

342 Mason County Sub This Deposition of
William Bartlett was presented in
my Office and Ordered to be Recorded
Wester Thos. Marshall J. C. C.

The Deposition of Samuel
Boggs being of full age taken this
twenty ~~seventh~~ day of January one
thousand Seven hundred and ninety
eight at an Improvement shown to
him to have been made in the
month of February in the year
One thousand Seven hundred and Se-
venty Six by him the said Depo-
nant William Bartlett Joseph
Lindsey John Vance David Vance
Andrew Steel and William Lind-
sey The deponent being asked whe-
ther he Recollects if himself and the
above ~~mentioned~~ persons made
an Improvement at this place

343 or not, Answer that he does not Recol-
lect Question by W. Logan do you
know whether yourself and the com-
pany above mentioned made an
Improvement at this place at the
time spoken of above, Answer by
Deponent I do not Recollect, Question
by W. Logan did you and the com-
pany above mentioned make any
Improvements on this Creek, An-
swer by Deponent they made two
Question, by ~~W. Logan~~ did you
Recollect whether the first Improve-
ment you made was on the Creek
Answer by Deponent I don't Re-
collect Question by W. Logan did
you and the company above men-
tioned draw Lots for the Choice of
Improvements after they were made
Answer by Deponent we did draw
Lots for Choice Question by Mr.
Logan do you Recollect whether the

344 Improvement which fell to William Bartlett was on this Creek, Answer by Deponent I do not Recollect, Question by W. Logan do you Recollect whether the first Improvement made by Yourself and the aforesaid Persons fell to William Bartlett, Answer by Deponent I do not Recollect, Question by W. Logan do know ~~at~~ this time of any other Improvements made in the year 1776 near this place Answer I do not Recollect on this side of the Creek Question by W. Logan what distance do you generally make your Improvements apart, Answer by Deponent about three Quarters of a mile Generally Question by W. Logan what kind of Improvements did you generally make Answer by Deponent we cut a kind of Cabbin and Cut Round a few Trees. Question by W. Logan was that the Customary way of

345 making Improvements Answer by Deponent all that ever I saw was made in that manner Question by W. Logan was your Cabbins and Improvements Generally about the same Size of those you saw made by other Companies Answer by Deponent they were Question by W. Logan did you proceed up or down this Creek in making your Improvements, Answer by Deponent we went up this Creek. Ques. by W. Logan did you see any Improvements made on the Creek by others as you proceeded up. Answer by Deponent I saw none on this side of the Creek. Ques. by W. Clerton what course did you come from Johnston's fork to this ~~place~~ at the time you made the Improvements on this Creek Answer by Deponent I think ^{about} a North West Course

346 Question by M. Overton did you
cross any water in travelling from
Johnston's fort to this creek Answer
by Depo. Yes we crossed some
branches Question by M. Overton
do you remember where you struck
this creek Answer by Depo. near the mouth of Lees Creek

Question by M. Overton how far do
you travel up this creek before you began
to improve Answer by Depo. I do not
recollect Question by M. Overton what

was the reason you did not begin to
improve at the mouth of Lees Creek

Ans. by Depo. it was such broken land
that we did not like it Quer. by

M. Overton do you recollect whether
you made the first improvement on
the creek side or on the up land

Ans. by Depo. I do not recollect par-
ticularly but think it was in the

Bottom as we followed the creek

347 Quer. by Mr. Leagon do you know of
any land between this and the mo-
uth of Lees Creek as valuable as
the land here and looks on well

Answer by Depo. I am not particularly
acquainted with the land there-
fore do not know Quer. by John Ward

did you travel up the North fork
after you struck it Answer by Depo.

Yes we did Quer. by John Ward
did you strike this creek above or
below the mouth of Lees Creek Ans.

by Depo. I believe below the mouth
of Lees Creek Quer. by John Ward

was it not the business of you and the
rest of your company to improve

good land as you found it Ans.
by Depo. we intended to do so Quer.

by John Ward did you not make
your first improvement on the
first land of that description which

you found on the creek Answer
by Depo. I do not recollect

Samuel Boggs

Sworn and Subscribed in presence
of us this 22^d day of January
1798 and Elm and One Sugar tree
marked at the above Improvement

(10)

Miles W. Conway

John Evans

John Gutridge

John Housk Junr.

John ^{his} Housk Sen
mark

Mason County. Set This Depo-
-sition was presented in my Office
and Ordered to be Recorded

Teste Tho^s. Marshall of Cms.

