

## North of the Broad River

## THE ALSTON FAMILY ON LITTLE CEDAR CREEK

JOHN ALSTON, D.S., received a warrant of survey for 150 acres of land from John Bremar, D.S.G. on March 15, 1771. This land was surveyed for him on a branch of Little Cedar Creek, Craven County, by R. Ellison D.S., and the plat certified on June 27, 1771. This land was bound on the northeast by vacant land and by the land of Thomas Powell, southwest on Nathaniel Guff's (Goff?) land, and northwest by the land of Thomas Franklin.<sup>1</sup>

He received a warrant for 160 acres of land from John Winn Esq., Commissioner for Location (of land) for Camden District on January 27, 1785. This land was surveyed for him by Alex Johnston D.S., and the plat certified on February 1, 1785. The land lay on Indian Branch of (Little) Cedar Creek and was bound on the northwest by land of George Freshley, southwest by lands of Thomas May and John Alston, southeast by lands of Nicholas Wirick and Mack Davis (Mark Davies ?), northeast by lands of George Lightner and Christopher Davis.<sup>2</sup> The State Grant was dated June 1, 1787.

On August 3, 1771, John Alston of St Mark's Parish, Craven County, sold Jacob Love 150 acres of land on Dutchman's Creek for 125 pounds, lawful money. Jacob Love was already in possession of the land by a bargain made a year earlier. The land had been granted John Alston on March 19, 1771, and was bound on the southwest on John Alston, northeast and south east on John Stoney's land, and on all other sides by vacant land. John Yarborough and Robert Love<sup>3</sup> witnessed the deed. Isaac Love was the justice of the peace.

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1. C.P., Vol. 13, P-40, 1771; Royal Grants, September 14, 1771, Vol. 24, P-225.

2. C.P., Index 1, Vol. 7q, P-372, 1785. State Grants, Vol. 17, P-552, 1787.

3. P.D.B., Bk. I, P-445, 1771.

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John Alston married Mary Boyd daughter of William Boyd Sr., who had arrived in South Carolina on board the ship Nancy, Captain Hannah, Commander, sometime just before June 22, 1767. It was on this date that the bounty money was allowed for the payment of her passage. It is probable that she was eighteen years of age and not the fourteen years recorded in the ship's records.<sup>4</sup>

On July 16, 1767, Mary Boyd received a warrant of survey for 100 acres of land on Crooked Run Creek; bound on all sides by vacant land. The plat was certified by Joseph Curry D.S. on September 8, 1767.<sup>5</sup>

On September 7, 1808, Mary Alston (widow of John Alston), James Brown and his wife Jane, William Boyd (Jr.) and his wife Nancy, all heirs of the elder William Boyd, sold William Brown their share in the undivided estate of William Boyd Sr. for \$100. This share was a tract of land on Crooked Run Creek, Fairfield District that had been granted William Boyd Sr. on October 13, 1772. Mary Brown and David Alston witnessed the transaction. Jane Brown and Nancy Boyd signed their releases.<sup>6</sup> These same heirs of William Boyd Sr. sold James Andrews 138 acres of land on Alligator Creek, Little River, for \$276 on November 2, 1815. This land was part of 400 acres granted James Daniel on January 21, 1785, and by him sold to William Boyd on January 13&14, 1790. This land was bound northeast on land granted Joshua Cherry, northwest and west on lands of the estate of George Ashford, southwest on land of Charles Brown, and southeast on John Lewis. Jane Brown and Nancy Boyd signed their releases.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> Revill, List of Protestant Immigrants, P-78.

<sup>5</sup> C.P., Vol. 13, P-307, 1767.

<sup>6</sup> F.D.B., Bk. S, P-39, 1807.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid., Bk. Y, P-200, 1815.

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On December 7, 1817, these same heirs of William Boyd Sr. sold Ezekiel Frazier 46 acres of land out of the same tract on Alligator Creek, Little River, that had been originally granted to James Daniel, and by him sold to William Boyd in accordance with an Act of the South Carolina Legislature for non-payment of bounty. This land was bound northeast on land of Edward Andrews and land of James Mann, southeast on land of Richard Thompson, southwest on lands of Ezekiel Frazier and John Sims.<sup>8</sup>

From the naming of the heirs of William Boyd Sr., we can be certain that Mary Boyd was the wife of John Alston and daughter of William Boyd Sr, and that Mary Alston (Sr.) had a brother William Boyd Jr. and a sister Jane Brown, wife of James Brown.

John Alston was a deputy surveyor and prior to the Revolutionary War he was quite active in surveying land in and around Fairfield County. He saw service in the Revolutionary War and was paid 4 pounds, 17 shillings, 1½ pence, sterling, for 34 days service in the militia in 1781.<sup>9</sup>

John Alston was born in 1739 and died in 1787 at the age of 48 years. His wife Mary Boyd Alston was born in 1749 and died on July 11, 1826, at the age of 77 years. They are buried in the Alston Family Graveyard.<sup>10</sup>

John Alston made his will on June 2, 1787, and it was proven on June 16, 1787. This was a death-bed will and there was the notation that "these words spoken by John Alston on his death-bed before James Mann, William Boyd Jr.

8- F.D.B., Bk. X, P-41, 1817.

9- Revolutionary War Records, S.C. Dept. Archives and History.

10- Inscriptions on tomstones, Alston family graveyard, copied by Sarah G. McBride.

