James Tompkins — Kentucky Land Grant — Patent No. 1245 (Commissioners' Certificate No. 3494)

200 Acres on the Crab Orchard Fork of Tradewater, Christian County, Kentucky
Original Claimant and Patentee

Land Record Abstract and Survey Summary

Disclaimer

The transcription was generated with Archival Document Transcriber Gemini, and Claude Sonnet 5 extracted the facts into the Kentucky Land Grants template. In November 2026, Claude Opus 5.5 checked every entry against the record images and corrected it. Bracketed text is an editorial reading or expansion. Some images include modern notes added by the Kentucky Secretary of State archivist.

Source Citation

Kentucky Secretary of State, Land Office, Kentucky Land Grants (South of Green River), Grant No. 1245, James Tompkins, 200 acres, Christian County: Commissioners' certificate No. 3494, 18 October 1798; survey for James Thompkins, 6 November 1798, received 19 October 1799, endorsed "Recorded in Book No. 2 Page 56"; Auditor's Office receipt, 30 October 1807; patent, 30 October 1807, page 400 [grant book not named]. Digital images supplied by the Kentucky Secretary of State, Land Office. Indexed in Willard Rouse Jillson, The Kentucky Land Grants: A Systematic Index to All of the Land Grants Recorded in the State Land Office at Frankfort, Kentucky, 1782–1924, Filson Club Publications No. 33 (Louisville: Standard Printing Co., 1925; reprint, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1994), "South of Green River," p. 423, as "Tompkins, James."

Abstract

On 18 October 1798 the commissioners Richard Young, Robert Mosby and James Brown certified that James Tompkins ("Jas. Thompkins") was entitled to 200 acres of first-rate land by virtue of his having improved it, under the act "for encouraging and granting relief to settlers," located on the Crab Orchard Fork of Clear Creek, beginning on a black oak and dogwood on Arnold's [?] line and running east with that line, then south to an old line and with it to include his improvement (Certificate No. 3494). On 6 November 1798 Deputy Surveyor Will Ward, for Young Ewing, S.C.C., surveyed the 200 acres for James Thompkins in Christian County on the Crab Orchard Fork of Tradewater as a square of 178.8 poles on each side, its southeast corner a black oak, dogwood and gum in a military line. Martin Saunders and Pa[yton] Brown carried the chain. The plat was received on 19 October 1799 and endorsed "State price not pd." On 30 October 1807 the Auditor received of James Tompkins the Treasurer's receipt for $80 in full on Certificate No. 3494, and the same day Governor Christopher Greenup signed the patent to James Thompkins. The margin notes that it was examined and delivered to the owner on 30 October 1807.

Survey Description

Metes and bounds as written in the survey and confirmed against the patent. Distances are in poles.

Surveyed for James Thompkins 200 acres of land by virtue of the Commissioners' Certificate No. 3494, in Christian County on the Crab Orchard Fork of Tradewater. Beginning at a white oak; thence East 178.8 poles to a post oak on a ridge; thence South 178.8 poles to a black oak, dogwood and gum in a military line; thence West to a stake 178.8 poles; thence North 178.8 poles to the beginning. November 6th 1798.

Record Summary

Certificate Number	3494 (Commissioners' certificate, for having improved the land)
Survey Grant Register Number	1245
Original Claimant	James Tompkins ("Jas. Thompkins")
Assignment	None; James Tompkins was claimant and patentee
Surveyed For / Patentee	James Thompkins (indexed by Jillson as "Tompkins, James")
Acreage	200 acres (first-rate per the certificate; second-rate per the receipt)
Watercourse	Crab Orchard Fork of Tradewater (certificate: Crab Orchard Fork of Clear Creek)
County in Survey	Christian County
Adjoining	A military line at the southeast corner; the certificate names Arnold's [?] line and an old line
Certificate Date	18 October 1798
Survey Date	6 November 1798
Received by Land Office	19 October 1799 ("State price not pd.")
Recording	Survey: Book No. 2, page 56. Patent: page 400 [grant book not named]
Patent / Grant Issued	30 October 1807, signed by Governor Christopher Greenup and Secretary Alfred W. Grayson; delivered to the owner the same day
State Price Notation	$80, in full, received of James Tompkins, 30 October 1807
Deputy Surveyor / Chain	Will Ward, D.S., for Young Ewing, S.C.C.; Martin

Carriers	Saunders and Pa[yton] Brown, chain carriers
Commissioners	Richard Young, Robert Mosby and James Brown

