

Probably, after the spring rains of 1804, John Cockerham, Sr. left Barnwell, South Carolina, with most of his family, traveled along what may have been Indian trading trails and what was to be called the Federal Road (built through Cherokee and Creek Nations), to what is now Amite County, Mississippi, becoming well established with property.^{13,14} Even though no Cockerhams were listed as heads of households in the June 1805 U.S. Census of the Mississippi Territory, at least part of the Cockerham clan was there, as evidenced by the birth of Thomas Cockerham, the 2nd son of John Cockerham, Jr. and Nancy Tarver Cockerham, 4 Mar 1805, in Amite County. Considering the spring rains and the fall hurricane season in the southeastern United States, the best time for travel of this nature was the summer.

(1) Benjamin
John Cockerham, Sr. and his wife(s) had nine children:^{14,20,25,26} 1) Henry, married Cynthia Chadwich; 2) Thomas, 1st wife unknown, 2nd married Mary Valentine;¹⁴ 3) John, Jr., married Nancy Tarver;²⁰ 4) Nancy, married Westley Tarver;²⁰ 5) David Bent, married Jane D. Chadwich; 6) Judith, married Thomas Tarver;²⁰ 7) Sarah, married John Cockerham;²⁷ 8) Elizabeth, married Allen Tarver;²⁷ and 9) Phoebe, married James Sanders.²⁸

In Mississippi: 1820 census