



# Fairfield County Genealogy Society Newsletter

Vol. 37, Number 2, 39<sup>th</sup> Year

May 15, 2026

2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter

Located on Second Floor – Fairfield County Museum, 231 S. Congress St., Winnsboro, South Carolina

## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Fairfield County Genealogy Society is to:

- Promote genealogy through education of its members and the public.
- Improve access to genealogical information in Fairfield County by maintaining an educational research center.
- Foster collaboration among members.
- Assist those researching their Fairfield County ancestors.
- Conduct periodic educational programs and conferences to explore cultural, genealogical, and historical topics.
- Disseminate cultural, genealogical

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

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P.O. Box 93, Winnsboro, SC 29180-0093 **Location:** Fairfield County Museum - 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Library

**Website:** [www.fairfieldgenealogysociety.org](http://www.fairfieldgenealogysociety.org) **Email:** [fairfieldgenealogy@truvista.net](mailto:fairfieldgenealogy@truvista.net)

**Hours:** Mon.-Fri. 10:00am-5:00pm (Lunch: Noon-1:00pm) Saturday: 10:00am-2:00pm or by Appointment  
Please call ahead to ensure someone is available to assist you.

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## Eddie Killian Message from the President

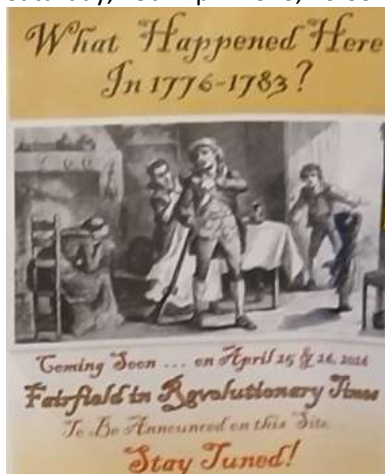
Hello everyone, I hope all of you are doing well.

Spring is in the air and hopefully not a cold and allergy season for you! Many of us will be traveling, finishing up St. Patrick's Day And Easter holiday activities and hopefully some family reunions. Reunions are not only a good place to keep acquainted with relatives but they are an excellent resource for working on your family genealogy. It has also been very busy times lately so far this past quarter and I am sure for you as well. I have continued to keep up with emails and have attempted to handle research requests via email in a timely manner. As well as continued to update as time permits, the FCGS Members Only web pages and this newsletter. We added or updated the FCGS Members Only web pages for the following digitized family information: Family Cemeteries: Richardson; Families: Cline, Cotney, Haynes, Klein, Little, Maxwell, Mayes, Simonton, Walker; Churches: Catholic Presbyterian, Concord Presbyterian, Greenbrier Methodist, Mt Olivet Presbyterian, Nazarene, Salem Presbyterian, Shiloh AME, Sion Presbyterian.

I/We want to **welcome** and **thank** our new and renewal members for their 2026 support! We, at FCGS thank each of our FCGS members for their membership support and volunteering their time and services to their society. Also, we want to thank FCGS Board members for their devotion and continued work for the society. Please consider helping us by volunteering to assist in cataloging and properly storing these invaluable resources. We are most appreciative for our new and past volunteers for their assistance with programs, membership, donations, and support!

We have continued to encourage FCGS members to get to know each other on a more personal level by sponsoring or participating in the following events this since last report:

- Thur., Feb. 19th, 11:30 AM "FCGS Full Board Meeting" Peace on Earth, Winnsboro
- Thur., Mar. 26<sup>th</sup>, 11:30 AM "Legendary African Americans of Fairfield County"
- Sat., Mar. 28<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 AM, 14th Annual Highland Games & Celtic Festival
- Saturday, 25th April 2026, 10:00 AM until 4:00 PM, SC 250 Event, What Happened Here 1776-1783?



[Fairfield in the American Revolution \(Map\)](#)

Remember to check back with us or check the [FCGS Announcements](#) page on FCGS website for latest details or additional Information on Events and Meetings. **Make plans to come out and join us!**



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I still plan to publish the newsletters in the first week of the first month of each quarter. If you are considering submitting an article to the newsletter, please submit your information in MSWord or Notepad format to Eddie. The deadline is the last week of each quarter.

Remember if visiting the Fairfield County Genealogy Library for assistance; please bring the following with you if at all possible and/or applicable: Pedigree(s) or Family Tree Chart(s), Ancestry.com ID and password, MyHeritage.com ID and password, DNA Kit(s) and password(s). All these will help facilitate our assistance with your inquiries. In your service,

*Eddie Killian*

## Past Events Reports

### **SC African American Heritage Commission Conference Report**

Submitted by Sanita Cousar

They just released their newsletter with lots of information. There are opportunities for grants, mention of Fairfield historical district, etc. and things you could put in the next newsletter. I also got a copy of Jim Clyburn's book, which is a great read so far. I will also send information on the Mecklenburg county library offerings. I have attended a number of them and they are well done and informative.

## **SCAAHC Events & Announcements Commissioner Profiles**



Harris M. Bailey Jr. is a lifelong resident of Greenwood, South Carolina. He is a graduate of Lander University and received a master's degree from Western Kentucky University. For nearly 20 years, he has worked in the field of workforce development and is currently employed with the Upper Savannah Council of Governments in the Workforce Development Division in Greenwood, South Carolina.

Harris has taught Political Science and American National Government classes at Lander University, Piedmont Technical College, and South Carolina State University. His articles have appeared in several historical society publications. He is a charter member of the Old Edgefield District African American Genealogical Society and the African American Genealogical Society of Greenwood.

Harris is married to Sheryl Kemp Bailey and has helped her, and many others, trace their African American roots in Edgefield County. He has conducted extensive research on South Carolina's involvement in the Spanish-American War, the Battle of the Crater during the American Civil War, and the Bachelor Expedition during the Philippine Insurrection.

Harris Bailey Jr. is Co-Chair of the Green Book Publication Committee

## **Recent African American Preservation News**

### **Civil Rights Leader, Rev. Jesse Jackson, Passes**

Born in Greenville, SC, Rev. Jesse Jackson became a leading figure in the fight for civil rights. From pushing for the desegregation of a public library in Greenville, to leading a sit in movement, to the creation of the Rainbow Push Coalition, to running for president, the accomplishments and legacy left by Rev. Jackson will continue on, inspiring generations to come. To read more about the life of Rev. Jesse Jackson, visit this link.



Photo from Rainbow Push Coalition



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## Gullah Artwork Showcased at SC State Museum

Gullah Geechee artist, Corey Alston, is one of the most well-known and respected stewards of Gullah Geechee heritage, specifically sweet grass basket weaving. Recently, his piece "Big Percy" was acquired by the South Carolina State Museum and is on display. Alston, a fifth generation basket weaver who was mentored by legendary weaver Mary Jackson states, "This is one of the proudest pieces of my career and will always have a special place in my heart." For more on "Big Percy" and the history of sweet grass basket weaving, [click here](#).



Photo from South Carolina State Museum



## 2 SC Projects Receive Funding from AAAM & AACRN

Lincolville Preservation and Historical Society and the Center for Creative Partnerships both received funding from the joint African American Association of Museums and National Park Service's African American Civil Rights Network micro grant opportunity. These projects, along with the other 22 that were funded, exemplify a commitment to advancing the narrative of African American contributions to civil rights and social justice movements. For more information on the micro grant program, [click here](#).

## Upcoming Events & Conferences

June 9-11, 2026: The College of Charleston's Avery Research Center for African American History and Culture is hosting a three-day symposium focused on black education and the preservation of Black History through archives, and community engagement. Information can be found at [this link](#).

October 1-3, 2026: The Slave Dwelling Project is holding a conference in North Charleston titled "250 Years and Counting: Reckoning, Resilience, and Remembrance." Currently, they are accepting proposals for themes surrounding the Revolutionary Era. For more information, visit [this link](#).

## Ongoing Events

The Bart Garrison Agricultural Museum of South Carolina in Pendleton has unveiled a new exhibit titled Cultivating Legacies: The Story of Black Americans in South Carolina's Agriculture. This exhibit highlights the resilience, innovation, and significant contributions to the state's agricultural development by Black farmers. For more information, [visit this link](#).

Free Admission to the Columbia Museum of Art where visitors can see the "[Our Story Matters](#)" Gallery that discusses Columbia's vibrant Washington Street Black Business District.

Despite his legacy as a trailblazer, Leo Twiggs has never had a full retrospective in his home state of South Carolina. The Gibbes aims to remedy that by celebrating his visionary career, showcasing his iconic Batik technique and profound reflections



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on the American experience across six decades of work. Guest curated by art historian Dr. Frank Martin, the exhibition--accompanied by a full-color catalogue--will mark the 50th anniversary of Twigg's first solo show at the Gibbes in 1976. The exhibition will run from January 30, 2026- May 3, 2026. For more info and tickets, visit [this link](#).



## SC African American Heritage Commission

Help us grow our subscribers and reach even more people by forwarding this newsletter to anyone who may be interested!

[Subscribe to the Newsletter](#)

For any assistance, support, or general questions please contact us. [Contact Us](#)



Imagine stepping into history and seeing the people, places, and stories that shaped your heritage come alive. At the [Carolina Rising Museum](#), we offer an immersive Revolutionary War experience where your group can:

- Explore lifelike animated figures of Revolutionary War heroes
- Ask questions and interact with history as if it were happening today
- Discover stories that connect to broader family and regional histories

### **HUZZAH! Revolutionary Things to Do in South Carolina's Olde English District**

Hear ye, hear ye! [The Olde English District](#) (OED) in South Carolina invites writers to come experience the landmarks, events, and unforgettable stories that they might not have heard about and learn why the Revolutionary War was won here. While many look North for the story of 1776, the tide of the war actually turned in the South—specifically across the seven historic



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counties of the OED. As the 250th anniversary approaches, the region serves as a primary hub for heritage tourism, where the clashing of sabers and the spirit of independence are brought to life.

Take a Trip Back in Time with the OED for America250



Kershaw is a primary hub for Revolutionary activities due to the English's historic occupation of Camden. The region's calendar is anchored by the Annual Battle of Camden Reenactment (second weekend of November), the largest force-on-force reenactment in the nation. This kicks off "Revolutionary November," a month-long series of events including:

### **Battle of Camden & Snow Campaign Reenactments**

The [Revolutionary War Visitor Center](#): Hosting "Lunch & Learns" on profiles like Lord Rawdon and the "Blue, Red, & Black" lectures focusing on African Americans in the war.

For a rugged, boots-on-the-ground perspective, Union County offers immersive experiences at [Musgrove Mill](#) and [Blackstock's Battlefield](#):

Anniversary Guided Hikes at Blackstock's: Special ranger-led lantern hikes take place on November 20 over the actual hilly terrain where the Battle of Blackstock's was fought.

Annual Encampments at Musgrove Mill: The last full weekend of April features living history, weapons firing, and militia musters.

The "Revolutionary" spirit extends to every corner of the district:

**Lancaster County:** Features [Patriots of Color](#) genealogical workshops and the [American Revolution Experience](#) traveling exhibition.

**Fairfield County:** Highlights the "Colonial Fairfield (1776–1783)" era with specialized presentations and community events in late April.

**Chester County:** Home to a dedicated [SC250 Chester Committee](#) organizing local historical markers and commemorative updates on the Southern Campaign.

**Chesterfield County:** Chesterfield focuses on the [Liberty Trail](#), linking vital sites across the region.

**York County:** York coordinates walking tours through its 250 Committee and will host an reenactment event at [Historic Brattonsville on July 11](#).



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**New for 2026:** Launching later this season, the OED will debut its **Revolutionary War Trail**, a curated route through our seven counties that connects the hidden landmarks and famous battlefields where the SC fight for independence helped turn the tide of the war.

The Olde English District invites the media to witness these hallowed grounds and discover the stories that shaped a nation. From the biennial living history weekends at the **Fairfield County Museum** to cinematic tributes at the Visitor Center, the [Olde English District](#) is where the American story truly comes to life.

**Huzzah!** The OED is ready to assist with coordinated site visits, expert interviews, or high-resolution assets.



Dear Revolutionary War Enthusiast,

**Your next issue of THE JOURNAL of the Southern Campaigns of the American Revolution** is now available for your viewing. This is a free downloadable magazine dedicated to the Revolutionary War, focusing on Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. We are committed to fostering knowledge about the people, sites, artifacts, and military strategies and engagements that were pivotal in the fight for American Independence (1760-1789). Each issue presents



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compelling battles, historical documents, maps, and links to enhance your understanding. Join us in promoting research and preservation by sharing articles, photos, and events.

Founded in 2004 by Charles B. Baxley and assisted by David P. Reuwer, **The Journal**, now part of the South Carolina American Revolution Trust, aims to be your resource for Revolutionary War histories. Connect with us to keep history alive!

**The Journal** is open to submissions. Contact us through the form on the website to propose your latest article, column, news, or event surrounding the Southern Campaign. Huzzah! [CLICK HERE TO THE NEXT ISSUE.](#) [Subscribe](#)

Sincerely,  
Richard C. Meehan, Jr.  
Editor

## South Carolina Saw Significant Action During the Revolutionary War

This is an interactive map. Click a pin for detailed information, or use the search to find specific sites. Click [ENLARGE MAP](#) for a full-screen view. Richard C. Meehan, Jr. created this map and maintains the points of interest.

### NEWS OF THE DAY:

South Carolina seeks to reclaim its big role in the Revolutionary War with the upcoming 250th anniversary.

[READ the POST AND COURIER ARTICLE!](#) [Learn More About the Southern Campaigns](#)



### [ADVANCED SEARCH](#)

#### About SCAR

SCAR has no “members”, only people who have expressed an interest and are listed on our mailing list. SCAR is based on mutual friendship and is always seeking others with similar interest and a willingness to share and help others. Just attend, meet the group ... we invite your participation. If you would like to receive an email notification when the next issue of THE JOURNAL is available, use the [Contact Us](#) form to enlist.

Contact SCART: SCART, Inc.  
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## I Pledge Allegiance to the Flag... Free Flags for Classrooms!

Based in Charleston, South Carolina, Allegiance Flag Supply recently announced that they are commemorating the nation's 250th and supporting educators by providing American flags for K-12 classrooms across the country. SC250 agrees with Allegiance Flag Company that "teachers help shape how the next generation understands American history."

K-12 classroom teachers with current credentials at public, private, and charter schools are eligible to receive one flag for their classroom at no cost. Teachers must confirm eligibility at their website, but it only takes a few minutes, and the flag is then shipped directly to their school. Please share this with educators you know and work with!

**ALLEGIANCE FLAG SUPPLY**

### Did You Know...?



The Founding Fathers never addressed why they chose the colors on the American flag. But in 1782, Charles Thomson, Secretary of the Continental Congress, said red was meant to represent valor and hardiness; white, purity and innocence; and blue, vigilance, perseverance, and justice.

There are seven red and six white stripes on the flag for a total of 13. These represent the original 13 colonies. The 50 stars, of course, stand for the 50 states of the Union, but that didn't happen until it was officially adopted on July 4, 1960, following Hawaii's admission as the 50th state in 1959.

### Honoring the American Flag in a BIG WAY!

SC250 is partnering with My America, a nationwide, youth-driven art and civic engagement campaign, on a really fun flag project. My America is asking students from across America to submit messages on fabric tiles that will be provided to them. Their fabric tile will be combined with others to create a giant American Flag made up of thousands of messages, drawings, poems from across all the US States and Territories. More than 55,000 tiles from over 800 schools will come together to make a flag that is half the size of a football field.



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The giant American flag will be assembled in Massachusetts where it will debut. It will then travel the country. Teachers can visit the website to register and receive their free classroom kits which include fabric tiles, markers, and instructions, and postage-paid return envelope. The tiles must be completed and returned by October 1, 2026.

This project is all about artistic expression, civic engagement and public commemoration. Hearing the voices of our younger generations reminds us that they will carry forward the ideals of liberty that propelled the Revolutionary era and help to create a more perfect union.

## [MY AMERICA PROJECT](#)



### Coordinating with County Libraries

Has your County 250 Committee partnered with your local library? South Carolina's Libraries, working with their local, county SC250 committees, can play a vital role over the next several years as we commemorate the 250th. SC250, staffs are working on an essential reading list that you can share with your librarian. In the meantime, here are some ideas to take to your local library:

#### History & Educational Programming

- Schedule some lectures by historians and local experts at the library
- Make plans to have performances and demonstrations by reenactors, musicians, craftspeople
- Children's programs like: indigo tie dye, crafting quill pens, Rev War drumming, colonial crafts and more can be facilitated with volunteers and children's librarians

#### Special Exhibits

- Find a space for travelling exhibits funded by SC250 and others
- Exhibit student art in partnership with your county school district
- Display community engagement murals/ banners - "What Does Liberty Mean To You?", "What's Your Wish for America?", and get feedback from the community!

#### Reading Challenges

- Create a "Red White and Blue" Reading Challenge – exploring American history and literature
- Establish Revolutionary book clubs for YA and/ or adults
- Create children's summer reading programs that can come to life with "time traveling" reenactors and demonstrations



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## BLUE AND GRAY DISPATCH

### John Pelham: The Confederate Boy Artillerist Who Stunned the Army of the Potomac

Norman Dasinger, Jr., March 16, 2026 [blueandgrayeducation.org](http://blueandgrayeducation.org)



Major John Pelham | *public domain*



An illustration of Pelham's death | *public domain*

Born on September 7, 1838, John Pelham was the third of seven children born to Dr. Atkinson and Martha McGehee Pelham in Alexandria Valley, near present-day Anniston, Alabama.

Pelham grew up enjoying life as the son of a hardworking but fairly prosperous country doctor. In 1856, he secured an appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point. At that time, cadets completed a five-year term and, as Pelham's graduation approached in the spring of 1861, so too did the rising hostilities between the United States and the Confederate States.

Pelham resigned from West Point before graduation, returned to Calhoun County, and soon offered his services to the newly formed Confederacy. Appointed an artillery officer, he was sent to Virginia.

Following the First Battle of Manassas, famed Confederate cavalry commander J. E. B. Stuart selected Pelham to command his newly organized horse artillery. Pelham quickly distinguished himself, participating in more than 60 engagements, including the battles of Antietam (Sharpsburg), Maryland, and Fredericksburg, Virginia.

Pelham was mortally wounded at the Battle of Kelly's Ford, Virginia, on March 17, 1863, when a piece of shrapnel struck the back of his skull. Carried more than 6 miles to Culpeper, he died later that night. He held the rank of major at the time of his death, but his promotion to lieutenant colonel had already been initiated.

Stuart ordered that Pelham's body be returned to his family in Alabama. Placed in an iron coffin with a viewing window, he was transported by train from Richmond to Blue Mountain, the nearest depot to Alexandria.

Dr. Pelham wanted the funeral to be held at the Presbyterian Church in Jacksonville, but because of construction, the service was moved to the Baptist Church. Thousands attended either the funeral service or the burial at the (Old) Jacksonville City Cemetery on March 31, 1863.



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This Civil War Dispatch has been brought to you by the Blue and Gray Education Society, a non-profit 501-3C educational organization.

Please visit us at [www.blueandgrayeducation.org](http://www.blueandgrayeducation.org)

### Celebrate South Carolina's Founding Mothers

In this extraordinary and historic year, we invite you and your family to a Saturday picnic celebrating the Founding Mothers of Revolutionary South Carolina! Experience the scenic hilltop high above the Congaree River, where Rebecca Motte lived and where the pivotal battle and British surrender took place. Enjoy battle site artifact displays and meet renowned S.C. historians, archeologists, and authors, including Dr. Steven Smith and Peggy Pickett.

Click the image on right to view highlights from Founding Mother's Day 2025



### Gladney Families and Friends Annual Reunion

Saturday, July 25

- (1) color guard at 8:45 July 25 in cemetery for a wreath-laying
- (2) speaker at the banquet about 5:30 that evening

For More Details, Email: [Lucy Byce](mailto:Lucy.Byce)

Pictures below of the 1999 Gladney Reunion



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## (Q) Queries / (A) Answers / (I) information (Are You the One That Fills in the Blanks?)

**Q: Deatherage,** I am researching John McNeal / McNeil of Fairfield County, South Carolina. According to the Fairfield County probate index, his estate appears as: John McNeil — File 102, Package 488. There is also a related entry: Sarah McNeil — NS 12, Package 74. I would like to know whether these probate packets survive and whether copies or scans can be obtained.

**A:** The court house probate office does not have these probate records. I check the online site for the SC Department of History and Archives and did not see these records. We have some other records in our collection.

**Q: Chris Pulver,** I am still researching my McKemie (McKimmy) family from Fairfield County. I was wondering if you would be able to track down a reference I have for a William McKimmey who died in 1807. The source says “From the City Gazette and Daily Advertiser” S.C. Historical and Genealogical Magazine Vol 30, 1929, p. 248. I was wondering if you have access to this if you could send me a copy of the page. I’m not sure where this took place. I am hoping it’s not from Charleston S.C. since there are some McKimmey’s I find there, but they are not my family that I know of.

**A:**

248 SO. CA. HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL MAGAZINE

rights in the revolutionary war, and has left a widow and five small children to lament his irreparable loss. (Wednesday, Feb. 25, 1807.)

A Jury of Inquest was held yesterday morning on the body of Thomas Landragan, a house-keeper in Chamber’s-Alley, found drowned opposite Fort Mechanic. The jury brought in a verdict, “That he came to his death, by drowning himself in a fit of insanity, yesterday morning about six o’clock.”

Married, on Thursday evening, by the Rev. Doctor Hollinshead, Mr. Joseph Parsons, of Abbeville, to Mrs. Esther Hook, of Hampstead.

Married, on Thursday evening, by the Rev. Mr. Charles Faber, Mr. Christian Henry Faber, factor, to Miss Ann Mary Desel, daughter of Mr. Charles Desel.

Died, on the 22d inst. Mr. Pierre Dabouville, aged 62 years, a native of Quebec, in Canada; he was a resident of this city for some years past, and has left a widow and six children to lament his loss. (Saturday, 28, 1807)

Married on Thursday evening last, by the Rev. Dr. Jenkins, Benjamin D. Roper, esq., to Miss Barbary C. Jenkins, daughter of Micah Jenkins, esq. all of this city, (Monday, March 2, 1807.)

Died, on the 28th ult. after a long and painful illness, which he bore with christian fortitude, Mr. Mathew Clark, in the 35th year of his age, a native of this place: he has left a wife, and numerous relatives and friends, to lament his loss. (Tuesday, March 3, 1807.)

Departed this life, in Barnwell District, on Sunday evening, 22d February, Mr. Jeremiah S. Fickling, in the 22d year of his age—he has left a disconsolate widow, father, mother, brother and sisters, and a number of other relatives and friends to bemoan his loss.

Died, on Monday morning, Mr. William McKimmy, in the 20th year of age. He turned out in one of the Beat Companies, at the Brigade Review, on the 23d ult. and not having provided himself with a box for his cartridges, he deposited them in his waistcoat or breeches pocket, to which the flash from his pan communicated, as he incautiously fired his piece, upon a charge; and he was shockingly burnt: He languished in great agony till his death. (Friday, March 6, 1807.)

Married, on Tuesday evening, the 3d instant, in the parish of



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This is the

source: [https://www.jstor.org/stable/27569809?searchText=&searchUri=&ab\\_segments=&searchKey=&refreqid=fastly-default%3A55b3022311f6e4a5884bf6fc2e355d5f&initiator=recommender&seq=8](https://www.jstor.org/stable/27569809?searchText=&searchUri=&ab_segments=&searchKey=&refreqid=fastly-default%3A55b3022311f6e4a5884bf6fc2e355d5f&initiator=recommender&seq=8)

**Q: Russ Bartee,** I was looking at Family Tree DNA and see that we may have a relationship back I the 1700s. You list a John M. Bartee b~1775 in Halifax, VA, and that is a new name to me. Even though we have a potential DNA link, I'm curious about this Bartee line. I can take my descendants back to John Bartee (b1784 in SC) married to Matilda Meriwether. I'm looking to see if there is a connection between my SC Bartee line and those in southern and southeastern Virginia. Could you send a pedigree list, if you have something like that available?

**A:** Here is my Bartee part of my tree at ancestry.com: **Taylor Connections Fairfield County South Carolina**



**I: Eddie,** this is great information! The Thomas Bartee that moved to Edgefield District in SC is probably the father of my John Bartee (1784-1839) who married Matilda Lewis Meriwether (1798-1856). I will digest this and again, grateful for this information!

**I: Pelham Lyles,** I just love AI as it saves a lot of steps in researching. This is what I found out about building permits: Based on historical practices and records for South Carolina in the early 20th century, formal, systematic building permits as they are known today were generally **not required** in smaller towns like Winnsboro during the 1900s–1930s.

Key points regarding building regulations in that era:

**Lack of Formal Permits:** While some larger cities in South Carolina (like Charleston) adopted building codes in the late 19th or early 20th century, rural counties and smaller municipalities often operated without formal permit requirements until much later.

**Documentation:** Early 20th-century construction records in areas like Winnsboro are often found in property deeds, tax records, or insurance maps (such as Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps) rather than municipal building department records.

**Modern Context:** Official residential building permits in the Town of Winnsboro were so uncommon that a new home built in the 2020s was noted as the first in that town in nearly 40 years, indicating that structured permitting only became standard in the late 20th century.

