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THE GENIE

VOLUME 40

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ARK-LA-TEX GENEALOGICAL ASSOCIATION, INC.

Post Office Box 4463

Shreveport, Louisiana 71134-0463

The *Ark-La-Tex Genealogical Association, Inc.* is a non-profit, non-sectarian, non-political, educational organization dedicated solely to the cause of genealogy. This organization is governed by these purposes:

To collect, preserve, and make available genealogical materials, documents, and records; to encourage an interest in genealogy and to sponsor educational programs for its development; to promote and publicize the City of Shreveport, Louisiana, as a major genealogical research center for genealogists and historians; to cooperate with and assist all other genealogical, historical, and patriotic societies in the furtherance of these purposes; to compile and publish a quarterly composed of records and data related to the science of genealogy.

The *Ark-La-Tex Genealogical Association, Inc.* meets on the second Saturday of each month from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Randle T. Moore Senior Citizen Center, 3101 Fairfield Avenue, Shreveport, LA.

Dues for membership from January 1 through December 31 of each year in the *Ark-La-Tex Genealogical Association, Inc.* are \$20.00 for an Individual Membership and \$25.00 for an additional family member, same household, and one quarterly per household.

All members receive four issues of The GENIE, which is published quarterly.

The *Ark-La-Tex Genealogical Association, Inc.* will publicize a book of genealogical interest in The GENIE when submitted by the publisher or an author. These books are then donated to the Shreve Memorial Library, Broadmoor Branch Genealogy Department, 1212 Captain Shreve Drive, Shreveport, Louisiana 71105, where they are made available to the public. The Ark-La-Tex Genealogical Association, Inc. periodically donates other genealogical material to this library.

The *Ark-La-Tex Genealogical Association, Inc.* welcomes queries, which are published free in The GENIE. A query must be no more than seventy (70) words, either typewritten or legibly handwritten.

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Statement of Publication

The Genie is published quarterly with issues in March, June, September and December. Each member receives four issues for each year of membership. All material published in *The Genie* is compiled and contributed by the members. Members and nonmembers of the Ark-La-Tex Genealogy Association may contribute material for publication in *The Genie* (bible records, cemetery listings, diaries, wills, etc.). Such contributions are appreciated and encouraged. Send material for publication to *The Genie* at the Association's mailing address. Material will be used at the discretion of the Editorial Review Board as space permits. We reserve the right to edit and/or condense material as needed. Submission deadlines are the last week before the first day of the month of quarterly publication.

The Association exchanges periodicals with other genealogical and historical organizations publishing data of general interest. These periodicals are then donated to the Broadmoor Branch Genealogy Section of the Shreve Memorial Library. We regret that we cannot exchange with limited family organizations. However, send samples of your publications for review. Since many publications possess information of value concerning families contain therein.

When Cemetery Records are submitted, include the name of the contributor, the copier, date copied and cemetery locations (such as road name or number, community, etc.) and also the Section, Township, and Range, if known. When Bible Records are submitted, give date and publisher of the Bible (if known), date copied, name of the contributor, name of present owner and the original owner.

Queries are free and encouraged. Please submit them typed or very plainly written. Space is limited. Please be brief and concise, using no more than 70 words per query. The editor reserves the right to edit or reject queries not suitable for publication.

The Genie cannot be responsible for errors or inaccuracies, but will hasten to publish corrections. Please read the material carefully and advise the Association in writing of corrections.

This publication is indexed in the Periodical Source Index published by the Allen County Public Library Foundation, Ft. Wayne, IN.

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The President's Letter

Did you ever consider that who you are is involved in who you are becoming? We are all aware of the fast pace of these times. It is easy to focus on where we have been. Is Our Association an attempt to reach in the past for an age gone forever?

It is said in the Chandler Family Assoc. Newsletter "Since we are a product of our genes as well as our experiences, it is important to know our roots. One of the first things you have to do when you become a patient of a new doctor is to complete a form that provides your medical history. Sometimes that involves three or more generations"

But, what about those persons that would rather live in the past. Not using their knowledge to make a better today and tomorrow? Experience shows that continuing patterns is easy, but we have to make an effort to lead out into new fields of research, enterprise and effort. Regardless of how fast the present life has become.

Let us not neglect our roots nor get too busy to enjoy the fond memories of days gone by. Want to face the future to make a difference in society? Who we become grows out of where we have been.

I remember as a teen hearing a Rev. Pope use the text "It's funny how folks keeps a coming and the trains done gone".

One additional point, the ARK-LA-TEX Genealogical Association was given a guided tour on August 12, 2006, by Dr. Laura McClemore, at the Noel Memorial Library Archives and Special Collections, Louisiana State University in Shreveport. During our visit we were told that the LSUS Archives and Special Collections contains nearly 600 individual collections, including numerous important historical records and manuscripts relating to the Shreveport area, northwest Louisiana, and the lower Red River region commonly known as the Ark-La-Tex. Also that the Archives collects, preserves, and makes available to researchers the rich and colorful heritage of this region. Approximately 5,000 linear feet of records and manuscripts and over 200,000 photographs and negatives document the history and culture of the region from its earliest settlement to the present. Thanks to Dr. McClemore.

Sincerely,

Ray Owens

LOUISIANA FRAGMENTS:
BAYOU PIERRE: LAND OF YESTERYEAR
Chapter Two - Early Missionaries - By Blaise C. D'Antoni

[Taken from the "Newsletter of the North Louisiana Historical Association" upon the occasion of its Annual Meeting in Shreveport, LA, April 28-29, 1961.]

One hundred and fifty years ago, the same Don Marcelo De Soto who served as Spanish Judge of Bayou Pierre, took it upon himself to secure for Bayou Pierre the ministry of the Catholic Church. To secure his desired goal, a resident pastor for Bayou Pierre, Don Marcelo and several other interested persons left their community in early summer 1808 on the long and dusty road for San Antonio in the Province of Texas.

Upon arriving at the Billa, Don Marcelo and his compatriots formulated an official petition to be presented to the Governor in the name of the people of his jurisdiction. Fortunately, the petition has come down to us today, and it reads as follows;

"Don Marcelo De Soto, acting justice of Bayupier, jurisdiction of Nagadoches, together with Jose Lafitte, Silvestre Poissot, Pedro Robeleau, and Miguel Ramin, all of aforesaid community, who have come to this capital together, has the honor of appealing with all respect to Your Lordship's equity conjointly with and in the name of all the other residents of the specified Bayupier. (These) consist of thirty Spanish families gathered together and long established in the aforesaid place, with no large number of educated persons at their service; besides, there is next to them the village of the Yatase Indians. They are all in need of the Church and of an Ecclesiastic to minister the holy Sacraments. Therefore, they have to go to Nagadoches. for the baptisms, marriages, and confessions which occur in the course of the year. The result is most serious harm to the welfare of the souls of the aforesaid families.

"In order to meet the need specified they promise to build a wooden church at their own expense, similar to the one in Nagadoches, provided Your Lordship will have the kindness to request the commandant general that in compassion he appoint an Ecclesiastic for them whether as (resident) priest of that post, or as assistant to the priest at Wagadoches, or that in some way the superior office arrange for the spiritual food to be administered to them of which, as they have stated, they are in need."

"Therefore, they again humbly entreat Your Lordship to be pleased to interpose your protection and kindness for the purpose of obtaining from the superior office the favor which they crave."

"They swear they do not act from malice, but from necessity, Bexar, July 3, 1808, MARCELO DE SOTO."

In forwarding the petition of Don Marcelo and his compatriots, the provisional Governor of Texas made this observation about the request:

"I consider it just to give heed to them in regard to the matter of appointing an Ecclesiastic as they request. By this act besides giving them the good offices which they

ask for of divine help, His Majesty's ownership of this section will also be better made evident, thus doing away with the unfounded dispute of the neighboring government which it has stirred up by its claims to this land."

The matter lingered on for a while, and available documents show that the Governor did his best to fulfill the petition of Bayou Pierre's people. In September, 1808, he wrote to Very Reverend Father Bernardino Vallejo, President of the Franciscan Missions in Texas, asking for information about the fees to be paid the priest sent to Bayou Pierre. However, to the regret of both the Governor and people of Bayou Pierre, no resident priest could be sent at that time.

Although the first attempts to establish a parish at Bayou Pierre were unsuccessful, the people did not lose courage. They continued making the sacrifices involved in traveling the long and hard roads to Nagadoches to receive the spiritual ministry of the Church. Their Faith and perseverance was soon rewarded. Some of the Spanish Franciscan missionaries stationed at Nagadoches began making mission tours of the settlements along the Bayou Pierre Coast, remaining but a short time in each place, baptizing, instructing, marrying and celebrating the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass for the faithful gathered around them. One of the first of these missionaries was Father Jose Maria Huerta, of the Post of Nagadoches. Father Huerta crossed the Neutral Ground several times, and attests to the charity of the firm of Davenport and Barr to the poor and needy in the Neutral Ground area.

