

II  
DAVID MCNABB, Senior

Circa 1768-69 William McNabb, Senior, moved his family to the Buffalo Creek area of the Indian Lands of what became in 1777, by the Act of North Carolina, Washington County, North Carolina; then in 1796 the area became Carter County, Tennessee during the first meeting of the general assembly, after Tennessee became a state in 1796.

Baptist McNabb, one of William's sons, in 1770 built the first grist mill in Tennessee, on Buffalo Creek which is a stream running South to North in the NW corner of present day Unicoi County & the SW corner of Carter County where it joins the Watauga river west of Elizabethton, the county seat of Carter County.

David McNabb, Senior, b. 22 Feb. 1755 Augusta County, Virginia d. 13 May 1826 in Carter County, Tennessee, was the oldest of the 9 children of Baptist McNabb and Kathren [redacted] McNabb. His siblings were Isabella, who married Andrew Taylor II, in 1786 in Washington County, North Carolina (after 1796 in Tennessee); John; James Jonathan; William who married Elizabeth? in Washington County, N.C., (later Tenn.) recorded in Carter County, Tenn. in Marriage Record Book 18-18 p. 166 and whose Will is recorded in Carter County, Tenn. dated 16 May 1809; Mary; Jane; Margaret and Kathren or Katrin.

David, in 1778, returned to Augusta County, Virginia to Marry Elizabeth Taylor, daughter of Andrew Taylor, Senior, & Elizabeth (Wilson) Taylor. (Andrew Taylor, probably Scotch-Irish, born Atrim, Ireland in 1733 died Washington County, N.C. in 1787) The young couple made their home in Washington County, N.C.

These were turbulent times in Western North Carolina and Eastern Tennessee. An area West of the Blue Ridge generally called Watauga Country. On October 7, 1780 both David McNabb & his father, Baptist, joined several hundred other over-mountain men & defeated the British Commander, Major Ferguson & his troops at the Battle of King's Mountain, North Carolina. The defeat of the British by over-mountain men, was a turning point in the Revolutionary war in the South and the Watauga region was not again threatened by invasion of the British; only the Indians were left with which to be concerned.

"Captain David McNabb had an eleven year Revolutionary War Record: First against the Indians, then the British, which lasted from 1770 until 1781. He served the state of North Carolina with General McDowell and General Marion, on tours. He also served under Fergerson. Captain David McNabb performed a tour of duty in August 1781, as a captain in what was then Washington County, North Carolina, along the Doe River and across the Yellow Mountains into South Carolina along the Santa River under Col. John Sevier.

He also served in 1780 for a tour under Col. Robinson. He also completed a three month tour under General Marian, when General Marian ordered him to guard a bridge to keep the British out. Private Jo Hendrix took an oath that he served under Captain David McNabb in an expedition under John Sevier against the Cherokee Indians.

David McNabb, Sr. resided "ten miles above New Port Pigeon" <sup>A</sup> in Washington Cty., North Carolina--later Washington Cty., Tenn.--now Carter Cty., Tennessee."

Above from the application papers for membership in the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Washington, D.C. of Marian Louise Little Lowry of Murray, Utah. Computer Code Number 3-016-FI, approved June 25, 1986.

In 1777 when the North Carolina Legislature established Washington County, N.C., it appointed a Court for the new County. Colonel John Carter was chairman and among others, John McNabb, son of Wm. McNabb, Senior & David's uncle, was a member of the Court.

On April 9, 1796 the General Assembly of the newly organized state of Tennessee met in Knoxville and among other items, passed into laws a bill providing for the creation of a new county extracted from the northern & eastern area of Washington County land. It was the third of several assaults on Washington County land. In 1779 Sullivan Cty. and in 1783 Greene Cty. had been formed, each from Washington County. In 1836 Johnson Cty. was formed from Carter County. Then as late as 1875 Unicoi was formed from Washington & Carter Counties.

Following the Act of 1796, the boundaries of Carter Cty. were to be established by Nathaniel Taylor and Joseph Brown, and they were to be allowed \$2.50 per day for surveying the line, with an additional \$1.00 per day for markers. Originally Carter County contained some 700 square miles. Presently (1989) it has about 300 square miles.

