

Yesterday— Gone Forever

A Collection of Articles

by

Faye Royster Tuck

547450372-3
5058-9
70088-9
1768
5062-3

Halifax County, Virginia

75566 4455
7-291

brought several blacks to the house of Edmund King for sale. Among these was a black woman named Phebe. Phebe was purchased by Moses Walker²⁴ who found out later that she was almost at death's door for she had a venereal disease. Walker stated that James Scrosby and James Scales were partners in trading and selling slaves. Scrosby explained to Walker that the slave was purchased to work in the house. Scrosby pulled down the waistband of his shirt to show the ruffles saying that Phebe had made the shirt and "he would be damned if she could not make a better shirt than was in that courtyard." However, it was later found that Phebe could not even sew. In Surry County, North Carolina, a deposition was made by Samuel McCraw in August 1796. "They went into Captain [Edmund] King's house at the Court House and set around a table in the room and Moses Walker took money from his saddle bag and paid James Scrosby for the slave." Phebe died in October 1789 in Halifax County, Virginia, from advanced venereal disease. Dr. Richard Holland of Halifax County was the attending physician.

John H. Manning of Cumberland County, Virginia, sold to Samuel Edmondson one acre situated about 45.5 yards north of the court house land joining John A. Fowkles' property. This land was stated to be part of the estate of Nathaniel Manning.²⁵ Samuel Edmondson sold to James Bruce on November 23, 1817, "0.5 acre court house tract" on which Samuel Edmondson and Caroline, his wife, lived "adjacent the public ground on which the court house stood." A storehouse stood on the court house grounds and was occupied by John Chappell and Company (John Hicks' property). John Chappell and James Bruce were partners in this business.

In 1837 James Bruce's estate sold to James S. Easley 0.5 acre at the court house. Samuel Edmondson lived adjacent to the public grounds on which the court house stood and had a storehouse that was occupied by James Easley who died in 1879.

January court of 1792 recorded a deed between Isaac Coles, John Coleman, Elijah Hunt, Michael Roberts, and James Dejarnette of Halifax County and Edmund King and Elizabeth, his wife, conveyed land whereon the public county building was located. The land joined Manning's corner and was where the court house was situated.

In the suit John A. Fowkles versus Samuel Edmondson dated 1802, Fowkles, an attorney, purchased from James Gent and Thomas Gent 16.5 acres on Polecat Creek (Toot's Creek) near the court house and acquired more land from Martin Hemperly in 1804 near the court house. Fowkles was trying to erect a grist mill and a saw mill on the north fork of Polecat Creek on the land which Keeble Terry had purchased. Fowkles said "That no danger of the overflowing the land can be seriously apprehended from the inhabitants at the court house as there is no cleared land between Clay's Tavern and the mill site," and the land did descend the whole way, nearly a mile, so there would be no flooding of any land.

In Halifax County court February 1803 Thomas Stone was being paid for building the court house and the old court house was being sold in September court 1803.

On the outside of a document from loose papers in the Halifax County court house someone had written: "Dr. Linn's woods, mill of small value, near court house, considerable settlement." Samuel Edmondson was opposed to Fowkles putting the grist mill on Polecat Creek. The neighbors who signed the petition for the mill to be built stated they lived, most of them, adjoining to and all in the neighborhood of the small tract of land on which the mill was proposed to be built. The people who signed were John W. Clay; John Conner, Jr.; John Conner, Sr., who had a wheelwright business at Halifax Court House; James Watson; Samuel Mahon; Philimon Carlton, who lived two miles from site; Berryman Green, who lived two miles from site; Benjamin Posey, who lived three miles from site; Thomas Palmer; Edward Carlton; John Tho-

mas; John Murphy; John Crenshaw; Robert Trammill; Drury Mayes; John Crittenden, Sr.; Jesse Posey; Anthony Mills; William Phelps; James Craddock; Obadiah Thomas; Joseph Carter; Daniel Parker; Martin Hemperly; Keeble Terry; Layton Yancey; Adam Toot; James Hardwick; James Gent; George Torian; Andrew Juniel; Sam Carter; William Kent, Sr.; James Taylor; Reuben Lacy; Richard Martin; Benjamin Anderson; William Fourqurean; Thomas Wood; John Moore; William Daniel; Elizabeth Shelton; Richard Finch; Allen Hunt; John W. Mann; Edward Cornwell; Thomas Roberts; Mat Lacy; John Bruce, Sr.; Edward Boyd; Nathaniel Terry; Robert Terry; Robert T. Powell; John G. Powell; Royall Daniel; and Beverly Boram (Borum).