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and Mrs. Jenny Brown in his own home". He intended that all of his children were to share equally in his property, but that his eldest son Samuel Alston was to have first choice and share a little better than his other children, whom he did not mention. James Brown and Robert Boyd appointed to manage the estate. All moveable property to remain in the hands of his wife Mary, as long as she lived or remained unmarried. The warrant of appraisement was dated August 14, 1787, and was directed to William Boyd, John Walker, John Bell and Edward McGraw.<sup>11</sup>

Although John Alston only named his son Samuel, there were several children. The following have been identified, although others might have been lost or died young:

Samuel Alston, 1770-July 3, 1834.

Mary Alston Jr., August 24, 1772 - August 26, 1857.

James Alston died in 1841 in the 68th years of his age.

Jane McKinstry, wife of Thomas McKinstry.

Margaret McKinstry (?) wife of John McKinstry.

David Alston.

It is possible that one of the daughters of John and Mary Boyd Alston was named Rachel and married Francis Walker. Mary Alston Sr. gave Rachel Walker, wife of Francis Walker, four head of black breeding cattle on November 3, 1787.<sup>12</sup>

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11-F.P.C., Apt. 1, file 2, 1787.

12- F.D.B.m Bk.B, P-179, 1787.



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The will of Mary Alston Jr. ,daughter of John and Mary Boyd Alston, was made on April 4,1848, and proven on September 9,1857. This will gives us an improved knowledge of the children of John and Mary Boyd Alston. To the children of her deceased sister Margaret McKinstry (wife of John McKinstry?), she gave \$400 to be equally divided. To the children of her deceased sister Jane Mc Kinstry (wife of Thomas McKinstry),she gave \$400. To her niece Harriet E.Kennedy (wife of Alexander Kennedy Sr.) she gave the bed designed by her grandmother. To her niece Mary E.Smart, she gave a bed. To her nirece Elizabeth M.Pearson (daughter of her brother James Alston and wife of Dr. George Butler Pearson) she gave a bed. The rest of her property to be divided among the children of her brothers and sisters with these exceptions: two note of \$500 each of her nephew James S.T.Alston to be deducted from her brother David Alston's(deceased) share; the note for \$300 given by her nephew John A.Alston,September 16,1834, to be deducted from her brother Samuel's share; the balance of the share due her brother David (deceased) to be given to her nephew John A.Alston, who will act as trustee for David's children;the distributive share of her nieces Nancy Broom and Polly Hendrix to be turned over to their brother Thomas W.Mckinstry as trustee;William J.Alston to hold his sister Elizabeth M.Pearson's share as her trustee. William J.Alston, Thomas McKinstry and Samuel Owens were named her executors. Her personal property was appraised at \$4635 on September 26,1857, by John Copeland, Daniel V.Frazier and Stephen Gibson. Notes due her were valued at \$2585. Thomas McKinstry bought 540 acres of land from her estate on October 15,1857. The total value of her estate was \$25,653, 26, to be divided

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into five shares of \$5130,65, each. The money to be distributed as follows John A. Alston as trustee in Negroes and notes for \$5180, and was overpaid by \$32; Thomas W. McKinstry for himself and his sisters \$5128 as a share and \$439.60 as legacies; John McKinstry was entitled to \$1391.90 as a quarter share and legacy; Mrs. P. (Polly) Hendrix received property and Negroes valued at \$1044 and \$269.56 in cash for a total of \$1282 (the arithmetic is theirs); Mrs. N. (Nancy) Broom received \$1391.90; Mrs. Pearson received in Negroes, notes and cash \$2564.45, and was overpaid \$0.45; the Owens were paid a total of \$3016.83.<sup>13</sup>

Mary Alston Jr. lived to be 85 years of age, never married, became quite wealthy; and is buried near her father and mother in the Alston family graveyard.

SAMUEL ALSTON, eldest child of John and Mary Boyd Alston, was a surveyor, farmer, Justice of the Peace, Justice of the Quorum, surveyor to run the line between Kershaw and Fairfield Districts in 1818, representative from Fairfield District in the South Carolina House of Representatives, 1806-1808, 1810-1812, 1814-1816, and Senator from Fairfield District in South Carolina Senate 1816-1820.<sup>14</sup>

Samuel Alston was born in 1770 and died on July 3, 1834, at the age of 64 years. He never married. He is buried in the Alston family graveyard near Mossydale.

Samuel Alston had 103½ acres of land surveyed for him on Little River on May 8, 1804, by Henry Moore, D.S.: bound by the lands of Thomas Upherion,

<sup>13</sup> P.P.C., Apt. 112, file 585, 1857.

<sup>14</sup> Reynolds and Fant, Bio. Dir. of the Senate of S.C., P-172

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held in 1804 by James Elliott, the estate of James Robertson, by land granted to Joshua Badger and held by George Ashford, by the estate of Harris Freeman, and by the estate of John Charles. The grant was dated  
 15  
 October 1, 1804.

On April 20, 1812, Samuel Alston D.S. surveyed 140 acres of land for himself on Riley Branch of Little River, Fairfield District. The plat was certified by William Clark on August 25, 1812. The land was bound by the lands of James Mann, Edward Pigg, James Elliott, the estates of James McCants  
 16  
 and James Freshley. A fork in the road to Columbia was near the estate.  
 17  
 Samuel Alston sold this land to Christian Freshley for \$140 in January 1813.

