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REPORT TO: File

SUBJECT: Cooksey Associates: **Tattnall** County, Georgia: Preliminary Nutshells

ASSOCIATES: Principal families: Lott, Watts
(Their in-laws:)

- Thomas Aultman, son-in-law of Rev. John Watts
- Moses Hansby, son-in-law of Rev. John Watts
- Jesse Wiggins Jr., son-in-law of Rev. John Watts

Secondary families:

- Boyd (Bani, m. Nancy Bowen; 1811 Letitia Cooksey's son Henry was bound to him)
- Dougherty (John, a justice of Tattnall, m. ca. 1811, Letitia Cooksey)
- Hall (Ignatius and apparent kin)
- Hancock (James and son Cader, apparently named for Cader Price)
- Price (John, son of Cader and first husband of Zilpha [Watts?])

BACKGROUND: Zilpha [—?—], (ca.1775-80—24 June 1857), had at least three relationships:

1. John Price (son of Cader), who she married ca. 1798. In **1800** and **1802** she bore two children who used the Price surname. John sued for divorce in 1799; the case was continued and then cancelled. However, the couple did not stay married and Zilpha was treated as a sole feme on the 1805 land lottery.
2. John Cooksey (son of William), with whom she took out a license in 1809 but no subsequent marriage is on file. Meanwhile, about **1806-7**, she bore a son John who used the surname Cooksey. The older John is last on record in March 1818.
3. William Cooksey, R.W. (by whom she apparently bore James William in November 1819 and Elizabeth in 1821)

Zilpha is also possibly the mother of Nancy [—?—] Parks, born 12 April **1804**, allegedly in Savannah. Nancy, for whom no maiden name on record, is usually credited to William Cooksey. However, all evidence for William places the birth of his known children between 1785 and 1795. There is no evidence of children born after 1795 and all records on William establish his residency in Tattnall at the time of Nancy's alleged birth in Savannah. In 1803, Zilpha registered for the 1805 Land Lottery, as a resident of Tattnall; but her whereabouts in 1804–1809 are unknown.

HYPOTHESIS: Zilpha was the daughter of Rev. John and Judith Watts who lived in Montgomery, Tattnall, and Laurens Counties concurrently with William Cooksey and subsequently

moved to Covington County, Mississippi, concurrently with William and Zilpha. Considerable evidence supporting this hypothesis is detailed in my earlier reports.

REPOSITORY: Family History Library, Salt Lake City

RESEARCH NOTES

FHL Microfilm 206,454 Minutes, Inferior Court, 1805-1816 Tattnall County, Georgia

Unpaginated

4 May 1806

“Ordered that **Ignatious Hall** have liberty to keep a ferry at the Ohoope River at the usual place on the bounty of Land known by the **Old Saw Mill Bounty** at the following Rates . . . Ordered that **Ignatious Hall** have license for to keep a tavern at his own house in this county.”

8 July 1806

Arthur Lott is called to jury service at this term of court

“Now at this Term it is ordered that there by a Road Laide out from Montgomery line at or near **Thomas Watses** to Cross the Ohoope at or near **John Watses** and then to intersect the Savannah Road whare a majority of the Commissioners Shall think proper and **Thomas Watts**, John Young, Joseph Collins, Elias Daniel & John Fletcher is appointed [*sic*] to lay out the same and make their Report at the next inferior Court.”

COMMENT:

This should be the “**Old Saw Mill Road**” neighborhood, along which **Thomas Watts and William Lott received grants**.¹

As noted below under 3 March 1807, the tavern keeper **James Hancock** (an associate of Cader Price, who named a son Cader Hancock), **also lived along Old Saw Mill road** on the Ohoopee.

Montgomery Co. Deeds, D:21 and CPG: 12-13, place Cader Price on the North side of the Great Ohoopee, where he used Juniper Hall (Ignatious’ apparent brother) as a witness.

Ignatius Hall, ca. 1802-04, lived “two years and nine months” on “a 100 acre plantation called the Sawmill” (variously called “Old Sawmills”).²

¹ See Elizabeth Shown Mills, “Cooksey Associates: Montgomery County, Georgia,” 15 November 2010, report to file.

² Murray, *Tattnall County, Georgia, Loose Papers*, 1:7, 17.

“Ordered that Captn. **William Hall** have leave to Keep a ferry at or near his own house over the Ocone River at the following rates ...

“Ordered that the old Road be Continued by James Handcocks and the same hands do work under James Hancock.

3 March 1807

“Now at this Term **James Hancock** was appointed overseer of the Road from the **Old Saw Mill** on the Ohoope River to Thomases Creek at William Johnson’s plantation . . . [and] Capt. Jeremiah McDonald was appointed overseer of the Road from Thomases Creek at Wm. Johnsons to Liberty County line.”

6 March 1809

William Cooksey, and others called to serve as jurors for this term of court.
Jurors drawn for August 1809: **Wm. Cooksey**

5 June 1810

Master lists made for the coming year, showing pool of names from which would be drawn the grand and petit jurors. **No Cooksey or Watts.**

COMMENT:

The absence of the Cookseys and Watts is accounted for by the fact that they had relocated in Laurens and Telfair Counties.

**FHL Microfilm 206,463, Item 2
Minutes, Superior Court, 1805-1823
Tattnall County, Georgia**

[n.d.] **1805**

Unpaginated [p. 3]

Grand jurors for October 1805 term

3. John Watts
6. John Lott, Senr.
9. William Williams [one William Williams in 1807 moved to Mississippi with John Lott Sr.]³
14. Jesse Byrd, Junr.
28. **Ignatius Hall**

Petit jurors

31. William Cooksey
33. Arthur Lott

³ Dorothy Williams Potter, *Passports of Southeastern Pioneers, 1770–1823* (Baltimore: Gateway, 1982), 222 and 381, n. 288.

