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**The Carolina Irish Roots
of John H. and Margaret Craig Huey**

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Introduction

In 1831 John H. Huey and his wife Margaret Craig arrived in Randolph County, Illinois with their ten children. Information about the origins of this family has been limited to the various reports of entries in a family Bible which presumably belonged to John H. and Margaret Craig Huey. According to the family Bible, the grandfather of John H. Huey was John W. Huey who was born in Scotland or Ireland and was married there to a Miss Sloan. The father of John H. Huey was John Huey who married Catherine Aston or Auston and lived in South Carolina. The family Bible offers no other information about the family background of John H. or Margaret Craig Huey.

An unsigned note in the Marissa Historical and Genealogical Library in Marissa, Illinois says that Margaret Craig's mother was Mary McIntyre and her mother's maiden name was Morrow. Another article in this library expands the family Bible information with the claim that the father of John H. Huey married Catrin Austen in Ireland before immigrating to America.

The one piece of documentary evidence that has been known to Huey family researchers for some years is the marriage record of John H. Huey and Margaret Craig. They were married in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina on 9 March 1804. This was a double wedding at which Agnes Huey also married Alexander Craig.

A Huey history compiled by Esther Jane Ross and Frances Coulter in 1974 provides the birth date of John H. Huey (17 March 1778) and names and dates of birth of the children of John H. and Margaret Craig Huey.

- John C. Huey, born 25 December 1804, married Jane Jennie Couch
- Mary Polly Huey, born 19 June 1806, married Thomas Anderson
- Alexander Huey, born 24 August 1808, married Mary Polly Couch
- William Huey, born 25 August 1808, 'never married (died in Clay County,
- Illinois)

- Catherine Huey, born 12 November 1810, never married (died in Clay County, Illinois)
- Samuel Huey, born 14 April 1813, married (1) Mary Ann Lesslie (2) Mary Coulter
- Eleanor Huey, born 31 October 1815, married Robert Pressley
- Ann Huey, born 23 June 1818, married (1) John Clark (2) _____ Killingsworth
- Nancy Jane Huey, born 12 September 1821, married Samuel Pressley

Illinois sources also provide some information about the church membership of John H. and Margaret Craig after their arrival in Randolph County. They were members of the Preston Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church. This congregation was the first Presbyterian Church of any kind in the state of Illinois. It was organized in Kaskaskia in 1810 and moved to Preston in 1823. A Hill Prairie Township Historical Guide includes a seating chart of this church (also known as the Old Springfield Congregation) for 1843. The Huey pew lists John Huey and wife; sons Samuel, William, and Alex; daughter Polly with husband Thomas Anderson, and daughter Katie. By this time, John H. Huey's son, John C. Huey, was married and established in Perry County where he worshiped with his Craig cousins at the Hopewell Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church five miles west of Pinckneyville. In 1847 John C. Huey and his cousin Joseph Craig became the organizing elders of the Swanwick Bethel Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church near their farms. John's brother, Samuel, had moved into this area by 1847 and became one of the first trustees of the new congregation.

The Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church was formed in the early 1780s through a merger of most Associate Presbyterian congregations and some Reformed Presbyterian congregations. These churches traced their origins to religious controversies in Scotland in the early 1700s. Unwilling to accept restrictions placed on the Church of Scotland by the English and then British governments they withdrew from the larger body of Presbyterians. The Associate Presbyterians (usually called Seceders in Scotland) and the Reformed Presbyterians (also known as Covenanters) were very active in Ireland. Both were well represented among the Scots-Irish who came to America in the second half of the 18th century. The formation of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church after the American colonies won their independence reflected the conviction that the old Scottish controversies could finally be set aside and that American Presbyterians need no longer be dependent on a European mother church. John H. and Margaret Craig Huey were clearly identified with this branch of American Presbyterianism when

they arrived in Illinois.

Huey Research

My effort to expand my understanding of the background of John H. and Margaret Craig Huey began in 2001 when I traveled to Scotland. Since my grandfather, Robert Huey, believed our Huey line was part of the Scottish Covenanter movement of the 17th century I visited Ayrshire in the lowlands where the Covenanters were strong. Here I found that the Howie family was very prominent among the Covenanters and that in some towns the Howies pronounce their name Hooey. I soon learned that the H-u-e-y spelling is almost never found in Scotland with Howie and Huie the most common variants of the name. The Howies were mostly located in the southern lowlands while the Huies were most frequently found in Argyllshire and the western isles.

When I followed the Scots-Irish trail to Ireland I discovered more variant spellings of the name; Howey, Hewey, Hewie, and for the first time, Huey. I found land documents where two variant spellings for the same person were used in one document (Hewie and Huey). I visited Huey graves from the early 1700s and land farmed by the Hueys for over 300 years at Ballynaris in Upper Antrim County. In South Carolina, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Kentucky, the variant spellings continued to expand to include Hughey and Hughy, with the most commonly used being Huey and Hughey. In Illinois documents (after 1831) the Huey spelling became the standard. My Huey research has taken me to libraries, archives, and county record offices in Scotland, Ireland, the District of Columbia, and the previously named states in the U. S. Valuable information has been gleaned from every research stop, although time constraints have in many cases limited my activity to the "low hanging fruit." My travel within the U. S. has taken me to land farmed by the Hueys in Iredell County, North Carolina and Randolph and Perry Counties in Illinois.

The value of the information gained from my travels has been greatly enhanced by the Federal census records available through Ancestry.com. The 1850 U. S. census for Randolph County, Illinois offers important information about John H. and Margaret Craig Huey. This record states that John H. Huey was born in North Carolina and Margaret Craig was born in Ireland. Ages of family members whose birthdates are known are understated on this record by 6-7 years. A similar adjustment for Margaret Craig would make her year of birth 1776. Since emigration from Ireland to America was suspended during the Revolutionary War years from 1775 to 1782, it seems probable that Margaret Craig arrived in America after 1782.