On June 13, 1821, Samuel Alston, with William Robertson, Nicholas Wirick and James McCants, were appointed Commissioners of the Court of Equity for Fairfield District for the partition and distribution of the estate of Jacob Turnipseed. They laid off for Catherine Turnipseed a tract of 72 acres of land on Cedar Creek that had been granted to Mark Davis (Davies) for 100 acres in December 1766, and also part of 260 acres of land that had been granted Jacob Rebsome (Turnipseed) on December 10, 1794. On this same day, they  
 18  
 laid off a tract of 60 acres for Mary Barbara Turnipseed.

William Nixon, of the town of Camden, sold Samuel Alston 336 acres of land on Little Cedar Creek for \$400 on August 23, 1831. This land had been granted to Daniel Brown Esq. on January 1, 1787. William Brown and Thomas  
 19  
 McKinstry witnessed the deed.

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15- S.P., Index 2, Vol. 40, P-308; S.G. Vol. 50, P-436, 1804.

16- S.P. Vol. 43, P-215, 1812.

17- F.D.B., Bk. V, P-194, 1813.

18- Ibid. Bk. EE, P-138, 221, 1821.

19- Ibid. Bk. KK, P-249, 1831.

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Christian Freshly sold Samuel Alston 152 acres of land on Crooked Run Creek for \$456 on October 5, 1822. This land was part of 250 acres granted Michael Lightner (sic) on May 15, 1772. This land was bound north on the estate of John Alston (deceased) and Samuel Alston, east on the estate of Daniel Brown (deceased) and the lands of Christian Entzminger, southwest on the lands of Hugh Delacote, and west on Samuel McKinstry. Nancy Freshley signed her release.

20

William Mott sold Samuel Alston 24½ acres of land (on Crooked Run Creek?) for \$122.50 on January 2, 1830. This land was part of 250 acres originally granted Nathaniel Boyd in May 1768, and bound noethwest on the land of Samuel McKinstry, southwest on land of Samuel Alston, and northeast on William Mott. William Brown and Augherty McDowell were witnesses. Harriet Mott signed her release.

21

George Ashford, in his last will and testament, directed his executrix and executors to sell all of his land southwest of Little River. On November 5, 1805, and in compliance with his will, his executors John W. Rabb, Thomas Rabb and Jemimah Brown sold Samuel Alston all interest in 47 acres for \$44. The heirs of John Robertson had sold George Ashford this land, and the 47 acres was part of 300 granted John Robertson on October 3, 1785.

22

John Stanton, Fairfield District, sold Samuel Alston 100 acres of land on Crooked Run Creek for \$130 on October 4, 1815. This land was originally

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10. F.D.B., Bk.KK, P-26, 1822.

11. Ibid, Bk.KK, P-266, 1830.

12. Ibid, Bk.KK, P-P-292, 1805.



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granted to Janet Boyd , now married to John Walker, on March 2, 1768; bound northwest, north and southeast on the estate of John Alston (deceased),  
 23  
 and southwest on Samuel Alston.

The 1822 tax returns for Fairfield District showed Samuel Alston as the owner of 795 acres of land and 38 slaves in Fairfield District, 400 acres  
 24  
 in Newberry District, and 350 acres of land in Chester District.

Samuel Alston died July 3, 1834, without wife or legitimate children. On October 13, 1835, the distributors of the estate of Samuel Alston Esq. decided upon this division of his real property:

James Alston to have 143½ acres of land to the west of Little River: bound on the north by the land of William Brown, east by Little River, south by the land of Gabriel Friday, and west by Watt's land.

Mary Alston to have the 100 acre bounty tract granted her mother Mary Boyd , and a second tract adjoining Margaret McKinstry and made up out of land purchased from William Mott, and a third tract being part of land originally granted Jane Boyd, also part of a tract originally granted Jacob Brown, and part of the Freshley tract.

The representatives of Margaret McKinstry to have 358½ acres of land on Crooked Run Creek: bound by the lands of Mary Alston , Jane McKinstry, William Robertson, James Alston, Vincent Bell, the Camacks, and William Motts.

Jane McKinstry to have 152½ acres of land on Little Cedar Creek: bound on the north by the land of Mary Alston(Jr.), west by land of William Robertson

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23- F.D.B., Bk.KK, P-294, 1815.

24-Tax Returns , 1822.

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and on the south and west by the lands of Jacob Wirick.

David Alston to have 171 acres of land: bound on the east by William  
Hartson, south by Wyrick land, and west by Jane McKinstry.

James Owens and his wife Amy, or Anne, to have a lot in Columbia contain-  
ing one-quarter acre.

This document was signed by James Alston, Mary Alston, John McKinstry  
for himself and other representatives of Margaret McKinstry, William Brown as  
agent for David Alston, James Owens for himself and his wife, Thomas (W)  
McKinstry for Jane McKinstey. James Brown and Mary Ann Mott witnessed this  
document.  
25

David Alston had moved to Crawford County, Georgia, where on  
August 18, 1834, he gave William Brown of Fairfield District, his power -of-  
attorney to receive his legacy from his brother Samuel's estate.  
26

Jane McKinstry had moved to Pickens County, South Carolina, where on  
June 11, 1835, she gave Samuel McKinstry her power-of-attorney to sell her land  
adjacent to the Wirick land.  
27

JAMES ALSTON, second son and third child of John and Mary Boyd Alston,  
born in 1773 or 1774 and died in 1841 in the 68th years of his age.  
He built his home on a beautiful site between Monticello and Broad River.  
The house was burned by Sherman's troops. He became quite wealthy and  
his tax returns for 1822 showed him as the owner of 4007 acres of land and  
slaves.  
28  
29

D.B., Bk.LL, P-551, 1835.

ibid, Bk.LL, P-549, 1834.

ibid, Bk.LL, P-550, 1835.

