
South Carolina Research

S O U T H C A R O L I N A R E S E A R C H

Research on the Holliman (et. al. spellings) family in South Carolina will be primarily concentrated in those counties near and adjacent to the North Carolina state line. Information that we've developed on Cornelius Holliman that was born in 1792 indicates he resided in Lancaster County, South Carolina - Union or Anson County, North Carolina. While this will be the focus of this study, data will be accumulated on Hollimans from other South Carolina counties as well.

North Carolina research will be accumulated in a separate volume. However, when appropriate, reference will be made to various North Carolina connections in this volume.

Objective:

Locate lineage of Cornelius Holliman (born 1792.)

Information known to us:

Cornelius Holliman, born 1792.

Veteran of War of 1812.

1813 He married Elizabeth Plyler in S.C.

Cornelius and 2 brothers and 2 cousins went to Alabama to hunt. Later he and 2 brothers later moved to Alabama with their families.

1836 is the year Cornelius is believed to have arrived in Fayette County, Alabama. The received a land grant in the Newtonville area.

1839 first wife Elizabeth Plyler died and was buried in Spring Hill Baptist Church Cemetery, near Newtonville in Fayette County, Alabama.

Names of brothers: Charles Holliman
Warren Holliman

It possible there were other family members that are unknown to us.

(scr-p.1)

Children of Cornelius Holliman are:

Elijah A. Holliman
Joshua A. Holliman (Dr.)
Uriah H. Holliman
Mary Holliman
Sarah Holliman

Cornelius Holliman came from Lancaster Co., S.C., before removing his family to Fayette Co., Alabama in 1836(CA). Some records show him in Anson County, N.C. (now Union County) which is just across the state line from Lancaster County, S.C.).

JAMES HOLLIMAN b. _____ - d. _____ Lancaster Co., SC., * 1800
 JAMES HOLLIMAN, JR. b. _____ - d. _____ Lancaster Co., SC., * 1800
 JOHN HOLLIMAN b. _____ - d. _____ Lancaster Co., SC., * 1800

These 3 Hollimans were mentioned in a Lancaster County, South Carolina Deed. page 241 in official deed record. James Holliman bought 6 acres of land on S.W. side of Pole Cat Creek, paid \$ 6 for it. 25 DEC. 1800 *

Library Source: Lancaster County S.C. Deed Abstracts (cover period 1787 - 1811) see page 295

JAMES HOLLIMAN - purchased land - deed abstracts.
 source: "Lancaster County S.C. Deed Abstracts 1787 - 1811" (green book)
 LH 929.3757 HOL, in Dothan Library

From Original Source - Deed Book C & E - Abstract as follows:

pages 105 - 106 (Book C & E) 11 DEC 1797, Robert Welsh of Lancaster Co., to James Holliman of same, for L 40 sterling ... land in the fork of Wild Cat Creek and part of Lynches Creek (same land in preceding deed *) 1000 A ... Robert Welsh (X) (LS). Wit: John Welsh. Nicholas Welsh. Prov. by John Welsh, J.P.

* This land was sold to Robert Welsh on 11 DEC 1796 by Gen. Thomas Sumter. Land was apparently granted to Sumter for his service in Revolutionary War.

pages 110 - 111 (Book C & E) 14 JAN 1799, James Holliman of Lancaster Co., to Leonard Rush of same, for \$ 20 ... 60 A, part of 15,000 A granted to Thomas Sumter, 2 Apr 1787 ... James Holliman (Seal) Wit: Abraham Rush (X), Jacob Rush. Prov. by Abraham Rush, 23 FEB 1799, before Richd Hunley.

pages 110 - 111 (Book C & E) Note: James Holliman appears as witness on other land transactions, both involving

land sold in area of Great Lynches Creek.
Dates are 9 Oct. 1795 and 25 Feb. 1797.

