

June 6, 1996

An effort to correct the family members list for
William O'Daniel who made his will
4 November 1795-and it was proven
9 November 1796.

For the first time I looked closely at the census record
for William O'Daniel in 1790.

His will (William O'Daniel) was headed "South Carolina,
Kershaw County, White Oake Creek" He calls himself William
O'Daniel Senr. He mentions his children in this order:
"my daughter Sarah Erwin...my son David O'Daniel...my son Josiah
O'Daniel...my son Sem O'Daniel...my son James O'Daniel...my
daughter Mary O'Daniel...my son William O'Daniel... "

He does not mention a wife and she is said to have died when
Joseph was an infant. He also does not mention his children
Henry, John, Frank, or Joseph. At least two children, names unknown,
are said to have died young.

But the 1790 census says that William Daniel of Camden District
Fairfield Co. had 3 males over 16 years old, 4 males under 16,
7 females and 15 slaves.

I don't see how this can be the Wm. Daniel, Sr. whose will
is quoted above because where did all those females come from and
what happened to the males? Many records say Wm. had 14 children.
(or family members) ↗

William Daniel, Jr. is said to have been the eldest son. He
was born Feb. 10, 1755 and died Oct. 1, 1828. He was at least 40
when he married but Eleanor (Ellen) was about 23. William, Jr. was
probably living in the house on Broad St. or the one on Market
St., both in Camden, when he was married so he probably was not livi
at home with his parents. Some cousin told me that he had his sister
taking care of the house (they had boarders in the town house)
and she complained and found a "young Irish girl" to do the work
and William married her. Mary and Sarah are said to have moved
to Barnwell with their brother Sem. He was three years younger
then his brother William. He is said to have been married 3 times.
His third wife is said to have been Elizabeth Rice but his will
shows his wife as Mary Agnes. Either he married more than three
times or Elizabeth Rice was not his third wife. Sem was married
to Elizabeth Rice by 1807 so he may have already left home by the
1790 census. I know nothing of Sem's earlier wives.

If Mary (Polly) and Sarah were at home with their father at
the time of the census, who were the other 5 women in the house?

Daniel is not an uncommon name in SC and I am not sure if
any of them can be connected to this family even if they have the
same name. "Joseph Daniel died Charleston 26 March 1799." Is this
the youngest son of William, Sr. or someone else?

I have had a hard time keeping the various land names clear
so do not know when names of areas changed.

Mary ↗

