Descendants of Michel Brendel

Generation 1

1. **MICHEL**¹ **BRENDEL** was born about 1636 in Sankt Stephan/Lenk, Bern Switzerland. He died in 1689 in Wolfersheim, Sarrland, Germany. He married Benedikta Rieben about 1650.

Notes for Michel Brendel:

Michel Brengel was born about 1636 in Sankt Stephan/Lenk, Bern Switzerland.

He was christened 1631 in Bern Switzerland.

He married about 1650 Benedikta Rieben who was born about 1630, and christened October 29, 1654 in Lenk, Bern, Switzerland.

He emigrated to Wolfersheim, Sarrland, Germany in about 1668 where he died in 1689.

The name Brengel changed over time in the USA to Bringle and Brengle. There were a few reported other spellings such as Brinkel, Brinkle, Brinkley, Brenckel, but very few were found with these possible derivations.

(The Brengle families claim an ancestry back to 1280 A.D. in Europe. C. Depree's "Prename D., Alsace Loarraine" gives the first record as that of Pierre Brengle who was an owner of a tract of land at Remilly in Lorraine. It derived from the name of a chief of a tribe who lived in this region. Records were rare in those days, unless you were a land owner. The next record is in 1374 A. D. of Hans Brengle, owner of a hide of land at Domback. Next in the 1400s are found Brengles listed in the Trade Guild (which included tradesmen such as saddler, wheelwrights, tinsmiths and coach builders)).

Michel Brendel and Benedikta Rieben had the following child:

2. i. Christian² Brengel was born in Oct 1668 in St. Stephen, Canton of Bern, Switzerland. He died on 29 Jan 1747 in Wolfersheim Dries St. Ingert on Blies River, Saarland near Zweibruucken in Palatinate, Germany.. He married Maria Christiana about 1698. She was born in 1672. She died on 13 Feb 1735.

Generation 2

2. **Christian**² **Brengel** (Michel¹ Brendel) was born in Oct 1668 in St. Stephen, Canton of Bern, Switzerland. He died on 29 Jan 1747 in Wolfersheim Dries St. Ingert on Blies River, Saarland near Zweibruucken in Palatinate, Germany.. He married Maria Christiana about 1698. She was born in 1672. She died on 13 Feb 1735.

Christian Brengel and Maria Christiana had the following children:

- i. ANNA EVA³ BRENGEL was born about 1696.
- ii. DANIEL BRENGEL was born about 1698.
- iii. Anna Catharina Brengel was born about 1700.
- iv. Sussana Barbara Brengel was born about 1700.
- v. Hans Nickel Brengel was born about 1703.
- vi. Hans Kılıan Brengel was born about 1705.
- vii. Hans George Brengel was born in 1708.
- viii. Anna Engel Angel Angelica Brengel was born in 1710.
- ix. Anna Gertrauda Brengel was born in 1713.
- x. Anna Maria Brengel was born in 1715.
- 3. xi. JOHANN CHRISTIAN BRENGEL was born on 01 Jan 1718 in Wolfersheim, Saarland, Germany. He died date Unknown in Fredrick County, Md.. He married Anna Barbara Road about 1741. She was born about 1720. She died in 1792 in Frederick , Maryland.

Generation 3

3. **JOHANN CHRISTIAN**³ **BRENGEL** (Christian², Michel¹ Brendel) was born on 01 Jan 1718 in Wolfersheim, Saarland, Germany. He died date Unknown in Fredrick County, Md.. He married Anna Barbara Road about 1741. She was born about 1720. She died in 1792 in Frederick, Maryland.

Notes for Johann Christian Brengel:

Johann Christian Brengel immigrated from Welfersheim, Ger. in 1737 to Lehigh, Pa. and later to Fredrick County, Md.

Christian immigrated to America and arrived at Philadelphia from Rotterdam on the ship Samuel on August 30, 1737. He took the Oath of the Government August 30, 137 at the Courthouse of Philadelphia.

He lived in Lehigh County Pennsylvania where he was a member of Egypt Reformed Church. Christian then moved to Fredrick County, Maryland in the mid 1750s. In 1760 he purchased, from the estate of Francis Wise, a tract called "Strife", in the settlement called "Trasker's Chance", the land on which most of the city of Frederick is now located. He died in Maryland in 1761.

The will of Barbara Road of Frederick Co. dated January 28, 1792 lists the widow as "weak". To daughters Barbara Ropp and Christiana Huber she leaves "my clothing equally". The residue of the estate was left to her six children: Laurence Brengle, Barbara Ropp, Christian Brengle, Casper Brengle, Nicholas Brengle, and Christiana Huber equally, except of 9.15 pounds loaned Christiana and 15.12.4 pounds loaned Nicholas to be part of their shares. Laurence was executor and the will was witnessed by Lawrence Brngle, Jr., Jacob Wist. It was proved March 5, 1792.

(The German Reformed Brethen of Frederick: In the Reformed church books of Frederick, from 1766 to 1768, is found a church constitution, recorded in the 1760s. It is written in German. The first sentence of the Constitution.."When sound reasoning alone suffices to teach us, the work of God hears witness unto us. The experience of all times past ascertains for us, that order is the best of all things and that no kingdom, no house, no community of mankind may well and happily endure without proper order." The above constitution was signed by all members of the community. The church book must have been carried around for miles to reach the most distant parishioners for this purpose. There were in all the names of eighty-nine patres familes who lent their support to the constitution of the Reformed Congregation in Frederickstown in Manakese. Among some of the family names mentioned from the circle of the German Congregation in Frederick is found the name Brengel.)

Johann Christian Brengel and Anna Barbara Road had the following children:

- i. LORENTZ⁴ Brengel was born in 1742.
- ii. LAWRENCE BRENGEL was born in 1745.
- iii. Maria Barbara Brengel was born in 1748.
- 4. iv. NICKOLAS BRINGLE was born in 1750 in Pennsylvania?. He died in 1805 in Rowan County, NC. He married ELIZABETH WALLER. She was born date Unknown. She died date Unknown.
 - v. Christian Brengel was born in 1751.
 - vi. JOHANN CASPER BRENGEL was born in 1751. He died in Davidson County, NC.
 - vii. CHRISTIANA BRENGEL was born date Unknown.

