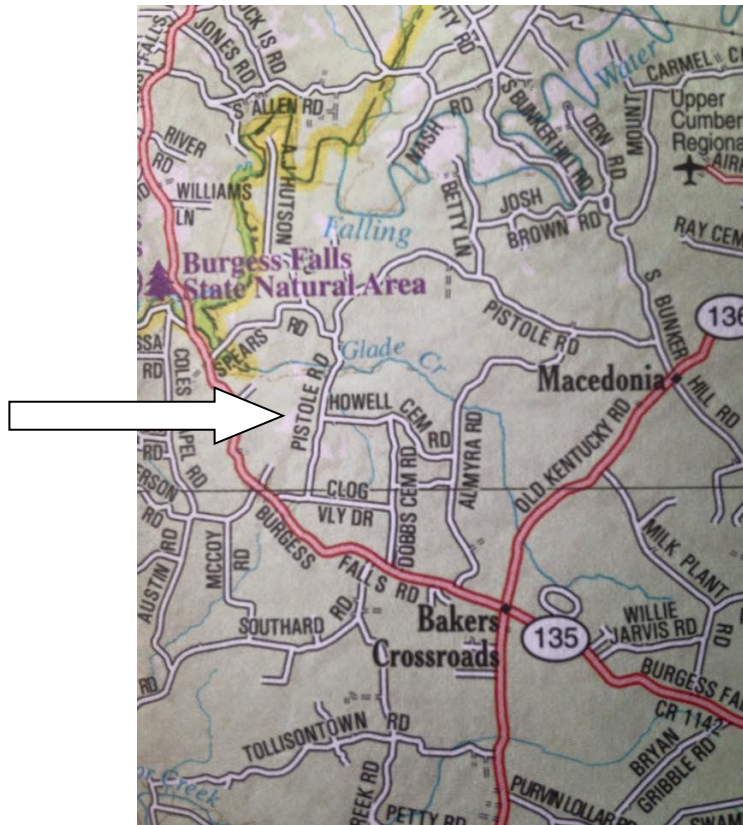
It appears that Thomas Linville Sr. (bc 1732) died before 12 Nov 1798 near what is now the town of Vilas in Watauga County, NC, and apparently did leave a will, as on 4 Oct 1800 son Richard called himself "heir and legatee" of his deceased father, Thomas's "old field";<sup>125</sup> however, no will or estate records are extant for him in either Wilkes (before it was split to create Ashe County) or Ashe County NC.<sup>126</sup> The last court record for Cove Creek area in Wilkes County would have been Oct-Nov in 1798 and Ashe County's first court was January 1799. However, Ashe County court records before 1806 have apparently not survived.<sup>127</sup> An Ashe County NC deed for "heir and legatee" of Thomas Linville submitted by his son Richard on 4 Oct 1800 who was already living in Grainger County TN certainly marks the last possible



date for his father Thomas's death.<sup>128</sup> If the Catherine Linville who joined Three Forks Baptist Church for a month in July 1799<sup>129</sup> was, indeed, his wife and Thomas did not join with her, we could surmise that Thomas died before then and between late 1798 and early 1799. Thomas Sr.'s son Thomas (bc 1760) was in Carter County TN by the time, having sold his own 60 acres of land 12 Nov 1798.<sup>130</sup> Notably, he did not call himself "Jr." in the deed, again suggesting late 1798 as the death of the father Thomas. Son Aaron didn't sell his apparently inherited part of his father's 400 acres until 1801<sup>131</sup> and isn't on the 1800 census (4 Aug 1800),<sup>132</sup> so seems to have been in the process of moving to join brother Richard in Tennessee; and their brother Abraham Linville stayed in Ashe - on his part of the "old field" until after 1810<sup>133</sup> when he, too, joined his brothers in Tennessee before they all moved to Missouri.

For these reasons, it appears that Thomas Linville born by 1732 died before 12 Nov 1798 near what is now the town of Vilas in Watauga County NC. With only son Abraham and daughter Rebecca (Linville) Campbell still living in North Carolina for the 1800 census.<sup>134</sup> All of Thomas Sr.'s sons—Thomas Jr., Abraham, Richard, and Aaron— and at least daughter Rebecca eventually moved to Missouri, most before it became a state. Jane (Linville) Smith died after 1850 in Giles County.<sup>135</sup> Thomas Linville, Jr. moved to Little Fork of Doe River near Elizabethton, Tennessee (Carter County)<sup>136</sup> where he and wife Jemimah were members of the Sinking Creek Baptist Church<sup>137</sup> until 1812 when they moved to White County Tennessee<sup>138</sup> and eventually Missouri. Rebecca (Linville) Campbell and her family moved to Carter County Tennessee<sup>139</sup> and later with the rest of the Linvilles to western Missouri.<sup>140</sup> Richard became a landowner in Grainger, then, Anderson and Campbell counties Tennessee with substantial dealings,<sup>141</sup> Aaron<sup>142</sup> and (eventually) Abraham<sup>143</sup> followed him to Campbell County NC. Sybilla (Linville) Mynatt, moved to Knox County, Tennessee where she died in 1852.<sup>144</sup> There

were possibly other daughters not yet identified. (Details on each of his children are included in the Linville database.).



