

# Correspondence on the Family of John Mason (died 1761 Virginia)

By Jerry Long, Owensboro, Ky.

January 2, 1984

Mr. Jerry Long  
1701 Alexander Avenue  
Owensboro, Ky. 42301

Thank you, Jerry Long:  
for your helpful answers to my questions when we talked last week. And for your friendly offer to share with me what you have on the Mason Family, as reported in the Hancock Clarion on December 1.

Enclosed is a Family Group Chart on the John Mason family of Botetourt County, Virginia. This is as far back as I have been able to get with the Mason family. If you have any information that goes back beyond this date I sure will be glad to get it.

Enclosed is a self addressed stamped envelope for your answer. I eagerly look forward to it.

Sincerely,  
Charles P. Culp

383 Lookout Drive  
Laguna Beach, CA 92651

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January 17, 1984

Charles P. Culp  
383 Lookout Drive  
Laguna Beach, CA 92651

Mr. Culp,

I am related to the Mason family through the Pate and Crawford families. All three were interrelated and residents of Botetourt County, Virginia. My fifth great-grandparents, Samuel Crawford and Janet Mason, married there 23 March 1771. Two of their daughters married Pates in Botetourt County. Several Pate families, Samuel and Jannet Crawford, and brother, Joseph Mason (father of John Henderson Mason 1784-1863), all left Virginia about the same time and

came to Kentucky and settled in what was then Hardin County, later Breckinridge County, about 1796.

Joseph Mason and Jannet Mason Crawford were children of John Mason, who lived and died (1760 or 1761) in the Roanoke Valley region-of Southwest Virginia. John Mason made a will 12 October 1760 which was probated and recorded in the records of Augusta County 18 August 1761 (he lived in the area of Augusta, Back Creek, that later was in Botetourt). John names the following Children: John, William, James, Joseph, Jannet, Mary, and Margaret.

The information I have regarding John Mason is from two books: 1) Kegley's Virginia Frontier, I am sending a page from this book from which the information appearing in Dorothy Watkin's column was taken. And 2) Over The Mountain Men, by Anne Lowrey Worrell, in this book of early records of several southwest Virginia counties is found the will of James Mason, probated 1808 in Botetourt County, He is the James Mason who is named as a son in the will of John Mason, 1760, James leaves his estate to his brothers and sisters and their families. In his will he names: sister, Jannet Crawford, and her children William, Mason, Samuel, Margaret, Sarah, Jane Pate, Mary Pate, Eleanor Jennings, all of Ky.; deceased brother William Mason; sister Mary wife of James E. Edgar of Bedford County, Va.; sister Margaret wife of Joseph Snodgrass of Tenn.; brother Joseph Mason of Breckinridge County, Ky.

At present this is all of the information I have on the Mason family. However, I would like to learn more about John Mason and his children including your ancestor Joseph Mason and hope to sometime to do more research on the family. I wish I could be of more help to you.

If you should have any research you need done locally I do research for others in the counties of Daviess, Ohio, Hancock, and Breckinridge. I am not a certified genealogist but I have done extensive research in these counties and have published two books, A History of the Gratzer and Paulin Families and "Early Settlers of Ohio County, Ky. 1799-1840," and presently I am working on a book of several Hancock County families.

Sincerely yours,  
Jerry Long

1701 Alexander Ave.  
Owensboro, KY 42301

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March 17, 1984

Charles P. Culp  
383 Lookout Drive  
Laguna Beach, CA 92651

Dear Mr. Culp,

Sorry it has taken me so long to answer your letter. I was not able to get out and do any research- until this week. Before that 'I had some dental surgery and we had a six inch snow.

This last Monday and Tuesday I was able to do some research on the Mason family, one day in Breckinridge County and one in Hancock County. You said you were interested in "straightening" out your line of descent. I assumed you were concerned with going back from John Henderson Mason (1784-1863). I decided to take one generation at a time. I tried to find all I could about John Henderson's parents, Joseph Mason and Jane Henderson, and their family.

I visited Pisgah Baptist Church Cemetery in Breckinridge County, located about two miles east of Dukes and two miles south of Cloverport. It is one of the oldest churches in Western Kentucky, reportedly formed in 1787. The original location was not at the present site. The church was originally on the banks of the Tar Creek, but was later moved to its present site when the Mason family contributed land for a new church. The church was built near the Mason family burying ground which subsequently became the church cemetery. I am sending a listing of all the graves with markers at Pisgah Cemetery.

John Henderson Mason's parents have large sandstone markers at Pisgah. Their markers read; Joseph Mason died November 19, 1834, aged 77 years, 1 mo., & 29 days; Jane wife of Joseph Mason died November 3, 1823 aged 60 years & 8 months. I took pictures of their monuments, if you would like to have copies I will send off the negatives. John Henderson also has two brothers buried here, Joseph Mason, Jr. (1793-1874) and Henderson Mason (1800-1850).

Joseph Mason, Sr. (1757-1834) served in the Revolutionary War as a private and a sergeant during the years 1776-1781. He applied for a Revolutionary Pension on 16 October 1832 as a resident of Breckinridge County, age 75 years, pension record #so 30562Va. He appears on a Military Pension list dated 1835. I found a copy of a DAR application on the Joseph Mason line made by Maud Mason Lang, a granddaughter of Christopher Jackson Mason and great-granddaughter of John Henderson Mason, I have sent a copy of this page. It would be possible to obtain Joseph Mason's pension record from the National Archives and DAR papers of those who have joined on that line (listing and proving their line of descent from Joseph Mason) will be provided upon request and a small fee.

At the Breckinridge County Courthouse I found proof that Joseph Mason's wife was Jane Henderson. Jane's father Samuel Henderson died and left land in Franklin County, Virginia. In Deed Book A. page 493, is a legal document transferring Power of Attorney recorded 15 October 1809 whereby "Joseph Mason and Jane, his wife, late Jane Henderson, of Breckinridge County, Ky." appointed "Samuel Mason their lawful attorney, to ask and receive what they are entitled to from the estate of Samuel Henderson, deceased, who died Franklin County, Va."

I am sending listings of all Masons I copied from the censuses of Breckinridge (from 1810) and Hancock Counties (from 1830) through 1870, and all marriages of Masons in both Counties through 1900. The marriages are accompanied by a notation on left edge of page giving the line from Joseph Mason, Sr. (1757-1834), if I could identify who that person was.

In the Archives room of the Hancock County courthouse are many boxes containing loose documents of that County's Circuit Court suits. They are a record of cases heard in that

court, the majority of the cases involved questions of land title, payment of debts, divorces, or equity cases (which concerned the execution and settlement of estates of decedents). The equity cases often contain many genealogical gems, usually giving the year of death (in a few rare instances the full date is given), a list of the surviving heirs, as well as a description of the property or land being tested. For example in two of my families, the Midkiffs and Pates, I have found equity suits that gave a listing of heirs of an earlier ancestor through three generations.

Among the Hancock County Circuit Court suits I found an equity case involving the administration of the estate of Samuel Mason (box #59, bundle # 51, file #442). Samuel was a brother of John Henderson Mason and a son of Joseph Mason and Jane Henderson. In the state vital statistics, kept for the years 1852-1861, on microfilm at the Owensboro library, I found a record of his death: "Samuel Mason died 5 November 1852 Hancock County, Ky., from a fall from a horse, age 66, occupation millwright, born Bottetourt County, Va."

December 30, 1853 a petition was filed in the Hancock County Circuit Court by the brothers and sisters, being the only heirs, of Samuel Mason deceased. The suit was a petition for the sale of a negro slave, "Bob", and proceeds of his sale to be lawfully distributed among the petitioners. The Court ordered sale of said slave, to be held 5 March 1855 at the Courthouse door in Hawesville, and monies from sale to be divided among the heirs of Samuel Mason. The proceeds were ordered to be divided into eighths, one share to each of Samuel Mason's brothers and sisters, they being: 1). John H. Mason; 2). Joseph Mason; 3). William Mason; 4). Hopkins Mason; 5). Jane Landrum wife of Francis Landrum, formerly Jane Mason; 6). James Mason, deceased, his heirs being James W. Mason, Sarah J. (married but name blank), George S. Mason, and John Mason; 7), Isaac Mason, deceased, his heirs being Mary R. Witters, Joseph F. Mason, Isaac A. Mason; and 8). Henderson Mason, deceased, his heirs being Elizabeth McQuady wife of Thomas Mcquady, William R. Mason, Frances Muffit wife of James Muffit, Jane Mason, Kitty Ann Mason, Joseph Mason, Margaret Mason, and Letitia Mason,

William Mason another brother of John Henderson Mason was very important in the early history of Hancock County. He was a Justice of the Peace and for a time served, on the commission of Justices who presided over the Hancock County Court, His name appears frequently throughout all of the early records of the county, including the marriage, court order, and deed books.

William Mason wrote a will 1 November 1854 and 14 December 1861, shortly before his death he made a codicil to his will. His will was probated 20 February 1862 and appears in will book 4 page 44. William had no children and his heirs were his wife, brothers and sisters, nieces and nephews. In his will he divided his estate among; wife Elizabeth, Mary C. Brockman granddaughter of his wife, sister Jane Landrum, brother Joseph Mason, children of brother James Mason deceased, brother Hopkins Mason, children of brother Henderson Mason deceased, niece Francis Muffet daughter of Henderson Mason. nephews Joseph and Isaac Mason children of brother Isaac Mason deceased, and brother John H. Mason and his children except Jackson Mason who is to get none. Brother Samuel Mason was not named in William's will since he was deceased and had no children.

The equity suit involving the estate of Samuel Mason and the will of William Mason pꝓove nine children of Joseph Mason and Jane Henderson, they being: John Henderson Mason, Samuel Mason, James Mason, William Mason, Joseph Mason, Isaac Mason, Henderson Mason, Jane Mason Landrum, and Hopkins Mason. If there were any others they would have had to die young leaving no children heirs of their own.

Of the children of Joseph and Jane Mason John Henderson has a monument in the Mason-Blincoe Cemetery in Hancock County. Samuel died in Hancock County but has no marked grave most likely he was buried in the old Hawesville Cemetery but have no proof, William and Hopkins have monuments in the Hawesville Cemetery, Joseph and Henderson have monuments at Pisgah in Breckinridge County. Jane Mason Landrum is buried in the Landrum Cemetery located just west of Yeaman in Grayson County. Ky. not far from the Ohio-Grayson County line, I have not been able to find when and where James (before 1853) or Isaac Mason (before 1850) died. James resided Union County, Ky., where some of his children were born, he may have died in that county. When I get access to some Union County records I will check it out. Also there was an Isaac Mason who resided in Daviess County, Ky. who was the right age to be the brother of John Henderson but I have found no evidence connecting him to the Joseph Mason Family. All of the information on the family of Joseph Mason and Jane Henderson I have uncovered I have put on the enclosed family group chart.