Halifax County Court Houses As Found Through Research

- George Currie's Court House at Peytonsburg near Pittsylvania County line.
- May 6, 1760, Thomas Green received 400 acres on a branch of Terrible Creek. The acreage was described as surplus land between the Dudgeon and Fontaine farms below the Old Court House. The author thinks this was the house in which court met at Punch Spring near Crystal Hill.
- Circa 1766-1769, Court House built near Crystal Hill (Apperson land, 1909 became Talbott land and remains in the family today).
- 1777, Court House built at New Halifax Town, built by Caleb Townes.
- 1781, Loose papers at the Halifax County Court House state that James McCraw was paid to move the records of Halifax County from General Nathanael Greene's back to the court house. The records were carried to General Greene's retreat at the beginning of the Revolutionary War for safekeeping and returned after the danger had passed.
- 1803, Thomas Stone built a new court house at Halifax,
- 1837, Dabney Cosby built the brick court house at Halifax, Josiah Dabbs, master builder, helped with the building of this court house which stands today.
- In 1839 Dabbs, McDearman and Company were hired to do some work on the court house.
- In 1850 Josiah Dabbs made some repairs on the court house.

Additional Information

1. Halifax County, Minute Book 7, page 56.
2. This information may be found in *Halifacts* by Dr. W. W. Barbour.
3. Mrs. Nancy S. Hurt, the daughter of Dr. John K. Linn and Elizabeth Sims, inherited the property from her father according to records at the Halifax County Court House.
4. Thomas Green owned Punch Spring at this time.
5. George Currie had been a member of the Bristol Parish in Prince George County, Virginia.

In 1753 George Currie purchased land on both sides of Runaway Creek in Halifax County where William Dendy lived. On July 9, 1755, a deed was made to George Currie for 3,320 acres in Halifax County on Sandy Creek from Hugh Miller of Prince George County, Virginia.

6. In 1760 and 1761 John Martin had an ordinary at Peytonsburg, 1764 James Roberts had an ordinary at his house, 1761 George Watkins at the town of Peytonsburg, 1761 William McDaniel at his house in

Terry Family Halifax County, Virginia

On August 13, 1755, the Governor of Virginia, Robert Dinwiddie, gave a commission to Nathaniel Terry as Captain of a company of rangers raised in the Lunenburg County thus began Terry's service as Captain of the Virginia Rangers during the French and Indian War.¹

In giving the commission, Governor Dinwiddie stated, "Parties of the French and Indians are committing many murders and depredations on his majesty's subjects" and commanded Terry and his men to "scour the frontiers, kill and destroy every such Indian and others who you find insulting or maltreating his majesty's good subjects."

In 1752 James Terry and Nathaniel Terry were commissioners of the peace. James Terry was Justice of the Peace and Commissioner of the Chancery that same year. Nathaniel and James were vestry men in the Church of England during 1753. That same year James Terry was Sheriff of Halifax County and Nathaniel was Deputy Sheriff. In 1754 James Terry was sheriff; Nathaniel and Jeremiah Terry were deputy sheriffs.

The following Terrys received land grants:

- James Terry had a survey of land on Cane Creek containing 354 acres in 1753 and 2950 acres on Miry Creek. Later that same year he received 3320 acres on Elk Branch of the Banister River.
- Moses Terry received 440 acres on the south side of Banister River. On December 19-20, 1753, Nathaniel Terry received at total of 1560 acres on Sandy Creek.
- Daniel Terry acquired 2265 acres on the Banister River March 7, 1755.

Captain Nathaniel Terry and Sarah Royall Terry

Captain Nathaniel Terry was a member of the House of Burgess in Williamsburg in 1755, 1765, 1771, and 1775. He was a delegate to the Virginia Convention of 1776. Terry married Sarah Royall.² Nathaniel Terry had a water grist mill on the falls of Sandy Creek in 1754. In 1756 Nathaniel was granted an ordinary license and in 1757 an orphan named Elenor Ozbrook was placed in his care. In 1757 and 1759 Nathaniel had a ferry on the Dan River. In 1771 he was appointed as a surveyor from Banister's Bridge to Martin's Path Road.

