The Story of John Glen:
Scenes From An Eventful Life

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The following narrative is the story of John Glen, who lived from 1744-1799, as I have reconstructed it from family records, newspaper accounts, property deeds, wills, histories of the colonial period, etc. He spent most of his life in Savannah, Georgia, but his place of birth was Charleston, South Carolina. He was born on July 26, 1774, the second son of William Glen, a merchant and landowner. In 1767 young Glen moved to Savannah, where he practised law. In October, 1769, he was elected to the lower Assembly in the Georgia colonial legislature. When the unrest in the colony over British taxation and arbitrary laws began to take the form of a protest movement, Glen got involved and held several responsible posts, including the chairmanship of the first Provincial Congress held in the colony. In April, 1776, Glen was elected as Georgia's first Chief Justice, and continued to serve in this capacity until 1778. Following the city's surrender to the British in December, 1778, Glen participated in the futile French invasion of the Georgian coast, then went to Charleston. There he became a prisoner of war following that city's capitulation to the British on May 12, 1780. But he soon returned to Savannah, apparently tired of the fighting and ready to accept British rule once more. To avoid imprisonment he had to sign a loyalty oath, which, when the Americans returned, brought him public condemnation and banishment from the new state. Glen and his family suffered through several difficult years, but in 1785 he was publicly forgiven by his former rebel colleagues. He spent the rest of his life practising law, managing property, and generally rebuilding his stature in the community. His return to public trust and esteem was complete when,
in 1797, the city aldermen of Savannah elected him mayor. The following year he became a Superior Court Judge. But unfortunately his life was cut short by an unexplained illness in May, 1799. He left behind his devoted wife Sarah and ten children. They had been married in 1771, and their relationship endured many difficult trials. Glen was mourned as a man of integrity and honesty. His talent as a lawyer and a community leader erased the memory and significance of his actions in 1780.

The story of John Glen is fascinating, though unfortunately sketchy in most parts. But despite the gaps, a picture of a man and his times does arise. He was an ordinary man, gifted in some ways, but he lived in an age which demanded efforts beyond the normal requirements of everyday life. He tried to rise to the challenges of his time, but he was not always successful; his humaneness cost him greatly. But he still came back to regain a sense of honor and in addition, the esteem of his fellow men, perhaps the greatest tribute of all.

The following three chapters will trace his life and that of his family. The narrative is far from complete, but hopefully it is a start upon a story that deserves deep examination and full retelling. Look at it as the first stage of a compelling family and personal history.
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I. John Glen: The Man and His Times

John Glen enjoyed a rich heritage, with a family history dating back centuries. This eighteenth century Georgian lawyer was a descendant of a noble Scotch-Irish family of Glen. The name comes from the Gaelic word "gleann", meaning a small valley or vale, which generally had a river flowing through it. There were various lines of the Glen family whose descendants settled in the New World. Many emigrated to Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware as well as the Carolinas and Georgia. Our John Glen was from the family line of Bar and, more specifically, the Linlithgow clan. The lordship of the family of Bar was in Renfrewshire, Scotland, where their castle and lands were located. There was a vale in Lochwinnoch, out of which flows the Black Cart, which gave the name "Glen" to the lordship. Many of the Scottish Glens played prominent roles in the history of their country. They were soldiers and commanders, members of Parliament, Provosts of the Burgh, burgesses and landowners.

John's father, William Glen, was born in Scotland in 1701, the son of a certain John Glen. He is believed to have had a brother Archibald, who was one of the original settlers of Georgia. He came to the new colony in 1734 as a servant to Willett Sterling, but he must have worked out his term of indenture by 1738. For his name begins to appear on many petitions to the Trustees in England asking for free title to land and the use of Negro slaves. He became one of the "Clamorous Malcontents", joining in Georgia's first protest movement against the Trustees' prohibition of slaves, rum, and their methods of land tenure. The maddened colonials formed a club (consisting mostly of Scots), and made considerable efforts to convince the Trustees that they were right. But little
else is known about this colorful, "rebel" uncle of John Glen.

Another prominent and equally "clamorous" relative was William's cousin James, Governor of South Carolina from 1739 until 1756 (although he did not actually arrive in the colony until 1743). He was a lawyer, but apparently not very good at it, for he accrued a large number of debts while still a young man. The major reason he accepted the colonial post was to salvage his finances. His arrival in South Carolina was delayed by his wrangling over his proposed salary, but he eventually accepted the offer and took up his post. In 1756 he retired after years of fighting the Indians and his own legislature to a quiet life on his plantation outside of Charleston. Later he returned to Scotland, where he died childless in 1777, at the age of seventy-six.

William Glen left Scotland for the colonies at an unknown date. He went first to Philadelphia, where he married Ann Aldrick or Alricks in Christ Church. From Philadelphia he may have gone to New Castle, Delaware, but by 1738 William and Ann were in South Carolina. For on April 10, 1738, the Crown granted him land in Craven County, north of Charleston. Later he received land in Colleton County as well, which was south of Charleston. He established himself as a merchant, prospering enough so that on June 15, 1753 he entered into partnership with John Cooper. Later William Michie, Charles Stevenson, and Thomas Boone would join the company as well. Wm Glen and Company primarily carried on trade with the West Indies. He frequently traveled north, usually to Philadelphia and probably New York. His volume of trade must have been quite extensive. He owned jointly with his partners and other merchants several ships, such as the Dove (a schooner), the Margaret and Mary (a sixty ton sloop), the Prince George (a thirty-ton sloop), and the Georgia Pacquet (a fifty-ton brigantine).

In 1753 William decided to open an office in Savannah, which would be operated by a man named John Edward Powell. At this time
William leased a lot number #4, in the Fourth Tything, Upper New Ward in Savannah. He also completed transactions for property located near Augusta and a tract of land outside of Savannah. He might have had specific plans for the property in relation to his proposed venture in Georgia. But the partnership with Powell did not work out, and in February, 1758 Glen and his partners had to submit to arbitration to settle the considerable debts accrued by their Savannah operations. But apparently William still kept connections in Savannah and traveled there often, for in 1962 he received a Crown grant for fifty acres of land in Anson Ward.

William Glen the merchant involved himself in activities outside the world of his business. He was a founding member and steward of the Charles Town Library Society, created in about 1750 to raise money to buy pamphlets, magazines, and books from Great Britain. In addition, he was a Commissioner of the Workhouse and Market in St. Philip's Parish. Over the years he served as executor and witness for a number of estates. No doubt his business acumen was highly prized by those who needed their property to be sold after their death to pay off debts and support their families. In 1757 he served as executor for the estate of Isabella Finch, in 1758 for John Moor, and in 1767 for George Marshall, who was involved in some of Glen's trading ventures.

Ann Alricks bore her husband four children, but she died sometime after the birth of her last one, Martha, in 1751. On April 12, 1770, William married a Mrs. Margaret Sheriff, the widow of Henry Sheriff. She had received from her late husband's estate a plantation on St. James Island, bordering on Wappoo Creek, which is where the Glens spent a lot of time during their married life.

On March 14, 1741, William and Ann celebrated the birth of their first child, William Jr. He grew up in his father's footsteps,
and entered the mercantile world. In 1765 he and his father set up a joint trading house on the corner of Church and Elliot Streets, advertising themselves as East Indian merchants. In 1770 William Jr. married Martha Miller, the daughter of Stephen Miller, a St. Thomas and St. Dennis planter. His new wife received 2000 pounds sterling from her father, the plantation known as Daniel's on St. Thomas Island in Berkeley County. The couple lived in Charleston at 36 Meeting Street. They had four children—John, who married Mrs. Ellen Jackson; Martha, who married Edward Weyman Bouteau; Marshall, and Alexander, born August 20, 1776. During the Revolution William Jr. was a captain in the Provincial Militia, but beyond this scanty information I could find little of John's older brother.

John came along on July 26, 1744, followed by his sister Charlotte in 1748, and Martha in 1751. All of the Glen family births were registered in St. Philip's Parish. Charlotte married John McCall Jr. in November, 1767, but she died only six years later on December 5, 1773. Martha is thought to have married John Drayton of Drayton Hall, but some sources list her as the sister of James Glen, the Governor; however, it is more likely that the Martha Glen who married John Drayton was the sister of our narrative's subject. They had two sons, one of whom, Glen Drayton, was a revolutionary officer. The other son, Thomas, married and had two sons and three daughters, who married into the Grimke, Holmes and Baker families.

William Glen Sr. operated his mercantile company until the Revolutionary War broke out and put him out of business. The conflagration which opened a new era for so many brought an end to his eminent position and ruined him financially. He remained loyal to the Crown to the very end. This elderly merchant even petitioned Sir Henry Clinton to allow him to serve in the local militia to help defend the city. But when the American forces retook the city in 1782, William found
himself banished with his property confiscated. He left the state, going first to Philadelphia and then to England. But in two years he returned to Charleston, for he was taken off the list of the banished loyalists. But he faced terrible debts and had to sell off all of his property to fend off an army of creditors. All he had left was the plantation bordering on Wappoo Creek, and it was there that he died on September 25, 1785, aged eighty-five years. His wife Margaret had died on November 5, 1782, and William buried her in the Scotch meeting yard, where he presumably is buried also. He left no will, for he had lost everything except his debts.

Growing up in Charleston, John no doubt enjoyed a typical boyhood for that particular period of time. His father was well off and owned a lot of land, where perhaps John spent a great deal of time. During his life he also would acquire extensive amounts of property and would manage a plantation while conducting his private law practise. Maybe his father brought him up to be a landowner, or maybe he simply developed a penchant for property during his boyhood experiences. The bustling life of Charleston probably had its attractions for young John, and he never would get too far from townlife throughout his days.

John must have shown evidence of academic acumen, for William sent him to Philadelphia to go to school. Where in Franklin's city he received his education is not known, but it can be speculated that he attended either the Academy of the College of Philadelphia, later to become the University of Pennsylvania. Many Scotch Presbyterians attended the latter institution, which was the religious denomination of the Glens.

Upon finishing his schooling, John Glen returned to Charleston
on October 30, 1767, intending to practise law. As an intelligent and no doubt ambitious young man, law promised to be a lucrative avenue to a possible political career as well as a secure livelihood. His later life would reveal a natural bent towards legislation and judicial matters, and seemingly he could not have chosen a better career for his interests and talents.