[p. 5]

October 1805

Grand jurors seated included John Watts

COMMENT:

Several cases involved Lotts as defendants, mostly John Lott Junr. Cases continued until October 1806? term, at which John and Robert Lott were found guilty and fined.

14 April 1806

Grand jury seated: Jessee Embree, **Thomas Watts**

16 James Hancock

Petit jury, no. 2

5 Absolam Lott

13 October 1806

Grand jury: **John Watts**, Ignatius Hall

14 October 1806

State vs. **John Lott Senr.** Misdemeanor. No bill. [And no details.]

13 April 1806

Grand jury: **John Watts**, William Hall, **William Cooksey**

Petit jury: Simon Lott

15 April 1807

Jurors drawn for next term:

Grand jury: **Thomas Watts**, Ignatius Hall, Jesse Embree

Petit jury: Arthur Lott

October 1807

Jurors drawn for April 1808

Grand jury: Jonathan Embree, James Sartin, **Wm. Cooksey, John Watts**

Petit jury: Simon Lott, Arthur Lott

10 October 1808

Grand jurors at next term: **Jno. Watts**, Jesse Embree.

Petit jurors at next term: Danl. Daugharty, Wm. Lott

17 April 1809

Grand jurors serving: **Jno. Watts**, Jesse Embree

Petit jurors serving: Danl. Daugharty

Grand jurors to serve in October 1809: no Watts or Cooksey

Petit jurors to serve in October 1809: **Alston Hall**, Simon Lott, **Jno. Cooksey**, Abm. Lott

16 October 1809

Petit jurors sworn in: Simon Lott

Grand jurors drawn for next term: Lewis Hall Senr., Enock Hall

Petit jurors for next term: **Wm. Cooksey**, Danl. Daugharty

7 May 1810

Petit jurors sworn in: Simon Lott, Arthur Lott, Danl. Daugharty

6 May 1811

Petit jurors sworn in: Simon Lott

COMMENT:

The Wattses drop out of Tattnall County in late 1809, same time as the Cookseys.

**FHL Microfilm 206,364
Original Deeds & Mortgages, vols. A-F, 1802-1868
Tattnall County, Georgia**

“Deed Record A, B, C, D”

“This book contains the record of the old books A, B, C & D, transcribed from them by S. [Samuel] P. Smith, This April 1895.”

COMMENTS:

1. At various places, Samuel Smith indicates that the original pages are damaged or destroyed. (Example: p. 167, “Witnesses names are entirely gone from the page.”)
2. Wives routinely signed deeds or else relinquished dower at a later date. By implication, all the deeds below without a wife’s participation seem to imply that the male was not married.
3. I’ve also skimmed every page for signatures, to see if
 - Any Cookseys appear as witnesses
 - Any woman named Zilpha appears in any other family

(Index Entries)

Boyd: Nothing

Grubbs: Nothing

Pearson: Nothing

Daugharty: See below

Lard: See below

Lott: See below

McLeod: See below

Watts: See below

"Deed Record A, B, C, D," p. 33

27 November 1800 (drawn)

14 September 1804 (recorded)

Jacob Watts of Washington County to **Lodrick Lard** of same. Sale for \$200 cash, 900 acres in Washington County "on the waters of the Ohoopée river ... bounded Eastwardly by Jesse Embree and on all other Sides by vacant land at the time of the original survey." /signed/ Jacob Watts (seal). Witnesses: Richard Childres, Nimrod Barker, J.P., Charles Ray, J.P.

"Deed Record A, B, C, D," p. 1

7 April 1801 (drawn)

10 August 1802 (recorded)

John Cobbs of Jefferson County to **John Lott** of **Montgomery County**. Sale for \$700 cash, "five bounties of land lying on the Altamaha bounded by Hip[?] run and granted to James Johnson and Samuel McCulloch, which said lands James and Jones Bivins formerly lived on, together with all appurtenances," etc. /signed/ John Cobbs "Seal." Witnesses: Jacob Roberson, Water Roberson, J. J. C.

4 May 1801, Mary Cobb released her dower right before Walter Robinson, J. J. C.

10 August 1802, her relinquishment was recorded.

"Deed Record A, B, C, D," pp. 91–92

[Old Book C]

[This document is not indexed under Lott]

21 December 1801

"Articles of agreement ... between C. D. Wylds ... of South Carolina Barnwell District and **Arthur Lott** of Tattnall County. ... Wylds has got Five bounty tracts of land on the Attamaha River ... granted to Joshua Ford, Jno. Manns, Jno Hill, William Lillywhite, and James Martin, for [287 ½] acres each, which the said Wylds has this day delivered unto the said **Arthur Lott**, to obtain for the said Wylds, does agree to give him the said **Lott**, one half of the said land above mentioned, to get the other half for him the said Wylds" Signed by both parties. Witness: Jno. Wyld.

1 Dec 1806

C. D. Wyld assigns his "right, title, and interest" to Mr. Jeremiah Miller. Witnesses: Wm. Ryan, **Reuben** Chance, Jane Thompson.

"Deed Record A, B, C, D," p. 6

9 February 1802 (drawn)

18 February 1803 (recorded)

Loderick Lard of Washington County to Batt Wyche and Littleton Wyche of Tattnall County. Sale for \$600 cash, a tract of 640 acres in Tattnall County "granted to James Thomas, adjoining the river surveys

at present owned by the said Wyches and joining Barkers on the side line.” (Metes & bounds not copied for want of time). /signed/ Loderick Lard “Seal.” Witnesses: Elisha Taylor (x), John Wilson, John Hill Bryan, J.P.

“**Deed Record A, B, C, D,**” p. 1

10 August 1802 (recorded)

John Lott recorded the purchase deed he executed on 7 April 1801.

