

BDATA.012 INFORMATION ON WILLIAM WOODWARD, SON OF THOMAS
(REGULATOR) WOODWARD AND HIS 1ST WIFE JEMIMA COLLINS.

Entered in July 1986 by Robert R. Hill Sr.

Reference: "History of Fairfield County" by James H. Carlisle
in Chapter XI, on pages 90, and 91.

"South Carolina Baptist" by ?????? located in
Bartow Fla. on pages 208 and 209.

The following information is found on pages 208 and 209 in
the book "South Carolina Baptist."

CHESTER COUNTY CHURCHES

One of the ministers in Sandy River congregation in 1791 was Reverend William Woodward, who, because of the distance from the old church, gathered a distinct group on Lower or Little Sandy River in 1789; this body received separate constitution in 1792. Mr. Woodward then became the minister of the new church and remained in that position until his death. He was assisted for a time after 1793 by Mr. Vandiver, a candidate for the ministry. The church tried Amos Layard's gift (?) but refused to license him: it extended "Brother Gents' license of exhortation to preach any place where a door may be opened." Brother Simonton was apparently treasurer, but it was later decided that this function should belong to the deacon's office, and Brother Redmond replaced Mr. Simonton. Cases for discipline brought up in the early years include two joining the Masons, and the authority of the church was strong enough to cause the offending brethren to promise either not to meet with the Masons or to leave the order entirely. The church insisted upon strict observance of the Sabbath: James Hand should have started to market on Monday or Tuesday and thus have avoided traveling and working his horses and slaves on Sunday, as he was forced to do by starting on Friday; other members were reprimanded for walking or riding over their farms on Sunday. A resolution to allow grievances to be laid before the deacons prior to being submitted to the church was soon rescinded. In an interesting trail of a woman accused of knowingly marrying a man already married, the woman's opinion that the trial committee was prejudiced caused the church to allow her to choose the majority of a new committee, which reported in her favor. *** (See Below)

There is a stone marker, in memory of Reverend William Woodward, located in the Woodward Baptist Church, In Chester County, which he helped to found. It bears this inscription:

"SCARED TO THE MEMORY OF ELDER WILLIAM WOODWARD, WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 1820, ON THE 23RD DAY OF JULY, AGED 57 YEARS, 9 MONTHS AND 16 DAYS. (See footnote marked @@@@ below) THIS TABLET IS ERECTED TO HIS MEMORY BY THIS CHURCH, WHICH WAS PLANTED BY HIS INSTRUMENTALLY. THROUGH THE INDULGENCE OF A KIND PROVIDENCE, A. D. 1789, HE WAS ALSO THE MEANS OF PLANTING SOME AND BUILDING UP MANY OF THE NEIGHBORING BAPTIST CHURCHES. IN CONSIDERATION OF HIS MANLY VIRTUES, THIS CHURCH HAS UNANIMOUSLY CONSENTED TO BE KNOWN FOR THE FUTURE BY HIS NAME OF THE "WOODWARD BAPTIST CHURCH OF CHRIST." (See footnote marked \$\$\$\$)

Information obtained from the Fairfield County Museum in Winnsboro, South Carolina, states that Reverend William Woodward is buried near the site of his plantation, located in Fairfield County, near the (today's) town of Monticello. (Note: Not the same William Woodward! His burial location is unknown)! Despite the fact that Rev. Woodward preached from this Chester County Church, it is known that he did live in Fairfield County.

Rev. William Woodward had seven slaves in Fairfield County in 1790 and is said to be the son of Thomas Woodward and Jemima Collins, his wife. William married Nancy Barrett in 1781, was a physician and a member of the 14th U. S. Congress, he was always a leader in the work of Bethel Association (Census, page 21; Bethel Assoc. Min., 1791-1820)

The membership of Lower Sandy River rose from fifty in 1792 to fifty five in 1794, but when it entered the Bethel Association in 1803, it numbered thirty two. +++ (See Below).

The church is said to have had three buildings, the first on land of Eli Cornwell on Sandy River. About 1800 it was decided to remove the church to a more convenient location. A group of trustees consisting of Elder William Woodward, Richard Evans, James Huey, Daniel Tressels, Henry Carter, Mason Huey, Jacob Dungan, Nobley Coates and Neguens Whitted bought on October 11, 1802, a lot for three hundred dollars upon which a second wooden building "was erected beyond the cemetery in the direction of (town) Chester" five miles from Chester on Ashford ferry road. ##### (see below)

Following are footnotes to above article (and copied exactly as published).

Reference to lines marked +++, 1803; Asplund's Reg. 5 and 6, ed. William Woodward and Claiborne Wright were messengers.

Reference to lines marked #####, Cornwell, "Woodward Church" undated clipping in Chester Reporter, quoting deed from Chester County, (Book?) CC, page 111.

Reference to paragraph marked as \$\$\$\$...The date of William Woodward's was given as 23rd of July 1820. His age is at time of death is listed as 57 years, 9 months and 16 days. This computes out to be that his birth was on 7th October 1762, and information from book " S.C. REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIERS, SAILORS" by Carter & Maddox, page 143, states place of birth was Virginia. (Fairfax County)

CENSUS INFORMATION:

Census Information on William Woodward based on 1800 Census Index shows that William Woodward & his family will be found in the 1800 census on page 202 of Fairfield County S.C.

Joseph Woodward will be found on page 198 ?

When Thomas (the Regulator) Woodward died, he left the following lands to his son Reverend William Woodward.

1. 125 acres on John Marpole Branch of Little River. This land came out of a 450 acres grant to William McMorries and by him conveyed to Thomas Woodward.
2. 100 acres of land on Mill Creek, originally granted to John Winn Esq., and by him conveyed to Thomas Woodward on 8th December 1774.
3. 76 acres of land on Mill Creek, originally granted to John Silbey on August 31, 1774, and by him conveyed to Thomas Woodward.
4. 100 acres on Mill Creek granted Thomas Woodward on August 2, 1771.
5. 100 of land on Mill Creek granted to Thomas Woodward on August 2, 1774.

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