Mallick, A Fairfield Sketchbook, P-210.

Tax Returns for 1822.

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Francis Lee sold James Alston 150 acres of land on Cedar Creek for \$250 on January 9, 1802. This land was part of 197 acres granted George Smith on April 2, 1792 : bound northeast by land of George Smith, east by land of James Craig, south on the estate of Peter Entzminger, west on lands of Evans Craig and Herman Douglas. Elizabeth Lee appeared before Timothy Rives, J.P., and signed the release of her dowry rights. James Alston sold this land to Thomas McKinstry for \$300 on May 25, 1805. Frances (she signed herself Frankey) Alston signed her release.

Charles Compty, Richland District, sold James Alston 899 acres of land on Big and Little Cedar Creeks for \$200 on January 5, 1805. This land was Charles Compty's distributive share of 3800 acres of land that had been granted John and Minor Winn on May 10, 1786, and was part of Major John Compty's estate. This land was bound on the north by the land of John Compty, east by the lands of John Broom and William Kirkland, south by land of Rebekah Compty, west by the lands of John Haigwood and James Alston, northwest by land of James Heart (Hart). Mary Winn signed a release of her dowry rights for the entire 3800 acres on February 21, 1824. This included 321 acres of land that Rebecca Compty, daughter of Major John Compty and wife of Peter McGuire, had sold James Alston for \$250 on October 10, 1811. This land was conveyed by the Winns to Thompson Whitehouse, who in turn conveyed it to Major John Compty.

Reuben Bailey, Fairfield District, sold James Alston 50 acres of land

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30-F.D.B., Bk.N, P-35, 1802; Bk.Q, P-335, 1805.

31- Ibid, Bk.P, P-221; B.V, P-209; Bk.EE, P-313.

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to Crooked Run Creek for \$50 on September 19, 1805; being part of 300 acres of land that had been granted to Christian Entzminger on September 21, 1771: bound northwest on the estate of James Hunt (deceased), south on the land of Harmon Wirey, east on the estate of Daniel Brown (deceased), west on the estate of Daniel Frazier and on John Erick's land. The next year on August 19, 1806, James Alston sold this land to Harmon Wirey (Wirick) for \$100. Frances Alston signed her release.

32

Samuel Alston D.S., laid off 270 acres of land for James Alston on December 22, 1802. This land was the residual of 422 acres that had been granted Thomas Trapp on July 7, 1800, and lay on Trapp's Branch of Big Cedar Creek: bound by the lands of Roland Williamson, the estate of Major John Compy, the estate of William Trapp, and Thomas Smith's land. William Trapp sold James Alston this land for \$120 on January 13, 1810. Rachel Trapp signed her release. Thomas Trapp, James Taylor and Samuel Alston were witnesses to the sale. James Alston sold this land to William Shaver, mechanic, for \$300 on May 19, 1814. Frankey (Frances) Alston signed her release.

33

James Hart, Fairfield District, sold James Alston 300 acres of land for \$300 on April 3, 1810. This land lay on Little Cedar Creek and had been originally granted to James Audey on May 2, 1770, At the time of the original survey, this land was bound by vacant land, but at the time of the sale, it was bound south and west by the land of James Alston, north by land of Thomas Robertson and on the east by land of William Brown.

34

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1. F.D.B., Bk. Q, Pp. -121, 122, 1805.

2. Ibid, Bk. V, Pp. -203, 204, 1810; Bk. W, P236, 1814.

3. Ibid, Bk. V, P-208, 1810.



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1-300 acres of land granted Thomas Williams on August 13,1756.

2-Northwest portion of 200 acres of land granted Martin Shirer on May 2,1770.

3- Southeast portion of land granted Elizabeth Shirer on June 23,1774.

4- 71 acres of land granted William McKillroy on April 21,1775.

5- Northeast portion of 85 acres of land granted Phillip Pearson on February 6, 1804.

This land lay northeast of Broad River and was bound southeast on the river and the heirs of Benjamin May, northeast on the heirs of Benjamin May, and the lands of William Brown and William McKillroy, northeast on land of George Free , land of the heirs of McKell and heirs of George Ruff, southeast on heirs of Mc Kell and George Ruff, Dr. Frederick Rhimer and William Thornton. William F. Pearson and William May were witnesses to the transaction. Mary Pearson signed her release. James Alston gave this land to his son William J. Alston on November 2, 1833, for the love and affection that he had for him and for \$1.

John Buchanan, Commissioner in Equity for Fairfield District, caused to be sold at public outcry, for the purpose of partition , 597.2 acres of land that had belonged to Benjamin May (deceased). This land lay northeast of Broad River and bordered on the river. James Alston bought this land as the highest bidder for \$4415.27, and received the commissioner's title on November 7, 1825.

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17- F.D.B., Bk. FF, P-256, 1825; Bk. LL, P-77, 1833.