### Location of Linville land in White County, Tennessee

In 1980, an oral history from the then owners of Howell's farm in White County, Tennessee, adjacent to land that had been owned by Moses Linville, claimed that Thomas Sr. - they called "Old Tom" - and a Moses Linville were the first two graves on their farm. However, Moses would have been a nephew, son of Thomas (bc 1732) Sr.'s brother, Richard. As we have seen in this narrative, further research has now established that Thomas Sr. (bc 1732) died in North Carolina by 1798 before the family migrated. This means that the previous oral history about "old Tom" being buried in 1817 at Howells farm in White County TN is not accurate. The oral history more likely just applied to his younger brother Moses's family.<sup>145,146</sup>

An ongoing DNA project using Thomas's descendants is focused on trying to identify his wife or wives. The only one possible reference found for someone who could be a wife is a Catherine Linville who appears in the same Baptist Church records as do Abraham Linville and his wife Margaret in the summer of 1799. She was received by experience the same Sunday in July as Margaret and others, but a month after joining, Catherine "being about to move away"<sup>147</sup> requested a letter of dismissal in August 1799, which was granted. Presumably, this move was to Tennessee where her apparent oldest son Thomas Linville's family had settled in Carter County, Tennessee, since her possible husband (or father), Thomas, died before 12 Nov 1798 and certainly by July 1799.

Relying primarily on the few available land, tax, and marriage records—with no extant probate records for this group of Linvilles—geography has been an important delimiting factor in identifying Thomas Linville and his offspring. And the migration timing of those offspring to Missouri does suggest that their father Thomas Linville (bc 1732) died about 1798. He would have been at least 65 years old in 1817, having lived in Pennsylvania, Virginia, and North Carolina, in his lifetime.

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30 April 2021

## Endnotes

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<sup>1</sup> Previous generations are discussed in: Alice Eichholz, PhD, CG, “The Linville Family in America – First Generations,” 2012, 46 pp, the first part of this genealogy (Hereafter Eichholz, Linville-First Generations). That material is made available to family members and others as an attachment on the Linville Family web site (<http://linvillefamily.us/>). This narrative is part of that work *in process* concerning the next two generations.

<sup>2</sup> Samuel Blunston Licenses for Settlement Across the Susquehanna, Originally in Drawer 0016, item 9, Land Records Office, Pennsylvania State Archives, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Hans Kaighe’s license dated 4 March 1734, articulating “On the West Side of Codorus where Thomas Linvil first settled having purchased his Improvement.” Possibly re-catalogued to “Blunston Licenses. A record of licenses granted by to sundry persons to take up lands located on the west side of the Susquehanna River.” Proprietors Papers (series #17.319).

<sup>3</sup> Josiah Look Dickinson. *The Fairfax proprietary: The Northern Neck, the Fairfax Manors, and beginnings of Warren County in Virginia*. (Front Royal, Va., 1959). See reference to William Linviel (*sic*) [brother to Thomas Linville] in “The Transcript of the Record of the Hite vs Fairfax Suit,” p. LIV with listing of families certified as settled before 26 Jan 1735/6 on the forks of Shenandoah and various branches.

<sup>4</sup> Orange County, Virginia, “Court Order Books,” Library of Virginia-Archives & Manuscripts, Richmond, Va. Orange County microfilm #30, 1:398. See also, *Orange County, Virginia Court Orders, 1734-1741: An Everyname Index* (Miami, Fla.: T.L.C. Genealogy, 1994; and Barbara Vines Little, *Orange County, Virginia Order Book One 1734-1739* (Orange, Va.: Dominion Research Service) for references to Thomas and William Linville (various spellings).

<sup>5</sup> Helen F.M. Leary and Maurice R. Stirewalt, editors, *North Carolina Research: Genealogy and Local History* (Raleigh: The North Carolina Genealogical Society, 1980), 27-9.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>7</sup> Josiah Look Dickinson, *The Fairfax Propriety: The Northern Neck and Fairfax Manors and Beginnings of Warren County in Virginia in no series* (Front Royal, Virginia: Warren Press, 1958), p. LVI - William Linville in list of those already settled in Forks of Shenandoah and various branches.

<sup>8</sup> Augusta County, VA Deeds, 1:143-8; 152-9; 165-8.

<sup>9</sup> Augusta County Virginia Deeds, Augusta County, Virginia, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Staunton, 1:165. Thomas Linwell (*sic*) and wife Hannah to Jacob Christman of Frederick County, 14 Nov 1746. Also available through Library of Virginia-Archives & Manuscripts, Richmond.

<sup>10</sup> Dan River [Granville County], North Carolina Tax List 1751, State Archives of North Carolina, Granville County, North Carolina, Tax Lists, CR044.701. Copy of original obtained 1978. Thomas Linville bracketed in the same household with Thomas Linvill, Jr. and William Linvill.