That is all I have to report for now. I will await your reply to point the direction you would like to go now. Would you like me to make a trip to Ohio County to see if I can find anything more on John Henderson's children, Or maybe you would like me to concentrate on Joseph Mason's father John Mason (died 1760-1761) and the Virginia Masons. Our local library has several Virginia sources but has only about three or four on Botetourt County, thus I am somewhat limited in Virginia research. Without going to Virginia itself locally the better collections are at the Kentucky Historical Society in Frankfort and several University libraries including Western in Bowling Green. Will close for now.

Sincerely yours,  
Jerry Long

1701 Alexander Ave.  
Owensboro, KY 42301

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March 26, 1984

Dear Mr. Long:

Thank you for your letter of the 17th and all of the attachments. You sure do a good job on your research and I am greatly appreciative of all the information you have sent me. I was especially glad to get the Family Group Sheet and all the data on Joseph Mason.

It will take me some time to digest all the material you sent. Particularly that on the John Henderson Mason family. So I ask that you concentrate further research on Joseph Mason, Sr.

and his life in Bottetourt County, Virginia. Was he born there? Or where did he come from? Who were his parents? And grandparents?

You, are such an expert I wish I could afford to ask you to go to Frankfort and on to Virginia. But I can't so I will ask you to continue with the source material in the Kentucky Room and the University Library at Bowling Green.

I want to keep current on your fees so please send me a bill for anything I may owe you now and an estimate on immediate new research.

I am following your suggestion that I write the National Archives about Joseph Mason's pension. Will try to find out from some local source how to go about getting the DAR papers.

I am looking forward to your next letter.

Sincerely,

Charles P. Culp

383 Lookout Drive  
Laguna Beach, CA 92651

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20 July 1984

Dear Mr. Culp,

When I received your request, I was quite busy, but have now completed the research you requested.

I first went to the Botetourt County Courthouse, to review, and go over what might be there. . And, too, I thought the James McKeachey angle should be checked. Afterwards I went to the City of Roanoke Public Library. See other sheets for my report. But I don't think I have found anything to help. As I see it, None of the notes that I send, from Botetourt or the Library, show any kind of a lead to old John's parents, brothers or sisters.

You are right, there are three ways James McKeachey could be the brother-in-law of John (1) could have married John's sister. We see that James lived 42 years after old John died. (2)James could have married sister of John's wife; and (3) James could be the brother of John's sister-in-law, or brother-in-law. But none of this tells us anything, because we don't have those very early marriage records.

The birth date that you sent for Joseph, would indicate that he was about four years old when his father died, and about 5 when he was to be bound out; I didn't find who he was bound to. His birthdate also indicates that he was right age to have fought in the Revolution. Do you have his service record; and pension papers? They may help with a lead. I see he was placed on the pension roll 21 Aug.1833, at age 77, in Breckenridge County, Ky., and had served as a

private and a Sgt. in the Virginia Militia. At first I failed to notice that you did send his birthdate. To help us understand about his Virginia Militia service we need to remember that the Kentucky area was a part of Virginia, until it became a state, in 1792.

With this, I end my research for you. As I wrote before, I knew the chances of finding a lead was really slim; but I hoped we might find something; but this is what I found.

Sincerely yours,  
Charles T. Burton

R.2 Box 111  
Troutville, VA.24175  
Genealogist  
25c PER MILE  
\$4.00 PER HOUR

#### MASON NOTES FROM BOTETOURT COUNTY, VA

(Looking for the parents, brothers, sisters, etc of John Mason, who died In Augusta Co.,1761. Botetourt County records do not start until John had been dead for about 9 years, so the chance of finding anything of value in Botetourt, is indeed slim. I believe you say you descend from John's youngest son, Joseph. born 1757. Joseph I don't have him listed in my publication Botetourt County, Virginia Children. Your letter from Jerry Long informs that John's son James died about 1808. I went back and studied his will, and found that it was dated 2 Mar.1803; it stated that James McKeachey was the Executor of his father's (John's) estate. Mr Long doesn't make it clear that several of the ones named were not Masons, but children of Samuel & Janet Crawford. Two of the Crawford girls married Pates, another one a Jennings, and the single Crawford girls were Margaret and Sarah; the Crawford boys were William, Samuel & Mason. Also, James noted in his will that brother William and sister Mary Edgar were dead.

I list here some early marriages; while they are not your direct line, they are related.

23 Mar.1771,	Jane Mason & Samuel Crawford
28 May 1780,	Willian Mason & Isabella Scott
20 Oct.1794,	Wiliam Mason& Elizabeth Goode, dau.of Marten
7(14)Sep.1797,	Cathermne Mason (age by Dan. Mason) & Edmund Cooper
20 Jun.1799,	Elizabeth Mason(age by Daniel Mason) & Peter Seacatt
31 Dec.1799,	Mary Mason, widowof Martin & Joseph Harper
17 Jan.1801,	Daniel Mason (a witness, William Mason) & Katy Shartser, dau.of Philip
8 Apr.1801,	Margaret Mason (gdn.Mark Evans) & Thomas Lutey (My note: she was an orphan of Martin Mason)
15 Dec.1802,	John Mason(age by brother, Jonathan) & Betsy Robinson
11(13)Mar.1806,	Jonathan Mason (age by Daniel Mason) & Elizabeth Shatzer,dau.of Philip.

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The only early will was that of James, discussed above; however the Will Books show that these Mason's properties were appraised on these dates:

C-347 20 Dec.1821, Jonathan Mason

C-439 8 Nov.1822, Daniel Mason

A-383 Dec.1794, Martin Mason (I should have listed this one first)

(Note: In my Children book, mentioned above I have listed the orphans of this Martin Mason as : William; Daniel; Catherine; Elizabeth; Mary; Susana; Sarah; Nancy; Martin; Abraham; John; Jonathan; and Peggy(or Margaret) I also have found that the youngest of these children became 21 in Feb.1815.

I searched through the Mason land records (deeds, surveys, tax) looking for some lead, or clue, but found nothing to help. Land tax books were first kept in 1782; James and Joseph were the only land owners that year.

Many years ago, I located part of the 1785 Enumeration lists for Botetourt County. This was like a census. The only Mason I found was Joseph; that year he had a family of three white persons. There is no marriage recorded for him in Botetourt, but all the early marriages were not recorded in the courthouse. If he was married the three persons could have been, himself; his wife; and one child. If he was not married; one of the three was likely his brother, James. In the same enumeration district are Samuel Crawford with 6 white persons; and James McKehey (must be McKeachey) with 4 whites.

On another sheet, I send some McKeachey notes.

#### McKEACHEY NOTES FROM BOTETOURT COUNTY, VA.

There were no marriages.

from Will Books only one

B – 113 JAMES McKEACHEY (will dated 28 Feb.1803, probated Sep.1805) wife, Rebecca to have ½ the personal estate after all debts paid; also ½ the profits of the land where he lives, during her lifetime. All the balance to go the son, Andrew. Friend, James Mason was to be his Executor.

from Deed Books

6-498 12 Jun.1798, James McKeachey from James Mason, 135 acres, part of 815 acres granted to Mason 22 Jul.1794. He stated that the consideration for this was: that “he had promised to do it.”

8-470 7 Sep.1804, James McKeachey, & wife Rebecca, to Michael Borders, 100 acres, on head of Murrys Run of Roanoke R. Being a part of two several tracts; the one of 140 acres granted to James 16 Feb..1771, and the other, 135 acres that was conveyed to James from James Irason in 1798.

9-500 23 Jun.1808, Andrew McKeachey, Sarah McKeachey, and Rebecca McKeachey, his mother, to Robert Scott, 60 acres on waters of Roanoke R.

(Note: I didn't find what happened to the balance of the McKeachey land.)

#### MASON NOTES FROM LIBRARY BOOKS for Mr. Culp

From Chalkley's Records of Augusta County, Virginia (3 volumes)



- 1-24 19 Nov.1746, John Mason was one of the men who were named to work on the road from the dividing ridge between the waters of New River and the waters of South Fork of Roanoke River to the road that leads over the Blue Ridge.
- 3-19 26 Feb.1751, John Mason & James McKachy qualified as Administrators of the estate of William Alexander.
- 2-438 26 Nov.1752, Orphans, George & Mary Alexander were bound to John Mason.
- 3-64 18 Aug.1761, John Mason's will, as we have it.
- 1-94 20 Nov.1761, James McKeachey vs. John Mason, ELDEST SON AND HEIR AT LAW OF JOHN MASON. the suit abates by the death of the defendant.

(My note: This is almost sure proof that John Mason who died in 1761 was the eldest son of a John, who had died earlier. When John wrote the will probated in Aug. 1761, on 12 Oct.1760, he wrote as if his son John was alive, but young John COULD have died between that date and this one. Now, one of the deeds that I studied in Botetourt County indicates that John, Jr was dead by Apr.1794 when James Mason sold 176 acres on Masons Creek, that he inherited from John (Jr.) to Jeremiah Pate. So we still haven't proven anything.

- 1-101 17 Nov.1762, John Mason's orphans were to be bound out. Note: I was not able to prove which John these orphans belonged to, not knowing the age of any of them.
- 1-378 1782, James McKeachey's deposition in a suit over a bill of sale dated 27 Sept.1782, William Akers of Campbell Co., to James Mason, of Botetourt Co., McKeachey testified that William Eaken lived on Little River, in Botetourt.County, in 1752-3,

Note. The next note is not very likely about any of your Masons,

- 1-134 1810, Testimony in a suit about land in Frederick County, indicates that "John Mason was son-in-law of William Frost, of Frederick Co., he having married his daughter Hannah Frost."

from The Virginia Genealogist

Vol. 8, pages 8, 11 & 12 Early surveys in Botetourt County

25 Apr.1772, for James McKeachey, 110 acres on Back Creek of Roanoke R.

12 Jun.1771, for Samuel Mason 139 acres on Meadow Branch of Roanoke R.

30 Dec.1772, for James McKeachey an inclusive survey of 140 acres.

Between 9 Mar.1793 & 1 Jul.1795, for James Mason 815 acre'.

from same set of books, the 1800 tax lasts

3-72 In Albemarle County Joseph Mason 1 tithable '

10-13 & 14 In upper district of Botetourt Co.,

James McKeachey, 2; Joseph Mason 1; James Mason 1; & Daniel Mason 1.

13-64 & 106 In Campbell Co.

William,Sr.1; William,Jr.1; John 1; John Jr.1; John Sr.2; Philip 1; Joseph 1; Martin 2.

The genealogist doing research in Virginia, is blessed by Swem's Index, as it is called. In 1930, Dr. Swem published this index in two large volumes containing hundreds of thousands of names with a reference to which of the following publications information can be found. Calender of State papers; Hennings Statutes at Large; Virginia Magazine of History; Tylers Quarterly; William & Mary Quarterly, etc. I checked all these indexed for John and Joseph Mason, (There was not a single McKeachey in it) I found nothing to help in your research There were laterally hundreds of Masons in Virginia in the early years; and most of them seem to have been in the north and eastern part of the state. The center of the settlement seemed to be in the

Surry-Sussex county area. At one place, I became excited, thinking I had found a lead; but quickly my hopes were dashed. See this:

from Tylers Quarterly Vol.5 page 139, in an atticle on the Browne, Green, Filmur, Cowles, Rives and Binns families, I read this: Christopher Rives married an Sussex County, on 2 July 1759, Elizabeth Mason, SISTER OF REBECCA & JOHN MASON. This looked like this John may be your John, and his sister Rebecca might be the wife of James MCKeachey, But when I turned the page to 140, there it said that Rebecca married Timothy Binns, as his second wife on 4 Feb.1780, and had no children.. So that Hope was dashed.

