An American Journey: The Youngs (Jungs) of Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia

By

M. Neely Young II, Ph.D.
This book is dedicated to my father, M. Neely Young Sr. and to all my Young ancestors

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Introduction

It has been said that all of the early settlers of America were pioneers. The purpose of this work is to trace the history of one such family from c. 1700 to 1860 in order to illustrate the above theme. Several other themes will also be examined in relationship to the Young family during this period, primarily four. First, we will examine the role of the Germans, particularly the Palatinate Germans, during the period 1700 to 1800 in the settlement of the American frontier. Second, we will discuss the concept of the American "melting pot" and how it relates to the Young (Jung) family during this time. Third, we will attempt to show that this family, like many others of the period, was influential in the establishment of forts, settlements, towns, and cities. Unfortunately many of the early forts and settlements have been lost or destroyed. Further, many of the families, including the Youngs, who were influential in the establishment of these early settlements moved on and are no longer associated with them. Thus, their role has been largely forgotten. Finally, we will illustrate how this family, like others, passed from the stage of being pioneers and frontiersmen to a more settled urban or agrarian lifestyle.

This is not primarily a genealogical undertaking, in the fullest sense of
the word, but rather a family history with emphasis on how this family's history relates to the broader historical context of the time. As such, it is organized chronologically from the arrival of the original immigrant ancestor, Mattheus Jung (the usual spelling), through the period of pioneer migration, usually associated with Conrad Young (Jung) and his sons, to the period of permanent settlement in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. In particular, attention will be paid to the life and exploits of John Young (b. Johannes Jung), one of the most colorful characters of this or any other era, who typifies both the pioneering spirit and the transition to a more settled lifestyle along the frontier.

Because this project began as a genealogical enterprise and because I myself am a descendent of this family, the last chapter of this work will be devoted to more specific genealogical emphases as will parts of the appendix, and my branch of the Young family, as well as certain other collateral lines, will be traced from 1860 forward.
Chapter One

Mattheus Jung and the Jungs of Pennsylvania to c.1764

According to ship’s passenger records, Mattheus Jung (also listed as Matthew Young), age 21, arrived in Philadelphia on the Loyal Judith from England on September 25, 1732. The ship had originally embarked from Rotterdam, Holland and contained a large number of Palatinate Germans, including Marcus Jung, 23, who was listed beside Mattheus Jung and was his brother. According to Mormon records, the parents of Mattheus and Marcus Jung were Johannes and Maria Jung of Evangelisch, Hueffelsheim, Rhineland, Prussia. As the Palatinate or Rhineland region is located along the Rhine River, it is probable that the Jung brothers traveled down the Rhine to The Netherlands. Why would these two brothers leave their home and embark on such an adventure? In order to answer this question, we must examine the situation in the Palatinate region of Germany and also offer some speculation.

The Palatine or Palatinate region is in southwestern Germany, near the Rhine and not far from Switzerland. From the 16th century forward, this area was a center of religious and political conflict. The primary conflict was between Lutheran, Catholic, and Calvinist elements, with the Palatinate being a Calvinist stronghold surrounded by Lutheran and Catholic forces. During the 17th century, the 30 Years War from 1618 to 1648 was particularly devastating, and this was followed by the imperialistic wars of Louis XIV in the late 17th and early 18th centuries. For the inhabitants of this
area, particularly the common folk, any possibility for escape might have looked promising by the beginning of the 18th century.

The primary reasons why the Palatinate Germans began their migration to America seem to have been fourfold—a desire to escape religious persecution, a weariness with war, a desire for land and opportunity, and good advertising. The first three reasons seem obvious, and we will examine the fourth reason more closely in the chapter on Germans and the frontier, but suffice it to say that the American dream seems to have been sufficiently enticing to attract more than a quarter million Palatinate Germans first to England, then to America in the first half of the 18th century. Many of them were attracted initially to Pennsylvania, but they also moved into New York. From Pennsylvania, many migrated into the “Great Valley” of Virginia, as it was then called, as far south as the Carolinas (Ridge and Billington, eds., America’s Frontier Story, pp. 95-96). According to Frederick Merk, one of the pre-eminent historians of the frontier, Germans of one kind or another made up 1/3 of Pennsylvania’s population by the time of the American Revolution (History of the Westward Movement, p. 49).

Thus, the Jung brothers were part of a massive movement into the colonies, preceding even the great Scotch-Irish migration and constituting the first large scale settlement of free, non-English speaking people into the British Americas. An examination of passenger lists into Philadelphia during the early part of the 18th century show numerous cases when whole ships were made up entirely of individuals with German names. It may have been some small comfort for the Jung brothers to have had, not only each other, but perhaps fellow passengers from the same region or town and others who at least spoke the same language.
It seems clear that upon disembarking, Mattheus and Marcus Jung did not remain long in Philadelphia, even though there were numerous German families there, but instead left almost immediately for Lancaster, which at that time was considered to be a frontier settlement. This is proven by the fact that Matthias Young (or Jung) acquired property along King Street in Lancaster from James Hamilton on May 20, 1735. James Hamilton was, at that time, Mayor of Philadelphia and the owner of considerable land in Lancaster. This property was later valued (1758) at 100 lbs. (Lancaster Deed Book E, p.274). Incidentally, it should be noted that in official court records, which were kept in English, the family name is usually written as Young, but in church and personal records it is recorded as Jung throughout the time they were in Lancaster. Why did the Jungs again take the more adventurous path and was this the beginning of a pattern? In order to answer this question we must delve briefly into the history of Lancaster.

Lancaster township (later county) was first settled in the period 1717-1720, and, as we can see from the name, was originally the province of the English. It was incorporated in 1729 from Conestoga Township (whence the name, Conestoga, or covered, wagon which was invented by the Palatines). Lancaster town had originally been called Hickory Town and was made the county seat in 1730. It was incorporated as a borough in 1742, in which incorporation Mattheus Jung played a small role, and was made a city in 1818. Thus, Lancaster county and the town of Lancaster were fairly new settlements when Mattheus and Marcus arrived there. A spirit of adventure and opportunity may have attracted them, but it is also possible they had predecesors in the area. This is the country which is today known as Pennsylvania Dutch, from the word "Deutsch" or "German". German settlers, specifically Palatines, began arriving in the area almost as soon as the English had named it. At least one record indicates a
Matthias Jung who settled in Lancaster as early as 1719 (Rupp, *History of Lancaster County*, p.438). This was not my immigrant ancestor but it may have been a relative.

Matthias and Marcus Jung must have relished the opportunity to become fully involved in the life of their new community. Matthias, in particular, seems to have played a significant role in the development of Lancaster. In 1735 he married Anna Margaret Fey or Feyin, who had been born January 11, 1712 at Breitenborn in Usenburgischen, Germany and came to America in 1732-33. She may even have come on the same ship as the Jung brothers as a Conrad Fey is listed on board the Loyal Judith, and some genealogists show Conrad and Anna Elizabeth Fey as parents of Anna Margaret. Anna Margaret Fey undoubtedly had other family members in Lancaster as later (in 1741) Matthew and Anna Margaret Jung were named as sponsors at the baptism of the son of John Herchelroth and his wife, Johanna Elizabeth Fey (records of the 1st Reformed Church of Lancaster in Irish, comp., *Pennsylvania German Marriages*, p. 244).

Together, Matthias and Anna Jung had eight children from 1735 to 1749 at least five of whom survived him. Their first born child was Conrad (or Conrod) who was baptised on June 20, 1736, and was probably named after Anna Margaret’s father. The Jungs were, at this time, members of the First Reformed (or Calvinist) Church, where they remained until at least 1741. Later, they would join the Moravian Church, and those Jung descendents who remained in Lancaster stayed in that church into the 19th century.

Matthias Jung was made a naturalized subject of the British Crown on May 19, 1738. This must have been a proud moment for him, and, practically speaking, it opened further doors in the British colonies. Meanwhile, he continued to acquire property. On August 2, 1742, Matthias and Margaret Young paid 70 lbs. to Richard Peters of Philadelphia for 431 acres in Manchester Township (*Lancaster Deed Book B,*...
He also acquired a lot on Prince Street and a 5 acre lot "in the country" (all of this according to a deed of 1761 in which Conrad, Mattheus' son, released property which he had inherited from his father at the latter's death. See Lancaster Deed Book F, 1760-1761). In one of these properties, perhaps the lot on King Street, Mattheus set up a shop as at his death his occupation was listed as shopkeeper.

In 1742 Lancaster was made an official borough. In the letters of incorporation of the borough, the Burgesses are listed, and Matthias Young is noted as advisor, aide, and assistant to Thomas Cookson, Chief Burgess of the Borough of Lancaster (Lancaster Deed Book B75, 1741-1751). Several things should be pointed out about this distinction. First, Mattheus Jung is not acting solely as a private citizen, but is becoming involved in the public, political life of the community. Second, he must have had a good command of English at this point to serve in the above capacity. Third, he achieved this distinction at a fairly young age, 31. Finally, we note again how his name is anglicized in public documents, and how he is coming increasingly into contact with influential native English speakers, such as Thomas Cookson and James Hamilton. Although Mayor of Philadelphia, James Hamilton continued to hold land in Lancaster, including one piece adjacent to Mattheus Jung.

We note, at this point, the absence of Marcus Jung from the records of the 1730's and early 1740's. In the obituary for Marcus Jung in Lancaster on September 9, 1796, it states that he returned to the mother country for a period of time (from the Burial Book of the Moravian Church, Lancaster, Pa., p. 410), and birth records for the Moravian Church show that the first recorded birth to Marcus Jung and his wife, Anna Christina (nee. Wolfskhel) was on June 13, 1746. Anna Christina Wolfskhel Jung was born March 13, 1722 in Lower Hilbersheim, Palatinate and died October 18, 1780 in Lancaster. She
married Marcus Jung on January 26, 1745. Marcus may have returned to the Palatinate to fetch his bride. Marcus Jung and his wife had 6 children baptized at the Moravian church between 1746 and 1760. Four of these died as children. One male and one female heir survived him. Marcus Jung listed his occupation as shopkeeper and does not seem to have been as involved in the public life of the community as his brother. His family lived on in the Lancaster area, but his line of Jungs died out as his only male heir, Mattheus Jung, died single in Lancaster on August 20, 1816 (Much of the above comes from the Burial Book of the Moravian Church).

Throughout the 1740's we see evidence of Mattheus Jung's presence in Lancaster. On December 19, 1745 William Cuzzins assigned Maria Furney or Fumery to Matthias Young of the borough of Lancaster "for the remainder of her time, 5 years from February 14, 1744/45, consideration 16 shillings" (Tepper, Emigrants to Pennsylvania, 1641-1819, p. 86). In the Orphan's Court for Lancaster Co., June 6, 1749, Matthias Young is named as guardian of Gertrude Balspach, 14, orphan of Peter Balspach ( Pennsylvania Vital Records, vol. I, p. 86). These documents reveal several things. First, that Mattheus Jung was becoming a man of some prominence in the community of Lancaster. He had acquired significant property, developed a shop, gotten a servant, and become an advisor to the Chief Burgess of the Borough. On the other hand, he seems to have been living in two different worlds somewhat disconnected from each other. His private, familial, religious life was Germanic, while his public life was connected to the English world. This dilemma may have been a common one for the German settlers of the period, and this pattern seems to have continued for the members of the Jung family who remained in Lancaster into the early 19th century. On the other hand, as we shall see, for Conrad Jung and his descendents who moved further into the American frontier
the Germanic aspects of their identity seem to have disappeared altogether, such that eventually the tradition developed that our branch of the Young family was originally Scotch-Irish. In other words, the true American "melting pot" seems to particularly be associated with the American frontier during the 18th century.

In the summer of 1749, Mattheus Jung died unexpectedly. He was only 38 at the time and had entered into an orphan guardianship only one month before his death. His will was dated July 12 and proved July 27, 1749. In his will he listed five children—Conrad, the eldest, Jacob, Catherine, Mary, and Christina. He seems to have seven or eight children altogether, one named Mattheus, who died as a young boy, and one or two other girls, who died at an early age. According to his will, Mattheus left his lot on King Street, bounded by Orange and Prince Streets, where his shop was probably located, to Conrad and 2/3 of the residue of his property were to be divided between Conrad, Jacob, Catherine, Mary, and Christina. The remaining 1/3 went to his widow. He nominated his brother, Marks (sic) as executor (Lancaster Will Book A-I, p. 177:1749).

As Conrad was the oldest of the children, and he was only 13 at the time, Mattheus' widow, Anna Margaret, had the practical problem of how she was to raise and support her children and run the shop. She seems to have solved the problem by entering into marriage with John Hopson on January 19, 1751. John Hopson was born April 20, 1720 in Gloucestershire, England and died February 11, 1804 in Lancaster as a widower. He and Anna Jung Hopson had two children, Rebeccah Hopson Krug and Elizabeth Hopson. He may well have been a former business acquaintance of Mattheus Jung. The significance of this marriage is that it represents the first time a member of the Jung family married someone outside the German community. Also, for approximately the next five years, Conrad Jung was living in a "mixed marriage".
We now turn our attention to Conrad Jung and his brothers and sisters in the period from c. 1750 to 1764, when Conrad Jung appears to have left Lancaster to seek his fortune in the wilds of Virginia and West Virginia. At first, he followed closely in his father's footsteps. On October 28, 1755 he was married to Anna Margaret Franciscus. Anna Margaret was born January 5, 1730 in Lancaster. Her father Christophel Franciscus, who was born in Germany in 1680 and came to Lancaster around 1710, was a significant character in the life of Lancaster (Franciscus, A History of the United States According to Franciscus and Related Families). Perhaps more importantly for our story, he owned large amounts of property not only in the Lancaster area but further away along the American frontier. According to Orton Jones, Christophel Franciscus or Francisco owned almost 9,000 acres in Augusta county, Virginia before his death (John Young, Lieutenant at Elk, p. 14), and Katherine Bushman states that Francisco was very prominent in the early development of Augusta Co. (The Augusta County Story). Perhaps the fact that Conrad Jung eventually moved to Augusta County is related to the fact that his father in law owned significant tracts of land there. Still, at this point, his marriage to Anna Margaret indicates a conventional desire to remain within the German community of Lancaster. In his choice of occupation and in his religious worship, Conrad also followed in his father's steps. From later documents, we see him described variously as a shopkeeper or innkeeper (In the Deed Book of 1751-1760 he is listed as an innkeeper, while in the Deed Book of 1760-61 he is listed as a shopkeeper). Perhaps he tried to convert his father's shop into an inn or acquired additional property for that purpose. He continued to participate in the life of the Moravian Church as did his mother and brothers and sisters, and his three children born there between 1757 and 1760 were all baptized in that church. The oldest child, Johannes, died as an infant. The
second, Johannes Jacob, known as Jacob, also seems to have died at an early age, and the third, Johannes or John, is our ancestor who accompanied his father to Augusta Co. and beyond.

Prior to 1758, Conrad and Margaret Young (note spelling) assigned a mortgage to Jacob Young, Conrad's younger brother, on property along King Street valued at 100 lbs. On December 30, 1758, Conrad and wife Margaret made a mortgage over to Jacob Young on property which Conrad had received from his father for the purpose of securing 100 lbs. for the life of "Ann Margaret w/o (wife of) John Hopson, said wife the late widow of Matthias Young, deceased" (Lancaster Deed Book E, p. 274). In 1761, "Conrad Young (shopkeeper) and wife Margaret (x) at Lancaster enfeoffed to John Hopson of Lancaster 50 lb. lot on King Street, also lot on Prince Street, also 5 acre lot in the country." The selling or releasing of all this property could indicate a reversal in Conrad's fortunes, or could be actions which he was taking to insure that his brother and mother were taken care of prior to his departure. In any case, the final act in this drama was about to play out. On July 24, 1762, Anna Margaret Jung, Conrad's wife, was struck by lightning and died (Burial Book of the Moravian Church, 1744-1821). This event, though sometimes muddled or attributed to another of Conrad's wives, has remained a part of the Young family tradition to the present. It seems to have been a critical event in Conrad's life for within two years he would leave Lancaster, never to return.

Although Conrad Young (Jung) appears to have left Lancaster in 1764, several members of his family remained including his uncle, Marcus, and his family, as well as his younger brother, Jacob, and three sisters. Johannes Jacob Jung, born Nov. 27, 1737, died in Lancaster March 7, 1797. He listed his occupation as blacksmith or sickle-smith. He married Catherine Brenner on July 20, 1764 and had five children, of whom
two predeceased him. One son and two daughters survived his death, but his son was not married at the time. From a search of Lancaster records, it appears that the Lancaster branch of the Young line died out in the early 19th century. Two brief comments are appropriate. As long as the Jungs (Youngs) remained in Lancaster, their name continued to be spelled in the German fashion in the records of the Moravian church. This indicates the dichotomous aspect of local culture referred to earlier. Secondly, it appears obvious that the future of the Jung (Young) line lay elsewhere with Conrad and his descendants.
Chapter Two

The Role of the Germans, particularly the Palatines, in the Settlement of the American Frontier

We have already explained why the Palatinate Germans were attracted to America in the first half of the 18th century, but we have not yet examined the role which they played in the settlement of America, particularly along the then frontier of western Pennsylvania, western Virginia, Tennessee, and Kentucky. This role has been somewhat underappreciated historically, largely because of the massive role played by the Scotch-Irish settlers who immediately followed them into these areas and either supplanted them or pushed further into the American western frontier. In studying the history of the Young (Jung) family, I have discovered that the role of the Germans in the exploration and settlement of these areas may have been greater than once thought, and that Germanic settlers, such as the Youngs, were, in many cases, just as adventuresome, individualistic, and daring as the Scotch-Irish.

It is a trueism to state that the earliest settlers of a region occupy and develop the best land so that the next group of settlers must move on to a new region and develop it. As an example, the first settlers of the Tidewater region of the Middle Atlantic area were largely the English, and, in some cases, middle and upper class English immigrants. Thus, the next generation of immigrants and settlers had to move inland as for example to the Piedmont region. This could hold true for indentured servants who had attained their freedom or for the younger sons of the planters of the Tidewater area.
In my mother's family of Churchills and Bucks, the earliest immigrants settled along the Virginia coast in the 17th century. In the 18th century, the younger sons of the 2nd and 3rd generations moved with their families into the Piedmont region and even to the edge of the Blue Ridge Mountains, to Fauquier County and Warrenton for the Churchills and to what was to become Warren County and the vicinity of Front Royal for the Bucks. Eventually, these two families moved down the Shenandoah Valley, or the “Great Road” as it was also called, and into Kentucky in the course of the 2nd half of the 18th century where they intermarried. Both of these families were English through and through with no admixture of Scotch, Irish, German, or other blood so far as I have been able to determine. On the other hand, neither of these families lingered or settled in the Shenandoah Valley but merely passed through. It was in the Great Valley along the edge of the frontier just as in western Pennsylvania along the edge of another frontier that the Germans, Scotch-Irish, and other ethnic groups played a significant role and that the beginning of the American “melting pot” occurred.

The Germans, particularly the Palatines, were definitely 2nd class citizens in America in the first half of the 18th century. They brought little with them other than their hopes and dreams. They came with little property or influence, and most could not speak the language of their adopted country. And yet they came in ever increasing numbers. The earliest Palatinate emigration to America occurred in 1708-09 and was to North Carolina and New York. The North Carolina settlement was almost a complete failure and the New York effort was not much more successful. The Palatinates were offered the “opportunity” to settle the frontier and were often given the worst land in close proximity to hostile Indian tribes. For example, the Palatinates were among the first settlers (in 1710-11) of the Mohawk Valley in New York, an area immortalized by
James Fennimore Cooper as rampant with intrigue and hostility among the French, Indian, and English (Much of the information on Palatinate settlement comes from Walter Allen Knittle’s *Early 18th Century Palatine Emigration*). John Fontaine, a member of Virginia Governor Spotswood’s first expedition into the Shenandoah Valley in 1715 describes a German settlement in the upper valley in November, 1715, apparently placed there as an experiment with no other settlers to be found in the area (*America’s Frontier Story*, pp. 96-7).