“**Deed Record A, B, C, D,**” pp. 66-67

12 [20?] November 1802 (drawn)

6 December 1802 (attested by Robert Scott before Jesse Embree, J. J. C.)

21 July 1806 (recorded)

John Lott Jr. of Tattnall County to Mathew Jones of same. Sale for \$1000 cash, 345 acres in Tattnall “bounded South by the Altamaha river [metes & bounds not copied] being part of a tract of land originally granted to James Johnson for three hundred and forty five acres, then conveyed by deed by John Cobbs to John Lott Jr.” /signed/ John Lott Jr. (seal). Witnesses : Robert Scott, Asa Hartfield.

“**Deed Record A, B, C, D,**” p. 100

[**Old Book B**]

28 February 1804 (drawn)

1 April 1808 (recorded)

James Bivins of Montgomery County to **Robert Lott** of Tattnall County. Bivins confirms that he sold 200 acres in Tattnall, on Mill Creek,” being surveyed the 11th of March 1801 for James Beven who resides in this State.” Land is described as “bounded N.E. by **Robert Lotts land**, N.W. by vacant land Surveyed by **Abner Davis, C.S.** Beginning on a stake on the SE Side of said **Mill Creek on Abner Davis line**, South 16E thirty three chains to a corner pine then with the courses of the plat, bounded by Jones [sic] Beven and Abner Davis and Robert Lotts land. No consideration given. /signed/ James Biven (sea). Witnesses: Jno. Grace, Howel Sharpe.

COMMENT:

Abner Davis was an associate of Cader Price, Sr., in Montgomery County. See Mills report of June 2009.

“**Deed Record A, B, C, D,**” p. 75

[**Old Book B**]

12 May 1804 (drawn)

11 January 1807 (recorded)

Robert Lott to **John Lott Jr.**, both of Tattnall County. Sale for \$100, a tract of 550 acres described as “**bounded by Abner Davis**, South East, by Robert Lott North West.” /signed/ Robert Lott (seal). Witnesses: James Thomas, James Grace, J.P.

“**Deed Record A, B, C, D,**” pp. 40-41

2 August 1804 (drawn)

22 March 1804 [1805?] (recorded)

Lodrick Lard of Washington County to Thomas Lapsley of Tattnall and David Lapsley of South Carolina. Sale for \$600, 600 acres “lying and being at the time of survey in the County of Washington and now in the County of Tattnall ... [adjoining] Lapsley’s corner.” [Metes & bounds not copied.] /signed/ Lodwick [sic] Lard. Witnesses: Littleton Wyche, John Still Bryant, J.P.

“**Deed Record A, B, C, D,**” p. 99

[Old Book B]

26 Nov 1805

Thomas Holloman to Martin Hardin. Sale of land surveyed by **Abner Davis, County Surveyor**, no date.

“**Deed Record A, B, C, D,**” p. 98

[Old Book B]

27 December 1805 (drawn)

1 April 1808 (recorded)

John Lott Jr. to **Martin Hardin**, both of Tattnall. Sale for \$1000, tract of 350 acres in Tattnall, described as being on the “Altamaha river, say, beginning at a pine corner running thence South 25 west, to the river, Altamaha, thence down the said river to just below what is called the **Wiggins field**, thence with a gut or Lagoon out to a line which divides the same from John Sharpes Sr., thence with the said line to the corner a straight line to the beginning.” /signed/ John Lott Jr. (seal). Witnesses: John Smith Jr.; Ludd Mobley, Richard Cooper, J.P.

COMMENTS:

Jesse Wiggins married Barsheba/Barbara Watts, daughter of Rev. John Watts.

The unalphabetized “1802-3-4” tax roll of Tattnall places “Hardin Martin” in this cluster:

- Embree, Jesse⁴ [1806 witness to Arthur Lott’s sale of land to Jonathan Embree]
- Martin, Hardin⁵ [bought land of John Lott Jr., when John left for Mississippi]
- Stafford, Ezekiel⁶

⁴ Thus far, I have not been able to determine origins or genealogical information on Jesse and Jonathan Embree.

⁵ Martin Hardin married Lucretia Mobley, 1806; in 1810, he became the brother-in-law of Jesse Byrd, who married Sarah Ann Mobley, and James Grace, who married Lucy Mobley. See Marilu Burch Smallwood, *Burch, Harrell, and Allied Families*, vol. 1 (Washington, N.C.: N.P., n.d.), unpaginated; OCR or typescript copy (<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mobley/burch.txt> : accessed 1 January 2010). Also see Linda Cooper, “Descendants of William Grace: Generation No. 3,” *Linda Cooper’s Home Page* (<http://familytreemaker.genealogy.com/users/c/o/o/Linda-Cooper-Gatesville/index.html> : accessed 1 January 2011).

As an example of the extent to which these Tattnall families gave family surnames as given names: the sons of James and Lucy (Mobley) Grace included (according to Cooper, above):

Byrd Mobley Grace (named for his mother’s family and that of his mother’s brother-in-law, Jesse Byrd.

Martin Harden Grace (named for his mother-s brother-in-law, Martin Hardin.

According to Billy Wayne Mobley, *The Mobleys of South Georgia, Berrien County* (<http://familytreemaker.genealogy.com/users/m/o/b/Billy-W-Mobley/WEBSITE-0001/UHP-0096.html> : accessed 1 January 2011), the parents of these Mobley girls were John Mobley and Sarah Ann Barfield. (Note: In Rankin and Newton County, Mississippi, the Watts and Cooksey offspring intermarried with Barfields; the possibility of a connection seems, at best, remote.)

⁶ Ezekiel Stafford (1773-1853) is said to have married Mary **Rawls**. That surname, Rawls, is one attributed widely to Judith, the wife of Rev. John Watts. For Stafford, see Jim Lucas, “Knight/Stafford/Surrency/Hall,” *Tattnall County, Georgia, Message Board* (www.ancestry.com : posted 29 October 2002).

- **Lott, Arthur** [signed recommendation for passport of John Jr.]
- **Cooksey, William**
- Cooper, Richard⁷ [Local j.p.; see deed dated 27 December 1805, below]

This group, clearly is a neighborhood cluster.