**Historic District:** The Winnsboro Historic District, which includes buildings from the early 20th century, shows diverse, locally built, and professionally designed structures, many of which predated strict municipal control. The

If you are researching a specific structure from the early 1900s, it is likely that documentation exists only through tax revaluations, deed transfers, or insurance inspections, not a formal building permit issued by the town.

As the White Oak community is one of the friendliest, most neighborly towns, your best bet is going to be to ask some of the locals there. Amelia (Mrs. Robert) Ellison should know some of the "old timers" who might be aware of the traditions. Also,



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Dr. Harmon Patrick comes from a long line of historians knowledgeable about the history of the community and would be a great source of house history. I'm not sure who the minister at the church is, but there may be some historical records in the church office that tell when the manse was built. I would say that stylistically your house appears to have the design elements of a mail order house. If you go to the public library in Winnsboro, ERic Robinson can likely get some interlibrary loans showing samples of house plans. Googling, here is an interesting web site: <https://www.searshouses.com/> Again, AI is a great research tool: Mail-order homes, or kit houses, were a 20th-century housing phenomenon (peaking in the 1920s) where customers ordered home kits from catalogs like Sears, Roebuck and Co. and Aladdin. Pre-cut materials, blueprints, and instructions arrived via railroad, allowing homeowners to build their own homes affordably. Key providers included Aladdin, Sears, and Montgomery Ward.

### Key Aspects of Historical Mail-Order Houses (1900s–1940s):

**The Process:** Companies sold thousands of designs—from simple bungalows to large Colonials—featuring pre-cut and fitted lumber. Kits often included all necessary materials: lumber, hardware, nails, plumbing, wiring, and roofing.

**Delivery:** Materials were shipped directly to the customer's local railroad depot.

**Assembly:** Customers typically built the homes themselves or hired local contractors, making it a "DIY" or early prefab approach.

**Popularity Factors:** The rise was driven by the expanding railroad network, mass manufacturing, and the need for affordable housing.

**Prominent Companies:** [The Aladdin Company \(first to offer them in 1906\)](#) and [Sears Modern Homes \(sold over 70,000, 1908–1942\)](#) dominated the market.

**Legacy:** Thousands of these homes still stand across North America,, often found in the Midwest and East Coast.

**Q: Jim McCreight,** If you have time could you answer a question for us? I have tracked my family tree as follows: my grandfather: Louis L. McCreight, son of John A. McCreight b 1836, son of David McCreight b 1801, son of William McCreight b 1772, son of David McCreight b 1749, son of David McCreight b 1709. The last David McCreight was the one arriving in Charleston in 1772 and heading up to Winnsboro to settle there. My question is, was William McCreight the same as the Cornel Wm McCreight who was the first "mayor" of Winnsboro and who had the clock tower built, and who built the McCreight house located in the historic neighborhood in Winnsboro?

**A:** It appears to me that William McCreight born 1772 is a Captain and is not Colonel William McCreight. Here is a quick link to the digitized family information on our FCGS Members Only web pages for: [McCreight and McCright](#) families.

**Q2:** Also, can you email me a clearer copy of page 40 of the current newsletter? The one I see is very blurry and hard to read.

**A2:** Colonel William McCreight by William Randolph McCreight (married a German woman and lives in Germany) 21 July 2011  
Born: the 14th of June 1774, Winnsboro, South Carolina Died: the 7th of November 1859, Winnsboro, South Carolina  
Buried: Zion Presbyterian Church Cemetery, Winnsboro, South Carolina The McCreight family originated in Scotland and later moved to Ireland. On the 29th of October 1772 David McCreight, his wife Mary Harper, three sons: William born in 1735, James born in 1745, David born in 1749 and two daughters (names unknown), sailed from Belfast, Ireland aboard the ship Pennsylvania Farmer. They landed in Charleston, South Carolina the 28th of December 1772. William and his wife Agnes Smith remained in South Carolina, Fairfield County at Winnsboro. James moved to Crooked Creek, Indiana County. David and his wife Martha Orr went to Bath County, Kentucky, then to Tranquility, in Adam County, Ohio. The McCreights had land arraigned in South Carolina before they arrived. They stayed in Charleston two weeks, to finalize legal matters, before travelling to their land in Winnsboro while the town was still being laid out. They built log cabins where the family lived. William and Agnes had a son, named William, born on the 14th of June 1774. Two years later William Sr. died on the 5th of December 1776, when his son was two and a half years old. William is buried in the McCreight family cemetery on his father David's land grant near Winnsboro. William's mother remarried, but he did not get along well with his stepfather. At the age of eight he left home and a year later bound himself as an apprentice to a contractor for four years. In 1797 William married



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Agnes Nancy 1 Austin and built a two-room cabin and a shop in Winnsboro. He manufactured fabrics and began producing mills and cotton gins that remove the seeds from cotton. He built the first cotton gin to process a bale of cotton in South Carolina. He also built the Fairfield County Courthouse in Winnsboro. He ordered the parts of a clock from Europe and installed it in the tower in Winnsboro.

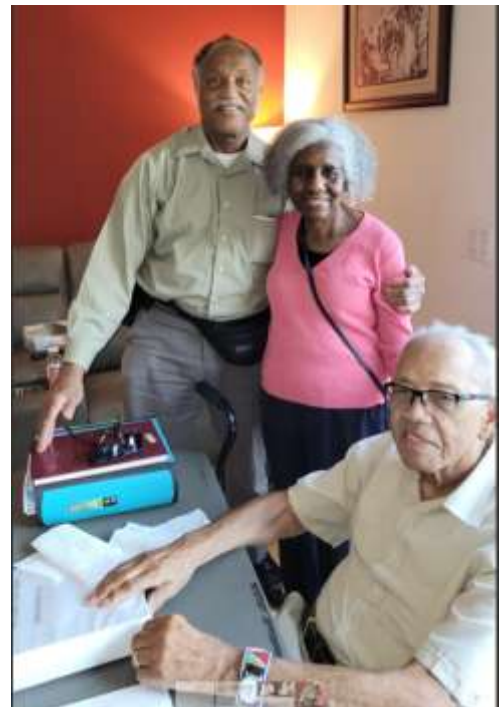
**Q: Arthur Evans, Gill Family Historian,** I recently had a cousin that celebrated his 104th birthday. He's from Winnsboro, SC, however, lives in California.



Two weeks ago, I ran across a document written by a Rev. Woods that shows at least 53 Fairfield County residents who have reached 100 years old. I am providing a link below. Unfortunately, I have not been able to find any of 11 family centenarians. My question is whether there is some other document Search in Fairfield that contains all residents reaching 100? P.S. I plan to visit again in March to focus more on the McGill house that you found for me last year. It's located in Monticello area and is likely where my family originated. They've lived through half our nation's History by Rev Eddie J. Woods.pdf.

<https://share.google/8jPIrzd7tmCJXp6L>

**A:** Fairfield County African Americans 100+ Years Old (by Last Name)  
(Eddie Wood's list from 2022)





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Frank Adams Jr. 1907-2007  
Cammile Adgers 1829-1929  
Jack Adgers 1769-1874  
Tim Aiken 1815-1915  
Mattie Alexander 1889-1995  
George Alexander 1921-  
Josephine Alston 1894-1994  
Major Ankin 1815-1915  
Miller Barber 1837-1950  
Simpson Barber 1842-1949  
Geneva B Bell 1917-  
John Bates 1813-1914  
James G Bowman 1809-1910  
Katie Brown Belton 1907-2008  
Minnie Boulware  
John Bratton  
Nancey Brooks  
Emma Broome 1852-1952  
Mattie Small Brown 1908-2017  
Sara Brown 1886-1989  
Estell Brunson 1895-1995  
Survilla Burrell 1850-1950  
Major Bush 1853-1953  
Chloe Byrd  
Charles Byrd, Sr. 1880-1890  
Robert Coleman 1884-1986  
Carrie Irby Cook 1895-1996  
Clara Evans Cook 1879-1981  
Carolina Mitchell Cornwell 1817-1923  
Eliza Cunningham 1876-1980  
John Davis  
Catherin Dixon 1770-1873  
Zenabar Dixon  
Minnie Crosby Doung 1895-2000  
Jane Dunlap 1788-1888  
Allie Moore Edmunds 1899-1999  
Celes Evans 1809-1909  
Lewis Evans 1841-1943  
Philip Evans 1854-1958  
Bessie Lyles Feaster 1896-1997  
Uncle Ed Ferguson  
Esther Ford 1905-2019  
Jacob Ford 1893-1997  
Henrietta Free 1915-2017  
Janie Free 1838-1938  
Lizzie Trapp Gadson 1870-1970  
Delfphine Gibson 1903-2018  
Martha M. Gibson 1895-2000  
Mary Gibson 1909-2020  
Tommy Gibson 1921-  
Young Gibson 1851-1954  
Bessie Gladney  
Eunice Jackson Glenn 1887-1987  
Viola Vanfield Glenn  
Charles Goins 1832-1936  
Eunice Jackson Glenn 1886-1987  
Robert Grier  
Reuben Hall 1792-1906  
Cora R. Hammond 1907-2008  
Patience Hampton 1811-1921  
Julia Harrison  
Richard Harrison 1892-1994  
Charlie H. Heath  
Floria McCockrell Heath 1900-2004  
Hattie Irby Henry 1900-2000  
Robert Henry 1887-1990  
Coyed Wade Herndon 1902-2002  
Charity Hopkins 1887-1991  
Jim Hopkins 1848-1952  
James Howitt 1770-1871  
Lugenia Inabinet 1881-1988  
Christina McGriff Jefferson 1885-1990  
Charlotte Jones 1837-1951  
Emma Jones 1822-1932  
Moses June  
Josephine E. Kennedy 1855-1958  
Martha Kennedy 1891-1995  
Robert Kincade 1882-1990  
Capt. Knighton 1799-1905  
Flora Trapp Little 1910-2019  
Thomas Lyler 1758-1870  
James Lyles 1863-1973  
Sylvester Magee  
Juland March 1823-1925  
Ella B. Martin 1866-1976  
Ethel Harper Martin 1900-2000  
Jim Martin  
Peter Martin 1801-1921  
Nancy Mays  
Elizabeth McConell 1825-1932  
Jannie McGraw McCray 1824-1932  
Robert McCullough 1771-1872  
Mary Belle Mickle.  
Hannie Milling  
Hadyah Muwwail 1910-  
Emma Lyles Owens 1886-1987  
Maggie Parker 1885-1987  
Eliza Parr 1815-1915  
Blanche Coleman Patterson 1896-1997  
Essie Pearson 1898-2003  
Ella Camp Pickett 1892-1997  
Tom Rabb 1875-1976  
English Reed 1846-1976  
Peter Rice 1823-1923  
Rhonda Belton Robertson 1893-1994  
J. H. Robinson 1815-1929  
Arthur Roseborough 1833-1950  
Emma Roseborough 1866-1995  
Preston Roseborough 1870-1970  
Dicey Ruff 1773-1877  
Hannah Ruff 1841-1941  
Maggie Foster Sawyer 1889-1989  
Clara Spener Singleton 1879-1986  
Sarah Rain Small 1871-1975  
Eunice Smith  
Phoebe Smith 1847-1953  
Sidney W. Squirewell 1918-2019  
Sena Stewart 1812-1929  
Solomon Stone Sr. 1889-1989  
Nicie Robinson Suber 1899-2000  
Sallie Davis Tobias 1834-1940  
Ned Walker 1857-1957  
John Watkins 1846-1950  
Charlie Watson 1840-1945  
Lee White  
Bill Williams  
Ethel Williams  
Fannie Williams  
Robert Willingham 1880-1980  
Eula Wilson  
Martha Yongue 1835-1935  
Minnie Crosby Young 1895-2000  
Nancy Byrd Young 1900-2003  
Sarah Gladney Young 1895-1995



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I: George Roseborough, Here is my family history.

## **A Short Historical Sketch of Life and Time of Reuben Roseboro (About 1855-1944)**

In the 1850's cotton production was increasing while tobacco production was declining, so plantation owners from cotton plantations would often acquire slaves in tobacco producing areas. One such plantation owner named John Rosborough went to Richmond, Virginia to purchase slaves in the mid 1850's. Reuben's slave narrative states that at the slave market in Richmond, John Rosborough purchased Reuben's grandmother Mary, his father William, his mother, Catherine also known as "Kitty", his older sister Mary, and Reuben who was about two years old. It is likely that he purchased other slaves on this occasion.

Census records for William Roseboro from 1870 and 1880, along with Mary Roseboro's 1900 census entry, indicate that Catherine was born in South Carolina rather than Virginia. This conflicting evidence suggests that Reuben may have been mistaken about Catherine's birthplace in his slave narrative. It is therefore likely that Catherine was not the biological mother of Reuben and Mary; their biological mother may have died in Virginia.

Reuben's younger siblings were born in south Winnsboro, South Carolina. Alice was born in about 1860; Willie was born in about 1867. Almost nothing is known about these two siblings, so they probably died young. The youngest child, William

Thomas Roseboro was born in November 1866.

Mary and Roseboro's birthplace is unknown, but he and Mary were born on an immense First Family of Virginia tobacco plantation. Reuben's family was scheduled to be sold to a prospective buyer by the name of Johnson, but when he could not be found the seller allowed John Rosborough to purchase Reuben's family with the condition that he would allow the family to stay together. Reuben said that John was even kind enough to purchase his grandmother even though she was old and feeble and could not do much work.

The large First Family of Virginia tobacco plantation owner was the biological father of William. This sexual relationship may not have been consensual. Grandmother Mary never revealed the circumstances of this relationship. Census takers classified her son William, grandson Reuben and his children as mulatto.

Because William believed he was the result of his mother's rape, he did not list the Virginia plantation owner as his father on the census. Instead, he reported his father as African. It is possible that this individual was his maternal grandfather—Mary's father.

My AncestryDNA results show that I am approximately 19% Cameroonian. Tobacco-producing regions in colonial Virginia often relied on enslaved people taken from what is now Cameroon and western Nigeria. While this connection remains speculative, the pieces align: William's grandfather may have originated from the West African region that is present-day Cameroon.

John transported these slaves to his 376-acre cotton plantation that was located just northwest on Ridgeway, South Carolina. In around 1860, John Rosborough became very ill, and he wrote a will bequeathing about 40 slaves and all his belongings to his brother, Robert Rosborough.

John never married, and the will seems to indicate that he had strong affection for the slave named Marie. Her family is the first slave family that he mentioned in his will. John had six children with Marie. John directed the executor of his will to give Marie and her children \$2000. Now, our Roseborough family is not related to Marie or the white Rosborough's. Through anecdotal stories conveyed by descendants of Marie, we learn that John Rosborough allowed his slaves to learn to read and write on his plantation probably because Marie's children were his flesh and blood. Reuben and Mary may have received these benefits as well.

Another anecdotal story passed down by Marie's descendant indicates that her family and perhaps ours were purchased from a plantation owner named Bud Edwards.



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A search for evidence of this claim at the Virginia State Archives did not result in verification of this assertion. "Bud" is a pseudonym, and Edwards is a very common name which makes the search difficult.

John died shortly after completing the will. Reuben described John and his new masters, Robert and Mary, as kind people. He played with Robert and Mary's children, Logan and Janie, during his childhood.

William's family is the second slave family mentioned in John Rosborough's will. In the will, John referred to William as "Bill" and instructed his executor to disburse \$600 to William. William was a slave overseer, and a very hard worker. It is for this reason that John wanted to give William and his family this significant sum. His brother, Robert, contested the will to no avail, but they did not follow John Rosborough's instructions. They gave William about ten acres of land, and he probably received a mule as well.

Reuben, at fifteen, was regarded as a man. Reuben received an acre of land and a mule because he was "of age" and because of his father's hard work. In fact, Robert Rosborough's cotton plantation would not have survived through the civil war had it not been for William Roseboro's laborious efforts.

After receiving the land and mule, Reuben enrolled at Benedict Institute, which is now known as Benedict College. It is possible that he earned a degree equivalent to a secondary school diploma there. At that time, formerly enslaved individuals could attend Allen Institute or Benedict Institute to pursue a secondary school diploma, obtain a teaching certificate, or study for a degree in theology.

Reuben married Mattie Goins in 1877. They had 13 children: William, George, Annie, Mary, Reuben, Maggie, Walter, Lula, John, David, Henry, James and Eunice. His second wife, Mattie Ford Gilliam and Reuben had six children: Bessie, Mattie Bell, Ora Mae, Bernice, Robert, and Albert. Reuben also served as a stepfather to three stepsons, Willie, James, and an unidentified person. Reuben's third marriage to Mattie Durham did not bring forth any children.

## Church

Prior to building their present church which is in Ridgeway, South Carolina (Fairfield County), Reuben and other members of Good Hope Baptist Church met in a shed. Then, the members built a church. Reuben was able to read and write, and he had very beautiful handwriting, so they made him a deacon. He became their first church clerk, and he served as a deacon for many years.

Guided by The Baptist Educational and Missionary Convention of South Carolina (also known as the Baptist E&M Convention), five churches united to create a school dedicated to the education of Black children. At this time, there was no secondary school for black citizens in Fairfield County, so they sought to provide the secondary training that the state of South Carolina refused to provide. The members of this union were: Antioch, Red Hill Baptist Church, Shiloh Baptist Church, Saint Mark Baptist Church, and Good Hope Baptist Church. They purchased five acres of land in Simpson because it was to be the "central hub" to which children from each of these churches could reach. The deed for this land was signed by Reuben Roseboro the church clerk and deacon, and his younger brother, William Thomas Roseboro who was a trustee at Good Hope Baptist Church. Disagreements with the leaders of this church union led to the group's dissolution, prompting Saint Mark to assume control of the project. They built a small elementary school adjacent to their sanctuary. After the school was built, white citizens paid an Uncle Tom \$5 to burn the school down. He did as he was instructed, and the school burned to the ground.

Robert Kennedy, who owned the Kennedy store in Simpson came to Reuben and asked him to assist him in financing the reconstruction of the school. Reuben refused to help Kennedy. He said he would not take anything to do with the project if they were not going to follow the initial plans that the five-church union had created.

He wanted his community to progress enough to establish a secondary school for black citizens in Fairfield County. Such a project would require the support of about five churches. One church would not be able to operate a high school, and that is what Reuben wanted.

Even though Reuben was courageous, ambitious, intelligent, and industrious, he also had his weaknesses. He had been reared in the cruel, harsh institution of slavery. It is probable that this experience in servitude influenced the way he raised his



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children. He was a tough, strict, stern, father. He could be a little harsh at times, and although his life in bondage does not justify his harshness, it is a mitigating circumstance. His children were anxious to leave home to start their own household, and Reuben allowed his children to leave home and establish their own household without interference.

## Albert's Death in 1930

Reuben sold eggs, vegetables, fruits, and firewood. A certain man on Gully Street purchased some firewood from Reuben on credit. Reuben probably did not want this family to suffer from the cold. When he failed to pay Reuben at the designated time, Reuben told Albert to go to this client on Gully Street, and demand payment. He was not to return home without Reuben's money.

When Albert demanded payment, the Gully Street man hit Albert in the head with the blunt side of an axe. As he lay on the ground, passersby recognized him, and they decided to take him to Reuben's house. Reuben's oldest son George lived just down the road, and he had a Model T Ford. Reuben asked the men to take Albert to George.

Facing extreme pressure, George traveled thirty miles on a rugged dirt road to get his younger brother to a hospital in Columbia, South Carolina. They arrived at a hospital that served black patients, and Albert was alive, but in critical condition. The staff admitted Albert, and he remained in the hospital for several days. Then, they discharged him, but he died a few days later.

In about 1930, Albert passed away, and Reuben was left without any sons and had difficulty plowing his fields. He was elderly, and his diabetes caused serious injury to his leg. His teenage daughter, Ora Mae saw him having difficulty plowing, and according to Olivia Simpson, Ora Mae said "Teach me to do it Papa, and I will plow for you". So, Ora Mae plowed the fields for Reuben, but later Reuben hired black and white farm workers to assist him and his daughter with the farm.

Olivia Simpson, also known as "Sis," was Ora Mae's girlfriend and "running partner". They rode and raced their father's mules. Ora Mae said that she would always win because Reuben's mules were always faster than George's mules.

Ora Mae would coax Reuben into allowing them to use one of his buggies to go to various area churches. Now they were not going primarily for religious reasons, they were interested in the good-looking young men at these churches. It is likely that Reuben knew exactly what Ora Mae was doing, but he always allowed them to use his buggy for these church endeavors. Olivia explained that as a young teenage girl, Ora Mae agreed to do all the plowing for Reuben, and Olivia said, "That touched his heart," and that is why Reuben left half of his land to Aunt Ora when he died. He left the other half of the land to his daughter Mary Roseboro Guinyard because she cared for him at her home in Greensboro, North Carolina during the last five years of his life.

At age 85, Reuben relocated to Greensboro, North Carolina to live with his daughter Maggie Guinyard due to diabetes complications. At around ninety years old, his leg became badly infected. His doctor explained that his leg was afflicted with gangrene and required amputation to save his life. Reuben said, "Well you are not cutting off my leg. I came into this world with two legs, and I'm leaving here with two legs."

Reuben died in 1944 at about age 90. His funeral was at Good Hope Baptist Church in South Winnsboro, South Carolina. After his death his land was surveyed, and his farm encompassed 168 acres of land that was formerly the Rosborough Plantation.

## Mary Roseboro Mendinghall

Mary was the elder sister of Reuben Roseboro. She was born around October 1851 on a tobacco plantation belonging to one of Virginia's First Families. Mary and her family lived on the Rosborough cotton plantation until the abolition of slavery following the Civil War. After emancipation, she moved to her father William's small farm.

In 1875, Mary married John Mendenhall. She and her husband lived on William's farm. Census records indicate that Mary and her family lived in a different dwelling than William and his family. Later that year, Mary and John welcomed their first child, John Mendenhall Jr. William soon celebrated the arrival of two more grandsons: Rhodesia in 1877. He probably died as a child,



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because there is very little information about him. Joseph was their third child. He was the last child that Mary gave birth to in South Carolina in 1878.

Following Joseph's birth in February 1878, and before the birth of Featherstone in about April of 1885, John and Mary moved their family to 300 East Boundary Street in Charlotte, North Carolina. According to the 1900 census, John was listed as a farmer, while Mary earned income by taking in laundry.

In Charlotte, they welcome four new children to their family. Featherstone was born in about April 1, 1885, Alice was born in 1888, Lottie was born in 1890, and Otis was born in 1892.

### John Mendinghall Jr's Children

John Mendinghall Jr. married Francis Lewis circa 1893. They resided in Macon, Georgia, where they operated a farm and raised ten children. The birth date of James M. Mendinghall is unrecorded; he passed away in 1919. Eskalary was born in 1893 and died in 1917. Arthur M. Mendinghall was born in 1894 and passed in 1935. Samuel Lee Mendinghall was born in 1896 and died in 1972. George Anderson Mendinghall was born in 1899 and died in 1919. Rachael Elizabeth Mendinghall, also known as "RE" or "Arrie," was born in 1905 and died on August 25, 1905. Frank Alexander Mendinghall was born in 1908 and passed away in 1999. Boisy Lorenzo Mendinghall was born in 1909 and died in 1977. John Westly Mendinghall was born in 1911 and died in 1988. Rachael Dubois Mendinghall was born in 1915 and died on August 28, 1915. Boncile Mendinghall was born in 1921 and passed away in 1958.

### Joseph Mendinghall and Family

Joseph Mendinghall was born in February 1878 and later became a porter at a clothing store in Charlotte. On April 27, 1899, he married Mary Davidson. They lived at 307 Liberty Street in Charlotte, North Carolina. That same year, they welcomed their son, Eugene Mendinghall.

### Featherstone and His Family

One cannot say exactly in what year Featherstone Lement Mendinghall was born because all his official documents record a different date of birth. One can speculate that he was born about April 1, 1885, because that is what Mary reported on her 1900 census. Mary and John Mendinghall raised him at 300 Boundary Street in Charlotte, North Carolina. He became an apprentice to a butcher as a teenage boy. He married Rose Gore on June 29, 1911, at which time he reported on his marriage license that his parents, John and Mary Roseboro Mendinghall had passed away. He was unemployed for a short time, and then he worked for an ice company, and later he was employed as a pullman porter. With this better than average railroad position, he supported his in-laws, Sallie and John Gore, and his wife and seven children.

Their first born was Laura who was born about 1913. She moved to Cleveland in Rowan County, North Carolina. She married Neal Steele. She died on May 13, 1982, and she was buried at York Memorial Park in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Sadie who was born about 1915. She moved to Brooklyn, New York, and married William Harper.

Featherstone Lement Mendinghall Jr. was born on February 6, 1917. Like Sadie, he migrated to New York City where he married Anna Braunstein on April 17, 1936. It sounds like she was a lady of German descent with whom he had fallen in love. He worked at Stewart Cafeteria, and later he worked (60 hours a week) as a bartender.

John Edward Mendinghall was born on October 5, 1919. He worked as a dishwasher as teen, and he became a jeweler as an adult. He was an acquaintance of Christina Bowser who is also from Charlotte. He married Ida Eugene Harris. They lived at several Charlotte addresses, and he passed away on November 3, 2001.

Vanard James Mendinghall was born on January 3, 1921, and died on January 25, 2003. He married Mary Hannah Knotts on August 31, 1941, and together they had six children.



