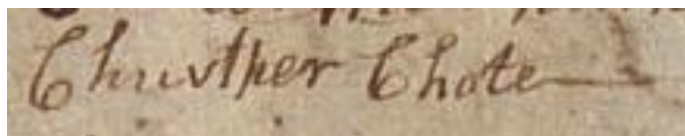


CHRISTOPHER CHOATE

Christopher Choate was not a familiar name to me, nor was it a common name here in Washington County. Choate was a near neighbor of several members of my family tree and I noticed his name on early land records, in the Kendricks Creek area, near the Sullivan County and Washington County line.

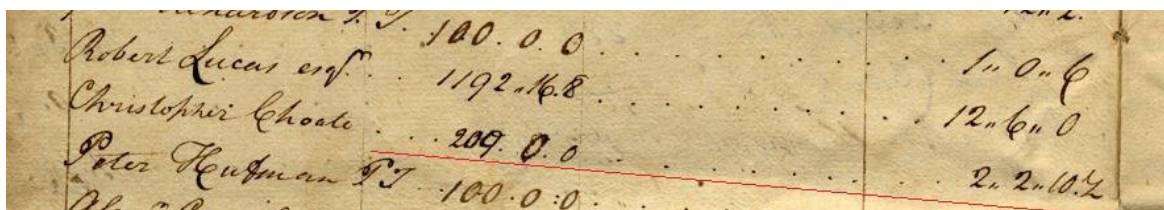
Researchers agree that Choate was born in 1720, in Baltimore County, Maryland, at Choate's Fancy. He left Maryland, and was found here in our area by 1776, where his signature is found on the Petition of the Watauga Residents.

1776: His signature as one of the Watauga residents on the Petition to North Carolina. This petition, written in 1776, asked that the area be annexed into North Carolina. In November 1777, the area was annexed, and placed under a county government, "Washington County, North Carolina."



*The Watauga Petition is housed at the North Carolina State Archives in Raleigh, North Carolina. We have a scanned copy of this document in our files.

This 1778 document below was a tax document, called "The Sheriff's Report to Court" (page 10) that showed what each person's estate was worth, and the amount of taxes they were to pay.



Robert Lucas esq.	100. 0. 0	1. 0. 6
Christopher Choate	1192. 16. 8	12. 6. 0
Peter Heutman PT	209. 0. 0	2. 2. 10. 2
Alvin C.	100. 0. 0	

Choate had an estate worth 209 pounds. His taxes were 2 pounds, 2 shillings, and 10 pence.

*Washington County, Tennessee Archives, 1778 Sheriff's Report to Court, Tax Lists

A Judicial Court case file, dated 1782, John McCullouch of Washington County, Virginia, accused David Choat and Christopher Choat as having possession of a "Dunish Coulered Horse to the Value of Fortey pounds..." There were only two pages in this file, and one document alluded to the idea that David had taken the horse from McCullouch, but Christopher had possession. Nothing more was found, either loose document or in the County Clerk's minute books about the case, so since neither of them were hanged, we assume the case was settled.

*The case file mentioned above was found in the County Clerk Records, Judicial case files (RG5.F.1).

Land Grants

Choate had three land grants from the State of North Carolina, descriptions below. Kendricks Creek is a long stream that runs from the Harmony area of Washington County, passing through Colonial Heights in Sullivan County.

Choate's Land Grants

1784. (November 10) - NC Land Grant #641 - 150 acres on the south fork of Kindricks Creek... DB 2, page 181.

1784. (November 10) - NC Land Grant #589 - 300 acres on the waters of Kindricks Creek, the waters of Holsten river... DB 2, page 183.

1784. (November 10) - NC Land Grant #511 - 150 acres on the North fork of Sinking Creek...top of a ridge near William Barrens...walnut tree on James Barren...John Fords line... DB 2, page 184.

Even though the grants were very close in proximity, they did not line up together. For this reason, we have shown the basic area below where Christopher Choate had three grants below:



Most researchers agree that Choate died in 1810, but I was unable to find any solid confirmation of a date. I searched through our records for an entry in a minute book, an estate file, a will, or an estate inventory, and found nothing to indicate a date of death.

There is no known burial place for Christopher Choate, and since I was familiar with the area, I could not think of any early cemeteries on his property. I speculate, that he and his wife were probably buried somewhere on their farm, and their graves are now lost.

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