The 1796 Tennessee Legislature appointed a committee of 5 men to locate a county seat & have built a courthouse, prison, & stocks. David McNabb, Sr. was a member of this committee along with Landon Carter, Reuben Thornton, Andrew Greer, Sr., and Zachariah Campbell. They decided to locate the county seat at the confluence of the Watauga & Doe Rivers and this county seat of Carter County was named Elizabethton. In honor of whom there is some question but no ready answers.

David McNabb had married Elizabeth Taylor a relative of Brig. General Nathaniel Taylor & daughter of Andrew Taylor, whose own wife was Elizabeth (Lane) Taylor. Also Landon Carter's wife was Elizabeth (McLin) Carter. Additionally, William McNabb, who was either David's brother or uncle, the record is not clear which, was married to an Elizabeth. Thus, it seems evident that the name

<sup>A</sup> This may refer to New port on the Pigeon River.

Elizabethton had more than one supporter on the Committee, i.e., David McNabb & Landon Carter, and probably even more support from some who were not committee members.

In any event, on Oct. 23, 1799 the Tenn. Legislature passed an act confirming that the original 50 acre tract of 77 lots, laid out for the town was "to continue to be a town"....such town to be known as Elizabethton. Also in 1799 the Tennessee Legislature appointed the first commissioners for the town of Elizabethton. They were David McNabb, Senior, Landon Carter, Andrew Greer, Zachariah Campbell, and four others. These town commissioners were given the power "to establish the necessary regulations for.... government" of the town of Elizabethton.

The first Court of Carter Cty. was composed of men commonly called esquires or justices of the peace. This Court elected all the officers necessary for the peaceful functioning of the County. The first Carter County Court included David McNabb, Sr., Nathaniel Taylor, Zachariah Campbell, Andrew Greer, Landon Carter, Guttredge Garland, John Vaught, Joseph Lands & Reuben Thornton. To recap the early political appointments of David McNabb, Senior.

1. Appointed by the Tenn. Legislature to a committee of 5 to locate a county seat for Carter County, Tenn, in 1796.
2. Appointed by the Tenn. Legislature, from existing magistrates, to be a member of the first Court of Carter County & to elect all officers necessary for the functioning of the County, in 1796.
3. Appointed by the Tenn. Legislature as one of the first commissioners for the town of Elizabethton, to establish the regulations for government of the town, in 1799.

How long David McNabb, Senior served in the town & County positions is not shown by any records; however, as late as 1813-1817 he was a Carter County Trustee.

From 1779 until 1805, David & Elizabeth had 13 children, 3 girls & 10 boys, all born in what is now Carter Cty. Tenn. Today (1989) there is not a McNabb residing in the County. As far as it is known most of them migrated to the southwest down the valleys to McMinn & Bradley Counties, Tenn., and on West. As far as the records indicate, David's son, Nathaniel Taylor McNabb was the last to leave Carter Cty. when in 1844 he sold his land in Carter County and moved to Bradley County, Tenn. where his son, David's grandson, James Pinckney McNabb, had moved in the early 1830's. There is a record of a Deed to Nathaniel Taylor McNabb in 1814 in Claiborne Cty. Tenn. but no record that he lived there.

David McNabb, Senior, drew up his Will on May 12, 1826 and died May 13, 1826 in Carter County, Tenn. The Will is recorded in Early Wills Book #1, pages 497-498, Office of the County Court Clerk, Carter County Courthouse, Elizabethton, Tenn. 37643. His wife, Elizabeth died June 20, 1849 in McMinn Cty. Tenn. and is buried in Minet/<sup>Mynatt is the correct spelling</sup> Cemetery, McMinn County. David was probably buried on the homeplace in Carter County; however, no one knows where the grave site is now. <sup>J. WALTER CRAIG DAVIDSON accompanied by my wife,</sup> Doris Louise Buchner Davidson, <sup>45-8</sup> found the gravesite, <sup>469A.</sup>