Missionaries from Natchitoches

It is quite possible that Father Pierre Pavie, pastor of St. Francis Church of Natchitoches in the early 1800's, visited Bayou Pierre at some time. The Natchitoches Registers clearly show this devoted priest at all known posts along the River: Campite, Cloutierville, Riviere aux Cannes, and Isle Brevelle. While Father Pavie may have been the first Natchitoches pastor to visit the coast of Bayou Pierre, nevertheless, the people of the area had received the ministry of the clergy of Natchitoches at an earlier date. Among the Natchitoches Records, the earliest and most important entry is that of the Baptism of Joseph Marcel Antonio De Soto, the son of Manuel De Soto and Marie des Neiges de St. Denys. The child was born on January 16, 1758, possibly in St. Landry Parish, but was baptized at Natchitoches on February 3 of the same year by Father Valentine, the Capuchin pastor. Don Marcelo's sister, Maria Anna De Soto was also baptized at the Natchitoches Church, Oct. 22, 1764. Within eighteen years; this young girl was destined to become the bride of Paul Bouet Lafitte of Bayou Pierre.

The first recorded baptism of a Lafitte is that of Theresa Rosalie Lafitte, daughter of Paul Bouet Lafitte and Magdalene Grappe, on February 7, 1778. Father Luis de Quintanilla, the Spanish Capuchin pastor, performed the rite at Natchitoches. In February, 1800, Father Pierre Pavie baptized another of Paul Bouet Lafitte's daughters, Magdalene Lafitte. In his record, Father Pavie notes that they were "from Bayou Pierre", the first mention of the settlement in the Natchitoches Registers.

In the spring of 1825, Bishop William Dubourg of New Orleans held a visitation at St. Francis Church in Natchitoches, and terminated it with the appointment of a new pastor,

Rev. N. B. Anduze. Within a short time, the Bishop sent Father Dusaussoy, a Frenchman and relative of St. Sophie Barat, foundress of the Religious of the Sacred Heart, as assistant priest of Natchitoches. In the spring of 1826, Father Dusaussoy set out on a missionary tour which brought him to Bayou Pierre proper. His short visit was so fruitful, that in August he returned again. For, on August 4, we find him conferring Baptism at Bayou Sara; while on August 29, 1826, Father Dusaussoy baptized eighteen persons at Bayou Pierre. Again on February 4, 1827, Father Dusaussoy was back again to teach and minister to the people of the area. That day another seventeen received the Sacrament of Baptism. Father Dusaussoy took a genuine missionary interest in the families along the winging "Stony Creek", and exerted his full efforts, in so far as he could, to bring the ministry of Christ to them.

The next pastor of Natchitoches, Father Jean Baptiste Blanc, was a veritable pastor of all his flock. To Father Blanc's mind, Natchitoches was but the center of his vast parish; the outlying villages and settlements were the arteries. As often as the opportunity arose, Father Blanc would mount his horse, or take the River boat, to visit some distant part of his parish. Bayou Pierre was a living and thriving part of St. Francis Parish of Natchitoches, and Father Blanc did what he could to continue the ministry begun by Father Dusaussoy. As an example of this missionary spirit, we find that on September 10, 1833, Father Jean Blanc performed the marriage of Francis Lafitte, son of Paul Bouet Lafitte, or "Lafitte" as he spelled it and Maria Anna De Soto to Catherine Rambin, not in Natchitoches, but "at the home of Pierre B. Lafitte". To the sorrow of all North Louisiana, Father Jean B. Blanc left Natchitoches in May, 1834 for New Orleans to recuperate his health. On May 11, aboard the Steamer at Pointe Coupee, he expired, having literally given his life for his flock. For the next three years, there was difficulty in securing pastors for Natchitoches, due to the dire lack of priests in Louisiana.

Interest of Bishop Antoine Bland

In April, 1838, another of the Bishops of the New Orleans Diocese, Rt. Rev. Antoine Blanc, brother of the deceased Natchitoches pastor, made a visitation of the Parish. Returning to his See city, Bishop Blanc began immediately to better the conditions in North Louisiana. It was not, however, until 1840 that his plans came through. For, when in that year he appointed the Lazarist Fathers to St. Francis Parish of Natchitoches, a new era of life began for the mission circuit of the large parish. In 1840, there were only three active parishes in the entire territory covered by the present Diocese of Alexandria. The southern section was served from St. Paul's Church at Cocoville, while the central area was under the care of the vigorous Irish pastor of Alexandria. The Lazarists received charge of the remaining area to the north, east, south and west of Natchitoches. After the sudden death of the Alexandria pastor in 1843; the Lazarists also staffed that parish as a mission chapel. From Natchitoches, missionaries were to set out by horse or by boat to visit the scattered Catholics of the outlying regions. New light had come to the Church, never again to be dimmed!

Bayou Pierre settlement seems to have been among the early stops of the Lazarist Fathers, as the parish Registers indicate the frequent visits to the area. Father M. Pascual, assistant pastor at Natchitoches, was one of the most ardent apostles to Bayou Pierre. He placed the area on a regular missionary schedule, and did his utmost to be with his people

at regular intervals, In June, 1842, we find him baptizing Joseph Lafitte, one of Pierre Lafitte's descendants. Father Pascual spent two and a half months, May to mid-July, 1843, in the settlements of Bayou Pierre, Caddo and Bayou Saline, at which time he baptized many Lafitte's and Rambin's. His success was overwhelming. The people were well disposed to the ministrations of the Faith, and attended the services and instructions in large numbers, Upon his return to Natchitoches, Father Pascual reported the good results to his pastor, who, in turn, made the official report to Bishop Blanc at New Orleans. In that report, dated July 15, 1843, Father T. Guistiniani the pastor of St. Francis Church told Bishop Blanc that Father Pascual intended to build two churches for his missions: one at Bayou Pierre and another at Bayou Saline.

Later that same year, Father Pascual again returned to Bayou Pierre to spend more time instructing and baptizing the zealous Christians, As yet there was no Church, and Holy Mass was offered in private homes. Finally, however, plans were completed for the proposed chapel, and work actually commenced. When Father Guistiniani sent the annual report for his parish to Bishop Blanc in December, 1843, he included several noteworthy facts about De Soto Parish and Bayou Pierre. The census for the Parish in that year was estimated at 2,000 persons, of which little more than 600 were Catholics, Of eight chapels that the Lazarist Fathers were either building or repairing, one was being constructed "In the center of De Soto Parish at Bayou Pierre", while others included Father Pascual's chapel at Bayou Saline, and Father Mignard's at Bayou Sole, "The cause of our holy religion continues to make progress in our parish, not only here at Natchitoches, "but also on the coast of Bayou Pierre ..." was the compliment that Father Guistiniani paid to his fellow missionary, Father Pascual.

Once the chapel was completed, the congregation gathered more often than before to attend Holy Mass and receive instructions from Father Pascual, who was devoting much of his time to the new mission center. Fr. Pascual continued zealously at Bayou Pierre until his transfer from Natchitoches early in 1849. His transfer was a real loss for the people of the Settlement, because during the past years, they had become dedicated to their priest.

Father Pascual was followed by another of his Lazarist confreres, Father Anthony Verrina. He was sent to Natchitoches from St. Vincent's Seminary on Bayou Lafourche, where he had been teaching for the past year. His stay in Natchitoches was short; but his ministry was fruitful. During 1849, Father Verrina visited the chapel at Bayou Pierre, striving to bring the consolations of the Church to all his flock. In September he visited Shreveport, and then again stopped at Bayou Pierre before returning to Natchitoches. When the Lazarist Fathers gave up the Natchitoches Church in 1850, Father Verrina returned to his seminary post. Later he became pastor of St. Stephen's Church in New Orleans, and rector of the new St. Vincent's Seminary, which was adjacent to St. Stephen's.

Father Hector Figari was another of the early missionaries of Bayou Pierre , Born in Genoa, Italy, he joined the Lazarist Fathers and came to America as a member of that community. In 1840 he was assigned to the Natchitoches Church, where he served faithfully for ten years. When Father Doogan of Alexandria died in 1843, Father Figari assumed charge of the Alexandria Church as his principal mission. This, however did not

withdraw him entirely from the northern section of St. Francis Parish. During the later half of the decade; Father Figari took a deep interest in erecting a Church at Shreveport, and on his trips to and from that town, he would stop over at Bayou Pierre to offer Mass and administer the Sacraments for the people of that community.