Captain Nathaniel Terry died in 1782 in Halifax County, Virginia. His large inventory included 21 slaves, 39 sheep, 53 cattle, seven bedrooms of furniture, carpenter's tools, a desk and bookcase, a looking glass, a black walnut chest, nine chairs and a table, nine silver teaspoons and a salt cellar, three candle molds, and one black named Russell who was in the possession of William Terry. This represents only a part of the large inventory.

A local chancery suit³ dated November 1805, named the children of Captain Nathaniel Terry Sr.:

- i. Nancy, wife of Berryman Green.
- ii. William, late became a colonel, ancestor of Mary Newton.
- iii. Joseph.
- iv. Nathaniel, Jr.
- v. Mary, wife of James Thompson.
- vi. Robert.
- vii. Keeble and Sarah, his wife.

viii. Elizabeth Dickerson, married John Martin, their children were:

- i. Elizabeth.
- ii. William.
- iii. Mary.
- iv. John.
- v. Edmund.
- vi. Abraham.

When Sarah Royall Terry died in 1805 her son William Terry, a colonel in the Revolutionary War, was the administrator of her estate and named in the will. Robert Dudley Milner, born in Old Richmond County, Virginia, was paid as the cryer (auctioneer) of the estate. A coffin was purchased from Edward Cornwall. John and Howson Clarke, merchants, were paid for black clothing and at the sale Joseph Terry purchased one riding chair and harness from the estate. Colonel Berryman Green bought two sugar boxes at the estate sale. Money was paid to Bushrod Washington, nephew of General George Washington, and to Edmund Randolph, both lawyers, as fees in Federal Court against Alexander Spiers and Company of England.⁴

Below are three interesting stories found in local records about Nathaniel Terry Sr.:⁵

- According to records, Nathaniel Terry Sr. had a slave named Gregory who was charged in 1777 with beating a certain Hector McNeil, a merchant from Scotland, to the point that McNeil's life was in great danger. The gentlemen justices agreed that Gregory should "receive thirty lashes on his bare back." It was ordered that Gregory be taken by the sheriff to the common whipping post.
- Records stated that Nathaniel Terry Sr. appeared before the grand jury for taking a stray horse and riding him "contrary to the law."
- Nathaniel Terry Sr. and his son William Terry appeared in Halifax court, March 1777,⁶ on a complaint of James McCraw. McCraw stated that he "is apprehensive that said Nathaniel and William Terry will beat, wound, main or kill him." The court dismissed the charges after questioning a witness. The Revolutionary War had just begun at this time. The author's conclusion is that this incident had some thing to do with England and the way the planters felt about England. Feelings against the Tories of the British parliament ran high in Halifax County at that time.

William Terry and Susanna Thompson Terry

William Terry, son of Nathaniel Terry Sr., married Susanna Thompson, daughter of William Thompson. William Terry's will dated December 22, 1806, named his children:

- i. Sarah Royall Wooding.
- ii. Rachel Coleman.
- iii. Thompson.
- iv. William, Jr.
- v. Royal.
- vi. Nathaniel.
- vii. Henry Dickerson.

Royal Terry, son of William Terry, was born in 1788 and served in the War of 1812. In his will, probated Tuesday, November 25, 1873, he named his grandchildren, children of his son, James Edward Terry.

James Edward Terry⁶ was born April 17, 1822, died January 7, 1904, and was the son of Royal Terry. James Edward Terry married Agness Bailey. He served in the Civil War as a member of the Virginia Light Artillery, Penick's company.

Edward Lewis Terry, son of James Edward Terry, was born 1865 near the close of the Civil war and died in 1962.

Edward Lewis Terry⁷ married Maud M. Tatum, born 1878. He died in 1954. They had seven children:

- i. James "Jim," died at age 17 years.
- ii. John Robert.
- iii. Mary Susan, married Frank Walker Newton.
- iv. Henry Paul, married Fannie Snead.
- v. Bertha, married Kelly Landrum.
- vi. Bessie, married Roy Dunkley.
- vii. Nannie Maud, first married Cumby and later M. F. Simmons.



