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10 March 1989

Mr. Paul Lawton
c/o Socastee High School
4900 Socastee Blvd.
Myrtle Beach, SC 29577-9301

Dear Paul,

Well, here it is at long last! I hope that you enjoy this initial phase of research. It is very supportive to all the questions that you have asked and I believe that an outline of what needs to be done is well designed. As you expected this initial phase did not afford the opportunity to get into alot of research due to the review that was necessary by Mr. Price of previous research. However, many decisions were made regarding the work of Dr. Dodd and the documents you provided.

You will note that throughout the report are questions that are needing to be answered. Please review these and provide what you do know and we will not start further research until that is accomplished.

I meet with Tommie on Thursday, March 16 at 4PM. I have forwarded his copy of the report with yours in the mail as it seemed reasonable that you both would want to discuss its contents and forward any questions on to me at that time.

I look forward to hearing from you and talking with Tommie. Please note that I have a new telephone number 703-241-0590 which will be call forwarded during my trip to Salt Lake City. I arrive there on March 27.

Very sincerely,

Andrea

Andrea Osinchak
Research Consultant

ACO:aco
enclosures

Please note that the invoice is for \$550 and I am taking it with me to my appointment. Balance due \$300. Also, 50% of any new work authorized. Please let Tommie know if we should chase it.

Thank you, Andrea



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LAWTON RESEARCH ANALYSIS & REPORT

4 MARCH 1989

Many hours have been invested reviewing all of the genealogical material supplied us on the LAWTON family of Edisto Island, South Carolina. Once this review was undertaken, we proceeded to conduct what research was possible with the remaining time. It is evident that the research performed in South Carolina records is thorough. There is no reason for further research there, with perhaps one exception.

Indication was made that there was a Thomas LAWTON who came into South Carolina from Middlesex, England. Is this true? If so, it is very possible that he was related to Captain William.

I agree. Thomas must once and for all be eliminated, if nothing else, as he keeps popping up.

Can you please supply us with more information on any other LAWTONs who came into the area independent of Captain William. If there is no such data, further work in American sources is not necessary.

I agree. Just what I told Tommy.

It is doubtful that Captain William was the one found by Dr. Dodd at Church Lawton, son of Thomas LAWTON. It appears that he had the lead/hypothesis/tradition that the family came from Church Lawton. I do not doubt that your ancestors probably originated in that parish, but not necessarily, or even likely, in the seventeenth century. The noble family of Church LAWTON has been studied and compiled in a very thorough way, as are most families of such social class. If there was a link to the Colonies, it would likely have been known by the compiler. It is very unlikely that the eldest son of a wealthy man (William, son

No evidence that he was the eldest. In fact, I have always had him pegged as a younger son.

of Thomas) would have left his inheritance in England to his younger brothers and come to America.

There is little doubt that Captain William was a man of wealth. He must have brought some of this wealth with him from England. It is safe to conclude that he was of the upper economic classes, for he was also well-educated, but not that he was part of "the" LAWTONs of Church Lawton. The only indication of a link to Church Lawton is the snuff box and tradition that was of that family. The tradition is nothing more than that.

I think there is a basis for this tradition, however.

There is no distinct indication that Captain William left Church Lawton and moved to South Carolina. Captain William probably came from the area of Cheshire/Staffordshire/Lancashire for two reasons.

First, tradition that there was correspondence with the LAWTONs of Cheshire for a few generations after Captain William's emigration is evident, but vague. Do you have access to any correspondence with the LAWTONs of England prior to 1800? If so, it would be very beneficial to have the details.

This is a Tommy question.

A review of what is known about Captain William is given here. He was the first LAWTON on Edisto Island, and likely the immigrant from England, and father of all Southern LAWTONs. He married first about 1733-34 to Mary, daughter of Jeremiah CLARK, who was born in S.C. Hence it is safe to conclude that they were married in S.C., probably on Edisto Island, Colleton County. Their first son Josiah was born 1735-36, second son William Jr. born about 1736, third son Jeremiah born about 1738, and Sarah born 1739. William then married Mary WINBORN 1743-44 and

Could not have been born as late as 1717. Only 15-16 when married first? Very doubtful. Also, what proof is there that Mary was born in S.C.?

had children Winborn and Mary. He married thirdly ^{in Aug. of} ~~about~~ 1751 to Mary STONE (~~SAMST~~) GRIMBALL and had one final child Joseph, who was born on Edisto Island 18 Oct 1753.

The importance of all this is the name Josiah. The other children were named for their mother's relatives, but Josiah, Sarah and Joseph may have been names that came from the LAWTON family. This is especially true for Josiah. The eldest son in English and Chesapeake families was usually named for the father's father. Dr. Dodd indicated to you that the English have no such traditions, citing his own child-naming practices as evidence.

I agree.

My master's thesis, compiled in 1987, studied child-naming in English families and other studies have been made of such traditions of families in the Chesapeake. Both studies indicate the eldest son was usually named for his father's family, most often for the father's father and secondly for the father. Since William's second son was named for him (typical naming pattern), it is safe to conclude that the first son Josiah was named for his father's family as well.

I agree.

The task, then, is to find the birth of a William LAWTON in England, between 1690 and 1717, whose father, brother, or perhaps an uncle or grandfather was named Josiah. We would also look for a Joseph in the family, but Josiah is the key because he was the eldest son and because the name is so unusual. The name of Josiah is rarely found in English families except those strongly tied to religious non-conformity. Captain William affiliated with the Anglican, Presbyterian, and perhaps Quaker and Huguenot faiths on Edisto Island. It is most likely that he was of

I say 1690-1710. Also, it is equally important to look for a Josiah who died sometime between about 1710 and 1730 - probably in the 1720's.

