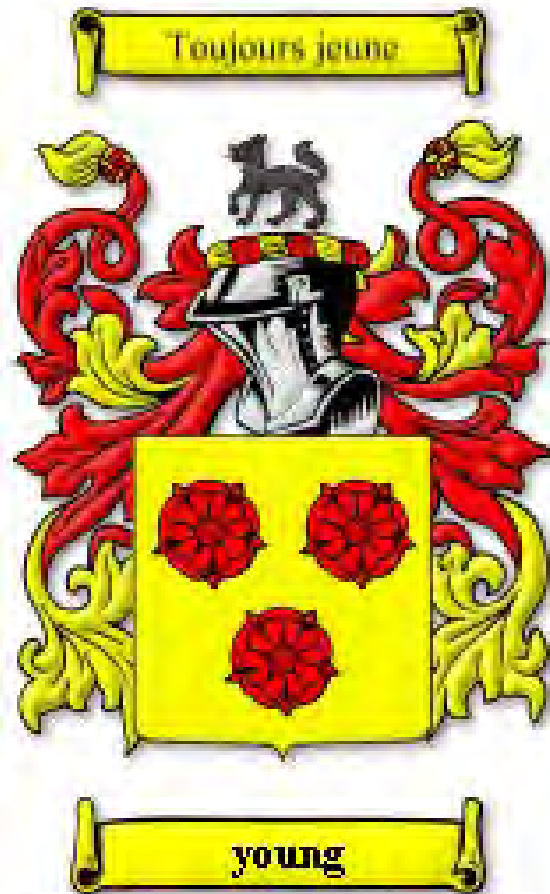


# Young Family History



# **Benjamin Young**

**(1733 – 1809)**

**Interactions  
with the  
Moravians  
at Bethabara**



Benjamin Young Sr. was born in 1733 and is the Great Great Grandfather of Jim Young.

**Benjamin Young Sr.**

*1733 – 1809*



**Benjamin Young Jr.**

*1755 – 1818*



**David S. Young**

*~1799 – ~1875*



**Albert Calvin Young**

*1837 – 1905*

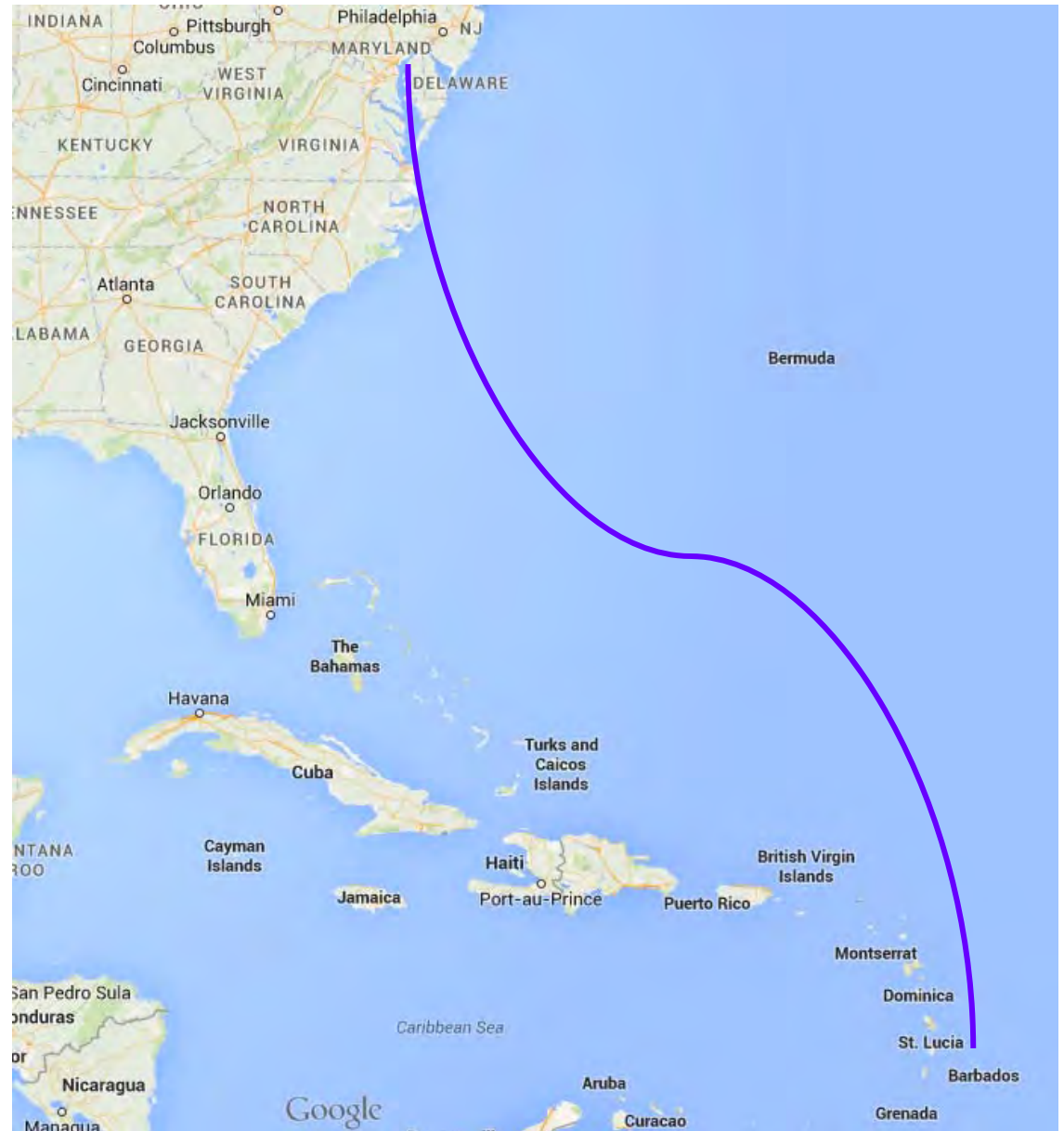


**James “Jim” Wesley Young**

*1874 - 1951*

We learned at past reunions that Ben Young migrated from Barbados to Baltimore in the late 1740's where he came to know the Gist Family.

**Ben Young**  
migration from  
**Barbados**  
to  
**Baltimore**  
in late 1740's



# **Ben Young & Gist Family Migration**

## **Who are the Gist's ?**

Richard and Zipporah Gist were a prominent family in Baltimore. Richard was called the architect of Baltimore because he surveyed much of the city and its streets.