The 1790 Virginia Census was lost when the British burned Washington. The published 1790 Federal Census was made up of the Enumerations made in PART. of the counties. The counties omitted in this publication are covered in Mrs Fothergill's Virginia Tax Payers, in which she listed the names of the Tax Payers found in the county records. Botetourt County was one of the counties missed in the Federal publication; so Mrs. Fothergill lists the tax payers found for the year, 1784. The only McKeachey found in the state in both books, is the James, in Botetourt County. The only Botetourt County Masons were James & Joseph, each with only one tithable.

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July 22, 1984

Mr. Jerry Long  
1701 Alexander Avenue  
Owensboro, Ky. 42301

Dear Mr. Long:

It is no wonder that I have not had an answer to my letter to you of March 26. In re-reading that letter yesterday I found I had asked you to "concentrate further resarch on Joseph Mason" when I meant to write John Mason. I don't know how Joseph got in there in view of the fact that you had given me a very fine line on him in your letter of March 17. I am deeply chagrined.

I have acted on the suggestions you made in your last lettter and I am enclosing photocopies of the papers I got from the National Archives and a transcription I made of Joseph Mason's Declaration of his right to a pension.

Sincerely,  
Charles P. Culp

383 Lookout Drive  
Laguna Beach, CA 92651

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September 1, 1984

Dear Jerry Long:

My son Charles and I will be in Owensboro during the week of October 7 and we are looking forward to a visit with you.

Thanks to your leads I have collected material on Joseph Mason I want to show you.

I have not been able to get much help from people in Virginia in tracking down Joseph's father John so I want to discuss those efforts with you.

High regards,  
Charles Culp,

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October 31, 1984

Dear Jerry Long:

It was good to meet you at long last.

Thank you for the time you took from your busy life to spend it with the two visiting Culp.

We made a trip to the Pigah Baptist Church cemetery and were lucky enough to find the light just right for pictures of the grave stones of Joseph Mason and his wife. I am enclosing prints for your records.

We had several good hours at the Kentucky Room in your Library where we dug up a couple of leads which I will follow. I tried several times to reach by phone your friend Mrs. Cook in Evansville but got no answer or the phone was busy. I will write her and Mrs. Wentz and Mrs. Trenton. If I find anything on John Mason's forebears I will certainly write you.

Again I say we are deeply appreciative of your cooperation.

Sincerely,  
Charles P. Culp

383 Lookout Drive  
Laguna Beach, CA 92651

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January 10, 1985

Dear Mr. Culp,

Please accept my apologies for taking so long to write. The holidays keep me from my genealogy. My two sons like to run around during the holidays so I have extra baby-sitting too. So much for excuses. Now for Masons.

My data is a hodge-podge. You shouldn't feel bad at not getting a handle on the Masons. You have arrived at the same place in time most of my Mason correspondants have. It has been some time since I worked on them, having abandoned them for more easily found families.

John Mason died Aug.1761-Will proven 18 Aug.1761 Augusta Co.Va. children:

1. John Mason died by 20 Nov. 1761(very soon after his father). Augusta Co. Va. Order Book 7,p.140. James McKeachy vs John Mason, eldest son and heir-at-law of John Mason .....abates by death of the defendant 20 Nov.1761
2. James Mason will proven 5 Mar.1805 Botetourt Co.Va. names nephews William Crawford. Samuel Crawford, Mason Crawford, Jane Pate, Elenor Jennings, Margaret Crawford, Sarah Crawford, & Mary Pate all children of my sister Jannett Crawford "my best friend" and her husband Samuel Crawford of Kentucky; to said sister Jannett Crawford my mulatto girl named Nelly; to children of dec'd brother William Mason late of State of Kentucky; to children of my dec'd sister Margaret Snodgrass wife of Joseph Snodgrass of Tennessee; to children of my dec'd sister Mary Edgar wife of James E.Edgar of Bedford Co. Va.; to children of my brother Joseph Mason of Breckinridge Co. Ky .... 2xtor's Joseph Mason, Samuel Crawford, John Pate of Breck.Co.Ky. & Major Elijah McClanahan of Botetourt Co.Va.
3. William Mason was living in Botetourt Co.Va. 1781 see ANNALS of SOUTHWEST VA, Part I, p343. Deceased by 1805 in Ky.
4. Joseph Mason b. 22 Sept.1757 d.19No. 1834 Hancock Co. Ky. (your line) m. Jane Henderson 17 Nov.1782
5. Jannett Mason died 1810-1818 Ohio Co.Ky. married Samuel Crawford 25 Mar.1771 Botetourt Co.Va. (my line)
6. Mary Mason died by 1805 married James Edgar of Bedford Co.Va.
7. Margaret Mason died by 1805 married Joseph Snodgrass of Tenn.

You probably have this already but to keep us even I've included it. I have not had a lot of luck running the siblings of your Joseph and my Jannett down. I keep looking for Edgar & Snodgrass hoping for a clue but so far no luck. Probably I should have worked on the William Mason who died in Ky but its just one of those things I'm always "going" to do. I feel the witnessess and Executors of John Mason who died 1761 should help. James McKeachy is named a bro-in-law. Whether a step-brother, or sister's brother, I don't know. There is a will of a James McKeachey Augusta Co.Va. Will Book B, p.113 that I have never looked at.

The following deed was found in Bedford Co.Va. that may be a next generation.

Bedford Co.Va. Deed Book 4, p.478

3 Sept. 1772 William McKeachy of Anson Co.N.C. to Joseph Davis & Samuel Davis of Bedford Co.Va. 190A on both sides of Maggotty Creek...

Wit: John Bailry, James McKeachy, John Edgar, John Henry, & Thos. Prodrach

p.480 release on 25 Jan. 1773

In 1756 John Mason received three Land Grants on Goose Creek 130A on Goose Creek on the Roanoke, 262A on Goose Creek, & 176A on Goose Creek between two mountains.

Somehow, Toshs and Alexanders are mixed in this Mason group. That they were neighbors is apparat in Chalkley 's ANNALS of the SCOTCH \_LUSH IN AUGUST CO.VA.

19 Nov.1746 -road ordered from ridge dividing waters of New River from waters of South Branch Roanoke to end in a road over the Blue Ridge ... John Mason, Tasker Tosh, Thomas Tosh etc..

26 Nov. 1751 - Orphans of William & \_\_Alexander to be bound out.. George & Mary Alexander bound to John Mason 26 Nov.1751.

James Alexander bound to James McKeachy 28 Aug.1751. Another dau Agnes Alexander married Tasker Tosh. When James Alexander died 1775 Botetourt Co.Va. he willed 150A to Mary Crawford, dau of Samuel & Jannett (Mason) Crawford, cousin James Tosh, cousin Sarah Keachy, Thos. Tosh & others. The remainder of his estate to be divided among Samuel Crawford, William Mason, Jonathan Tosh, James Tosh, James Edgar, & Joseph Snodgrass.. The same heirs almoSt of John Mason who died in 1761.

So I think Alexander was an allied name of Mason. If those Alexander children were bound to Mason & McKeachy and then one of them leaves his estate to be divided among Masons, Toshs, and McKeachy (McKeachy & Keachy appear to be interchanged) it need investigating.

I found my reference to Leah Mason, the daughter of French Mason, in Prince William Co.11a. Deed Book E, p.274 only it is Leana Mason in the deed. On reflection I don't think I have anything afterall ...John Mason's ntother, Leah, mentioned in his will couldn't be Leana Mason, dau of French Mason, could she? The deed is dated 22 May 1741. Unless a Mason married a Mason - but I'm grasping at straws. It was that Leah being so like Leana I though I might be on to something. I remember at the time thinking perhaps our Masons were an unknown branch of cousins of the famous George Mason of Gunston Hall.

As Augusta Co.Va. was created from Orange Co.Va. in 1745, it would seem that county might have Mason data.

Now, you have any bits I couldn't put together. Good luck.

Sincerely,  
Bettie Anne Cummins Cook, C.G.

3318 Wimberg Avenue  
Evansville. Indiana 47712  
Certified Genealogist

.....

2 February 1986

Charles P. Culp  
383 Lookout Drive  
Laguna Beach, CA 92651

Dear Mr. Culp:

How are you doing? I have not forgotten my promise. Since I saw you in October I have been able to do about 35 more hours research on the Mason family.

In December I could not do any research, The Ohio County library had agreed to let me bring microfilm of the Ohio County newspapers to the Owensboro library, All of my free time was spent reading through all of the 1920's and making a list of all deaths. The past month, however, I have spent several days investigating the Masons and have got alot accomplished. I have spent two days in Hancock County, one in Breckinridge County, one in Ohio County, and two at the library here. By the end of this month I hope to start writing up the information I have collected. Before closing out research I wanted to check some more records in Hancock County and also receive some replys to several letters I have written.

In the history I would like to include biographical information as complete as possible on the children and grandchildren of James Mason and Nancy Blincoe. In this regards could you help me by answering any of the following questions:

- Did your mother record any dates, birth or death, for her father, William W. Pierce? Do you know where he was buried?
- Do you know when your grandmother (and mother) left Hancock County? When your grandmother died in 1910 in Evansville, Ind., do you know how long she had lived there, or why she had moved there" Do you have a copy of a newspaper obituary for your grandmother or mother? If you do could you send we a xerox copy, the name of the newspaper in which it appeared and the date it appeared?
- You mentioned that in an album of your mother there were pictures of Jackson Mason and Mary P. Mason Houston, her greet uncle and aunt, in this album were there any letters, newspaper clippings, notations, etc, that give any information on the family which I might be able to use in the history?
- Could you send some biographical facts about your mothers including her date of birth, place of birth, date and place of marriage, your dad's full name, places where she lived, date and place of her death, and name of the cemetery where she was buried.
- I was very sorry to hear about the passing of your cousin, Julia Mason. I had hoped to interview her. On your visits with her did you write down any facts she may have mentioned about the family? I have her father's birthdate, but I would also like to record the birthdates of her mother, Mattie Robb Mason, her sister Katherine, and brother Robb Mason, would you know any of them?
- Do you have any knowledge about the family of Kate Mason Myers? In all she had ten children, five died young and are buried at the Mason-Blincoe Cemetery. The other five children survived her when she died in 1912, four of these were Elizabeth, Richard (lived

St. Louis), William, and Mary. Did you ever hear your mother say anything about her Myers cousins?