Under Diocesan Clergy

When the Lazarist Fathers left Natchitoches in 1850, Father Figari went to New Orleans and secularized, joining the Archdiocese of New Orleans. In 1851, Archbishop Antoine Blanc assigned him to the vacant parish at Alexandria, and gave him custody of the missions along the Red River. Again Father Figari visited Shreveport, still determined to erect a Church there. Again, he visited Bayou Pierre, baptizing and instructing the young, and quite joyful to see the Catholics of the settlement once again. In 1856, he was recalled to New Orleans where he became pastor of the Church of Saint Theresa of Avila.

To replace the Lazarists at Natchitoches, Bishop Blanc sent the Diocesan clergy; He named Father Auguste Marie Martin, A Frenchman, and pastor of St. Joseph's Church in Baton Rouge, as the new pastor of St. Francis Church of Natchitoches. Little did Father Martin realize that three years later he would not only be pastor of Natchitoches, but Bishop of all North Louisiana. Along with Fr. Martin came a newly ordained cleric, Father Isidore Cuny as assistant. Bishop Blanc also promised to send Father Martin a second curate, as soon as he had one to spare.

Father Anthony Verrina remained in Natchitoches until February, 1850, showing the new pastor around his large and scattered parish. Father Cuny arrived in March, and Father Martin immediately gave him charge of the vast mission band to the north of Natchitoches, As a young seminarian, the new curate had come to St. Vincent's Seminary on Bayou Lafourche from his home Diocese of Rennes in France. Upon completion of his studies, Bishop Antoine Blanc raised him to the priesthood in an ordination ceremony at Lafourche on February 3, 1850. One month later, Father Cuny was on the steamer, bound for Natchitoches.

Father Cuny's chief field of labor was De Soto and Caddo Parishes, although he did spend much time in helping Fr. Martin at Natchitoches. The long and hard missionary journeys on horseback added to frugal living, soon wrecked the youthful cleric's already poor health, and soon it became evident that he would have to give up his missions, In June, 1851, therefore, Father Cuny made his last visit to Bayou Pierre. He was due to return to Natchitoches on June 20, and when he hadn't returned on the 24th, Father Martin became quite concerned about him. A few days later Father Cuny did return, all worn and sick. Father Martin then decided to put him on the next steamer for New Orleans where he could recuperate his strength and receive proper medical attention. Saddened and weak, the young cleric obeyed his pastor, and left for New Orleans. Bishop Blanc then placed him at the Chaplaincy of the Ursuline Convent, where he could rest sufficiently. But instead of regaining his strength, Father Cuny grew continually worse. By the beginning of August, it was evident that he was dying. Quite resigned to the fact, Father Cuny prayed for one thing: that he might die on the feast of Our Lady's Assumption. He died on August 16, 1851, at the Chaplaincy of the Ursuline Convent in New Orleans.

Archbishop Antoine Blanc then sent Father Philip Jordain as curate of Natchitoches, to replace Father Cuny. He had also come from France, and was ordained at St. Vincent Seminary with Fr., Cuny on February 3, 1850. On August 5, 1851, Father Jordain arrived in Natchitoches, and he began that same week to minister to the mission of Campte. Shortly thereafter, he began making regular visits to Bayou Pierre, thereby continuing the work of his deceased class-mate, Fr. Cuny. In September, 1851, Father Jordain spent several days at Bayou Pierre Settlement, while on a mission tour to Athens and Minden, Father Jordain was appointed resident pastor of Campte on October 19, 1851, and he retained that post until 1855.

Father Pierre F. Dicharry

In May, 1852, there arrived in Natchitoches a young priest who was destined to become a "hero" of the Worth Louisiana clergy. He was Father Pierre Felix Dicharry, a native son of the New Orleans Archdiocese, and the first American youth ever to graduate from the Collegio Propaganda Fide in Rome. Bishop Blanc had sent the young seminarian to Rome. In 1844, and he returned to New Orleans in 1850, as a young priest, bearing a Doctor's degree in Sacred Theology. From 1850 until 1852, Father Dicharry was curate at the Archbishop's Church in New Orleans, and then he was directed to Natchitoches.

As a missionary, Abbe Dicharry never tired of his work. In fact, so devoted was this priest to the missions, that on one occasion Father Martin remarked of him to Archbishop Blanc: "he was so happy about his mission (at Bayou Pierre), that I believe this type of work alone would bind him to the ministry," Abbe Dicharry was especially interested in two mission areas in the vast Natchitoches ecclesiastical parish: the Sabine River missions, and Bayou Pierre. Whenever time permitted, he would be found at one or other of these missions, teaching and ministering to his loved flock.

In April, 1853, the young missionary undertook a vast visitation of De Soto and Caddo Parishes. In De Soto, Abbe Pierre, as he was called, spent three weeks at Bayou Pierre, Father Martin, in reporting the mission trip later on, said: "He found there a population good, simple, innocent, eager for religious ministrations, God has blessed his zeal: he did not see half of the Catholic population, and still he had 130 people at Holy Communion. He believes as I have already been convinced for a long time, there is need for a missionary entirely designated to work in that place." Other stops in De Soto included the present towns of Rambin, Flores and Mansfield. Due to lack of time, Father Dicharry was not able to visit the settlement of Les Presles, although he did visit that place on his following trip to De Soto.

On this same mission, Abbe Pierre visited Shreveport, and, like his predecessors' he took steps to provide the faithful of that town with a church. He promised the handful of Catholics there that if the Archbishop could give him some assistance, he would build them a Church.

Once the Diocese of Natchitoches was erected, Bishop Martin appointed Abbe Pierre as Vicar General, and the duties of this and other important Diocesan offices curtailed the Abbe's visits to the mission band. However, Father Dicharry was still with the people of

Bayou Pierre in spirit. When Priests would leave Natchitoches to visit the missions, he would personally see to it that they had sufficient supplies, and that nothing would be lacking for their ministry or comfort. As soon as one of the missionaries would return, Abbe Dicharry would hasten to him to inquire about his people. To his dying day, Abbe Dicharry retained his love for the Diocesan missions, especially those which he had developed during the 1850's.

When the news of Father Dicharry's death spread throughout the Diocese in July, 1887, many people who had known the priest came for miles to pay their respects at his humble grave beneath the floor of the Cathedral Church of Natchitoches. He had done so much to promote the Faith in North Louisiana, that he had become known and loved by all. As missionary to Bayou Pierre, as Vicar General of the Diocese, as Rector of the Seminary, and as Civil War Chaplain, in all these duties Father Dicharry had served with the same unstinting devotion which characterized his priestly life.

During the year 1854, Bayou Pierre was graced by the short visit of one of the most renowned missionaries of the period, the Reverend P. F. Parisot, O.M.I., commonly referred to as "The Texas Missionary". Father Parisot visited Natchitoches from mid-October until the beginning of November and rested up at the Seminary before continuing his wanderings for the Faith. In his "Reminiscences", written towards the end of his life, Father Parisot gives the following account of his ministry in Bayou Pierre:

"On the road to Shreveport, I stopped at a settlement called Bayou Pierre, where I was told that fifteen miles from the road there lived an American Doctor, a Protestant, who was in the last stage of consumption and had expressed the wish of becoming a Catholic. I left 'nummos pro salute animae! I found the man a mere skeleton. At the sight of the priest, he exclaimed: 'Blessed be God, who has heard my prayer.' After his baptism, he said: 'Now, I shall die happy! So true is it that he who prays receives light and grace. I went back to Bayou Pierre and then proceeded to Shreveport."

During the early months of 1855, only occasional visits were paid to Bayou Pierre. Father Dicharry was now busy at Natchitoches with the instruction of the young seminarians who had just arrived from France, and consequently he could not leave Natchitoches for any length of time. However, two new priests did pay visits to the people of Bayou Pierre that year. Father Julius Janeau, a Frenchman, stopped at Bayou Pierre while en route to Homer, Louisiana, where the Bishop was sending him to learn English better. Rev. Father Simon D'Angles, another Frenchman, visited the Church at Bayou Pierre several times, as he had been sent to Shreveport to establish a Church there. His mission was unsuccessful, and Father D'Angles was then sent, as pastor of St. Mary's Church at Miliken's Bend.

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Jamestown's and America's 400th Birthday Party

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THE CHANDLER FAMILY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

[Volume XVII, Number 2, Summer 2006, Page 35]

Submitted by Ray Owens

In June 1606, King James of England granted the Virginia Company, a group of London entrepreneurs, a charter to establish an English settlement in the Chesapeake region of North America. In December 1606, a mixture of gentlemen, artisans, craftsmen, and laborers set sail from London in three ships. They landed on Jamestown Island, 60 miles from the mouth of Chesapeake Bay, on May 14, 1607, thirteen years before the Pilgrims landed in Massachusetts.

