

2 July 1992

Mrs. Lila Van Slyke Hyder
944 E. Myrtle Avenue
Glendora, CA 91740

Dear Mrs. Hyder:

Your letter of 20 June to the Platte County Circuit Clerks Office has been referred to me for handling. I am the researcher for the Platte County Historical Society and also handle all queries received by the various offices in the Platte County Court House.

We only have 1 Naturalization book covering 1847-1860. The Carson men that appear in it are:

John H. Carson, native of Ireland age U8. Application dtd 8/20/1851
John Carson, native of Ireland, age ca 51 Application dtd 6/17/1854

I'm sorry that David is not included therein.

I also looked all my other research materials and came up with the following about David Carson:

Annals of Platte County by William Paxton, page 31d T Aug 1839 David Carson appointed (among others) to patrol Carroll Township to keep trespassers from burning and looting.

1839 first property tax list shows David Carson.

Early landowner list shows David purchased on 5 Jun 1843 160 acres in NW 1/4 Sec 22 Twp 52 Rg 35 Lee Twp. This is East of East Leavenworth, MO and North of Farley.

Also shows James Carson purchased on 8 May 1843 160 A in Sec 31 Twp 54 Rg 34. SW ¼

James Carson was a witness to an estate 11 Oct 1852.

Green Cemetery located near Farley, MO shows many Carson names. I'm enclosing copy of this.

I also checked the Probate files and did not find an estate for David.

Sorry to have been such little help to you. Keep us posted on your research.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Barbara Whitters
Rte 3 - 18 Town View Circle
Platte City MO 64079

24 July 1992

Mrs. Lila Van Slyke Hyder
944 East Myrtle Avenue
Glendora, CA 91740

Dear Mrs Hyder:

Re your letter of 10 July asking where you can obtain naturalization records

You seem to be certain that David Carson was granted naturalization through the Platte County Court 19 Oct 18hh. Your certainty may be all the proof you will ever get.

The reason that Platte County has such few records is that during the Civil War our records were all moved from Platte City to Weston for "safe keeping" and when moved back, many books did not make it. So many counties lost records due to fire - we lost ours due to a move that was unnecessary.

Also, for your information, prior to 1900 one did not have to be naturalized, hence another reason one finds so few records. One of my German ancestors fought in the Civil War and I was under the impression that in order to serve the Country one had to be a citizen. Wrong! The Department of Naturalization in Pennsylvania informed me that any one could join the Army (and did) and all early records, if any, were always kept in the County where the naturalization occurred.

Other than having a copy of the actual document, those records told very little. My grandfather was naturalized in the 1890s, being a native of England, and his papers list his name, birth date, country of birth and how long he had been in the States.

So, I'm sorry but I think you may have hit a dead end. Wish I could have been of more help to you.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Barbara Whitters
18 Town View Circle
Platte City, MO 69

Taken from Platte County Circuit Court Record Book E. on 30 Dec 1992

Page 353 - 10 Sept 1853

John Robinson, Administrator Petition in Partition

vs .

James Carson, James Carson, Jr., John Carson, Andrew Carson, Mathew Carson, Jane Blevins, Robert Carson and Andrew Carson, Jr.

And now at this term comes the said Plaintiff-by his attorney and on his motion, James G. Spratt is appointed guardian ad litem for W William Prior [sic], Ann E. Prior and Margaret Prior, infant defendants herein and it appearing to the satisfaction of the Court that the said Defendants are non residents of the State of Missouri and that process cannot be served upon them. It is ordered that they be notified of the pendency of this suit by publication in some newspaper published in the State of Missouri for eight successive weeks, the last notice of which to be at least four weeks previous to the next term of them [sic] court. And unless the said Defendants shall make their personal appearance here on the first day of the next March term of this Court and plead answer or dower to said Plaintiff's petition, the same will be taken as ??.

