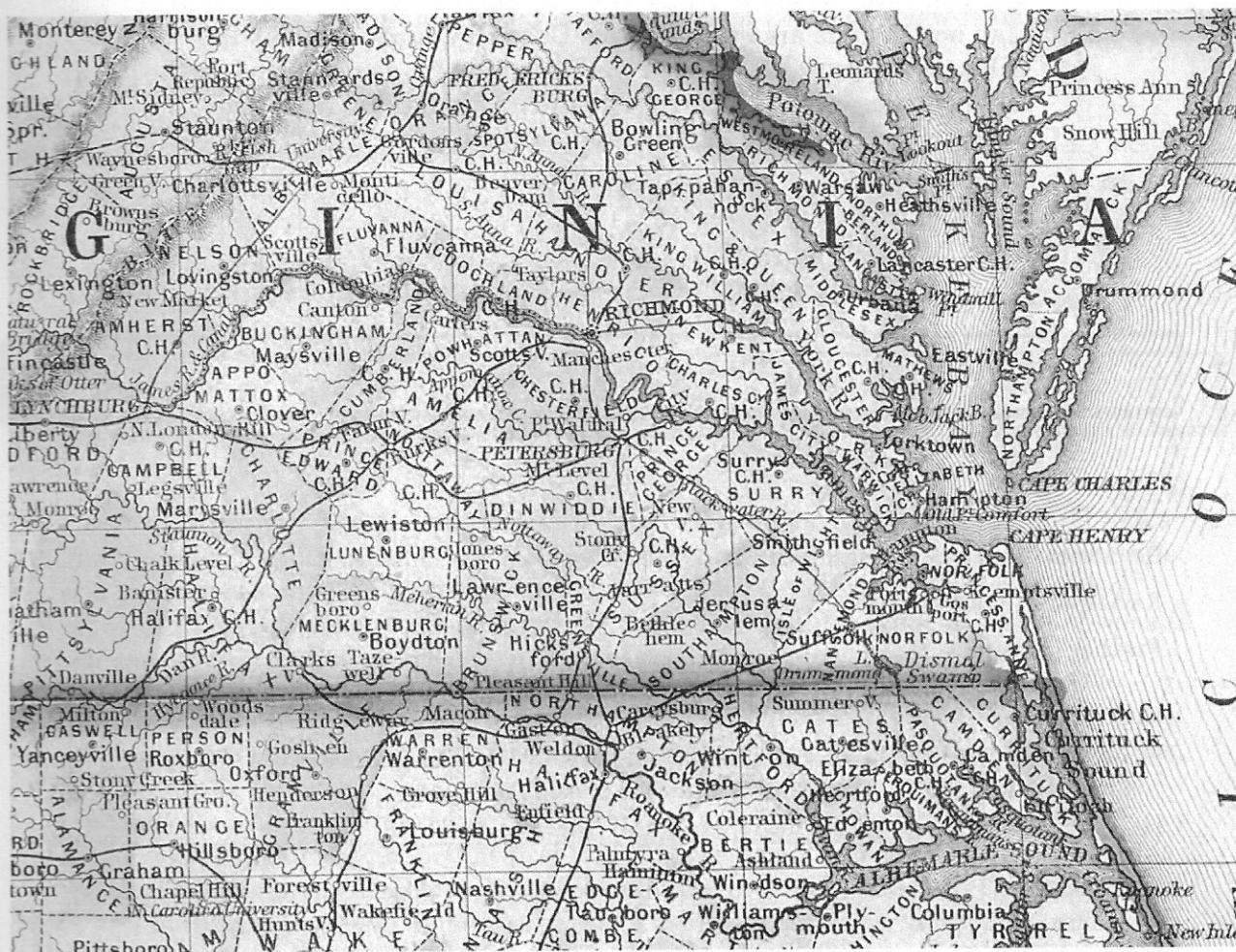


*The Southern Middlebrooks:
Assessment of Family History and DNA Information*



Report by Ruth Craig

Certified Genealogist[®], a registered trademark of the

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4 September 2018

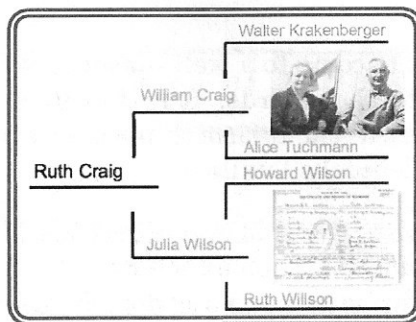
West Lebanon, New Hampshire 03784

Cover Figure. 1860 Map Showing Portions of Virginia and North Carolina.

Library of Congress (<https://www.loc.gov/item/lva0000076/> : accessed 21 August 2018) County Map of Virginia, and North Carolina, portion including New Kent County, Virginia and Caswell County, North Carolina; citing S. Augustus Mitchell, Jr., *Mitchell's New General Atlas*, (Philadelphia, S. A. Mitchell: 1860). Map no. 23. The area that became Caswell County is about 160 miles. as the crow flies, from New Kent County, as measured on the scale of miles on the map. Arrows are on the level of New Kent County, Virginia (long arrow) and Caswell County, North Carolina (short arrow).

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Re: Family History Assessment on the Southern Middlebrooks

Review of Current Findings from Traditional Genealogy

A great deal of in-depth research has been done on early Southern Middlebrooks families such as that of Isaac and Ann (Sims) Middlebrooks. The findings are detailed and the sources used are generally clear. Particularly remarkable is the fact that many of these sources are not widely available. The findings point to a host of records relevant to this and other Southern Middlebrooks families.