<sup>11</sup> Granville Surveys, Moravian Archives, Salem, North Carolina. Original surveys for Thomas Linvill and Thomas Linvill, Jr. Also see copies filed for Orange County as: Thomas Linville, Jr. [Orange County 12.12.62.50] S.108.280 (written as Thomas Linval, Junr., and Thomas Linvile, Junr.). Survey 16 May 1753, Warrant 20 March 1753, Grant 2 July 1760. Warrants Plats Deeds, Secretary of State, Office of Granville Proprietary, State Archives of North Carolina. One of the Thomas Linvilles was also a chain carrier for Adam Teat’s [Rowan County 12,12,81.6] S.108.283. Survey 28 Feb 1754.

<sup>12</sup> Thomas Linville, Sen. [Orange County 12.12.62.50] S.108.280 (written as Thomas Linval and Thomas Linval, Sen). Survey, 21 April 1752, Warrant 20 March 1753, and Grant 1 Aug 1760; Warrants Plats Deeds, Secretary of State, Office of Granville Proprietary, State of North Carolina Archives.

<sup>13</sup> Rowan County, North Carolina, “Rowan County Deeds, Index 1753-1879,” Rowan County Register of Deeds, Salisbury (Hereafter Rowan County Deeds); Surry County, North Carolina, “Surry County Register of Deeds, Index, 1771-1937,” Surry County Register of Deeds, Index, Dobson (Hereafter Surry County Deeds); Stokes County North Carolina; 1771-1937. More widely available through Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah – see catalog entries. See also: Brent H.

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Holcomb, *Anson County, North Carolina: Deed Abstracts, 1749-1766, Abstracts of Wills & Entries, 1749-1795* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1980).

<sup>14</sup> Orange County formed in 1752; Rowan in 1753. Both grants indicate that Orange County is the jurisdiction even though the land fell into Rowan after its formation. Orange County deeds before 1774 are not extant.

<sup>15</sup> Leary and Stirewalt, *North Carolina Research*, 24, 569; Raymond A. Winslow, Jr., "Land Records," 192-3.

<sup>16</sup> Eichholz, Linville – First Generations.

<sup>17</sup> Gertrude Mann Papers, Early History of Franklin County, Franklin County, Virginia Library, Rocky Mount, Va.

<sup>18</sup> Sara Motisher Beck, *Abstracts of the Eighteenth Century Deed Books, Franklin County, Virginia, Vol 2, Deed Book III (1793-1799)*. (Rocky Mount, Va.: Franklin County History Project, 1978), 58, 105, 123, 177; Marshall Wingfield, *Franklin County Virginia: A History* (Berryville, Va: Chesapeake Book Company, 1964), 62, 106. Multiple references to "Linville Creek" and "Little Linville Creek." No deeds for Linville have been discovered in Lunenburg County, Virginia, deed indexes (1746-1900), Family History Library (hereafter FHL) microfilms 32,386 and 32,687; Bedford County, Virginia, deed indexes (1754-1929); FHL microfilm 1,941,018 (grantors H-L), 1,941,014 (grantees K-O); or Franklin County, Virginia, deed indexes (1786-1897), FHL microfilms 31,494 and 31,395. Assistance in locating materials also provided by Franklin County Historical Society and Dr. Francis Amos of Royal Mount, Va.

<sup>19</sup> Ancestry, *Find A Grave*, database with images (<http://www.findagrave.com>: accessed 15 October 2017), memorial 61478733, Jane Smith (1754-1850), Smith Cemetery, Giles County, Tennessee, gravestone photograph by Mary Bob McClain; For marriage record, see "North Carolina Index to Marriage Bonds, 1741-1868," database, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com>: accessed 15 Oct 2017), entry for Edward Smith and Jane Linvill, 10 March 1780. Original from State of North Carolina. *An Index to Marriage Bonds Filed in the North Carolina State Archives*. Raleigh: North Carolina Division of Archives and History, 1977, Wilkes County, bond 000167403. Copy of original in possession of author.

<sup>20</sup> Myra Vanderpool Gormley, to Alice Eichholz, email correspondence between May 2014 to present and multiple times in the last 30 years. Developing Vanderpool database at private membership site: <https://vanderpool.tribalpages.com/tribe/browse?userid=vanderpool&mmg=8381263441&rand=272949316>.

<sup>21</sup> Gormley to Eichholz, email correspondence, most recently 4 July 2017.

<sup>22</sup> Rowan County, North Carolina, Rowan County Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions Minutes, (Hereafter Rowan County Pleas), 13 Oct 1754, 2: 60. North Carolina, Rowan County Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, Raleigh, FHL microfilm 313,775, item 2, digital image 50.

<sup>23</sup> Rowan County, North Carolina, Original Estate Records: File "1759 Tax List," State Archives of North Carolina, Raleigh. Alphabetically listed. See illustration in text.

<sup>24</sup> Eichholz, Linville – First Generations.

<sup>25</sup> Rowan County Pleas, Bk 2, p. 614.

<sup>26</sup> Rowan County Pleas, 2: 614-7.