Generation 4

4. **NICKOLAS**⁴ **BRINGLE** (Johann Christian³ Brengel, Christian² Brengel, Michel¹ Brendel) was born in 1750 in Pennsylvania?. He died in 1805 in Rowan County, NC. He married **ELIZABETH WALLER**. She was born date Unknown. She died date Unknown.

Notes for Nickolas Bringle:

Nicholas Bringle was born in the 1750s, probably in Pennsylvania, the son of Christian and Anna Barbara Road Brengel. He moved with his parents to Maryland and then immigrated to North Carolina between 1777-1780.

January 25, 1773 Nicolaus Brengel listed with others as young people who attend catechetical instructions at Evangelical Reformed Church of Fredrick, Maryland.

April 9, 1773 Nicolaus Brenckel confirmed at Evangelical Reformed Church of Fredrick, Maryland. May 10, 1775 Nicholas Brangel listed as member of Evangelical Reformed Church.

Oct 4, 1776 Nicholaus Brenckel, single, is sponsor for christening of Johann Nichol Brenckel son of Lorentz Brenckel and wife Eva. (Evangelical Reformed Church of Fredrick, Maryland)
No record has been found of Nicholas Bringle's marriage. (He may have married a daughter of

Michael Waller of NC. In 1785, Nicholas Bringle and Elizabeth Waller were given administration of the estate of Michael Waller).

August 2, 1787 Lewis Lowman lets Nicholas Bringle have lot #45 in great east square of Salisbury for 25 pounds. (This lot was sold in 1796)

(Note: Nicholas's brother Casper also came to NC from Maryland. Rowan court records him here in 1778 taking the Oath of Allegiance to the state. Casper is also in the Rowan records with orphans bound to him to learn the trade of wheelwright and turner and spinning wheel maker. Nicholas's purchase of town lots may also indicate a tradesman skill of some sort. See note below listing Nicholas as a tanner).

May 18, 1789 The state grants to Nicholas Bringle 100 acres on Crane Creek next John Hartman & George Smith.

Sept 22, 1789 Executors of Hugh Montgomery let Nicholas Pringle of Salisbury have lot #37 (144 sq poles) in the east square of the town for 14 pounds. (This lot was sold in 1796)

Nicholas Bringle is shown in the 1790 Census of Rowan county with 3 males and 2 females. 1792-1795 Nicholas Bringle on jury duty on multiple days in these years.

Nov 27, 1793 The state grants to John Went 184 acres on head of Wolfpit Branch next John Lewis Beard, Jacob Brown, Nicholas Brinkle and big flat rock.

May 15, 1794 John Weant lets Peter Cobble Sr. (both of Rowan) have 184 acres at head of Wolf Pit Branch next John Lewis Beard, Jacob Brown & Nicholas Bringle for 38 pounds.

Jan 3, 1794 Daniel Hendrickx & wife lets Nicholas Pringle have 170 acres next the old tract & crossing ...creek for 150 pounds.

...4, 1795 The state grants at 50 shillings the 100 acres to Nicholas Bringle 337 acres of Wolf Pitt Branch next John Weant, a pile of stones, Lewis Beard, Fredric Fisher, and the Dutch Meeting House land.

April 20, 1795 Nicholas Bringle lets Henry Ernhart have 100 acres on Woolf Run Branch next Jacob Friley, Frederick Fisher, the Meeting House land & John Weant for 40 pounds.

Aug 21, 1795 Nicholas Bringle, a tanner, lets Jacob Fraley, a miller, have 95 acres next to Lewis Beard, Frederick Fisher & Peter Cobble for 50 pounds.

Oct 8, 1795 William Hendricks lets David Miller have 79 acres with the saw & grist mills on it next Nicholas Bringle on Crane Creek.

May 14, 1796 Nicholas Bringle lets Montford Stokes have lot #37 &45 (adjoining lots) in the south square of Salisbury for 25 pounds.

May, 1796 Nicholas Bringle lets Henry Ernhart have 100 acres on Woolf Run Branch next Jacob Frialy, Frederick Fisher, the Meeting house land & John Weant for 40 pounds.

1800 Rowan Census shows Nicholas Bringle listed with 1 male <26, 1 male 10-16, 1 male <10. The younger males are probably Christian and Peter. The older may be a bonded worker.

March 25, 1802 Land entry filed by Nicholas Brinkle, Francis Casper and David Wood for 250 acres of land on the waters of Crane Creek joining Lewis Beard, Andrew Stoner, Jacob Fisher, Michel Brown & Corbin Bivins. (This is land previously purchased but not filed)

April 8, 1805 Nicholas Bringle lets George & Peter Waller have 140 acres on Wolf Pitt Branch on the Meeting house line, next Henry Earnhart for \$25.00.

May 5, 1806 Administration of the estate of deceased Nicholas Bringle is granted to Christian Bringle who gave bond of 600 pounds with Adam Cobble & John Waller. Ordered provision for widow be laid off.

Loose estate papers show Christian Bringle as administrator of Nicholas's estate and Jacob Fisher as guardian to minor orphan, Peny (Phenas)Brinkle.

Location of family of deceased Nicholas Bringle in 1810 Census is unknown (living with relatives?) Aug 19, 1815 Thomas Mull, Moses & James Brown, John Pool & Jacob Fisher, having been appointed to divide the negroes of the deceased Nicholas Bringle for his legatees (the widow & her six children: Christian, Peter, Betsey, Sophia Seonoa, Thomas & Peanic) allot to each share the amount of \$182.13. They give to Christian and Peter the negro Jim but they must pay \$53.00 to Sophia Zenona as valued at \$75.00. They give to Henry & Betsy Fraley the negro Rachel, valued at \$255.00. They give to Thomas & Peanic the negroes Petty & Dealy valued at \$345.00. Widow Bringle is listed in the 1820 Census with no males and two females age 10-16.

Nickolas Bringle and Elizabeth Waller had the following children:

5. i. Christian⁵ Bringle was born in 1785 in Rowan County, NC. He died date Unknown in Buried Bringle Cemetery. He married Catherine Agner, daughter of

Henry Agner and Elizabeth Arey, in 1805. She died date Unknown in Buried Bringle Cemetery.