This census record for 1850 also lists the states in which the three children living with John and Margaret at that time were born. Their twin sons, Alexander and William, were born 24 August 1808 in Tennessee and their daughter, Catherine was born 12 November 1810 in Tennessee. Consulting 1850 census records for two other children of this couple provides a general chronology of John and Margaret's journey from North Carolina to Illinois. Mary Polly Huey Anderson was born in North Carolina 19 June 1806 and Samuel Huey was born in Kentucky 14 April 1813. This tells us that the Huey family left North Carolina after 19 June 1806 and arrived in Tennessee before 24 August 1808. They left Tennessee after 12 November 1810 and arrived in Kentucky before 14 April 1813. Census records for John Craig, William Craig, and Joseph Craig, neighbors of John C. Huey in Perry County, Illinois and sons of Alexander Craig and Agnes Huey show that the Craig and Huey families made at least part of this journey together. John Craig was born in North Carolina in 1806; William Craig was born in Tennessee in 1808 and Joseph Craig in Kentucky in 1814. These Illinois records suggest that John H. and Margaret Craig Huey left North Carolina in 1806, 1807, or 1808, just a few years after their marriage in 1804. They lived in Tennessee and Kentucky before arriving in Illinois.

My search of U. S. Census records in Kentucky offers additional information on the journey of John H. and Margaret Craig Huey. The 1820 record for Caldwell County in Western Kentucky lists a John Hughey family that perfectly fits the demographic profile of the Hueys. The male head of household listed is in the age category of 26-45. John H. Huey was 42 years old. There is one male under age 10 and Samuel Huey was 7 years old. There are three males between the ages of 10 and 16. John C. was 16 and the twins were age 12. There are three females under age 10. Catherine was 9, Eleanor was 5, and Ann was 2 (Nancy would not be born until 1821). There is one female between the ages of 10 and 16. Mary was 14. There is one female between the ages of 26 and 45. Margaret Craig Huey was about 44 years old in 1820.

The case for this record describing the family of John H. and Margaret Craig Huey is strengthened by the 1830 census records for Caldwell County. Here we find Alexander Craig (age 50-60), Alexander Craig (age 20-30), John Craig (age 20-30), and a John Huey (age 50-60) all on the same page. The quality of this John Huey family record is poor, leaving the listing of sons by age group unclear. The age grouping for John H. and Margaret Craig Huey's five daughters is exactly right. There are also two older women in the household; one between 60 and 70, the other between 90 and 100 years old.

There is a strong connection between these 1830 Caldwell County, Kentucky records and the Perry County, Illinois records for 1840. In Perry County we find Alexander Craig, William

Craig, Joseph Craig, John Craig, and John C. Huey clearly shown as neighbors. An 1850 plat map of Perry County shows that these farms were indeed located very close to one another. The map also shows that by 1850 John C. Huey's younger brother, Samuel, had also moved into this neighborhood. In 1840 these Craig and Huey cousins were all in their 30s. William Craig's listing includes a wife in her 20s, a son under five, and a male aged 60-70. It is possible that Alexander Craig, Sr. was a widower living in this household.

This clustering of Craigs and Hueys in both counties establishes that the family of John H. and Margaret Craig Huey was in Caldwell County, Kentucky before making the move to Illinois. It also appears likely that siblings and/or cousins of Margaret Craig Huey were part of this clan. We can conclude that the family of John H. and Margaret Craig Huey spent more than ten years in this Western Kentucky county, leaving after 1830. John C. Huey's service record for the Blackhawk War in Illinois establishes the family's residence there by 1832.

The search for John H. Huey's roots begins with a search for records in Mecklenburg County where the Huey/Craig marriages were recorded in 1804. The family Bible information indicates that the father of John H. Huey was John Huey. The records suggest the presence of four John Huey families in Mecklenburg County in 1800. Records for all of these John Hueys have more than one of the variant spellings for Huey so it is not always possible to be certain which John Huey is being referenced in some of the records.

Land, tax, and probate records indicate that three of these John Huey families could not have included John H. Huey. John Howey is listed in both the 1790 and 1800 census and various land and tax records from 1787 to 1798. His will, proved in 1803, lists his son as George, his wife as Frances, and four daughters (one deceased) of whom two were married to Howeys (Robert and William). His land was in the southern part of Mecklenburg County. Since he does not name a son named John and since his grandson John (by William Howey) was still in the county in 1818 this is clearly not the family of John H. Huey.

Another John Huey family can be easily ruled out. John Hoey/Howie appears in land and tax records between 1794 and 1798. He purchased 111 acres in the southeastern section of Mecklenburg County on Back Creek in 1794 and was taxed for it by the state in 1798. Since his land is very close to Cabarrus County, he may be the son of Samuel Huey who appears on the same tax list for 292 acres. Samuel purchased his 292 acres on Back Creek in 1789 from the same seller who sold 111 acres to John five years later (North Carolina Deed Book, #1842, page 156). Samuel moved from Rowan County where his father Samuel died in 1790. He sold land to the commissioners for the city of Concord and died in Cabarrus County in 1816. His will names

five sons, Silas, Pleasant, Robert, Josiah, and John G.L. Huey. His wife Jane (Jean) is named in his will and one of his land sales. John G.L. Huey was in North Carolina too late to be part of John H. Huey's family.

One of the most interesting John Huey families in Mecklenburg County in 1800 is that of John Huey, Esq. He is probably the John Howey listed in a 1784 land purchase from Jean and George Walker for 185 acres on Cane Creek near the Mecklenburg County, North Carolina and Lancaster County, South Carolina border. Another land purchase on Cane Creek adjacent to the South Carolina line is entered into the county records in 1797. In 1797 he is taxed for 300 acres in Captain Secrest's company. Court records show that he was appointed by the governor to serve as county commissioner in 1797. He is listed in the U.S. census for 1790 and 1800, but the 1800 listing conveys his newly elevated status of John Huey, Esq. He is frequently cited in court records for his role as commissioner with all of the variant Huey spellings on display. In his will (dated 1803) he names an under aged son Samuel and daughters Jean, Margaret, Catherine, Elizabeth, Polly, and Agnes. The will lists James (probably his brother) as executor. Hercules Huey (probably another brother) James Crye (probably Craig) are witnesses. His estate took some years to settle, indicating that he was a man of some means. It was filed with the county by James Huey in 1808. Estate settlements of \$637 are paid to his son Samuel and to a daughter Nancy. The initial filing of this estate listed monetary assets of \$3,322 with the final payment in 1812 showing \$945 left.

