

from Per Stipes (1978)

BANKS

The name "Banks" is English and describes one who dwelt by a bank or hillside.

NANCY CAROLINE BANKS

Born 16 May 1955 in Chapel Hill, North Carolina.
Educated at Meredith College.

STEVEN ANDREW MASON BANKS

Born 29 May 1958 in Norfolk, Virginia.
Educated at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

DAVID COTTON BANKS

Born 9 November 1959 in Portsmouth, Virginia.
Educated at Davidson College.

Children of:

MYRON CARROLL BANKS

b. 5 May 1931
New Bern, North Carolina

m.

11 July 1953
Goldsboro,
North Carolina

NANCY McRAE HOBBS

b. 10 October 1931
New Bern, North Carolina

Myron C. Banks was educated at the University of North Carolina, where he received his AB degree in 1953 and his JD degree in 1955. He served on active duty in the Navy from 1955 until 1960, principally in Panama and Norfolk, Virginia. He entered the private practice of law in 1960 and was a partner in the Raleigh firm of Lassiter, Leager, Walker & Banks until 1967. Since that time, he has been an Assistant and Deputy Attorney General with the North Carolina Department of Justice, serving as General Counsel to the North Carolina Department of Revenue. He retired from the Naval Reserve in 1978 with the permanent grade of Captain. He is a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Phi Epsilon, Phi Alpha Delta, Phi Eta Sigma and Alpha Phi Omega fraternities and is a member of the following hereditary and patriotic societies: General Society of Colonial Wars, Sons of the American Revolution, Society of the War of 1812, Sons of Confederate Veterans, Military Order of the Stars and Bars, Naval Order of the United States, Saint Andrew's Society, and the Clan Rose Society. In 1978 he was certified by the Board for the Certification of Genealogists.

Nancy McRae Hobbs Banks was educated at Greensboro College and Duke University, from which she received her AB degree in English in 1953. She has taught in the public schools of Durham and Raleigh. Since 1961 she has taught at Leroy Martin Junior High School in Raleigh, where she is head of the English Department. She has also served as a consultant to the North Carolina Department of Education and on the Governor's Cultural Advisory Council. She is a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Alpha Delta Pi and Delta Kappa Gamma, and belongs to the National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution.

VESTON COLBOURNE BANKS

b. 13 March 1899
Grantsboro, NC

d. 27 September 1973
Raleigh, NC

m.

25 June 1925
Atlantic, NC

DAISY MASON

b. 7 March 1907
Atlantic, NC

Veston C. Banks was educated at Wake Forest College and Atlantic Christian College. He was admitted to the practice of law on 2 February 1920. From 1928 until 1942, he served as principal of an elementary school in Cove City, North Carolina, and of high schools in Dover and Hobucken, North Carolina. From 1942 until 1962, he served as Supervisor, Wage and Hour Division, North Carolina Department of Labor, and from 1962 until his retirement in 1964, with the United States Department of Labor. He represented Pamlico County in the North Carolina House of Representatives during the 1927 Session. He was a thirty second degree Mason and a member of the Scottish Rite.

Daisy M. Banks was educated at East Carolina Teachers College and Atlantic Christian College. She taught in the public schools from 1925 until her retirement in 1971. From 1942 until 1971, she taught English and Social Studies at Needham B. Broughton High School and Josephus Daniels Junior High School in Raleigh, North Carolina.

NOAH HARVEY BANKS

b. 15 March 1859
Craven County, NC

d. 17 June 1932
Grantsboro, NC

m.

8 June 1895
Chocowinity, NC

DEBORAH ALICE DOWNS

b. 4 August 1870
Chocowinity, NC

d. 12 June 1953
New Bern, NC

Noah H. Banks was a country merchant and businessman. A 1915 business directory for Pamlico County, for example, shows that in that year he operated a store, cotton gin, saw mill, feed mill and farm. The store was established by his mother, Celia West Banks, and after her death, he operated it with his son, Myron M. Banks, when the business was known as "N. H. Banks & Son".

Children:

Hubert Cyrus Banks, b. 17 November 1896, d. 13 August 1960; m. Leona Johnson of Wayne County, NC; one son, d. in infancy.

Veston Colbourne Banks (see above)

Gladys Olivia Banks, b. 1 July 1900; m. Everett J. Harris of Hyde County, NC; one daughter, Sarah Alice Harris, unmarried; one son, d. in infancy.