Page 493 – 14 Mar 1854

John Robinson etal

Petition in Partition

VS

James Carson etal

And now at this day comes James G. Spratt and files his answer as guardian ad litem of said infant defendants.

Page 569 - 25 Mar 1854

John Robinson etal

Petition in Partition

vs

James Carson etal

Now here comes Plaintiff, by his attorney, and files his amended petition.

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Page 581 - 25 Mar 1854

John Robinson, Administrator of
David Carson, Dec'd and Margaret
Robinson, his wife

vs

Petition in Partition

James Carson, Andrew Carson, Mathew Carson,
Jane Blevins, Margaret Prior [sic], William Prior,
Ann Elizabeth Prior, Robert Carson and Andrew
Carson Jr.

Now at this day comes on this cause for hearing on the Petition and proof and this Court being satisfied that David Carson, deceased died seized and possessed of the Northwest Quarter of Section 22 Township 52 Range 35 in Platte County, Missouri. Plaintiff John Robinson and his wife, Margaret Robinson, are entitled in right of said Margaret N. Robinson, a daughter of Smith Carson who was a brother of David Carson, deceased and the niece of said David Carson, is entitled to one fourth of said Smith Carson's one sixth part of David Carson's estate. The said James Carson being a brother of David Carson deceased is entitled to one sixth part of said David Carson's estate. John Carson, Brother also one sixth. Andrew Carson Sr., also brother is entitled to one sixth part. Mathew Carson also brother is entitled to one sixth part. Jane Blevins, sister of said David Carson deceased is entitled to one sixth part. 'Margaret Prior daughter of Ann Elizabeth Prior who was

a daughter of Smith Carson, deceased and niece of David Carson deceased is entitled to an interest of one third part of Ann Elizabeth Prior Senior's one fourth part. William Prior son of Ann Elizabeth Prior Sr. is entitled to one third of one fourth part. Ann Elizabeth Prior Jr., daughter of Ann Elizabeth Prior Sr., is entitled to one third of one fourth part. And the Court being fully satisfied that the titled to said land was legally in said David Carson deceased derived from the U. S. Government and the Court being satisfied that the above named heirs are all the heirs of said David Carson deceased and that they are severally entitled to receive the interest above stated. And the Court being further advised that partition of said land cannot be made without injury to the parties concerned. It is therefore considered and ordered by the Court that partition of said land be made and as said land cannot be divided in kind, that the same be sold by the Sheriff of Platte County on the first Monday in September next according to the law and that the proceeds of the sale be paid out to said heirs as they severally are entitled to receive as aforesaid and the Sheriff report to the next term of this Court to which term this cause be continued.

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Page 680 - Monday 18 Sept 1854

John Robinson, Administrator of
David Carson, Dec'd and Margaret
Robinson, his wife

vs

Petition in Partition

James Carson, Andrew Carson, Mathew Carson,
Jane Blevins, Margaret Prior, William Prior,
Ann Elizabeth Prior

Now at this day comes the parties and it appearing to the Court here that in the Order of Partition made herein at the last term of this Court, the names of the said Defendants Robert Carson and Andrew Carson were omitted. It is therefore

ordered that the said Robert Carson and Andrew Carson he ordered their equal distributive shares of the proceeds of the sale of said land towit: One third or one sixth part each and it is also ordered that the sum of Seventy five Dollars he set apart to the Administrator out of the proceeds of this sale of said land to pay the expenses of the Administrator.

Now on this day comes the said Plaintiff by their attorney and file their amended Petition whereupon the guardian ad litem heretofore appointed files answer.

Page 689 - Monday 18 Sept 1854

Now at this day comes Lycurgus Shepard, Sheriff of Platte County, Missouri and presents here a deed of conveyance by him executed as Sheriff as aforesaid to Nathan Pryer for the following real estate towit: The Northwest Quarter of Section 22 Township 52 Range 35 containing 160 acres as sold by said Sheriff in pursuance of an order of Partition from the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Platte County aforesaid and here in open Court the said Sheriff acknowledged said deed of conveyance to be his act and for the purpose therein mentioned.