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Bleeker Elizabeth Mendinghall, known as "Bleeka," was born on June 24, 1922. She later migrated to New York City, where she lived until her death on February 15, 1972. Following her death, her family returned her to Charlotte, North Carolina, for burial at York Memorial Park.

Grace Beatrice Mendinghall also resided in New York City. She worked as a nurse's aide and retired from Manhattan State Hospital. After her retirement, she returned to Charlotte, North Carolina, where she lived at 6700 Lakeview Road. She died on January 12, 1988.

### Alice Mendinghall

Alice Mendinghall, the daughter of Mary and John Mendinghall, was born in October 1887. She likely died in childhood, as very little information about her life is available.

### Lottie Mendinghall

Lottie Mendinghall was born around 1889. She worked as a domestic and lived at 416 Caldwell Street in Charlotte, North Carolina. Records indicate that Lottie died, though details surrounding her death are currently unknown.

### Otis Mendinghall

Otis Mendinghall was born in May of 1892. He lived in Charlotte, and he moved to Chicago, where he became a porter. He died there on March 28, 1914.

### William Thomas Roseborough

William Thomas Roseborough was Willam and Catherine (aka Kitty) Roseborough's youngest child. He used his middle name not his first. On his 1900 census he said that he was born in November of 1866. He served as a trustee on the Good Hope Baptist Church board of deacons and trustees. Thomas and Reuben signed the deed in 1908 when the area churches purchased the five-acre plot for the secondary school.

He married a lady from Columbia, South Carolina in 1890. Her name was Olivia Golden. Evidently, she had a delightful personality. Ora Mae said that George Roseborough (Reuben's first born son) named one of his daughters after Thomas' wife. So, Olivia Roseboro Simpson was named after Olivia Golden.

In 1890, Thomas and Olivia Roseborough purchased a lovely brick home at Moultrie Street in Winnsboro. Today it is still a very attractive little house.

Mr. Henry and Mrs. Millings both grew up on Moultrie Street. They both were close to 100 years old when I asked them about their former neighbors, Thomas and Olivia Roseboro. They said that Olivia was about five foot two, petite, and attractive, with shoulder length hair. Mr. Henry said, "Olivia talked to everybody on the street". I felt like he was describing Olivia Simpon. He walked me down the street to show me the house where Thomas and Olivia lived. He showed me the area behind the house where Thomas had a garden, and he said Thomas would often give him vegetables from that garden when he was about eight or nine years old.

In the 1900 census Thomas lists his occupation as a "provisions provider". He had a grocery store on or very near Congress Street which is the main street of Winnsboro. During this "Jim Crow" era black businesses would have usually been located on the south end of Congress Street. Thomas and Olivia's house was a block from the "Negro" movie theater which is in that black business area.

Thomas was a very good-looking black man, and a certain white woman had crush on Thomas and wanted to have an affaire with him. Izetta Kennedy said that he knew that this could get him killed, so he avoided her. Ora Mae Roseboro Johnson said that she always tried to catch up with him at his store on Saturday when she and her family came to town to do their weekly shopping.



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This lady became angry when Thomas refused to engage in an affair with her, she decided to get back at him by telling her husband that she was in love with a black man. Her husband was furious and went to look for Thomas at a Good Hope Baptist Church meeting. He called Thomas out of the meeting, and Thomas went out to talk to the man, the husband shot Thomas in the head with his rifle, and Thomas died.

This murder happened after Thomas signed the deed for the five acres of property in 1908, and before the 1910 census. In the 1910 census, Olivia list herself as the “head of household”. Reuben tried to get the sheriff to arrest the man who had killed his younger brother, but the sheriff refused to arrest a white man for shooting a black person.

### The Children of Thomas and Olivia

On the 1900 census, Olivia reported that she had had four children, and three were still living. The oldest of these three, William Thomas Jr., was born on September 8, 1891. The second child was named Robert. He was born on August 23, 1896. The youngest son, Alexander, was born on July 4, 1898.

Robert Roseborough was the middle child. He was born on August 23, 1896. He worked in construction. He installed lacquer on ceilings, and he did general construction labor. He stayed in Winnsboro to care for Olivia, which made it easy for his brothers to migrate to Ohio. It looks like his death was caused by stroke. He died at a Columbia, hospital for black patients called Good Samaritan Waverly Hospital on August 2, 1951.

William migrated to Toledo, Ohio where he became a porter on a ship that sailed on Lake Erie. He probably made a better than average wage with this position.

William Thomas Roseborough Jr married a pianist named Lydia Ford on March 22, 1915, in Toledo, Ohio. Lydia passed away in February of 1921.

On July 21, 1924, William Thomas Jr. remarried to Mae Smith. William and Mae had a son, who they named Roberrrt. probably after his brother, Robert. Robert remained in Winnsboro, and he provided for his mother, Olivia. Because Robert stayed with his mother in Winnsboro, William and Alexander probably felt free to roam and seek opportunities In the north, and they did so.

Transport documents show Mae and young Robert crossing the boarder into Canada when Robert was six years old presumably to join William when his ship docked. I can't find any other documents having to do with young Robert. He must have died during his childhood.

### Two Veterans

There was to be a big military push against Germany in 1919. The U.S. military attempted to augment their forces in 1918. William and Alexander appear to have enlisted in August of 1918. In this era, enlistees enlisted for the “duration” of the war, not for two years or four years.

They got trained in September and October. Alexander received some training at Colored Normal, Industrial, and Mechanical College of South Carolina. Today, it is South Carolina State University. He was a part of an engineering company, the 550th Service Battalion Co D Camp AA Humphreys, Va. After their training ended, so did the war. The Armistice of 11 November 1918 was signed, and the army sent them home.

Alexander migrated to the Washington D.C. area where he became a pullman porter. He earned a wage that was better than most Americans. There was also a relative, Evelyn Golden, from his mother's side of the family who lived in D.C. William had been living in Toledo without any close family present. After a while, Alexander decided to join his brother in Toledo. This relocation brought family together.

On May 18,1920, Alexander married Ruth Smith. Five years later, on January 7, 1925, Alexander passed away. His body was shipped back to Winnsboro and buried at Good Hope Baptist Church.



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William lived most of his life in Toledo working as a porter on the ship that traveled around Lake Erie. He ended his working years dealing with sales and commodities. He died on August 29, 1985, at an Ohio veteran home, and he is buried Ohio Veterans Home Cemetery. The Sandusky newspaper reported that when he passed away, he was survived only by his sister-law.

## Robert Roseborough

Robert Roseborough was the middle child. He was born on August 23, 1896. He worked in construction. He installed lacquer on ceilings, and he did general construction labor. He stayed in Winnsboro to care for Olivia, which made it easy for his brothers to migrate to Ohio. It looks like his death was caused by stroke. He died at Good Samaritan Waverly Hospital, a facility for black patients, on August 2, 1951.

## The Death of Olivia Golden Roseborough

After the death of her son, Robert in 1951, Olivia remained on Moultrie Street in Winnsboro, South Carolina. Maybe she preferred not to live where she would experience cold harsh Toledo winters. On January 19, 1963, she suffered a fall compounded by an existing heart condition. She was treated by a respected local physician, Dr. J. B. Floyd. She died of myocardial degeneration on January 26, 1963. She was 91 years old.

5

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
DIVISION OF VITAL STATISTICS  
CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

1 PLACE OF DEATH  
County Lucas Registration District No. 769 File No. 3813  
Township Toledo Primary Registration District No. 8349 Registered No. 137  
or Village No. St. Ward  
or City of (If death occurred in a hospital or institution, give its name instead of street and number)

2 FULL NAME Alexander Roseborough Did Deceased Serve in U. S. Navy or Army  
(a) Residence, No. 378 Indiana St. Ward. (If nonresident give city or town and State)  
Length of residence in city or town where death occurred yrs. mos. ds. How long in U. S., if of foreign birth? yrs. mos. ds.

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS

3 SEX male 4 COLOR OR RACE colored 5 Single, Married, Widowed or Divorced (write the word) married  
6a If married, widowed or divorced HUSBAND of (or) WIFE of Ruth Roseborough  
6 DATE OF BIRTH (month, day, year) 10/23/1896  
7 AGE Years 55 Months - Days - If LESS than 1 day - hrs. - min.  
8 OCCUPATION OF DECEASED (a) Trade, profession, or particular kind of work Waiter. (b) General nature of industry, business, or establishment in which employed (or employer) Toledo Club. (c) Name of employer  
9 BIRTHPLACE (city or town) Winnsboro (State or country) South Carolina  
10 NAME OF FATHER Willie Roseborough  
11 BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER (city or town) (State or country) Winnsboro S.C.  
12 MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER Olivia Golden  
13 BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER (city or town) (State or country) Columbia S. Carolina  
14 Informant J. B. Floyd (Address) 2207-E-89-04  
15 PLACE OF BURIAL, CREMATION, OR REMOVAL Winnsboro S.C. 1-13-25  
16 UNDERTAKER, license No. 301111 ADDRESS  
17 MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH  
18 DATE OF DEATH (month, day and year) Jan 26 1963  
19 I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from Jan 7 1963 to Jan 7 1963 and that I last saw him at home and that death occurred, on the date stated above, at. The CAUSE OF DEATH\* was as follows: Myocardial thrombosis  
20 CONTRIBUTORY (duration) yrs. mos. ds.  
21 Where was disease contracted if not at place of death?  
22 Did an operation precede death? Date of  
23 Was there an autopsy?  
24 What test confirmed diagnosis?  
(Signed) Chas J. Floyd M.D. (Address) Toledo, Ohio  
\*State the DISEASE CAUSING DEATH, or in deaths from VIOLENT CAUSES, state (1) MEANS AND NATURE OF INJURY, and (2) whether ACCIDENTAL, SUICIDAL or HOMICIDAL. (See reverse side for additional space.)

PARENTS

is very important. See instructions on back of certificate.



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Registration Dist. No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Registrar's No. \_\_\_\_\_ Vital Statistics - State Board of Health  
 South Carolina State File No. **3 000486**

**CERTIFICATE OF DEATH**

1. PLACE OF DEATH  
 a. COUNTY Fairfield  
 b. CITY, TOWN, OR LOCATION Wando  
 c. LENGTH OF STAY IN IS \_\_\_\_\_

2. HOME (USUAL RESIDENCE) OF DECEASED:  
 a. STATE S. C. & COUNTY Fairfield  
 b. CITY, TOWN, OR LOCATION Wando  
 c. STREET ADDRESS 402 Moultrie St  
 d. IS RESIDENCE INSIDE CITY LIMITS?  YES  NO  
 e. IS RESIDENCE ON A FARM?  YES  NO

3. NAME OF DECEASED  
 a. FIRST NAME Olivia  
 b. MIDDLE NAME Loeborough  
 c. LAST NAME Loeborough  
 d. DATE OF DEATH June 26, 1963  
 e. AGE (In years, if under 1 yr. if under 24 hrs. and specify) (Mo. Days Hours Min.) \_\_\_\_\_

4. SEX F MARRIED  NEVER MARRIED   
 WIDOWED  DIVORCED

5. OCCUPATION (Give kind of work done during most of working life, state detailed)  
 6. KIND OF BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY \_\_\_\_\_

7. BIRTHPLACE (State or foreign country) S. C.  
 8. CITIZENSHIP (If foreign born, date of naturalization) USA

9. MOTHER'S NAME Arnest Baldwin  
 10. FATHER'S NAME George  
 11. BIRTHPLACE OR WEDDING PLACE Washington Loeborough  
 12. WAS DECEASED EVER IN U. S. ARMED FORCES?  YES  NO  
 13. SOCIAL SECURITY NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
 14. DEPARTMENT Ernest Baldwin - Wash. DC

15. CAUSE OF DEATH (State only one cause per line for (a), (b), and (c).)  
 PART I. DEATH WAS CAUSED BY IMMEDIATE CAUSE (a) Myocardial Degeneration  
 (b) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (c) \_\_\_\_\_  
 PART II. OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTING TO DEATH BUT NOT RELATED TO THE IMMEDIATE CAUSE (a) Arteriosclerosis - and a fall with hip surgery  
 (b) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (c) \_\_\_\_\_

16. ACCIDENT SURVIVAL (If yes, state how injury occurred. State above of place in Part I or Part II of item 15.)  
 17. DATE OF INJURY \_\_\_\_\_  
 18. PLACE OF INJURY (a) \_\_\_\_\_ (b) \_\_\_\_\_ (c) \_\_\_\_\_  
 19. CITY, TOWN, OR LOCATION \_\_\_\_\_

20. I attended the deceased from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ and last saw him alive on \_\_\_\_\_  
 Death assumed at \_\_\_\_\_ on the date stated above and to the best of my knowledge, from the medical history and \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature Dr. J. M. Wood \_\_\_\_\_  
 Title Physician

21. SIGNATURE OF MINISTER OR CREMATOR \_\_\_\_\_  
 22. LOCATION (City, town, or county) Wando, S. C.  
 23. DATE SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_  
 24. SIGNATURE OF PHYSICIAN \_\_\_\_\_  
 25. LOCATION (City, town, or county) Wando, S. C.  
 26. DATE SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE - Public Health Service Form No. VS-8

NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF HEALTH  
 BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS  
 21497

**CERTIFICATE OF DEATH**

1. PLACE OF DEATH: Guilford  
 (a) County Guilford  
 (b) Township Windsor  
 (c) City or town Windsor, N.C.  
 (d) Street, hospital, or institution Richmond Hospital  
 (e) Length of stay in hospital or institution 1 night  
 (f) In this community (Yes, no, or part) yes

2. HOME (USUAL RESIDENCE) OF DECEASED:  
 (a) State North Carolina (b) County Guilford  
 (c) City or town Windsor, N.C.  
 (d) Street or R.F.D. 517 - Brighton St  
 (e) In place of residence in separate health? yes  
 (f) If foreign born, how long in U.S.A.? \_\_\_\_\_

3(a) FULL NAME Mr. Rubin Roseboro  
 (b) Sex male (c) Color or race colored  
 (d) Single, married, widowed, or divorced widowed  
 (e) Name of husband or wife \_\_\_\_\_  
 (f) Age of husband or wife if alive \_\_\_\_\_ years  
 (g) Date of death Feb 17 - 1954  
 (h) Birth date Feb 17 - 1854  
 (i) Age 40 Years Months Days (If less than one day)

4. Birthplace Windsor, N.C.  
 (City, town, or county, State or foreign country)

5. Usual occupation farmer

6. Industry or business \_\_\_\_\_

7. Name William Roseboro  
 8. Birthplace Fairfield Co. S.C.  
 9. Marital name Catherine  
 10. Birthplace Fairfield Co. S.C.

11. Informant's Signature F. R. Harder  
 (a) Address Windsor, N.C.  
 (b) Date (month, day, year) 10/29/1954  
 (c) Relationship to deceased son  
 (d) Location Fairfield Co. S.C.  
 (e) Federal Hospital Richmond Hospital  
 (f) Address Windsor, N.C.  
 (g) Signature F. R. Harder  
 (h) Address \_\_\_\_\_

12. Date of death Feb 17, 1954  
 13. I certify that I attended on the date above reported and I attended deceased from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ and that I last saw \_\_\_\_\_ alive on \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cause of death Senescent left foot  
 Due to habits  
 Due to old

14. Other conditions (Include progressions within 3 months of death)  
 15. Major findings of operation none  
 16. If death was due to external causes, fill in the following:  
 (a) Accidents, violence, or homicide (country) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (b) Date of occurrence \_\_\_\_\_  
 (c) Where did injury occur? (City or town, State or county) (Country) (State) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (d) Did injury occur aboard ship, on farm, in industrial plant, in a public place \_\_\_\_\_  
 (e) Nature of injury \_\_\_\_\_  
 (f) Nature of injury \_\_\_\_\_  
 (g) Nature of injury \_\_\_\_\_  
 (h) Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
 (i) Address \_\_\_\_\_

MARGIN RESERVED FOR BINDING  
 WITH PLAINLY, WITH UNFAIRING ENDS—THIS IS A PERMANENT RECORD.  
 Every item of information should be correctly reported. The correct age is especially important.  
 Physicians: Please write the cause of death clearly and legibly.



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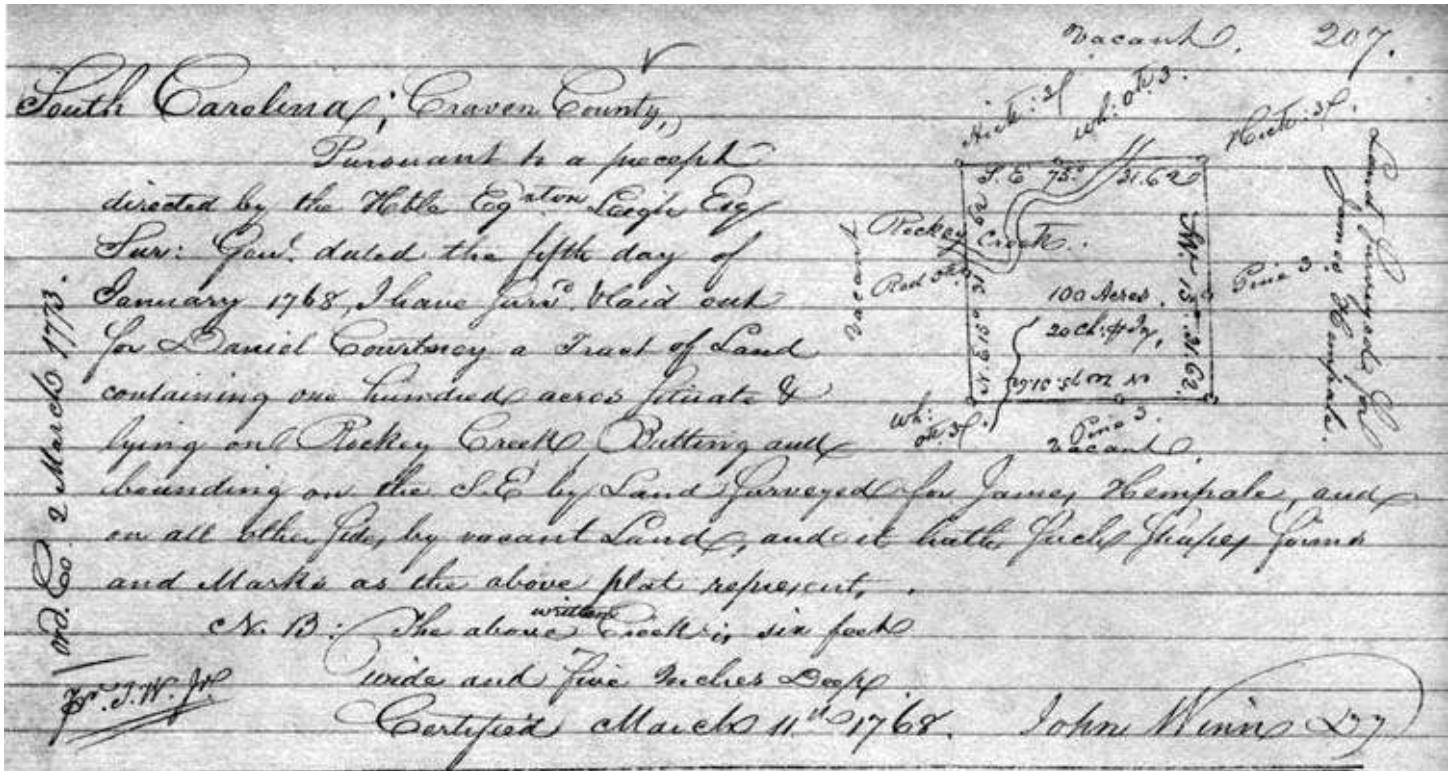
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**Q: Larry Trice**, I'm trying to find a bill of sale for a slave named George Washington Cook sometime in the early 1840's. I believe George was sold by Burrell Cook of Jenkinsville possibly to William Trice of Fairfield and Richland Counties.

**A:** We have not been able to find anything on a George Washington Cook. We have nothing on a Trice family name. We tried looking at Brice just in case family name was not Trice and found nothing. We tried looking at Cook records and found nothing. If you run across the Deed record, i.e. Book and Page, we should be able to get you the deed.

**Q: Court Storey**, I've seen some of the amazing maps Tom Mayhugh has created and put on your website showing the locations where early immigrants were living during the 1700s and I'm hoping I can get some advice. In 1768, my ancestor "Daniel Cotney" (spelled "Courtney" on his royal grant) acquired 100 acres **right on Rocky Creek just NW of Great Falls, SC** and then in 1773, Daniel got a royal land grant on that same land where he then lived and raised his family. When Daniel Cotney first came in 1768, a property owner bordering his property was James Hempale who first appeared in 1764. Another royal land grant was given in 1773 to a Grizell Maybean which bordered Daniel Cotney's 100 ac. property in 1773 which shows the bordering property owners to be Daniel Cotney, Francis Adams, Thomas Burns, and Col. Middleton. I have attached the two original surveys which show the bordering property owners for Daniel Cotney and his 1773 royal land grant. First, based on the attached surveys with coordinates, I'm hoping someone might be able to tell me approximately where Daniel Cotney's property was located on Rocky Creek. Second, I'd really like to find out where this Daniel Cotney lived prior to arriving in SC. Any help or suggestions you can offer on this will be greatly appreciated!! Third, Daniel Cotney lived on his Rocky Creek land until he was killed in 1781 during the Revolutionary War, and he was survived by his widow Keziah Cotney and their 5 young children. So Keziah inherited the above property and sold it shortly after her husband died. Can you recommend a strategy for me to discover to whom Daniel Cotney's widow Keziah Cotney sold the original Rocky Creek property to?



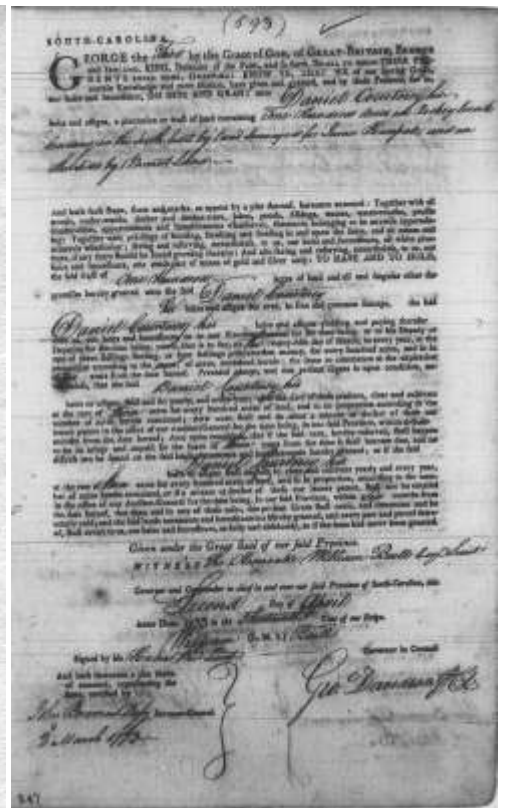
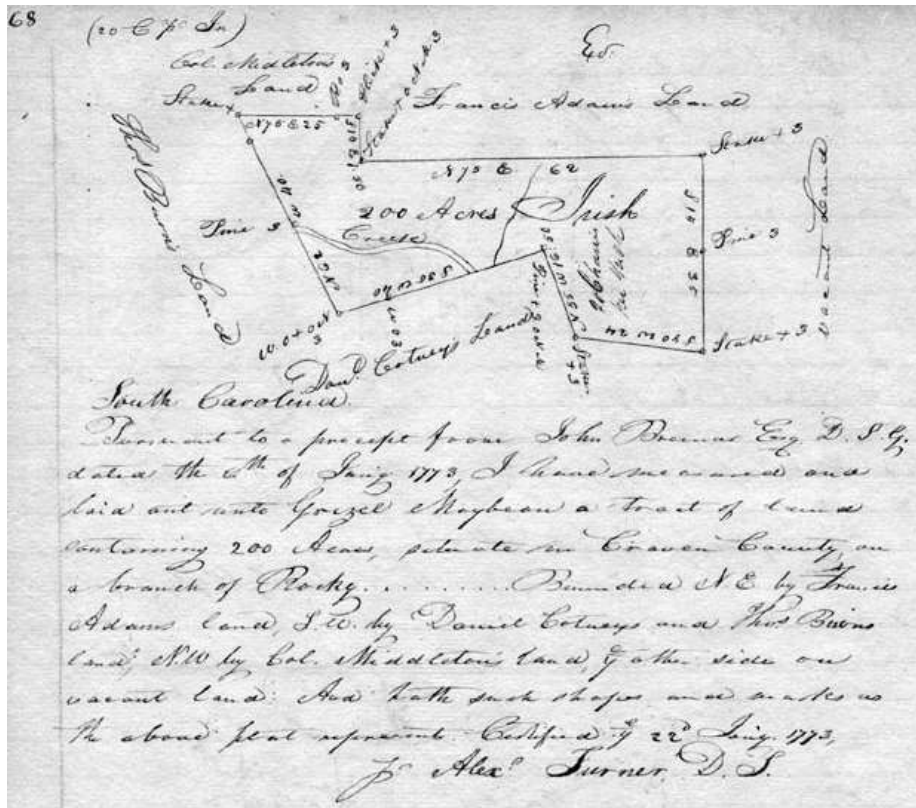


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A: Here is a magazine article: As published in the magazine, "Lake Martin Living" February 2005

It has been said that in the land of Cotney, old times there are not forgotten, and indeed that may be true, but Daniel Jackson Cotney was not born in Alabama's heart of Dixie on one frosty mornin'. In fact, Daniel Jackson Cotney, along with his brother William Sampson Cotney, was born in the Edgefield District of South Carolina, the grandsons of Lieutenant Daniel Cotney, a Loyalist, who fought and died for the British Crown in 1781.

