



JACKSON COUNTY CHRONICLES

VOLUME 15, NUMBER 1

JANUARY 2003

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JACKSON COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION WILL MEET SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 2:00 P.M., BRIDGEPORT DEPOT MUSEUM, BRIDGEPORT, ALABAMA. Program Vice President Donna Haislip and museum curator Glenn Hill are pleased to have the opportunity to introduce you to the museum's distinctive collection. Through the exhibitions, viewers will experience the unique people and culture of this intriguing region of Jackson County and North Alabama.

Annual dues are now due in the amount of \$10.00. Please mail your check payable to JCHA Treasurer, P. O. Box 1494, Scottsboro, AL 35768-1494. PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR 9-DIGIT ZIP CODE. Kudos to the members who have already paid their 2003 dues. Paid 2003 will appear on all mailing labels when 2003 dues are paid.

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Scottsboro, AL 35768-3745
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PLEASE INCLUDE 9 DIGIT ZIP CODE with your membership renewal. IF YOUR ADDRESS CHANGES, please notify the JCHA to assure continuity in mailings.

ANNUAL DUES: \$10.00 (due Jan 1)
LIFE MEMBERSHIP: \$100.00
Please mail your check to:
JCHA TREASURER
P. O. Box 1494
Scottsboro, AL 35768



LOCAL AUTHOR & JCHA MEMBER TO HAVE NEW BOOK PUBLISHED

A scholar interviewed several Jackson County heroes who came of age during the first quarter of the 20th century. He recognized the social and cultural elements which formed a common thread in Jackson County's history and heritage. He is Dr. Ronald H. Dykes, a gifted interviewer, whose last book, "*James O. Haley: Lawyer, Judge, Teacher, Advocate*", received excellent reviews.

The new book can be summarized as follows:

"Growing up in the early twentieth century was hard in the Appalachian foothills of Jackson County, Alabama. For this book, Dr. Ronald H. Dykes did in-depth interviews with a number of Jackson Countians in their late eighties and nineties, and they describe in vivid detail their daily lives at home and in the community during the early part of the last century. From these memories, the reader gains an understanding of what life was like in a time and place that no longer exist. Dykes shows that these remarkable senior citizens not only survived - they prevailed and readily adapted to the momentous changes that occurred during their lengthy lifetimes."

The book is being published jointly by author Dykes and the JCHA. The JCHA looks forward to an autograph party after Dr. Dykes discusses his book and its writing at the April 2003 meeting of the Jackson County Historical Association which will be in the new meeting room of the recently remodeled Scottsboro Public Library.

The price and how to order will be announced in the April edition of THE CHRONICLES. Questions about this publication may be directed to its author at rhdykes@hiwaay.net

FILMING OF LOOSE RECORDS - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The Alabama Department of Archives and History seeks volunteers to help with the microfilming of the loose records presently housed in metal boxes in the basement of the Jackson County Court House. For more information and to volunteer, please call Donna Halslip (who works for Probate Judge Floyd Hambrick) at 574-9292. The Archives staff will train the volunteers. It is very important that these records be preserved before any more damage or loss occurs.

PATTY WOODALL is researching and documenting the Cherokee reserves who received 640-acre reservations in Jackson County and North Alabama under the Cherokee Treaties of 1817 and 1819. She plans to publish the results of her research once all the reservations are documented. In 2002 she graciously consented for one chapter to be published by the JCHA in the quarterly editions of THE CHRONICLES. This edition records the story of the Arthur Burns family and their reservation which was located near Sauta Cave. For more information about her ongoing research and impending publication, the reader may contact Ms. Woodall at: pattywoo@bellsouth.net p. 2

2003 PAID MEMBERSHIP DUES

Allen County Public Library	W. D. Hill TX	Raymond Shirley TN
Mayor Ron Bailey AL	Hugh W. Judge AL	Jean H. Stewart TN
Martha Barton AL	Mr./ Mrs. A. Kennamer AL	Elizabeth Traylor AL
Mr./Mrs. Clint Bennett AL	David Maibuff VA	Nelson Varnell AL
Betty Bigbee MO	Betty Martin AR	EDITOR'S NOTE: If you have paid your 2003 dues and your name is not on this list, please advise Ann B. Chambliss, 435 Barbee Lane Scottsboro, AL 35769 email: abc123@scottsboro.org (list as of Jan 10, 2003)
Birmingham Public Library	Robert L. Meek AL	
John G. Boydston NM	Reuben Miller AL	
Ann B. Chambliss AL	Patricia Mills VA	
James C. Childress LA	Mr./Mrs. John Neely AL	
Jo P. Chrisman AL	William D. Page AL	
William G. Dean AL	Grady Payne AL	
Roger Dukes AL	Mrs. Ruth Pepper AL	
Kay Gunn TX	Shirley Perry MS	
Gloria Hewlett TX	Samford Univ. Library AL	
Mr./Mrs. Delbert Hicks AL		

WALTER SUMNER MEMORIAL

A memorial in the amount of \$50.00 was given by the Friendship Baptist Church of Fackler, AL, in memory of long-time JCHA member Walter Sumner who died on December 25, 2002. Mr. Sumner was the brother of JCHA member Mary Nell Holder.

SCOTTSBORO, ALABAMA POST OFFICE BAS-RELIEF

How long has it been since you viewed the unique art work in the Scottsboro Post Office? The bas-relief on the north wall was created in 1940 by the Federal Works Agency. Miss Constance Ortmyer, then of Winter Park, Florida, was commissioned to execute the sculptural decoration. The design depicts work in cotton fields on a large central panel, flanked by two narrow panels. The smaller panels depict figures harvesting tall corn and truck garden produce.

2003 JCHA OFFICERS

President	Drenda King
Program Vice President	Donna Halslip
Membership Vice President	Cathy Cook
Secretary	Dr. Barbara Jacobs
Treasurer	Katye Tipton
Directors	Dr. David Campbell, John Graham, Clyde Broadway, & John Neely
CHRONICLES Editor	Ann B. Chambliss email: abc123@scottsboro.org

ARTHUR BURNS

by Patty Woodall

Under the Treaty of February 27, 1819, Arthur Burns enlisted for a reservation of 640 acres on July 1, 1819 in right of his Cherokee wife. Reservation number 171 located near Sawta [sic] Cave was granted to Arthur Burns as a life estate.¹ On December 6, 1820 Robert Armstrong surveyed the reservation for the heirs of Arthur Burns, which was situated primarily in Sections 7 and 8 Township 5 South Range 5 East.² Sauta Creek divided the reservation into nearly two equal parts. The Burns house stood near the center of the reservation just south of Sauta Creek near Sauta Cave.³ The reservation was located where Hwy 72 crosses North Sauty Creek today. In 1828, a list of reserves, which included Arthur Burns, which had been surveyed and were exempt from land sales and entered on the books at the Huntsville Land Office, was sent to the Office of Indian Affairs.⁴

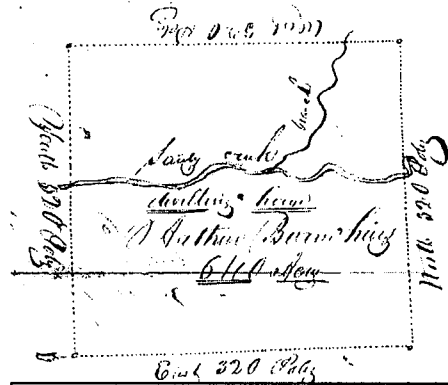


Figure 1: Survey of Arthur Burns' reservation.

Arthur Burns was born about 1780 and appears to have died after taking the reservation but before it was surveyed in December 1820 since the survey was made to the heirs of Arthur Burns. He married Aky Lowrey, born about 1782, the daughter of Nannie and George Lowrey, Sr. Aky was the first cousin of Polly Smith and Catherine Gunter, wife of John Gunter for whom Guntersville was name. Both of Aky's first cousins received reservations in Jackson County, Alabama. Aky also had three sisters, Sally, Elizabeth and Nellie, who received reservations in Alabama and Tennessee.⁵

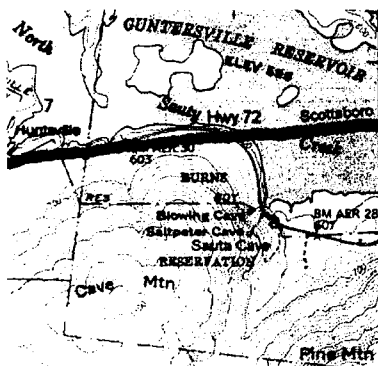


Figure 2: Topographical map of the Arthur Burns reservation.

It is probable that Arthur Burns lived at the Cherokee Agency on the Hiwassee River in East Tennessee and at Nickajack, Tennessee before taking his reservation.

Both of his daughters attended Brainerd Mission near Ross's Landing in Tennessee. The Mission Journal stated that when Betsey entered the Mission in 1817 she lived at the Agency and that when Polly entered in 1818 she lived at Nickajack.

The inventory of Arthur Burn's estate rendered by Richard Riley and John McNairy, administrators and appraised by James Smith and Alex W. Dulaney was not dated but appeared between documents dated October 21, 1820 and December 26, 1820. The total appraised value of his estate was \$484.90. This appraisal included 550 bushels of corn, salt peter, gun collar and bridle, plow and stock, shovel plow and stock, singletree, various hoes and spades, 1 can and 2 razors, razor strap, shaving box and brush, table, 6 churns, 5 tin cups, tin bucket, tin pan, candle molds, coffee pot, coffee mill, quart glass bottle, skillet, wash tub, water pail, milch churn, milk coolers, half-bushel measurer, saddle bags, circingle, coat pad, shoe boots, bed, fur hat, new great coat, old great coat, cloth bodiced coat, drab waist coat, manikin coat, domestic common waistcoat, yellow cloth coat, vest coat, 1 pair mixed common pantaloons, 1 pair domestic pantaloons, 1 domestic vest, 2 cotton vests, new shirt, 2 old shirts, suspenders, trunk, sorrel horse, roan horse, grind stone, 1 quart and 1 pint measurer, duffle blanket, 1 ham, ¾ lb. Tobacco, carpenter hammer, pocket book and empty cask.⁶ The estate sale was held on December 26, 1820 and brought \$437.08 ¼. The fur hat brought \$4.12 ½ and the new great coat went for \$30.37 ½. The sorrel horse sold for \$136 and the plantation rented for one year for \$71.50.⁷

Aky and Arthur Burns only had two children and were:

1. **Mary Burns born about 1803⁸ and died before 1851 probably in Flint District, Indian Territory.⁹ Mary "Polly" Burns entered the Brainerd Mission on September 24, 1818 at age 15 and left June 30, 1819. The Mission Journal reported that she could read and write and was a respectable young lady and lived at Nickajack.¹⁰ On June 16, 1819 Mary Burns aged about 16 "offered herself for and was examined and received as a candidate for baptism."¹¹**
2. **Elizabeth Burns was born about 1807¹². Elizabeth "Betsey" Burns entered the Brainerd Mission on March 30, 1817 at age 10 and left October 28, 1819. The Mission Journal reported that she could read and write and was a respectable young woman and lived at the Agency.¹³ She married Michael Hufaker or Huraker. It is uncertain when she married since her children were not born until about 1850. They had two daughters named Mary and Cynthia who are listed on the Drennen Roll as "Halfacre" living in Saline District, Indian Territory.¹⁴**

Mary Burns married Dr. William Alexander Davis who was born about 1790 in Albemarle County Virginia. Dr. Davis, a medical doctor, was the son of William and Mary Ann (Black) Davis of Hanover County, Virginia. William Davis was born 1753 in Hanover County, Virginia and resided in Albemarle County, Virginia when he enlisted in the Revolutionary War in Capt. Nicholas Davis' Company under General LaFayette in 1776.¹⁵ William Davis applied for his pension on July 6, 1842, and stated he lived in Maynards Cove, Jackson County, Alabama. He stated that after the War he lived in Virginia, Kentucky, and Lincoln County, Tennessee, before settling in Jackson County, Alabama.¹⁶ William Davis died on August 19, 1848, in Maynards Cove and is buried in the Proctor Cemetery in Maynards Cove, Jackson County, Alabama.¹⁷ There has been confusion by some researchers who think that Mary Ann Black was Cherokee, but there has never been any proof of this nor does the family have Indian stories handed down.

Dr. William Davis was one of the delegates that made the Ridge treaty [Treaty of 1835].¹⁸ The Ridge delegates were in favor of emigrating to the Cherokee country west of the Mississippi. He also happened to be present at the killing of John Ridge and was called upon in his professional capacity to attend Mrs. Ridge who was in bad health.¹⁹

Dr. William Alexander Davis was married first to Susan Morgan, daughter of Capt. John and Mary (Hall) Morgan who migrated from North Carolina to Sumner County, Tennessee in 1784 and then to Lincoln County, Tennessee about 1803. Dr. Davis and his wife lived in Lincoln County, Tennessee, until after the 1830 census was taken and then moved to Memphis, Tennessee where his wife died July 10, 1831, at age 42 years. She was buried in the Winchester Cemetery in Memphis. The name was later changed to the Park Cemetery. A daughter, Malinda, was born on March 19, 1821, to the Dr. Davises. After Dr. Davis' wife's death, their daughter, Malinda, went back to Lincoln County, Tennessee, to live with her aunt and took her aunt's married name of Porterfield. Malinda eventually married Rev. William D. Chadick, a Cumberland Presbyterian minister.

After Dr. Davis's first wife died and while visiting with his parents and family in Jackson County, Alabama, he met and married Mary Burns. None of the Burns family was listed on the 1830 Jackson County, Alabama census. However, Dr. William Davis was listed on the 1835 Cherokee Census of those living on Cherokee lands east of the Mississippi as living at Santah [Sauta]. Living in the household was one full blood, one half-blood, three one-quarter bloods, and one white. There were two males over 18 years of age, one female over the age of 16 and three females under 16 years of age.²⁰

Dr. William Davis was the white man over 18 years of age. It is unknown who the full blood man over 18 years of age was. Mary Burns Davis was the half-blood female over 16 years of age. The oldest three daughters of Mary and William Davis were the three one-quarter blood females under 16 years of age. He also had four slaves. There was one reader of English and one reader of Cherokee. William had improvements on 60 acres of land.

It is unknown where Elizabeth Burns lived between 1820 and 1837. It is possible she was still living on the reservation but was missed by the census taker. Someone was living on the reservation to keep possession of it since Mary and William A. Davis sold the reservation for \$640 on October 19, 1837 to Jesse French just before going west on the Trail of Tears.²¹ Jesse French died about 20 years later on February 3, 1857. Two of his sons, Jeremiah L. and Henry G. French bought out the other heirs' interest in the reservation.²² Then in 1882 the French family sold the reservation to Martha Jane (French) Gideon.²³ Fifteen days later Martha Jane (French) Gideon sold lots three and four of the Burns reservation to William J. Rorex.²⁴

The Treaty of 1835 provided that the Cherokees being forced to move west would be paid for their improvements.²⁵ Andrew Moore and David Ricketts valued Dr. William A. Davis' improvements in 1836. The total valuation was \$3,887.²⁶ Moore and Ricketts stated that Dr. William A. Davis lived four miles above Larkin's Landing. His house was 20' by 44' frame one story with two rooms, two brick chimneys, brick foundation, shingle roof, five doors and eight windows. The house was new and done in "good workmanlike manner and handsomely painted" and valued at \$1,329. There was one hewed log kitchen 16' by 16' with a plank floor with two good doors, one glass window, wood chimney and board roof. He also owned one negro log cabin, log smoke house 12' by 16', one log lumber house 16' by 18', log crib 8' by 20', two log stables, one small smoke house, one spring house, 18' by 18' log cabin with board roof, wood chimney, plank floor and loft, another log cabin, one work shed and two martin barns. His yard was about three-quarter acre enclosed by a good new post and plank fence with three gates containing sundry ornamental trees and shrubs. He had a three-quarter acre garden enclosed by posts and sawed poles containing sundry garden herbs and grape vines. He also had a six acre fenced spring lot, quarter acre fenced turnip lot, one acre fenced horse lot, eight acre fenced orchard, four acre fenced cornfield, 25 acre cornfield, 602 peach trees, 145 apple and pear trees, 15 acres of Tennessee bottom land as a corn field, 25 acres in corn and cotton and an eight acre fenced cornfield.²⁷

Neither Mary nor William Alexander Davis appears on the Drennen Roll but all of their children are listed living in Flint District.²⁸ Dr. William Alexander Davis probably did not qualify to be on this roll since he was a white man. However, Mary Davis did qualify to be on the roll but was probably deceased. The children were probably living with their father.

