## Am I related to Jim? (James Cathcart)

This is in response to an email asking if I was related to "Jim." At first, I didn't know who she was talking about... time to start an investigation.

The person sending the email was named Rachel Ball. I found an interesting candidate in Vera Cathcart (1915-1999), who married Heaman Roland Ball (1921-1983). Vera had a brother named James Paul... so perhaps this was "Jim." A subsequent email confirmed that I had the correct family.

But now I need to trace back and see if there was a connection.

My database stopped at James Paul and Vera's parents: <u>James and Annie Woodward Cathcart</u>.

Time to break down a brick wall.

Given the location of the census records I had matched with James:

- 1920: Glen Springs, Spartanburg County, SC age 25
- 1930: Cross Anchor, Spartanburg County, SC age 35

It would appear that James is a "Spartanburg Cathcart." But where does he fit in?

To further nail down James' date of birth, I found this likely World War I draft registration card (June of 1917):



The date of birth looks good, and his present address of Pauline, SC is within five miles of Glenn Springs... so that matches. James states that he had a wife and two children (Vera and Frank H) on that date, and that also matches my data fairly closely.

James gives his birth location as Pacolet, which is much further to the north... more on that later.

Next, who are James' parents? I started looking for James Cathcarts in the Glenn Springs area of SC.

The best match was William Hampton & Della Cathcart. Jim is six in 1900 and 15 in 1910, which matches quite well.

The 1910 Census has BS and WH Cathcart living right next door to each other.

Figure 1 James World War 1 draft card



Figure 2 1920 Jonesville, Union, South Carolina p. 11b

Della's name helps us link this family to my existing data, and to confirm that WH is William Hampton Cathcart.

Also, given the ages and next-door location, it would appear that BS Cathcart was James' brother. More on BS (Boyd Samuel) later.

Here's the 1900 census William and Lavanica or Lovinia



Figure 31900 Census Union Dist 78, Union SC p. 23b

This census enumeration is confusing for a couple of reasons. First, the wife of the head of household is listed as "Mrs. Robert," not making it easy to figure out the wife's first name. Secondly, Boyd and John are listed as "son," which should apply to their relationship to the head of household. In this case—and given the shared last name—they are the sons of William and Laura Louvine "Lovinia" *Sumners* Cathcart. Furthermore, William and Lovinia's daughter Frances was their only daughter, and she married Robert Larry Cromer.

## **Boyd Samuel Cathcart**

Boyd's WW1 1917 draft card<sup>1</sup> lists his age as 39. Next of kin is "Maggie Cathcart." This record helped solidify his birth date.

Since Boyd's first wife, Carrie Wood Cathcart died in September 1912, and since he had not yet remarried when he filled out his draft registration card, Maggie Cathcart is likely his then 15-year-old daughter.



Figure 4 Boyd's WW1 draft card

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/24457085:6482

Named in honor of Revolutionary war soldier, Frederick Switzer, the town of Switzer is located about five miles north of Woodruff in Spartanburg county.<sup>2</sup>

By the 1920 census, we see Boyd is 41 and his wife Pauline is 38. The Smith step children indicate that Pauline was married before.

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	= nordl	Daughter	7 w 12 5
V	= Robert & t.	Low	12 W 9 5
	Smith Engling	stey son	m w 10 5
4	= Cole K.	Step for	m w 5 5
4	= Wather. B.	stip son	m w 210 5
170 101	Sister Ida	Sister Kaw	7 w 29 5

Figure 5 1920 Jonesville, Union, South Carolina p. 11b

Having a daughter named "Tiny" makes searching easier!

Then to prove that Pauline's maiden name was Lister, here's the 1910 Census showing that Pauline and Ida Lister were sisters:

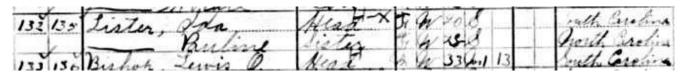


Figure 6. 1910 Jonesville, Spartanburg, South Carolina p. 11b

By 1930 Pauline's two boys' last name has been changed to Cathcart.

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Figure 7. 1930 Gaffney, Cherokee, South Carolina, p. 5a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://news.google.com/newspapers?id=FLAeAAAAIBAJ&sjid=ec4EAAAAIBAJ&pg=2857%2C3334537 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Switzer, South Carolina