The Revolutionary War in (1775-1783) was, as with the American Civil War, Vietnam, and in today's conflict in Iraq, a time of much divisiveness. The war began on April 19, 1775, and by January 8, 1782, the British were in firm control of Charlestown, which they had captured in May of 1780. That same day the General Assembly of South Carolina's Revolutionary government convened in its capital of Jacksonboro.

The new General Assembly soon passed several Confiscation Acts that included the lists of names of Loyalists, who were then identified in the March 20, 1782 issue of Charlestown's Royal Gazette. **It was perhaps fortuitous for the family of the first Daniel Cotney that he was killed in battle, as the patriots did not confiscate Daniel's holdings. Instead, his legacy remained in possession of his widow Keziah. She and Daniel had married in 1773, producing four sons before his death: Daniel, William, John, and James, and a daughter Jennie.**

The family originally lived on Rocky Creek, a tributary of the Catawba River between Camden and Rock Hill, in Craven County, North Carolina. **In 1787, after Daniel's death, Keziah requested a land grant that was in Saluda County, the boundaries of which included Beaver Dam Creek and Clouds Creek in the Edgefield-Newberry-Prosperity area of South Carolina. Eventually Keziah accumulated 1,200 acres of land.** The homestead is still owned today by the descendents of William S.'s brother Daniel, Jr., much of which is presently covered with water (due to the creation of Saluda Dam), as is much of the farmland from the last century here at Kawliga, due to the Lake Martin Dam.



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The Loyalist Daniel Cotney's son William S. was born about 1773 and later married Margaret Frances Golden (born 1784), the daughter of William and Ellender Golden. On March 23, 1798, William S.'s mother Keziah had deeded tracts of land to William S. and his brothers John and Daniel. This land was part of a grant awarded to Keziah on November 16, 1791, by the Honorable Charles Pinkney, governor of South Carolina.

William's oldest son, William Sampson, was born on November 19, 1812 in the Edgefield District and died on November 20, 1887, in Tallapoosa County. His wife, Melkie Eveline Funderburk, was born on October 8, 1816, in South Carolina and died here on July 27, 1898.

Melkie was the daughter of Peter Elijah and Frances Funderburke and the granddaughter of Anthony and Rebecca McCarty Funderburg. She was the great-granddaughter of Paul von der Burg and the great-great-granddaughter of Adolf von de Burg. William Sampson and Melkie are both buried in the Cotney family cemetery on Cotney Road in Daviston.

The widowed Margaret Frances had come to Tallapoosa County in the 1830s, more than a decade after a move from Edgefield District to Walton County, Georgia, with her six children and two brothers-in-law, including John Pike, who had married Jennie Cotney. On May 5, 1819, in Saluda County John Pike had witnessed William S.'s signature on a deed of sale to Thomas Hardy. William S. died soon after.

At the time of the Cotney family's move to former Indian grounds in Tallapoosa County in 1836, they traveled here on the Chapman Road, constructed to run from West Point in Harris County, Georgia, to Fort Williams. Margaret Frances died in Tallapoosa County in 1875.

Her son Daniel Jackson, born in South Carolina in 1817, joined the Confederacy on February 21, 1861 at Camp Johnson in Militown in Chambers County. Daniel Jackson was in Company D of Yancy's Grays of the 14th Alabama Infantry Regiment under Captain Broome. Enlisting with him were two sons, James W. and William J., who was killed at Huntsville on October 17, 1861.

Two others sons, John T. and Isaac C., also served. John T. enlisted on May 3, 1862, and was assigned to Captain Hanley's Company G of the 46th Alabama Infantry. Wounded in the Battle of Vicksburg on July 8, 1863, he died four days later. Isaac, the youngest of the Cotney rebels, traveled to Orange County, Virginia, when he turned eighteen to join company D, arriving in November of 1863. Honorably discharged on April 9, 1865, he returned home to his widowed mother Jane Dean, (whom Daniel Jackson had married in Chambers County in 1837). The only other surviving son, James W., soon joined them.

Their father Daniel Jackson had died at Winder Hospital in Richmond on June 20, 1862. Records show that "During the last two months said soldier has been unfit for duty." A combination of measles and war fatigue is described on his medical certificate as resulting in incapacity due to extreme disability and old age. Back pay of \$40.33 plus a bounty of \$50 were paid to his widow Jane's attorney, Thomas B. Fergusson.

By comparison, at the time of the death of the first Daniel Cotney during the Revolutionary War, he was a First Lieutenant in Colonel James Cary's Regiment of the Camden Militia in South Carolina. As fate would decree, the two Daniels were not the only Cotney men to meet an untimely end.

The youngest son of Daniel Jackson, Sanford Cotney, had several brothers, including Seymore, who was born in 1852. Seymore married Ida Elizabeth Oliver, the daughter of William H. and Marietta E. Oliver and the granddaughter of Simeon Oliver and Louise Elizabeth Allen.

One of the first family stories that any Cotney or Story child remembers hearing is the tale of how Seymore's little brother "Sant" Cotney was killed on the porch of his New Site home by a blow to the head, presumably with his own walking stick. At the time of his death, Sanford (whose first wife had died in 1914) had been married to Maggie Austin for less than a year. The couple had wed on December 20, 1923, and was expecting a child. Neighbor W. D. Eason had put up the bond for the wedding.

In the Wednesday, October 29, 1924, edition of the Alexander City Outlook, it was noted "There were several this community



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that attended the burial of Mr. Sant Cotney last Saturday afternoon at Bethlehem." This references his October 25 funeral at Bethlehem Primitive Baptist Church, where he was buried in unmarked graves, next to his first wife Christianna Stephens.

Family legend has spawned many variations on the scenario that led to this unsolved homicide. According to one version, Sanford was slain by a jealous lover, who was the real father of Maggie's unborn child. A twist on this theory is that the lover feared being identified as the baby's real father. Yet another spin is that Sanford was killed by the proprietor of an alleged near-by liquor still to avoid the pursuit of revenuers.

And, an even more convoluted story proposes that the killer was both the child's biological father and the proprietor of the alleged illegal liquor still. However, all of these narratives are undoubtedly the musings of Cotney children and kin. In reality, the crime was never solved, and it is likely that Sanford's descendants and relatives will never really know the truth about his murder.

This pattern of untimely demise began when the first Daniel Cotney died in support of the Crown for what was considered at the time by most Americans as a treacherous choice. With hindsight, academics point out it was the belief of these Loyalists that preserving British sovereignty was synonymous with preserving the Colonies, just as many Civil War soldiers of the North fought, first and foremost, to preserve the Union. Daniel Jackson, a staunch Confederate, fought for popular southern ideals of the day (which are no longer held in favor), such as slavery and the supremacy of states' rights.

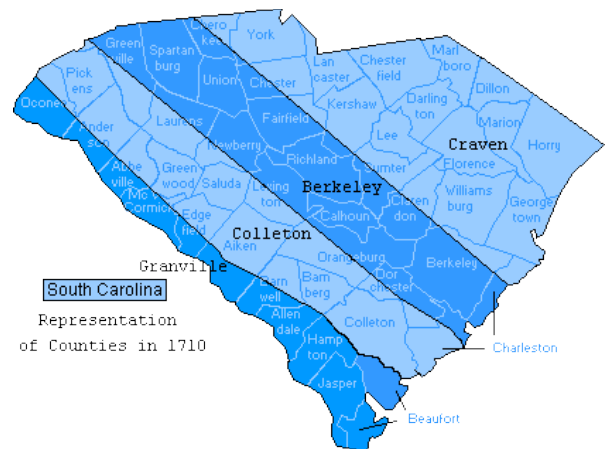
Sanford died for reasons unknown, though aficionados of the family history can only surmise that if his killing did involve intrigue, infidelity, and Prohibition-era liquor, then these certainly represented values that have traditionally been at odds with rural southern conservatism. One thing each of these men had in common, whether in love or war, is that each followed the path dictated by his own conscience. In the final analysis, it may well be true that, for good or bad, for better or worse, in the land of Cotney, "old times there are not forgotten."

**A special thanks to Daniel Z. Cotney for access to his research on the early Cotney family  
Cotney Family History By: David Michael Story A great-great-grandson of Daniel Jackson Cotney**

**Q2:** Please let me know if Tom Mayhugh, or anyone else you know of, could give me an idea of approximately where on Rocky Creek Daniel Cotney's original 100 acre land grant property was located based on the 1768 and the 1773 surveys which I've attached. Both of these surveys show Daniel Cotney's 100 acres of land, including the coordinates of its location, as well as the names of Daniel Cotney's abutting neighbors which were:

- James Hempale, may be Hemphill (1768, SE side)
- Grizell Maybean (1773, N side)
- Francis Adams (1773, E side)
- Thomas Burns (1773, SW side)
- Col. Middleton (1773, NW side)

**A:** This is the 1710 SC map showing the counties of the four Lord's; Lord Craven, Lord Berkley, Lord Colleton & Lord Granville. When looking at deeds, plats, etc. before 1785, you will see Craven County for NE part of the state.



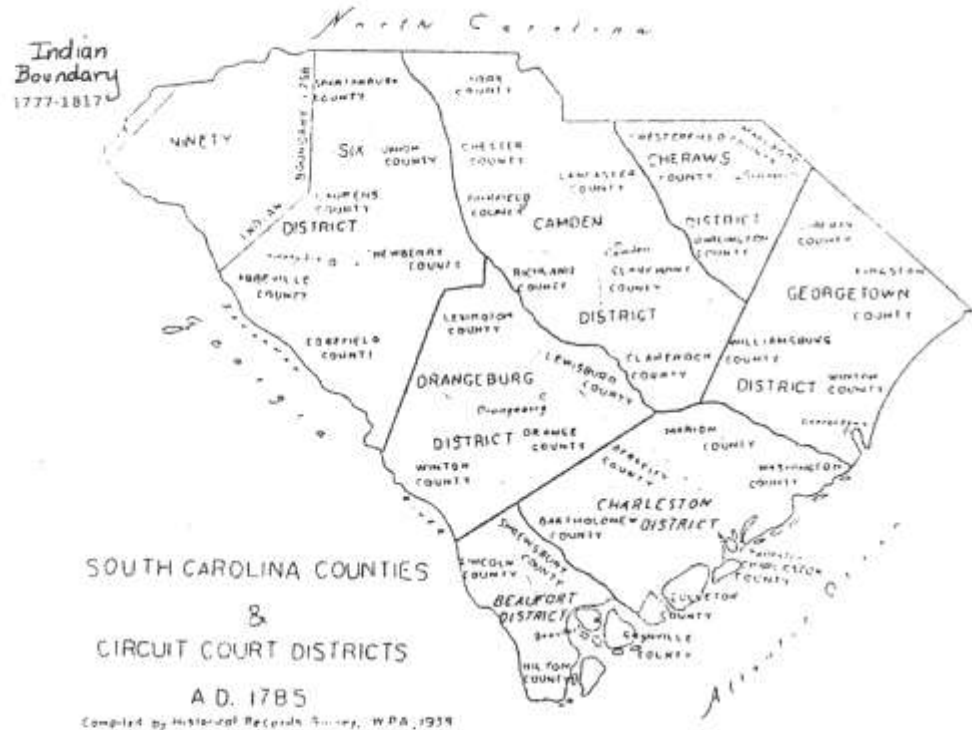


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Rocky Creek has a fork called Little Rocky Creek as shown on this map (1820 Mills). I was able to locate Rev. Hemphill meeting house, where as I believe it became Hopewell A.R.P. Church. Here is a quick link to our FCGS Members Only web pages for [Cotney](#) families. All references are outside of Fairfield County (that was in old Camden District) and in Ninety-Six District.

**Q3:** Thanks again for all the maps, surveys, and documents you sent in your Feb 17, 2026, email below which is very helpful. We've learned more about Daniel Cotney since we last communicated with you. Our primary goals are to discover the following:

1. When did Daniel Cotney first arrive in S. Carolina, and
2. Did Daniel Cotney arrive by ship from Ireland, England, etc., or from another Colony.
3. Learn what church records we could access near where Daniel's family lived in SC and GA.

Below is the sequence of events in Daniel Cotney's life which we know about:

1767: Daniel Cotney obtained a warrant for a survey for 100 acres on Rocky Creek.

1768: The survey for a 100-acre land grant was completed on 11 Mar 1768.

1773: Daniel received a Royal Land grant on these 100 acres.

1773: Daniel married Keziah and they began having their 5 children.

1773: Daniel Cotney is listed as owning 200 acres in **Clear Creek, GA**. We believe Daniel & Keziah moved their family there in the late 1770s.

1776: Daniel Cotney enlisted as a soldier with the Patriots in GA, but he soon deserted.



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1776-1780: Daniel sold his Rocky Creek land to James Harper. Harper died soon thereafter and his family later sold the land again.

1780 (Jun): Daniel enlisted as a Lieutenant in Loyalist Lt. Col. James Cary's Militia which guarded a ferry crossing on the Wateree River.

1780 (Aug 15): All 37 men in Lt Cary's Loyalist Camden/Wateree Militia were captured by the Patriots.

1780 (Sept): All Cary's men were soon released or escaped, but Daniel Cotney was killed.

A:

## LOYALISTS IN THE SOUTHERN CAMPAIGN, VOLUME I

Pay Abstract Nr 153, Colonel James Cary's Regiment, Camden Militia, Charlestown, SC, six-months pay, 14 Jul 1780 to 13 Jan 1781, to be paid 16 Sept 1782

| Nr              | Rank       | Name   | Remarks |
|-----------------|------------|--|---------|
| 1               | Colonel    | Cary, James  |         |
| 1               | Major      | Belton, Jonathan   |         |
| 1               | Captain    | Fortune, William   |         |
| 2               | "          | Hardedge, Joseph   |         |
| 3               | "          | Marshall, Martin   |         |
| 4               | "          | Owens, James   |         |
| 1               | Lieutenant | Cottney, Daniel, deceased, paid his wife, Keziah Cottney |         |
| 1               | Adjutant   | Rawls, Silas   |         |
| 2               | "          | Vaughn, Thomas   |         |
| 1               | Sergeant   | Moore, Gabriel   |         |
| 1               | Private    | Davies, Gabriel  |         |
| 2               | "          | Gibson, Thomas   |         |
| 3               | "          | Goulden, Pierce  |         |
| 4               | "          | Hudson, Drury  |         |
| 5               | "          | Kennedy, John  |         |
| 6               | "          | Morgan, William  |         |
| 7               | "          | Miley, Jacob   |         |
| 8               | "          | Pritchard, Robert  |         |
| 9               | "          | Rucker, Jonathan   |         |
| 10              | "          | Scott, James   |         |
| 11              | "          | Scott, Benjamin  |         |
| 12              | "          | Smith, Henry   |         |
| 13              | "          | Stivender, George  |         |
| 14              | "          | Smally, John, gone to the country                        |         |
| 15              | "          | Shoemaker, Daniel  |         |
| 16              | "          | William, Thomas  |         |
| 17              | "          | Thompson, Ralph  |         |
| 18              | "          | Wyree, Nicholas  |         |
| Amount: £30.0.0 |            | attest: Robert Gray, Pay Master<br>Provincial Forces     |         |

(PRO T50, Vol 3)

Petition of Jacob Abner. He joined the British forces and was in the Congaree Fort when besieged and carried an express from them to Lord Rawdon at Camden. He continued in the service as an express rider while he was with the Army. He was with Colonel Stewart until he came below Thompson's place doing scout and patrol duty. He asked for compensation for his services. signed: Jacob Abner, Charlestown, SC, 21 Jan 1782

attest: James Cary, Colonel, Camden Distr  
John Doyle

Statement: Jacob Abner was a loyal subject an an express rider for the army.

signed: John Doyle, Deputy Adjutant General  
Charlestown, SC, 5 Feb 1782

(PRO T50, Vol 2)



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Charles Town, Sept. 6<sup>th</sup> 1782 -

I do hereby certify that the Bearer hereof Kizziah  
Cottney is the Widow of Lieutenant Daniel Cottney of  
the Camden Militia and that the said Cottney was a  
Loyal Subject to his Majesty and served in the  
Royal Militia as Lieutenant of a Company for or  
near the space of four Months, at Camden, I believe  
he never received any Pay for his said Service, And  
that he was Murdered by the Rebels soon after  
the Evacuation of Camden - I believe W<sup>rs</sup> Cottney  
the Bearer hereof, to be in Distress.

Jas. Cary. Col. R. M.  
Camden District

PUBLIC RECORDS

A.B. he served in the  
year 1780.

To All whom it may concern.



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I: Yes, when we left N. Ireland in early March, we went to the National Archives of England in Kew, England for 4 days and searched for more information on Daniel Cotney. While at the Archives, we found the document you just sent me with the heading "**Charlestown, Sept 6, 1782**" which was written by Lt Colonel James Cary about Lt. Daniel Cottney of the Camden Militia. Lt Col Cary also referred to KoZIAH Cottney, widow of Lt Daniel Cottney. Daniel had served as a Company Commander for about 4 months (June to Sept, 1780) and was captured and then killed by the Patriots. The purpose of this document was to confirm that Lt. Cottney had loyally served in the Camden Militia for about 4 months, was killed in action, and his widow KoZIAH had applied for compensation, and LT Col Cary was confirming those facts so the widow could be awarded the requested compensation for the loss of her husband.

My wife copied and posted this document on the Cotney Facebook site which is likely where you found it. (I found these at the SC Department of History and Archives website. I do not do Facebook.)

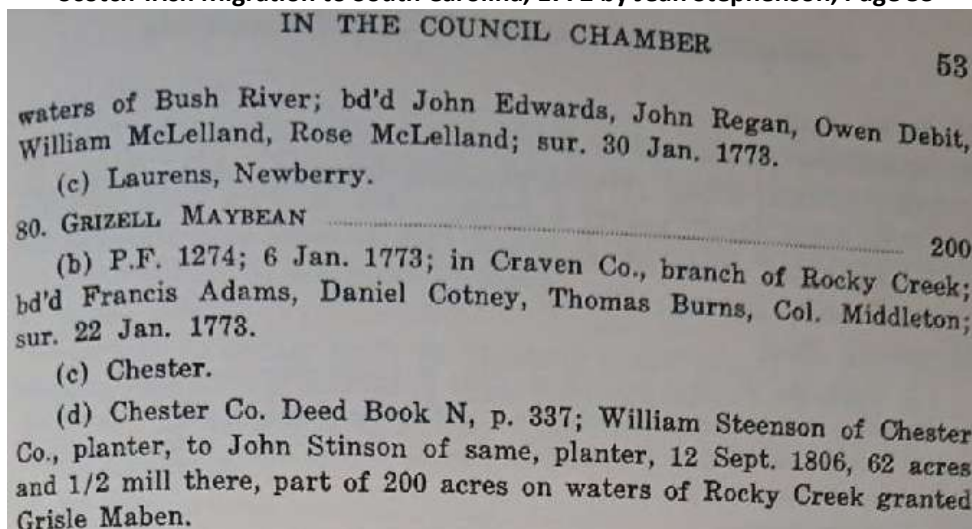
Our primary goals are to discover the following:

1. When did Daniel Cotney first arrive in S. Carolina, and
2. Did Daniel Cotney arrive in SC by ship from Ireland, England, etc., or from another American Colony.
3. Learn what church records we could access near where Daniel's family lived in SC and GA.

**Q4:** FYI, I don't use Facebook either but there is a Facebook page called "I am a Cotney" which a guy we know started so my wife posted that document there. As you can see, the magazine article you sent me on Feb 13 was written in 2005 by descendant David Michael Story, now deceased, who had access to the research of descendant Daniel Z. Cotney, now deceased. I know they're both deceased because I found death records for both of them. But it says Daniel Cotney (1746-1780) married KoZIAH in 1773 and they had 4 sons and one daughter, all named in the article and all very well researched on Ancestry.com. Do you have any suggestions on where I might find church records in the area where they lived during the 1770's? I'm hoping to find their marriage record and possibly the baptism records of the children to learn especially where Daniel was born. Another idea I thought of was searching for Daniel's burial which could have a gravestone with information on it or there could be a death record somewhere. Based on the document written by Lt. Col. James Cary, Daniel enlisted in June 1780 and was killed within 4 months, so he was killed about Sept, 1780. Do you have any suggestions on how I might search for a death record or grave based on the above information?

**A:** This is some additional information found in Scotch-Irish Migration to SC, 1772 (Rev. Martin's 5 ships) and Chester County deeds. It looks like to me in the migration book that Daniel Cotney was already in what would become Chester County in 1785. Early deed grants for Daniel Cotney in again what would become Chester County in 1785.

## Scotch-Irish Migration to South Carolina, 1772 by Jean Stephenson, Page 53





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## Chester County, South Carolina Deed Abstracts Volume I: Deed Books A-F 1785-1799 [1768-1799] by Brent H. Holcomb

CHESTER COUNTY SC DEED ABSTRACTS

lived in Cuthbert County in Maryland which said John Winman died without any lawful issue & further this deponent saith that after the death of said John Winman that he was informed that John Gray sent word to the said William Roden Senr to come & Take possession of a tract of land which as the property of said John Winman deed & Further this deponent saith that the reason why the s'd William Roden did not immediately go & Take possession of said John Winman's estate was his living in Virginia, 28 July 1795. Thomas Roden Senr. E. Nunn, J.P.

D, 437-438: 3 Oct 1786, James Owens of Chester County to Robert Harper of same, for £100 sterling, 100 acres on a branch of Little Rocky Creek. James Owens (X) (Seal). Wit: Samuel Ferguson, Thomas Steel (T). Proved by the oath of Thomas Steel 21 June 1795 before Andw Hemphill, J.P.

D, 438-440: 17 Nov 1774, Daniel Coutney of Camden District, SC, to James Harper of same, for £200 tract granted 2 April 1773, 100 acres on Rocky Creek adj. James Hemple, recorded in Book 000, page 287. Daniel Cottney (wax seal), Wit: Charles Hemphill, Robert Harper (mark). Proved by the oath of Robert Harper 1 June 1784 before James Knox, J.P.

## Chester County, South Carolina Deed Abstracts Volume II: Deed Books G-M 1799-1806 [1769-1807] Pages 193-194 by Gregory W. Matthews

[1184]L, 256-258, #154, 28 Mar 1804, the above is a plat of a tract of land containing 262a originally granted to Grizzle Maben for 200a [Grizel Maybean in 1773] situate on Little Rocky Cr which I have resurveyed for Wm Steenson, Samuel Ferguson &

CHESTER COUNTY SC DEED ABSTRACTS II

Andw Dunn. The outside black lines represent the No. 1 29a doted off to the creek has been laid out for 20a & is the part claimed by Andw Dunn. The red lines represent Wm Steenson's mill place as divided by him and Ferguson containing about 60 1/2a. The yellow lines represent Saml Ferguson's part containing 60a exclusive of 10a part of a grant to Wm Steenson. The remainder of the tract containing 102a is Wm Steenson's part. The red dotted lines represent part of a tract of land an older grant to Saml Barber that takes 10a out of the old tract. Said lands I have resurveyed & divided agreeable to the direction of the sd parties. /s/ J. McCreary Dept. Sur.

[Adjoining land on the plat is: land called Col. Middleton's land, Andw Dun's land called Thos. Burn's but said to be vacant, land said to be granted to Daniel Cotney, land said to be Rich'd Gather's, Wm Steenson, Saml Ferguson's land granted to Samuel Barber]

Wm Steenson & Samuel Ferguson having jointly purchased part of the within tract agree to the directions as specified by the within plat. /s/ Wm Steenson, Samuel Ferguson. Wit: James Ferguson, Elizabeth (her mark) Stenson. Proven by oath of James Ferguson before Zach'h A. Thompson JP, 30 May 1805. Note: This deed includes a plat. Recorded 31 May 1805.





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**Q: Beth Carr**, I am conducting genealogical and historical research on early Presbyterian families in Fairfield County, particularly those associated with the Little River, Dutchman's Creek, and Catholic Presbyterian communities in the late 1700s and early 1800s. My research focuses on the Little family, who later migrated to Butler County, Ohio, along with related families such as Wilson, Peay, Winn, McClellan, and Martin. These families appear together in Fairfield County records and in the early Presbyterian congregations of the region. I am seeking information about any surviving or transcribed records from:

- Little River Presbyterian Church
- Dutchman's Creek Presbyterian Church
- Catholic Presbyterian Church
- Concord / Richardson's Presbyterian (Fairfield–Chester border)

Any itinerant minister records or local transcriptions relating to these congregations Specifically, I am looking for:

- Early membership lists
- Baptismal records
- Session minutes
- Communicant rolls
- Certificates of dismissal
- Cemetery transcriptions
- Any local family files or compiled genealogies referencing the Little family or their associated cluster families

If your collections include any of these materials, I would be grateful for guidance on:

1. What records survive and their date ranges
2. Whether you hold transcriptions or copies made by local historians
3. Access procedures and reproduction policies
4. Any related manuscript collections, minister papers, or local church histories that may mention the Little family or their neighbors

Thank you very much for your time and assistance. These records are essential for documenting the early Presbyterian community in Fairfield County and tracing the migration of these families into Ohio.

