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Change History

Version	Date	Changes
FT-070.01	29-Aug-2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Original document</li></ul>

Notes: The newest version is in **blue font**, and the changes made to the document are also denoted in **blue font** in the document below.

Parents of this Family

FT-XXX			
Father's Name		Mother's Name	
Birth Year	Death Year	Birth Year	Death Year

FT-XXX			
Father's Name		Mother's Name	
Birth Year	Death Year	Birth Year	Death Year

This Family

James Davis	
Born	
Where	
Died	1799 <sup>1</sup>
Where	
Buried	
Source(s)	1. 910, 911

Married:

Where:

Source:

Aley Handley	
Born	
Where	
Died	
Where	
Buried	
Source(s)	

Children:

Name	Born	Where	Source	Died	Where	Buried	Source
Mary (D)			FT-029				FT-029
Doley (D)			911				
Darcus (D)			911				
Delaney (D)			911				
William (S)			911				
James (S)			911				

Other Marriages:

		Sources
Wife – Other husband		
When		
Where		
Other Children		
Comments		

**Story:**

Activity	Sources
Pictures (people, gravestones, houses, etc.)	
Marriage Certificates	
Land Deeds	
Slave Schedule Information	
War Service Records	
Social Security Applications	
Newspaper Articles	
Where lived?	
<p><b>1790 US Federal Census for Craven County, NC USA</b></p> <p>In 1790, there is a James Davis living in Craven County, NC. My James Davis did live in Craven County, NC during this time, so maybe it's my James Davis. This household consisted of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The number of free White males aged under 16 = 0</li> <li>• The number of free White males aged 16 and older = 2</li> <li>• Number of free White females = 2</li> <li>• Number of slaves = 12</li> </ul> <p>There are no other James Davises in Craven County at this time, so I am going to assume this is my James Davis.</p> <p>James was apparently a slave owner. I know that Mary Davis married Edwards Gurley who was also a slave owner so this is not new to this family.</p>	915
<p><b>Craven County, NC 1790 Map</b></p> <p>Below is a map of what Craven County, NC looked like in 1790. It can be seen that it is just north of Carteret County where tons of my ancestors are from.</p>	<a href="https://www.carolana.com/NC/Counties/craven_1780_to_1790.html">https://www.carolana.com/NC/Counties/craven_1780_to_1790.html</a>

<div><p>Craven County, NC - 1780 to 1790</p></div> <div><p>Total Population in 1790: 10,469</p><p>Pitt County</p><p>Beaufort County</p><p>Dobbs County</p><p>Jones County</p><p>Carteret County</p><p>Newbern</p><p>Ceded to Pamlico County 1872</p><p>Pamlico Sound</p><p>Craven County 1780 - 1790</p><p>Legend: ★ = County Seat 📧 = Town with Post Office ● = Town with no Post Office YYYY = Year PO Discontinued</p><p>© 2007 JD Lewis - All Rights Reserved</p></div> <div><p>&lt;&lt; 1779</p></div> <div><p>1791 &gt;&gt;</p></div>	
<div><p>James Davis Will, dated August 13, 1799</p></div> <div><p>The images directly below are James Davis' will. I will put the transcript here:</p></div> <div><p><i>In the name of God Amen I James Davis of the province of North Carolina Johnston County Being in Good Health of Body &amp; of a Sound mind and memory Praise Be Given to almighty [almighty] God Do make and order this my Last Will and Testament In maner [manner] and form following that is to Say first and formist [foremost] I Commit my Sole [Soul] into the Hands of Almighty God hopping [hoping] thought the merits of Death and the pasions [passions?] of my Lord and Saviour [Savior] Jesus Christ to Move? full and full pardon and forgivings of all my Sins and my Body I Commit to the Earth to Be Disently [Decently] Buried at the Disgression [Discretion] of my Exetors [Executors] here forenamed and what worly [worldly] Goods and Estate it Hath pleased almighty [almighty]</i></p></div>	<div><p>910a through 910f 911</p></div>

*God to Restore upon me I Give and Dissast [disburse?] as following. First I will that all Debts and fienal [formal? Final?] Charges paid and Discharged.*