Mary and Dr. William A. Davis had the following children²⁹:

1. Cynthia Pack Davis was born about 1830 in the Cherokee Nation East and died after 1902. She married John Thompson Mayes who was born about 1826 and died about 1863 and was the son of Samuel Houston and Nancy (Adair) Mayes.³⁰
2. Laura Cornelia Davis was born about 1832 in the Cherokee Nation East.
3. Sarah Ophelia Davis was born about 1834 in the Cherokee Nation East. She married James Allen Mayes, son of Samuel H. and Nancy (Adair) Mayes.³¹
4. John Lowrey Davis was born about 1836 in the Cherokee Nation East. He married first Nancy Turkey and second Harriette Folsom.
5. William Henry Davis was born April 8, 1838 in the Flint District, Cherokee Nation West and died after 1902. He married Eliza Lowrey.
6. George Washington Davis was born about 1840 in the Flint District, Cherokee Nation West.
7. Mary Elizabeth Davis was born about 1842 in the Flint District, Cherokee Nation West. She married first Robert Harrison and second Theodore Free-land Folsom.

The story of the Burns Reservation would be incomplete without discussion of Sauta Cave located near the center of the reservation. The cave has two entrances. One entrance is over the other and slightly to one side. The lower passage has a stream while the upper passage is dry. The total length has been computed to be 14,794 feet within linear dimension of about 4,600 feet.³² The importance of Sauta Cave comes not from its size but from the huge amounts of dirt containing niter or saltpeter inside the cave. Saltpeter is the major ingredient of gunpowder.

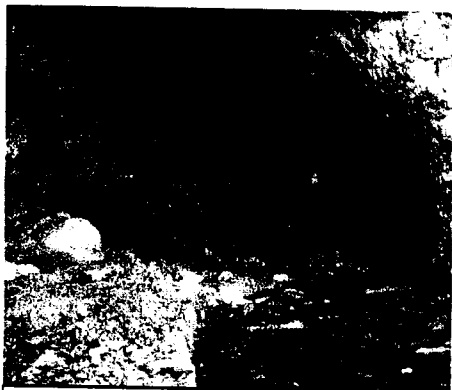
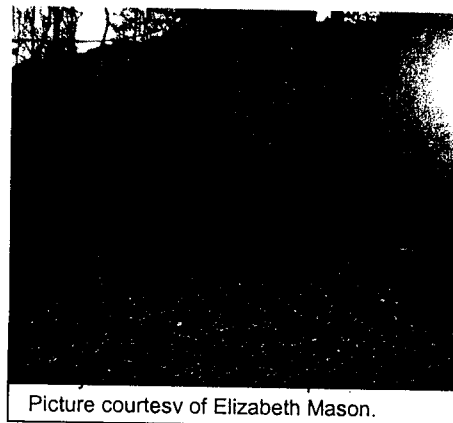


Figure 3: Lower entrance to Sauta Cave.
Today this cave is called Blowing Cave.
Picture courtesy of Elizabeth Mason.

An unconfirmed source claims that a Cherokee named Winford settled at Sauta in 1784 and began the manufacture of gunpowder.



Picture courtesy of Elizabeth Mason.

At an April 1804 meeting of the National Council of the Cherokee Chiefs at Oostanaula, a resolution was passed permitting certain white men to continue living in the Nation. This permit included Colonel James Ore and his man to work the saltpeter cave at Sauta.³³ It is unknown how long Col. Ore worked at Sauta. He was working the saltpeter cave at Nickajack, Tennessee during the same time period and he lived at Nickajack.

In 1812, Richard Riley, who had a reservation on the Tennessee River at the mouth of Sauta Creek, "employed many hands in mining nitrate of potash (salt peter) in Sauta Cave."³⁴ In 1813 the mining operation produced about 1000 lbs per day.³⁵ Since Richard Riley held control over saltpeter production and sold thousands of pounds of powder annually to the U. S. Army at Andrew Jackson's Fort Deposit on the Tennessee River just west of Gunter's Landing in 1813 and 1814, he was considered among the leading figures of the Cherokee bourgeoisie.³⁶ Another likely customer was John Gunter who owned a powder mill at Gunter's Landing as early as 1814.³⁷

At the same time that Richard Riley was working Sauta Cave, two white men, William Robinson and Argyle Taylor with a number of laborers were also working at Sauta Cave. The relationship of Robinson and Taylor to each other, whether as partners or as employer-employee, and of both to Riley is not now clearly understood. A little is known of their activities from a lengthy Madison County, Alabama court case. In 1812, William Robinson filed suit to recover damages from Argyle Taylor for taking nearly "four hundred weight of salt petre." The case continued for several years and was finally settled by taking depositions from several people. Only two depositions have survived.

The first deposition taken November 17, 1815, was by Archibald McSpadden, a witness for the plaintiff, who denied that Robinson and Taylor were partners. McSpadden deposed that Robinson told Taylor that "he did not wish to employ him any longer." Taylor replied that he was ready to settle accounts. Robinson had "received no salt petre from the works except an order that he had drawn on Taylor for sixty dollars." During McSpadden's stay at the cave about a thousand pounds of saltpeter had been made, which had been "applied to use of the camp and in buying ashes and some to Col. Robinson's use." A few days after his discharge, Taylor returned to the cave and took 383 pounds of saltpeter which Richard Riley helped weigh for him.

The second deposition filed November 15, 1816 by Stephen Standifer claimed that in 1812 Taylor was Robinson's partner in addition to being in charge of Robinson's workers. When Robinson discharged him, Taylor demanded pay for his services over the hands. Robinson refused and "in a few days ... Taylor brought Richard Riley, manager of said cave, and ... Riley advised ... Taylor to take the petre, or so much as would satisfy his claim of service." Standifer further deposed that "Taylor was very attentive to business" and operated a furnace with the daily output estimated at "70 to 100 weight". Taylor had seven men working under him and used a wagon and oxen at the furnace. Finally in 1818 the Madison County Court ruled in favor of Taylor and Robinson failed to recover any damages.³⁸

Sauta Cave's next appearances in the records was December 18, 1819 when the House of Representatives of Alabama enacted that "Sauta Cave shall be, and is hereby established the temporary seat of justice for the county of Jackson: Provided, that the county court shall have the power, by adjournment, to select any other place they may deem more expedient."³⁹ At the same time Sauta Cave was made one of the three election precincts in Jackson County.⁴⁰ The court did elect to remove to Thompson's residence at Sauta a few miles from Sauta Cave.⁴¹ In the 1970's Mr. Julian Clemons, a gentleman in his nineties, reminisced about Jackson County's early history based on information from his grandfather. He told there was a jail and a courthouse built at Sauta.⁴² On December 7, 1821, Jackson County was split into two counties: Jackson and Decatur Counties.⁴³ Sauta was then located in the new county of Decatur and Jackson County was without a county seat. Bellefonte was elected to be the new county seat of Jackson and was incorporated on December 15, 1821.⁴⁴

A pre Civil War log house sits on the Burns reservation. It is unlikely that Arthur Burns built the house since he only lived in the area for a very short period of time and was unlikely to have the time or means to have built a house this large. Dr. William Davis is also unlikely to have built the house since he lived on the south side of the Tennessee River after marrying into the Burns family. It is probable that Jeremiah French built the house.

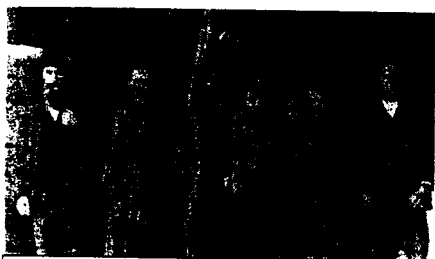


Figure 5: The Floyd Jackson Mills family who lived in this house in late 1800's. They are standing in the dog trot of the house. Picture courtesy of Elizabeth Mason.

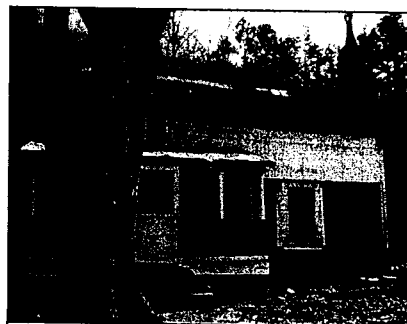


Figure 6: The house as it looks today. Picture courtesy of Elizabeth Mason.

- ¹ Cherokee Reserves, by David Keith Hampton, p. 8. *American State Papers: Public Lands*, Vol. V, p. 397.
- ² Old Land Records of Jackson County, Alabama, by Margaret Matthews Cowart, p. 157.
- ³ National Archives, Washington, DC, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Cherokee Reservation Surveys.
- ⁴ Bureau of Indian Affairs, Microfilm M-234, Roll 177, Letters Received by the Office of Indian Affairs: Cherokee Reserves 1828-1840, dated November 14, 1828.
- ⁵ <http://familytreemaker.genealogy.com/users/h/i/c/James-R-Hicks/index.html?Welcome=991337469>.
- ⁶ Jackson County, Alabama Orphans Court Book 1820-1830, p. 11.
- ⁷ Jackson County, Alabama Orphans Court Book 1820-1830, p. 13-14.
- ⁸ *The Brainerd Journal: A Mission to the Cherokees, 1817-1823*, edited by Joyce B. Phillips and Paul Gary Phillips, p. 119, 411.
- ⁹ Neither Mary nor William A. Davis was listed on the 1851 Drennen Roll for Flint District, Indian Territory with their children. Probably Mary (Burns) Davis was dead. But since William A. Davis was white, he probably was not listed and may or may not have been living.
- ¹⁰ *The Brainerd Journal: A Mission to the Cherokees, 1817-1823*, edited by Joyce B. Phillips and Paul Gary Phillips, p. 411.
- ¹¹ *The Brainerd Journal: A Mission to the Cherokees, 1817-1823*, edited by Joyce B. Phillips and Paul Gary Phillips, p. 119.
- ¹² *The Brainerd Journal: A Mission to the Cherokees, 1817-1823*, edited by Joyce B. Phillips and Paul Gary Phillips, p.408.
- ¹³ *The Brainerd Journal: A Mission to the Cherokees, 1817-1823*, edited by Joyce B. Phillips and Paul Gary Phillips, p.408
- ¹⁴ 1851 Drennen Roll Saline District, household #6.
- ¹⁵ William Davis Revolutionary War Pension Application #S12378.
- ¹⁶ William Davis Revolutionary War Pension Application #S12378.
- ¹⁷ His tombstone in the Proctor Cemetery, Maynards Cove, Jackson County, Alabama.
- ¹⁸ *Indian Affairs: Laws and Treaties*, compiled and edited by Charles J. Kappler, Vol. II, p. 439-448.
- ¹⁹ *Indian Territory: It's Chiefs, Legislators and Leading Men*, by H. F. and E. S. O'Beirne, p. 232-233.
- ²⁰ *Those Who Cried*, by James W. Tyner, p. 3.
- ²¹ Jackson County, Alabama Deed Book A, p. 127.
- ²² Jackson County, Alabama Deed Book 11, p.71, dated August 29, 1857.
- ²³ Jackson County, Alabama Deed Book 11, p.510, dated April 11, 1882.
- ²⁴ Jackson County, Alabama Deed Book 11, p.513, dated April 26, 1882.
- ²⁵ <http://digital.library.okstate.edu/kappler/Vol2/treaties/che0439.htm>, Article 9.
- ²⁶ <http://www.turtletown.org/html/senate.htm>, Report from The Secretary of War, Senate Report # 277, 25th Congress, 3rd Session, dated February 28, 1839, p. 13.
- ²⁷ National Archives, Washington, DC, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Record Group 75, Entry #224, Property Valuations 1835-1839.
- ²⁸ 1851 Drennen Roll, Flint District, household #231.
- ²⁹ *History of the Cherokee Indians*, by Emmet Starr.
- ³⁰ *Chronicles of Oklahoma*, Vol. 6, No. 2, June 1928, Necrology of Samuel Houston Mayes.
- ³¹ *Chronicles of Oklahoma*, Vol. 6, No. 2, June 1928, Necrology of Samuel Houston Mayes.
- ³² "The Sauta Cave Confederate Niter Works" by Marion O. Smith first published in *Civil War History*, Vol. 29, No. 4, December 1983, and also found in *Jackson County Chronicles*, No. 36, April 5, 1984.
- ³³ Resolutions at the National Council of the Cherokee Chiefs held at Eustenalee, April 4-10, 1804, Records of the Cherokee Indian Agency in Tennessee 1801-1835, Record Group 75, Microcopy 208, Rolls 13, 2, National Archives, Washington, D.C. "The Sauta Cave Confederate Niter Works" by Marion O. Smith first published in *Civil War History*, Vol. 29, No. 4, December 1983, and also found in *Jackson County Chronicles*, No. 36, April 5, 1984.
- ³⁴ Handwritten, unpublished manuscript of Matthew Powers Blue, undated but written about 1860, located in Alabama Department of Archives and History, PB Rg. H, Sec 7, Shelf 6, Box 2
- ³⁵ *Cherokee Renaissance in the New Republic*, by William G. McLoughlin, p.192.
- ³⁶ *Cherokees and Missionaries 1789-1839*, by William G. McLoughlin, p. 127.
- ³⁷ Handwritten, unpublished manuscript of Matthew Powers Blue, undated but written about 1860, located in Alabama Department of Archives and History, PB Rg. H, Sec 7, Shelf 6, Box 2
- ³⁸ *Cherokee Renaissance in the New Republic*, by William G. McLoughlin, p.192.
- ³⁹ *Cherokees and Missionaries 1789-1839*, by William G. McLoughlin, p. 127.
- ⁴⁰ *Jackson County Chronicles*, October 10, 1980, "Sauta Cave" by Ann B. Chambless
- ⁴¹ *Huntsville Times*, September 1, 1935, "1812 Records Throw New Light on Saltpeter Mine" by Pat Jones. Early Saltpeter Mining In and Near Jackson County, Alabama, by Marion O. Smith found in the *Jackson County Chronicles*, Vol. 3, No. 4, July 1989, edited by Ann Chambless. It is thought that the original court case records perished in a fire at reporter Pat Jones' home.
- ⁴² Acts of Alabama, Page 54, Section 18.
- ⁴³ Acts of Alabama, Page 54, Section 30.
- ⁴⁴ A History of Jackson County, unpublished manuscript by Matthew Powers Blue who made a trip to Jackson County, Alabama in the late 1850's. The handwritten manuscript can be found at the Alabama Archives, PB Rg. H, Sec 7, Shelf 6, Box 2.
- ⁴⁵ Information provided by Ann Chambless, December 2002, from her interview with Mr. Julian Clemons who was in his nineties.
- ⁴⁶ Acts of Alabama, Page 72, Section 6.
- ⁴⁷ Acts of Alabama, Page 82, Section 1.