**A:** I got your request and it may take some time to pull all of this together. In the meantime, some of this information has been digitized and on our FCGS Members Only web pages. Here is a quick link to: [Martin](#), [Peay](#), [Wilson](#), [Winn-Wynn](#), and [Concord Presbyterian Church](#). You asked about Little River Presbyterian (now Salem Presbyterian); here is a quick link to our FCGS Members Only web pages for [Salem](#). [Concord Presbyterian](#) tombstones have been complete. [Richardson](#) Family Cemetery added. [Catholic Presbyterian Church](#) (in Chester County) tombstones have been complete. You may be interested in [Mt. Olivet](#) Church once called Wolf Pit, then Wateree, then Mt. Olivet. Minutes are also under pictures, 307 pages. Hopewell Meeting House along Dutchman's Creek is only on the 1820 map. Along Dutchman's Creek on the 1854 map is only a symbol and not labeled. Along Dutchman's Creek on the 1876 map there is no reference any longer to a meeting house or church. Meeting houses and churches popped up and then either went away or merged with other churches. We do not have any information for a Dutchman's Creek Meeting House or Church. I will be on the lookout for information, in the meantime, if you have anything, please share it with us.

**Q: Diane Adams Terry Joerger**, Daughters of the American Revolution (patriot in Adams-Wroten lineage) we might share an ancestor: Ezekiah Wroughton, Jamestowne QA 9559. Some name variations on the surname include Wroten/Rhoden/Roten. Would you like to collaborate on this lineage?

- EZEKIAH WROUGHTON JS QA9529 1598-1633 9th great-grandfather
- WILLIAM WROUGHTON, I 1625-1705 Son of EZEKIAH WROUGHTON JS QA9529
- WILLIAM WROUGHTON, II 1663-1738 Son of WILLIAM WROUGHTON, I
- JOSIAH WROUGHTON 1695-1762 Son of WILLIAM WROUGHTON, II
- JAMES DAVID WROUGHTON 1724-1816 Son of Josiah Wroughton
- HENRY WROUGHTON / WROTEN 1760-1844 Son of JAMES DAVID WROUGHTON
- THOMAS WASHINGTON WROTEN 1799-1857 Son of HENRY WROUGHTON / WROTEN



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- WASHINGTON WROTEN 1829-1900 Son of THOMAS WASHINGTON WROTEN
- JOHN L. WROTEN 1858-1929 Son of WASHINGTON WROTEN
- IVAH WROTEN 1895-1964 Daughter of JOHN L. WROTEN
- JOHN ROBERT ADAMS 1920-1975 Son of IVAH WROTEN
- Diane Adams Terry Joerger Daughter of JOHN ROBERT ADAMS

**A:** We are always interested in collaborating with other organizations, societies, or individuals. Thanks for your DAR lineage. Here is a quick link to what we have for our digitized family information in our collection for [Rawdon-Rhoden-Roden](#) families on our FCGS Members Only web pages. We do not have anything for the "W" spellings.

**Q: Eric Schuh,** I came across the article linked below and have further information. I believe he is writing about my mother's family; [Family](#) of John and Ann Stubbleson Ferguson pdf. Do you know if he is still living?

**A:** Gave Eric Richard Ferguson's email address.

**Q: Laura Loesing,** My Allen and McDonald/McDaniel grandparents lived in the Kentucky, South Carolina, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Tennessee regions. My GG Grandmother was Rachel (McDaniel/McDonald Allen) who married John Easter Allen, settled in Pulaski Co, KY. John's father Samuel was a Rev War soldier buried at Ringgold Cemetery. John and Rachel buried on their former homestead now on private property not far from Gover Cemetery. I communicated with the current landowner about my GG grandparents being buried on his land. He said he did not know this prior to me telling him and said he and his father thought there were Indian burials in that clump of trees when he was growing up.

My GG and GGG Hugh McDonald (parents and grandparents of GG Rachel (McDaniel/McDonald) Allen, lived in the Rocky Creek region of South Carolina. They were Rev War soldiers and received land grants in the Rocky Creek region. Sometimes their surname was listed in various records as McDaniel, McDonnall, McDonald. Plot maps showing their land plots among the plots of many other families are shown along the Rocky Creek region back in the mid to late 1700's and 1800's. I found those Rocky Creek plot maps online at the Roots and Recall web site. That is good history to know.

A few of our McDonald relatives were buried at Old McDonald Burying Ground (now called McDonald Cemetery, Blackstock). A woman named Mary Strange who also had ancestors on the plot maps in the Rocky Creek region published a list of burials in Old McDonald Burying Ground she said were transcribed from small stones at those graves. Only initials with a few having a date listed beside them are on this list of 12 burials. I am assuming those are death dates. I made a copy of the burials she published in her book *Rev War Soldiers of Old Presbyterian Church Blackstock* and am copy/pasting those below for you to see.

I have been in touch with a Find a Grave member Janine McQuiston who created Find a Grave pages for the ten McDonalds on the list. She did not have any other info to share about the burials, said she just creates the pages for others to find. I was not able to get management of those McDonald pages after I asked, so any additional info added to those pages will have to be through writing messages through Find a Grave to her for edits. She did not list any birth or death dates on her Find a Grave pages. I sent her the list of those burials I found in the Mary Strange book.

Another Find a Grave member William Stewart created the Find a Grave pages for his two Stewart ancestors on that list. I have been in touch with William also. He is quite a researcher and knows so much, although he did not know any details about my McDonalds buried there. It was said in the history of my GGG Rev War Samuel Allen that some Stewart families migrated to Pulaski Co, KY with his family but no specific Stewart names.

What I am wondering is whether someone in your Genealogical Society has a more detailed list of those burials in the Mary Strange book for the Old McDonald Burying Ground, Blackstock. That land was formerly owned by my Hugh McDonald, Sr., father of Hugh McDonald, Jr.

I am suspecting that Hugh McDonald, Sr. and his wife Rebekah Irvin/Erwin McDonald who received the grant land there might be buried in that cemetery rather than at Old Presbyterian Church Cemetery, Blackstock. A Find a Grave member with last



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name Brooks has a Find a Grave page for them being buried at Old Presbyterian Church, Blackstock. Hugh, Sr. helped create the church, and his name is on a Rev War plaque erected by DAR in later years.

A person named Sarah (Wells) Russell posted on a [genealogy.com](http://genealogy.com) forum that Hugh, Sr. and wife Rebekah Irving/Irwin were buried in Old McDonald Burying Ground as well as Hugh's brother John. John and wife were killed by Indians, and their children were raised by Hugh, Sr. I still don't know for sure if what Sarah Wells Russell wrote on that forum about their burials is for sure, as she did state a definite source on that. I wonder where she got that info.

I have not located the burial of Hugh McDonald, Jr. and Rebecca (Rogers) McDaniel. I temporarily linked the H McDonald and R McDonald Find a Grave pages to daughter Rachel McDaniel Allen's Find a Grave page, but those Find a Graves might actually be her grandparents Hugh, Sr. and Rebekah. I also wish I could find a burial record for her parents Hugh McDonald, Jr. and Rebecca (Rogers) McDonald. So far no luck.

I am also a Find a Grave member and enjoy researching and doing memorials for ancestors and connected families. If you have any info that would help me have more details about the McDonald burials in Old McDonald Burying Ground/McDonald Cemetery, Blackstock, that would be wonderful. See list below.

Page 99 of *The Revolutionary War Soldiers of Catholic Presbyterian Church* by Mary Strange lists the burials in Old McDonald Burying Ground, now called McDonald or McDonald/Stewart Cemetery on Find a Grave

This is the URL of the McDonald Cemetery on Find a Grave that shows ten McDonald memorials and two Stewart memorials.

## [Memorials in McDonald - Find a Grave](#)

This is the paragraph on Page 99 of Mary's book describing the burials.

*There is an old McDonald family burying ground on the plantation of Mr. Sumter Brown in which some of the graves are marked on native stone, with initials without dates, and a few with dates, as the following:*

*"In Sacred Memory of Jas. Stewart Senr. who departed this life, Oct. 2, 1829, aged 90 years." (This James Stewart seems too old to have been the husband of Jane McDonald mentioned among the heirs of Hugh McDonald in suit 1820. He could, however, have been the father-in-law of Jane.)*

M. McD. 1850;  
J. McD. 1854;  
E. McD. June 1856;  
S. McD;  
R. McD;  
E.R. McD;  
J. McD. Dec. 20, 1831;  
H. McD;  
W. S. McD;  
R. M. McD; May 31, 1832.

My notes From the Russell Family Tree on Genealogy.com

The McDonald Burying Ground was part of Hugh's land sold to the Browns, including Sumter Brown who married Lula McDonald, with the land later owned by Edward Mills.

Excerpt:

--McDonald Burying Ground – in 1934, this was situated on land owned by Mr. Sumter Brown who married Lula McDonald. By 1968, the land had passed into the hands of Mr. Edward Mills – in Chester County near Blackstocks, SC.



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**A:** We have not been able to identify many graves in the McDonald family burial grounds. Here is a quick link to digitized family information on our FCGS Members Only web pages for: [McDonald](#) family; [McDonald](#) family cemetery or burial grounds; [Old Catholic Presbyterian](#) Church and cemetery. (I'm still updating, but will put McDonald tombstones to web page)

**Q: Jeanne Norris,** I'm trying to determine if there is a verified or proven list of the children of Jacob Davis: Family Search has his tree listed with Esther Hines as his spouse (1798-1848). I think one of my relatives, Lucy F. Davis (Walker) is one of his daughters, but have been unable to locate any documentation of it. I have found nothing on newspapers.com, the digital collection (LOC), or any of The SC Historical and Genealogical Magazine issues. I do not have a subscription to Ancestry.com. Lucy Davis Walker died Dec. 1869, way before death certificates were required. I did find a newspaper clipping dated 1887 after Jacob's son, Thomas H. Davis, died; and it appears Lucy's children were among those contesting his will. (See attachment) The "Walkers" listed in the clipping are proven children of Lucy F. Davis (Walker), so I'm assuming they felt they had an interest in her "brothers" estate on her behalf since she had already passed. According to the family tree of Thomas H. Davis on familysearch.org, he had named one of his daughters, Lucy Frances, which may have been in remembrance of his "sister".

**A:** Here is a quick link to the FCGS Members Only web pages for our digitized collection for the [Davis](#) families.

**Q: Dr. Donaldson, My name is Jonathan Long, and my cousin Kimberly Suber suggested that I reach out to you.** I understand that she may have already connected with you regarding some aspects of our Coleman family history. **Our family is preparing for an upcoming Coleman family reunion, and we are hoping to document more of our family's history so we can share it with relatives. From our research so far, we know that our Coleman family roots trace back to Fairfield County, South Carolina.** The earliest ancestor we have been able to trace was purchased in Virginia and later brought into South Carolina. Through a DNA test with African Ancestry, we were also able to connect this paternal lineage to the Mbundu people of Angola. **As we continue researching, I wanted to ask if you might have any guidance on archives, records, or historical resources that could help us learn more about African American families in Fairfield County during slavery and Reconstruction.** We would love to better understand the historical context surrounding our family's early history in the region.

**I: Pelham Lyles,** We have much on the Coleman family in the genealogy department of the Fairfield County Museum. Where is your reunion going to be staged?

**I: Jackie Whitmore,** This is great information to know. On this note my Cousin David Seabrook and I are in constant search for more information and connection to our Jackson Family from White Oak: Moses and Pheobe Jackson and their children Lucinda (Lucy/ Cinda), Selina (Lena), George, Moses, Joshua and Caleb (Twins). Caleb married an Emma Harrison (The noted Harrison family of White Oak) After she married Caleb Jackson she married a Pamplar/Pamalar Robinson and move to Charlotte but is buried at White Oak Church. Joshua Jackson migrated to Calhoun County (Fort Motte) where he lived and died. His first wife was a Rosa Singleton. His second wife was Rebecca Anderson who my Great Grandmother. He had children by Mary Weeks which is where my Cousin David comes in as he is Joshua Jackson and Mary Weeks Great-Great Grandson. Trying to find out connection to this Jackson Family in and connected to Fairfield County.

**I: David Seabrook,** As Jackie mentioned, we also have ties to Fairfield through the Jackson family, and I also may have ties through my Seabrook line as well (possibly through a town called Blair). I have also been in touch with a relative from Angola, and they even hosted my nephew at their home in London during his recent studies there. I haven't been able to place them in our family tree yet though, beyond our connection on 23andMe. They tell of a family story of 2 sisters being separated by the Portuguese - one being shipped to the US and the other remaining enslaved in Angola. I'm interested in learning more about what you've found and where you've DNA tested.

**I: Jonathan Long,** thanks for getting back to me, and Jackie, thank you for making the connection. I'm currently located in Atlanta, although I'm originally from South Carolina. I'll have to take you all up on the invitation to come by in person the next time I'm in the area. Our family reunion will be held in Savannah, Georgia from June 26–28, 2026. I'm not sure yet whether



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I'm related to the Seabrooks. Most of the Colemans I know that I'm directly related to descend from a man named **Mitchell "Papa Mitchell" Coleman**. Many of that line lived around the **Weeping Mary Baptist Church area near Blair/Shelton in Fairfield County**. David, I'm on **23andMe and AncestryDNA** under my name **Jonathan Long**, so feel free to check your matches and see if I appear there. To help confirm our paternal history, we had a **direct male-line descendant of Papa Mitchell take a Y-chromosome test through African Ancestry**, which connected that line to the **Mbundu people of Angola**.

**I: Pelham Lyles**, Jonathan and David, I am Ccing this to Eddie Killian ([fairfieldgenealogy@truvista.net](mailto:fairfieldgenealogy@truvista.net)) as you should write or call (803-635-9811) him at the museum for assistance in looking up these families in our data. I am very familiar with Weeping Mary Baptist church as it is beside the old wagon road down to the Broad River where my ancestors settled in 1748 at Lyles Ford. Eddie's Lyles ancestor was the brother of my GGGGG grandfather and he is also descended from the Coleman's in the same area. I'll be looking forward to following your studies making connections in your family.

**A:** Here is a quick link to the FCGS Members Only web pages for our digitized collection for the [Coleman](#) families.

**I: Kaylee Carroll**, I am working on a project about the history of EMS across the state of SC. I am trying to pin down the date of when EMS (as we know it now with ambulances and not funeral homes as is common) in Fairfield county started. If you could help me find that date and a little information on who initially took over with the shift -dod they county, a hospital, fire departments?

**A:** Here is a quick link to digitized information for the Chamber of Commerce, Fire and Law Enforcement Services on our FCGS Members Only web pages: [List-or-Index-Information](#) and [Winnsboro](#).

**Q: Margaret H. Trahan**, I am looking for information on Thomas Means (b. 1791 in Union Co, SC). His parents were James Means and Margaret Mays who were both living in the 96th District during the American Revolution. I came across an AI mention of a document in your library titled **Means Info.pdf** that supposedly includes entries from the family Bible of Thomas Means. If so, this would be just what I am looking for. My search is trying to prove that Margaret Mays (1762-1835) was the wife of James Means (1758-1807), and mother to Thomas. So any other sources that could provide proof of that relationship would be greatly appreciated.

**A:** Here is a quick link to our digitized collection on our FCGS Members Only web pages for the [Mayer](#) and [Means](#) family. Click on documents for PDF files.

**Q: Lindsay Douglas**, I am interested in the Brice, Brown, Douglas, Douglass, Rogers and Simonton families in Fairfield County, South Carolina.

**A:** Here are the digitized family records in our collection for [Brice](#), [Brown](#), [Douglas](#), [Douglass](#), [Rogers](#) and [Simonton](#) families.

**Q: Terry Bagley Jr.**, I am the son of Terry Bagley Sr, who graduated from Fairfield High School, Class of 1970, in Winnsboro, SC. I am also interested in information about his twin brother, Jerry Bagley, Class of 1971. I am trying to locate the 1970 Fairfield High School yearbook (and any related materials) to learn more about my father and his family history. Since I live in Baltimore, MD, I am hoping you could advise me if the museum or library has a copy of this yearbook, or if it is possible to obtain scans or photos of pages featuring Terry and Jerry Bagley.

**I: Pelham Lyles**, Are you speaking of Fairfield High School or Winnsboro High School. I believe that Fairfield High School closed in the year 1970 due to integration and all students then attended Winnsboro HS, the consolidated school. Some years later, WHS became Fairfield Central HS to reflect it's county-wide population. Former graduates of Fairfield HS have renovated the old FHS buildings as a community facility and if we don't have those annuals, we should be able to contact some of the volunteers working with that project.

**I: Terry Bagley Jr.**, Yes Winnsboro High School since they had to close it down for renovation. I am just trying to find some school photos of my father. Unfortunately, his relatives don't have any and he passed away last year due to health complications. Anything will help at this point to retrieve something from the archives.



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**I:** I might be able to help you; what was your father's full name?

**I: Terry Bagley Jr.,** Terry Bagley date of birth 6/15/1952 he has twin name Jerry Bagley as well. Parents are Lindsey Bagley and Willie Mae Kelly. My father Terry Bagley is deceased he died last year.

**A:** Here is a quick link to the [Winnsboro High](#) annuals we have in our collection. Sadly, we do not have the yearbooks you are looking for at this time.

**Q: Libby Wallis Russell,** I am a descendant of Stephen Noland II through his son Shadrack. I found your long article on the family on your website. . I was wondering if you could tell me what publication it comes from. It appears to be the second chapter of a book or maybe a quarterly. I'm also curious if the first chapter was also about the Noland family. No author is given, I'd like to be able to properly cite this in my research records.

**A:** If you are writing about the Stephen Nolan I, II, and III documents. I hate to inform you but this information comes from our family files and can date back many years. We try to make sure articles donated to our family collections are now documented properly. I have not used this new software, but I hope ChatGPT can locate this article for you.

**I: Brad Maxwell,** I had a wonderful time talking with you all about the ancestry of Winnsboro and of course, about the Winn's. I have attached Volume One of my genealogy write up. I will attach volume two to a second email. -Brad Maxwell (mother's maiden name is "Winn" in relation to the founding William Winn of Fairfield county.)

**I:** Added the digitized family information to our FCGS Members Only web pages for [Maxwell](#) and [Winn](#) families.

**I: Nat Alston,** A Day That Stilled the World: April 4, 1968, and remains in my mind when I was a Student at Bowie College (now Bowie State University).

April 4, 1968, remains etched in the collective memory as a moment of profound rupture. When the news broke from Memphis that Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. had been assassinated, the atmosphere shifted instantly from the hopeful momentum of the Civil Rights Movement to a heavy, agonizing silence. That silence, however, was short-lived, as grief rapidly transformed into a righteous demand for action.

## The Spark at Bowie State College

At what was then Bowie State College, the tragedy felt intensely personal. As students, we were not merely observers of history; we were the very generation Dr. King had called upon to carry the mantle of leadership. The news did not just bring tears—it brought us together.

The student protest at Bowie State was a microcosm of the national heartbreak. We gathered, not just to mourn a man, but to defend a vision. By organizing and demonstrating on campus, we were asserting that the movement could not be buried with its leader. Our protest was an act of defiance against the idea that violence could silence the call for equality. It was a declaration that the "Bowie State" community stood as a bastion of black excellence and resilience in the face of systemic hostility.

## The Long Arc of the Movement

Looking back from the vantage point of today, it is clear that while the laws of the land have changed, the heart of the movement remains restless. The transition from Bowie State College to Bowie State University symbolizes the growth and elevation of our institutions, yet the "Full Equality" Dr. King spoke of remains a goal on the horizon rather than a completed task.

The movement today has evolved, yet it mirrors the challenges of 1968:

**Economic Equity:** The quest for cooperative economics and the growth of minority-owned businesses remains a critical front in the battle for true independence.



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**Institutional Leadership:** The work continues through strengthening professional organizations and mentoring the next generation of leaders.

**Community Healing:** The philosophy that "Love Is The Answer" remains the necessary counterweight to the division and systemic pressures that persist in the 21st century.

## A Legacy in Motion

Dr. King's assassination was intended to stop a movement, but it only served to decentralize it, placing the responsibility into the hands of every student who stood on the campus at Bowie and every leader who has emerged since.

We do not just look back at April 4th to remember a tragedy; we look back to remember the fire it lit within us. The protest at Bowie State was not the end of a chapter—it was an initiation into a lifetime of service.

The movement for full equality goes on because we refuse to let the dream be deferred. It lives on in our boardrooms, our classrooms, and our communities, proving that while a dreamer can be silenced, the dream is immortal.

**Q: Walter L Cullars,** Reading a internet pdf on John, I find much unrelated error. [Arnett/Documents/Arnett, John - Files.pdf](#) John was son of Major William Arnett with 100 acres on Cribbs Creek. I believe his father was born 1720's and had Capt. PETER Arnet 1749 Virginia. John and Peter are related to Lt. Wm. Arnett of Screven, and a David that died in the Battle of Savannah GA. David buried oldest cem. There. Peter had Jesse in 1796. Jesse had Jesse Thomas.. and I am from One of his sons children, Thomas L Arnett GA. I am related to the Gladney family of Fairfield and. CULLARS IN Lincoln Co. GA AND IN SOUTH CAROLINA. My tree is at Family Search, Under WL . My Arnet surname is from Forfar fife Perth. Pre-1700. Captain. Peter Arnet fought along with David Love.

**A:** I have added an addendum to this PDF file at the bottom of the web page. [Arant-Arnat-Arnaut-Arndt-Arnet-Arnett-Arnette Documents.](#)

**I: Walter L Cullars,** Four brothers. PETER JOHN WILLIAM DAVID. In research, another David of SC appears. Our David died Battle of Savannah. Our John is buried in Georgia. I believe William is buried Sylvania, GA. I am looking for a Peter Arnet in White, NC, or Anson County. The son, Jesse b. 1796 left Wadesboro, NC. Not to be confused with another Jesse from a Valentine Arnett. My Arnet are from a William that was in Virginia 1749, and had property before that. He was born 1721. These details, checked on by me, and came from Mary Francis Halman Arnett, Marianne A. Cullars, and Casey W. ARNETTE. I HAVE tracked back to Cribbs Creek. I have John's RS details, and I connected William, and Peter to John by Sylvania GA sources. I am near relative to Arnett in Lincoln Co. GA, as well, but, not direct relatives, and, by Cullars/Keller distantly to Helen Keller. <https://www.chbc-iky.org/arnettforest/arnettforest.htm>  
<https://www.gladneys.org/PDF/Descendants%20of%20Samuel%20Gladney.pdf>

**Q: Schuyler Thompson,**

South Carolina, U.S., Death Records, 1821-1972...

✓ Saved





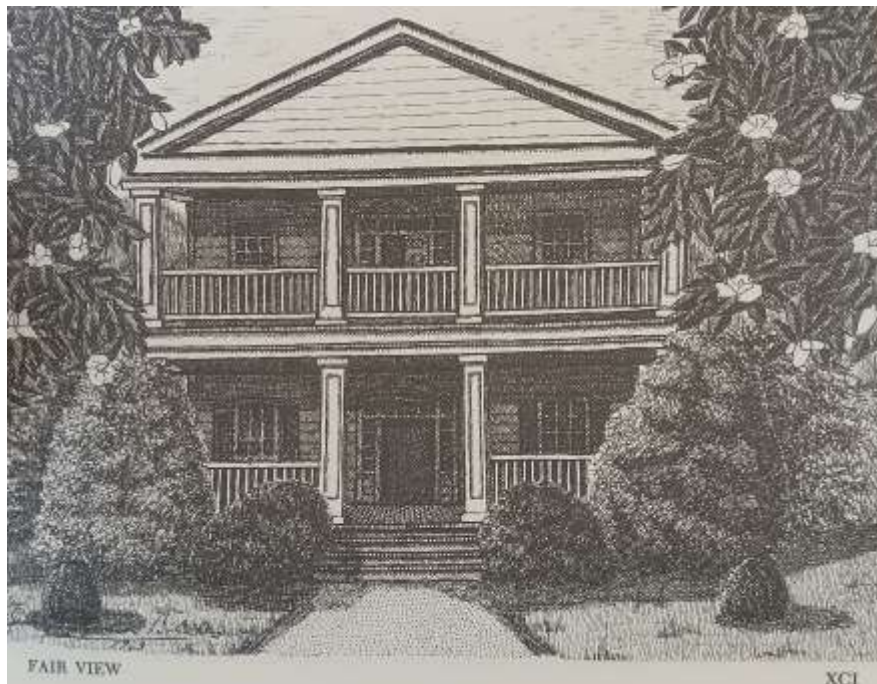
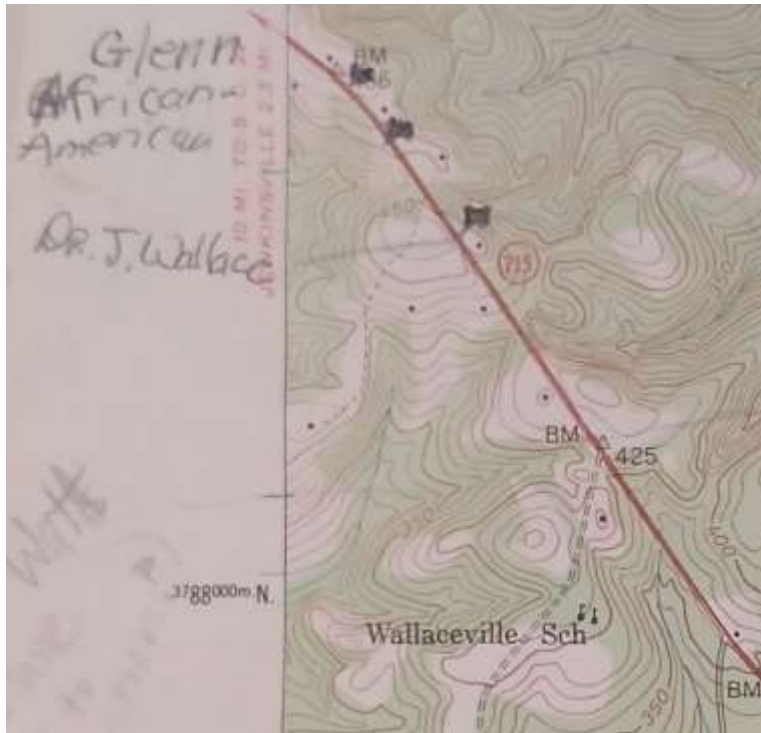
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A: (after our phone call) I have attached some information about the homes and the area around Wallaceville. We have not documented the Glenn African American graveyard on the topo map, but it is now on our list to do as soon as possible. Here is the quick link to the digitized family information on our FCGS Members Only web pages for [Thompson](#) families. As soon as we can get a sunny day (best for pictures), Jon and I will try to get pictures for the Glenn African-American Cemetery.