*Item. I Lend my Beloved wife Aley Davis the House where I now Live and the aple [apple] orchard and all the Lower land? Of the plantation During Her natural Life and all my stock of Cattle and Hogs and Sheep and all the plantation tools and Household furniture. Likewise one mare By the name of pigin [Pigeon?] and one horse By the name of Daiman.*

*Item. I Give my Daughter Marah Edwards Five Shillings Starling [sterling].*

*Item. I give my Son in Law Edgar? Howell five Shillings Starling [sterling].*

*Item. I Give my Daughter Darccis? Oliver Five Shillings Starling [sterling].*

*Item. I Give my Daughter Doley Deanes? five Shillings Starling [sterling].*

*Item. I Give my Son James Davis Five Shillings Starling [sterling].*

*Item. I Give my Son Henry Davis Five Shillings Starling [sterling].*

*Item. I give my Son William Davis the uper [upper] End of the plantation from the House upward and Likewise and House By the Name of Ladct? and all my Shop tools and After the Death of my Beloved wife all my Lands to Belong to my Son William Davis.*

*Item. I Give my Daughter Delaney Davis one feather Bead [Bed] and furniture to Be Delivered at my Death.*

*Item. I Leave that After the Death of my Beloved wife that all the stocks of Cattle and Hogs and Sheep and House Hold furniture and working tools Be Eaualey [Equally] Divided Between my Son William Davis and my Daughter Delaney Davis.*

*I Doe [do] Here Constitute and apoint [appoint] my Son William Davis and my Brother in Law James Handley my Hole [Whole] and Sole Exetors [Executors] of this my Last will and testament whereof I have here unto set my hand and Seal this thirteenth Day of August in the yeare of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety nine signed sealed in the presents [presence] of us.*