- Your great uncle, Michael Mason (1852-1895), has a ten months old infant, Nannie B., buried beside him in the Hawesville Cemetery. Did you ever hear if he had any other children?
- On your visit you showed me the letter you received from Mrs. Michael Cook (of Evansville, Ind.) and also you mentioned receiving a reply to your letter to Margie Wentz (of Troy, Ill.). Would you please send a xerox of these letters? I have decided to include with the research on the James Mason and Nancy Blincoe family all of the data I have on John Mason (d.1760-61), Joseph Macon (1757-1834), and John Henderson Mason (1784-1863), This will help to integrate and organize in one source data on the Mason family across several generations.

I know you probably do not have records on all of the above. Whatever you can add will be a help. I have one more question concerning the forthcoming history. Would you consider giving your consent to me to have the history published. A publication would give other interested descendants a record of the early generations of their family, Also by publication, copies can be donated to libraries which would help to facilitate future research on the Mason family, If you would rather not see this done, I will understand and gladly accept your decision, I would also appreciate hearing any of your ideas and suggestions on what to include in the history or any criticisms, Bye for now.

Yours truly,  
Jerry Long

.....

February 11, 1986

Dear Jerry Long:

I'm doing fine thank you. And I hope you are too. I was glad to get your letter of February 2 and to learn you are moving ahead on the work we talked about. Enclosed is a check for \$105 for the job you have done so far.

Putting together biographical sketches of some of the Mason descendants is going to take some doing but but I congratulate you on wanting to do it and I will help all I can. I will answer your questions in the order in which you asked them.

- My grandfather William W. Pierce was born on July 16, 1826 in Oldham County Kentucky which in 1837 became Trimble County. He was a 2nd Lieutenant in Company H of the 4th Kentucky Cavalry CSA, was killed in late: 1863 or early 1874 in Virginia. I do not know where he was buried. But it had to be in Virginia. I have been collecting material on him and his forebears but I have not been able to get beyond his grandfather.

- My grandmother Pierce moved to Evansville, Indiana to live with my mother and father and me but I do not know the date. It was probably in the late 1890s or just after the turn of the century. She still owned a farm in Hancock County which was farmed by a Mr. Fahey. I remember visiting him on the place.
- Toby in New York has the album we talked about and I will refer this question to him.
- My mother, Willie Maud Pierce was born on March 10, 1863 in Hancock County, married Ira Albert Culp there on December 24, 1889 and died in Evansville, Indiana on December 25, 1960. She is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery in Evansville I will be writing a piece on her life one of these days.
- Mattie Robb married Henry Mason on June 24, 1896 and died on August 24, 1936. I do not have her birth date nor do I have the birth date of Katherine. Robb was born on October 22, 1900 and Julia was born on April 29, 1903. I think the Hawesville Cemetery records or gravestones might have the other dates you need.
- I know nothing about the family of Kate Mason Myers. I wish I did. I recall something about the family having moved to Texas. But the memory is hazy.
- Uncle Michael was the father of three other children I know of. Malcolm, Thornton and Eva. I will write one of his grandchildren for the information you want.
- Enclosed are photocopies of the letters from Mrs. Michael Cook and Margie Wente.

Your idea of a published history sounds great. It does sound like a formidable undertaking: Especially the publication part, of it. I am getting weary of reading about the promised volumes on the History of Troy Bend by a Mr. Hodges and the two histories of Hancock County by Claribel Phillips and Dorothy Watkins. So I suggest we keep this thought of the publishing between you and son Toby and me until we have something tangible to talk about.

As I write of Troy Bend I wonder if you might have access to what Mr. Hodges has written about the Mason family and its association with that piece of real estate?

With this blessing on the history I ask that you send to me from time to time the manuscript as it comes off your typewriter. Maybe I can flesh out or suggest sources for more research. And please do not hesitate to ask more questions.

Sincerely,  
Charles Culp

PS: Although you never mentioned the papers I sent you on November 9 I will assume you got them unless I hear that you didn't.

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March 10, 1986

Dear Jerry Long:

How are you doing?

I was just about to ask you if you know when my grandmother Vetura E. Pierce built her home next to the James Mason homestead when I got a bundle of Mason and Pierce papers from Claribel Phillips. And the enclosed was among them.

Could this be the answer?

Makes sense to me because the 1860 census lists hers living at the Mason home and the 1870 census shows her living next door. That census incorrectly identified her as a 'male'. My mother is listed as "Wm" and that is not too far off because her name was Willie Maud.

The enclosed post card is for a quick answer. Hope the winter has treated you kindly.  
incerely,  
Charles P. Culp

383 Lookout Drive  
Laguna Beach, CA 92651

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11 May 1986

Charles P. Culp  
383 Lookout Drive  
Laguna Beach, Ca 92651

Dear Mr. Culp:

I know you must have given up on me by now. When I promised you last fall I would do the research I never dreamed it would take me this long. In January and February I spent many hours in collecting data. I had hoped to write the material up in March and get it to you by early April. But the events of March and April have forced me to set aside my genealogical endeavors. During that time both my mother and father have each had two week stays in the hospital. First my mother had an automobile accident and subsequently had to have surgery to install a pacemaker. Then my father had to have prostate surgery and has only recently been released from the hospital. I am sincerely sorry for the long delay, you have been most patient.

While tracing the family of James Mason and Nancy Blincoe I have been fortunate to uncover considerable material also on his parents, John Henderson Mason and Elizabeth Rhoades Jackson, and on brothers and sisters. At our meeting you placed primary emphasis on the James Mason family but also expressed an interest in anything I might discover about his

father, John H. Mason. I have tried to follow that guideline by spending the larger part of my research time on James Mason.

In fulfillment of our agreement I have decided to present my research in the form of an article (or chapter) on John Henderson Mason and his family. This report begins with a biographical narrative on John and his wife Elizabeth, these notes are completed and are enclosed. This will be followed by sections on each of the nine children of John H. and Elizabeth Jackson Mason, the most developed being on their son, James, and also a section giving a short history of the Jackson family. This format could allow for additional chapters being written, organizing what is known about John H. Mason's grandfather John Mason, his parents Joseph Mason and Jane Henderson, on John H.'s brothers and sister, the Henderson family, etc. Thus possibly at some future date this chapter could evolve into a book on the Mason family.

Shortly I hope to complete the remainder of the article on John Henderson Mason and family, depending on the length of time it takes me I will send the article in its complete form or in sections. Again I apologize for your long wait. Bye for now.

Yours truly,  
Jerry Long

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May 23.1986

Dear Jerry Long:

Congratulations on a fine piece of work on John Henderson Mason and his family. It is a great start on the book you have in mind.

Condolence on the misfortunes that have plagued your mother and father. It is good to know they are on the way back to well-being.

The program you have lined up in the second to the last paragraph of your letter of May 11 looks good to me. If you think I have any material that might be of help to you please feel free to ask for it. If I had known you were moving in on John Henderson Mason I would have sent you the attached papers from Mr. Zeb Jackson in Muskogee, Oklahoma. I think there is nothing in them you do not have but it does give you a reference for any future questions you may want to ask. I have no record that the attached letter was ever acknowledged so if you do see fit to write him please tell him you got his name from Charles Culp, Jr.

When you get around to Joseph Mason the material next attached is a transcript of application Joseph made for pension for his service in the Revolution War. I got a copy of the original from the Federal Archives. He got the pension, as you probably know.

I am looking forward, eagerly, to further word from you.

Sincerely,

Charles P. Culp

383 Lookout Drive  
Laguna Beach, CA 92651

Transcribed May 1984 by Charles P. Culp  
DECLARATION

In order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress of the 7th of June 1832.  
State of Kentucky County of Breckenridge

On this 16th day of October 1832 personally appeared before McLean, Judge of the Breckenridge Circuit Court, Joseph Mason a resident of the County of Breckenridge in the State of Kentucky aged 75 years who first being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress passes June 7th 1832, that he volunteered in the service of the United States in Virginia in the year 1776 with Capt. William McClanahan and went out against the Cherokees on the Tennessee River. When a treaty was concluded with them he was discharged about Christmas at ... His Colonel's name was Wm. Christy. He served this tour about four months.

In 1780 he substituted for his brother Wm. Mason on a tour against the same Indians, under the command of Capt. Jas. Barnett and Col Campbell on the Tennessee River. He served this tour about 6 weeks or two months.

And about the first of February 1781 he volunteered in Botetourt Cty. Va. under Lt. James Neely. Marched into North Carolina. Was there attached to Col. Campbell's regiment. We had two skirmishes with the British before we reached the place in time for the battle of Gilford. Was not in the engagement but was out with the waggon guard. The British then went toward the seaboard and we were discharged and returned to about the last day of March. He has no written discharges for any of these tours. On the last tours he acted as Sergeant.

About the 1st of June 1781 he was again called out from the same County. In Capt. Jos. Lunney's Company he was not drafted but volunteered under a call that was made by the State for a large number of men. We marched to Albemarle C.H.Va. and joined the regular troops and militia,. We were attached to Gen. William Campbell's Regiment. Gen'l. Lafayette was the Chief Commander whom I frequently saw and knew. We were in 2 skermishes, one at Hotwater & the other at James Town against the British under Cornwallis. Se were kept in that section of country until the 10th of August 1781 when we were discharged on the

When I returned home from this tour I rec'd a discharge from Capt. Lunney dated 10th August 1781 herewith transmitted. He had no evidence of his services now in his possession. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of any agency in any State.

Jos. Mason

Sworn to& subscribed the day and year afs'd.

Trascribed May 1984

We, James H. L. Morrison, a clergyman residing in the County of Breckenridge and William Crawford residing in the same County hereby certify that we are well acquainted with Joseph Mason who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration, that we believe him to be 75 years of age. That he is reputed and believed in the neighborhood where he resides to have been a soldier of the revolution and that we concur in that opinion.

Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

J.H.L.Morrison, William Crawford.

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July 30, 1986

Dear Jerry Long:

This will confirm the praise I tried to heap on You in my telephone call of this morning. You have done a magnificent job of research and time will make it even more commendable and important.

I am delighted that you are interested in working on Joseph and his parents the John Masons. I will be asking your advice on how I might go ahead with my work on the John Masons.

In the meantime please send a copy of the papers you sent me to:

Charles P. Culp  
336 West End Avenue  
Apt. 17A  
New York, NY 10023

Here is my check for \$25.00 to cover the cost. of the manuscript and the mailing Please insure for at least \$100 because I no longer trust the postmen.

Today I am sending Dr. Chambers in Owensboro copies of all the articles and letters in the Clarion on the subject of Hancock County Archives with the hope that he will write a letter.

Please send me a bill for what I owe you for the Mason research. Plus the cost of the manuscript.

Sincerely,  
Charles P. Culp

383 Lookout Drive  
Laguna Beach, CA 92651

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August 26, 1986

Dear Jerry Long;

Son Charles told me on Sunday that he had received the Mason manuscript from you and that he was as delighted as I was with your great work. Thank you for getting it to him promptly.

We agreed that you are a person who does not like to be bothered with sending bills so here's a check for \$125.00 on account. It is for another 30 hours of your time plus the copying cost of the Mason papers you sent me last month.