Captain David McNabb, Sr. in Revolutionary War

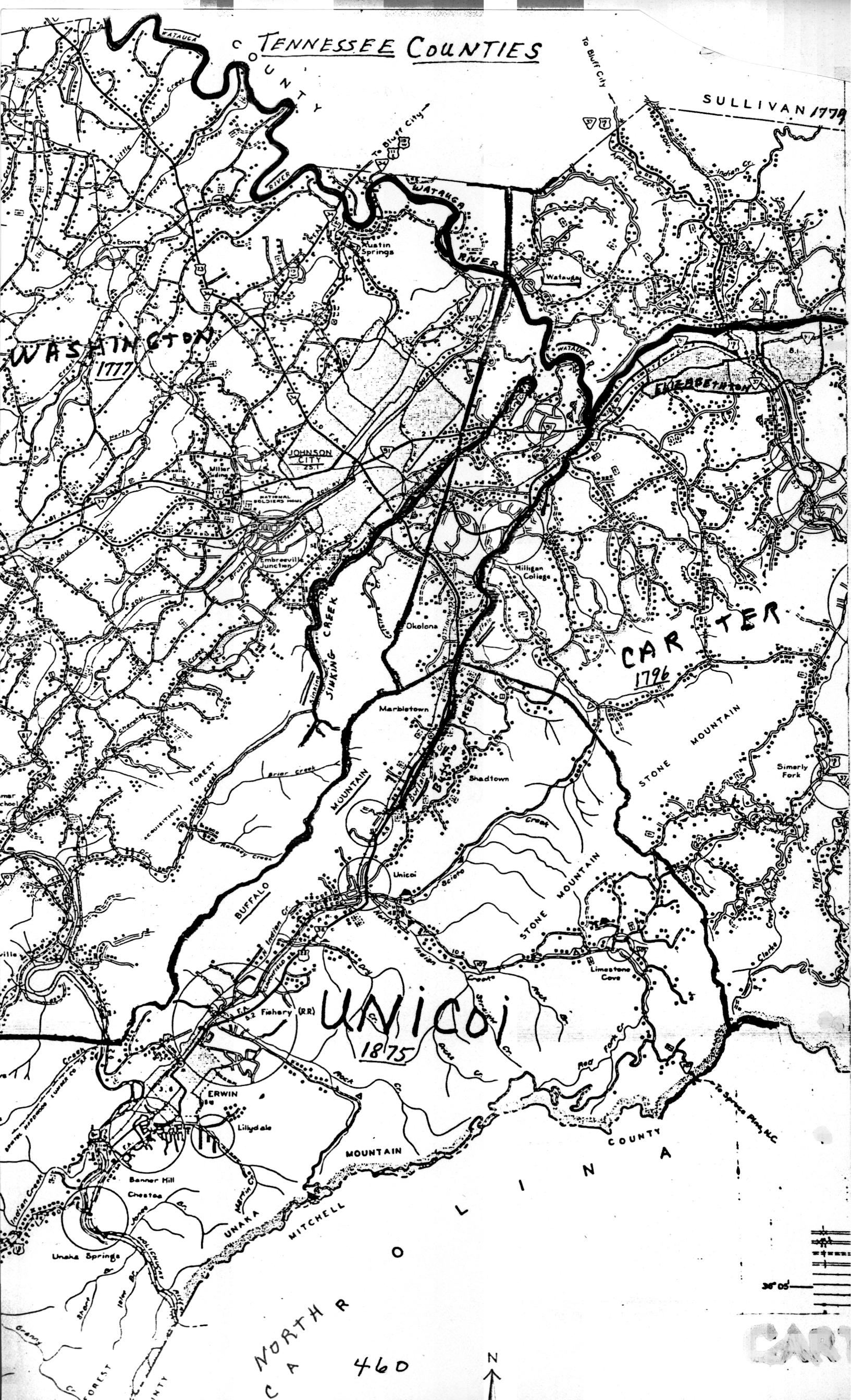
\*\*Captain David McNabb had an eleven year Revolutionary War record First against the Indians, then the British, which lasted from 1770 until 1781. He served the state of North Carolina with General McDowell and General Marian, on tours. He also served under Fergerson. Captain David McNabb performed a tour of duty in August 1781, as a captain in what was then Washington County, North Carolina, along the Doe River and across the Yellow Mountains into South Carolina along the Santa River under Col. John Sevier. He also served in 1780 for a tour under Col. Robinson. He also completed a three month tour under General Marian, when General Marian ordered him to guard a bridge to keep the British out. Private Jo Hendrix took an oath that he served under Captain David McNabb in an expedition under John Sevier against the Cherokee Indians.\*\*