Myron Montague Banks, b. 7 February 1904; m. Lillie Lee of Pamlico County, NC; children:

Jeanette, m. Dr. Richard Hudson

Rosalie, m. George Peacock
 Myron M., Jr., m. Pamela Fore
 Mary Elizabeth Banks, b. 26 September 1908; m. Daniel Clifton Sawyer
 of Pamlico County; children:
 Mary Elizabeth, m. George Brinson;
 Gloria Ann, m. Jay Barrington
 Leland Preston Banks, b. 2 March 1897, d. 17 April 1897
 Carroll West Banks, b. 1 September 1902, d. 23 October 1902

The will of Noah Harvey Banks is recorded in Will Book 2, page 112
 in the office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Pamlico County, and
 sets out the names of his then-living children.

DAVID L. BANKS
 b. ca. 1822
 Craven County
 d. 9 February 1862
 Craven County

m.
 13 March 1852
 Craven County

CELIA WEST
 b. 9 April 1830
 Craven County
 d. 2 October 1923
 Pamlico County

David L. Banks was a farmer. He was probably the youngest child in
 his family and his father, Cotton, appears to have died when David
 was very young since he is not among the heads of household in Craven
 County in the 1830 census. In 1848, he was charged with assault and
 battery upon one Simon J. Brinson. The case was tried before a jury
 in New Bern in December 1848, where he was convicted and fined \$5.
 He left Craven County for a time, apparently because of this
 episode, and the 1850 census finds him living with the family of
 William S. Jewell at South Creek in Beaufort County. In 1851, he
 was a witness in a case brought by his friend, Jewell, against one
 Jarvis, and he was a trustee in a land transaction in Beaufort
 County between Whitmell Hudnell and Thomas Tuton, to which Jewell
 was a witness. He appears to have returned home in 1852, since he
 married in Craven County in March of that year, and in October 1852
 bought 640 acres from J. S. Miller. (Craven County Deed Book 66,
 page 111)

Shortly after the outbreak of the Civil War, he enlisted as a
 private in Company D, 3rd North Carolina Artillery Regiment (40th
 North Carolina Regiment), on 21 September 1861. On 17 November 1861
 he was promoted to corporal, but on 9 February 1862, shortly before
 the Battle of New Bern, he died "of disease" at Camp Latham.

His widow, Celia West Banks, survived the privation and difficulties
 of three years of enemy occupation, as did her young family. In 1877,
 she inherited \$4000 from her uncle, Zorel Lee, and it was apparently
 with that inheritance that she launched the business that was to
 survive until the retirement of Myron M. Banks, Sr., about 1960.

BANKS - WEST

The name "West" is English and describes one who lives in or comes from the west.

CELIA WEST

m.

DAVID L. BANKS

JOSEPH WEST

m.

PHEREBEA (FEREBEE) LEIGH (LEE)

b. 2 October 1805
d. 1850-1860

b. ca. 1800
d. 1863

Children: Celia

Noah F. m. Margaret Lupton; children: Lector, m. David Mixon;
Florence, m. Lawrence Rowe; Maggie, m. Joseph Heath;
Joseph, m. Caddie Potter

Mary

Holland, m. Joab Rice

John Wesley, unmarried. He enlisted on 29 June 1861 in Company B, First North Carolina Artillery Regiment and later served in Company D when the regiment was redesignated as the Tenth Regiment. He died in a Confederate military hospital in Kirtrell Springs in 1865 and is buried in the Confederate cemetery there. Myron M. Banks has in his possession a letter from John to his sister Celia Banks dated 5 March 1864, written in Kinston and describing a sortie against New Bern, then under Yankee occupation: "We returned of that march down to Newbern we went with in three miles of Newbern and staid that clost too nights and one day and had no fight after all..."

The 1850 census shows that Joseph was born in 1803. However, an apprentice bond in 1819 gives the exact date of his birth.

DAVID WEST

m.

MARTHA ASKINS (HASKINS?)

b. ca. 1775

11 April 1800

b.
d.

d. by 1819

Children: Joseph and undoubtedly others

Covering the name of Joseph's father was a lengthy and tedious process. A birth date of 1803 from the 1850 census, and 1805 from an apprentice bond. Many potential parents were eliminated as having been married too early or too late, leaving as real possibilities two Daniels, three Johns; two Davids, two Josephs and a Stephen. Stephen was eliminated when I discovered he died in 1800. All the others, except one David can be discounted also by analysis of the 1800 census and from other estate and will records. Too old, or as having left identifiable children, none of whom was Joseph, or as having died too early to have been Joseph's father.

