

July 31, 2006

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Dear Robert,

It has been a long time between letters and hopefully all is well with you and Cara. As you no doubt have guessed, I have a question to put to your expertise.

First however I'll pass on a bit of good news. Earlier this year my son, Darcy Hancock McNeill, was accepted into the Society of First Families as member # 832. Darcy is just 27 so he represents an infusion of "younger blood".

Now to the question. I recently obtained a copy of a 1793 South Carolina Marriage Settlement between Harriet Coochman and William Scott, both of St. Luke's Parish. I know little of Harriet Coochman, daughter of Benjamin Coochman and Sarah Smith, but my question concerns William Scott. Basically stated, who was he? There is a man by that name in the 1790 census for Beaufort District with three males 16 and up in the household with no females and 23 slaves. The only Scotts I know of in Beaufort District during this period are the ones closely tied to the Pope family. Joseph and Sarah (Pope) Scott had a son named William, born in ^{28 June} 1757, whose brother was Joseph James Scott. (Incidentally, I was able to locate a copy of the will of Joseph James Scott in the Chatham County, Georgia

2) records which I will enclose as it deals with St. Luke's Parish families and property.) The 1800 census for St. Peter's Parish has a listing for a William Scott with NO whites enumerated and only two people listed in the "all other free persons" column. It is found directly above the listing for Henry McNeish.

I put this question to Betty Cochman Hochman of Marietta who knows more about the Cochmans than anyone I know, but she did not have an answer. Her planned book on the Cochman family remains a viable project; and if you are able to identify this William Scott I'll pass the information on to her.

The Marriage Settlement lists Harriet Cochman as a resident of St. Luke's Parish, and she may well have been living in the household of Charles Dupont with her sister Sarah (Cochman) Dupont. There are 6 females listed there in 1790 - only 3 of whom I can identify. There are the two Dupont daughters, Jane Dupre and Ann, as well as Mrs. Dupont. Jane Mary Dupont had married Archibald Patton in March, 1790 but may well have been enumerated as well.

I am also enclosing an 1804 deed from the Savanah records in which Henry McNeish transfers his property there to William Pope of Hilton Head. This seems to be about the time McNeish purchased Republicon Hall from the same William Pope.

3) Perhaps this deed will be of interest to anyone researching the Pope family.

Any help or advice you can provide concerning the identity of William Scott will of course be most appreciated.

Most sincerely,
Fasdall