- ii. Betsy Bringle was born in 1788. She married Henry Fraily.
- iii. Sophia Bringle was born about 1790.
- iv. PETER BRINGLE was born in 1795 in Rowan County, NC. He died in 1871 in Tennessee.
- v. Thomas Bringle was born about 1800. He died in 1845 in Tennessee.
- vi. Philipeana Bringle was born date Unknown.

Generation 5

5. **Christian**⁵ **Bringle** (Nickolas⁴, Johann Christian³ Brengel, Christian² Brengel, Michel¹ Brendel) was born in 1785 in Rowan County, NC. He died date Unknown in Buried Bringle Cemetery. He married Catherine Agner, daughter of Henry Agner and Elizabeth Arey, in 1805. She died date Unknown in Buried Bringle Cemetery.

Notes for Christian Bringle:

Christian Bringle was listed in Rowan County 1800 census. Page #351.

The Craft of Tanning

(Nicholas Bringle was a tanner in early Rowan County.)

In order to transform the hides of cows, calves, horses and pigs into leathers suitable for boots and shoes, workmen's breeches, book covers, drums and a hundred other purposes, the skins had to be prepared in a series of steps that unfolded over months.

First, the hides were washed to clean them of blood, dung and other debris left over from the butcher's work. Next, to loosen and remove the animal's hair, the hide was soaked in vats full of lime, sometimes for as long as a year. Eventually, the hides were transferred to other vats where they were soaked in a bate - a noxious mixture of hen or pigeon dung (dog dung works as well), salt and water aimed at removing the lime and restoring the hide's pliability. They were then beamed - that is, placed over a beam for scraping. A dull, two-handed knife was applied to the exterior, a flesher to the interior, and the hide repeatedly scraped, washed and smoothed. It was hard work: scraping a dozen hides took a full day, the "hardest and most loathsome of the many unpleasant steps" needed to convert hides to leather.

With the hair removed, tanning could begin. The tanner placed dry bark on a kiln and then ground it into a course powder. The hides and bark were placed into pits or vats in layers, and left there to rest (though with constant agitation) while the bark was allowed to penetrate the hide. When the tanner judged them to be ready, they were removed and smoothed once more, and hung to dry slowly in a dark shed. At this point, they were transferred to a currier for finishing, but if the tanner possessed these skills, too he could have continued working, softening it either by pummeling the material with wooden mallets or even trampling it underfoot. The currier scored and cleaned the leather once again and pared it down to the desired thickness. Once shaved, the hides were worked on a bench to flatten, and infused with tallow or fish oils to make them supple. The surplus grease was then removed and the leather hung to dry. If its intended use would require the leather to be firm, it was completed at this stage, but there were other smoothing and softening techniques to apply if need be, and the currier might also add color or otherwise manipulate the leather's appearance.

The typical tan yard was fairly elaborate (if noisome) affairs. A yard boasted a bark house and bark mill, a beam house, a good stone currying shop and a leather house and enough vats to tan the number of hides processed by the operation. One Pennsylvania tan yard boasted fourteen vats, two handlers and two limes, a good water pool, a mill and millhouse and a currying shop; another boasted no fewer than forty-two vats, eight handlers, two limes, two bates and a beam house with a pump, a bark mill and a bark house; one farm included the tan yard, the currier's shop and the shoemaker's shop right on the premises, converting hides to boots at a single site.

Notes on Tanning by Cathy Rufty.

Christian Bringle and Catherine Agner had the following children:

- 6. i. LAWRENCE A.⁶ BRINGLE was born on 15 Jun 1807. He died on 20 Mar 1876 in Buried Bringle Cemetery. He married Elizabeth Shepard in 1845. She was born on 31 Dec 1819. She died on 02 Jun 1899 in Buried Bringle Cemetery.
 - JOHN BRINGLE SR was born in 1811. He married Christina Cauble in 1831.
 - iii. LAVINA BRINGLE was born in 1815.
 - iv. NICHOLAS BRINGLE was born in 1820. He married ROSA AGNER. She was born in 1820.

Notes for Nicholas Bringle:

Nicholas Bringle b. 1820 m1. 1841 Nancy Ketchey, m2. 1843 Rosa Agner b. 1820 d. 1854 m3. 1854 Dorothy Jane Turley Kessler

Generation 6

6. **LAWRENCE A.** BRINGLE (Christian⁵, Nickolas⁴, Johann Christian³ Brengel, Christian² Brengel, Michel¹ Brendel) was born on 15 Jun 1807. He died on 20 Mar 1876 in Buried Bringle Cemetery. He married Elizabeth Shepard in 1845. She was born on 31 Dec 1819. She died on 02 Jun 1899 in Buried Bringle Cemetery.

Notes for Lawrence A. Bringle: (See Bringle Stories- Lawrence "Doc" Bringle for early life)

Lawrence Bringle married Elizabeth Shepherd, daughter of Edward Shepherd on February 25, 1846.

(In 1813 Lewis Beard and Jonathan Merrell entered upon an agreement to erect a ferry. Beard agreed to build a "flat" for the ferry on the south side of the river and to clear a road at his own expense from the river bank "to the road leading from John Long's Ferry to Salisbury". Merrell agreed to clear a landing and a road on the north side. Both were to share in the profits. For reasons unknown Beard's Ferry was known in this period as Skeen's Ferry. Beard died in 1820 and his executors advertised Skeen's Ferry for sale. It was purchased from Beard's estate in 1835. The tract of land was described in the bill of sale as being between the Yadkin River and the Road from Salisbury. It was purchased by Lewis A. Bragle along with 150 acres of land adjoining. In 1840 Lawrence Bringle purchased 150 acres of land on the west side of the Yadkin River "including the flat on the opposite side of the river" for \$500.00. Hence the name Bringle Ferry was used as long as the ferry was in operation. This ferry was the last to operate on the Yadkin River and was abandoned in 1940. The loss of this ferry was sorely felt because it was the last crossing between Yadkin River Bridge at Highway 29 and the Stokes Ferry Bridge. Continued agitation for a new bridge at this point to open up that section resulted in the erection of a bridge between Rowan and Davidson counties at High Rock in 1952. From "The Histories of Bringle and Chambers Ferries by James Brawley)

March 10, 1840 Executors of will of Lewis Beard let Lawrence Bringle have 150 acres on the west bank of the Yadkin River next another tract, old corner,...Kaylor and up the river with the flat landing both low and high water on the opposite side of the river for \$500.00. (This is the ferry plot)

Nov 23, 1866 Heirs of Eli Carroll let John Bringle, Lawrence A. Bringle, & Lavinia Bringle have 1481 sq. poles in Gold Hill on Main St next lot #1 of E. Mauney & Jacob Earnhardt for \$250.00.

