# R.045 GENEALOGICAL INFORMATION ON THE LASSITER FAMILY OF N.C., AND GEORGIA.

Entered in September of 1993 by Robert R. Hill of Brandon, Fla. Additional data entered in July 1996.

Source of following: Information sent over the Prodigy Program by Paula Marczynski and received by Mrs. Wilson Hamlett of Albany, Georgia, who then passed it on to me.

The name Lassiter was first spelled as LACITER, of English origin from around the town of Leicestershire, some members living near York and Sussex in England in 1550.

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#### LASSITER MARRIAGES IN NORTH CAROLINA.

Aaron Lassiter & Ruth Smith in Chowan Co., N.C. on 6th January 1785.

Christian (Christina) Lassiter and Thomas Roberts in Chowan Co., N.C. on 4th May 1785.

Frances Lassiter and Henry Jerad in Tyrrell Co., N.C. on 8 February 1786.

Frederick Lassiter and Sarah Walton (widow) in Chowan Co., N.C. on 12 March 1772.

John Lassiter and Mary Elizabeth ?? in Bertie Co., N.C. on 22 April 1790.

Lettice Lassiter and Joseph Everett in Tyrrell Co., N.C. on 26 November 1775.

Mary Lassiter and Jacob Bass in Bertie Co., N.C. on 8 September 1789.

Sarah Lassiter and David Standley in Bertie Co., N.C. on 10 June 1788.

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The following is found in North Carolina: Land Grants by Lord Granville, Patent Book 11.

711, Page 168 LOTT ETHERIDGE, 27 February 1761 396 acres in Edgecombe County (NC) in St. Mary Parish on Beverdam Swamp- being the place OBEDIAH LASSITER entered and is the place where Etheridge now lives ON (Ref: to Original Record) Signed/ by mark. Witnesses: THOMAS HILL. Surveyed December 1752. SCC Robert Clark, LEMUEL LASSITER (?), James Conner, Surveyor.

Comment by Robert Hill: Note that a Thomas Hill, the, son of Robert Hill 3/ & wife Tabitha, married Sarah Etheridge, suspected sister or daughter of the above Lot Etheridge.

Thomas Hill was one of the witnesses. Thomas Hill's widow, Sarah Etheridge Hill left a legacy (a pony) to Christian Lassiter, who had married a James Hill (not related to Thomas Hill 4/).

We have not understood what the connection was between Christian Lassiter & Sarah Etheridge Hill but I think Christian Lassiter was her niece.

# REVOLUTIONARY WAR PENSIONERS IN CHATHAM COUNTY, N.C. WHEN THE 1840 CENSUS WAS TAKEN.

William Lasiter (sic) age 83-85 (two different ages listed) Abner Lasiter (sic) age 85 Indicating births ca. 1755-1757

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The first Lassiter known ?? (see above) to have come to America was THOMAS LEICESTER, who was living in Virginia in 1663 and who came to Virginia in 1620 on the ship "Abigail."

These names were recorded in the 1790 North Carolina census and the spelling then being LASITAR, LASSETTER, LASSATER and LASSITER. While there is no proof, it is assumed he was the progenitor of the Lassiter family in Virginia, N.C. and Georgia.

John Laciter 2/ (said to be a son of a Samuel Laciter 1/) is the next listing we have. (I question the generation figures! (NOTE: Was Samuel 1/ son of Thomas Lassiter 1/? If so the generation figures are wrong)!

John left a will, dated January 15th, 1759, stating that he lived in Chowan County, North Carolina. His will is in the Department of Archives & History in Raleigh, N.C., [Ref: Chowan County (Wills 1694-1808, Vol III. page 54].

His family listed in this will names wife Rebecca; sons Obediah Laciter 3; Samuel Laciter 3/; TOBIAS LACITER 3/; Jonas Laciter 3/; Ruben Laciter 3/ and Sampson Laciter 3/; daughters: Estell Laciter Harrell 3/; Ruth Laciter Brown 3/ and Priscilly Laciter 3/.

Tobias Laciter 3/, son of John Laciter 2/ & Rebecca, was born in Nash County, (\*\*Questionable) North Carolina. His wife was Pleasant Sally. His will is listed later below.

\*\* Note: Nash Co., N.C. was not created until 1777 from

Edgecombe County, N.C. I suspect Tobias Lassiter was born in Edgecombe County or Chowan County, N.C., not Nash Co. Tobias Laciter 3/ was a Revolutionary Soldier. Proof of service found in [Reference:Rev. Voucher P from N.C. State Papers, Roster of Revolutionary Soldiers in Georgia, Vol. III, Pages 160-161 by McCall].

As a Revolutionary Soldier, Tobias Laciter 3/ received a bounty grant of 287 and 1/2 acres of land in Georgia for his service. He moved to Greene County, Georgia after 1790 as he appeared in the 1790 Census of Nash County, N.C.

Tobias Laciter 3/ died in Greene County, Georgia. His will was probated in January of 1802.

Source of the following: This information was provided by Mrs. Wilson Hamlet of Albany, Georgia.

John Lassiter 2/ is said to have been the son of Samuel Lassiter 1/ Generation figures questionable). There is little information on Samuel Lassiter 1/ or John Lassiter 2/ but John Lassiter's 2/ wife was named Rebecca, born ca. 1725. She and a son Reuben Lassiter 3/ were named Executors in John's will, which was witnessed by Josiah Granberry, Jas. Olphant & John Benton?.

John 2/ was born ca. 1723, exact location is unknown but his will was dated 15th of January of 1759 but no probate date was listed in Chowan County, N.C..

Children of John Lassiter 2/ were:

- 1. Tobias Lassiter 3/, born ca. 1749 in Nash County, N.C., died ca. 1801-1802 in Greene Co., Ga., wife was named Sally--? (see below). Questionable County for birth).
- 2. Obediah Lassiter 3/.
- 3. Samuel (Lemuel?) Lassiter 3/.
- 4. Jonas Lassiter 3/.
- 5. Ruben Lassiter 3/.
- 6. Sampson Lassiter 3/.
- 7. Estell (Esther) Lassiter 3/, m. Haywell or Harrell.
- 8. Ruth Lassiter 3/, m. a Mr. Brown?
- 9. Priscilly Lassiter 3/.
- 10. Amos Lassiter (Questionable) 3/.

