

ROBERT BAILIFF WAS BORN IN ORANGE COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA IN 1798

Prepared by: Ron Cornwell

ROBERT BAILIFF was born November 1, 1798,¹ near the New Hope Presbyterian Church which was located on New Hope Creek [River] in Orange County, North Carolina. The New Hope neighborhood was settled by a large number of Scotch-Irish settlers who were Scottish farmers originally from Scotland resettled in Northern Ireland before coming to America.

Among the settlers in the New Hope Church area were four brothers **ROBERT, THOMAS, JOHN AND JAMES BAKER**. Two of these brothers **ROBERT AND THOMAS BAKER** apparently had a profound influence on the life of **ROBERT BAILIFF**. **THOMAS BAKER** was the maternal grandfather of **ROBERT BAILIFF**. **ROBERT BAKER**, Uncle to **ROBERT BAILIFF**, was a brother of **THOMAS** and a long time Elder at New Hope Presbyterian Church.² It appears that **ROBERT BAKER** must have been an excellent mentor for young **ROBERT BAILIFF** during his first seventeen years of life spent in the New Hope neighborhood.

The Scottish Presbyterians in Scotland were strong proponents of Education. This included religious education as well as school education and prided themselves in being able to read and write. They built schools and churches everywhere they moved on the frontier. These same principles were ingrained in their children and grandchildren.³ The religious teaching **ROBERT** received during his growing up years at New Hope Presbyterian church located on New Hope Creek in Orange County had an effect on his entire life. **ROBERT BAILIFF** became a “Cumberland Presbyterian Minister” after he settle in Illinois. **ROBERT BAILIFF** was named after his uncle **ROBERT BAKER** and he named a son after his grandfather **THOMAS BAKER**.

CLARENCE JONES, a volunteer at the genealogy society in Hillsborough, North Carolina: “There is no doubt that the **BAKERS** were Presbyterian and Scottish. **ROBERT BAKER** was listed as an Elder in the New Hope Presbyterian Church in 1756 and 1765. Those who came to Orange County, which was a very large group in the early days, mostly came from Scotland and Ireland [Scots-Irish] and they came to the port of Philadelphia. Then they moved by the “Great Wagon Road” to Virginia and on to Orange County, North Carolina. And of course they were Presbyterian and they had established four churches in 1752-1761 in the Hillsborough area. Now, **THOMAS BAILIFF’S LAND** was in a nest of them [Scotch-Irish], there was marriages with the **BAKERS**, and probably came from the same general place in the Old Country [both Scotland and Ireland].⁴

THOMAS BAILIFF father of **ROBERT** received a land grant on the “waters of New Hope and Eno” on 24 June 1796 which is the approximate year that **THOMAS** moved his family from

1 Tombstone, Bailiff Cemetery, Melrose Township, Clark County, Illinois.

2 Historical Sketch, New Hope [Presbyterian] Church, in Orange County North Carolina, Revised Edition, by Rev. D.I. Craig, Reidsville, N.C. 1891 found in the Library of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

3 Ibid.

4 Clarence Jones, a volunteer at the Genealogical Society in Hillsborough, North Carolina, July 29, 1992.

Seven Mile Creek to the New Hope area.⁵ By 1815 **THOMAS BAILIFF** is selling the 86 acres he owns in Orange County, North Carolina, to William Real since he has previously moved his family including **ROBERT** to Chatham County, North Carolina. There is not a signature by **THOMAS BAILIFF'S** wife **ELIZABETH BAKER** indicating that she is deceased before 1815.⁶

The Land Map attached⁷ shows **THOMAS BAILIFF** was granted an irregular shaped tract of land containing 86 acres in Orange County, North Carolina. **THOMAS BAILIFF'S** tract joins **ROBERT BAKER** on the East and **THOMAS BAKER** on the West and was entered 24 June 1796. This land grant was obtained two years before **ROBERT BAILIFF** was born to **THOMAS BAILIFF** and **ELIZABETH BAKER** daughter of **THOMAS BAKER**. This map and the two land deeds establish where **ROBERT BAILIFF** was born, Orange County, North Carolina.