In 2007, Jamestown, Virginia, the first permanent English settlement in what would become the United States, will celebrate its 400th anniversary. Although John Chandler, ancestor of many CFA members, did not arrive until 1610, our members will surely embrace Jamestown's quadricentennial celebration. Those early adventurers endured many hardships and the death of all but 60 of their group. There was almost no Jamestown settlement left to welcome young John and his fellow travelers in 1610.

The 18-month-long celebration of the 400th anniversary began with the arrival at Jamestown this May of the *Godspeed*, a replica of one of the three original ships that carried early settlers to Virginia. The new *Godspeed* was greeted by cheers and a cannon boom near the spot where the original ship ended its voyage from England in May 1607. The *Godspeed* is currently on an 80-day promotional tour, with stops in six East Coast ports: Alexandria, Virginia; Baltimore, Maryland; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; New York, New York (June 27-July 6); Boston, Massachusetts (July 14-19); and Newport, Rhode Island (July 25-30).

The new *Godspeed* will replace an existing re-creation at Jamestown Settlement, where replicas of the *Susan Constant* and *Discovery* are also currently docked. Construction is under way on a new replica of the *Discovery* at Boothbay Harbor Shipyard in Boothbay Harbor, Maine, with delivery to Jamestown Settlement scheduled for early 2007.

Visit the official celebration web site at <http://www.jamestown2007.org> for additional information. Many events are still being planned, and information given here could change. Please check official sources before planning your trip to celebrate Jamestown's 400th birthday.

Jamestown Anniversary Events

- October 5-6, 2006 - *400 Years of Survival - Virginia Indian Symposium*, will be held at Williamsburg Lodge, Williamsburg, Virginia.
- October 14, 2006 - The *African-American Forum* is planning a preview gala at Jamestown Settlement Museum.
- October 19-22, 2006 - *225th Anniversary: Victory at Yorktown* will re-enact at Historic Yorktown American's Revolutionary War victory 225 years ago.

- November 9, 2006 — *Jamestown Live* is an interactive live free web event for 4th-11th grades on the significance of Jamestown, our nation's birthplace.
- February 10, 2007 — *State of the Black Union — African American Imprint on America* will include symposia at each of Virginia's five historically black colleges and universities.
- Spring 2007-Winter 2008 - *The World of 2007*, an exhibition at the Jamestown Settlement Museum in Williamsburg, Virginia, will place the Jamestown settlement in a global context.
- March 30-31, 2007 - *The Trailblazer's Awards Gala* will be a nationally-televised salute to distinguished African-Americans.
- April 26-November 10, 2007 - *Journey Up The James* will sail the new *Godspeed* along Chesapeake Bay and up the James River in Virginia, recreating parts of the Jamestown settlers' original route. Ports of call will include Virginia Beach, Hampton, Newport News, Claremont and Surry County, Richmond/Henricus, Norfolk, Onancock, Quantico, Smithfield, and Charles City.
- May 11-13, 2007 — *America's Anniversary Weekend at Historic Jamestown, Jamestown Settlement & Anniversary Park* will celebrate the 400th anniversary of the May 1607 landing at Jamestown.
- Mid-June-July 8, 2007 - *The Smithsonian Folklife Festival*, in partnership with Jamestown 2007, will feature Virginia, England, and parts of West Africa on the National Mall in Washington, D.C.
- July 21-22, 2007 - *The American Indian Intertribal Cultural Festival* in Hampton, Virginia, will include craft demonstrations, musical performances, storytelling, dancing and native foods.
- September 16-19, 2007 - *Foundations and Future of Democracy*, a conference to discuss democracy, will be the culmination of a year-long series of conferences to examine successful democratic systems in America and abroad and consider the future of democracies around the world.

Sources: www.Jamestown1607.org,
www.historyisfun.org
www.historicjamestowne.org/history

Welcome To Our New Members

Say Welcome To:

Bledsoe, Linda Snot – 36464 Plantation Blvd. – Prairieville, LA 70769-3224
Surnames Researching: Snow, Nugent, Paulk and Mathews

Davis, Jean – 1509 N. Reid Street – Clovis, NM 88101-5430
Surnames Researching: Davis, Benjamin Blackshire and Bacon

Nichols, Helen B. – 142 County Road 331 – DeBerry, TX 75639-2616
Surnames Researching: Not Given

OLD COATES GRAVEYARD

By Dale Jennings

Just as the Coates graveyard itself has been badly neglected, so has its history and the recording of its burials. Its first occupant no doubt was James Coates himself, who died on March 31, 1842, while Bossier Parish was still a part of Claiborne Parish. There were earlier Bossier burials, but none are documented by a grave marker earlier than that date.

The remnant of the Coates burial ground or graveyard is located on what was until recently the property of the James E. Burt family. It is in the remote part of a large cow pasture between Palmetto Road and Louisiana State Highway 3 (Benton Road), about one-half mile south of the Benton parish courthouse. Within its perimeter is a large Indian burial mound. The graveyard lies on the east or high bluff side of the Flat River. This curious waterway, which originates between there and the courthouse, is usually captioned on maps as "Flat River drainage canal" (also shown on some old maps as "Platt River" farther south – probably named for the early Platt family of that area). It is a natural drainage that for many miles divides the river land from the clay soil "hill land" and drains both. Nearby springs in Flat River probably drew Jim Coates to this location in 1839. The burial ground has long since been abandoned and is not shown on area maps.

A combination of factors caused James Coates and several of his neighbors to relocate from the Red River south of soon-to-be Shreveport. In 1835, the Caddo Indians ceded their Louisiana lands comprising the present Caddo Parish to the U. S. government. Larkin Edwards had long been their friend and interpreter, and his son-in-law, Jacob Irwin, was their long-time gunsmith and probably blacksmith. Coates is said to have had a trading post on Coates Bluff there at the junction of Pierre Bayou and Red River. Cezaire (Cesair) Wallace may have still been a settler living on "Rush Island," vacant public land between Pierre Bayou and Red River not claimed by the Caddos. These early settlers were displaced when the Indian agent Jehiel Brooks acquired that vast area under questionable circumstances in negotiating the cession treaty. Both sides of the Red River were soon surveyed and sold off by the government beginning in 1839. Edwards and his sons-in-law, Jacob Irwin and Abner Shenick resettled on land across the river on what is now in the south part of Bossier City. Coates and others settled just south of the present site of Benton.

In May 1839, James Coates bought the 160-acre NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 6, Township 19, Range 13. The following month he bought the adjoining NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 5 in partnership with James B. Pickett. These were "preemption" purchases, meaning that the two had preemptive or first choice rights to land of their choosing, probably for having had to abandon improvements on vacant public land. Pickett was a resident of South Carolina and a wealthy investor, rather than a settler. He may have had a financial interest in improvements made by Coates on the river south of Shreveport. The parties split this tract, with Coates retaining the north half bordering his Section 6 corner. Pickett took the south half, which was continuous with his eventually 2,000-acre

Willow Chute Plantation. Rueben Wingate and Mrs. Martha Armstrong, both single and illiterate, bought adjacent land in 1839, also by preemption and probably under like circumstances. Armstrong is one of the names associated with the pre-survey settlers below Shreveport. Also purchasing land nearby in 1839 was Cezaire Wallace, who did not claim a preemption. Coates soon bought Wingate's SE ¼ of Section 31, Township 20, Range 13, which formed a third corner with those of Sections 5 and 6. Pickett's Section 32 formed the fourth section corner there at the graveyard site.

The Coates graveyard is in the northwest corner of Section 5 as seen on a 1938 aerial photo map. Bossier Parish surveyor Roswell Elmer clearly shows it there as a rectangular figure in the very corner of that section on his 1859 property survey for the Picketts. Elmer's field notes record his progress north up the Section 5/6 section line, crossing a "sluice of water" and coming to the "grave yard - east of line" on "edge of high bluff." It is shown at the convergence of the four section corners, on the horizontal Township 19/20 township line. In 1851, the Coates heirs sold the land to Isaac McCalla (usually misspelled "McCauley," even by Elmer in his field notes). Elizabeth, the widow of Elias Oneill and daughter of Cezaire Wallace, acquired the land from a McCalla heir in 1873. The property stayed intact through several more land transfers until purchased in 1913 by James E. Burt, Sr. The Pickett Willow Chute Plantation was sold to William Calvin Vance in 1881. It remained intact until his widow Nina died in 1935. James Burt bought a sizable part of the plantation to include the Section 32 section corner from one of the heirs. No property fences existed after that, so the section boundaries at the burial ground have become indistinguishable.

