

631 S. Echo Drive
Brandon, Fl. 33511
February 5, 1990

Mrs. Alitta Hill Cady
808 Pinmoney
Clute, Texas 77531

Dear Mrs. Cady,

Mrs. Violet M. Armstrong wrote to me about your research and asked if I could possibly be of some help to you. I am not able to provide you with the parents of John O'Dell Hill but I do have some information regarding him and thought I would pass along to you in case you do not have it.

I am not part of this family, but did a little research in South Carolina while trying to establish my Hill line, which is from a Moses Hill (1757/58-1821) of Fairfield County, S.C.

First of all, I don't think you are too far off in assuming that John O'Dell Hill and a Thomas Hill (of South Carolina) are somehow related. I have the complete estate papers of a Thomas Hill (wife was Jane Starnes) of Union County, S.C. that I (and others) think is also tied into the same Hill Family somehow but just how is still a mystery. I frankly think he is a brother to John O'Dell Hill but that is an assumption on my part. I also think he is the Thomas Hill that purchased land from John O. Hill.

Among the S.C. Land grants was the following: John O. Hill, 270a on Enoree River, 7 Apr. 1794. (This looks like John O'Dell Hill to me).

One of the things that I should point out to you in case you are not aware of it is that back in the 1700's old Berkley County, South Carolina extended from the coast back into what is today Union and Newberry County. Old Craven County was just north of old Berkley County, separated by the Broad River. On a map of today, we are speaking of the corner where Union, Newberry and Fairfield Counties all come together and the areas just north of there.

Back in the area of S.C. that we are concerned with, the Broad River was the border between Berkley County and Craven County.

A Thomas Hill received a land grant of either two or five (blurred) hundred acres on 3rd April 1770. The land was in Berkley County "in the fork (of land) between Broad and Saludy River, situated on the north side of the Enoree River and bounded (on) Southeasterdly (side) on said river, all other sides vacant lands."

This grant was signed by Enoch Pearson, Deputy Surveyor, the same man that later signed a grant for a William Hill.

William Hill received a land grant in Berkley County, S.C. on the 2nd of July 1773. The tract was "in the fork (of land) between Broad River and Saludy (River)." Note this is the same area that Thomas Hill got his land and it could be that Thomas was the father to this William Hill. (see estate papers of Thomas Hill enclosed).

This grant contained 100 acres and was on a Branch of Tyger River called "Fair Forest Creek, not ten feet broad and one deep". It was bounded at that time on all sides by "vacant lands." The grant was certified by Enoch Pearson, Deputy Surveyor on 8th February 1773 and officially granted to William Hill on 2nd July 1773.

It is my "gut feeling" that the Thomas Hill (m. Jane Starnes) and who lived in Union County, S.C. may be the father of this William Hill. I have estate papers of a Thomas Hill of Union County, S.C. that named his first son William, and that in my mind is a good clue to his father. Papers are enclosed.

Now researchers in S.C. have long stated that this Thomas Hill is somehow related to the Henry Hill of Maryland, who came to S.C. but no one as yet has been able to make that connection. Perhaps he is the same Thomas Hill that dealt

with your John O'Dell Hill. I am sure in my mind that they are related.

I am not going to cloud the facts any further but will enclose some information for you to look over and should you care to make any comments, I will be happy to respond as best I can.

If not too much trouble, would you please send what you have on this family line, Elijah B. Hill, Luther Hill, George Edward Hill and the two Herman Hamilton Hills. Where did they live? What are their dates? I need this in order to help you.

Sincerely,

Robert R. Hill Sr.