Aug 19, 1867 Jesse Carroll of Moore Co. NC lets Lawrence A., John & Leavina A. Bringle have lot #2 or 148 acres in the Burage tract in Gold Hill for \$50.00.

Feb 16, 1870 Benjamin F. Lemly (his wife Susan also) make a deed of trust to L. A. Bringle, for 77 acres including the houses, barns, next Moses Lemly, Riley Stoner and Tobias Kesler on Stoney Branch for \$50.00.

Feb 8, 1876 Lawrence A. Bringle makes will which was probated April, 1876. Wife: Elizabeth (30 acres on the southend where I live and the house, commencing at the ferry and going down to ...Burrage, Davide C. Reid on the river. Children: Christian & his daughter Catharine, wife of

Thomas Rufty (balance of the land & ferry). Clementine, wife of Nathan Hofner, John C. Bringle, Mary Ann wife of John Williams, Pleasant H. & Lucinda Bringle.

Lawrence Bringle is buried in the "Bringle Cemetery" on the Bringle homeplace. His death date is March 20, 1876. His wife, Elizabeth Shepherd is also buried there (b. 12/31/1819 d. 6/2/1899)

Aug 18, 1899 Christian Bringle & Thomas Rufty (as executors of the will of Lawrence A. Bringle) let John F. Hodge have 176 acres on the southwest bank of the Yadkin River next Willie Morgan, crossing the road, Duke Morgan down the branch & including the flat landing for \$1600.00. (Later resold to Christian Bringle)

Bringle Stories - Lawrence "Doc" Bringle (from a communication from Charles Watkins January 9, 2009)

My name if Charles Watkins and I am 60 years old. From time to time during my life I have heard stories from my mother and relatives about my ancestry. They are all gone now with the exception of my Mother (Leila Shinn) who is now almost 100. Among these stories were some about Lawrence (Doc) Bringle and his wife who lived in the High Rock area and operated a ferry across the Yadkin river. The highlights below are some details from these stories and they leave a lot of lose ends which I am hoping to fill if possible.

In the area of High Rock in the early 1800's there were several families; the Bringles, Hoffners, Shepards and the Morgans. Across the Yadkin river there also existed an Indian tribe which I am hoping to identify.

Doc Bringle was very friendly with these Indians and especially their Medicine Man. He returned this friendship and taught Dock much about their medicine cures for many illnesses (my mother has quite a bit of dialog about this). This is how Lawrence got the nick-name Doc because he used them to provide cures to neighbors.

Doc married an Indian Squaw from this tribe and had several children with her (no information on gender or quantity or names). For some unknown reason, she died.

Doc later married a Shepard who had a 12 year old daughter named Clementine at the time of the marriage (more about Clementine later). I can't remember Shepard's first name and will have to go back and ask my mother or look in her bible. Shepard refused to live with Doc and his children among the Indians. The Indians would not let the children leave and go live with them. From this time on Doc lived with Shepard and would go visit his Indian children.

I understand their homestead was and is probably still standing on a hill near the location where the ferry crossed the river. Also Bringle Ferry Road crosses the river where the ferry was located. There were approximately 10 gravesites on the property and I suspect Doc's was one of these. Mother said the last time she was at the homestead, all the grave markers had been pushed over.

The last person to operate the ferry was Williams daughter. Williams was one of doc's children by Shepard. There was a bell on the far side of the river that patrons would ring. Whoever was available would operate the ferry to bring them over. People were surprised to see that the ferry would be operated by a woman. I was wondering if the bell still exists today.

My aunt Laura had a serving set (pitcher and glasses) that Doc and Shepard started house keeping with. It was very ornate and had purple grapes and leaves on the pieces. At Aunt Laura's death I am sure her half daughter (Laura Naggy) took them.

Now, back to Clementine who was 12 at the time of Doc and Shepards marriage. Shepard was raped by the son of the medicine man which resulted in the birth of Clementine. Doc raised her as his on and taught her all he knew about the medicine cures. Clementine married my great grandfather, Nathan Hoffner and they set up housekeeping in the High Rock area. After Nathan returned from the Civil War, he and Clementine moved to the Mount Ulla area. I have much information about Nathan and his family but that is getting off subject with the Bringle stories.

Clementine created quite a reputation with the medicine cures she learned from Doc and was often called on for remedies. One day some government people came calling and told her she could not make these medicines any more so she quit. Later these same people came back and asked her for the formulas and she told them to go to hell. I have several stories about things she did. They said to never cross Clementine because if you did the Indian would come out in her. I have pictures of Clementine and Nathan in old age...very stern lady.

Again, if you have any stories in and around what has been handed down to me I would appreciate hearing them. For me, these stories make these people real.

I am currently attempting to learn more about the Indians associated with these stories. I thought they were from the Saponi tribe but it appears they were in the area in the 1600s to the 1700s. so far it seems Indian tribes were very nomadic and they often merged with other tribes to fend off attacks from other tribes. A tribe may consist of only a couple hundred in population and any census is sketchy. Quite a number of these tribes no longer exist. Even their language is lost. If you have any knowledge about these Indians I would be very interested in hearing about them. I am 1/18th of this ancestry and know mothering about them.

LIFE ON THE RIVER (published in Salisbury Post)

(Written by and Received {1999} from Ethel Bringle Myers, granddaughter of Lawrence Bringle)

Bringle's ferry was a dividing place between Rowan and Davidson counties. Back before the Civil War, the ferry was operated by Lawrence Bringle. A country store located at the ferry drew people from miles around who came to trade their chickens and eggs for sugar, coffee, snuff, and tobacco. On weekends groups of people gathered for chicken fights, bringing their game chickens and placing bets.

Lawrence came to know many people who crossed on the ferry from one county to another. He was known as a trader but he also earned a livelihood through farming. He had a number of slaves who tilled the farmland up and down the river.