"Deed Record A, B, C, D," p. 99

[Old Book B]

27 December 1805 (drawn)

1 April 1808 (recorded)

John Lott Jr. to Martin Hardin, both of Tattnall. Sale for \$550, tract of [acreage not given] in Tattnall, described as "on the waters of the Altamaha river, bounded as follows: SW by John Mobley, N.E. by Parker Sharpe, S.E. by Benefield, S. by said Hardin." /signed? John Lott Jr. (seal). Witnesses: John Smith Jr., Ludd Mobley, Richard Cooper, J.P.

COMMENT:

Note that the purchaser, Martin Hardin already owned adjacent land--and land adjacent to his father-in-law, John Mobley. Kin, in this society, clustered together and young men married girls in their immediate neighborhood.

"Deed Record A, B, C, D," p. 70

[Start of Old Book B]

1 January 1806 (drawn)

6 September 1806 (recorded)

John Lott Jr. to John Sharpe Sr.,⁸ both of Tattnall. Sale for \$100 cash, 190 acres in Tattnall, "Beginning on the Altamaha river just below what is called the **Wiggins** field, thence out towards the pine land with a gut or lagoon til it intersects a marked line known as the dividing line between **John Lott Jr.** but now **Martin Hardin's** land, and the said John Sharpe Sr.'s land, thence South with a marked line fifty chains to a stake, thence South 25 West to the river, thence up the said river to the beginning. " /signed/ John Lott Jr. (seal). Witnesses: **Martin Hardin**, Thomas Grace, J.P.⁹

COMMENT:

Jesse Wiggins of Laurens married Barsheba "Barbara" Watts, whose brother Thomas married Elizabeth Lott, daughter of Absalom Lott.

⁷ Like Cooksey, Cooper was a Revolutionary War soldier. Like the Halls, he migrated to Montgomery-Tattnall from Duplin County, North Carolina. His wife, Lurena Howard, died in 1815; their son George married into the Conner family. For Cooper, see Mary Clyde McArthur, *The Conner Family, Ryals Family, McArthur Family, mainly of Montgomery County, and Allied lines* (N.p.: N.p., 1978), unpaginated OCR or typescript (<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mobley/conner.txt> : accessed 1 January 2011).

⁸ James Sharpe was a Revolutionary War soldier, born in Virginia, who served from St. George Parish/Burke County; his wife is said to have been Elizabeth "Betsy" Wynn [another neighborhood family]. See "James Sharpe," *Georgia Society, Sons of the American Revolution* (<http://www.georgia-societysar.org/drv/index.php/component/tngbridge/?url=getperson&personID=1133&tree=graves> : accessed 1 January 2011).

⁹ Thomas Grace was the father of James Grace who married Martin Hardin's sister-in-law, Lucy Mobley, according to Cooper, "Descendants of William Grace."

The three land sales of John Lott Jr., above, in December 1805 and January 1806 reflect his preparation to remove to Mississippi.

Between December 1805 and November 1807, three passports were issued for members of this Lott family. A fourth, for three additional Lotts, was issued in January 1809. Given the fact that many branches of the Lotts used the same given names, assurance that the 1805–7 passports *were* issued to the Lotts of Laurens, Tattnall, and Montgomery comes from noting the identity of the men who recommended them for their passports.

6 December 1805

“To His Excellency John Milledge. Sir. **Jno. Lott Junior** having expressed to us a wish to travel thro-the Indian nation, and wishing to obtain a Passport - We take the liberty of recommending him to you as an honest industrious worthy Citizen - **Arthur Lott**, David Glenn, **Thos. Davis**, **Abner Davis**, 6th Decr. 1805.” Reverse: “recommendation in favor of **Jno. Lott Junr.** for a Pass Port thro the Creek nation. Order taken 6th Decr. 1805.²³¹

²³¹ [Ga. Executive Dept., I.C., File II,] Box 151, see John Lott Junr. John Lott Senr. is shown on page 222 receiving a passport in November of 1807. There was an Arthur Lot, along with Daniel Lot, listed as original settlers of Bulloch County, Georgia. However, this passport application does not indicate their residence, so it is not known if they are identical. Jesse Lott, reference 252, was of Montgomery County Georgia.”¹⁰

7 October - 22 November 1806

“Georgia. Montgomery County. We the subscribers, Inhabitants of the County of aforesaid, being Personally acquainted with **Jesse Lott**, also of Said County, do Certify that we believe him to be an ——honest, Industrious good Citizen. ——— Given under our hands this 7th day of October 1806. — **Thos. Davis Col^o**, **Abner Davis Maj^r**.” (Reverse) “recommendation in favor of **Jesse Lott** for a Pass Port thro the Creek nation. Order taken 22nd Nov. 1806.²⁵²

²⁵²[Ga. Executive Dept., I.C., File II], Box 151, see Jesse Lott.”¹¹

9 November 1807

“Executive Department. Monday 9th November 1807. On recommendation ORDERED That a passport through the Creek nation be prepared for James Taylor, **John Lott Senr.**, **William Williams**, and Samuel Newton, with their families which was presented and Signed.²⁸⁸

²⁸⁸ [Ga. Executive Proceedings...,” Sept., 1806 - Feb., 1808, p. 229; drawer 50, roll 46,] p. 268.”¹²

9 January 1809

“Executive Department. Monday 9th January 1809. ORDERED That a passport through the Creek nation be prepared for **Robert Lott**, **Amos Lott**, **Stephen Lott**, and William Sharp, which was presented and signed.³⁶⁹

³⁶⁹[Ga. Executive Dept., I.C., File II, Box 131], p. 316.”¹³

¹⁰ Dorothy Williams Potter, *Passports of Southeastern Pioneers, 1770–1823* (Baltimore: Gateway, 1982), 208–10 and 380, n. 231.