But Charleston held him only for a few months before he transplanted himself to Savannah, perhaps living on one of the lots owned by his father. When he made the move is not known, but his arrival had to have occurred before December, 1768; for, in this year on December 16, 1768, Glen probated a will with a certain Mr. Houstoun, probably Patrick or John. His practise during these first years (as well as later in his life) was often concerned with civil matters, such as suits over property and goods belonging to people who had left the province.

John Glen represented many merchants such as Mr. Joseph Clay, Alexander Fusse and Company, Abel James and Henry Drinker of Philadelphia, Peter Bard and John Thompson. The case involving Fusse centered around a pew in the "Church in Savannah", presumably Christ Church, which he claimed to own by having filed declaration for it. Apparently it had been in the possession of Jacob Valk, but he had been gone from the city for over a year.

It did not take long for the twenty-five year old Glen to enter politics. On October 16, 1769, he was elected to a term in the lower House of the General Assembly from the district of Halifax and the parish of St. George. He must have acquired property in these areas, which later encompassed Burke, Jenkins, and Screvin counties, or else his father owned land there. But nevertheless, on October 31, John began his term, taking the oath and presenting his credentials along with Noble W. Jones, Archibald Bulloch, Jogn Morel, William Young,
and William Ewing, all of whom would later play significant roles with Glen in the Georgian revolutionary movement.\textsuperscript{43}

Glen's name appears often in the records for the assembly—he is reading a bill, reporting for a committee, carrying a bill to the upper house, or addressing the governor. His committee assignments were numerous and they covered a wide variety of issues. One of the first committees he worked on was charged with the duty of formulating a slave bill "ordering and governing slaves" and "establishing a jurisdiction for the trial of such slaves...to prevent the inveigling or carrying away of slaves from their masters, owners, or employers." \textsuperscript{49}

In the spring of 1770 Glen worked on an address to answer the royal governor's assembly report in which he had requested among other things a lighthouse on Tybee Island. Upon completing it, John Glen read his address to the legislature before presenting it to Governor Wright. Glen concurred with the governor about the need for a lighthouse and better regulation of Indian affairs and added that the House would have to look into the funds allocated for such projects. During his term he worked also on updating laws and ordinances, building a new fort at the entrance to the Savannah River, setting up ferry travel in the river, and developing "an accurate survey and chart of the sea coasts and inlets of this province." He even worked on amendments to an Act aimed at preventing "the bringing into and spreading of malignant and contagious distempers in the province to oblige masters or commanders of vessels going out of any port within the same first to produce a passport from the Governor...to prevent the sick harboring of sick sailors." \textsuperscript{55}

After Glen completed his term in the Assembly or while he was still serving, he appeared before the body with a petition pleading for the life of a slave, convicted of "breaking & shop and stealing
sundry goods throughout." Glen asked that "the said slave might be trans-
ported and not executed according the sentence passed by the said
Justices." Glen's entreaty was to no avail, but it reveals to us
a sense of compassion in the young landowner, a bit of humanity. He
could have just let the slave die, since either way he was no longer
of any use to Glen.

After only a few years, Glen had achieved a position of public
trust. He was established in the community and, through his political
service and professional activities, he was making valuable personal
connections which would prove useful throughout the rest of his life.
He served in the Assembly with individuals who were at the forefront
of Savannah's commercial, financial, political, and social life. They
formed a controlling elite that commanded the positions of power and
influence in Savannah. Families such as the Noble Jones, the Bullochs, Hab
Habershams, Telfairs, Houston, Gibbons, Bryans, and Wyllys intermarried
among themselves, perpetuating the control of this elite. John Glen
had mixed with these individuals through politics and business, and
in November, 1771, he actually penetrated this familial alliance by
his marriage to Miss Sarah Jones, daughter of Noble Wymberly Jones and
Sarah Davis, granddaughter of the preeminent pioneer colonist and military
leader Noble Jones. This is not to say that there was anything but
love involved in this union, for theirs would be an endearing, tender
marriage. Sarah would hold their family together even through the darkest
days, and she remained devoted to her husband till the end of her life.
She bore him thirteen children, ten of whom survived the childhood
years. But the marriage does imply that young Glen must have made a
good impression on the illustrious Jones family. He must have stood out
from other men of his age and profession, possessing distinctive talents
and drive.

Comfortable in a new, secure marriage, with a promising legal and
and political career ahead of him, John Glen, Esq. had a lot to look forward to as he approached the third decade of his life. But the world around him was changing as tensions increased between the colonials and their British masters. There was revolution in the air, though it was particularly slow in reaching Georgia, except for a few breezes. Glen had been introduced to the growing tensions during his term in the lower House, for it was in that period that the Georgians were debating the Townsend Acts—Parliament's follow-up to the almost universally-despised Stamp Act. The conflict arose over Britain's right to tax the colonies without consulting their home assemblies. The colonials saw themselves, not as subjects, but as Englishmen, entitled to all the rights and privileges accorded their fellow citizens across the ocean. Well versed in law, Glen must have been interested in the issues of legality and constitutionalism which lay at the bottom of the conflict. The colonies resented Britain's insulting disregard for their governmental processes. In Georgia, Governor Wright continually relied on one tactic which incensed his constituents—dissolution of the General Assembly, as though it were his own private instrument.

The Stamp Act of 1765 had set off the first true waves of reaction and protest which would culminate in the Declaration of Independence. The passage of the Townsend Act reactivated the tide of rebellion, which had quieted down after the repeal of the Stamp Act in 1766. The duties levied on glass, paint, and paper, and tea represented Parliament's new angle on extracting taxes from the colonials (this time to raise revenue to pay the salaries of royal governors and judges). Massachusetts and Virginia acted quickly, sending circular letters to all the colonies and calling for non-consumption and non-importation agreements applied to British commerce. In Savannah there was a weak effort by merchants to join the boycott, but since
compliance was optional, many violated the agreements which rendered the entire enterprise useless. It was not until the passage of the Intolerable Acts (which closed the port of Boston, revoked the Massachusetts Charter, legalized peacetime quartering of troops, and permitted British officials to return to England to be tried for offenses committed in the colonies) that Georgians finally began to organize themselves to protest the actions of Parliament. In July, 1774, the first in a series of public meetings was held, preceding the First Continental Congress by about one month. Although there is no record of his feelings while in the Assembly concerning the British policies, by the time of this first public meeting Glen had become an ardent supporter of colonial rights. Having a father-in-law such as Noble W. Jones, the preeminent leader of the Georgian rebel movement from its earliest days, probably made it difficult to avoid taking a stand and getting involved. Glen would never be a firebrand, and he disapproved of the more overt and often violent forms of protest which would later occur frequently. In fact, his lack of a more emotional conviction and dedication to the cause of colonial rights would lead to many radicals to classify him as one of the "conservative merchants, lawyers and officeholders who had been likewarm in their adherence to the revolutionary movement." But, particularly during the first series of meetings held in 1774 and 1775, Glen held key posts and leadership positions which made him a significant figure within the movement. He never achieved the status of his father-in-law or Archibald Bulloch, nor did he ever display the dashing energy of a Joseph Habersham. But one gets the feeling that his diligent efforts at certain points did indeed contribute to propelling and maintaining the rebel movement.

That first organized meeting of protest was held on July 27, 1774, in response to an invitation published in the Georgia Gazette by
Noble W. Jones, Archibald Bulloch, John Houstoun and George Walton. They called for a public gathering to discuss the Intolerable Acts and assess their impact on Georgia. Glen attended the meeting, which was held at the Vendue (Watch) House. His colleagues immediately appointed him as chairman to bring the meeting to order and prevent any disruptions. He was also placed at the head of a thirty-man committee to draft resolutions which would be similar to those adopted by the northern colonies, "expressive of the sentiments and determination of this province." After selecting the members of the committee, the first order of business was the reading of the letters received from the Boston, Philadelphia, Annapolis, Williamsburg, North-Carolina Charleston committees of correspondence. But many of the more distant parishes had not been notified in time about the meeting and thus were conspicuously absent. Thus those in attendance decided to adjourn until August 10. In the meantime Glen was appointed "publicity chairman"- it was up to him to make sure that each parish and district received notice of the next meeting so that they could elect delegates to attend. Glen wrote a letter and sent it to the different parishes in addition to publishing it in the papers and posting it throughout Savannah.

Against the vehement opposition of the governor, Glen brought the August 10, 1774 meeting to order at Tondee's Tavern, located on the northwest corner of Broughton Street and Whitaker and a very popular gathering place for the rebels. As chairman Glen introduced the resolutions drawn up by the committee of thirty, and they were duly adopted and dedicated to the people of Georgia. They stated succinctly and emphatically that the colonials were entitled to the same rights and privileges enjoyed by their fellow citizens in England. The writers broke down the Intolerable Acts and stated the objections to each, based on their interpretation of the British constitution and law. The resolutions refuted Parliament's asserted
right to tax the colony and declared Georgia's intention "to maintain those inestimable blessings...-a constitution founded upon reason and justice and the indelible rights of mankind." It was the first written expression of the Georgian revolutionary sentiments--not truly rebellious but somewhat conciliatory, affirming allegiance to Britain, but delineating the terms for such a commitment. The meeting discussed, but did not act upon a proposal to send delegates to the upcoming Continental Congress; they felt that sentiment in the colony was still too divided to take such a step.

After the Continental Congress adjourned, the South Carolina patriot leaders went to great lengths to convince Georgia to support the resolutions adopted in Philadelphia, particularly those forming the basis of a colonial commercial alliance known as the"American Association." This committed the colonies to a united boycott of all commerce with Great Britain, the West Indies and Ireland. But the Georgian movement was still too divided and vacillating to make such a commitment, which greatly angered her sister colonies, and the more radical elements within Georgia itself. These came for the most part from St. John's parish and the outlying regions around Savannah, and they clamored loudly for more resolute action. They clashed with the more conservative and conciliatory Savannahians of Christ Church parish. This division between city and country would continue well beyond the revolution. But both groups came to agree during the fall of 1774 that they would have to take further action if they hoped to achieve any of their goals. Governor Wright had paralyzed their self-governing body- the Assembly- by adjourning after the Continental Congress and then refusing to reconvene it until the new year. The governor had hoped that the rebellious furor would subside during this time, but by dissolving the Assembly he indirectly helped convene the First Provincial Congress, brought to order on
January 18, 1775, by Chairman John Glen, Esq. He had presided over the election held in Savannah at the marketplace in Ellis Square on December 8, 1774. Delegates elected this day from Christ Church Parish were Joseph Clay, Joseph Habersham, Edward Telfair, John Houston, Noble W. Jones, Archibald Bulloch, etc. Glen himself was elected on December 21, 1774, along with Joseph Gibbons and Frances Henry Harris from the little Ogeechee district. The hope for the congress was that the resolutions developed could pass to the Assembly for discussion and adoption, which would give them greater weight and authority.