THOMAS BAILIFF JR LAND GRANT 86 ACRES ORANGE COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA 1796

APPLICATION NO. 2488; Orange County, North Carolina; **THOMAS BAILIFF**; **86 Acres**; Grant No. 1612; **Issued 2 June 1800**; Entry No. 251; **Entered 24 June 1796**; Book No. 108 & Page No. 56; **Location on "on waters of Newhope & Eno"**.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA---NO. 251

WILLIAM RAINEY entry taker in and for the County of Orange to the Surveyor of said County greeting. You are hereby required to lay off and survey for **THOMAS BALLIFF EIGHTY SIX ACRES** of land by him entered in this office **June 24th 1796** lying on the head **waters of NEWHOPE and ENO** adjoining land of **JOHN FOSSETT, JOSEPH HASTAIN, THOMAS BAKER** observing at the same time the direction of the Act of Assembly in such case made and provided which having done two just and fair plans of such survey with proper respect annexed to each other together with this warrant you are to transmit to the Secretary office without delay. Given under my hand **August 2nd, 1794**.

WILLIAM RAINEY CT. CK.

THOMAS BAILIFF PLAT

The annexed Plat represents a Trail of Land Surveyed for **THOMAS BAILIFF** by virtue of a warrant (No. 251) **lying on the waters of NEWHOPE and ENO** adjoining the lands of **JOHN FOSSETT, JOSEPH HASTINGS, THOS. BAKER**.

Beginning at a Post oak a corner of **said Baker Running** thence south Forty two Chains to a black oak thence north Twenty Seven degrees Fifty seven chains to a Hickory on **Hobbins Line** thence along the same south eight east to the beginning **CONTAINING EIGHTY SIX ACRES** surveyed.⁸

Nov the 7th, 1797

CHARLES CHRISTMAS LCC

[Plat shows **THOMAS BAILIFF LAND** adjoining **THOMAS BAKER, THOS. BAILEY.**]

⁵ Application No. 2488: Orange County, North Carolina; Thomas Bailiff; 86 Acres; Grant No. 1612; Issued 2 June, 1796; Bk No. 108 & Page No. 56; Location on "waters of Newhope & Eno".

⁶ Orange County, North Carolina, Land Deed, Bk 15, Page 152 & 153.

⁷ Land Map is found in the Library of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

⁸ North Carolina, Land Grant Files, 1693-1960, Orange County, 2366-2604, Thomas Bailiff & Thomas Baker.

THOMAS BAILIFF SELLS 86 ACRES IN ORANGE COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA TO WILLIAM REAL 1815

Thomas Bailiff

To

William Real

This indenture made this thirty first day of July in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and fifteen between **WILLIAM REAL** of the County of **ORANGE** and State of **North Carolina** of the one part and **THOMAS BAILIFF** of the County of **CHATHAM** and state aforesaid of the other part. Witness that the said **THOMAS BAILIFF for and in consideration of the sum of fifty pounds** current money to him in hand paid by the said **WILLIAM REAL** the receipt whereof the said **THOMAS BAILIFF** doth hereby acknowledge, granted bargained and sold and by these presents doth grant bargain and sell unto the said **WILLIAM REAL** his heirs and assigns, **EIGHTY SIX ACRES OF LAND** being in the county aforesaid lying on the **WATERS OF ENO** and **NEW HOPE** and joining the land of **JOHN CHEEK**. Beginning at a post oak corner to the said **CHEEK** running thence south forty two chains to a black oak thence north twenty seven degrees. East fifty seven chains to a hickory a corner to **JOSEPH HASTINGS**. Thence along the line West fifty chains to a hickory on **HOBB'S LINE** thence along the same South eight chains and fifty links to a stake on **CHEEKS LINE** thence along the same East to the beginning **CONTAINING EIGHTY SIX ACRES** more or less---for compliment and all the appurtenances to the same hereunto belonging and also the reversion and reversions, remainder and remainders rent dues and profits of the same premises and every part thereof to have and to hold the said tract of land to the said **WILLIAM REAL** his heirs and assigns to the only proper use and behalf of the said **WILLIAM REAL** his heirs and assigns and the said **THOMAS BAILIFF** for himself his heirs and assigns the said tract of land and premises and every part thereof against him and his heirs and assigns to the said **WILLIAM REAL** and his heirs and assigns. In witness whereof the said **THOMAS BAILIFF** hath hereunto set his hand and seal the day and date above written.⁹

THOMAS BAILIFF

Signed sealed and delivered in presence of:

