

## Probate of Estate of Jonathan Huff

Source: York Co, SC Probate File Case No. 24-990  
 Received Feb 2011 from York County Probate Court, York, SC  
 Summary and Abstract by Joan Horsley  
 Revised 22 May 2011

### Summary of Probate Proceedings for the Estate of Jonathan Huff

1. Jonathan Huff died shortly before 28 July 1815 in York Co, SC, when probate proceedings began. His name in the records is also spelled Hoff and Hoof.
2. The administrator of Jonathan Huff's estate was George Ross, and the securities on his administrative bond were James A. Whyte and Jacob Buffington.
3. The men appointed by the court to appraise and inventory the estate were Edward Byers, James Scott, and William Kennedy. In the absence of Kennedy for a day, Jonathan Sutton served.

(Note: Jonathan Sutton was a brother of Jonathan Huff's mother Prudence Sutton. Jonathan Sutton was an Assistant Clerk of York County under the first York County Clerk, John McCaw, Esq. Several families into which children of John McCaw married lived near Jonathan Huff, and two of John McCaw's sons were paid by Jonathan's estate. Jonathan Huff's daughter "Pamela Macaw Huff" may have been named in honor of John McCaw's daughter Pamela McCaw, since it was common practice at the time for middle names to come from, and show respect to, locally significant families, neighbors, or friends.)

4. The sale of the estate was recorded on 8 Nov 1815. The principal purchaser was the widow "M<sup>r</sup>s Huff/Hoff" (Note: Although in some places the abbreviations and superscripts as written appeared to be "W<sup>m</sup> Hoff," closer examination showed they are, indeed, "Mrs Hoff" with "rs" in superscript.)
5. Final distribution of the balance of Jonathan Huff's estate was recorded 22 Sep 1826.

### Relationships Proved by the Probate

1. Jonathan Huff's wife was named as **Agatha** Huff. (Her maiden name is unknown. They married about 1790, probably in Prince William County, VA, where Jonathan's family lived at the time.)
2. Jonathan Huff's children as named in the 1826 final distribution:  
 Sons: **John Huff** and **Amos Huff** (*sic*, should be **Alexander**; son Amos died 1821 – see \* below)  
 Daughters: **Nancy Huff**, married between 1815-1820 to **Thomas Kelough** of York Co., and **PAMELA M. HUFF**, married by 22 Sep 1826 to "**JOHN HORSLEY**" (Their son Amos R. Horsley's Bible gives their marriage date as 22 Sep 1825 and names her as "Permelia Macaw Horsley," spelling her first name as it was spelled and likely pronounced later in Georgia.)
3. Jonathan Huff had a brother **Amos Huff**, indicated by a notation on the list of estate purchasers that Amos Huff bought "the boddy clothes of his B<sup>r</sup>" (i.e., Brother). Amos Huff's 1826 deed for York County land names "my mother Prudence Huff," thereby giving proof that Jonathan Huff was a son of **Prudence Sutton and Powell Huff**. [York Deed Book L, p. 65-66, No. 115, from research by Larry Huff]

Abstract of Probate Records – Estate of Jonathan Huff  
(Original spelling preserved; comments in brackets added)

28 Jul 1815 - Application for administration of estate of Jonathan Huff, deceased, by Agathy Huff & George Ross, both of York Co, SC.

7 Aug 1815 - Administration granted to George Ross. /s/ Benj. Chambers ODY [Ordinary, York Dist.]

7 Aug 1815 - Administrative bond of George Ross, security James A. Whyte and Jacob Buffington.

7 Aug 1815 - Warrant of Appraisement - Ordered appraisal of estate of Jonathan Huff to take place on or before first of October.

21 Aug 1815 - Appointment of appraisers for estate of Jonathan Huff; namely, Edward Byers, James Scott, and William Kennedy.

11 Sep 1815 - Inventory and appraisal of estate of Jonathan Huff. Total: \$2,395.75.  
/s/ Edward Byers, William Kennedy, James Scott. 8 Nov 1815 memo: Jon'a Sutton served as additional appraiser for one day's absence of Edward Byers.

17 Oct 1815 - Order for sale of estate of Jonathan Huff, dec'd. To take place 7th and 8th of Nov. (Not to take place on any Saturday before 10:00 a.m.)

