

The following document was obtained from the SC Dept of Archives and History on 2/18/2011. It shows Walter Poole shared a boundary with property purchased by the Middletons in 1794 (survey dated Oct 1793). Joseph Cooper, an ancestor of the Williamson family who married into the Pooles, also shares a boundary on the plat. Walter Pool, s/o Isaac Pool, was born between 1799-1807 (range from census reports). The earlier Walter Poole, who shared a boundary with the Middletons, is currently unknown, but he could not have been our Walter "Watt" Poole.

Series: S213190, Volume: 0033, Page: 00224, Item: 001 - Date: 9/1/1794

Description: MIDDLETON, HUGH AND ROBERT MIDDLETON, PLAT FOR 1,000 ACRES ON BRANCH OF DEAN SWAMP, ORANGEBURGH DISTRICT, SURVEYED BY THOMAS C. WARNER.

Names indexed: COOPER, JOSEPH; HUGHES, SELAB; MIDDLETON, HUGH; MIDDLETON, ROBERT; POOLE, WALTER; WARNER, THOMAS C.; WARNER, WETTENHALL

Locations: DEAN SWAMP; ORANGEBURG DISTRICT; SOUTH EDISTO RIVER. Document type: PLAT

From SCDAAH document:
South Carolina

I do hereby Certify for Hugh and Robert Middleton a tract of land containing One thousand acres Surv'y for them the 17th of October 1793. Situate in the District of Orangeburgh in the fork of Edisto Rivers on Branches of the Middle fork of Dean Swamp of S. Edisto and hath such form, marks, abuttings and boundings as the above plat Represents. Given under my hand this 1st of Sept 1794.

(Unable to read signature) Surv'r Gen'l
Tho's C. Warner, Dep'ty Surv'r.

The Middleton's 1,000 acres runs through both sections (South and North) of the Edisto River, well above the actual fork. Dean Creek is not marked on the plat. There is a creek in the bottom corner of the plat; however, it is only marked "branch" and is in the wrong place to be Dean Creek, which lies between the South and North Fork of the Edisto. Dean Creek flows into the South Fork of the Edisto near the present town of Springfield, Orangeburg County, SC. It starts almost even with the present town of Wagener, near Camp Rawl's Rd., which is off Highway 39, the Old Ninety-Six Road.

Walter Poole's property is at the top of the Middleton plat, on the left side of the North Edisto River (between Edisto and Congaree, approximately). Next to Walter is the property of Wettenhall Warner. Note that the survey was done by Thomas C. Warner, Dep'ty Surv'r. Other side, near where Edisto forks into the North and South branches, is the property of Selab? Hughes. Opposite Hughes, on far side of the Middleton plat, is Joseph Cooper's land. The nearest boundary to Joseph, other than the Middleton's plat, is that of Walter Poole. The bottom side of the plat does not give a boundary, and appears to say suv'd for (left blank).

The exact location of Walter's property on this plat is difficult to pin-point. A copy was sent to Henry Thomas Poole to see if he thinks this area might be near Fairfield County boundary where his Walter "the Cooper" Pool lived. It does not appear to me to have been in Fairfield County, but rather in Lexington County. Some observations/speculations:

- Pre-revolution, the area where Walter Poole's property might have been, was known as Saxe Gotha Township (Phillip Puhl/Pool owned property in Saxe Gotha Twsp)

- Wm Pool owned property on head waters of Sandy Run Creek, near Gaston. Sandy Run Creek empties into the Congaree River and is in this same general area as, it appears, Walter's property may have been. Present day, the city of Gaston is not far from Pelion and Swansea. It is very near Poole's Mill, an area named for one of Walter "Watt" Poole's descendants, Elzy Poole. Descendants of Walter "Watt" Pool of Lexington live in Gaston, Pelion and Swansea today.

- Benjamin Pool's property was near Pelion, also in this general area. There is a story among Benj. Poole's descendants about two older men from Alabama who called on the Pool family (exact date unknown, maybe 1950's, 1960's?) and asked about the family's property: How long it had been in the family, whether they had any old records about the land, etc. The Alabama men (no one made note of their names) said they were from the same Poole family and had done a lot of research into Poole family history. They said Walter Pool (which Walter not known) had received a land grant in the same area of SC as lived in by the Benj Poole family. This grant was many acres of land (no one remembers how many, but quite a few). The Benjamin Pool family discounted the story as they believed the Poole family lost the family land and that the current farm's property came from maternal side of the family. However, details on the whole Alabama-relatives' visit are sketchy. No one is alive today who was present when the visit occurred. The story survived as an "odddity" within the family. (Source of story: Jack (Jay) A. Poole, Pelion, SC. Feb., 2011 email).

Update: Story proved true by contact with Pamela Poole of Covington County, AL, a descendant of Elvin Pool's line. Elvin was the grandson of Walter "Watt" Pool. She knew the two fellows who visited Benjamin Poole's property in the 1960s and had seen a copy of a land grant for Walter Poole which was over a 1,000 acres. Unfortunately, she had no copy of the land grant and the document had disappeared upon the death of its owner.

- The area where Walter Poole owned property, abutting the Middleton's land, would today appear to be near the town of Pelion and above the town of Wagener. Of course, there is considerable room for error in these estimations. As mentioned, Pooles still live in the same general area of Pelion.

The Middletons (Hugh and Robert) were apparently land speculators from Charleston who purchased a great deal of property in the late 1700s. Numerous deeds were listed for them in the late 1790s. There was another reference to property purchased by the Middletons, which shared a boundary with Walter Pool, but there was no microfilm available. Additional research needed.

Watts Pool, doc dated 1798 - SC Archives, Columbia
Series: S165005, Year: 1798, Item: 00051, Page: 000

Date: 12/18/1798

Description: COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS, REPORT ON THE REPORT ON THE CONTINGENT ACCOUNTS FROM THE UPPER DIVISION OF THE TREASURY. (4 PAGES)

Names indexed: HANNA, WILLIAM; POOLE, WATTS; SHROUD, WILLIAM; YARBOROUGH, WILLIAM

Locations:

Document type: REPORT OF LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Topics: ACCOUNTS, COMMITTEE ON

NOTE: My Walter "Watt" Poole was born between 1799-1807; this notation is for an earlier Watt Poole. Need copy of document.

Unfortunately, I did not get this doc from SCDAAH when I was in SC.