

## Chapter 5 More Tuscarora Area Wetheringtons

**Solomon Wetherington** was a prominent figure in the Tuscarora area from 1800-1840 and also one of the best documented early Wetheringtons in Craven County. He was not, however, the sole Wetherington patriarch of Tuscarora. At least five households of Wetheringtons lived in the Tuscarora area in 1800. <sup>1</sup>

The Wetherington households in Tuscarora during 1800 were **James, Joseph, Solomon, Thomas, and William Witherington**, reportedly all brothers of Solomon. <sup>2</sup> Solomon's sister, Sarah, was married to Abraham Taylor and also lived in the Tuscarora area. <sup>3, 4</sup>

Revolutionary war pension records of Solomon and William reveal they were brothers. <sup>5</sup> The brothers appear to have migrated along with Solomon from the Sandhills area of Craven and Lenoir counties to the Tuscarora area prior to 1800.<sup>6</sup> By 1830 Joseph, Solomon, Thomas, and William Witherington remain in the Tuscarora area. <sup>7,8</sup> James Wetherington disappears from the Craven census after 1800 having left the area.

**James, Joseph, and Thomas Wetherington** were reportedly the brothers of Solomon and William Wetherington, but the relationship is not confirmed in Craven county records. James appears to have migrated after the 1800 census and Thomas appears to have died after 1830, and Joseph Wetherington appears to have died after 1840.

The Craven census between 1800-1840 records the number of males in each of these Witherington households, shown below. The estate papers of Solomon Wetherington reveals the name of seven sons. <sup>9</sup> A gift deed from William Wetherington, Sr. reveals the names of two of his sons. <sup>10</sup>

No records yet found in Craven County reveal the names of Thomas and Joseph Witherington's sons. It appears that all of the elder Witheringtons in the 1800 census are brothers, so therefore it is likely that any younger Witherington's in the later 1820-1850 census are the children of the four Witherington brothers that resided in Tuscarora from 1800 - 1840.

An accounting of the households of Solomon Wetherington and his brothers:

<b>Father</b>	<b>Males</b>	<b>Known Male Children - Comments</b>
Solomon	7	Jesse, Richard, William, Thomas, Joseph, Solomon, James
William	2	John C., Redding
Joseph	2	Undetermined
Thomas	4	Undetermined
Total Males	15	

With Solomon's brother James Wetherington leaving the area in the early 1800's, this places at least 15 male children in the Tuscarora area. In addition to the nine names in the table above, the five unplaced known male Wetheringtons of the area include **Jeremiah Wetherington, William B. Wetherington, Horatio Wetherington, Gideon Wetherington,** and **Wallace Wetherington.** These five males account for the majority of the males revealed by this research, making these unplaced males most likely sons of Joseph or Thomas Wetherington.

**Gideon Wetherington** died about 1826 in Craven County. He does not appear in any Craven county census. Three marriages are recorded in Craven County but his estate papers name only one child, **Mary**, and her guardian, William Wetherington. Gideon's 3<sup>rd</sup> wife, **Nancy Simmons**, later married John Hall.<sup>11,12</sup> Gideon's estate lists property on Beaver Dam Creek on the north side of Tuscarora and the deed is listed in Craven County.<sup>13,14</sup> The relationship between William and Gideon Wetherington is not known, but there are several Craven deeds where one of these two Wetheringtons is witnessing a deed for the other. The estate papers of Gideon also list a payment to **Horatio Wetherington**, but the relationship is not named in the estate papers.