¹¹ *Ibid.*, 214 and 381, n. 252.

¹² *Ibid.*, 222 and 381, n. 288.

"Deed Record A, B, C, D," p. 59

11 February 1806 (drawn)

3 March 1806 (recorded)

Lodwick Lard of Washington County to Randal Rouell of Richmond County. Sale for \$300 cash, 600 acres in Tattnall County adjoining Houel Rouell's bounty on the Oconee River ... Thomas Lapsley's line, Lodwick Lard's back line, Batt Wych's line. [Metes & bounds not copied.] /signed/ Lodwick Lard (seal).
Witnesses: William Witherington, John Hill Bryant, J.P.

"Deed Record A, B, C, D," pp. 128-29

[Old Book B]

22 November 1806 (drawn)

23 January 1810 (proved by Jesse Embree)

25 March 1810 (recorded)

Arthur Lott to Jonathan Embree, both of Tattnall. Sale for \$500, 287.5 acres on Altamaha in Tattnall "bounded on the South by the Altamaha river, on the west by John Hill's land, on the North by vacant land, on the East by the heirs of Willey ... originally granted to John Mann. /signed/ Arthur Lott (seal).
Witnesses: **William Williams, J.P.**

[Same page: Embree sold this on 3 March 1809, recorded 9 April 1810]

COMMENT:

William Williams was one of the out-migrants with John Lott [Sr.?], to whom the passport was issued in November 1807.

The 1805-6-7 tax roll of Tattnall lists William Williams consecutively with Jesse Embree, in a close cluster with

- Ignatius Hall (wife Zilpha),
- four Lotts (Simon, Absalom, Arthur, and William),
- James Hancock (friend of Cader Price and father of Cader Hancock)
- **Alston** Hall (b. ca. 1786, alleged son of Lewis Hall Jr., RW)¹⁴

While William Cooksey was listed amid the LOTT cluster on the unalphabetized 1802-3-4 roll, the unalphabetized 1805-6-7 roll places him in a WATTS cluster more than ten pages away from the individuals above. However, Cooksey and the WATTS were still in the LOTT neighborhood, as evidenced by their cluster:

Jones, John Sr.	[taxed on land granted to Arthur Lott]
Watts, John	[taxed on land granted to "McDowell"]

¹³ Ibid., 234 and 383, n. 369.

¹⁴ Jack Hall (Angels Camp, Calif; eyesguy@aol.com), "John Hall," posting 14 March 1799, *Hall-SC-L Archives* (<http://archiver.rootsweb.ancestry.com/th/read/HALL-SC/1999-03/0921463731> : accessed 1 January 2011). According to Vincent McMullen, "Alston Hall," *Roots, Twigs, and Branches of the McMullen/Byington Family* (<http://whitmoregenealogy.com/getperson.php?personID=I1024&tree=1> : accessed 1 January 2011), Alston Hall's father was Lewis Hall Jr., but his mother was Flora Beaty.

Watts, Thomas [taxed on land granted to "John & Thos. Watts"]
Cooksey, Wm. [taxed on 200 acres granted to self]
[skip 7]
Williams, Wm.
[etc.]

"Deed Record A, B, C, D," p. 75

[Old Book B]

11 January 1807

A recording of the 12 May 1804 land sale from **Robert Lott** to **John Lott Jr.**, both of Tattnall County.

"Deed Record A, B, C, D," pp. 79–80

[Old Book B]

30 January 1807 (drawn)

7 March 1807 (recorded)

Lodrick Lard of Tattnall to Lewis Harris of Richmond County. Sale for \$300, 600 acres "lying and being at the time of survey in county of Washington and now in the County of Tattnall ... bounding and beginning at Thomas Lapsley stake corner [to] Benjamin Leigh's upper corner [to] Leigh's middle corner [to] Lard's line, then up the line back to the beginning." /signed/ Lodwick Lard (seal). Witnesses: Littleton Wyche, Batt Wyche, J. J. C.

"Deed Record A, B, C, D," p. 93

[Old Book B]

25 April 1807 (drawn)

16 November 1807 (recorded)

Arthur Lott of Tattnall to Jacob Linn Jr. of Edgefield District, S.C. Lott does "**quit claim** and convey ... one half of a tract of land containing one thousand [1000] acres **granted to the said Arthur Lott** on the 16th of November 1802, lying in Tattnall County and bounded Westwardly by Travis Thomas's land, **Eastwardly by Robert Flournoy's land**, and Southwardly by a line running North 70 East, being a continuation of the lower line of Travis Thomas's? line on river tract. No consideration given. /signed/ Arthur Lott (seal). Witnesses: James Pautor, Batt Wyche, J. J. C. Dower relinquishment of **Sarah Lott** (x), wife of Arthur, undated, before Batt Wyche, J. J. C.

COMMENTS:

- When John Price sued Zilpha [--?--] for divorce, her attorney was "Flournoy."
- *The "1802-3-4" consolidated tax roll of Tattnall cites Arthur Lott and William Cooksey consecutively.*

"Deed Record A, B, C, D," p. 104

[Old Book B]

5 December 1807 (drawn)

23 July 1808 (recorded)

Jacob Daughtry to James Gould, both of Tattnall. Sale for \$400, 202 ½ acres in Baldwin County, known as Lot 52, bounded by Lots nos. 51, 59, 53, and 57, and situated in the 10th district of Baldwin. /Signed/ Jacob Daughtry (seal). Witnesses: **L. Lard**, Richard Cooper, J.P.

“**Deed Record A, B, C, D,**” pp.233–34

[Old Book C]

14 January 1808 (drawn)

20 September 1820 (recorded)

Stephen Bowen to **Daniel Daughtry**, both of Tattnall, sale for \$400 sterling, \$519 acres on Ohoopce River, “it being the land said **Watts** now lives on, the said land personally granted to Thomas McDonald and bounded as follows: Beginning at a Water Oak on said River, then S30W 71 chains to a pine, thence S40E 75 chains to a stake, thence N 30E 48 chains to a stake on the river, thence meandering the same to the beginning.” /signed/ Stephen Bowen (seal). Witnesses: Thomas Cruthman (x), William McElvy, J.P.