In my letter of July 30 I noted that I would "be asking your advice on how I might go ahead with my work on the John Masons". A couple of days after I wrote you I decided not to bother you with decision. Enclosed are copies of my letter of August 5 to Ms. Genevieve Jones and all the attachments. I have been holding these papers with the hope that I could also send you a copy of her reply. But I haven't heard from her. I'll let you know when I do.

If there is anything I can do to help your further research please write me.

Sincerely,  
Charles P. Culp

383 Lookout Drive  
Laguna Beach, CA 92651

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27 August 1986

Charles P. Culp  
383 Lookout Drive  
Laguna Beach, Ca 92651

Dear Mr. Culp:

I am sorry about the mistake concerning W.D. Chambers, Jr. in my report. When I talked to Dr. Dillon Chambers on two occasions on the phone I kept him over two hours. During that time I concentrated on his recollections of the older members of the family. There were several questions I did not get around to. I considered making a third call but I was afraid of making myself a nuisance and decided not to. My error in judgment about W.D., Jr. was made in the following manner. My mother used to be a patient of Dr. Chambers when he was located behind Likens drugstore on Frederica Street. I also went to him a couple of times, the last about 1971. W. Dillon Chambers, Sr., I learned when I interviewed him, is now 86. My recollections of the Dr. Chambers I saw in 1971 was not of a man in his 70's, thus I made the conclusion that his son of the same name who was then living in Owensboro had to be the Dr. Chambers I had met.

In the copy of the report I sent to Charles Culp, Jr., I deleted part of the sentence on W. Dillon Chambers, Jr., to read; "His son, W. Dillon Chambers, Jr., was the only grandchild of N. B. Chambers and Nannie Mason." You could delete in your copy the part of the above sentence that I have omitted, or I could retype the page for you.

In your phone call I believe you said you may have found a few other errors, if you did would you please let me know, so I could change them. I assure you I do not mind, I would like to see the history as accurate as possible. Also I would truly appreciate any criticisms, ideas or suggestions concerning the narration and construction of the history, which I might utilize in improving my future endeavors.

Enclosed you will find a log of the time I spent in researching and writing the report you have received. Of the time I recorded .I listed a total of 252 hours. I usually request \$3.00/hr, of research time, but I would not begin to ask this for the report for several reasons. First of all, I did much more than you specified and requested at our meeting on Oct. 23, 1985. You specifically asked for data on the family of James M. Mason and Nancy M. Blincoe of Hancock County. When I got into the research I. decided I could find more about their family by also tracing their parents and brothers and sisters. And I extended the research to include these other families because of the availability of records on them (most of the families lived in the local, area) and I already had developed several good leads on them. I also got carried away in my research because each effort seemed to successively bring good results and the family of John Henderson Mason were cousins of my own family and I had personal motives in seeing the history completed. Consequently, I have decided to request only one-third of my regular research rate or \$1.00 for each hour of my research time. At this rate the total of 252 hours would equal \$252.00, from this total I subtracted your prepayment of \$105.00 (received on Feb. 14, 1986), leaving a balance of \$147.00 due, To this total I added several additional expenses, that are detailed on an enclosed sheet, they came to a total of \$44.72. The totals of \$147.00 (research time) plus \$44.72 (additional expenses) • equal a final total of \$191.72, which I request for my efforts.

I still have the package of original documents that you sent. Would you like me to send them back my mail (\$4.50) or do you think you might be visiting here this fall. I have enjoyed doing the research on the Mason family and I thank you again for your request and confidence. Bye for now.

Yours truly,  
Jerry Long

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September 10 1986

Dear Jerry Long,

Your excellent book arrived on the eve of my birthday and was the most delightful surprise I've ever received. My father had only hinted at the book's scope. Needless to say, we both consider it an instant family heirloom and a treasure of the first magnitude. I am already sifting through my own notes, papers and photo albums for pertinent additions to your work.

The enclosed check probably needs a bit of explanation. Both Dad and I feel that you have more than earned full pay for your splendid book. The fact that you enjoyed researching and writing it should be considered a bonus, not a reason to discount your reward. And I want to have a hand in

that reward. So Dad and I are sending you the full balance as you detailed it. My check represents half that amount and you'll be receiving a matching check from him, if you have not already found it in your mailbox.

I expect you'll also be receiving an invitation to undertake some more work, if you're willing to do it. But I'll let Dad handle those details and sign off for now: with my most sincere thanks, respect and, yes, awe.

Yours is a very special talent.

Kindest regards,  
Charles Culp, Jr.  
336 West End Avenue  
New York, New York 10023

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September 8, 1986

Dear Jerry Long:

I was glad to get your letter of August 27. Every time I hear from you and thumb through the manuscript on John Henderson Mason I am more impressed with your scholarship and dedication, to research. When it comes to putting a value on your services I am not so sure.

Son Charles and I are deeply appreciative of your offer of a discount on your time but we are agreed that to accept it would mean a great disservice to you. A new accounting might look like this:

252 hours t':@ \$3.00	\$756.00
Added expense	44.72
	\$800.72
Less checks 2/11, 8/26	<u>230.00</u>
Balance due	\$570.72

Each of us will pay you half of that amount. My check for \$285.36 is enclosed.

Now where do we go from here? In your letter of 2/2/86 you wrote of a Mason book. Is your work on John and Elizabeth what you had in mind?

We would like some kind of a profile on Joseph and Jane Henderson Mason the parents of John H. as it relates to our line. Are you too worn out with the Masons to undertake that job? Or is that out of your field of operation?

We are thinking of trying to reassemble the James Mason family pictures which hung for many years on the wall of the living room in the house in which I was born and refining the chart made by son Charles of the Mason-Blincoe cemetery, all for publication. But that's another book isn't it?

I can understand your confusion on Dr. Chambers but I will write you separately about that and some notes I have made on your manuscript

Sincerely,  
Charles P. Culp

383 Lookout Drive  
Laguna Beach, Ca 92651

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September 10, 1986

Dear Jerry Long:

This is a fellow up on my letter of the 8th.

In that letter I noted that I understand how some years ago you mistook Dr. Chambers for his son. The good doctor has aged considerably since his return from North Carolina in 1968 or '69. As have I since that date. I think you handled the situation expertly in the manuscript you sent son Charles. But for your record W.D. Chambers Jr. lives at 303 N. Pearl Street, Granville, Ohio 43023. He is a horticulturist and nurseryman specializing in the cultivation of day lillies. He has two sons 22 and 19. I don't know their names but Dr. Chambers will be happy to give them to you if you're interested. He always welcomes telephone calls.

Here are a couple of notes I have made on your manuscript.

Son Charles tells me he has a piece of ancient paper given to him by Julia Mason which spots the birthplace of James M. Mason (1815-1878) as "Lewis Bottoms".

In the paragraph on George C. Mason Jr.(page 134 of your manuscript) you list his wife Candis and a daughter Marion Adair Spratt of Anchorage, Kentucky. Do you know whether not they both are still living?

In that same paragraph you list his brother John Adair of Evansville I think John Adair married a very attractive girl I once knew by the name of Catherine (Katherine) Seeley. There is a John A. Mason in the current Evansville phone book. Could that be the same family?

On the same page you list a Lambert Mattingly, son of the Lambert's daughter Mildred. Do you know where he lives?

Recently I came across a photocopy of a letter Dr. Chambers sent me in 1968. It was from John Henderson Mason to a daughter. My transcription is attached. I think it gives a good insight on the gentle character of JHM. I have asked Dr. C to fill in the words I couldn't read. If I hear from him I will send you a corrected copy.

High regards,  
Charles P. Culp



383 Lookout Drive  
Laguna Beach, Ca 92651

Transcribed by Charles P. Culp, September 1986

Letter from John Henderson Mason to his daughter, \_\_\_ At Mr. Harris' Sept. the 22 1858  
My dear daughter at last I sit down to fulfill my promise though \_\_\_ a long time. My only excuse is that I have not felt competent to the task. First I will give you a short history of our travels to this place. The day we left James' we were overtaken with a heavy rain about three miles from Rockport. It continued to rain on us for some six or seven miles when we got to Jackson's farm. Though tolerably \_\_\_ three weeks waiting for good weather. We got (to) Henderson the first night The next brought us here. Our journey was quite a pleasant one except for three or four miles which was almost complete mire, but got through without difficulty: Your mother was taken with a cold which \_\_\_ her into a fever. She was quite sick for two or three days but is mending though somewhat weak yet. Though she rarely lies down to rest through the day. I have no news that would interest you further than that the friends here are all reasonably well. Mary has had a long spell of chills and fever but is now quite hearty. You will please be so good as to present my own and your mother's best respects to Mrs. Mundy and accept some for yourself and \_\_\_ for us and believe us your affectionate parents

J. H. and E. Mason

ps I would be glad if you would take the trouble to drop me a few lines to let me know yourself and the \_\_\_ is. My address is Morganfield. Ky.

.....

20 May 1987

Charles P. Culp  
383 Lookout Drive  
Laguna Beach, CA 92651

Dear Mr. Culp:

It has been sometime since I. wrote last. I am sorry it has been so long. I kept thinking you might pass through Owensboro and I could hand over in person some papers, as well as some of the new research you had requested. Last week when I saw the picture of Henry Mason and N. B. Chambers in the Hancock Clarion I decided to sit down and write.

Enclosed is the packet of Mason-Pierce documents you sent while I was researching the James M. Mason family. In a second packet are papers pertaining to the history of the Jackson family. You did not specifically request any further info on the ancestry of Elizabeth Jackson Mason but I thought if you did not already have it you would find it very interesting as I did. In these papers is a copy of a small booklet, "Sketch of the Jackson Family In America", written in 1916 by Clayton Keith, I found this to be a treasure of information and a true genealogical gem. I was aware of this book when I was writing the Mason manuscript but was unable to locate a

copy, it was the primary reason why I delayed so long in closing out research and writing up my findings. I contacted several Jackson researchers in hopes of locating a copy. One of these Mr. Zeb Jackson of Muskogee, Ok. had had an original copy but had loaned it out and never got it back, About a month after I sent you the Mason manuscript while doing research at the Kentucky Library at the Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green, Ky. I discovered they had a copy of the book. Please read this history cautiously. It does contain some errors, dealing mostly with the ancestry of Christopher Jackson (b.1768), the father of Elizabeth Jackson Mason. This account of his ancestry has subsequently been completely disproven, as you can see by other papers I have enclosed. Despite these errors the book still has great value in that the information on Christopher Jackson and later generations is proven by other sources to be largely accurate. It includes many first hand accounts and quotes from interviews and letters of older members of the family who were relating their knowledge some eighty and more years ago. On pages 11-15 of the booklet is a chapter on the "Mason Branch". This chapter quotes information on the family of John Henderson Mason and Elizabeth Jackson from a letter sent to the author by their youngest daughter, Margaret Mason Harris of Union County, Ky., written by her in 1900. I wish I had had this chapter when I was writing the Mason manuscript. I plan to rewrite the first chapter on John Henderson Mason and incorporate the direct quotes from Mag Harris' letter.