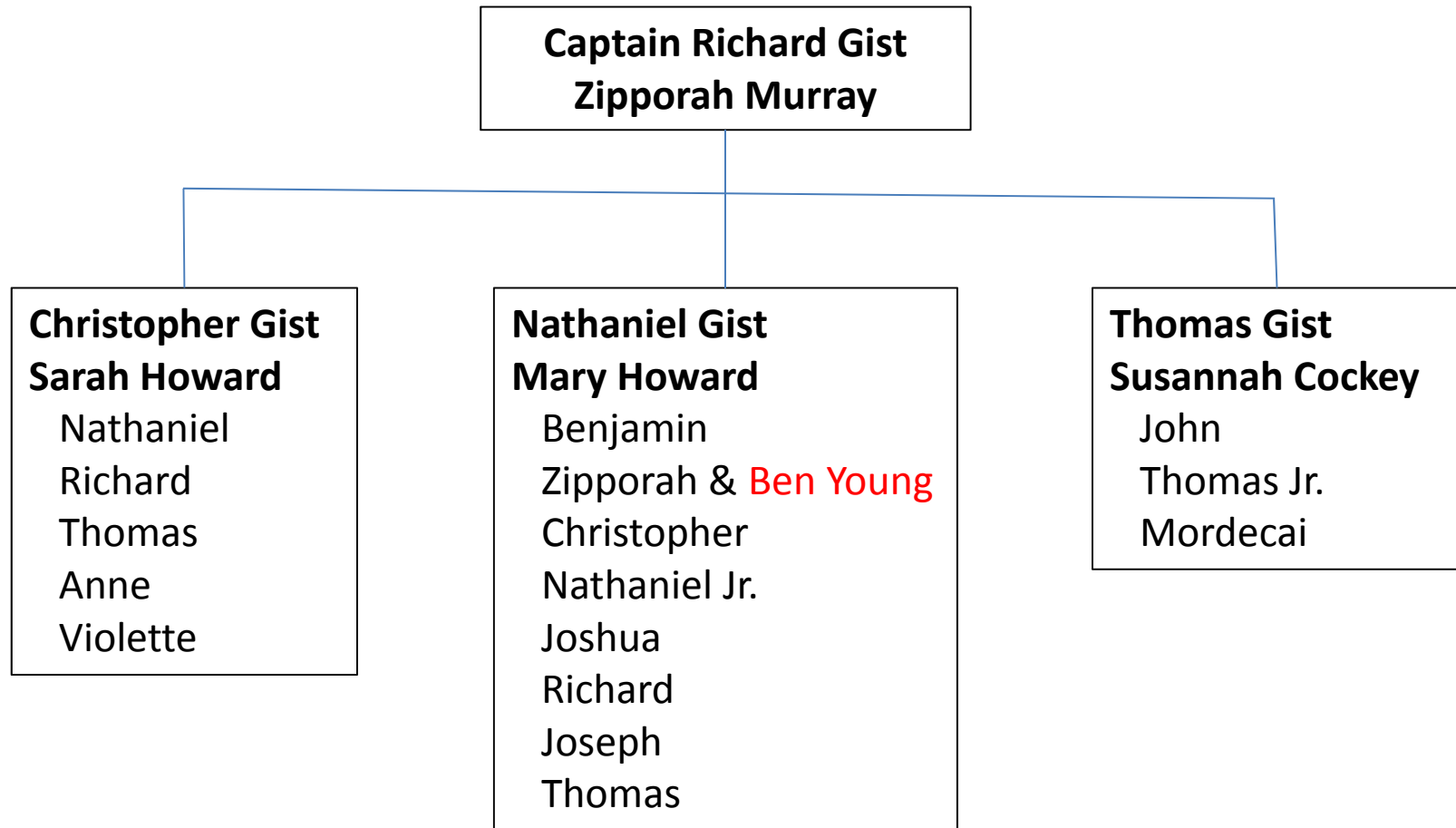
They had three sons: Christopher, Nathaniel and Thomas. Christopher and Nathaniel would marry the Howard sisters. Christopher would become a famous colonial British explorer, surveyor and frontiersman. Nathaniel and Mary's daughter Zipporah was named after her grandmother and she would marry Ben Young in 1751. After she and Ben were married they would travel to the end of the Great Wagon Road and start their life together. The 3<sup>rd</sup> son Thomas would remain in Baltimore and raise his family there. Several of the children of Richard and Zipporah would become important figures in the revolutionary war. Mordecai is a revolutionary war hero and his grave is located in downtown Charlestown, SC.

One difficult thing about keeping all of the stories straight was determining who was being talked about because they named each kid after a family member.

You had... Richard's, Zipporah's, Christopher's, Nathaniel's, Thomas's and Benjamin's. And this naming convention would continue in future generations.