Comment:

- In 1808, [John?] Watts is living on land sold by Stephen Bowen to Daniel Daughtry.
- In 1810, Nancy Bowen married Bani Boyd
- In 1811, Lettice Cooksey—as new wife of John Daugharty—gives up to Bani Boyd the son she bore outside of wedlock

In 1808, as at the time of the 1802–1807 tax rolls, Cooksey and Watts are still in the same neighborhood.

“**Deed Record A, B, C, D,**” pp. 98–99

[Old Book B]

1 April 1808

Recording of the two 27 December 1805 land sales from **John Lott Jr.** to Martin Hardin, both of Tattnall.

“**Deed Record A, B, C, D,**” p. 100

1 April 1808 (recorded)

Recording of 28 February 1804 sale from James Bivins of Montgomery County to **Robert Lott** of Tattnall County.

“**Deed Record A, B, C, D,**” p. 219

[Old Book C]

27 April 1809

Abner Davis of *Washington County, Georgia*, sells land in Tattnall.

“**Deed Record A, B, C, D,**” pp. 128-29

23 January 1810 (proved by Jesse Embree)

25 March 1810 (recorded)

Proof & recording of 22 November 1806 deed from **Arthur Lott** to Jonathan Embree.

“**Deed Record A, B, C, D,**” p.145

[Old Book B]

15 September 1809 (drawn)

Lodwick **Lard** to James Joyce, both of Tattnall. Sale for \$500, a tract originally granted to George Walton, originally in Washington County but now in Tattnall, on Big Ohoopee Rler, bounded by Charles Odinsill’s land and vacant on all other sides when surveyed. /signed/ Lodwick Lard (seal). Witnesses: **Jesse Embree, Jonathan Embree.**

“**Deed Record A, B, C, D,**” p. 128

[Old Book B]

13 March 1810

Abner Davis appears as “J. I. C.” [Justice, Inferior Court]

“**Deed Record A, B, C, D,**” pp. 234–35

[Old Book C]

26 October 1810 (drawn)

25 September 1819 (proved by Alexander Gordon)

20 Sep 1820 (recorded)

Daniel Dougherty to **Alexander McLeod**, both of Tattnall, sale for \$387.50, 429 acres in Tattnall on West side of Great Ohoopee river; on all other sides vacant at time of survey. Granted by Gov. Edward Telfair to Thomas McDonald, conveyed by McDonald to Benjamin Warner, by Warner to Stephen Bowen, and by Bowen to Dougherty. /signed/ Daniel Dougherty (seal). Witnesses: Alexander Gordon, James Sadler (x), and J. B. McFarland.

COMMENTS:

- October¹⁵ 1809: Alexander McLeod served as surety for John B. McFarland, when McF became indebted to William Cooksey.
- April 1810. McFarland was appointed overseer of road from “Daughterty’s Ferry on the Ohoopee, passing Alex^f McLeod to County line.”¹⁶
- Daniel Dougherty appears to be the brother or son of the older justice of the peace who married Letitia Cooksey about 1811.

¹⁵ Sabina J. Murray, *Tattnall County, Georgia, Loose Papers: 1801–1845*, 2 vols. (Homerville, Ga.: Huxford Genealogical Society, 2005–7), vol. 1, 1801–1845: 48.

¹⁶Tattnall Co., Ga., “Inferior Court Sitting for Ordinary Purposes, 1805–1839”; FHL microfilm 206,434, item 2; unpaginated, unindexed; all pages scanned for relevant names.

"Deed Record A, B, C, D," p. 155

[Old Book B]

6 May 1811

Abner Davis of *Jones* County, Georgia, sells Tattnall land.

COMMENT:

Jones was a new county, about 25-50 miles NW of Laurens.

"Deed Record A, B, C, D," p. 278

[Old Book C]

21 March 1812 (drawn)

n.d. (proved by Dan Bouer before James Augusts Tippins, magistrate)

6 September 1823 (recorded)

Jonathan Watson to Harold Sasser, both of Tattnall. Sale for \$20, 100 acres in Tattnall "beginning at Fullers upper line on the Ohoopée river, running out the said line to the said Fuller's line to a cross middle line and along the said middle line so far as will inclose." /signed/ Jonathan Watson (seal).

Witnesses: Dan Bouer (x), Jesse **Watson** (x).

"Deed Record A, B, C, D," p. 156

[Old Book B]

7 July 1812

Jesse Byrd to John P. Blackman, both of Tattnall, sale for \$100, 100 acres granted to **Isaac Odom of Burke County**, Georgia, lying now in Tattnall, on waters of Oconnee River. No further description.

/signed/ Jesse Byrd (seal). Witnesses: **Thomas Watts**, Abraham F. Powell J.P.

COMMENT:

Thomas Watts was the oldest son of Rev. John Watts Sr. and wife Judith. He married Elizabeth Lott. In 1820, the couple lived in a Watts-Lott-Wiggins cluster in Covington County, Mississippi, amid which lived William Cooksey and Zilpha; Thomas and Cookseys were, in fact, just two houses apart.

This Isaac Odom of Burke *possibly is* the Isaac who moved from Beaufort, South Carolina, where his land adjoined that of the Widow Mary Odom who, in her old age, lived with her grandson William Odom. After Mary's death, William moved to Mississippi, and at least two of his children married children of Zilpha and John Cooksey.

