

WILLIAM CATHCART, BLACKSMITH PROBATE RECORDS 1800-1806

First of all, I found these records by browsing through probate records on the FamilySearch.org (LDS) website.¹ The collection is called "South Carolina Probate Records, Files and Loose Records, 1734-1964." The records are not indexed on this site (but apparently are on Ancestry.com), and therefore not easily found through traditional online search methodology.

The first problem I noticed was that the folder in which the probate records were stored incorrectly indicates that they involve the estate of "William Chapman." It also includes the date January 26, 1794, which although correct for the one document appearing for William Chapman; is earlier than any of the documentation included for William Cathcart. Although there are indeed two pages dealing with this gentleman, the rest of the file documents primarily concern William Cathcart's estate.

This first document—an appraisal of William Cathcart's estate—includes the following at

the end:

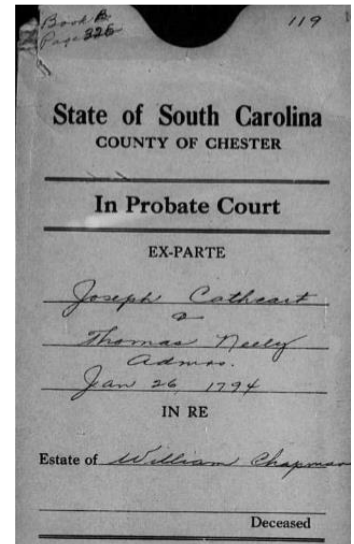


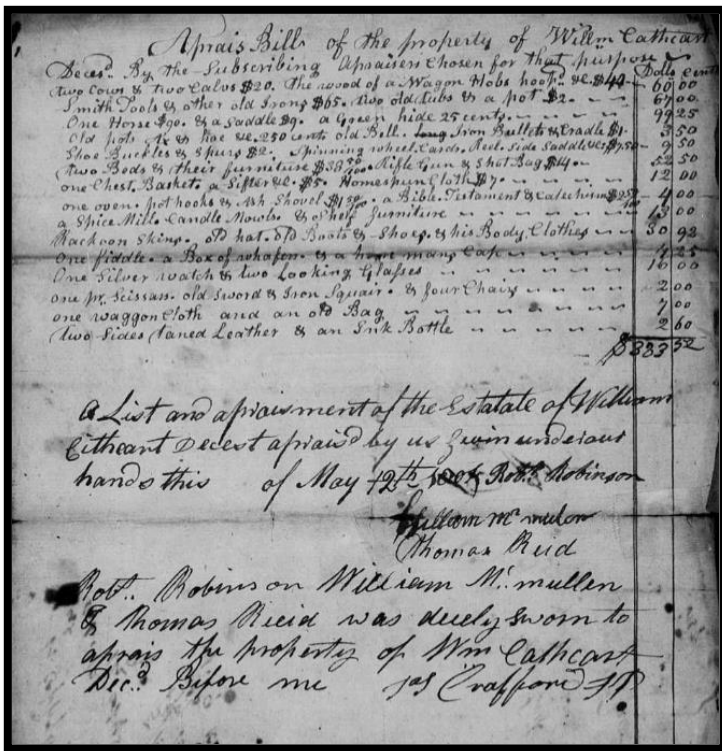
Figure 1 Probate file folder

A list and appraisement of the estate of William Cathcart Decest [sic] appraised by us given under our hands this
— May 12th 1804.