18- Ibid, Bk. GG, P-59, 1825.

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In a suit brought by Isaac Whipple to recover \$36.66 from Benjamin May Jr., Sheriff Beatty, Fairfield District, offered for sale at public outcry Benjamin May Jr.'s interest in 784 acres of land on Broad River. James Alston purchased these rights for \$1 on July 17, 1828. This 784 acres of land was bound by the lands of James Alston, William Brown, William McGraw, William Stanton and James Finley. It lay northeast of the river and was bound south-  
39  
west on the river

William Brown sold James Alston 105 acres of land on Hunter's Branch, Broad River, for \$230 on November 6, 1829. This land was made up out of 100 acres granted Elizabeth Shirer, and out of another tract of 73 acres. The land was bound on the north by land of Charles Free, and on the south and west by James Alston's land. Elizabeth, wife of William Brown signed her  
40  
release.

On February 20, 1833, James Alston, for the goodwill that he had "toward religion and literature", gave to the trustees of Buffalo Stomp Meeting House three acres of land on a spring branch of Big Cedar Creek; being part  
41  
of a tract of 3800 acres of land originally granted John and Minor Winn.

James Alston sold John Hinnant 340 acres of land on Little Cedar Creek for \$1020 on December 19, 1833. This land was part of the 3800 acres granted John and Minor Winn: bound on the east and northeast by land of Charles Broom, on south by land of James Alston, on the west and northwest

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39- F.D.B., Bk. GG, P-203, 1828.

40- Ibid, Bk. HH-2, P-113, 1829.

41- Ibid, Bk. LL, P-33, 1833.

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by the land of John Hinnant , and on the northwest by the land of James Alston.  
<sup>42</sup>  
 H(Henry) Alston Owens and Aaron Powell witnessed this sale. On the same day,  
 James Alston sold Aaron Powell 154½ acres of land out of this tract on Little  
<sup>43</sup>  
 Cedar Creek for \$908.75.

James Alston sold Phillip D.Cook 204 acres of land for \$2040 on  
 September 15, 1834: bound north and northwest by land of Jesse Hendrix, east  
 on land of Charles Broom, south on land of John Hinnant, and on the southwest  
 and west by land of James Alston. Aldolphus E.Pearson and George B.Pearson  
 witnessed the sale. On this same day, Phillip D.Cook gave James Alston a  
<sup>44</sup>  
 mortgage on this land for the penal sum of \$4080, actual sum \$2040.

James Alston sold Aaron Powell 13 acres of land on Little Cedar Creek  
 for \$260 on February 22, 1836; being part of a grant to John Miles on March 19,  
 1771. He sold him an additional 15½ acres for \$750 on August 20, 1839, out of  
 the same grant. On this same day, August 20, 1839, James Alston sold Aaron  
 Powell 155 acres of land out of an original grant to John and Minor Winn.  
 James Alston sold Aaron Powell a total of 338 acres of land on Little Cedar  
<sup>45</sup>  
 Creek.

Joseph Richardson sold James Alston 51 acres of land on Neely Branch  
 (or Creek) for \$331.33 on February 23, 1840: bound on the north by land of  
 Stewart Mitchell, east by William Holmes, south by Thomas Long, west by

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42-F.D.B., Bk.LL, P-105, 1833.

43-Ibid, Bk.LL, P-106, 1833.

44- Ibid, Bk.LL, Pp.256, 257, 1834.

45- Ibid, Bk.MM, P-322, 1836; Bk.NN, Pp.-180, 181, 1839.

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land of G.W.Saunders, and Northwest by the land of John D.Stanton. Mary, wife  
46  
of Joseph Richardson, signed her release.

James Alston made his will on December 31,1839, and died on August 16, 1841. He is buried in the Kirkland cemetery beside his wife Frances who had died on November 29,1823, aged 46 years, 7 months. He had two children : a daughter Elizabeth M. who married Dr. George Pearson and a son William John Alston. His daughter Elizabeth died on July 20,1868, at the age of 71 years and is buried with her husband in the Pearson family cemetery.

James Alston left his daughter Elizabeth M.Pearson three slaves ; a bed and bedstead from his room; his desk , bookcase and one-half of his books; all the mules, horses, cattle and hogs that he leaves on his Hogsbook place; one-half of the plantation gears and tools; one half of his shares in the Broad River Bridge Company,C.C.Railroad and Southwestern Bank; one half of the proceeds from the sale of his Cedar Creek place that lies west of Cedar Creek; one-half of the proceeds from the sale of his Little River place that he inherited from his brother Samuel; all of the purchase money from the recent sale of land to Aaron Powell and the land about to be purchased by Phillip D. Cook; and one-half of all of the money in his possession or owed him.

To his son William John Alston, he left all the mules, horses, cattle, hogs on the May place, and the remaining half of all the property left his daughter Elizabeth..

He ordered the sale of his "old Cedar Creek place" and the Little River place that he had inherited from his brother Samuel. To his grandchildren,



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children of his daughter Elizabeth M. Pearson: George Butler Pearson, Emeline Martha Pearson and Mary E. Boyer, he left slaves and land on Broad River and Terrible Creek and known as the Hogbook place. This place, made up out of the Hall and Thomas lands, had been purchased from John Thomas, Chester District, and John McIver, of Columbia, for \$7075 on January 14, 1833. Dr. George B. Pearson and William J. Alston were made trustees of the legacies to the Pearson children.