The first Palatinates into Pennsylvania came in the period 1717-1723 from New York in hopes of finding a more hospitable situation than they had endured in upstate New York. They settled first in the Tulpehocken District near what was to become Wormelsdorf between Swatara Creek, which runs into the Susquehanna, and Tulpehocken Creek, which runs into the Schuylkill River. This area is between present day York and Lancaster and was at that time frontier country. Thus, there were Palatinate Germans in the Lancaster area before 1730 and before the Jungs arrived in the area. We have already mentioned a Mattheus Jung in Lancaster as early as 1719. Pennsylvania, particularly central and western sections, soon became the true land of opportunity for the Palatinate Germans. They were initially attracted because of the Quaker tradition of religious toleration, but began to come in droves because of one of the first large scale advertising campaigns in American history directed by William Penn descendents and other land speculators. The advertising was done directly to the Palatinate region and led to much word of mouth advertising among friends and relatives in the area (*Early 18th Century Palatine Emigration*, pp. 215-218).

Germans began moving south from Pennsylvania as early as 1732 when Justus Hite led a group of Germans from York, Pa. to Winchester, Virginia. The Germans were
among the first permanent settlers of the Shenandoah Valley region and were prominent in the establishment of the town of Winchester (History of the Westward Movement, p. 49). According to Frederick Merk, in his landmark work on the American frontier, there were two major factors which influenced settlement southward from Pennsylvania, both German and otherwise. First, the attraction of cheap land. Land was much cheaper in western Virginia than in Pennsylvania in the middle years of the 18th century. Second, Indian pressures in western Pennsylvania until the end of the French and Indian Wars in 1763 and in some cases beyond limited expansion in the direction of the Ohio River. The Indian conflict known as Pontiac's War was in 1764, and it was not until after Lord Dunmore's War in 1774 that the region along the Kanawha and Ohio Rivers, where the Youngs eventually settled, were truly be ready for settlement (History of the Westward Movement, p. 50).

The Scotch-Irish, who were not Irish at all but rather Scotch Protestants, usually Presbyterians, who sojourned for awhile in Northern Ireland, followed German routes into Pennsylvania and the Great Valley in the late 1720's and early 1730's. In this respect at least, the Germans were the first real pioneers of the area. There were other Scotch-Irish who came directly from lower Virginia into the valley, but the main flow was from Pennsylvania and was generally larger and more aggressive than German settlement in the region. Merck, as many other historians of the area, has characterized the Scotch-Irish as being more individualistic settlers and not clinging together in ethnic communities "in the manner of the Germans." The Germans, on the other hand, are said to have remained longer in one place and have been characterized as "docile" and "sticking to their own kind" (Both Merk and the editors of America's Frontier Story make this claim).
While agreeing that the settlement pattern of the Scotch-Irish was different in some respects from that of the Germans and that the Scotch-Irish movement was both larger and more aggressive than that of the Germans, my study of the Young (Jung) family leads me to conclude that certain German families were both individualistic and adventuresome, that they did not necessarily keep to their own kind but rather intermarried freely with both English and Scotch-Irish settlers along the frontier, and that they were just as important in the exploration and settlement of the frontier as their Scotch-Irish brethren. Indeed, from the middle of the 18th century forward, I see an essentially egalitarian movement of German, Scotch-Irish, English, and other folk into the Shenandoah Valley and beyond such that by the time of the American Revolution the population was beginning to spill over into the region known as the Trans-Allegheny West. The Young (Jung) family was very much a part of this movement and was, in many ways, a typical pioneering family of the second half of the 18th century.
We may never understand all of the factors which caused Conrad Young to leave his family and roots and head for the wilds of western Virginia- a fall in his fortunes, the death of his wife, an opportunity in a new country, or simply a desire for change. What we do know is that his wanderlust did not abate and he seems to have passed this characteristic on to his oldest son. Incidentally, from the time he leaves Lancaster, we no longer refer to this individual as Conrad Jung but as Conrad Young because that is how he is referred to in all official documents and histories from 1764 forward.

John Young, in his Revolutionary War Pension application of 1833 states that he was born in Lancaster, Pa. in August 1760,"where he resided until he was four years old when his father removed and settled in the county of Augusta, Virginia." We do not know exactly when Conrad Young and his son arrived in Augusta Co. but we do know that they were present there no later than spring 1770 as indicated by the Augusta Deed Book. On May 18, 1770, Conrad Young was a grantee on a piece of property from George Null. He also was a grantee of property from George and Barbara Null on May 17, 1770. The Nulls signed over a total of 90 acres " on the north side of the main river of Shannandore (i.e. Shenandoah) being a part of the tracts formerly the property of
Nicholas Null deceased" (The deed was proved in Augusta Co. Court, May 18, 1773, Augusta County Deed Book 19, pp. 257-58).

At some time after leaving Lancaster and upon arriving in Virginia Conrad Young married again. We know this because in his Revolutionary War pension application, Charles F. Young, another of Conrad's sons, states that he was born in Augusta Co. in 1774. The family tradition is that Charles' mother was Margaret Hayes, an English sounding name and an indication that the "melting pot" was at work in Augusta County, at least within the Young family. Margaret Elizabeth Hayes (or Hays) was born June 26, 1740 in Fort Hughes, Va., at that time a part of Augusta Co., but later a part of Botetourt Co. Her parents were Patrick and and Francis Hayes, but little else is known of them (See the Young family website, zianet.com/jmcdgwin/young.htm). Margaret undoubtedly married Conrad sometime in the period 1764-69 as their first child, Elizabeth, was born in 1770. She appears to have died sometime before 1785 as William Young, born in that year, has Elizabeth Woods Young as mother. Margaret Hayes Young was the mother of Elizabeth, Matthias, Charles, and Henry Young, born apparently in that order. All of the above children, half brothers and sisters to John Young, were surely born during the Augusta County period (1764/65-1785).

At this point, we should say something about the history of Augusta County, Virginia. Augusta County was created in 1738 from Orange County. Until 1770 when Botetourt County was set off, Augusta was the largest county in American history-stretching to the Mississippi River on the west and north through Illinois and part of Wisconsin. There was no courthouse until 1745 when Beverley's Mill-Place, now Staunton, was given the title. The name, Augusta, was given to the county in honor of the Princess of Wales, mother of George III. Much of the current county is based on the
boundaries of the Beverly Manor grant obtained by William Beverley of Essex County, Virginia in 1736. Twenty one current Virginia counties were once a part of Augusta County including the adjacent counties of Rockbridge, Rockingham, Bath, and Highland. It appears that the area where Conrad Young settled was in present day Rockingham County near his former in laws on the eastern border. This part of the great Shenandoah Valley was settled largely by the Scotch-Irish and the Germans, most of whom came from Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Delaware beginning around 1732. According to The Augusta County Story, “Both peoples were sturdy in character, strength, and religion. They had to be strong to endure the rigors of this western frontier. The colonial government encouraged them to settle in the Valley- partly so that they would be a buffer between the English on the east of the Blue Ridge and the Indians.” It is interesting to note that there is today at Staunton a Museum of the American Frontier, in the sense that it was understood in the 18th century. Here we can see numerous examples of the contributions of the Germans and Scotch-Irish during this period. Staunton was chosen as the name for the county seat in 1761, and in the 1770’s and 1780’s numerous new counties began to be created from Augusta County. Obviously, the time period when Conrad Young arrived in Augusta was an exciting one both in the history of the area and of the country.

We do not know a great deal about the Young family’s time in Augusta but more information has recently come to light. We mentioned earlier that Christophel Franciscus (or Francisco as his family was known in Virginia) had acquired approximately 9,000 acres of land in Virginia. In 1738 he bought 3,800 acres from Jacob Stover, and around the same time he purchased another 5,000 acres from Stover along the Shenandoah River between what are now Elkton and Port Republic in east
Rockingham County. Although the senior Francisco remained in Lancaster, his three sons, Lodowick (or Ludwick), Stophe (or Stiffel) and Christopher were all residing in Virginia by the mid 1740's. This is proven by Augusta Co. court records from 1746 to 1767 (Augusta County Order Books I, III, and XI). Christopher Francisco died sometime before December, 1751 (Augusta County Order Book III, Dec. 3, 1751), but upon the senior Christopher's death in 1757 he left the bulk of his Virginia estate to Ludwick and some land to Stophe. It now seems clear that Conrad Young, upon arriving in the area, eventually settled near his former in laws and may have worked on their property for a time.

In 1770, as mentioned, Conrad Young purchased land from George and Barbara Null. This land also appears to have been in present day Rockingham near the Francisco holdings (Kaylor, Abstracts of Land Grant Surveys, 1761-91, p. 2). The Null family was also German in origin. Nicholas Null came from Pennsylvania to Virginia in 1750 and purchased property which was inherited by George Null on his death (Augusta Co. Order Book XI, Oct. 1769). Conrad Young's deed of 1770 states that this land was on the north bank of the main river of Shenandoere. The main branch of the Shenandoah River does not flow through Augusta Co. but does flow through east Rockingham Co. Rockingham Co. was formed from Augusta in 1778, and separate records began to be kept at that time. The Rockingham Co. Deed Book 0 shows that Conrad Young sold land in Rockingham in the period 1777-1793 (in Wayland, The German Element of the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia, p. 222). This must refer to the former Null property which Conrad sold on May 28, 1785. Finally, in the Rockingham County, Virginia, Minute Book, 1778-1792 it states that on June 27, 1785 a dispute between Stephen Hansberger and Coonrod Young was dismissed by order of the plaintiff (Part I, p. 433).
Thus, it is clear that Conrad Young had made a home for his growing family in Augusta County as he advanced into middle age. What is not clear is why he decided to leave Augusta and seek his future once again further along the frontier, but this is exactly what he did. Once again, according to Charles F. Young’s pension request, his father and family removed to Greenbrier County in 1784/85 and remained there for two years or a little longer. This is confirmed by the Greenbrier County Deed Book 1 which indicates the Conrad Young had a survey done on 286 acres on Muddy Creek on November 2, 1785. Incidentally, this shows that Conrad Young moved to Greenbrier between June, 1785, when he is mentioned in Rockingham and November 1785. Further, there is a Conrad Young listed on the Greenbrier County tax records for the period 1786-88. Finally, on September 29, 1789 Conrad Young and wife, Elizabeth, deeded 286 acres on Muddy Creek for 100 lbs. to Henry Metzker (Greenbrier Co. Deed Book 1, p. 58).

In mentioning a wife, Elizabeth, the record seems to indicate that Conrad’s second wife, Margaret Hayes, had passed away. This is a part of the Young family tradition which states that she, like his first wife, died an accidental death at a fairly young age. True or not, it was quite common for women to die at an early age during this period, usually during child birth, and for the husband to marry again. Many men were married three, four, or even five times and bore numerous children by their various wives. This was the case with Conrad Young, who probably lost his second wife while in Augusta County, and married Elizabeth Woods, his third and final wife, sometime around 1784-85, either in Augusta or Greenbrier Counties. She was the mother of his final children - William, born in 1785, and George E. Young, b. 1788 (Some records indicate another George Young, b. 1787, but I have been unable to find
any other evidence of him, so he must have died young or have been confused with George E. Young. It is interesting to note that Conrad’s third wife also has an English or Scotch sounding name and that all of the children of this marriage have English names. The children of Conrad’s second marriage also all have English names, with the exception of Matthias, a nod to Conrad’s father undoubtedly.

If Augusta County was the frontier in the 1750’s and 1760’s, the same was true for Greenbrier County in the 1770’s and 1780’s. Scarcey settled before the 1750’s, this area, just across the border in modern West Virginia, was subject to numerous Indian attacks during the period, and settlers had to defend themselves without much help from the colonial or newly formed state government. One of the bloodiest of these raids occurred in 1755 shortly after the arrival of the first settlers along the Greenbrier River and its tributaries. Shawnee attacked and killed the families of Filty Yoakum and Frederick Lea along Muddy Creek, then attacked the home of Archibald Clendenin, killing all of the men and many women and children (Eckert, That Dark and Bloody River, Preface, Ixi). These types of attacks continued periodically in the Greenbrier area and later in the Kanawha River valley when settlers arrived there. And yet the area was attractive to many settlers desirous of cheap and plentiful land and was made more so by the numerous land companies composed of land speculators who wished to entice buyers for their property. One of the land companies was the Greenbrier Company, which owned 100,000 acres in the Greenbrier Valley. Greenbrier County itself was created from Augusta County in 1777 and encompassed large areas of modern day West Virginia including Kanawha County and Nicholas County, where many of the Youngs eventually moved. Still, unlike his location in the county of Augusta, the area which Conrad Young occupied along Muddy Creek seems to have been within the
boundaries of present day Greenbrier County in its western portion. Some of the earliest settlements in Greenbrier Co. in the 1750's and 1760's were along Muddy Creek and in the Camp Union or Ft. Savannah (later Lewisburg) regions. Camp Union had been established by the Virginia government in late 1769 to protect the few settlers in the area (That Dark and Bloody River, p. 16). Many of the families who settled there, such as Morris, See, Clendenin, and Lewis would later play a significant role in the settlement of the Kanawha valley along with the Youngs.

Once again, whatever else we may say about Conrad Young- that he may have lacked good business sense or just had a string of bad luck- we cannot say that he fits the stereotype of the quiet Palatinate, who stuck to his own kind and never wandered far from his German kith and kin. In fact, in conjunction with his more famous son, John, he was about to undertake the greatest adventure of his life.
John Young, the son of Conrad, was typical, in many ways, of the frontiersmen during the second half of the 18th century in America. He travelled extensively throughout Virginia, West Virginia, North and South Carolina, and Ohio. In his own words, he “ranged the woods” for months at a time, either in search of game or as a marksman and Indian scout and spy. He was an associate of Daniel Boone and fought with both Nathaniel Greene and Dan Morgan. He, his father, and half brothers were among the earliest settlers of the Kanawha valley of West Virginia, and he was a significant figure both in the establishment of Kanawha County (1789) and in the founding of Charleston, W.Va. (1793-94). The Daughters of the American Revolution chapter in Charleston is named after him and a small settlement outside of Charleston is named after him and his family. And yet, he is little known in history outside the Kanawha valley. Perhaps this is as it should be. John Young did not seek fame or fortune; nor did other members of his clan. All they sought was an opportunity to find land, farm, and take care of themselves and their families. Although they were involved in the development of Charleston, they were not essentially city folks, preferring instead the life of the country. Nor were they political types or particularly well educated. They did what needed to be done at the time and then settled into a quieter, more humble existence. They were a close family and supportive of each other, both in the frontier
period (essentially 1775-95) and after they settled down (Later I shall demonstrate through a study of land grants, deeds, and census records, settlement and demographic patterns for the Young family during the period 1795-1860). At the same time, it was during the Kanawha period that the Youngs finally shed the last elements of their Germanic identity. Perhaps this was largely because they were one of the few German families in Kanawha at the time. There were no German churches or other elements of German culture, and the other families in the area appear to have been of English, Scotch-Irish, or French background. More likely all of these ethnic distinctions merged into the "melting pot" as a result of the necessary co-operative effort of frontier life. Indeed, the Youngs seem to have discarded their "German-ness" so completely, that most of their descendants did not know they were originally German, but assumed they were of English or Scotch-Irish origin.

In concentrating on John Young during the period up to 1787, I shall be looking at his experiences during the Revolutionary War and upon first arriving in Kanawha. In this and subsequent material on John Young I am greatly indebted to the work of Orton Jones, John Young, Lieutenant at Elk. Although not in agreement on every detail, I have found his work invaluable on the life and times of John Young.

John Young's Revolutionary War pension application of 1833 represents almost a complete autobiography for the period, 1775-1795, and also offers insight into life along the Virginia-West Virginia frontier for this period. One of the things which it reveals is how John Young's travels preceded those of his father and brother and probably led to their re-location into Kanawha. Another is how young John was when he first began his great adventure. In September 1775, when he was just 15 years old, John Young volunteered for the Virginia militia and was sent, under the command of Captain All, "to
repel the attacks of the Indians upon the western frontier." Apparently, the militia was not too careful about the age of volunteers during this period, and later we shall see that Charles Young, John's half brother, volunteered to serve in a military company in Kanawha when he was about the same age. Young men, and especially members of the Young family, seem to have grown up quickly during this time. Private John Young was "marched from Augusta to the South fork of the Potomac and thence over the waters of the Monongahela upon a branch of which called Hackers Creek, Captain All built a fort, in which this declarant was garrisoned until his discharge." The region of Hackers Creek was first settled in 1768 and is in present day Upshur County, West Virginia (That Dark and Bloody River, pp. 5-6,654), and John Young must have traveled extensively through central and northern West Virginia to get there. He was gaining valuable information about the wilds of West Virginia which was practically unsettled by white people at that time and which served as a kind of private hunting preserve for the Indian tribes, largely the Shawnee and their allies, who lived on the other side of the Ohio River in present day Ohio. Although these tribes did not have permanently settled villages in West Virginia, they resisted the incursion of the white man into their hunting grounds. It will be noted that John Young first volunteered for the militia before the official beginning of the American Revolution.

On May 1, 1778, John Young again volunteered and entered the service "under Captain Robert Cravens who raised a company to succor Tigart's Valley in which inroads had been made and massacres committed the preceding fall by the Indians. The company was marched by the route of the Calf Pasture and Bull Pasture rivers to the head of Greenbrier River and thence on to the head waters of the Gauley River. After reaching the point of destination the company was divided and stationed at
George West Falls where he remained till the period of his enlistment, the time of three months, arrived when he was discharged. He returned home in the early part of August of that year." This statement is informative in several ways. First, there is still a Tygart’s lake in the vicinity of Elkins, West Virginia (i.e. north central West Virginia), and this is undoubtedly where John Young was stationed. Tygart’s Valley and the river by the same name which flows through it were originally settled and named by David Tygart in 1754. Shortly thereafter, most of the original families were slaughtered by Indians. The area was sparsely resettled in the late 1760’s, and forts began to be built to protect those settlers in the 1770’s (*That Dark and Bloody River*, Ivii, 19). Secondly, his route of travel seems very clear. The Calf and Bull Pasture are in far western Virginia near Covington and Clifton Forge, and the headwaters of these rivers are very near the Greenbrier River. John Young seems to have passed through present day Greenbrier and Nicholas Counties, areas where later members of the Young clan would settle. Finally, note that in the militia one did not serve continuously but for specified periods of time, usually three months but sometimes longer. This gave the militiamen an opportunity to return home to raise a crop, take care of business, and see their families.

Almost immediately on September 1, 1778 John Young was called up again, this time to take part in an expedition under General McIntosh “who was engaged at that time in building Fort McIntosh. From Fort McIntosh he was marched across the country to the site of the Old Indian Town on the Tuscararas, a branch of the Muskingum river. Here a fort was built (name not known) in which this declarant was garrisoned until his time of discharge drawing near he was reconducted to Fort McIntosh where he received his discharge in the early part of December of that year. The officers recollected were Captain Robert Cravens, Col. Benjamin Harrison, and General McIntosh.” Once again,
John Young is traveling extensively along the frontier. He also mentions in his declaration visiting Fort Pitt, which was located at the present site of Pittsburgh. For the first time, John Young is engaged with the regular Continental Army under General McIntosh and Col. Benjamin Harrison. This Benjamin Harrison, incidentally, was a signer of the Declaration of Independence, the father of President William Henry Harrison, the great grandfather of President Benjamin Harrison, and was later Governor of Virginia (John Young, p. 29). John Young's service with the regular army is indicative that the Indian threat was now being viewed as more than a local nuisance by the army high command, but rather as aiding and abetting the British effort. Thus, the construction first of Fort McIntosh near current Beaver, Pa. and the expedition thence into the Ohio country, the heartland of the aggressive Indian tribes.