<sup>27</sup> Rowan County Pleas, 2: 707-10.

<sup>28</sup> Rowan County Pleas, 2: 707-10.

<sup>29</sup> Rowan County Pleas, 2: 728.

<sup>30</sup> Jo White Linn, Sherburne Laughlin, and Ransom McBride, "Some Colonial Tax Lists of Rowan County, NC, 1768-1775," *North Carolina Genealogical Magazine* 3 (Feb 1982): 39-47, specifically, 43-45.

<sup>31</sup> Rowan County Pleas, 3: 12.

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<sup>32</sup> Rowan County Pleas, 3: 19.

<sup>33</sup> Narratives of their lives are *in process* by the author as part of Eichholz, Linville-First Generations.

<sup>34</sup> Surry County, North Carolina, "1771 Surry County Tax List," State Archives of North Carolina, Raleigh, General Assembly Records, 11.1. Obtained through the assistance of Victoria P. Young.

<sup>35</sup> North Carolina County Formation, State Library of North Carolina, Raleigh "Surry County," <https://statelibrary.ncdcr.gov/ghl/genealogy/nc-county-formation>: accessed 21 Oct 2017.

<sup>36</sup> Tax Lists of Surry, 1772, State Archives of North Carolina, Raleigh, General Assembly Digital Collection, 11.1. Specifically, 031 and 032 for Linvilles. Obtained through the assistance of Victoria P. Young. Note: David's second poll may have been a child of his brother William's. See his discussion [*in process* by the author as part of Eichholz, Linville-First Generations].

<sup>37</sup> Tax Lists of Surry, 1772, State Archives of North Carolina, Raleigh, General Assembly Digital Collection, 11.1. Specifically, 050 for Vanderpools. Obtained through assistance of Victoria P. Young.

<sup>38</sup> Surry County Deeds, A: 24, Benjamin Angel to Hugh Montgomery, 10 September 1772.

<sup>39</sup> William S. Powell, *The North Carolina Gazetteer: A Dictionary of Tar Heel Places in no series* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1968), specifically, "Surry County," 482-3; "Linville's Mill Creek," 283; "Laytown Creek," 276.

<sup>40</sup> Wilkes County, North Carolina, Land Entries Book, Entry 190. Wilkes County Register of Deeds, Wilkesboro (Hereafter Wilkes County Land Entries). Abraham Vanderpool and others indicated they entered land either adjacent to Thomas Linville or on Linville Mill Creek.

<sup>41</sup> Rowan County Deeds, Deed Index, 1753-1879; Surry County Deeds, Deed Index, 1771-1937; Wilkes County, North Carolina, Deed Index, 1779-1926, Register of Deeds, Wilkesboro (Hereafter Wilkes County Deeds).

<sup>42</sup> William S. Powell, *NC Gazetteer*, "Surry County," 482-3; "Wilkes County," 835.

<sup>43</sup> William Perry Johnson, *Surry and Wilkes Cos., N.C. Taxables, 1771-1800*, (Raleigh, 1974), 1771-1777: 21. Specifically Benjamin Cleavland's list.

<sup>44</sup> Surry County Deeds, C: 21. Grant to John Hutchings on both sides of middle fork of Belews Creek, adjacent Vanderpool, Drenon, John Bradley; conditional line between Linville and Hutchings.

<sup>45</sup> Wilkes County Deeds, A-1: 51. Grant to Abraham Vanderpool. 150 ac south side of Yadkin River adjacent Linville's line.

<sup>46</sup> Wilkes County Land Entries, 1783-1795: 431. Dated "1795" Entry 1995 Thomas Linvill, Sr. enters 73 ac on Vanderpool's Creek, border of Abraham Vanderpool line.

<sup>47</sup> North Carolina County Formation, State Library of North Carolina, "Wilkes County," <https://statelibrary.ncdcr.gov/ghl/genealogy/nc-county-formation>: accessed 21 Oct 2017.

<sup>48</sup> Wilkes County Land Entries, 1778-1781: 190, 191, 192. 12 June 1778. Abraham Vanderpool and Jesse Lay entered land either adjacent to Thomas Linville or on Linville Mill Creek. Jesse Lay's was on Linvils Mill Creek and included improvement made by Benjamin Angel/Angle. Abraham Vanderpool was finally deeded the land he entered adjacent Thomas Linville on 3 March 1779. Wilkes County Deeds, A-1: 51.

<sup>49</sup> A.B. Pruitt. *Abstracts of Land Entries: Wilkes Co, NC, 1783-1795* (N.P.: author, 1989); 158. #2052.

<sup>50</sup> Wilkes County Deeds, A-1: 134-5, 3 March 1779, Abraham Vanderpool, to Micajah Bennett.

<sup>51</sup> Wilkes County, North Carolina, Minutes of the County Court (Hereafter Wilkes County Court), 1778-1788. FHL 7,856,631, digital image 49.