The evidence suggests that John Huey, Esq. is the son of Hercules Huey, Sr. who immigrated to South Carolina from Antrim County, Ireland just before the Revolutionary War and was established in Lancaster County, SC which borders Mecklenburg County on the South. Family records indicate that Hercules, Sr. had a son John who was born in 1756 and died in 1803 and was married to a woman named Elizabeth. This Huey family was closely related to the John Craig family which came to America on the *Lord Dunluce* in 1772 and became established in Lancaster County. Most descendents of the Hercules Huey family moved to Alabama, Louisiana, and Mississippi in the early 1800s where they would produce the infamous Governor Huey Long. While this cannot be John H. Huey's immediate family there is good reason to speculate that there was a cousin relationship between the families.

A good case can be made for connecting John H. Huey to John Huey/Hughey, Sr. who appears in Mecklenburg County records between 1787 and 1807. Court records show a John Huie assigned to a jury in April of 1787 with other jurors (Robert Smith and James Boyce) who live in the far northwest corner of Mecklenburg County (Mecklenburg County Court of Common

Pleas, Volume I, Book 2, #125). A John Hughey is on the North Carolina land tax list in this same area (Captain Cathey's Company) in 1798 for 150 acres and 1799 for 308 acres. In 1802 John Huey, Sr. purchased 231 acres from William Graham for £80 on the north side of the Catawba River adjacent to Robert Wilson, Samuel Wilson, David Wilson, and Hugh Torrance (Herman Ferguson, Land Records for Mecklenburg County, 1794-1830, #1169). This land appears to be near the present day town of Huntersville, North Carolina. A later record for the sale of this land places it on McDowell Creek. Later in 1802 quit claim deeds are filed for exchanges of land with neighbors Hugh Torrance and David Wilson. This land appears on the 1806 North Carolina tax list (Benjamin Wilson's Company) where John Hughey is taxed for 231 acres (Mecklenburg County Will Abstracts and Tax Lists, page 291). This parcel of land is sold by John Huey, Sr. to his neighbor Robert Wilson for \$577.50 in November of 1807. Subsequently, John Huey no longer appears on the 1807 North Carolina Tax List suggesting that he is no longer a landowner in the county.

This John Huey also has an intriguing connection to an Alexander Craig who is also selling his land holdings in 1805 and 1806. In 1806 Craig appears on the same tax list as John Huey, having transferred from another tax company after selling his land. This record shows Craig owning no land. The evidence suggests that Alexander may have moved in with his in-laws as they all prepared to move West. The McDowell Creek Huey property is in the same general area as the farm and mill of William McIntyre which was the site of a well-known Revolutionary war skirmish. Family notes in the Marissa Historical and Genealogical Library in Marissa, Illinois claim that Margaret Craig's mother was a McIntyre.

The Mecklenburg County land holdings of John Huey, Sr. are located only ten miles from the 1783 John Huey land grant on Coddle Creek. The Coddle Creek land is in Iredell County less than ¼ mile north of the Mecklenburg County line, a boundary which probably was not that clearly delineated in the 1780s (this portion of Mecklenburg County was transferred to Cabarrus County in 1792). In an earlier version of this article I assumed that the John Huey claim on Coddle Creek belonged to the son of the John Huey, Sr. who had a 1784 land grant on Bear Creek in the northern part of Iredell County and a mill in Wilkes County which borders Iredell on the north. A closer look at the records for his son John Huey, Jr. indicates that most of his activity was centered in the far north section of Iredell County extending into Wilkes County. Given the location of the Bear Creek Hueys some 40 miles north of Coddle Creek, I now believe it is more likely that Coddle Creek is one of the holdings of the McDowell Creek Hueys from Mecklenburg County. This conclusion is supported by the 1790 census for Iredell County which

lists John Huey with his Coddle Creek neighbors Robert Sloan, James McKnight, and Hugh McKnight. None of the brothers of John Huey of Bear Creek is listed in this neighborhood. In bridging these two counties the McDowell Creek Hueys would have been following the example of their wealthy neighbor Hugh Torrance who owned land in southern Iredell County to go with his 1300 acres in northwest Mecklenburg County. Other Huey neighbors on Coddle Creek were John and James Sloan who received their land from the estate of their father Robert Sloan. The Coddle Creek Huey land grant is also adjacent to the Coddle Creek Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church. John Boyse, who became pastor of this church in 1788, and the Sloans are listed in Mecklenburg County Court records serving on juries and road crews with the Hueys. The links between the Coddle Creek property and the Huey holdings on McDowell Creek near Huntersville were strengthened by the sharing of a pastor by the Associate Reformed Presbyterian congregations in these two communities (Coddle Creek ARP and Gilead ARP).

I first became interested in the Hueys of Iredell County, North Carolina in October of 2003 when I found a record of a 1793 land sale in Spartanburg County, South Carolina. In March of 2007 I learned that this land was granted to John Huey in 1773 after he arrived in Charleston, South Carolina from Larne, Ireland on the *Lord Dunluce* in late 1772. Huey was part of a group of five shiploads of settlers organized by Reformed Presbyterian minister, William Martin. These settlers came from the northern part of Antrim County, Ireland and were given land grants in various counties in the Piedmont of South Carolina. This John Huey was of interest to me because the passengers on the *Lord Dunluce* also included Sloan and Craig family members. In fact, James Sloan received a land grant in Spartanburg County in the same area as John Huey. My research at the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland in Belfast in 2007 identified Sloans and Hueys on the rolls of the Ballymoney Presbyterian Church in the part of Antrim County where many of William Martin's settlers had lived. When John Huey sold the Spartanburg County land on 13 December 1793 he was listed on the document as being from Iredell County, North Carolina. One of the witnesses who signed the document was another John Huey, presumably his son. My interest in this John Huey was also piqued by a reference in Glasgow's *History of the Reformed Presbyterian Church* noting that the Reverend William Martin visited a Covenanter Society in Iredell County, North Carolina in 1780.