Will of John Lassiter 2/.

Photo Copy from N.C. State Archives in Raleigh, N.C. from Chowan Co., N.C. Wills 1694-1808, Vol III, Page 54.

In the name of God, Amen....

I, John Lassiter of Chowan County in North Carolina, calling

to mind the uncertainty of this life do make, constitute and

ordain this to be my last will & testament in manner following: First I recommend my soul to almighty God who gave it and my body to the earth to be decently buried.

First (sic) I give my plantation where on I now live, containing two Hundred (acres) to my wife during her lifehood. I also give the use of all the rest of my estate to my wife during her lifehood and after her death or marriage. The (rest?) I give it in the following manner to my children:

I give and bequeath to my son OBEDIAH LACITER (LASSITER) five shillings, Proclamation money, to him and his heirs forever.

I give and bequeath to my son SAMUEL LACITER (LASSITER) five shillings, Proclamation money, to him & his heirs forever.

I give and bequeath to my daughter ESTHEL (sic) HARRELL five shillings, Proclamation money to her and her heirs forever..

I give and bequeath to my daughter RUTH BROWN five shillings, Proclamation money, to her and her heirs forever.

I give and bequeath to my son TOBIAS LACITER (LASSITER) five shillings to him and his heirs forever.

I give and bequeath to my son JONAS LACITER (LASSITER) five shillings, Proclamation money, to him & his heirs forever.

I give and bequeath to my son REUBEN LACITER (LASSITER) the plantation whereon I now live, to him and his heirs forever. I also give unto my said son REUBEN, a feather bed and furniture, two cows and calves, a young mare and my hunting (gunn?) to him and his heirs forever.

I give and bequeath to my son SAMPSON LACITER (LASSITER) a feather bed and furniture and a cow and calf to him and his heirs forever.

I give and bequeath to my son AMOS LACITER (LASSITER) a bed and furniture and a cow and calf to him and his heirs forever.

I give and bequeath to my daughter PRISCILLY LACITER (LASSITER) a bed, furniture to her and her heirs forever.

I give and bequeath all the remainder of my estate of what kind (what) so ever--(after?) the marriage or death of my wife, to be equally divided amongst my four children: REUBEN; SAMSON; AMOS; and PRISCILLY, to them and theirs forever.

I nominate and appoint my loving wife REBECCA and my son REUBEN to be sole executrix and executor to this my last will and testament, made and (signed?) this fifteenth day of January, One Thousand Seven Hundred & Fifty Nine. (15th January 1759).

Signed/ John (x) LACITER his mark

Witnessed by Josiah Granberry Jas. Oliphant John Benton (son of Mos.)???

end of will data

#### **TOBIAS LASSITER 3/**

Tobias Lassiter 3/, was the son of John Lassiter 2/ and his wife Rebecca Lassiter. He was born ca. 1749 and is erroneously listed as having been born in Nash County, N.C.

Nash County, N.C. was not formed from Edgecombe County, N.C. until 1777, and Edgecombe Co., N.C. was formed from Bertie County in 1741. It thus appears that his birth in 1749 was probably in what was then Edgecombe County, N.C., or Chowan Co., N.C.

Tobias Lassiter's 3/ Will was dated 18th July 1801 in Greene County, Ga. where he appears to have died late in 1801 or very 1802.

This shows us that Tobias Lassiter 3/ was a residence of Edgecombe, Tyron or Rutherford, N.C. & Greene Co., Georgia.

His wife was named Sally--?, and is listed as having been born ca. 1751.

### Their children were:

- 1. Benjamin Lassiter 4/, born on the 12th December 1778 in Rutherford Co., N.C. (This is partly wrong! Rutherford Co. was still part of Tyron Co., N.C. until 1779). He married Elizabeth Hill in Greene Co., Ga. on 5th May 1801. Another source, Thelma Rooks Pate of Rt. 1, Box 69, Whitesburg, Ga. 30185 says Benjamin married a 2nd time to Devine Embry but gave no date. Benjamin Lassiter 4/ died on 23rd August 1869 in Carroll Co., Ga.
- 2. Hardy B. Lassiter 4/, born 1780, married Elizabeth Keith. They had a son David M. Lassiter 5/, who married Carrie Nall (dau. of J.W. Nall & Carrie Wortham). Carrie's sister, Fannie Nall m. Hardy J. Lassiter 6/, a grandson to Hardy B. Lassiter 5/ & Elizabeth Keith Lassiter.
- 3. Jesse Joseph Lassiter 4/, born 6th December 1781 in N.C., married Sophia McLendon, he died on 21st of

- 4. John Lassiter 4/, born ca. 1782.
- 5. Christiana Lassiter 4/, born ca. 1784, married James Hill in Greene Co., Ga. on the 15th of September 1806. James Hill is strongly suspected to have been the older brother to Elizabeth Hill, that married Christiana's brother, Benjamin Lassiter.
- 6. Rebekah Lassiter 4/, born ca. 1786.

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Will of the above Tobias Lassiter 3/.

Greene Co., Ga. Will Book A-B, Pages 347-349. Will was written 18th July 1801 and probated in September 1802. Another source states probate in January 1802. Court record at end of will indicates it was probed (or [robated) in January of 1804.

In the name of God, Amen. I TOBIAS LASSITER of the county of Greene and the State of Georgia, being in perfect health of body and mind, understanding and calling to mind the mortatility of my body and knowing that it is appointed for me to once die, do make and ordain this my last will and Testament, that is to say first and principally of all, I recommend my soul to Almighty God that gave it and my body to the Earth to be buried at the discretion of my Executors, noting doubting but at the Resurrection I shall receive the same again by the almighty power of God and as touching my worldly Estate that hath pleased God to bless me with this life, I give and dispose of the same in the following manner and form following:

First my will and desire is that all my just debts and funeral expenses be paid by my Executors as soon as may after my decease.