Once again it was Glen organizing the sessions and establishing the proper procedures and decorum. But only five parishess sent delegates, and this greatly diminished the impact and decisiveness of this congress. The plan to have the Assembly support their proposals was ruined by Wright's dissolution of the legislature before any could even be discussed. The delegates voted to adopt the Association, but did not bind the colony to the non-consumption agreements. Before adjourning in dismay on January 25, they elected Noble W. Jones, Archibald Bulloch, and John Houston as delegates to the next Continental Congress scheduled for May 10 in Philadelphia. Although they did not attend the Congress, St. John's parish independently sent Dr. Lyman Hall, and he was duly received as a delegate. This parish also committed themselves to the non-importation agreements, but, as earlier, their actions were ineffective as long as Savannah merchants did not abide by them.

This was indeed a low point for the rebel movement, but by the spring and summer it began to gather momentum and break out of its lethargy. Royal officials began to encounter resistance when they tried to assert their authority, and when news of Lexington and Concord reached the colony, the more radical elements seized the opportunity to exhibit outright defiance. A group of patriots broke into the powder...
kegs, and according to tradition, the powder was sent to Massachusetts
and used at Bunker Hill. The Savannah version of the Sons of Liberty
spiked the twenty-one cannon of the battery, then threw it all down the
bluff so that there would be no cannon salute to honor the King's
birthday on June 4. The radicals acted with impunity, causing great
disruption within the colony. It is doubtful that John Glen participated
in these events, although his father-in-law did on several occasions.
Glen seems to have held too much respect for law and order to sanction
such measures. He might have been present on the night the colonials
broke into the powder magazine. Charles Jones in his historical study
of Georgia states that the Council of Safety was present, but this
body would not actually be formed until July 22. He might have meant
that there were among those present the individuals who later made
up the Council of Safety; in that case, Glen could have been there, for
he was one of the first individuals elected to serve on the Council
when it was formed.

But a clearer picture of Glen's sentiments is provided by his
attendance at a meeting held on June 13, 1775, at Mrs. Cuyler's, on the
southeastern corner of Bull and Broughton Streets. Those present
strongly condemned the violence and disorder erupting in the name of
Liberty. They committed themselves to preserving public safety and
order, and they declared their intention of protecting anyone molested
who had not done any harm to persons or property. They adopted
resolutions critical of those clamoring for independence, stating that
"to separate themselves from the latter (the mother country) would
only be throwing difficulties in the way of its own relief, and that
of the other colonies." They adjourned by proposing that the items
they discussed be placed on the agenda of the next Provincial Congress,
scheduled to convene July 4, 1775.
Between the meetings and congresses, Glen kept up with his law practise and he continued to acquire property. In January, 1774, he represented William O'Bryan in a civil case, while in September, 1775, he handled litigation for Francis Knowles, William O'Bryan again, Peter Bard, John Thomson, and George Galphin. In July 1775, he and John Houstoun bought 350 acres of land in St. George's Parish, and in November he completed a transaction with Raymond Demere for 300 acres in St. David's parish.

As previously mentioned, John Glen was elected to be a member of Georgia's first Council of Safety on June 22, 1775. Apparently his association with the conservative elements gathered at Mrs. Cuyler's (which included many who later remained loyal to the Crown), did not affect his standing among the rebels at the heart of the heart of the movement. No doubt his relation to Noble W. Jones helped him in this respect. The proposed duties of the Council were to enforce the proposed Association agreements with other colonies and keep up correspondence with the Continental Congress and other Councils of Safety. With Glen were elected William LeConte, Joseph Clay, Samuel Elbert, Basil Cooper William Young, Elisha Butler, Edward Telfair, George Housoun, Joseph Habersham, Seth John Cuthbert, Francis Harris, John Smith, John Morel, and William Ewen as president. In effect, this body would become the major governing force in the colony during the fall of 1775 as British rule deteriorated into a mere facade. After the election, many dined at Tondee's Tavern and drank thirteen patriotic toasts, each followed by "a salute from the cannon and by martial music."

A few weeks later, Glen was elected to serve as a delegate to the Provincial Congress, which convened on July 4 with every parish in attendance. Glen represented Chist Church Parish in this election, which implies he now lived in Savannah or had a residence there.
This Congress produced a virtual potpourri of resolutions, some conciliatory and others boldly defiant. There was, as Kenneth Coleman puts it, "a hint" at separation in some of the statements it issued. During the Congress Glen worked on a committee to thank the Reverend John Zubly, pastor of Glen's congregation at Independent Presbyterian, for his opening address on the text "'So speak ye and so do as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty.'" He no doubt worked on the petition to King George drawn up by the delegates, for it emphasized natural rights and constitutionalism, but in a conciliatory tone. Glen was also appointed to an "intelligence committee," but I was unable to discover any explanation of what this body did or what the scope of its operations was. The Second Provincial Congress adjourned on July 17, 1775, but it would continue to meet throughout the fall, since the regular Assembly was not holding sessions.

John Glen, having recently turned thirty-one years old, served on the Council of Safety until December. His name appears on a petition along with other Council members sent to Governor Wright concerning the appointment of militia officers. They asked that the militia companies be allowed to elect their own officers. In truth, they wished to eliminate those officers who were remaining loyal and replace them with their own adherents. Needless to say, Wright refused their petition, but the Council ignored his answer and proceeded to appoint their own officers. Glen and his colleagues took over regulation of commerce and shipping, deciding who could enter into the port and who was prohibited. They met every Monday at 10:00 a.m. and more often if necessary. By December, about all that the royal governor could do was prove wills and grant letters of administration. The Council usurped legislative power and began issuing laws. During December armed men took over the Courthouse, and the British Chief Justice Anthony Stokes stopped trying to enforce laws. The Provincial Congress began at this time to reorganize.
the judiciary system, taking over all courts and setting up a Court of Appeals under the jurisdiction of fifteen appointed individuals. It was at this time that Glen ceased to be a member of the Council, so it is possible that he participated in the reorganization of the courts.

British rule officially came to an end on January 12, 1776, when the dashing Major Joseph Habersham burst into the governor's mansion and arrested Sir James Wright with the simple words "Sir James, you are my prisoner." He would remain a captive in his home until February, when he managed to escape and returned to England. Now began another chapter in Glen's life as he would hold a high office in the new Georgia state government erected by the former rebels. In April he was a delegate to the congress called to prepare a temporary constitution, which came to be known as the Rules and Regulations of 1776. ³² There the delegates elected him to be Georgia's first Chief Justice, in charge of putting the confused and debilitated judicial system into order. His salary was set at 100 pounds sterling, second only to the President, Archibald Bulloch.

According the records compiled in the Revolutionary Records of Georgia, one of the first things Glen did was to request that the Court of General Sessions be held at the Courthouse, which as he stated to the Council, needed to be cleaned and repaired. Glen also requested that someone be appointed to procure a jury box that was at Ebenezer. One of his actions caused great consternation among the members of the Council of Safety. He began freeing people of "doubtful loyalty" who had been arrested.⁹⁴ This temporary constitution operated for one year, until May, 1777. In October, 1776, Georgia convened a constitutional Congress, which worked on the document until February. The result was a highly democratic framework, similar to that of North Carolina, Delaware
and Pennsylvania constitutions, which Ethel K. Ware attributes to the contributions of men like Glen, lawyers educated in the northern colonies. It provided for a one house legislature, directly elected, with no executive veto power to limit it. During its first session in May the House elected Glen to be Chief Justice again, only this time he received a salary of three hundred pounds sterling. He presided over the Superior Court which was established in each county, requiring Glen to "ride the circuit." All cases were to be tried in the county in which they originated.

It is unfortunate that no court records related to his term as Chief Justice have survived. But Orville Park has described a fascinating case in which Glen acted as judge, calling it "probably the oldest complete record of a judicial proceeding in the state." It involved the capture of the sloop Polly and the subsequent dispute between John White and Peter Knight over who owned the title to the boat and its cargo. Tried by the "Honorable John Glen, Esquire, Judge of the Court of Admiralty of the State of Georgia," the libellant won. This special court was convened strictly for matters relating to any capture by sea or land. Curiously, the case was appealed to the Continental Congress, where a committee of three—John Adams, James Wilson, and Thomas Burke reviewed the decision. They concurred with Glen and the matter ended. But, according to Park, this rather unprecedented case is mentioned in books discussing the origins of the Supreme Court.

Besides serving as Chief Justice, Glen seems to have performed some type of guard duty in the militia under Joseph Habersham. In the Order Book of Samuel Elbert, Colonel and Brigadier General in the Continental Army, published in Volume Five, Part Two of the Collections of the Georgia Historical Society, Glen's name appears twice, each time beside the word "parole." This must have been some type of guard duty, but
there is no other explanation given in the order book concerning it. It may have been a temporary duty or commission due to shortages of men. But other than this, there are no records of Glen's military duty, so one can only speculate about his activities. As an official in the government, Glen may have been exempt from service except on special occasions. Later it appears that the Chief Justice volunteered his services for special duties; this, perhaps, explains why no official record was made of his participation.

Glen did not get to complete his last term as Chief Justice, for in December, 1778, British forces entered Savannah and re-established the government of Sir James Wright, who returned from English soil in triumph. The remnants of the state government fled to Augusta, and there attempted to create a framework for ruling the rest of Georgia not yet captured by the British. The actions of John Glen during these unsettled days are, as far as I could find, lost to history, so they went unrecorded. The defense of Savannah had been handled poorly, partly due to personal animosities among the commanders which hindered coherent operations. When it was realized that the British were in Savannah, many soldiers and officers left their companies to safeguard their families and properties. No doubt this is what Glen attended to before evacuating the city. He may have gone to Augusta with the state government and served out his term there. Or he may have attached himself to Georgian troops commanded by General Benjamin Lincoln, who generally remained in the areas surrounding Savannah, except for excursions into South Carolina for minor skirmishes.