*James (his mark) Davis (Seal)*

*Robert? (his mark) Johnton [Johnston]*

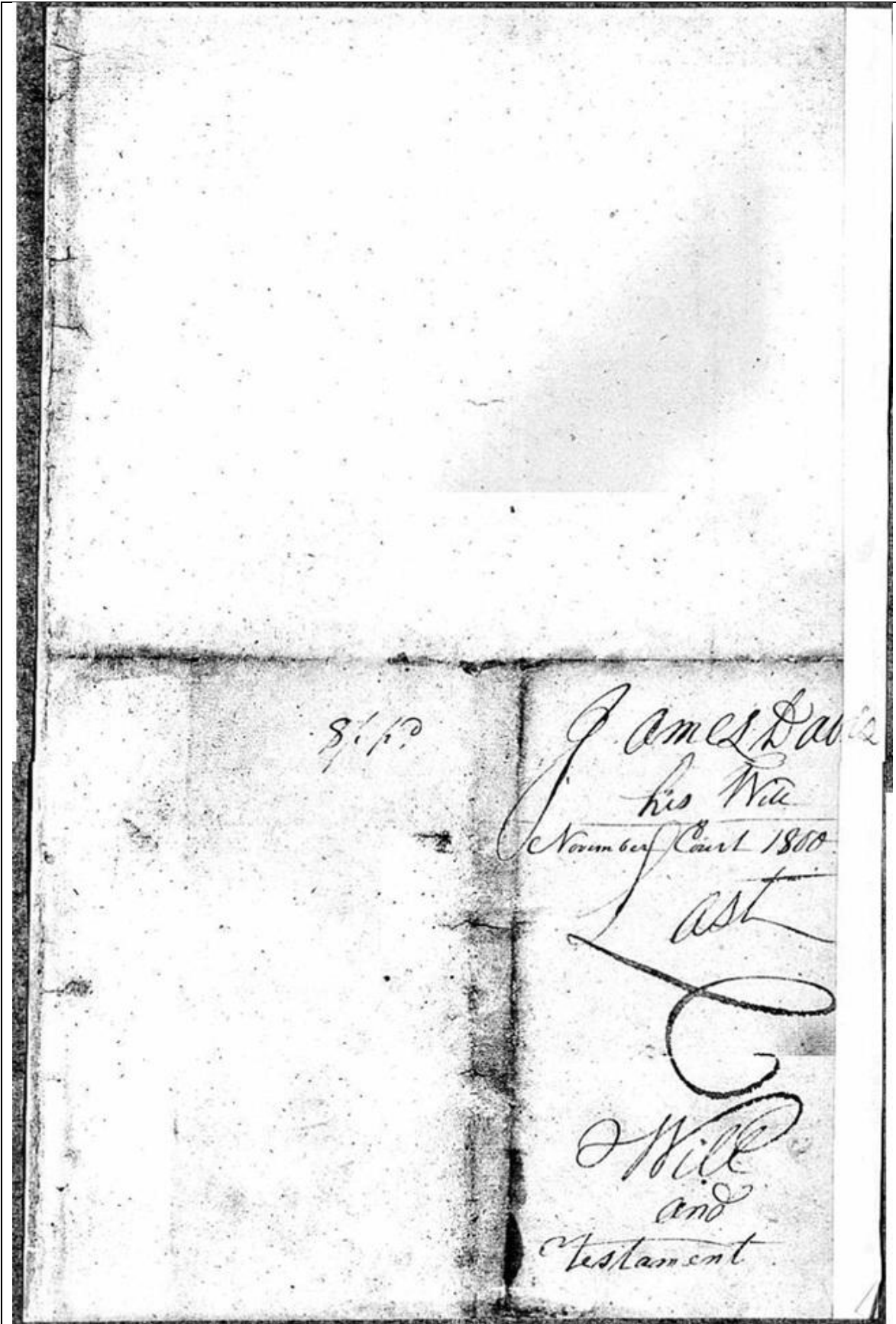
*Benetes (hur [her] mark) Lofton*

*Meed (his mark) Gielley*

*Wm Davis Exor only 2 p?*

*Recorded in Book No. 3 and Page 324*

*R. Sanders*



In the name of God Amen I James  
 Davis of the province of North Carolina  
 Johnston County Being in God that that  
 Body & of a sound mind and memory  
 Beise Be Given to almighty God Do make  
 and order this my Last will and Testament  
 In manner and form following that is to  
 Say first and foremost I Commit  
 my Soul into the Hands of all mighty  
 God Hoping through the  
 Merits of Death and the passion of my  
 Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ to  
 have full and free pardon and forgiveness  
 of all my sins and my Body I Commit  
 to the Earth to be Decently Buried at the  
 Discretion of my Executors here fore named  
 and that worthy Good and Statute  
 that blessed almighty God to bestow upon  
 me I Give and Bequeath as following  
 first I will that all my Debts and  
 funeral Charges be paid and Discharge  
 Atorn I Give my Beloved wife Mary  
 Davis the House where I now live and the apple  
 Orchard and all the power and of the plantation  
 During her natural life and all my stock  
 of Cattle and Hogs and Sheep and all the plantation  
 Tools and Household furniture like wise one  
 more on the same of my in and one horse on  
 the name of Daimita.



I now I Leave that After the Death  
 of my Beloved wife that all the Stocks  
 of Cattle and Hogs and Sheep and ~~House~~  
 House Hold furniture and working tools  
 be Equally Divided Between my Son  
 William Davis and my Daughter  
 Delaney Davis

I Doe Here Authenticate and appoint  
 my Son William Davis and my Brother  
 in law James Galloway my Sole and  
 Sole Executors of this my Last will  
 and Testament whereof I have  
 here unto set my hand and seal  
 this thirtieth Day of August  
 in the year of our Lord one thousand  
 seven hundred and ninety nine Signed  
 Sealed in the presence of us

his his  
 David X Johnator James X Davis  
 my self marks

Benet X Lottin  
 marks

James X Galloway  
 marks

Wm Davis Exec only  
 213

Recorded in Book No 4 page  
 324

R. Sanders ecc

Item I Give my Daughter Sarah Davis  
Five Shillings Sterling

Item I Give my Son in Law John Davis Five Shillings  
Sterling

Item I Give my Daughter Darius Davis  
Five Shillings Sterling

Item I Give my Daughter Doley Davis  
Five Shillings Sterling

Item I Give my Son John Davis  
Five Shillings Sterling

Item I Give my Son James Davis  
Five Shilling Sterling

Item I Give my Son Henry Davis  
Five Shillings Sterling

Item I Give my Son William Davis the  
Upper End of the Plantation from the House  
upward and likewise one House by the  
craze of I sell and all my Hoptool  
and After the Death of my beloved  
wife all my Lands to belong to my  
Son William Davis