Chronology

18 October 1798	Commissioners Richd. Young, Robt. Mosby and Jas. Brown certify James Tompkins's claim to 200 acres of first-rate land on the Crab Orchard Fork of Clear Creek, to include his improvement (Certificate No. 3494)
6 November 1798	200 acres surveyed for James Thompkins on the Crab Orchard Fork of Tradewater by Will Ward, D.S., for Young Ewing, S.C.C.; chain carriers Martin Saunders and Pa[yton] Brown
19 October 1799	Plat received; endorsed "State price not pd."; recorded Book No. 2, page 56
30 October 1807	$80 paid in full by James Tompkins; Grant No. 1245 issued to James Thompkins, signed by Governor Christopher Greenup and Secretary Alfred W. Grayson; delivered to the owner the same day

Persons Named in the Record

James Tompkins	Original claimant; improved the land; surveyed for; patentee ("Thompkins," "Thomkins" and "Tomkins" in the record)
Arnold [?]	Named in the certificate: the claim begins on his line
Martin Saunders	Chain carrier
Pa[yton] Brown	Chain carrier (first name torn)
Will Ward	Deputy surveyor
Young Ewing	Surveyor of Christian County (S.C.C.)
Richard Young, Robert Mosby, James Brown	Commissioners
George Madison	Auditor of Public Accounts
Christopher Greenup	Governor
Alfred W. Grayson	Secretary

Land Description

A 200-acre tract on the Crab Orchard Fork of Tradewater in Christian County, Kentucky (the certificate places it on the Crab Orchard Fork of Clear Creek), surveyed as a square of 178.8 poles on each side, with its southeast corner in a military line.

Research Notes

A corner in a military line. The survey runs south 178.8 poles to "a black oak dogwood and gum in a military line," then west "to a stake." Only the southeast corner is said to stand in the military line; the survey does not say which way that line runs, and the west course is not described as running with it. The line drawn beside the plat, headed by a fleur-de-lis, appears to be a north arrow rather than the military line.

Same day and same deputy as 1244. Will Ward surveyed this tract on 6 November 1798, the same day he surveyed Silas McBee's KLG 1244, with the same chain carriers, Martin Saunders and Payton Brown; the next day he surveyed Hannah McBee's KLG 1241 and Bezaleel Weir's KLG 1243. This certificate (No. 3494), McBee's (No. 3492) and Bezaleel Weir's (No. 3495) were all issued by the same commissioners on 18 October 1798, and McBee's certificate also places his claim on the Crab Orchard Fork of Clear Creek. The plats of 1244 and this survey were both received on 19 October 1799 and both endorsed "State price not pd."; 1244 is recorded in Book No. 2, page 55, and this survey on page 56. None of these surveys calls for another by name.

The certificate. The certificate locates the claim "On the Crab Orchard fork of Clear Creek Beginning on a Black Oak and Dogwood on Arnold's [?] line and Running East and with said line thence South to an old line and with said line for Complement to include his Improvement." The name before "line" is altered and uncertain. The survey begins instead at a white oak and runs east, south, west and north, and it calls for neither Arnold's line nor an old line.

Two watercourse names. The certificate places the land on the Crab Orchard Fork of Clear Creek; the survey and the patent place it on the Crab Orchard Fork of Tradewater. The record does not explain the difference.

Spellings. The name is written "Jas. Thompkins" on the certificate and "Jas. Thomkins" on its back, "James Thompkins" on the survey and "James Tomkins" on the back of the survey, "Jas. Thompkins" and "James Thompkins" on the patent, and "James Tompkins" on the receipt. Jillson indexes the grant as "Tompkins, James."