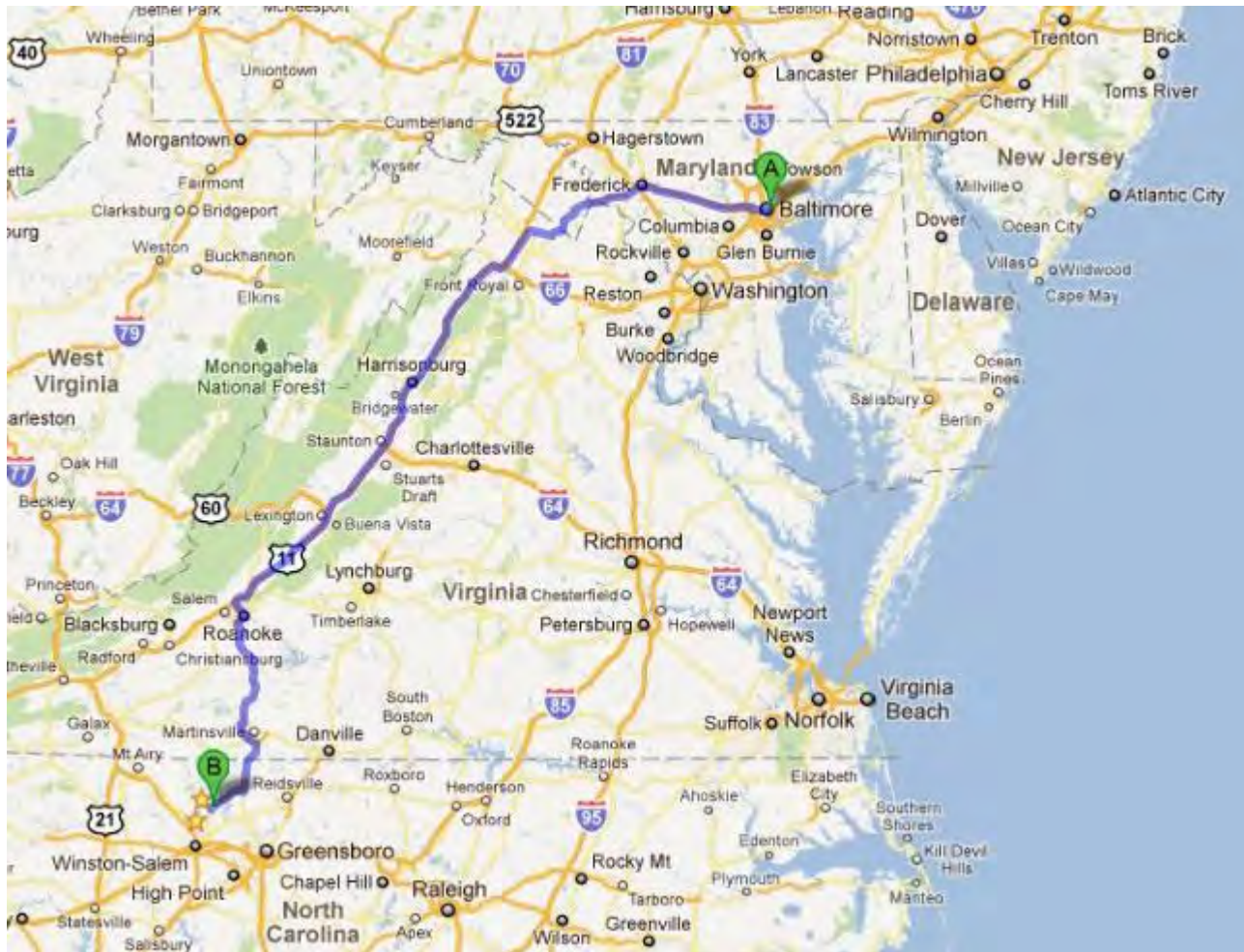
# Ben Young & Gist Family Migration

## Who are the Gist's ?



# Ben Young Family Migration

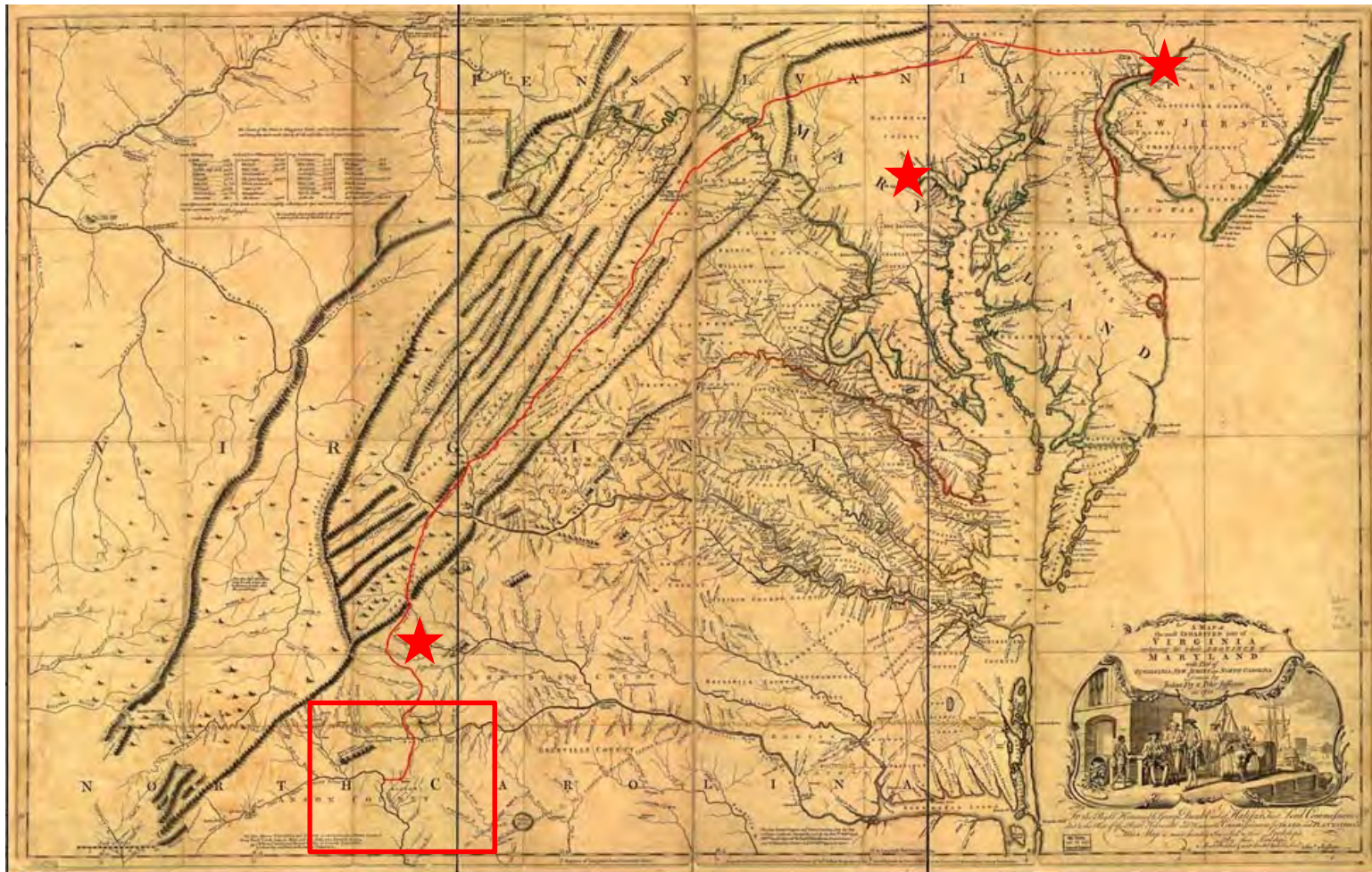
Ben and Zipporah were one of, if not, the first white settlers to move to this area in 1751. Zipporah's father Nathaniel and brother Christopher would come with them without her mother Mary. Their first children, Rebecca and William were born in 1752 and 1753. Our descendant Benjamin Jr. was born here in 1755.





# Ben Young Family Migration

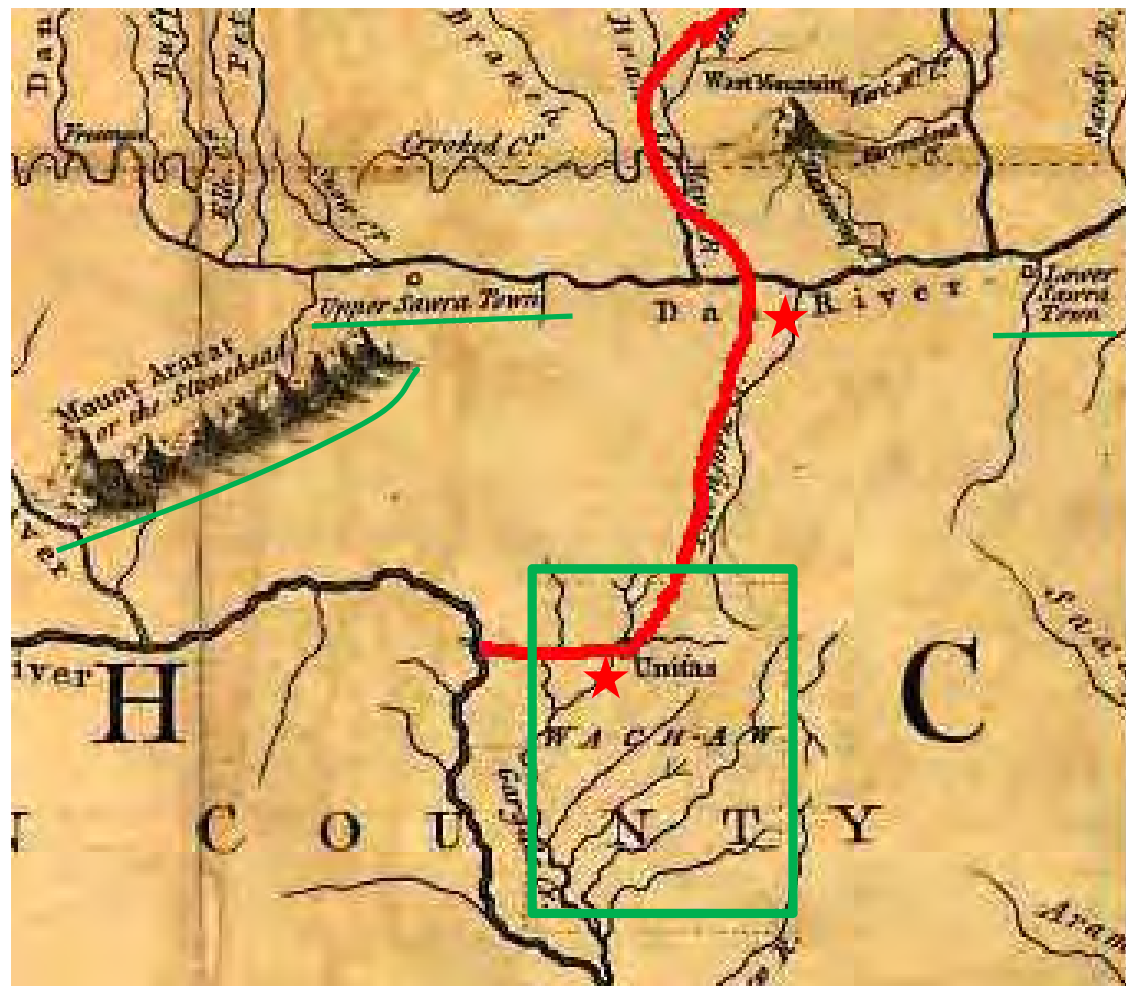
This map was commissioned in 1751 by George Montagu-Dunk, 2nd Earl of Halifax. He lived in England and was in charge of increasing commerce with the American Colonies. The red line shows the extent of the Great Wagon Road at that time. It went from Philadelphia and ended at the East Bank of the Yadkin River on what is now Shallowford Road in Forsyth County. Stars denote the locations of Philadelphia, Baltimore and Roanoke.