The findings have come out in a series of reports, newsletters, and updates, with additional results being brought forth as they have been discovered.¹ Because of this, the essence of the results has not yet been distilled down and formed into a concise, coherent document summarizing the overall picture. Genealogical research involves a series of steps, and the important first two of these have been carried out—searching a wide range of sources for relevant documents, and providing citations that allow these to be examined by others. Subsequent steps involve evaluating, analyzing, and correlating the information obtained, as well as working through any conflicts in the

¹ Neal Middlebrook, email and enclosure entitled “Timeline: Middlebrooks of Orange and Caswell Counties, North Carolina (1760–1795),” to Ruth.W.Craig@Dartmouth.edu, 27 June 2018. Neal Middlebrook and Lana Shelton, The Middlebrooks Virginia Research Update, Middlebrooks Family Association Meeting, Hillsboro, Texas, 18 July 2008; Neal Middlebrook, email enclosure to Ruth.W.Craig@Dartmouth.edu, 27 June 2018.

evidence.² The objective is to come to a well-reasoned write-up of the conclusions and possibilities as supported by the records. It is this process of assembling, weighing, correlating, and “boiling down” the information that needs further development in the case of the Southern Middlebrooks families.

It would be useful to work towards organizing the Middlebrooks family information in a standard format, such as the Register format. Citations can be included to all relevant information and key documents can be added as Appendixes. An example of a very rough draft illustrating what such a document would look like is appended. This is a mock-up, where much of the information comes from the work of Neil Middlebrook and Lana Shelton. It is intended to show the direction that the project could take.

The mock-up uses the family of Isaac (1727) and Anne (Sims) Middlebrooks as a starting point. The thinking here is that consolidating information on generations where much is known provides a base for the preceding generations. Thus, bringing together the evidence concerning this couple and their children and grandchildren, with citations or copies of the relevant documentation, would serve as a core upon which to build further aspects of the family history. Although time-consuming, carrying through on the correlation and integration process is the best way to come to a clear sense of the solidity of current information, and to avoid possible errors. It helps distill out likely facts and possible hypotheses. A firm base is fundamental for moving backwards in time and clarifying earlier ancestors. Integrating the information learned through traditional genealogical research will also aid in interpreting the DNA results.

² Thomas W. Jones, *Mastering Genealogical Proof* (Arlington, Virginia: National Genealogical Society, 2013).

Review of Studies of Y-DNA Markers

Table 1. Calculations from Information on Middlebrooks Y-DNA Markers.

Putative Ancestor	WFN	# Markers	% Mismatch from L1 Master
Isaac 1753, John 1755, Sims 1762, and Thomas 1763			
Isaac 1753	M-1	67	0
Isaac 1753	M-15	37	2.7
John 1755	M-19	✓67?[labeled 37]	1.5
John 1755	M-22	✓67?[labeled 37]	0
Sims 1762	M-7	37	0
Sims 1762	M-16	67	1.5 or 4.4**
Thomas 1763	M-5	37	2.7
Thomas 1763	M-12	>67	3
Thomas 1763	M-21*	37	2.7
Not too distant from Isaac 1753, John 1755, Sims 1762, and Thomas 1763			
John 1754VA	M-10	25	8
Nathaniel 1764VA	M-14	37	8
Nathaniel 1764VA	M-18	37	0
Donors from Abroad			
Edward 1741ENG	C1/M-25	67	3
Samuel 1784ENG^	M-24	67	4.5
New Zealand^	M-23	67	7.5
William 1811 (Ian ENG)	M-17	67	9
Joe 1610ENG	M-8	25	20
L2, L3, and L4			
L2 Robert 1766	M-11	37	35
L3 Joseph 1773	M-20	37	84
L4 Micajah 1758	M-26 -27 -28	37	70

From: Neal Middlebrook, "MFA DNA Spreadsheet," email to Ruth.W.Craig@Dartmouth.edu, 22 July 2018, with enclosure entitled MFA DNA RESULTS PVT W Names 7-3-18 2.pdf. Needs reconciliation with: "DNA Project Details," *Middlebrooks Family Association* (<http://middlebrooksfamily.org/dna-project-details/> : accessed 2 September 2018) > previous tests.

% Mismatch = (number of mismatches from L1 Master/number of markers evaluatable) X 100

* Marker 459b appears to differ from the L1 Master on pdf from Neal.

** Sample M-16 appears different in pdf from Neal and spreadsheet on the internet.

^ The descendant of Samuel 1754ENG and the one in New Zealand differ from each other by 3%.

Y-DNA marker studies were provided from 28 present-day individuals with the Middlebrooks or a comparable surname. Many of these individuals exhibit extensive matching in their Y-DNA markers, and had been grouped into "Lineage 1." From these individuals, a Lineage 1 Master Sequence had been derived. Middlebrooks individuals whose Y-DNA did not align with the Lineage 1 Master had been designated as being in Lineages 2, 3, and 4.

Since different numbers of markers had been studied in samples from different individuals, the percent mismatch from the L1 Master was calculated (number of mismatches/number of markers tested, converted to a percent). These values are shown in Table 1. They allow a rough comparison between samples from different individuals. One of the objectives here was to assess whether the marker profiles of different individuals within L1 are approximately equidistant from the L1 Master. Alternatively, the profiles of some individuals might be more similar to the L1 Master than those of others.

Samples from individuals believed to be descendants of Isaac (1753), John (1755), Sims (1762), and Thomas (1763) were very similar, exhibiting at most 3% or 4.4% mismatch with the L1 Master. This agrees with the fact that these four individuals are thought to be brothers.

A sample from a descendant of John (1754VA), in which 25 markers had been tested, exhibited 8% mismatch from the L1 Master. It would be helpful to test additional markers on this sample to assess the accuracy of this value. The data presently available suggest that the descendant of John (1754VA) differs from descendants of the four brothers to a greater extent than they differ among themselves. More data on John (1754VA) would be useful for further calculations aimed at making estimations about his common ancestor with the four brothers. The question here is, "How many generations back from him and the four brothers does their common paternal ancestor likely lie?"

Two samples from individuals believed to be descendants of Nathaniel (1764VA) yielded varying results. One sample exhibited an 8% mismatch from the L1 Master, while the other exhibited no mismatch. Since 37 markers were tested in these cases, it would be useful to test additional markers to determine whether this apparent difference is real. It would also be useful to consider the "paper trail" available for these two individuals in terms of their descendance from Nathaniel (1764VA). Is it possible that one or the other of the present-day individuals has greater record availability and may be more clearly traceable to this ancestor? Another question relates to the descendant of Garland who provided a DNA sample, since his Y-DNA exhibits about 32% mismatch from the L1 Master.

