The Family of Captain James Booth

The traditional claim is that Booth married Samuel Stalnaker's daughter Nancy. My Stalnaker contact, Lisa DeGruyter, says no one has come up with documentation of this. In any case Booth's widow was named Sarah; married Edmond Freeman, etc.

The traditional case also makes Booth an older man. Lough contributed to this picture but I don't suppose he began it. I suspect our James's identity was merged with some other fellow's, sometime prior to the Loudoun connection turning up.

Robert Booth named James Booth his executor in a will written in 1760. Assuming that this was James the son it follows that he was 21 at the time, or born no later than 1739, as a minor wouldn't have been chosen.

In the chancery papers the attorney for John of Loudoun says that James was never in possession of the land devised to him in the will. Perhaps this isn't strictly true. The attorney may have been setting up as many objections as he could think of. But if true it should imply that James left Loudoun quite early.

So now we have "James Booth: the Missing Years."

In any case he improved on Booths Creek in 1768 (per his deposition); was spending much of his time in 1770 at the residence of John Evans (Dudley's father I presume); arguably made a further improvement on the homestead in 1771 (as claimed by his heirs before the commissioners); and witnessed the birth of his eldest son in '74 or thereabouts.

Booth's daughter Barsheba married Alexander McClelland in the spring of 1788, apparently without parental consent. This ought to place her birth in 1770 at the latest, making her the eldest of the children I'm aware of. Daughter Sarah, meanwhile, married with the consent of her stepfather in 1789; if this was at age 16 or 17 we could estimate her birth year as 1772 or '73. Son James married without consent in 1797; if at 21, then born ca. 1776.

These guesses combine to produce the result below.

James Booth, b. 1739 or before, d. ca. 1778, married Sarah [______]; had issue:
1. Barsheba, b.ca. 1770, married Alexander McClelland;
2. Sarah, b.ca. 1772, married Evan Thomas (removed to Indiana);
3. John, b.ca. 1774, married Mary [_____] (removed to Kentucky and Indiana);
4. James, b.ca. 1776, married Elizabeth Tucker.

I have no idea how accurate this would prove to be if all the facts were known. It's just what I'm holding up until additional facts arrive. And I agree we don't know where Mrs. Booth and the children were living. Still, except for Logan's revenge the area wasn't exposed to raiding until after the children were born.

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