Rob' Robinson
William McMullen
Thomas Reid

Rob' Robinson, William McMullen & Thomas Reid was
duely sworn to aprais the property of Wm Cathcart, Dec^d
before me

Jas Crafford, JP



¹ "South Carolina Probate Records, Files and Loose Papers, 1732-1964," images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:MM9.3.1/TH-1-19364-55578-17?cc=1911928> : 21 May 2014), Chester > Probate Court, Files > 1788-1866 > Apartments 005-007, Packages 76-203 > image 306 through of 563; county courthouses, South Carolina, and South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia. [Click here to open FamilySearch.org page](#)

A List of the accounts due by the Estate of William Cathcart

Hugh Simpson	4 42 9
John Culp	1 50 ..
Henry Culp	2 25 ..
Thomas Gray	6 43 ..
James Wood	3 75 ..
Daniel Lee	3 25 5
John Gattis	7
Hugh Cathcart	12 7 ..
James Walker	2 35 ..
William R Davie	7 65 ..
Thomas I?stan	5 21 ..
Alexander Huston?	16 25 ..
David Ferrel	13 56
Michah Heffely	.. 00 ..
	<u>147 71 4</u>
	3 15
	<u>150 86 4</u>

The next part of the record includes two pages outlining amounts owed by and to the estate of William Cathcart.

Those owing money to the estate include: Hugh Simpson², John Culp³, Henry Culp, Thomas Gray, James Wood, Daniel Lee, John Gattis, Hugh Cathcart, James Walker, William R Davie, Thomas I?stan, Alexander Huston?, David Ferrel, Michah Heffely.

² Hugh Simpson (c1795-1837), m. Mary Miller (c1770-1847). Mary Miller's nephew, Joseph Miller, III (1823-1890) m. Mary Cathcart (1825-1894), Mary being the daughter of William and Jane Black Cathcart of the William and Mary Cathcart line.

³ See [1807 Bill of Sale \(Joseph to John Cathcart\) for 75 acres in Chester County, SC](#). "Being one part of a tract of land.... of one hundred and fifty acres originally granted unto Peter Culp and by him divided by Will to Jno Culp and by him conveyed unto Philip Cline and by him conveyed unto Thomas Miller." Some online trees have Peter Culp (b. C1739) with two sons John (b. C 1775) and Henry (b.C1774).

A List of the Names Due to the Estate of
 William Cathcart - V.P. by

William Gilmore & Thomas McCallagh	100 06
Rachel Cathcart & John Culp	66 89
Hugh Cathcart & Joseph Cathcart	66 10
John Cannon & Thomas Wyley	57 ..
John Cathcart & Joseph Cathcart	17 75
Joseph Cathcart Junr	10 7 1
Joseph Cathcart Senr	16 56 5
William Lile & William Meglamery	19
James Patton & Henry Surner	5 94 0
David Semel & William Shadrach	1 0 9
Willie Stoddewart & John Walker	2 51 7
Joseph Cathcart Genl	7
George Crafford & James Crafford	2
David Cathcart	1 13 9
William Sulman & John Walker	2 19 ..
William McCammont	2 31 ..
John McCrary	3 66 ..
Lamuel Hurry	33
Thomas Parier	7 25 ..
Michael Heffely	1 5 ..
John Culp	1
Alexander Harrison	1
Ann McElroy & Thomas Reid	12 12 5
David Hyatt	15
David Semel	5 55 ..
	498 15 4

The above list of those owing money to the estate includes a lot of interesting groupings of individuals—as well as several mysteries.

- Rachel Cathcart & John Culp
- Hugh Cathcart & Joseph Cathcart
- John Cathcart & Joseph Cathcart
- Joseph Cathcart, **Junr**
- Joseph Cathcart, **Rent?**
- Joseph Cathcart **Cinod/General?**

Joseph Cathcart Junr
 Joseph Cathcart Senr
 William Lile & William Megl
 James Patton & Henry S
 David Semel & William
 Willie Stoddewart & John
 Joseph Cathcart Genl

A List of the Notes Due by the Estate of		Paid	Cts
William Cathcart	Do		
John McEnehan or Hall McGees Estate		46	25
James Montgomery			
Samuel Cathcart		100	50
James Jarviston			
Robert Harper	X	12	20
Reid & Robinson		11	50
Thomas Whiteside		40	64
James Dunn	X	4	50
Samuel Kelsey & Thomas Neely	George Kelsey Estate	30	00
		6	50
		315	00

Who is the above Samuel Cathcart, owed \$100.50 by William Cathcart's estate?