# Ben Young Family Migration

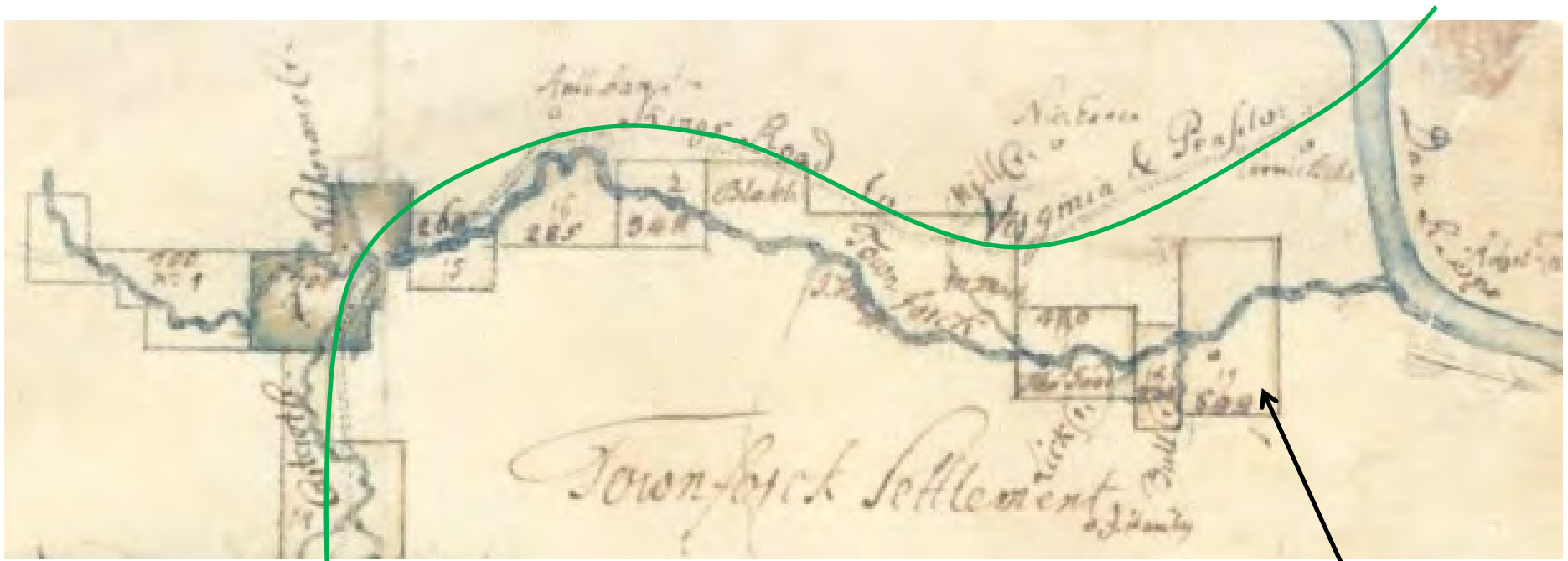
You can see where Ben's land on the Dan River was and where Bethabara would be. You can see Pilot Knob which was called Mount Ararat, Upper and Lower Saura Town and the Wachovia Tract. The Wachovia Tract must have been added later since it didn't come into existence until 1753. Ben and Zipporah would be here for around 2 years and have their first two kids before 1754. The Moravians would reach the area in November of 1753.



# Moravian Map - Townfork Settlement

## Benjamin Young Land

Ben's family settled on 699 acres near the confluence of Town Fork Creek and the Dan River and called the farm Old Town. Old Town Road can still be found in Walnut Cove. From this map you can see the Great Wagon Road from Philadelphia that would eventually go to Augusta, GA. From Ben's land to Bethabara is about 18 miles.



**Ben's  
Land**

# The Beginnings of Bethabara

The Moravians kept a dairy of what happened each day once they left Bethlehem, PA. These dairy's have been translated from German into 12 English volumes that are available to read and this is where we can learn about our ancestors interactions with the Moravian Brothers. The following are excerpts from these dairy entries.



# The Beginnings of Bethabara

## November 17<sup>th</sup>, 1753

While trumpets were sounding from the roof of the Single Brothers' House in Bethlehem, PA on October 8, 1753, a group of fifteen single men set out on foot for their 480 mile trip to North Carolina. Their goal was to start a new Moravian settlement on the 100,000 acre Wachovia tract that had been purchased earlier that year for the Moravian Church. After 6 weeks, they arrived on November 17<sup>th</sup> and took refuge in an unused hunting cabin. They immediately began to clear the land and construct necessary buildings. Their settlement was soon named Bethabara.



**Hans Wagner Hunting Cabin – Built 1752**

## Young / Gist & The Moravians

Dec. 19th 1753 - Gottlob, Nathanael, Haberland, and Lischer set out (for Bethlehem, PA), the Brethren all going with them a short distance. Br. Grube accompanied them to the borders of our land, where he bade them an affectionate farewell; Br. Jacob Loesch went on with them to Dan River. After seeing them off the Brethren busied themselves with clearing land and plowing. In the evening we had singstunde (zing-stuun-der) and evening prayers.