DANIEL CLOUD

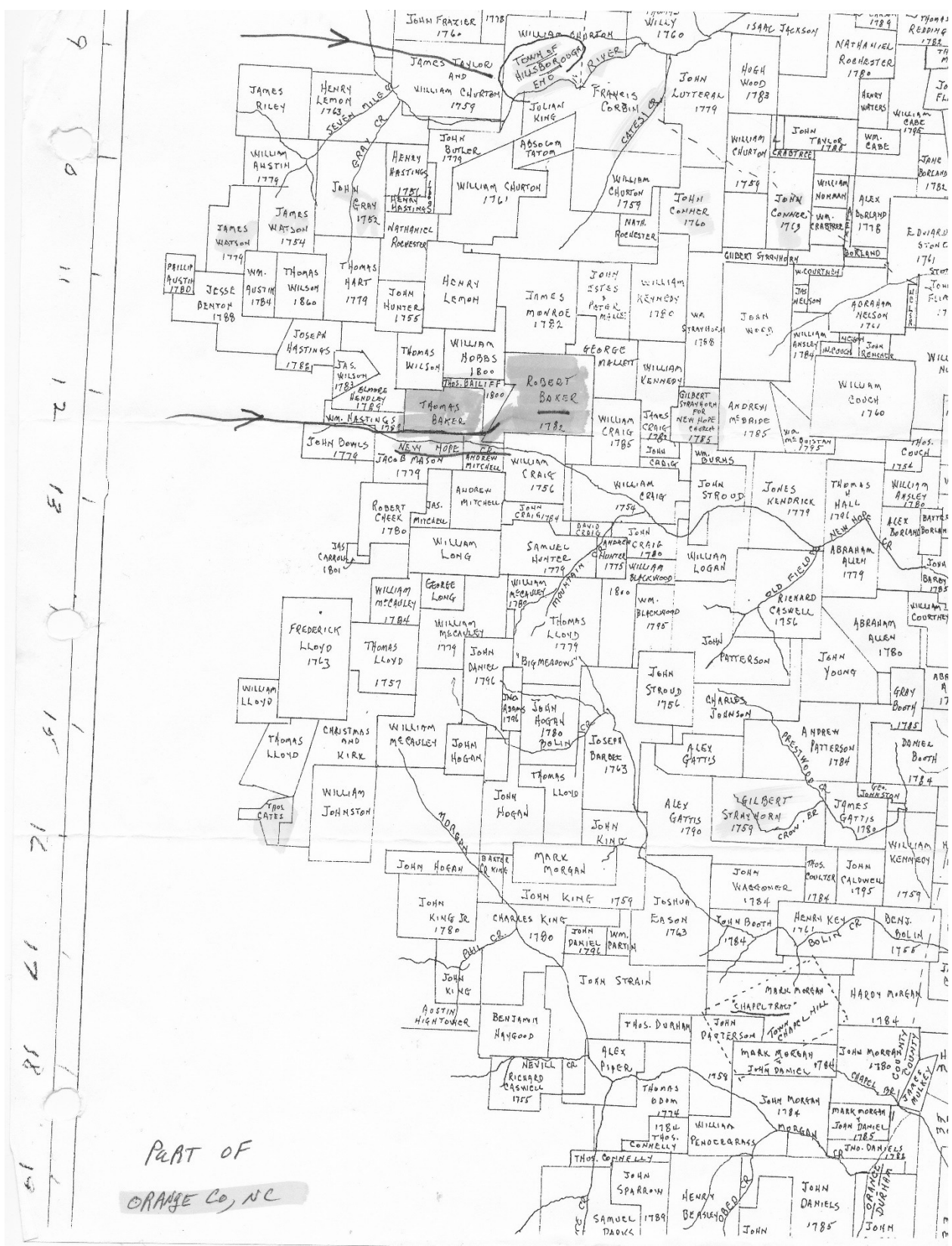
LUCY LOYD

ORANGE COUNTY AUGUST TERM 1815

The execution of the within deed was duly proven in open Court by the oath of **DANIEL CLOUD** a subscribing witness there to and ordered to be registered.

Test. **J. TAYLOR C.C.**

NOTE: There is no wife signing this land deed which tells us that **ELIZABETH BAKER BAILIFF** is deceased before 1815. This tract joins **THOMAS BAKER** land on 1800 map of Orange County, North Carolina.



PART OF
ORANGE CO, NC