Item: I give and bequeath to my son BENJAMIN LASSETER one feather bed and furniture.

Item: I give and bequeath to my son JESSE LASSETER one feather bed and furniture.

Item: I give to my son JOHN LASSETTER one feather bed and furniture.

Item: I give and bequeath to my son HARDY LASSETER the tract of land whereon I now live, containing One Hundred and Forty-Eight acres, together with all the appurtenances there to belonging by allowing my daughter CHRISTIANA LASSETER a residence on the same during her life or so long as she may remain single.

I likewise give to my son HARRY LASSETER a Negro woman Kate and in case the said Kate shall bear a child to live to the age of two years, my desire is that my daughter CHRISTIANA LASSETER may be possessed of it and in case the said CHRISTIANA should die without an heir of her body, then the said child to be sold and the money to be equally divided between the three eldest brothers and their sister, namely BENJAMIN LASSETER; JESSE LASSETER; JOHN LASSETER and REBEKAH LASSETER.

I give and bequeath to daughter REBEKAH LASSETER Fifty dollars in cash and one feather bed and furniture and the remaining part of my estate that is not already given away in legacies to be sold and equally divided amongst all my children. I likewise nominate and institute my friend John Osling and my two sons BENJAMIN LASSETER and JESSE LASSETER my Executors of this my last Will & Testament, Utterly revoking all other wills by me heretoafter (sic) made and this and no other to be my last will and testament in... WITNESS thereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this Eighteenth day of July in the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and One. (18 July 1801).

Signed/ TOBIAS (X) LASSETER his mark

Witness Present: John Osling John Stewart Zach Robertson

Greene County Court of Ordinary, January Term 1804 The Within last will and testament of TOBIAS LASSETER, deceased, proven in open court by the oaths of Zachariah Robertson, John Osling, witnesses to the same and ordered to be lodged in office (of) said John Stewart as witness appears at office and confirms the probate thereof.

Signed/ Thomas Carelton C.C.O. (Clerk of County Court)

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Following taken from St. Paul's Parish Records, Chowan Co., N.C.

- May 15, 1742, Robert Lasiter ordered to keep John Mark & wife Sarah until next vestry meeting.
- May 7, 1757, Tobias Lasiter allowed 10 shillings for wolf scalp, killed in this Parish.
- ? ? 1757, Moses Lasiter paid for making clothes for Robert Alphen, poor.

- ? ? 1771, William Lasiter allowed 9 pounds 19 shillings for keeping Mary Johnston, a poor woman.
- ? ? 1775, 2 pences allowed for rent of a house for Jesse Lasseter.

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Following From Deed Book C, Number 1 of Chowan Co., N.C.

Page 335, Rich. Berryman to John Lassiter, 100 acres,

dated: 10th July 1722.

" Rich. Berryman to John Lassiter, 200 acres

dated: 10th July 1722.

Wits: Robert Hicks, John Parker.

From "Vestry Minutes of St. Paul's Parish, Chowan Co., N.C., 1701-1776."

June 19, 1776, Pay to Elij. Burgess, 9 shillings & a coffin for Jesse Lassitor, 10 shillings for 1 bushel of corn for Jesse Lassitor.

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Abstracts from Newspaper of Edenton, Fayetteville and Hillsborough, N.C.

Page 69 of above book:

(522)? Edenton District, Court of Equity, October Term, 1792.

AARON LASSITER, Complainant, AGAINST Aaron & William Hill, Executors of Ezekiel Lassiter, Defendants. This is to give notice, that, unless the above Defendant, Aaron Hill, put in his answer to the above bill of complaint, on or before the first day of next term.. in ..Edenton, on the 18th..of April next, the said bill will be taken pro confesso; and judgement go against him.

Signed/ Thomas Iredell C.M.E.E.D.

Comment by Robert Hill: Aaron Hill & William Hill appear to have been Quakers. Perhaps this is the family origins of a William Hill, later of SC, who went to Georgia and married the widow, Lydia White Jones.

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#### BENJAMIN LASSETER 4/.

Reference is made to Benjamin Lasseter 4/, son of the above Tobias Lasseter:

A typewritten note was found attached to a photo copy of a pages from "History of Gwinnet County, Georgia" by James C. Flanigan that says QUOTED: "Benjamin Lassiter and Cheadle Chochran, who married sisters, are shown living in Gwinnet County (Ga.) in the 1820 census. They re-located to Campbell County in 1827. Benjamin Lassiter had two sons whose names had first or second name Cheatle (sic). Benjamin Lasseter married Elizabeth Hill. Cheatle Cochran (sic) married Mary Hill. Benjamin's sister, Christiana, married James Hill.

After Tobias' death, Sally (his wife) remarried and returned to North Carolina. She had one more children (sic).

Thomas Thrower shows up in this chapter and is listed as a member of the County Line Primitive Baptist Church, Campbell Co. (or Carroll Co., Ga.) was a half brother of Benjamin Lassiter and his brother, Jesse Lassiter."

According to this information, James (Hill) was the son of William Hill and Elizabeth Clanton.

Note: This is wrong! Reference to these stated parents, William Hill & Elizabeth Clanton, this write, in conjuction with Clanton researchers, could find no such marriage. Further investigation shows this William Hill was of Chatham County, NC, and was the son of Robert Hill 3/ & wife Tabitha of Halifax County, NC. Later is states the father was William Clanton Hill that married Elizabeth Clanton. This too is wrong!

William Clanton Hill 5/ was the son of William Hill Sr 4/ & Charity Lewis. William Clanton Hill 5/ was married to Sarah Branch and died in 1803. Neither he nor his father were involved in the marriage of Lydia White Jones, nor they parents of any James Hill. The accused father, Wi;;iam Hill Sr 4/ died in Hancock County, Georgia between 1804-1806. His widow, Charity Lewis, died in 1822 in Hancock Co., Ga. The correct father, William Hill, was from SC.

