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John STAFFORD I^{2,11} was born about 1669 in York Co., Virginia.¹² He died in 1733 in Bath Precinct, Beaufort Co., North Carolina.¹³ He signed a will on May 15, 1733 in Bath Co., North Carolina. Left a plantation of at least 100 acres to each of his five sons and to his daughter, Dinah, one box of Iron and heaters. He Will Proved in March 1735 in Bath Co., North Carolina.¹⁴ Will: William (plantation on South side of Broad Creek. John ("my plantation on which I now dwell") Joshua (180 acres land). Edward (land on Creek Swamp). Dinah - daughter. Executor: John Stafford (son). Witnesses: Mary, Karkis and Thomas Batters. Clerk of Court: John Collison.

John Stafford was born in York County, VA around 1669, the son of William Stafford II and his wife, Ann Unknown. He married around 1699, Ann Wyatt. The first three of their children were born in York County, VA, and the last three in Bath County, NC. By 1700, the family had moved to North Carolina, first to Bath Precinct, later to become Beaufort County. In the Colonial and State records of North Carolina, is the statement of the President of the Proprietors of NC complaining that William Stafford was talking to the men who had enlisted to fight the Indians, and that most of them had subsequently resigned from his army. A little later is found a letter from the President to the Governor of Virginia asking him to extradite William Stafford, brother of John, who had fled to Virginia to avoid execution because of these subversive acts. He later returned to NC and was a farmer. In John Stafford's will executed in Beaufort County in 1733, he leaves to each of his five sons a plantation of at least 100 acres, and to his daughter, Dinah, one box of iron and heaters.

Last Will & Testament of John Stafford, 1733

In the name of God amen. The fifteenth of May in the year of our Lord, 1733. I, John Stafford, in the County of Bath (North Carolina) being in good health and in perfect mind and memory, thanks be given unto God. Therefore, calling unto mind the mortality of my body and knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die, I make and ordain this my last will and testament, that is to say, principally, and first of all, I give and recommend my soul into the hands of God that gave it, and for my body, recommend it to _____ the earth to be buried in a Christian-like and decent

manner at the discretion of my Executors nothing doubting but at the general resurrection, I shall receive the same again by the might power of God. And as touching such wordly estate where with it hath pleased God to bless me in this life, I give devise? and dispose of the same in following manner and form:

I give and bequeath to my son, William Stafford, all my land lying on the south side of Broad Creek.

I give and bequeath to my son, John Stafford, my plantation I now dwell on, containing one hundred acres.

I give and bequeath to my son, Joshua Stafford, one hundred acres joyning to the hundred acres that belongs to the plantation part.

I give and bequeath to my son, Edward Stafford, one hundred and eighty acres of land lying up the Creek Swamp, being the upper part of the tract.

I give and bequeath to son, Thomas Stafford, the remaining of that tract of land that I gave to my son, William Stafford, lying on the north side Broad (Creek).

I give and bequeath to my son, William Stafford, five cows and calves and four three-year-old steers.

I give and bequeath to daughter, Dinah Stafford, one box iron and heaters.

And the rest of my estate, I give to be equally divided between my son, John Stafford, and my son, Thomas Stafford, and my son, Joshua Stafford, and my son, Edward Stafford, and my daughter, Dinah Stafford.

I likewise constitute, make and ordain, my son, John Stafford, to be my whole and sole Executor of this my last will and testament by them freely to be passed, and do hereby utterly disallow, revoke and disannul and every other former testaments, wills and legacies bequests executed by me in any was before this time named willed and bequeathed notifying and confirming this and no other to be my last will and testament. In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal the day above written.

I make and appoint my trusted briend, Thomas Batters, to have the overseeing of my four youngest children and their estates.

John Stafford (His Seal)

Mary Batters
Larkis? Batters
Thomas Batters

He was married to Anne Jones WYATT (daughter of John WYATT) about 1692. Anne Jones WYATT2 was born in 1677 in York Co., Virginia. She died before 1733 in Bath Precinct, Beaufort Co., North Carolina.

Ann Wyatt was born about 1677 in York County, VA, the daughter of John Wyatt and Unknown. She married about 1692, John Stafford, son of William Stafford II. In 1715, Ann and John Stafford were living in Beaufort County, NC as shown by the following: Book 1, page 268, Beaufort, NC, "Granted, John Stafford and Ann, his wife, Daughter of John Wyat, William Cording as intermarrying the widow of the said Wyat, deceased, August 3, 1714, appearing due for the said Ann's part, and ordered to be paid the same out of the Estate of the Deceased. And on the same page, "Received of William Cording, Executor of the estate of John Wyat, the sum of fourteen pounds, eight shillings, and three pence, being the full sum due to the daughter Ann of the said John Wyat in Virginia as her part of the appraisement, and by order of the Court, (which said Ann Wyatt is now my wife) we say received by us this 5th day of August 1715. It is signed by the mark of John Stafford and Ann Wyatt Stafford. Ann was not mentioned in John's will of 1733, so evidently she had died before then.

John STAFFORD I and Anne Jones WYATT had the following children:

- +19 i. William STAFFORD (born in 1693).
- +20 ii. John STAFFORD II (born in 1695).
- 21 iii. Edward STAFFORD2 was born in 1701 in York Co., Virginia.¹⁵
- +22 iv. Thomas Peter STAFFORD (born in 1703).
- +23 v. Joshua STAFFORD Sr. (born in 1715).
- +24 vi. Dinah STAFFORD (born in 1721).

SOURCES