To his grandchildren, children of his son William John Alston, he left the May tract and the Compty tract, which included all of the land lying east of the road from Winnsborough to Columbia; and also the Broom tract. Dr. George B. Pearson and William John Alston to act as trustees for the legacies of the children of William John Alston.

To Harriet Broom he left the slave Mary and her mother Eliza.

He named his son-in-law Dr. George B. Pearson and his son William J. Alston as his executors.

47

WILLIAM JOHN ALSTON, son of James and Frances Kirkland Alston, grandson of John and Mary Boyd Alston, was twice married. His first marriage was to Marianne Brown of John's Island, and by her he had children William Samuel and Marianne K. Alston. His second marriage was to Susannah Pope Cook of Fairfield District, and by her he had the following children: Phillip C., Frances K. and Joseph K. Alston.

The will of William J. Alston was proven on July 20, 1868. He appointed his son William Samuel Alston as trustee for himself and for his sister

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Marianne K. Alston to inherit the Hollingshead place. This land was bound northwest by the land of Daniel Hughey, northeast by land of Daniel Hughey and the estate of the late Dr G.F.Furman, southeast by the land of Nathan Holley, and south by the Broad River. William Samuel and Marianne K. Alston to inherit the tract of land containing 596 acres, lying on See Wee Bay, Christ Church Parish, Charleston District, and inherited by their mother Marianne Brown Alston from her father James Brown (deceased) Susan Pope Cook Alston, second wife of William John Alston, and her children, P.C., Frances K. and Joseph K. Alston, to inherit the rest of his property. They inherited these

plantations:

north

1- Home plantation: bound by the lands of Thomas Dawkins, Charles Free, Mr Harrison and Mrs Martha Hawkins; east by the lands of the Widow Robertson (formerly the land of Z. Day) and Thomas Bell; south by the lands of J.C.Bell and Mary C.Harvey (she had married a Harvery, formerly the lands of Mary C.Bell), and Daniel Hughey; and on the west by the Broad River.

2- A tract of about 25 acres near Shiloh Church where he had allowed the Owens to live.

3- A tract of 83 acres of land between John McMeekin and Mr Ruff's place, formerly belonging to David Long and bought at a sheriff's sale.

4- A tract of 152 acres where he permits I German to live: bound northwest by land of John Stanton, northeast by Mr Curry, southeast by McMeekin, and west by land of A.McMeekin.

5- About 150 acres of land on Little River near Brown bridge and bound by the land of Mr.W.Trapp.

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The full names of these children were probably Phillip Cook Alston, Frances Kirkland Alston, and Joseph Kirkland Alston.

## North of the Broad River

## The Alston Family on Little Cedar Creek

December 13, 1874, cash to Joe and Fanny, \$35.

December 31, 1875, sent to Fanny, \$40.

Apparently Susan P. Alston remarried a Cook and died intestate with  
49  
three minor children on May 31, 1870.

Colonel Joseph K. Alston was in command of the First S.C.V. Regiment  
in the Spanish American War. They left for Chickamauga Park on June 6, 1898,  
and stayed there in training for a few months before they returned to  
50  
Columbia where they were mustered out on November 10, 1898.

William Lemuel Alston gave William J. Alston his bond for the penal sum  
of \$800.50, actual sum \$400.25, and gave a mortgage on a slave to secure  
51  
this sum.

On November 24, 1835, George Owens and his wife Nancy sold William J.  
Alston 55 acres of land on Wilkinson Creek for \$345.50; bound on the north  
by the lands of William Bell, east and south by the heirs of Hugh  
Montgomery (or H.A. Glenn), west by land of William J. Alston and George  
Seigler. This land was part of a tract originally granted George Seigler.  
During her widowhood, and under the name of Nancy Montgomery, the land had  
been conveyed to her by Minor Seigler on January 5, 1828. The widow Nancy  
52  
Montgomery had married George Owens.

John Hollingshead and wife Barbara sold William J. Alston 496 acres  
of land for \$7500 on November 13, 1835: bound on the west by Broad River,

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49- F.P.C., file 28, pkg. 318, 1868.

50- Hennig, Columbia, P-293.

51- F.D.B., Bk.LL, P275, 1834.

52- Ibid, Bk.MM, P58, 1834.

## North of the Broad River

## The Alston Family on Little Cedar Creek

north by the land of William K. Davis, east by the land of George Seigler, William Free, and Mrs George Owens, and south by the land of Hargrove Arthur Glenn. This land was made up out of several tracts:

1- Barbara Kinsler Hollingshead's distributive share from her father Herman Kinsler's estate.

2- A tract of 35 acres bought by John Hollingshead from Thomas McMeekin.

3- A tract of 55 acres bought from Thomas McMeekin on October 22, 1832.

4- A tract of 31 acres conveyed to John Hollingshead by Mioner Seigler, Isaac Free and his wife on December 5, 1825.

5- A tract of 33 acres conveyed to John Hollingshead by Minor Seigler on December 20, 1826.