Included with the Jackson material are the following: 1. Two pages on the ancestry and family of Christopher Jackson, born 1768, from the book Jacksons of Kentucky. Their Ancestors and Descendants, by William Neel Jackson, Bowling Green, March 1982, copy at the Kentucky Library, Bowling Green, Ky. The book consists largely of the authors Jackson family of Warren County, Ky. but also contains some information on other Jackson families, which may or may not be interrelated. 2. Copy of a letter I sent to Kenneth C. Thomson, a professional genealogist, whose family is related to the wife of President Andrew Jackson. The letter concerns the purported claim that Christopher Jackson (b.1768) was a second cousin of Pres. Jackson. Mr. Thomson has not yet replied. And 3. Seventeen pages of charts showing the ancestry of Christopher Jackson, b.1768, including the family lines of Boggus, Rust and Damourvel. These copies were obtained from Mrs. Grace Bell of Daviess County, Ky., who is working on a book on the Jackson family.

Elizabeth Jackson Mason's mother was Catherine Rhoades (1769-1857). Do you already have information on the Rhoades family, if not, would you be interested in obtaining history of the family as it pertains to your direct ancestors? A very thorough book on the Rhoades family has been published, entitled The Family of Henry The Elder, by J. Paul Rhoads, 132 El Membrillo, Green Valley, Az. Claribel Phillips has a copy of the book in the Hancock County Archives. She said information about getting a copy could be obtained by writing James A. Rhoades, 503 Crestwood, Brighton, Ill. 62012. Sometime I thought I would like to acquire the book because it also contains a section on the Van Meter family, one of my ancestral lines. If you are not interested in purchasing a copy I would be glad to copy pages from the book on your line.

I

In the third packet of papers enclosed are: 1. A sheet with five short items from the Owensboro newspaper related to the James M. Mason family. 2. A section from an old Virginia map showing Mason's Creek, a tributary of the Roanoke River, and Mason's Cove (north of Salem), where the John Mason family had resided. And 3. Forty pages copied from the original papers of the Hancock County Circuit Court suit #1122 of V. E. Pierce et al vs. Ophelia

Kirkpatrick. This is about a half of the total pages of the suit but these contain the most vital passages and information on the Pierce family.

I spent one morning at the Hancock County Archives studying the three circuit court suits Claribel Phillips had wrote you about and which you requested me to review. In the suit of the Trustees of school dist. #3 vs. William S. Bates, no vital information was contained about James Mason, other than the fact he was serving as one of the Trustees of the school, other than a couple of references to that fact his name was not mentioned in the suit. The other two suits, #933 Willie M. Pierce vs. Mary F. Pierce et al and #1122 V. E. Pierce et al vs. Ophelia Kirkpartick, I had located earlier when researching the Mason manuscript which I sent. Any vital information, on family relationships etc. I had incorporated in the section on the Pierce family, the receipt for the gravestone for W.W. Pierce was from suit #1122. A brief review of these two suits follow:

Hancock County, Ky. Circuit Court suit #933. Filed 9 July 1867, Plaintiff, Willie M. Pierce, an infant under 21, sues by her next friend, James Mason, against Mary F. Pierce, John B. Pierce, Juan F. Pierce, Ophelia R. Pierce., Elizabeth Spillman and Oliver P. Spillman, Lidia Adamss and F. A. Adams,. Sarah J. Button and Jefferson Button, the heirs of William G. Pierce, deceased. The plaintiff is the only child and heir at law of William W. Pierce who departed this life in 1865. On April 4, 1864 her father, William W. Pierce and his father, William G. Pierce purchased from Robert L. Pottinger a tract of 309 ¼ acres in Hancock County along the Ohio River for \$5875.75. Same was purchased under an agreement between the said William G. Pierce and his son William W. Pierce that the former should have and hold 2/3 interest and the later 1/3 interest in the tract. Her father under that agreement paid 1/3 of said consideration. William G. Pierce died before his son and before making a deed to his son for his 1/3 share, and was holding his interest in trust. William G. Pierce died leaving the above defendants as his heirs, Mary F. Pierce being his widow, and the others named are his children and their spouses. One other daughter, Mary B. Pierce has since departed this life intestate without issue. Following the death of William G. Pierce, his widow and children excepting John B., Ophelia and Mary B. Pierce on 13 March 1862 executed a deed to William W. Pierce for his 1/3 interest, The later two were infants at the time and failed to ratify the deed and John B. Pierce refused to do so. The plaintiff asked the court that John B. Pierce should be adjudged to convey the 1/3 interest, and that the transaction should be confirmed by Ophelia who has now reached the age of 21 and by all the other heirs by virtue of any interest coming to them by the death of Mary B. Pierce, George W. Williams acted as attorney for the plaintiff. The defendants answered the petition by saying that they were not residents of Hancock County and the Hancock County Circuit Court thus had no jurisdiction. Case was transferred to the court of Common Pleas Aug. 12, 1867.

Hancock County, Ky. Circuit Court suit #1122. Filed 24 April 1871. Plaintiffs, V. E. Pierce, widow of William W. Pierce deceased, and Willie Maud Pierce, infant daughter and heir of William W. Pierce, who sues by her guardian James Mason, against Ophelia Kirkpatrick and her husband Moses Kirkpatrick for an allotment of dower and partition of same tract which was subject of preceding case. The plaintiffs petitioned for a division in the following manner: V. E. and Willie Maud Pierce are entitled, to 1/3 interest in the tract by virtue of being the heirs of W. W. Pierce (V. E. Pierce 1/3 of the 1/3 and Willie Maud 2/3 of the 1/3), they are also entitled to 1/7 interest in the other 2/3 by virtue of being the heirs of William G. Pierce. James Mason is

entitled to 5/7 of the other 2/3, he having purchased the interests of the following heirs of William G. Pierces Lydia Adams and husband F. H. Adams, J. B. Pierce and his wife Edmonia, Juan F. Miller and husband Joseph Miller, Elizabeth Spillman and husband O. P. Spillman, and Jane Button and husband Jefferson Button. The defendant, Ophelia Kirkpatrick, is entitled to the other 1/7 interest of the other 2/3. The defendant, Ophelia Kirkpatrick, in a cross petition denied any knowledge of W. W. Pierce having ever paid for the 1/3 interest in the land. When deed by other heirs was made in 1862 deeding the 1/3 interest to W. W. Pierce she was an infant and never ratified the deed, and thus claimed she was entitled to 1/7 interest in the entire tract not just the other 2/3. Before the court rendered a decision in the case the parties reached a compromise, it being signed by the parties 1 Oct. 1873. In order book 10, page 454, on 2 Oct. 1873 the case was dismissed an agreement having been filed in court. In deed book 17, page 18 on 26 Sept. 1873 Ophelia R. and her husband Moses Kirkpatrick of Oldham County. Ky. sold their interest in the tract to James Mason. At that time James Mason, his daughter Vetura Pierce and granddaughter Willie Maud Pierce, owned all interests in the Pierce tract. James Mason subsequently recorded a deed whereby he divided the tract giving them their interest.

I would like to hear any questions or comments you may have regarding the material I have sent. For the enclosed material and my research I request. \$30.00, \$15.00 of which is for the price of copying and postage. I hope all is well with you and your son. Best wishes and bye for now.

Your cousin,  
Jerry Long

.....

June 6 1987

Dear Cousin Jerry:

Thanks for your letter of May 20. Again I congratulate you on your scholarship. Attached is a check for \$30.00 I think the fee should be more but you are the boss.

I am glad you caught up with that sketch of the "Jackson Family in America" and that you sent me the photo copies. Mighty interesting reading. There are indeed some errors one being that James Mason married a Briscoe rather than a Blincoe and another on my grandmother's given name. But the booklet is a gem.

I am writing Mr. Rhoades in Illinois and I will tell you what I learn from him.

In the March April issue of the "Genealogical Helper" I spotted an item on a Mason Family Newsletter and I m writing about that too If you know anything about that will you also please tell me.

I wonder if you have ever given any consideration to checking out the Trimble County Pierces about which I wrote you last September?

Cheers for your continuing good work,  
Charles Culp

383 Lookout Drive  
Laguna Beach, Ca 92651

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August 25 1987

Dear Cousin Jerry:

Although my files do not show it I think I told or wrote you a year ago this month that I had commissioned a Genevieve Jones to spend 10 or 15 hours on finding where our John Mason came from Enclosed is the result of her work.

Another dead end.

I am not sending you the papers she refers to in the third, paragraph of her letter because they do not have in them anything you and I do not already know.

I wrote Ms.. Jones today to tell her that one of these days I tmight get around to having some researcher in Richmond Virginia follow up the suggestions she has made, But between you and me I doubt if I shall ever do it.

Hope all is well with you.

Cheers,  
CharlesCulp

383 Lookout Drive  
Laguna Beach, Ca 92651

10 August 1987

Charles P. Culp .  
383 Lookout Drive,  
Luguna Beach, CA 92651

Dear Mr. Culp:

I have not been successful in turning up any new information as to where John Mason was living before coming to Augusta County. As you know it is difficult to separate the several Mason families when they tend to use the same popular first names. My searches were all done using published sources. You may want a researcher in Richmond to search the primary sources in the State Archives at some future date.

The research that I have done leads me to believe that there are two possible ways that John Mason traveled to Augusta County.

1- He came from the eastern (possibly Orange County) or southern parts of Virginia. Lewis and Beverly had large tracts of land in Augusta County and John's records may be hidden among the records of those men.

2- He could have come down from Pennsylvania with the Scotch-Irish that settled in Augusta County. Entirely feasible with a brother-in-law named McKeachy. The largest proportion of the early settlers were the Scotch-Irish Presbyterian. The first churches in the area were Presbyterian. Large tracts of land in Augusta County was bought by men in Chester and Lancaster Counties, Pennsylvania but they never left Pennsylvania. Again record of land purchases might be in these counties. If your ancestors were Presbyterians there may be some church records. There is a Presbyterian Historical Society in Philadelphia, PA.

During my research I came across several, articles which I have copied because I thought they would be of interest to you.

1- Documents Relating to the French & Indian War, 1755-1762.

2- settlement of the Valley.

3- Beyond the Gates of the Wilderness Road.

4- 1821 Map of Botetourt County. (showing Mason's Creek)

I have underlined with red ink the parts I think will be of the greatest interest to you.

The following was found in Vol. 5 of the Virginia Magazine of History & Biography; page 241, "A List of Early Land Patents & Grants Petitions which have been presented and the consideration of them postponed"

Nov. 4th 1752, John Mason for himself, 13 partners, for 140,000 acres, bounded on the Ohio Company's land, when their quantity is laid off. (nothing done)

Also enclosed is a typescript of the "Index to Land Patents & Grants", Virginia Land Office, 1623 - 1762 and from "The Surnames of Scotland" some information on the name McKeachy. I searched the name McKeachy hoping it would give me a clue to the Masons, other than the information you already have on McKeachy I found only two references.