The Middlebrooks Register lists Micajah (1758), Robert (1766), and Joseph (1770/1773) as brothers of John (1755), Sims (1762), and Thomas (1763). However, the Y-DNA markers of putative descendants of the former three differ from those of the latter three (Table 1).

As far as Micajah, his vital information (b. 1758; d. 1840 Georgia) fits in perfectly with that of Isaac (1753), John (1755), Sims (1762), and Thomas (1763).³ Based on this information alone, he could be their sibling. However, out of 37 markers tested in the Y-DNA from individuals believed to be Micajah's descendants, only 11 are identical to the L1 Master. This difference could have been present in the ancestor himself, or could have arisen in a later generation, where it is not known how much of a "paper trail" exists for this branch. Micajah or a male descendant may have been taken in by a Middlebrooks family, as often occurred with children who lost their parents, or may have been fathered by a different man.

The Y-DNA of the present-day individuals believed to be descendants of Robert (1766) and Joseph (1770/1773) is also very different from that of putative descendants of Isaac (1727). Overall, descendants of John (1755), Sims (1762), and Thomas (1763) exhibit a close Y-DNA match, but this is not the case for putative descendants of Micajah (1758), Robert (1766), and Joseph (1770/1773). This brings up the question of whether these men were not all brothers, although they are listed as such in the Middlebrooks Register. Is it possible that incomplete information was available when the Register was written up? Is it possible that a variety of individuals from the south were assumed to have originated from the same family, whereas in actuality their fathers were genetically distinct? For example, it is possible that more than one immigrant with the surname Middlebrooks came to the U.S., and/or that surname changes occurred in the distant past.⁴

One means of trying to get a clearer fix on Robert (1766) and Joseph (1770/1773) would be to query the database for others with a similar Y-DNA profile, even individuals who do not have the surname Middlebrooks. Since it is not clear how much documentation is available for descendants of Robert (1766) and Joseph (1770/1773), it is even possible that one of them, rather than individuals in L1, descends from the Connecticut Middlebrooks.

A sample from a putative descendant of Edward (1741ENG) of England aligns very closely with the L1 Master, exhibiting only 3% mismatch. In other words, the Y-DNA of this individual exhibits less mismatch than that of John (1754VA). The paternal ancestry of this individual appears to be closely related to that of the four brothers. If his paternal ancestry could be documented, this might provide a huge clue for descendants of Isaac (1727).

Much analysis remains to be done. One focus could be on ancestors in Lineage 1. It would be interesting to attempt to estimate, as accurately as possible, how many generations further back from Isaac (1727) his common ancestor with John (1754VA)

³ Neal Middlebrook and Lana Shelton, The Middlebrooks Virginia Research Update, Middlebrooks Family Association Meeting, Hillsboro, Texas, 18 July 2008, p. 4.

⁴ Neal Middlebrook, Who is this Common Ancestor Anyway and What Does it all Mean?; Neal Middlebrook, email enclosure to Ruth.W.Craig@Dartmouth.edu, 27 June 2018.

and Nathaniel (1764VA) lies. Estimations along these lines have been made,⁵ and need to be formalized, ideally with 67 markers. A table similar to Table 1 could be made using values for "Generations to a Common Ancestor."

The results of such an analysis are difficult to predict, and the values obtained will not be exact numbers but rather ranges. Nonetheless, it is instructive to consider different possible outcomes. If the common paternal ancestor of John (1754VA), Nathaniel (1764VA), and descendants of Isaac (1727) lies back only a small number of generations, this might suggest as a speculative possibility that Isaac (1727) was closely related to the ancestors of John (1754VA) or Nathaniel (1764VA). Certainly, Isaac's putative birthplace of New Kent County is not far from where John (1754VA) and Nathaniel (1764VA) later resided. Alternatively, it is possible that the common ancestor of individuals in L1 lies further back. The Middlebrooks Register suggests that the four brothers were great-grandchildren of Joseph (3rd), or three generations down from him. This would place them five generations from Joseph (1st). It remains to be determined whether estimations from Y-DNA markers suggest that descendants of individuals in L1 might all have come from an ancestor within this range.

Further Questions

Consideration of the Origins of Isaac Middlebrooks (1727)

The bottom line of the above review of the genealogy of the Southern Middlebrooks is that it is key to build a consolidated base of information about the family of Isaac and Anne (Sims) Middlebrooks. This base could extend at least to the children of their children. A major component of the base will be documents relevant to parentage and origins. Following the trail backwards from basic information on this couple can lead the way to understanding earlier times in their lives and those of their ancestors. The same approach of consolidating information, especially on origins and parentage, could be applied to the other Lineage 1 ancestors, John (1754VA) and Nathaniel (1764VA). Having the information on these families together in a well thought-through form is critical for bringing the research towards earlier generations.

Once this base of information is firm, it will become important to consider Thomas Middlebrooks, the putative father of Isaac (1727). What evidence supports the birth record from New Kent County, Virginia as being that of the Isaac of interest? The birth year of 1727/8 fits well with the births of his sons since Isaac (1727) would have been about 26 years old when Isaac (1753) was born and about 36 when Thomas (1763) was born. Isaac (1727) apparently died before September 1771. If the birth record is the correct one, he died in his early 40s. It would be useful to include copies of the pages of the books by Weynette Parks Haun that are cited, as they do not appear to be

⁵ Neal Middlebrook and Lana Shelton, The Middlebrooks Virginia Research Update, Middlebrooks Family Association Meeting, Hillsboro, Texas, 18 July 2008, p. 26.

widely available.⁶ New Kent County, Virginia also fits well as the possible birthplace of Isaac (1727). It lies about 160 miles from the portion of Orange County, North Carolina that became Caswell County (Cover Figure). Families from Orange and Culpepper Counties in Virginia, and elsewhere, apparently moved to this area of North Carolina in the 1750s. Therefore, it is plausible that the Isaac Middlebrooks who was recorded near Hogans creek in 1760⁷ might have come from Virginia.