David McNabb, Sr. resided "ten miles above New Port Pigeon" in Washington Cty, No. Carolina--later Washington Cty, Tenn.--now Carter Cty, Tennessee.

Above from the application papers for membership in the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Washington, D.C. of Marian Louise Little Lowry of Murray, Utah. Computer Code Number 3-016-FI, approved June 25, 1986.

George Taylor  
Power of attorney Know all men by these presents that I George Taylor of  
Pintney district and State of South Carolina planter have  
for to sell 2 tracts made Constituted and apposited and by these presents do make  
of land &c in Constitute and appositt David W. Mcabb of Washington County  
Green County in Territory South of Ohio planter my true and Lawfull attorney  
for me and in my name and to my use to sell two Tracts of Land lying in  
Green County and to grant Deeds of Conveyance for the same to such demand  
and receive of and from all and every person and Persons whatsoever living  
on belonging in said Territory all and singular debt and duty sum or sums  
of money which now are due or shall be for the same to me and upon being  
there for any part thereof for me and in my name to make good and Execute  
Proper Recipts and discharge for the same and on non-payment thereof or any  
part thereof one or more actions or actions suits at law or in Equity for  
me and in my name to Commence and Prosecute and also to pay any sum or  
sums of money, pursuant to my order direction and request and you will to  
all and perform and Execute all and whatsoever shall be necessary and  
sufficient to all intently and properly as my self might or could do if present  
Penalty present and all and whatsoever my said attorney shall lawfully  
do or cause to be done by virtue of these presents I do hereby promise and  
agree to fully attest and confirm I witness whereof I have hereunto set  
my hand and seal this 6th day of May 1792 -  
Signed sealed and Delivered in presence George Taylor  
John Williams  
John Williams

Power of Attorney from Geo. Taylor to David McNabb  
6 May 1792 in Green Co. NC/Tenn. David lived in "Washington Co.  
in Territory South of Ohio"



To All To Whom these Presents Shall Come

Greeting

Know ye that inconsideration of an entry made in the Surveyors office of the sixth district of Number 2743 dated the third day of June 1815 founded on a warrant of Number 265 issued by John Carter to Manor Simpson for six hundred & fifty acres of land dated the fourth day of May 1769 fifty acres of which are assigned to David McNabb this in and there is granted by the said State of Tennessee unto the said David McNabb and his heirs a certain tract or parcel of land containing seventeen acres lying in the County of Carter in said district forming a hundred acre tract of land and owned by said McNabb between said tract and the Buffalo Mountain Beginning at an Elm and Lyme on the south side of the Buffalo Mountain at eighty poles distance due west of the beginning corner of a six hundred acre tract of land granted to Baptist McNabb by the State of North Carolina and one of a hundred acre survey granted to the said McNabb thence with said line north then west sixty eight poles to two white oaks, thence, south south forty poles to three Black oaks on the mountain side thence with the mountain south then East sixty eight poles to a stake and pointer thence forty poles to the beginning.

Surveyed October the twenty second 1810 with its appurtenances to the said David McNabb and his heirs forever. In witness whereof Joseph McMinn Governor of the said State Tennessee both hereunto set his hand and caused the great seal of the said State to be affixed at Knoxville on the 30th day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand Eight hundred and Eighteen and of American independence the forty second.

By the Governor

William Alexander Secretary

Jos. McMinn

David McNabb is entitled to the within named Tract of Land

Iac Tipton Register of East  
Tennessee

February 9th 1818

Recorded in my office

Iac Tipton Register  
of East Tennessee

Original on page 462

State of Tennessee No 5615

To all to whom these presents shall come.