Indeed, General McIntosh has just been named by George Washington as Commander of the Continental Army's Western Department, with headquarters at Ft. Pitt. His orders at the time were to prepare punitive expeditions against the tribes who were harassing the upper Ohio Valley. In order to do this he felt that an advanced post for the launching of attacks was needed. To build this fort and launch his offensive, McIntosh was authorized to draw up a force of 2,000 men, composed of 500 regular troops and 1,500 militia from 14 Virginia counties, including Rockingham, where John Young then resided (That Dark and Bloody River, pp. 171-72). The expedition into the Ohio country resulted in the construction of Ft. Laurens, the first permanent American fort north and west of the Ohio River. Named after Henry Laurens, first President of the Continental Congress, it was located near current downtown Bolivar, Ohio. This was the fort which John Young helped construct. When McIntosh's expedition left for Ohio, the Indian tribes learned of their advance and retreated west. As a result, McIntosh's forces
never had any encounter with them during their 3 month absence. Their greatest enemy during the period of construction was hunger. It was winter, and supplies were short. After construction was completed, a garrison of about 150 men was left behind, and the rest (including John Young) returned to Fort McIntosh, arriving on December 9th (That Dark and Bloody River, pp. 176-78).

How John Young returned to his home in Rockingham following his discharge is unclear. He may have returned by the route he arrived through Ft. Pitt and across the corner of what is now Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Maryland. Perhaps more likely, he went down the Ohio River, with which he was now familiar, to the mouth of the Kanawha and then overland to Greenbrier Co. and on to Augusta and Rockingham. Generally, during this period, explorers, trappers, and scouts travelled the routes of major rivers as much as possible, especially in the mountaneous region of western Virginia. The area at the mouth of the Kanawha and upstream was not entirely unknown at the time. It had been surveyed by George Washington and his friend, Andrew Lewis, in 1770. In 1773 Walter Kelly and his family, arriving from Virginia via the New River, had established a settlement about 19 miles above present day Charleston (That Dark and Bloody River, pp. 13,20). The next year, William Morris and his family, arriving from Virginia, established themselves permanently at Walter Kelly’s settlement, which had been destroyed by an Indian uprising known as Cornstalk’s Rebellion. Also, in 1774, by now General Andrew Lewis carried troops from Camp Union in Greenbrier to Point Pleasant at the mouth of the Kanawha on a route which he had blazed and which became known as the Lewis Trail (This trail was based on early Indian trails). Andrew Lewis was from Augusta County as was his brother who headed up the Augusta regiment. One of the Company Captains was Benjamin Harrison, who was John
Young's immediate commander in the McIntosh expedition. Daniel Boone, John Young's later companion was also on the 1774 expedition. All of this points to the fact that John Young got his first view of the Kanawha River Valley in 1778, five years before he moved there permanently. Living in Augusta/Rockingham counties along the very edge of the frontier, he no doubt heard of the exploits of Lewis, and he himself had traveled into this unknown territory when he was only 15 years old. Now, at 18, he had passed by the site of the epic battle of Point Pleasant and into the lush and largely unsettled valley which would soon become his home.

An interesting anecdote taken from secondary sources indicates that John Young was in the Kanawha valley at least as early as 1780. John Hale, and early historian of West Virginia, states that John Young was one of a group of scouts including Benjamin Morris, William Arbuckle, and Robert Aaron who were sent out in pursuit of an Indian party which had raided the Griffith family in Greenbrier County and kidnapped their son. The scout group went down the Kanawha River in 1780, crossed the Elk River, and continued up the Little Sandy River where they came across the Indians. They fired on and killed one Indian (possibly a white man disguised as an Indian, a not uncommon occurrence), one escaped, and the other turned out to be the Griffith boy himself! (Hale, *Trans-Allegheny Pioneers*, pp. 154-55, 270-71). Presumably, the child was returned to his family. This account shows that between periods of service, John Young roamed the woods freely and acted as a scout when needed much like Daniel Boone, Davy Crockett, and other backwoodsmen. It also reveals that John Young was in the Kanawha area before he moved there permanently in 1783, and that he visited the region with other individuals from Greenbrier Co. who would later settle there. The relation with Benjamin Morris is particularly important as the Morris family is
generally considered to have been the original settlers of Kanawha. The relationship between the Young, Morris, and other early settler families will be examined more fully later.

On the last of September, 1780, John Young was again called up to serve, this time in a different area and under a different command. He proceeded to "join the Southern Army then commanded by General Green (i.e. Nathaniel Greene). His company came up with and joined the army of General Green at Hillsborough, N.C. where he then lay encamped. He was thence marched to South Carolina and soon after arriving there the army went into winter quarters upon the Cheraw Hills upon the Big Pedee. From the Cheraw Hills the army was conducted up the Yadkin River where the army of Lord Cornwallis was discovered upon the opposite or south side of the Yadkin River engaged in endeavoring to force a passage up from the Yadkin. This declarant's company was detailed to guard a body of prisoners captured by General Morgan going to Pittsylvania Court House, Va. On reaching this place, this declarant was discharged and returned home. He entered the service for three months but did not get his discharge for five months. In all the times herein before mentioned this declarant served as a common soldier and in every instance entered the service as a volunteer in the militia. The whole length of his service under Captains All and Cravens and under Generals McIntosh and Green was 14 months." Thus ended John Young's Revolutionary War service.

The above section represents a brief but accurate historical account of General Nathaniel Greene and Daniel Morgan's Southern Campaign of 1780-81, at least for the period from October 1st, 1780 through March 1st, 1781. As John Young does not mention the battles of King's Mountain (October, 1780), Cowpens (Jan. 1781) or
Guilford Court House (March, 1781), we can assume that he did not participate in any of these encounters. He was probably engaged as a sharpshooter, marksman, or even as a spy, as Greene's campaign was largely a delaying and guerilla affair and John Young's earlier experiences had entirely prepared him for such tactics.

When John Young enlisted in late September- early October, 1780, General Horatio Gates was experiencing extreme difficulties in his confrontation with the British commander in the south, Lord Cornwallis. Gates had been defeated at the Battle of Camden on August 15th and had retreated first to Charlotte and, when that town was occupied by the British on September 26th, thence to Hillsborough, N.C. It was here that John Young joined the Continental Army in early to mid October. In the meantime, two significant events had taken place. First, George Washington, despairing of Gates' inability to achieve victory, had appointed Nathaniel Greene as Commander in Chief in the south (October 14, 1780). General Greene was in Philadelphia at the time and was unable to reach the southern department until late November- early December. Thus, despite his declaration, John Young actually joined Gates' army at Hillsborough in October, 1780. Secondly, backcountry Whigs and Patriots, with no help from Gates, had defeated Tories at King's Mountain on October 7th. This defeat led to Cornwallis' retreat from Charlotte back to South Carolina and to the advancement of Gates' troops, now joined by General Dan Morgan of Virginia, from Hillsborough back toward Charlotte. The advance of Gates and Morgan began on November 1st, 1780 (Much of the above from Schenck, North Carolina, 1780-1781, pp. 37-185).

As John Young and other Virginia volunteers moved to Charlotte as part of Gates' advance, Nathaniel Greene was moving through Virginia to Hillsborough, in anticipation of joining with Gates there. Arriving in Hillsborough on November 27th,
Greene learned of Gates' movement to Charlotte and advanced in that direction, arriving on December 2\textsuperscript{nd} and assuming command on December 4\textsuperscript{th} (North Carolina, 1780-1781, p. 186). Once in Charlotte, Greene made a fateful decision to divide his army on December 16\textsuperscript{th} (North Carolina, 1780-1781, pp. 194-96). He sent Daniel Morgan and a detachment of troops across the Catawba into northeast South Carolina, another small detachment to Ninty-Six, South Carolina and Augusta, Ga., and carried the main body of his troops down the Pee Dee River toward Cheraw, S.C. to a place called Hicks Creek, arriving there on December 26\textsuperscript{th}.

Greene and his troops, including John Young, remained on the "Cheraw Hills" at a "camp of repose" for one month. In the meantime, General Morgan had defeated the British troops at Cowpens in upper South Carolina on January 17\textsuperscript{th}, 1781 and was rushing back across the Catawba to join with Greene's army in advance of Cornwallis' pursuing forces. On January 25\textsuperscript{th}, Greene at Cheraw heard of Morgan's victory and subsequent withdrawl and prepared his troops for the march to join with Morgan (North Carolina, p. 232). This is the beginning of Greene's famous "race for the Dan" river at the border between North Carolina and Virginia, a brilliant tactical retreat during which Greene succeeded in luring Cornwallis' forces further and further into enemy lines and setting the stage for the decisive Patriot victory at Guilford Court House in March, 1781. John Young and the Virginia militia were an important element in this tactical retreat.

It is unclear whether John Young went with General Greene to meet up with Morgan in late January, 1781 or remained with the main body of the army which had been placed under the command of General Isaac Huger. Huger was ordered by Greene to advance up the Yadkin River (which is called the Pee Dee in South Carolina) and to be in position near Salisbury, North Carolina to join up with Morgan (North
Carolina, p. 233). John Young says that as he and his comrades advanced up the Yadkin River on the eastern side, the British were endeavoring to make a crossing from the west. This would have been in the period February 3-6, 1781 as Greene and Morgan’s troops crossed the Yadkin at a place called Trading Ford on February 3rd with the British in hot pursuit. However, due to the river’s rising, Cornwallis was unable to cross until February 6th at a place further upstream called Shallowford (North Carolina, pp. 252-53). It would appear that John Young was with the main body of the army under Huger while Greene was personally effecting a junction with Morgan in early February. There is a possibility that Young was with a small detachment of Virginia militia under General Edward Stevens, who acted as a rear guard and skirmished with the British on the night of February 2nd until the main body of Greene’s army had crossed from the western to eastern side of the Yadkin (Buchanan, The Road to Guilford Courthouse, pp. 349-50), but John Young does not specifically mention this. We do know that once Greene had successfully crossed the Yadkin he made junction with the main body of the army under Huger at Guilford C.H. on February 7th.

From Guilford C.H. Greene’s army proceeded to Irwin’s Ferry on the Dan River in Virginia which they crossed on February 14th. John Young, who states in his declaration states that he was sent to guard a detachment of prisoners to Pittsylvania Court House (now Chatham) Virginia, may have participated in the crossing of the Dan or more likely was sent from Guilford Court House or another location at an earlier date. David Schenck states that when Greene reached Guilford on Feb. 7th the Virginia militia’s time of service had expired and they had been discharged (North Carolina, p. 256). Henry Lee, who served under General Greene and was a member of the famous Virginia Lees, states that Brigadier General Edward Stevens, who was in charge of a large
portion of Virginia militia, “conducted his militia to Pittsylvania Court House, for the purpose of laying up their arms” (Henry Lee, Memoirs of the War in the Southern Department of the United States, p. 251). Although Stevens returned to Greene’s army with a portion of his militia in late February, John Young was not among them, but had been discharged at Pittsylvania as he states. Perhaps his conveyance of prisoners to Pittsylvania was a condition of his release from service.

There is one other intriguing possibility as to how John Young concluded his service in the Southern Department. As Nathaniel Greene was preparing for his retreat from Hillsborough, N.C. to the Dan River. He appointed Gen. Otho Williams to head up a rear guard of 700 men consisting of 240 cavalrmen, 280 infantry from Henry Lee’s legion, and “sixty Virginia riflemen” (G.W. Greene, The Life of Nathaniel Greene, p. 167). These troops hounded Cornwallis and stayed between the British and American forces until Greene had safely crossed the Dan. They then crossed the river to safety. However, Young does not mention being a part of this rearguard. It is more likely that he departed for Pittsylvania from Guilford or even before the main army reached Guilford.

After the war, in 1783, John Young moved permanently to the Kanawha Valley. Mistakenly thinking that his services there against the Indians would also be helpful to him in obtaining a pension, he continued his account of his activities in the period from 1783 until approximately 1794-95. This section of the application has proved extremely helpful in tracing his activities and those of other members of his family. We note, first, that when John Young moved to Kanawha in 1783, his father and other members of his family were still in Augusta/Rockingham while John Young had already been in Greenbrier County on at least a couple of occasions. This helps to explain Conrad Young’s move to Greenbrier in 1785 and to Kanawha a couple of years thereafter.
According to his 1833 account, John Young moved in 1783 to Kanawha Co. "then Greenbrier Co., in company with Leonard Morris, John Morris, Michael See and others who came out in advance of their families to raise a crop. In the fall of the same year, such as had families moved them out to Kanawha and the Indians having begun to show some hostility, the party for their security built Fort Morris." Once again, we see the presence of the Morris family. The Leonard Morris and John Morris mentioned here were two brothers of the Benjamin Morris who accompanied John Young down the Kanawha in 1780 and sons of William Morris Sr., the original settler of the Kanawha Valley in c. 1774. They, like Young, were very familiar with the areas of Greenbrier and Kanawha. The Fort Morris referred to here was typical of the small defensive settlements of the frontier, and since the Morris family settled throughout the Kanawha area, there would eventually be several Fort Morrises. This one was the home of Leonard Morris, on Slaughter's Creek, near present day Cabin Creek (John Young, pp. 24-25).

Young's account continues, "The ensuing spring (i.e. 1784) the Indians began to be troublesome and this applicant was appointed a spy by Captain William Morris to watch and spy out their approaches. This declarant continued to act as a spy under the command of Captain William Morris or to act as a soldier for the defense of the garrison at Fort Morris during the spring and summer months of '84, '85, and '86 and drew pay as such six months each of the aforesaid years. Whenever such services were required for the safety of the garrison, this declarant acted as a spy." The William Morris mentioned here is another son of William Morris Sr. Here we see John Young performing a valuable role for the emerging community and perhaps also making some money for a homestead. On the other hand, at a time when most young men, in their mid to late
20's, were already married, starting a family, and building a future, John Young was still single and owned no property (His first purchase seems to have been in 1792 according to Kanawha County Deed Book I, p. 3).

As we enter the year 1787, John Young is still acting primarily in the role of hunter, trapper, spy, and frontiersman, and his father and brothers are still in Greenbrier Co. All of that would soon change as the Youngs, along with other families began the effort to establish large permanent communities in the Kanawha Valley. Let us now examine that effort in a broader context.
Chapter Five

The Settlement of the Kanawha Valley to c. 1789

John Young and his family were among the first white settlers of the Kanawha Valley, but they were not the first. We shall now examine how this settlement took place both in a general sense and in terms of specific families and individuals. It will be remembered that when Augusta County, Virginia was created in 1738 it comprised “All of the undefined territory of Virginia west of the Blue Ridge” including all of what is now West Virginia (Callahan, History of West Virginia, vol.1, p. 52). Until the middle of the 18th century the Shenandoah Valley itself was the western frontier, and there was practically no penetration into West Virginia, certainly not by permanent settlers. In 1757, Hampshire County was formed from parts of Frederick and Augusta, “extending westward to the utmost parts of Virginia” (Ibid, p. 54). Hampshire County is now in northeastern West Virginia, and some settlement took place there in the 1760’s and early 1770’s. Berkeley County is the 2nd oldest West Virginia county, being adjacent to Hampshire County. The settlement of these two counties was mostly from central and western Pennsylvania whereas the settlement of central and southwestern West Virginia, which was considerably more difficult, was largely from the Shenandoah Valley. The only other area of West Virginia with any real settlements by the 1760’s was the extreme north around Wheeling and the Ohio or along the Monongahela and its branches (Brown, History of Nicholas County, Preface, pp. XXIV-XXV). At the time of the 1790 census, Berkeley and Hampshire were the most populous of West Virginia counties. Berkeley was the largest with 19,703 people, and all of what is now West Virginia had
only 55,873. A significant factor in the settlement of the Kanawha and indeed of all of West Virginia was the end of the French and Indian War in 1765. Until that time the Indians of the Ohio River area, primarily Shawnees and their allies such as the Delaware and Maumee aided and abetted by the French, had hindered migration into the area from western Pennsylvania and western Virginia. After the mid 1760's, the French threat was removed, and the Indians were placated, at least temporarily. Movement into the area began in earnest at this time primarily by the two routes mentioned above, the so-called Pennsylvania and Virginia roads. The Pennsylvania road was not really a road at all, but primarily a river, the Ohio. Travel by this route was obviously much easier than through the mountains of western Virginia, but, as we shall see, the primary settlement of the Kanawha region was from Virginia both before and after the Revolutionary War.

According to James Callahan, in his History of West Virginia, the earliest settlers of the Shenandoah Valley were the Scotch-Irish and the Germans, many of whom came originally from Pennsylvania. There, they were joined by English and some French elements. "The descendents of these first settlers of the Shenandoah were among the pioneers who later crossed the Alleghenies and established homes in the valleys of the Monongahela, the Kanawha, and the Ohio (Ibid, p. 54)". In our study, we will be concentrating on the Kanawha region, but I believe Callahan's statement holds true for much of central and western West Virginia. In a very real sense, the settlement pattern of Conrad Young and his sons mirrors the general settlement pattern for the region. That is, the primary settlement of the region proceeded from western Virginia, largely Augusta County, through the Greenbrier River Valley, and into the Kanawha Valley and beyond. In moving from the Greenbrier region into Kanawha the original
settlers largely “skipped over” regions in between, as far as settlements go and moved permanently into these areas afterward.

The settlement of the Greenbrier Valley was a key factor in the later settlement of the Kanawha Valley and, indeed, in the settlement of all of West Virginia. This area, although not easily reached, was not totally inaccessible from Virginia via a route of travel which is still in use today and which was known both to Indians and to early white settlers of western Virginia. This route has been known variously as the Buffalo Trail, Lewis Trail, James-Kanawha turnpike, and Midland Trail, and follows roughly the route of current U.S. Route 60 through Virginia and West Virginia. The route from western Virginia into current day West Virginia is actually an extension of a road which extended from the Virginia tidewater and linked the colonial capital of Williamsburg to the later state capital of Richmond and Richmond to the Shenandoah Valley. Incidentally, the intersection of this road with the so-called “Great Valley Road”, which runs north and south, is precisely at Lexington, Virginia, which later, in the 20th century, another generation of Youngs would call home. Beginning as a meandering buffalo trail, this path became part of one of the earliest established routes between the Atlantic seaboard and the Appalachian wilderness. Migrating buffalo used it until indiscriminate slaughter left these animals to remote sanctuaries in the west. The route, which was used by Indians throughout their history, followed roughly the river valleys of the Greenbrier, Meadow, New, and Gauley rivers into the Kanawha River basin and on to the Ohio. By the 1750’s newly arrived Europeans were using this route to reach lands beyond the Appalachians. Thus, although the mountains between western Virginia and the Greenbrier area were high, they were not as high as those westward and there was a known route through them. An important factor in the settlement of this region was the
establishment of the Greenbrier Company in the middle years of the 18th century. There were many such speculative land companies established around this time. Some were successful and some were not, but all helped to create a "buzz", in the modern parlance, about the settlement of western lands. The Greenbrier Company was granted around 100,000 acres in the Greenbrier River Valley, and, about 1751, the company hired John Lewis and his brother, Andrew, to survey its land (Gwathmey, Twelve Virginia Counties Where the Western Migration Began, p. 374). By 1753, pioneer families along the Greenbrier River included Robert, Charles, and Andrew Lewis, as well as John Lewis, John, George, and Frederick See, and Archibald Clendenin, among others (Trans-Allegheny Pioneers, p. 30). Many of these settlements were in the Muddy creek area, where Conrad Young would later live. All of these families would later play a significant role in the settlement of the Kanawha region.