Edward Lewis Terry, wife Maud M. Tatum, and son Jim.
(Courtesy of the Terry Family)

Joseph Terry and Sarah Hill Terry

Joseph Terry Sr., son of Nathaniel Terry, married Sarah Hill, the widow of James Hill, November 21, 1783.

Joseph was an overseer of the poor.⁸ In June of 1809 in the lower northern district of Halifax County, Virginia he did "bind out" one Kitty Wade, age seven, daughter of Richard Wade, to Drury Major until she was 18 years old, to "learn the trade of spinning, weaving, knitting, and sewing and to furnish her with a wholesome diet and wearing apparel, washing, and lodging and to teach the girl English and common arithmetic."⁹

Joseph Terry Sr. lived in Halifax County near Terry's Bridge on the Banister River. Mary Newton, a local resident, remembers the old spring called "Joseph Terry's Spring." The old Joseph Terry place was near her grandfather's home.

Joseph Terry Sr. ran a tavern in Halifax County and his son, Joseph C. Terry, hired his brother, James A. Terry, to keep the tavern in the years 1812 and 1813. The author thinks the tavern belonged to Captain Nathaniel Terry. A license for an ordinary was granted to Joseph Terry in 1811 and 1812. William Terry, his brother, was granted a license in 1813.

Joseph Terry Sr. died in December 1817. He was survived by his widow Sarah and six children:

- i. Dianna R., wife of Robert Terry.
- ii. Frances.
- iii. Joseph Coleman.
- iv. James A.
- v. Elizabeth W.
- vi. Mildred L., wife of Franklin Johnson.



Mary Susan Terry Newton, daughter
of Edward Lewis Terry, with friend
Uncle Archie. (Courtesy of the Terry
family)

Cockes

Powhatan County, Virginia

James Cocke's was granted a license in 1761 to operate a ferry across the Staunton River in Halifax County, Virginia. He was married to Mary Magdalene Chastain.¹ James Cocke, Theophilous Lacy, and John Brewies entered into a bond for a ferry on the Staunton River opposite to Blanks' Ferry.²

James Cocke and Mary Magdalene Chastain had three children:

- i. Martha, born July 24, 1745; died April 10, 1796; married Captain Henry Anderson July 24, 1760, in Amelia County, Virginia.
- ii. James Powell, born at Malvern Hill, the Cocke's plantation on the James River, July 20, 1748; died January 12, 1829; married Elizabeth Archer.
- iii. Chastain, born November 11, 1749; died March 19, 1793, in Powhatan County, Virginia; owned land on the Staunton River in Halifax County, Virginia; married April 11, 1767, to Martha Field Archer, daughter of William Archer. Three of Chastain Cocke Sr.'s children were listed in the William A. Cocke versus Henry E. Coleman suit in Halifax County:
 - i. James Powell, born January 12, 1770, died August 17, 1823.
 - ii. William Archer, born December 22, 1771, died January 13, 1844.
 - iii. Chastain, Jr., born January 30, 1775, died at sea.

There were other children but they were not involved in this suit in the Halifax County court.

James Cocke died and left land in Halifax County on Clover and Black Walnut creeks.

Chastain Cocke Sr., son of James and Mary Cocke, stated in his will of 1795, probated in Powhatan County, Virginia on February 1796, "I lend to my wife during her life the plantation I now live on with all the goods, stocks of all kind and plantation utensils and the profits of the estate. After supporting my wife, daughter until she marry or my daughter comes of age. My sons until they come of age and schooling my young children. I give to my son James the land already laid off for him in Halifax County, Virginia. I give to my son William Archer Cocke all the remaining part of my tract of land in Halifax County except the Ferry and the land lying below the road leading to the Ferry. I give to my son Chastain, Jr. that part of land in Halifax County lying below the road leading to the Ferry and the Ferry reserving never the less the years profits of the Ferry for the purpose of paying my just debts."

Chastain Cocke Sr. operated a ferry, distillery, and owned land in Amelia County and Charlotte County. His sons James, William Archer and Chastain, Jr. were made executors and so were his friends Field Archer, Richard Archer, and William Bentley.

William Archer Cocke did not like the way the property was divided between him and his brother, James Powell Cocke. After James died, William brought suit against Henry E. Coleman who had bought all the Cocke's land. William Archer Cocke stated that his brother, James, without his knowledge or consent ran the line between the lands. William Archer Cocke thought his brother, James, had taken land away from him, which he had.