Although not a dedicated cemetery, there were quite a number of burials made in the old Coates burial ground. In addition to the few grave stones that can still be seen, several other burials have been documented, recalled from memory or may be conjectured. It is suggested that Larkin Edwards may have been buried there, even though he died in 1841, before Coates. James Coates' wife, Nancy McGlaughlin, died in about 1849 while the family still held the property, so probably was buried there. Jacob Irwin did not die until 1885 and is buried with his daughter and son-in-law, J. Rufus and Selina Irwin Sibley, in the family cemetery east of Benton. Martha Armstrong and Reuben Wingate died in 1842 and 1843, respectively, whereupon their estates were sold off. They may very well have been buried there on the Flat River bluff.

Three grave stones still exist in the fenced Yarborough family plot several feet north of the Indian mound. The only other burials still marked are two recorded on the same stone in the fenced Butler plot south of the mound. All the other grave markers that once lined Coates' bluff have been destroyed by farming operations, vandals and the cows until only a few fragments are left to be pondered. The first documented burial was in 1855 and the last in 1900. Upon the death of the old Confederate soldier, John M. Arnold, in 1928, John Ardis Manry recalled a conversation they had the previous year (John Manry Collection, LSU Shreveport Archives). In reminiscing about earlier times, Mr. Arnold spoke of "that old graveyard on the high bluff hardly two miles south of Benton, containing moss-covered tombstones with dates and names hardly decipherable." The old graveyard had probably been discontinued for quite some time by then.

The year 1879 was a tragic one for the William G. Yarbrough family as told by the *Bossier Banner* obituaries and the three grave markers. Mrs. Virginia Glassell Yarbrough died on October 24th at about age 40. Son Todd died in mid-December at about age 9, and Eva died a few days later just short of her 18th birthday. Their obituaries did not give their causes of death, only that they had died in Benton and were interred in the Coates graveyard. The *Banner* reported on May 12, 1977, that, "Mrs. Jim (Nellie) Hass (sp) of Houston placed a marker on mother's, sister's and brother's grave in what was formerly known as Coates Cemetery, just a short distance across from the Bossier Parish Court House, last Tuesday." Nellie Haas, the former Nellie Yarbrough, was born February 9, 1897 (and died October 5, 1984). It has been said that pipeline construction years earlier had disturbed the grave site. It is apparent that Mrs. Haas erected new stones and had a metal cyclone fence installed around the graves. Several trees have fallen across the fence and broken it down completely. Mrs. Yarbrough's original tombstone, which could be seen there a few years ago, can probably be found somewhere under the tangle of trees and thick vegetation.

About 225 feet south along the bluff from the Yarbrough graves is the Butler fenced plot. In between the two are the oval Indian mound (about 80 feet in length), an old cow feeder shed 40 feet south of the mound, and then the Butler graves 85 feet south of the shed. Andrew Pickens Butler has an impressive marble stone which discloses that he was born in Columbia, South Carolina, on March 7, 1839, and died in Benton on October 18, 1899. Butler belonged to an illustrious old South Carolina family that included generals and governors, he being a young captain in the Confederate army before coming to Louisiana. He had a plantation just west of there on the river. His daughter Emily Pierce Butler had preceded him in death in the summer of 1887. The September 1, 1887, *Bossier Banner* marked her passing with a poem prefaced, "In memory of little Emily Pierce Butler, youngest child of Capt. A. P. Butler and Maria Burt, aged 4 years and 8 months." She has only a foot stone. Her name and age are inscribed at the bottom of her father's headstone.

Mrs. Clifford G. Eshenfelder inventoried the "Coats Graveyard" in 1963, one of several cemeteries in which she had a general interest. Her survey was prefaced with these remarks: "This cemetery is located in a cow pasture and is in very poor condition. Many unmarked graves." She did not find the Yarbrough stone, but copied the Butler inscription and three others (misspelling Oneill's name, "O. Neill.").

Jackson Burnham
Dec 11, 1816
Mar 17, 1855

R. S. Vance
Apr 20, 1799
Mar 9, 1880

Elias O. Neill
Born Christian Co, Ky
Dec 24, 1824
Apr 8, 1871

Jackson Burnham was a Bossier Parish planter at least as early as 1850, when he bought a half section of land southeast of the Coates property. Jackson sold the land to his brother Benjamin, probably after having built the log dog-trot home there at the present Linton-Old Palmetto road junction. Benjamin sold the acreage and residence to Doctor James Sandidge, who resold it in 1860 to George Washington Arnold (father of John M. Arnold). The house was acquired by George's daughter Emily and son-in-law, Thomas Jefferson Tidwell. It still stands and is known as the "Arnold-Tidwell House."

Robert S. Vance was until his death a resident of South Carolina. He came to Bossier Parish in 1880 to visit his two sons, Joseph and Dr. Tom Vance. He died, and it was decided to bury his remains here, rather than returning them to his home state. Joseph and Tom were not that closely related to the other Vances who were all descended from Nathaniel Vance; Robert being the son of Nathaniel's brother, Samuel. Several of the Vances were buried in the Gilmer-Vance burial ground on the Gilmer Plain Dealing Plantation (the town of Plain Dealing not yet established). The brothers elected to bury their father in the community graveyard at Benton.

Elias Oneill and the remainder of those known to have been buried in the Coates graveyard had their roots in the Benton area ("Old Benton," not the present town one mile to the north). Elias was proprietor of the former G. W. Sentell store there beginning in September 1866. In June 1867, Lee Carrier bought the 160-acre "store tract" in Section 31, which included the crossroads general store and a residence or two. The 1870 census shows Oneill as a 44-year-old merchant worth \$2,000 and his wife Elizabeth as a 39-year-old housewife worth \$7,500. Mr. Carrier, enumerated as a farmer, is living with the Oneills. The Oneills may be operating Carrier's combination hotel/tavern/store across the road from the old store. Elias died in April 1871 and was buried on Jim Coates' Flat River bluff, property which then belonged to the McCalla family. Sizable fragments of his quite massive fine marble monument are still found near the cow feeder. Segments of the Masonic emblem, name and dates make them recognizable as those of Elias Oneill.

The *Bossier Banner* of August 30, 1900, announced that, "Mr. Lee Carrier, a citizen of Benton for about 35 years, died the 25th instant. His remains were buried in Coates graveyard Sunday." His obituary failed to note that he was the founder of the town of Benton. When Carrier bought the store tract in 1867, its store/post office, which was the center for the community's social, political and commercial activities, had a curious dual identity. James B. Gilmer had built his store by 1850 probably near Martha Armstrong's old home site. He contracted with the merchant G. W. Sentell to be its proprietor, and Sentell also became postmaster of the "Sentell's Store" post office in 1850. Sentell soon moved on to Collinsburg, but the post office designation remained "Sentell's Store" even after the tiny community center began to be called "Benton" in 1858. The post office was finally renamed Benton in 1870 after Carrier surveyed out and began selling off town lots. The 1870 census shows that Carrier was a second generation Kentuckian, 47 years of age and worth \$10,500. He was apparently a life-long bachelor. A few months after the death of her husband in 1871, Elizabeth Oneill bought the Benton store tract, including the store, but excluding Carrier's hotel, and the town lots under private ownership. A year and a half later she sold Lee back his home on the north side of the hotel, and his lot on the north side of it (the lots on which Martha Ree Jones' home now sits). Elizabeth Wallace's second husband, George T. Fleming, inherited the store tract and some of the lots upon her death in 1886. The store tract extended east to the Cotton Belt railway tracks, laid north and south through the area in 1888. Fleming attempted unsuccessfully in October 1888 to auction off newly surveyed lots oriented on the railroad right-of-way. In December, Carrier sold off his last interests in soon-to-become "Old Benton." The following spring a group of investors did sell town lots centered on the Cotton Belt depot a mile to the north. Mr. Carrier had purchased an interest in land adjacent to the soon-to-be new town of Benton.