As early as 1773, there were attempts at settlement in the Kanawha Valley by pioneers from Virginia, but these attempts were small in scale, squatter like, and the settlers were constantly harassed by Indians. As a consequence, all seemed to have failed, but one, the attempted settlement of Walter Kelly along a branch of the Kanawha, led to the first permanent camp or settlement in the region. Land in the Kanawha County area was first granted to Col. Thomas Bullitt. Bullitt first visited and surveyed the area in 1773. In 1774, he was deeded 1,240 acres along the Kanawha and Elk rivers for his service in the French and Indian War. He sold this land to Judge Cuthbert Bullitt, his brother and the President of the Va. Court of Appeals, who in turn sold the land to George Clendenin in 1786. George Clendenin, son of Charles Clendenin and nephew of Archibald, both of Greenbrier Co., served at the Battle of Point Pleasant in 1774 and was a key figure in the establishment of Kanawha Co. in 1789 (Dodrill, Mocassin Tracks, p.
In 1774, William Morris Sr. moved into Walter Kelly's cabin and established the first permanent fort in what is now Kanawha Co. Thus, the first settlement in the area was relatively late, just before the Revolution, and very little time elapsed between the first fort and the establishment of Kanawha as a county (Almost all historians of West Virginia recognize the Morris family as the first settlers of Kanawha Co. See Trans-Allegheny Pioneers, p. 264).

In 1774, shortly after the Morris family had settled in Kanawha on a perhaps semi-permanent basis, a huge Indian uprising took place in the region of the Ohio and Kanawha rivers under the leadership of a chief called Cornstalk. This uprising was soon classified as a war, and an army was called up and placed under the command of General Andrew Lewis. The army was about 1,000 strong and included Andrew's son, John, and members of the Morris family. It marched from Greenbrier County down the old Buffalo Trail, which was thence renamed the Lewis Trail, to Point Pleasant at the intersection of the Kanawha and Ohio Rivers. There, the Battle of Point Pleasant took place on October 10, and Cornstalk and his braves were defeated. This victory further opened the Kanawha Valley for settlement and established a route from Greenbrier. Nevertheless, there was very little permanent settlement over approximately the next six years as the American Revolution was in progress.

In 1777, Greenbrier County was created from Augusta County and included all of what is now Kanawha County and several other West Virginia counties. The county seat, previously known as Camp Union, would now be known as Lewisburg in honor of Andrew Lewis and the Lewis family. Although eastern Greenbrier County, where Lewisburg was located, was still frontier, it was becoming more heavily settled and was beginning to serve as a "jumping-off point" for more western migration (At the 1790
census, Greenbrier was the 4th most populous of the 9 counties in West Virginia with 6,015 people). We have seen that John Young was in Kanawha County as early as 1780 and possibly earlier, but he was certainly among the earliest there. Following the Revolutionary War (c. 1781), the settlement of the Kanawha River region largely by families who had lived in or passed through the Greenbrier Valley, such as the Morries, Tacketts, Sees, Aarons, Clendenins, and Youngs, began in full force. The settlement of Kanawha occurred in the face of significant resistance from the Indian tribes across the Ohio. The defeat of Cornstalk and the Shawnee at Pt. Pleasant in 1774 temporarily ended the Indian threat in the valley. However, following the death of Cornstalk in 1777 and the end of the American Revolution, hostilities resumed and continued intermittently until the victory of Mad Anthony Wayne at Fallen Timbers in Ohio in 1794. The latter victory completely subdued the Shawnee and their allies and led to their western migration (Brown, History of Nicholas Co., p. 22). It must be remembered that Kanawha Co. was much closer to the Indians than Greenbrier and other areas and, thus, was a focal point for attacks in the 1780’s and 1790’s.

According to Frederick Merk, one of the earliest forms of settlement in frontier areas was the fort or station. This often was nothing more than a few log cabins, some inside and some outside a wall or parapet of logs, or earth. These encampments usually consisted of 10 to 14 families but could be larger. In times of crisis, usually Indian attacks, settlers could sound an alarm and rush into the fort for protection. Although offering nothing like the defensive advantages of European castles, these forts could withstand brief sieges, which was usually the kind offered by the Indians. Such forts were often destroyed by Indians or torn down by the frontiersmen themselves in less troubled times, but many of them became the basis for later towns and even cities (History of
The Westward Movement, pp. 87-88). An example of the latter phenomenon would be Fort Lee or Clendenin, established by the Clendenin family at the Elk and Kanawha which was the basis of Charleston, West Virginia. As mentioned, the first fort along the Kanawha was Fort Morris, established by the Morris family at the mouth of Kelly's Creek and the Kanawha. Later, there were several Fort Morries in the area, as for example, the fort established by Leonard Morris at Slaughter's Creek and Kanawha. John Young, Charles Young, and others refer to all of these forts from time to time simply as Fort Morris. This can create some confusion for the historian. According to Orton Jones, by 1788 there were four forts in the area: Point Pleasant at the mouth of Kanawha and Ohio where Daniel Boone resided, Tackett's Fort, at the mouth of Coal River and Kanawha near present St. Albans, where Charles and Conrad Young resided, Leonard Morris fort, where John Young resided, and William and John Morris Fort (John Young, p. 25).

In speaking of these early forts and of the inhabitation of the Kanawha Valley generally, we must think in terms of specific families. It is agreed that the earliest permanent residents of the Kanawha included the Morrises, Clendenins, Tacketts, and Youngs (see, for example, minutes of a meeting of the John Young chapter of the D.A.R., Charleston, West Virginia, 1949). Other significant early families in the period up to 1789 were the Aarons, Sees, Lewises, McElhaneyys, and Allsburys, but not many others. It will be remembered that the average fort of the era contained only 10 to 14 families and that there were only four forts in all of the Kanawha Valley in 1788, prior to the construction of Fort Lee by George Clendenin. Further, Orton Jones states that Fort Tackett contained only seven families and thirty one individuals in 1789 (John Young, p. 30). Finally, in a letter to Henry Lee, Governor of Va., in December, 1791, Daniel Boone states that, following the destruction of Tackett's fort in 1790, the entire area from Point
Pleasant to Charleston was uninhabited by white settlers and that the county's population was concentrated in Point Pleasant, Charleston, and the forts above Charleston on the Kanawha ( Palmer, *Virginia Calendar of State Papers*, vol. V, p. 410). He says in that same letter that the military organization for all of Kanawha, an area much larger than the current county, consisted of 72 men. From these statistics we can conclude that the permanent settlers in 1787-88 may have been as few as 50-100, and that even in 1789, after the establishment of Fort Lee, the population may have been in the 100-200 range. Of course, we have no accurate census records for this period, but as late as 1796, when a list of tax payers for the county was developed, the population of Charleston is estimated to have been about 60 people, and the number of tithables or tax payers for the county was 731 persons. Even in 1800, according to census records, Kanawha, which had the largest area, had only 3,239 residents and was the 11th most populous of the 13 counties now comprising West Virginia. Thus, the number of families in the area up to 1789 was quite small. As might be imagined, the interactions among these few families was significant. Here, on the very edge of the frontier, one depended on one’s neighbor for support, aid, and even, in some cases, for life itself. Here, one cannot afford “to stick to one’s own kind”, but must learn to get along with people from different backgrounds, cultures, and religions. Here, one must learn to adapt, and adapt they did. In reviewing the list of names above, we see English, Scotch-Irish, German and at least one French family. Many of these families intermarried with each other, and all worked together in creating a new county, a new city, and a new American culture. We will be examining, in particular, the relationships among the first four families on our list, who were particularly prominent in the settlement of the area.
As mentioned, the Morris family were the first permanent settlers of the Kanawha Valley in 1774. The family had come from the Greenbrier Valley and consisted of William Morris Sr., his wife Elizabeth, originally from Orange Co., Va., and their seven children. There were four sons—William Morris Jr., Henry Morris, John Morris, and Leonard Morris (from Alfred N. Morris, Genealogy of the Morris Family). As was the case with the Youngs, it was important to have many able-bodied sons, and all of these young men would play an important role in Kanawha’s development. Shortly after William Morris Sr. established his station or fort at Kelly’s Creek with his son, John, his other son, Leonard, established a fort at Slaughter’s Creek on the south side of the Kanawha, about 15 to 20 miles above present day Charleston and a mile below Cabin Creek. This could have occurred as early as 1775-76 but may have been later. John Morris, another of William’s sons, may also have established a fort during the period 1775-80. In 1780, Benjamin Morris was one of those who accompanied John Young on an expedition against the Indians from Greenbrier Co. into Kanawha Co. When John Young moved permanently to Kanawha in 1783 he came in company with Leonard Morris, John Morris, and others “who came out in advance of their families to raise a crop. In the fall of the same year, such as had families moved them out to Kanawha and the Indians having begun to show some hostility, the party for their security built Fort Morris (John Young’s Revolutionary War Pension Application)”. This statement reveals three things. First, prior to c. 1783, the Morris settlements in Kanawha may have been semi-permanent, more hunting lodges or frontier outposts than family settlements or forts. Second, John Young was acquainted and associated with the Morris family from a very early date. Third, even if William Morris’ fort at Kelly’s Creek was constructed
earlier, Leonard Morris' fort was not constructed until 1783, and John Young was instrumental in building and inhabiting it.

In 1784, according to John Young, William Morris Jr. appointed him as an Indian scout and defender of Leonard Morris' fort, and John Young continued in that capacity throughout 1785 and 1786. Also, in 1785, Conrad Young, John's father, had a survey done in Greenbrier Co. on land which Conrad would soon purchase and occupy. This land was along Muddy Creek, and the assignees were Michael See and Leonard Morris (Greenbrier County Deed Book I). This survey reveals both that the Morris family still held land in Greenbrier County as late as 1785 and that Conrad Young, probably through his son, John, was in touch with the family by that date. Throughout the period 1788-17993, when the threat from Indians was paramount, John Young and his younger brothers, Charles, Matthias, and Henry, served with and under William Jr. and John Morris in Kanawha Co.

Henry Morris, William Sr.'s second son, inherited land from his father along Peter's Creek, a tributary of the Gauley River in what is now Nicholas County. The inheritance may have occurred as early as 1776, but no one is quite sure when Henry first moved there. George Atkinson in his History of Kanawha County states that in the period 1790-91 John Young was accustomed to accompany Henry Morris in hunting and trapping along Peter's Creek. This implies that, at the time, the Peter's Creek area was not permanently settled. According to the History of Nicholas County (p. 23), the first permanent settlement of Peter's Creek and thus of what was to become Nicholas Co. was in 1791 and was made by Henry Morris, Conrad Young, and Edward McLung. In 1792, when Henry Morris' daughters were killed by Indians in the Peter's Creek area, the Morris and Young families, along with their neighbors, Edward McLung and George
Fitzwater, moved together into “John Jones’ fort on Kanawha River eight miles above the Garrison of Elk (According to Charles Young’s Revolutionary War pension application).” The garrison of Elk was Clendenin’s fort or Charleston. In 1793, both the Henry Morris and Conrad Young families returned to Peter’s Creek where they remained thereafter, the Indian hostilities having largely ceased. In March, 1793, Sally Morris, Henry’s daughter, married Charles Young, son of Conrad Young and brother of John. This marriage further cemented the relationship between the families and would be significant when Charles and Sally Young’s son, John Bird, married the daughter of John Young, the Indian spy. Incidentally, the Morris family was English, and the Youngs were German, once again illustrating the “melting pot” concept. In 1794, John Morris, Leonard Morris, William Morris Jr., and John Young were appointed Trustees in the establishment of Charleston, just as earlier, in 1789, both families had been instrumental in the establishment of Kanawha Co. Thus, throughout the era of early pioneer settlement, the families of Morris and Young were intertwined. By 1796, and toward the end of the frontier period, the Kanawha county tax list included 9 members of the Morris clan, making this the largest family representation in the county. In contrast, there were three Youngs and three Clendenins listed.

The significance of a family cannot only be measured by how many of them are present in an area. Such was certainly the case with the Clendenin family. This family was of Scotch-Irish ancestry. John Clendenin immigrated from Ireland to Lancaster Co., Pennsylvania in 1746 with two brothers, Charles and Archibald. Charles, who was the father of George Clendenin of Kanawha County fame, was born in Dumfries, Scotland in 1714/15. Charles and Archibald Clendenin migrated to Virginia where George was born in Augusta County in 1746. They then moved to Greenbrier County where
George married Jemima McNeil on February 2, 1779. Charles Clendenin was also father to William, Robert, and Alexander, younger brothers of George (Much of the information on this family comes from Daniel W. Clendenan’s Synoptical Family History). In December, 1787, George Clendenin purchased a little over 1,000 acres of land at the conjunction of the Elk and Kanawha Rivers from Cuthbert Bullitt (John Young, pp. 25,70). Prior to this, the family had suffered hardship in Greenbrier County, as Archibald Clendenin, who had been present in Greenbrier County since the mid 1750’s, saw his settlement attacked by Indians and his wife and infant child killed (Trans-Allegheny Pioneers, p. 58). Still, as was the case with many pioneers, they were undeterred and pushed further into the wilderness. In April, 1788, George Clendenin, who had by this time been given the title of Colonel, led a company of men from the Shenandoah and Greenbrier valleys into Kanawha and built a settlement which he named Fort Lee in honor of Henry “Light Horse Harry” Lee of Virginia. The fort was soon known also as Clendenin’s fort or Elk fort. Charles Clendenin and his other sons accompanied George to Kanawha, settling there, and Charles Clendenin died there in 1790. Some sources indicate that Charles Francis Young, John’s younger brother, first came to Kanawha with George Clendenin in 1788 (John Young, p., 25), but, according to Charles Young’s pension application, he came to Kanawha in 1787-88 and assisted in the building of the Tackett’s fort community. John Young, according to his application, did serve George Clendenin as an Indian spy in 1788 along with David Robertson, and the Young and Clendenin families would be closely connected from 1788 forward.

It is safe to say that in the period from 1788 to c. 1796 the Clendenins were the most powerful and influential family in the Kanawha area, and George Clendenin was the most powerful individual. In 1788, George was elected to the Virginia legislature to
represent Greenbrier County in the House of Delegates, Kanawha being then a part of Greenbrier. Around the same time, George Washington asked him to manage all surveys in the Kanawha and Ohio valley regions (Dayton, Pioneers and their Homes on the Upper Kanawha, p. 37). This gave him tremendous knowledge of the best land not only on the Kanawha but across the Ohio River in that yet unsettled region. It is interesting to note that the first permanent settlement west of the Ohio River is Marietta, that it was settled in 1788, and that George Clendenin is buried there. In any event, after being elected to the legislature, George Clendenin participated in the Virginia State Convention in June, 1788 which ratified the United States Constitution. He then began immediately to push for the formation of a new county to be called Kanawha and to be created from Greenbrier County. In a letter to Governor Randolph of Virginia of December 18, 1788, Clendenin tries to make the case that the Kanawha area is essential to the defense of all of Virginia and of the nation. He says that the Kanawha region as it "extends from the line of Harrison to the upper county of Kentucky, and borders on the Ohio for upward of 150 miles, it forms a barrier, not only to the counties of Greenbrier and Montgomery, but to Washington in a great measure (Virginia Calendar of State Papers, vol. IV, p. 533)." George Clendenin was successful in his lobbying, and in 1789 a huge new county encompassing some 10,000 acres was created. Samuel Lewis, brother of Gen. Andrew Lewis, was made commander of the county militia, Daniel Boone was second in command, and John Young was also a militia officer (That Dark and Bloody River, p. 506). At the same time that he was making his case for the establishment of a new county, George Clendenin and his family were also acquiring huge tracts of land in the area. For example, during his first term in the legislature, he, along with John Beckley, after whom Beckley, West Virginia is named, purchased

Incidentally, the Young family never was able to obtain such large tracts lacking the influence and affluence of the Clendenin family.

On the other hand, largely because of George Clendenin's influence, the Virginia legislature did agree to the creation of the new county which took effect on October 1, 1789. At a meeting at Clendenin's fort on October 5, 1789 to organize the county, officers were appointed including:

1. Justices of the County Court- Robert and William Clendenin, brothers to George
2. Officers of the County Militia- George Clendenin, County Lieutenant, William Clendenin, Major, Alexander Clendenin, Ensign

Other families were, of course, represented in the county government and militia, including the Youngs, but none so prominently or frequently as the Clendenins. George Clendenin henceforth served in both the county and state government until 1795.

George Clendenin, as we know, was also influential in the establishment of the city of Charleston or "Charlestown" as it was originally known. Sometime around 1790, George hired Reuben Slaughter, who was the county surveyor, to survey and lay off 40 acres from his 1,040 acre tract at Elk and Kanawha into streets and lots (John Young, p. 70). On December 19, 1794 the Virginia legislature officially recognized Charlestown, named after George Clendenin's father, as a city. Throughout the 1790's the Clendenins played significant roles in Charleston, Kanawha county, and Virginia generally. On April 4, 1791 George Clendenin was re-elected to the Virginia House of Delegates along with Daniel Boone about whom more will be said. George continued in this capacity until 1792 and then from 1793 forward. William Clendenin was elected Sheriff of the county in
In 1793, and George was a trustee in the establishment of Point Pleasant as a city in 1794.

In 1795, George Clendenin resigned his commission in the Virginia militia with the intent of pursuing a private life and career. He died in 1797 in Marietta, Ohio, but many members of his family remained prominent in Kanawha county affairs. Clendenin, West Virginia, which was largely settled by members of the Young family, is named after him.

The third major family which we will examine is the Tacketts. They, like the Youngs, were neither as numerous as the Morises nor as powerful as the Clendenins, but they were equally important in the settlement of the Kanawha valley region. The immigrant ancestor of this clan was Lewis (or Louis) Tacquet (c. 1675-1743/44), a French Huguenot or Protestant who was born in France, moved to England and sometime after 1686 migrated to Virginia. By 1711 he had settled in Prince William county, then Stafford county. He married Mary Sarah, a British subject, and they had four children: Lewis Jr., b. 1709, John, b. 1712, William, b. 1722, and Rachel, birth date unknown. The second Lewis had a son, Lewis, who was born in 1730. By this time, the spelling of the last name had been anglicized to Tackett, and it is this Lewis Tackett whom we shall follow in some detail. This family did not follow the pattern of migration which we have studied so far. They did not come through Philadelphia, migrate westward to Lancaster or some other location and thence to the Shenandoah Valley. Instead, they moved from the Tidewater region to western Virginia and then into what would later become West Virginia. This was the migratory pattern of most English families and of the few French families, but it was definitely secondary to the much larger wave of Scotch-Irish, and German families who settled central and southern West Virginia. The third Lewis Tackett, who is usually referred to as Lewis Tackett Sr. in most West Virginia histories obtained a patent for 297 acres of land in Kanawha from Governor Benjamin Harrison.
on June 2, 1783. On June 5, 1783 Tackett obtained another patent for 400 acres. According to Orton Jones, however, neither of these tracts covered the site of Tackett's Fort (John Young, p. 29). This is the same Benjamin Harrison who was related to 2 U.S. Presidents and under whom John Young served.