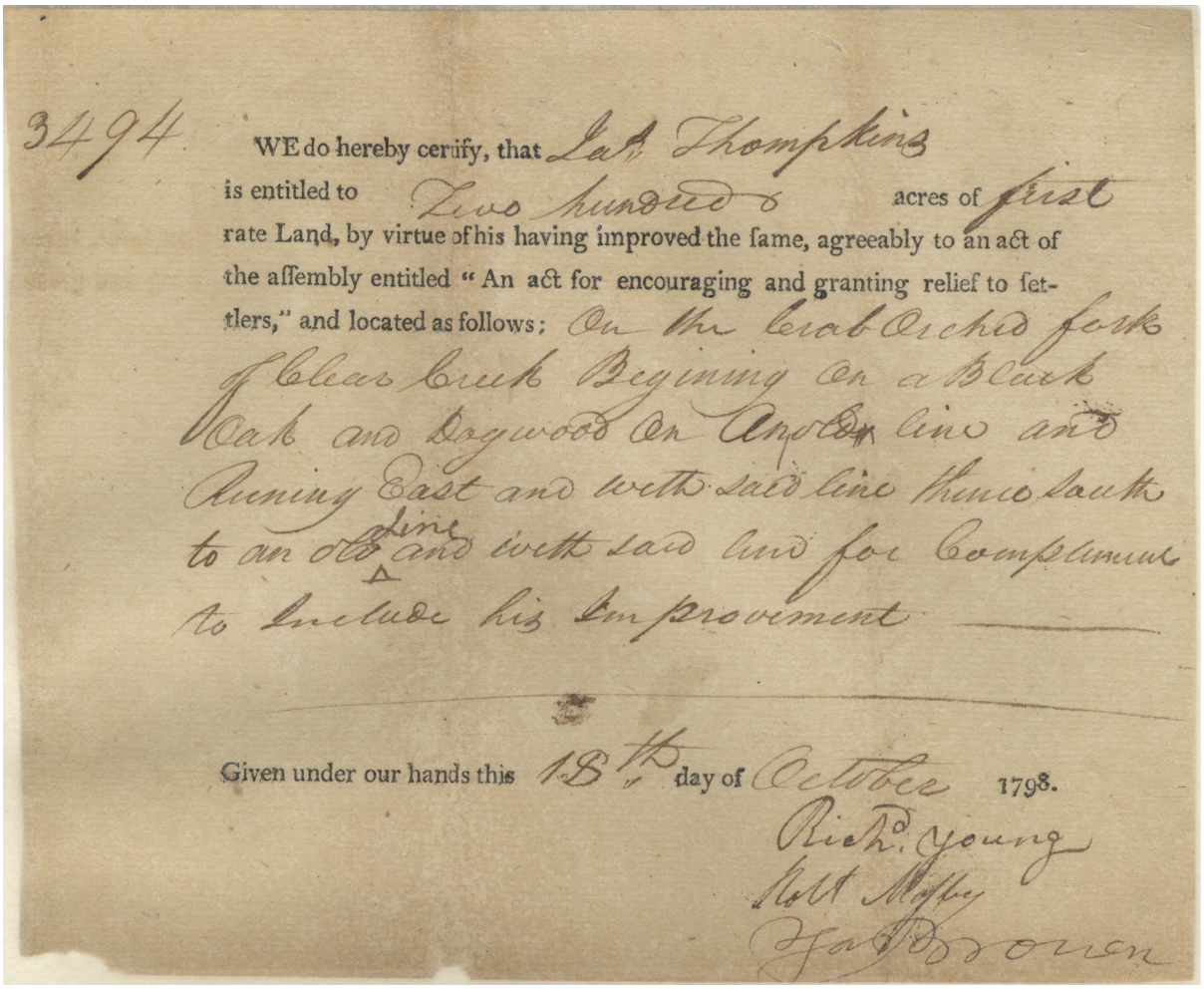
Payment and patent. The receipt of 30 October 1807 is for the Treasurer's receipt for $80 "in full" on Certificate No. 3494 for 200 acres of second-rate land in Christian County, signed by George Madison, A.P.A. (Auditor of Public Accounts); the certificate itself describes the land as first-rate. Governor Christopher Greenup and Secretary Alfred W. Grayson signed the patent the same day. Its margin reads "Jas. Thompkins, 200 acres, Christian, Exd & Dd to the Owner 30th Oct 1807, No 1245."

Recording. The back of the survey is endorsed "James Tomkins 200 Acres," "Exd & Recorded Y.E.," "No 1245," "Recd 19 Oct 99," "State price not pd.," "Recorded in Book No. 2 Page 56" and "Grant issd 30th Oct 1807." A modern blue-ink note beside the page number reads "156," and the same blue "156" appears on the face of the survey. The

patent's first page is headed "400," which appears to be its page number; the grant book is not named. Plotted, the survey closes and holds about 200 acres.

Images / Appendix

The following manuscript images accompany this record.



