

13 PAGES

3221 Manor Ridge Dr.
Raleigh, N. C. 27603
November 26, 1980

Dear Mrs. Brown,

We are "stalled" on your line. It is not hopeless by any means, but might be a long drawn-out search. You may want to wait until some of the family can work on this--or until you run across another clue such as James and Spencer going to Ga. I am sending some charts which I have used, so ignore the scribbling. You will note the many counties formed from Edgecombe, so one could continue searching for some time. I put quite a bit of my time on this in order to give this search a good chance for finding a ~~good~~ clue, but I have not seen anything which really looks like a good possibility. Swem's Index, together with volumes which it covers, are in most of the State Archives. You might like to go into these yourself and see if anything appears to connect with our research. I'm enclosing index from Swems. There were, of course, many records lost or burned in the early days in the Eastern Counties, so the connection we need may not be available.

You will note in my report the idea--probably far-fetched--about Peter Bruce's Will. It is also possible, that George was one of several brothers who came here from Va. Also, Granville (part of it) was formed from Edgecombe, so Bruce's shown in early Granville could easily be down in the eastern counties. At present, it appears none of George Bruce's land was inherited as I cannot find another Bruce who owned land on White Oak Swamp prior to George. There are, however, other Bruces near some of the Barnes family. Barnes printed genealogies might be a source, but there are many of those.

Sampson Co. is a possibility as some of the land mentioned is now located there--or a stream by the same name. Also, there is a clue, through land descriptions, for Wilson, Green and Lenoir Counties (Contentnea Creek). You see, a search could be rather involved at this point.

To answer your question - - I was told by the Supervisor of the Search Room that 620 acres was the maximum grant. When I said, "I've seen a number of larger ones", he grinned and said, "Those were the exceptions." I believe 420 a. is also our Military land Grant.

We do not know the exact time Jordan died. An Estate Record does not always indicate the year of death, and you know how long an Estate can drag out sometimes. However, I read a booklet that indicated a battle, the War of 1812 took place on the Coast of N. C. in 1815, and Jordan died in or before 1815. I believe the battle was Fort Macon near Morehead City.

Note: Jordan was a name in the Barnes Family.

There are other printed records on the Bruce family which might be researched. One contains a McKinney line.

I repeated one or two searches, but I will just leave them in. As I said, I did give some extra time--this always clears my conscience!

Perhaps you will find clues in the land records which I overlooked.

Have enjoyed your search for Bruces and wish you continued success with them--in the event you do not wish another search at this time.

Very truly yours,

Ann Henry
Ann R. Henry

*P. S. Spencer Jackson m. Rainey (usually Lorraine)
Brenton - 20 Dec 1875 - Caswell Co -
George Jackson m. Francis Spencer - 1785 -
Caswell Co.*

Halifax - Deeds - Microfilm Index and Books Grantee Index

A. T. and C. Bruce from W. Joyner - Bk 36, pg 633
" " from John T. Alsop - Bk 45, pg 333
" " " Annie Alsom - same
" " " P. B. Key, Bk 46, pg 423
" " " James Moseley - Bk 47, pg 411 (also Nancy Moseley)
" " " P. B and Anna T. Key - Bk 50, pg 40
" " " Ellis Levy - Bk 54, pg 29

Abner Bruce from James Hargas - Bk 18, 110

John Bruce from James Spier - Bk 1, pg 438

Researched: James Spier of Edgcombe sold to John Bruce of same, planter, 200a, originally granted to Spier in 1737: Descript: Begin Calebs pocusin thence 70 W - - - - -to illegible along Beaverdam - S 20 W 100 poles to a white oak on side of Fishing Creek along the winding of creek to the 1st station. Nov. Ct. 1740.

James C. Bruce from J. G. and J. B. Claiborne - Bk 28, pg 150

" " Isaac Medley - Bk 28, pg 379

John T. Bruce from Adam T. Bruce - Bk 50, pg 273

John T. Bruce from Robert M. Bruce - Bk 50, pg 273

John T. Bruce from George B. Curtis - Bk 52, 243

James M. Bruce from A. T. Bruce - Bk 55, pg 211 (or Bk 52?)

