

BAILIFF SETTLEMENT OF ORANGE COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA 1785

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THOMAS BAILIFF [SR] who came from West Bradford, Chester County, Pennsylvania, seems to be the ancestor of most **BAILIFF'S IN NORTH CAROLINA**. The following paragraphs taken from "Orange County Information" provide a good description of where they settled in Orange County, North Carolina.

We know that **THOMAS BAILIFF [SR]** probably came to Orange County, North Carolina, as early as 1762. **THOMAS [SR]** appears in the Orange County records for the first time in 1765.

The route taken from Pennsylvania to Orange County for most immigrants was the "Great Wagon Road". It was the most direct road and in pre 1765 era the only road being traveled. The migration along the "Great Wagon Road" from Pennsylvania through the Shenandoah Valley to the Carolinas was made up largely of **SCOTCH-IRISH** and **GERMAN** immigrants. The **Scotch-Irish** were actually of **Scottish Origin**. Through unusual circumstances they were settled in Northern Ireland. [They were not Irish]. The Scotch-Irish can usually be identified because they were strong Presbyterians and anti-Anglican Church. When things became tough in Ireland, the Scotch Irish headed for America with the hopes of land and a better life.

The most distinctly Scotch-Irish settlement in Orange County was **ENO** where the **BAKER BROTHERS** established **NEW HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**. **THOMAS BAILIFF [JR]** married into this family by marrying **ELIZABETH BAKER** daughter of **THOMAS BAKER**. This **BAILIFF SETTLEMENT** was about 7 miles North of Hillsborough, North Carolina. They also settled in the area east of **HAW RIVER** in the **LITTLE RIVER** and **NEW HOPE CREEK** sections. The **SCOTTS** were said to have been most prevalent in the Cumberland County area but **THOMAS BAILIFF JR.** settled in southern Orange County in the area that became **CHATHAM COUNTY** about 1797. The Illinois and Tennessee **BAILIFFS** originate from **THOMAS BAILIFF [JR]**.

The Germans settled the land west of the **HAW RIVER**. There were many Lutheran and German Reformed. By 1773 there were so many Germans in Western Orange County than an early English traveler experienced difficulty in finding anyone who understood English.

The English immigrants from Virginia settled in northern Orange along the **HICO RIVER** and **COUNTY LINE CREEK**. There was a settlement of Irish [not Scotch-Irish] near **STONEY CREEK** in what is now **ALAMANCE COUNTY**. The **WELSH** settled between Hillsborough and what later became **CHATHAM COUNTY**.

QUAKERS were very prominent in early Orange County. Quakers settled north of Hillsborough and in the **CAIN CREEK** and **STINKING QUARTER CREEK** areas that are now part of Chatham, Alamance and Randolph Counties.