## FAIR VIEW

### THOMPSON – GLENN – McEACHERN – MARTIN

This lovely old columned country manor house was built by the Thompson family who held extensive grants of land in this area before the Revolutionary War. The house was built some time after 1800. In 1830 Doctor John Milton Glenn bought the property from the Thompsons.

Doctor Glenn and his talented wife were very gay and hospitable social minded people as well as being large slave holders and successful planters. Their home was almost constantly filled with guests and the place was one of the social centers of the Jenkinsville-Monticello community.

The Glens took great pride in their grounds and gardens which were immaculately kept. The formal boxwood plantings, in geometrical patterns, were on either side of the big front yard. Stately magnolias flanked the house and the semi-circular driveway leading up to the building which crowns a high rolling knoll.

Louise, the Glenn's only child, was twice married. Her second husband was Furman McEachern, a salesman who at one time (1909) served in the Legislature from Fairfield County. She deeded FAIR VIEW to him after they were married. After her death McEachern married Mary Chappell and gave her the plantation as a wedding gift. The widow McEachern did not live in the old house and it was rented for a number of years during which time the gardens were greatly abused. The boxwoods became overgrown and were cut down rather than being pruned and trimmed.

The present owner and occupant of the old home is the Reverend L. K. Martin, a retired Presbyterian minister from Georgia. He saw the old place, became attracted to it and purchased it from Mrs. McEachern during the 1930's.

During the Confederate War the house was set afire by the Northern troops and left to burn. After their departure the flames were extinguished and the grand old place was not destroyed. It still stands proudly on its high, green hill among the gaint magnolias.

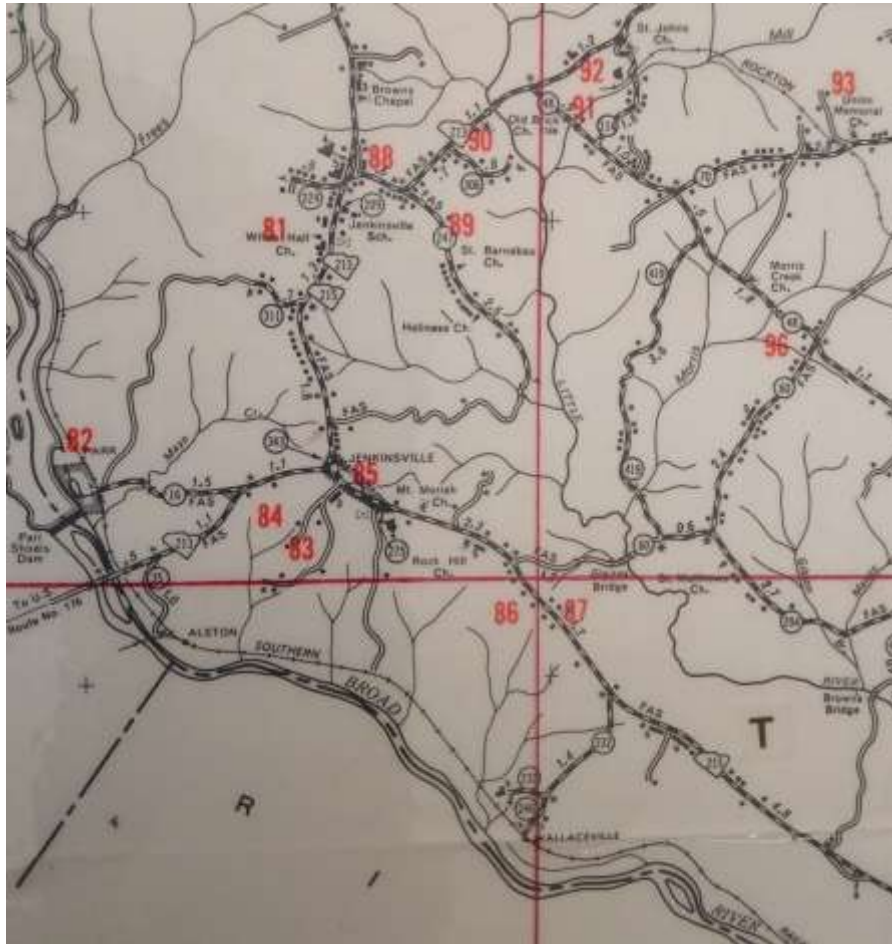


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HIGH POINT

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## HIGH POINT THOMPSON - GLENN - JETER

The HIGH POINT property goes to a land grant from the King of England, dated 1773. The grant was to William Thompson who was the builder of the present house in 1800.

HIGH POINT is the name that Thompson chose for his new home and plantation. It is very well named for the house stands on the highest point on the ridge between Columbia and Spartanburg, an elevation of some five hundred feet or more. The view from this site is majestic. High hills and valleys extend to the horizon on all sides, their vivid greens melting into various tints of purple against the clear blue sky and billowing white clouds.

The house is a typical plantation home of the period, a large, rectangular, two storied building. On one side is a mammoth chimney that is completely covered with English ivy, well-trimmed beds of which cover the ground on the front and sides. The house is unique in that it has large inside chimneys also. A wide porch extends across the front. It is supported by generous, square, panelled columns. There are two entrance doorways on the front. All of the windows are flanked with the original, hand-made louvred shutters. Giant magnolia trees provide a shady coolness for this friendly, homey old house, and when in bloom their fragrance permeates the air. A well-pruned crepe myrtle hedge screens the yard from the road.

Except for the handsomely carved oversized mantel the interior is simple but spacious. The drawing room is furnished with priceless family heirlooms, some of which were among the original furnishings of the house.

In 1845 Mrs. William Thompson deeded the place to her son-in-law, H. A. Glenn. The present owners are Miss Kitty Glenn and her sister, Mrs. E. Claude Jeter reside in the comfortable old home. They are descendants of the Thompson's and the Glens who have lived here for more than one and one-half centuries.

During the War Between the States this old house was visited by the invaders but its treasures were successfully hidden and saved. In the guest room ceiling is a trap-door, the only opening into the attic. The valuables were secreted here; and the tall, canopied, cedar-poster bed was placed under it and completely hid the opening. In their search for an entrance into the attic the plunderers smashed several of the closet doors and the walls in some of the rooms but to no success.

An interesting family cemetery, containing the grave of William Thompson, is near the house. It is well kept and is used by the descendants of this pioneer.

The old house is in excellent condition and is cherished and well cared for by its owners and members of their family, whose people have ranked among the first families of the county down through many generations.



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**Q: Warren Rutland,** Do you have a list of the veterans in Greenbrier Methodist Cemetery?

**A:** Attached is a list of veterans and potential veterans based on their age. I separated the known veterans and listed the potential veterans separately. One would have to do some research on the potential veterans unless they already know they are veterans. [AR/Rev. Soldiers Verified](#)

**Q: Rich Wentworth,** I'm researching my wife's tree on her father's side (she is Mary Katherine Smith). I've been able to trace her direct lineage back to Henry H. Smith (Birth 14 FEB 1816 • Barnwell Co., S.C., Death 1888 • Winnsboro, Fairfield, South Carolina, USA). He is her 3rd great-grandfather. I have documentation and solid sources all the way up to Henry H. Smith but cannot find any evidence that his parents were John Greggsby Smith Sr and Linna McDonald Stringfellow, as I see in your tree and others on ancestry.com. I see it on findagrave, but there is no documentation supporting it. I would love for it to be the case - they are illustrious figures in South Carolina history. Can you help me understand how I can support this conclusion of parentage?

**A:** Here is a quick link to our digitized family collection on our FCGS Members Only website for: [Smith or Symth](#) families.

**Q: Linda Toliver,** I'm trying to find out information on Maggie Hall Robinson parents. On Maggie's death certificate her Father was listed as John Hall and her Mother was Listed as Lula Brown. I found Maggie Hall on the 1910 Census report in the home of Cornelius Holmes and his wife Margaret 'Maggie' Gladden Holmes, she was listed as a niece, not sure if she was a niece of Cornelius or Maggie. On ancestry it wants to suggest that Lula Brown was the child of Cornelius and Maggie. I also saw where Cornelius did an interview and he stated that his daughter Lula never married and that she died young.

**A:** Here is a quick link to our digitized family collection on our FCGS Members Only website for: [Hall](#) families.

**Q: Frances Jolly,** Do you have a record of the cemetery between Broom Mill Rd and Syrup Mill Rd ? North side of Broom Mill? There was a Hendrix buried and I think Finley, Fenley.

**A:** Pine Grove is between those roads and has several Hendrix graves.

**I: Andrew H. Myers,** Below is a link to a new article about Fairfield County native Isaac Woodard that was published in the Winter 2026 issue of *Army History* magazine, which is produced by the U.S. Army Center of Military History in Washington, D.C. It links Woodard to a 1930s interview of his grandfather by the Federal Writers' Project, pinpoints the plantation where his ancestors were enslaved, and ties his family history to Sherman's March.

<https://history.army.mil/Publications/Army-History-Magazine/>

I appreciate the assistance rendered to me by folks in Winnsboro and wanted to make you aware of the article.

**I: Sanita Cousar,** calendar of genealogy presentations that are free to anyone. They are really good.

[Events | Charlotte Mecklenburg Library | BiblioCommons](#)

**I:** I have completed adding from our digitized family collection to our FCGS Members Only web pages for the [Hayne-Haynes](#) and [Walker](#) families

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Kate Penney Howard Genetic Genealogist & Speaker [www.katepenneyhoward.com](http://www.katepenneyhoward.com) [Upcoming Talks](#) [Presentation Topics](#)  
[katepenneyhoward@gmail.com](mailto:katepenneyhoward@gmail.com) - [talks-and-workshops](#)

*Genealogy Helper* is published monthly. Submissions, questions, and brick wall challenges welcome.

**Understand** by Kate Penney Howard

If you've spent any time with colonial American or English records, you've probably hit a date that stopped you cold: something like "15 February 1701/2" or a birth recorded in "March 1733" that seems to belong to a completely different year than the baptism following it six weeks later. This is one of genealogy's most persistently misunderstood problems, and March is a great time to clarify.

Before Britain adopted the Gregorian calendar in September 1752, the legal new year in England and its colonies began not on



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January 1 but on March 25. Why March 25? Well, that is "Lady Day" or the Feast of the Annunciation, which celebrates the date that Mary, the mother of Jesus, consented to the pregnancy, exactly 9 months before Christmas.

In the Old Style system, the days between January 1 and March 24 technically belonged to the previous year. A child born on March 10, 1701 (Old Style) was born in what we now call 1702. Clerks and record-keepers of the era knew this was confusing, which is why they developed the double-date notation, writing "1701/2" to acknowledge both the legal year and the historical year at the same time.

The consequences for genealogists are real and sometimes major. Calculating an ancestor's age from a birth record dated February 1700 without accounting for Old Style dating, you may be off by a full year in your timeline. That error can cause you to misidentify a person, miscalculate a marriage interval, or wrongly conclude that a birth was impossible given a death date. Siblings can appear in the wrong birth order. A parent can appear younger than a child. An ancestor can seem to have lived 103 years when they actually lived 102.

Here's a practical checklist for navigating this in your research:

Know your geography and timeline. The calendar change affected England and its colonies in 1752. Scotland had already adopted January 1 as the civil new year in 1600, though the Gregorian reform came at the same time as England. Catholic countries like France, Spain, Portugal and their colonies adopted the Gregorian calendar in 1582, so Irish Catholic records and French Canadian records follow different rules than English colonial records.

Watch for double dates. Record them exactly as written. Don't "correct" the date in your database without noting what the original said. The double date is information. It tells you the record-keeper was aware of the ambiguity.

Be especially careful with January, February, and early March. These are the months most likely to contain misdated or misunderstood records. An ancestor born "2 March 1699" in an English parish register was born in what we'd call 1700, unless the register already modernized the date, which some transcribers did without noting the conversion.

Convert carefully, not casually. The convention is to add one year to Old Style dates falling between January 1 and March 24. A birth of "10 February 1701" (O.S.) becomes February 10, 1702 (N.S.) in modern reckoning. Always note the original in your source citation.

March 25 was for centuries the hinge on which the year turned. Finding a record dated in those ambiguous winter months, remember that the person who wrote it may have been working in a world where spring, not January, marked the beginning of everything new. That context doesn't just resolve a dating puzzle. It opens a window into how our ancestors experienced time itself.

### **What DNA Uncovered That Family Lore Hid** by Kate Penney Howard

Every family has its stories. The Cherokee great-great-grandmother. The uncle who "died young." The grandfather who "came from good English stock, nothing more to tell." These stories aren't usually lies, exactly. They're something more complicated than that...they are curated truths. They are the version of the past that allowed a family to survive intact, emotionally and socially, in a specific time and place. And then DNA entered the room. For many genealogists, the DNA test was supposed to confirm what the family already knew. Instead, it raised questions the family had never asked. The ethnicity percentages didn't quite add up. A close match appeared who shared no name, no geography, no known connection. An expected second cousin was nowhere in the results, but a stranger from three states away shared enough centimorgans to be a half-sibling.

These moments can feel like a betrayal. It's worth sitting with why.

Family lore exists for reasons that are entirely human. Protective silence shields children from information judged too painful or too dangerous to carry: the out-of-wedlock birth, the problematic death, the ancestor who passed as another ethnicity or persona.

generations. What grandmother told mother and what mother told you went through two translations before it reached your ears, and each translator edited according to their own emotional priorities. Identity-building narratives exist because people need to know who they are and where they come from, and an incomplete or painful history doesn't always provide a livable answer. So families build one.



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The moment DNA complicates that story, genealogists experience a mix of emotions that don't often get acknowledged in the excitement of a big discovery. Yes, there's excitement. But there's also grief, for the story that no longer fits, for the ancestor who carried a secret, for the family that may not look the same on the other side of this discovery. There can be anger, especially when the secret involved someone who made choices that had consequences for people who never consented. And sometimes there is relief, quiet and real: finally, an explanation for the thing that never quite made sense. The reframe that matters most is this: family lore and DNA evidence aren't simply competing truth-claims, with one being right and one being wrong. Family lore is emotional truth. It tells you what a family needed to believe about itself. DNA evidence is biological truth. It tells you what actually happened in the bodies of the people who came before you. Both kinds of truth are real. Neither cancels the other.

And your family's "received truth" matters. Before you pick up the phone to tell a cousin about an NPE, ask yourself what you know, what you're inferring, and what you're still guessing. Ask yourself who else will be affected by this information and whether they've chosen to be part of this discovery process. Some questions can be pursued quietly for a long time before they need to be shared. Others land in someone's inbox before they've had a single moment to prepare. The concept of "Right to Know" is about the choices of recipient of the information...otherwise, we would say, "Right to Tell."

Compassion for ancestors who kept secrets isn't the same as excusing the secrets. It's the recognition that they lived in a specific historical moment with specific social consequences, and they made choices, sometimes terrible ones, sometimes heartbreaking ones, within the constraints of that moment.

DNA doesn't erase your family story, it gives it more pages. The story that emerges may be harder. It is almost certainly truer. And it belongs to you, all of it, including the parts that were hidden.

What did your DNA reveal that the story didn't?

## **What Surprised You Most About Your Ancestors?** *by Kate Penney Howard*

We think we know what kind of people our ancestors were. Farmers. Immigrants. Hard workers. Simple folk. Ordinary people living ordinary lives in ordinary places.

Genealogy's greatest gift, and its most persistent disruption, is the discovery that ordinary people are rarely ordinary at all. The surprises come in almost every shape. There's the quiet great-great-grandmother who turns out to have been widowed at 23, raised four children alone through a depression, and then reinvented herself in a different state under a slightly different name. There's the pious churchgoing grandfather who appears in a county court record for a land dispute that was, on closer reading, almost certainly a front for something considerably shadier. There's the ancestor you assumed was from a certain ethnicity who appears in a record identifying them as a member of a religious minority, or a speaker of a language you didn't know was in your family, or a resident of a country you'd never connected to your lineage.

We underestimate our ancestors for understandable reasons. Family memory tends to flatten people over generations. The complex person becomes a brief paragraph, then a single trait, then a name on a chart. Selective storytelling means the stories most likely to survive are the ones that cast the family in a favorable light. And we often lack historical context, so we see an ancestor's choices without understanding the forces shaping them. A man who moved four times in six years looks restless and unreliable rather than what he may actually have been: a tenant farmer chasing work through an agricultural collapse.

The research moment of genuine surprise has a texture genealogists recognize immediately. It's the record that makes you stop, re-read, and then sit back in your chair. The 1880 census that lists an occupation you didn't expect. The pension file that describes a military experience you never knew your ancestor had. The newspaper item found through a digitized archive at two in the morning, putting a name you know in a situation that re-contextualizes everything...

What happens after that surprise is where genealogy becomes something more than data collection. Surprise opens the door to empathy. The ancestor who did something troubling, seen in historical context, becomes comprehensible without necessarily becoming excusable. The ancestor who did something courageous, understood against the backdrop of the constraints they navigated, becomes genuinely heroic rather than simply legendary. You stop seeing them as a type and start seeing them as a person, someone who had a bad year, made a complicated choice, loved someone they shouldn't have, or survived something that should have broken them.



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The genealogists who find the richest stories are the ones who learn to ask better questions than the census provides. What was happening in this county in the year my ancestor arrived? What did this occupation actually mean, day to day? What was the social cost of the choice this person made? What were they afraid of?

Ask those questions, and the ordinary people in your tree will start to show you who they actually were.

What discovery made you see an ancestor differently?

The Ancestor You Feel Most Connected To

by Kate Penney Howard - [katepenneyhoward.com](http://katepenneyhoward.com) - [katepenneyhoward@gmail.com](mailto:katepenneyhoward@gmail.com) Ask any experienced genealogist to name the ancestor they feel closest to, and notice what happens. They don't hesitate the way you might expect. They don't flip through a mental Rolodex. They know immediately, sometimes before they've finished hearing the question.

It's almost never the most famous ancestor in the tree. It's rarely the one with the most dramatic documented history. Often it's someone three or four generations back who left relatively few records, who lived a quiet life in a small place, and who would be astonished to know that a descendant is thinking about them at all.

Connection in genealogy is emotional, not genealogical. It doesn't follow the rules of proximity. A direct-line ancestor six generations back can feel more present than a great-grandparent you actually knew as a child.

The reasons genealogists feel drawn to particular ancestors are worth examining. Shared personality traits are one of the most commonly reported: the researcher who recognizes their own stubbornness in an ancestor's repeated refusal to leave a failing farm, or their own restlessness in a great-great-grandmother who moved six times before forty. Parallel life struggles create a different kind of resonance, the ancestor who also lost a child young, who also rebuilt after a catastrophic loss, who also navigated an institution that didn't want them there. Sometimes the connection is vocational: the minister drawn to an ancestor who was a circuit rider, the nurse who keeps finding healers in the family tree.

And sometimes the connection defies rational explanation entirely. Genealogists describe research nudges, the inexplicable pull toward a particular line or record set that leads to a major discovery. They

describe emotional reactions to photographs of ancestors who've been dead for a century: recognition, grief, the uncanny sense of looking at something familiar. Whatever you make of these experiences theologically or psychologically, they're nearly universal among people who do this work long enough.

The important caution here is the difference between connection and romanticization. Feeling connected to an ancestor isn't the same as deciding they were noble or good or uncomplicated. The ancestor you love most in your tree may have held beliefs you find repugnant, made choices that hurt people, or participated in historical systems you're rightly troubled by. Connection can coexist with moral complexity. It has to, to be honest.

One of the most valuable exercises in genealogy is writing a letter to the ancestor you feel most connected to. Not a summary. Not a timeline. A letter, addressed directly, in second person. What do you want them to know? What do you want to ask? What have you found that you think they'd want to understand? The act of writing it clarifies the relationship you've built across time and distance, which is, when you think about it, one of the stranger and more remarkable things human beings do.

Who do you feel walking beside you in your research?

## **The Mystery That Still Keeps You Up at Night** by *Kate Penney Howard*

You know the one. You've probably tried not to think about it for a week at a time, and failed. It lives in a tab you never quite close, a folder on your desktop labeled something like "Unresolved, Johann" or "WHERE IS SHE AFTER 1847."

Every serious genealogist has at least one mystery that refuses to yield.

The reasons some questions persist are genuinely structural. Records were lost to fire, to flood, to the casual institutional neglect of archives that nobody thought mattered yet. People changed their names deliberately, sometimes out of necessity and sometimes out of the simple desire to become someone new in a new place. Migration created gaps: the ancestor who appears fully formed in an 1870 census with no visible trail from the country they almost certainly left. Social stigma and deliberate secrecy produced records that were never created in the first place, or that were created and then quietly destroyed. And DNA, for all its power, has its own complexity. A mystery that should be solvable through matches sometimes stays frustratingly dark because the key relatives haven't tested, or tested elsewhere, or died before the technology existed.



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The emotional experience of a persistent mystery isn't simple. Frustration is the most obvious layer, but underneath it genealogists often report something closer to obsession, the inability to fully put a question down, the way it resurfaces at odd moments, the persistent sense that the answer is there somewhere... There is also, for some mysteries, a dimension of grief: the ancestor who can't be found is in some sense lost twice, once to death and once to the silence of the archive. What experienced researchers have learned to do with mysteries is worth considering. The first discipline is reframing: "unsolved" isn't a permanent verdict, it's a current status. Records are being digitized continuously. Full-text searching is revolutionizing our research. DNA databases grow every month. A question that had no viable path forward in 2015 may be entirely approachable today. Periodic research resets, intentional intervals where you set a problem aside and return to it with fresh eyes and updated tools, aren't giving up. They're strategy.

Documentation of negative searches is unglamorous but useful. Recording what you've already searched, where, and when saves you from repeating unproductive efforts and creates a research map that someone else can pick up without starting from zero. Community collaboration is another underused resource. The genealogist who has stared at the same brick wall for years sometimes needs fresh eyes from someone who has never seen the problem before.

Methodologically, cluster and Elizabeth Shown Mills' FAN principle (Family, Associates, Neighbors) research is often the path through a wall that direct-line research can't penetrate. The mystery ancestor surrounded by silence may be surrounded by other people who left records. DNA isolation techniques, systematically identifying which portions of your DNA come from which lines, can narrow the search space for biological mysteries. And re-examining assumptions is always worth doing. The "fact" about your ancestor that you've treated as established for twenty years may be inference or convention that was never actually documented.

The most honest thing that can be said about a persistent genealogical mystery is this: you're allowed to rest without abandoning it. Resting isn't surrender. The question will still be there when you return to it. So will you. What mystery still whispers your name?

## **What Will Happen to Your Research When You're Gone** *by Kate Penney Howard*

Somewhere in a box, or more likely scattered across multiple boxes, a desktop folder, a flash drive of uncertain vintage, and a genealogy software file that only runs on Windows 95, is the accumulated work of years of your life. Names, dates, sources, photographs, DNA comparisons, handwritten notes from a courthouse trip in 2009 that you keep meaning to type up. Decades of questions asked and partially answered.

What happens to all of it when you're gone?

Most genealogists don't want to think about this. Those who have inherited a box of unlabeled photographs from a relative who died before explaining anything understand exactly why the question matters. That box, sitting on a shelf because you don't know who any of the people in it are and can't bear to throw them away, is a cautionary tale. It's a life's worth of connection that became inaccessible because no one built a bridge between the knowledge and the next generation. The family disinterest problem is real, and genealogists sometimes have complicated feelings about it. You've spent years recovering stories, and your children change the subject. Your nieces are vaguely interested but not interested enough to learn the software. This is, in the long view, normal. Genealogical passion frequently skips generations, which means the cousin who will care deeply about this research may not have been born yet. Your job isn't to create interest where it doesn't exist. Your job is to make sure the research is accessible when the interest arrives.

Reframing genealogy as inheritance rather than hobby changes what feels urgent about legacy planning. This research isn't a personal project that happens to involve other people's relatives. It's a gift to people who will want it, some of whom you'll never meet. It's also historical preservation in a literal sense: the sources you've compiled, the photographs you've digitized, the oral histories you recorded, the DNA you've managed. These are primary sources for future researchers working on questions no one has thought to ask yet.