" " Robert M. Bruce - Bk 55, pg 211

" " John R. Whitaker - 71B, pg 204

" " Nannie N. Whitaker - 71B - 204

" " James H. Whitaker - 71B - 207
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Halifax Deeds - Grantors

Also Bruce to John Taylor - Bk 19, 218

Allen Bruce to Benjamin Dicken - Bk 25, pg 162

A. T. Bruce to John T. Bruce - Bk 50, pg 278

" to P. A. Dunn and Co. - Bk 55, pg 133

Christian Bruce to John Taylor - Bk 19, pg 218

A. T. Bruce to James W. Bruce - Bk 55, pg 211

Ann C. Bruce to George B. Curtis - 73B, pg 371

(I did not research this and should have. She might be George's Mother.) No, this date is probably too late.

Elijah Bruce - Div of land - Bk 18, pg 388

This Deed was listed wrong. It is Eliza ^{beth} Bruce, re: Est. of Amos Bruce. ~~Eliz~~ Amos and Elizabeth Worrel filed Petition. Elizabeth was wife of Abner Bruce prior to marriage to Worrel. Abner died intestate sometime about March last seized and possessed of a tract of land lying in Deep Creek joining Lemuel Hogun and Carter Comacks land - petitioner in right of Elizabeth entitled to 1/3 part of said land for life of said Elizabeth. Feb. Ct. 1798 Description of land included in this.

Deeds - Halifax - Grantor - Cont'd

James Bruce to Loyal Smith and Co. - Bk 26, pg 55

James Bruce to A. D. Bird - Bk 33, pg 298

" " N. M. Long - 33, pg 298

" " Wiatt and Smith - Bk 32, pg 514

✓ John Bruce to Hardy Holman - Bk 1, pg 388

I John Bruce of Edgecombe Co. (found in Halifax) to Hardy Holmes - 25 pds - tract or parcel containing 200 a lying on North side Fishing Creek in County aforesaid which tract was granted to James Spiers by patent bearing date 17 Feb 1837 and is butted and bounded as follows: Begin at a white oak on creek side - N 26 E 160 poles - N 70 W 208 poles - along Beaverdam S 20 W 100 poles to Fishing Creek along windings of creek to 1st station.

Wit: Walter McLaclin, Roger Hodges - Edgecombe - 1741.

John Bruce to John Gray - 19, 168

James Bruce Esq to Seaboard and Roanoke RR Co. - Bk 33, pgs 429-430.

James C. Bruce to N. M. Long - Bk 34, pg 97

✓ Peter Bruce to Isaac Reeves - Bk 3, pg 371:

Peter Bruce of Edgecombe Co. - for 5 pds - to Isaac Revis of Edgecombe - tract of land lying in Edgecombe Co., N. C. - 100a Begin round oak S _____ Westerly along line marked trees to white oak in Marsh Swamp - down swamp - courses of run to Smith's line - August 1749.

Wit: William Reves, Peter Broos Junr

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Peter Bruce to John McKinne Jr. - Bk 3, pg 96 - (previously reported.)
(150 a Rounding Branch and lower Jumping Run)

Peter Bruce to John Bates, et al - Bk 7, pg 3

Peter Bruce Sr. of Halifax and John Bates and Robert Fountain of same - one message or dividend of land - Co. of Halifax - on side of Marsh Swamp - 100a - - - (*for natural love & affection*)

Wit: David Duncan, Manuel Gordon - March Ct. 1759.

(This was shown on page 4 instead of 3)

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Peter Bruce to Thomas Pace - Bk 9, pg 503:

13 Nov. 1766 - Peter Bruce of Halifax Co. to Thomas Pace of Northampton Co., N. C. - for 70 pds - tract lying in County of Halifax - Begin in "Old" Peter Bruce back line next to Quankey at a Red oak - S 24 E 80 poles along line to red oak - S 120 poles to a red oak Thos Smiths corner tree - thence E 160 poles to a white oak - - - N 120 poles to a pine - N 20 poles West 80 poles to ~~xxxxxx~~ center of two red oaks and a hickory - W 160 poles to 1st station containing 200a - - -

Wit: William Rone (X)

/s/ Peter Bruce

John Roan Halifax Ct 1767

Thomas Pace

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