THE COWAN-GRAHAM HOUSE IN STEVENSON, ALABAMA
edited by Ann B. Chambless

The Cowan-Graham House on Main Street in Stevenson will soon be appropriately identified by an historic marker placed by the Stevenson Railroad Depot Museum. The present owners, John and Angela Graham, researched, wrote and shared the following facts which will be used as the basis for the inscription:

"A classic Greek-revival farmhouse, the Cowan House was built about 1850 by Thomas A. Nance. William A. Austin (1812-1875), an Alabama state senator, Reconstruction-era commissioner of oaths, farmer, merchant, and a staunch unionist, acquired the house in 1855. Family tradition says the house was used as a Civil War field hospital during the brief Confederate occupation of Stevenson. It later became a headquarters for Union Army Colonel Wladimir Krzyanowski and his staff. Wartime maps and other documents sometimes referred to it as Fort Stevenson. One of eight blockhouses built to protect Stevenson's vital rail lines was situated in the lower yard during the Federal Army occupation. Three springs on the property provided fresh water to the multitude of troops, war refugees, and others who passed nearby during the war. Period photographs and drawings depict soldiers at the house, and four rifle loop-holes bored into the back wall attest to a distinct role in the war.

After the Civil War's end, William A. Austin petitioned the Southern Claims Commission for \$13,789.65 remuneration for losses suffered during the war, of which \$4,260.50 was awarded him. The house was sold to William M. Cowan in 1878 and remained among his family's descendants until 1992 (when it was purchased by John and Angela Graham.) Legend says the ghosts of soldiers and others haunt the house. The Cowan House was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on September 13, 1978. "





JACKSON COUNTY CHRONICLES

VOLUME 15, NUMBER 2

APRIL 2003

ISSN-1071-2348

JACKSON COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION WILL MEET Sunday

APRIL 27, 2003 2:00 p.m.— SCOTTSBORO PUBLIC LIBRARY

The JCHA and the Scottsboro Public Library will co-host the April 27, 2003 program meeting . Dr. Ronald Dykes will be the featured speaker and will share his conversations with the Jackson County legends included in his latest book, GROWING UP HARD: MEMORIES OF JACKSON COUNTY, ALABAMA, IN THE EARLY TWENTIETH CENTURY. He will be autographing his book which was published in conjunction with the Jackson County Historical Association. The subjects of the book and their families will be special guests of the JCHA.. Please turn to page 3 for book review. You may purchase this book on April 27 at the program meeting.

JCHA DUES ARE NOW DUE. PLEASE INCLUDE 9 DIGIT ZIP CODE WITH YOUR RENEWAL (P. O. bulk mailing request.)

Ann B. Chambless, Editor
435 Barbee Lane
Scottsboro, AL 35769-3745
abc123@scottsboro.org

VOLUME 15, NUMBER 2

APRIL 2003

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ANNUAL DUES: \$10.00 (due Jan 1)
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P. O. Box 1494
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Jackson County Historical Association
Post Office Box 1494
Scottsboro, AL 35768

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROJECT IN COURT HOUSE BASEMENT
CAN YOU HELP?**

Volunteers are now working in the basement of the Jackson County Court House to prepare historic probate court documents for microfilming. The current volunteers will be happy to train a new worker in the art of unfolding, recording, flattening, and placing the records in an acid free folder. At the completion of phase one of this project, the Genealogical Society of Utah camera crew will create a permanent record by filming the old records. For more information or to volunteer for this important project, please call Donna Haislip in Judge Floyd Hambrick's office at 574-9292.

ANCESTOR SEARCHING IN JACKSON COUNTY: JOHN S. HAYLE/HALE

John S. Hayle/Hale was born circa 1837 in TN and died in May 1921 in Jackson County, AL. The name of his first wife is unknown. It is possible there were children other than William David (Dick) Hale by the first marriage.

In June 1891, John S. Hayle/Hale married Sarah Camp (born 1860) AL at the residence of Jerry Williams in Section, AL. The children of this marriage were:

1. Robert T. (Bob) Hayle, born June 1, 1891, died July 1986, married Carrie ____
2. Frank L. Hayle, born Jan 30, 1894, died March 1968
3. Mattie Mae Hayle, born Dec 24, 1898, died Dec 1984, married John Franklin Martin
4. Myrtle Lee Hayle, born Dec 24, 1898, died May 1981, married Cecii Leon White
5. Brian/Bryan G. Hayle, born 1903, married Florence _____

Would like to correspond with anyone researching this family.

Ann B. Chambless (256) 574-3556 or email: abc123@scottsboro.org

Kudos to North Jackson Bank for paying postage to mail April CHRONICLES!!!!

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DYKES BOOK ORDER FORM: GROWING UP HARD: MEMORIES OF JACKSON COUNTY, ALABAMA IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

Cost By Mail: **\$27.50** Make check payable to: JCHA Dykes Book Account

Mail to: JCHA Dykes Book, P.O. Box 1494, Scottsboro, AL 35768

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

BOOK REVIEW by Ann B. Chambliss

Growing Up Hard: Memories of Jackson County Alabama, in the Early Twentieth Century, by Dr. Ronald H. Dykes of Scottsboro, Alabama

After his biography of Judge James O. Haley was published, Dr. Ronald H. Dykes pondered the prevalent comment of the book's readers. So many shared their enjoyment of the chapters devoted to Judge Haley's personal struggles in moving from a tenant farmer's son in an agrarian society (by working his way through night law school) to a long and successful legal career.

Ron Dykes was motivated to seek out Jackson County, Alabama natives with equal strong character and unyielding substance. He soon found them in his interviews with James Norwood (Jim) Clemens, Lillie Mae Davis Culbert, Ida Miller Olinger, Opal Wright Peters, Sue Mae Freeman Powell, Rubilee Moore Smith, Archie Freeman Stewart, and Gertrude Isabella Stockton who were all in their late eighties or nineties.

Ron Dykes stated: "Capturing personal histories of these people was not the only objective I had. A life can not be separated from where it is lived. All of them grew up in Jackson County in the earlier part of the twentieth century, and their time, place and lives are certainly different from those of their contemporaries who were raised in wealth on Fifth Avenue in New York. After all, Jackson County is in lower Appalachia.....I emphasized their growing-up years more than their later adult lives, attempting to get some sense of life in the county during the first third or so of the twentieth century. Where were the churches and schools and stores? What were they like? Where were the roads? What types of transportation were available? What were their parents and siblings like?

After a few histories were taped, a general pattern of life during that period began to emerge. Most were raised on farms and were quite familiar with long hours of hard work. Families, including extended families, were close. Their parents were poorly educated, as were most people of that era, but most insisted that their children take advantage of the educational opportunities, such as they were. Churches seemed to be important centers of spiritual and social activities. Surprisingly, the experiences of each of them were quite similar regardless of differences in social standing, wealth (or lack of it), and even race.

Apparently, Jackson County in the earlier years of the twentieth century was not an easy place in which to live or grow up....." Thus, if time, energy, and space had permitted, Growing Up Hard: Memories of Jackson County, Alabama, in the Early Twentieth Century could have contained the life and times of YOUR family members. Readers will discover Dr. Dykes' book will facilitate the study and preservation of the county's rich heritage:

It is a wonderful means for enlivening the present as well as the future.

NOTE: Book includes 174 pages and an extensive index of names and places

MAIL ORDER: Mail check (\$27.50) payable to JCHA Dykes Book Account to: JCHA Dykes Book, P.O. Box 1498, Scottsboro, AL 35768. Book pickup for \$24.95 at Scottsboro Library, Heritage Center, and Woodville Library. Dr. Dykes is graciously donating 50 per cent of the net profit from sales to the Jackson County Historical Association

PETER JOHNSON

Copyrighted by Patty Woodall, 2003

Under the Treaty of July 8, 1817, Peter Johnson chose to retain his home in Indian Territory and registered for a reservation on August 25, 1819.¹ He was granted reservation number 254 (640 acres) in right of his wife on the head of Widows Creek in Boxes Cove.² Boxes Cove later became known as Jeffries Cove near Bridgeport, Alabama. When Jackson County was surveyed, the reservation was located primarily in Section 16 Township 1 South Range 8 East of Huntsville, Alabama.³ In 1828, a list of reserves, including that of Peter Johnson, had been surveyed and exempted from government land sales. These Cherokee reserves were entered on the books at the Huntsville Land Office and were sent to the Office of Indian Affairs.⁴

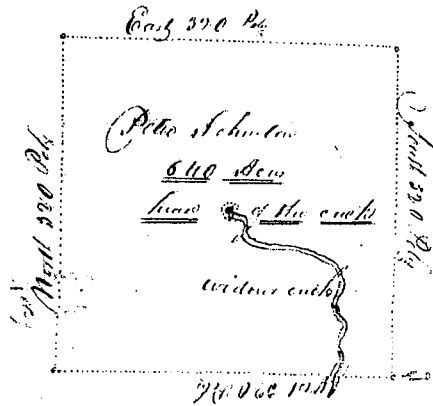


Figure 1 - Survey of Peter Johnson's reservation.

Peter and Sally Johnson filed a claim with the Docket of Application for Adjudication with the Board of Commissioners to settle claims under the Treaty of 1817 and 1819. Their claim was disallowed.⁵

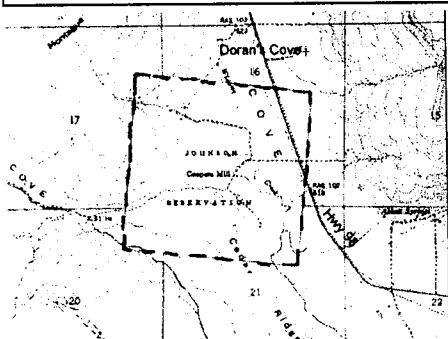
The 1830 Jackson County, Alabama, census recorded a Sarah Johnson (age between 50 and 60 with one other female between age of 20 and 30) living in the area of the Peter Johnson reservation.

In 1830, Sally Johnson, wife of Peter Johnson, of the State of Alabama made a petition praying "that the title in fee [simple] to a certain tract of land reserved to her husband, by a treaty with the Cherokee Indians, may be vested in her." She further stated that "the existence of whom she knows not, as he left home seven years ago, and has not since been heard of."⁶

An interesting title of a Bill to the House of Representatives was "On the Application of a Cherokee Indian Woman to Sell a Reservation of Land Which was Made to Her Husband, Who was Adjudged to be a Runaway Slave." This was the title of Sally Johnson's memorial. The actual memorial stated, "That the petitioner states in her petition that she is a citizen of the Cherokee nation of Indians, resides in Jackson County, Alabama; that she was considered the wife of Peter Johnson, who was afterwards by a course of judicial investigation, adjudged to be a runaway slave, and as such reclaimed by his master; that the said Peter, while she was considered his wife, had, as the head of a Cherokee family, in the treaty between the United States and said

Cherokee nation, reserved to him by said treaty 640 acres of land, which was afterwards surveyed for him, upon which the petitioner states she then resided, and on which she now resides.” She asked Congress to confirm the reservation to her and her children, and that she be permitted to sell the fee simple estate.”

Fig. 2 – Topo map of Peter Johnson’s reserve



“The committee are of opinion that it would be impolitic and unwise in Congress to authorize a sale of any or all of the various reservations to indians by virtue of the various treaties which have been made between the United States and the several Indian tribes. It would open the door to speculation, and excite the cupidity of avarice, and those ignorant reservees would fall a prey to their more wary neighbors. They see no reason for departing from this rule in the present instance, nor do they express any opinion as to the nature of the intent now vested in the petitioner and her children by her supposed husband. Whether the reservation would not inure to the benefit of the person in remainder as well when the tenant for life is rendered by law incapable of taking or holding the particular estate, as when he takes and holds adverse to the children who were in being at the date of the reservation.”

“The committee recommends the adoption of the following resolution: “Resolved, That the prayer of the petitioner ought not to be granted.”⁷

“The committee recommends the adoption of the following resolution: “Resolved, That the prayer of the petitioner ought not to be granted.”⁷

Sally Johnson’s children filed another claim of \$4,480.00 under the Treaty of 1835-36 and decided by the Fourth Board of Commissioners with the Cherokees.⁸ No decision was stated.

Peter Johnson was probably the first black man to own property in Alabama and certainly in Jackson County, Alabama. It seems Peter was a runaway slave who had married an Indian woman. Apparently, Peter deserted his wife and family and reservation about 1822.

Today there is a spring of water called the Campbell Spring near the center of what was the Peter Johnson reservation. Peter and Sally probably lived near this spring.

¹ *Cherokee Reservees* by David Keith Hampton, p. 11.

² *Cherokee Reservees* by David Keith Hampton, p. 13.

³ Jackson County, Alabama map.

⁴ Bureau of Indian Affairs, Microfilm M-234, Roll 177, Letters Received by the Office of Indian Affairs: Cherokee Reservees 1828-1840, dated November 14, 1828.

⁵ *Cherokee Reservees* by David Keith Hampton, p. 16.

⁶ Journal of the House of Representatives of the United States 1789-1873, Friday, December 24, 1830.

⁷ *American State Papers: Public Lands*, Vol 6, p. 266, February 8, 1831.

⁸ *Cherokee Reservee* by David Keith Hampton, p. 20

NOTE: Patty Woodall’s email address: pattywoo43@charter.net

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Trina Binkley, Staff
Al Historical Commission
Montgomery, Alabama

April 7, 2003

RE: Upper Paint Rock Valley

Dear Ms. Binkley:

We are responding to the need to further document the significance of the Upper Paint Rock Valley, specifically the Swaim and the Estillfork communities. Under an attachment there is a detailed explanation; however I wanted to summarily describe the social, mental, and economic opportunities available to this area that will surely be lost unless there can be the establishment of heritage tourism.

These two communities need emphasis in the nomination for historical preservation for the following reasons:

- (1) The economic and cultural effects of the moonshine business in the 1930s and the big arrest in the late 1930s contributed to a way of life that was unique to this area. Because of its operation, centered in Estillfork in the most remote part of the Valley, the lower Valley folks were instrumental in protecting the business from outside forces and later benefited economically as this effort grew and monies became available for additional stills. This unity of the Valley people **was** further solidified in the legendary arrest in the late 30's of many of the workers in the business, which caused even stronger commitment to community autonomy, and resulted in more dependency on the extended family for economic survival. While the pure streams and some fruit trees, necessary for making the product which sold at a premium price in surrounding cities continue in the

upper valley, they are threatened by people who are not aware of the historical significance of the area and do not appreciate the innate values of a proud people.

- (2) The physical, intellectual and emotional development of children from this area will be detrimentally affected by the closing of the school that is currently being considered due to economic and political forces. Because the Upper Valley has historically been a provider of children (many have earned college scholarships due to academic or athletic ability) and subsequently helped the school remain open (the Lower Valley children in recent years have been bused outside the valley and that practice is currently being reconsidered by the county), emphasis on the importance of the past and present development of children from the Swami and Estillfork communities could result in further revitalization of this area; and
- (3) The community development effort in the Valley, centered in the preservation of structures and in the natural environment in the past five years has received most of its support from individuals who currently live or have their roots in the Swaim and Estillfork communities. There are cooperative ventures now underway with the Nature Conservancy and the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce's eco-tourism effort involving these two communities.