Barbara Hollingshead signed her release. This land was probably that referred to as the "Hollingshead place" in the will of William J. Alston. <sup>53</sup>

Elizabeth McKell, David McKell and William Bell Sr., executrix and executors of the estate of William McKell, sold William J. Alston 288 acres of land for \$720 on December 1, 1835. This land was made up out of two tracts: one tract of 97 acres was conveyed to William Bell for William McKell by Jacob Dansby; a second tract of 191 acres of land conveyed to the heirs at law of William McKell by Henry Merner on December 18, 1823. This land was bound on the north by the land of Nathan Free, east by the lands of Zachariah and William Bell, south by lands in guardianship for William Cole, a free person of color, and the lands of William J. Alston and the heirs of William Thornton, west by land of William J. Alston. <sup>54</sup>

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3- P.D.B., Bk.MM, P-60, 1835.

4- Ibid, Bk.MM, P-144, 1835.



## North of the Broad River

## The Alston Family on Little Cedar Creek

As president of the Monticello -Jefferson Society, William J.Alston sold several parcels of land:

1- Sold a two acre tract of land in the village of Monticello to John Dawkins for \$45 on October 17,1836: bound northeast on De Calb (sic) Street, southeast on Wooster Street, southwest on Campbell Street, and northwest on Warren Street.

2- Sold Nathan Cook, who was acting for "the Winnsborough Circuit Parsonage in the Village of Monticello" and the trustees of this organization: Nathan Cook, Burrell B.Cook, John P.Cook, William Holmes,George B.Pearson, Daniel B.Kirkland and John R.Buchanan, two half acre lots in the village of Monticello for \$59 on December 28,1836. The two lots, totaling one acre, were bound north by Winn Street, southeast on Montgomery Street, southwest by DeCalb(sic) Street, and on the northwest by a lot belonging to the Monticello Society and through which the path to the Academy from the village spring runs.

3- Sold J.E.Pearson a lot in the village of Monticello which was the fraction of the Main Street which extended from the public road: bound by the lands of John Dawkins and upon which the office of J.E.(Erskine) Pearson stands.

4- Sold James B.Davis two half-acre lots in the village of Monticello for \$27 on July 10,1837. These lots were known as lots 9 and 10 on a plat made by Phillip Pearson on January 5,1803.

The sale of these lots in the village of Monticello by William J.Alston provides an interesting background to the history of Monticello. The villagers

## North of the Broad River

## The Alston Family on Little Cedar Creek

proudly named their village in honor of the home of Thomas Jefferson, and seemed to expect a good growth with streets named in honor of prominent local citizens and heroes. Apparently the land upon which the anticipated village was to be built was owned- or controlled-by the Monticello- Jefferson Society.

Nathan Free, Fairfield District, sold William J.Alston 1.65 acres for \$34 on March 13,1839. This land was bound on the north by the land of Nathan Free and on all other sides by William J.Alston. Nathan Free obtained this land from his father George Free, who had purchased it from Jacob Dansby as part of 100 acres in 1805. This land was part of 200 acres of land granted Isham Dansby on February 7,1171, This tract adjoined 4 acres that had been sold to William J.Alston on September 24, 1834. 56

Nathan Free sold William J.Alston 73 3/4 acres of land for \$591 on November 2,1840; bound north and east by the land of Nathan Free, south and west by land of William J.Alston. A.W.Yongue and Jesse Nelson were witnesses. 57

On April 19,1842, Nathan Free sold William J.Alston 115 acres of land on a branch emptying into Broad River for \$920: bound north and northeast on lands of Nathan Free, east on land of Hugh Bell, south and west on land of William J.Alston. John Dawkins and H.H.Counts were witnesses. 58

William Matthews, Crawford County, Georgia, sold William J.Alston 57 acres of land for \$400 on April 3, 1838. The land lay on Owens Branch, Broad-River, and had formerly belong to William Bell: bound by lands of

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56-F.D.B., Bk.NN, P-147, 1839

57-Ibid, Bk.NN, P-418, 1840.

58- Ibid, Bk.OO, P-68, 1842.

## North of the Broad River

## The Alston Family on Little Cedar Creek

William Bell on the east, and William J. Alston on the west. John Matthews and Patrick M. Calhoun, Crawford County, Georgia, were witnesses. Sarah, wife of William Matthews signed her release.<sup>59</sup>

Hargrave Arthur Glenn sold William J. Alston 32 acres of land for \$50 on March 10, 1842. This land lay near Richardson Branch, and had been granted to Daniel Wooten on February 6, 1786: bound northeast on land of Elliott Elkin, southeast by the land of H. A. Glenn, south and northwest by land of William J. Alston. Charles and Samuel A. Montgomery were witnesses. Margaret J. Glenn signed her release.<sup>60</sup>

DAVID ALSTON was the third son of John and Mary Boyd Alston. William I. Augustine, for the love and affection that he had for his grandsons John Augustine Alston, William Lemuel Alston, and James Samuel Thomas Alston, and for \$100, gave them the slaves Maugy, Daniel, Hannah, July, George, and Elsie on December 27, 1812. James Alston and Nathaniel Parrott witnessed the deed. David Alston sold William I. Augustine the five months old slave Elsey for \$200 on December 27, 182.<sup>61</sup>

David Alston's wife was named (Susannah) Ellen.<sup>62</sup> It can be concluded that David Alston had married Susannah Ellen Augustine, and that they had the following sons: John Augustine, William Lemuel and James Samuel Thomas Alston.

Mary Willingham, on March 7, 1809, gave a note for \$1000 to guarantee the title on several slaves that her son William Jr., not yet of age, had sold David Alston, a planter of Fairfield District.<sup>63</sup>

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10-F.D.B., Bk. 00, P-59, 1842.