Greeting

No. 5615 that in consideration of an entry made in the Surveyor's office of the tenth district of Number 2743 dated the 5<sup>th</sup> day of June 1815 showing in addition of Number 265 signed by John Carter to David McCallie in six hundred and fifty acres of land called the fourth east of May 1765 fifty acres of which are assigned to David McCallie in which there is granted by the State of Tennessee unto the said David McCallie and his heirs a certain tract or parcel of land containing two thousand acres lying in the County of Carter in said district among a hundred acre tract of land now owned by said McCallie between said tract and the Buffalo Mountain Beginning at an Elm and Lynn on the south side of the Buffalo mountain at eighty poles antelope due west of the Beginning consisting of a six hundred acre tract of land granted to David McCallie by the state of North Carolina and one of a hundred acres being granted to the said McCallie three rods back from North Line with forty-eight poles to his white oak, hem, south with forty poles to three black oaks on the mountain side three thousand rods south line East forty-eight poles to a stake and points three forty poles to the Beginning

Survey October the twenty second 1815

With its appurtenances to have and to hold the said tract or part of land with its appurtenances to the said David McCallie and his heirs forever in witness whereof Joseph M'Graw Governor of the said State of Tennessee hath hereunto set his hand and caused the great seal of the said State to be affixed at Knoxville on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighteen and of American Independence the forty second

Jos. M'Graw

By the Governor

William Alexander Secretary

David McCallie is entitled to the within mentioned

the 27<sup>th</sup> instant of each

Year after

February 9<sup>th</sup> 1815

Recorded in my office

Sir William Alexander  
for Postmaster

*E. J. H. S.  
Publication*

are all preserved and are available in the register's office. Current instruments are recorded by photostat.

The tax rate for 1796 is unknown due to the loss of the early county court minutes.

CARTER COUNTY, TENNESSEE  
TAX LISTS  
1796

Key to Column Numbers<sup>13</sup>

- [1] Acres of land
- [2] White polls
- [3] Black polls

"A list of Taxable property in Carter County for the year 1796"

<i>Names</i>	[1]	[2]	[3]	<i>Names</i>	[1]	[2]	[3]
Archer, William		1		Burk, Elihew		1	
Archer, John	200			Burk, Arter		1	
Ashe, Thomas	100	1		Bullinger, Peter	250	1	
Alexander, George	75	1		Ballard, John		1	
Abner, Elisha	205	1		Baker, John	155	1	
Anderson, Thomas, Junr.	155	1		Buckner, William		1	
Anderson, Thomas, Senr.		1		Burk, Abraham		1	
Anderson, Joshua		1		Branstetter, Peter	200	1	
Asher, John	100	1		Burkehouse, John	300		
Ashbrooks, George	1			Boon, Solomon	200	1	
Adams, Jesse		1		Baker, William		1	
Boyd, William	400	1	2	Colyer, Charles	400	1	
Bogart, Samuel	608			Cooper, Nathan		1	
Bailey, Cotril	269½			Curtis, Bolen		1	
Bailey, Charles	240	1		Cooper, Edward		1	
Bogart, Cornelius	194¾	1		Cooper, Joel	177		
Bradford, Benjamin		1		Cobb, Dred	50	1	
Bass, Jeremiah	240	1	9	Cooper, Patience	300		
Bowers, Leonard	50	1		Cooper, John		1	
Bird, James		1		Cooper, Jobe	150	1	
Bishop, Samuel		1		Cunningham, Aaron		1	
Bell, Richard		1		Cunningham, Mary	590		
Brimer, Joseph	300	1		Cumpton, John		1	
Beames, James		1		Cooper, Abraham	100	1	
				Conner, Julius	400	1	3
				Crosson, Samuel		1	

<sup>13</sup> There are two additional columns in the original, "Stud horses" and "Town lots." No individuals were listed as owning any town lots, but thirteen were designated as owners of stud horses with one owning two: Peter Bullinger, Pharoah Cobb, Godfrey Carriger, Sr., Alexander Greer, James Jones, Robert Lusk, Isaac Lincoln, Gidian Metlock, Teter Nave, Edward Smith, Joseph Tipton (2), Nathaniel Taylor, and Samuel Tipton.

