

631 S. Echo Drive  
Brandon, Fla. 33511  
April 16, 1987

Mrs. Willard C. Cobb  
129 NE Haskew  
Burleson, TX. 76028

Dear Mrs. Cobb;

I have just received the latest "BULLETIN" of the Chester District Genealogical Society of S.C. and saw your query regarding John Roden Sr. I too am related to the Roden Family but through a brother of your John Roden Sr. His name was Thomas Roden (Sr.) who married Mary Potts. I assume you know that they originally came from Maryland.

Thomas Roden and wife Mary Potts had a daughter named Savilla N. Roden (1759-1844) who married Moses Hill (1758-1821), who was a Revolutionary Soldier from Fairfield County S.C. Moses & Savilla lived just south of the boundary of Fairfield-Chester County. Moses & Savilla were my 4th great grandparents and I am in the SAR through his descendent. They had nine children, the 1st was a son Thomas Hill (1780-1824) who married Jemima Woodward (1792-1851) and they were my 3rd great grandparents..

I am afraid that I cannot answer your question that was in your query and for that reason started not to write but then got to thinking about it and not knowing how much information you have on the Roden Family gave second thoughts.

I have a rather large collection of data on the Roden Family and have gone through all that I have on your John Roden Sr. I am enclosing what I have on him. I also assume you know that the name Roden is often spelled as Rottan, Rhoden, Rodden etc..

It appears that the following were brothers and came from Maryland via way of Virginia (Frederick & Loudoun Counties) and then S.C. They were Thomas Roden (b. 1733-d. 1809 Chester Co S.C.) MY LINE; William Roden (1735-1800); Jeremiah Roden Sr. (1737-m. Mary Hornsby); John Roden Sr. (1739-1821); and possibly a Zaddoc Roden, who may or may not have even been a brother but whom is said by one source to be the oldest brother.

John Roden Sr. was born in Maryland in 1739. His wife's name is unknown but I suspect her first name was Sithana. (This is based on a land deed that you will see below).

The papers regarding the Estate of John Roden Sr. is located in Chester County Records in File 59, Package 912, Estate of John Roden, dated 1821 and was still in administration as

late as 1830-no final settlement has been found. One thing that appears certain his wife was dead when his estate was probated as her name is not mentioned.

John Roden Sr. had 12 children (taken from a Equity Law Suit filed in 1830 in S.C. in Estate File # 59-912 of Chester Co.)

John Roden Sr. died in Chester County S.C. in 1821.

Children: John Potts Roden m. Charity Carter and who later moved to Ala.; Greenberry, who as I understand left S.C. and went 1st to Ala., then Williams Co., Tenn., back to S.C. and finally back to Ala.; Susannah; Thomas; Isaac; Anne; an unknown deceased daughter but who was the 1st wife of Francis Wilks; Sally; James; Joshua, who also went to Ala; Mary & Betsey. Greenberry Roden, b. ca. 1770-72, was apparently single and living alone in Chester County in 1800, disappeared from S.C. but shows up again in 1840 Census. I understand he went to Alabama but in 1805 a Greenberry Roden was in Tennessee. He shows up again in 1840 Census of S.C. and had recently married a widow North, 6 or 7 children. but they returned to Alabama (court records) where he died in 1845. married a widow North, with 6-7 children. (may have all been hers by previous marriage.. not sure if they were his or not).

While it is not understood what the connection was of John Roden Sr. to a George Roden, the Application of George Roden in 1834 for Revolutionary Pension is very interesting and gives an idea of the migrations of the Rodens to S.C. I personally suspect that George Roden (spelled Rawdon on the application) was a younger brother to Thomas & John Roden Sr. I suspect the father of all the above was a Richard Roden but so far have no definite proof. This is based on the knowledge that a Richard Roden was often mentioned as being the one that originally was granted land in S.C. and which was later obtained by other members of the Roden line.

In his application, George states he was born in Calveret Co., Md. on 25 March 1743, moved with his father to Frederick County Virginia at age 4 or 5 and ca. 1763, moved to S.C. He later moved to Graves Co., Ky, after the war.. Thomas Roden is known to have lived in Loudoun Co., Va., before moving to Chester Co., S.C. A search there may be of some help.

There is a deed in Fairfield County S.C. of a John Rottan (Roden) with a wife Sithana dated 2 October 1772 (Fairfield Deed Book B, page 232) to James Martin for 250 acres, originally granted to Richard Rottan (Roden) on 11 February 1756 by Gov. James Glen of S.C. (I suspect this is your John Roden Sr., and that James Martin might be the Rev. James Martin who led a group of Protestants from Ireland into this very same area of S.C.).

Again, not knowing the extent of your knowledge regarding the

Rodens, I can tell you that the following families inter married with the Rodens: Hornsbys, Hill, Brown, Wilks and Roberts. They (Rodens) are said to have been Baptist except for my 4th great grandmother Savilla N. Roden, she and her husband Moses Hill (Revolutionary Soldier) were Methodists. Course she may have been raised a Baptist.

My 4th great grandfather was Moses Hill (1758-1821) who married Savilla N. Roden, daughter of Thomas Roden Sr. & Mary Potts. Moses along with Lewis Roberts applied for \$ 45.00 in 1809 to the estate of Thomas Roden, deceased, for boarding and tending Mary Roden. It is believed that Lewis Roberts was a son in law also to Thomas Roden, and since both he and Moses had them as boarders, seems to indicate that they may have sold or gave all their possessions such as land, crops, etc away.

Your John Roden Sr. apparently was the uncle to my 4th great grandmother Savilla, who in 1831 moved with her son George Hill, daughter Rebecca Hill DeGraffenreid and Sarah Hill Pearson (and their families) to Green County Ala. I visited their graves last summer.

I hope this bit of information may be of help to you, and good luck in your search. Should you have any additional information on ANY of the Rodens, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Robert R. Hill