Thank you for your reconsideration as your agency continues to monitor and advise during the Registration Grant of the Paint Rock Valley Project.

Sincerely,

Judy Prince, Project Director, Jackson Co. Historical Assoc

SWAIM

The location and boundaries of the Swaim community were originally defined by the addresses of houses linked to the Swaim Post Office. This post office was a part of the old store located at 297 County Road 9, Estillfork. Swaim extended north on County Road 9 for at least one-half mile and north on State Highway 65 to the point where the Francisco Post Office had jurisdiction which was near the north intersection of highway 65 and County Road 27. Swaim included all of Road 27. It extended east to include all of County Roads 516, 142, and 514, and south along highway 65 to near the intersection with road 142 at the old Iron Bridge. This area is still traditionally considered by residents to be the Swaim community even though the post office has been closed for many years. The Consultant's Report has listed some resources in the wrong community based on this definition.

There are several significant historical resources located in the Swaim community.

The Robertson House (c.1850, 1880's) on road 516 was used as a Union hospital during the Civil War according to many residents.

The John Bouldin House, road 516 (c. 1880s) was the home of John and Mary Bouldin who raised twelve children there, eleven of whom attended college. One became a doctor in Arizona, one a lawyer in Ft. Worth, one a Baptist missionary in Japan, one a businessman in Argentina. One son, Virgil, became a lawyer in Scottsboro and later served twenty-one years on the Alabama Supreme Court. Two of the sons became farmers. Only one daughter, Amanda, stayed where she was born.

The Bouldin cemetery, road 516 which is surrounded by an impressive (c. 1880s) rock wall.

The location of the following five resources was incorrectly listed as the Estillfork community

The Richard Hall Homestead, County Road 9 which was built in 1909, has been described as an excellent intact homestead by the historical consultant, and was mentioned in the original message of 3-18-03 from Carroll Van West to T Brinkley as "the Craftsman house, with stone wall and the adjacent store". It has a barn, smokehouse, chicken house, and outhouse built about the same time.

The farm land, across the road from these structures, was used for federal subsidies (one member of the community, Christine Fanning, reported during her oral history of the area that her sharecropper father had once grown peanuts).

The Richard Hall Store, County Road 9 (c. 1910) which once served as the Swaim Post Office. It is now being used as a community center for the community development effort.

People from all parts of the Valley are coming there to "tell their family stories", "make music", and contribute yard-sale items to be sold as to benefit the history project.

The Warnie Robertson House, County Road 9 (c. late 1800s) which is a one story log house with two end stone chimneys

Erskine Hall Store, Highway 65, (c.1910, 1940s): One story store with side wing, gable over the front entrance and a flat roof over the wing.

Erskine Hall House, Highway 65, (c.1910): One story wood bungalow with front gabled tin roof and exposed rafter tails, and there is a rock foundation.

Jim Prince House, Highway 65, (c.1910, 1940s): One story center hall house with side addition faced with asbestos shingles, and there is a central brick chimney.

The location of the following resources was incorrectly listed as the Larkin community

Leverl Green Barn, Alabama Highway 65, (c.1920s): One story wood dogtrot barn, presently used to store supplies for the Green Auto Body Shop (#261 in Survey Report). Mr. Green is a large contributor to the identification of resources for this effort and is "a living monument."

There are five houses and two barns (late 1800s to early 1900s) located on County Road 27. Going from north to south, these are known as the Jacks house, two Swafford houses, Austell house on the east side of the road and two barns on the west side, and the Dub Green house.

The Graham house (c. late 1920s) is the last house on the road.

In addition, there is the **very old Terry Vaughn log house** about one and one half miles from the road just north of Reid Cove. It has no electricity or phone service, and he gets his water from a spring, but it is still occupied by the owner as his principal place of residence. The owner has often volunteered his services to the History project, and he states that the house has been in his family for six generations.

There is a very old and apparently long abandoned cemetery about one hundred yards from the road on the steep mountainside about two hundred yards north of Reid Cove. Some of the graves are crumbling concrete crypts placed on the ground and large trees are growing out of other graves. It is shown on the 7.5-minute quadrangle map for Estill Fork as a Prince Cemetery, but it is not visible from the road

ESTILLFORK

As noted by the historical consultant, this community contains one of the greatest concentrations of historic resources in the district. There are many c. late 1800's, early 1900's structures. Some of the more notable will be listed herein.

Dr. J. A. Gentry House (222 in Survey). County Road 9, Estillfork. (c. 1901). This house was built for Dr. J. A. Gentry, the Valley's first doctor, and his family. (Builder of this house was John Brown Lanham, whose paternal grandfather came to Middle TN area with Polly and Davy Crockett. After Polly Crockett's death, Mr. Lanham moved his family across the mountain into the Valley and Davy only visited in order to go hunting with his friend. Mr. Lanham also built at least two more houses along Co. Rd. 9 that housed some of the individuals who were "caught" in the big Moonshine Bust of the 30's. His daughter, Lexie Lanham who is still living, married Floyd "Pete" Prince who was considered "the Kingpin" of the moonshine operation. He was sent to federal prison along with over a dozen other residents, and he was appointed later as Postmaster for Estillfork, where he served until his retirement).

The Prince Grocery Store and Estillfork Post Office, County Road. 9 (1949). The post office at Estillfork was located in the general store (its services have recently been "suspended" pending a decision by the postal service.) According to Valley residents and newspaper articles, this was the only combined store and post office remaining in Alabama. Locals still meet there to

to play dominoes and cards. The store was bought from the Reid family (Reid family had a son, A. H. Reid, who became a leader in the Southern Baptist Convention, and the chapel at Samford University in Birmingham is named in his honor.) The store was also helpful to the other communities in the Valley because it had "a Peddler" that "rolled" throughout the Valley, becoming a link for communication of local news, easy access to groceries, and a barter exchange.

Lexie and Floyd Prince House (228 in Survey), County Road 9, Estillfork. (c. 1908?), built by Mr. Lanham. Two story wood house with a front gable and tin roof. This house is very obscured by the surrounding forest

Sanders House, built by Mr. Lanham. This is a large two-story house located at the end of County Road 9. This property joins property presently linked with the project of the Nature Conservancy, which has development of the natural heritage of the area as its focus. It is the last house on this road which goes to the Walls of Jericho, an area of steep limestone cliffs near the Tennessee line.

A special booming economy made its presence in the Valley during the 1930s. With the wealth of springs, the isolated nature of the area, the crippling need for money, and the shortage of capital, many Valley residents became prolific in the production of moonshine, according to oral histories and some articles. In the late 1930s, 7 of 8 deacons of Freedom Church were arrested for moonshining near County Road 9. Lewis Sanders of **the Sanders house** and Pete Prince were arrested together. Though no stills remain, at least accessible to an historic survey, some remains are left in the Valley and are commonly known to locals.

Frank Henshaw House. County Road 175, Estillfork. (c. 1910.) One-story early 20th Century vernacular center hall house with a side gabled tin roof. There is a partial central front porch with Victorian-era milled wood posts and trim, and there is a shed tin porch. Also, there is one side stone chimney, and the present owner has covered the house's logs. The house is currently owned by Etheline Gifford Willis, one of the Valley's few remaining quilters who would like to teach others this art.

Margaret Henshaw House. County Road 175, Estillfork. (c. mid-1800s.)

One-story single pen house with a side gabled tin roof. There are 4 over 4 double hung wood windows and a brick end chimney. Valley residents know this as the "Old Slave House."

Swaim House. County Road 9, Estillfork (c. 1920s, 40s).

One-story house with asphalt hipped roof. There is a full front porch that has been partially enclosed, c. 1940s. There are 1:1 double hung wood windows throughout and a concrete foundation.

Bostick Hill United Methodist Church. County Road 9. (c.1940s).

One-story structure with aluminum side and a front gable. There is a partial front porch with a gabled portico and wrought iron posts. There are double front doors and a concrete block foundation.

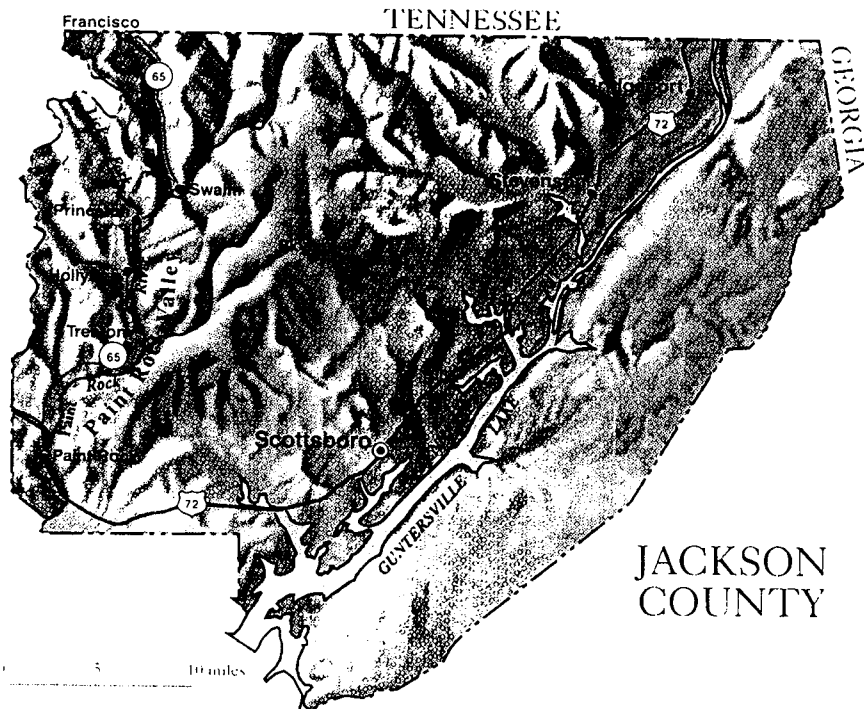
Bell: iron church bell.

PAINT ROCK VALLEY HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

In 2001, the Paint Rock Valley Historical Preservation Committee of the Paint Rock Valley High School and its support organization (the Jackson County Historical Association) received a grant from the Alabama Historical Commission to aid in the registration of approximately 350 standing structures in Paint Rock Valley in Jackson County.

The survey work has been in full swing since October 2001. The historical, architectural, and archaeological significance of the Valley is being committed to paper. Standing structures fifty years old or older and the valley's natural geographical features are being photographed to document the character of each community in the Valley. Senior citizens are being interviewed to collect Jackson County history unique to Paint Rock Valley.

The ultimate goal: Nomination of Paint Rock Valley (as an historic entity) to the National Register of Historic Places based on the survey. Judy Prince is the project director, and Mae Willow Prince is the comptroller of grant funds issued to the Jackson County Historical Association by the Alabama Historical Association.



Above: Mountain-rimmed Paint Rock Valley in the western section of Jackson County



JACKSON COUNTY CHRONICLES

VOLUME 15 NUMBER 3

July 2003

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JACKSON COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION WILL MEET
SUNDAY, July 20, 2003, 2:00 P.M., Impact Learning Center, in the old
Page School building just off Martin Street in Scottsboro, AL.

Program Vice President Donna Haislip is pleased to announce that Frances Robb, independent scholar and member of the Alabama Humanities Foundation speakers bureau will present ALABAMA AT THE MOVIES: THE GOLDEN YEARS . Her slide presentation will be followed by discussion and a sharing of experiences. Frances Robb has curated numerous exhibitions, lectured, presented workshops, and served as a consultant to museums, libraries, and archives in Alabama and the Southeast. She is completing a book on the history of photography in Alabama and has another in the works on dating and identifying family photographs. As you might expect, her presentation on July 20 will be illustrated by historic photographs.

Ann B. Chambliss, Editor
435 Barbee Lane
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abc123@scottsboro.org

VOLUME 15 NUMBER 3

July 2003

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CAN YOU HELP?

**Dixon Hayes of Gadsden is
researching old drive-ins and is
Interested in contacting anyone
who worked at the drive-ins in
Jackson County, especially the
ones in Scottsboro and Bridgeport.
Hayes' email address:
Dixonhayes@aol.com**

Larry Wilson, email:

lwwilso@attg.net, seeks

**Info on Ardell Wright, born ca 1825
in GA, who md. Martha P. Smith and
lived on the Joel Barclay place near
Woodville**

**GROWING UP HARD: MEMORIES OF
JACKSON COUNTY, ALABAMA, IN
THE EARLY TWENTIETH CENTURY**
was published jointly by the author,
Dr. Ronald G. Dykes, and the
Jackson County Historical
Association. Sales have been brisk
and books are available for \$27.50
by mail or may be purchased for
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24807 John T. Reid Pkwy.**

**SHELTON-JONES-KING HOUSE, 414 South Scott Street, Scottsboro, Alabama:
Nominated to Alabama Register of Landmarks and Heritage**

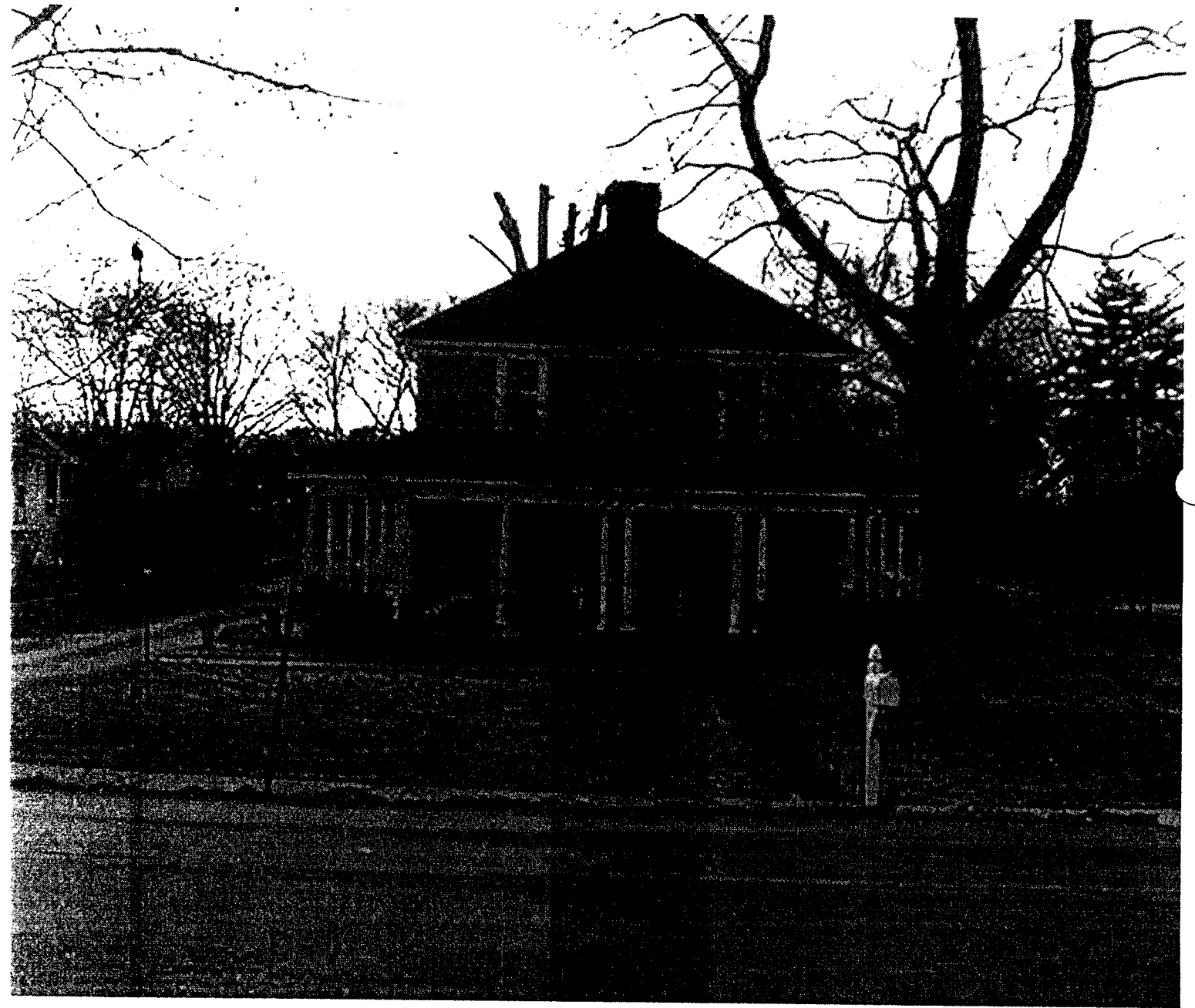
The Shelton-Jones-King House is located at 414 South Scott Street in the second subdivision recorded in the Scottsboro City Plat on March 19, 1889. (First recorded subdivision was the College Hill District of College Avenue.) This two story, Pyramidal-roof house is situated on the original two lots on which it was built which measures 1.10 acres. The roof style is seldom seen in Northern Alabama. The single, massive chimney rising from the point of the roof is also unusual. This style became popular during the middle part of the 19th century, and by the last quarter of the century, and it had many variations. Its popularity can be explained by its association with higher-than-average economic status.