Also interesting is the last entry: Samuel Kelsey & Thomas Neely, George Kelsey estate. The way this is written, it would appear that Samuel Kelsey and Thomas Neely are the administrators of the estate of George Kelsey.⁴

⁴ I did not find probate records for George Kelsey, but did find one for his wife, Elizabeth. She does mention having a son named Samuel, so this might indicate that we have the correct family. Elizabeth appoints her son John along with Robert Robertson as executors of her estate. Her will is witnessed by Polly, Thomas and Robert Kelsey. It will also mentions her husband, George; sons John, Samuel, Thomas, and Robert; and "beloved daughter Jinny Reid, late, Jinny Kelsey;" grandson George Kelsey Reid. She mentions property she inherited from her father, David Car, on Fishing Creek. [<http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/onlinearchives/Thumbnails.aspx?recordId=297145>]

M ^r Philman 1 earthen Dish & 4 tins	£ 0 2 9	William Covert to one Cradle	£ 0 0 5
Joseph Cathcart Jun. 1 Earthen Dish	0 3 0	Joseph Cathcart Jun. 1 Horseman's Cap	1 0 1
Rachel Cathcart widows 1 Do Do	0 2 0	Robt. Fee to Coat Buttons & dy Guilt	0 4 1
Do Do " 1 plaster Dish & Basin	0 6 0	Jos. Cathcart Sen 1 old Scythe	0 4 1
Do Do " 3 cups 2 plaster Dishes	0 8 0	Henry McKinney to a Box whaffer	0 1 9
Do Do " Basin & Spoons &c	0 5 1	John Cathcart 1 Fiddle	0 4 9
Do Do " 7 Delf plates & tea pot	0 3 8	John Kennmore 1 new Waggon	13 6 0
Do Do " a Lot of Crockery	0 5 0	Hugh Cathcart Smith Bellows &c	4 13 4
Do Do " one Do Do	0 3 6	Do Do " Anvil &c	4 19 2
Do Do " quart Mug & tucknables	0 3 2	Do Do " Nife &c	1 12 8
Joseph Cathcart Sen to oznabrigs	0 2 6	Do Do " tools one Lot	1 1 0
Thos. Reid Lot old Buckles	0 1 6	Jos. Cathcart Sen 1 Lot old Iron	0 7 0
Rachel Cathcart widows Ink Bottle & Looking glass	0 6 5	William Gillmore one Horse	25 6 8
James Button 1 Looking Glass	0 2 1	Ann McElroy one Cow & calf	2 16 7
Rachel Cathcart widows 1/2 Suppan &c	0 1 3	Rachel Cathcart widows 1 Do Do	2 14 10
John Cathcart Rifle gun & Shot Bag	4 0 6	Inc. Cuth B. head to 5 yds homespun	0 11 8
John Cuth B. head 1 Side Leather	0 10 2	Hugh Cathcart old sword & Iron Squair	0 2 0
Wm. Stradwan 1 Do Do	0 8 7	David Ferrel Side Seal Leather	0 5 10
Saml. Lusk Junr wood Board & Crook	0 2 5	Inc. Cuth B. head Side Seal Leather	0 6 1
Henry McKinney Powder Canister &c	0 3 6	Thomas Megia 1 wagon Cloth	1 8 0
David Ferrel wheel wright 1 Coffee Mill	0 2 7	Wm. Crawford homespun 4 yds @ 2/4	0 9 4
William Liles Junr 1 Silver Watch	4 8 8	Do Ferrel Do 5 yds @ 2/11	0 11 8
David Cathcart 2 Chains	0 5 0	M ^r Gilmore 1 Saddle	0 4 0
Robt. Davison 2 Do	0 3 1	Do Cathcart 1 Curry Comb	0 1 3
	£ 12 19 11		James