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- <sup>52</sup> Three Forks Baptist Church (Wilkes County, North Carolina), Minutes: Three Forks Baptist Church. 1790-1895, Year 1799-1800, members received at Cove Creek Baptist; FHL microfilm 239,271 digital images 24-25.
- <sup>53</sup> Wilkes County Court, 1778-1788. 9 June 1779. FHL 7,856,631, digital image 51.
- <sup>54</sup> Wilkes County Court, 1778-1788. 5 June 1781. FHL 7,856,631, digital image 103.
- <sup>55</sup> Wilkes County, North Carolina Tax Lists (Hereafter Wilkes County Tax), 1782 – State Archives of North Carolina, Raleigh, General Assembly records (G.A.). G.A. 64.1. Keese District. Obtained through assistance of Victoria P. Young.
- <sup>56</sup> North Carolina Index to Marriage Bonds, 1741-1868, database, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com>: accessed 15 Oct 2017), entry for Edward Smith and Jane Linvill, 10 March 1780. Original from State of North Carolina. *An Index to Marriage Bonds Filed in the North Carolina State Archives*. Raleigh: North Carolina Division of Archives and History, 1977, Wilkes County, bond 000167403. Copy of original in possession of author; Also, Edward Smith in Wilkes County Tax, 1782, G.A. 64.1. Keese District. Obtained through assistance of Victoria P. Young.
- <sup>57</sup> Wilkes County, North Carolina Tax Lists (Hereafter Wilkes County Tax), 1782 – State Archives of North Carolina, Raleigh, General Assembly records (G.A.). G.A. 64.1. Keese District. Obtained through assistance of Victoria P. Young.
- <sup>58</sup> Samuel E. Sebastian, *Wilkes County, North Carolina Taxables 1784-1785-1786* (Wilkesboro, N.C.: Wilkes County Genealogical Society, 1975-1989). 1784, Thomas Linvil, 2 polls and 130 acres. The records are transcribed from the Lenoir Family Papers at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, N.C. There is not complete agreement between these tax lists and the records at the State Archives. See also Wilkes County Tax, 1784 – G.A.64.1. Keese District. Obtained through assistance of Victoria P. Young.
- <sup>59</sup> Wilkes County, North Carolina Tax, 1784 - G.A. 61.1
- <sup>60</sup> Wilkes County Court, 1778-1788, 27 April 1784. FHL microfilm 7,856,631, digital image 154.
- <sup>61</sup> Wilkes County Deeds B-1: 31, 12 Nov 1788, Thomas Linville to Thomas Holman; and 34, 11 October 1788, Thomas Linville to John Norris.
- <sup>62</sup> Wilkes County Deeds, A-1: 424, 24 Nov 1784, Thomas Harbin to Elinor Triplett
- <sup>63</sup> Samuel E. Sebastian, *Wilkes County, North Carolina*, 1785. Thomas Linvil, 2 polls and 130 acres.
- <sup>64</sup> Dr. A.B. Pruitt, *Abstracts of Land Entries: Wilkes County, NC Part I (Nov 1796-Nov 1805)*. (n.p.: author, 1994), See introduction for discussion of Wilkes County boundary changes.
- <sup>65</sup> Pollyanna Creekmore, *Early East Tennessee Taxpayers, 1778-1839* (Greenville, S.C.: Southern Historical Press, 1980/rpt2015), Washington County 1787, Thomas Linvill 100 acres and one poll, line 195; Tho Lindvil 100 acres, 1 poll, line 369. See pages 106-114.
- <sup>66</sup> Samuel E. Sebastian, *Wilkes County, North Carolina*, 1787. Thomas Linvill, 1 poll and 270 acres.
- <sup>67</sup> North Carolina State Census, 1787, State Archives of North Carolina, Raleigh, “Wilkes County,” G.O. 131. Digital copies obtained through assistance of Victoria P. Young.
- <sup>68</sup> Leary and Stirewalt, *North Carolina Research*, 27-9.
- <sup>69</sup> North Carolina County Formation, State Library of North Carolina, Raleigh, “Wilkes County,” <https://statelibrary.ncdcr.gov/ghl/genealogy/nc-county-formation>: accessed 21 Oct 2017. The District of Washington had been created in 1776, prior to the creation of Wilkes County for the area around the Watauga River.
- <sup>70</sup> Pruitt, *Abstracts of Land Entries: Wilkes County, NC Part I*. See introduction for discussion of Wilkes County boundary changes.