On August 16, 1805, a deed between William A. Cocke and Catherine, his wife, states that they sold to William Archer Bentley,³ all of the County of Powhatan, the land in Halifax County on the Staunton River, bounded on the upper part by the land of William Moseley (which he purchased from James Cocke). On the lower part of the main road that crosses Bibb's Ferry, the other tract, which belonged to James

Cocke, was sold January 28, 1800, to William Moseley⁴ of Charlotte County, Virginia. This tract of land in Halifax County was located on the banks of the Staunton River between Bibb's Ferry and Owen's Ferry. This land containing 1500 acres was located on Hardwick's line, on the mouth of the Hyco Branch.

Mary, the widow of James Cocke, went to court regarding the 1500 acres that had been sold to H. E. Coleman from which she had never received her dower. She stated that she was the widow of James Cocke Sr. and he was "seized of a certain tract of land lying in Halifax County on the Staunton River containing about 1500 acres." She stated she never relinquished her right of dower in the land conveyed to William Moseley, who had sold it to Henry E. Coleman. She had been advised that she was entitled to a dower in the tract.

The following depositions were made by residents who were verifying that Mary Cocke had been the wife of James Cocke:

- William Archer Cocke made a deposition that Mary Lewis was married by Parson John H. Saunders in 1794 to James Cocke, his brother, and that he, William Archer Cocke, had attended the wedding. James Cocke died August 17, 1823, according to family records. Charles Eggleston, William Pope, William Walthall, and Jacob Michaux (French Huguenot) made depositions that Mary was the wife of James Cocke.
- Thomas Scott of Powhatan made a deposition and said years ago he was on his way to Amelia County and stopped at the home of Major Peter F. Archer. There he found a group assembled among whom were the late James Cocke of Powhatan and his wife, the present Mary Cocke, now of Amelia County. The group was enjoying dinner given by Major Archer for James and Mary Cocke whom he understood had been married a few days before (1794).

Henry E. Coleman ended up with all the Cocke land, about 2550 acres on the Staunton River. Coleman⁵ in 1837 was probably in bad health and knew he was dying. On February 7, 1837, he said "in an indenture for love and affection I bear to my son Charles Baskervill Coleman." He gave his son land that was located on the same side as Moseley's Ferry. On that same day Henry E. Coleman gave to his son, "for natural love and affection that certain tract of land on the Staunton River beginning at the mouth of the Hicoote branch" (called Hico) with appurtenances. The land that James Cocke sold William Moseley and Moseley to H. E. Coleman was at the mouth of the Hico (Hyco) Branch and known as the Woodlawn Estate. Henry E. Coleman had the following conditions and reservations that Henry E. Coleman "reserves for himself the full occupation use and ownership and possession of the tract and appurtenances for and during the full term of his natural life."