Much evidence has been brought forth about Thomas Middlebrooks of Louisa and Orange Counties, Virginia. However, as currently presented, this evidence is somewhat confusing. It is curious that he was in both counties in the same time frame. He was apparently a titheable there in 1734–1782, which would place him near the putative birthplace of Isaac (1727), and he was deceased by 1764.⁸ Attention needs to be directed towards bringing these records together into a coherent picture. At present, the reader is left with uncertainty about Thomas Middlebrooks and his putative wife Rachel, and whether they might have been the parents of Isaac (1727).

Might there be other evidence supporting the possible origins of Isaac (1727) in New Kent County, Virginia? For example, there is apparently evidence relevant to Sims in Virginia and in Caswell County. This evidence might be better presented after culling through to identify key points that might be relevant to Isaac's wife.⁹ Evidence that has bearing on her could have implications for the origins of her husband.

Overall, it is critical that evidence about Isaac (1727)'s parentage be thought through as carefully as possible. It would be fatal to take a wrong turn at this point. This is especially important because it has been considered that Isaac (1727) might be the same person as the John (1726) mentioned in the Middlebrooks Register.¹⁰ Thomas as the name for Isaac (1727)'s father does not match that of the father of John (1726), which is said to be David. The name of David's wife is said to be Elizabeth,¹¹

⁶ Neal Middlebrook, email and enclosure entitled "Timeline: Middlebrooks of Orange and Caswell Counties, to Ruth.W.Craig@Dartmouth.edu, 27 June 2018, third page of Timeline.

⁷ Neal Middlebrook, email and enclosure entitled "Timeline: Middlebrooks of Orange and Caswell Counties, North Carolina (1760–1795), to Ruth.W.Craig@Dartmouth.edu, 27 June 2018, first and second page of Timeline.

⁸ Neal Middlebrook and Lana Shelton, The Middlebrooks Virginia Research Update, Middlebrooks Family Association Meeting, Hillsboro, Texas, 18 July 2008, p. 11–15, endnotes 18 and 19.

⁹ Neal Middlebrook and Lana Shelton, The Middlebrooks Virginia Research Update, Middlebrooks Family Association Meeting, Hillsboro, Texas, 18 July 2008, p. 11, 14–16.

¹⁰ Neal Middlebrook and Lana Shelton, The Middlebrooks Virginia Research Update, Middlebrooks Family Association Meeting, Hillsboro, Texas, 18 July 2008, p. 4.

¹¹ *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 25 August 2018) > Register of the Middlebrook family, descendants of Joseph Middlebrook of Fairfield Conn. > Register > Image 38; imaging Louis F. Middlebrook, *Register of the Middlebrook*

whereas Thomas's wife is thought to have been named Rebecca. Nonetheless there is an Elizabeth Middlebrooks mentioned in some of the records from Virginia that could relate to Thomas.¹² In sum, if the father of Isaac (1727) was indeed Thomas, there is little match to John (1726) in the Register.

One further thought relates to the fact that John (1754VA) is thought to have been a British prisoner for an extended period.¹³ The Middlebrooks Register attributes a similar characteristic to a David, who was putatively born in 1757 as the brother of John (1755), Sims (1762), and Thomas (1763).¹⁴ Could there have been a mix-up between John (1754VA) and an individual putatively named David? Could there similarly have been some sort of misunderstanding about a David who was a putative son of Joseph (3rd) and had a son John (1726)?

Questions about Possible Middlebrooks Ancestors Named Edward

The essay "Who is this Common Ancestor Anyway and What Does it all Mean?" mentions an Edward Middlebrooks who settled at Dewsbury, England and could be a forbearer to the Joseph Middlebrook who emigrated to the United States.¹⁵ The question thus arises as to whether there is any connection between this Edward and Edward Middlebrough 1741, thought to be the ancestor of Middlebrooks Family number C1/M-25, a participant in the Y-DNA project? Little is known about the present-day Englishman's ancestry, not even whether his paternal ancestors lived in England. Whoever these ancestors were, they appear to be related to descendants of Isaac (1727).

Family, Descendants of Joseph Middlebrook of Fairfield, Conn. (Hartford: C., L., and B., Co., 1909), 39.

¹² Neal Middlebrook and Lana Shelton, The Middlebrooks Virginia Research Update, Middlebrooks Family Association Meeting, Hillsboro, Texas, 18 July 2008, p. 12–13.

¹³ Neal Middlebrook and Lana Shelton, The Middlebrooks Virginia Research Update, Middlebrooks Family Association Meeting, Hillsboro, Texas, 18 July 2008, p. 17.

¹⁴ *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 27 August 2018) > Register of the Middlebrook family, descendants of Joseph Middlebrook of Fairfield Conn. > Kinsmen who served in colonial, American and foreign wars > Image 23; > Register > Image 63.

¹⁵ Neal Middlebrook, Who is this Common Ancestor Anyway and What Does it all Mean?

Searching for David Middlebrooks, a Son of Joseph (3rd)
Baptized in Fairfield, Connecticut in 1704

Records from the Greenhill Church of Fairfield, Connecticut confirm the Middlebrooks Register in showing that Joseph (3rd) died 3 January 1763 at nearly 83 years old, and that his wife died in October 1780 in her 100th year.¹⁶ Since probate records often provide information about heirs, the records from Fairfield County were examined, focusing on Volumes 11–16 and 19–22 which cover years from 1753 to 1788. The internal indexes of these volumes were consulted for the Middlebrooks surname. This led to the identification of a will and probate records for Jonathan Middlebrooks, the younger brother of Joseph (3rd) who died in 1754.¹⁷ Records were also found for his older brother, who was named John Middlebrooks and died 10 Oct 1769 in North Stratford (now called Trumbull).¹⁸ John had a son named David who died 2 April 1790 in North Stratford¹⁹ and is buried there.²⁰ This David was seen in the probate records, as an administrator of an estate in 1765.²¹ However, no probate index listings were found for Joseph (3rd) or his wife.

¹⁶ *AmericanAncestors* (<https://americanancestors.org> : accessed 29 August 2018) > New England Historical and Genealogical Register > Volume 70(1916) > Page 39, Part V of Deaths, no. 54; >Page 43, no. 127; imaging Mary Kingsbury Talcott, "Records of the Greenfield Church, Fairfield, Conn."