When the Civil War broke out, he feared the he might lose his farm workers, so he insisted that his own son, John, volunteer for military service when he reached the age of 18. John agreed to enlist in the

Confederate Army, but informed his father that if he survived the war, he would not work again for his dad. During his several years in the Confederate Army, he endured hardships of cold and hunger, with inadequate clothing and shoes worn to shreds. Battles were rough, days wore into weeks, and weeks into months, but finally the war ended. John traveled from Virginia back to the farm and ferry on the river but he kept his vow not to work again for his dad. The Confederate money he possessed was now worthless and "just blew away with the wind."

John and his brother "Chris" Bringle each married and had families. Chris had three girls; Mattie, who married Duke Morgan of Salisbury, the mother of Mrs. W. H. (Marie) Leonard; Easie Crosby of Hopewell, VA; Mary Reid who lived with her daughter, Jessie Nulley, of Richmond, VA.

John Bringle married Molly Jane Boggs and this union resulted in the birth of 3 daughters and 3 sons. Information about the children is as follows: Mary Elizabeth married John Huffman and had a son, Lee Huffman. They lived near St. Matthews Lutheran Church. Ada Belle married Adam Miller and they moved with their family to Trinity in Randolph County. Ada lived to the age of 96. Annie first married Walter Poteat, but after his death she married Frank Cornatzer and they presently reside on N. Green Street in Salisbury. William, who never married lived with the Ruftys on East Bank Street and worked with Earnest Rufty at the Piggly-Wiggly store in Salisbury. John Henderson "Burke" Bringle lived on a farm near the river with his family. Charlie Lee Bringle, my father, moved to Salisbury after his mother's death and operated a little store on the edge of the railroad at Shebat's bridge, on the grounds joining the old graded school on North Ellis Street, which later became Frank B. John School. These were days when Walter Woodson, Hayden Clement, Lee Wright, and Ben McCubbins were boys living nearby and they spent many hours together during his three years there just before the turn of the century.

"Chris" and John each worked on their farms and operated the ferry. As John's boys got old enough to help with work, it became their responsibility to operate the ferry. Many stories and memories were generated from those years there.

Many Sundays were spent on the sandbars and banks of Bringle's Ferry enjoying watermelons and cantaloupes grown by the Bringle Family and playing horseshoe. On late Sunday evenings, young people would gather in-groups to cross the river. The girls would carry their shoes until they got in sight of the little Lick-Creek Baptist Church in Davidson County. Then, sitting on a log, they would put their

shinny shoes on their dusty feet and walk into church with their boyfriend.

Returning home by moon light, they laughed, talked and sang until they reached the river. There the bateau was unfastened and they would pole it across to the Rowan side where they would go their separate ways until the next Sunday.

One year in mid winter, the weather was so cold the river froze over with ice. A crowd of boys skated across to the other side of the river. After reflecting on the foolish thing they had done, they became reluctant to skate back across, for fear the ice would break under their weight. Instead they got down on their stomachs and crawled back across the river. To me, this seemed more dangerous than skating across.

Crossing the river was often dangerous, especially when high winds would nearly result in loss of control of the bateau and the possibility of being swept over a water fall of rocks. Often times cows would become frightened and jump over board and swim to shore. During flooding in the mountains and elsewhere, the waters would sometime bring watermelons, logs and one time a chicken coop with a hen on top was seen floating down the river.

Burel V. Hedrick, who became a successful business man in Salisbury, recalled those early days when Charlie Bringle would ferry him across the river for the grand sum of 5 cents on foot or 15 cents for a horse and buggy. Mr. Hedrick and my dad recalled with laughter those days when they traveled in buggies instead of cars. Mr. Hedrick later became a dealer for the Ford Motor Company located on North Church Street behind St. John's Lutheran Church.

Charlie Bringle married Grace Reid in 1901. They had two children, Lester and Mary. During child birth in 1910 she and the baby died. and were buried together. Keeping the children together, he farmed during the summer and logged a sawmill in winter months while they were in school. Often his Aunt Catherine Rufty, 0. 0. Rufty's mother, would come to visit for a few days. Whenever he would bring a half gallon jar of peaches into the kitchen, she would laugh and say that a family peach pie would be coming to the table the next day. Potatoes, ham, eggs, and biscuits were easily fixed, but pies were not his specialties and pie was always a welcome treat as well as her chicken and dumplings.

After nearly four years, Charlie Bringle married my mother, Lillie Adele Morgan. I was born while they resided near the river.

When the water power company began to buy land on the river, Charlie Bringle was one of the first to sell his land in 1917. He moved his family to a location seven miles beyond Salisbury near the Gheen School house, where I attended school through the fourth grade. My brother, Clarence, was born here in this community and attended Gheen School also.

In those days, Mr. Kiser, the superintendent of the county schools, would visit about once a year. Miss Sue Reece, who drove a one seated Model T Ford, would transport him to the school where he would observe the school activities. I have fond memories of when she read the class a story of the country mouse visiting the city mouse.

Years 1926-27 the schools became consolidated and the little two room schools were gone. I rode my first school bus when I started to Woodleaf School in the big new brick building, where they blew whistles to start and end school instead of ringing a bell. The rock quarry was already in operation years before this, but hearing the noise and blasts were hard to get used to.

Two letters from Casper Bringle, cousin of Lawrence Bringle, from Illinois to NC (These letters in Davidson Co. Museum and Davidson Co. Library)