"Deed Record A, B, C, D," p. 163

[Old Book B]

28 April 1812 (drawn)

17 February 1813 (proved by Joel Sherod)

5 May 1813 (recorded)

Arthur Lott, "formerly Collector of Taxes in Montgomery County and now [of?] Tattnall," to Nathaniel Bell of Tattnall. "Whereas a parcel of land containing 4 bounties of 287.5 acres each, issued in the names of John Hill, James Martin, William Lattyullule? and William Ford (individually), all of Altamaha river," were seized for taxes due in 1795 and 1796 and were knocked off to Arthur Lott, he now sells them to Bell. /signed/ Arthur Lott (seal). Witness: Joel Sherod, **Simon Lott**.

COMMENT:

In 1821, one Zachariah **Bell** married Letitia (Cooksey) Daugherty. Whether he is connected to Nathaniel Bell, above, is unknown.

"Deed Record A, B, C, D," p. 164

[Old Book B]

14 March 1812 (drawn)

18 February 1813 (proved by Joseph Bell)

4 October 1813 (recorded)

Arthur Lott of Tattnall to Nathaniel Bell of same. Sale for \$450, four bounties of land lying on the Altamaha in Tattnall but lying in Washington County at the time of survey; issued to Joshua Ford, William Lutywhite [sic], John Hill, and John [sic] Martin. /signed/ **Arthur Lott** (seal). Witnesses: Clement Bryan, Joseph Bell.

"Deed Record A, B, C, D," pp. 169-70

[Old Book B]

4 February 1813 (drawn)

30 April 1813 (proved by J. G. [C?] Conner)

4 November 1813 (recorded)

Lodwick **Lard** to Wilson Conner, both "planters" of Tattnall. Sale for \$50, 50 acres on "a branch of Lamberts Creek" in Tattnall County, "beginning on said branch just above the path crossing from John Higgs to the Dead River Meeting House, on a pine corner running S65W 50 chains to a pine Corner, then S 25 E 10 chains to a light wood stake corner, then N65E 50 chains to the branch begun on, then up said branch to the beginning." /signed/ L^k. Lard. Witnesses: Harriet Conner, J. G. Conner.

"Deed Record A, B, C, D," p. 172

[Old Book B]

7 April 1813 (drawn)

9 November 1813 (recorded)

"Surveyed for heirs of **Alexander McLeod** Decd., out of a tract of 300 acres of Moses Coleman's, a tract of forty four acres on the east side of Ohoopce river, opposite to **Mrs. McLeod's** ferry, bounded NE by Moses Coleman's land, S.E. by William Coleman's land, west by Ohoopce river. ... **J. B. McFarland, D.S.** McLeod heirs are not named.

COMMENT:

McFarland is the surveyor to whom William Cooksey sold his Tattnall land ca. 1809 and then sued from ca. 1812–18 suit to recover full payment for the property. McLeod was a witness to McFarland's 1813 partial payment.

"Deed Record A, B, C, D," pp. 177-78

[Old Book B]

n.d.

6 June 1814 (proved in Tattnall by Malcolm McMillan)

17 September 1814 (recorded)

"I, **Alexander McLeod**, planter of the County of Richmond and State of North Carolina, being very weak and infirm but ... in perfect mind and memory. Wife Catherine. Five sons Angus, William, James, John, Alexander (Angus and William are said to be the youngest). Made mark of an "A." Witnesses: Archibald McMillan and Malcolm McMillan.

"Deed Record A, B, C, D," p. 282

[Old Book C]

11 May 1816

Nancy Wats (x) and Ellender Nevils (x) witnessed a deed from Thomas Wood (x) and Amos Anderson (x) to John Wood, all of Tattnall, for a Negro girl of about 4 years.

COMMENT:

This appears to be a family unit, with Thomas Wood and Anderson inheriting a slave from a Wood estate and selling the slave to another Wood heir. In such a case, Nancy Wats and Ellender Nevils were likely to be nee Wood. This supposition is corroborated (but without evidence) by a published sketch of Amos Anderson (b. 1797, Greenville Co., S.C.) that asserts he married Martha Wood, daughter of Thomas.¹⁷

No Nancy Wats/Watts is known to fit into the family of John and Judith Watts. They had no known daughter named Nancy and no known daughter-in-law of that name. There was another John Watts in nearby Washington County, but he is not known to have a Nancy in his family either.

The Nevils/Nevilles of Tattnall were associates of both Byrds and Bowens several years earlier: "7 May 1802 - (Bond) Francis Nevils, Stephen Bowen, and Jesse Byrd are to appear to answer a complaint against 'the woman, Frances Nevils'."¹⁸ Frances was nee Frances Ann Mixon, married to John Neville. Their daughter Delilah, said to have been born 1767 in Effingham, married Samuel Williams, the son of William Williams Sr.¹⁹ (Cf. William Williams, a Cooksey-Lott-Watts

¹⁷ Jeanette Holland Austin, *The Georgians: Genealogies of Pioneer Settlers* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1984), 10.

¹⁸ Murray, Tattnall County, Georgia, Loose Papers, 1:1.

¹⁹ Cheryl K. Hendricks, *Hendricks & Loys and Related Familys* (<http://familytreemaker.genealogy.com/users/l/o/y/John-P-Loy/GENE16-0019.html> : accessed 2 January 2011), for "249. Delilah Neville."

neighbor on tax roll, who went to Mississippi in 1807 in company of John Lott Sr., formerly of Effingham.)²⁰

"Deed Record A, B, C, D," pp. 236–38
[Old Book C]
ca. 1819
Angus McLeod. Nothing of apparent value.

"Deed Record A, B, C, D," pp. 238–39
[Old Book C]
20 February 1819 (drawn)
25 March 1819 (proved by Archibald Buil)
James Watson of Tattnall to John Fiveash of North Carolina. Sale for \$113, 150 acres in Tattnall abutting vacant land on all sides at time of survey, held under warrant dated 7 September 1802, surveyed 16 September 1801. /signed/ James Watson (seal). Witnesses: John Buil, Archibald Buil.

13 January 1816 (drawn)
Samuel C. Sellars of Tattnall and James Watson, late of the State of North Carolina Purchase of the tract above. Etc.