4) James Patton for Silk Stockings	£	0	13	8	
Ben Joseph Cathcart, Suit Clothes		0	18	8	
James Patton for Knee Buckles		0	9	4	
Joseph Cathcart, Suit Clothes		0	7	0	
Do Do Ben one Lot Clothes		0	7	0	
Do Do " one Suit Clothes		0	14	0	
Do Do " one Lot Clothes		0	14	0	
Hugh Cathcart one Coat		0	9	4	
Rachel Cathcart, 1 Lot Clothes		0	14	0	
Do Do 1 small trunk		0	2	8	
Hugh Cathcart Boots & Shoes		0	4	8	
Rachel Cathcart widow, 1 Surserge		0	1	4	
Do Do " 1 Bed & furniture	4	18	0		
Do Do " 1 Hat		0	2	4	
Do Do " 1 Chest &c	1	3	4		
Do Do " 1 Bed &c		0	17	0	
David Ferrel tin quart &c		0	3	8	
Cash one Gun Rod		0	2	4	
Rachel Cathcart widow 1 Bag		0	1	3	
	£	13	03	7	0175648

This fourth page of the inventory is interesting for two reasons.

First, the items inventoried are listed in three columns of pounds, shillings, and pence. At the end of the column, you can see where the amount is translated into dollars and cents. The \$56.48 total on this page would represent over \$1000 today. These entries also make us wonder why pounds were used in this inventory when this is occurring after

independence was declared, and the Revolutionary War won. The dollar is the currency used—but perhaps not as well accepted by the population as one might think!

Secondly, and more importantly, on this and subsequent inventory pages, we see "Rachel Cathcart widow." On the ninth line, however, the word "widow" is missing. Is this an oversight, or are there two Rachel Cathcarts?

1806 The Estate of William Cathcart
Paid

Funeral Expenses	13	13	13
Liquor for the sale of Estate			
five gallon of Wm. Gallan		5	
Ordinary fees		10	
Notes to David Hutchinson		6	50
to Saml. Whiteside *		15	60 1/2
+ to James Fabritans Estate		13	87 1/2
+ to Robert Kerr		1	50
act: + David White			35
James Robinson		2	25
Thomas Porter *		10	12 1/2
+ Hugh Cathcart		26	25
Daniel Lee *		3	25 1/2
+ James Wood		3	75
James Walker *		2	35
+ Robert Allis		1	
+ Daniel Allis		1	
+ Rice & Robinson		112	50

South Carolina } Robert Robinson personally came before me
 Chester District } The Subscribing Justice and made oath
 that he presented their i.e. Reid & Robinsons Book of
 account v.z. William Cathcart now Dec^d. to said
 William Cathcart on the 13th day of Febr'y last past
 and that he the said Cathcart agreed to the said
 account that he would pay it. The Ballance unpaid
 now being one pound Six Shillings & six pence—
 Likewise that he presented a certain note of hand
 gave by David Huston payable to Thomas Reid dated
 the 5th of March 1801 and to be paid in six Months
 after date & for the sum of one pound fourteen
 Shillings & ten pence & that he the said William
 Cathcart said that he would pay said Reid
 for said Note Sworn to & Subscribed before
 me this 1st day of June 1804
 Jas Crafford JP Rob^t Robinson

SOUTH CAROLINA
 CHESTER DISTRICT

Robert Robinson personally came before me, the subscribing justice, and made oath that he presented their (i.e. Reid & Robinson's) Book of account v.z. William Cathcart, now Dec^d, to said William Cathcart on the 13th day of February last past⁵ and that he the said Cathcart agreed to the said account that he would pay it. The balance unpaid now being one pound six shillings and six pence—likewise that he presented a certain note of hand gave by David Huston payable to Thomas Reid dated 5 March 1801⁶ and to be paid in six months after date[?] & for the sum of 1 pound 14 shillings & £.10 & that he the said William Cathcart said that he would pay said Reid for said oath[?]. Sworn & subscribed before me this first day of June 1804.

