



Lewis Bradberry
1761 - 1846
Patriot of the Revolutionary War



Patriot Lewis Bradberry (or Bradbury) was born about 1761; he married Sarah East on November 19, 1785, in Henry, Virginia. By 1798 Lewis and Sarah had moved to Oglethorpe County, Georgia, and later to Clarke County, where they raised a large family. Known children are Catherine, who married James Parker; William, who married Catherine Ball; and Eli Nathan, who married Louisa Wise.

Land which is now Oconee County was ceded about 1790 by the Creek Indians to early settlers; some of this land was included in the Georgia Land Lottery, which made grants after the Revolutionary War to men who had served in some capacity during the war. The current Oconee Veterans Park property was part of an 1827 grant of 202 1/2 acres made to Lewis Bradbury.

By 1840 Lewis and Sarah had moved to south Georgia; when Lewis died in 1846 they were living with their son Eli Nathan and his wife Louisa in Marion County, where Sarah remained until her death in 1850.

In 1885 the Bradbury property was divided, with Eli and Louisa's son Joseph receiving 160 acres and Josiah Autry acquiring the remaining portion from M.F. Herndon. In 1906 Robert Eli Bradberry, son of Joseph and Sarah, inherited the property; he and his wife, Laura Thornton Bradbury, sold the majority to R.S. Hagood in 1919 and sold five acres to Tony Dukes.

In 1923 Annie Patman acquired the Hagood property, selling it to F.F. Dickens in 1950. Dickens purchased the other part of the original Bradberry land from Josiah Autry in 1961. In 2002 the Dickens estate sold the entire 197 1/2 acres to Oconee County.