CARTER County, TN Tax List 1796

1796

Early East Tennessee Taxpayers

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Names	[1]	[2]	[3]	Names	[1]	[2]	[3]
Harden, William	1			McInturf, Caspar	100		
Henderson, John	1	1		McNabb, Baptist II	1		
Henderson, Peter	1			McNabb, David, Junr.	1		
Henderson, John, Junr.	1			Moor, Absolem	30	1	
Houser, John	1			McGeehen, Brewer		1	
Helton, Peter	1			Maxfield, Thomas	180 1/4	1	
Heatherly, John	107	1		Moor, Daniel	100	1	
Howard, John	104	1		McCormack, Robert	60	1	
Heaton, John				McCay, John	300	1	
Hooker, William				Miers, Peter	40		
Ivey, James	50			McInturf, Israel	60		
Ingle, Peter	100	1		McNabb, William	300		
Jones, James	200	1		McNabb, David, Senr.	258	1	
Jones, Thomas	100	1		Musgrave, Robert	320	1	
Jones, Wells				Mason, Michael		1	
Justice, Jacob				Morris, Levin	100	1	
Jenkins, Roland	248	1		Moor, John Parker	120	1	
Jenkins, Hugh	100	1		Metlock, Gidian		1	
Jackson, William	300			Musgrave, Samuel	320	1	1
James, Rawlings	575	1		Metlock, William		1	
Jones, Lewis	40			Metlock, George	444	1	
Johnston, John	5000			Mullins, John		1	
King, William				Miller, John		1	
Kite, Richard	150			Moreland, Charles		1	
Kite, Isaac				Miller, George	60	1	
Kimmons, Joseph				Moreland, William	500	1	
Lockhart, William				Mulkey, Philip	100	1	
Lackey, Thomas	200	1		Mulkey, Ann	60		
Lusk, Robert	244			Miller, Chrisley	100	1	
Lusk, Samuel				Miller, Daniel	50	1	
Lockhart, Robert				Miller, John, Senr.	200	1	
Lincoln, Isaac	725	2	4	Miller, John, Junr.		1	
Lacy, John				Miller, Jacob	50		
Lacy, Philimon				Miller, Henry	340		
Lacy, James				McQueen, Hannah	370		
Large, Joseph				McQueen, John		1	
Larew, Samuel				McWilliams, Thomas		1	
Lay, Jesse				Newel, Joseph		1	
Lay, John	200	1	2	Nicholas, Daniel	100	1	
Logan, George	175	1		Nave, Teter	200	1	
Loyd, Levy	100	1		Nave, John	100	1	
Loyd, James	50	1		Nave, Abraham	50	1	
Loyd, John	100	1		Nowland, William		1	
McInturf, Christopher	400			Nowland, John		1	
McInturf,				Nicholson, John	36000		
John, Junr.	218	1		Peoples, Nathan		1	
McInturf,				Price, John		1	
John, Senr.	200	1		Poland, John	200	1	
Miller, Jacob				Payton, Joseph	128 1/2		
				Price, Thomas	100		

Baptist I d. 1784

Probably David's son, Wm.;  
David's father died in  
1789. Could also be  
David's brother.  
who died in  
Carter Co in 1809.

DAVID McNABB WILL

In the name of God amen this the twelth day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand Eight hundred and twenty-six.

I David McNabb of the County of Carter and state of Tennessee, being Sick & Weak in Boddy - But of Perfect Memory and sound mind, Calling to mind the Mortality of the Boddy and that it is appointed to all men once to die-

Do make Establish and ordain this to be my Last Will and Testament, that is to say - Principally and First of all I recommend my soul to God who gave it and my Boddy to the Earth to be buried in a decent and Christian manner at the rescission of my Friends and Further such Temporal estate wheare With It hath Pleased the Lord to Bless me with I give Bequeath and dispos of in manner as follows with First of all I order and it is my will my just debts and funeral expense be paid-

I give and Bequeath to my Beloved Wife a decent and maintainace whare I live with the addition of my Household Furniture one mare three of the choice of my cattle the sheep and yews at hir disposal with the addition of the Hogs.

