

R.023 INFORMATION REGARDING THE FAMILY CONNECTIONS OF THE
ANDREWS AND RABB FAMILIES WITH THE THOMAS WOODWARD
FAMILY OF FAIRFIELD COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA.

Entered in December of 1992 by Robert R. Hill of Brandon,
Fla.

Source of Information: Some of my own research and a book
entitled "Some of the Ancestors & Descendents of James &
George Ashford Jr. of Fairfield County, S.C." by Charles
Rabb Ashford.

Note of Explanation: The figure after a name indicates the
generation that individual belongs to in the Woodward family
lineage, despite the fact that they had other names such as
Rabb, Andrews etc..

Introduction

It is a known fact that member of the Rabb, Andrews and the
Nelson families married daughters of Thomas Woodward 2/ and
Jemima Collins. This Thomas Woodward 2/ was known in the
area of Fairfield County, South Carolina and many other as
Captain Thomas (The Regulator) Woodward and he was the fifth
great grandfather to the writer of this article, Robert R.
Hill Sr. Thus the interest of the writer.

The widely accepted Woodward genealogy has it that Captain
Thomas Woodward was the son of another Thomas Woodward, of
Maryland, and his wife Elizabeth Simpson.

A detail research has proved this is entirely wrong. The Thomas
Woodward, said to be the father and of Maryland, was not born
until, after the death of the Regulator in South Carolina and
also it has been proved that the mother of the Regulator was
named Mary Simpson, not Elizabeth Simpson. Mary Simpson was
married to a John Woodward, not a Thomas Woodward.

In the early 1700s, in what was then the area of Prince
William County, Virginia and Fairfax County, Virginia, was a
blacksmith named John Woodward 1/. He was married to a Mary
Simpson, NOT Elizabeth Simpson as is so often stated. John
Woodward 1/ and Mary Simpson are known to have had two
children. a daughter named Ann Woodward 2/ and a son named
Thomas Woodward 2/ (WOODWARD LINEAGE). It is this Thomas
Woodward 2/ that were are concerned with and it was he that
later moved to South Carolina.

A brief 1749 court record in Prince William County, Virginia
shows that John Woodwad 1/ had to sell his tools, live stock

etc..for indebtness and after that he disappears from the records, and it is thought he probably died. Shortly after this event, Thomas Woodward 2/ and his wife Jemima Collins purchase land from his Step father, John Robertson and his mother Mary (Simpson Woodward Robertson.

Thomas Woodward 2/ and his first wife Jemima Collins, lived and farmed in what is today's Fairfax County, Virginia and they had two sons and four daughters. The youngest of these children and the youngest of the two sons was William Woodward 3/, who was the fourth great grandfather of this writer.

William Woodward 3/ was born in October of 1762, in Virginia. He obviously was born just prior to the death of his mother, Jemima Collins Woodward because in January of 1763, Thomas Woodward 2/ and his family were located in what is today's Fairfield County, South Carolina.

What few sources of informtion that has been found says that Jemima Collins Woodward died in Virginia and since her husband and children were in South Carolina by January of 1763, she apparently had died between October 1762 when son William Woodward 2/ was born, and January of 1763, when the family was found in South Carolina.

Thomas Woodward 2/ is said to have moved as a widower and came to South Carolina as a widower, along with his six children (John 3/, Margaret 3/, Nancy 3/, Priscilla 3/ and William 3/) along with his widowed mother, Mary Simpson (Woodward) Robertson, and her sons by a second marriage to John Robertson, who also had died in Virginia prior to 1763.

JAMES ASHFORD OF FAIRFIELD COUNTY, SOTUH CAROLINA.

James Ashford was the fourteenth child of George Ashford Sr. He was born on the 14th of August 1777 and he died on the 3rd of March 1833. He had married Mary Rabb 4/, (Woodward lineage), the daughter of Robert Rabb and Nancy Woodward 3/. Nancy Woodward 3/, was the daughter of Thomas Woodward 2/ and his first wife, Jemima Collins.

Mary Rabb 4/ was born on the 15th of December 1780 in what was then Camden District, South Carolina but as of 1785 became Fairfield County, South Carolina. Mary Rabb Ashford 4/ died on the 22nd of April 1847. She and her husband, James Ashford, are buried in his family cemetery located as Strother, South Carolina. Their children were:

(Note: The generation listing is for the 5th generation of the Woodward family listing).

1. Thomas Woodward Ashford 5/, born 24th May 1803, later a resident of Georgia when his mother's estate was settled

- in Winnsboro, S.C. in 1847.
2. John Rabb Ashford 5/, born 29th January 1808, died on the 7th of April 1856.
 3. Elizabeth Ashford 5/, born on 12th of October 1810, she died on 2nd of November 1810 and is buried in father's family cemetery.
 4. Sarah D. Ashford 5/, born on 19th January 1812, married a Mr. Smith, she died on 11th of January 1835, they had no children. She is buried in father's family cemetery.
 5. Robert James Ashford 5/, born on 23rd of November 1814, he died on 10th of March 1853 and his buried in his father's family cemetery.
 6. George DeBelle Ashford 5/, born on 15th of JULY 1817, he died on 30th June 1847, no record of a marriage and he is buried in father's family cemetery.
 7. James Redding Ashford 5/, born on 17th of November 1820, he died on 14th of November 1881.

All of the records found seem to show that James Ashford and his wife Mary Rabb 4/ lived their lives in Fairfield County, South Carolina. His first land purchase was from the William Lyles estate on the 20th of May 1807 for 525 acres of land on the Broad River. This land included the Lyles Ferry and the ferry was owned and operated by James Ashford the rest of his life.

The second land purchase was on the 2nd of January 1815 and the third purchase was for 109 acres of land from Nicholas Ringer. His fourth purchase was from his brother Simon Ashford for 182 acres on 20th December 1825.

James Ashford owned and operated a mill in the vicinity of his ferry and the family cemetery is located beside the highway, a short distance up the hill from where the old ferry landed. The cemetery is enclosed by a stone wall about four feet high.

It appears that John Rabb Ashford, being the eldest unmarried son at home when his father died, was in charge of the property and operated the ferry for the benefit of his mother, Mary Rabb 4/, and the family.

ROBERT RABB FAMILY.

Robert Rabb is estimated to have been born ca. 1749 and died in 1817 in Fairfield County, South Carolina. He was married to Nancy Woodward 3/, a daughter of Captain Thomas Woodward 2/, later known as "The Regulator," and his first wife, Jemima Collins. Nancy Woodward 3/ was born in Virginia in 1760. Their children were:

(Generation listing is for the Woodward side of family)

1. Thomas Alexander Rabb 4/, married Massy P. Smith.
2. Jemima Rabb 4/, mentioned above.
3. Sarah Rabb 4/ married Charles Liles.
4. Mary Rabb 4/, mentioned above, married James Ashford.
5. Martha Rabb 4, married Mr. Gorree.
6. Harriott Rabb 4/, married Mr. Cook.
7. John W. Rabb 4/, resided in Fairfield County, S.C.

It is thought that Alexander Rabb was the one that patented land on Little River, in Fairfield County, in 1762. He was a charter member of Little River Baptist Church, on 26th February 1770. His wife is known to have been named Elizabeth--? (who?). According to her will they had the following children:

1. Alexander Rabb.
2. Charles Rabb married Mary V. Harrison.
3. Elizabeth Rabb married Mr. Bell.
4. Mary Ann Rabb married Mr. Crumpton.
5. Robert Rabb.
6. Nancy Rabb.
7. Sarah Rabb.

END OF R.023 DATA