The exact date of the construction of Tackett's Fort is not clear. According to Charles Young's pension application, the fort would have been constructed in 1788 or perhaps even in 1787. However, Keziah Tackett, daughter of Lewis Tackett, in her description of the fort says it was built in January, 1789 (Cist's Weekly Advertiser, June 15, 1847). Nor is it clear whether a town was laid out first, followed by a fort, or whether the reverse was true. In any case, it appears the settlement at the junction of the Coal and Kanawha, about 12 miles below present day Charleston, was definitely occupied by early 1789 and that two of the most significant families residing there were the Tacketts and Youngs. The story of Tackett's fort and its destruction will be told more fully shortly, but suffice it to say that here was forged a powerful relationship between the Tackett and Young families. The seven families residing at the fort by mid 1789 included Conrad Young and his family, the Allsburys, the McElhanys, Lewis Tackett Sr. (III) and his wife, Mary, Lewis Tackett Jr. (IV) and his wife, Mary, Christopher Tackett, Lewis Sr.'s brother, and his wife, Hannah, and John Tackett, brother of Lewis Tackett Jr., and his wife.

According to his declaration, John Young moved there from Clendenin's fort in March, 1789, but he also served as an Indian spy for much of the period, 1789-90, so he may have been rarely present at the fort. John Young may have met Keziah Tackett Townsend, eldest daughter of Lewis Tackett Sr. in March, 1789, but it is more likely that he met her earlier. Mae Lang in her History of the Tackett and Fletcher Families states "Lewis Tackett, Samuel Tackett, and John Young went 12 miles down the Kanawha

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River (i.e. from Ft. Clendenin) to a place below and a few hundred yards from the river, and along a little creek . . . that joined the Coal River a fort was built for the Tackett family (p. 2)." This would have occurred in late 1788 or early 1789 since Clendenin’s fort was not constructed until April, 1788. Further, John Young married Keziah Tackett Townsend in May, 1789 so he would probably have met her somewhat earlier. In any case, by mid 1789 there were about 31 individuals living at Tackett’s fort including the newlywed John and Keziah Young. This marriage would prove significant for both families, and, along with the marriage of John’s half-brother, Charles, to Sally Morris in 1793 would be the basis of the Young’s family proliferation and prominence in Kanawha county for many years to come.

Following the destruction of Tackett’s fort in August, 1790, those who survived, including members of the Young and Tackett families, removed to Clendenin’s fort. As we have already stated, at this time Clendenin’s fort was rapidly becoming the town of Charleston. Following Reuben Slaughter’s survey sometime after 1790, John Young began to acquire property in and around Charleston. At a court held for Kanawha county on February 6, 1791, it was ordered that a jail be built for the budding community around Clendenin’s fort and that “the bounds of said prison, which is to be built on the front of the lott (sic.) between John Young’s and Lewis Tackett’s, to be extended so as to include the garrison and house wherein G. Clendenin now lives for safety of the prisoners from the hostile invasion of the Indians (Kanawha County Record Books, 1788-1803, p. 18).” In 1793, John Young was granted 200 acres along the Kanawha, exact location not known (Kanawha County Deed Book I, p. 3). Even though it is apparent that John Young and Lewis Tackett Sr. were living in the town by 1791 and were right next to each other, no deeds were issued for the settlement until October 7,
1793. At that time it became clear that Lewis Tackett and his family were living at lot #1 and that his daughter and son in law, John Young, were living adjacent to them on lots #2 and 3. These lots were between Front St. (now Kanawha Blvd.) and 6th St. (now Capitol St.). Later, in 1795, George Clendenin conveyed to John Young an additional piece of property which allowed him to own the entire block bounded by Front, Main (now Virginia), 5th (now Summers) and 6th (John Young, p. 73). This land is now in the heart of Charleston's business district and is of course extremely valuable.

Even so, it does not appear that the Tacketts and Youngs placed a great deal of value on this land or on city living, for that matter. In 1798 Lewis Tackett Sr. sold his lot in Charleston, and in 1800 John Young acquired land along the Elk River outside Charleston, sold his land in the city in 1801, and moved to the area which would henceforth be known as Young's Plantation or Young's Bottom (Kanawha County Deed Book I, p. 210 indicates John Young purchased 100 acres adjacent to John Osborne on Elk). In 1801, the Lewis Tackett Sr. family moved to the Young plantation, where they resided until their death in 1830. They are buried in the Young family cemetery next to their daughter and son in law. This type of communal living arrangement was not unusual in earlier rural, agricultural settings, but does indicate the closeness of the two families. Lewis Tackett Jr. (IV) and his family, incidentally, moved to Indiana, but numerous members of the Tackett family remained in the Kanawha area as indicated by the 1800 and later censuses.

There are several other families who were significant in the early history of the Kanawha region. There was the Lewis family of Scotch-Irish ancestry, who were prominent in the history of Augusta and Greenbrier counties, as well as Kanawha. This family provided General Andrew Lewis, who led the American troops at the Battle of
Point Pleasant in 1774, a battle which many historians see as the first of the American Revolution. Andrew's son, Thomas, was one of the original justices of Kanawha county and a member of the militia. This same Thomas Lewis owned the land out of which the town of Point Pleasant was incorporated by the Virginia legislature in 1794. The Kanawha county tax list of 1796 lists three Lewises, two of whom, Thomas and John, were sons of General Andrew Lewis, and a third, Robert, may have been a cousin or nephew. There is also the Van Bibber family, one of the few Dutch families in the area, and very prominent in early tax lists and census records. Matthias Van Bibber (or VanBibber) was an associate of both Daniel Boone and John Young and became a justice of the peace in Nicholas county when that county was created out of Kanawha in 1818 (History of Nicholas County, pp. 385-86). An interesting fact is that both John Young and the Van Bibber family have a variety of local apple named after them (Ibid, p. 131).

There are the Arbuckles, a Scotch family, and the Sees, Germans, each of whom contributed a scout and spy who traveled with John Young at various times. Unfortunately, both William Arbuckle and Michael See seem to have met early and untimely deaths at the hands of Indians (Michael See was killed by a party of Indians near Pt. Pleasant in May, 1791 according to George Atkinson, History of Kanawha County, and William Arbuckle seems to have met a similar demise).

Although we are unable to examine each family in detail, William Brown's History of Nicholas County does provide us some interesting information about the ethnic make-up of these early settlers. It will be remembered that in moving from Greenbrier county to Kanawha, some areas of West Virginia were largely "skipped over". One of these areas was Nicholas county which was largely unsettled until the 1790's. Nevertheless, in examining families who settled in this area up into the early
years of the 19th century, Mr. Brown has performed an invaluable service by providing the ethnic background of 118 of these families. An analysis of these backgrounds shows that 55 or 46% were of Scotch, Irish, or Scotch-Irish ethnicity, 40 or 34% were of German derivation. 15 or 12.7% were English, 6 or 5% were French, and 2 or 2.3% were Dutch. No other ethnic groups were represented. The interesting fact is how predominate the Scotch-Irish and German elements were in the early settlement of Kanawha, making up fully 80% of all families mentioned. This reveals once again the extent to which these groups dominated the settlement of the frontier in western Virginia in the late 18th and early 19th century.
Chapter Six

Tackett's Fort: Fact and Legend

The subtitle of this chapter is "Fact and Legend" to distinguish "fiction", which is something which never happened, from "legend", which is something which did happen but has been embellished or altered in some way over time. There are many stories of Tackett's fort and its destruction, some more easily substantiated than others. In this chapter, we will attempt to discern the true details of the fort, its destruction, and the role which the Young family played in all this.

As mentioned in the previous chapter, the exact date of the construction of the fort is not clear. Orton Jones states that when George Clendenin came to the Kanawha valley in April, 1788 there were four settlements in the area, and Tackett's fort was one of these. (John Young, p. 25). This matches Charles Young's Revolutionary War pension application which implies that the fort was built in 1787 or 1788, but contradicts Keziah Tackett Young's statement that the fort was built in January, 1789. In any case, it was not, as some have stated, the first fort in the region, as the Morris family had already built several forts by 1787. By mid-1789 there were 7 families and 31 individuals living in and around the fort. Four of these families were Tacketts, hence the name of the fort, and the others were the Allsburys, McElhaney's, and the Youngs.

The fort and its inhabitants were under constant threat of Indian attack. For example, in 1789 Lewis Tackett Sr. was taken captive by Indians but managed to escape. The following account of the episode is taken entirely from Orton Jones, John
Young, pp. 30-32. "Lewis and two others had ranged down the Kanawha in search of game. They had not gone far when they were fired on by seven Indians. None was wounded, and the hunters fled. The other two were able to run in the direction of the fort and they made their escape. Tackett was forced to flee in another direction and was captured. The braves held a council and decided to take him to their home on the Scioto River (in present day Ohio) and let a war council decide his fate. He (Tackett) resolved to leave this party at his earliest opportunity... After reaching a high promontory overlooking the river, they arrived at a large pine tree which stood on the point. They tied Lewis securely to the tree, again using buckskin thongs. Then they left him alone and went off... Lewis tried to get his mouth to the thongs to chew them in two. He couldn't reach them... The wind rose. It started to rain... The rain poured and beat upon him... Suddenly, he was startled... He could move his wrists, and his ankles. He could feel the cords that bound him loosening. He pulled at them. The harder he pulled, the more the wet buckskin cords stretched and loosened, until he freed himself.... Lewis did not stop to look left or right but... bounded the hillside to the river, swam to the far side and eventually arrived at home to the joyous greeting of his family and friends." The tree to which he was bound was henceforth known as "Tackett's Pine."

Setting aside the author's poetic imagination for the moment, we know this story to be essentially true, as it has been recounted in several other histories of the area (see, for example, Atkinson's History of Kanawha County).
field some distance from the fort, were seized and carried off by a party of Indians. Pursuit was made, but without success. They were carried to Huron, in Michigan, where my mother was purchased from her captor by a squaw who had known her when a girl, sent to Detroit and set at liberty. The officers at Detroit interested themselves for my brother, obtained his release, and sent them (Lewis and his mother) down the lake to Erie, whence they passed across the country to Camp Union (i.e. Lewisburg, W.Va. ), where they arrived early in September. News of their release had been brought to us at the fort, with the further determination that they would come from Erie to Pittsburg, and thence descend the Ohio river to Point Pleasant. My father and Charles Young left the fort on the 26th of August, and descended the Kanawha river to that place (Pt. Pleasant), for the purpose of bringing them home; but they had gone the other route.”

Thus, Lewis Tackett Sr. and Charles Young were absent on August 26th, the day before the final, fatal attack on Tackett's fort.

Keziah Young notes another event which occurred on August 26, 1790. “That day I became a joyful mother.” Tradition has long held that the child born that day, Jacob Young, was the first white child born in the Kanawha valley. Indeed, there is today an historical marker at the intersection of U.S. Route 60 and U.S. Route 35, proclaiming that at that location Mrs. John Young gave birth to the first white child born in the Kanawha valley. It is unlikely that Jacob Young was the first white child born in the valley as the Morris family had been residing on and off in the area since the early 1770’s, but it could well be the first “recorded” birth in the area and the first birth in Kanawha county which had only been formed the preceding October. It is also true that the marriage of John Young to Keziah Tackett Townsend was the first recorded marriage in the area.
The next morning, August 27th, was to be the last in the history of the fort. Let us follow Keziah Young's account. “The sun shone from an unclouded sky. The men were busy building a house on Coal river. John McElhany was sick in the fort, and my uncle, Christopher Tackett, was there to guard it. About 4 o’clock, p. m. some of the children were out on the bank of the Kanawha, playing ball, and my uncle was keeping tally for them. Some Indians, who had approached them under cover of the banks of the river, showed themselves but a few yards from the boys, and raised the terrible cry of their nation. Tackett and the boys fled with the utmost precipitation. He reached the gate; but waiting for the children to get in before he made it fast, the Indians rushed upon, and forced it open. He then started to the house, where he had left his gun; but was shot down and tomahawked in the yard, as were all the children.” This was the first stage of the attack which would eventually lead to the destruction of the fort and death and capture of most of its inhabitants. The Indians then removed their captives to a hill some distance, with the majority returning to the fort to take it over. When they returned, they found a number of the settlers, including the family of John Young, held up in the Allsbury cabin. Some of the settlers wished to remain there, but John Young, being familiar with the Indian ways from his many years in the wilderness, knew that the only hope for his family was escape under the cover of darkness. In her account of this escape, Keziah Young says only the following, “We therefore, took canoes instantly, and started for Clendenin.” Nevertheless, this event became the basis of one of the great folk stories of West Virginia—the heroic act of John Young saving his wife and infant son when all appeared lost. It has been embellished and added to over the years so that now it is difficult to separate the fact from the legend. It has been said that once they began to pole up the river, a mighty rain began to fall which endangered the life of
the newborn. John Young, in order to protect him, used willow sticks over which he spread his hunting shirt to make a kind of tent. It has also been said that the Youngs were the only survivors of this attack, and had it not been for his actions the Young family would not have survived in the area.

The last statement shows how fact can sometime become legend. First, we know that Lewis Tackett Sr. and Charles Young survived the attack as they had left the fort the previous day. We also know that Conrad Young and his other sons survived as they turn up later in Kanawha county records. From a muster roll of rangers called into service in 1791 we see the names of John Tackett, Thomas Allsbury Sr., and Thomas Allsbury Jr., revealing that these gentlemen must have survived also. In order to understand what really happened we have only to read Keziah Young's story closely. Note that she says, "We, therefore, took canoes," not a canoe, indicating more than one family escaped. She continues thus, "The Indians finding that we had fled, killed what cattle they could find, burned all the houses, and returning to the prisoners, told them that they had killed all the people in the neighborhood. Sometime after, however, they told them the truth, stating that those little rivers had saved them. And so it was; for if the rivers had not been swollen by the recent rains, they would have pursued and cut us all off or taken us prisoners." Notice that she says "cut us all off" implying that more than her immediate family escaped. It is truly romantic to imagine only John Young and his family escaping the Indian wrath, but in many ways it is more heroic if John Young found a way to lead all of the families in the Allsbury cabin to safety on that fateful night. It may be that some of the individuals remained behind and were killed or captured. It is certainly true that the fort itself was destroyed the next day. Perhaps we shall never
know exactly what happened, but from that day forward the future of the valley lay not at Fort Tackett, but at Clendenin's settlement at the Elk and Kanawha.
In 1790, John Young was still serving as an Indian spy, and although he had a wife and child, he still owned no land or a home he could call his own. Kanawha county had been incorporated, but Charleston city had not. The majority of inhabitants of the area, including other members of the Young clan, were still living in forts and other small settlements, and the Indian threat was still very real. By 1800 much of this situation had changed. Charleston had been incorporated and made the county seat, the Indian threat had ended almost entirely, and the families of the area had begun to settle down and farm larger, independent tracts of land. The history of the Youngs during the period, and of John Young in particular, illustrates how the frontier changed during this era, not only in Kanawha county and West Virginia, but all along the Ohio River border.

As mentioned earlier, in 1790, following the destruction of Tackett’s fort, John Young and his family moved to Clendenin’s fort. He was not alone, as several other families moved there from Tackett’s fort at that time. According to Charles Young’s pension application, he also moved there. Charles was undoubtedly accompanied by his father, Conrad, and brothers, Matthias and Henry. Thus, all the members of the Young family were at the fort until the fall of 1791, when, again according to Charles Young, he, his father, and brothers moved to Peter’s Creek in what is now Nicholas county. Although John Young continued to reside at Clendenin’s settlement, he also continued to act as an Indian fighter and spy throughout the period 1790-93 and perhaps
beyond. He had also been named an officer in the county militia at the establishment of Kanawha county in 1789 and continued in that capacity till 1793, but otherwise held no positions in the county government. He held land and resided on it, but held no deeds until 1792 (According to Kanawha County Deed Book I, p. 3, John Young was granted 200 acres along the Kanawha river in 1792). This may be partially explained by the fact that few deeds were granted or recorded for Kanawha county before 1792. In other words, John Young seems, along with many of his fellow settlers, to have been living in two worlds during the early 1790's. One was the world of settlements, of villages, towns, and eventually cities. The other was the world of the wandering frontiersman, akin to Daniel Boone and others. Let us follow his path during this period to see where he and his family eventually cast their lot.

In the spring of 1791, according to his own records, John Young was again appointed a spy along with Michael See by Colonel George Clendenin. We have already noted that Michael See was killed by Indians near Point Pleasant in May, 1791, indicating once again how dangerous the work of John Young and others like him was. On the other hand, Kanawha county records for April 5, 1791 show that on that date John Young, William Pryor, Joseph Carrol, Mrs. Shadrach Harriman, and her brother were appointed appraisers for the estate of the late Shadrach Harriman (Dayton, Pioneers and Their Homes on the Upper Kanawha). Also, in 1791, a second son, Charles, was born to John and Keziah Young. Thus, life goes on, and John Young continues to balance his obligations to his family and community with his life in the backwoods and among the Indian menace. Finally, in his letter to Governor Henry Lee of Virginia on December 12, 1791, proposing a list of military officers for a company in Kanawha county, Daniel Boone, serving at that time in the Virginia General Assembly, lists John Young
as a scout at Elk Fort with 17 men under his command (Virginia Calendar of State Papers, vol. V, p. 410). This shows not only that Daniel Boone and John Young knew each other (a conclusion which will be reinforced shortly), but also that John Young’s contention in his pension application that he served as an Indian fighter and spy throughout the early 1790’s can be verified independently through official Virginia state papers.

Throughout 1792, John Young’s dual existence continued. On March 8, 1792, George Clendenin wrote a letter to the Governor of Virginia stating that “John Young has been commissioned as an ensign to raise a company of 20 men to be with him at the mouth of Elk, the place of my residence.” (Virginia Calendar of State Papers, vol. V, p. 460). Also that spring, according to John Young, he was appointed an Indian spy along with Fleming Cobb by Col. George Clendenin and served in that capacity until the end of the year. A son of Fleming Cobb, in a series of articles of 1894, confirms the truth of this statement and also adds some interesting anecdotes about the adventures of John Young, Fleming Cobb (or Cobbs), and others during this period (see The Peytona Herald, Peytona, Boone County, West Virginia, May-June, 1894). The author, T.U. Cobbs, says that many of the creeks of Kanawha county were named by Fleming Cobbs and John Young, and that Fleming Cobbs and John Young were the second and third white men to “look over the bow of the timber of Kentucky” with Daniel Boone being the first. This last story may or may not be true, but it does link the names of Daniel Boone and John Young and reveal their kinship in the exploration and settlement of the American frontier. According to Orton Jones, following the murder of Henry Morris’ daughters along Peter’s Creek in the spring of 1792, John Young, Fleming Cobbs, and John Morris chased the Indians who killed them into Boone county, killed one of them and the other
escaped (John Young, p. 63). Other accounts contend that Simon Girty, a legendary nemesis of the frontier, was responsible for the death of the Morris girls and that he escaped unharmed. All of these tales indicate John Young as being involved in the legend and myth of the West Virginia frontier. When not fighting or spying, John Young resided in the town which would soon be known as Charleston. An indication of his presence there dates from February 6, 1791 when the Kanawha county court ordered the county clerk to receive bids for “the building of a prison in said county ... the bounds of said prison (which is to built on the front of the lott (sic) between John Young’s and Lewis Tackett’s) to be extended so as to include the garrison and house wherein G. Clendenin now lives for safety of the prisoners from the hostile invasion of the Indians.” (Kanawha County Record Books, 1788-1803, p. 18). Further records of March, 1792 and August, 1793 indicate that the jail was built on part of John Young’s property in 1792 and was completed by 1793. As mentioned earlier, John Young was listed on the Kanawha county tax list of 1792 along with his father, Conrad, and his half brothers, Charles and Matthias, and was granted 200 acres of land along the Kanawha river in that same year.