Page 696 - Tuesday 19 Sept 1854

John Robinson, Administrator etal

vs

James Carson etal

Petition in Partition

Now at this day comes the Sheriff of Platte County and makes his report of sale which is in words and figures as follows:

To the Honorable, the Circuit Court of Platte County: The undersigned did

respectfully report that he did, as Sheriff of Platte County, in pursuance to the order of this Court, proceed to advertise [sic] for sale the lands belonging to the estate of David Carson, deceased towit: The Northwest Quarter of Section 22 Township 52 Range 35 in Platte Couty [sic] MO by advertisement inserted successively for 20 days prior to the day of sale in the Industrial Luminary, a public newspaper published at Parkville in Platte County in the State of Missouri and did in pursuance of said notice and said Order of Court proceed between the hours of nine of the clock in the forenoon and five of the clock in the afternoon of the first Monday in September in AD 1854

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at the Court House of Platte County in Platte City and during the session of the Circuit Court of Platte County offer said land for sale at public auction to the highest and best bidder for ready money and Nathan Pryer [sic] being the highest [sic] and best bidder became the purchaser thereof at and for the sum of eleven dollars per acre making the sum of Seventeen and sixty Dollars which said sum has been fully paid out as follows towit: Paid fees of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Platte County, thirty five dollars and fifteen cents. Paid printing six dollars. Executed Order of Court one dollar per cent on amount of sale to Sheriff thirty five dollars and twenty cents. Paid amount allowed attorneys fees fifty dollars making the amount paid out for expenses one hundred twenty seven dollars and thirty five cents, leaving the balance to be distributed one thousand six hundred twenty two dollars and thirty five cents, which sum he has in hand to pay out as follows: John Robinson and his wife Margaret Robinson the sum of sixty eight dollars two and one half cents; To Robert Carson the sum of sixty eight dollars and two and one half cents; To Andrew Carson the sum of sixty eight dollars and two and one half cents; To Margaret Pryer, William Fryer and Ann Elizabeth Pryer Jr., each the sum of twenty two dollars and sixty seven and one third cents; and to James Carson, John Carson, Andrew Carson Sr., Martha [sic] Carson and Jane Blevins each the sum of two hundred seventy two dollars and ten and five sixth cents. Receipts for the several sums so paid out will be presented as vouchers and when presented asked to be taken as part of this report all of which is respectfully submitted.

L. Shepherd, Sheriff

Which said report was received and confirmed by this Court.

7 January 1993

Mrs. Lila Van Slyke Hyder
944 E. Myrtle Avenue
Glendora, CA 91740

Dear Lila:

Have decided you either are employed or are on a trip. Have been trying to telephone you with no success for the past several days. Tried at all sort of hours, day and night. Oh well, I'll just have to ask my question by mail.

WHY do you think that David Carson was your great great grandfather? Is there some documentation to the fact or are you assuming that because he came to Oregon first, then your great grandfather Andrew followed, that they were father and son?

You mentioned in our telephone conversation that in the book about the trek westward on the Oregon Trail David was referred to as Uncle Davy. It is my premise that that is exactly what he was!...great grandfather Andrew's uncle; brother to Andrew's father, Smith Carson.

Now that I've thrown a wrench into your thinking gears, I will try to explain how I came to this conclusion.