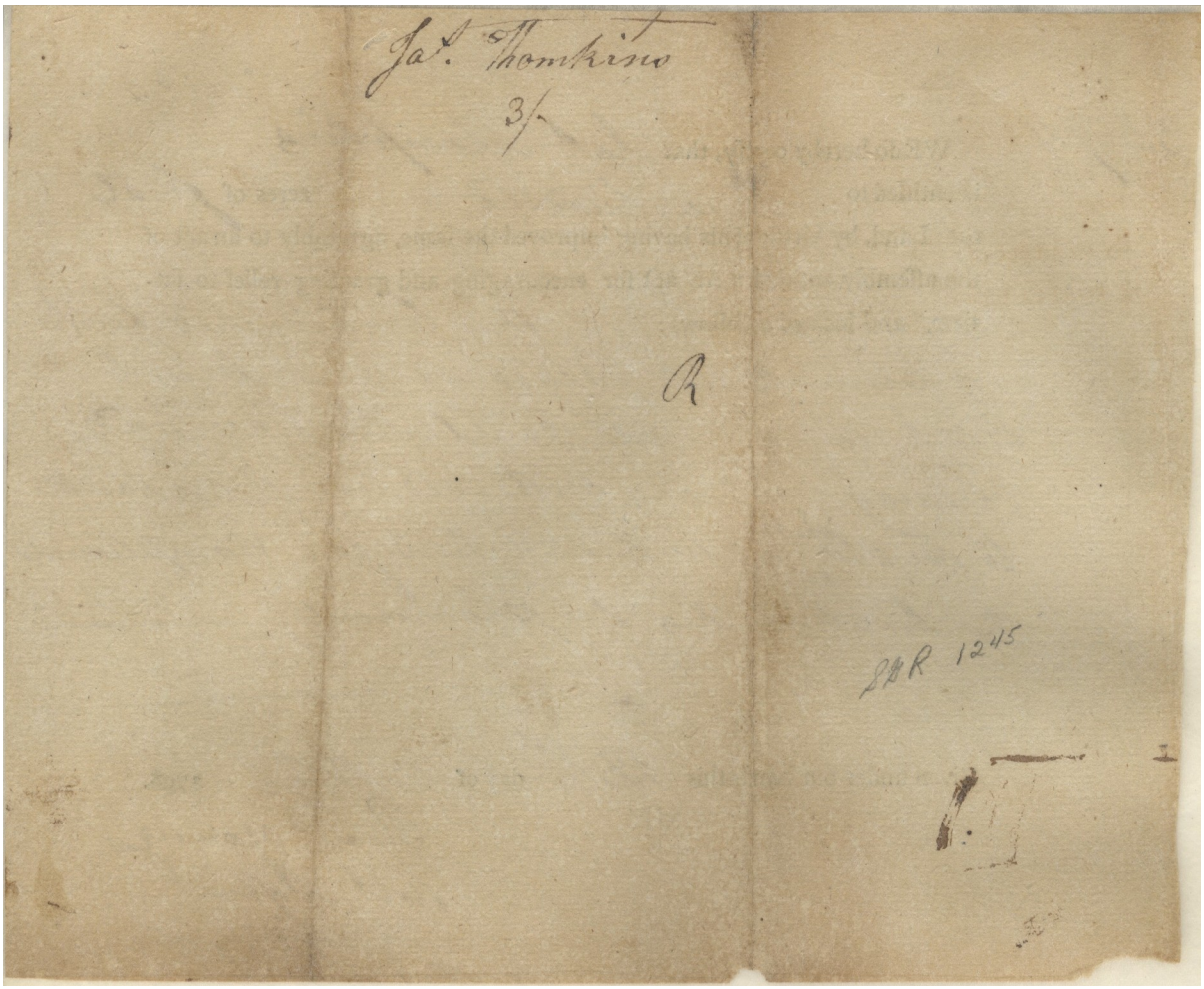
3494

WE do hereby certify, that Jas. Thompkins is entitled to Two hundred acres of first rate Land, by virtue of his having improved the same, agreeably to an act of the assembly entitled "An act for encouraging and granting relief to settlers," and located as follows: On the Crab Orched fork of Clear Creek Begining on a Black Oak and Dogwood on An old line and Runing East and with said line thence South to an old line and with said line for Complement to Include his Improvement