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- <sup>71</sup> Wilkes County Deeds, North Carolina, B-1: 34, 11 Oct 1788, Thomas Linville to John Norris.
- <sup>72</sup> Wilkes County Court Minutes, 1784, 27 April 1784, FHL microfilm 7,856,631, digital image 154.
- <sup>73</sup> Wilkes County, North Carolina, B-1, p. 31, 12 Nov 1788, Thomas Linville to Thomas Holeman.
- <sup>74</sup> Wilkes County Deeds A-1: 41, 19 Oct 1781.
- <sup>75</sup> Ancestry.com. "North Carolina, Land Grant Files, 1693-1960," database, Ancestry.com (<http://www.ancestry.com>: accessed 21 October 2017), Wilkes County entry for Elijah Isaacs, #580 19 October 1781, frames 1080-1084. Elijah Isaacs served in the legislature and in the Revolution, building Fort Defiance in 1777, not far from his grant and where the Linvilles lived. William Lenior later built a home at Fort Defiance that is still an historic site.
- <sup>76</sup> Leary and Stirewalt, *North Carolina Research*, 569.
- <sup>77</sup> Wilkes County, North Carolina, B-1, p. 34.
- <sup>78</sup> Ancestry.com. "North Carolina, Land Grant Files, 1693-1960," database, Ancestry.com (<http://www.ancestry.com>: accessed 21 October 2017), North Carolina Grants, Washington County entry for Thomas Linville, Sr. #1150, 27 July 1791, digital frames 829-835.
- <sup>79</sup> Ancestry.com. "North Carolina, Land Grant Files, 1693-1960," database, Ancestry.com (<http://www.ancestry.com>: accessed 21 October 2017), North Carolina Grants, Wilkes County, entry for Thomas Linville, Jr. #1151, 27 Jul 1791, Wilkes, digital frames 836-843.
- <sup>80</sup> Lewis E. Vaughan, *Waggoner-Yount Odyssey* Baltimore: Gateway Press, 1982), 25-30.
- <sup>81</sup> Eichholz, *Linville-First Generations in process*.
- <sup>82</sup> Dr. A.B. Pruitt, *Abstracts of Land Entries: Wilkes County, NC Part I (Nov 1796-Nov 1805) in no series* (n.p.: author, 1994), Introduction for discussion of Wilkes County boundary changes.
- <sup>83</sup> 1790 U.S. Census, Wilkes County, North Carolina, population schedule, District 8, p. 158, col. 2, line 5, Thomas Linvill : digital image by subscription, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 17 Oct 2017): citing NARA microfilm publication M637, roll 7.
- <sup>84</sup> 1790 U.S. Census, Wilkes County, North Carolina, population schedule, District 8, p. 158, col. 2, line 9, Thomas Linvill : digital image by subscription, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 17 Oct 2017): citing NARA microfilm publication M637, roll 7.
- <sup>85</sup> North Carolina State Census, 1787, State Archives of North Carolina, "Wilkes County," G.O. 131. Entry for Edward Smyth, Capt. Isbell's District, col. 3, line 4. Obtained through assistance of Victoria P. Young.
- <sup>86</sup> Washington County, Tennessee, "Marriages (1787-1948)," database, *Tennessee, State Marriages* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 17 Oct 2017), entry for James Campbell and Rebecca Linville, 23 Feb 1789, frame 57. James Campbell and Rebecca Linville's marriage was recorded by the county clerk in Washington County Tennessee, but it is marked as having occurred in Washington County, North Carolina.
- <sup>87</sup> Knox County, Tennessee "Marriages (1792-1807)," database. *Tennessee State Marriages*, Knox County Marriages (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 17 Oct 2017. Entry for John Mynatt and Sibella Linville, digital frames 120-121.
- <sup>88</sup> Thomas Linville and Jemima Campbell Bible and Family Records, 1827-1961, *The New Testament of Our Lord Jesus Christ* (Boston: C. Ewer, T. Bedlington, and J.H.A. Frost, 1828). Includes Bible, letters, and genealogies kept by Zachariah and Nancy (Cash) Linville and their descendants. Owner or the original not certain. Digital copies held by author.

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<sup>89</sup> Three Forks Baptist Church (Wilkes County, North Carolina), Minutes: Three Forks Baptist Church. 1790-1895, Year 1799-1800, Catherine Linvil received by experience 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in July, 1788; and requested letter to remove 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday August 1799 at Cove Creek Baptist meeting, FHL 239,271 digital images 24-25.

<sup>90</sup> Family Tree DNA, *Linville surname project*. <https://www.familytreedna.com/groups/linville/dna-results>. Direct maternal line descendants from Sybilla have been identified and efforts to have them participate in the project are underway. Descendants of Thomas's other children (Jane, Abraham, Aaron, and Sybilla) in the project share segments in their autosomal results consistent with them being Thomas's descendants. Those details are beyond the scope of this narrative and the subject of a future discussion.

<sup>91</sup> Family Tree DNA, *Linville surname project*. <https://www.familytreedna.com/groups/linville/dna-results>. Direct male descendants of Thomas's sons Thomas and Richard (5<sup>th</sup> cousins) have Y DNA tested at 67 markers with 95.27% probability of common male ancestor at 8 generations. Y testing for a direct male descendant of Aaron's in is process.

<sup>92</sup> Ancestry.com. "North Carolina, Land Grant Files, 1693-1960," database, Ancestry.com (<http://www.ancestry.com>: accessed 21 October 2017), North Carolina Grants, Wilkes County, entry for Thomas Linville, Jr. Land Warrant #1151, 27 Jul 1791, digital frames 836-843.

<sup>93</sup> Ibid.

<sup>94</sup> 1790 U.S. census, Wilkes County, North Carolina, p. 158 (penned), col. 2, line 10, Baker King : digital image by subscription, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 17 Oct 2017): citing NARA microfilm publication M637, roll 7.