**Horatio Wetherington** also lived in the Tuscarora area in 1820.<sup>15</sup> Horatio married **Hester Civils** on April 20, 1815 in Craven County.<sup>16</sup> Horatio was murdered in 1833, leaving a large unnamed household.<sup>17</sup> Horatio did not leave a will or estate records, nor is he listed in any Craven County deeds. Only this New Bern newspaper article in The Sentinel dated February 22, 1833 has been found:

*Two sailors, belonging to the Revenue Cutter Dallas, have been committed to the jail of this county, charged with the murder of Mr. Horatio Worthington. The deceased was a farmer, who resided a few miles from this place; and a more inoffensive man never existed. As the charges against the accused are to undergo judicial investigation, we decline giving publicity to the particulars of the case which we have heard.*

**Jeremiah Wetherington** (1789- about 1848), reportedly a son of Solomon, however the 1790 Craven census of Solomon's household does not list a 2<sup>nd</sup> male child, (Jesse being born about 1785) and Solomon's estate record does not name Jeremiah via a receipt for a share of the estate. Jeremiah's widow, Nancy Charlotte Davis Wetherington appears in the 1850 census in the household of Richard Davis. Most researchers include Jeremiah as a son of Solomon Wetherington, but no definite record has been located in Craven County by this researcher.

*See Chapter 8 Jeremiah Wetherington.*

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By 1840 - 1860 almost all of the male Wetheringtons living in Tuscarora are the descendants of Solomon Wetherington and Mary Moore. The known exceptions are:

1. **John C. Wetherington** (1800 – after 1842) was the son of **William Wetherington, Sr.** and **Susannah Coward**. John C. appears to have died before 1860 as his wife **Narcissie Shute Wetherington** (1816-) is listed in her father's household in 1860. **Roderick** and **Hannah Wetherington**, minor children of John C. Wetherington, were living with **Henry Shute** and his wife, **Maria Stevenson** in 1850. In 1860 Hannah, age 25, was still in the Shute household along with her mother Narcissie Shute Wetherington.
2. **Rhoderick Shute Wetherington** (1839) - 1862 was listed in the 1860 census, age 19, in Tuscarora, and died in the Civil war at Garysburg, NC of disease. <sup>18</sup> Rhoderick never married and his estate passed to his sister **Hannah Ann Wetherington**, the wife of **Asa Mallard**. <sup>19</sup> He was the son of John C. Wetherington and Narcissa Shute.
3. **Wallace Wetherington** (1801 - after 1850) appears in the 1840 Craven census listed with an apparent wife and no children. <sup>20</sup> Wallace Wetherington married **Mary Civils** in 1842 in Craven County. <sup>21</sup> In the 1850 census, Wallace is listed in the 9<sup>th</sup> township near Perfection, an apparent widower.<sup>22</sup> The lineage of Wallace Wetherington has not been determined, but he was likely a son of either Joseph or Thomas Wetherington.
4. **William B. Wetherington** (abt. 1788 - after 1870) William B. is most likely a son of one of Solomon's brothers, either Joseph or Thomas, but the relationship is not confirmed. Another researcher, George Wetherington, reports William B. Wetherington as the son of Robert Wetherington, the son of Solomon Witherington (1703 - 1766).
5. **Redding Wetherington** <sup>23</sup> (1809-1891) Redding Witherington was born on February 18, 1809 and died on March 19, 1891, the son of William Wetherington and Susannah Coward. <sup>24</sup> He married **Nancy Ann Smith** <sup>25</sup> daughter of Sherod T. Smith, in 1836 in Craven County.<sup>26</sup> Redding received deeds in Craven County in 1834, one from John C. Wetherington and another from Jeremiah Wetherington. <sup>27</sup> In 1849 Washington Carman released a Redding Wetherington from a mortgage in Craven County. <sup>28</sup> The 1850 Weakley County Tennessee census list Redding Withingdon age 42, and wife Nancy, age 37. <sup>29</sup> Also in the household is a M. Amyett age 22. Living in the area is Graves Fonville, age 50, from Craven County, North Carolina. The 1870 Weakley County, TN census lists Redding and son William Witherington. <sup>30</sup> Two deeds exist in Craven County records that name Redding as the son of William Wetherington, Sr.