## Young / Gist & The Moravians

Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> 1753 - After morning prayers Hermanus and merkli took five horses and went to the River Etkin (Yadkin) for meal and corn. We were very conscious of the absence of our dear Gottlob and Nathanael, indeed quite lonesome. Toward evening Jacob Loesch returned, bringing hearty greetings from our dear Brethren. They had spent the night beyond Dan River at the home of Mr. Gest a pleasant man, who had taken good care of them. Next day Br. Loesch went with them a little further, then turned back, calling again on Mr. Gest, from whom he purchased some cattle. Br. Grube held the singstunde (zing-slund-der) and evening prayers. It was Br. Feldhausen's birthday, so we sang several hymns for him.

## Young / Gist & The Moravians

Dec. 24th - At 9:30 P. M. we began the Christmas Eve Watch service. We read the story of the birth of our Saviour, and rejoiced that the Holy Child was born for the salvation of the world. We had a Lovefeast also, and soon after midnight closed our first Christmas Eve Watch meeting in North Carolina.

Dec. 25th - Br. Grube held morning prayer. At noon he read for us a sermon preached by Count Zinzendorf on a Christmas Day, and we enjoyed it. In the evening we sang hymns relating to the Holy Christ-Child. Br. Pfeil was again very sick with colic.



## Young / Gist & The Moravians

Dec. 26th - Br. Jacob Loesch held the morning prayer. Peterson and merkli went some twenty miles from here, across Dan River, to Mr. Gest's, to get several head of cattle. Our cornmeal mill ran today for the first time. It was very cold weather. We had singstunde in the evening.



## Young / Gist & The Moravians

Dec. 27th. - After morning prayer Br. Kalberlahn's patient returned to his home on the Catawba River, about eighty miles from here. He is fairly well now. The Brethren began today to split rails. In the evening an Irishman came from Dan River to have a couple of teeth pulled. He spent the night with us. Singstunde in the evening.



## Young / Gist & The Moravians

Dec. 28th. - After morning prayers the stranger left, very thankful for his relief from toothache. At noon Petersen and merkli returned from Dan River with the cattle Br. Loesch recently purchased there. Mr. Haltem came on a visit. The weather was very bad, with much glaze ice. Singstunde in the evening.





## Young / Gist & The Moravians

Jan. 19 1754 - All are well and happy today. After morning prayers most of the Brethren went to cut wood and split rails. Mr. Haltem's son went home (after a short visit). In the evening Mr. Jung and the younger Guest from Dan River arrived, and spent the night with us.



**Dwelling House for Guest – Built 1/7/1754**

\*\* This is the first time Ben Young is mentioned in the archives. They wrote Young as Jung. The younger Gist mentioned is Zipporah's brother Christopher. He would have been 20 years old at this time. This is the House for Guest's that they would have stayed in which has just been built about 12 days prior.

## Young / Gist & The Moravians

Feb. 28. 1754 - After morning prayers the Brethren spent the day burning stumps. At noon Isaac Eriis and two others came from the Etkin, following several hunters who had stolen bear meat from Friis, — he had promised us 400 lbs. of it. In the evening Mr. Guest's son came from the Etkin on a visit. He has recently moved to this section with his brother-in-law, and lives on the land formerly occupied by the elder Owen, between the two tracts belonging to the Brethren. He wishes much that we would become his neighbors, and says our land there is unusually good. In the evening we read from the Old Testament; then had singstunde and evening prayers. We had slept a while when another man arrived and waked us, asking for accommodation for the night. We lodged him in the cabin for strangers.

\*\* The land that Christopher was interested in was probably somewhere up 421 in the Elkin, East Bend or Yadkinville area. Not sure if he ever got it.

# Young / Gist & The Moravians

\*\* Here is what the Cabin for Strangers looked like at that time.



**Cabin for Strangers – Built 2/8/1754**



## Young / Gist & The Moravians

April 17<sup>th</sup> 1754 - Last night it was very cold, and our corn and flax were hurt. Br. Erich returned from Dan River with one cow and calf, instead of the five he was to bring; Mr. Guest was not at home.

A man came from the Jubari, some thirty miles away, to take Br. Kalberlahn to the Justice who had dislocated his hip. He brought with him a bear, which he had shot on our land as he came through, and presented it to us.

\*\* Jubari is the Uwharrie National Forest. It is about 50 miles away. I guess they could have gone downstream on the Yakin to get their quickly.



**Cow House and Trough**

## Young / Gist & The Moravians

April 18. - It was very cold again last night, and blossoms and young plants were somewhat hurt. Br. Kalberlahn started to the Tubari, and will be away several days. The Brn. Grube and Loesch inspected the Black Walnut Bottom.

April 19. - Br. Loesch rode to Mr. Haltem and Mr. Guest to pay bills. The other Brethren began to cut wood for a new fence; also began to tan cow-hides.





## Young / Gist & The Moravians

April 24<sup>th</sup> 1754 - It is very warm. Mr. Guest came from Dan River on a visit. He is our good friend, and has helped us in many ways. At the last Court he was elected a Captain (of the militia). Singstunde and evening prayers were held in English.



**Captain**

\*\* We can see here that the Moravians held our relatives in high esteem. They sang in English instead of German because Nathaniel was visiting.

# Young / Gist & The Moravians

NORTH CAROLINA MILITIA	
Rowan County, 1754-1760	
Colonel Francis Corbin	
Lieutenant Colonel George Smith	
Major James Carter	
Adjutant John Dunn	
Jonathan Hunt, Captain	Samuel Baker, Captain
Willis Ellis, Lieutenant	_____, Lieutenant
Andrew Smith, Ensign	_____, Ensign
Scotten Davis, Captain	John Hanby, Captain
Thomas Evans, Lieutenant	John Crow, Lieutenant
Solomon Evans, Ensign	Abington Phelps, Ensign
Samuel Bryan, Captain	Joseph Robins, Captain
Morgan Bryan, Lieutenant	_____, Lieutenant
David Johnston, Ensign	_____, Ensign
Alexander Osburn, Captain	John Nation, Captain
_____, Lieutenant	Christ:r Nation, Lieutenant
_____, Ensign	John Nation, Ensign
Robert Simonton, Captain	William Shepard, Captain
Robert Allison, Lieutenant	Hugh Foster, Lieutenant
Tho:s Allison, Ensign	John Fullerlane, Ensign
John Carr, Captain	Nath:l Gess, Captain
Alexander Cathy, Lieutenant	_____, Lieutenant
_____, Ensign	_____, Ensign
	George Forbes, Captain
	_____, Lieutenant
	_____, Ensign

\*\* Here are the colonial militia records for Rowan County NC from 1754-1760 that show Nathaniel Gist as a Captain serving under Colonel Francis Corbin.

## Young / Gist & The Moravians

April 25<sup>th</sup> 1754 - Before leaving Mr. Guest asked that his son might travel part way with us (Br. Grube is returning to PA), to visit an uncle who is a prominent man in the Alleghany English Settlement. We could not refuse, though we prefer to go alone. Toward evening a man came from fifty miles away for medicine for his sick wife, but this time Br. Kalberlahn could not furnish it.

# Young / Gist & The Moravians

\*\* The prominent uncle was Christopher Gist the famous explorer which by June of 1754 was on a scouting mission with Colonel George Washington which led to the beginning of the French Indian War. They were at the battle of Fort Necessity around this time which is located in PA near the borders with WV and MD.