The steep-pyramidal-roof, thin wooden columns, large interior chimney, and encircling veranda exhibit overtones of the French Colonial Style. The house is clad in narrow clapboard siding with plain pilaster corner boards and a plain wooden cornice. The veranda that surrounds three sides of the house projects forward across the front of the house, and the roof is supported by slender, wooden Ionic columns. The placement of windows is symmetrical, though sizes differ, and the front door, with its oval glass and rectangular transom, is off-center.

The open planning of the interior is typical of houses built in this time period. Almost all the rooms in the house surround the large chimney which contains seven flues and has six existing fireplaces. There is a small interior chimney on the west wall in the projecting kitchen. The lower floor contains a large, open entrance hall with stairs featuring an electrically lighted newel post which was originally gas powered. Second-story bath fixtures and plumbing are believed to be original to the house, although city water services were not available for some eight years after its construction.

The house was built for the Delbert Shelton family (probably in 1907), but it has been known locally and historically as the "Bob Jones House." Robert E. Jones, Sr. bought and moved into this house in 1909 after the Sheltons had lived in it only a short while. The late honorable Congressman Robert E. Jones, Jr. was born in this house on June 12, 1912, and his parents maintained the residence until the death of his Mother in 1966. After serving in the U. S. Congress for 15 consecutive terms (1946-1976), Mr. Jones retired to Scottsboro in 1977, where he lived until his death in 1997.

The current owners are Mr. and Mrs. Jerry (Drenda) King. Drenda is serving her third term as President of the Jackson County Historical Association and graciously hosted a JCHA meeting and tour of their historic home in 2000.



HISTORIC SHELTON-JONES-KING HOUSE at 414 South Scott St. in Scottsboro

ONE-HORSE POWER IN SCOTTSBORO, ALABAMA

By Reuben Miller

Time was when the means of mobility for most of us was the shoe leather express or maybe a one-horse power wooden-spoke, steel tire buggy: Not to be confused with boogie, nor woogie, nor "buggie" nor with any other form of infestation....also not to be confused with those with rubber tires. Those were usually known as carriages and quite often had two and four horsepower.

My Grandpappy, Jefferson Davis Wallace (yes, he was named for the Confederate States President) had a splendid old horse named Ed. The family power for mobility was this one horse. Ed was more than just a horse; loyal, faithful Ed was one of the family. Ed's education was acquired. That is to say, he never had any formal training at horse school. Ed learned day by day, doing the horse chores of small scale truck farming. Pappy, as he was called by his children and grandchildren, raised garden produce: tomatoes, lettuce, radishes, spinach, strawberries. Early in the season, he raised the vegetables plants - tomato plants, pepper plants, etc. The year-round delivery was milk and butter. Each member of the family had his chores to do.

Ed, also a member of the family, had his chores. Ed's job was to pull the buggy. Pappy and Ed marketed all this produce, house to house, door to door, in the town of Scottsboro. Ed learned quickly what he was expected to do at each stop. He waited patiently until Pappy returned or he pulled up to the next house if a move was indicated.

Ed was on horsepower. More than that, Ed was one powerful horse. His power was in his horse sense and his trust in his master. He knew the route as well as his navigator at the reins. He knew all the regular stops, passing by those of no delivery, and he could be depended on to make all the turns and maneuvers. In horse smarts, Ed had an honorary Ph.D. The harmony of man and animal was without discord.

However, on a trip to town for other purposes, Ed did need to be reminded that he was not on the regular run of the produce route. At the corner of Willow and South Streets, in the behavior of horse to man language, Ed would seem to be asking, "Shouldn't we stop here; you know this is David Hunt's store?" (regular route stop.) "No, Ed, we're just going straight to town." And all would be well.

When the route was completed, the two stopped at John Owen's Store near the southwest corner of the Square (where Patricia Stewart's law Office is now located) to replenish home supplies. As Pappy turned to go into the store, he would say, "Ed, go on over and hitch yourself to the post. I'll be out in a little while." Ed would trot slowly over to the Courthouse lawn curb and obediently stand by one of the concrete posts with the big round ball on top. Quite contented, Ed would wait, ever so patiently for his companion to emerge ready to travel.

When the supplies were ready: "Ed, come on, let's go home." Ed would turn and bring the buggy, and he and Pappy would make the journey to their Cedar Hill Drive home.

My Pappy Wallace lived at the County Farm and Alms House at various times during Ed's life. Several times, he served in the capacity of keeper of the county's poor or, as they were often referred to, paupers. This home was located on the west face of Poorhouse Mountain. Years later, it housed the T. B. Hospital. From the front porch of the house, you could look over to Roseberry Creek just at the mountain base. The rather pretty foot-bridge or foot-log, flattened for safe walking, complete with hand rail, was clearly in view. The creek there was at least neck deep to an adult. Actually it was the swimming hole. The Courthouse clock chimed the time a mile away. The Brewer homestead and Cedar Hill lay in between.

During the rainy season, Ed had to perform a skillful maneuver – cross the floating bridge over the swollen, treacherous waters of Roseberry Creek. This wooden bridge of logs and heavy lumber, bound together, was anchored at all four corners at each of the banks by four large stobs or posts in a manner that kept it from being swept away and at the same time allowed it to rise or float to the top of the water.

Ed's job was to get horse, Pappy, and buggy safely across to the other side and onto Poorhouse Lane. The road itself was a challenge to most horses. It was full of mudholes and near boulder size rocks; part of the way was actually through the bed of the spring branch which still flows under the Old Larkinsville Road and behind Dr. J. T. Sanders' old animal hospital. (Old Larkinsville Road was then Robert E. Lee Highway which reached from the nation's capitol to Memphis, TN.

Try to imagine the buggy wheels in several inches of water. The tops of the banks were at eye level. Horse, man, and buggy were all out of sight. But this was actually a short span of the access to old County Alms house, all of which was merely duck soup for Ed. Crossing Roseberry at high water was Ed's superior achievement, his shining hour. He would approach that floating wooden bridge cautiously, then turn his head to his master for the word or sign to proceed. Receiving word and tone of voice instructions, he would advance toward that tricky, bobbing, bouncing source of danger.

The first step planted one hoof on. Then carefully the second hoof came on, waiting a few seconds as the bouncing bridge settled a little. Next came Ed's hind hooves, and the bridge with Ed's full weight was brought to bank level. Then the wheels could roll aboard, and Ed took man, horse, and machine safely across the raging waters of the swollen creek. All the while, Mammy Wallace watched nervously from the front porch of the County Farm house.

The family shed tears when it came Ed's time to go, and the townspeople did, too. Time had gradually brought him the usual bad health that comes to God's creatures, and one cold morning in the dead of winter, Ed could not rise to his normally reliable all fours. Efforts to administer medicines were to no avail.

From what we knew about this remarkable animal, it is easy to imagine what Ed's final thoughts were. We believe he would have worried about who would do his family chores. He would have been especially concerned because earlier that year Ed's master, the head of the family, had received his call and gone on. Both had been faithful, each to the other, and faithful to their duties to the ends of their lives.

Not long after I retired and returned home to Scottsboro, I boarded the crutch tip express and went to Roseberry Creek where I swam and fished as a boy. That portion extended from what is now Marvin's on Highway 35 to what was then called Worthington's Drift, known mainly to old time fishermen and upstream a short distance from Double Bridges at Highway 79, in the woods, just about behind the VFW building today.

At that time only the home house and barn remained on the County Farm. The spring-fed gravity water system was still intact complete with overflow continuing across the Wood's Cove Road leading south down by the barn. Now both barn and house are gone, taken down some time after I came back home and got Mary from Tennessee. (Izear Knight was probably the last to rent and live in the house.) There is one constant: The chiming of the courthouse clock is still clear.....still a mile away.

EDMOND FAWLIN
Copyrighted by Patty Woodall, 2003

Edmond Fawlin registered for a reservation on November 6, 1818, with 6 members in his family being on the path leading from Crow Town to Gunter's Ferry about 12 miles west of Crow Town. This was reservation number 146.¹ His reservation was never surveyed, and, therefore, the exact location of the reserve is unknown since it was not marked on the Jackson County, Alabama map.

In March 1827, Hugh Montgomery, the Cherokee Agent, wrote a letter to James Barbour, the Secretary of War in Washington, stating that Edmond Fawlin did not reside on ceded lands and was not entitled to a reservation.² There were several illegal reservations taken in Jackson County, which included the Fawlin reserve.

Edmond Fawlin was born about 1788 and died by March 1827.³ He was the son of William and Mary (Emory) Fawlin. Edmond married Nellie Lowrey about 1807. Nellie was the daughter of Nannie Watts and George Lowrey. In the abovementioned letter, Hugh Montgomery referred to the Widow Fawlin as a "poor blind woman with seven or eight heipless children".⁴

Edmond and Nellie (Lowrey) had the following children:⁵

1. Edmond Fawlin was born about 1808.
2. Joseph Fawlin was born about 1810.
3. Rim Fawlin was born about 1812.
4. Ellis Fawlin was born about 1814 and died about 1863.
5. Edward Fawlin was born about 1818. He married Margaret Ah-ne-wa-kee Smith.
6. James Fawlin was born about 1820.
7. Elizabeth Fawlin was born about 1822. She married first Hiram Moody and second Samuel Scharble.
8. Susie Fawlin was born about 1827. She married first Isaac Timmons and second Thomas Smith.

¹ Cherokee Reservees, David Keith Hampton, p. 6.

² National Archives, Washington, D.C., Bureau of Indian Affairs, Microfilm M-208, Roll 10, Cherokee Indian Agency in Tennessee 1801-1835, Agency Letter Book Dec 30, 1822-Dec 27, 1827.

³ <http://familytreemaker.genealogy.com/users/h/i/c/James-R-Hicks/index.html> and History of the Cherokee Indians, by Emmett Starr. National Archives, Washington, D.C., Bureau of Indian Affairs, Microfilm M-208, Roll 10, Cherokee Indian Agency in Tennessee 1801-1835, Agency Letter Book Dec 30, 1822-Dec 27, 1827.

⁴ National Archives, Washington, D.C., Bureau of Indian Affairs, Microfilm M-208, Roll 10, Cherokee Indian Agency in Tennessee 1801-1835, Agency Letter Book Dec 30, 1822-Dec 27, 1827.

⁵ <http://familytreemaker.genealogy.com/users/h/i/c/James-R-Hicks/index.html> and History of the Cherokee Indians, by Emmett Starr.

JACKSON COUNTY VOLUNTEERS FIND RARE LINCOLN SIGNATURE
by Ann B. Chambless and Ralph Mackey

Volunteers, many also members of the Jackson County Historical Association, have been processing and flattening old Jackson County Probate Court case records located in the ancient, tin-box files in the basement of the Courthouse since February 2003. The project is sponsored jointly by the Alabama Department of Archives and History and Probate Judge Floyd Hambrick who chose Donna Haislip (JCHA Program Vice President) as his office coordinator. Once all the documents are inventoried, recorded, and stored flat in acid free folders, they will be microfilmed to insure long-term preservation and availability.

It did not take these dedicated volunteers long to make a momentous discovery: a voucher signed by President Abraham Lincoln. It was part of the estate file of Williamson Robert Winfield Cobb, whom Lincoln appointed provisional governor of Alabama in 1863 (when some northern counties were in Union hands.) Apparently, Cobb never served in the office or redeemed the \$5,000 voucher for his pay.

According to a 1975 ALABAMA REVIEW article by Dr. Leah Atkins, W.R.W. Cobb, a staunch Unionist elected to the U.S. Congress in 1847, was the last of Alabama's legislative delegation to leave Washington in 1861. Although elected to the Confederate House of Representatives in 1863, he was considered suspect, and the House unanimously voted to expel him. Cobb died the next year while mending a fence on his plantation, after his pistol unexpectedly discharged.

Curators at the Alabama Department of Archives and History have determined the Lincoln signature is almost certainly genuine. Judge Hambrick and clerk Donna Haislip immediately placed Cobb's file in the Probate vault for safekeeping.

Although subsequent work has not been quite that electrifying, all the old documents collectively define this county's heritage and culture from the mid-1850s through the early part of the 20th century.

insight into life in the county proves numerous residents departed this life at what we now consider a young age, leaving insufficient resources to cover their obligations. In many cases, the small amount of residual estates makes one wonder how the young, surviving parent managed to survive. Some family estate inventories show the value of items in days gone by. Debts were evident from the store bills from a host of businesses and small merchants throughout Jackson County.

JACKSON COUNTY VOLUNTEERS FIND RARE LINCOLN SIGNATURE (Continued)

One old Land Office certificate was printed on genuine sheepskin. There was a certificate authorizing an 80-acre bounty land warrant for military service in the Florida Indian War. A \$100.00 CSA bond, paying 8 per cent interest, was found. It had been an investment by a guardian for the minor in his charge. Only one of the twelve coupons had been clipped for redemption before the bond lost its value. There were several well-worn Confederate \$2.00 and \$5.00 bills in one file. Files from old prohibition issues furnish names of eligible male voters in a number of communities. Incorporation of some of the county's early towns record community history.

Volunteers work as their personal schedules permit. As of June, the following have contributed their time to this worthwhile project:

Ralph Mackey, John and Helen Neely, Walter Proctor, Lena Cagle, Ruby Hahn, Bob and Barbara Crossley, Bob Dean, Shirley Haislip, Brad Howland, Mildred Lasater, Bo and Margaret Ann Loyd, Sue McLaughlin, Paula Michael, Mariand and Elizabeth Mountain, Garry Morgan, Betty Keeble Roberts, Frances Worley, Wm. Roy Reed, Thelma Snodgrass, Mae Willow Prince, Jen Henninger Stewart, and Scott Stewart.

It is not too late for YOU to get involved in this project. You could be the next volunteer to make an exciting discovery.

To the Hon David Tate, Judge of Probate of the
County of Jackson, State of Alabama,
your petitioner, W. H. Smith, administrator
of the estate of Robert Nichole, deceased,
Shows to your Honor that there belongs to
Said estate Seven heads of Yearlings,
fifty bushels of Corn, one Ladies Saddle,
one Red Steed and one Bed, which is
over and above what the law allows
to the Widow and Children of Said
estate, and that it necessary to see
Said property for payment of debts
due from Said estate, and that said
property is perishable and liable to
waste.