I think I told you that I have found a Platte County, Missouri Probate estate for David which had very few papers of consequence in the packet. However, one paper showed that someone was paying taxes on the land he owned in the NW1/4 of Sec. 22 Twp 52 Rg 35 (160 acres) for the years 1850 thru 1856. I also could not find (and still can't) a deed where the property was sold. So I decided to try a different line of search. I went to the Circuit Court books and Voila! found a Partition suit filed by the administrator of the estate (who also was the husband of

David's niece Margaret) asking that he be allowed to sell the property as it could not be divided equitably among the heirs. In the Petition for Partition the heirs are named and their relationship to David is given. We end up with David having brothers James, John, Andrew Sr., Matthew and a sister Jane Blevins, plus Margaret Robinson and Ann Elizabeth Pryor, daughters of David's deceased brother Smith and two other men, Robert and Andrew Carson

Please note that there is never mentioned that David had a wife or children.....

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By the time David's estate was totally settled in November 1859 his brothers James and John Sr., were deceased. Of course brother Smith had predeceased him.

I have enclosed pages showing the Partition Suit which includes the Sheriff's report of sale for the sum of \$1760.00 and his disbursement of funds after subtracting court costs etc., in the amount of \$127.35 was to be from the balance of \$1622.35. He then lists the following as paid:

A.	Margaret Robinson and husband John	\$ 68.025
	Robert Carson	68.025
	Andrew Carson	68.025
	Heirs of Ann Elizabeth Pryor Sr.,	
	Margaret	22.6733
	William	22.6733
	Ann Elizabeth Jr.	<u>22.6733</u>
	(above are heirs of Smith Carson, David's deceased brother and they share his share of the estate)	\$272.10
B.	James Carson	\$272.10

(Sometime between Sept. 1854 when the Sheriff sold the land and early 1858 when the first affidavit was made, James Carson must have died. His share of David's estate was then distributed to his heirs as follows:

Jane Young and husband Benjamin	\$129.20
William Carson	<u>129.20</u>
	\$258.40

This amount is \$13.70 short of being James' full share of the estate, however, there could have been court costs in this amount in North Carolina and Platte County.)

C. John Carson \$272.10

(Again, sometime between **Sept. 1854 when the Sheriff sold the land and the early part of 1858** when the first affidavit was made, John Carson must have died. His share of David's estate was then distributed to his heirs as follows:

\$24.67 to each of the following:

James H. Carson	William Carson
John H. Carson	Andrew J. Carson
Robert Carson	Edwin Carson V
Thomas J. Carson	Peggy, wife of Francis Bryan
Jane, wife of John Hawthorn	

for a total of \$222.03.

This amount is \$50.07 short of being John's full share so court costs could account for the difference here too.)

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- D. Andrew Carson Sr. \$272.10
(Andrew only received \$252.75 making a difference of \$9.35 which again could be court costs)
- E. Mathew Carson \$272.10
- F. Jane Blevins \$272.10
(Jane, wife of Joseph Blevins, actually received only \$222.25 making a difference of \$59.55. Court costs again?)

The arithmetic the Sheriff (or Court Clerk) used leaves a lot to be desired. They sold the land for \$1760.00

Less court costs 126.35
To distribute 6 ways \$1633.65 = \$272.28 each heir

The way the Sheriff adds he comes up with \$127.35 in court costs and a balance of \$1622.35 to distribute or \$270.39 for each of the 6 heirs.

If the numbers are correct as to what was actually distributed (A thru F above) then he paid out \$1509.63 leaving \$112.72 unaccounted for (using his numbers) and \$125.02 unaccounted for using correct figures.

Whatever,.....we now know who David's heirs were in reality and since there is no mention of a wife or children we can safely assume that David was a bachelor!

I then looked up all the other siblings and put their individual families together. The job was not made easy as the brothers each named one or two of their children the same name, i.e., John and Mathew both had sons named Smith (after their deceased brother); John, James and Mathew all three had sons named William; John, Smith and Andrew all had sons named John; John, Smith and Mathew all had Roberts and John and Smith both had Andrews. This makes 'for total confusion and disorientation, but I think I got it all figured out. Of course, you will want to take all the information enclosed and make your own conclusions.

I'm also enclosing what I term "time-line" sheets that show me at a glance just exactly what information I lack on each person in the family. The numbers in parenthesis after the years indicate the persons age at that time.