<sup>95</sup> Mrs. W.O. Absher, Ruth P. Gregory, and Paul W. Gregory (abstracters), *Wilkes County, North Carolina Taxables - 1791, 1792, 1793, 1794, Vol. IV* (North Wilkesboro: Wilkes County Genealogical Society, 1975), 29. Abstracts from the Lenior Family Papers at the Southern Historical Collection, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Specifically, Watauger (*sic*) Settlement – District 12. Thomas Linvill (400 acres and 1 poll), Thomas Linvill Junr (64 acres and 1 poll), Abraham Linvill (stud – 1 poll). Obtained through assistance of Victoria P. Young.

<sup>96</sup> Ibid.

<sup>97</sup> Ibid.

<sup>98</sup> Ibid.

<sup>99</sup> "1800 United States Federal Census," database, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com>) : accessed 22 October 2017), entry for Abraham Linvill, Morgan, Ashe County, North Carolina; citing National Archives microfilm publication M32, roll 29, p. 83 (alphabetical). The Cove Creek land was then in Ashe County and only Abraham Linville is still living in North Carolina and enumerated on that census. Sister Rebecca (Linville) Campbell and her family with husband James Campbell is also listed on page 76.

<sup>100</sup> Mrs. W.O. Absher (abstractor), *Wilkes County, North Carolina Court Minute Abstracts, (1789-1793) Vols. III-IV*, (North Wilksboro, Wilkes County North Carolina, 1989), 46.

<sup>101</sup> Absher, Gregory, and Gregory, *Wilkes County Taxables*, 40.

<sup>102</sup> Ibid.

<sup>103</sup> Ibid.

<sup>104</sup> Mrs. W.O. Absher, Ruth P. Gregory, and Paul W. Gregory (abstracters), *Wilkes County, North Carolina Taxables - 1795, 1796, 1797, 1799, Vol. V* (North Wilkesboro: Wilkes County Genealogical Society, 1975), 10. Abstracts from the Lenior Family Papers at the Southern Historical Collection, University of North Carolina. See, also, Wilkes County, North Carolina, 1795 Tax Lists (Hereafter, Wilkes County 1795 Tax), unpagged entries arranged chronologically, entry for Thomas Linvill, Thomas Linvill, Junr, Abraham Linville, Capt Dyers District, FHL microfilm 2,439,291, digital image 197.

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<sup>105</sup> Ibid.

<sup>106</sup> Ibid.

<sup>107</sup> 1790 U.S. census, Surry County, North Carolina, p. 311 (penned), line 32, John Yont : digital image by subscription, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 17 Oct 2017): citing NARA microfilm publication M637, roll 7.

<sup>108</sup> Wilkes County 1795 Tax, entry for James Campbell.

<sup>109</sup> Wilkes County, North Carolina, Secretary of State Wilkes County Land Vol 2. Entry #1994.

<sup>110</sup> Wilkes County, North Carolina, Secretary of State Wilkes County Land Vol 2. Entry #1995.

<sup>111</sup> Mrs. W.O. Absher, Ruth P. Gregory, and Paul W. Gregory (abstractors), *Wilkes County, North Carolina Taxables - 1795, 1796, 1797, 1799, Vol. V* (North Wilkesboro: Wilkes County Genealogical Society, 1975), 22. Abstracts from the Lenior Family Papers at the Southern Historical Collection, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

<sup>112</sup> U.S. Work Projects Administration [WPA], *Washington County, TN: inventories of estates, volume 00, 1779-1821*, (Signal Mountain, Tenn.: Mountain Press, 200-?), 00: 432. Specifically, estate and inventory of Peter Parkinson 19 May 1796. Parkinson is also the surname of the husband of one of Thomas Linville Jr.'s daughters, Leah.

<sup>113</sup> Ibid.

<sup>114</sup> Wilkes County, North Carolina, 1797 Tax Lists, unpagged entries arranged chronologically, entry for Thomas Linvill, Thomas Linvill, Junr, Abraham Linville, Capt Dyers District, FHL microfilm 2,439,291, digital image 219.

<sup>115</sup> Ibid.

<sup>116</sup> Ibid.

<sup>117</sup> Ibid.

<sup>118</sup> Ibid.

<sup>119</sup> Ibid.

<sup>120</sup> Ibid.

<sup>121</sup> Wilkes County Deeds, D: 7, Cutliff Harmon to John Yount, 10 Aug 1796. "east side of Cove Creek." Witnesses, Samuel Curtiss, Matthias Harmon and Ezekiel Baird.

<sup>122</sup> *Ancestry.com*. "North Carolina, Land Grant Files, 1693-1960," database, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com>: accessed 21 October 2017), North Carolina Grants, Washington County, entry for Thomas Linville, Sr. #1150, 27 July 1791, frames 829-835.