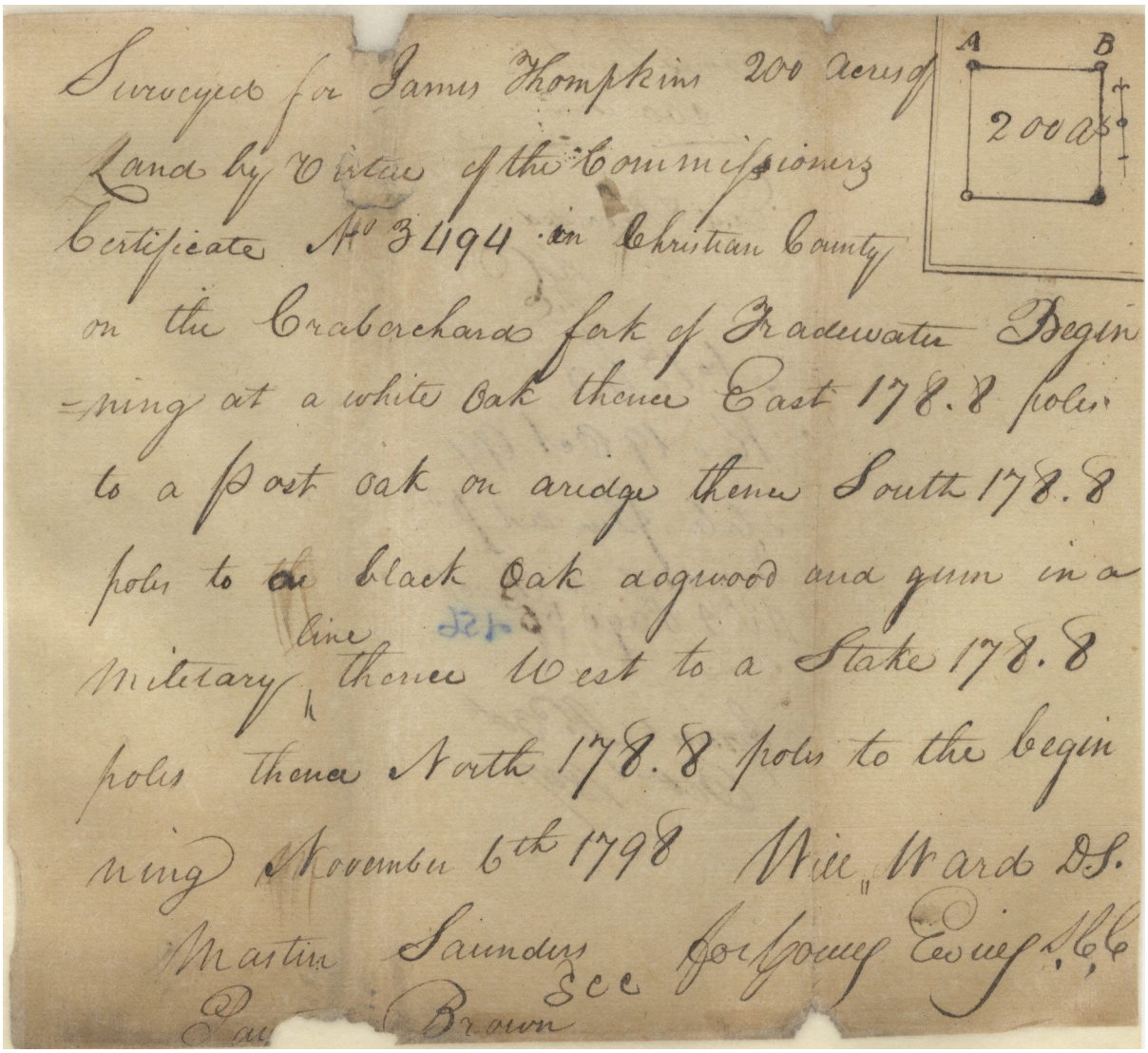
Given under our hands this 18th day of October 1798.

Richd. Young
Robt Mosby
Jas Brown

Appendix Image 1. Commissioners' Certificate No. 3494 — Front (18 October 1798).



Appendix Image 2. Certificate — Back.