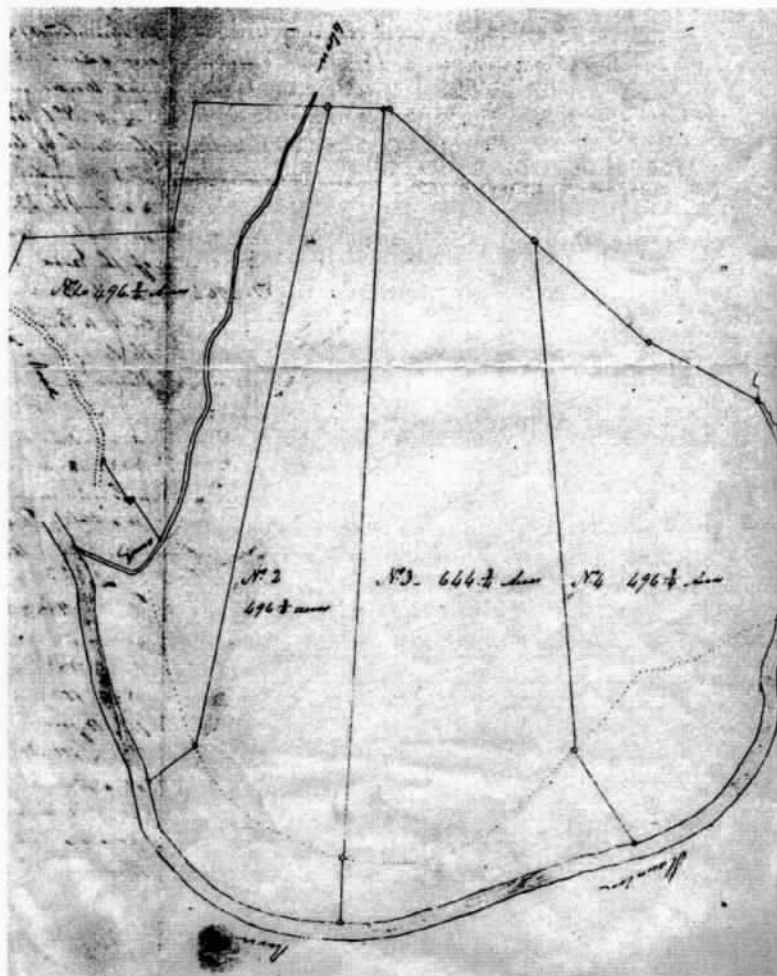
Additional Information

1. The Chastains were French Huguenots, and in 1555, the Chastain family was still living in France. The Huguenots during that year were strong enough to organize a church in Paris, France. They were persecuted from time to time and earlier massacres brought on religious wars between Roman Catholics and Protestants in France. Many of the Huguenots were slain during the Massacre of St. Bartholomew's Day in 1572. This caused the exodus of hundreds of thousands of Protestant French to Holland, England, and then to America where a large number of them settled at Manakin Town, Virginia. One Pierre Chastain married Maria Magdelaine DeLa Rochefoucaud and lived in Goochland

County, Virginia. Among these French families were LeGrand, Maxey, Reamy, Sallie, Sampson, Fuqua, Torian (who fled to Italy from France), Guerrant, Agee, Easley, Fontaine, and Porter. Many today do not realize that they are descendants of French Huguenots.

2. In court during September 1787, Halifax County, "William Terry and John Coleman, gentlemen, are appointed as the lowest bidder for the repairs of Chastain Cocke's Ferry banks over Staunton River." (Halifax County, Virginia, Plea Book 3, page 218, dated 1761)

3. A deposition of Grace Flournoy was taken in Powhatan County, Virginia at the house of Gideon Flournoy December 17, 1796. According to loose papers found in Powhatan County, a Benjamin Harris was married to Lucy Gaines Turpin. He died and she married Colonel William Bentley. This deposition was taken in front of William Moseley and George Williamson. The Moseleys, Goodes, Watkins, Williamsons, Locketts, Marshalls, and Roysters, left



This map, dated 1849, shows the property belonging to Charles B. Coleman located on the Staunton River. Clover Creek runs through the property. (Halifax County Court House)

- Powhatan County and moved to Mecklenburg County before the Revolutionary War. Grace Flournoy stated she was at the home of Thomas Turpin in April 1796. According to information given by Mrs. Turpin, Benjamin Harris had ridden to the gate at the spring house and had gone into the kitchen. Soon after a noise and disturbance among the slaves in the kitchen and Mr. Turpin was informed by the servants that Benjamin Harris was whipping Mirea. Mr. Turpin immediately went out and met Mr. Harris coming from the kitchen. Harris had two hickory sticks in his hand and raised them to hit Thomas Turpin but in an angry, hostile manner called him "a damm'd old villain," and stated that nothing but his age protected him. Harris was looking for a slave called Molly who Thomas Turpin had given to his daughter, the wife of Benjamin Harris. Harris said he had come prepared with a pair of pistols to use on Mr. Turpin. The only thing that had protected Mr. Turpin, was his gray hair. That kept Harris from kicking him until Turpin was as black as his hat. The deposition further stated that Harris used abusive language on Mr. Turpin. Mentioning that he had kicked old Mirea in the mouth and wishing he "had kicked all her teeth out of her head." Harris was quoted as saying that he would take "Molly, a slave, in defiance of any opposition and would break down any door to get to her."
4. On September 6, 1809, William Moseley and his wife Temperance of Halifax County sold to Henry E. Coleman a 1500-acre tract of land in Halifax County on the banks of the Staunton River between Bibb's Ferry and Owen's Ferry. Peter E. Bentley, son of William A. Bentley, made a deposition taken

at the tavern of Thomas Scott in the town of Scottsville, Powhatan County, March 19, 1836. Bentley sold to Colonel Henry E. Coleman the tract of land where Horatoes G. Saunders lived in Halifax County. William Moseley formerly owned this land.