Item I Give my Daughter Dilany Davis  
one feather Bed and furniture to be delivered  
at my Death



I now I Leave that After the Death  
 of my Beloved wife that all the Stocks  
 of Cattle and Hogs and Sheep and ~~House~~  
 House Hold Furniture and working tools  
 be Equally Divided Between my Son  
 William Davis and my Daughter  
 Delaney Davis

I Doe Here Acknowledge and appoint  
 my Son William Davis and my Brother  
 in law James Galloway my Heir and  
 Sole Executors of this my Last will  
 and Testament whereof I have  
 here unto set my hand and Seal  
 this Thirtieth Day of August  
 in the Year of our Lord one thousand  
 seven hundred and ninety nine Signed  
 Sealed in the presence of us

his his  
 David X Johnator James X David  
 my self marks

Benjamin X Lottor  
 mark

Wm Galloway  
 mark

Am Davis Exec only  
 213

Recorded in Book No 3 page  
 324

Re Sanders etc

As of yet, I don't know how much longer Aley lived after James died. More research will need to be done. John Sharp, 20-Aug-2025	
<p><b>1800 US Federal Census for Aley (Ally) Davis, Johnston County, CN USA</b></p> <p>In 1800, we see a family in Johnston County, NC headed by an Ally Davis,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The number of free White males and females aged, respectively: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>under 10 years of age = 0 male, 0 female</li> <li>of 10 years but under 16 years = 0 male, 0 female</li> <li>of 16 years but under 26 years = 1 male, 2 female</li> <li>of 26 years but under 45 years = 1 female</li> <li>45 years and upward</li> </ul> </li> <li>Number of all other free persons = 0</li> <li>Number of slaves = 0</li> </ul> <p>So no slaves by 1800. Different county, so was the plantation passed on down to a son, who stayed in Craven County and kept all the slaves and then Ally moved to Johnston County with kids in tow?</p> <p>In the 1799 will of James Davis, he bequeathed his plantation in Craven County to his son William Davis. In Source 916 – the 1800 Federal Census for Johnston County, NC – there is a William Davis listed directly above Ally Davis. This William Davis household consists of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The number of free White males and females aged, respectively: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>under 10 years of age = 1 male, 0 female</li> <li>of 10 years but under 16 years = 0 male, 0 female</li> <li>of 16 years but under 26 years = 2 male, 1 female</li> <li>of 26 years but under 45 years = 0 male, 0 female</li> <li>45 years and upward</li> </ul> </li> <li>Number of all other free persons = 0</li> <li>Number of slaves = 0</li> </ul> <p>It doesn't seem likely that this is the William Davis we are looking for, as this one is in Johnston County, not Craven County where the Plantation is. If we look at the 1800 Federal Census in Craven County for a William Davis, we find that there is only one William Davis in Craven County, NC in 1800. His family consists of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The number of free White males and females aged, respectively: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>under 10 years of age = 1 male, 0 female</li> <li>of 10 years but under 16 years = 1 male, 0 female</li> <li>of 16 years but under 26 years = 0 male, 2 female</li> <li>of 26 years but under 45 years = 0 male, 0 female</li> <li>45 years and upward = 1 male, 1 female</li> </ul> </li> <li>Number of all other free persons = 1</li> <li>Number of slaves = 2</li> </ul> <p>This William Davis lives near Mary Caraway, Jacob Caraway, Aun Vandrick, Abraham Vandrick, Nelson Delamar, Joseph Nelson, George Paris, Thomas Delamar, Henry Caraway. If we go back to the 1790 Federal Census for James Davis, none of these people lived near the James Davis plantation. However, there is a William Davis who lives next door to James Davis, and we know that James had a son named William, to whom he bequeathed his plantation to. But again, none of William's neighbors in 1800 match any of the neighbors in 1790. So is this the same William? And is it James' William?</p>	916