Jim Wells of Benton says that while a boy, his grandfather, Robert E. "Pappy" Wallace, took him to the old Coates graveyard. He showed his grandson the vertical obelisk-like tombstone of Mr. Wallace's Aunt Elizabeth (Wallace) Fleming. He also said that Elizabeth's father (Mr. Wallace's grandfather), Cezaire Wallace, was buried next to her in an unmarked grave. Many other area people whose burial locations are unknown are surely buried here. Among them might be George Fleming, several of the Wallaces to include Cezaire's wife, Louizia, and members of the McCalla family. Isaac McCalla died in the 1850's while he still owned the site. (Old obituaries, more often than not, did not tell where the burial would or did take place)

Howard Earl and Charles Paul George, descendants of Edwards and Irwin, say they first saw the graveyard in the early to mid-1940's. They estimate that there was evidence of between 20 and 30 burials along the bluff. Perhaps 10 or 12 had intact stones. Many had a brick "curb" over which the grave stone had been placed. Many of these stones were broken or missing with only remnants of the brick remaining. Robert Parker, an Edwards, Irwin and Wallace descendant, and Gerald Brown, who grew up and still lives near the old graveyard, agree substantially with what was said by the Georges. They all have some knowledge of the pre-Caddo burial mound, thought to be more than one thousand years old. They remember that there were two monuments on top of the mound (probably Wallaces) and one or two others on its edge. Those on top had heavy concrete bases and marble grave borders. One base and long segments of the marble border are still atop the mound. They say that in the mid-1950's, Bill Butler, a geologist with the Carter Oil Company and amateur archeologist, made a cross section excavation of the mound between the two grave markers. He found the skeletal remains of a Native American man with an apparent "atlatl" (spear or dart) point in his spine, thought perhaps to have resulted from a mercy killing. Also, the skeleton of a young African-American woman with a badly abscessed tooth or jaw was found in the edge of the mound. A group of local boys are said to have burrowed through the area of the excavation and also to have damaged the graveyard's grave stones. One man said that he once detected a strong reading with his metal detector at the edge of the mound. Just below the surface he found a metal box. He pried the corner open, reached in and pulled out a bone. He immediately put the member back into the coffin and reburied it.

Recently over 100 acres of the Burt pasture containing the Coates graveyard and Indian mound were sold. There are plans to develop a subdivision on the property. It is hoped that the dead there of all races will be respected.

ID	SURNAME	FIRST NAME	OTHER NAMES	TITLE	BIRTH	DEATH
298	Jacobs	Verna	L.		06 Feb 1918	17 Mar 1994
299	Jacobs	Bunyan		Sr.	09 Feb 1911	13 Sep 1995
300	McCulloch	Theodore			09 Apr 1947	18 Feb 2003
301	Canada*	Ruthie	L.	Mrs.	02 Nov 1929	02 Jan 2002
302	Evans	Bertha	G(ray) Robbins		02 Feb 1927	21 Jul 1992
303	Evans	John		Jr.	29 Aug 1916	25 Sep 1956
304	Freeman	Frank			24 Dec 1888	30 May 1964
305	Tarver	Edna			30 Apr 1887	09 Apr 1964
306	Carroll	Rosa	B.		1912	1991
307	Pitts	Noveda			02 Nov 1914	26 Feb 1964
308	Pitts	Jimmie		Jr.	01 Jul 1934	23 Dec 1963
309	Turiel	Joe			1893	1968
310	Pitts	Jimmie		Sr.	25 May 1904	07 Nov 1981
311	Jones	Tommie	Mae		1894	1971
312	Johnson	Lucille			1910	1965
313	Mitchell	James	L.		26 Jan 1904	10 Jul 1971
314	Mitchell	Gladys	R.		12 Dec 1907	23 Feb 1976
315	Nichols	Ruby	L.		26 Sep 1917	28 Jun 1984
316	Williams	Leroy	C.		15 May 1950	05 May 1968
317	Washington	Herbert	Lee	Sr.	11 Aug 1916	13 Sep 1980
318	Ammons	Victoria	C.		1895	1966
319	Williams	Paul			1878	1953
320	Harbor	Larry	Wayne		06 Dec 1956	05 Jul 1977
321	David	Jessie	D.	Sr./Rev.	1886	1957
322	Fletcher	Sadie	H. David		20 Jun 1906	24 Jun 1972
323	David	George	A.		17 Jul 1917	21 May 1954
324	Carroll	Will			08 Mar 1884	02 Jul 1954
325	Carroll	Margret			02 Feb 1884	06 Sep 1967
326	Banks	Rachel	Branch		12 Sep 1905	29 Dec 1972
327	Simmons	Charles	Richard		05 Jun 1942	04 Jul 1966
328	Simmons	Ernestein	Phells		07 May 1914	16 Sep 1991
329	Walette	Etta			17 May 1892	03 Jun 1984
330	Walette	Adolph			23 Sep 1892	20 Sep 1960



"Mrs. Victoria Ammons, the (fourth child) of Mr. Pomp and Mrs. Sarah Henry Claxton, was born November 5, 1895 in Tallulah, Louisiana in Madison Parish. (The Claxton family) moved to Shreveport in 1904. (She) attended the Peabody School.

"...She united in Holy-Wedlock to Mr. William Ed Ammons October 5, 1915....She was affiliated with the Scott A. Lewis Chapter No. 22 O. E. S. Prince Hall Mason.

"....God called her home...May 22, 1966 at 7:55 P. M. (a)t her home 1756 Murphy St. after a lingering illness. She is survived by her husband, W. E. Ammons, three sisters, Mr. (sic) Cornelia McKeel, Rosa Mitchell and Beatrice Wallace of Los Angeles, California,... other relatives and a host of sorrowing friends."

ID 318

Source: "Obsequies of Sister Victoria Ammons," dated May 25, 1966, in possession of Mrs. Isabelle Woods, 2016 Surrey Lane, Bossier City, Louisiana.

ZION REST CEMETERY, 4300 HENRY ST, SHREVEPORT, LA

THE GENIE THIRD QUARTER 2006

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ID	SURNAME	FIRST NAME	OTHER NAMES	TITLE	BIRTH	DEATH
331	Lang	Curtis			21 Apr 1907	14 Jan 1955
332	Lang	Ethel	L.		(Blank)	(Blank)
333	Kidd	Camille			15 Feb 1904	31 Mar 1986
334	Brooks	Genevieve	Kidd "Bobbie"		23 Jul 1921	01 Nov 2001
335	Thomas	Leon			(Blank)	(Blank)
336	Gray	James			10 Dec 1874	18 Jan 1949
337	Gray	Emma			09 Apr 1884	04 Feb 1947
338	Williams	Lois	Jackson		22 Nov 1934	09 Dec 1997
339	Barrett	Johnnie			08 Jun 1906	08 Feb 1948
340	Kelly	Addie				27 May 1953
341	Tadlock	Robert	N.		18 Aug 1922	20 Mar 1959
342	Tadlock	Norman			15 Jul 1881	15 Mar 1948
343	Blackman	Mathilde			23 Dec 1872	18 Jun 1952
344	Penegar	Louise	S.		1912	1953
345	Mazier	Joseph	H.		1902	1982
346	Carter	Lillie	P.		01 Dec 1891	20 Dec 1948
347	Carter	Powell			07 Mar 1891	(Blank)
348	Allen	Gertrude			1889	1971
349	Peterson	Luvertha	S.		02 Feb 1888	13 Aug 1980
350	Stallworth	Evelyn	Cowan		04 Jun 1898	31 Jan 1982
351	Lee	Arizona			30 Dec 1894	07 Dec 1977
352	Haynes	Johnny	B.	Jr.	1925	1977
353	Wilson	Pauline	Swann		03 Oct 1912	26 Jul 1992
354	Lee	Alex	(Alexander)		07 Apr 1892	25 Oct 1950
355	Lee	Frankie	K.		1881	1964
356	Sandris	Eddie	C.		15 Feb 1900	26 Nov 1972
357	Jones	Wade	H.		06 Jul 1911	25 Sep 1983
358	Daniels	Latanja			14 Sep 1965	12 Mar 1983
359	Whitman	Johnny	L.		11 Apr 1927	15 Feb 1974
360	McElroy	Essie	L.		05 Jan 1912	08 Dec 1983
361	Patterson	Levert	Robert			07 Oct 1938
362	Patterson	Minnie	W.		13 Nov 1875	06 Sep 1937
363	Patterson	John	H.		1869	1955



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ZION REST CEMETERY, 4300 HENRY ST, SHREVEPORT, LA