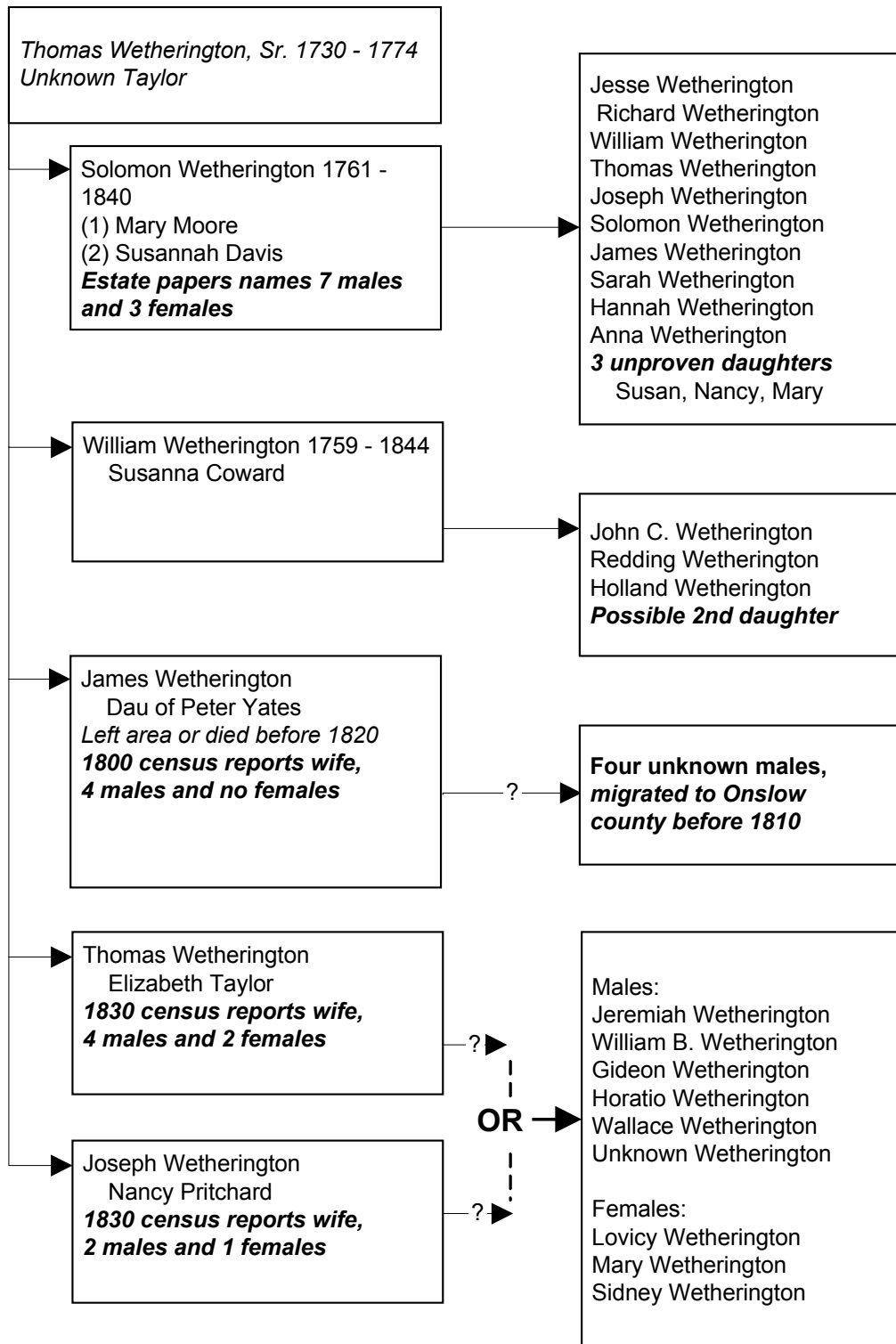
*See Chapter 6 William B. Wetherington.*

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The result of this research indicates there were a large group of Wetherington families living in Tuscarora by 1850. More than half of the group, although not as well documented appear to be all nephews of Solomon Wetherington via his brothers Joseph, Thomas, and William Wetherington. These three brothers lived in the Tuscarora area in there later years and are the most likely candidates for the progenitors of the list of 15 males.

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**Overview of Early Tuscarora Wetheringtons**  
*All Five sons of Thomas, Sr. known to have lived in Tuscarora*



**Figure 15 Wetherington Families in Tuscarora 1800 - 1840**