WEST - LEIGH

The name "Leigh" is English and denotes one who dwells by a lea or grassy clearing. There are many spellings, including Leigh, Lee, Lea, Ley, Lay, etc. In this particular family, the spelling was "Leigh" and "Lee" in early Virginia, "Leigh" throughout the eighteenth century in North Carolina, and then "Lee" since the early nineteenth century.

JOSEPH WEST

m.

PHEREBBA LEIGH

JOSEPH LEIGH

b. ca. 1775

d. 1813

m.

29 January 1800

WINIFRED PRICE

b. ca. 1775

Children: Phereba

Abram (unmarried)

Zorel (unmarried), and perhaps others.

In his will, recorded in Craven County, Joseph Leigh provided for his son, Abram, and his wife, Winny, and directed his executors "to make Benjamin Leigh a right to my land in Beaufort County on Poter's Creek Benjamin Leigh's land." The reason that he favored Abram over his other children is that Abram was a lunatic, as the minutes of the Craven County Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, and a deed recorded in Book 46, page 191, clearly show. That Phereba and Zorel were children of Joseph and Winifred is shown in deeds recorded in Book 50, page 343, and Book 52, page 89.

The Beaufort County property was conveyed to Benjamin Lee in 1815 and is recorded in Book 11, page 167, and recites that it was "left to Joseph Lee by his father".

JOHN LEIGH

m.

BETHIAH

b.

d. 1786

Children: Joseph

Abraham

Benjamin, m. Mary Price, sister of Winifred Price

John

Shadrack

William

Sarah

Wills of John and Bethiah Leigh are recorded in Will Book OW, pages 211, Beaufort County. Bethiah's will refers to "my three small children, Joseph, Abraham and Dianah". I am unable to account for not having mentioned Dianah at any point in his

will. Perhaps she was born after his death. That John Leigh's father and grandfather were both named James Leigh is borne out by a deed signed by John and Bethiah Leigh which conveyed land that James Leigh, Jr. had inherited from his father in 1728. Deed book 4, page 443, Beaufort County Registry.

JAMES LEIGH, JR.

b.
d. 1738

m.

MARY _____

b.
d.

Children: John
Peter
Levy

In his will (Book OW, page 26), James refers to "my sons" and leaves to John a "carbine gun", to Peter a "long gun", and to Levy a "buccaneer gun". He left one half of his estate to his wife Mary and "her two children". His meaning is not clear. Perhaps Mary had children by a previous marriage and was also the mother of John, Peter and Levy; or perhaps James had been married before, to the mother of John, Peter and Levy, and then married Mary.

JAMES LEIGH, SR.

b. ca. 1650 — *too early*
d. October 1728

m.

(1) SARAH _____

b.
d. before 1716

Children: James, eldest son
John, James' executor
Lyonnal, James' executor
Sarah, Jr.
Patience, m. Robert Purser
Elizabeth, m. Thomas Underwood
Milly, m. Joseph Dereham

(2) ELIZABETH RODGERS
daughter of
Joseph and Mary
Rodgers and
widow of Thomas
Dereham

(3) ANN LEIGH, widow
of Jacob Darden

Leigh is one of the earliest of our North Carolina
whom I have identified, and to me is the most interesting.
Of his prominence in early Bath, there are numerous
records that relate to him.

October 1701, Hannah Cockerham assigned ten headrights to
Leigh for transporting the following persons to the Colony:
Sarah Leigh, James Leigh, Jr., Sarah Leigh, Jr.,
Patience Leigh, John Leigh, Elizabeth Leigh, William
Sarah DePee (DePuis), who later married Lionel

On 5 January 1702, Hannah Cockerham conveyed the land represented by these headrights, as well as land that she entered in 1699, to James Leigh. All of these instruments seem to suggest some preexisting relationship between Hannah and James.

Hannah had previously been the wife of one Hopton and had a son, Charles, by that marriage. She also had children, Lydia and Joseph, by her marriage to Cockerham. In 1704, her father, Joseph Rodgers, died leaving a will naming her children as beneficiaries. He also named another granddaughter, Elizabeth Dereham. Charles Hopton, and Rodgers' widow Mary, were named executors. Elizabeth Dereham was the daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth (Rodgers) Dereham and her 1716 will has an important connection with James Leigh.

In 1698 Thomas Dereham witnessed a petition in Bath and in April 1702 he also recorded headrights, including Thomas Dereham, Elizabeth Dereham, Mary Dereham, Richard Dereham and Ann Dereham, suggesting that the turn of the century marks the approximate time of arrival in North Carolina of both families.