Anglican leanings, hence not a non-conformist.

An exception to the statement that Josiah is uncommon is in the north midlands of England. The name Josiah was found occasionally in the Cheshire-Lancashire-Staffordshire-Yorkshire area. This knowledge we had from working on other families in the area is also borne out by searches in the 1988 IGI.

In Staffordshire the family of Newcastle-Under-Lyme was already known by you, and proposed as a possible ancestral family. It is close to Church Lawton which is supportive. In Dobcross, Saddleworth, Yorkshire the name Josiah LAWTON is very common. Your family may well have originated in Saddleworth (enclosed Archive Family Group sheets, as well as IGI entries).

Several wills have been read on the family (enclosed documents 8-11), but nothing conclusive has come of those searches. The will for Josiah LAWTON of Dobcross, 1727, could

not be found in either the infra or supra wills. I need to check again more thoroughly to locate it. It is possible that it was missed in the microfilming. If so, we can send to England for it.

I agree. It must be found. If necessary, we must send to England for this will.

There are about twenty christenings in the IGI for William LAWTONs who could be your ancestral Captain William (see those highlighted in yellow on documents 4-6). No immediate link with a Josiah is evident yet, but we have the following leads.

-Josiah was a name used by the Newcastle family 1687-1829 at least

-Over 20 Josiah LAWTONs appear in Saddleworth, York. This needs to be thoroughly investigated. Probates for that area need

to be considered.

-We need to check the Lancashire IGI for Josiah LAWTON

-A Josiah LAWTON was married at Southwark, London in 1682.

*If agree, but
London does
not really
sound logical
to me.*

This is a perfect date for the marriage of William's father. We need to seek the children of this Josiah (on archive sheet) to see if there was a William. This is especially appealing if there was a LAWTON from Middlesex who went to South Carolina as is mentioned above.

Comments on some of your questions are given here. It is not very likely that Captain William would have been involved in the English Army. He was likely young - early twenties when emigrated - and would not have had time to enlist in the English army. He was a Lieutenant and Captain for Edison Island because it was a needed service, not likely because he had any training in the English military.

I agree.

LAWTON is an English name. Cheshire does border Wales and there are many Welsh in Cheshire and Cheshire people residing in northern Wales. However, it is recommended that we stick with the Cheshire-Lancashire-Staffordshire-Yorkshire families for the time being.

*Which ones?
When?
When?
Source?*

It is assumed that there is no link with the New England family, but have not looked into it. Josiah is a typical New England given name, so it is possible, especially since there were Rhode Island families moving back and forth between S.C. and R.I. The William LAWTON who went from New England to Charleston is certainly a possibility. The snuff box, though not necessarily a direct link to Captain William, does suggest Cheshire connections rather than New England ones. We could seek

a Josiah LAWTON in New England IGI for a possible link.

This is where the Jeremiah Clark family originated. It's very possible that William was from here also. We need to check.

We can look into the Barbados possibility - connecting with the REEVE family. We need to search the Calendar of State Papers - Colonial Series for more clues on this line. Manor court rolls will be of no value until we have a specific parish identified. They could assist in Church Lawton, but have already been used, as evidenced in the LAWTON pedigrees. Lawton was lord of the manor there.

I agree. Is it possible that Thomas was Wm's father, and died soon after emigrating from England? If Wm emigrated as a minor with Thomas in 1724, could his name have been left off the passenger list?

Thomas LAWTON of Middlesex came to S.C. Jan-Feb 1724 from England, according to a note that was attached to your file. We can look into the records of the ship ANNE, Tom Wrangham being the master. We need to consult the Citizens of London pedigree and Boyd's burials and London probate records to see if there might be such a link.

Name spelling was inconsequential in the seventeenth century. Captain William LAWTON was literate and very well-read. However, most people could not even spell their own names. The name in England was spelled LAWTON, LAUGHTON, LAWTEN, LOTON, LOWTEN, LAUTON, LAUGHTONN, LAWHTON, LOUGHTON, and LOWTON.* The surname's

** I agree.
** I do not necessarily agree.*

origin can be studied for you, but it is recommended that this wait for further research.** Your family acquired the name because they were residents of the parish of LAWTON, probably in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries.

** I agree - after we have verified the 1735/6 probate of Wm of Snape. These records are supposedly on file at SLC.
** Yes - begin with Burrell's records, and order the ones from 1650-1750.*

Further research will follow suggestions made above.* We recommend dropping Dr. Dodd's link in Church Lawton.** We need to study Omerod's work more closely. Your "Staffordshire Trial

Chart" is appealing and very possibly is ancestral.

An item of great interest is William's brother-in-law Isaac RIPPON. Do you know who this man was? How was he related and where did he live? Perhaps determining the place of origin of Jeremiah CLARK, William's father-in-law, will assist in determining the LAWTON origins.

Jeremiah came from Barbados.

Further research will follow steps suggested above. We need

I agree, but believe it is more important to check for a 1710-1730 death date for a Josiah. I have a hunch Wm's mother died much earlier than Josiah.

to consult the marriage indexes of Cheshire and Staffordshire especially for Josiah LAWTON entries. Further analysis of probate and parish records is in order for the localities mentioned above.

Research will continue at your direction. We are excited about the possibilities of linking Captain William LAWTON to Josiah LAWTON in England.

Richard W. Price M.A.
Accredited Genealogist