

There is no proof where Catlett Corley was born. There was a Margaret Catlett who married a Corley in Virginia and this maybe why he was named Catlett. There is also a Valentine Corley who was born ca. 1720 and is documented in Virginia and a Sherwood Corley who was about the same age as Valentine, Catlett, John and Abner Corley who lived in the Sardis/Mt. Willing community. Catlett, Abner and John Corley fought on the Whig side during skirmishes of Tory/Loyalist infighting while living in the Sardis/Clouds Creek/Mt. Willing community before and after the Fall of Charlestowne. He was one of the original members of the Clouds Creek meeting house and was a messenger to the Bethel Association. The Clouds Creek church eventually became the Sardis Church and its first location was closer to Little Saluda River and not where the 2nd church was built on property donated by Rachel Spencer Etheredge's brother, Shepherd Spencer. We know Catlett's memorial tombstone is located to the second location of Sardis Church. His tombstone is located to his son, Adkin Corley. We also know most of his children and who they married and his daughter Phoebe married Arthur Fort, a son of Drury Fort, another S.C. Revolutionary Patriot. This recollection occurred in a Newsberry Observer article by a son of Arthua & Phoebe Fort who was a founder of Gaston, S.C. We know many of his descendants intermarried descendants of Josiah Padget I, Henry and Lott Etheredge and other early families who had homesteads near that of Catlett. Abney's "History of Edgefield" indicates his brother was Nathaniel Corley died with James Butler, Sr. and Jr. under the surprise attack by Tory Major Bill Cunningham's men. We also know others who died or escaped by historical stories passed down by their descendants. There are very little history books regarding the early days of Ninety-Six and Edgefield District, S.C.