Jas Crafford JP⁷

Rob^t Robinson

Rec^d of the within One pound Six Shillings
 and Six pence for on acct. Reids & Robinsons
 account the Ballance being disputed by
 Neely Rec^d this 19th May 1804
 Reid & Robinson

Recd of the within One six shillings and sixpence for on acct Reids & Robinsons account the balance being disputed by Neely. Recd this 19 May 1804.⁸

Reid & Robinson

⁵ This would be 13 February 1804, indicating that William Cathcart was alive at this point.
⁶ Although the date appears to be 1801, if true, it would already be payable in six months. I therefore believe that it's actually 1804. If true, William would still be alive on 5 March 1804.
⁷ James Crafford appears throughout this record as Justice of the Peace of Chester District—the person responsible for probate court actions.
⁸ Obviously the administrators of William Cathcart's estate were objecting to paying full interest on the loan William received from "Reid & Robinson"—which appears to be a law firm or financial group of some sort. They have only paid back the principal of the loan.

South Carolina Know all men by these presents that we Joseph Cathcart Thomas Neely & Thomas White do hereby bind ourselves & our heirs executors & administrators for the whole & in the whole jointly & severally firmly by these presents sealed with our seals & dated this fourth day of May in the year of our Lord 1804 and in the 28th year of American Independence the conditions of the obligation is such that if the above bounden Joseph Cathcart & Thomas Neely administrators of the goods chattels & credits of William Cathcart Deceased do make a true and perfect inventory of all and singular the goods and chattels and credits of the said deceased which have or shall come to their hands possession or knowingly or into their hands or possession of any other person or persons for them & the same so made to exhibit into the ordinary's office in this District in and or to be recorded within 90 days after this Date & such goods chattels and credits to will & truly administer according to law and all the rest of the said goods chattels & credits which shall be found remaining on the account of the said administration shall pay & deliver on to said persons respectively and use entitled to the same & kind or true & perfect amount calculation & reckoning of the said administration went there unto required & if it shall here after appear that any Last will & Testament was left by the deceased & the same be proved & the executors obtain a certified of the probate thereof & the said Joseph Cathcart & Thomas Neely do in such case if required render or deliver up there said letters of administration then this obligation to be void or else to remain in full force.

The said Joseph Cathcart & Thomas Neely do in such case if required render or deliver up the said letters of administration then this obligation to be void or else to remain in full force
 Signed sealed & delivered
 In presence of
 Joseph Cathcart
 Thomas Neely
 David Cathcart
 Thomas White

of Administration
 bond
 estate of
 of Cathcart
 recorded
 Page 130

SOUTH CAROLINA
 CHESTER DISTRICT

Know all men by these presents that we, Joseph Cathcart, Thomas Neely, Thomas White, David Cathcart are held & firmly bound unto Joseph Brown, ordinary of the said District in the last & Of \$2000 to be paid unto the said Joseph Brown or his successors ordinary's of the said District or to their certain attorneys or assigns to which payment well & truly to be made we find ourselves & Every of us how or& Every of our heirs executors & administrators for the whole & in the whole jointly & severally firmly by these presents sealed with our seals & dated this fourth day of May in the year of our Lord 1804 and in the 28th year of American Independence.

The conditions of the obligation is such that if the above bounden Joseph Cathcart & Thomas Neely, administrators of the goods chattels and credits of William Cathcart, Deceased⁹, do make a true and perfect inventory of all and singular the goods and chattels and credits of the said deceased which have or shall come to their hands possession or knowingly or into their hands or possession of any other person or persons for them & the same so made to exhibit into the ordinary's office in this District in and or to be recorded within 90 days after this Date & such goods chattels and credits to will & truly administer according to law and all the rest of the said goods chattels & credits which shall be found remaining on the account of the said administration shall pay & deliver on to said persons respectively and use entitled to the same & kind or true & perfect amount calculation & reckoning of the said administration went there unto required & if it shall here after appear that any Last will & Testament was left by the deceased & the same be proved & the executors obtain a certified of the probate thereof & the said Joseph Cathcart & Thomas Neely do in such case if required render or deliver up there said letters of administration then this obligation to be void or else to remain in full force.