The Deposition of Willi-
-am Triplett taken agreeable to an
Order of County Court of Mason for
perpetuating Testimony Respecting

369

a Preemption Surveyed in the name
of Adam Jackson at the mouth of
a small creek emptying into the
North fork of Licking, on the South
Side agreeable to a Law in that case
made and provided for the Deponent
being sworn deponeth and saith that
in June 1776 the deponent met Richard
Masterson on the Ohio River Mast-
-erson going up and he coming down &
he, the Deponent proceeded on until
he came to that Stream now called
Mill Creek on which he saw an Im-
-provement which they of the party that
met said Masterson supposed to be of
his making as they knew of no others
being in that Part of the Country at
that time on that business and he
saw no other Improvement on the creek
at that time excepting those made
by the party he was with as he
remembers of they travelled up the

Samuel Boggs

Sworn and Subscribed in presence
of us this 22^d day of January
1798 and Elm and One Sugar tree
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(10)

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John Evans } John Gutridge
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met said Masterson supposed to be of
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being in that Part of the Country at
that time on that business and he
saw no other Improvement on the creek
at that time excepting those made
by the party he was with as he
remembers of they travelled up the

Ques) did you see any babbin at the place spoken
of (Ans) no I saw no babbin but there was a
small bryar patch which as I supposed had
risen where there had been a camp or some
thing of that kind perhaps a Sugar Camp
and in the bryar patch there were some
Remains of old logs (Ques) what were the
number & Size of those logs - I do not recd
lect the number perhaps about 5 or six the
Sap was roted off they appeared to be about
6 or 7 Inches thro and had been cut down
and farther this depo Saith not

Sworn before us } James Tarpley
of the Court aforesaid }
John Johnston }
Miles W. Conway }

The depo of Geo Truitt taken before us also at the
same time & place aforesaid and for the same
purpose af^d who being first sworn saith that
at a very early period he was acquainted with
the small flatt opposite to the distillery of Hickory
and that before the Land was cleared there was
a small deadening there and a bryar patch this
Depo supposed the deadening to have been

made by indians and that they had made sugar
there and thought the bryer had grown up where
the camp was (Ques) were the sugar trees girdled
or were they only taped (Ans) some of them
appeared to be girdled and some only taped the
Buckeyes were girdled and there was a small Oak
dead most of the trees that were cut were sugar trees
and the greater part of the growth in the bottom was
sugar tree also intermixed with Buckeyes (Ques)
did you see any appearance of a babbin in the
bryar patch (Ans) I did not I did not assist
in clearing upon the patch Mr. Tarpley cleared
it up and farther this depo Saith not
Sworn to before us the Court aforesaid

John Johnston } Geo Truitt
Miles W. Conway }

We have also Examined Samuel Bogg of
full age at the time & place aforesaid and in
the case aforesaid who being first sworn deposes
eth and saith that he was not alone when the
improvement was made nor did he see any of
the babbins till the year 1783 as he thinks
when he came in Company with others to Survey
that agreeable to directions which Willson said
he had from Samuel the Company came

206 to the mouth of Mill Creek, that those since
informed Wilson that McGrews lower Cabin
was a small distance up the Creek that the
Company found the Cabin as described then
pursuing the directions found what was called
McGrews upper improvement in the small
flat opposite to Richeys distillery that the
Company still pursuing the instructions found
John Simrell's own improvements marked
as described with the letters IS that the
Surveying described each improvement as we
found them and that McGrews upper Cabin
was some round high & from the mem^o so ex-
actly describing the several Cabins the
Company has no doubt but the improvements
were found (Ques) by Duvall Payne
was not this preemption Surveyed twice (Ans:
Yes we Survey'd it first wrong and resurvey'd it
might the first time it was Survey'd the Survey
was in a square which the principal Surveyor
said was wrong and not agreeable to entry
Ques) did you begin at the same place both
times (Ans) no we did not (Ques) who was
the other Chain man with you (Ans) Tho^s
Beard was with us when it was ~~made~~

207 Survey'd wrong and when it was Surveyed
rights Wilson & myself carried the Chain
(Ques) when it was Surveyed right did you begin
at the Honey Locust and Buckeye by John
Housons fence (Ans) yes we began there
(Ques) how long wait between the time when the
Survey was first made and when last made
Ans. I do not exactly recollect they were both
made in the same winter in 1784 as I be-
lieve which was the year after we came first
in search of the Cabins (Ques) by John Mac-
chi agent for John Williams who was in
Company with you in '83 and who has charge
of the directions alluded to by you from Simrell
(Ans) And^o Steele Robt Beard & Wilson
and myself were along and Wilson had the
Custody of the Mem^o (Ques) do you know
whether that Mem^o is still in being &
did you read it (Ans) I do not know any
thing of the Mem^o now neither read it or
heard it read and cannot now say which
(Ques) in what manner did that Mem^o point
out Simrells two improvements marked IS
(Ans) the Mem^o directed us to the mouth
of Mill Creek which we should

408 know by there being an improvement at it
that McGrews lower improvement was next above
and that at a small distance above on
the same side of the Creek we should
find McGrews upper improvement that
on the same side of Mill Creek we should
find the improvements marked IS but
neither of those improvements was that at
this Spring (Ques) how many rounds
high was McGrews upper Cabin when
you saw it first (Ans) I cannot say
but the logs were much decayed
and farther this deponent saith not
sworn to before us two of the Comrs aforesd.