The ex-Chief Justice finally surfaces again on September 8, 1779. According to testimony given by a John Murray, Esq., he saw Glen while being held prisoner aboard the Langueoc, the French Man of War that was the flagship for the twenty-two vessel fleet of the Count d'Estaing. The latter
was the commander of the French armed forces and now in America, and had appeared, to the surprise of the Georgians, off the coast of Tybee Island a day earlier. Governor John Rutledge of South Carolina had written to the Count requesting his assistance in driving the British out of Georgia and the Carolinas. Anchored off Tybee, the French must have caught this John Murray trying to reach the Atlantic, for he states that he was on his way to St. Augustine. He goes on to say that he and Glen conversed, having known each other previously. Glen supposedly spoke optimistically about recapturing Savannah, but exhibited a forceful animosity and desire for retribution when asked by Murray if they would be merciful when they retook the city:

...the deponent (Murray) expressed his wish to him that as he the said Glen expected to be powerful, he hoped that he would be also merciful, by using gentle and lenient measures towards the friends to Government, to which Mr. Glen replied, "that it was not now a time to sue gentle and moderate measures, but to make reprisals and to retaliate for the injuries which had been done to their persons and their properties." 40

The British had indeed devastated the city upon recapturing it. A Hessian officer wrote that "the finest furnishings, comptoirs, tables and chairs of mahogany were smashed and lay around the streets." 41 Murray may have exaggerated Glen's anger against the British to discredit him, but it is certainly possible that Glen did feel strongly, especially if he had suffered personal losses of damages during the evacuation.

For there was emotion of some type driving Glen. Whether revenge, duty, honor or fear is yet another mystery connected with John Glen. But regardless, this former judge had apparently met the French and volunteered his services as a guide. When the troops under the command of Colonel de Rouvray landed, either off Tybee or somewhere near Vernonburg, Glen was there to guide them inland. Leading Frenchman
through swamps and marshy, wooded areas was far different than deliberating in a courtroom or debating resolutions in the Long Room at Tondee's Tavern.

But the Siege of Savannah, as the French-American operation came to be called, ended in tragic defeat. The Georgian troops under Lincoln made their way to Charleston to defend the city against the advancing forces of the British commander, Sir Henry Clinton. John Glen accompanied them and on May 12, 1780, when Charleston surrendered, he became a British prisoner of war. Clinton almost immediately offered paroles to those prisoners who agreed to never take up arms against the British for the duration of the war. Many accepted the offer, fearing for their lives, their families and property. There was a definite feeling of despair permeating the defeated troops, and a fear that the South had been abandoned by the northern command. The Congress had been filled with rumors that the British would negotiate peace if the Americans would agree to give up South Carolina and Georgia.

Perhaps these rumors affected Glen, breaking his spirit and draining him of hope. For on the first day of June, he appealed to the British commanding officer, Major General Leslie, for a pass to allow him to return to Savannah. In effect, he was giving up the American cause to return to civilian life under British rule. The former patriot turned his back on a cause he had devoted considerable time and effort to over the past six years, hoping to find relief by returning to the life he had once enjoyed in Savannah. Perhaps he lost strength or maybe his concern for Sarah, who had several small children and infants by then, became overwhelming. He had not been an ardent separatist, stridently against the concept of British rule, which, perhaps, made it easier for him to accept his former masters once again. Being a man dedicated professionally to law and order, the stability of British rule probably seemed preferable to the chaos of the American operations.
Glen wanted to leave immediately upon receiving a pass, but apparently an unexplained accident prevented him from boarding the ship. He was forced to wait about a week before finally heading to Savannah. Unknown to Glen, Governor Wright was aware of his planned return, and on June 9, 1780, discussed what to do about the former Chief Justice with his royal Council—John Graham, Anthony Stokes, Lewis Johnston, John Hunn, and Martin Jollie. The governor ordered Stokes, again the Chief Justice, to arrest Glen and any other rebels who might also try to return. Glen, believing that he would be welcomed warmly, for Clinton had promised that the Americans would suffer no consequences if they gave up the fight, arrived in the city and "took lodgings at the house of Mr. Nunes." Either his family was staying outside the city on property he or the Jones' owned, or else he did not want to draw attention to them. He caught a cold and had to stay inside the next day. But when he tried to leave, Stokes had him arrested on charges of treason, and he was forced to go to the prison. The governor was truly incensed by the return of Glen and other rebels such as Dr. James Houstoun and John Sutcliffe, who arrived about the same time Glen did. In a letter to Lord G. Germain, Wright defended their arrests:

...all noted Rebels(Glen, Houstoun, and Sutcliffe) came to Savannah, which I was immediately acquainted with and that they were going about the town, as if they had never committed any of the offenses whatever, and without calling upon me or Colonel Clarke the Commanding Officer of the King's troops here. This my Lord I thought too much to suffer or submit to,... and he (Stokes) applied for a warrant against Mr. Glen and the others for High Treason and they were apprehended.

Glen had already been attainted for treason in an act passed by the British assembly in May, 1780, along with 113 other patriot leaders. So, by law his arrest was justified, and Wright saw no reason to honor his parole or pass. No doubt there was, on his part, an underlying
desire for revenge against those who had humiliated him during the last months of 1775 when British rule was collapsing.

Locked in the prison, Glen faced an uncertain future. To be released on bail, he had to sign an oath of loyalty to the Crown and probably had to pay a certain sum of money. Otherwise, he faced banishment from the state, impressment into the British navy, or extended imprisonment. He was ill, and to remain in the prison during the unhealthiest time of the year was suicidal; thus, Glen chose to petition the Governor for permission to sign the oath and receive a pardon. Along with his own appeal, he submitted statements of support from other people who praised his character and recommended his reinstatement. In his letter, referring to himself as the memorialist, he explained his return to Savannah:

That your memorialist and petitioner being desirous to return to this province where he had lived many happy years, and to become a subject of his majesty the King of Great Britain, on the first day of June instant, make application for a pass for the purpose...⁰⁰

He repeats in a later passage:

That your memorialist conceives it extremely hard to be confined for the crime aforesaid while a prisoner of war on parole and having a pass to come here, especially as his intentions in coming were to return to his allegiance to his majesty, to settle and reside in the province, and to render it every service in his power...⁰¹

Glen seems to spell out his reasons clearly, yet it is difficult to discern whether he was writing to please his captors or if he truly had given up the fight for independence. But regardless of the reasons, Glen signed the oath upon the consent of the Council, though Wright refused to grant him a pardon. He was duly released on bail and allowed to remain in the city, though by the Disqualifying Act, he was forbidden to hold any offices, serve on juries, or sit in the Assembly.⁰⁵
What his life was like under the British is not clear. Glen
signed an address sent to congratulate Lord Cornwallis for his victory
in August, 1780, at the Battle of Camden in South Carolina. The address
was meant to serve as propaganda. The British wished to accumulate
a long list of names, then circulate it to "discourage the other
states from any further attempts in behalf of Carolina." He may have
traveled between Charleston and Savannah, and it was probably while
visiting there that he signed the address. He went back to practising
law, indicated by a notice in the Royal Georgia Gazette on July 19,
1783, presenting a case involving Glen, Josiah Tattnall and Nathaniel
Hall. The three of them collectively represented Bethesda Orphan-
house Academy and in the notice they threaten the law upon those
who had carried off negroes, furniture and other valuables from the
Home. Surely the whole family was together again, though I could
no evidence for this assumption. One cannot help but wonder how
Sarah felt about her husband's change of heart, for her own father,
also captured during the fall of Charleston, was still in prison in
St. Augustine. It is a pity that none of the surviving letters of
Noble W. Jones refer to his son-in-law's actions, for it would be
fascinating to know how he felt about John after this.

But the quiet Glen had seemingly hoped for did not last, and he
had to suffer the consequences of his change of allegiance when the
Georgians, under the command of General Nathaniel Greene, drove the
British from the during the spring and summer of 1782. In May the
reconstructed state government passed an "act for inflicting penalties
on and confiscating the estates of such persons as are therein declared
guilty of treason. Glen was listed as were John Mulryne, Josiah
Tatnall, Basil Cooper, George Houstoun, and Thomas Gibbons, among
others. The act further demanded that the guilty leave Georgia within
sixty days and threatened noncompliance with death. So for the second
time, Glen suffered public calumny and the loss of his property. In June
the government authorized a commission to begin selling the confiscated
estates, and it was not long before Glen had lost several pieces of
land. At Ebenezer in Effingham County, on the thirteenth of June,
the sale of Chatham County property began. A Mr. Richard Howley bought
property Glen owned in Sunbury, John Habersham bought his house and
lot at Yamacraw, Mr. Thomas Stone bought a phaeton at Belfast, and an
unnamed person bought his land at Clayborn's Mill Seat. Later, in August,
the house and lot at Yamacraw was put up for sale again due to Habersham's
failure to pay, and the commissioners interestingly demanded that the
buyers pay in either gold or silver.

Glen's next move is not clear. Dr. Bulloch in his family history
of the Glens claims that John went to Stewart County, which is right
on the border between Georgia and Alabama, but does not relate what
evidence he had to determine this. But Glen must have been in Savannah
during the autumn of 1782, for on November 13 there appears in the
minutes of the Executive Council the following order:

Ordered, That Donald McLeod, Thomas Young, John Glen,
John Mulryne Tatnall, and William Forrester
proceed within forty Eight hours to Charles Town, Eight
agreeable to the tenor of their flag, produced
to the Board the seventh instant.

This order is made more mysterious by the fact that in April, 1782,
Glen had been banished from Charleston along with his father. John's
involvement in the Cornwallis address was the cause, as well as his
correspondence with William Sr. Perhaps it is now that Glen went
to Stewart County, since he was banished from the only two places
he had ever called home. Apparently his banishment from Charleston did
not apply to Sarah and the children, for they are known to have been there
in February, 1783, but not with John. In a testament he wrote about
his father, Sarah's brother George relates that they were alone in
the city, "Mr. Glen being absent from that circumstance." With no
further elaboration as to where Glen was or why he was "absent from that circumstance", George Jones goes on to say that Noble Wymberly left Savannah once he knew they were alone in Charleston, and went to be with them. George implies rather cryptically that Glen was in a peculiar situation, but does not define it, which perhaps means that this episode in his life became a non-subject in the family.