THE GENIE THIRD QUARTER 2006

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ID	SURNAME	FIRST NAME	OTHER NAMES	TITLE	BIRTH	DEATH
364	Flint	Josephine			1868	28 Mar 1948
365	Buffin	Connie	(Van Dyke)		09 Sep 1960	29 Oct 2004
366	McKee	Mary	Thompson		08 Feb 1895	29 Dec 1995
367	Turnipcede	William			08 Sep 1888	24 Oct 1954
368	Turnipcede	Belle	Carter			07 Sep 1968
369	Hunter	Mary	Belle		1918	2000
370	Graham	Lorenzo			08 Aug 1886	02 Nov 1962
371	Graham	Laura	Welch		03 Aug 1920	25 May 1962
372	Green	E.	D.			07 Dec 1946
373	Graham	Thomas	L.		1847	1945
374	Graham	Mamie	L.		1868	1975
375	Coleman	Glenda	Fay		1955	1986
376	Washington	Charles	H.	Elder	04 Aug 1905	27 Jan 1986
377	Sanders	Helen			23 Jun 1910	14 Dec 1983
378	Sanders	U.	S.		20 Dec 1935	06 Apr 1984
379	Walker	Annie	W.		28 Jun 1895	06 Jun 1981
380	Brewster	Ann			1923	1964
381	Shorter	Hezekiah			08 Apr 1895	13 Oct 1955
382	Shorter	Jennie	Lee	(Mrs.)	21 Nov 1896	07 Nov 1950
383	Taylor	Lula			25 Dec 1894	02 May 1944
384	Simpkins	Zula	P(egues)	(Mrs.)	1894	1966
385	Simpkins	Duke		Jr.	14 Oct 1925	10 Mar 1991
386	Owens	Katie	P. "Dee Gee"		29 May 1906	06 Oct 1999
387	Jefferson	Mary			07 Sep 1907	29 Apr 1988
388	James	Wilbert			25 Jan 1914	(Blank)
389	Mann	Lucille	Claxton		02 Sep 1920	28 Jan 2004
390	Allen	Wash			1898	1947
391	Harris	Eura	Dell		17 Jul 1910	01 May 1975
392	Thomas	Ernest			10 Sep 1927	04 Jul 1947
393	McCoy	Mack			(Blank)	(Blank)
394	McCoy	Irene	A.		22 Jan 1876	01 Mar 1973
395	Roberts	Bennie	"Big Red"	Sr.	24 Sep 1904	06 Oct 2001
396	Roberts	Corinne	M.		05 Mar 1912	28 Jul 1992



Mrs. Anne Brewster

"Anne Brewster's Final Rites Held Monday"

"Final respects were payd (sic) to the late Mrs. Anne Brewster, local beautician and membership chairman of the Shreveport Branch N. A. A. C. P.

"The funeral services were held Monday, March 2, at 2 P.M... (at) the Little Union Baptist Church which was filled beyond capacity. ... Officiating... pastor, Rev. C. C. Martin.

"Mrs. Brewster was a native of Benton, La, and has lived in Shreveport for over 24 years.... During the last five years, she... was a partner of Mrs. Mamie Love in... the Modern Beauty Shop.

"Survivors were her father Jim Townsend of Benton, two brothers, Sam Townsend of Los Angeles, William Townsend of Berkely (sic), Calif.; and aunt, Mrs. Anna Williams, of Benton...."

Source: *The Shreveport Sun* dated March 7, 1964, page 5, columns 1 and 2, and January 7, 1965, page 4, column 4, Microfilm Roll No. 506, Archives Room, Southern University Library, Shreveport Campus, Shreveport, Louisiana.

ZION REST CEMETERY, 4300 HENRY ST, SHREVEPORT, LA

THE GENIE THIRD QUARTER 2006

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ID	SURNAME	FIRST NAME	OTHER NAMES	TITLE	BIRTH	DEATH
397	Pickney	Cardell			24 Jul 1921	31 Jul 2002
398	Freeman	Charles			1925	1984
399	Moch	Eleanor	Brown		15 Oct 1904	24 Dec 1940
400	Bird	Lula	D.		17 Dec 1907	12 Feb 1954
401	Bagsby	Willie	B.		1897	1960
402	Dorsey	Andrew			22 Aug 1910	06 Apr 1979
403	Hawkins	Ella	D.		1881	15 Oct 1965
404	Hawkins	Porter			10 Mar 1885	03 Jan 1952
405	Sloane	W.	A.		1876	1941
406	McCoy	Rebecca			24 Feb 1894	18 Sep 1941
407	Jackson	Dempsey			01 Jun 1905	07 Apr 1952
408	Williams	Johnnie			1889	1991
409	Williams	Annie	Mae		1920	1986
410	Williams	Ora			09 Apr 1909	05 Mar 1985
411	Williams	Mattie	H.		26 Jul 1911	23 Dec 2000
412	Hayes	Dorothy	Dean		09 Jan 1905	12 Jan 1986
413	Metcalf	Albert			25 Oct 1929	04 Nov 1990
414	Bates	David	M.		03 Nov 1905	11 May 1985
415	Trammell	Lessie	B.		04 Jul 1921	14 Aug 1988
416	Trammell	Paul	C.		13 Feb 1931	22 Apr 1944
417	Trammell	Rose	W.		28 Nov 1902	15 Oct 1975
418	Trammell	Giles			26 Jan 1895	11 Jul 1982
419	Hodges	Minnie			20 Jan 1882	12 Jul 1962
420	Metcalf	Johnnetta	K.	Mrs.	28 Sep 1933	19 Dec 2003
421	McPherson	Carrie	Gooden		11 Mar 1880	25 Sep 1967
422	Clay	Robert	J.		1883	1952
423	Jordan	Willie			01 Apr 1885	13 Aug 1942
424	Green	Gregory	"Greenie"		23 Jul 1961	17 Sep 1998
425	Goodman	Edward	Lee		06 Apr 1935	11 Jul 1980
426	Sykes	Essie	R.		30 Jul 1901	05 Mar 1987
427	Washington	Roderick			13 Jan 1969	28 Jul 1990
428	Lewis	Fisher			14 Sep 1888	05 Oct 1944
429	Lewis	Donese	Johnson		18 Nov 1883	15 Aug 1977

No Photograph on This Funeral Program

"Funeral Services of Mrs. Denese Lewis"

"Mrs. Denese (Donese) Lewis was born in Coushatta, La., on or about 1887. Her parents were Mrs. Celia Hamilton, mother, and Mr. Johnny Johnson, father.

"...(S)he became a member of the Springville Baptist Church.

"When she moved to Shreveport, she became a member of the St. Paul Methodist Episcopal Church in 1921, the Rev. J. L. Wilson, pastor.

"She was married to Robert Clay, to which this union one son was born. She was later married to Fisher Lewis who preceded her in death.

"She departed this life Monday, August 15, 1977.

"She is survived by one son, Mr. Roy Clay, Shreveport, two sisters, Mrs. Catherine Owens and Mrs. Ethel Palmer, Coushatta, a brother-in-law, Mr. Alex Owens, Coushatta, La., one grand son, Robert Fisher Clay, nephews, nieces, and other relatives."

ID 429

Sources: "Funeral Services of Mrs. Denese Lewis," dated August 18, 1977, in possession of Mrs. Isabelle Woods, 2016 Surrey Lane, Bossier City, Louisiana. Mrs. Lewis' first name is spelled, "Donese," on her headstone and on the funeral program of her son, Roy T. Clay.

ZION REST CEMETERY, 4300 HENRY ST, SHREVEPORT, LA

THE GENIE THIRD QUARTER 2006

120

ID	SURNAME	FIRST NAME	OTHER NAMES	TITLE	BIRTH	DEATH
430	Clay	Roy	Taylor		06 Feb 1912	15 Jan 1978
431	Hicks	Jimmie		Sr.	1904	1983
432	Hicks	Mary	C.		1912	2001
433	Allen	Elmer			01 Jan 1919	20 Jul 1999
434	Simond	Julia			1871	1943
435	Harris	Sam	H.		30 Dec 1892	16 Sep 1945
436	Harris	Luvenia	C.		10 Jun 1862	01 Jul 1943
437	Patterson	Sampson			28 Aug 1897	27 Apr 1963
438	Conway	Pleas	Edward		27 Nov 1928	01 Jul 1990
439	Casey	Jesse	Robert		23 May 1919	20 Jan 1941
440	Palmer	Willie	W.		30 Jun 1954	27 Feb 1991
441	Taylor	Annie	Lou		1915	1941
442	McMillian	Thomas	F.		1917	1943
443	Sanders	John	H.		19 Jun 1909	06 Dec 1963
444	Peelier	Ione	B.		1888	1980
445	Goodman	Pearl			15 Apr 1907	11 Apr 1976
446	Day	Dorothy	A.		1947	2000
447	Green	Ola	B.		16 Feb 1925	30 Jun 1976
448	Richardson	Cecelia	Sykes		13 Jan 1917	11 Jul 1972
449	Walker	James	Preston		19 Oct 1921	05 Jan 1972
450	Dorsey	Rosa	L. Pennywell		23 Apr 1899	07 Dec 1985
451	Bolden	Curtis			06 Jan 1922	08 Dec 1964
452	Harris	Alice	L.		30 Apr 1898	26 Jul 1964
453	Riley	Nathien		Jr.	19 Aug 1944	10 Feb 1962
454	Miller	Clayton		Jr.	25 Sep 1920	18 Oct 1973
455	Moore	Josephine	Anderson		22 Dec 1903	22 Apr 1994
456	King	Lillie	M.		02 Aug 1899	12 Jan 1996
457	Dennis	Vickie	Burden		15 Jul 1884	09 Jan 1968
458	Darrett	R.	T.		1914	2001
459	Darrett	R.	T.	Jr.	1963	1990
460	Bedford	Enoch				10 Sep 1941
461	Carter	Willard			04 Nov 1917	08 Feb 1977
462	Chester	Albert			23 Oct 1854	10 Oct 1951