The above, as well as later sources, say that Benjamin Lassiter 4/ and a Cheadle Cochran married sisters. Benjamin Lassiter married Elizabeth Hill while Cheadle Cochran married Mary Hill.

Note from Robert Hill of Brandon, Fla.: There is quite a difference of opinion or confusion on the part of two different researchers. The Thomas Barnes Papers state that a William Hill married (his 2nd) Lydia White Jones, the widow of Hugh Jones of Greene County, Georgia. That part is correct.

This William Hill is SUPPOSED to have been the same William Hill 4/, of Chatham County, N.C.

[Note: At least Tom Barnes was not sure who this William Hill was! It was not William Hill 4/ of Chatham County, NC, because he was still in Chatham County until about 1802 & his wife was Charity Lewis.

By this time, Lydia White Jones & her second husband, William Hill of SC, had two daughters. This particular William Hill of SC and his first unknown wife had the following (known) children:

- 1. John Hill.
- 2. James Hill, married Christiana Lassiter.
- 3. Elizabeth Hill, born 17th February 1785, died 14th July 1852 married Benjamin Lassiter. The 1850 census for Cmapbell County, Ga. shows her birth was in SC NOT NC.
- 4. Mary Hill, died 24th July 1837, married Cheadle Cochran.

William Hill & Lydia White Jones had the following children in Greene County, Georgia:

- 5. Eliza Hill, born 4th February 1800 in Ga., died 8th of February 1859, married Isaac Hill Jr.
- 6. Louvica Hill, born 1802 in Ga..

From another source, it is said that Elizabeth Hill was the daughter of William Hill & Elizabeth Clanton, of Chatham County, N.C. [Note: again, this is wrong and already explained above].

Eliza Hill (b 4 Feb. 1800) and Louvica Hill (b. 1802) were born to a William Hill of SC & Lydia White Jones, and clearly was not William Hill 4/ or his son, William Clanton Hill 5/ (of Chatham & Halifax County, NC) that married Lydia White Jones. William Hill 4/ (of Chatham County, N.C.) did not have a son James Hill nor any daughters at all.

Notice that in the 1850 Census, (below) it shows that Elizabeth Hill, wife of Benjamin Lassiter 4/, was born in South Carolina NOT N.C.

important since it was from another source:

Note: some of the following may be repeated data but it is

There is enough evidence found over time to indicate that a William Hill (seemingly to be the one that married Lydia White Jones in Greene County, Ga.) did have a son named James Hill. He may be the father of both Elizabeth Hill (m. Benjamin Lassiter) & Mary Hill (m. Cheadle Chochran).

Since he was the father of the Elizabeth Hill that married Benjamin Lassiter, the he was probably a William Hill of South Carolina, since the daughter, Elizabeth Hill (m. Benjamin Lassiter) was born in South Carolina (Ref: The above 1850 Census of Campbell Co., Ga).,

end of note.

Benjamin Lassiter 4/ and his wife Elizabeth Hill are listed in the 1850 census in Campbell County, Georgia as follows:

## 493/493

Benjamin Lasseter male age 73 Farmer \$ 5,000 Born N.C. Elizabeth Lasseter female 63 (b. ca. 1787) S.C. Arminda J. Liner female 28 GA.

Assuming this age of 73 is correct, Benjamin Lasseter 4/ was born ca. 1777. Since Nash County, N.C. was not formed from Edgecombe County in 1777, his birth was probably in either Edgecombe County or Nash County, which has been previously stated by another source.

It is interesting to note that his wife, Elizabeth Hill, was born in South Carolina ca. 1787. If James Hill, that married Christiana Lasseter 4/, (sister of Benjamin Lasseter), was the brother of Elizabeth Hill, then it is a very good chance that he too was born in South Carolina.

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# ANOTHER SOURCE OF INFORMATION ON BENJAMIN LASSITER.

Source: My own research in 1988 and information from various sources in Georgia.

Benjamin Lassiter 4/, was a son of Tobias Lassiter 3/ and his wife Sarah Sally. Benjamin Lassiter was born on the 12th of December 1778. The exact date of his arrival in Georgia is unknown. They were still in Nash County, North Carolina in the 1790 Census.

Benjamin Lassiter 4/ married Elizabeth Hill on the 5th of May 1801 in Greene County, Georgia. He was listed in the 1820 Census in Gwinnet County, Georgia and also in the "History of Gwinnet County, Georgia in 1818. It is unknown when he came to Campbell County (today's Fulton) County, Georgia but he was in the 1827 land lottery in Campbell County, Ga. and was there in the 1830 Census.

Benjamin Lassiter 4/ was said to have been an officer in the Jasper County, Georgia Militia in 1813, but lived in Gwinnett County, Georgia in 1822.

He owned a farm in Campbell County, Georgia on the banks of the Chattahoochee River, known now as Hutcheson Farm. He lived just north of Hutcheson's Ferry in a large log house built of virgin pine logs, comprised of two large rooms, a dog-trot" open hallway) and full upper story with stairways and a large chimney at each end, the estimated length of the house about 48 feet long, the rooms 18 by 18 feet and center "dog-trot" 10 feet wide, the chimneys were made of brick.

Elizabeth Hill, the first wife of Benjamin Lassiter, was born on the 17th of February 1785, and is WRONGLY listed as having been born in Chatham County, N.C., and (WRONGLY LISTED AS) a daughter of William Hill 4/ & Elizabeth Clanton.

Note: This William Hill 4/ never married any Elizabeth Clanton! He married Charity Lewis, who out lived him. She died in 1822 while William Hill 4/ died ca. 1804-1806.

Elizabeth Hill Lassiter, daughter of another unrelated Wm. Hill of SC & Ga., was the mother of all twelve of Benjamin's children. She died in Carroll County, Georgia on the 14th of July 1852 and is buried in the family cemetery near their old home place, located on the banks of the Chattahoochee River and known today as "Hutcheson Farm."

Benjamin Lassiter 4/ died on the 23rd of August 1869 and was not buried in this cemetery where wife Elizabeth was. When Benjamin died, he was living at home of his son's, William Lassiter's 5/, located on Snakes Creek near Banning, Georgia in Carroll County, Georgia.