(Deed Book D)
pages 164 - 165

28 APR 1798, James Holliman of Lancaster Co., to Nathaniel Bible, for L 8 sterling. tract on both sides of fork of Wild Cat Creek, part of 15,000 A granted to Gen. Sumter, 2 Apr 1787. James Holliman (Seal), Wit: Bennet Highfield, Robert Chappel (X). Prov. by Bennet Highfield, before Jno Welsh J.P. 19 May 1798.

page 161
(Deed Book D)

4 Sept 1797 James Holliman was a witness to the sale of land on Wild Cat Creek. Transaction involved seller, Jethro Weaver, a planter, to buyer John Weaver. Prov. by James Holliman, 30 Jan 1798 before John Welsh, J.P.

(Deed Book D)
page 172 - 173

19 Jan 1798, James Holliman to Jacob Funderburk, tract, part of 15,000 A granted to Thomas Sumer, in the fork of Wild Cat Creek adj. John Bibbes, Jacob Carnes, Titus Laney, David Usher, Robert Welsh ... James Holliman (LS), Wit: Archd McCorkle, Henry Funderburk. Prov. by Henry Funderburk, 19 May 1798, before John Welsh, J.P.

(Deed Book F)
page 48 - 49

27 Feb 1800 James Holliman witness to land sale from Thomas Kelly to David Kelly.

(Deed Book F)
page 124

29 Oct. 1798 James Holliman witness to sale of land located on banks of Great Linches Creek. Sold by Sam Widener to Josiah Hancock, proved 26 Sept 1801

page 147

James Holliman mentioned again as above.

page 136

James Holliman mentioned again as above

(Deed Book G)
page 75 - 76

3 Nov. 1800 James Holliman was witness to Land transaction between Jackson Ligget of McLingburg (sic) Co., N.C., to Robert Welsh of Lancaster Co. for land on Wild Cat Creek

(Deed Book G)
page 20

John Voyles of Anson Co., N.C., executor of the Last Will and Testament of JAMES HOLLEMAN, JR., deceased, agreeable to said will, I was directed to sell tract in Lancaster Co., S.C., part of 15,000 acres granted to Genl. Sumter, 2 April 1787, 200 acres ... sold to Aaron Arant, for \$ 39 adj. Martain Smith 15 June 1804.
Wit.: James Holleman, Sr.
Proved by James Holleman, Sr. 27 Apr. 1805.

Comment >>>>>>

The above entry in the Lancaster Co. Deed Book is proof that the James Holleman, Jr., son of James Holleman, Sr., did in fact predecease his father. The various entries show that James Holliman (probably the elder, "Sr.") apparently purchased 1000 acres in 1797 and "subdivided" it, selling parcels of land to other individuals including his son. At the time of James Holleman's death he apparently had 200 acres of land. At that time it was sold to Aaron Arant to settle his estate in accord with his L. W. & T. We can conclude that James Holleman, Jr., died prior to June 15, 1804.

(Deed Book G)
page 165

Both James Holliman and Paul Pliker witnessed land transfer between Jeremiah Funderburk of Lancaster District to David Funderburk for land on N.E. side of Polecat Creek, 24 March 1808.

Comment >>>>>>

It maybe significant that we find a member of the PLILER (sometimes spelled PLYLER or PLYER) associated with James Holliman "officially" in 1808. More development of the PLYLER connection follows in various records.

Significant ? Keep in mind that the our ancestor CORNELIUS HOLLIMAN married ELIZABETH PLYLER IN 1813. Furthermore, they were married in Lancaster Co., S.C., or, due to conflict over state line boundary this may have occurred in Anson County, N.C. (probably, now Union County).

The "text" source for these deed abstracts continues to be "Lancaster County S.C. Deed Abstracts 1787 - 1811" which is found in Houston County Memorial Library, Dothan, Alabama. Library Catalog # LH 929.3757 HOL (green book). Particular attention should be paid to pages 143, 167, 186, 195, and 196 in the above named text.