<p><b>Overall, I don't think I can say anything at this time about which William Davis was in Craven County and which was in Johnston County in 1800.</b></p>	
<p><b>1810 US Federal Census for Aley Davis</b></p> <p>In 1810, the slate of questions asked by assistant U.S. marshals was identical to the 1800 census. This census recorded the name of the county, parish, township, town, or city in which each family resided. Each family was listed by the name of the head of household and asked the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of free White males and females aged, respectively:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ under 10 years of age</li> <li>○ of 10 years but under 16 years</li> <li>○ of 16 years but under 26 years</li> <li>○ of 26 years but under 45 years</li> <li>○ 45 years and upward</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Number of all other free persons</li> <li>• Number of slaves</li> </ul> <p><b>First Economic Inquiries</b></p> <p>In addition to population inquiries, the 1810 census was the first to collect data about the nation's manufactures. A May 1, 1810, act directed that, "it shall be the duty of the several marshals, secretaries, and their assistants aforesaid, to take, under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury, and according to such instructions as he shall give, an account of the several manufacturing establishments and manufactures within their several districts, territories, and divisions." The act did not outline specific questions or prescribe a schedule, leaving those matters to the Secretary of the Treasury's discretion.</p> <p>To facilitate data collection, the Treasury Department divided manufactured products into 25 broad categories, encompassing more than 220 kinds of goods. As the U.S. marshals and their assistants conducted the decennial census, they also visited the manufacturing establishments in their assigned areas to obtain economic data. These data generally consisted of the quantity and value of products manufactured.</p> <p>In March 1812, Congress authorized \$2,000 for the Treasury Department to prepare a statistical report on the kind, quantity, and value of goods manufactured and the number of manufacturing establishments in each state, territory, district, and county. The May 1813 report noted that the economic data were of poor quality because of serious undercounting and omissions during the enumeration.</p>	
<p><b>1820 US Federal Census for Aley Davis</b></p> <p>The 1820 census built on the questions asked in 1810. The age questions were the same, except for the addition of a 16 - 18 years category for males.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The number of free White males and females aged, respectively:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ under 10 years of age</li> <li>○ of 10 years but under 16 years</li> <li>○ of 16 years but under 18 years (for males)</li> <li>○ of 16 years but under 26 years (for males)</li> <li>○ of 16 years but under 26 years (for females)</li> <li>○ of 26 years but under 45 years</li> <li>○ 45 years and upward</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The number of male and female slaves aged, respectively: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ under 14 years of age</li> <li>○ of 14 years but under 26 years</li> <li>○ of 26 years but under 45 years</li> <li>○ 45 years and upwards</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The number of free colored males and females aged, respectively: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ under 14 years of age</li> <li>○ of 14 years but under 26 years</li> <li>○ of 26 years but under 45 years</li> <li>○ 45 years and upwards</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Number of foreigners not naturalized</li> <li>• Number of persons (including slaves) engaged in agriculture, commerce, and manufactures</li> </ul>	
<p><b>1830 US Federal Census for Aley Davis</b></p> <p>For the 1830 census, the age categories were expanded again. Additionally, some social categories made their first appearance. Each head of family was listed and was asked:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The number of free White males and females, respectively: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ under 5 years</li> <li>○ 5 to 10 years</li> <li>○ 10 to 15 years</li> <li>○ 15 to 20 years</li> <li>○ 20 to 30 years</li> <li>○ 30 to 40 years</li> <li>○ 40 to 50 years</li> <li>○ 50 to 60 years</li> <li>○ 60 to 70 years</li> <li>○ 70 to 80 years</li> <li>○ 80 to 90 years</li> <li>○ 90 to 100 years</li> <li>○ 100 years and upward</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The number of slaves and free colored persons of each sex, respectively: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ under 10 years</li> <li>○ 10 to 24 years</li> <li>○ 24 to 36 years</li> <li>○ 36 to 55 years</li> <li>○ 55 to 100 years</li> <li>○ 100 years and upward</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The number of White persons and the number of "slaves and colored persons" who were deaf and dumb aged: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ under 14 years</li> <li>○ 14 and under 25 years</li> <li>○ 25 years and upward</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The number of White persons and "slaves or colored persons" who were blind, respectively</li> <li>• The number of White persons who were foreigners not naturalized</li> </ul>	
<p><b>1840 US Federal Census for Aley Davis</b></p>	

[illegible]