# Young / Gist & The Moravians

\*\* This is a painting of Christopher Gist and George Washington rafting down the Allegheny River during this expedition. It resides at the Warner Foundation in Tuscaloosa, AL. Christopher is Jim Young's 3<sup>rd</sup> great uncle. So you can just count down the line from there to figure out your relation. For example he is my 6<sup>th</sup> great uncle.





## Young / Gist & The Moravians

April 28<sup>th</sup> 1754 - Sunday. At morning prayers Br. Grube took an affectionate leave of us. We all accompanied him and Br. Herman Loesch, who goes with him, for several miles, then a few of the Brethren rode with them to the borders of our land, and Br. Jacob Loesch went as far as Mr. Guest's, beyond Dan River.

April 29. We burned brush on our second field. Br. Loesch returned from Dan River; he had bought two cow-hides, but was not able to get any cows.



## Young / Gist & The Moravians

Oct. 30<sup>th</sup> 1754 – In the morning Col. Schmidt rode through our yard, and without permission held muster in our meadow for his five companies. We had planted the meadow with grass-seed in the spring, but it was so badly trampled that it will have to be re-sowed as soon as we can get more seed from Pennsylvania.



Capt. Guest was very considerate, he stopped and spoke to us only in passing, for fear others would follow him in, and gave orders to his company to stay out of our yard, but nearly all the rest rode right through. The noise and shooting frightened our horses badly, and the four new horses broke away into the woods. Two of them we found on the third day thereafter, but the other two were brought to us on Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> by hunters who had seen our advertisement. We had to pay them for their trouble though we had already lost much time in seeking the horses.

## Young / Gist & The Moravians

In general the people behaved better than is usual on such occasions, though this does not apply to Capt. Humpy and his men. During dinner they passed through our yard and we asked that the beating of the drums cease because it frightened our horses and made them tear around the wagons, etc. They not only refused our request, but began shooting in addition. Capt. Humpy did not know the road through our farm, and when we offered to show it to him replied that he would ride where he pleased and make a way through our fences.

After the muster the men were so full of whiskey that they fought each other until they were covered with blood. However, through all the tumult, we safely continued our work. We hope the soldiers will hereafter find another place for muster, and not use our land. However, this time there was this much benefit, — the neighboring people have found out that we have all sorts of things to sell, that we know exactly what we have, and that we will sell only for immediate payment.

## Young / Gist & The Moravians

Jan. 27<sup>th</sup> 1755 – Br. Loesch went beyond the Town Fork to buy bear fat from the younger Guest.





## Young / Gist & The Moravians

July 25<sup>th</sup> 1755 - Mr. Benner's brother-in-law and the younger Mr. Guest were here, and said that their settlement also was going to move (due to Indians), but they did not yet know where. In the evening we had conference, and decided what to do in case it became impossible for us to remain here, for instance, to bury all our iron implements in the creek, and to bury in the ground all else that would not be injured that way. We also agreed to keep ourselves well supplied with provisions, especially meal, for Br. Lischer, who has been to the mill today, reports that the miller is leaving tomorrow, though he will leave his mill in such condition that anyone who wishes meal ground can use it for himself.



## Young / Gist & The Moravians

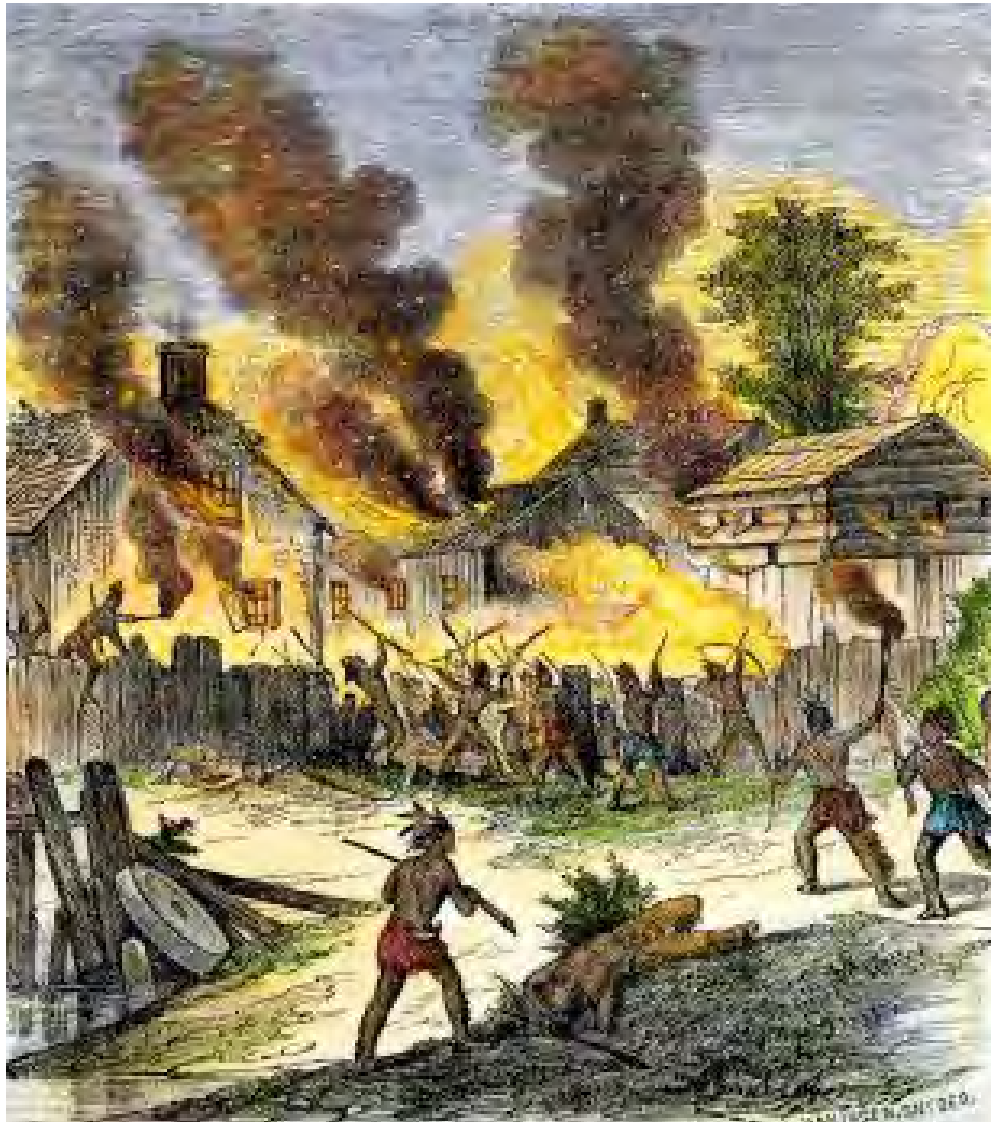
Aug. 8. Yesterday the Brn. Benzien and Loesch returned from a visit to Mr. Guest on Dan River, and report that everything is again uncertain (about moving). Today Mr. Altam, his family, and another family living two miles from him, arrived unexpectedly, saying they did not feel safe at home and asking to remain with us. We received them kindly, and again lodged them in the cabins.