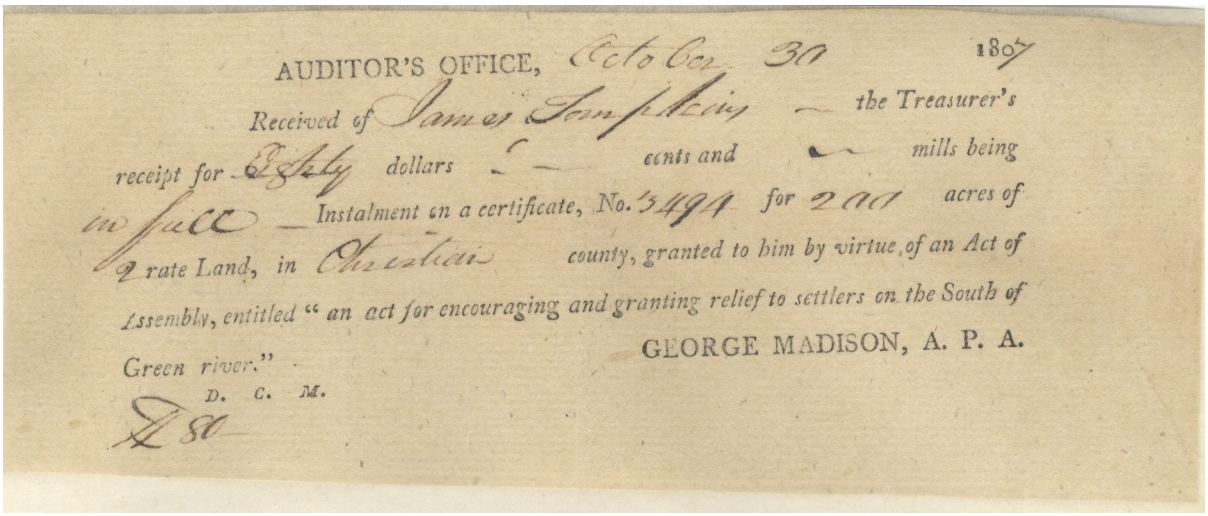


Surveyed for James Thompkins 200 acres of
Land by Virtue of the Commissioners
Certificate No 3494 in Christian County
on the Craberchard fork of Tradewater Begin
=ning at a white Oak thence East 178.8 poles
to a Post oak on aridge thence South 178.8
poles to a black Oak dogwood and gum in a
Military line thence West to a Stake 178.8
poles thence North 178.8 poles to the begin
ning November 6th 1798 Will Ward D.S.
Martin Saunders for Young Ewing S.C.C.
Pa[illegible] Brown SCC

Appendix Image 3. Survey No. 1245 — Front (6 November 1798).



Appendix Image 4. Survey No. 1245 — Back (received 19 October 1799; recorded Book No. 2, page 56; grant issued 30 October 1807).



AUDITOR'S OFFICE, October 30 1807

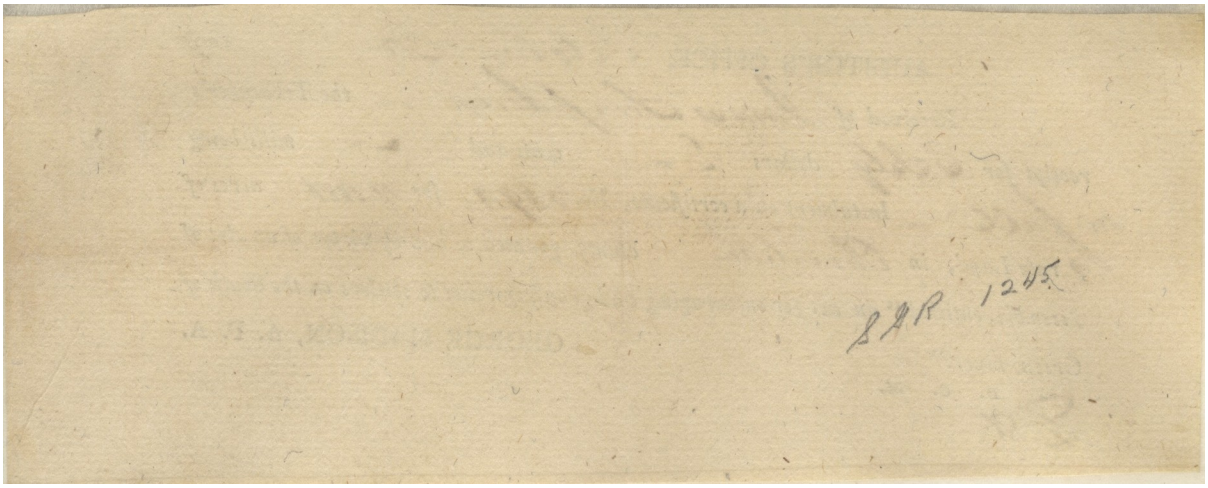
Received of James Tompkins — the Treasurer's receipt for Eighty dollars — cents and — mills being in full — Instalment on a certificate, No. 3494 for 200 acres of Waste Land, in Christian county, granted to him by virtue of an Act of Assembly, entitled "an act for encouraging and granting relief to settlers on the South of Green river."

GEORGE MADISON, A. P. A.