Secondly I desire my Land to be equally and justly divided into Eight lots or parts having due regard to quality the saim to be don justly fairly and Impartially-

Thirdly I desire my son William McNabb to Have and Recive the lot his Mother livith on for his part.

Fourthly I desire the other seven lots to be drawn for By my seven sons that is James McNabb Andrew McNabb Mathew McNabb Isaac McNabb Alben McNabb Taylor McNabb and David McNabb.

Fifthly I desire my wagon and fairing utenculs to be for those of my Sons who live on my farm

Sixthly I desire that my Daughter Rada Peeples Recive the Sum of Twenty dollars-

Seventhly I desire that my daughter Jane Brown Recive the Sum of Twenty dollars.

Eighthly if after the above Requisitions is Complied with if it appear that they is a remnant of Property let it Be Equally divided among my daughters after the excption of Ten dollirs to my ten sons that is to my son Absalom McNabb one dollar to my son Nathaniel McNabb one dollar to my son James McNabb one Dollar to my son David McNabb one dollar to my son Andrew McNabb one dollar to my Son William McNabb one Dollar to my son Matthew McNabb one dollar to my Son Isaac McNabb one dollar to my son Alben McNabb one Dollar to my Son Taylor McNabb one Dollar and I Constituit my Sons Nathaniel McNabb William McNabb and Taylor McNabb Executors of this my last will and testament Revoking and making void all other Wills and Testaments made by me conferming and Establishing this and no other my last Will and desire - and Being unable to sign his name hath authrised it to Be signed and acknoledged in the Presence of us

test Wm Peeples J

David McNabb



A McInturff J

His  
Henson  Perry  
mark

(Will written 12 May 1826)  
(David died 13 May 1826)

Typescript by

Doris L. Davidson  
11 Dec. 1988

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In the Name of God a men, this the twelfth day  
of May in the year of our Lord one thousand eight  
hundred and twenty six. —

I David McNabb of the County of Carter and state  
of Tennessee Being Sick and Weak in Bodily —

But of Perfect Memory and sound mind, calling  
to mind the Mortality of the Bodily and that it is  
apparent to all men once to die —

Do make Establish and ordain this to be my Last Will  
and Testament, that is to say — Principally and First  
of all I recommend my Soul to God Who gave it  
and my Bodily to the latter to be buried in a decent and  
Christian manner at the Discretion of my Friends  
and further Such Temporal estate Where Will  
It hath Please the Lord to Bless me With —

I give Bequeath and dispose of in manner as followeth  
First of all I order and It is my Will My just  
Chts and Marshal Expence be Paid —

I give and Bequeath to my Beloved Wife a decent  
and Maintenance While I live With the addition  
of my Household Furniture one more three of the Choice  
of my cattle the sheep and goes at his disposal  
With the addition of the Hags —

Secondly I desire My Land to be Equally and  
justly divided in to Eight lots or Parts having  
due Regard to quality the same to be done first  
ly fairly and impartially —

Thirdly I desire My Son William McNabb  
to have and receive the lot his Master left  
on for his Part.

Fourthly I desire the other seven lots to be drawn  
for by my seven Sons that is James McNabb  
Andrew McNabb. Matthew McNabb Isaac McNabb  
Allen McNabb Taylor McNabb and David McNabb.