Wherefore, petitioner prays an order
of Sale to Sell Said property for Cash,
on the premises of Said decedent,

W. H. Norwood

Atty for petitioner,

Feb 1873

LOVELY FERN CLIFF PROPERTY TO BE AUCTIONED (October 1936)

Source: THE SENTINEL dated October 22, 1936

Thursday and Friday, October 29th and 30th, will give the public a buying chance.

For years and years people in and around Scottsboro have gazed longingly at the majestic brow of towering Sand Mountain across the Tennessee River to the east of our city and thought, or said: "What a wonderful spot for a summer home or small farm place."

But there was always the dangerous and slow river ferry and later the expensive toll bridge standing in the way. But now the ferry and toll are gone forever and a fifteen minute car drive over good highways carries you to the top of the mountain and along the brow road to beautiful Fern Cliff overlooking so many miles of the winding Tennessee River and the fertile valley. And very soon it will stand high above the deep blue waters of the TVA Guntersville dam reservoir - truly one of the most enthralling scenic spots in the entire United States and quickly accessible to modern towns and conveniences.

This property has been owned for a long time by local people - J. W. Gay of Scottsboro, and Marvin Campbell and J. Arthur Williams of Section. They are going to cut it up in lots and small tracts and have it sold at auction on next Thursday and Friday, October 29th and 30th. This sale will be bonafide in every way and clear titles are immediately available to all purchasers.

This means that the Fern Cliff area is now to be developed and will soon have a population of many families both in summer and permanent homes. Sand Mountain, according to actual official figures, is one of the healthiest places in the entire South, and, with the other surrounding areas of Fern Cliff neighborhood already inhabited by the best type of American white citizenship, it will be ideal for either a summer colony or permanent residence.

Full details of the two days auction sale will be found in the page advertisements in this issue of The Sentinel. The public is invited to drive out and inspect the property at any time before or on sale days. If nothing else, you will see some magnificent scenery that you will admit is unsurpassed.

CONFEDERATE PRISONERS BURIED CAMP CHASE CONFEDERATE CEMETERY
by Ann B. Chambless

Built on the western outskirts of Columbus, Ohio, Camp Chase began as a training camp for Union volunteers in 1861. By 1863, the facility was used as a Federal prison camp. Original facilities for 3,500 – 4,000 men were jammed with as many as 10,000 prisoners by the end of the Civil War. Shoddy barracks, low muddy ground, open latrines, aboveground open cisterns, a brief smallpox outbreak, and poor nutrition took their toll of lives. At least 1,087 Confederate soldiers' graves can be found in the Camp Chase Confederate Cemetery. In 1906, white marble headstones were placed on all graves.

The Camp Chase website at www.censusdiggings.com/prison_campchase.html provides an index for burials. The following may have been from Jackson Co:

PVT ALEX P. AMBRESTER, who first served in Young's Nitre and Mining Company, died Mar 8, 1864 (Row 4, No. 30, Grave 121)

PVT JOHN (Snead) BARBER, 4TH AL CAV, d. Dec 31, 1863, Row 2, No. 37, Grave 59 (son of Elias and Margaret (Eustace) Barber of old Bellefonte, AL)

SGT A. F. BEASLEY, 4th AL CAV, died Feb 1, 1865, Row 24, No. 60, Grave 1005

PVT CHARLES BOYLES, 55TH AL, d. Dec 9, 1864, Row 17, No. 28, Grave 579

PVT J.A. CAIN, 55TH AL, d. Nov 27, 1863, Row 40, No. 2, Grave 2024

PVT WM CAMP, 4th AL CAV, died Jan 19, 1865, Row 25, No. 62, Grave 955

PVT W.L. CHAMBERS, 4TH AL CAV, d. Feb 10, 1865, Row 28, No. 37, Grave 1162

PVT JOHN CLARK, 4TH AL CAV, died May 10, 1865, Row 39, N. 3, Grave 1951

CPL ELI ENGLISH, AL INF, died Feb 3, 1865, Row 26, No. 36, Grave 1018

PVT JOHN ELKIN, 4th AL CAV, died Feb 26, 1865, Row 32, No. 38, Grave 1446

PVT A.J. GLADDISH, 4th AL CAV, d. Feb 17, 1865, Row 30, No. 45, Grave 1309

PVT DANIEL GUNTER, 34TH AL INF, d. Apr 12, 1865, Row 37, No 66, Grave 1854

PVT GEORGE JENKINS, 55th AL, d. Mar 3, 1865, Row 33, No. 34, Grave 1518

PVT WM. JENKINS, 55th AL, d. Feb 5, 1865, Row 26, No. 67, Grave 1080

PVT DANIEL KELLY, 4th AL CAV, d. Aug 13, 1863, Row 1, No. 5, Grave 5

PVT J.M. LANDERS, 4TH AL CAV, d. ?, Row 27, No. 47, Grave 1096

PVT M. B. MORGAN, 4th AL CAV, d. Jun 10, 1865, Row 40, No. 13, Grave 2035

PVT JOHN RAINS, 55TH AL, d. Apr 10, 1865, Row 37, No. 50, Grave 1839

PVT GEO.W.D. ROBERTSON, 4th AL, d. Dec 13, 1864, Row 18, No 20, Grave 610

PVT J.N.B. ROGERS, 4th ALCV, d. Jan 28, 1865, Row 25, No. 19, Grave 933

PVT THOMAS STOGSDILL, 55th AL, d. Jan 26, 1865, Row 24, No. 40, Grave 900

PVT R. TIPTON, 4th AL CAV, d. Feb 18, 1865, Row 30, No. 56, Grave 1325

PVT PLEASANT TYLER, 4th AL CAV, d. Feb 19, 1865, Row 31, No. 6, Grave 1338

PVT WM WILDMAN, 55th AL, d. Apr 2, 1865, Row 37, No. 14, Grave 1805

PVT J.A. WOODALL, 4th AL CAV, d. Feb 15, 1865, Row 30, No. 39, Grave 1282

PVT G.T.M. WRIGHT, 4th AL CAV, d. May 7, 1865, Row 39, No. 33, Grave 1981

Pvt. Allen Box, Co G, 42nd AL, first husband of Permelia Haney of Jackson Co, AL, was captured Oct 13, 1862, died Feb 4, 1863, buried Alton Federal Prison.



JACKSON COUNTY CHRONICLES

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JACKSON COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION WILL MEET
SUNDAY, OCT 19, 2003, 2:00 P.M. Home of Georgia Ruth Berry
County Road 30 at Spout Spring, east of Woodville, AL
Program Vice-President Donna Haislip and the Berry Family invite you
to step back in time, enjoy old-time hospitality in one of the county's
most historic settings, and sample the beauty and pure water of Spout
Springs, a focal point of the Joseph Elliott Cherokee reservation.
BRING YOUR LAWN CHAIR and wear comfortable shoes for an
autumn outing. Kenny and Ray Berry will display Indian artifacts and
share their musical talents as they sing for us. SEE PAGE 2 FOR
DRIVING DIRECTIONS TO REACH MRS. BERRY'S HOME.

Ann B. Chambless, Editor
435 Barbee Lane
Scottsboro, AL 35769-3745
Email:
abc123@scottsboro.org

VOLUME 15 NUMBER 4

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PLEASE INCLUDE 9 DIGIT
ZIP CODE with your
membership renewal. IF
YOUR ADDRESS CHANGES,
please notify the JCHA to
assure continuity in mailings.

ANNUAL DUES: \$10.00 (due Jan 1)
LIFE MEMBERSHIP: \$100.00
Please mail your check to:
JCHA TREASURER
P. O. Box 1494
Scottsboro, AL 35768-1494



Jackson County Historical
Association
P.O. Box 1494
Scottsboro, AL 35768-1494

OCT 19, 2003 PROGRAM
Georgia Ruth Berry Home
Spout Spring east of Woodville
County Road 30
(old Larkinsville Road to Woodville)

DRIVING DIRECTIONS:

From Scottsboro, travel Hwy 72 West to Aspel. Turn RIGHT On CO RD 11, just before the concrete yard sculpture place. At intersection of CO Rd 11 and Hwy 35 at Limrock, turn LEFT onto Hwy 35 (toward Woodville) and go about 2 miles to the Stephens Gap crossing. From there you will be able to see CO RD 30 on the right, since it is just a few 100 feet from Hwy 35. Turn RIGHT off Hwy 35, cross the railroad tracks, and at CO RD 30 turn LEFT and go toward Woodville about 5 or 6 miles to Spout Spring. Mrs. Berry's house is on the RIGHT in a sharp curve to the left. The house is very close to the road with a spring running under it and one coming out of the mountain to the left of the house.

DON'T FORGET TO BRING A LAWN CHAIR and dress for program on the Berry lawn.

CORRECTION:

In July 2003 CHRONICLES, article on Shelton-Jones-King House, Page 3, please correct the date the house was built from 1907 TO 1905.

QUESTION:

Does anyone have an old picture of the early Shelton-Jones-King House to share with the present owners, Drenda and Jerry King? if so, Drenda would love to hear from you.

Kudos to NORTH JACKSON BANK for paying the postage to mail the October CHRONICLES. North Jackson Bank, "The Bank with your Interest at Heart": Stevenson, Bridgeport, and Stevenson.

JOSEPH ELLIOTT

Copyrighted by Patty Woodall, 2003

Joseph Elliott registered for a 640-acre reservation on July 2, 1819, under the Treaty of 1817 with the Cherokees. His reservation, (number 182) was located at the double branch spring waters of Paint Rock Creek west of Sauta and included his dwelling house and his improvements.¹ Situated east of Woodville, most of the reservation was in Sections 25 and 30 in Township 4 South, Range 3 East.² In 1828, the list of reserves, which had been surveyed and were exempt from land sales and entered on the books at the Huntsville Land Office, was sent to the Office of Indian Affairs and included the reserve of Joseph Elliott.³

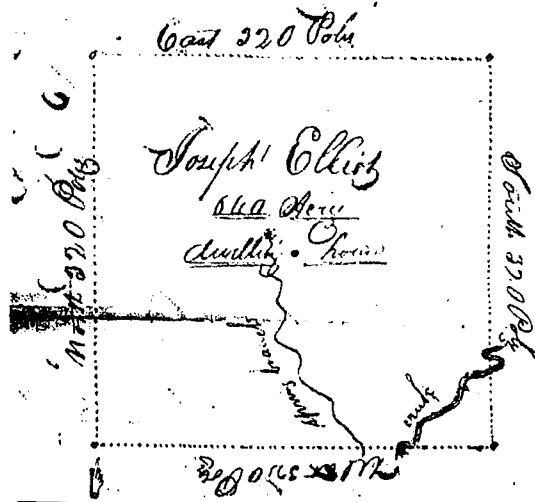


Figure 1 - Survey of Joseph Elliott's reservation.

David I. Elliott wrote two letters explaining the Cherokee ancestry of his family. He was the son of David Elliott and the grandson of Joseph Elliott who received the reservation. In one letter he stated that his great-grandfather was a white man who was married twice with his first wife being a white woman and his second wife being a Cherokee woman. Unfortunately, David I. Elliott did not know the name of the Cherokee wife from whom he descended.⁴ In another letter David I. Elliott stated that his grandfather was Joseph Elliott whose father was also named Joseph who married a half-breed Cherokee woman.⁵

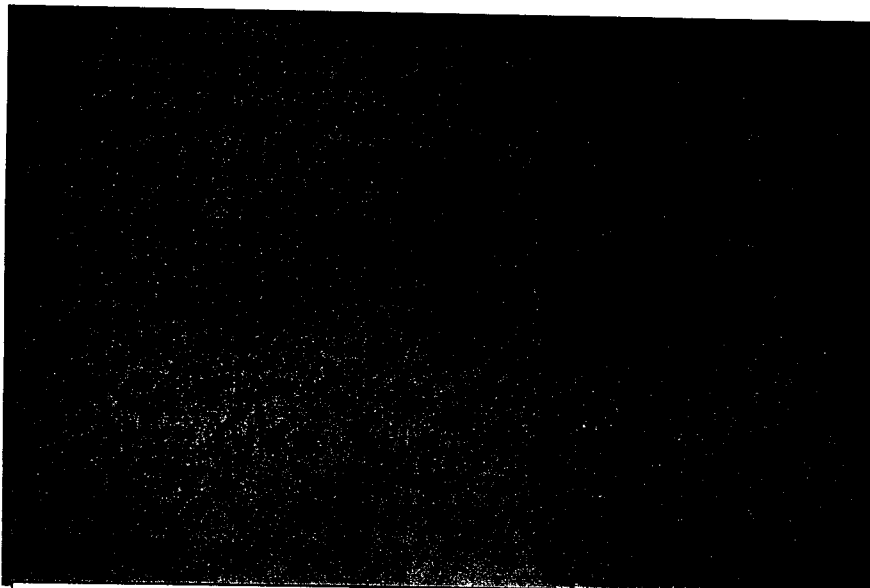


Figure 2 - Deposition of Joseph Elliott, Sr.

The only other mention of Joseph Elliott, Sr., great-grandfather of David I. Elliott, was found in Madison County, Mississippi Territory, later Alabama, which states "This day came pearsonley [sic] Joseph Ellet [sic] befor [sic] me John Binnion one of the Justices of the Peace in and for said county and makes oath that Joseph Ellet [sic] is a quartear roon [sic] (quadroon) of the Chericea [sic] (Cherokee) tribe

and he himself a full blooded [sic] Crittendon [sic] to the best of his skill and knowledge [sic] 29 April 1815.”⁶ Even though it was dated in 1815, it was not filed until December 22, 1824. Joseph Elliott, Sr. signed with his mark meaning he could not write his name. It is uncertain why Joseph Sr. felt the need to make a deposition stating the degree of Indian blood of his son.

Joseph Elliott Sr. was married twice.⁷ His first wife was a white woman and they had one child:

1. John “Jack” Elliott married Elizabeth Foreman, a Cherokee woman.

Joseph’s second wife was a Cherokee woman whose name is unknown and by whom he had two children:

1. Margaret “Peggy” Elliott married Sutton Stephens who received a reservation in right of his wife.
2. Joseph Elliott Jr. received a reservation.⁸

Joseph Elliott, who received the reservation, died between August 14, 1847 and January 3, 1848.⁹ He was married to Martha Winford.¹⁰ It is uncertain when Martha died. She was not listed on the 1840 Jackson County, Alabama census with her husband, which showed he had 14 slaves. However, on the same census living in the household of her son, Winford Elliott, is a female aged between 50 and 60 years old. Winford’s wife was not listed on this census and was apparently deceased. Winford had three children less than five years of age. It is possible that Martha (Winford) Elliott, the mother of

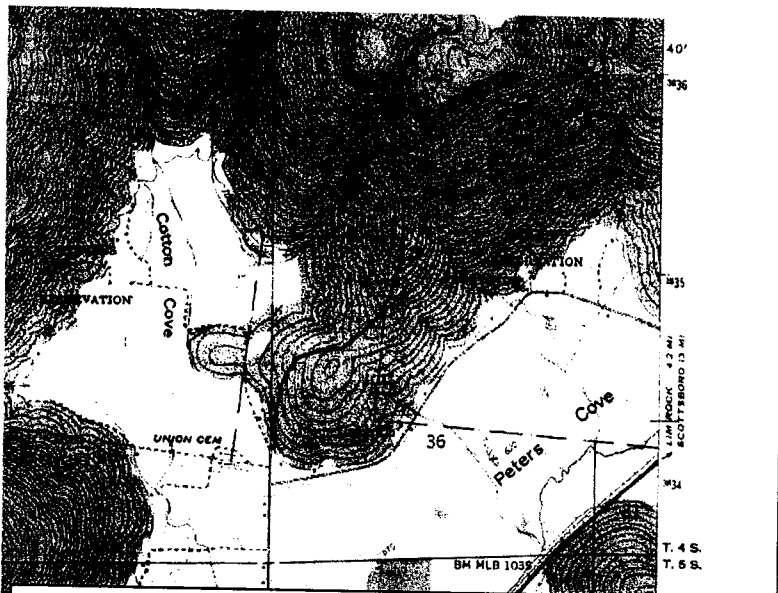


Figure 3 - Topographical map showing proximity of the Elliott and Sutton Reservations.