Practical legacy planning doesn't require perfection. It requires accessibility. Naming a genealogy heir, someone who knows the research exists and has been given basic orientation to it, matters more than finishing every project. Creating a research summary document, even a rough one, that explains your major lines, your naming conventions, your file organization, and your outstanding questions gives a successor a fighting chance. Digital backup strategy matters too: files stored only on a



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local hard drive can be lost in a house fire, a flood, a hard drive failure. Cloud storage, external drives kept offsite, and copies shared with trusted family members create redundancy that preserves the work.

DNA account management is a specific and often overlooked piece of legacy planning. Who will have access to your DNA accounts when you die? Who will be able to respond to the matches you've accumulated, download your raw data, or make decisions about kits you manage for other family members? This information needs to be documented and entrusted to someone who'll handle it responsibly.

The emotional barriers to doing this work are real. Perfectionism tells you to wait until the research is finished, but the research is never finished, and waiting is a choice with consequences. Fear of irrelevance whispers that no one will actually want this. They will. Difficulty letting go is perhaps the most honest barrier: legacy planning requires acknowledging that this work will one day continue without you, which means sitting with your own mortality in a fairly direct way.

Start small. Label ten photographs this week. Write one ancestor story, one page, one person, one life. Create a document called "If I die, here's what you need to know about my genealogy research." Share your login credentials with someone you trust.

Legacy isn't completeness. It's accessibility. The gift you give the next generation isn't a finished tree. It's a door left open, with a note that says: come in, we've been waiting for you.

What part of your research do you most want remembered?

## **RootsTech 2026: Ten Things That Made My Jaw Drop** By Kate Penney Howard

RootsTech 2026 wrapped up on March 7. The theme was "Together," but the unofficial theme was clearly artificial intelligence. AI crashed the party at every forum, every expo booth, and most of the talks. Here are the ten announcements and moments that had people excited.

### **1. FamilyTreeDNA Rewrote the Rules on Autosomal Testing**

FamilyTreeDNA launched new Family Finder tests that analyze over 400 times the genetic data of their previous version -- roughly 9% of your genome compared to just 0.02% before. The best news? Upcoming Family Finder Discover reports will be available to all Family Finder test takers, whether they tested recently or years ago.

### **2. GEDmatch is Getting a Complete Overhaul**

GEDmatch has been the scrappy workhorse of the genetic genealogy world for years. The company previewed a major redesign planned for later in 2026, incorporating AI-powered tools to help users interpret DNA matches and make organizing, filtering, tagging, and analyzing notes far easier. This has been a long time coming.

### **3. FamilySearch Released Its AI Tools from the Lab**

For months, genealogists have been testing FamilySearch AI features in beta. At RootsTech, the AI Research Assistant and AI Hints officially came out of Labs and are now available to all users. Full-Text Search also graduated from Labs, and users can now attach search results directly to the family tree.

### **4. FamilySearch Is Testing Natural Language Search**

If you have ever wished you could just talk to a database like a person, this one is for you. Simple Search, currently in Labs, is being tested to allow users to search records using natural language. Ask it a question the way you would ask a librarian. See what it tells you!

### **5. All Revolutionary War Pension Files Are Now Fully Searchable**

Ancestry announced that its Fold3 collection of Revolutionary War pension files are now fully searchable thanks to optical character recognition. Researchers can now search for veterans and their next of kin by name, rather than relying on a limited index. For those of us working on pre-1800 American genealogy, this is a genuine breakthrough. They also announced new AI features, including a record and document transcription tool where AI transcribes, summarizes, and provides source citations for documents and photos uploaded to your Gallery.

### **6. Ancestry Introduced "AI Stories" -- And It's Exactly What It Sounds Like**



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A new tool called AI Stories narrates a brief story about a document in a shareable, podcast-style audio file. The possibilities here for people who struggle to write about their ancestors are significant. It could be a meaningful bridge for beginners. It raises questions about voice and accuracy that researchers will need to monitor carefully, but the concept is compelling.

## 7. LifeWeaver Crashed the Party as a Platinum Sponsor

No one saw this one coming. Newcomer LifeWeaver made a significant splash as platinum sponsor of RootsTech 2026. The tool archives and searches through text messages, emails and other digital communication files to create a story from those pieces. LifeWeaver also allows users to add older phones, computers, hard drives, and scanned handwritten journals, digitizing their contents while preserving images of the originals so they can be shared with family. And critically, users' data is private. The company does not sell data or use it to train AI models.

## 8. MyHeritage Unveiled Scribe AI

MyHeritage announced Scribe AI at the RootsTech Innovation Forum, demonstrating how the feature analyzes historical documents and photos to uncover genealogical insights. The tool provides record suggestions, photo descriptions, and transcriptions. The MyHeritage team also announced Country Coding, a feature that helps sort and organize international records and visualize your ancestors by country.

## 9. Ancestry Preserve Wants to Digitize Your Shoeboxes

The new Ancestry Preserve service, heavily featured in the Expo Hall, aims to help customers preserve and digitize their old media, including photographs, slides, film tapes, and more. For genealogists who have inherited closets full of analog memories, this fills a real need. The long-term implications for family history are significant. Your grandmother's slides deserve better than a dark box in a garage.

## 10. Marlee Matlin and Tara Roberts Reminded Us What This Is All For

The technology announcements were remarkable. But these two keynotes stopped the room. Marlee Matlin, Academy Award-winning actress, shared her inspiring journey of overcoming obstacles and connecting personal triumphs to family history. As a deaf actor, she did not utter a word, but her facial expressions, animated signing, and story had audiences listening with their eyes and hearts. Tara Roberts, National Geographic explorer, shared her extraordinary work documenting slave ship wrecks and reconnecting descendants with their ancestral past.

RootsTech 2026 made one thing clear. The technology is accelerating faster than most of us can keep up. The challenge for our community is to stay human in the middle of all of it. The records are the beginning. The stories are the point. \*\*\*

## It's Cemetery Season! By Kate Penney Howard

It's spring! The ground has thawed. The grass is low before it grows tall. The light is good. And you can read stones you might have missed last summer in tall grass and weeds.

Here are some tips to get a better look at stones.

Bring:

Garden shears (to trim weekends)

Garbage bag (to remove trash & landscaping debris)

Camera

Bright Flashlight and/or mirror (to shine light on the stone from an angle)

Spray bottle (wetting stone can help you read it)

Water

Soft Toothbrush (to gently remove dirt)

Aluminum foil (to take a rubbing)

Makeup Brushes

Toothpicks

A nylon pan scraper (to be used very gently and sparingly)



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Notebook & pencil/pen

Insect spray

Leave home:

Soap, chemicals, shaving cream, pressure washers, stiff brushes, wire scrapers, flour, cornstarch, chalk, and charcoal.

Be prepared. Know your cemetery and the amenities available. Stop for a bathroom break before you get there. Eat and be well-hydrated before you go. Have a first aid kit in the car and a cell phone with you. You may want to print maps if you are going to a remote location or if a grave is hard to find in a large cemetery.

Photography first. Try different angles, times of day, and bouncing or shining light onto the carving at an angle before anything else.

Plain water. Spray or dab it on and photograph both wet and partially dry. Often works, causes no damage.

Gentle cleaning if needed. Soft brush, water only, light touch. No scrubbing, no chemicals, no metal tools. Leave lichen alone or you may chip the stone.

What NOT to use. Shaving cream (acidic), flour or cornstarch (feeds lichen growth), chalk or charcoal (stains permanently).

These are old methods still circulating, and all of them cause damage.

What you might want to try: Aluminum foil impression.

This is easier with four hands, so take a friend with you!

I'm generally looking for a bargain, but I can say that you want to choose Reynolds Heavy Duty Wide Width over Dollar Tree foil.

Hold a sheet of foil against the carved surface, and use a soft brush to gently work the foil into the carving, then photograph at multiple angles. Requires less pressure than traditional rubbings, but the result is fragile and hard to preserve. Check cemetery rules first, and never use on flaking or deteriorating stones. Slate stones are especially fragile and should be avoided entirely.

Once you have made the form, you can take it home and pour plaster of paris carefully on the back side, making a copy of the stone (or details from the stone) which you can paint and display. If you cast it in resin, you could even put it outside.

Do not go empty-handed. Bring a notebook, your phone or camera, and a bottle of water. Bring tools suggested above, as well as bug spray, medication, and a first-aid kit. Remember that shortcuts, chemicals, and metal tools can damage limestone and soft marble. The stone you ruin today is someone's ancestor, and it has been there for a century or more.

Walk the whole cemetery. Get a feel for the layout. Family plots often cluster. Children's graves appear near mothers who died young. Unmarked fieldstones may sit beside formal markers. Every arrangement tells you something.

Foot stones are small markers placed at the foot of the grave, often bearing just initials. They help you identify the full length of the burial plot. Head stones and foot stones together tell you body orientation, which sometimes has religious significance.

Ledger stones are flat slabs covering the entire grave surface, common in 18th and early 19th century churchyards. They often hold the most detailed inscriptions but are frequently cracked or sunken.

Cenotaphs look like gravestones, but there is no body buried there. They memorialize someone buried elsewhere, lost at sea, or whose remains were never recovered. And of course, you may have a husband's grave carved with his spouse's cenotaph because she has not died yet.

Pay attention to dates. A cluster of deaths in one month often signals epidemic, accident, or war. Three children dying between June and August of the same year? You may be looking at a cholera summer. Two brothers dying within weeks of each other in 1918? Likely the Spanish Influenza. A whole family dying on the same day? Perhaps a house fire.

Photograph both the front and back of every relevant stone. Many markers have additional information on the reverse side, and some have been engraved by multiple hands across many years.

Check the Find A Grave and BillionGraves databases before you go. Your cemetery may already be indexed, and you may find photographs of stones that no longer exist. Or you may find gaps that you can fill.

Good headstone photographs don't just document the dead. They help the living understand who came before, and where.

**APRIL 1 IS NOT JUST FOR FOOLING AROUND** By Kate Penney Howard



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Most genealogists know that the U.S. Federal Census has an official enumeration date. Fewer remember that for much of American history, that date falls in April.

The 1880, 1900, 1910, and 1920 censuses all used June 1 as the official date. But the 1850, 1860, and 1870 censuses used June 1 as well. The 1930 census moved to April 1. And the 1940 census used April 1 also.

Why does this matter? Because the census recorded household composition as of the official date, not as of the day the enumerator actually knocked on the door. A baby born on April 2, 1930 does not appear in the 1930 census. A man who died on March 30, 1930 should not appear, either, though enumerators sometimes got this wrong.

April 1 is also significant because spring was a time of change. Farmhands hired for the planting season were just arriving. College students may have been home for the holiday and counted with their parents rather than their schools. Migrant workers were on the move.

When you cannot find someone in the census, think about where they would have been on April 1 of the census year. Not where they lived generally, but where they were that specific week. A traveling salesman, a river boatman, a hired man between jobs, could all end up in unexpected counties.

## **SPRING CLEAN YOUR RESEARCH FILES** By Kate Penney Howard

April is the traditional season for cleaning. And if your genealogy files look anything like mine have looked in years past, they need it.

Start with your source citations. Open ten files at random and check whether each one has a complete citation attached. Not a URL. Not "found on Ancestry." A proper citation that tells you what record type, what repository, what collection, and what the document says. If you cannot find your source in six months without hunting, the source is not doing its job.

Next, look at your working notes. Many researchers, myself included, write notes to themselves that made perfect sense in the moment and are completely opaque two years later. "Check John's brother" means nothing if you cannot remember which John or which brother. Add context. Write dates. Write the question you were trying to answer, not just the thing you found.

Duplicate files are the enemy. If you have saved the same census image four times in four different folders, you have not organized your research. You have buried it. Pick one folder system and commit to it.

Back up everything. I say this every year because every year someone loses research they cannot replace. An external hard drive is good. Cloud storage is good. Both is better. If your research only lives in one place, it is at risk.

Finally, take an hour to write up what you know about one family line. Just one. A short narrative summary. The act of writing forces you to see the gaps and the unsupported assumptions. Those are the places where your spring research will begin.

Clean files are not just tidy. They are research ready.

## **Cherokee Legend: The First Fire** By Cherokee Nation citizen, Aimee Rose-Haynes [AimeeRoseHaynes.com](http://AimeeRoseHaynes.com)

Long ago, before people had fire to warm their homes or cook their food, the world was cold and dark at night. Frost crept across the ground. Winds cut through fur and feathers alike. The animals shivered and gathered together, wishing for warmth. High above the earth lived the Thunder Beings. When lightning struck a hollow sycamore tree on a faraway island, a great fire sprang to life inside its trunk. Smoke rose into the sky. The animals saw the glow across the water and knew that if they could reach it, their suffering would end.

They called a council.

One by one, the animals offered to retrieve the fire.

Raven was the first to try. He flew across the water and landed on the burning tree. The heat was fierce. Smoke curled around him and flames licked at his feathers. He managed to look inside the hollow trunk, but the fire drove him back. When he returned, his once light feathers had been scorched black.

Next the owls went. The screech owl and the larger horned owl flew bravely toward the island. They peered into the burning tree, but smoke stung their eyes and left them red and rimmed with white. They too returned without fire.



The black snake volunteered and swam through the water. He slipped into the hollow trunk through a small opening, thinking he could carry a coal in his mouth. But the smoke was too thick, the flames too strong. He slithered back, darkened by soot and heat.

Many tried. All failed.

At last, when the strong and swift had exhausted their courage, a small voice spoke. It was Water Spider.

She was tiny and quiet. No one expected much from her. But she said she had an idea.

Water Spider spun a small bowl from her silk and fastened it to her back. Then she stepped lightly across the surface of the water, as only she could do. She reached the island without wings or great strength. Carefully, she crept to the hollow sycamore and placed a glowing coal into her woven bowl. Shielding it from wind and flame, she carried it safely back across the water.

When she returned, the animals gathered close. The coal was placed upon dry wood, and soon a warm fire crackled beneath the open sky.

From that day forward, fire belonged to the people and the animals of the earth.

And Water Spider still carries her little bowl upon her back.

**The Meaning Within the Flame**

Like many Cherokee stories, this legend explains more than one thing at once. It offers reasons for why Raven is black, why owls' eyes look the way they do, and why Water Spider carries a rounded shape on her back. But beneath those natural explanations lies something deeper.

Strength and speed did not win the fire. Pride did not win it either.

The gift of warmth came through patience, creativity, and quiet determination.

The story reminds us that power is not always loud. Wisdom does not always stand the tallest. Sometimes the one who changes everything is the smallest voice in the circle.

The animals worked together, and even in failure they left their marks on the world. Fire, in this telling, is not simply a tool. It is a sacred gift, earned through courage and cooperation.

The First Fire teaches that survival depends on community, humility, and respect for every member of that community.

Even the smallest one may carry the spark that changes the world.

### **The Oglesby Family of Cloverport: Frontier Beginnings and a Civil War Legacy** By Aimee Rose-Haynes

The story of the Oglesby family in Cloverport stretches across county lines, state lines, and national conflict. It begins in Somerset County, Maryland, where Rosey Ann Coston was born in September 1805. When she was still young her family moved to Kentucky where land was more plentiful and frontier towns were growing along the Ohio River. On 13 April 1826 she married Joseph Blakey Oglesby, born in April 1786 in Virginia and the son of Joseph Oglesby and Ann Haden (Blakey) Oglesby. Together Joseph and Rosie settled in Breckinridge County where they raised a large family and became rooted in Cloverport's early community life.

Their children included Nancy Blakey, Eliza Houston, David Murray, George Herbert, William, Joseph, Joseph B, Sarah Ann, Edward B, and Catherine L. Like many nineteenth century families the Oglesbys endured the death of several young children while others lived to adulthood and went on to shape the small river town through marriage, land ownership, business, and social ties.

Joseph died on 13 August 1854 and Rosie lived until 06 August 1878. Her obituary described her as one of the oldest and most respectable citizens of Breckinridge County and noted that her death cast a gloom over Cloverport. She was remembered for her charity, generosity, and strong sense of character. Joseph and Rosie are buried together in the Oglesby Cemetery in Cloverport, a quiet family burial ground that overlooks the countryside they helped settle.

### **A Son Goes to War**

The Civil War brought enormous change to the lives of Kentucky families. For David Murray Oglesby, born 12 August 1830, the conflict would define his adulthood. Before the war he worked as a farmer, a common occupation among Cloverport residents who relied on a blend of river trade and agricultural production.



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In the fall of 1861 David enlisted in the 3rd Kentucky Volunteer Cavalry (Union), Company E. His records show two enlistment notations common for cavalry units: one on 6 November 1861 at Calhoun, Kentucky and another on 13 December 1861 when the regiment was mustered at large for federal service. His cavalry descriptive roll offers details rarely preserved for county men including blue eyes, dark hair, fair complexion, and Cloverport as his birthplace.

By March 1863 David had risen to First Lieutenant, a commissioned officer role he held until the end of the war in July 1865. He served for the United States, was never a prisoner of war, and did not suffer a battlefield wound.

## **The 3rd Kentucky Cavalry in the Western Theater**

The 3rd Kentucky Cavalry operated in the Western Theater, a region of the war that received less national attention than Gettysburg and Antietam but was strategically essential. The regiment participated in operations across Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Alabama, including:

- Defense of Kentucky river towns and supply routes
- Operations along the Green River and Cumberland River corridors
- Nashville campaigns and movements in Middle Tennessee
- Pursuit operations during the final collapse of Confederate positions
- Post-surrender enforcement and stabilization roles

Cavalry units like the 3rd Kentucky were often tasked with scouting, raiding, escorting, courier service, and rapid troop movement between threatened positions. Service in these units placed men on horseback for long stretches and demanded endurance more than traditional line infantry combat.

## **Coming Home Again**

After the war David returned to Cloverport. Unlike many cavalymen he brought home his war-horse, a black mount that had carried him through the discomforts and perils of the war. A charming article in the Breckenridge News in 1880 reported the horse's death after a hunting party near Rough Creek and the Brown's Creek Ford in Grayson County. The editor wrote fondly of the animal and noted the attachment between man and mount. Few Civil War stories from Breckinridge County preserve such a personal and emotional detail.

In 1892 David filed for an invalid pension and on 26 July 1893 he died after a long illness. His obituary praised him as a respected man who made himself happy by making others happy. His siblings and heirs later appear in county deed books negotiating land and interests involving the Cloverport Oil and Coal Company and other legal settlements. These records show the Oglesbys were not only settlers and soldiers but also landholders who navigated Cloverport's growth into the industrial era.

## **The Family That Stayed**

The Oglesbys remain an important part of Breckinridge County's early story. Their migration from Maryland and Virginia into Kentucky, their participation in local community life, their Union service during a divided period of state history, and their small family cemetery nestled near Cloverport all speak to continuity and rootedness. Like many nineteenth century Kentucky families their story is preserved not in monuments but in gravestones, land deeds, pension files, and newspaper columns that captured the humor, sorrow, and resilience of everyday life.

### **David Oglesby**

## **Union Depot and Union Station: How Louisville Connected Small Town Kentucky to the World**

By Aimee Rose-Haynes

For more than a century, Louisville served as a vital gateway for Kentucky's smaller towns. Through Union Depot and later Union Station, residents of rural communities gained access to education, commerce, medical care, and family connections that would otherwise have been difficult or impossible. These stations were not simply buildings. They were lifelines.



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Towns such as Guston, Irvington, Ekron, Brandenburg, Long Branch, Rock Haven, Webster, Lodiburg, West Point, and many others relied on Louisville as the next major stop on their journey. Rail travel made it possible to move from small towns to the city and onward to the rest of the country.

### **Louisville's Role as a Railroad Crossroads**

Louisville's location along the Ohio River made it a natural transportation hub long before railroads arrived. When rail lines expanded across Kentucky and the Midwest in the nineteenth century, Louisville became a critical meeting point for river traffic and rail travel. Multiple railroad companies converged on the city, most notably the Louisville and Nashville Railroad, which grew into one of the most influential rail systems in the South.

As rail traffic increased, so did the need for centralized passenger facilities that could serve travelers arriving from many different directions.

### **Union Depot: The First Gateway**

Union Depot was Louisville's earliest shared passenger terminal. It brought together multiple rail lines into a single location, making travel far more manageable for people coming in from rural Kentucky. For someone leaving a small town station, Union Depot was where routes connected, tickets were transferred, and the city opened up.

Union Depot played a key role during the rapid expansion of rail travel in the late nineteenth century. However, as passenger numbers grew and expectations changed, the depot quickly became outdated. It was eventually replaced, and unlike its successor, Union Depot was demolished and no longer stands today.

### **Union Station: A Grand Arrival That Still Stands**

Union Station opened in 1891 as Louisville's new and permanent rail gateway. Built in the Romanesque Revival style, it was designed to reflect the city's importance and prosperity. With its towering clock tower, vaulted interior spaces, and expansive waiting rooms, Union Station offered travelers a sense of arrival and significance.

For residents of smaller towns, Union Station was often their first experience of a large city. Stepping off the train meant access to hospitals, colleges, businesses, river ports, and government offices. It also meant the ability to continue traveling to Cincinnati, Chicago, St. Louis, and beyond.

Unlike many historic train stations across the country, Louisville's Union Station was not torn down. Although passenger rail service declined and eventually ended in the 1970s, the building survived. It was later restored and repurposed, and today it serves as the headquarters for the Transit Authority of River City. Its preservation makes it one of Louisville's most important surviving transportation landmarks.

### **Connecting Small Towns to Education and Family**

Rail travel through Louisville made education more accessible for rural families. Students could travel to Louisville for schooling or transfer to other cities with relative ease. Families used the trains to visit relatives, attend weddings and funerals, and maintain relationships across county lines.

For many small-town residents, Union Station represented opportunity. It was the place where young people left home for the first time and where loved ones returned after long absences.

### **Trade, Commerce, and Survival**

The railroad was essential to small-town economies. Farmers shipped crops and livestock to Louisville markets. Merchants received goods that could not be produced locally. Factories and warehouses depended on reliable rail connections to move products efficiently.

Without Union Depot and Union Station, many of these towns would have remained isolated. Louisville's rail terminals allowed rural Kentucky to participate in regional and national commerce.



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## Daily Life and Movement

Union Station was a place of constant motion. Soldiers passed through during wartime. Workers commuted. Porters, ticket agents, and railroad employees kept the system running day and night. Segregation shaped the experience for many travelers, with separate waiting areas reflecting the realities of the era, yet the station remained a shared crossroads where countless lives briefly intersected.

## A Lasting Legacy

Today, trains no longer arrive at Union Station carrying passengers from Kentucky's small towns, but the impact of that era remains. Union Depot may be gone, but Union Station still stands as a reminder of how connected Kentucky once was. For towns like Guston, Brandenburg, Ekron, and so many others, Louisville's train stations were essential bridges to the wider world. They shaped education, family life, commerce, and opportunity, and they helped define how generations of Kentuckians moved through their lives.

Remembering Union Depot and Union Station is remembering how a connection built communities.

This graphic is basically a railroad "hub and spokes" map showing how Louisville sat at the center of a web of transportation routes. The circle in the middle is Louisville, and each line shooting outward represents a different railroad line or direction of travel connecting Louisville to surrounding regions. It is a simple way to show that people and freight could come into the city from many directions, transfer, and then head back out again, which is exactly why Louisville was often promoted as a gateway city.

Both stations side by side, Map from 1929, 1929 list of stops with the towns

**(Paid Researcher List on Following Pages That May Be Able to Assist You in Resolving Your Brick Walls)**

### **SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY**

8301 Parklane Road, Columbia, SC 29223

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The following persons have indicated their willingness to undertake research for a fee. The SC Dept. of Archives and History or staff is unable to recommend the service of anyone appearing on this list. If you wish to engage the services of an individual on this list, please correspond directly with them, as this department can neither make the necessary arrangements for obtaining their services nor be responsible for their research.

Bloom, Debbie, MLIS, Dead Librarian, LLC, Columbia, SC. [Dbloom803@gmail.com](mailto:Dbloom803@gmail.com). Historical 19th and 20th century research at SCDHAH, UofSC Caroliniana Library, NARA, and Richland Public Library. Website: [thedeadlibrarian.com](http://thedeadlibrarian.com)

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Bundrick, Glenda (Mrs. Donald), Rt. 4, Box 254, Newberry, SC 29108. (803) 276-8209. Newberry Co. Courthouse records.

Cabell-Barker, Angela, P.O. Box 762, Hardeesville, SC, 29927. (954) 501-8696, [AKCBarker@yahoo.com](mailto:AKCBarker@yahoo.com) African-American, Southern States, Adoptions, Slave Research.

Carson, Betty J., 366 Sease Hill Rd., Lexington, SC 29073. (803) 359-7408. SC research.

Carver, Larry, 1216 Roundtree Circle, Rock Hill, SC, 29732. (803) 230-2082. Genealogical research in North Carolina.

Davis, Nancie, PO Box 4436, W. Columbia, SC 29171. SC Archives, South Caroliniana Library and NC Charlotte-Mecklenburg Co. Library. Include S.A.S.E.

Derrick, Carroll K., PO Box 157, Church St., Little Mtn., SC 29075. (803) 345-9843. Dutch Fork area genealogy (Lexington, Newberry, and Richland counties.)

Dinkins, Margaret Browning, 506 Haynesworth St., Sumter, SC 29150-4010. (803) 773-1708. Old Sumter District, and Kershaw, Sumter, Lee, Clarendon counties. SC repositories.