Glen surfaces again on July 24, 1783, in Savannah. On that day he appeared before the House of the Assembly and asked that his name be taken off the Act of Confiscation and put on the Act of Amercement, which had been passed in August, 1782. This latter piece of legislation had, in Kenneth Coleman's words, been formulated "almost as soon as the ink was dry on the confiscation and banishment act." It basically mitigated the harsh provisions of those earlier acts by reducing the penalties of collusion with the Crown to higher property taxes and exclusion from voting and public office. It restored those whom are named in the act to citizenship and it reflected the desires of many of the statement to put the past behind them and forge ahead in a united effort to make Georgia realize its potential in the new age. They recognized that they were banishing some of the most valuable individuals in the state, and it was better to utilize their talents than lose them to principles. The House voted on that day to approve Glen's request and his name was duly cleared. But

the Executive Council reversed the decision of the House and voted to take, not only Glen's, but also the names of Thomas Young, Thomas Gibbons, James Spaulding, and Levi Sheftall off the Act of Amercement. The reasons for this action are unstated, but it must have been a frustrating setback for Glen and his family, who had already suffered through debilitating trials and dislocations without having to face more.

On February 23, 1784 the Journal of the House records that Sarah appeared the assembly with a petition. Though there is no explanation
of the petition's contents or intent, it seems likely that she was pleading on her husband's behalf, perhaps describing the plight of her large family in hopes of gaining their sympathy. Or she might have tried to use her father's influence to help John, for Noble Wymberly still commanded great respect, though he had remained in Charleston after going there to be with his daughter in February, 1783.

But finally, on February 21, 1785, Glen's saga of misfortune came to an end when he was officially added to the Act of Amercement, this time permanently. He was required to pay a twelve per cent tax on his property, and could not vote, hold public office, or serve on juries for fourteen years after the passage of this act. Furthermore, he had to pay off all debts and give a full account of his holdings. Glen was now a citizen of Georgia at age forty-one, anxious, no doubt to build back his law practise and attend to whatever property holdings he still possessed. It must have tough at first due to lingering animosity and mistrust, but Glen persevered and eventually gained back the respect and confidence of his colleagues and family.

John Glen, the lawyer, the representative, the Chief Justice, and the prisoner now began the last chapter of his life, which in many ways would be his most distinguished period. He adjusted to his attainted status, and worked to overcome its liability. He worked his way back to being one of the city's prominent lawyers and civic leaders. He saw two daughters marry into distinguished and respected families, increased his property holding, and climaxed his return to community approbation by being elected to serve as mayor of Savannah in 1794.

The data for this period in Glen's life comes principally from the pages of the *Georgia Gazette* and property deeds. As with the rest of his life, it is possible to derive only a mere sketch of events. Information on the 1780's is especially scarce, suggesting that he lived a more private life during those first years back in Savannah,
perhaps spending most of his time on his plantations, getting them back into working order after the turbulent revolutionary years. After being removed from the banished list in Charleston in 1784, Glen probably traveled there periodically, especially when his father died in 1785. In December of that year he was in Charleston buying land from Peter Baco, Gentleman. The property involved was located at the back of Hutchinson Island and totaled ninety acres. It was opposite a tract of land which he already owned on the Carolina side which was called Neville. He conducted many transactions with individuals from Charleston, usually involving the holding of slaves in trust. For example, on October 25, 1787, Glen completed a trust deal with John Faison, mariner, involving the use of three slaves Jacob, Sally, and Tom. Often Glen would hold slaves in trust (which meant he enjoyed full use of the slaves during the period of the trust) for the wife or daughter of the man making the deal. Upon his death, the wife or daughter would have possession of the slaves (or land) and could have them returned to her from the trustee.

There are no notices of court cases involving Glen in the Georgia Gazette until the 1790's. No doubt it took time to re-establish his old practice, but beginning in 1790 he again was involved in civil cases and property transactions. In January, 1790, Glen represented two brothers from Liberty County who claimed the goods, lands, tenements, monies, debts and chattels of David Troup. Then in February appears a notice saying that he represented William McWhann in a suit against John Rerrie involving a dispute over land on the St. Mary's River and land between the Black River and Crooked River. In August, 1791, he represented Mary Bulloch and his father-in-law Noble W. Jones in a suit against Matthew Rouche for a debt owed to them. Glen also served as witness and executor for wills and land transactions; in addition, he was often called upon to attest to the signature of individuals on legal documents.

In 1792, as lawyer for the Walton family, Glen worked on a conveyance of
a 250 acre plantation near Claiborns Mill on the "great Kiokia" from George Walton to Jesse Winfree for "friendship and affection."\(^{128}\)

The decade of the nineties saw Glen add much acreage to his property holdings. His law business and his plantations perhaps began to prosper, and he confident enough to put his money into more land. In an extremely ironic purchase, Glen the former patriot and former British sympathizer bought some of the property owned by Sir James Wright. The same man who had lost a considerable amount of property through the state's auctioning of confiscated lands now bought a tract of land lost by Wright. In a way, this was the last blow in a personal battle that had been going on since Glen's patriot days and had intensified considerably when he returned to Savannah after the fall of Charleston. John Glen bought the land, a 500 acre tract located in Chatham County of the southside of the Great Ogeechee River (between its banks and the Canouchie River), from Josiah Tatnall, Jr., Nicholas Long, and Philip Clayton. They were commissioners appointed to administer the act passed on December 20, 1793, requiring the state to dispose of all confiscated estates still held from the Revolution. Peter Bard had originally bought the land, but for some reason did not pay the mortgage on it, and the land passed back into the possession of the state. This deal of Glen's was completed in July, 1794. He also bought during this time three hundred acres of land in Glynn County which had been granted to Raymond Demere and three hundred acres in Screvin County. Later this property passed into the possession of Glen's son George, who held them until 1836 when he sold the land to Charles Henry for a total of seventy-five dollars.\(^{129}\)

Glen was apparently still busy with his plantations, and he continued to add to his inventory of slaves. In November, 1792, he secured the use of a slave named Betty by paying ten shillings to Ralph Deprass, Vendue Master. In the Columbia museum and Savannah Advertiser for
April 19, 1796, there is an ad for two runaway slaves who had escaped from Glen's plantation on the Savannah back river (perhaps the land he owned on Hutchinson Island). The ad states that Glen had just bought one from Captain John Dilworth in St. Mary's and the other from Colonel Joseph Maybank of St. Thomas' parish in South Carolina.

Family matters also occupied Glen during the last nine years of his life. Apparently his brother William died in the early 1790's, for in October, 1792, Glen applied for letters of administration on the estate and effects of his father, who had left only debts to his heirs due to his misfortunes after the Revolution. Glen asked to be named the next-of-kin and received his request.

Glen lived long enough to see two of his children marry. On November 11, 1793, Sarah (Sally) Glen married Archibald Stobo Bulloch, the son of the distinguished patriot and statesman Archibald Bulloch. John Glen had worked with the elder Bulloch during his rebel days and also worked with his son on legal cases, for Archibald Stobo was a lawyer as well. A marriage such as this, involving the Savannah "aristocracy", indicates that the Glens were once again prominent in the community with no scandal attached to their name. John Glen was again a trusted and respected man, and a match with his daughters was evidently a prize. In February, 1797, he sold for five shillings a lot #1 in Holland Tything, Percival Ward to William Stephens and William Bulloch. This property had been given to Mrs. John Glen by her father Noble Wymberly in 1775, and it was now to be held in trust by Stephens and Bulloch for young Sally, not to be subject to any debts accrued by her husband during his lifetime. Archibald went on to become a judge of the Inferior Court, and he and Sally had seven children—William, Catherine Jones, George Jones, Ann, Margaret, Jefferson, and Archibald.

On April 20, 1795, Glen watched his daughter Peggy marry William Hunter, son of John Hunter, a major in the British Army. Peggy, or Margaret, had born children: William...
three children—William P., Catherine Jones who married Noble W. Jones Bulloch, and Wymberly Jones. Tragically, William Hunter was killed in a duel in 1804, but fortunately Margaret's family left her property and helped her with the children.\(^{137}\)

Glen not only returned to law and landholding, but he returned to public life in the 1790's. He once again became involved in community affairs. In 1793 Glen joined the St. Andrew's Society, a group of Scotsmen who met every year to celebrate the titular saint of Scotland—St. Andrew and who participated in charitable work. That very same year he was elected Vice-President.\(^{138}\) He was re-elected the next year,\(^{139}\) then in 1795, John Glen became President of this benevolent society. On March 31, 1796, Glen was elected to be a vestryman of Christ Church. He was a Presbyterian as has been noted, but apparently he was a member of the Anglican congregation as well. His wife's family were members of Christ Church, and they went to both Anglican and Presbyterian services.

On July 10, 1797, Glen reached the pinnacle of his return to public prominence and perhaps of his career when the Savannah city aldermen selected him to be the mayor.\(^{140}\) His term only lasted for one year, but in that time Glen and his Council made important contributions to the city's regulation of prices and commerce. To be selected mayor was an honor, and it reveals the respect held for Glen's administrative talents and his ability to direct others. The task of managing a city in the process of growth was not easy, and it demanded an authoritative leader with patience and energy.

Glen met with the aldermen every Tuesday morning at 10:00 a.m., where they discussed the day to day matters of urban life in addition to serving as judicial authorities in certain cases. They could issue warrants for crimes and breaches of the peace, and could choose juries for court cases. In February, 1798, Glen issued an ordinance proclaiming the establishment of the mayor's court, which greatly expanded the duties and
responsibilities of the City Council. The mayor's court would have jurisdiction over civil cases, defined as those not involving the right to any land or real estate, nor sums over fifty dollars. The mayor could determine juries for an appeals trial concerning one of their decisions, which seems to have given them an inordinate amount of control. The mayor and Council were given the authority to decide in cases of seamen claiming non-payment of wages and alleged non-payment of debts between two or more parties. The ordinance, published in a supplement to the April 6, 1798 issue of the Georgia Gazette, also included regulations on the proceedings of the court, the keeping of minutes, etc. Sheriffs and constables were required to attend the weekly sessions of the City Council. If anyone in the city had a complaint about the mayor or aldermen, they could submit it to the court.

In addition, Glen passed ordinances regulating the fees of clerks in criminal cases and the attorneys' fees. Thus, as mayor Glen utilized the area of his expertise—the judiciary—to get the City Council more involved in the daily affairs of Savannah.