(DEED BOOK F) JAMES HOLLEMAN SENR. of North Carolina,
pages 173 - 174 & McLingburg (Mecklenburg) Co., for \$ 40
 to JAMES HOLLEMAN JUNR., land in Lancaster
 Co., in the upper corner of Genl. Sumter's
 survey, granted 2 April 1786
 adj. Jacob Plyler, Koonrod Plyler, Henry
 Shoots, Paul Plyler, John Mausmon,
 30 Sept. 1803. James Holliman (Seal),
 Wit: Joshua Walters, Susanna Waters (X).
 Proved by Joshua Walters, 31 Dec. 1803,
 before John Crowder, J.P.

Comment: This seems to confirm that James Holleman, Sr., was the original purchaser of the land that was part of a land grant to General Sumter in 1786. We may assume that James Sr., purchased the 1000 acres in December 1797 from Robert Welsh who previously purchased the land from General Thomas Sumter in December of 1796. This land was located on the west side of Big Lynches Creek in the fork of Wild Cat Creek.

Here we find that the Hollimans and Plylers were apparently neighbors as of the year 1803. This is fairly strong evidence that our ancestor Cornelius Holliman that married Elizabeth Plyler is connected to James Holliman, Sr. In fact, we could speculate that James Holliman, Sr., may have been Cornelius Holliman's father. Very thought provoking !

SAMUEL C. HOLLIMAN

The Gibson cemetery, locally referred to frequently as the Tory Cemetery is on the north side of state highway # 522 from Heath Springs to Stoneboro and is about a mile beyond the crossroads at the former J. Truesdale Stover home. The graves are across the road in front of Mr. Coke H. Bennett's childhood home about a quarter of a mile more or less.

In a recent search no trace of the original stones could be found. But Mr. Bennett recalled that as a boy he had gone one winter's day with an uncle, Mr. Minor C. Mackey, now deceased, to the cemetery and had helped to decipher the inscriptions while his uncle copied them. Accordingly he went to the home of Mr. Mackey's son, Walter F. Mackey, who now has possession of all his father's old papers. There after a search through an old trunk full of papers the inscriptions were found, just as Mr. Mackey had copied them with the notation that the copies had been made on February - 28, 1935. The inscriptions are given here just as copied by him on that day:

GIBSON John Cannerdy (Cannady?)/Gibson joined the British Reg./ at age 16/ Died in a skirmish at Hanging Rock Aug. 6, 1780./

White, England.

GIBSON Thomas Victory (Vickory?) Gibson / age 24 /mortally wounded ... / and died August 12, 1780./

White, England.

HOLLIMAN Samuel C. Holliman / a Tory / born April 7, 1754 / departed this life 12th A.D. 1832 / age 78.

BEATTY Jas. M. Beatty / ... / in Belfast, Ireland ...

Library Source:

Inscriptions from Old Cemeteries, Lancaster County, S. C.
Published by Lancaster County Historical Commission (S.C.)
in 1974.

Birmingham Library - LC # So 929.5 INS.

HISTORICAL LOGISTICS
OF
LANCASTER COUNTY

In 1826 Robert Mills presented the South Carolina Senate with a copy of his Atlas which was recognized as the first atlas of an American state. While the Mills' Atlas is a monumental work, the culmination of years of work by many surveyors, more importantly it provides us with a landmark source of the historical geographical information on the families of South Carolina. Mills has provided us with the "exact" location of families residing in the various districts of South Carolina during a period around the year 1820. In our investigation of the Hollimans in Lancaster County it becomes obvious that Mills work was by no means complete. However, it does provide some answers for us.

The Lancaster District is of primary interest to the Holliman family as our ancestor Cornelius Holliman is known to have resided there just prior to his removal to Fayette County Alabama in the 1830's. We have proof of his family's residency there from numbers of sources, one being the 1820 South Carolina State Census. At that time he was the head of a household composed of 1 male age 26 to 45 (himself), 2 males under age 10, and 1 female age 16 to 26. We also have evidence of his purchase of land on Dead Pine Creek in January of 1830 in Lancaster District.