¹⁷ *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QS7-L92K-YLRV> : accessed 29 August 2018) > [Fairfield County, Connecticut] Probate Records, 1648-1916 > Probate records v. 11-12 1753-1762 > Images 10–11, Will of Jonathan Middlebrook, 29 March 1754, probated 4 June 1754; citing Family History Library (FHL) microfilm 4275. Witnesses were Thad^s Burr, Nathan Hill, and Peter Hendrick. Additional probate records are indexed as being on p. 150.

¹⁸ *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QS7-L92K-Y93Q-M> : accessed 29 August 2018) > [Fairfield County, Connecticut] Probate Records, 1648-1916 > Probate records v. 15-16 1764-1775, probate record of John Middlebrooks late of Stratford, 20 November 1770; citing FHL 4277.

¹⁹ *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 25 August 2018) > Register of the Middlebrook family, descendants of Joseph Middlebrook of Fairfield Conn. > Register > Images 32–33, 36.

²⁰ *FindAGrave* (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/21137815/david-middlebrooks> : accessed 29 August 2018) > Long Hill Burial Ground (Trumbull, Fairfield, Connecticut), David Middlebrooks, 2 April 1790, age 75; photo by Nashville Rambler. There is another David Middlebrook buried in the same cemetery who died 27 November 1819 at age 52.

²¹ *FindAGrave* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QS7-L92K-Y9S1-D> : accessed 29 August 2018) > [Fairfield County, Connecticut] Probate Records, 1648-1916 > Probate records v. 15-16 1764-1775 > Image 90, probate record of Ezra Adams, 17 October 1765, David Middlebrooks of Stratford was administrator; citing FHL microfilm 4277.

A pioneering early genealogist compiled a book on the "Families of Old Fairfield." The following information is given about Joseph (3rd):²²

Born 15 Apr. 1680; d. at Greenfield, 3 Jan. 1763 ae. almost 83; m. abt 1703 Deborah _____, b. abt. 1681, d. Oct. 1780 in 100 yr.

Joseph Middlebrook, Ann Middlebrook, Eunice Edwards, Peter Bradley and Sarah his wife, Jonathan Waley and Dorothy his wife, Richard Westcott and Jane his wife, all of Fairfield, conveyed 1763 land from father Joseph Middlebrook dec'd.

Children, rec. and bapt. Fairfield:

David, b. 22 Aug., bapt. 10 Dec. 1704, d. y. [d. y. = died young]

Eunice, bapt. 23 June 1706; m. (1) _____ Edwards; m. (2) _____ Steward.

Ann, bapt. 11 Apr. 1708, d. at Greenfield, 7 May 1767.

Sarah, bapt. 8 Feb. 1712/3; m. (1) Lemuel Price; m. (2) Oct. 1756, Peter Bradley.

Dorothy, bapt. 6 Nov. 1715, d. y.

Dorothy, bapt. 17 Nov. 1717, d. at Greenfield, 26 July 1778 ae. over 60;
prob. m. (1) Robert Mills; m. (2) Jonathan Whalley.

Joseph, b. 3, bapt. 6 Mar. 1719/20

Jane, bapt. 6 Oct. 1723; m. 19 Oct. 1746, Richard Westcott.

The family information here mirrors in some aspects that in the Middlebrooks Register.²³ Differences include the fact that this account suggests that the oldest son David died young, but that the next child Eunice did not. A daughter named Dorothy is also indicated to have lived to adulthood. This account also gives the names of spouses, where family information for Joseph (4th) is in a separate sketch. The source of the statement about land inheritance is not at present known. It could be in a probate record that has not yet been found, or in land records since property was sometimes deeded to descendants in lieu of a will.

As a whole, the above information seems to suggest that Joseph (3rd)'s son David died young, and that, when Joseph (3rd) himself died, his living children received land. It is not known whether this account is more accurate than that in the Middlebrooks Register. One means of assessing this would be to look for original records supporting

²² *AmericanAncestors.org* (<https://www.americanancestors.org> : accessed 29 August 2018) > Fairfield, CT: Families of Old Fairfield > Volume 2 > Pages 648, 650; > Corrections > Page 23; citing Donald Lines Jacobus, compiler, *History and Genealogy of the Families of Old Fairfield*, 2 vols. (New Haven: The Tuttle, Morehouse & Taylor Company, 1930-1932).

²³ *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 25 August 2018) > Register of the Middlebrook family, descendants of Joseph Middlebrook of Fairfield Conn. > Register > Image 33.

the information about the children of Joseph (3rd) and the land inheritance. The Greenfield Hill church records, where the deaths of Joseph (3rd) and his wife were recorded, may have information about his children. Vital records may be indexed in the Barbour Collection²⁴ and earlier church records may be available through *FamilySearch*.²⁵ If the other information in "Families of Old Fairfield" can be corroborated, that might lend credence to the possibility that Joseph (3rd)'s oldest child David might have died young. If he did, there is a remote chance that there might be a church or cemetery record for him.²⁶ In this regard, a gravestone inscription for an Elijah Middlebrook was found in an old cemetery in Fairfield,²⁷ but others with that surname were not listed. It may be difficult to know with certainty whether Joseph (3rd)'s son David indeed died young. If he did, one might consider the possibility that the ancestors of the Southern Middlebrooks are not reported correctly in the Middlebrooks Register. There are multiple individuals named David and even more named John in the Connecticut Middlebrooks family. One could consider the possibility that the Southern Middlebrooks descended from a different David or John. Alternatively, one can work from the other direction, moving to earlier points in time on Middlebrooks in the south. Once traditional genealogical and DNA information is pulled together for these families, this may open the way to a direction in which to look for ancestors.

²⁴ *AmericanAncestors.org* (<http://www.americanancestors.org> > Connecticut: Vital Records (The Barbour Collection), 1630-1870 > Volume Fairfield > Page 72, listings for Middlebrooks.

²⁵ *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org> : appears to be accessible at a Family History Center) > [First Congregations Church (Fairfield, Connecticut)] Church Records, 1694-1806; citing FHL microfilm 4201 (digital film no. 7833585).