State of Illinois, Pike County August the 19th, 1860 Mr. Wm H Badget Dear Sir

I inform you that I and family are well hoping these lines may find you and yours in good helth. I Received a letter of cousin solomon B lore stating that you desired a few lines from me to know something of this country to which I reply that there is no better farming country in the united states then Illinois. It is rich, fertile soil generally from one foot to three feet deep Black sandy loom principally level and some rolling prarari, first rate water. But timber is cearce, the great western railroad runs within twelve miles from my place. pike county is Bounded on the west by the massasippi river about fifteen miles from me and is one of the largest navagable rivers in the world being more then one mile wide, steem boats are constantly running on the river to new orleans where its junction intersects the ocion or sea where ships sail to all parts of the world. The Illinois river is on the east of pike county and divides pike from scott and morgan countys and is a navigable streem on which steem boats are constant running except in case of drough. It lies 14 miles east of me. Our wheat crops frosted out last winter so that we have no wheat for seed milling so there are some obliged to eat corn bread or buy flower that is shipped here from a distance. Flower is 3 ½ dollars a hundred pound corn 15 to 20 cents oats the same a good horse sells at a hundred and fifty dollars cows from 20 to 40 dollars land is worth from thirty to sixty dollars per acre money matters. Drill and its thought that the pike peak gold mine will prove a failure. But if it should turn out well it will be the making of this country. I have two hundred acres of land here about one hundred in cultivation for which I refused six thousand dollars and I have 80 acres of land in calhoon county. my calculation is to sell and move from two to three hundred miles futher south where what will not frieze out. corn crops are spindid there will be more corn raised in Illinois that has ever been raised in one year before since it is a state potatoes irish are good and plentry this year appels and peaches ordinary. The drouth in canses was severe this summer and the people are leaving it by hundreds and moving to the states for support. I live four miles west of pitts field and if you write to me direct your letter to pitt field, pike county Illinois. I have a wife and three children all three Boys large anough to plow. John Christian is the oldest george leonard is the second son and David is the youngest. Pleez write to me and let me know how my good old friends in Davison are getting along and such as wold be friends and especially about cousin lawrance Bringle who cept the ferry on the Yadkin river in rowan county. Write soon and let me know how polliticks are in your country. pleez let me know how politics are in carolina the Democrats here are all for S A Dougless and the union. The Lincoln men are holling logs on waggons and spiting rails on the waggons as they are drawn along the streets by four horses and some times they have six and 8 horses to a waggon while others hall flat boats and singing their songs with oars fixed to the boats on the waggons. while another clases hall rail pens malls axes and wedges there by signifying that Abraham lincoln is absolutely a rail splitter and therefore should be elected president of these united states. they deny that they are abolitionists yet mr lincoln declard in a speach that a house divided against itself cannot stand and that he hoped that the time would come when all men would stand up and declare that all men are crated free and equal. But whether mr Lincoln could make all men free and equal or not if elected president of the united states is a qestion which desere an investigation. whether such an idea is in accordance with good sound judgment sence and reason and if he can do it as easy as he could split the rails. in all probability it would be well enough to give him the jobb. But in that case I shoul not be willing to give him my support unless he shoul first complete the work. mr lincoln reminds of a certain counterfiter by the name of allen twitty who was rained at the Bare of Justez for counterfeiting an eagle half dollar. the witness in the case was another counterfeiter by the name of collins and when sworn the Judge asked the question, thus mr collins did you see this man twitty make an eagle half dollar, yes was his reply. you saw him make the eagle did you said the judge, his answer was in the affermative. But declared when he had finished it that it was a Buzzard and not an eagle. even so it woul be the case with mr lincoln if he attempted to make all men free and equal. I would like to know what kind of kemical process he would use in the opperation to make the negro equal to the white man. I am of the opinion that he would convert the negro into a

monkey in stead of a white man and this would be disunion in the first degree. Mr Brackenridge is also looked upon in this country as a disunion man and will not have a ticket in the field. neither will mr Bell have a tick in Illinois the contest here is between Dougless and lincoln in this country it is supposed that Dougless will beat lincoln in this county from eight hundred to a thousand voats and in the state from ten to twenty thousand. I do not know how the election may terminate. But if I keep my health I calculate to support mr Dougless for the presidency of the united states. Pleez give my Best respects to all my friends in Davidson who may see fit to inquire after me.

yours truly Casper Bringle

State Illinois, pike county Mr Solomon B Lore

Dear cousin. I inform you that I am well at present hoping these lines may find you all in good helth. we thank god for his kind mercies. I received your letter dated march 31 1860 you stated that death has viseded your familys. we truly regret to here of the loss of our friends by death. But when we reflect that we shall soon follow them and that they will not return to us but we must go to them we exclaim with one of old and say the lord gave and the lord hath taken away blesed be the name of the lord for if we believe that Jesus died and rose again even so them also which sleep in Jesus will god bring with him see 1 thessalonians 4-14-18. these are comfordable words for an afflicted people. I must also inform you that Brother Lawrance Bringle is dead, it is said that he died with an affection of the kidneys three or four years ago. I received a letter from sister Susannah. she lives in the kanses territory near garnett anderson county and has 40 acers of land and out of dept (?) ten acers in cultivation. Charlotty is married to willson chapman a widower he had 8 children has 160 acres of land 1 ½ miles from pitts field. Brother Jacob lives 8 miles from here and has sold out to move to kanses territory. he has 5 children, the two last are twin girls. Apsolum lives 4 hunderd yards from me has 2 boys and two girls and 80 acers of land. aps and his son marion and apses wife and mandy all had the flux last summer. they could not help one another. it took of many persons But aps had an exalent Bottanic doctor and they are well. Brother Daniel went to orregon took a claim of 300 and 20 acers of land. The last we heard of him he was in indiana and started Back to orregon and we have not hear a word of him since. I am fearful that the shiv (?) he went in is lost as there was one lost about that time. I have 200 and 5 acers of land here and 80 acers in calhoon county 40 miles from here. I was offered six thousand dollars for my place But I have not sold yet But will sell as soon as I can sell to suite myself in the sale for I want the monney down for it so as to save me of the troble of coming Back, our wheat froze out last winter and I intend moving south west about 3 or 4 hundred miles or to calliforney. it is said that they raise from 60 to 83 Bushels of wheat in calliforney to the acre. I am acquainted with gentlemen who ascert this as a fact for they have been there and saw it. mr miller a vongman of respecttibility and acquaintance told me that a certain gentleman sowed some Barley and cut it when ripe and it shattered very much. the first rain that come it come up he concluded to let it stand. The next year he cut it and got 75 Bushels of Barley per acre. In orregon it is said they raise from 30 to 45 Bushels of wheat to the acre. they say that by one time sowing they can raise three crops of wheat the first 45 bushels the shattered second crop 20 Bushels the third crop 10 bushels and all this from one sowing. This must be one of the best contries for a lazy man for he can sow one crop of wheat that will last him for Bread say five years and 5 or 6 crops in that case would last him his lifetime if well managied and we know that is all that a lazy man wants. wheras on the other hand it will have the contrary effect upon the covitous man for he will nearly kill himself at work to git rich and when they are both dead they will be even so mote it be. you requested me to write a letter to mr william Badged But you did not state in your letter what the partickulars were that the gentleman wishes to know. I have only to say upon that occation that you will plees give my best respects to mr Badged. tell him that I feel myself under the deepest sence of obligations to him for his kindness coming as it dose from that secton of country and that if he desires to know anything of vital importance and will write me a few lines concerning the matter in substance I will then give him all the necessary information to the best of my ability.