5. Henry E. Coleman died 10 months later in Halifax County on his estate, Woodlawn, December 16, 1837. His son, Charles B. Coleman, died in Halifax in 1849. The land and a large number of slaves were divided among Charles' three children: Henry Eaton, Judith L., and Caroline.

Photograph From The Past



This photograph (circa 1940) shows Main Street in South Boston near the railroad tracks. Many remember the Coca Cola sign on the left that was illuminated day and night. (Courtesy of Jim Sullivan)

Cockes Sussex and Halifax Counties, Virginia

John Cocke, deceased of the County of Surry, Virginia, was the father of Nathaniel and John. He left his land in Halifax County but because of the difficulty and inconvenience attending to the deed due to remote distance between the two counties, his sons had others attend to the business. John Coleman, Edward Cain, and John Bruce signed the necessary document and it was recorded in 1784 by William Ruffin.

John Cocke of Sussex County and his wife Lucy had two children:

- i. Herbert C., born February 21, 1780.
- ii. John Ruffin.

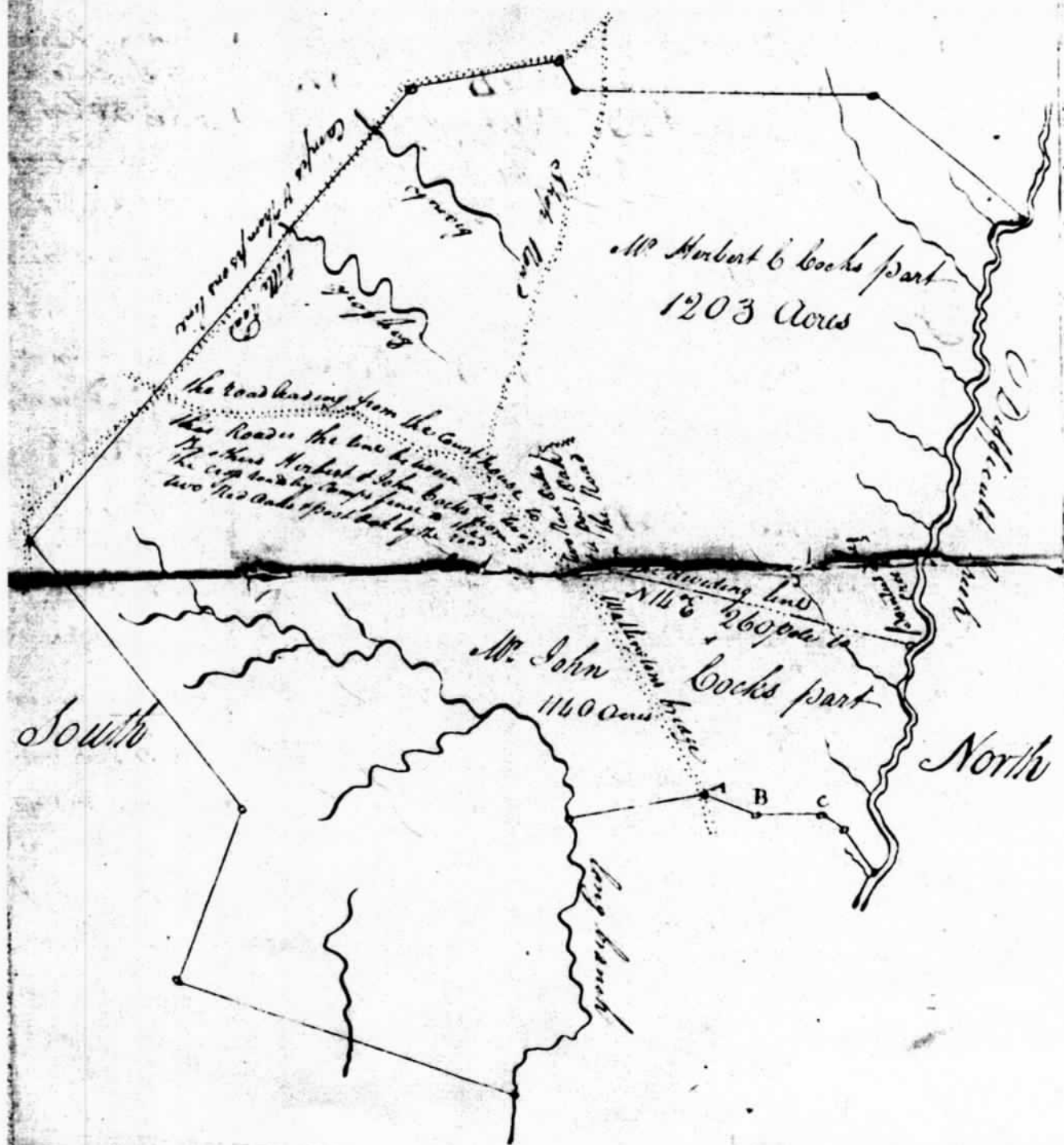
In Halifax County, chancery suit of 1801, Cockes versus Cockes, stated that Lucy, the widow of John Cocke, married a Thompson in 1801. The suit further stated that she was the "relict and widow" of John Cocke. The estate of John Cocke named numerous expenses for moving part of his estate from Sussex County to Halifax County. Some of these expenses included: Colonel William Thompson for blacksmith work, John Bibb's for ferry expenses, rent for the Sussex Plantation, Edward Moorefield for making shoes, Thomas Brough and Dr. Joseph Meteour for medical items, cash to a peddler for four yards of cloth for Herbert, cash paid for a pair shoe buckles for Herbert, Howard Cain for his share of the tobacco 1796-1798, John paid Claiborn Harris his share of the tobacco 1794-1797, Dr. Robert Mackey for medical, James McWhorter for teaching John to dance in 1797 and 1799, and Michael Roberts for sides of leather.