²⁶ *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org> : appears to be accessible at a Family History Center) > Cemetery Records of Bethel and Fairfield, Connecticut; citing FHL microfilm 4197 Items 1-2 (digital film no. 7833582). Other sources of cemetery records are listed in the *FamilySearch* Catalog.

²⁷ Kate E. Perry, *The Old Burying Ground of Fairfield, Conn.: a Memorial of Many of the Early settlers in Fairfield* (Hartford: American Publishing Co., 1882), 154, inscription for Elijah Middlebrook, 22 September 1824, age 17 years 7 months; *FamilySearch* (https://dcms.lds.org/delivery/DeliveryManagerServlet?dps_pid=IE953171 : accessed 30 August 2018).

Mock-up: Southern Middlebrook/Middlebrooks Families

[This mock-up is designed to illustrate the type of integrated family history report that would be useful as a basis for further studies. This could include studies aimed at moving towards earlier points in time for the Isaac and Ann (Sims) Middlebrooks family used as an example below. Other southern Middlebrooks families, such as that of John (1754VA), can be added. Comments are in brackets. Uncertainties are indicated with a “?.”]

Introduction

An immigrant named Joseph Middlebrook/Middlebrooks settled in Fairfield County, Connecticut in the mid-1600s and died there in 1686. For simplicity, the surname Middlebrooks is used throughout the present report. An extensive Register of Joseph's descendants was published in 1909. According to the Register, the immigrant had a son named Joseph (2nd), who died in 1709 and had sons named John (bap. 1678; d. 10 October 1769), Joseph (3rd; bap. 1680; d. 3 January 1763), and Jonathan (bap. 1684; d. 1754). These three grandsons resided in Connecticut until their deaths.¹

Individuals with the surname Middlebrooks resided in Virginia and North Carolina in the 1700s. The Middlebrooks Register suggests that they descended from Joseph Middlebrooks (3rd), but evidence has not yet been found to support this possibility. Recently, Y-DNA markers were studied in samples from present-day individuals believed to be descendants of early Southern Middlebrooks. This study is ongoing but brings up the question of whether a single Middlebrooks ancestor gave rise to the various early families there, or whether more than one Middlebrooks may have come to the south. A great deal of traditional genealogical research has also been carried out on the Southern Middlebrooks. In order to attempt to trace their ancestors, it is important to evaluate this information and put it together in a standard, well-referenced format. This will foster the making of connections and bring out patterns as well as seeming inconsistencies. It is critical to have a “boiled-down” picture of what is known about these families, as a basis for learning more about their ancestors.

¹ *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 25 August 2018) > Register of the Middlebrook family, descendants of Joseph Middlebrook of Fairfield Conn.; imaging Louis F. Middlebrook, Register of the Middlebrook Family, Descendants of Joseph Middlebrook of Fairfield, Conn. (Hartford: C., L., and B., Co., 1909).

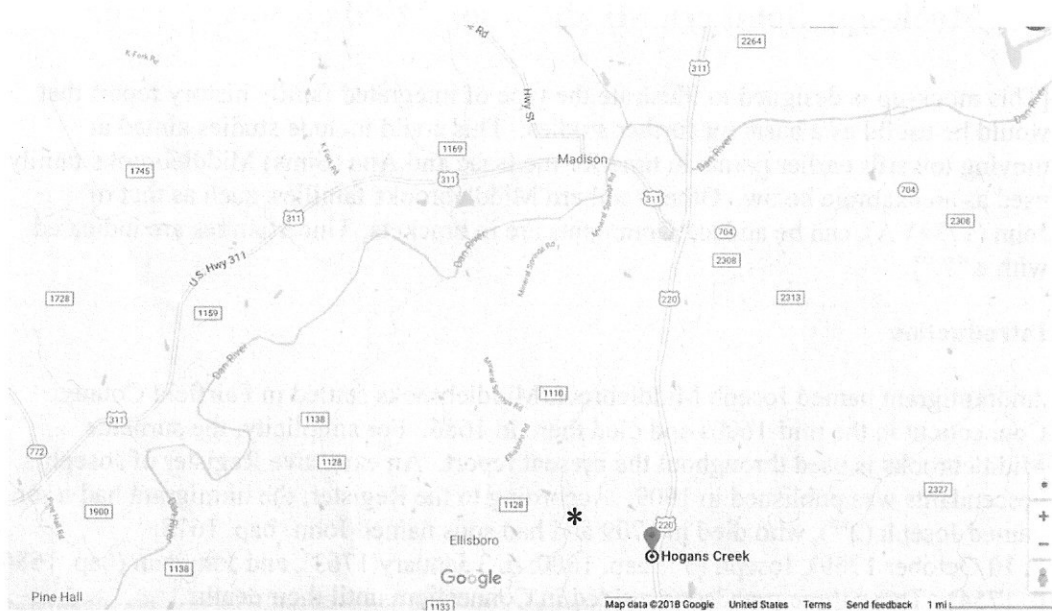


Figure 1. Map Showing the Location of Hogans Creek in North Carolina.

Madison, North Carolina lies about 11 miles from the Virginia border. Hogans Creek flows into the Dan River. Near the lower edge of the map (asterisk), the two branches of the creek are both labeled “Hogans Creek” upon zooming in on Google maps.

Isaac and Ann (Sims) Middlebrooks of Caswell County, North Carolina

[This is shown to illustrate how the family history could be summarized. The information below needs to be checked, added to, and properly cited.]

1. ISAAC MIDDLEBROOKS (1727) may have been born in New Kent County, Virginia 12 January 1727/8, based on a transcript from the register of the St. Peter's Parish there:²

Isaac y^e son of Tho^s Middlebrook born Jan^{ry}. y^e 12th 1727/8

Isaac died in the northern portion of Orange County, North Carolina that later became Caswell County between May 1765 and September 1771.³ If the above-cited birth record corresponds to the correct Isaac Middlebrooks,⁴ his father's name was Thomas, which is mirrored in the fact that Isaac (1727) named one of his sons Thomas. [There is much additional information about individual(s) named Thomas Middlebrooks,⁵ which needs to be thought through and integrated.⁶ If information about Thomas and his possible wife Rachael can be synthesized, they could be added as an earlier generation before Isaac (1727).]