Signed, sealed and delivered
 in the presence of

Joseph Cathcart
 Thomas Neely
 David Cathcart
 Thomas White

⁹ This is the best indication that Joseph Cathcart and Thomas Neely were appointed administrators of the estate of William Cathcart.

Vandue Bill May 24th 1804

Rachel Cathcart widow to 1 wedding hoe	0	1	1		
Joseph Cathcart sen to 1 Do	0	3	6		
Rachel Cathcart widow to 1 fire shovel	0	2	0		
David Cathcart to 1 wash Tub	0	1	2		
Rachel Cathcart to 1 Do Do	0	1	4		
Wm Philman to 1 Iron Pot	0	7	0		
Anthony M'neang 1 Do Do	0	3	6		
David Cathcart - 1 Bucket	0	1	8		
Jos. Cathcart Senr. to 1 wood Bowl	0	2	5	1	2
Willis Studswan one oven hook &c	0	3	2		
Rachel Cathcart widow 1 small pot	0	3	1		
Do Do " 1 Bucket & pigger	0	2	11		
Do Do " 1 Skellet	0	1	7		
David Cathcart to 1 pigger	0	0	7		
Do Do " 1 meal Sive	0	2	1		
Rachel Cathcart widow wheel cart &c	0	7	5		
Joseph Cathcart Senr Candle mowls	0	4	1		
Rachel Cathcart widow side Saddle &c	0	12	4	3	15
Do Do " Bible & testament	0	5	8	26	5
Joseph Cathcart sen Lot of Books	0	8	0		
Joseph Cathcart junr 1 Mans Saddle	1	17	9		
Do Do " 1 pr. Spurs	0	9	6		
James Patton Table sewer tea pot &c	0	2	7		
	0	6	5	09	27

May 1802
 Articles of an agreement between Robert Robinson
 of the one part & William Cathcart of the other
 the said W^m Cathcart doth agree to rent a part
 of the plantation whereon he now lives from the
 said Robt. Robinson for the year 1802 that part
 including six acres in the field down the creek
 the Dwelling house and garden & field below
 the house the one half of the meadow except
 in consequence of this the said William Cathcart
 is to make rails & make a good fence round said
 field below the house which fence is to be five
 rails high & to be paid & pay ten Dollars
 at the expiration of the time given under our
 hands this 5th of May 1802
 William Cathcart
 Robert Robinson

Articles of agreement between Robert Robinson of the
 one part versus William Cathcart of the other the said
 William Cathcart doth agree to rent a part of the
 plantation whereupon he now lives from the said
 Robert Robinson for the year 1802 that part including
 6 acres in the field of down the Creek the dwelling
 house and yard and field below the house the one half
 of the meadow accepted in consequence of this to said
 William Cathcart is to make rails and make a good
 fence round said field below the house which fence is
 to be [Hine] good rails high date and pay \$10 at the
 expiration of the time given under our hands this 5th
 of May 1802.

It would appear that William never repaired the fence
 in accordance with the written contract he made with
 Robert Robinson. See below

May 19, 1804, then received for on account of the
 within \$9.94 likewise five dollars for on account
 failure in repairing of the fence made to me by
 arbitration I say received of Thomas Neely and Joseph
 Cathcart, executors of the estate of William Cathcart
 deceased

May the 19th 1804 then Rec^d for on account of the
 within nine dollars and ninetyfour Cents Likewise
 five Dollars for on account failure in Repairing of
 of Fence made to me by arbitration I say Rec^d
 of Thos. Neely & Joseph Cathcart Executors of the Est^t
 of W^m Cathcart Dec^d
 Robt. Robinson

in the fall of the year 1803 William Cathcart Dr
 to setting up a tub and wagon and a Coffin for
 his Child
 South Carolina } Personley appeared Thomas
 Chester District } Carter before me and being duly
 sworn saith that this account of one
 dollar against the Estate of William
 Cathcart is just sworn to this 5th of Novem
 1804
 before me
 Jas Crafford J.P.
 Tho Carter

Evidence of another child. Fall of 1803
 Thomas Carter made a crib, wagon, and
 coffin for William's child.