<sup>123</sup> "1800 United States Federal Census," database, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com>) : accessed 22 October 2017), entry for Abraham Linvill, Morgan, Ashe County, North Carolina; citing National Archives microfilm publication M32, roll 29, p. 83 (alphabetical). The Cove Creek land was then in Ashe County and only Abraham Linville and James Campbell are still enumerated as living in North Carolina.

<sup>124</sup> Wilkes County Deeds, D: 226. William Allison to William Alexander, 2 Oct 1795.

<sup>125</sup> Ashe County Deeds, B: 218. Richard Linville to John Whittingham – inaccurately indexed to "Richard Lewis."

<sup>126</sup> Pruitt, *Abstracts of Land Entries: Wilkes County, NC Part I*. Introduction for discussion of Wilkes County boundary changes.

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<sup>127</sup> FamilySearch.org – Search for Ashe County Court Records reveals that the first book of court records is 1806 and then some years of records are missing. See Also: State of North Carolina Archives card index of Ashe County records. The first wills records in Ashe County are from 1801. Land Records consistently indicate deeds are recorded in county court records, but some court activity is missing for the geographic area between 1798-1801 and no will or probate records for Thomas Linville exists if it was recorded in either Wilkes or Ashe counties.

<sup>128</sup> Ashe County Deeds, B: 218. Richard Linville to John Whittingham – inaccurately indexed to “Richard Lewis.”

<sup>129</sup> Three Forks (NC) Baptist, July 1799 and third Saturday in August 1799.

<sup>130</sup> Ashe County Deeds, A: 49; 54. Thomas Linville to Matthis Harmon 12 Nov 1798; recorded Ashe County Court Feb 1801.

<sup>131</sup> Ashe County Deeds, B: 220. Aaron Linville to John Adams 17 June 1801; recorded Ashe County Court Aug 1802.

<sup>132</sup> 1800 U.S. Federal Census, Ashe County, NC, p. 83 – no Aaron Linville as head of household and cannot be seen in enumeration of Abraham Linville’s household

<sup>133</sup> 1800 U.S. Federal Census, Ashe County, NC, p. 83 - Abraham Linville.

<sup>134</sup> 1800 U.S. Federal Census, Ashe County, NC. p. 76 – James Campbell

<sup>135</sup> Ancestry, *Find A Grave*, database with images (<http://www.findagrave.com>: accessed 15 October 2017), memorial 61478733, Jane Smith (1754-1850), Smith Cemetery, Giles County, Tennessee, gravestone photograph by Mary Bob McClain.

<sup>136</sup> Carter County, Tennessee, Deed (Hereafter Carter County Deeds), B:111-12, 112-13,177-78, 364-65; dated 12 Sept 1806 proven by Thomas Linville Aug 1807. FHL microfilm 847,621.

<sup>137</sup> U.S. Work Projects Administration [WPA], *Records of Carter County, Sinking Creek Baptist Church Vol. III, 1803-1879*, Mrs. JohnTrotwood Moore et al., transcribers; (1939), 2,9,27,39. Specifically, Thomas and Jemimah Linville family recorded as members 14 June 1802-20 June 1812.

<sup>138</sup> Carter County Deeds, B: 364-65 FHL microfilm 847,621 digital image 530; White County, Tennessee Tax List, 1813, FHL microfilm 507,969, digital image 77.

<sup>139</sup> Carter County Deeds, A: 301, 388 – James Campbell to William Russel, 9 April 1798; and James Campbell of Ashe County, North Carolina to Thomas Millard, 26 Dec 1800.

<sup>140</sup> 1850 United States Federal Census, database, Ray County, Missouri, population schedule, District 75, p 349 (stamped), dwelling 910, family 910, Rebecca Campbell; image, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 20 October 2017); citing National Archives microfilm publication M432, roll 412.

<sup>141</sup> Creekmore, *Early East Tennessee Taypayers, 1778-1839* (Greenville, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1980/rpt2015), 5-7. Specifically, Richard Linville in Anderson County, 1802 with 397 acres and 1 poll; Anderson County, Tennessee Deeds (Hereafter, Anderson County Deeds), A-1: 9-10 Samuel Curry to Richard Linville, 22 August 1801, FHL microfilm 979,339.

<sup>142</sup> Anderson County Deeds, A-1: 187 Spencer Graham to Aaron Linville, 27 Dec 1805.

<sup>143</sup> Campbell County. Tennessee Deeds, B: 145 Thomas Campbell to Abraham Linville, 2 March 1813. Tennessee State Library and Archives, Nashville, Tennessee, Campbell County Register of Deeds, Book B, Sept 1810-Dec 1816. Obtained through assistance of J. Mark Lowe, CG.

<sup>144</sup> Knox County, Tennessee Probate Records, 11:386-88, dated 1853; 12: 148 dated 1855. Digital copy possessed by author.

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<sup>147</sup> Three Forks Baptist Church (Wilkes County, North Carolina), Minutes: Three Forks Baptist Church. 1790-1895, Year 1799-1800, Catherine Linvil received by experience 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in July, 1788; and requested letter to remove 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday August 1799 at Cove Creek Baptist meeting, FHL 239,271 digital images 24-25.