When I arrived in Iredell County in April of 2008 I went to the county government center and found the will of a John Huey, Sr. which was filed 9 July 1793. This is the John Huey, Sr. mentioned above who received the land grant on Bear Creek. The will lists Elizabeth as his wife and gives the names of six sons and three daughters. The sons are Joseph (named executor),

Benjamin, Louis, John (referred to as "my beloved son"), Thomas, and William. The daughters are Sally, Jean, and Elizabeth. The will is witnessed by John McConnell, Sr. and William McConnell, Jr. The date of this will is five months earlier than the sale of the Spartanburg County, South Carolina land. Other Iredell County records suggest that this John Huey Sr. had three brothers (Henry, Samuel, and Patrick) who moved into Rowan and Iredell counties in North Carolina ahead of him. Samuel's son is the Samuel Huey who moved to Cabarrus County and may have had land holdings in Mecklenburg County as referenced earlier.

But more recently discovered records indicate that the Bear Creek Hueys cannot be connected to the Spartanburg land grant or William Martin's settlers. Huey researcher Paul Gifford was kind enough to point me to the Revolutionary War pension applications of John Huey, Sr.'s son, Lewis Huey, and probable nephew John Huey. Lewis Huey states that he was born in 1762 in Chester County, Pennsylvania while his presumed cousin John Huey reports his birth in 1754 in New Castle County, Delaware (next to Chester County). John Huey's pension file states that he went to North Carolina after the revolution and stayed a few years before moving west to Kentucky. Lewis Huey's place of birth connects his father to the John Huey who married Elizabeth Morgan on 4 January 1753 at Holy Trinity Church in Wilmington, Delaware. By 1772 the Huey and Morgan families were in Hamilton Township, Northampton (now Monroe) County, Pennsylvania according to tax lists and deeds. John Huey, Sr. of Bear Creek first appears in North Carolina in 1778 in a tax list from Captain Dickson's district. None of these Hueys was within range of Spartanburg, South Carolina early enough to have received the 1773 grant. Paul Gifford has also pointed out that by the early 1800s members of this Huey line were Baptists and there is reason to speculate that their Baptist identity was established before they arrived in North Carolina. The Bear Creek Hueys do not fit the Presbyterian profile of John H. Huey's family or most of William Martin's settlers.

If John Huey, Sr. of McDowell Creek in Mecklenburg County owned the Coddle Creek property he would almost certainly be the John Huey who held the Spartanburg claim from 1772 to 1793. Certainly none of the other John Hueys identified so far in Iredell County can be linked to the Spartanburg property. The John Huey/James Sloan relationship extending from the Lord Dunluce to the Spartanburg County land grants to Coddle Creek and the Iredell County identity of the seller of the Spartanburg property in 1793 also ties the Coddle Creek Hueys to William Martin's settlers. The sale of the Coddle Creek property on 13 November 1797 for £61 and 10 shillings to neighbor William McKnight would coincide with John Huey, Sr.'s doubling of his northwest Mecklenburg County holdings in 1798.

The documentary trail for the Mecklenburg/Iredell Hueys is more difficult to track after their departure from North Carolina in late 1807 or early 1808. The sale of the last of the John Huey, Sr. and Alexander Craig holdings in Mecklenburg County in the fall of 1807 and the birth of John H. and Margaret Craig Huey's twin sons Alexander and William in Tennessee in August of 1808 marks the transition point. It is likely that John H. and Margaret Craig Huey moved to Middle Tennessee where most Scots Irish settlers went during these years. The 1810 Federal Census for Tennessee was destroyed in a fire in a warehouse in Washington DC and can offer no clues to the specific location of the Hueys in 1810.

One helpful resource is *The Reconstructed 1810 Census of Tennessee* by Charles A. Sherrill. Sherrill pulls together 33,000 Tennessee records from 1809 to 1811 to reconstruct a census for the state. These records include tax lists, court records, and deeds. From these records two possibilities emerge for John H. Huey. In Maury County, Tennessee there is a Hughey family which includes James Hughey, Samuel Huey, and John Hughey (page 265). More research is needed to identify who they are.

The other Tennessee county with Hueys listed in the reconstructed census is Robertson County, just north of Nashville extending to the Kentucky line. Here we find Joseph Huey, Thomas Huey, William Huey, John Huey, Sr., and John Huey, Jr. (page 264). It is clear that Thomas, William, and Joseph are sons of the John Huey, Sr. of Bear Creek, Iredell County whose will was probated in 1793. The identities of the Robertson County, Tennessee John Huey, Sr. and John Huey, Jr. are less clear. Robertson County records indicate the presence of the younger John Huey of the Bear Creek Hueys in the county through his relationship with his brothers. The early records of John Huey, which begin with his application to run an "ordinary" in 1804, would seem to refer to the John from the Bear Creek Huey family.

But in 1810 there is a listing of John Huey, Sr. and John Huey, Jr. serving on a road crew (Robertson County Tennessee Court Minutes, Vol. II, 1808-1810, page 198, #112). It is possible that this record refers to John H. Huey and his father who would have been in Middle Tennessee by that date. There are many John Huey records in Robertson County and most of them can be attributed to Bear Creek Huey family (including those which refer to the production and sale of whiskey). The only son of this John Huey clearly identified in the records is Jesse who receives land from his father. There is a series of law suits against Huey family members in 1809 which may tie John Huey Jr. to the Bear Creek Hueys. Defendants include Joab Moore, John Huey, Jesse Huey, John Huey Jr., and Daniel Chapmen. Further analysis of more than 50 Robertson County John Huey records is needed to sort out the question of how many John Hueys

were present in the county between 1808 and 1812. The 1812 Enumeration List for Robertson County includes four Huey heads of household: Jesse, John, Joseph, and William. All of these appear to be Bear Creek Hueys. If the Mecklenburg/Iredell Hueys were in Robertson County they left in 1812 for Kentucky where John H. Huey's son Samuel was born on 14 April 1813.

