

October 29, 1996

James L. Meeks
137 Woodcock Court
Daytona Beach, Florida 32119

Rev. Dr. Robert E. H. Peeples
8 Moon Shell Road
Hilton Head Island, SC 29928

Dear Rev. Peeples

Thank you so much for your later dated 26 October 1996 regarding the McBride family. Let me explain my connection to the McBride family. I am a descendant of an EDWARD ROGERS who was a revolutionary soldier in South Carolina having seen service with Francis Marion. I do not know whether he resided in Darlington prior to the war because most of the early land records of the Old Cheraws District were destroyed when the Darlington Court House burned in 1806. There are no records of an Land Grants to him during the Provincial Period. However, on November 3, 1785, the State of South Carolina granted him 200 acres of land lying on Palmetto Branch, several miles Southwest of the present City of Darlington. This land was surrounded on three sides by vacant lands on the fourth side by lands belonging to Henry Cannon and Thomas Polk. Seven years later, on October 20, 1792, he obtained a second Land Grant from the State for 593 acres of vacant land which adjoined his first grant.

Edward Rogers was a Baptist by faith and was an active member of the Ebenezer Baptist Church, some six or seven miles from his Palmetto Branch plantation. This church, founded in 1777, was apparently the first and only church of any denomination in that section of Darlington District for many years. In 1797 and again in 1800, Edward Rogers represented the Church as its Delegate at the annual meeting of the Charleston Baptist Association.

Edward was associated with ARCHIBALD MCBRIDE. Archibald was also an active member of Ebenezer Church. He apparently lived much closer to the seat of the church than did Edward. Archibald was apparently the first Ordinary (Judge of Probate) for Darlington, taking the office when it was first created. ARCHIBALD MCBRIDE and EDWARD ROGERS were, for a period of time I can not determine, partners in a mercantile business "ROGERS & MCBRIDE", most likely on McBride's property and rather central to the Ebenezer Community. As you related, Archibald McBride preceded his wife in death then his widow, Sally, followed him in death in 1805. It is interesting that Mrs. Sally McBride named Edward Rogers as one of the Executors of her Will. This act on her part leads me to believe there may have been a relationship between the two families that transcended the normal friendly and/or business relations.

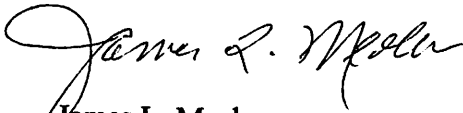
There is no known mention of the wife of Edward Rogers but I do know he had children, one of whom I descend from. The exact date of Edward Rogers death is presently not known but it was probably in late March or early April 1824 as two of his sons, William and Abel, were appointed by the Court n April 29, 1824 as Administrators of the Estate. He apparently died Intestate.

It is commonly thought that the McBride family and the Rogers family were intertwined, possibly coming from the same area in North Carolina and possibly moving to Darlington as Church members. It is also theorized by some that Edward Rogers may have married a McBride or possibly Sarah McBride, Archibald's wife, may have been a Rogers. I just don't know.

I have another ancestor who mysteriously shows up in Darlington District as a schoolteacher, a JACOB JUNIUS BARNES, born c. 1814-1815 and married ELIZA ROGERS, daughter of ABEL ROGERS who was a son of EDWARD ROGERS. Just prior to the War, sometime after 1860, Jacob Barnes, wife and family, left Darlington and moved to Suwannee County, Florida, just over the Georgia line, near Live Oak, Florida. I do not know the exact date of either Jacob or Eliza's deaths as they are not recorded and the headstones are missing from their reported graves in the Antioch Baptist Church Cemetery. Live Oak was a rather wilderness area at that time and record keeping was not as good as maybe it should have been. Jacob Barnes continued to refer to himself to his last days as a schoolteacher and I do know that he taught school for the year 1873 and received \$75.00 for it.

As I stated, my interest in the McBride family is really to try to obtain some information regarding my Edward Rogers and to try to move backward in time to his parents and such. Thank you for your information and if you ever see the mane of Edward Rogers in connection with any of the McBride people, please keep me in mind.

Sincerely,


James L. Meeks