Winford, was living with him to take care of his children. At any event, Martha Elliott was deceased by 1850 since she was not listed on the 1850 census.

Guion Miller Claims #11733, 11740, 11789 and 11790 give the same list of children for Joseph and Martha Elliott. The exact birth order of their children is unknown and the order below is not necessarily accurate. The children are:

1. Mahala “Hiley” Elliott was born about 1799¹¹ and died November 5, 1873 Marshall County, AL. She married Absalom Hillin who died August 19, 1842 in Marshall County, AL.¹² On October 1, 1830 Absalom Hillin entered 80.3 acres near the Jackson County and Marshall County lines.¹³ In 1854 Mahala Hillin was paid \$464.10 per capita money for herself and four children.¹⁴ She was living in Marshall County, Alabama in 1850.¹⁵

2. Joseph Josiah Elliott was born about 1800¹⁶ and died 1838.¹⁷ He married Nancy Childress who was born about 1806¹⁸ and died 1884.¹⁹ A Joseph Elliott, Jr. enrolled for emigration February 27, 1829 from Little Raccoon Creek, AL.²⁰ In 1854 Nancy (Childress) Elliott, widow of Joseph Josiah Elliott, received \$371.20 per capita money for herself and three children.²¹
3. James Elliott was born about 1802²² and died about 1839.²³ He married Matilda who was born about 1807.²⁴ A James Elliott with 2 slaves enrolled for emigration January 20, 1829, from Crow Town, AL.²⁵ James emigrated with 6 mixed Cherokees in his family. He abandoned three houses, 12 acres of land and two fruit trees valued at \$256.00 on June 6, 1829.²⁶ On July 16, 1831 James received \$256.00 for the value of his improvement abandoned east of the Mississippi under the Treaty of 1828.²⁷ Apparently, the family returned to Alabama since in 1854 Matilda Elliott was paid \$278.46 per capita money for herself and two children.²⁸ Also, in 1854 Caroline (Elliott) Johnson, daughter of Matilda Elliott, was paid \$371.28 per capita money for herself and three children.²⁹
4. Martha "Frankie" Elliott was born about 1804³⁰ and died before 1840.³¹ She married Matthew Killingsworth who was born about 1799.³² In 1854 Matthew Killingsworth received \$371.28 per capita money for himself and three children.³³ Also, in 1854 Matilda (Killingsworth) Dukes, daughter of Matthew Killingsworth, received \$278.46 per capita money for herself and two children.³⁴ Mahala Killingsworth, daughter of Matthew Killingsworth, received \$92.82 per capita money.³⁵ William Killingsworth, son of Matthew Killingsworth, received \$92.82 per capita money.³⁶
5. John Elliott born about 1806.³⁷ He was listed as a son of Joseph in Guion Miller claims #11733, 11790 and 11789. On February 25, 1829, he enrolled for emigration with five in his family from Little Raccoon Creek, Alabama.³⁸ In November 1833 John Elliott received \$967.00 for his improvement which was drawn in favor of T. Chisholm and N. [Nelson] Riley, administrators.³⁹ He must have returned east because his niece, Martha A. (Elliott) Davis, stated in her Guion Miller claim that "In 1838 or 1839 the soldiers came to my fathers house and took my mother and her children to move them west to the Indian Territory, and my mother was sick at the time. The first night we camped my Grandfather with some Soldiers came to us and my mother with her children was allowed to return home and my Uncle John went on with the Indians and soldiers west."⁴⁰
6. Winford Elliott was born about 1808⁴¹ and died 1859.⁴² His wife's name is unknown. On the 1840 Jackson County, Alabama census he had no wife but had 2 sons and 1 daughter less than 5 years of age.
7. George Elliott was born 1810⁴³ and died May or June 1866.⁴⁴ George Elliott enrolled for emigration January 20, 1829 from Crow Town, AL.⁴⁵ On July 30, 1831 George received \$555.00 for the subsistence, transportation and other expenses of himself and other Cherokees emigrating from the east to west of the Mississippi.⁴⁶ There was a George Elliott on the 1860 DeKalb County, Alabama census aged 54. In the Citizenship papers filed in Oklahoma, this is the George Elliott that was supposedly referred to as being Negro rather than Cherokee. In 1854 George received \$92.82 per capita money.⁴⁷
8. David Elliott was born about 1814⁴⁸ and died August 9, 1872.⁴⁹ He married 1st Nancy Tarp who died 1841.⁵⁰ He married 2nd Dorothy who was born about 1818⁵¹ and died January 16, 1889.⁵² David I. Elliott, son of David, stated in a letter that his father, David Elliott, had a place in Jackson County, Alabama and in 1838 he was paid for his improvements under the Treaty of 1835.⁵³

He further stated that his father received \$92.82 per capita money.⁵⁴ Actually David received \$649.74 per capita money: \$92.82 for himself and each of his six children.⁵⁵ David I. Elliott had requested a statement of payments from the Department of the Interior made to David Elliott under the Treaty of 1835. In their reply, it was stated that on April 3, 1838, David Elliott of Creek Path, Jackson County, Alabama had received a payment of \$708.75 for valuation of improvements under the said Treaty.⁵⁶ David Elliott moved his family to Titus County, Texas after 1851.⁵⁷

9. Mary "Polly" Elliott was born about 1815⁵⁸ and died 1877 at Fort Smith, Indian Territory.⁵⁹ She married Eldridge Vaughn according to their grandson, John W. Vaughn.⁶⁰ John W. Vaughn further stated that his grandmother drew \$1200 in Indian land warrant as past pay and that the government notified her there was a balance of \$998 due her and her children from the Treaty of 1836 in Alabama. In 1854 Mary (Elliott) Vaughn received \$371.28 per capita money for herself and three children.⁶¹ Also, in 1854 Josiah Elliott Vaughn, son of Mary Vaughn, received \$92.82 per capita money.⁶²

10. William Elliott was born about 1816.⁶³

11. Richard N. Elliott was born about 1820⁶⁴ and died October 1852 in Bedford County, Tennessee.⁶⁵ He married Eliza Smith who was born about 1830.⁶⁶

For whatever reason, Joseph Elliott wanted to sell his reservation but had received it with a life estate meaning he could not sell. Therefore, he petitioned Congress stating "that, as a native of the Cherokee Nation of Indians, he is possessed ... of a tract of land which must descend at his death to his heirs, and praying, for reasons set forth in his petition, that he may be permitted to sell and dispose of his said land."⁶⁷ This petition was referred to the Committee on Public Lands, which was instructed to inquire into the expediency of allowing Joseph Elliott a fee simple estate in his reservation.⁶⁸ However, the Committee resolved that Joseph could withdraw his petition and, therefore, nothing was accomplished.⁶⁹

Several years later, Joseph Elliott, again, petitioned the Committee on Public Lands to forego the in fee simple part of his reservation since he was "shown to be individual of industrious habits and ordinarily discreet and prudent in the management of his interests". The Committee was "induced to relieve the petitioner by providing against the forfeiture of his life estate by removal from the same."⁷⁰ This petition was passed to the Senate where it was finally approved and signed by The President of the United States.⁷¹ The United States had finally agreed Joseph Elliott could sell his reservation although there were several provisions attached as follows:

- That only six hundred and forty acres shall be granted by virtue of this act.
- That the said Joseph Elliott, with his family, shall remove to the Cherokee tribe west of the Mississippi River and that the Government of the United States shall not be chargeable with the expense of their removal or transportation or with any allowance of land to, or on account of, the said Elliott or his family or for the support of either after their arrival in the country of said tribe.

- That no conveyance or deed, of said lands, or any part thereof, shall be valid or effectual until such conveyance or deed shall be submitted to one of the district attorneys of the districts of Alabama for his approbation and if after inquiry into the facts and circumstances attending the contract for the sale of said lands, he shall be satisfied that such contract is fair, and the consideration paid, or agreed to be paid therefore, is adequate, he shall endorse his approbation on such conveyance and deed so approved and thereafter the same shall be deemed valid and effectual.⁷²

Finally, Joseph Elliott was able to legally sell his reservation. However, no deed has been found showing when or to whom it was sold although it appears that Dr. Francis Dillard bought the Elliott reservation.⁷³ Joseph did move west of the Mississippi River for a year or so but certainly did not remain there. The 1840 and 1850 census of Jackson County, Alabama, the 1851 Siler Roll and the 1854 Act of Congress Roll show that Joseph and most of his children were in Jackson County, Alabama.

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- ¹ *Cherokee Reservees*, by David Keith Hampton p, 1-12.
- ² *Old Land Records of Jackson County, Alabama*, by Margaret Matthews Cowart, p. 47.
- ³ Bureau of Indian Affairs, Microfilm M-234, Roll 117, Letters Received by the Office of Indian Affairs: Cherokee Reservees 1828-1840, dated November 14, 1828.
- ⁴ Guion Miller Claim #3906 for John W. Vaughn.
- ⁵ Guion Miller Claim #11732 for William Hillin.
- ⁶ Madison County, Alabama, Deed Book IJ, p. 277.
- ⁷ Guion Miller Claim #11732 for William Hillin.
- ⁸ Guion Miller Claim #11790 by Martha A. (Elliott) Davis, granddaughter of Joseph and Martha (Winford) Elliott. She gave the full name of her grandmother, Martha (Winford) Elliott.
- ⁹ Jackson County, Alabama Circuit Court Book 1849-1851, p. 200-202. This book is found at the Heritage Center in Scottsboro, Alabama.
- ¹⁰ Guion Miller Claim #11790 by Martha A. (Elliott) Davis, granddaughter of Joseph and Martha (Winford) Elliott. She gave the full name of her grandmother, Martha (Winford) Elliott.
- ¹¹ 1851 Siler Report states she was born in 1797; 1850 Marshall Co, AL states she was born about 1810; 1860 Marshall Co, AL states she was born about 1804; 1870 Marshall Co, AL states she was born about 1800. So, her birth date is just a guess based on above census rolls.
- ¹² Marshall County, AL Orphans Court, p. 184 dated October 17, 1842.
- ¹³ *Old Land Records of Jackson County, Alabama*, by Margaret Matthews Cowart, p. 160.
- ¹⁴ 1854 Act of Congress Roll, A Supplemental Roll to the Siler Roll.
- ¹⁵ 1850 Marshall Co, AL census.
- ¹⁶ This is just a guess.
- ¹⁷ Guion Miller Claim #11736 for Louisa J. (Elliott) Ligon, his daughter.
- ¹⁸ 1850 Jackson Co, AL census.
- ¹⁹ Guion Miller Claim #11736 for Louisa J. (Elliott) Ligon, his daughter, gave her mother's full name and death date.
- ²⁰ *Cherokee Emigration Rolls 1817 – 1835*, by Jack D. Baker, p. 20.
- ²¹ 1854 Act of Congress Roll, A Supplemental Roll to the Siler Roll.
- ²² This is just a guess.
- ²³ He was not on the 1840 Jackson Co, AL census and his last two children were born between 1835 and 1840.
- ²⁴ 1850 Jackson Co, AL census.
- ²⁵ *Cherokee Emigration Rolls 1817 – 1835*, by Jack D. Baker, p. 20.
- ²⁶ National Archives, Washington, D.C., Bureau of Indian Affairs, Record Group 75, Microfilm M-234, Roll 113, Letters Received by the Office of Indian affairs: Cherokee Emigration 1828-1836, Quarterly report of the commissioners for the Valuation of Improvements Abandoned by the Cherokees to remove to Arkansas, dated June 6, 1829.
- ²⁷ United States Serial Set, 23rd Congress, 1833-1835, Senate Document 512, No. 248, p. 178.

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- ²⁸ 1854 Act of Congress Roll, A Supplemental Roll to the Siler Roll.
- ²⁹ 1854 Act of Congress Roll, A Supplemental Roll to the Siler Roll.
- ³⁰ This is just a guess.
- ³¹ She is not on the 1840 Jackson Co, AL census with her husband.
- ³² 1850 Jackson Co, AL census.
- ³³ 1854 Act of Congress Roll, A Supplemental Roll to the Siler Roll.
- ³⁴ 1854 Act of Congress Roll, A Supplemental Roll to the Siler Roll.
- ³⁵ 1854 Act of Congress Roll, A Supplemental Roll to the Siler Roll.
- ³⁶ 1854 Act of Congress Roll, A Supplemental Roll to the Siler Roll.
- ³⁷ This is just a guess.
- ³⁸ *Cherokee Emigration Rolls 1817 – 1835*, by Jack D. Baker, p. 20.
- ³⁹ United States Serial Set, 23rd Congress, 1833-1835, Senate Document 512, No. 248, p. 167.
- ⁴⁰ Guion Miller claim #11790 by Martha A. Davis, daughter of David Elliott.
- ⁴¹ 1840 Jackson Co, AL shows he was born between 1800 and 1810.
- ⁴² Guion Miller Claims #11733, 11790 and 11789.
- ⁴³ 1851 Siler Report.
- ⁴⁴ Jackson County, Alabama Chancery Index for 1866 Docket # 1, p. 4. This book is found at the Heritage Center in Scottsboro, Alabama.
- ⁴⁵ *Cherokee Emigration Rolls 1817 – 1835*, by Jack D. Baker, p. 20.
- ⁴⁶ United States Serial Set, 23rd Congress, 1833-1835, Senate Document 512, No. 248, p. 178.
- ⁴⁷ 1854 Act of Congress Roll, A Supplemental Roll to the Siler Roll.
- ⁴⁸ 1851 Siler Roll
- ⁴⁹ Guion Miller Claim #11789 by David I. Elliott, son of David Elliott.
- ⁵⁰ Guion Miller Claim #11790 by Martha A. (Elliott) Davis, daughter of David and Nancy, who gave her mother's full name and death date.
- ⁵¹ 1850 Jackson Co, AL census.
- ⁵² Guion Miller Claim #11789 by David I. Elliott, son of David Elliott.
- ⁵³ Guion Miller Claim #11732 by William Hillin which included a letter from David I. Elliott.
- ⁵⁴ Guion Miller Claim #11732 by William Hillin which included a letter from David I. Elliott.
- ⁵⁵ 1854 Act of Congress Roll, A Supplemental Roll to the Siler Roll.
- ⁵⁶ Guion Miller claim #11789 by David I. Elliott.
- ⁵⁷ 1870 Titus County, Texas census.
- ⁵⁸ 1851 Siler Report.
- ⁵⁹ Guion Miller Claim #3906 by John W. Vaughn, grandson of Martha (Elliott) Vaughn.
- ⁶⁰ Guion Miller Claim #3906 by John W. Vaughn. His name may have been David Eldridge Vaughn.
- ⁶¹ 1854 Act of Congress Roll, A Supplemental Roll to the Siler Roll.
- ⁶² 1854 Act of Congress Roll, A Supplemental Roll to the Siler Roll.
- ⁶³ 1840 Jackson Co, AL census listed him born between 1810-1820.
- ⁶⁴ 1850 Bedford Co, TN census.
- ⁶⁵ Guion Miller Claim #11790 by Martha A. (Elliott) Davis, niece of Richard Elliott.
- ⁶⁶ 1850 Bedford Co, TN census.
- ⁶⁷ *Journal of the House of Representatives of the United States, 1789-1873*, December 22, 1821, p. 39.
- ⁶⁸ *Journal of the House of Representatives of the United States, 1789-1873*, March 6, 1822, p. 321.
- ⁶⁹ *American State Papers: Public Lands*, Vol. III, p. 613-614, January 28, 1823.
- ⁷⁰ *American State Papers: Public Lands*, Vol. V, 611, January 12, 1829.
- ⁷¹ *The Public Statutes at Large of the United States of America, Vol. VI*, p. 507, July 13, 1832.
- ⁷² *The Public Statutes at Large of the United States of America, Vol. VI*, p. 507-508.
- ⁷³ In tracing the deeds backwards following ownership of the Elliott reservation, the earliest deed found was in Deed Book H, p. 272 dated Sept 10, 1866 when William H. Moore was selling the reservation. In this deed is mentioned that Moore bought the property from Theophilus Lacy and Elizabeth D. Dillard, executrix of the estate of Francis Dillard. However, I could not find that deed and I could not find where Dr. Francis Dillard bought the property.