To S R Lore ples hand these lines to mr Badged and to mr conroads and hedricks plees give my best respects to all who may inqire after such a being as myself.

vours truly

Casper Bringle

Lawrence A. Bringle and Elizabeth Shepard had the following children:

- 7. i. CATHARINE⁷ BRINGLE was born on 01 Apr 1849 in Rowan Co. NC. She died on 06 Jun 1933 in Rowan Co. NC. She married Thomas Rufty, son of Edward Rufty and Elizabeth Brown, on 02 Jun 1872. He was born on 07 Nov 1851 in Rowan Co., NC. He died on 26 Oct 1902 in Rowan Co., NC St. Mathews Cemetery.
 - ii. JOHN BRINGLE was born date Unknown.
 - iii. JOHN CALVIN BRINGLE was born in 1824. He died in 1909. He married ELIZABETH HOFFNER.

Notes for John Calvin Bringle: John Calvin Bringle b. 1824 d. 1909 m1. Elizabeth Hoffner m2. Alice Shives, m3. 1866 Molly Jane Boggs

- MARY ANN BRINGLE was born in 1846.
- v. Henderson Bringle was born about 1850.
- vi. Christian Bringle was born in 1854. He married Sarah E. Hartman. She was born in 1855.
- vii. AMANDA LUCINDA BRINGLE was born in 1857. She married TRAVIS PARKER.
- viii. PLEASANT T. BRINGLE. He married AMERICA A. BENSON.

Generation 7

7. **CATHARINE**⁷ **BRINGLE** (Lawrence A.⁶, Christian⁵, Nickolas⁴, Johann Christian³ Brengel, Christian² Brengel, Michel¹ Brendel) was born on 01 Apr 1849 in Rowan Co. NC. She died on 06 Jun 1933 in Rowan Co. NC. She married Thomas Rufty, son of Edward Rufty and Elizabeth Brown, on 02 Jun 1872. He was born on 07 Nov 1851 in Rowan Co., NC. He died on 26 Oct 1902 in Rowan Co., NC St. Mathews Cemetery.

Notes for Thomas Rufty:

Thomas Rufty & Catherine Bringle lived in the St. Matthews Church area. The old home place was on Dutch Second Creek, now is part of High Rock Lake. The Lawrence Bringle family ran a ferry in this area. Now know as Bringle Ferry Road.

Thomas Rufty and Catharine Bringle had the following children:

- 8. i. ADA MAYETTA⁸ RUFTY was born on 29 Aug 1876. She died on 11 Mar 1966. She married Robert John Blair on 06 Nov 1898. He was born on 20 Jul 1873. He died on 12 Mar 1924.
- 9. ii. DORA R. RUFTY was born on 29 Jan 1879. She died on 27 Dec 1961. She married John Morgan, son of E.C. Morgan and Jesse Morgan, on 13 Feb 1900. He was born on 27 May 1871. He died on 19 Feb 1956.
- 10. iii. OLIVER OSCHO RUFTY was born on 06 Jun 1881 in Rowan Co., NC. He died on 31 Mar 1971 in Salisbury, NC. He married Nanny Mary Lizer Lemly, daughter of George Franklin Lemly and Harriet Lyerly, on 02 Jul 1904 in Salisbury, NC. She was born on 01 Oct 1885 in Rowan Co., NC. She died on 26 Jul 1953 in Salisbury, NC.
 - iv. EDWARD LAWRENCE RUFTY was born on 20 May 1887. He died on 07 Jan 1935 in Rowan County, NC.

Generation 8

8. ADA MAYETTA⁸ RUFTY (Catharine⁷ Bringle, Lawrence A.⁶ Bringle, Christian⁵ Bringle, Nickolas⁴ Bringle, Johann Christian³ Brengel, Christian² Brengel, Michel¹ Brendel) was born on 29 Aug 1876. She died on 11 Mar 1966. She married Robert John Blair on 06 Nov 1898. He was born on 20 Jul 1873. He died on 12 Mar 1924.

Robert John Blair and Ada Mayetta Rufty had the following children:

i. LIVING BLAIR. She married ROBERT MARSHALL. He was born date Unknown. He died date Unknown.

- ii. ADA CATHERINE BLAIR was born on 13 Nov 1904. She died on 25 May 1996 in Salisbury, NC. She married MARSDEN PETIT. He was born date Unknown. He died date Unknown.
- iii. LIVING BLAIR.
- ROBERTA JEAN BLAIR was born on 11 May 1913 in Salisbury, NC. She died on 10 Dec 2010 in Vineland, New Jersey.
- 9. DORA R.⁸ RUFTY (Catharine⁷ Bringle, Lawrence A.⁶ Bringle, Christian⁵ Bringle, Nickolas⁴ Bringle, Johann Christian³ Brengel, Christian² Brengel, Michel¹ Brendel) was born on 29 Jan 1879. She died on 27 Dec 1961. She married John Morgan, son of E.C. Morgan and Jesse Morgan, on 13 Feb 1900. He was born on 27 May 1871. He died on 19 Feb 1956.

John Morgan and Dora R. Rufty had the following children:

- i. LIVING MORGAN. He married LIVING NEWSOME.
- ii. LIVING MORGAN. She married LIVING NEWSOME.
- iii. LIVING MORGAN.
- 10. OLIVER OSCHO⁸ RUFTY (Catharine⁷ Bringle, Lawrence A.⁶ Bringle, Christian⁵ Bringle, Nickolas⁴ Bringle, Johann Christian³ Brengel, Christian² Brengel, Michel¹ Brendel) was born on 06 Jun 1881 in Rowan Co., NC. He died on 31 Mar 1971 in Salisbury, NC. He married Nanny Mary Lizer Lemly, daughter of George Franklin Lemly and Harriet Lyerly, on 02 Jul 1904 in Salisbury, NC. She was born on 01 Oct 1885 in Rowan Co., NC. She died on 26 Jul 1953 in Salisbury, NC.