It is not difficult to understand why John H. Huey would have left Robertson County about 1812. In his book, *Middle Tennessee 1775-1820*, Kristopher Ray describes the major problems which confronted farmers during the years that John H. Huey lived in Tennessee. Tennessee was experiencing exponential growth at the time that the Hueys were settling there. This growth began in 1796 when Tennessee became a state and the Indians were pacified. The population of Middle Tennessee (which encompasses Robertson County) was 11,500 in 1796. By 1820 the population of the area had grown to 387,501. The booming economy was controlled by land speculators who were in place before 1790 and by wealthy elites who were importing huge numbers of slaves and establishing large plantations to produce tobacco and cotton for an international market. Subsistence farmers like John H. Huey were forced to take on high levels of debt for startup costs, land payments, and taxes. Many farmers were victimized by fraudulent surveys which could only be resolved by litigation which most farmers could not afford. When the economy of the region contracted in 1808 many farmers could not generate the cash to pay their debts and subsequently lost their farms. The economic conditions of Middle Tennessee between 1810 and 1820 forced most ordinary farmers to become tenants or move West.

A move to Caldwell County, Kentucky from Middle Tennessee was not a long journey. The distance was less than 150 miles which was not far compared to the distance to Middle Tennessee from North Carolina where John H. and Margaret Craig Huey started their lives together. The early American trail map by W. E. Myer shows a major trail leading from central North Carolina to Nashville in Middle Tennessee. A branch of this trail extends from Nashville through Robertson County, Tennessee and Caldwell County, Kentucky ending at the Ohio River and the Illinois state line. These trails were the only way to reach the Caldwell County area from North Carolina in the early 1800s. By moving to Caldwell County, Kentucky John H. and Margaret were making the next stop on the trail heading West. They were also aligning themselves more closely with Margaret's family, the Craigs, who were establishing themselves there in significant numbers.

One can only guess why the family of John H. Huey began leaving North Carolina by 1808. They may have been in the Carolina Piedmont for more than 35 years and were clearly well established. The records suggest that by 1802 John Huey, Sr. may have owned more than

500 acres of land. While he was a prosperous man in North Carolina, there is no evidence that he owned slaves. It may well be that John Huey, Sr. was influenced by the 1802 action of the Reformed Presbyterian Church barring its slave holding members from Communion. Having come to America with Reformed Presbyterian minister, William Martin, John was likely part of the Reformed Presbyterian societies which Martin visited in Iredell and Mecklenburg Counties. Martin also lived in Mecklenburg County for several years during the Revolutionary War and may have been in more regular contact with the Hueys during that time. Members of the Iredell and Mecklenburg County Reformed Presbyterian Societies would have been under the same pressure that led to the documented release of slaves by Reformed Presbyterians in Chester County, South Carolina in 1802. As the slave economy took hold in North Carolina, the Hueys would have found it very difficult to prosper without participating in that economy. This would have created a powerful incentive to move West in search of a home where slavery was not so well entrenched.

Neither the family Bible nor the records I have found give a clear indication of whether the grandfather of John H. Huey migrated to America or remained in Ireland. The John Huey who arrived on the Lord Dunluce in 1772 is probably the father of John H. Huey because the 150 acres he received is the amount of land that would normally be allowed to someone who is not married. James Sloan's land grant suggests that he was in the same situation. Since James Sloan's father appears to have been established in the Carolinas earlier than 1772, the same may be true for the grandfather of John H. Huey. The North Carolina land records for John Huey Sr. seem to fit John H. Huey's father better than his grandfather.

One intriguing scenario is suggested by the 1790 census for Fairfield County, South Carolina. There we find a John Huey on the same page with a John Sloan, a James Craig, and a James Austin. This Austin reference in the census is corroborated by Jean Stephenson's book *Scotch Irish Migration to South Carolina, 1772*, which refers to the "Austin estate in Fairfield County between the Broad River and Little Creek (page 76)." This John Huey no longer appears in the 1800 census for that county. I visited the site of a Covenanter congregation in the northern part of Fairfield County which was founded by William Martin who lived in Chester County (the next county to the north). If John H. Huey's father and grandfather were established in Fairfield County in the 1770s (the family Bible notes that they were in South Carolina first) this could account for his father's marriage to Catherine Austin there before 1778. If the grandfather remained in Fairfield County, South Carolina when John H. Huey's parents moved to the Mecklenburg /Iredell County line in North Carolina by 1783 that could explain his appearance in

the 1790 census there and probable death in the county before 1800. My research at the Fairfield County Museum Archive in Winnsboro, South Carolina did not uncover any other evidence of Hueys in that county in the 1770s or 1780s. There was a map from the 1870s that showed the location of Huey land and a Huey river ferry crossing the Catawba River, but I do not know when these Hueys entered the county.

Another South Carolina John Huey family is found in the records of Union County. This family has a line of John Hueys that is first documented with a Union County land grant in 1767. John Huey Sr.'s will, dated 1792, names his wife Mary and seven sons (Thomas, Joseph, James, John, Samuel, George, and Henry) and three daughters (Martha, Mary, and Hannah). Several of his sons, including John Jr., fought in Colonel Brandon's regiment in the Revolutionary War. John Huey listings for Union County are found in both the 1790 and 1800 U.S. Census. Because John Jr. and his son John appear on a Union County land deed in 1809 this cannot be the family of John H. Huey.

