

THE EXPANSION
of
SOUTH CAROLINA
1729-1765

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The chief episode in the 1751 Indian alarm occurred on a branch of the thinly settled Little Saluda. The head of the stream later called Clouds Creek was formed by several springs near the crossing of the natural routes from the Congarees to Fort Moore and from Ninety Six to Orangeburg; for that reason, probably, the place appealed to the retired Indian trader Isaac Cloud, and here he made his home. At midnight of May 7, 1751, Mary Cloud arrived at the house of Martin Friday, in Saxe Gotha, and there gave her narrative on oath before Daniel Scheider, captain of the militia company:

That on the fourth Instant two Indians came to my House about Half-way between the Congrees and Savannah Town. The Indians were Savannas. They came there about dark, and sate down very civilly; and my Husband being able to talk their Tongue they talked a great while together, And I gave them Supper. And they asked my Husband for Pipes and Tobacco, and he gave it them. And we sate up until Midnight, and then we all went to Sleep; and they lay down too and pulled off their Mogassens and Boots. One of them broke his Pipe, and he came to the Bed to my Husband, who handed unto him his Pipe out of his Mouth, and laid down again; and we all dropt into Sleep: and when the Cocks began to Crow they came, as I suppose, to the Bed, and Shot my Husband through the Head. And a young Man lying upon the Floor was Shot in the same Minute. And the Indians, I suppose, thinking the Bullet had gone thro' my Husband's Head and my own too, struck me with a Tomahawk under my right Arm; and afterwards they struck me two Cuts upon the left Knee. I lying still they supposed I was dead, and one of them went and killed both my Children; & then they came and took the Blankets from us & plunder'd the House of all that was valuable and went off. And in that bad Condition I have lain amongst my Dead two Days. And by the help of Providence one of my Horses came to the House; and so I came to Martin Fridig's House.

¹⁵ Indian Books, II, pt. 2, 12-13, 14-20, III, 7-8; JC, May 11, Aug. 9, Nov. 25, 1751. For Vann, see P, V, 404, and below, p. 196. A German immigrant brought a rifle-gun in 1750 (JC, Mar. 13, 1750); see also above, p. 106. At some time between 1751 and 1759 Vann was on the Savannah River opposite the mouth of the Georgia Broad River (P, VIII, 273, 535). In 1759 he was in Georgia (PR, XXVIII, 210—Governor William Henry Lyttelton to Board, Sept. 1, 1759).

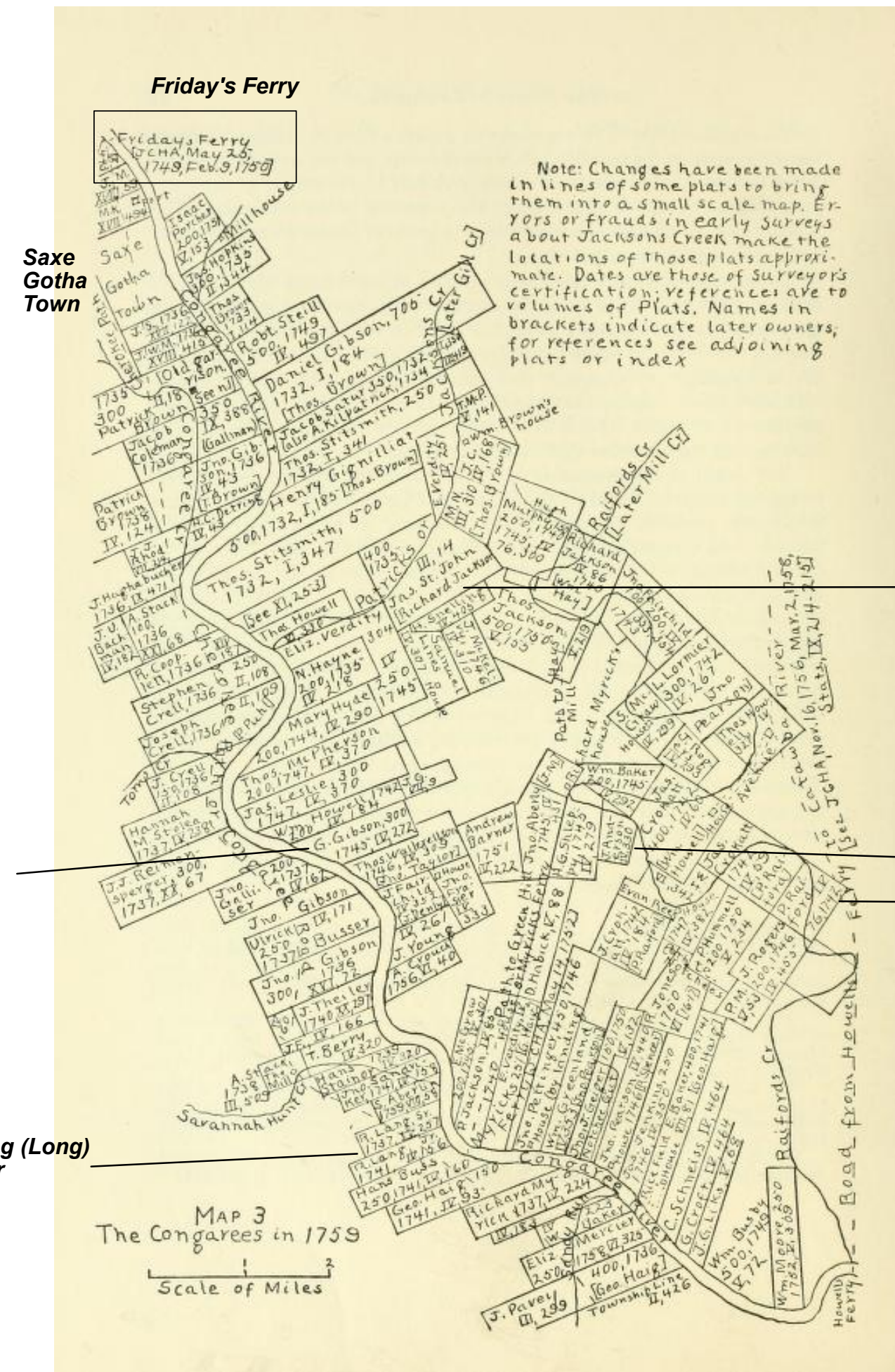
see Friday's Ferry
on the Saxe Gotha map

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The Commons was stirred by this and other accounts of raids in the northwest to debate so drastic a measure as an expedition of a thousand men to punish the Cherokees and their friends, but later thought better of it. Meanwhile Mary Cloud had been brought to town, and the House, having resolved to pay her expenses, some months later read and approved the few bills which finished the story—five pounds to Doctor Chalmers for amputating her leg, with other sums to someone else for nursing her and to the sexton of St. Philip's for her funeral charges.¹⁶

¹⁶ JC, May 11, 1751, JCHA, May 13, 14, 1751, Jan. 9, 15, 23, June 12, 1752. For location note the deposition following, and SCG, Oct. 19, 1767 (Charleston news), P, V, 425, VI, 401, 420. No record of a warrant or survey for Cloud appears.

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All of these names appear on my Oconechee Neck map...

Richard Jackson

James Anderson

Philip Raiford

G. Gibson [Gideon?]

Robert Lang (Long) Sr and Jr