Benjamin Lassiter 4/ was buried at St. Paul's Methodist Church near by. He lived to the ripe old age of 91 years. He was survived by six of his twelve children, two hundred and twenty grand and great grand children and one great-great grandchild, making his descendents at the time of his death amount to the astounding number of three hundred and seven, all offspring of his first wife, Elizabeth Hill.

He lived sixty years as a member of the Baptist church and most of the time as a deacon.

After the wife Elizabeth had died, Benjamin Lassiter 4/ remarried to Devine Embry on the 19th of February 1854. She was born on the 20th of September 1786 and died on the 10th of December 1862. They had no known children.

In reference to the first wife, Elizabeth Hill: The 1850 census shows that Elizabeth Hill was born in South Carolina, NOT Chatham County, N.C. Some sources said she had a sister Mary Hill that married Cheadle Chochran (very close friend to Benjamin Lassiter 4/) and a brother James Hill (who married Christiana Lassiter 4/, sister to Benjamin Lassiter).

The above William Hill has been said ERRONOUSLY by some to have been the son of Robert Hill 3/ and his wife Tabitha of Halifax County, N.C. THIS IS THE WRONG WILLIAM HILL.

[Note: Explanation that this was the wrong William Hill wa already explained above].

Children of Benjamin Lassiter 4/ & Elizabeth Hill were:

- 1. Sally Lassiter 5/, born 9th August 1803, died 4th January 1856, married Bassett Northern.
- 2. Mariah Lassiter 5/, born 30th June 1805, died 5th May 1893, married Wesley Camp.
- 3. Pheriba Lassiter 5/, born 3rd February 1807, died 11th May 1889, married William Boon \*\* (brother of Jesse).
- 4. Hannah Lassiter 5/, born 10th March 1809, died 12th December 1851, married Benjamin Watkins.
- 5. Mary (Polly) Lassiter 5/, born 9th February 1811, died 18th August 1885, married William A. Hendon.
- 6. Nancy Lassiter 5/, born 4th February 1813, died 28th July 1896, married Jesse Boon (brother to the above William Boon \*\*)
- 7. John H. (Hill?) Lassiter 5/, born 10th May 1815, died 19th September 1836, died single.
- 8. James Hill Lassiter 5/, born 11th October 1817, died 1864 ??
- 9. William Cheadle Lassiter 5/, born 6th March 1820, died 15th February 1888, married Parthenia Brown.
- 10. Benjamin Hill Lassiter 5/, born 21 August 1822, married Celia Goolsby.
- 11. Elizabeth Lassiter 5/, born 16th November 1824, died 2nd November 1855, married Lindsay Holland. (See below).
- 12. Cheadle Charles Lassiter 5/, born 14th November 1826, married Martha Mullins.

### CLAIM OF SON-IN-LAW, LINDSAY HOLLAND # 41938

From: Legislature, Judicial & Fiscal Branch Civil Archives Division National Archives & Record Service Washington, D.C. 20408

Cherokee Claims - Lassiter et al Affidavit of Lindsay Holland # 41938

Georgia- Carroll County

In the matter of Eastern Cherokee Indian Claims of Cheedle S. Lassiter # 41938 and others claiming a share in the funds in Court of Claims as to the Cherokee origin of Benjamin Lasstere for TOBIAS LASSETER.

In Person appears before me, M. D. Watkins, a ...... in and for said County. Lindsay Holland whom I certify to be a citizen of high refute and worthy of full credit, who being by me duty sworn says:

My name is Kindsay HOLLAND. MY age is 83 years. I was born in Fayette County, Georgia on January 1st, 1824.

I was well acquainted with Benjamin Lasseter. I became acquainted with him about January 1st, 1835.

I married his daughter Elizabeth (Lassetter) on December 19th, 1841. After my marriage with his daughter, I was closely and intimately acquainted with him to the day of his death, which occurred at his home in Carroll County, Georgia on August 23rd, 1869.

I knew every member of his family and whom each of his children married. He had seven daughters and four sons as follows:

- 1. Sallie married Bassett Northern.
- 2. Maria married Wesley Camp.
- 3. Hannah married Benjamin Watkins.
- 4. Ferraby married William Boone.
- 5. Nancy married Jesse Boone.
- 6. Polly married William Hendon.
- 7. Elizabeth married Lindsay Holland.
- 8. William F. married Parthena Brown.
- 9. Jas. H. married Amanda Lasseter.
- 10. Benjamin married Celia Goolsby.
- 11. Cheedle married Martha Mullins.

Every one of them is dead. I am the only survivor of them all.

I was familiar with all the peculiarities of the ancestor, BENJAMIN LASSETER, and the points and traits that marked him as of Indian origin.

There were many Cherokees scattered over the county when I first knew him, and my conviction that he was descended from them was based to a great extent on his general resemblance in many respects to the Cherokees, both in his appearance, habits, taste, etc..

When I first knew him he was rather tall and erect- straight as an arrow- before age let its mark on him. He wore his hair long- sometimes nearly to his waist. His hair was black, straight and glossy like an Indian's. His nose was straight, long and had the peculiar shape common to that tribe. He had high cheek bones. He loved the solitude of the woods and was an ardent and successful gunner and trapper and fisherman.

General tradition was that he was about one-fourth Cherokee Indian of the Notoway tribe, or a branch in Rutherford County, N.C. He was said to have been born there December 12, 1778 as gathered from family records, and to have married ELIZABETH HILL about the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_?

It has been handed down as a well established tradition from that day to this that when he married, he wore his long black hair plaited to his loins and roped and dressed in Indian trappings. He has often told me about this himself, and prided himself with his often repeated boast that he didn't know the exact amount of Indian blood in his veins, that it might be one fourth or more or less, but that he was glad he had some, for he thought it was the best blood in him, and was proud of it to the day of his death.

Honesty was a prominent virtue in his make up. He was faithful to his friends, his promises and the truth. To Illustrate: He was an "Upright and most intelligent man," and although he didn't know a letter, he was in the Grand Jury Box and was called to serve on the Grand Jury in Henry County, Ga. (no education).