John Johnston
Miles McConway
Samuel Boggs

We have also caused the deposition
of John Williams to be taken
at the time and place aforesaid in the
case aforesd who being first sworn deponent
and saith that in February 1876 he was

409 in Company with John Simmel Barth. Fritz
Gould and others improving in this part of
the Country that there was at the mouth
of Mill Creek an improvement which the
Company wished to ~~build~~^{ask} & there came up
the Creek (mill Creek) as they supposed about
three quarters of a mile and built a Cabin
for John McGrew that about three quar-
ters of a mile higher up the Creek as the
party supposed they built another Cabin
for McGrew but he cannot point out
where the upper Cabin was built that
they went up the Creek and at about the
same distance apart the Company built
two more for Simmel and continued on
improving for the rest of the Company
but he does not know that Simmels Cabins
were built on the Creek bank (Ques) by
John Machin agent for Jno Williams were
Cabins built at both places allotted to
McGrew (Ans) Yes (Ques) had Simmel any
more improvements except the two spoken
of above (Ans) not that I helped to build
he went off and when he returned he
told the Company he had made ano-
ther for himself but this appears

414 blue ash timber and the letter **AMC** were marked
with powder on a tree near the said Cabin
this deponent further saith that he was called
upon by said Bairs to make an entry for
him on a preemption warrant with the
Surveyor of Fayette which he wrote to include
the said improvement (Quest) by said Bairs
what distance was the said improvement made
from the mouth of Williams's Run (Ans) our
General Rule was to make our improvements
about three quarters of a mile apart and then
was one made at the mouth of the s^d Run
and another between the mouth of the Run
and the improvement made for said McConnell
(Quest) by John Machin agent for John Will-
iams did you understand at the time said
improvement was making it was for said Bairs
(Ans) I dont remember that Bairs name was
mentioned (Quest 2^d) had said McConnell any
other improvements in Kentucky (Ans) One more
besides this on the waters of the same branch higher
up (Quest 3^d) did s^d Ans. McConnell obtain a
claim himself (Ans) he did a Settlement and
preemption on Elkhorn (Quest 4th) what time
did Andrew McConnell die (Ans) I believe he
was killed at the battle of the blue licks
Quest 1 do you think the s^d improvement was

415 near the place by said Bairs now shown (near the
mouth of a lane South West of and near said Wood
Ans) I cannot describe the place where Cabin
stood and farther this deponent saith not
sworn to and subscribed { John Williams
in presence of John John
ston and Miles W Conway
Com^r appointed for the purpose }
John Johnston
Miles W Conway

Mason County Set 27th Sept. 1798

This deposition was returned and ordered to be
Recorded

Teste Tho^s Marshall Jr. Clk.

The Deposition of Samuel Baggs taken at Mill
am Woods on the Waters of Mill Creek on the 19th
day of Sept 1798 to perpetual testimony to establish
the special Calls of a preemption and entry made there-
on in the name of James Bairs in Compliance with
an Order of the County Court of Mason County and
agreeby to an Act of the Kentucky Assembly enti-
tled an Act
This deponent being duly sworn deposes
saith that he assisted in making said im-
provement at this place in the month of January 1798

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and in order to find the cabin went to the mouth of Williams Run where we found a cabin and proceeded up the run where we found a second and a third cabin ~~at~~ the third we found the letters **A M** marked with powder on a tree near the cabin and the Surveyor measured to find the distance between the first & third improvements and made the Survey to include the last and farther this deponent saith not

Samuel Boggs

The Deposition of Joseph Wilson taken at the same time and place and for the same purpose this deponent being first sworn deposes and saith that he assisted in carrying the chain at making of said Survey for said Baird and repeats and corroborates the testimony given by sd Boggs as specified above who also assisted as a Chairman and further this deponent saith that the third cabin which was the one included in the said Survey was built in part of Sptis legs and further this deponent saith not

Joseph Wilson

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The Deposition of Edward Mills taken at the same time and place and for the purpose aforesaid This deponent being duly sworn deposes and saith that when he came to reside on Mill Creek in the year 1788 or 1789 as well as he remembers he saw near the place where a haw tree is now marked a hickory standing and marked with the figures 1776 and he believes some letters marked on the same tree but what the letters were he doth not know the figures appeared as if made with a mans fingers with powder and farther this deponent saith not

Edward Mills

The Deposition of Matthew Mahan taken at the same time and place and for the purpose aforesaid This deponent being duly sworn deposes and saith that about eight years ago his Father settled and built a cabin within a few rods of a Haw tree this day marked by Duwall Payne with the letters **B D** and at that time there appeared the remains of an old cabin which looked like an improvement and near the cabin stood a tree on which some letters