In October, 1793, George Clendenin made deeds on his lots in what was to become Charleston. Lewis Tackett Sr. received lot #1, and John Young received lot #2. Thus, John Young and his father in law were living side by side. This arrangement would continue when John Young and his family removed to the Elk river region after 1800. Again, in 1793, John Young is listed on the Kanawha Co. tax list along with Conrad, Charles, and Matthias Young. According to his pension application, John Young was re-appointed as a spy in the spring of 1793 and served until the fall of that year. In his own words, he “continued as before to range the woods until the approach of winter rendered the country safe against the invasions of Indians. This was the last
year of Indian hostilities on the Kanawha and the last of the declarant's service. From 1783 to 1793 this declarant was, as well as he can remember, every year engaged either as a spy and as such ranged the woods, or acted as a common soldier in defense of some one of the forts on the Kanawha. His service as a spy commenced usually in the spring in the months of March or April, according as the season was mild or severe, and continued until the approach of cold weather when the Indians always retired to their settlements." This is a remarkable statement in several ways. First, it indicates something about the life of the frontiersman during this period, alternating between life in the woods and a settled existence among his fellow settlers. Second, it reveals that for 18 years, from his 15th birthday when he first volunteered for the militia until his 33rd, he was continually involved in fighting, scouting, or spying. Third, it shows that for John Young and for many of his fellow frontiersmen in the area, the period 1793-94 was a kind of turning point. What was the decisive action which led to a new era on the frontier?

The critical event was the defeat of the Ohio Indian Confederation by General "Mad" Anthony Wayne at the Battle of Fallen Timbers on August 20, 1794. Prior to that time, Indian bands had roamed freely across the Ohio and into West Virginia and Kentucky. After Wayne's victory and the subsequent treaty, The Indians began migrating westward and were no longer a threat in the region. It is no coincidence that the city of Charleston was incorporated late in that same year (December 19, 1794). This is an indication of the early settlers' ability to establish "real" towns in the area, not just forts or garrisons, and John Young, who was one of the original trustees of Charleston, was also a part of this decisive moment. Another important event in the life of the Young family during 1794 was the birth of John Young's third child and first daughter, Margaret. Margaret Young would later marry John Bird Young, son of Charles Young, John
Young's half brother. These two half first cousins, Margaret and John B. Young, were my great, great, great grandparents, and their marriage cemented the already strong bond among the Young clan of West Virginia.

A brief examination of the lives of John Young and Daniel Boone during the late 1780's and early 1790's shows much about how the Kanawha valley was developing and what was happening to the frontier generally during this time. Daniel Boone was born in Pennsylvania in 1734, just northeast of the area that Conrad Young was born around the same time. His parents were immigrants and devout Quakers. In 1750, they moved down the Shennandoah Valley into the Yadkin River region of North Carolina. By the late 1760's Daniel had begun his explorations into Kentucky and by the time of the Revolutionary War he had established a permanent settlement there. Like many early settlers, he did not have legal claim to much of the land which he discovered, and would later lose a great deal of it. He was also involved in numerous struggles with Indians, particularly the Shawnee, as Kentucky like West Virginia, was a hunting ground for the Indians of the Ohio River region. These struggles were both individual and a part of the ongoing dynastic wars in the area between the French, British, and American forces; nevertheless, and although he lost several family members to Indian depredations, Daniel never lost his respect for the Native Americans. In 1788, Daniel Boone moved to Point Pleasant along the Ohio River in present day Kanawha County, probably because of a decline in his fortunes in Kentucky. He would remain in West Virginia for 7 years, until in 1795 he moved back to Kentucky, where he remained until his final removal to Missouri in 1799, where he died in 1820 (Much of the above from John Young, pp. 56-65).
The years which Daniel Boone spent in the Kanawha region are often ignored, but are significant for our story. When Daniel Boone settled in Point Pleasant in 1788, John Young had been in the region for 5 years and perhaps longer. By the time Boone established a trading post at the mouth of the Kanawha in 1789 and was named for a second time to serve in the Virginia legislature (he had served earlier when he was in Kentucky, then a part of Virginia), John Young had been instrumental in the founding of the county of Kanawha, which Boone would represent and was a Lieutenant in the county militia where Boone would serve as Lieutenant Colonel. Even though Boone was often absent from Kanawha on official business or hunting and fishing, as did John Young, they definitely knew each other and had very similar life styles. In 1791, Daniel Boone in a letter to the Governor of Virginia reporting on the state of the militia states that John Young was serving as “Leut at Elk” (i.e. Ft. Lee, later Charleston). When Daniel Boone departed the region permanently in 1795, the Indian attacks had ended and a pattern of urban and agricultural settlement had begun. John Young chose to be a part of that settlement pattern, while Daniel Boone moved further into the frontier. It is said that as Daniel Boone passed down the Ohio River on his way to Missouri, people shouted out to him, asking why he was leaving. His answer was “too crowded”.

Yet, there are some remarkable similarities between the lives of these two men. Both were born in Pennsylvania into immigrant families which were very religious. Both moved down the Shenandoah Valley at an early period, John Young to Augusta/Rockingham county, Virginia and Daniel Boone to the Yadkin River valley region of North Carolina. Both came from large families and produced large families. Both lived long lives and were married to the same woman for many years. For some time, neither of them owned any permanent land but acted as squatters or made their
living off the land through hunting, fishing, spying, fighting, and trading. Both participated in attacks on the Shawnee Indian tribes of Ohio, John Young in 1778 and Daniel Boone in 1780 and 1782. Daniel Boone has become known as the quintessential "frontiersman" but he was not alone. There were many others, like John Young, who conquered the frontier and settled the region who deserve greater recognition.

During the period 1795 to 1800, John Young continued to reside in Charleston and to build his family. On August 4, 1795, George Clendenin deeded to John Young a one acre lot adjacent to his previous holdings. With this deed, John Young owned an entire city block in what is now the commercial district of downtown Charleston. In 1796, John Young was again listed on the Kanawha tax lists along with Conrod and Henry Young, but not Charles or Matthias, who had been listed earlier. Also, in August, 1796, the first grand jury for Kanawha county was called, and John Young is listed as a member. It is obvious that John is an active member of the Charleston community during the period. Finally in 1799, a fourth child, John D. Young, was born to John and Keziah Young.

In 1800, at the dawn of a new century, John Young took decisive steps toward ending one era and beginning the final, exciting chapter of his life. Earlier, in August, 1795 he had purchased 92 acres along the Elk river from James Ozburn. This land was five miles south of the present site of Clendenin, and was unoccupied at the time. In fact, the entire area along Elk river seems to have been unsettled when John Young moved there (Cohen, Kanawha County Images, p. 447). The fact that John Young would settle in a previously unsettled area should not surprise us; that had been the pattern throughout his life. The area would soon become known as Young's Plantation and is today known as Young's Bottom. Still, at first, John Young seems to have hedged
his bets, retaining his residence in Charleston even while he began to develop his Elk river holdings. In 1800, however, John Young purchased an additional 100 acres along the Elk (Kanawha County Deed Book I, p. 210), and in 1801 he sold his lots in Charleston and moved permanently to Elk river valley. His father in law, Lewis Tackett, had already sold his Charleston lot in 1798, and he moved to Elk river with the Youngs, probably living on part of the land purchased by John Young. Throughout the period until his death in 1850, John Young and other members of the Young family continued to acquire land along the Elk. John Young had been a frontiersman; he had been a city dweller; for the remainder of his life, he would be a simple farmer. His transition is typical of many along the American frontier in the late 18th century, if perhaps more exciting in its first stages. This grandson of an immigrant, Revolutionary War hero, Indian fighter and spy, companion of Daniel Boone, founder of Kanawha county and of Charleston, chose for his final 50 years the simple, agrarian lifestyle of his neighbors and the warmth and significance of family.
Chapter Eight
Conrad Young and the Other Young Boys
to 1800 and Beyond

For the last several chapters we have concentrated on the exploits of John Young. Although his career during the late 18th century was far more spectacular, we should not forget that his father and brothers were also frontiersmen involved in the establishment and settlement of the Kanawha region. Indeed, Conrad Young was the original pioneer of the family moving from Lancaster, Pa. to Augusta co., Va., and thence to Greenbrier Co. It was his example which led to the even more adventurous activities of John Young, his son. In this chapter we will examine the activities of Conrad and his other children-Elizabeth, Charles, Matthias, Henry, William, and George in the period from c. 1785 forward.

Conrad Young

It will be remembered that Conrad Young moved to Greenbrier co. and settled along Muddy Creek in 1785. By this point, his second wife, Margaret Hayes, mother of Elizabeth, Charles, Matthias, and Henry, had apparently died, and Conrad had married his third and final wife, Elizabeth Woods. William Young, Conrad's fifth son and sixth child, was born May 17, 1785 in Greenbrier co. Exactly how long Conrad remained in
Greenbrier Co. is not known, but we do know that Conrad Young and his wife, Elizabeth, deeded 286 acres along Muddy Creek to Henry Metzker on September 29, 1789 (Greenbrier County Deed Book I, p. 58). According to Charles Young's Revolutionary pension application, he (Charles Young) came to Kanawha Co. in late 1787 or early 1788, and his father, Conrad, followed him six months later (i.e., at some time in 1788). Although Keziah Tackett Young differs with Charles Young in stating in Cist's Weekly Advertiser that Tackett's Fort was built in January, 1789 rather than earlier, she does say that other families began to join the Tacketts in the area immediately and that the Youngs were among them. The fact that Conrad Young did not sell his land in Greenbrier until the fall of 1789 does not mean that he had not already moved to Kanawha. In any case, we can firmly say that Conrad Young and his family were in Kanawha before the end of 1789.

With the destruction of Tackett's Fort in August, 1790, Conrad and his family moved first to Clendenin's Fort at the Elk and Kanawha. He did not remain there long, however. In the fall of 1791, according to Charles, "several families moved from Elk Fort to Peter's Creek, a branch of Gauley River, then in Kanawha Co., but now in Nicholas and this declarant with others was ordered there to guard the settlement from Indian depredations." In his History of Nicholas County, William Brown confirms this when he states that the first settlement in Nicholas County at Peter's Creek and Cross Lanes was in 1791 and was made by Henry Morris, Conrad Young, and Edward McLung (p. 23). It will be remembered from an earlier chapter that, although Nicholas is located geographically between Greenbrier and Kanawha counties, and this is one of the areas which was "skipped over" by the first pioneers and settled at a slightly later date. A map
in the Appendix of this work indicates some of the earliest settlements in Nicholas county.

The settlements along Peter’s Creek were rather precarious, and Indian raids were still numerous at the time. At the end of the summer of 1792, the Indians raided Henry Morris’ settlement and killed his two daughters. Following the attack, the Youngs, Morrises, and other families from Peter’s Creek moved to “John Jones’ fort on Kanawha river 18 miles above the Garrison of Elk” (Charles Young’s pension application). We do not know exactly where John Jones’ fort was, but it seems to have been in the Cabin Creek area or even further upstream. Conrad Young and the other families appear to have returned to the Peter’s Creek area in 1793, and Conrad remained there until some time in the early 1800’s. The necessity of moving from one settlement to another, or rather from one fort to another, seems to have been a normal occurrence until the defeat of the Indians at Fallen Timbers in 1794.

Conrad Young appears in the Kanawha County personal property tax lists of 1792, 1793, and 1796/97, at which time he would have been 60 years old. Further, Conrad Young was granted 100 acres along Peter’s Creek in 1800 according to Kanawha County Deed Book I, p. 297. This means that he was still alive in 1800 and still residing in what is now Nicholas county. We know that some of his sons continued to hold land in the area for many years thereafter. On the other hand, William Brown states that in 1809 Samuel Neil from Monroe co., W.Va. bought Conrad Young’s land along Peter’s Creek, and Conrad Young and some of his sons moved to the Elk river at that time (History of Nicholas County, pp. 33,39l). We also know that Conrad does not appear in the 1810 census for Kanawha, but there is a Conrad Young listed in the land tax books for the period 1810-1813. After this period there are no further records of Conrad Young.
either in Kanawha County or in Nicholas, which was created from Kanawha in 1818. Thus, Conrad Young seems to have died sometime in the period 1810-20 in either Nicholas or Kanawha counties.

Elizabeth Young

Little is known of this only daughter of Conrad Young. Born around 1770 in Augusta co., Virginia, she was the first child of Margaret Hayes and Conrad Young. On April 10, 1792, she married Thomas Smith in Kanawha co., later Nicholas co. (Young Family File, West Virginia State Archives). Thomas Smith, born c. 1747 or later, was originally from England. Elizabeth and Thomas Smith lived in Nicholas co., first on Edward McLung's land next to Conrad Young and Henry Morris. Later, they moved to 20 mile creek (History of Nicholas County, p. 391).

Matthias Young and Matthias Geyhart Young

A Genealogical Puzzle Solved

Among genealogists there has been some confusion regarding the identity or identities of Matthias Young and Mathias Geyhart Young. Some have assumed that they are one and the same, and that this person is the son of Conrad Young. However, extensive research has revealed that these two individuals, although perhaps distantly related, are not the same and that the true son of Conrad Young is Matthias, not
Matthias Geyhart. Part of the confusion derives from the fact that both men were born around the same time, both passed from Augusta co. to Greenbrier co., and both resided in Kanawha co. at some time. In order to solve this puzzle, let us examine the life of each man.

Matthias Young was either the second or third child of Margaret Hayes and Conrad Young. Many genealogists place his birth in 1772, and in many local histories the sons of Conrad Young are listed as Matthias, Charles, and Henry, in that order, indicating birth rank. In the 1820 Nicholas county census, Matthias Young lists his age as 45+ indicating that he was born before 1775. Since Charles Young lists his birthday as 1774 and they were not twins, this would mean that Matthias was born in 1773 or earlier. This being the case, Matthias was the second child and first son of Conrad and Margaret. The first public record we have of Matthias Young is from 1791, where he is listed along with his father and brothers as part of a company of rangers for Kanawha from May 1st to September 30th (Virginia Calendar of State Papers, vol. V, pp. 475-76). This is not Matthias Geyhart Young, who was not born until 1788 and does not appear in any public records for West Virginia until 1806. The next public record of Matthias Young is from March 15, 1792 when he is listed as part of a group of rangers for Kanawha co., along with Charles and Henry Young, who is listed for the first time (Virginia Calendar of State Papers, vol. 6, pp. 237-40). This company served until January, 1793). Matthias Young also appears in the Kanawha co. tax lists for 1792 and 1793. In the spring of 1792 when Henry Morris' daughters were attacked and killed by Indians, Matthias Young traveled 8 miles in the dark from Peter's Creek where he lived through the woods to the cabins of Edward McLung and George Fitzwater to warn them and help them remove to the safety of a fort, presumably Clendenin's Fort (History of Nicholas County, p. 22).
Thus, it would appear that during the critical period of the early 1790's Matthias Young was as involved in heroic actions as his more famous brothers, John and Charles.

In 1795, Matthias Young married Millie Holliday in Kanawha co. (Wintz, *Kanawha County Marriages, 1794-1821*). They had two children as follows:

1. Basil Young, b. 1797, m. Anges Scott Pierson, d. 1884.
2. Amelia Young, b. 1805, m. Thomas Morton

Basil Young is sometime confused with Robert Basil (or Basial) Young, son of Matthias Geyhart Young, who was born c. 1814-1816. Certainly, the similarity of names in both families indicates some possible connection.

In 1806 and again in 1809, Matthias Young is listed on the Kanawha county tax lists along with his brothers. This could not have been Matthias Geyhart Young who married Nancy Sarah Hickman, daughter of John and Nancy (Wallace) Hickman in Greenbrier co. on December 5, 1806. Matthias Young is listed on the 1810 census for Kanawha co., while another Matthias Young, presumably Matthias G., is listed on a deed in Greenbrier co. for 1809 as granting 400 acres on the Sewell River to George Young, probably the father of Matthias G. (*Greenbrier Co. Deedbook 4*, p. 319). Finally, Matthias Young is listed in the 1810 to 1813 Kanawha co. tax lists along with Charles, Henry, and Conrad Young.

In 1818, Nicholas co. split from Kanawha, and Matthias Young is listed as residing there in the 1820 census. On the other hand, there is also a Matthias Young listed as residing in Greenbrier co. in this same census. Since it is impossible for one person to be in two places at the same time, the Matthias Young in the Greenbrier
census was undoubtedly Matthias G. This is confirmed by numerous other local
Greenbrier records from this period (see court order of May 25, 1819, court order of July
28, 1820, deed or release at court of September 25, 1821, and court order of July 28,
1828, all of which refer to Matthias or Matthias G. Young). Further, a Matthias Young is
listed in the Greenbrier census of 1830 and states that his age is between 40 and 50,
indicating that he was born sometime between 1780 and 1790. This is consistent with a
date of birth for Matthias G. Young of 1788.

Matthias, son of Conrad Young, seems to have resided in Nicholas co. until his
death. The last entries we have for him are from the mid 1820’s. In 1823 he sold 100
acres on Peter’s Creek to Joseph Pierson, but in 1824 he purchased property in the
same general area (History of Nicholas County, p. 314). He is not listed in the West
Virginia census of 1830 for Nicholas co., nor any later records for that county. Thus, it
would appear he died sometime before 1830.

According to Bob Graham in his history of a home in Greenbrier co., Matthias
Geyhart (or Geyhardt) Young was born in 1788 in Lancaster, Pa., the son of George
Jung Jr. and Catherine Shimer Jung (Grandview, The House on the Hill). Shortly after
the birth of Matthias G., the family moved to Augusta co., Va. and thence to Greenbrier
co. Thus, they seem to have followed the path of Conrad Young’s family, who preceded
them by just a few years. Could the two families have been related? It is certainly
possible, but so far I have been unable to establish any firm evidence of this. Matthias
G. Young had a brother, John. It was this John Young who built the house, Grandview,
in Greenbrier co. around 1839 and resided in it for around 11 years. There is no record of
Matthias G. Young in Greenbrier co. after 1830, and Graham contends that he moved to
Kanawha co. around this time with his son, John, and daughter in law, Sarah Tate
Young. Legend has it that Matthias G.’s first wife, Nancy, died during the l820’s or early l830’s and that he then married Maria Tate, the sister of Sarah Tate. If true, father and son were then married to two sisters. By his two wives, Matthias G. Young is said to have had as many as 15 children. The best estimate is that Matthias G. Young died in Kanawha co. some time around l845. It would appear that most of the descendants of Matthias G. Young and his son, John Hickman Young, resided in the Sissonville area of Kanawha, while descendants of John and Charles Young were along the Elk River and in Clendenin. Descendants of Matthias Young, son of Conrad, were mostly in Nicholas county and elsewhere.

Charles Francis Young

The third child and second son of Margaret and Conrad Young was Charles Francis Young, born in Augusta county in March, 1774. According to his revolutionary war pension application, he moved to Greenbrier county with his father in 1784, but other records mentioned earlier would indicate that he made this move in 1785. Incidentally, Charles Young’s pension application was denied as his years of military service were after the end of the Revolutionary War in 1783. He apparently mistakenly assumed that the fighting against the Indians, who were supported by the British in Canada after 1783, was a continuation of the war. In 1787 or 1788 he moved to Kanawha county, probably with his brother, John, who had been in the area for some time. He may also have been accompanied by his older brother, Matthias. Charles states that his father joined him there after 6 months. It is highly unlikely that Charles Young went there on his own, as he would only have been 13 or 14 years old at the time.
In 1789, according to his declaration, Charles Young "volunteered under a promise of pay as a soldier in Captain William Clendenin's company and was stationed at Fort Cole (i.e. Tackett's Fort) for the defense thereof against Indian depredations."