But the mayor's court was not the only matter that occupied the time of John Glen, mayor. One of the first ordinances he passed created a fire department, for Savannah with its wooden homes and buildings had been plagued by a rash of disastrous fires during the past few years (and would continue to be despite attempts such as Glen's). One of these had in December, 1796, consumed Glen's own home "on the Bay", having begun in his loft. His son-in-law William Hunter and his father-in-law were staying at his house when the fire began because their homes had been lost in earlier fires. This particular December fire consumed twenty homes before it was brought under control, including those owned by Dr. George Jones, (Sarah's brother), Harry Grant, Saul Simons, Captain Doyle in addition to destroying buildings owned by Thomas Hogg. Glen's ordinance provided for ten annually-elected (by the mayor and Aldermen)
firemasters who would manage and direct fire engines, procure firehoses, buckets, houseladders, ropes, etc., and supervise twenty "axemen" who were assigned two to each ward. They had the legal right to enter homes and inspect the furnishings. After the warning, they could confiscate any materials thought to be combustible. The mayor and aldermen had duties as well—they were to be present at the scene of any fire breaking out at night. Interestingly, the ordinance made it unlawful for a sugar refiner, brewer or distiller, and a baker (unless the bakehouses were paved with brick, stone, tile or slate) to carry on his trade within the city limits. The ordinance went into great detail, from the duties of the firemasters to the responsibility of individuals to sweep their chimneys once a week.147

This same attention to detail is present in an ordinance on bread prices, published in the Georgia Gazette on February 13, 1798. Its regulations established not only the price of bread, but also the weight of the loaf, the quality of flour and how much profit could be accrued by bakers. The aldermen and mayor had the right to inspect any bread being baked for public consumption. If they found it deficient, they could seize it and take the loaves to the poorhouse.148

Then on March 5, 1798, Glen passed an ordinance requiring that anyone operating a billiards table, shuffleboards or skittle alleys as well as those "retailing spirituous liquors" in taverns, inns, punchhouses, porterhouses, or alehouses had to buy a license. The operators had to supply character references to the mayor before applying for a license. Then the billiards table operator had to pay two hundred dollars, a shuffleboard cost one hundred dollars, and anyone selling liquor in quantities of not more than three gallons nor less than one quart had to pay twenty-five dollars. Furthermore, the ordinance ordered that taverns or billiard houses close each night at the beat of the drum. Any person engaged in a trade, such as a carpenter, baker, butcher, plasterer, shipwright, goldsmith, bricklayer, etc., was not allowed to apply for a license unless
he could no longer support himself by his trade. Apparently the city needed all the tradesmen it had, and could not afford to lose any to the alluring business of liquor and billiards.

In addition to regulating bread prices, court fees and the retail of liquor, Glen established the fees to be accepted by ministers and other officers of the churches for their services. For marrying a couple in a church, a minister could charge 2.25, for funeral rites 1.25, and for granting a certificate of baptism 1.00. If anyone tried to extract a higher fee, they were subject to a fifty dollar fine.

Thus, as mayor, Glen was involved in work very similar to what he had done while serving in the assembly as a young man. He seemed quite interested in the issues of day to day community affairs, which, though seemingly trivial (such as the quality of flour), permitted him to become involved in the commercial and professional life to continue operation. Glen seems to have been very thorough in his work, whether he was publicizing a mass meeting, acting as Chief Justice, or determining how to safeguard Savannah from fires. He always seemed to be someone who would be sure to cover every aspect and carry an assignment out to the most minute detail.

Glen clearly brought to the office of mayor his preference for judicial matters. He incorporated more judicial authority into the City Council, and thus was able to do the type of work which he was suited to do. But on January 26, 1798, Glen received the opportunity to act as a real judge and reenter the world of the judiciary. On that day he was elected to be a Judge of the Superior Court of the Eastern circuit, along with William Stephens and David Mitchell.

Having attained the post of a Superior Court Judge, Glen could look forward to further appointments on the judicial ladder. But before this second career could gather any momentum, Glen was struck down by an unexplained illness on May 13, 1799. His death was truly tragic, for he was not but fifty-five years old and he left behind a large family,
still quite young, to be cared for by Sarah alone. Luckily for them, he had just straightened out tax problems which had plagued him in 1794 and again in 1797. In both years, he failed to file tax returns and had to sell property to pay what he owed. Before his death, he sold 250 acres of inland swamp land and three hundred acres of pineland.

Curiously, Glen drew up a will about a month before his death, on April 1, 1799, so he must have been suffering from an extended illness and feared oncoming death. His obituary appeared in the Georgia Gazette and the Columbia Museum and Savannah Advertiser on May 14, but there was no explanation about his fatal illness. His funeral was held at 4:00 p.m. on the fourteenth, but the papers failed to give the location. Thus it must have been held at a public place commonly used for funeral services. He was mourned as a man of professional integrity and upright character. His obituary lauded his conduct as a lawyer and as Georgia's first Chief Justice:

> While this state was a province under Great Britain his talents were considered as respectable and his conduct marked with the most unsuspected integrity in a profession where incitements of interest are alluring and where the subtleties of the mind are but too often employed to weaken the barrier between vice and virtue. The purity of his principles and the propriety of his conduct as Attorney at law, procured him the appointment of Chief Justice of the State at the commencement of the Revolution... The duties of which important trust, he discharged with reputation an ability. It is worthy of remark, that in a climate reputed to be unhealthy, he was never known to be confined with a fit of illness during a life of fifty-five years, until that which terminated his existence.

I was not able to find a record of his burial in Savannah or in any Georgia cemetery. It is possible that he was interred at Colonial Park Cemetery, and during the transfer of many graves from there to Bonaventure Cemetery during the 1850's his records were lost. In the Second volume of Georgia's Landmarks, Memorials and Legends, Lucian Lamar Knight, speaking about the old Colonial Park Cemetery, states that "John Glen, the first Chief Justice of Georgia, doubtless
lies here in unmarked graves" (he was speaking also about William Ewen, first president of the Executive Council and William Pierce, a Revolutionary soldier-hero). It is also possible that he was buried either on his own plantation or on Wymberly, the plantation owned by Sarah Glen, which had been given to her by her father Noble Wymberly. Mrs. Lorton Livingston, a descendent of John Glen through his daughter Margaret Hunter, feels that he was buried at Wymberly. She explained to me that his family loved him too much not to bury him in a distinct and honored place. Sarah loved him dearly, and it is very likely that she wanted him buried somewhere close to her.

Although Glen’s will was probated in 1799, no one qualified as executor until 1805, when his son George took the oath, according to a letter written by William Harden to Dr. Joseph Bulloch. In his will, John Glen left everything he owned to Sarah and the children. Specifically, he left, first of all, his "large silver cup with two hands to it, fellow to the one I gave my son James." To his son Thomas he gave "my large silver bowl" and to Margaret "my large two gallon China bowl." He bequeathed all of his property to Sarah and the children, to be "equally divided between them share and share alike" as well as "the rest of my plate, household and kitchen furniture, beds, bedspreads and bedding." He advised Sarah to remarry, "which I think she has more prudence to do having so large a family of children!" If she were to do that, then he requested that his property be sold. The inventory of goods was quite extensive—among other items, four horses; a mule; mahogany furniture such as dining tables, writing tables and a desk; three chairs; one card table; two tea tables; seventeen Windsor chairs; a sofa; two cases of knives and forks; three sets of drawers; three beds; a carpet; a glass vase; thirty-one spoons; a bowl; a steel grate; brass candlesticks; a set of bed and window curtains; a boat; kitchen furniture; a collection of Savannah books and a salt cellar.
Glen owned twenty-six adult slaves and quite a number of children. His great love for his family is reflected in his benificence towards them. He apparently trusted Sarah to handle his estate after his death and to divide everything fairly among the children. She must have been a very capable woman, fully worthy of his trust in her management skills, which she had proved in being able to hold the family together during the trying years of Glen's banishment. Glen evidently favored somewhat the older children whom he mentions by name in the will, or else he just did not want to give such items as plate to children not of age. But what was most important was not the tangible items he left, but the intangible qualities he passed onto them and the memory of his integrity and diligence. We shall see that his sons carried on his legacy well, making important contributions to their communities. His daughters married prominent men and raised families amid both good times and bad. They remained devoted to their father's memory, and they took care of Sarah up until her death. The Glens were an extraordinarily close family, and this has to serve as a lasting tribute to both John and Safah. This eighteenth-century Savannah lawyer and judge, despite experiencing extreme lows in his public life, left much to be proud of in his professional and private legacies.
The Story of John Glen: 
Scenes From An Eventful Life 
II. Sarah Glen: -Years Alone 

During the five years after her husband's death, Sarah retreated into the comfort of her children and her parents. She also spent time with other members of the Jones family, such as uncles and aunts, with whom she often traveled. According to letters sent from her brother George to his son Noble Wymberly II and letters of Noble Wymberly himself. Sarah's children, particularly Margaret, James, and George, spent a great deal of time with her, often accompanying her on visits to the North. The children also helped one another, especially the younger daughters Ann, Mary Jones, Charlotte, and Catherine. In August, 1802, Sarah traveled to New York with daughters Sally and Peggy and with William Gibbons, a relation on the Jones side. While she was there, she and Gibbons went to Princeton, New Jersey, where her son George had been studying since 1801. His roommate was his cousin, Noble Wymberly Jones II, and apparently they were close friends, even after George left Princeton early in February, 1803, and returned to Savannah to practise law. Possibly he left due to his mother's health, which grew increasingly worse in 1803 and 1804. Sarah was suffering terribly when, in May, 1804, she, James, Margaret, George, Mary, and the two youngest children of Margaret sailed to Middleton, Connecticut to stay at a house owned by her brother George. It was hoped that the stay would prolong her life, which is of great importance to her family, especially the young part of it. Just two months earlier had seen her hovering close to death, and the family feared that her recovery was only tenuous.