The trail of records also leaves open the time and place of death of John H. Huey's father. John Huey Sr.'s land sales in Mecklenburg County in 1805 and 1807 indicate that he probably left with John H. Huey and Alexander Craig for Tennessee in 1807 or 1808. The John Huey Sr. and John Huey Jr. records in Robertson County, Tennessee suggest they may have been there together. There is however, no record trail for John H. Huey's father in Caldwell County, Kentucky.

Craig Research

There are several possibilities for the Scots Irish family roots of Margaret Craig. The search begins with the John Craig family which arrived in America on the *Lord Dunluce* in 1772 with William Martin and John Huey. This John Craig and his wife Elizabeth received a land grant which they later sold so they could become established in Lancaster County, South Carolina. John Craig was one of seven justices of the peace when Lancaster became a county in 1785. At least four and as many as ten children came with them from Ireland. Researchers have confirmed James (born 1749), Mary (born 1753), John, Jr. (born 1754), and Margaret (born 1755) as their children. Alexander Craig (birth date unknown) lived near John and Elizabeth and could well be another son. Elizabeth (born 1763) and William (born 1771) may also be children of this couple.

John Craig, Jr. and his wife Mary also lived in Lancaster County. There is a marker to Mary Craig at Old Waxaw Presbyterian Church, Lancaster County, South Carolina which states

that she had seven children. Some researchers list nine children for John and Mary, including Margaret Craig (born 1779) and Alexander Craig (born 1781) as the two oldest children. This Margaret and Alexander are reported to be the siblings who married John H. and Agnes Huey on 9 March 1804 in Mecklenburg County. However, the more careful of the Craig researchers point out that there is no documentary evidence connecting Margaret and Alexander to John and Mary Craig.

The Old Waxaw church marker for Mary Craig casts doubt on the placement of Margaret and Alexander in this family. The 1850 Randolph County, Illinois census record which lists Margaret's place of birth as Ireland suggests that she arrived in America after 1783 when immigration resumed following the Revolutionary War. This is eleven years after John Craig, Jr. came to America with his family on the *Lord Dunluce*. On the other hand the fact that the names Margaret and Alexander were used in the previous generation of the Craig family suggests there could be some kind of family relationship.

On my trip to the Carolinas in March of 2008 I met John Craig, a direct descendent of the John Craig, Sr. who came to Lancaster County soon after arriving in America in 1772. He lives in a historic home which is on the site of the original Craig homestead. He has in his home a small table which the Craig family brought with them on the *Lord Dunluce*, which I was able to photograph. He said that the Craigs and the Hueys in Lancaster County were closely allied for many years with several intermarriages. He is also descended from Huey ancestors of whom Hercules Huey was the first in Lancaster County in the 1760s. This Huey family included the John Huey, Esq. described earlier and they believed that they were Huguenots who fled to Ireland to escape religious persecution and were assimilated by the Scots Irish. At this point I have no evidence connecting the Lancaster County, South Carolina Hueys with the Mecklenburg/Iredell County North Carolina Hueys beyond their common roots in Antrim County, and Hercules Sr.'s son John moving into the southern part of Mecklenburg County at the close of the 18th century.

While Margaret Craig Huey could well be related to the Lancaster County, South Carolina Craigs, it is likely that she came from one of the families of Craigs who were established in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina between 1785 and 1800. The 1790 census for Mecklenburg County lists two Craig households on the same page. John Craig heads a household which includes his wife and daughter. John and his wife are listed as under 26 years old. Another household is headed by Moses Craig who is also under 26 years old. In addition to his wife, Moses' household includes two daughters (no age given), two sons under 16, and a male

over 16 who may be a brother.

In 1800 the census for Mecklenburg County shows six households headed by Craigs. John Craig appears again (age 26-44) with a wife (26-44), a son (under 10), and two daughters (age 10-16). Moses Craig (age 26-44) now has a wife (age 26-44), two daughters (under 10), a son (under 10), and a son (age 10-16). One household is led by William Craig (age 26-44) who has a wife (age 26-44) and a son under 10. William may be the youngest son of John Craig, Sr. of Lancaster County, South Carolina. He was born in Ireland in 1771, married Martha Davis in 1792, and died in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina in 1830. Since he does not appear in the Lancaster County census in 1800, he may be the William Craig listed in Mecklenburg County that year. This would suggest a close relationship between the Craigs of the two counties.

Another household in the 1800 census is headed by Alexander Craig (age 16-25) who may have been living with his brother John in 1790. This household includes a female (age 26-44) who could be the mother, older sister, or slightly older wife of Alexander. There are two females (under 10) and a male (age 10-15) in this household. Since the 10-15 year old boy is obviously too old to be Alexander's son, it is possible that the mother of these children is his sister or his mother. Two Craig households are headed by widows. One widow (age 26-44) has a daughter (age 10-15), a daughter or sister (age 16-25), a son (under 10), and two sons (age 10-15). The other Widow Craig (over age 45) has a daughter (under 10), a daughter (age 10-15), a son (under 10), and a son (age 16-25). This second widow was listed next to Moses Craig on the census form which suggests that they were neighbors and probably closely related.

The research of Troy R. Craig is helpful in sorting out some of the Craig relationships. The Moses Craig family is probably not related to the family of the Alexander Craig who married Agnes Huey in 1804. Moses Craig was in Kent County, Delaware in 1757 and migrated to Mecklenburg County in 1762. His 1796 will is filed in Mecklenburg County (Book A, page 213). Named in the will is his second wife Isabella. Children by his first wife include a son named Alexander who was born in Kent County, Delaware in 1757 and died in Henry County, Tennessee. This Alexander Craig married Mary McKubbin in Mecklenburg County. Another son was Moses, Jr. There is no evidence that this Craig family was related to the other Craigs in Mecklenburg County. Moses Craig, Jr. and his widowed mother Isabella account for two of the six Craig households in the 1800 census. The Alexander Craig listed in the 1800 Mecklenburg County U. S. Census is too young to be the 43 year old son of Moses, Sr.