This is confirmed by *The Virginia Calendar of State Papers* which shows a payroll list of August 8, 1789 for a group of rangers on the Kanawha River including Charles Young listed as a private. He was only 15 years old at the time. Charles Young remained at the fort until its destruction in the summer of 1790, although as we know from Keziah Young's account, he was not at the fort at the time but was rather at Point Pleasant with Lewis Tackett Sr. awaiting the arrival of Lewis' wife, Mary, and son, Lewis, who had been captured by Indians earlier in the year. Following the destruction of the fort, Charles Young, his father, Conrad, and the rest of his family moved to Clendenin's Fort, where Charles Young continued to perform military duties until the fall of 1791. This is confirmed both by Charles Young's pension application and *The Virginia Calendar of State Papers* which shows a list of rangers from May 1st to September 30, 1791, including Charles Young, Conrad Young, and Matthias Young, all privates.

In the fall of 1791, Charles Young moved with his father and brothers, excluding John, to Peter's Creek in what is now Nicholas county but was then a part of Kanawha. Throughout the period, 1791-92, the Indian threat remained very grave, and, therefore, on March 15, 1792 a military company or militia was appointed for Kanawha county with John Morris as Captain and John Young as Lieutenant. The size of the company soon swelled to almost 100 men and included Charles Young, Matthias, and Henry Young, all sons of Conrad and half brothers to John (*Virginia Calendar of State Papers*, vol. VI, pp. 237-40). Following the death of Henry Morris' daughters by Indian raid in spring, 1792, Charles Young moved with his father and brothers to John Jones' Fort 18 miles above
Clendenin's Fort on the Kanawha. This was where Charles Young resided for the remainder of 1792, and it was probably where he married Sally Morris on March 29, 1793. It will be remembered that Sally Morris was the daughter of Henry Morris, who in turn was the son of William Morris, the original settler of Kanawha county, at least on a semi-permanent basis. In marrying Sally Morris, Charles was cementing relations with one of the most important families of the county, just as his brother, John, had done a few years earlier in marrying Keziah Tackett. It should also be noted that Charles Young does appear on the Kanawha county tax lists for 1792 and 1793 along with his father and brother, John.

Conrad Young and his other sons returned to Peter's Creek in 1793, but Charles Young continued in military service until the summer of 1794. Let us read his own words from his pension application. “During the year 1793 this declarant was stationed alternatively at Elk, Jones, Levi and Benjamin Morris' Forts, for the defense thereof, according to the apparent necessity of his services. On an apprehended Indian invasion of either fort, the three last forts lying within a few miles of each other, the alarm brought together the forces of each. He continued there in the defense of these forts until the summer of 1794 when Wayne’s Treaty concluded Indian hostilities on the Kanawha.” Once again, we note how fragile was existence in this area at the time and how critical was the service of the militia and of the Young family. Incidentally, for much of this time, according to his account, Charles Young was not paid for his services and therefore was seeking compensation in his pension application.

Following the end of hostilities, Charles Young, like his half brother, John, began to settle down and start a family. During the period 1795 to 1809 he resided in what is now Nicholas county near his father and siblings. As noted earlier, he seems to
have moved to the Elk River area in 1809 to live near his brother, John. This is supported by the Kanawha County Deedbook 2, p. 147, which shows that in 1828 Charles Young was granted 50 acres along Falling Rock Creek, a tributary of Elk River just above John Young's land. In the period from 1795 to approximately 1810 Charles and Sally Young had nine children. Although there is some confusion as to order of birth, the children were:

1. John Bird Young, b. 1795, m. Margaret Young
2. James A. Young, b. 1797, m. Rachel James
3. Edmund Young, b. 1800, m. Elizabeth "Betty" Gordon
4. William Henry Young, b. 1803, m. Nancy Gordon
5. Benjamin Strader Young, b. 1803, m. Lucinda Huffman
6. Bettie or Betsy Young, b. 1808, m. Edmund Price
7. Margaret Young, b. 1808, m. John Jarrett
8. Charles W. Young, b. 1809, m. Betty Givens
9. Sarah Young, b. 1810, m. William Burdette

Charles Francis Young appears in every census of Kanawha county from 1810 to 1860. He continued to reside in the Falling Rock Creek area and died there in October, 1865 at the age of 91. Indeed, this generation of Youngs seems to have been particularly long lived. John Young, his half brother, died in 1850 at the age of 90.
Henry Young

Henry Young was the fourth and last child of Conrad and Margaret Young. Some genealogies indicate that he was born in 1776, but this cannot be proved conclusively. He undoubtedly moved with his father and brothers to Kanawha in the late 1780’s. The first evidence we have of his presence there is his listing as a private in a company of Kanawha Rangers for March 15, 1792 along with his father and brothers, Matthias and Charles (Virginia Calendar of State Papers, vol. VI, pp. 237-40). He is also listed in the Kanawha county tax list for 1796-97. However, by this time, he was probably residing in what is now Nicholas co. either along Peter’s Creek or Laurel Creek, both tributaries of the Gauley River. Henry is listed again in the 1806 and 1809 Kanawha county tax lists and in the 1810 census for Kanawha co. He is also listed in the 1810-13 Kanawha tax lists, and some sources indicate that he married a Miss Hannah Miller and had a son named Henry, who was born in c. 1833. There is no Henry Young in Kanawha or Nicholas co. records after 1813, but there is a Henry Young listed in the Virginia census of 1840 for Fayette county, which was created from Kanawha in 1831. There are also two Henry Youngs in the 1850 census for Braxton co. and two Henry Youngs in the 1860 census, one in Charleston and one in Nicholas co. One of these may have been the son of Henry Young, son of Conrad.

William and George E. Young
Sometime after the death of Margaret Hayes Young, Conrad married his third and final wife, Elizabeth Woods, probably around 1783-84. She was the mother of his last two children. William Young was born May 17, 1785, probably in Augusta co. and died August 15, 1857 in Kanawha co. He is listed in the 1806 and 1809 Kanawha tax lists and in the 1810 and 1820 censuses for Kanawha. On January 2, 1806 he married May Lilly in Kanawha (Wintz, *Kanawha Co. Marriages, 1794-1821*). May Lilly was the daughter of William Lilly and Frances Ambrose. William Lilly was originally from Cambridgeshire, England. William Young and May Lilly Young had seven children. William Young may also later have married Emily Williams. William was also known as “Billy” or “Captain Billy”, and it was he who supposedly killed the last elk in West Virginia along the Elk River in either 1818 or 1820 (see *Trans-Allegheny Pioneers*, p. 277). William Young had a son named William, who was born c. 1811, and there are at least two William Youngs and sometimes three for every Kanawha co. census from 1830 through 1860. In 1828 William Young was granted 40 acres along Mill Creek, a tributary of the Elk (*Kanawha County Deedbook 2*, p. 141), and he died at a place called Elk Two Mile. All of this indicates that William joined his brothers, John and Charles, in settling along the Elk River, which became a sort of Young enclave.

The last child of Conrad and Elizabeth Young was George E. Young who was born c. 1787-88 in either Greenbrier or Kanawha counties. He is listed in tax lists for Kanawha for 1806 and 1809, but is not listed in the 1810 census. He married Eudorah or Eudoshi Huddleston in Kanawha county on January 14, 1812 (*Kanawha County Marriages*), and appears in every Kanawha county census from 1820 through 1850. In 1850 he lists his occupation as farmer, his age as 62, and his wife as Elizabeth. Some genealogical records indicate he married Elizabeth Hayes on October 18, 1836.
(Rootsweb.com). He does not appear in either the 1860 or 1870 Kanawha censuses, so we can speculate that he died sometime between 1850 and 1860. There is some speculation on his children, but most genealogies agree on the following:

1. Jonathan Young
2. Uriah Young
3. Mary "Mollie" Young, m. William Hayes or Hase
4. Sharlet Young, m. Samuel Howry
5. Patsy Young, m. John Samples

There is a Jonathan Young in the 1850 Kanawha census who lists his age as 27, his wife as Catherine, 26, and his two children as Emily, 3, and Joseph, 1. Also George E. Young lists two children as living with him, Uriah, 19, and Mary, 7, so the above genealogy seems fairly reliable.
Chapter Nine

A Demographic Study of the Young Family,
c. 1800 to 1860

The nuclear family of Conrad Young led a precarious existence in the late 18th century, moving from county to county and even from fort to fort, seeking to avoid Indian attacks and other threats and attempting to find land they could call their own. By approximately 1800 they seem to have found a home in Kanawha County, and thereafter they spread throughout the county so that eventually one could scarcely name a district, village, or town which did not have a member of the Young clan in its midst. There were certainly Young descendents of Conrad who lived in other parts of West Virginia and in other states. However, most of the Youngs continued to reside in Kanawha or surrounding counties until after the Civil War. Perhaps this settlement pattern is typical for other frontier areas where group and family support was required, but this remains for other scholars to examine. In this chapter, I will be examining primarily census records and, to a lesser extent, land purchase records to determine the settlement pattern of the Youngs in the period from 1800 to 1860.

In the 1810 census for Kanawha are listed John, Matthias, Charles, Henry, and William Young. These are all brothers, and no other Youngs are listed. Although Conrad Young is not listed, we have already said that in 1800 he acquired 100 acres along Peter’s Creek in what is now Nicholas County, and he may have been living with Matthias or Henry Young at the time. George Young, who is not listed, could also have been living with one of his brothers at the time.
In the 1820 census there are 8 Youngs listed as head of household:

1. John Young
2. Charles Young
3. William Young
4. George Young
5. Jacob Young
6. Joseph G. or C. Young
7. Charles Young Jr.
8. John D. Young

The first four are brothers, and the next four, with the exception of Joseph Young, are sons of John Young. The use of "Jr." after a person's name was employed by the census takers simply to distinguish that person from another person of the same name. Thus, the Charles Young Jr. listed in the census was undoubtedly the Charles Young born January 15, 1796, the fourth child of John and Keziah Young. Indeed, Charles Francis Young did not have a son named Charles. I have been unable to determine what the relationship of Joseph Young is to the other Youngs. It will be noted that Matthias Young is listed in Nicholas Co., which had been created from Kanawha in 1818, and that Conrad and Henry Young are not listed in any census records for West Virginia.

By the time of the 1830 census there are 11 Youngs listed for Kanawha County, with four Youngs in Nicholas Co. and two in Greenbrier. For Greenbrier, we have Matthew Young, obviously Matthias Geyhart Young, and John Young, either the brother or son of Matthias G.. For Nicholas, we have Bazel, David, James R., and John Young. Matthias, son of Conrad, has a son named Bazel or Basil born in 1797, while Matthias
G. Young had a son named Robert Basil or Basil, born April 11, 1816 in Greenbrier.

Since Matthias G. Young had not yet left Greenbrier and his son, Basil, was only 14 at the time, the Bazel in Nicholas was undoubtedly Matthias's son and Conrad's grandson.

The 11 Youngs listed for Kanawha are:

1. John Young
2. Charles Young
3. William Young
4. George Young
5. Charles Young (2)
6. William Young (2)
7. Jacob Young
8. James Young
9. John B. Young
10. John H. Young
11. Joseph Young

The first four are the original brothers. Charles Young (2) and Jacob Young are sons of John Young, the elder. John B. Young and James Young are sons of Charles Francis Young, while John H. (Henry) Young is William's son. William Young (2) is either William's son born in 1811 or Charles Francis' son, William Henry born in 1812. The Joseph Young listed is the same as that listed in 1820. Thus, 10 of the 11 Youngs listed were descendents of the original settlers and one may have been.

In the 1840 census, there are 25 Young heads of household for counties now in West Virginia. Nineteen of these were in Kanawha alone! There were three Youngs in Braxton Co., which had recently been created from Kanawha and Nicholas; Bazel.
John, and John Jr. There were two in Fayette Co., Henry and John W. Fayette was created from Kanawha in 1831. Greenbrier had one, John Young. Of the 19 Youngs listed for Kanawha Co., I have been able to establish with reasonable certainty that 14 were sons, grandsons, or great-grandsons of Conrad. The other 5 were probably related to Matthias G. Young, who had moved to Kanawha Co. by this point, or they were also related to Conrad's family.

Throughout the period from 1800 to 1860, the Youngs were buying land in Kanawha Co., principally along the Elk River. From 1792 to 1829 John Young acquired 620 acres of land in Kanawha, the bulk of it (over 400 acres) along the Elk (Kanawha County Deed Book 1, pp. 3,210 and Deed Book 2, pp. 98,102, and 157). Other family members soon followed suit. In 1828, Charles Francis Young purchased 50 acres along Falling Rock Creek, a tributary of Elk, and also in 1828 William Young purchased 40 acres along Mill Creek, another tributary (Deed Book 2, pp. 141, 147). In 1829, John D. Young, son of John Young, purchased 150 acres along Elk (Deed Book 2, p. 165). From 1837 to 1849, Jacob, Lewis, Samuel, Benjamin Young made numerous purchases of property along the Elk. Jacob, Lewis, and Samuel were sons and grandsons of John Young, while Benjamin was a son of Charles Francis Young. In all, up to c. 1850, there were a dozen of so purchases of land in Kanawha by Youngs totaling over 1,000 acres, the vast majority along the Elk from Charleston to Clendenin. The center of these holdings was Young's Plantation or Young's Bottom, the home of John and Keziah Young and John's in-laws, Lewis and Mary Tackett. Young's Bottom is now a small, unincorporated settlement, and it is here that John and Keziah and several other Youngs are buried.
By the time of the 1850 census, which provides us with greater detail, there were 40 Youngs listed for West Virginia. Seven were in Braxton Co., three in Wetzel, three in Nicholas, and two in Greenbrier. There were 25 Youngs listed for Kanawha. It is possible that all of the Youngs listed for West Virginia, even at this date, were related to one another or at least related to the two families of Conrad and Matthias Geyhart Young. I have been able to identify 18 of the Kanawha Youngs as direct descendents of Conrad, and others may have been. All of the Kanawha Youngs identified themselves as farmers, laborers, or coopers (barrel makers), and the majority lived within close proximity of each other. Most of them had large families with between 5 and 15 children.

In the 1860 census, there were 31 Youngs listed for Kanawha Co. alone. In this census more exact locations or addresses were given. Thirteen Youngs had Kanawha Co. addresses, nine were living in Clendenin, three in Sissonville, two at Coal’s Mouth (St. Albans), two in Charleston, one in Jarrett’s Ford, and one at Kanawha Salines. Most of these addresses, as previously, were along the Elk River. Note that only two of the Youngs were living in the urban settlement of Charleston, even though the Youngs had been so prominent in its founding.

Even in 1870, there were 46 Youngs listed for Kanawha, only two of whom, one from Scotland and one from Ohio, can be definitely established as not descendents of the original clan. Finally, in the 1880 census, there are 63 Youngs listed for Kanawha. These include 9 Williams, 4 Charles, 4 Georges, 3 Johns, 3 Henrys, and 2 Matthiases. 25 of these Youngs bore the names of the six brothers who originally settled the area. This is a testament both to the longevity and persistence of the Young family, but also to the relative isolation of this part of West Virginia well into the late 19th century. Even today the Young name is prominent in Kanawha County. Orton in John Young.
Lieutenant at Elk, wrote that in 1986 there were 460 Youngs listed in the Charleston phone book, 50 in Elkview, and 47 in Clendenin (p. 91). The vast majority of these are probably descendents of Conrad Young.
Chapter Ten
A Brief History of My Branch of the Young Family

When John Young, the pioneer, married Keziah Tackett Townsend in May, 1789 they formed a powerful alliance of two of the first families of Kanawha County. The same thing occurred when Charles F. Young, his brother, married Sally Morris, the daughter of Henry Morris and granddaughter of the original settler, William Morris, in March, 1793. In the next generation, this alliance was solidified when John Bird Young, the eldest son of Charles and Sally Young, married Margaret Young, the third child of John and Keziah Young on August 14, 1816. John B. and Margaret Young are my direct ancestors and they had the following children:

1. James Strothers Young
2. Jacob Armstrong Young
3. Lusinda Young
4. Harriet Young
5. Nancy W. Young
6. Harvey H. Young
7. Sarah (A)Manda Young

Jacob Armstrong Young was born in Kanawha County on July 9, 1825 and married Julia May Geary on October 17, 1850. Julia May Geary was born in Kanawha Co. in 1830 and died there on December 20, 1896. Her father was Matthew Geary, who
was born in County Down, Ireland on May 10, 1791, and her mother was Elizabeth Almira Ashley, who was born on February 14, 1802 in Monroe Co. Virginia (later West Virginia). Jacob Armstrong and Julia Geary Young are my great, great grandparents, and their children were:

1. Floyd J. Young  
2. Josephine Young  
3. Mary A. Young  
4. Lillie M. Young  
5. Albert C. Young  
6. Lizzie S. Young  
7. John Milton Young  
8. Nora B. Young  
9. Amy C. Young  
10. Okey S. Young

At the time of the 1850 census, Jacob A. Young was residing with his father, John B. Young, who listed his occupation as a farmer. Jacob listed his occupation as a cooper or barrel maker. In the 1860 census, Jacob Young and his family were residing in Clendenin, West Virginia, where my great grandfather would be born six years later. As far as I can tell, Jacob Armstrong did not fight in the Civil War, but this is not surprising as this part of Virginia broke away and formed the new state of West Virginia during that war and was considered a border state. There were Youngs who fought in the war, mostly on the Union side but not entirely. John D. Young, although 62 years of age at the beginning of hostilities, was a Lieutenant in the 7th West Virginia Cavalry of the
Federal Army and served throughout the war. The 7th West Virginia Cavalry was originally formed as the 8th West Virginia infantry in the Kanawha valley in November, 1861. This regiment participated in the pursuit of Stonewall Jackson up the Shenandoah Valley in May-June, 1862 and fought at the 2nd Battle of Bull Run on August 30, 1862. In addition to John D. Young, 7 other Youngs were members of 7th West Virginia (Lang, Loyal West Virginians from 1861 to 1865, pp. 223-27). It is interesting that all of these Youngs fought in the area which Conrad had helped to settle 100 years earlier. John D. Young is buried in Spring Hill Cemetery in Charleston along with other Union dead.

John Valley Young, son of Jacob Young and grandson of John Young, the Pioneer, was a captain in the 11th Virginia (West Virginia) Federal Regiment. He served at the Battle of Winchester, the fighting around Richmond, and at Lee’s surrender (Cavender, Genealogy of the John and Keziah Young Family Descendents, 1732-1794). Jacob Young Jr., son of Jacob and grandson of John, was a private in Captain Dotson’s company of Kanawha Co. militia, Union Army (Johnson, The Tacketts of Kanawha County, Virginia). The federal draft of 1863 for West Virginia include:

1. William L. Young
2. E. P. Young
3. Milton Wood Young, son of John D. Young and grandson of John Young, the pioneer

Not all the Youngs fought on the Union side. For example, Henry Young, a grandson of Matthias Young, the brother of John the pioneer, fought on the Confederate side and was killed by Rosencrans’ advanced guard in Nicholas County in 1861. There is a monument to him in that county today (John Young, pp. 90-91). Robert L. Young, probably a grandson of John and Keziah, also fought on the rebel side.
Jacob Armstrong is listed in the 1870 and 1880 censuses for Kanawha Co. and continued to reside there until his death on May 17, 1902. He is buried in Skiles Cemetery, Walnut Gap, West Virginia. Most of his children continued to reside in the same general area along the Elk River and in Clendenin, but John Milton, his 7th child and my great grandfather, was an exception. John Milton Young was born on May 7, 1866 in Kanawha Co. He grew up in the Clendenin area where he learned to “read, write, and cipher” as he put it (Much of the following comes from an article in the Huntington, W. Va. Herald Dispatch of 1943 entitled “Your Friends and Mine” by Wiatt Smith). In 1889 he started to work for the hardware firm of Magill and Markell in Charleston, West Virginia. Shortly thereafter he became a traveling salesman or, as they were called in those days, a drummer. This is significant for two reasons. First, he was not following the occupation of his fathers which was farming, but instead had moved into an urban area. Second, he was becoming much more mobile in an era when there was significant change in the demographic profile of America. On May 11, 1892 he married Miss Eva Eaton of Charleston. Her father was Albert Eaton, who had come to that city from Beaver Co., Pennsylvania, which is in the western part of the state. The Eaton family represented the second generation of families who came to Kanawha Co. via the Ohio River and who were more attracted to the urban settlement of Charleston than to the countryside.