8 Nov 1815 - Sale of estate of Jonathan Huff. Net sales: \$2,523.25

Lists buyers with items purchased. They included:

Agatha Huff (Jonathan Huff's widow and principal purchaser; also named here as M'rs Huff/Hoff), George Ross, James Ross, Jon'a Sutton, James Sutton, Alexander Sutton, Amos Huff ("to the boddly clothes of his B'r" [brother]), Nancy Hoff, Thos. Kelough

Undated - Estate account - Those paid by the estate included:

Rob't McCaws (paid by "proven acct"), W'm McCaw (paid "at auction, for hire of negro")

14 Mar 1817 - Estate account - Those paid by the estate included W'm McCaw ("Note paid")

22 Sep 1826 - Final estate account

Balance of estate debits/credits at final settlement: \$116.40

M'rs Hoff the widow entitled to 1/3 of that am't: \$38.80

Remaining Balance of \$77.60 - to be divided on 4 heirs at law each one entitled to the am't of \$19.40. Three of the heirs at law vitz.[namely] Pamela Horsley, John Hoff & Amos Hoff [*sic*, should be Alexander Hoff – see \* below], each entitled to interest on that am't from the 8th of Nov 1816. Nancy Hoff now wife of Thomas Kelough.

22 Sep 1826 - Rec'd of Col. Geo. Ross adm'r of the estate of Jon'a Hoof dec'd \$21.23 in full of the part of the estate I am indebted [*sic*, entitled] to in right of my wife Nancy Kelough, formerly Nancy Hoff, one of the heirs at law of the sd dec'd personal estate. /s/ Tho's Kelough

22 Sep 1826 - Rec'd of Col. Geo. Ross adm'r of the estate of Jon'a Hoof, dec'd, through the hands of Agatha Hoff, \$21.93 the bal. of the interest being \$10.82 I acquit the adm'r from paying sd interest and acknowledge the above to be in full of the am't due to **Pamela M. Horsley, formerly Pamela M. Hoff...** /s/ **John Horsley** [named in later records as John B. Horsley or J. B. Horsley]

22 Sep 1826 - Rec'd of Col. Geo. Ross adm'r of the estate of Jon'a Hoof, dec'd, \$38. 80, in full of the one third of the estate of sd dec'd, which I am entitled to as an heir at law of sd dec'd estate.  
/s/ Agatha (her mark) Huff [1/3 is her legal dower share]

Sworn to before me Sep'r 22 1826 /s/ Benj'n Chambers ODY

Geo Ross Adm'r of the estate of Jon'a Hoff dec'd settlement Sep'r 22<sup>nd</sup> 1826  
Recorded Book F, Page 503 & 4

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\*Note regarding Amos Huff and Alexander Huff, sons of Jonathan and Agatha Huff

A York County Equity Court case *Tinis W. McNeel v Agatha Huff* was filed 6 Mar 1826 regarding the deceased Jonathan Huff's land. (Inherited land, or "real property," was handled separately from the Probate Court process for personal property.) In a statement filed 25 May 1826, Agatha Huff testified that at the time of Jonathan Huff's death, he was survived by his wife (**Agatha**) and five children: **Nancy** (now wife of Thomas Kelough), **Alexander**, **Amos**, **Pamela** ("now Pamela Horsley"), and **John** (still under age 21 in 1826). Agatha further stated that their son Amos Huff had died unmarried and without children in 1821 (the day and month are left blank in the transcription I received). The case also mentions that in February 1826 Agatha had purchased her son Alexander's share of Jonathan's land after it was seized for debt and sold at a sheriff's sale. Alexander Huff was still alive in June 1829 when the Equity Court in Chancery heard a related case (*T. W. McNeel v Alex. Huff*) that involved land and other property that Alexander Huff had received from his father Jonathan Huff prior to Jonathan's death.

Therefore, it is clear that the Probate Court record dated 22 Sep 1826 (and copied into the Equity Court records) was in error when it named Amos rather than Alexander as a recipient of the final distribution of Jonathan's personal estate, since Amos Huff died in 1821, five years prior to the distribution, while Alexander Huff was still alive in 1829, three years after the distribution. (In fact, Jonathan's son Alexander Huff was still living in York Co, SC in the 1860 census.)

[Source: Partial transcriptions by Rosemary Hollis of the York County Equity Court cases mentioned above were sent to me by Roy Horsley. The original records have not yet been obtained and may provide additional information. JH]