Two Mecklenburg County property records for Alexander Craig provide additional help in sorting out the Craig relationships. In 1805 Alexander sells 100 acres on Rocky River in the

northern part of Mecklenburg County (Ferguson, Abstracts of Deed Books 15-23, 1794-1830). In 1807 he sells 100 acres on both sides of Stewarts Fork of Richardson Creek adjacent to the land of John Craig and Newton Craig. This sale in the southeast section of Mecklenburg County indicates that John and Newton are Alexander's brothers. Taken together the records suggest that Alexander has as a young man inherited land from his deceased father. This explains his being head of a household with an older female family member and his possible relationship to another Craig household headed by a widow. It seems reasonable to conclude that Alexander Craig's family accounts for three of the census households including one headed by his older brother John Craig. His younger brother Newton was probably one of the under 15 males listed in these households in 1800 and then a 21 year old landowner in 1807. Margaret Craig could be a sister or cousin of Alexander living in the household of the first widow. The placement of William Craig of Lancaster County, South Carolina in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina provides further evidence that the Hueys and Craigs of Mecklenburg and Lancaster Counties probably knew each other.

A search of census records for 1810 reveals that the preceding years were a time of transition for the Craigs of Mecklenburg County. Moses Craig was still in place in 1810, but there is no sign of the other five Craig households. There was a John Craig in the right age category in Caldwell County, Kentucky in 1810. Assuming this John Craig is the same man listed in the Mecklenburg County census of 1790 and 1800, we can trace him through five census reports through 1830. He was in Caldwell County, Kentucky in 1810, 1820, and 1830. If he was 30 years old in 1790, he would be 70 years old in 1830. The 1830 census lists John Craig between 60 and 70 with a wife between 50 and 60. A family file in Caldwell County lists his year of birth as 1758.

I found records in Caldwell County, Kentucky which establish that the John Craig of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina did in fact move to Caldwell County, Kentucky by 1810. Caldwell County Court records list John Craig on a road crew in 1809. In *Pioneers of Caldwell County, Kentucky*, the will of Alexander Orr names John Craig as the son-in-law of Alexander Orr. Orr is listed in the Federal Census of 1800 as a resident of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina and in the Federal Census of 1810 living in Caldwell County, Kentucky. His will names his wife Martha, son William, grandsons William Craig and Alexander Cooper, sons Alexander Orr and Hugh Orr, and daughters Polly Orr, Nancy Orr, Martha Watson, Peggy Craig, Elizabeth Laughlin, Jane Cooper, and son-in-law John Craig. John Craig's children are identified in a Caldwell County deed filed in October of 1835. William Craig, James Craig, Thomas Dunn and

wife Martha Craig Dunn, Robert Craig, Hugh Craig, and John Craig sign the document in Perry County, Illinois to convey the Caldwell County estate of their father John Craig to their siblings Samuel Craig, David Craig, and Mary Craig in exchange for their taking care of their elderly mother. The 1850 Federal Census for Caldwell County has their mother, Margaret Craig living with her sons Samuel and David Craig. Margaret is listed as 74 years old and born in North Carolina.

Land and census records show that Alexander Craig was no longer in Mecklenburg County in 1810, but Tennessee records offer no clear indication of where he was in 1810 or 1820. The reconstructed census for 1810 lists only one Alexander Craig in Tennessee, as a resident of Davidson County (next county south of Robertson). This record suggests that the John H. Huey and Alexander Craig families may not have been together during this time in Tennessee. In 1830, however, Alexander Craig was listed in Caldwell County, Kentucky as a man between the ages of 50 and 60 with a son (age 15-20) and another (age 20-30). This coincides with the ages of the 22 year old William and 16 year old Joseph. Once again this chronology fits with what we knew of Alexander from the Mecklenburg County census of 1800, when his age was listed between 16 and 25. If he was 24 in 1800 he would be 54 in 1830, well within the parameters of the Caldwell County information about him. The 1830 census shows that he no longer had a wife in 1830. Some pedigrees list Agnes' death in 1814 when Joseph was born. There is a Caldwell County, Kentucky deed for 74 acres purchased by Alexander Craig in that county on 3 July 1825. On 30 July 1825 John H. Huey purchased 50 acres adjacent to Alexander's land. These purchases suggest a strong partnership between Alexander and John at this stage and that Margaret may have helped to care for Alexander's young sons after Agnes' death. The land purchases also establish the presence of these families in Caldwell County. Alexander Craig is also mentioned in the Caldwell County records for the marriage of his son Alexander, Jr. to Letitia Brown in 1825 and his son John to Rachel Brown in 1829. These women appear to be the daughters of William Brown who may have been a neighbor of the Hueys at Coddle Creek in North Carolina. It appears that Alexander Craig followed his older brother John Craig to Caldwell County, Kentucky and accompanied his children and those of John Craig to Perry County, Illinois.

William Craig was also missing from the Mecklenburg census in 1810. But he reappeared in that county in the 1820 census. In 1820 he was listed as over 45 years of age. Lancaster County records indicate that he died in Mecklenburg County in 1830 at the age of 59. This adds credibility to the identification of this William as the son of John Craig, Sr. of Lancaster County,

South Carolina. Three younger Craigs, found on the same census page with William in 1820, may be his sons. They are James (age 26-45), J. D. (age 16-26), and Samuel (age 16-26).

The next generation of Craigs comes into view in the 1830 census in Caldwell County, Kentucky. There Alexander Craig (age 50-60) and John Huey (age 50-60) were listed on the same page with Alexander's sons, Alexander Craig, Jr. (age 20-30) and John Craig (age 20-30). On another Caldwell County page John Craig (age 60-70) was listed with William Craig (age 20-30). On yet another page is a William Craig (age 30-40). By the time of the 1840 census all of these younger Craigs had moved to Perry County, Illinois. There we find Alexander, Jr. (age 30-40) with Joseph Craig (age 20-30) and John H. Huey's son, John C. Huey (age 30-40) on the same census page. William's household included a man aged 60-70 who may have been Alexander, Sr. On another Perry County page is the older William (now age 40-50) next to another young John (age 20-30) who is probably this William's son. In the end the Perry County, Illinois Craig/Huey neighborhood is populated by the sons of John Craig, Alexander Craig, and John H. Huey. It appears that Margaret Craig Huey was the sister or cousin of Alexander Craig, Sr. and John Craig, Sr.