James Leigh was a man of some substance and education. In 1704, Colonel Robert Quarry, Surveyor General of Customs in North America, appointed him Collector of Customs for Bath. As early as 1704 and continuing through 1726, he served as a Justice of the Peace. That he was a trusted friend of the Governor and Landgrave Robert Daniel is shown in a series of instruments recorded in 1709 and 1710. In connection with Daniel's projected voyage to South Carolina, he appointed Leigh as his attorney-in-fact to handle a number of legal matters, and as trustee for Daniel's two illegitimate children, born of Martha Wainwright. He also witnessed the execution of Daniel's will.

Returning to Thomas Dereham, he was convicted of manslaughter in 1702 for having beaten William Hudson to death with a cat o' nine tails. Sentenced to be branded on the thumb, he claimed benefit of clergy and was saved from branding pending review of the case in England. Apparently the review was not completed by the time of his death in 1706. His widow, Elizabeth, was his administrator.

In 1709 their son Richard contracted to sell land to John Lawson, Surveyor General, and received payment. The agreement was made in London in April 1709, and Richard appointed his mother as attorney-in-fact to make the conveyance. In Portsmouth the same year, Lawson assigned the contract to Christopher Gadsden, who served the Colony at times as Chief Justice and Surveyor General. Before any conveyance was made, Lawson was killed in the Tuscarora War (1711). Suit was brought in 1713 to require the conveyance to be made.

An interesting suit, in 1716, involved an appeal by Charles Hopton of Hannah Cockerham and nephew of Elizabeth Dereham. Hopton had a mare, and one Martin Frank by affidavit said he had heard Mrs. Dereham, now the wife of James Leigh, say that Thomas Martin agree with Joseph Dereham to carry a horse purchased of Francis Roberts up to Taylor's. That the Indians being broke out when they came to the

Creek above mentioned the Indians shot after them so that the mare threw her rider and got away..." From the foregoing it appears that Sarah Leigh died between 1702 and 1716, and that James married the widow Dereham between 1709 and 1716.

Also in 1716, Elizabeth Dereham (granddaughter of Joseph and Mary Rodgers, and daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth Dereham) died and left an interesting will. In it she named the following beneficiaries: her sisters, Ann Cleeves (wife of Emanuel Cleeves) and Katherine Dereham; her brother, John Dereham; her neice Elizabeth Dereham (daughter of Joseph Dereham); Joseph Truewhitt (not identified but perhaps a nephew); step-sisters Patience Leigh and Elizabeth Leigh; and step-brother John Leigh. Her will was proved by Elizabeth Leigh (her mother or perhaps her step-sister) and her step-brother, James Leigh, Jr. Her step-father, James Leigh, Sr. (whom she called her "father in law") was her executor. James also served, in 1718, as executor of Emanuel Cleeves, the husband of Ann Dereham, Elizabeth's sister.

In 1715, the Assembly created the first public library in North Carolina, at Bath, and James Leigh was named as one of the trustees. His second wife died, about 1720, and he married for a third time. His new wife was Ann Leigh Darden, wife of Jacob Darden. Each must have possessed a moderate estate, because an antenuptial agreement was entered into to delineate their respective property rights.

In 1727, James Leigh was appointed to the highest court of law in the Colony, the General Court of Oyer and Terminer and General Gaole Delivery, capping a long and useful career of public service. He became ill in September 1728, made his will, and shortly thereafter, died. The will was probated in October 1728. His inventory, made on 21 October 1728, is quite long and detailed. Among many other items listed are a sword, cutlass, a walking cane, books, a pistol, tomahawks, a beaver hat, and a variety of clothing, household goods and furnishings. Many areas in and about his home are mentioned: the parlour, library, hall, chamber, cock loft, kitchen, cellar, barn and milk house. A substantial herd of cattle, sheep, hogs and horses is also listed.

Leigh was most likely an Anglican and perhaps a member of the Vestry of Saint Thomas Parish in Bath. Robert Daniel was an Anglican and Leigh's association with him and other persons in the Colony suggest this. In addition, his inventory lists "bonds on divers persons for money due the Colony". I have found no record of his burial at St. Thomas Parish, however, and he very likely was buried on his plantation, "Somack Entry". He has left his mark on the geography of Beaufort County. Lee Creek, the site of Texas Gulf Sulphur's mining operation, bears his name. (See reference to "Lee Creek" in Book 2, page 512, Beaufort County Registry.)