D. C. M.

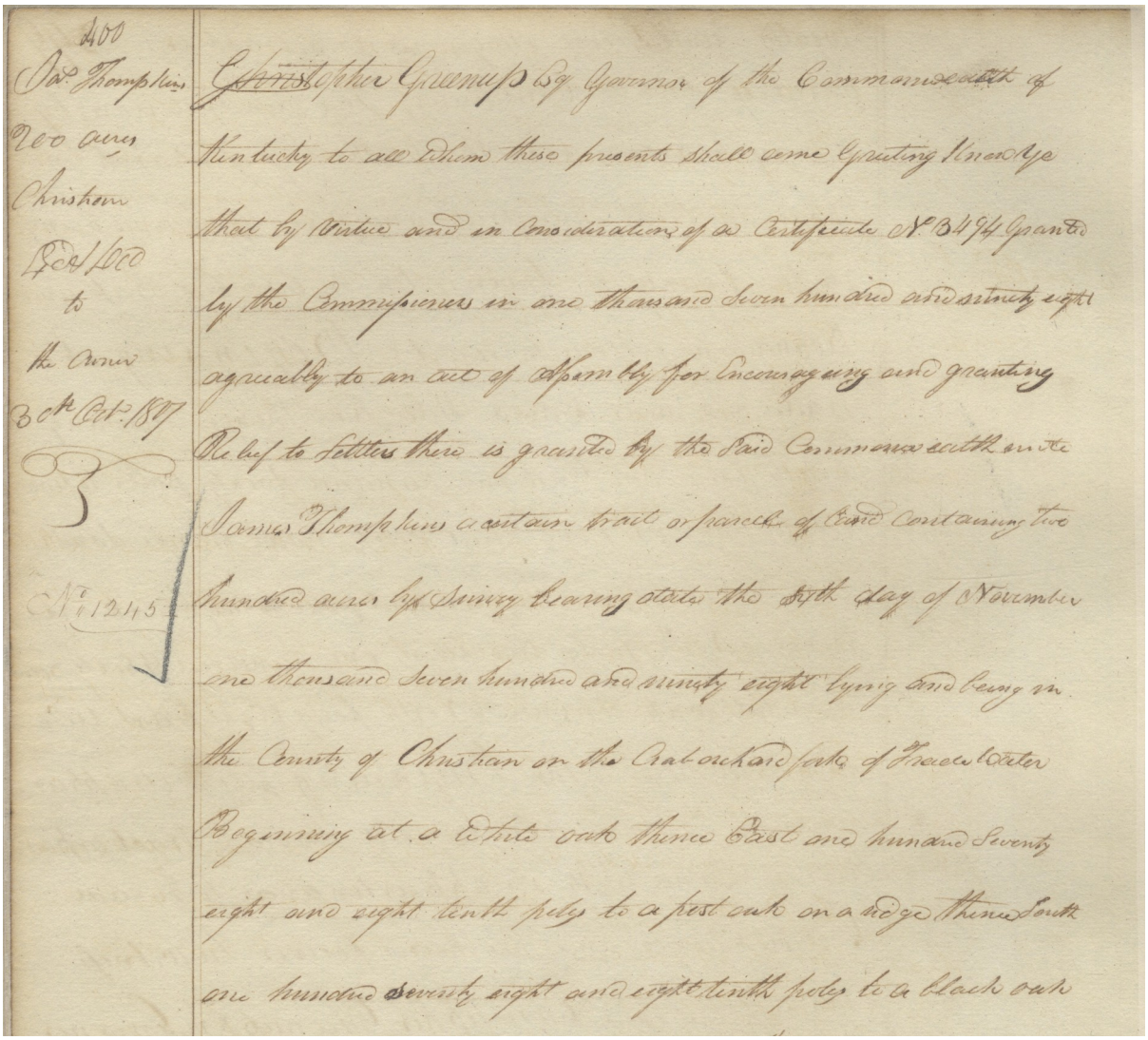
£ 80

Appendix Image 5. Auditor's Office Receipt — Front (30 October 1807).



LAR 1245

Appendix Image 6. Auditor's Office Receipt — Back.