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I desire my Magazine and Farming utensils  
 to be for those of my Sons who live on my farm  
 Sixty I desire that my Daughter Anna Peoples  
 receive the sum of Twenty dollars.—  
 Seventy I desire that my daughter Jane Brown  
 receive the sum of Twenty dollars—  
 Eighty if after the above Provisions  
 is completed. With if it appear, that  
 there is a remnant of Property let it be  
 equally divided among my daughters after  
 the Exection of Ten dollars to my sons  
 that is to my Son Absalom McNaull  
 one dollar to my Son Nathaniel McNaull  
 one Dollar to my son James McNaull one Dollar  
 to my Son David McNaull one Dollar  
 to my Son Andrew McNaull one Dollar  
 to my Son William McNaull one Dollar  
 to my Son Matthew McNaull one Dollar  
 to my Son Isaac McNaull one Dollar  
 to my Son Alben McNaull one Dollar  
 to my Son Taylor McNaull one Dollar  
 and I constitute my Sons. Nathaniel McNaull  
 William McNaull and Taylor McNaull. Executors  
 of this my Last Will and Testament.  
 Revoking and making Void all other Wills  
 and testaments made by me confirming and  
 Establishing this one no other my last Will  
 and desire — and being unable to sign his  
 name with authority and it to be signed and acknowledged  
 by in the presence of us  
 testifing hereto I  
 David McNaull. Seal

A true copy of  
 Henderson's  
 record of.

THIS IS AN ACCOUNT OF THE NAMING OF ELIZABETHTON,  
TENN, IN 1796, WHEN TENN BECAME A STATE. SUCH  
NAMING WAS IN HONOUR OF A VIRGINIA GIRL, ELIZABETH  
TAYLOR, WHOSE HUSBAND, DAVID McNABB OF AUGUSTA  
COUNTY, VIRGINIA, WAS A REVOLUTIONARY WAR OFFICER  
IN NORTH CAROLINA.  
ELIZABETH TAYLOR McNABB SHARED THIS HONOUR WITH  
ELIZABETH McLIN CARTER.

RE: ELIZABETH TAYLOR McNABB

TO WHOM IT MAY BE OF INTEREST OR CONCERN:

A written account substantiating the attached article concerning Elizabeth Taylor McNabb and the naming of Elizabethton, Tenn., was in existence as late as 1936 and still may be someplace. My grandfather, Walter Scott McNabb, who had lived in Hansford Co., Texas since around 1898; had been elected County Clerk for 8 years in 1906, as he was a graduate of Abilene Christian College; was President and principal owner of the first bank in Hansford County; and who owned several mineral rights to oil and gas lands in central Texas, was killed in an automobile accident, in 1936.

During the chaos that ensued from something so unexpected, the family members failed to ensure the security of my grandfather's huge office safe. Sometime after the funeral, when the family members went to the office to open the safe, they found it unlocked and completely empty. The County Sheriff, Hix Wilbanks, and his deputies never found a clue as to who might have robbed the safe. There were several good suspects as a number of people owed my grandfather considerable amounts of money and the signed notes attesting to their debts, were in the safe.

My grandfather had always had a knowledgeable interest in the McNabb Family History. He had employed several genealogists over the years and had a number of notebooks filled with family information, along with carefully filed photographs. Thus, from a close association with my grandfather and the freedom to read through all of the notebooks, plus the encouragement of both my grandfather and my grandmother, I became something of an 'authority' on the McNabbs and the McNeills. The latter being my grandmother's family who came from the Isle of Tiree, Scotland to New Brunswick, Canada, in 1825. The account of the naming of Elizabethton, Tenn. was a part of the written information in one of the notebooks. HOWEVER, it is doubtful that I would have remembered the account so clearly except for an incident at the public school I attended when I was 14 years old. Like all students of the time, I was assigned to give a talk to the class about something of interest. In an attempt to impress a certain young lady named Elizabeth, who was in my class, I read up on the account in my grandfather's notebook, concerning the naming of Elizabethton, Tenn. Additionally, I could fairly well describe Elizabethton from what I had been told by my grandfather, my grandmother and my mother, Viola Craig McNabb Davidson, who as a teenage girl had attended Ward-Belmont College, a young ladies finishing school in Nashville, Tenn. On occasion on trips to Nashville, my grandparents and my mother-to-be, would continue on to Elizabethton, Athens and Cleveland, Tenn. before returning to Texas.

In 1988, I read Frank Merritt's Master's Thesis, THE EARLY HISTORY OF CARTER COUNTY, which, as a university professor who had been on many examining committees for both masters level and doctoral level research papers, I thought was very well done. Anyone

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