The name of Rebecca that appeared on the Oregon estate papers is a puzzlement to me. The only Rebecca I unearthed was the daughter of David's nephew William, son of James. William had other children so it seems strange that just one was singled out BUT I would imagine that the information received by the Courts in Oregon at David's death had to have come from two people - David's black wife who probably didn't know very much about the family and your great grandfather Andrew who at 21 or 22 years of age, probably didn't know much more than Letitia.

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I think every thing else enclosed is pretty self-explanatory, but if you have any question, please write or call (816-431-5576).

Sincerely,

Mrs. Barbara Whitters
18 Town View Circle
Platte City, MO 64079

P.S. Two more things:

1. Andrew also had a son named Andrew who was born ca 1830 but I DO NOT believe this was your relative who came to Oregon even tho this family did come to Missouri settling in Barry County.

Andrew who was the son of Smith has to Be your relative in Oregon simply because he was in Platte County with his parents at the same time that David was, thus giving him the incentive to follow his uncle west. Also Smith was in Stokes Co. at Andrew's birth.

2. If you will look at a map of Virginia and North Carolina you will see the proximity of Carroll County VA to Ashe and Stokes Counties, NC and also Haywood County NC.

North Carolina Marriages up to 1800

Carson:

Agnes to James Duff 11 Feb 1773 Guilford Co.
Bonater to Charity Peers 28 Nov 1796 Stokes Co.
Daniel to Mary Watson 7 Nov 1798 Rutherford Co.
Elizabeth to Allen Barbee 17 Dec 1797 Orange Co.
Elizabeth to Thomas Bell 24 Oct 1874 Guilford Co.
Honour to Walter Braley 21 Feb 1788 Rowan Co.
James to Elizabeth Douglass 13 Jan 1792 Surry Co.
John to Mary Withrow 2 Feb 1789 Rutherford Co.
John to Mary McBroom 8 Feb 1767 Rowan Co.
John to Sarah Staven 31 Aug 1775 Rowan Co.
John E. to Margaret Hunter 25 Dec 1792 Orange Co.
Margaret to John Reed 4 Mar 1779 Guilford Co.
Mary to James Atkins 8 Feb 1790 Orange Co.
Mary to Robert Gordon 11 Mar 1773 Rowan Co.
Peter to Rachel Cox 5 Jul 1786 Lincoln Co.
Prudence to William Duffy 1 Aug 1780 Rowan Co.
Rachel to William Clark 19 Aug 1795 Orange Co.
Rebecca to Joseph Paterson 17 Mar 1772 Guilford Co.
Robert to Ellis Patterson 20 Dec 1782 Rowan Co.
Robert to Elizabeth Paterson 25 Nov 1785 Rowan Co.

North Carolina Taxpayers 1579-1790

Carson:

Alexander Orange Co. 1779	Moses Orange Co. 1779
David Rowan Co. 1761	Robert Rowan Co. 1761
James Rowan Co. 1761	Sarah Perquimans Co. 1772
James Orange Co. 1779	Thomas Surry Co. 1782
Jesse Perquimans Co. 1772	Walter Rutherford Co. 1782
John Rutherford Co. 1782	

Stokes County was formed in 1789 from Surry County

Surry County was formed 1771 from Rowan County

Platte County Naturalization for David Carson. Circuit Court Record
Book B page 125 - Monday 21 October 1844:

And now here comes David Carson and makes application to become a citizen of the United States and the Court being satisfied that he had fully complied with the Act of Congress in such cases made and provided the said David Carson now here takes the final oath to support the constitution of the United States and otherwise demean himself as a good and peaceable citizen thereof and that he now renounces and abjures forever all obligations and fidelity to every foreign Prince, Potentate, State or Sovereignty [sic] whatever and particularly to Victoria, Queen of Great Britain and Ireland of whom he was heretofore a subject.