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Gilmore, Janis Walker, JWG Genealogical Research Services, 11000 Ocean Highway, Pawleys Island, SC, 29585. (843) 237-396, [Janice.gilmore@gmail.com](mailto:Janice.gilmore@gmail.com) . Website: <http://JanisGilmore.com> .

Gravitt, Christine H., 1400 Whipporwill Drive, West Columbia, SC 29169. (803) 957-6490, [cgusc@msn.com](mailto:cgusc@msn.com) . Genealogical research in Forsyth County Ga. and Lexington County, SC.

Hibernian Research, PO Box 3097, Dublin 6, Ireland. Fax 011-353-973011. Telephone 011-353-1-966522 (24 hours), Ireland.

Hill, Seldon B., P.O. Box 595, McClellanville, SC 29458. Historical and genealogical research specializing in Low-country plantations and families.

Holcomb, Brent H., PO Box 21766, Columbia, SC 29211. SC repositories. (803) 772-6919. Immigrant Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 7369, Burbank, CA, 91510-7369. Write for list of special German researchers. Immigrants and those in Germany \$2.00 to \$10.00 per search.

Irons, Pat, 820 Sapphire Dr., Layton, UT 84041. SC genealogical research. (801) 547-0944.

Jenkins, Josh, (443)280-9785, [services@ancestorstalker.com](mailto:services@ancestorstalker.com) , <http://www.ancestorstalker.com>, <http://facebook.com/ancestorstalker> . Genealogical research in South Carolina, DNA projects, Native American heritage, Civil War and other military research, and National Archives.

Johnson, Vernell B., PO Box 3696, Columbia, SC 29230. (803) 786-0579. South Carolina and North Carolina genealogical research, specializing in Barnwell, Edgefield, Allendale, and Orangeburg counties.

Kizer, Dixie, 306 Chatter's Rd., Irmo, SC 29063.

Langdon, Barbara R., PO Box 12682, Columbia, SC 29211. (803) 643-8564. SC repositories.

Legacy Tree Genealogists, (803) 783-1277, [info@legacytrees.com](mailto:info@legacytrees.com) , <http://legacytrees.com> . We are the highest client-rated research company in the world and the official research partner of MyHeritage.com. Core team members have a family history or genetics-related university degree, professional accreditation, and/or ten plus years of research experience.

Leighton, Calvin, Nottingham Ancestral Services, 22, Lexington Gardens, Sherwood, Nottingham England, NG5 3FE. Tel/Fax 0044(0)115 9939089. [Email@currantbun.com](mailto:Email@currantbun.com) <mailto:Nivlac@currantbun.com> Research in English counties of Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, and Leicestershire. Our prices are of reasonable rates at 5 sterling per hour. We are able to undertake either full family searches or just find a lost member of the family, We offer a full service from Census returns to probate wills. We only cover the counties of Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Leicestershire in England.

McDill, Edwin B., 14 Saratoga St., Sumter, SC 29150. SC repositories. Middleton, Reverend John A., J.A. Middleton & Associates, 604 Bitternut Lane, Columbia, SC 29209.

(803) 776-7772, [jamnda50@hotmail.com](mailto:jamnda50@hotmail.com) . Genealogical and historical research.

Milliken, Helen, 5225 Clemson Road, Apt. 107, Columbia, SC 29206. (803) 782-5119, [helley0814@gmail.com](mailto:helley0814@gmail.com) . Historical research

Milus, Kevin D., 2812 MattyIn Court, Raleigh, NC, 27613. (919) 815-4360, [kmilus@aol.com](mailto:kmilus@aol.com) . South Carolina research, Civil War records, Residential and Building history. Can do research at SCDH, SC Historical Society, Museum of the Confederacy, and National Archives. 25 years experience.

Moore, Vennie Deas, 1613 Grays Inn Road, Columbia, SC 29210. [deasmoore@aol.com](mailto:deasmoore@aol.com) , (803) 777-7251 SC repositories; African-American genealogy and Lowcountry plantations.

Murray, J. Walker, 102 Stonybrook Dr., Greenville, SC 29615. Genealogical research.



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Peters, Nancy A., Certified Genealogist, 111 Wax Myrtle Court, Aiken, SC 29803. (803) 642-6496, [npeters@bellsouth.net](mailto:npeters@bellsouth.net) . Board certified genealogist, specializing in SC research and repositories.

Petty, James W., PO Box 893, Salt Lake City, Ut 84110. (800) 570-4049, [jim@heirlines.com](mailto:jim@heirlines.com). Specialize in Military genealogy, research and documentation for Lineage Organizations, and Colonial American research (with an emphasis on tracing immigrant origins)

Powell, Jill Hunter, 1908 Hubbell Drive, Mt. Pleasant, SC, 29466. (843) 442-1486. DAR, UDC, SAR, and SCV research.

Prioleau, Dameon, P.O. Box 12621, Charleston, SC, 29422. (843) 814-7654, [dprioleau61@hotmail.com](mailto:dprioleau61@hotmail.com).

Rabon, Alton, 44 Moonglo Circle, Columbia, SC, 29223. (803) 788-4652, [alrabon@hotmail.com](mailto:alrabon@hotmail.com). Research all SC counties, specializing in Horry County. Will photograph cemetery stones.

Reid, Richard, PO Box 959, Orangeburg, SC 29116. (803) 531-1002. African American genealogy and historical research in SC repositories.

Richardson, Katherine H., Heritage Preservation Assoc., 26 Harby Ave., Sumter, SC, 29150. Historical research, preservation, editing, and SC history.

Robert, Karen A. G., 4850 Freedom Blvd., Aptos, CA, 95003. (831) 768-0212, [Kbob1941@sprynet.com](mailto:Kbob1941@sprynet.com). Specialize in Southern Research.

Russ, Lee, 400 N. Emerald Rd., Apt. H5, Greenwood, SC, 29646. (864) 227-3648, [Genealogyhistorianinc@yahoo.com](mailto:Genealogyhistorianinc@yahoo.com).

Sellwood, Robert, 6 Nunfield, Chipperfield, King's Langley, Herts, England. Manuscript collections in Great Britain and military history.

Schuster, Ellen, P.O. Box 862, Rock Hill, SC, 29731. (803) 328-5648. Historical & genealogical research in NC & SC.

Stanley, Nathan, 239 Wesley Grove Road, Columbia, SC 29039. (803) 536-4423.

Staton, Andrew, Staton Research, 2209 Spindle Circle, Simpsonville, SC, 29681. (864) 561-7178, [amstaton@gmail.com](mailto:amstaton@gmail.com) , [www.statonresearch.com](http://www.statonresearch.com) . Upstate South Carolina genealogy, local history, and historic preservation.

Stroller, James L., Route 3, Box 263A, Bamberg, SC 29003. SC and Georgia.

Taylor, John, Taylor & hammel LLC, 1240 North Pitt St., Suite 200, Alexandria, VA, 22314. (704) 822-4658, [johntaylor@taylorhammel.com](mailto:johntaylor@taylorhammel.com) , [www.taylorhammel.com](http://www.taylorhammel.com).

Thomas, Cathy, P.O. Box 2841, Sumter, SC, 29151. [Cathyethomas1963@yahoo.com](mailto:Cathyethomas1963@yahoo.com) . Professional researcher with 26 years experience, specializing in creating family trees, genealogical research, census, cemeteries, and military.

Thompson, Marc D., Professional Genealogist, 708 Enfield Road, Delray, Beach, FL, 33444. (561) 676-6179, [marc@familyhistorygenealogist.com](mailto:marc@familyhistorygenealogist.com) , [www.familyhistorygenealogist.com](http://www.familyhistorygenealogist.com) .

Timeless Impressions, 143 Stoneridge Dr., Apt. I-2, Columbia, SC 29210. (803) 790-1507. Confederate and old Ninety-Six District.

Weatherbee, Floyd W., Jr., 700 Joryne Dr., Montgomery, Al. 36109. Alabama and the South.

Williams, Gary, Esquire. (864) 984-0061, [gwilliamsatty@gmail.com](mailto:gwilliamsatty@gmail.com) . African-American and Native American historical research specializing in Laurens County.

Yuhas, Sherrie, 15 Palmyra Bellegrove Road, Annville, Pa. 17003. [work-work-work@msn.com](mailto:work-work-work@msn.com) . Central Pennsylvania research for the following counties: Berks, Dauphin, Lancaster, Lebanon, and Schuylkill. Will research any/all available census, land, church, military, cemetery or other available records. Available to research in the Pennsylvania State Library and Archives, or the Counties listed above. Include SASE along with a description of your request in Email.





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If you do not see your name or if the surnames for you need to be revised, please contact us so we can update our records. Also, please let us know if you would like to correspond with one of our members.

## FAIRFIELD COUNTY GENEALOGY SOCIETY (13<sup>th</sup> year) LIFE-TIME MEMBERS (58)

|              |                  |          |  |
|--------------|------------------|----------|--|
| Aiken, III   | Warwick          |          | Aiken, Martin, Reid, Kerr, Gayle   |
| Alston       | Lloyd            |          | Alston   |
| Baird        | Paula            |          | Hamiter, Turnipseed, Alston, McKinstry, Wafer, Mabry   |
| Blackwell    | Gloria           | D.       | Marion Douglass, Johns, Nix  |
| Callaway     | Nancy            | Buchanan | Buchanan, Callaway   |
| Coleman      | Susan            |          | Coleman, Buchanan, McGraw, Yongue, Meador/Meadow, Moberly                                    |
| Cousar       | Sanita           | Savage   | Feaster, Chisholm, Moore, Alexander, Shelton, Coleman  |
| Davis        | Jonathan "Jon"   | E.       | Boyd, Brown, King, McDill, McGraw, Powell, Roberts, Starnes                                  |
| Delleney, Jr | Francis G. Greg) |          | Delleney, Nelson, Woodward, Widener, Beam  |
| Dix          | Scott            | M.       | Cathcart and associated names  |
| Elliott      | Karen            |          | McCarley, Black, McKee, Elliott, Phillips  |
| Ellison      | Mark             |          | Ellison  |
| Ellison III  | Samuel           | Dubose   | Ellison, Gaillard, Woodward, Lyles, Dubose   |
| Foreman      | Liz              |          | McMeekin Owen, Ragsdale, Stanton   |
| Gibson       | James            |          | Gibson   |
| Geibner      | Green            |          | Geibner  |
| Hamilton     | Holly            |          | Broom, Broome, McKeanon  |
| Haywood      | Frances          | Owens    | Boyce, Brown, Cranford, Dillard, Duncan, Epps, Owens, Prather, Quiller, Raiford, Ray, Turner |
| Hesler       | Julia            | Palmer   | Macon, Vann, Turner, Woodward  |
| Hopper       | William (Bill)   | D.       | Mobley, Mayben/Maybin  |
| Hornsby      | Benjamin         | F.       | Hornsby  |
| Hunter       | John             | M.       | Hunter   |
| Hunter       | William "Bill"   | C.       | Hunter   |
| Justice      | Danny            |          | Justice, McElveen  |
| Justice      | Madelyn          | Butts    | Rion   |
| Kennedy      | Burley "Burl"    |          | Crawford   |
| Killian      | Robert           | E.       | Killian, Taylor, Lyles, Mobley, Mabry, Fox, Mathis, Coleman,                                 |



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|              |                |           |   |
|--------------|----------------|-----------|---|
|              |                |           | Poole, Chapman, Roe, Rainey, Bartee, Davis, McJunkin, Gregory, Koon, Bedenbaugh, Terry  |
| Kirkland     | Thomas         | Jefferson | Kirkland, Alston, Black, Cook   |
| Lowry, III   | John           | W.        | Lowry   |
| Lyles        | James "Bubba"  |           | Lyles, Woodward   |
| Lyles        | Pelham         |           | Lyles, Woodward   |
| Mallory      | Lauren         |           | DuBard, Ruff, Elkin, Pearson, Raiford, Weston, Kinsler, Stohler, Gredig, Rebsamen, Turnipseed, Voight   |
| McCormac     | Mary           | C.        | McMaster. Elliott, Gooding, Rice, Buchanan, Fleming, Ferguson, Carlisle, Boatright, Killock?  |
| McCreight    | James          | Lee       | McCreight, McKinney, Bran, Bryant   |
| McKinstry    | Jimmy          | Leroy     | McKinstry   |
| McMaster     | Kitt           | R.        | McMaster  |
| Means, Jr    | Robert         | T.        | Means   |
| Merz         | Martha         | Hartin    | Hartin, Merz  |
| Moore        | Alva           |           | Macfie, Rice, Stevenson, Gladney, Sims, Brice   |
| Morgan       | Kenya          |           | Barber, Boulware, Gladden, Gladney, McCullough, Weir, Young   |
| Peabody      | Donna          |           | Raines, Broome, Hood, Neely   |
| Pope         | Natalie        |           | Pope  |
| Pulver       | Chris          |           | McKemie (McKinney), McDaniel  |
| Rawlins      | Suzanna        |           | Boyd, Reeves  |
| Shelton      | Kenneth        |           | Shelton   |
| Sung         | Carolyn        | Hoover    | Ford, Gibson, Gladden, Wylie  |
| Sutton       | Richard        |           | Ellison, Adger, Neal, Sutton  |
| Thompson     | John           |           | Thompson  |
| Turbyfill    | Sue            |           | Turbyfill   |
| Turner       | Mary Catherine |           | Turner  |
| Ulmer        | Larry          |           | Ulmer   |
| Vinnacombe   | Mary           |           | Ladd, Hentz, Cromer, Owings, Lemmon, Lauderdale, Bundrick, Closson, Cooper, Corbitt, Bundrick, Crosson, Cooper, Corbtt, Halfacre, Hoover, Lake, Sligh, Wicker |
| Williams     | Carmen         |           | Williams  |
| Wilson       | Gene           |           | Wilson  |
| Withers, Jr. | John           | S.        | Coleman, Neil, Withers  |
| Ziervogel    | Gene           |           | Douglas, Hicklin  |

Karen Elliott Lifetime Membership in Honor and Memory of **Margaret Ann Black Elliott (1834-1907).**

Mark Ellison Lifetime Membership in Honor and Memory of **Capt. Robert Ellison, Am. Revolutionary War Patriot.**

Holly Hamilton - Lifetime Membership in Honor and Memory of **John Broom, American Revolutionary War Patriot.**

Bill & John Hunter - Lifetime Memberships in Honor and Memory of **George Ross Hunter.**

Madelyn Butts Justice - Lifetime Membership in Honor and Memory of **Col. James Henry Rion.**

Robert "Eddie" E. Killian, Jr. - Lifetime Membership in Honor and Memory of **SC Militia Brig. General Edward Taylor.**

Thomas Jefferson Kirkland - Lifetime Membership in Honor and Memory of **Dr. Joseph Kirkland.**

Lauren Mallory - Lifetime Membership in Honor and Memory of **Annie Williams DuBard.**



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Jim and Char McCreight - Lifetime Membership in Honor of Historic McCreight House in Winnsboro, SC.

Kitt McMaster Lifetime Membership in Honor and Memory of Nelle McMaster Sprott.

Chris Pulver Lifetime Membership in Honor and Memory of McKemie Family.

Richard Sutton Lifetime Membership in Honor and Memory of Capt. Robert Ellison, Am. Revolutionary War Patriot.

**This list may not be all inclusive.** If your name is **NOT** on the following list of **2026 members**, please check with us. You may need to **renew** your membership or we may need to update or correct our records. Remember the membership year runs from January 1<sup>st</sup> until December 31<sup>st</sup>. We mark any membership payments on or after October 1<sup>st</sup> to be for the following year of membership. On February 1<sup>st</sup>, or few days later, the Members Only password will be changed. If you do not receive an email with the new password, please let us know.

### 2026 BENEFACTOR MEMBERS

|          |        |  |   |
|----------|--------|--|---|
| Williams | Roxana |  | Willard, Plyer, Wright, Roe, Rowe, Lucas, Harbry, Newman, Rogers Prickett, Ferguson |
|----------|--------|--|---|

John Swearingen Benefactor Membership in Memory of his wife Becky Swearingen.

### 2026 PATRON MEMBERS

|         |         |  |  |
|---------|---------|--|--|
| Foreman | Marsha  |  | Watts                                      |
| McCain  | Charles |  | Scots-Irish who migrated through this area |
| Todd    | David   |  | Todd, Spratt                               |

### 2026 FAMILY (or Mailed Newsletter) MEMBERS

|            |                  |    |  |
|------------|------------------|----|--|
| Cagle      | Patricia         |    | Cagle  |
| Ellison    | Samuel           | D. | Ellison, Gaillard, Lyles, Woodward   |
| Haynes, II | William J.       |    | Edmund, Haynes   |
| Hobby      | Gwen             |    | Sexton   |
| Nixon      | Jane             |    | Nixon, Waiters, McClammi   |
| Peyton     | Leola            |    | Proctor, Steele  |
| Rosborough | E. Marie         |    | Rosborough   |
| Sims       | Danielle         |    | Perry, Wilson, Levy, Bailey, Kelly   |
| Smythe     | George           |    | Ellison  |
| Turner     | Jesse "Mac"      |    | Beam, Blakley, Boyd, Carter, Earle, Etters, Halsell, Hartin, Jagers, Mobley, Posey, Rieves, Sealy, Irvin, Lindler, Lipscomb, , Pruiett, Turner |
| Wall       | William "Bill"   |    | Glenn, McMeekin, Watt, McConnell, Montgomery, Brooks, Mason, Wallace, Tidwell, Andrews, Gibson, Chappell                                       |
| Woodward   | Joel             |    | Woodward   |
| Zeno Jr.   | Mike & Mary Jane |    | Zeno   |

### 2026 INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

|           |       |     |   |
|-----------|-------|-----|---|
| Alsobrook | Lana  |     | Hill, Hosch, Moberly  |
| Balock    | Mary  | Ann | Chappell, Edwards, Glazier, Holley, Kincaid, McMorries, Rabb, Watts |
| Brown     | Jenna |     | Dickey, Montgomery, Yongue  |



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|            |             |          |   |
|------------|-------------|----------|---|
| Burgess    | Roslyn      |          | Boone, Etheredge, Peach, Simmons  |
| Byce       | Lucy        |          | Boone, Gladney, Peach, Weldon   |
| Byce       | John        |          | Boone, Gladney, Peach, Weldon   |
| Clark      | Mimi        |          | Clarke, Woodward, Taylor  |
| Cole       | Curtis      |          | Davis, Gradick, Mason, Wirick, Wyrick   |
| Cousar     | Elijah      |          | Cousar  |
| Evans      | Arthur      |          | Evans, Shiloh Church & School   |
| Franklin   | Todd        |          | Franklin  |
| Frazier    | Linda       | S.       | Sellers, Meeks, Frazier, Hayes  |
| Freeman    | James       |          | Daniel, Hope, Walker  |
| Gladden    | Theodore    |          | Gladden, Gladney  |
| Godsey     | Glenda      |          | Muse, Mathews, McMorries, Augustine, Woodward   |
| Gregory    | John        |          | Hollis, Smith   |
| Green III  | James       | Walker   | Broom, Powell, Banks, Marjoriganks, Robinson, Coleman, Roe, Mathis, Cameron, Ragsdale (all from Fairfield), Killian, Cherry, Hyatt, Culp, Horn, Cline (all from Chester County) |
| Hodges     | Richard     | B.       | Hodges  |
| Hoy        | Nancy       | S.       | Hoy, McAllilley, Scott  |
| Hutchinson | William     |          | Hutchinson  |
| James      | Edwina      |          | Brown, Thomas   |
| Jeffcoat   | Otis        | Allen    | Crosby, Mobley  |
| Jenkins    | Scott       |          | Kirkpatrick   |
| Kinard     | Glenna      | B.       | Martin, Lewis, Feaster, Coleman, Harrison, Fetner, Cobb   |
| Laird      | Donnie      | Laird    | Blackmon, Gleaton, Laird  |
| Laird      | Pam         | Reese    | Kennedy, Reese  |
| Luffman    | Betty Carol |          | Luffman   |
| Maechtle   | Greydon     |          | Maechtle  |
| Matthews   | Gregory     |          | Matthews  |
| McGraw     | James       |          | Candon, Hollins, McGraw   |
| Myers      | Bonnie      |          | Myers   |
| Olgardt    | Elena       | Robinson | Cornwell, Gibson, Mann, Sloan   |
| Roberts    | William     |          | Roberts, Clark  |
| Rosser     | David       |          | Brown, McMaster, Ruff   |
| Sexton     | Sarah       | T.       | Minton, Sexton, Timms   |
| Solomon    | Alphonso    |          | Solomon   |
| Wentworth  | Richard     |          | Smith   |
| Wilson     | Robert      |          | Wilson  |

### 2026 SUBSCRIPTIONS

|         |              |        |  |
|---------|--------------|--------|--|
| Library | Allen County | Public |  |
|---------|--------------|--------|--|



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**\*\*\*\* NEW MEMBERSHIP OR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL \*\*\*\***

Please note that if you choose to receive newsletters by USPS vs. email, that the rate is \$25.00/year. Your dues and gift donations are tax deductible public charity contributions.



If viewing online, [click here](#), to pay dues and make donations online.

For Information [Fairfield County Genealogy Society Federal Employer Identification Number: 47-2246425](#)

Public Charity Status: 170(b) (1) (A) (vi) Contribution Deductible: Yes



For our records, please attach to the application your pedigree chart and share any information you have updated on your family lines. The information will be filed and made available in our family files. These will aide future requests for research and assist walk-in researchers.

Our membership year runs from January 1<sup>st</sup>, current year, until December 31<sup>st</sup>, current year, i.e., calendar year. New members (after November 15<sup>th</sup>, of current year) will have membership until December 31<sup>st</sup>, the following year. If dues have not been paid by January 31<sup>st</sup>, current year, you will no longer receive membership benefits. We are a 501-C3 non-profit organization. All donations will be acknowledged and will be tax deductible. If you would like to give your support monetarily in helping us meet our mission, There, are several ways: Send a check to FCGS, PO Box 93, Winnsboro, SC 29180-0093; or donate online by way of our [Square Online Store](#). Some other areas of support are contributions to the Resource & Research Library Collection: Any Family Information, Family Books or Scrapbooks.

**We appreciate your support!**

We would like to welcome you and share with you some of the benefits of being a member.

They include the following with no extra charges:

- Queries published in the newsletters.
- 10% discount on books and published materials.
- In-library access to Ancestry, Black Ancestry, Family Tree, Fold 3, Genealogy Bank, and other organizations.
- Contact with people who share our interests in genealogy and history.
- Members Only Website information.
- Support for your society activities and projects.
- Members, their children (including guardians of) & grandchildren are eligible for FCGS Scholarship Award.
- Many others not listed.

Your dues and gift donations are tax deductible public charity contributions.



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## 2026 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION NEW ( ) / RENEWAL ( )

*NEW MEMBER: Please fill out membership information below / RENEWAL: Please make any updates below:*

HIS/HER NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ (NAME + SURNAME(S) Published in Newsletter)  
 OK to Give for Inquiries ↓  
 ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ Yes / No  
 CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ Yes / No  
 STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ Yes / No  
 PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ Yes / No  
 HIS/HER EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ Yes / No

## MEMBERSHIP DUES AND DESIGNATIONS

INDIVIDUAL ( ) \$20.00 Color Newsletter Emailed only  
 INDIVIDUAL+USPS ( ) \$25.00 Color Newsletter Emailed ( ) B/W Newsletter mailed USPS ( ) Both ( )  
 FAMILY ( ) \$25.00 Color Newsletter Emailed ( ) B/W Newsletter mailed USPS ( ) Both ( )  
 PATRON ( ) \$50.00 Color Newsletter Emailed ( ) B/W Newsletter mailed USPS ( ) Both ( )  
 BENEFACTOR ( ) \$100.00 Color Newsletter Emailed ( ) B/W Newsletter mailed USPS ( ) Both ( )  
 LIFE-TIME ( ) \$300.00 Color Newsletter Emailed ( ) B/W Newsletter mailed USPS ( ) Both ( )  
 SUBSCRIPTION ( ) \$15.00 Organizations or Libraries (Color Newsletter Emailed only)  
 SCHOLARSHIP ( ) \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Toward Annual FCGS College/Tech School Scholarship Award  
 DONATION ( ) \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Society is a 501-3© and all donations qualify as charitable gifts.  
 TOTAL CONTRIBUTION \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Thank you for your membership and support for your society!

**PATRON / BENEFACTOR / LIFETIME** (MEMORIAL/HONORARIUM/PROJECT/SCHOLARSHIP ANCESTOR DESIGNATION)  
 ( ) MEMORIAL ( ) HONORARIUM ( ) PROJECT ( ) SCHOLARSHIP:

## SURNAMES OR SURNAMES YOU ARE PLANNING TO RESEARCH AND/OR QUERY

Type of Research Interested: African American ( ) Native American ( ) European American ( ) Other ( )

SURNAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_

QUERY: \_\_\_\_\_

If viewing online, [click here](#), to pay dues and donations, online.

Mail Application and/or Check to:

FCGS or Fairfield County Genealogy Society

P.O. Box 93, Winnsboro, SC 29180-0093

For our records, please attach to the application your pedigree chart and share any information you have updated on your family lines. The information will be filed and made available in our family files. These will aide future requests for research and assist walk-in researchers. Website:  
[www.fairfieldgenealogysociety.org](http://www.fairfieldgenealogysociety.org)