Aug. 12. - Br. Kalberlahn went to the Yatkan to see Hans Wagner, who has been very ill, but is now better. Mr. Crank, his wife and two children came to see the doctor, and remained overnight, as did also young Mr. Guest. A man came from the Yatkan and offered to sell us his 50 head of cattle and 800 bushels of corn, as he wishes to move away. Br. Loesch promised to go and see the cattle; and on the 15th bargained with him for \$35 for the lot, large and small together.

## Young / Gist & The Moravians

Jan. 12<sup>th</sup> 1756 - Captain Guest, who is planning to move away from His present residence, came to see us and say goodbye. He told us that there was a current report that the Indians in Pennsylvania were doing much damage, that Bethlehem and Nazareth were almost completely destroyed, and that only three men had escaped death. While we neither could nor would believe this, for we know that we have a gracious Savior, and that His Father is also our Father, and able and willing to save those who belong to His Son, still we wish we could have word direct from the Brethren in Bethlehem. Other travelers coming from Pennsylvania have told us that at Tulpehocken some have been scalped, many taken prisoner by the Indians, and their houses burned.

## Young / Gist & The Moravians



\*\* Tulpehocken is about 75 miles NW of Philadelphia.



## Young / Gist & The Moravians

May 25<sup>th</sup> 1756 - Today Mr. Benner's wife, children, negress and mulatto arrived again, also the younger Guest and his wife, Mr. Haltem's wife and children, and a Dunkard, or Bearded Man. They asked for a few days lodging, since a troop of Cherokees were marching through, and had frightened and annoyed them. We cleared out the joiner's shop, shoe-shop and strangers' house for them.



## Young / Gist & The Moravians

May 25<sup>th</sup> 1756 (cont) - The Dunkard was sent to the mill, and hardly reached there when a party of eight Indians also arrived there. Our Brethren went quietly on with their work; Br. Jacob Loesch went to them, spoke to them kindly, asked who they were, where they came from, and whither they were going, all of which they answered politely, it appearing that they were Cherokees from the fort. We gave them a few clay pipes, for which they were grateful, and went gravely from one to the other of us shaking hands. Then we gave them food, and they camped in the woods near the mill, spending the night very quietly.

Perhaps we were too many for them, for there were several at the mill, and other Brethren went over to see them; twelve Brethren stayed at the mill all night, on guard. They told us, partly by signs, that there were eight more companies on the way. They breakfasted by the mill next morning, then bade the Brethren a polite adieu.

## Young / Gist & The Moravians

July - 1756

Certain people from the Town Fork begged that if danger increased they might come to us as they feared another outbreak of trouble with the Indians. Mr. Banner came on the same errand; and the younger Guest his wife and mother-in-law stayed with us fourteen days. After supper the Brethren gathered for a conference. Br. Christian Henrich laid the whole matter before them, stating that it seemed to be true that the Cherokees, hitherto our friendly neighbors, had joined the French, and therefore the danger was much increased, families were leaving their farms and retreating, leaving us on the frontier, and therefore likely to be the first point of attack. He suggested that it might be wise to take measures for our defense, reading extracts from letters from Br. Joseph and Christian Seidel as to what had been done in Bethlehem. The matter was discussed pro and con, but no conclusion reached. Then Br. Christian Henrich recommended that each Brother think the matter over quietly, and lay it before the Lord, and then state his view to the head of his room or to Br. Hofmann.

# Young / Gist & The Moravians

July - 1756

Next day, after dinner, Br. Jacob Loesch called the Single Brethren together to decide the matter discussed on the 4th, which was quickly done, the unanimous conclusion being that all work, except the harvesting, should be dropped until a palisade had been built around the houses, making them safe before the first incursion of the Indians should take place. Duties were assigned to each man, — felling trees, digging the trench, continuing the harvesting. The palisades were completed by the 23rd.







## Young / Gist & The Moravians

\*\* So our great uncle and brother-in-law to Ben Young, Christopher Gist, would have been one of the men to help build the first palisades at Bethabara.



## Young / Gist & The Moravians

August 9<sup>th</sup> 1756 - Justice Tate brought work to the blacksmith. A number of the Brethren have not been well recently, though not really ill. Mr. Benjamin Young came to the mill, to have grain ground; two others came for their meal. Mr. Young spent the night here.

\*\* This is the only time that Ben's full name was written in the archives.



**Model of  
Bethabara  
Mill**

-

**Completed  
Spring 1756**





**\*\* Location and remains of the old mill site in 2015.**



**\*\* One of the original mill stones used for grinding grain.**





## Young / Gist & The Moravians

**\*\* No other mentions of Benjamin are found after 1756 until the following entry in 1770.**

Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> 1770 - Guess, from Dan River, came with his son-in-law, Ben Young, and asked for a Deed to a piece of land on the Town Fork, which Br. Jacob Loesch took up for Br. Henry Van Vleck of New York. No one could give him any information about it, and his claim probably has no foundation, since he did not take up the matter when Br. Loesch was here.