A map on page 230 shows the land in Halifax County which was located on Difficult Creek adjoining the lands of Elizabeth Moody, James Thompson, and Captain George Camp from Watlington's Bridge to the mill house, by Bibb's Ferry Road. This land was divided between Herbert C. Cocke¹ and John Cocke, the son of John Cocke. Herbert C. Cocke received 1,203 acres and John Ruffin Cocke² received 1,140 acres.

Additional Information

Herbert C. Cocke's will dated October 24, 1814, Halifax County, Virginia, named his wife, Sally, and his brother, John R. Cocke. Herbert Cocke married Sally Roberts of Halifax County, August 24, 1798. Herbert C. Cocke died of typhoid fever.

Captain John Ruffin Cocke married Polly C. Scott in Halifax County, Virginia, December 24, 1803.



The map show the land of John Cocke located on Difficult Creek of Halifax County, Virginia. (Halifax County Court House)

After the Revolutionary War, Alexander Spiers and other merchants from England doing business in Virginia tried to collect bills owed them by Virginia planters. In the early 1800s they tried to collect the debts many of the Virginia planters were deceased and their estates were either in the hands of their children, administrators, or executors.

Halifax County, Plea Book 9, page 202.

Edward Lewis Terry was the father of Mrs. Mary Newton who resides in Halifax County not far from where her ancestors are buried. At the writing of this article in 2002 Mrs. Newton had just recently celebrated her 101st birthday. She is now deceased.



Howson Bailey Terry. (Courtesy of Lucy Terry Dickerson)

Edward Lewis Terry had a brother named Howson Bailey Terry who married Effie Tatum. They were the parents of Lucy Jenny Dickerson of Halifax. Lucy Dickerson has two sons, Tony and Sonny.

Joseph Terry's personal papers, Perkin's Library, Duke University.

Ibid.

One loose page, dated February 28, 1811, Halifax County, Virginia, possibly came from a register or a family Bible. It named Richard Wade who married November 25, 1790. Sally Wade was born December 12, 1791. Their children were:

- i. Patsey, born October 16, 1793.
- ii. Charles W., born October 9, 1798.
- iii. Polly, born March 2, 1800.
- iv. Kitty, born February 21, 1802.
- v. Susannah, born April 24, 1803.

The subscribers did certify that this was a true copy of Richard Wade's register and further stated that the document was in Terry's own handwriting. It was signed by Coleman Williams, Henry B. Betts, William Womack, James Lloyd, and Robert Crute. (Joseph Terry's papers, Perkin's Library, Duke University)

One letter in the personal papers of Joseph Terry was addressed to "Mr. Joseph Terry Esquire near Banister River near Terry's Bridge." This was all that was printed on the letter as the delivery address.