Other Hollimans also appear in Lancaster District during that period. Willis Holliman appears in the 1820 South Carolina State Census along with a large family and one slave. James Holliman, Sr., and James Holliman, Jr. appeared frequently in the Deed Books of Lancaster District beginning as early as December of 1797 when James Holliman, Sr., purchased 1000 acres of land "...in the fork of Wild Cat Creek and part of Lynches Creek from Robert Welsh." Numerous land transaction followed this purchase. In fact one could draw the conclusion the James Holliman, Sr. and his son were early real estate developers of Lancaster County. When James Holliman, Jr., became deceased in 1804 his land holdings were returned to his father, James Holliman, Sr., by his Last Will and Testament. James Holliman, Sr., apparently continued to reside in the area until his demise in 1836.

All of these Hollimans in Lancaster District would lead you to believe that Mills Atlas would reveal their location. After studying the Lancaster District map with a magnifying glass I found, to my disappointment, no Hollimans. In fact the index in Mills book list Hollimans in only two districts: the Darlington District and the Sumter District. From all indications the Darlington District was occupied by Kindred Holliman, which appears to be spelled a Holloman in various

sources. The Sumter District apparently held Herman Holliman, which appears to be spelled Holleyman in some sources. Well, at least Robert Mills knew how to spell the name Holliman ! Unfortunately, he could not find us in the Lancaster District.

However, he did find the Plylers, a family that is significant to the ancestors of Cornelius Holliman since he married Elizabeth Plyler in Lancaster County in the year 1813. In scanning the area along the North Carolina border I find two families of Plylers. The location of one family of Plylers is approximately a quarter of a mile south of the North Carolina state line and on the East side of Fork Road and north of the intersection with the road connecting Lands Ford with Lynches Creek. Looking at the other family of Plylers we find them about one mile east of the other family and "sitting" directly on the state line. They are on the east side of a eastern branch of Pole Cat Creek. Elizabeth Plyler may have originated from either of these Plyler families. Furthermore, there is documentation from other sources of Hollimans located in the exact, same area.

Looking at Deed Abstracts we find "...James Holleman, Senr., of North Carolina, & Mecklenburg Co.,..." sold land for "...\$40 to James Holleman, Junr., land in Lancaster Co." in September of 1803. In that deed we find land described as located adjacent to Jacob Plyler, Koonrod Plyler, Paul Plyler, et. al. and described as in the upper corner of General Sumter's original land grant. This would locate the land along the North Carolina state line, exactly where we find two families of Plylers are shown on Mills' map of Lancaster District. Furthermore, land grants show that Conrod Plieler sold land to Frederick Plieler in August of 1810. Frederick Plyler (probably the same person) came from Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, where he lived in 1783. As a point of interest, the Plylers of Mecklenburg County were know to sign their name in German script. It appears the Plyler - Holliman connection goes back many years.

Then there is the mysterious matter of Samuel Holliman that was buried in Lancaster County in a "Tory" Cemetery. He was born April 7, 1750 in Edgecombe Co., N.C., and died in 1832 in Lancaster County, S.C. The location of the "Old Tory Cemetery" (aka Gibson Cemetery) appears to be in the same general area of Lancaster County.

Studying Mills' map along with information received from other sources would indicate all of these Hollimans and Plylers lived within a relatively small area of Lancaster County. We could characterize this area as having a radius of five miles. As we continue our investigation we now know exactly where to look for the answers.

written 05/23/91 - Ron R. Holliman - Dothan, Alabama

South Carolina History
of
Significance in Genealogical Research

LANCASTER COUNTY - county seat is Lancaster, S.C.(zip 29720):

before 1868 known as LANCASTER DISTRICT;
before 1800 Known as LANCASTER COUNTY;
which in 1785 was formed from the CAMDEN DISTRICT;
which in 1769 was established as an original district.

Some records were burned in 1865.

County records:

Court of Common Pleas	(1800 - 14, 1869 - 74)
Court of General Sessions	(1826 - 40)
Court of Master Equity	(1822 - 7)
Estate	(1865 - 92)
Guardian	(1820 - 70)
Naturalization	(1800 - 25)
Plat	(1829 - 82)

Other records:

Baptist, biography, cemetery, census.
1790 R listed under CAMDEN DISTRICT
1800 R, 1810 R, 1820 RI, 1830 R, 1840 R, ... etc.