Sarah lived in Connecticut until September, when she finally succumbed to consumption on the last day of the month. Her body was brought back to Savannah, but like John, there is no record anywhere of her burial. I believe that she was buried beside John, but she
may have been laid to rest with others in the Jones family, who were buried in the old Colonial Park Cemetery. When the Jones vault was moved to Bonaventure Cemetery, there nine coffins whose records were lost. Thus, her body (and maybe John's) could have been among those nine whose identities were unknown. 162

Sarah left an extensive will, much more detailed than her husband's. Like John, she left everything to her children, including Wymberly, located on the Isle of Hope next to Wormsloe, the plantation owned by her grandfather Noble Jones. In 1809, in accordance with her directions in the will, the land was divided into equal tracts belonging to Charlotte, William (apparently a son of one of the Glen children), Archibald Bulloch (for Sally), Thomas Bourke (for Ann), Dr. Grimes (for Catherine), James Glen, George Milnor (for Mary), George Glen and Noble Glen. 163 Sarah left to her daughters Ann, Mary J. and Charlotte the lots left to her by her father: Lot #6 in Digby Tything, Decker Ward, which was bounded on the east by Barnard Street and the west by another lot, to the north by a backlane and to the south by Ellis Square; Lot #7, a half lot bounded by lot #6 to the east, Lot #8 to the west, to the north by the backlane and to the south by the other half of the lot #7. She gave to James, George, Thomas, Margaret, Sarah, Ann, Mary, Charlotte, and Catherine an island known as Burnside (the name is not legible in the will), located between the Isle of Hope and Skidaway Island. Margaret received the horse, kitchen and garden at Wymberly and a share of the negroes. Her other daughters also received shares of the negro slaves. Sarah made a special grant to her son Noble of a lot on the river on the Isle of Hope and asked that a dwelling house be built upon it for him.

Sarah possessed an enormous amount of household goods and family treasures. She divided everything among the children, including her clothing, but she also made special gifts to each child, reflecting
her tender feelings towards them in the intricate details of her will. Perhaps her character and her devotion to her late husband are best revealed in the gift she left to each of the children. She had prepared gold rings and broaches with hair "of their dear late Father and myself worked therein". She was determined that the children have a lasting memorial of their union, which had survived even death.
The Story of John Glen: Scenes From An Eventful Life

III. The Fortunes of the Children: Brief Glimpses

Of all the children, George seemed to stand out the most. He must have been the most like his father—dependable, trustworthy, and deeply involved in both personal and public matters. He inherited his father's legal mind, and all of his brothers looked to him to handle their estates as both his parents had. Even James, who died in Philadelphia as we shall see, had George as the executor of his will. George was well educated like his father, even going north to attend college just as John had done years earlier. In Savannah he attended Chatham Academy, where in a public examination on September 17, 1793 he was awarded the prize "next best speaker". He went on to become a prominent lawyer in Savannah and served as a Clerk of the U.S. Federal Court—District of Georgia, Notary Public and Notary to the State Bank. George Glen was a resident member of the Georgia Historical Society from 1839 until 1842. In 1805 he joined the Union Society, and in 1815, he became a member of the board. A year later he was secretary to the board, then later served as Vice-President. He died unmarried in 1852, leaving his estate to his niece Catherine Jones Hunter. He seemed to have taken special care of his sister Margaret and her children. Earlier in his life, he had given a lot of land on the Savannah River, lot #5, located east of Bull Street, to William P. Hunter. He was to hold the land in trust for his wife Elizabeth, a very far-sighted provision for the always uncertain future.

James had begun practising medicine before his mother's death. He had been born in 1774, the year of John's first involvement in the revolutionary movement. He is credited as being one of the founders of the Georgia Medical Society. But he did not practise long in Savannah.
but decided at some point during the spring and summer of 1804 to move to Philadelphia. He accompanied his mother to Connecticut in May, but did not stay long, according to a letter sent by George Jones to his son Noble W. As he stated, "Dr. Glen, who accompanied her (Sarah), intends to leave her as soon as possible and return home by way of Philadelphia...". James must have become enamored to the city, and decided to practise medicine there. On January 4, 1808, he married Mary Frances Lewis in Philadelphia. They had four children, one of whom also became a doctor—Edward Jones Glen—while another was Chairman pro tem of the state legislature—James Lewis Glen. James Glen, though, did not even reach his father's age before he died on August 5, 1815. He was only forty-two years old.

Thomas Glen must have been in his early teens when his father died. For in May, 1804, he had just finished his schooling at Bethesda, which his brother George explained in a letter to his cousin Noble W.: "Thomas has just taken his departure from thence (Bethesda) and bid adieu to schoolmasters and schools. He has entered into Mr. Bolton's Counting House and intends applying himself assiduously to the acquirement of mercantile knowledge until he comes of age, which will be in about three years." Later he was involved in trading cotton with one of the Bullochs.

Curiously, he must have spent time in Philadelphia with his brother; for in 1811 he married Ann Waldburgher there in a ceremony presided over by a Bishop White. But he owned property in Chatham County and kept a residence in Savannah, so he must have come back to the South to live after the marriage. In his will he left slaves to his sister Margaret, which suggests he operated a plantation, perhaps one of his father's. He also specified in his will that James' son Edward Jones receive his 550 acre tract of land in Effingham County. To his sister Charlotte he left 250.00, to his sister Sally he left mahogany tea tables, and to Ann he left a carpet. The remainder of his estate he left to his brother George, the executor of the will. This settlement..."
of Thomas' exhibits the generosity and feeling which Glen's children had for each other. They made provisions for one another and for their nieces and nephews. The date of Thomas' death could not be discovered, but it must have been rather early in life, for his wife remarried afterwards and became Ann Barclay. Thomas and Ann had a son, "according to Dr. Bulloch, whom they named Thomas after the father."  

Noble Wymberly was the second son of John and Sarah. He was not mentioned by name in his father's will, although all of the other boys were, suggesting estrangement (this is only speculation—I found no evidence of this). But Sarah made special provision for him, so he may have been her favorite or else she just wanted to make sure that he received something from her estate, since John had made no provision for him. He became a City Marshal, married a lady from western Virginia and had three children whose names were Archibald, Sarah and Margaret. But Noble Glen died in 1816, and his wife had apparently died a few years earlier. The three orphaned children passed into the care of George Glen, who sold Noble's slaves to obtain money which he could invest in property. George hoped that investing in property would bring in enough money to support the three children. Interestingly, Noble must have left an impression on the people of Isle of Hope, for there is a street named for him which runs on land formerly comprising the plantation of Wymberly.  

The daughters all married within ten years of their mother's death. Ann married Thomas Bourke of the "ancient family of Bourke of Ireland" on October 5, 1808. This young man was a Military Agent, deputy quartermaster, surveyor and inspector. Catherine was wed to Dr. John Grimes, a noted physician and like James, a founder of the Georgia Medical Society. They had three children—Sarah, Mary Marshall and Sarah Jones. But Dr. Grimes died only a year later than James Glen, on June 24, 1816, and he was but thirty-five years old. On January 1, 1814, Charlotte married John Irvine Bulloch in a service conducted by the notable Reverend Henry Kolloch, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church. Bulloch was an
attorney and later a clerk in a federal court. They had William Gaston Bulloch, M.D., who became a prominent Savannah physician, and Jane Bulloch, who married a John Henry Colburn of the Colburn and Prince families of the North. Mary Jones married George Milnor on July 18, 1809, in Trenton, New Jersey. Reverend Dr. Waddel performed the ceremony. She had spent time in the northeastern states with her mother and perhaps went to Philadelphia with her brother James after her mother died. According to Dr. Joseph Bulloch, George Milnor died and she married an Englishman with the last name Dick. Mary had six children-Kirkbride, George, John, Elizabeth, Mary, Sarah- and possibly five more, but their names were not given.

Sarah Glen reportedly gave birth to thirteen children, although several accounts claimed she had fourteen. There were two boys lost on the same day-William and John who died on August 20, 1789. There might have been a daughter Elizabeth, who either died young or else was too small to be mentioned in either Sarah's or John's will. Sarah, though, refers to my six daughters aforementioned" which implies in the context of the will that she had only six daughters.
End Notes


2 Thomas A. Glenn, "Genealogical Notes Regarding the Family of Glen, or Glenn", *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*, Volume 34, p.482.

3 Glenn, p.495.


5 Bulloch, pp. 23-25.


10 Bulloch, p.21.


12 Bulloch, pp.21-29.


19 Beckemeyer
20. Moore, p. 78.
27. Salley, p. 96.
30. Bulloch, p. 35.


41 Bulloch, p.21.


43 *Georgia Gazette*, March 1, 1769, p.2, column 1.

44 *Georgia Gazette*, May 10, 1769, p.2, c.2.


49 Chandler, p.21.

50 Chandler, p.201.

51 Chandler, p.211.

52 Chandler, p.225.

53 Chandler, p.255.

54 Chandler, pp.256-257.

55 Chandler, p.273.

56 Chandler, Volume XI, p.305.


58 *S.C.H.M.*, July, 1909, p.145, listed in the records of Colonel Isaac Hayne, who was executed by the British in 1781. He kept a little
book on news extracted from newspapers dealing with births, deaths, and marriages.


61 Jones, p.149-150.


63 Jones, p.153.

64 Jones, p.159.


66 Jones, p.175.


68 Ga. Gazette, January 12, 1774, p.4, c.2.

69 Ga. Gazette, September 13, 1777


73 Jones, p.177.

74 Jones, p.177.


76 Jones, p.184.

77 Chandler, Volume XII, pp.421-423.

78 J.H. Estill, F.D. Lee, and J.L. Agnew, Historical Record of the
City of Savannah, (Savannah, Morning News Steam-Power Press, 1869), pp.39-41.

79 Jones, p.207.


81 Jones, p.212.


84 Coleman, p.78.


86 Orville A. Park, History of Georgia in the Eighteenth Century, As Recorded in the Reports of the Georgia Bar Association, Macon, Ga., p.223

87 Park, p.223.


89 I found this to be true, having looked through all available records of Georgia concerning soldiers in the Revolutionary War. Orville Park also declares on page 217 of his History of Georgia in the Eighteenth Century that there are no existing records of Glen's active military service.

90 Robert S. Davis, Jr., Georgia Citizens and Soldiers of the American Revolution, (Easley, S.C., Southern Historical Press, 1979), pp.75-76.

91 Alexander A. Lawrence, Storm Over Savannah, (Athens, Ga., University of Georgia Press, 1951), p.36.

92 Lawrence, p.155.


94 Coleman, p.167.
Memorial and Petition of Mr. John Glen; Chandler, Compiler, *Colonial Records*, Volume XII, p.476.


Collections, pp.106-107.