South Carolina } Personley appeared
 Chester District } whereas Joseph Cathcart both made joint to the
 Nathaniel Cathcart. on the estate of William Cathcart deceased
 these are therefore to cite & admonish all & singular the Creditors
 of the said deceased to appear before the Court of
 ordinary to be hold at Chester Court house on the first Friday in
 April next to show Cause if any they have why the said administra-
 tion should not be granted
 Given under my hand & Seal this 2^d Day of March 1804
 J. Brown ordinary

Request for authority to
 administer William's estate
 (by Joseph and Rachel
 Cathcart, on March 2,
 1804) further narrows his
 date of death.

William Cathcart Dr in 1802 & 1803
 for working with him in the shop at
 Smithwork the sum of Eighty three
 dollars
 South Carolina } Personley appeared
 Chester District } Hugh Cathcart before me
 and made oath that the above
 account of Eighty three dollars is
 justly indebted to him sworn to before
 me this 1st of June 1804
 Jas Crafford J.P.

Hugh Cathcart works at the shop with William.
 Could this be William's brother? Would a
 brother have to submit this kind of paperwork?

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS & QUESTIONS

- Did widows have to purchase assets of their deceased spouse at these probate "Vanddue" [sic] sales?
- William Cathcart was not poor.
 - Although William Cathcart is listed as a blacksmith, this inventory gives the impression that he was a rather successful one. He had silk stockings, more than just essential clothing.
 - He had a rifle (£4.0.9pence), and a silver watch (£4.8 shillings.9 pence)
 - the lent out and borrowed significant sums of money
- William Cathcart could read—something comparatively rare in those days
 - He had a "lot of books," which Joseph Cathcart, Sr. purchased for eight shillings.

WHO'S WHO

General considerations

All the Cathcarts who appear in these probate documents should be closely related... but figuring out the exact relationships is impossible from the information given. We do know that the earliest age of any of the participants should be about 18, but perhaps as young as 14 years of age.

The closest overall match seems to be with the family of William & Mary Cathcart—due mostly to the appropriate ages of the sons.

Rachel Cathcart.

- This was the first time I had seen Rachel Cathcart in any South Carolina record. The only one who seems to fit in is Rachel *Neely* Cathcart, wife of William Cathcart! Rachel's name will come up in another record indicating that there was both a Rachel Cathcart and another "Rachel Cathcart the widow."
- William and Rachel *Neely* Cathcart had a son, Joseph. But it's nearly certain that he can't be one of the Joseph's listed on this page because he was born on September 29, 1800. As an infant, he could not have been of legal age to participate in these financial transactions. Most records I found indicate that he was born in the York District, South Carolina—the next county north of Chester.
- Why would she borrow money together with John Culp? (see page 3, "a List of Notes due to the estate of Wm Cathcart").
- The Thomas Neely who appears several times in the estate paperwork might very well be Rachel's father... but this is not proven.

Joseph Cathcart, Senior & Junior

- Presumably, these are father and son
- As mentioned earlier, this cannot be Joseph Cathcart (Senior or Junior), son of William and Rachel *Neely* Cathcart—as their son Joseph was born in 1800.
- We must also exclude Joseph Nathaniel Cathcart (son of John and Mary *Boulger* Cathcart), as he was born in 1794.
- The best fit is clearly the revolutionary spy, Joseph Cathcart, who was born about 1748 in County Antrim, Ireland. This Joseph is known to have had a son Joseph.
 - This Joseph Cathcart, Sr (and perhaps his son) left for Knox County, Tennessee in 1814.