Isaac (1727) married ANNE SIMS before 1760 and probably before 1753, when their son Isaac (1753) was born.⁷ Anne was born say by 1733 possibly in Hanover or Louisa County Virginia? where Sims families resided. The Christian name given to one of her sons was Sims, and this name was used in further generations. Anne died after

² *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 21 August 2018) > New Kent County, Virginia St. Peter's Parish Vestry Book and Register, 1684-1786 > The Vestry Book and Register of St Peters Parish 1684-1786 > Vestry Book > See Index > Image 481, listing for Isaac Middlebrook, born 12 January 1727/8. Records are listed under the first letter of the surname (i.e., "M"). This birth is listed after a birth on 3 October 1729/30.

³ Neal Middlebrook, email and enclosure entitled "Timeline: Middlebrooks of Orange and Caswell Counties, North Carolina (1760-1795)," to Ruth.W.Craig@Dartmouth.edu, 27 June 2018, third page of Timeline. The transcript of documents should be examined and cited, or the documents themselves if available. Some records, such as probate records, are fundamental, and it would be helpful to include these as Appendixes, particularly if they are not available online.

⁴ Note: There is a potential question as to whether the birth record might correspond to the Isaac Middlebrooks who was taxed in Kent County, Maryland in 1783 and died there before 12 August 1790. However, if this individual was in the militia during the Revolution, he might be expected to be in the same age range as Isaac (1753).

⁵ It is not clear how these individuals relate to the Thomas Middlebrooks enumerated in 1790 ?at age >? in Queen Anne's County, Maryland.

⁶ Neal Middlebrook and Lana Shelton, The Middlebrooks Virginia Research Update, Middlebrooks Family Association Meeting, Hillsboro, Texas, 18 July 2008, p. 11-14; Neal Middlebrook, email enclosure to Ruth.W.Craig@Dartmouth.edu, 27 June 2018.

⁷ Neal Middlebrook, email and enclosure entitled "Timeline: Middlebrooks," to Ruth.W.Craig@Dartmouth.edu, 27 June 2018, fourth page of Timeline. In the deed from Deed Book A: 602, it appears that Anne named her son Isaac, which represents firsthand information about his parentage.

30 December 1795, when she sold land on Hogans Creek, which flows into the Dan River a tributary of the Roanoke (Figure 1).⁸

While Isaac (1727) may have been born in Virginia, he and his wife were in Orange County, North Carolina by 1760 when they were baptized at a Separate Baptist church near Hogans Creek. Isaac (1727) was also mentioned in Court records there, having purchased personal property and worked on a road.⁹ Anne appears in records after her husband's death and is listed along with her son John on the Caswell County 1777 tax list.¹⁰ She, Isaac (1753), John, and Thomas Middlebrooks were enumerated in the 1786 Caswell County census.¹¹ [More information can be included about this couple, such as Anne's indexed land grant.¹² It is noted that some of the sources available are indexes, such as those by Katharine Kerr Kendall. An index listing of a record, such as a listing indicating that an ancestor received a land grant, is considered an aid to finding the record itself. However, the index listing is not considered a record to cite. Rather, the genealogist generally uses the index to obtain the original record, which is cited in the present case as being in Deed Book D: 362–363 #899.¹³]

Children of Isaac Middlebrooks (1727) and Anne Sims.

- i. ISAAC MIDDLEBROOKS (1753). b. possibly in Virginia in 1753; d. Morgan County, Georgia 1823;¹⁴ m. [?Elizabeth Perkins daughter of ???Abram Perkins Sr.¹⁵]

⁸ Neal Middlebrook, email and enclosure entitled "Timeline: Middlebrooks," to Ruth.W.Craig@Dartmouth.edu, 27 June 2018, sixth page of Timeline.

⁹ *Ibid.*, second page of Timeline. Need to cite the records themselves. The Morgan Edwards book is available at <https://books.google.com/books?id=7H3ZAAAAMAAJ> but only as "snippets" and the date of the baptism is not visible. A James Sims is mentioned on p. 45.

¹⁰ Katharine Kerr Kendall, compiler, typescript, Caswell County Land Grants, Tax Lists, State Census, Apprentice Bonds, Estate Records, 1977, p. 31–32, 35, alphabetized list of 1777 Caswell County Tax List; *FamilySearch.org*. Perkyms, James, John Sr. and John Jr. were also listed as were Porter, Alexander David, and Joseph, as well as Waire, William Sr. (all in Caswell or "C" district). No Lyons were listed.

¹¹ Kendall, Caswell County Land Grants, Tax Lists, State Census, Apprentice Bonds, Estate Records, 1977, p. 38–40, alphabetized list of 1786 Caswell County Census; *FamilySearch.org*. Lyon, Robert and William, as well as Perkins, Abraham, Jas., Jesse, and Jno. were also listed, as were Porter, Alexr., and Christopher, as well as Ware, Jno., Thos., Wm. Jr., and Wm. Sr. These were all in the Caswell (C) District.

¹² Kendall, Caswell County Land Grants, Tax Lists, State Census, Apprentice Bonds, Estate Records, 1977, p. 14–15, alphabetized list of recipients of land grants in Caswell County; *FamilySearch.org*. Robert Lyon received land on Flat River 28 July 1779. William Ware also received a land grant on Hogans Creek. No Perkins are listed.

¹³ Neal Middlebrook, email and enclosure entitled "Timeline: Middlebrooks," to Ruth.W.Craig@Dartmouth.edu, 27 June 2018, fifth page of Timeline.

¹⁴ [Cite death record or probate records if available, census listings if available for estimates of birth year.].