Library:

LANCASTER COUNTY LIBRARY
313 S. White Street
Lancaster, South Carolina 29720

The following information was taken from a book: "Lancaster County South Carolina Deed Abstracts 1787 - 1811" which is # LH 929.375 HOL in the Dothan (Ala.) Library. This book is written by Rev S. Emmett Lucas, Jr., P.O. Box 738, Ensley, S.C. 20640. Publisher is Southern Historical Press.

Excerpts are as follows:

Lancaster County probate records (will & estate) were destroyed in 1865.

The Waxhaw Section was in Lancaster County until 1791 when Camden County was formed. In 1800 all former counties with few exceptions became districts. However, some sources still referred to them as counties. Deeds may also refer to them

(Lancaster County - S.C. History - continued)

as counties. Later (1868) these districts would again be known as counties. Look for the two words to be used interchangeably in many sources (which is technically in error).

The border between North Carolina and South Carolina provinces was not surveyed until 1764. Of the people living in the area of Lancaster County, since the 1750's or before many, many had obtained land grants from the North Carolina counties of Anson and Mecklenburg, and recorded deeds, wills, and estates in those counties.

After 1764 deeds and wills were recorded in South Carolina records, then at Charleston in 1781, Camden District was set up as a probate court district and until 1787 will and estates will be found there.

CAMDEN DISTRICT

Formed in 1769 as an original district,
During 1785 - 91 divided into 7 counties & one other district

Partially abolished in 1800 as a local record keeping entity.
Some records are among those of KERSHAW COUNTY.

Records: Census	(1790 R)
Clerk of Court	(1790 - 8)
Court of Common Pleas	(1782 - 1805)
Court of General Sessions	(1785 - 99)
Court of Master Equity	(1792 - 1823)
Estate	(1782 - 7)
Plat	(1784 - 1841)
Will	(1781 - 1823)

KERSHAW COUNTY county seat is Camden, S.C. :

Before 1868 know as KERSHAW DISTRICT; which -
before 1800 know as KERSHAW COUNTY; -
which in 1791 was formed from FAIRFIELD, LANCASTER, and
RICHLAND COUNTIES.

Records include some of Camden District and some of
Camden Equity District.

County Records:

Conveyance	(1791 - 1844)
Coroner	(1811 - 1823)
County & Intermediate Court	(1791 - 9)
Court of Common Pleas	(1783 - 1908)
Court of General Sessions	(1786 - 1870)
Court of Master Equity	(1786 - 1892)
District Court	(1868)
Estate	(1782 - 1973)
Magistrate	(1837 - 48)
Plat	(1787 - 1980)
Sheriff	(1794 - 1858)
Tax	(1784, 1815-6, 1832, 1865-7, 1877)
Voter	(1867 - 8, 1898)
Will	(1782 - 1892)

Other records: Baptist biography, cemetery census
1800 R, 1810 R, 1820 RI, 1830 R, ... etc.

Library: Kershaw County Library
1304 Broad Street
Camden, S.C. 29020

DARLINGTON COUNTY county seat Darlington, S.C. 29532 :

Before 1868 known as Darlington District; which
before 1800 known as Darlington County; which
in - 1785 was formed from Cheraws District; which
in 1769 was established as an original district.

Many record lost in fire about 1806.

Record include:

Will (1785 - 1905)
Estate (1783 - 1905)
Plat (1803 - 1980)
Tax (1823)
Conveyance (1806 - 1980)

Various South Carolina References:

- 1 - MILLS ATLAS of the State of S.C. 1825.
Contains historical maps of districts (or counties)
that locate families by their surname.

Of interest to the Hollimans are the maps of
Sumpter District (1821) and Darlington District (1820)
that have the name Holliman shown in each map.

While this of interest it may not be particularly helpful
in the research of Cornelius Holliman. It is noted that
there was not listing of a Holliman in Lancaster District
in the map found in this reference.