A law had just been passed making i a crime to shoot deer by firelight. The judge charged the jury, especially on their sworn duty to find bills against any violators, as the cattle and stock were being killed nightly. Said he wanted to make an example of somebody and that his punishment would be severe.

Now Mr. Lassiter had been out "shining" several nights, and always got the right game, others killed cows, calves, etc but with true Indian instinct, he never made a mistake. It was always a deer.

When the jury retired, he said he was guilty that he didn't know it was against the law but he did now, and that he wanted his case disposed of, so he could act in good conscience or others that might arise.

On his insisting, they found the True Bill, and he carried it to the judge himself.

The judge was astonished: "Are you not the man, Mr. Lassetter?" "Yes, your honor, but I want to plead guilty. I have killed lots of deer that way, but I didn't know it was against the law till you told us. I want to pay a fine, for I don't feel like voting against my neighbors till I clear my own skirts."

The judge was so carried away with his frank, honest statement that he said, "Mr. Lassetter, your case is a very unusual one. I wish all the jurors in my circuit were like you. We'd put a stop to shooting people's stock. I wish I could get out of imposing a fine on you, but the law says I must. The minimum fine is \$5.00. Mr. clerk, collect a fine of \$5.00, inclusive of the costs from Mr. Lassetter."

This circumstance was a true index to the character of Benjamin Lassetter for honesty and the love of truth for truth's sake.

When I asked him for his daughter, he said, "Lindsay, I have

but one objective. You both are most too young." I told him that we were young, but we suited each other and we thought we could pull together, and get along, and the sooner, the better.

He replied that "there was another fact he wanted to tell me. He said if he gave his daughter away, he wanted me to know that I was marrying a girl with right smart Indian blood in her veins and that now was the time for me to find out, so that I could back out now, if I wanted to, and not wait till I married her and then abuse her for what she couldn't help."

"He said he had told every one this, who had married his daughters, when they asked for them. I told him she suited me, Indian blood or no Indian blood, and so we were happily married, and I never had reason to regret my choice."

Another circumstance to corroborate the statement of Benjamin Lassetter as to his Indian origins is this. I visited him with my wife in the spring after we were married. Two well dressed young men passed on horseback. "Law, Law, Law," he exclaimed (a favorite expression). "How different. Look at them boys Lindsay. I never had a hat nor shoes, nor pants till I was over 18 years old."

I asked him how he got along without shoes in winter. "I wore moccasins made of buckskin."

"How did you get along without a hat?" "Oh, I wore an Indian bonnet." (And then I asked) "And you had no pants?" (He replied) "No, I had a slip or robe. It had a hole for my neck, and was all in one piece. It came below my knee and had a band round it. I plowed many a day in one, and barefooted. I was raised by Indians and among them, and this was the way they dressed. I never went to school a day and don't know one letter from another, but I know how to be honest and tell the truth."

These circumstances, and every other fact connected with his life and conduct, causes me and every one who knew him to have implicit confidence in his oft- repeated statement and boast that he was a "Cherokee."

There are very marked traits of the Indian in many of his descendents, the Boones and the Lassetter children, especially.

It has been understood all along that Benjamin Lassetter and his father Tobias L. (Lassetter) were on the Government Rolls in Rutherford County, N.C. as registered Cherokees, and that they had been returned on the U.S. Census Returns as being 1/8 Indian blood.

The Records of North Carolina are reported to have been

burned years ago, and the aid of the Census Records is invoked to show the Cherokee Indian origin of Benjamin and Tobias Lassetter, of Rutherford County, N.C.

I am not personally interested as I have no claim (my wife being dead) but my children and grandchildren are.

Signed by/ Lindsey Holland

The foregoing affidavit, sworn to and subscribed before me, and I certify that the contents of the same were fully made known to the witness before he signed it and that I have no interest in the result of the claims mentioned.

Signed by/ M.D. Watkins (Notary Public) Carroll Co., Ga.

October 9th, 1907.

### MISCELLANEOUS DATA ON THE LASSITER.

In Campbell County, Georgia 1850 Census was the following:

On 492/492 Page 438

age Sex Occupation Birth Place

Benjamin H. Lasseter 27 male Farmer Ga. Sealy 28 female Ga. Caleb H. 7 male Ga. Jno. H. 6 male Ga. " " 5 female Agnes J, Ga. " " Tobias T. 3 male Ga. " " Mary E. 4/12 female Ga.

493/493

BENJAMIN LASSTER 73 male Farmer N.C.

ELIZABET " 63 female S.C. Arminda J. Liner 28 female GA.

494/494

Cheadle C. Lasseter 24 male Framer Ga.

Martha " " 27 female S.C. Elizabeth S. " 4 female Ga. Henry H. " 2 male Ga.

MILITARY RECORDS OF HILLS THAT APPEAR TO HAVE SOME RELATIONSHIP TO THE LASSITER FAMILY, FROM GEORGIA STATE ARCHIVES.

1. Sion Lassiter Hill, born 3rd of February 1796, (Chatham Co., N.C.???) enlisted in Macon, Georgia (FT. Hawkins)

in U.S. Army at age 19 in 1815 under the name of "HERBERT HILL." (Note by Robert Hill: I suspect that he was using the name of his father. A Herbert Hill is listed in the 1800 census of Chatham County, with 4 children, all under age 10, One female and three sons. I suspect two of the were Sion L. Hill and Isaac Abner Hill).

Sion Lassiter Hill re-enlisted in U.S. Army on 12th November 1821 to 19 July 1822 (Ensign)-rank, page 77.

Sion Lassiter Hill was appointed MAJOR 196th Battalion on 24 September 1835 (Military Commission Book, 1835-1836, Page 84).

Note by Robert Hill: Sion Lassiter Hill, along with a James Hill, Elizabeth Hill & Mary Hill, has been listed as children of William Hill & Elizabeth Clanton of Chatham County, NC. That William Hill was the father of SION LEWIS HILL, but the wife was Charity Lewis. James, Elizabeth & Mary were children of a different William Hill of SC..