Memorial and Petition of Mr. John Glen; Chandler, pp.476-477.


"Memorial and Petition of Mr. John Glen", Chandler, pp.476-477.

"Memorial and Petition of Mr. John Glen", Chandler, pp.476-477.

Order of Council on Mr. Glen's Petition", Chandler, p.478.


Glen is listed on page 26 of *Collections of the Georgia Historical Society: Selected Eighteenth Century Manuscripts*, Albert Sidney Britt Jr. and Anthony Roane Dees, Editors, Volume XX, (Savannah, The Society, 1980) as a "Congratulator of Lord Cornwallis. It is for his participation in this affair that he was banished from Charleston. I discovered the details behind the official congratulation of Cornwallis on page 214 of David Ramsey's *History of South Carolina*.

Ramsey, p.214.

*Royal Georgia Gazette*, July 19, 1781, p.2, c.2.


Chandler, *Revolutionary Records of Georgia*, p.413.

Chandler, *Revolutionary Records of Georgia*, p.482.


Chandler, *Revolutionary Records of Georgia*, p.462. This piece of property was not actually sold until September 10.


Bulloch, p.22.


117 Chandler, Revolutionary Records of Georgia, Volume III, p. 368.

118 Coleman, p. 184.

119 Chandler, Revolutionary Records of Georgia, Volume III, p. 368.

120 Chandler, Revolutionary Records of Georgia, Volume II, p. 533.

121 Chandler, Revolutionary Records of Georgia, Volume III, p. 549.


123 Property Deed, Superior Court, Chatham County Courthouse, Book 2 U, p. 297.

124 Property Deed, Superior Court, Chatham County Courthouse, Book 1, p. 184.

125 Georgia Gazette, January 21, 1790, p. 2, c. 2.


127 Ga. Gazette, August 11, 1791, p. 2, c. 3.


129 Property Deed, Superior Court, Chatham County Courthouse, Book Q, p. 167.

130 Property Deed, Superior Court, Chatham County Courthouse, Book 2 U, p. 294.

131 Property Deed, Superior Court, Chatham County Courthouse, Book K, p. 462.


133 George Norbury Mackenzie, LL.B., Editor, Colonial Families of

134 Property Deed, Superior Court, Chatham County Courthouse, Book Q, p.427.

135 Bulloch, p.110.

136 Bulloch, p.110.

137 Bulloch, p.110. There is a possibility that there was another son William, a son Bayard, and a daughter Elizabeth, but it is doubtful that they had six children when he died so young. I found mention of his death in several sources, and in an interview, Mrs. Lorton Livingston it. She is descended from John Glen through the daughter Margaret. Confirmed

138 History of the St. Andrew's Society of the City of Savannah, (Savannah, Ga., Kennicke's, Revised 1950), p.66.

139 Ga. Gazette, December 5, 1793, p.3, c.1.

140 Ga. Gazette, December, 1794, p.2, c.3.


143 The aldermen who elected Glen and served under him were Thomas Gibbons, James Box Young, George Anderson, John Glass, James Robertson, John Peter Ward, John Holland, and Henry C. Jones. This list of names was found on page 48 of The History of the Municipal Government of Savannah, Georgia, by Thomas Gamble, Compiled from official records under direction of the City Council, (Savannah, 1901)

144 Gamble, p.48.

145 The ordinance can be found in the Gazette as stated, and also on pages 117-124 in the book of Ordinances 1795-1809, which can be found in the vault of the Clerk of the Court in the Savannah City Hall.

146 Columbian Museum and Savannah Advertiser, December 6, 1796, p.3, c.3.

147 Columbian Museum and Savannah Advertiser, September 9, 1797, p.2, c.2.

148 Columbian Museum and Savannah Advertiser, March 9, 1798, p.2, c.5. Also found on pages 128-133 in the Book of Ordinances 1795-1809.

Glen was listed as a defaulter in the *Georgia Gazette*, December 4, 1794, p.2, c.3.

Glen returned this land to pay the taxes he owed according to a notice in the *Georgia Gazette*, December 8, 1797, p.2, c.1.

*Columbian Museum and Savannah Advertiser*, May 14, 1799, p.3, c.2.


Bullock, p.48.

Will, File Number 39, Probate Court, Chatham County Courthouse.


Caroline Price Wilson, Abstractor and Compiler, *Annals of Georgia*, Volume III: Mortuary Records, (Savannah, Braid and Hutton, Inc., 1933), p.16. On November 20, according to this source, Sarah's body was brought to Savannah, and her death was entered in the records of City Hall.

General Index to Keepers' Records Books: Bonaventure Cemetery 1850-1938.

*Historical Map Collection: Early Georgia Plantations and the Township of Savannah-1752-1871*, Georgia Writers' Project, Works Projects Administration, The Georgia Society of the Colonial Dames of America, Sponsors, p.34, map #1.

Will of Sarah Glen, File Number 38, Probate Court, Chatham County Courthouse.

Will of James Glen, File Number 76, Probate Court, Chatham County Courthouse.


Bullock, p.110.

169. Will of George Glen, File Number 139, Probate Court, Chatham County Courthouse.

170. Property Deed, Superior Court, Chatham County Courthouse, Book 20, p.307.


172. Bulloch, p.47.


174. Wayne-Stites-Anderson Manuscript Collection, Box 15, Folder 356.

175. Bulloch, p.41.

176. Will of Thomas Glen, File Number 77, Probate Court, Chatham County Courthouse.

177. In the Annals of Georgia, Volume III, Mortuary Records, on page 99, there is a listing for a Thomas Glen, planter, who died on March 10, 1815, leaving a wife and one son. He died in Charleston. This may have been John's son, but further research will have to be done substantiate this possibility.


179. Wilson, Annals of Georgia, p.112. He died on August 16, aged thirty-four years.

180. I discovered this while running on the Isle of Hope one evening.


185. Bulloch, p.50.

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Lawrence, Alexander A. Storm Over Savannah. Athens, Ga.: University of Georgia Press, 1951.


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Georgia Gazette
Georgia Genealogical Magazine
Pennsylvania Magazine of History of History and Biography
Royal Georgia Gazette
South Carolina Historical Magazine
Property Deeds

Located in the Superior Court Records Room, Chatham County Courthouse:

Book I, p.184.

Book K, p.462.


The Glen Family Wills

George Glen, File Number 139, Probate Court, Chatham County Courthouse.
James Glen, File Number 76, Probate Court, Chatham County Courthouse.
John Glen, File Number 39, Probate Court, Chatham County Courthouse.
Noble Glen, File Number 80, Probate Court, Chatham County Courthouse.
Sarah Glen, File Number 38, Probate Court, Chatham County Courthouse.
Thomas Glen, File Number 77, Probate Court, Chatham County Courthouse.
William Glen, File Number 21, Probate Court, Chatham County Courthouse.
As the author of the preceding narrative, I regret the many gaps and mysteries found throughout its pages. I did my best within the constraints of time to learn as much as possible about John Glen, but information was not easy to find, except for his revolutionary activities and his term as Chief Justice. It was the intricate, personal details that were elusive. John Glen left no personal papers or other such materials; or at least they are not in Savannah if they exist. At the turn of the century, Dr. Joseph Bulloch conducted extensive genealogical research on not only the Glen family, but related families which descendents of Savannah's John Glen married into over the years. I discovered several inaccuracies in his earlier works, but I used his 1923 book on the Glen family as a major source for constructing my narrative. But even he could not answer the many questions surrounding John Glen's life.

Although often mentioned in histories of the American Revolution in Georgia, I think that his somewhat mysterious change of allegiance in 1780 has limited more extensive treatment of his particular contributions as a local leader and as a high office holder in the rebel government. Contemporaries may have denigrated his role, and subsequent writers who base their analyses on the earlier works did not have a complete picture of his participation.

However, there were leads which I lacked the time to fully explore, and some which I did not discover the significance of until too late. I know that there is information to be found in South Carolina, particularly at the South Carolina Historical Society in Charleston. More
in Savannah, the exhaustive search, which I was not able to complete, of all of the property deeds involving the Glen children would no doubt turn up many more facts on John's property holdings and the extent of his personal wealth. There is information still to be extracted from the Judgement Books and from other sources dealing with legal matters during his time. The records of other counties such as Stewart, Glynn, Screvin, etc. need to be searched since he was involved both professionally and personally outside of Savannah throughout his life. In addition, Philadelphia colonial records might yield interesting and valuable details, for the Glens had many connections with this city. Possibly a descendant has obtained family records or papers which hold many answers to the questions raised in my narrative. Only a lot of letter writing can discover whether such documents exist.

The absence of personal papers can be maddening, for my research has made me intensely interested in John Glen as an individual. I hate having to speculate on his feelings and reactions. I wish that I knew more about his goals, ambitions and regrets. I would like to know how he thought about the events of his time and his own participation in them. I wish I knew whether my speculative musings about his character and professional attributes are truly accurate.

I see him as an intelligent, articulate man who could get the job done. He possessed a sense of public duty and responsibility which motivated him to enter politics despite a busy practice and a growing family. Glen seemed to want everything in its place, worked out to the very last detail. He was a practical man, not a visionary idealist. He concerned himself with matters of everyday life more than with principles of a higher order. Perhaps this is what got him into trouble during the Revolution, for it was his practicality that might have led him to give up on the American cause. He might
served himself better had he been a passionate, emotional adherent to
the cause of independence, unable to accept the reality of defeat.
But he seemed to grow tired of the endless sacrifices and the perpetual
trauma that went along with the fight against the British; he missed
his family, which was as important to him as any principle or cause
in which he was involved.

I know that I could go on and on with my speculations. I feel
that they have some basis, and they reveal a picture of a man anyone
interested in the eighteenth century would enjoy studying. One sees
through the story of John Glen a picture of civic leadership on an
ordinary plane, closer to what the majority of people of that time
were like. The Revolution has too often been discussed in terms of the
charismatic, national leaders rather than the community leaders who
kept issues alive and fought against the lethargy and dispassion of the
masses. Glen was such a leader and continued to be after the war. His
story should be an intricate part of any history of the late eighteenth
century. The mysteries of his life as a "fugitive" and the feelings
of devotion which characterized his family relationships make the
story a universally interesting human drama. Hopefully, the little
bit of light which I have shed on the details of John Glen's life
will no be quenched but eventually will reveal a much fuller picture
of this Savannah lawyer, leader and family man.