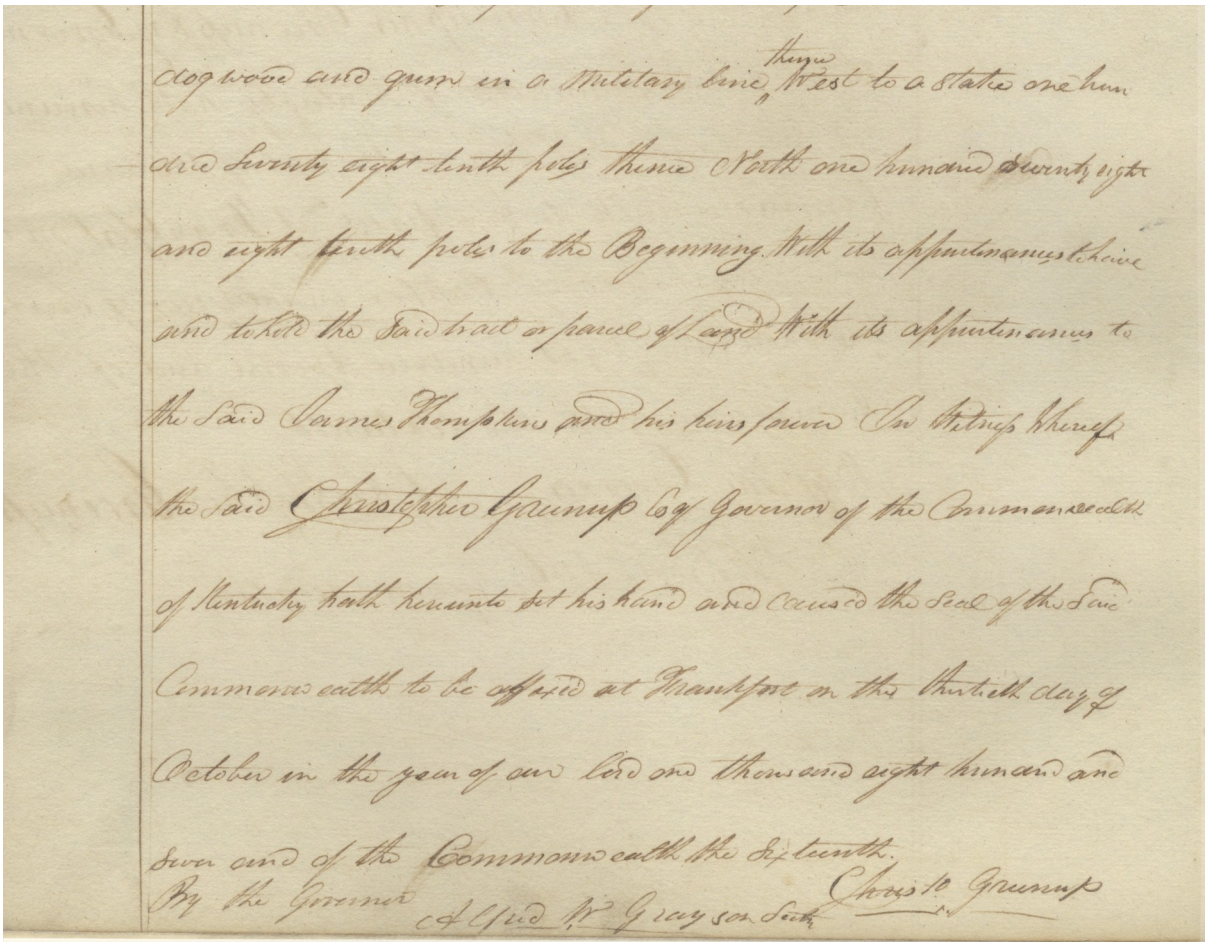


400
Jas. Thompkins
200 acres
Christian
£4 1/400
to
the owner
30th Oct. 1807

No. 1245

Christopher Greenup Esq Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky to all whom these presents shall come Greeting Know Ye that by virtue and in Consideration of a Certificate No. 3494 Granted by the Commissioners in one thousand seven hundred and ninety eight agreeably to an act of Assembly for Encouraging and granting Relief to Settlers there is granted by the said Commonwealth unto James Thompkins a certain tract or parcel of Land containing two hundred acres by Survey bearing date the 5th day of November one thousand seven hundred and ninety eight lying and being in the County of Christian on the Crab orchard fork of Trade Water Beginning at a white oak thence East one hundred seventy eight and eight tenth poles to a post oak on a ridge thence South one hundred seventy eight and eight tenth poles to a black oak

Appendix Image 7. Grant/Patent No. 1245, 30 October 1807 — Page 1 (page 400; margin: delivered to the owner, 30 October 1807).



dogwood and gum in a Military line, thence West to a stake one hun
dred Seventy eight tenth poles thence North one hundred Seventy eight
and eight tenth poles to the Beginning. With its appurtenances to have
and to hold the said tract or parcel of Land With its appurtenances to
the said James Thompkins and his heirs forever In Witness Whereof
the said Christopher Greenup Esq Governor of the Commonwealth
of Kentucky hath hereunto set his hand and caused the seal of the said
Commonwealth to be affixed at Frankfort on the thirtieth day of
October in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and
seven and of the Commonwealth the Sixteenth.

By the Governor Alfred W. Grayson Secty Christo Greenup

Appendix Image 8. Grant/Patent No. 1245 — Page 2 (signatures of Governor Christopher Greenup and Secretary Alfred W. Grayson).