Search for a Lost Love
Sarah Ella Rorex Wann

Sarah Ella Rorex Wann was the granddaughter of Samuel Rorex, one of the first pioneers to settle the Sand Mountain part of Jackson County and a great great granddaughter of William Davis, a Revolutionary War soldier. Her father, William Davis Rorex, owned a store at Pisgah and it was there she grew up helping and learning the mercantile trade. After college at Judson Institute, Marion, Alabama, she taught school at Wannville, Alabama, where she met, and later married, Matthew Lemuel (Matt) Wann. She and her husband later operated the store in Pisgah and both served as Postmaster of the Post Office located in the store, he from 1906 to 1914 and she from 1914 to 1924.

The family moved to Scottsboro in 1931 when he was elected Sheriff of Jackson County. He was killed in the line of duty in 1932. After her husband's death, Mrs. Wann was elected Tax Collector for Jackson and served in that capacity from 1935 to 1939. She died September 2, 1965 and is buried beside her husband in Cedar Hill Cemetery.

The material below is from her writings and gives an interesting glimpse into life in Jackson County in the late 1800's and early 1900's. It is exactly as she wrote it and is used with the permission of her two surviving children, Billy Jack and Robert, who live in Atlanta.

- submitted by W.D. Arnold, Jr.
- of Oak Ridge, TN (formerly of
- Pisgah, Alabama

The Ellis Family
From writings of Sarah Ella Rorex Wann

Allen Ellis, Born 17 Jul 1814, near Athens TN Died 14 May 1894, buried near Athens, TN
Occupation: Farmer

Wife: Malinda Foster, Born 09 May 1825, Mouse Creek - near Niota, TN,
Died 12 Dec 1886, buried in Rorex Cemetery, west of Pisgah, AL
Occupation: Homemaker

Children:

William Andrew Ellis	
Born: 30 May 1849	Died: 11 Feb 1936, Cottonwood, TX
John Blair Ellis	
Born: 29 Sep 1852	Died: 19 Oct 1927, Cross Plains, TX
Margaret (Maggie) E. Ellis	
Born: 05 Feb 1858	Died: 12 Dec 1882, buried Rorex Cemetery, Pisgah, AL

Allen Ellis, dissatisfied with his daughter's suitor, a young student by the name of T.J. Ziegler, moved his family from near Athens, Tennessee to a farm near Bellefonte, Jackson County, Alabama, to get away from him. This failed, as the two young people kept up a secret correspondence, and soon young Ziegler not only followed but spent some unwelcome time with the Ellis family. Not to be outdone, Allen Ellis then moved his family across the Tennessee River

and to Sand Mountain near Pisgah, Alabama. Here, Maggie met, fell in love, and married a tall hard working farmer-merchant by the name of William Davis Rorex.

To this union Margaret Elizabeth (Maggie) Rorex bore two daughters, Sarah Ella Rorex (future wife of Matthew L. Wann), and Maud Malinda Rorex (future wife of David Thaddeus Arnold). During the birth of the third child, both mother and baby (a boy) died. (12 Dec 1882)

Thirty-two years passed since the last time Maggie Ellis last saw now Doctor T.J. Ziegler at Bellefonte, Alabama. Her oldest daughter, Sarah Ella Rorex, was now the wife of Matthew (Matt) Wann and also the Pisgah, Alabama postmistress. In November, 1910, a letter arrived at the Pisgah post office addressed to the postmaster with the following message.

1025 Camden St
East Chattanooga, Tenn

Nov 14, 1910

To the Postmaster at Pisgah, Ala
Dear Sir:

A family by the name of Ellis, having only one daughter moved in the late falls of 1877 to near Bellefonte, Ala. From Tenn. and in the late fall of the next year 1878 moved to Sand Mountain near Pisgah Postoffice. In 1879 or 1880 the young lady, Maggie , married a man by the name of Rorex, and I have learned that some time during the year 1881 she died after giving birth to triplets. I am anxious to know if any of the children are living, and if so where they are and if married to whom they married. If you can secure this information and write me I will be greatly obliged indeed.

Yours Truly,
T.J. Ziegler

Sarah Ella Wann, the Postmistress to whom Dr. Ziegler's letter was addressed, realized that Dr. Ziegler was seeking information about her own mother. She wrote to Dr. Ziegler, giving him corrected information about her mother, and meeting was arranged in Chattanooga, which resulted in many pleasant visits by Dr. Ziegler to the homes of Maggie's two daughters, Sarah Ella Rorex Wann and Maud Malinda Rorex Arnold. The family that he in his younger days had longed for but fate had kept him from having.

In 1935 the last letter came from Dr. Ziegler containing the very faded last letter written to him by Maggie Ellis fifty-seven years before. That letter, plus Dr. Ziegler's final letter follows.

This letter is copied from the original and very faded letter. Some words are not legible, for which a blank or question marks are shown.

Bellefonte, Ala.
Oct the 30th, 1878

My dearest love,

Today I enjoy the privilege of responding to your welcome message of the 20th which came to hand the 28th. I was delighted as I always am when I receive a letter from you. You write such good and affectionate letters that I hardly know what to say in response, unless I could fully express my love, but that I cannot do. But I can and do sympathize with you in regard to having

no associates, for I have none. It seems we are unfortunate, but I hope the pleasure denied us now will be ours in the future

. Although I have no associates I have your letters and they are indeed excellent company. Fondly I cherish in memory every word penned by the hand of my true love. My dear boy you do not know how glad I was when I learned my letter found you well. I hope your health will remain good. Truly, what I said in my last letter about marrying was not intended to convey the idea that the time you have named does not suit me, although my words no doubt conveyed that meaning. "You said for me to change the time if I wished" I do not wish to change it. If you think best for us to marry then I have no objections. A good and worthy companion you will indeed be and I hope always to merit your love and protection. I am sorry you have so few joys and so many sorrows.

Art thou weary tender heart?
Be glad of pains
In sweet sorrow things will grow
As flowers in the rain
God watches and thou shall have sun
When clouds their perfect work have done.

I was glad to hear that you went to the quarterly meeting at Tranquility. Did the Mc???? Girls have any beaux? I guess Simon does think himself a man if he can afford a watch and go to the bend sparking. Did he have his Davis girl at the quarterly meeting? You said you gallanted Mr. Grigsby's girl just as you did at Rocky Springs. I know that you enjoyed yourself. The Fosters do not know you are going to take any of their kin-folks, and I think they are pretty fast for telling people you are.

Papa has bought that mountain farm. It is 6 or 7 miles from where we live and is above here. Andrew bought some land also about 4 miles from the farm Papa bought. They want to move as soon as they can get ready. I don't think they can get ready much before Christmas. I have not yet learned the name of the postoffice over there but am very anxious to learn it, for I will want to hear from you often, and want you to write great long letters too. I guess you said something about me writing long letters. I always get ashamed of my bad writing and want to close my letters as soon as possible. The worst trouble with me is to get my letters mailed. I won't ask Papa to mail them.

I guess I have written about all, and perhaps more than will interest you. Before I close, let me say your request for me to give your love to Mama was not out of place, as I did so and she seemed well pleased.

Dearest write soon to your girl.
Maggie

A Little Reminiscence for Mrs. Ella Wann
From Dr. T.J. Ziegler

(Copied from original letter in collections of Sarah Ella Rorex Wann)

As the years are padding and we grow older, it seems that the scenes, friends and associations of the early years of our lives appear more vividly before our memory, and as it is again the month

of August, my memory reverts back to an August in the year 1878; almost three score years ago, when I visited the Ellis family at the old Snodgrass farm near Bellefonte, Alabama.

I knew the Ellis family for several years before their removal from Meigs County, Tennessee in the late fall of 1877 to Alabama. Maggie (your mother) and I were good true friends, and before their moving we planned for a correspondence as soon as she learned of the new P.O. address of their new home. Therefore, we kept up a correspondence before my visit to Alabama, and for some time afterward.

Our correspondence and association was indeed a great pleasure to me. She was of a quiet, pleasant disposition and her beautiful Christian Character and life had a great influence for good on my life during that period of my young manhood. I had an enjoyable time during that ten days visit to the family, and when I bid Maggie that August morning at the front gate, fifty-seven years ago, we expected to meet again and continue our pleasant association, and see much of each other in the future years. But cruel fate decreed that it should be a last farewell, and I never saw her again. But sadly to record in a little less than three and one half years from that parting, the death angel entered her home and her gentle spirit took its flight from her mortal body to her reward in the great spirit world, leaving two little girls orphans without a devoted mother's love and care and without the least trace of memory left in their minds of their own mother.

After our correspondence closed in the early summer of 1879, I heard nothing direct of any of the Ellis family; so it was some time after your mother's marriage before I heard of it and it was also some time after her death that I learned of that sad event.

That news brought much sadness to me for I knew it was such a great sorrow and loss to her own family, as well as her neighbors and friends. It seems so sad that she should be called from this early life so young, leaving a grief stricken family and she with such fair prospects of a pleasant and useful life. Only twenty-four years in this world.

I have always felt that the death of a young person of intelligence and fine character, and as hers, was a great loss, not only to their own family but to society at large: for no one can measure the influence for good of a long life of a person of true Christian character. But we are only human and cannot know the ways of our all wise and just Creator. Therefore in times of our great losses and sorrows we often get greatly discouraged because we cannot understand why our loved ones are taken from us; but I trust when we leave this house of clay and, like those of our many friends who have gone before, we pass through the portals into the great beyond, we will know and understand.

After the news of your mother's death and that she left her two little girls. I never heard anything further of the Ellis family, except that John Ellis had gone back to Tennessee and married a widow Hart, sister to Andrew's wife, until I wrote that letter to the Post Master at Pisgah, which you readily recall, inquiring about the children your mother left.

That letter started a correspondence and brought on a meeting at Chattanooga, and later several visits to your home as well as to that of your sister Maud. It has been quite a pleasure to me to have known you and Maud and all of the two families. All of you seemed so kindly and hospitable, and my stay during each of the visits was very enjoyable indeed. I also appreciate meeting and getting acquainted with the Beeson girls, and that fine character Mrs. Gay. You and Maud seem to have the same kind and pleasant dispositions that was characteristic of your mother. I wish it had been so that our associations could have been more frequent in the past, and now at this time, I would especially enjoy being with you, since your great

misfortunes, for I believe I know how to sympathize with you, for we have had much in common of the losses and sorrows of life; although I have escaped the shock of a great tragedy such as you had to come suddenly into your life. We cannot understand why great misfortunes come into our lives almost crushing us, but it is not for us to question but have faith to believe that in the end all things will work out for our own good. It is said that in every life some rain must fall, with its dark and dreary days, but

"God watches and we will have sun
When clouds their perfect work have done".

Your mother and I were born in adjoining neighborhoods, in McMinn County Tennessee and in the same month of the same year, and it is hard for me to realize that fifty-three years have passed, more than a half century, since she went away, and as she has been sleeping these many years in a quiet woodland on Sand Mountain, doubtless by this long time her body has almost fully returned to earth. Truly we say "earth to earth and dust to dust". But her memory yet remains in our minds, and her benign influence is with us still.

I am still on the time side of the dividing line between time and eternity; and while my life has not been altogether what it could, or should have been, I trust it has not been lived in vain. I have given forty years of service for the relief of the sick and suffering. It has not been an easy life, for the great responsibilities and hardships often had to be borne and great suffering witnessed; and while many disappointments, losses and sorrows have been my lot to bear, I feel that I should not complain, for I have been fortunate in having good homes and pleasant companionship during all those years; and that I now have a convenient and comfortable home, and the companionship of a good Christian wife here in this great city of New York.

I have so often wondered what my life would have been, if the plans, hopes, and expectations of my young days had been fulfilled, but that is beyond human ken to fathom. Whether my life would have been better or worse I can never know.

As I approach the shadows of the evening of my life, and I realize that my work is almost done, and I remember that most all of the friends, and acquaintances and loved ones of my age I have known have already gone to their reward, and I am made to wonder more, and more what that great change called death, that is coming to all of us, will be like. And what our experiences will be in the great spirit world. Will we have consciousness and memory and the same affections to enjoy the association of loved ones that we have lost in this world? But we can not now know tomorrow and we can only trust and wait and so live as to be prepared for that great change. When my time of passing arrives I trust I may be able to say like the poet Tennyson

Sunset and evening star
And one clear call for me.
And may there be no moaning at the bar
When I put out to sea.

For tho' from out our bourne of time and place
The flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my Pilot face to face
When I have crossed the bar.

Any may my soul have rest and peace.

August 1935

T.J. Ziegler

RENEW MEMBERSHIP by JANUARY 1

BOOKS FOR SALE

GROWING UP HARD: MEMORIES OF JACKSON COUNTY, ALABAMA, IN THE EARLY TWENTIETH CENTURY, published jointly by the author, Dr. Ronald G. Dykes, and the JCHA. The price of the book is \$27.50 by mail or it may be purchased at the Scottsboro Public Library or the Scottsboro-Jackson County Heritage Center for \$25.00. Mail check (\$27.50) payable to JCHA DYKES BOOK ACCOUNT, P. O. Box 1494, Scottsboro, AL 35768-1494.

THE HISTORY OF JACKSON COUNTY, ALABAMA, by John R. Kennamer, 1935 edition, republished by the JCHA. The price of the book is \$23.00 by mail or it may be purchased at the Scottsboro-Jackson County Heritage Center for \$20.00. Mail check (\$23.00) payable to HISTORY BOOK, P. O. Box 1494, Scottsboro, AL, 35768-1494.

MEMBERSHIP DUES	NEW OR RENEWAL
ANNUAL DUES	\$10.00
LIFE MEMBERSHIP	\$100.00

The membership year begins January 1. Any dues received before October 1 will be for the current year. Dues received after October 1 will accrue to the following year. Members receive the **JACKSON COUNTY CHRONICLES** quarterly in January, April, July, and October.

JACKSON COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION
P. O. BOX 1494
SCOTTSBORO, AL 35768-1494

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*Please provide 9-digit zip code.

NEW _____ RENEWAL _____

PLEASE remember to send any change of address to JCHA.