¹⁵ Neal Middlebrook, email and enclosure entitled "Timeline: Middlebrooks," to Ruth.W.Craig@Dartmouth.edu, 27 June 2018, fifth and sixth pages of Timeline. Kendall, Caswell County Land Grants, Tax Lists, State Census, Apprentice Bonds, Estate Records, 1977, p. 72, list of estate file in Caswell County; *FamilySearch.org*, listing for Perkins,

- [More information about Isaac, his moves and land transactions, etc.]
1. [*First Grandchild*. Vital statistics and more information if known.]
 2. *Lucy Middlebrooks*.
 3. [*Additional Grandchildren*.]
- ii. JOHN MIDDLEBROOKS (1755). b. possibly in Virginia in 1755; d. ? Clark County or Newton County, Georgia 30 December 1830; m. (1) in Caswell County 16 July 1781 Mary Lyon¹⁶ daughter of Robert Lyon? [a question arises as to the bond to Nancy Humphries,¹⁷ was this a marriage that was planned but did not actually take place?¹⁸]; m. (2) Milly ____.¹⁹
- [More information about John, his moves and land transactions, etc.] John named the following children in his will, where at least the first two were by his first wife.
1. *Zera Middlebrooks*. d. Newton County, Georgia 17 April 1869; m. Sophia W. ____.²⁰ [Apparently there are documents associated with his maternal grandfather, which would speak to his parentage.²¹]
 2. *Anderson Middlebrooks*.
 3. *Abigail Middlebrooks*. m. ____ Stanton.
 4. *Isaac S. Middlebrooks*.
 5. *David Middlebrooks*.
 6. *John Middlebrooks*.
- iii. MICAJAH MIDDLEBROOKS (possible child). d. Hancock County Georgia 1840.

Abram 1796, Perkins John 1791, and other Perkinses. Listed as being in Box 69. No Middlebrooks listed. [Need to consult original references.]

¹⁶ *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HT-DCQ3-YQS> : accessed 28 August 2018) > North Carolina, County Marriages, 1762-1979 Caswell > Marriage bonds, 1780-1868, vol M-R > Images 319–320, marriage bond of John Middlebrook-Mary Lyon, 16 July 1781. Nehemah [?Lang] signed the bond along with John Middlebrooks.

[A?] Murphey was a witness.

¹⁷ *Ibid.* > Image 318, marriage bond of John Middlebrook-Nancy Humphries, 18 January 1781 [1 or 9]. Richard Boggans[?] signed the bond with John Middlebrooks with [Irving?] Campbell as a witness. The signature of John Middlebrooks is similar to that in the marriage bond with Mary Lyon.

¹⁸ Neal Middlebrook, email and enclosure entitled “Timeline: Middlebrooks,” to Ruth.W.Craig@Dartmouth.edu, 27 June 2018, fourth page of Timeline. Was this a marriage that did not actually happen?

¹⁹ *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 25 August 2018) > Register of the Middlebrook family, descendants of Joseph Middlebrook of Fairfield Conn. > Appendix > Image 293, imaging transcript of Will of John Middlebrook of Newton County, Georgia, 27 February 1828 (signed), 7 March 1831 (probated), provided by Lucius L. Middlebrook. Names children: Zera Middlebrook, Anderson Middlebrook, Abigail Stanton, Isaac S. Middlebrook, David Middlebrook, John Middlebrook, wife Milly.

²⁰ *Ibid.* > Images 294–295, imaging transcript of Will of Zera Middlebrook of Newton County, Georgia, 16 April 1869 (signed), August 1869 (probated), provided by Lucius L. Middlebrook. Names Sophia W. as wife, Anderson C. and probably John C. as sons. Transcript of probate papers states that Zera died the day after signing his will.

²¹ Neal Middlebrook, email and enclosure entitled “Timeline: Middlebrooks,” to Ruth.W.Craig@Dartmouth.edu, 27 June 2018, sixth, seventh, and eighth pages of Timeline.

[Is there documentation for Micajah? It is stated that he was listed on the Caswell County tax lists of 1787–1789.²² He may not be on the 1784 Tax List²³ or in the 1786 census.²⁴]

- iv. SIMS MIDDLEBROOKS. b. Orange County, North Carolina 1762 [information about when Caswell County separated from Orange]; d. Jones County, Georgia 1839.
- v. THOMAS MIDDLEBROOKS. b. Orange County, North Carolina about 1762; d. Jones County, Georgia 13 May 1825. May have had a relative named Frances Middlebrooks.²⁵ May have had a son named James Madison Middlebrooks.²⁶

John (1754VA) and Lucy (Turner) Middlebrooks of Caroline County, Virginia

[Family history in Register style as above. Other families can also be added, such as that of Nathaniel Middlebrooks of Orange County, Virginia.]

Key documents and transcriptions can be included at the end as Appendixes, and referred to in the text. The overarching point here is to have the information about each family all in one place in an integrated format.]

²² Middlebrook and Shelton, The Middlebrooks Virginia Research Update, Middlebrooks Family Association Meeting, Hillsboro, Texas, 18 July 2008, p. 6.

²³ *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS4R-BSZY-8> : accessed 20 August 2018) [Caswell County, North Carolina] Tax lists, 1777, 1780 and 1784 [film # 007900920] > Images 52, 56, 58, 60, 62, 65, 67, 68, Tax List of 1784, “L” and “M” surnames; citing FHL microfilm no. 421,558. Robert Lyon was listed, as were Ann, Isaac, and John Middlebrooks and Abram Perkins.

²⁴ Kendall, Caswell County Land Grants, Tax Lists, State Census, Apprentice Bonds, Estate Records, 1977, p. 38–40, alphabetized list of 1786 Caswell County Census; *FamilySearch.org*.

²⁵ *Ancestry.com* (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 25 August 2018) > Register of the Middlebrook family, descendants of Joseph Middlebrook of Fairfield Conn. > Appendix > Image 347, imaging transcript of deed of from Wm. S. Middlebrook to Thomas Middlebrook, Jones County, Georgia, 23 February 1816 (signed), 7 August 1817 (recorded); citing Deed Book I: 241. Transcript indicates that Frances Middlebrook was a witness. Additional deeds involving Thomas Middlebrook of Jones County are in Images 348–350.

²⁶ *Ibid.* > Images 351–352, imaging transcript of deed of from Jas. P. Lyon, Morgan G. Howard, and Fielding F. Matthews to James M. Middlebrook, Upson County, Georgia, 13 January 1860 (signed), 14 May 1881 (recorded); citing Book M: 103–104. Another deed to James Madison Middlebrook is on Images 352–353.