In 1895 John and Eva Young moved to Huntington West Virginia, and John began to work for Foster Hardware. In 1903 he moved back to Charleston and worked with Charleston Hardware until 1912. During the time in Huntington, his two children, Harry Killinger Young and Eutha Young, were born. Throughout this period he continued to travel for his living. In 1912 he entered into a relationship with Belknap
Hardware of Louisville, Ky. and continued with them for the next 30 years until his retirement. It was also in 1912 that the Youngs moved back to Huntington for good. His success in the hardware business was undoubtedly due to his familiarity with farming and farming equipment which he inherited from his ancestors. He continued his connection to the land by participating in numerous hunting trips. John M. Young died on December 3, 1944, and Eva Young died in 1949.

Eutha Young was born on January 8, 1895 and married Thomas (Tom) Faulkner) of Helena, Arkansas on December 14, 1922. They had one child, Ruth Faulkner, born on October 19, 1926. Eutha Young Faulkner died on May 8, 1942. Ruth Faulkner, my father's only cousin, married Winston Howe on July 5, 1952. Winston and Ruth Faulkner Howe reside outside Denver, Colorado and have three children, Laura Elizabeth, born on August 1, 1953, Thomas Young Howe, born on July 8, 1954, and Margaret St. Clair, born on July 17, 1959.

Harry Killinger (Cy) Young, my grandfather was born in Huntington on March 8, 1893. As he grew up, he evidenced an extraordinary ability in a number of sports, including football, basketball, baseball, track and field, and, eventually, rowing. He attended, first, Marshall College (now Marshall University) in Huntington, which was at that time a junior college, then the University of Michigan briefly, and finally Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Virginia. He attended W. and L. from 1913 to 1916 during which time he won 16 athletic letters, 4 for each year of attendance and, so far as I know, still a record for the nation. This feat was highlighted in a Ripley's "Believe it or not" column from the 1930's. In football, he played halfback and punter and was the leading scorer for four straight seasons while averaging 50 yards per punt. At that time W. and L. played a big time schedule including such opponents as Army, Navy, Georgia
Tech, Virginia Tech, North Carolina, and others. The W. and L. Generals' record for those four years was 29-4-3 including one Southern Conference title. "Cy" Young was admitted into the National Football Hall of Fame at its Inaugural meeting of March 6, 1958. In basketball, "Cy" was the leading scorer for 3 of his 4 seasons, and during his senior year the Generals won the Southern Conference title in that sport as well. Later, he was a successful basketball coach, and he earned All-American honors in basketball both as a player and a coach, one of the few to do so. In baseball, he led the team in runs and stolen bases all four seasons, and was eventually given the opportunity to play with the professional Cincinnati Reds but decided to go into college coaching instead. Incidentally, his nickname "Cy" came from the great baseball pitcher of the same name, Cy Young, from that era. In track he broke records in the 100 yd. dash (9.45) and 200 yd. dash (21.45) losing only one race during his entire college career. These records still stand at W. and L. Finally, in rowing he helped to start the team, even though he had little previous experience, and lettered in that sport the one year it had varsity status.

Cy Young was undoubtedly the finest all-around athlete in the history of Washington and Lee, and many consider him the greatest all-around in the history of Virginia and West Virginia. In addition to the honors listed above, he is a member of the Virginia Hall of Fame, the West Virginia Hall of Fame, the Marshall University Hall of Fame, and the Washington and Lee Hall of Fame, where he was the initial inductee. After leaving W. and L. he served as an ambulance driver in World War I and then launched a coaching career. He married Ruth Neely of Helena, Arkansas in 1918 and their only son and child, Melvin Neely Young, named after Ruth's father, was born August 22, 1920. Cy began his coaching at William and Mary and then moved back to...
his alma mater. He coached the W. and L. basketball team from 1932 to 1939 going 89-61 during that period and winning the Southern Conference title in 1935-36 and 1936-37. In 1939 he became the alumni secretary and served the University in that capacity until his retirement in 1958. He died in Kilmarnock, Virginia in 1977, one of the most beloved men in the history of Washington and Lee.

My father, M. Neely Young Sr., was raised in the idyllic college town of Lexington, Virginia, nestled in the Shenandoah Valley between the Blue Ridge and Appalachian Mountains. Here sits Washington and Lee, one of the nation’s oldest and finest schools, which George Washington supported as a benefactor and Robert E. Lee served as President. Lexington is in Rockbridge Co. which is adjacent to Augusta Co. where Conrad Young and his sons lived over 225 years ago. This small town is near and dear to all members of the Young family. My father attended the local grammar school and Lexington High School. After spending a year at the Woodberry Forest School, he graduated from Lexington High in 1939 and entered W. and L. in the fall of that year. When the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor in December, 1941, my father was a junior, and in early 1942 he volunteered for and enlisted in the U. S. Army Air Corp. Later in 1942 he was stationed for training in Blytheville, Arkansas. There he met and married my mother, Churchill Buck, on March 10th, 1943. In the fall of 1943, he was shipped off to East Anglia, England where he flew B-24 Bombers for the remainder of 1943 and well into 1944. He was a squadron leader and flew the “G.I. Jane” on the first raid of Frankfort, first raid on Berlin, and on D-Day. He received the rank of Captain, and was highly decorated. When he returned home from duty, his first son, M. Neely Young II, who was born on January 4, 1944, was almost 1 year old.
After the war, my father entered the tobacco business in Danville, Virginia and there my brother, Churchill Buck Young, was born on April 1, 1947. We lived there until 1953 when my father moved to Richmond, Virginia to pursue other career options. Throughout my youth until my grandfather's retirement from W. and L. in 1958, we visited Lexington on weekends, in the summers, and for special occasions. One might almost say that this was our second home, and it was certainly a special place to my brother and myself. Unfortunately, in 1962 my mother and father got a divorce, and this was particularly hard on my brother and myself. During that year, I also entered Washington and Lee, becoming the third generation of my family to do so. My father continued to reside in Richmond, where he worked in the clothing business for many years. He eventually remarried to Sharon Wisdom, and as of this writing they have been married for over 20 years. My father retired in 1985 from full time work but continues to work part time. He is blessed with 4 grandchildren and 2 step-grandchildren, along with many friends. He has been a tireless supporter of Washington and Lee, and has been recognized in the alumni magazine on numerous occasions. My mother, Churchill Buck Young, moved to Charlotte, N.C. in 1962 to continue her career in the advertising business. She worked for a number of advertising companies over the years, ending her career with Lewis Advertising in Rocky Mount, N. C. where she now resides along with my brother, Buck, and sister in law, Sherry Blaylock, and their two girls, Blythe and Churchill.

I was born, as stated above, on January 4, 1944 and grew up in Danville and Richmond, Virginia, graduating from Thomas Jefferson High School. At Washington and Lee, I majored in History, graduating Phi Beta Kappa in 1966. Upon graduation, I began a teaching career which spanned 34 years. My first job was at the Collegiate School in
Richmond, Virginia, followed by a job at the Lovett Schools in Atlanta, Ga. By this time I was married to Martha Moll, a union which was destined to end in divorce in 1973, at which time I had completed my Master's Degree in History at Emory University and was well on my way to a Ph.D. I also began teaching at Pace Academy in the fall of 1972 and taught there for 15 years, ending as Academic Dean and Assistant Headmaster. While at Pace, I met and married Myra Knowles in 1975. Myra and I have been married for over 30 years and have two fine sons. I also finished my Doctorate in History at Emory in 1975, and have taught at Emory University and Oglethorpe University as well as several prep schools. In 1987, I became the first Headmaster of St. Martin's Episcopal School in Atlanta, a post which I held for 12 years. In 1999 I left St. Martin's to head Mt. Pisgah Methodist School in North Fulton Co., Atlanta. I am currently serving as Director of Major Gifts at Columbia Theological Seminary, a Presbyterian Seminary in Decatur, Ga. Myra has taught math and science at Pace Academy since 1973, and both our sons, Josh and Carter, graduated from Pace. Josh attended W. and L. from 1995 until 1999, becoming a member of the 4th generation to do so, and Carter entered W. and L. in the fall of 1999 and graduated in 2003. Myra and I are very proud of our sons, and look forward to the day when we shall become grandparents. In the meantime, I have so convinced Myra of the joys of Lexington that we have purchased land there for our retirement. In returning there, we will be going back to the land, not only of my father and grandfather but of generations of Youngs. There I plan to continue my historical research of the Youngs and of other branches of my family who passed through this beautiful country, a place which means more to me than any other in the world.
Appendices

Appendix 1- Routes of Travel for Mattheus Jung and Conrad Young

Appendix 2- John Young's Revolutionary War Travels, 1775 and 1778

Appendix 3- John Young's Revolutionary War Travels, 1781

Appendix 4- John Young's Revolutionary War Pension Application, 1833

Appendix 5- Genealogy of My Branch of the Young Family
Appendix 1

Mattheus Jung route from Philadelphia to Lancaster
Conrad Young route from Lancaster to Augusta (later Rockingham) County, Virginia
Conrad Young and family route from Rockingham County to Greenbrier County to Kanawha County, West Virginia
Appendix 2

John Young's route to Hacker's Creek, September, 1775
John Young's route to Tygart' Valley, May, 1778
John Young's route to Ft. Laurens and return to Virginia, September-December, 1778
Appendix 3

John Young's route to the North and South Carolina theaters, September, 1780-March, 1781
Appendix 4

John Young's Revolutionary War Pension Application, 1833
(This copy is typed due to difficulty of reading original document)

At a Circuit Superior Court of Law and Chancery held for Kanawha County the 10th day of May, 1833.

On this 10th day of May, 1833 personally appearing in Open Court before Louis Summers, Judge of the Circuit Superior Court of Law and Chancery for Kanawha County now sitting, John Young, a resident of Kanawha County Va. Aged 73 years who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the Act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

That he was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania in August 1760 where he resided until he was 4 yrs. Old when his father removed and settled in the county of Augusta Virginia.

This declarant continued to reside in Augusta County until his removal to Kanawha as hereinafter mentioned. The latter part of September in 1775 and when he was just entering into his seventeenth (sic. 16th) year, this declarant entered the service of the Virginia militia as a common soldier, under the command of Capt. All who raised a company of volunteers in the county of Augusta Virginia to repel the attacks of the Indians upon the western frontier. Capt. Wm All was the senior officer in command and Jacob Pince was Lieutenant and next in command. In this service, this declarant was marched from Augusta to the South fork of the Potomac and thence over the waters of the Mongahila (sic. Monongahela) upon a branch of which called Hackers Creek Capt. All built a fort, in which this declarant was garrisoned until his discharge. This declarant was three months in this service.

The first of May, 1778 the declarant again volunteered and entered the service of the Virginia militia under Capt. Robert Cravens who raised a company to succor Tigart's Valley in which inroads had been made and massacres committed the previous fall by the Indians. The company was marched by the route of the Calf pasture and Bull pasture
rivers to the head of Greenbrier river and thence on the head waters of the Gaulley (sic. Gauley) River. After reaching the point of destination the company was divided into small companies and stationed where their protection was most needed. The declarant was stationed at George West falls where he remained till the period of his enlistment, the time of three months, arrived, when he was discharged. He returned home in the early part of August of that year.

The first of Sept. 1778, this declarant again enlisted under the same Capt. Robert Cravens who was collecting a company of Virginia militia for the expedition under General McIntosh. In this expedition the declarant was conducted across the country to what was then Fort Pitt, and thence down the Ohio river to the mouth of Big Beaver, where his company joined the forces under Genl. McIntosh who was engaged at the time in building Fort McIntosh. From Fort McIntosh he was marched across the country to the site of the old Indian Town on the Tuscarawas, a branch of the Muskinghum river. Here a fort was built (name not known) in which this declarant was garrisoned until his time of discharge drawing near he was conducted to Fort McIntosh where he received his discharge in the early part of December of that year. The officers recollected were Capt. Robert Cravens, Col. Benjamin Harrison, and Genl. McIntosh.

The last of Sept. in the year 1780 this declarant entered the service of the Virginia militia as a volunteer rifleman under Capt. Robert Cravens of Augusta and under his command proceeded to join the Southern Army then commanded by Genl. Green (i.e. Nathaniel Greene). His company came up with and joined the army of Genl. Green at Hillsborough, N.C. where he then lay encamped. He was thence marched to South Carolina and soon after arriving there the army went into winter quarters upon the Big Pedee. From the Cheraw Hills the army was conducted up the Yadkin River where the army of Lord Cornwallis was discovered upon the opposite or south side of the Yadkin River engaged in endeavoring to force a passage up from the Yadkin. This declarant's company was detailed to guard a body of prisoners captured by Genl. Morgan to Pittsylvania Court House Va. On reaching this place, this declarant was discharged and returned home. He entered the service for three months but did not get his discharge until he had
served five months. In all the times herein before mentioned this declarant served as a common soldier and in every instance entered the service as a volunteer in the militia. The whole length of his service under Capts. All and Cravens and under Genls. McIntosh and Green was fourteen months.

The last of March 1783 this declarant removed to the County of Kanawha, then Greenbrier County, in company with Leonard Morris, John Morris, Michael See and others who came out in advance of their families to raise a crop. In the fall of the same year, such as had families moved them out to Kanawha and the Indians having begun to show some hostility, the party for their security built Fort Morris.

The ensuing spring, the Indians begun to be troublesome, and this applicant was appointed a spy by Capt. William Morris, to watch and spy over their approaches. This declarant continued to act as a spy under the command of Capt. William Morris, or to act as a soldier for the defense of the garrison at Morris’ fort during the spring and summer months of ’84, ’85 & ’86 and drew pay as such six months each of aforesaid years. Whenever such services were required for the safety of the garrison, this declarant acted as a spy.

In the month of April 1788 Col. George Clendenin and Capt. William Clendenin came to Kanawha with a company of men from Greenbrier and the adjacent counties and built and took command of the fort at Elk (i.e. Fort Lee or Clendenin). This declarant joined himself to Clendenin’s company and was appointed by Col. George Clendenin, then Col. of the company, an Indian spy in company with David Robertson in which capacity he served for four months during that year.

In March 1789, this declarant removed to the mouth of Cole River, twelve miles below his former station, where he was again appointed a spy by his Col. but without a partner and served in that capacity during that season as well as during the spring and summer months of 1790 and until the capture of Cole fort (i.e. Tackett’s Fort) by the Indians in August 1790. During the spring and summer of 1790 he spied in company with one Thomas Alsbury.

In August 1790 this declarant removed to Clendenins or Elk Fort. The following spring this declarant was again appointed a spy in
company with Michael See by Col. Clendenin and served during that spring and summer until the Inidans retired from their invasions.

Early in the spring of 1792, he was again appointed a spy by the same officers with Fleming Cobb as an assistant in which service he continued engaged until the commencement of cold weather, which drove the Indians home.

In the spring of 1793 this declarant was again appointed a spy by Col. Clendenin and has for his aid one Joseph Burch (?), and continued as before to range the woods until the approach of winter rendered the country secure against the inroads of the Indians. This was the last year of Indian hostilities on the Kanawha and the last of the declarant’s service. From 1783 to 1793 this declarant was, as well as he can remember, every year engaged either as a spy and as such ranged the woods, or acted as a common soldier in defence of some one of the forts on the Kanawha. His service as a spy commenced usually in the spring, in the month of March or April according as the season was mild or severe, and continued until the approach of cold weather when the Indians always returned to their settlements. The time when he was usually in active service as a spy each year was four months but some years longer.

This declarant had a record of his age until the year 1790 when it was burnt up together with the fort at Cole River. He has been a resident of Kanawha County ever since he first came out to it from West Augusta in 1783.

For his character for truth and sobriety this declarant refers to the following gentlemen, residents of Kanawha all of whom have known him for many years and some even since the year '90 – Louis Summers, Fleming Cobb, Andrew Donnelly, David Ruffner, and John Louis (sic. Lewis).

This declarant during the whole service was only a common soldier, except as to one year when he acted as Lieutenant under Capt. John Morris, but never had a written commission. He has no written discharge of any tour of service and does not recollect that he ever received any.

John Young
Five-Generation Ancestor Chart

6 on this chart is the same as 1 on chart #2

= birth date & place
= marriage date & place

M. Neely Young Sr.
b. 8/22/1920
d.
m 4/1943

I M. Neely Young II
b 1/4/1944
m 3/8/1975
d
Spouse: Myra Knowles

Churchill Buck
b 12/16/1921
d

Churchill Marlboro Buck
b 1/13/1878
d 12/15/1974
M 2/25/1903

Elizabeth Blythe
b 1/13/1884
d 2/17/1975

Compiled by: M. Neely Young II

John Milton Young
b 5/17/1866
d 11/1944

Eva Eaton
b 1870
d 1949

Melvin Neely
b 8/1862
d 9/1935

Hortense Williford
b 9/1871
d 1/1945

Charles Peter Buck
b 8/17/1835
d 1915

Miriam Price, d. 2/19/1862
Armistead Churchill, 1809-1873

Rebecca Catlett, 1814-1876
William J. Blythe, 1819-1869

Sarah P. Howard, b. 1818
Dr. W.C. St. John, 1824-1869

Ann M. Gatewood, b. 1830
ve-Generation Ancestor
hart
on this chart is the same as 16 on chart # 1

birth date & place

John Byrd Young
B 1794, Kanawha Co., Va.
D 1880, Kanawha Co., Va.
M 8/14/1816

Jacob Armstrong Young
b 1825, Kanawha Co., Va.
M 10/17/1850
d 5/17/02, Kanawha Co.

Margaret Young
B 1794, Kanawha Co., Va.
D 1864, Kanawha Co., Va.

Charles Francis Young
M 3/29/1793

Sarah (Sallie) Morris
B 1776
D 1842, Charleston, W.Va.

Margaret Hayes
D c. 1784, Augusta Co., Va.

Henry Morris
B c. 1750
D c. 1824, Kanawha Co., Va.

Mary Byrd
B 1747
D c. 1820, Kanawha Co., Va.

Mary Byrd
B 1820, Kanawha Co., Va.

Conrad Young
B 1736, Lancaster, Pa.

Margaret Hayes
D c. 1784, Augusta Co., Va.

Elizabeth Stipps, 1728-1795

John Byrd, 1721-1756

Mary Byrd
B 1747
D c. 1820, Kanawha Co., Va.

Mary Dean, 1725-1756

Matthias Jung, 1711-1749

Compiled by: M. Neely
Young II

See Chart #

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Ve-Generation Ancestor

Johannes Jung

B. c. 1680

Maria

b 1711, Palatine, Germany
m 1735, Lancaster, Pa.
d 1749, Lancaster, Pa.
Spouse Anna M. Fey

Compiled by: M. Neely Young II

See Chart #3

Chart #3

= birth date & place
= marriage date & place
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List of Proper Names

(For further clarification, relationships of people with the same family name are given whenever possible. b/o indicates brother of, w/o indicates wife of, etc.)

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