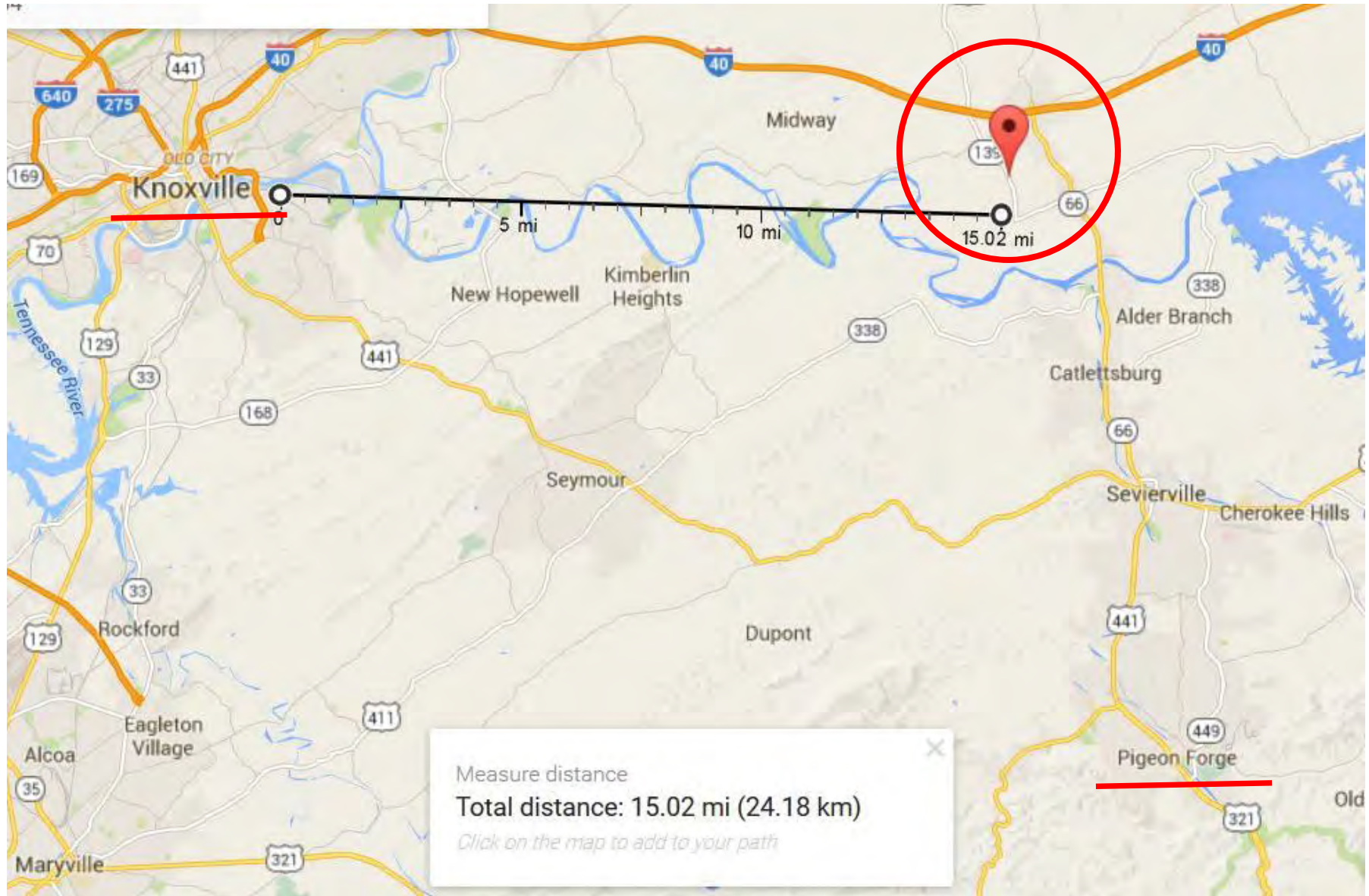
## **Young / Gist & The Moravians**

**\*\*** After leaving our area in the mid 1750's, Nathaniel Gist moved most of his family to Cumberland County, where Fayetteville is now located, to escape the Indians.

Then in 1783, when Fayetteville was incorporated, they all moved to Greene County near the French Broad River in western NC. The area is about 15m NW of what is now Pigeon Forge, TN and 15m E of Knoxville, TN.

Today there remains a Gist's Creek and Gist's Creek Road in the area.

# Young / Gist & The Moravians



# Young / Gist & The Moravians

Over the years, Nathaniel's son Joshua Gist became a very prominent individual and held the following positions:

- Tavern owner in Cumberland County
- Captain of Cumberland County Militia
- NC State Senator representing Greene County
- Justice of the Peace in Greene County
- Assistant Judge of Superior Court of the State of Franklin
- Closely identified with the affairs of the State of Franklin.





# Young / Gist & The Moravians

In December of 1783 Br. Martin Schneider was given the proposal to set out immediately for Holston River, in the company of Colonel Martin Armstrong, who was going to an Indian treaty. He was to secure information about the present circumstances in that neighborhood, and ascertain the mind of the Cherokees, so that with more wisdom the Brethren could consider the question of establishing a mission among them. His destination was in the far west of NC in what is now TN.



## Young / Gist & The Moravians

On Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> 1784 Br. Schneider came upon the Gist home and stayed the night. He met with Captain Gist's old father, Nathaniel, still living, in the early days was a beloved neighbor of Bethabara, and could still name the Brethren who then lived there; he rejoiced greatly to see a Brother once again.

Jan. 2<sup>nd</sup>, Captain Guest took me across the French Broad River. The ford crosses an island belonging to Colonel Sevier; it contains nine hundred acres, and is as level as a meadow. Captain Guest told me that eight miles up the river there is another island, of eight hundred acres, in the middle of which one acre has been dug out eighteen feet deep. This round hole is full of water, and the earth has been thrown up around it. Above it there stood a mud house, of which traces can still be seen. Around the entire island there is a ditch and breast works. The Indians themselves no longer know who made them or why; people think that an Indian King must have lived there.

On Jan. 14<sup>th</sup> Br. Schneider was headed home to Salem after completing his meeting with the Cherokee. His horse fell through some ice and soaked Br. Schneider. Luckily he was near the Gist's home and walked 3 miles in the ice and snow to take shelter there. Joshua and another man would walk back to Br. Schneider's horse and saved him from the icy waters to bring him home to recover as well. When they came back Captain Guest said that assuredly only God could have saved Br. Schneider.

## Young / Gist & The Moravians

The final entry in the Moravian Archives that mentioned any Gist was on April 15<sup>th</sup> 1784.

April 15. Captain Joshua Guest, who was so kind and hospitable to Br. Martin Schneider on the French Broad River, visited here on his way to the state assembly.

\*\* This visit would have been to Salem and not Bethabara.

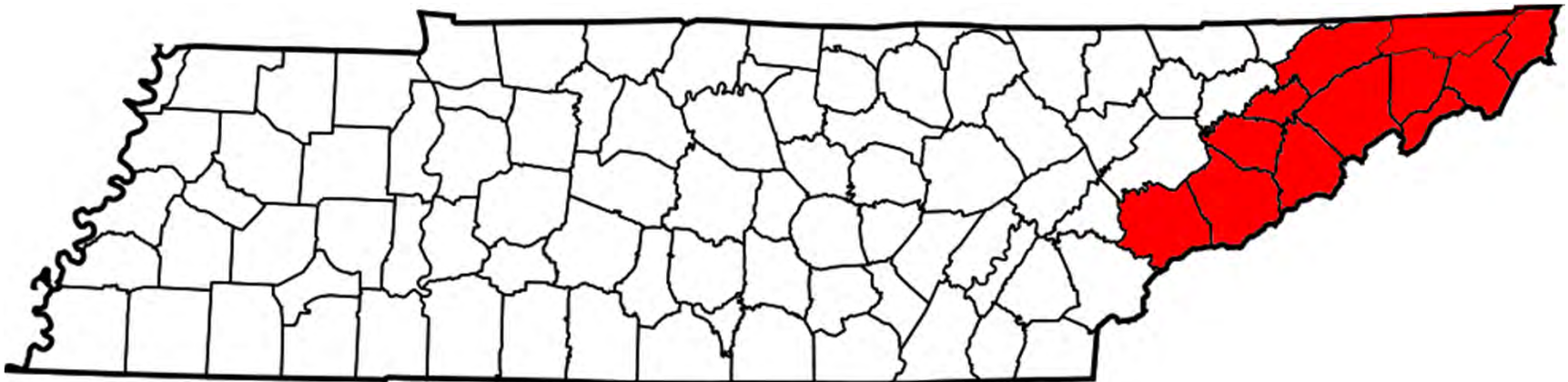
## Young / Gist & The Moravians

In December 1787 Nathaniel and his son Joshua were among those who signed the Petition of the Inhabitants of the Western Country of NC for separation and erection of a new State of Franklin, named after Benjamin Franklin.



# Young / Gist & The Moravians

Although Franklin never became a state, their efforts would eventually led to TN becoming our 16<sup>th</sup> state in 1796.





We can be proud of the contributions that our relatives made to the area we live in. Through the working relationships with our relatives and the Moravians this part of NC grew to become what it is today.



From this history, we can see that our relatives held prominent positions in the colonies and had very close connections with the power brokers of that time. There is no doubt that in some circumstances they were key to bringing about these United States of America.

# Young Family History