"Deed Record A, B, C, D," p. 329
[Old Book D?]
27 December 1825 (drawn)
Jesse Carter to John Duke, both of Tattnall, sale for \$100 of land on Watermelon creek, 199 acres surveyed 10 August 1809 by Ezekiel Stafford for Jesse Carter. /Signed/ Jesse Carter (L.S.). Witnesses: **Bani Boid**, Samuel E. Suilly, J. J. C.

"Deed Record A, B, C, D," p. 332
[Old Book D?]
30 March 1825 (drawn)

²⁰ 9 November 1807 "Executive Department. Monday 9th November 1807. On recommendation ORDERED That a passport through the Creek nation be prepared for James Taylor, John Lott Senr., William Williams, and Samuel Newton, with their families which was presented and Signed.288 " The transcriber's note 288 cites "Ga. Executive Proceedings...", Sept., 1806 - Feb., 1808, p. 229; drawer 50, roll 46,] p. 268." See Dorothy Williams Potter, *Passports of Southeastern Pioneers, 1770–1823* (Baltimore: Gateway, 1982), 222 and 381, n. 288.

Abner Davis of Jones County sells land in Tattnall.

"Deed Record A, B, C, D," p. 341

[Old Book D?]

19 October 1827 (drawn)

Cader Hancock to Shadrack Hancock both of Tattnall, sale for \$40, land now in Shadrach's possession, lying on West side of Ohoopee, 200 acres originally granted to Cader Hancock on 17 December 1826. Witnesses: Michael M. Eason, Daniel Sikes, J. J. C.

COMMENT:

Cader Hancock was a son of the Montgomery/Tattnall tavern keeper, James Hancock, an associate of Cader Price. He had a brother *Watts* Hancock.²¹

STOPPED READING at p. 362 (1830 documents)

**FHL Microfilm 206454
Tattnall County Court of Ordinary
Land Grants, 1802-1837**

COMMENTS:

1. Grants to women occasionally occurred, but they are uncommon. (Margarette Durrence, p. 151, January 1815, acted as one of her own chain carriers.)
2. I'm skimming all grants in the book for names of neighbors & chain carriers.

Boyd, Bani	174
Daughterty	NO
Grubbs	NO
Mincy, Jacob	395
Watson, John	297
Watson, Jonathan	35, 123, 134
Watts	NO

p. 17

11 August 1805

J. Watson and W. Coleman are chain carriers for 400 acre survey on Rocky Creek, adjoining William Coleman and surveyed in the name of William Coleman.

²¹ One of the many sites asserting that James Hancock named a son **Watts** is Capt. Charles D. Pearce, *My Family* (<http://www.familyorigins.com/users/p/e/a/Charles-D-Pearce-ii/FAM01-0001/d44.htm#P756> : accessed 3 January 2011). Descendants also assert that James's firstborn son, Durham Hancock (and wife *Mary Hall*), named a son Robert **Watts** Hancock; for example, see Wendell H. Wilcox, *Descendants of My Ancestors* (<http://www.goldwingbums.org/genealogy/p5960.htm> : accessed 2 January 2011).

p. 35

2 July 1804 (warrant)

20 September 1804 (survey)

7 September 1804 (adjacent? survey)

400 acres on **Boswell's Creek**, in name of **Johnathan Watson**, vacant on West, North, and East. Bounded South by Howel Sasser. Chain carriers: **J. Watson** and ____ Bowen [*sic*]. Surveyor, J. B. McFarland.

p. 123

6 September 1813 (warrant)

11 September 1813 (survey)

200 acres on waters of Ready Creek (but no adjacent water), surveyed for **Johnathan Watson**. Chain Carriers: James Turner and William Bowen. J. B. McFarland, C.S.

p. 134

6 September 1813 (warrant)

9 September 1813 (survey)

250 acres of pine land on waters of Braswell Creek, surveyed for **Jonathan Watson**. Chain carriers: James Turner and William Bowen. J. B. McFarland, C.S.

p. 164

5 December 1816

Cader Hancock is chain carrier, with Wright Duglass, for 200 acres in name of Shadrack Hancock, adjoining James Hancock, on the Ohoopee. James A. Tippin, C.S.

p. 166

10 August 1816

Bani Boyd and Lewis Tyree are chain carriers for 140 acres in name of William Tippins on Thomas Creek. Tippins, surveyor.

p. 172

24 August 1816

Bani Boyd and William Eason are chain carriers for 116 acres on [no waters mentioned] in name of Joseph Sikes. Tippins, C.s.

p. 172

24 August 1816

Bani Boyd and B. M. Coleson are chain carriers for 127 acres on Thomas Creek, bounded on west by Boyd's land and on South by Dampier's land, and on north and east by vacant land. Tippins, surveyor.

P. 172

24 August 1816

Bani Boyed and Wm. Eason are chain carriers for 200 acres on waters of Braswell Creek, in name of Josiah Sikes.

p. 173

23 August 1816

A Boyed and Samuel Norman and chain carriers for 250 acres on Beaver Creek in name of Dias C. Sykes.

p. 174

5 August 1816 (warrant)

23 August 1815 (survey)

200 acres of pine land on waters of Thomas Creek, in name of **Bani Boyd**. Bounded on South by Wm. Johnson's land, all other sides vacant. Chain carriers: Bani [sic] Boyd and William Tippins.

COMMENT: At this point, I quit scanning all entries.

p. 297

6 Apr 1829 (warrant)

7 April 1829 (survey)

100 acres on waters of Cobb Creek, in name of **John Watson**. Vacant on all sides. Chain carriers: George Sharpe, John Watson. Tippins, C.S.

p. 395

6 February 1837 (warrant)

18 August 1837 (survey)

300 acres on waters of Wolf Creek, in name of **Jacob Mincy**. Chain carriers: Jacob Mincy and Wm. Holland. John R. Purcell, C.S.