

UPDATED JANUARY 1, 2006

JAMES PUTMAN of UNION COUNTY

James Putman was born in 1743 in Culpeper County, Virginia. He was the eldest son of Zachariah and Margaret Putman. He married, probably in North Carolina in the late 1760s, to his wife Joice. Current thinking is that Joice was a Prince, daughter of James Prince of Union County. James Prince named his daughter Joice in his 1789 will.

There is a record of a James Putman being a chain bearer for a survey of land granted to John Wood in Granville County, North Carolina. By the next year a portion of this land was purchased by Thomas Putman, and that deed mentioned it was the land on which Putman was living. It is my feeling that young James left Virginia after his father's death and went south to North Carolina with his uncle Thomas Putman. He would have been in his teens by that time and about the same age as Thomas' sons, John and Barnet.

James Putman was the first Putman to migrate south into the upper portion of South Carolina. He is listed on an early land grant plat dated March 24, 1770 for 250 acres of land in the old Craven County of South Carolina. These lands lay in what is now Union County, South Carolina.

James had another plat (survey) made on June 11, 1772 for 200 acres in Craven County, and he received the grant for these lands on June 19, 1772.

James was a farmer and remained the rest of his life in Union County. He, like the other Putmans, was a Baptist. The records of the early churches show that James left the Turkey Creek Baptist Church in 1802 and joined the Padgett's Creek Baptist Church on April 17, 1802.

James and Joice raised at least ten children, or at least ten that reached maturity. He had at least one more, Jerry, with a Negro woman named Lucy. James Putman died in late 1811. His will was written on December 11, 1811 and was proved in Probate Court on January 6, 1812.

The following is an abstract of this will. It is to be found in the Union County Probate Records Box 7, Package 2.:

....to my beloved wife Joice, the Negro Lucy ...(list of items) ..., the land and plantation to be rented, all that is not rented to Ralph Jackson, to my son Amos Putman my Negro child Jerrey that now sucks his mother, to my son Joseph Putman thirty dollars, to Heseekiah Ray's children had by his wife Betsy my daughter thirty dollars to be equally divided when they come of age, to my 3 grandchildren Bazel Putman, Jensey Putman and Zadock Putman ten dollars each when they are capable of taking care of it. My children William, Jesse, James, Jabel, Amos, Daniel Putman, daughter Nancy Lawson fifty dollars each. After the death of my wife, what she leaves of the Negroes and other property to be sold and equally divided amongst my children. My sons William and Jabel Putman to be executors.

11 December 1811.

The Will was recorded in Will Book A, page 269, January 6, 1812. The Will was Probated on the same day.

Joice later married the Reverend John Sparks on August 10, 1815 and then she herself died about

a month later or at least before October 13, 1815 on which date there was an estate sale of her property, which was the same as that left by James Putman.