- They're both enumerated in the 1810 census in York County, SC.¹⁰
- yDNA test results show a close genetic relationship (one marker different in a 67-marker test) between a known descendant of William & Rachel Neely Cathcart and two participants who *probably* descend from Joseph.
- Based on land and census records and genetic similarities, I've concluded that William is a son of Joseph Cathcart, Sr.¹¹

David Cathcart

- See David Kithcart in 1810 Census, Chester, SC.¹²
- I think the best guess is that this is a son of Joseph Cathcart (the Spy), who likely headed "west" with his father to eastern Tennessee in about 1814. He (or at least *a* David Cathcart) later appears in the 1830 census in Monroe County, TN.¹³
 - David is the head of household and in the 40-50 age group (i.e., born roughly 1780-1790).
- There is a David Cathcart buried in the Ebenezer Presbyterian Church Cemetery in Rock Hill, SC¹⁴. This David died June 24, 1809; but was supposedly only 15 years old at death. This likely eliminates him as a candidate, since the David in these probate records is borrowing money and operating more like an adult as early as 1804.
- Perhaps this is the David who married Melissa Hollinger later became one of the earliest settlers in the Plum Creek settlement in Illinois in the Spring of 1819 (he made a trip to the area a year earlier when he bought land).
 - Some records indicate that this David Cathcart may have immigrated in 1812; which would obviously eliminate him as the "correct David."
- The Simmons book¹⁵ (which includes many errors) asserts that William & Mary Cathcart had a son, David, who stayed in Ireland. I believe this should be considered questionable or unlikely.

Hugh Cathcart

- Unless this is a yet unknown son of Joseph "the Spy," the best match seems to be Hugh Cathcart, son of William & Mary Cathcart.
 - This Hugh was born about 1765 in County Antrim, Ireland and died in York District, South Carolina on March 28, 1808. He is buried in the Ebenezer Church Cemetery¹⁶ in Rock Hill, York, South Carolina.

Samuel Cathcart

- Is this Samuel the one from Spartanburg—and progenitor of the line I refer to as "Spartanburg Cathcarts?"
 - yDNA testing shows that descendants from this line match exactly the line starting with William and Mary Cathcart—which have the most in common with MOST of the names in the probate record of William.
 - Still, I have found no indication that this Samuel spent any time in this part of South Carolina.

¹⁰ http://johnsanpublications.com/genealogy/SC_CensusListings.html#1810

¹¹ For more details see Joseph Cathcart paper, [results description page](#), and [Cathcart surname project](#) (hosted by FamilyTreeDNA.com).

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Year: 1830; Census Place: Regiment 67, Monroe, Tennessee; Series: M19; Roll: 175; Page: 116; Family History Library Film: 0024533. [Link](#)

¹⁴ <https://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=110011089>

¹⁵ "Simmons, John Descendants of and the Families of Hatton, McGrew, Sherwood, Linthicum And Cathcart"; Graham, Ruth Maxwell; 1975; 606 pages.

¹⁶ For more information on the Ebenezer Church, please visit the church's page on my website. One thing that might mitigate against this close relationship with my own line (the "Big 4") is that early records indicate that this church began as an Associate Presbyterian (sometimes called Seceder) Church. Most of the other early Cathcart's in the Carolina Piedmont area were Reformed (or Covenanter) Presbyterians.

- As far as Samuel Cathcart, son of John (of "Big 4: my line), although the two of them lived for a while and Chester and Fairfield counties before heading south to Alabama, this Samuel was born in 1784. Would a young man of about 20 years of age lend money (\$26.71) to William? Although possible, this doesn't seem likely.
- There is also Samuel Cathcart, "Yeoman of Kentucky," who appears in a bill of Sale in Chester County, March 17, 1802, for three cows and calves and one horse known by the name of Jack, and all my [James McCammon's] hogs. Other than this bill of sale, we know nothing about this Samuel Cathcart. However the fact that he was in Chester County at this time might link him to the Cathcarts mentioned in this probate.