Conclusion:

My research on the Hueys and Craigs has been moving on two separate but overlapping tracks. The first is working back in time from the Huey and Craig family records in Southern Illinois. These records lead to the Huey/Craig/Orr clan in Caldwell County, Kentucky, and the Craig and Huey clans in Mecklenburg County in North Carolina where the marriage of John H. Huey and Margaret Craig took place in 1804 and where Alexander Craig and John Huey were in the same land tax district in 1807. Illinois census records provide additional information on the states in which they resided when John H. and Margaret's children were born; North Carolina in 1804 and 1806, Tennessee in 1808 and 1810, and Kentucky in 1813. This leads to the reconstructed 1810 census of Tennessee which identifies a John Hughey in Maury County, a John Huey, Sr. and John Huey, Jr. in Robertson County and an Alexander Craig in neighboring Davidson County.

The second track moves forward in time. It begins in Ireland with the Hueys who may have originated with the Covenanters of Southwest Scotland or may have been Huguenots fleeing from persecution to Scotland or Ireland in the second half of the 17th century. By the time John Huey arrived in America on the Lord Dunluce in 1772 this family was well assimilated into the Scots Irish community in Upper Antrim County and was closely related to two families of

Scottish origin, the Craigs and the Sloans. These families were also identified with either the Seceder or Reformed Presbyterian religious movements in Ireland. This John Huey and his friend James Sloan received land grants in the same area of Spartanburg County, South Carolina in 1773. When John Huey sold his Spartanburg land in 1793 he listed his residence as Iredell County, North Carolina where he may have been a neighbor of James Sloan on Coddle Creek, only 10 miles from later land purchases on McDowell Creek near Huntersville in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina. Both the Coddle Creek and Huntersville communities had Associate Reformed Presbyterian congregations served by the same pastor where Hueys certainly worshiped. A group of Craig households was established in Mecklenburg County before 1790. Some of them came to America with John Huey on the *Lord Dunluce* in 1772, while others probably arrived in 1783 or soon thereafter. Records show that some members of the Craig clan moved from Mecklenburg County to Caldwell County, Kentucky by 1809 where they were joined by the families of Alexander Craig and John H. Huey about 1812. Records also show that John H. Huey, Alexander Craig, and other members of their families left North Carolina in 1807 or 1808 and were on the trail to Caldwell County, Kentucky and Randolph/Perry Counties of Illinois.

Huey/Craig Time Line

- 1772 The *Lord Dunluce* arrives in Charleston with John Huey, James Sloan and the John Craig family.
- 1773 John Huey receives a land grant of 150 acres in Spartanburg County, South Carolina near the grant of James Sloan.
- Circa 1776 Margaret Craig is born in Ireland.
- 1778 John H. Huey is born to John Huey and Catherine Aston/Austin in North Carolina.
- Circa 1783 The family of Margaret Craig arrives in America and settles with other Craig relatives in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina.
- 1783 John Huey secures a land grant at Coddle Creek on the southern border of Iredell County, ¼ mile from Mecklenburg County, where James Sloan is his neighbor.
- 1793 John Huey sells the Spartanburg County, South Carolina land granted in 1773, with his son John as a witness and listing his residence as Iredell County.
- 1797 John Huey sells the Coddle Creek land grant in Iredell county, North Carolina.
- 1798 John Huey taxed for 150 acres in northwest Mecklenburg County, North Carolina.
- 1799 John Huey taxed for 308 acres in northwest Mecklenburg County, North Carolina.
- 1802 John Huey Sr. purchases 231 acres on McDowell Creek near Huntersville in northwest Mecklenburg County, North Carolina.
- 1804 John H. Huey is married to Margaret Craig and Alexander Craig is married to Agnes Huey in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina.
John C. Huey is born in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina.
- 1807 Alexander Craig appears on same tax list company as John Huey Sr. Both make major land sales.
- Circa 1808 Alexander Craig and the family of John H. Huey move to Tennessee.
- Circa 1808 Other Craig family members begin moving to Caldwell County, Kentucky.
- Circa 1812 John H. Huey moves from Tennessee to Caldwell County, Kentucky.
- 1831 John H. Huey and John C. Huey and Craig family members move to Randolph and Perry Counties in Illinois.
- 1832 John C. Huey serves in the Blackhawk War.
- 1835 John C. Huey settles in Perry County, Illinois.

Libraries and Archives Visited

Ireland:

- Public Record Office of Northern Ireland, Belfast

Scotland:

- The Dick Institute Kilmarnock, Ayrshire

United States:

District of Columbia

- DAR Library, Washington, DC

Illinois

- Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library, Springfield, Illinois
- Marissa Historical and Genealogical Library, Marissa, Illinois
- Perry County Records, Pinckneyville, Illinois

Kentucky

- Caldwell County Circuit Court Records, Princeton, Kentucky
- George Coon Public Library, Princeton, Kentucky

North Carolina

- The Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County, Charlotte, North Carolina
- Iredell County Government Center, Statesville, North Carolina
- Iredell County Public Library, Statesville, North Carolina
- Rowan County Public Library, Salisbury, North Carolina
- Cabarrus County Library, Concord, North Carolina

South Carolina

- Spartanburg County Public Library, Spartanburg, South Carolina
- Union County Records Office, Union, South Carolina
- Union County Carnegie Library, Union, South Carolina
- Fairfield County Museum Archive, Winnsboro, South Carolina

Tennessee

- Robertson County Archives, Springfield, Tennessee
- Tennessee State Library and Archives, Nashville, Tennessee

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