11-Ibid, Bk. W, Pp.-16, 18, 1812.

12- Ibid, Bk. AA, P-210, 1816.

13- Ibid, Bk. S, P-151, 1809.

## North of the Broad River

## The Alston Family on Little Cedar Creek

Richard Dunkley sold David Alston 165 acres of land in Fairfield District on July 28, 1809: bound northeast on land of Reason Williams, east on William Willingham, south on land of William Ashley, west on lands of John Jones and Elijah Willingham. This tract was part of 496 acres of land granted Isaac Porcher on May 15, 17 --, and by him conveyed to Thomas Woodward Jr., then in order conveyed to David McGraw, John Willingham, Mary Willingham, and finally to Richard Dunkley. William Ashley and Peter Upthegrove were witnesses. <sup>64</sup>

On September 11, 1813, William Willingham sold David Alston 142½ acres of land on Morrison Creek, Little River for \$500: bound northwest on land of David Alston, northeast on land of Samuel Proctor, southeast on land of George Ashford, and southwest on lands of William Ashley and John Dabney. This land was William Willingham's distributive share of his father John Willingham's estate, and was part of 200 acres of land granted John Andrews on May 2, 1772. <sup>65</sup>

David Alston sold the land bought from Richard Dunkley and William Willingham, totaling 307½ acres, to James Owens Jr. for \$2000 on May 24, 1816. <sup>66</sup>

William Bell Jr., son of John Bell, sold David Alston 474 acres of land on Little River for \$1844 on July 13, 1816. This land was all of the land originally granted Oliver Dale and part of 430 acres granted John Buchanan on August 7, 1785? bound by these lands: on the east by James Phillips and Hugh Milling, north on John McDowell and Patrick Gladney, west on Little River, south on William Kernaghan and James Phillips. James Beard and Hugh Mc Call witnessed the sale. Elizabeth Bell signed her release. <sup>67</sup>

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64. F.D.B., Bk.S, P-260, 1809.

65. Ibid, Bk.W, P-107, 1813.

66. Ibid, Bk.AA, P-210, 1816.

67. Ibid, Bk.Y, P-340, 1825.



## North of the Broad River

## The Alston Family on Little Cedar Creek

John Kelso, Fairfield District, sold David Alston 80 acres of land for \$50 on August 18, 1825. This land was part of a grant to Campbell Kennedy.

68

Jane Kelso signed her release.

As previously noted, David Alston had moved to Crawford County, Georgia, prior to 1834.

JOHN AUGUSTINE ALSTON was the son of David and Susannah Ellen Augustine Alston, the grandson of John and Mary Alston, and the grandson of William I. Augustine. On July 29, 1834, John A. Alston, with his brother James S. T. Alston, gave their uncle James Alston a mortgage on 554 acres of land on Little River and Myrick Branch, and on two slaves, to secure penal sum of \$6055.38, actual sum \$3027.69. This land was made up out of 474 acres purchased by

David Alston from William Bell Sr. and 80 acres of land purchased by David

69

Alston from John Kelso.

John A. Alston sold James Martin the 80 acres on January 1, 1836. James Martin gave John A. Alston a mortgage on this land for the penal sum of \$2000, actual \$1000. This mortgage was satisfied by James Martin on December 26,

70

1841.

WILLIAM LEMUEL ALSTON was a son of David and Susannah Ellen Augustine Alston, a grandson of John and Mary Boyd Alston, and a grandson of William I. Augustine. In 1834, William L. Alston gave his uncle James Alston a mortgage on several slaves to cover and indebtedness of the penal sum of \$3356.65,

71

actual sum \$1678.32. On September 1, 1834, he gave his cousin William J. Alston

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68- F.D.B., Bk.HH-1, P-340, 1825.

69- Ibid, Bk.LL, Pp.-273, 274, 1834.

70- Ibid, Bk.MM, Pp.-54, 55, 1836.

71- Ibid, Bk.LL, Pp.-260, 261, 1834.

## North of the Broad River

## The Alston Family on Little Cedar Creek

a mortgage on a slave to cover an indebtedness on \$800.50, penal sum, \$450.25  
72  
actual sum.

JAMES SAMUEL THOMAS ALSTON was the son of David and Susannah Ellen Augustine Alston, grandson of John and Mary Boyd Alston, and grandson of William I. Augustine. On December 26, 1836, he sold Thomas A. Rabb 472 acres of land on Little River for \$4720. This was the tract that William Bell Jr. had  
73  
sold David Alston on July 13, 1816.

James S.T. Alston died intestate in Fairfield District. Samuel H. Owens, on April 15, 1848, petitioned J.S. Stewart, Ordinary for Fairfield District, stating that James S.T. Alston had died intestate about April 1, 1848, and that he desired to serve as the administrator of his estate. The warrant of appraisement was issued on April 24, 1848, to Jesse Curry, Dr. K.S. Dargan, Colonel George Leitner and William A. Owens. He had a very classical library and was undoubtedly a very serious scholar. There was no mention of a wife or  
74  
children. The sale of his estate did not cover his indebtedness.

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72-F.D.B., Bk.LL,P-275,1834.

73-Ibid, Bk.MM,P-297,1836

74- F.P.C., Apt. 90, file 283,1848.