Lt. Isaac Abner Hill, Jones County, Ga., 21 April to 29
 March 1827 (Ga. Military Records, 1808-1829, page 168).

 Believe Isaac was a brother of the above Sion Lassiter
 Hill.

The following two are just listed and have no known connection to the Lassetter family.

- 3. 2nd Lt. Robert Hill, Monroe County, Ga. 21 June 1837 to 18 June 1838 (Ga. Military Records 1829-1841, page 135).
- 4. Capt. Samuel M. Hill, Jones Co., Ga. 17 January 1827 to 28 June 1827 (Ga. Military Records 1808-1829, Page 179).

LASSITER INFORMATION FROM CHATHAM COUNTY, N.C. 1790 CENSUS

#### Hezekiah Lassitter

1 male 16 up, 4 males under 16, 3 females (age not listed)

# Jacob Lassitter

1 male 16 up, 2 males under 16, 2 females (ages not listed)

### William Lassitter

2 males 16 up, 2 males under 16, 2 females (ages not listed) and 2 slaves.

Tombstone Information from Thomasville, Tenn., all that is left of Thomasville (sic) located on the Old Stage coach road, from Shelbyville, Tenn. to Winchester, Tenn, or five miles from what is (today) Tullahoma, Tenn.

This taken from William Lassitter, born 6th February 1786, died 8th October 1846 in Franklin Co., Tennessee, THOMASVILLE, five miles from TULLAHOMA, TENN.., wife Sarah Lucy Lassitter, born 12 July 1822, died 25 March 1846 Thomasville, Tenn., Franklin Co., (Dau. of William & Sarah Lassitter).

William Lassitter, son of J.S. & M. W. (sic) Stephen died 10 January 1850 (sic).

Comment by Robert Hill: Note that the William Lassitter that is buried in Tennessee COULD NOT have been the same William Lassitter that was Head of the Household in the 1790 census in Chatham Co., N.C. since he was born just 4 years prior to the census. Perhaps it was a son.

WARREN COUNTY, GEORGIA ADMINISTRATIONS & ESTATES 1798-1808 AND 1810-1852.

Will # 826, Page 528 BLAKE LASSITER signed 21 Aug. 1809, Probated Feb. Court 1812 in Halifax Co., N.C.

Willis Lassiter of Warren Co.,, Ga. all my estate including the Negroes in the possession of William G. Grimes of Greene Co., Ga.

Wit: Septimus Weatherby & T. Cocroft.

Extr: (not given)

Probate indicates "Will offered for probate by David Day and was caveated by Isaac Edwards---Jury said paper writing does contain will of the said Lassiter."

and in Warren Co., Ga. (the following)

Abstracted Will of Blake Laseter (Lassitter) (Of the county of Halifax, in N.C.) Will signed August 25, 1809 Probated October 8, 1811

Wilis Laseter (sic), of Warren County, shall have and enjoy all my property; Negroes, Coffee; Sue; Mack; Blake; Luke; Nancy; Pat; and Harry. Also another parcel of Negroes now in possession of William Grimes, of Greene County (Ga.?): Aesop; Nancy; Sue; Davy; James; Scimon; Rose; Tempy; Joshua; and Ruthy.

Signed in presence of: Septimus Weatherby (Doctor) & Henry Cocroft.

Note by Robert Hill: This all seems to imply that Willis Lassitter of Warren Co., Ga. was probably the son of Blake Lassitter of Halifax Co., N.C.

# THE FOLLOWING TAKEN FROM "ABSTRACTS FROM NEWSPAPERS OF EDENTON, FAYETTEVILLE & HILLSBOROUGH, N.C."

On page 69 of the above: (522) Edenton District, Court of Equity, October Term 1792.

AARON LASSITER, Complainant, AGAINST Aaron & William Hill, executors of EZEKIEL LASSITER, Defendants.

This is to give notice, that, unless the above Defendant, AARON HILL, put in his answer to the above bill of complaint, on or before the first day of next term, in Edenton, on the 18th of April next, the said bill will be taken pro confesso; and judgement go against him.

Signed by/ Thomas Iredell C.M.E.E.D.

Note by Robert Hill: I think this Aaron & William Hill were residents of Chowan County, N.C.

INFORMATION ON HANNAH LASSITER, DAUGHTER OF BENJAMIN LASSITER AND ELIZABETH HILL.

(Received over the Prodigy Program by Paula Marczynski of Tampa, Fla. and received by Mrs. Wilson Hamlett of Albany, Ga. and then sent to me).

Entered in September of 1993 by Robert R. Hill of Brandon, Fla.

Hannah Lassiter was born on the 10th of March 1809 and she died on 2nd of December 1851. She married Benjamin Templeton Watkins, son of Moses Watkins.

Benjamin Templeton & his wife Hannah Lassiter lived in the lower portions of Campbell County, Ga. (Now Fulton Co.) and they are buried at the site of their old home place.

#### Their children were:

- 1. Dr. John Hill Watkins, 1836-1908, buried at Sardis Baptist Church at Palmetto (??) with wife Etta Belle (1852-1928).
- 2. Phillip Reese Watkins, 1846-1927, buried at Sardis with wife Bama Richards (1852-1891). She was the daughter of William B. Richards and wife Sarah Mosley. Their children were: Ola; Leona; Della; Lloyd; Hanna; Philip; Condor; Paul; and Laban, most of whome remained in old Campbell Co. Paul Watkins 1887-1953 and Phillip Reese Watkins 1881-1965, wife Fanny Peek, 1882-1957, are buried at Sardis Church.
- 3. William B. Watkins, born ca. 1830.