Notes for Oliver Oscho Rufty:

O.O. Rufty was raised at the old Wilhelm-Rufty Mill, owned and operated by his father on Dutch Second Creek in the St. Matthews Church community. He has owned a General Store in Salisbury, NC since 1933. His business was a family affair.

Family history at: http://www.RowanCounty.info/rowanroots

Oliver Oscho Rufty and Nanny Mary Lizer Lemly had the following children:

- i. Helen Ona⁹ Rufty was born on 29 Apr 1905 in Salisbury, NC. She died on 28 Feb 1966 in Salisbury, NC. She married William Leroy Holsclaw. He was born on 28 Dec 1902. He died on 09 Sep 1958 in Salisbury, NC.
- ii. THOMAS RUFTY was born on 15 Feb 1907 in Rowan Co., NC. He died on 20 Jan 1911 in Salisbury, NC.
- iii. MARY FLORENCE RUFTY was born on 24 Dec 1908 in Salisbury, NC. She died on 10 Oct 1989 in Salisbury, NC. She married John Craige Sifford, son of John Lewis Sifford and Amanda Elizabeth Penninger, on 25 Dec 1937. He was born on 12 Apr 1901 in Cabarrus County, NC. He died on 13 Nov 1957 in Salisbury, NC.

Notes for John Craige Sifford:

John Sifford did not serve in the military. He was "block captain" to check on lights out, and dark shades, etc.

- iv. Addie Catherine Rufty was born on 01 Apr 1911 in Salisbury, NC. She died on 05 Jan 1989 in Salisbury, NC.
- v. OLIVER JAMES RUFTY was born on 27 Aug 1913 in Salisbury, NC. He died on 30 Apr 1995 in Salisbury, NC. He married Nell Garnet Hartline, daughter of Amos Abner Pressley Hartline and Myrtle Bell Felts Hartline, on 25 Nov 1937. She was born on 17 Sep 1915 in Salisbury, NC. She died on 22 May 1999 in Salisbury, NC.

Notes for Oliver James Rufty:

Oliver Rufty enlisted in the Army on April 5, 1944 and was discharged on May 23, 1946. He served in the417th. 2nd. Quartermaster Depot. He took place in the invasion of Luzon, Phillipines (Manila). He was Technician Fourth Grade.

vi. RAYMOND WILSON RUFTY was born on 14 Oct 1915. He died on 13 Feb 2000. He married Annie Elizabeth Kluttz, daughter of George Adam Kluttz and Lula Esther

Sloop, on 29 Jan 1950. She was born on 03 Jun 1918. She died on 09 Jun 1993 in Salisbury, NC.

Notes for Raymond Wilson Rufty:

Raymond Rufty was unable to serve in the military due to medical reasons (varicose veins), but served his country in a defense plant in Durham, NC.

- vii. EARNEST RAY RUFTY was born on 24 Sep 1917 in Salisbury, NC. He died on 22 Feb 1920 in Salisbury, NC.
- viii. VIRGINIA DARE RUFTY was born on 14 Oct 1919 in Salisbury, NC. She died on 16 Dec 2002 in Salisbury, NC. She married Guy Leonard Deal, son of Leroy Fink Deal and Essie Mae Corriher, on 25 Feb 1946. He was born on 13 Oct 1910 in Rowan Co., NC. He died on 05 Jul 2001 in China Grove, NC.

Notes for Guy Leonard Deal:

Guy Deal did not see military service. He was a Rowan County farmer. He received an "agrie deferrment." Received in letter May 29, 1998 from my aunt Dare. "Guy had to raise enough points for his self and several more men to work on the farm to help feed the soldiers. He worked on the farm all day and graded sweet potatoes at night, so when that big truck came by the next morning to go directly to camps. As always: Dare Rufty Deal

ix. FRED COUNCIL RUFTY was born on 21 Oct 1921 in Salisbury, NC. He died on 01 Mar 2002 in Salisbury, NC. He married Ruth Beatrice Schenck, daughter of Douglas Augustus Schenck and Beulah Flowe Schenck, on 09 Dec 1943. She was born on 25 Jul 1925 in Rowan County, NC. She died on 11 Sep 2001 in Salisbury, NC.

Notes for Fred Council Rufty:

Fred Rufty enlisted in the Army in 1943 and was discharged in 1946. He served in the 618th. Ammunition Company, 6th. Eng. Special Brigade. He took part in the invasion at Normandy, France & Germany. He served with Captain Meekinger. His rank was T/5. Citations: Croix De Guerre; with palm; Victory metal; EAMET campaign medal with 3 bronze stars; good conduct metal; distinguished unit badge; meritorius unit award; bronze arrowhead.

x. Ruth Rufty was born on 29 Aug 1923 in Salisbury, NC. She died on 04 May 2005 in Salisbury, NC. She married John William Patterson Sr., son of Louis Allen Patterson Sr. and Effie Estella Michael, on 10 Jan 1943 in Salisbury, NC. He was born on 03 Sep 1914 in Concord, NC. He died on 22 Jul 1995 in Salisbury, NC.

Notes for John William Patterson Sr.:

John Patterson was unable to serve in the military due to medical problems. He did work Wright's Automatic Machine Shop, Durham, NC. They built bomb sights for military aircraft.

Family history at:

http://www.RowanCounty.info/rowanroots

xi. HAROLD EDWIN RUFTY was born on 25 Jun 1926 in Salisbury, NC. He died on 19 Jan 1999 in Salisbury, NC. He married LIVING MORRIS.

Notes for Harold Edwin Ruftv:

Harold Rufty served in the Army in World War II. Artillery Observation Battalion. HQBTRY 14th. FAO BSN BN. His commanding General was Patton. He served from April 28, 1945 thru September 26, 1946. He served in Germany as Corporal, prison guard and truck driver. He received decorations & citations, EAME service metal, good conduct metal, WWII victory metal & ETO occupation ribbon.

xii. Charles William Rufty was born on 17 Jul 1928 in Salisbury, NC. He died on 07 Dec 2013 in Salisbury, NC. He married Living Spake.

Notes for Charles William Rufty:

Prepared By:	
Preparer: Phone:	Address:
Email:	