1- John McKeachy arriving in Nova Scotia in 1749 with wife & sons, on a list of 80 settlers who came with Gov. Cornwallis.

2.- Thomas McKeachie, on a list of British aliens in US during the War of 1812.

I thought Nugent's "Cavaliers & Pioneers" would tell us where John had lived prior to migrating to Augusta County but volume 3 unfortunately ends at the year 1732 just short of when he moved it seems. The three volumes of "Cavaliers & Pioneers" are abstracted records of early land patents & grants in the State Archives.

The Roanoke Valley Historical Society, P.O.Box 1904, Roanoke, VA 24008, has for sale for \$3.80 each the following;

J.R.Hildebrand's

1- Benjamin Bordon Land Grant, 92,000 acres in Augusta County, Nov. 6,1739. (19x25)

2- Beverly Patent, Including Original Grantees in Orange & Augusta Counties, 1736. (19x25)

3- Historical Map of Augusta County, 1732-1872. (37x23)

I mention these just in case you would be interested.

I hope this information will give you a bit more insight into the lives of your pioneer ancestors. I am sorry it could not be more.

The charge will be for; 15 hours @ \$7.00 - \$ 105.00, copies - \$ 3.30, postage - \$ 3.00 = \$111.30

Sincerely,  
Genevieve N.V. Jones  
7603 Dunston Street  
Springfield, VA 22151

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May 14 1988

Thank you, Debra Smith:

for your letter of May 1 and all the enclosures. I am overwhelmed by your generosity and I congratulate you on your expertise with a computer.

Returned herewith are the Joseph Mason war pension papers. I got these a few years ago and trade a transcription of the claim which I am also enclosing.

The group sheets you want are here too. Two copies. I have not worked these over for some time. If you spot any blanks you can fill in I will be appreciative if you will and return one copy to me.

The Paul McClure papers are interesting but my quick judgement is that they do not contribute to our search for the story of our Kegley's John Mason before his death.

I have been in touch with a half dozen or more searchers in the East about our John with very little interest on their parts. And no results. The beginning and end of one dream is on page 6 of the 500 page "Brunswick County Virginia 1720-1975." By Janet Gay Neale. It reads: "A land patent of March 1720 gives to Henry Harrison, John Mason, Wm. Cocke and Thos, Hollinghurst 5,000 acres beginning on the west side of the third creek above Cristanna Fort where an Indian path crossed the said creek. This would be near the present day Diamond Grove Farm."

The 1720 doesn't jibe with Kegley's John Mason bringing a wagon into the country about 1740. But I have always wondered if the printer inserted an "r" in a word that should have been "county" Or maybe Neale's John Mason was our. John Mason's pappy. Nebulous, eh?

I hope you will give no permission to send your papers to Mr. Jerry Long of 1701 Alexander Avenue, Owensboro, KY 42301 It was Mr. Long who originally sent me the Kegley excerpt. He has since completed a 200 page definitive manuscript on John Henderson and Elizabeth Jackson Mason and their descendants. He is a dedicated researcher and it seems to me that I have heard him say he visits the library at WKU.

In 1984 my elder son Charles, Jr. and I got a couple of late-afternoon-not- so -good shots of the grave stones of Joseph Mason and his spouse at the Pisgah Cenetery. If I can locate the negatives are you interested? Or maybe you have some better pictures I should have.

Sincerely,

Charles P. Culp

383 Lookout Drive  
Laguna Beach, CA 92651

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9 January 1989

Charles P. Culp  
383 Lookout Drive  
Laguna Beach, Ca 92651

Dear Mr. Culp:

Thank you for your Christmas card and your recent note.

I recently made another interesting discovery about John Henderson Mason (1784-1863). The house in which he resided in Ohio County, Ky. during the years of 1838-1860, was the site of the birth of Richard Parks Bland, possibly the most illustrious native son of Ohio County, Ky. "Silver Dick" Bland was born on 19 August 1835 near the present site of Dundee (formerly known as Hine's Mill) in Ohio County. In the last quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century Bland was a nationally known political figure, serving 25 years in the U.S. Congress. (see enclosed biography)! Also enclosed are pages relating to Bland's Ohio County, Ky. background from the book, An American Coroner: The Life and Times of Richard Parks Bland, by William Vincent Byars, c.1900. On page 274 of this book is the following paragraph (part of an interview with Bland's uncle, Frank Nall, of Ohio County, Ky., in the spring of 1900):

"DO you remember where Mr. Bland was born?" "Yes. The place is about a mile above the mill. Mr. Armendt lives there now. There were three little places there. My father owned all of them. You know we had no frame or brick houses then. This was a neat log house, and my recollection is that it had one room, twenty feet square. What we would call a nice hewed-log house. It had a white ash floor, and then there was a little porch between that and what was called the kitchen. It had a loft room above. That was the size of the house. After Mr. Bland moved away from there I think a man by the name of Mason became the purchaser, and he lived in the sane house, for a good many years. When he died the place fell into the hands of Mr. Armendt."

The Mr. Mason referred to was John Henderson Mason. The house & farm, where Richard Parks Bland was born in 1835, was owned by his grandfather, Richard P. Nall. On 14 Aug. 1838 Richard P. Nall & his wife Margaret sold to Elizabeth Mason [wife of John H. Mason] 70 acres for \$450 (Ohio County, Ky. deed book H, p.54). John H. Mason & his wife Elizabeth on 28 Aug. 1860 sold the same 70 acres for \$600 to Henry F. Armendt (book R, p.494). A native of Germany, Armendt was an architect, and was still living on the same farm near Dundee in 1900. Members of the Armendt family were buried in the Hines Cemetery, located on top of a hill in front of the Dundee School building.



I hope the new year brings you many blessings. Bye for now.  
Your cousin,  
Jerry Long

1701 Alexander Ave.  
Owensboro, KY 42301

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28 December 1990

Charles P. Culp  
383 lookout Drive  
Laguna Beach, CA 92651

Dear Mr. Culp:

Sorry I have not written before now. I had hoped to get a letter off before Christmas but I am hopelessly behind as usual.

The Robert Mason bible published this past summer in WCK:FRA's Kentucky Family Records (Vol.14) is related but is not that of your great-uncle, Robert Mason (born 1850). The two Roberts were first cousins. Your great-uncle, Bob's father James M. Mason (1815-1878), was a brother to the other Robert's father, Joseph Allen Mason (1814-1869). I uncovered this bible record while compiling the research for you and it was included in the booklet I gave you.

Do you receive the periodical, Forgotten Pathways, published by the Genealogical Society of Hancock County? In their Fall 1990 issue (Vol.7, #2) were published some Confederate pension applications that were found in the Hancock County, KY Courthouse. Among these was the application of the widow of Robert E. Duncan, who had served in Co. A, 12th KY Calvary of the CSA. In the 5 pages of her application (see enclosed abstract) she testified that R. W. Mason had served with her husband. She was referring to Richard W. Mason (1845-1924) of Hancock County, your great-uncle. Thus Richard W. Mason also apparently served in the 12th KY Calvary of the Confederate Army. In the book, Kentucky Adjutant Generals Report of the CSA, some records of the 12th KY Calvary do appear but the name of neither R. W. Mason or Duncan are listed. I have read that these records are far from complete, the Confederate Government did not keep as thorough records as did the USA. This application does give some evidence about the Civil War service of Richard W. Mason.

I hope you are doing well. Wish for you the best in the new year.

Yours truly,  
Jerry Long

1701 Alexander Ave.  
Owensboro, KY 42303

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18 September 1989

Debra Y. Smith  
1593 Wellington Drive  
Bowling Green, Ky. 42103

Dear Mrs. Smith:

Yes, we are related. Your 4th great-grandfather, Joseph Mason (wife Jane Henderson), is a brother of my 5th great-grandmother, Janet (Mason) Crawford, wife of Samuel Crawford. For several years I have been collecting data on the descendants of our common ancestor, John Mason, died 1760 Botetourt County, Va. I would like to compile a book on the Masons.

I have also done some research on the Landrum families of Ohio & Grayson Counties, Ky. Though I am not a Landrum descendant, they tie into my family several ways. James Landrum & Pina Watkins' son, Francis, married Jane Mason, a first cousin of one of my ancestors; and their grandson, James Landrum, married Elizabeth Wilson, a first cousin of one of my ancestors. Also my aunt, Louise Porter Long is a Landrum descendant. She is a great-great-granddaughter of Presley Cummings & Nancy Vandella Landrum. She would be fairly closely related to your family, a third cousin to you (she has not done any research).

I have enclosed some charts on the Landrum & Cummings families. Would you please check these over? Can you make any corrections or additions? What was the name of the cemetery where your great-grandmother, Sarah Alice Cummings Young, and her brother & sister, Shelby Thomas & Mary A. Cummings, were buried? Was it spelled: Solman, Salman, Salmon, Salsman? Were their parents, Presley & Nancy V. Cummings also buried in the same cemetery? Would you please share a family group chart on your great-grandparents, James Scott Young & Sarah Alice Cummings? Have you collected any data on the families of Sarah Alice's brothers & sisters, or of the brothers & sisters of Nancy V. Landrum Cummings?

In your letter you mentioned you have corresponded with several Mason researchers. Could I inquire who they are? Any help in tracing our Mason cousins would be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your letter. Bye for now.

Your cousin,  
Jerry Long  
1701 Alexander Avenue  
Owensboro, KY 42301

P.S. I am on the committee for obtaining records for publication in WCK-FRA's Kentucky Family Records. Do you have any records (bible, articles, etc.) you can contribute?

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September 23, 1989

Dear Mr. Long,

Thank you for your letter of 18 September. I am always pleased to locate another cousin!

First, concerning the Landrum family – my distant cousin Eva Landrum Pope is out Landrum expert. She has been working on a Landrum book for many years and I believe she is getting close to having it ready for publication. I know she would be interested in contacting you and perhaps your aunt (Louise Porter Long). I defer to her on any “Landrum” inquiries. She lives in Wichita, KS but will be here in Ky visiting me and doing research in mid-October. By the way, she also has done much research on the Wilson family so I’m sure you would enjoy hearing from her (if you haven’t already in the past).

Concerning the Cummings line – I have made a few additions and corrections to the James Marion Cummings sheet. About 2-3 years ago I corresponded with several Cummings descendants. Every time I found a new date or name in their papers, I would “fill in” my blanks. Now, I have a lot of data without good documentation. Most of it is accurate I believe, because it has come from descendants and they all seem in agreement. However, I can’t personally vouch for many of the dates.

My main focus has been my Young family. And my goal of course is to publish a book. I have almost completed the first phase – that is all the descendants to the fourth generation for James Scott & Sarah Alice (Cummings) Young. As to your question about the cemetery where they are buried – I believe the correct spelling is Soloman – but I have seen it every which way.