- 4. Louisa J. Watkins, born ca. 1840.
- 5. Keziah F. Watkins, born ca. 1845.
- 6. Robert Orr Watkins, 1843-1893, buried at Sardia. In 1870 he and brother Phillip are shown on the census near their father in the Fairburb District of Campbell Co., Ga. (today's Fulton Co.).
- 7. Sarah Ann Watkins married Whitfield Attaway of Douglas Co. in 1862. They are family # 427 on the 1880 census of the Fairplay District of Douglas, moving in the 1870's from the Campbellton District of Carroll Co., Ga., he is aged 49 on the 1880 census, Sarah aged 38; children at home: daughter Sydney C., age 14; Franklin age 13; Jeptha G. age 8; daughter Edna M., age 4; Nettie M., born July 1879.
- 8. Jefferson McDonald Watkins, born 1826 at Palmetto (Ga.?), died 7 May 1907 at Eula, Texas. He married Nancy H. Bryant, born 9 July 1833 at Palmetto, died May 1900 at Sidney, Texas. She was the daughter of John & Theresa (Parker) Bryant.

My comments: Notice that the middle name of the above son was HILL.. (i.e. Joh HILL Watkins) indicating a close relationship to the Hill family.

FOLLOWING INFORMATION REGARDING TO SARAH ELIZABETH LASSITER 5/, DAUGHTER OF BENJAMIN LASSITER 4/ & WIFE ELIZABETH HILL.

Information was sent over the "Prodigy Program" by Beverly Shuler of South Carolina and received by Mrs. Wilson Hamlett of Albany, Ga. and then sent to me.

Entered in September of 1993 by Robert R. Hill of Brandon, Fla.

Following Quoted "Sarah Elizabeth Lassiter 5/, daughter of Benjamin Lassiter 4/ & Elizabeth Hill married DR. I. W. Andrews and they lived in Fredonia, Alabama. She wrote a long family history but never mentioned her "Indian Blood."

"As seen above, Benjamin Lassiter's 4/ son in law, Lindsey Holland, was turned down on his claim for money, based on his relationship with the Cherokee Indians."

"John Lassiter 2/ was the father of Tobias Lassiter 3/, who in turn was the father of both Benjamin Lassiter 4/ & Christiana Lassiter 4/ (m. James Hill)."

"John Lassiter 2/ married Nancy Griffin, daughter of Andrew G. Griffin of Greene County, Ga. She was Ben's niece. Boys were: John called "Jack;" Ben; Jesse; Hardy; and Kinchen (d. young), one sister named Keturah "Kittu" (sic), who married a

Hill. She does not mention Rebekah or Christiana. I wonder if the first person that copied the will from handwritten mistook Keturah for Rebekah??"

"John Lassiter 2/ fought in the Comanche Indian war of 1812."

"Sarah Lassiter 5/ had brothers and sisters: Mary "Polly" married a Dean; Benjamin; Kinchen, who was killed by a horse near Veernon, Georgia; Nancy, died young of fever; and two sisters who died in infancy. Hardy was a ferryman on the river (Chattahoochee, I think). Grandmother was very old when she wrote this. There is (or was) a genealogy journal, published by Frances TUCK, which had an entire run-down on all the LASSETTI?E?Rs (sic) who came down fron N.C. (Nash Co.) to Monroe County, Georgia, then into Alabama together. It included all of your ancestors as well, I believe. I will try to find it and post."

"I believe that Matthew & Emma Jane Andrews Lassetter had to be close kin to mine. Think Matthew was a son of David L. (Lassetter). Hope I can find it, Patricia S., many people have written to me about his origin. He was a good and prominent man. Your Charles Petty Lassetter was born only two years before my grandmother, Lena Dixson Andrews, who lived in Opelika, Alabama. Her Johnston cousins lived in Barbour County, (Alabama?)"

# End of quoted data

The following was sent over the "Prodigy Program" by Paula Marczynski of Tampa, Fla. and received by Mrs. Wilson Hamlett of Albany, Ga. and then sent to me.

This was taken from "Douglas County, Georgia, Genealogy Magazine," May/June Issue 1980:

William Cheadle Lassetter, 6 March 1820-15 February 1888, is buried at St. Paul Church, north of Whitesburg, with wife Parthenia Brown, 1821-1883 (photo of marker in July 1979 issue, page 7) said to be the daughter of John Brown of Carroll Co., Ga. and his wife, Sarah Carruthers, as noted in Alvin L. Richards' Autobiography.

They are listed as 3208 in 1850 census of Carroll Co., Ga. and # 22, 5th district, 1860 census; # 123 5th district, 1870 census.

Buried with them are daughters Landora T., 12 January 1849-9th January 1880 and Melissa J., 6th February 1842-9th September 1873.

William C. (Lassiter) & Parthenia's household in 1850 Census included:

Sarah (Lassiter) age 9, born ca. 1841.

Melissa (Lassiter) age 8, born ca. 1842. Lytha (Lassiter) age 6, born ca. 1844. Eustatia (Lassiter) age 5, born ca. 1845. Pelonie (Lassiter) age 4, born ca. 1846. Nora (Lassiter) age 3, born ca 1847.

In the 1860 census there was:

Malissa A. age 17

Sabatha? (age 15

Thelona age 13

Lenora age 12

Caroline age 10 (location of briths was omitted, WHY?)

Caldonia age 17

Georgia age 15

James age 12

Jackson age 10

Benjamin age 9

Barton age 7

Alvina age 5

Henry Gennings (age not listed)

William & Parthenia were the parents of J. G. W. born 1858 and J.R. Lassetter. J.G. W. (name?) Lassetter 1858-1956, is buried at Pleasant Grove Church Cemetery located west of Villa Rica, Carroll Co., Ga. with wife Mary (Barnett) 1856-1909. He is mentioned in a sketch of his brother J.R. Lassetter in "Memoirs of Georgia," Vol. I, pp. 426-427. Their sister Minerva Caroline Lassetter, 1851-1932 is buried at Wesley Chapel cemetery, north of Villa Roca, Carroll Co., Ga., with her son, DR. George W. Camp, 1870-1948, and husband Edmond Camp, 1845-1910, of Cowetta & Carroll Counties, Ga.

Minerva's CSA Pension in Carroll County shows that they married in Carroll County, Ga. on 26th November 1867.

J.R. Lassetter was the Superintendent of Hutcheson Manufacturing Company at Banning, Georgia.

END OF R.045 DATA.