Now, as to the Mason family. Here is my list of correspondents:

- Paul McClure, Millerstown, KY 42726
- Elizabeth L. Cox, Route 1, Utica, KY 42376
- Paul J. Ostendorf, St. Mary’s College, Winona, MN 55987
- Charlie M. Hamner, 302 W. 17<sup>th</sup> St., Hopkinsville, KY 42240
- Mrs. David Taylor, P.O. Box 342, Belle Glade, FL 33430
- Mason Family Newsletter, Paula Mortensen, 363 S. Park Victoria Dr., Milpitas, CA 95035
- Charles P. Culp, 383 Lookout Dr., Laguna Beach, CA 92651

I’m sure you have already written to some of these. In fact, as I was looking over my correspondence in preparation for writing to you, I found that some of the information sent to me by Mr. Culp had your name on it.

I have enclosed copies of some of the letters and charts that I have received. I was very pleased to learn that you are interested in publishing your work. It seems to me that the Masons were an interesting family and the descendants are so numerous that I’m sure there would be a good market for such a book. I wish I could be more help to you, but it appears that you already have all the information that I have on my line.

The other person I'll mention is Bettie Cummings Cook of Evansville, IN. I'm sure you know of her work. She wrote to me that she was planning on publishing a "Cummins" book and she was very kind to help me on a few points where I was confused.

I hope all this is of some assistance to you. Maybe someday we can meet and exchange information.

Sincerely,  
Debbie Y. Smith

1593 Wellington Dr.  
Bowling Green, KY 42103

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March 19, 1989

Ellen Banks  
Rt. 1  
Fordsville, KY 42343

Dear Mrs. Banks,

Thank you for the information on the Mason family. You have supplied some information on the family that fills in some of the facts that I did not have.

Unfortunately I don't have a great deal of additional information that will be of interest to you but I will list what I do have.

As I stated previously, I am interested in the Mason's from the fact that Harriett Letitia Mason (b. 22 March 1850) married Joseph Baldwin Brown who was my great grandfather. Although Harriett Letitia was born and raised in Breckenridge county, she was married in Clarksville, Tenn. I don't know that this is of any significance but I mention it.

My research indicates that Harriett Letitia Mason was born on the date that her mother Kitty Robinson Mason died. Kitty is buried at the Pisgah Baptist Church cemetery. This leads me to believe that Kitty probably died in childbirth.

Kitty's husband Henderson Mason apparently died on 25 August 1850. I say apparently, because a record of the Pisgah cemetery lists the date on his tombstone as 25 August 1870 but this can not be correct.

I have obtained a copy of the inventory Henderson Mason's estate dated 18 October 1850 so I am sure that his death in 1850 is correct.

Apparently the children of Kitty and Henderson were sent to several families as you reported. I think their children were: Elizabeth (1828-29), William R. (1830-31), Frances (1834-35) who married James Moffett, Jane (1838-39), Kitty Ann (21 Aug. 1840) married Jessie K. Freeman, Margaret B. (1843-44), Harriett Letitia (22 March 1850) married Joseph Baldwin Brown, and Joseph H.

Apparently Kitty Robinson was the daughter of Littleberry Robinson and the Robinson family lived in the Breckenridge county area for some years.

Kitty was born 31 October 1806 apparently the first born to Littleberry and Nancy Robinson but I have no other information on her. Nancy died in the time frame of 1850-56.

A Littleberry Robinson appears on the early census but I have not had the time to research them but I am sure he was born in Virginia ca. 1786-87.

The Kirk family were all in Pennsylvania and only my father "migrated" out of the state so I am quite sure I have no relatives in Kentucky.

Mrs. Banks, I am afraid I have not been of much assistance to you. Most of the information that I have was obtained from the Breckenridge county courthouse. I will be most happy to forward any information that I uncover on the family.

Thank you again and good luck on your searching.

Joe Kirk

8540 South Louisville Ave.  
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74137

.....

5 December 1991

Joe Kirk  
8540 South Louisville Ave.  
Tulsa, OK 74137

Dear Mr. Kirk:

My name is Jerry long. I work in the Kentucky Roan, at the Owensboro (KY) Public Library. I have talked to Mrs. Ellen Banks, who shared with me, a letter you sent her in 1989. For several years I have been compiling data on the descendants of John Mason, who died in Bedford County, VA in 1760. Your ancestor, Joseph Mason (1757-1834) was a brother of my ancestor, Janet Mason Crawford.

I would like to learn more about the family of your great-grandmother, Harriet Letitia Mason (born 1850, d/o Henderson Mason & Kitty Robinson). Would you please share a family group sheet showing info on her husband, Joseph Baldwin Brown, and their children? I have data on Harnett's brothers and sisters I would like to share. Please write.

A cousin,  
Jerry Long

1701 Alexander Ave.  
Owensboro, KY 42303

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December 23, 1991

Dear Jerry,

Thanks for your letter requesting information on the Joseph Baldwin Brown family. First may I say that Mrs. Banks was most generous in sharing with me information that she had discovered and she forwarded several pages of information on the Mason family. Her efforts were greatly appreciated.

Information on the family -

I believe, but do not have enough evidence to prove it, Joseph Baldwin Brown was the son of Isaac Adam (or Adam Isaac) Brown who immigrated from Ireland in approximately 1775. Isaac apparently settled in Ohio county, KY where he married a Mary Baldwin. Information from the censuses led me to put together the attached family sheet.

Joseph Baldwin Brown married Harriet Letitia Mason on 4 May 1870 at Clarksville, Tennessee (Montgomery County, Tenn marriage book #4, pages 244 & 245.) They resided in South Carrollton, Ky, where he was a monument dealer and was apparently a very successful business man. He probably died from appendicitis on 15 September 1890 and is buried at Evergreen cemetery at South Carrollton.

Harriet Letitia died 16 September 1914 and is buried next to Joseph Baldwin Brown at South Carrollton. Her death was due to typhoid fever. It should also be noted that she apparently remarried after the death of Joseph Baldwin Brown. When I requested a copy of her death certificate I was sent a certificate listing her name as McCowan. This fact also showed up on the 1900 census.

Lilian Huntley Brown was my grandmother and she married a John Robert Whitmer. They settled in Owensboro where they raised their family. I have included a chart on them in the event you are interested.

I would very much like to learn more about the Mason family. Particularly, do you know the cause of death of Henderson and Kitty Mason ?

Are they buried at the Pisgah church ? I wrote the church seeking information but did not receive a reply.

Apparently the family was of moderate wealth at on time. Were they large land holders in the Breckenridge area ?

I have secured some information on the family from the Breckenridge court records but anything you may be able to contribute would certainly be appreciated.

It appears that most of my maternal line lived in the Central City - South Carrollton area and I would be interested to know if you or anyone that you might know of who are researching the following families:

Able Vaughn - Physician at Central City - daughter was Elizabeth Euphenia who married James P. McIntire

Jane Bond - wife of Able Vaughn

James P. McIntire - b. 1825 d. 1876 South Carrollton Daughter - Parthenia Viola married  
Thomas Liten Whitmer

Please note fact that we have recently moved from Tulsa to the Ft. Worth area.

Thanks again for the interest and I hope to hear from you in the very near future.

Sincerely,

Joe Kirk

332 Cottonwood Lane  
Hurst, TX 76054

.....

25 March 1992

Joe Kirk  
332 Cottonwood Lane  
Hurst, TX 76054

Dear Mr. Kirk:

Sorry it has taken me awhile to write. I had to find the time to check out a few things before typing up what I had on Henderson & Kitty Robinson Mason. I have enclosed a copy of this information.

Thank you for the information on the Brown and Whitmer families. In addition to what you sent I found the death dates for Mary Ann Brown Laffoon and Norton Adam Brown from the Owensboro, KY newspapers. She died on 22 Dec 1945 at Princeton, IN and was buried in Boonville, IN, and he died on 4 Nov 1934 in Louisville, KY and was buried in the Resthaven Cemetery in Louisville. I have sent copies of their obituaries. Do you know in what cemetery Leander Mason Brown (1873-1906) and Joseph Luther Brown (1887-1924) were buried? You mentioned you had a copy of the death certificate of your great-grandmother, Harriet Letitia Mason Brown (1850-1914), could I possibly get a copy of it?

Also enclosed is an article published in the periodical, Kentucky Family Records (Vol.IV, pp.32-33, West-Central Kentucky Family Research Association, Owensboro, KY, 1974), that includes information on the family of William Robinson and Mary Pinkstone, parents of Kitty Robinson Mason (1806-1850).

In a book of marriages of Muhlenburg County, KY I found listed the second marriage of Harriet L. Brown, on 26 March 1893 she and Samuel McCowan were married. Bye for now and thanks again.

Yours truly,  
Jerry long

1701 Alexander Ave.  
Owensboro, KY 42303

.....

April 5, 1992

Jerry Long  
1701 Alexander Ave.  
Owensboro, KY 42303

Dear Jerry,

Thank you so much for the information on the Mason, Brown and Whitmer families. It certainly filled in a number of blanks for me.

I an enclosing some information that you may find of interest. One is the death certificate for Harriet Letitia Mason Brown McCowan. Also a copy of the Marriage Record of the marriage of Harriet Letitia Mason and Joseph Baldwin Brown.

Incidentally, the granddaughter of the couple reported to me that from the information that her mother gave her, Harriet apparently died of typhoid fever (a fact supported by the death certificate and Joseph Baldwin died of appendicitis - this I have not proven).

Enclosed is the marriage certificate of Leander (Lee) Mason Brown and Willie Neal. This record is in Marriage Book # 27 page 35 at the Muhlenberg County Court House at Central City.

Leander Mason Brown and Willie Neal Brown are both buried at the Pine Grove (or Evergreen) Cemetery at South Carrolton. Leander Mason Brown died 2 July 1906 and Willie Neal Brown died 14 April 1948.

Joseph Luther Brown died 1 January 1924, however I am not certain of his burial place. I believe that he died at Central City and I would assume that he is probably buried at South Carrolton.

Thank you for the information on Mary Ann Brown Laffoon. She married Denietriss Laffoon on 10 July 1900. (Marriage Bond found in Book # 18 and Marriage Certificate in Book # 23 at Muhlenberg County Court House.

Another daughter of Joseph B. Brown, Fannie May Brown married Asbury Charles Hocker on 8 October 1891. This is the A.C. Hocker that was court clerk in Muhlenberg county for several years. The marriage bond (Book # 18) and marriage certificate (Book # 18) from Muhlenberg County court house are also enclosed.



A side note you may enjoy, Norton Adam Brown whose obituary correctly states he was survived by his wife Georgia Marquess, does not mention the fact he was previously married. He apparently met his first wife, a Mary Petrie, through an advertisement that he placed in the newspaper. According to family "the marriage didn't last very long."

Another line of the family that I am researching is the Vaughn line. I am particularly interested in Able Vaughn (1803-1880) my great-great-great grandfather. He died and is buried at South Carrolton. His wife was Jane Bond of Knoxville, Tenn.

Their daughter, Elizabeth Euphenia Vaughn (1825-1912) married James P. McIntire and resided in South Carrolton.

If you know of, anyone researching this particular line, I would be most interested in corresponding with them.

Jerry, I hope that I haven't confused the issue but if you have any questions at all please don't hesitate to let me know.

Again, many thanks,  
Joe Kirk

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