ID 443

ZION REST CEMETERY, 4300 HENRY ST, SHREVEPORT, LA

THE GENIE THIRD QUARTER 2006

121

ID	SURNAME	FIRST NAME	OTHER NAMES	TITLE	BIRTH	DEATH
463	Chester	Lucinda			31 Dec 1857	16 Mar 1953
464	Cordova	Artemise	C. (Chester)		1889	1969
465	Napoleon	Charley	A.		20 Apr 1897	03 Dec 1948
466	Alexander	Polly	J.		01 Nov 1896	20 Jun 1979
467	Alexander	Nathaniel	H.	Sr.	29 Dec 1892	02 Nov 1980
468	Jones	Anita	Mitchell		08 Sep 1916	14 Sep 1995
469	Crear	Mazella			22 Jun 1909	12 Jan 1990
470	Alexander	Mary	B.		09 Feb 1917	01 Jul 1981
471	Alexander	Leo			25 Dec 1917	12 Mar 1983
472	Alexander	Grover	Cleveland		20 Sep 1921	08 Jan 1951
473	Sumpter	Mary	L.		23 Aug 1903	08 Oct 1949
474	Sumpter	Frank		Jr.	18 Jun 1896	02 Dec 1986
475	Smith	Sylvester			26 Feb 1908	04 Mar 1986
476	Hicks	Calline			15 May 1894	18 Mar 1946
477	Carter	Zamer			05 Mar 1910	08 Oct 1993
478	Wells	Jessie	Wilson		1902	1940
479	Bowman	Lionel			28 Dec 1941	28 Sep 1986
480	Sykes	Lucille	Frances		17 Aug 1899	08 Dec 1984
481	Bates	Mildred	Sykes		08 Jun 1919	06 Sep 1945
482	Bates	William	Sancho		25 Jul 1914	14 Dec 1990
483	Woods	Bertha	B.		16 Oct 1918	05 Mar 1977
484	Pier	Angelia	S.		1955	1985
485	Moore	Edward			04 Oct 1914	04 Oct 1947
486	Moore	Bell			1874	1954
487	Moore	William	P.		13 Sep 1903	25 Jul 1974
488	Hubbard	Willie	A.		15 May 1882	02 Nov 1945
489	Jones	Laura				05 Aug 1959
490	Moore	Herman			1914	1985
491	Moore	Virginia	H.	Mrs.	26 Apr 1912	24 Jun 2000
492	Riley	Nathaniel		Deacon	12 Jul 1902	12 Jul 1976
493	Hill	Rendia			22 Sep 1890	24 Aug 1940
494	Brown	Ella	D.		11 Apr 1913	01 Oct 1976
495	Rodgers	Elsie			07 Jan 1893	12 Mar 1975



MRS. ARTIMESE CHESTER CORDOVA

“Sister Artemese Chester Cordova was the sixth of fourteen children born to the late Deacon (Albert Chester) and Sister Lucinda Chester, (who were) pioneer members of the Antioch Baptist Church.

“She demised this life June 3, 1969 at 3:26 P. M.

“.....She leaves to mourn four (4) sisters: Mesdames Pearl C. Mosley, Lillie Belle Napoleon, Mamie C. Bryant, Los Angeles, Calif., Bertha Jackson, Chicago, Ill., one (1) son: Albert L. Samuels, Los Angeles, Calif., one (1) nephew, William H. Chester, Jr., San Francisco, Calif., three (3) grandchildren, fourteen (14) great grand children, a host of relatives and friends.”

ID 464

Source: “Funeral Services of Sister Artemese Chester Cordova,” dated June 7, 1969, in possession of Mrs. Isabelle Woods, 2016 Surrey Lane, Bossier City, Louisiana.

ZION REST CEMETERY, 4300 HENRY ST, SHREVEPORT, LA

THE GENIE THIRD QUARTER 2006

122

ID	SURNAME	FIRST NAME	OTHER NAMES	TITLE	BIRTH	DEATH
496	Johnson	Myrtle	Tucker		11 Feb 1911	05 Mar 1979
497	Johnson	Ardis	Edward	Sr.	22 Nov 1907	23 Oct 1982
498	Dorsey	Charlie			26 Apr 1947	12 Mar 1971
499	Howard	Exzetta	M.		20 Oct 1913	21 Aug 1993
500	Howard	Jessie		Jr./Bro.	29 Mar 1905	30 Nov 1988
501	Sewell	Tommie	E.		1915	1990
502	Roberson	Levi			25 Dec 1872	06 Nov 1956
503	Davis	Linnie	R.		14 Mar 1899	12 Jan 1955
504	Daniels	John			1872	1932
505	Dalton	Nancy	W.		09 Jan 1907	27 Aug 1971
506	Roberson	Guiley			1872	1949
507	Roberson	Lizzie			1875	1946
508	King	Claude		Sr.	11 Jul 1906	22 Nov 1964
509	Jones	Ernest			23 Oct 1919	02 Feb 1988
510	Taylor	Laura	B.		01 Apr 1897	07 Dec 1964
511	Jelks	John			1881	1960
512	Jelks	Lula	M.		04 Dec 1906	06 Dec 1985
513	Page	Johnny			05 Aug 1950	14 Nov 1970
514	Battle	Joe	Louis		31 Aug 1937	31 Aug 1992
515	Bryant	James	N.	Minister		18 Nov 1998
516	Bryant	Willie	Mae	(Mrs.)	17 Feb 1935	27 Apr 1999
517	Cooper	Emma			01 Mar 1891	31 Jul 1959
518	Johnson	Cora			28 Oct 1881	26 Oct 1964
519	Johnson	Virgil			05 Apr 1885	13 Mar 1949
520	Johnson	Theodore			19 Sep 1918	19 May 1987
521	Moreland	Benny				23 Aug 1934
522	Toussaint	J.	A.	Rev.	1895	1944
523	Jenkins	Dé Mario	Antwoine		05 Jun 1983	18 May 1997
524	Pier	Kenward	W.	Jr.	1974	1994
525	Bolt	Brady		Jr.	18 Apr 1931	04 Jan 1993
526	Bolt	Brady		Sr.	1909	17 Jun 1948
527	Frazier	James	Amos		1922	1986
528	Stinson	Annie	C.		10 Mar 1893	02 Sep 1952



MRS. MYRTLE TUCKER JOHNSON

"Sister Myrtle Tucker Johnson was born to the union of the late Elsie Rodgers and Henry Tucker, January 11, 1911, (in) Longstreet, Louisiana. She expired Monday, March 5, 1979, following an extended illness

"She...was baptized at Sulpha Springs Baptist Church in Longstreet...and...(as an adult)...united with Antioch Baptist Church (Shreveport, LA)....

"She (graduated) from Dunbar High School, Lufkin, Texas....received the B. S. degree from Wiley College and (received) the M. S. degree from Bishop College....She retired in 1967 after teaching six years in Desoto Parish and 26 years in Caddo Parish....

"Her survivors are her husband, Ardis E. Johnson; a son, Ardis E. Johnson, Jr.; sister, Beatrice Peoples; brother, Tommie Tucker; uncle, Ernest Rodgers; a host of relatives and friends."

ID 496

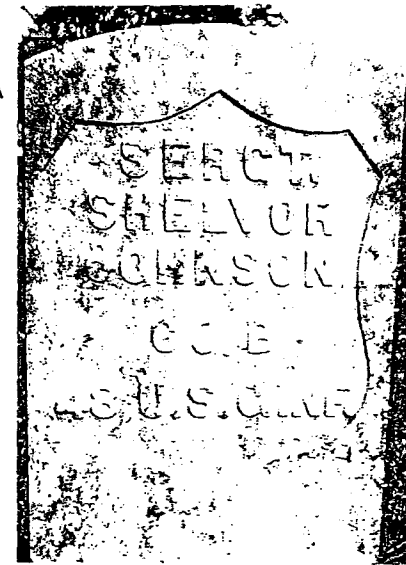
Source: "Memorial Services for Myrtle Cynthia Tucker Johnson," dated March 10, 1979, in possession of Mrs. Isabelle Woods, 2016 Surrey Lane, Bossier City, LA.

ZION REST CEMETERY, 4300 HENRY ST, SHREVEPORT, LA

THE GENIE THIRD QUARTER 2006

123

ID	SURNAME	FIRST NAME	OTHER NAMES	TITLE	BIRTH	DEATH
529	Miles	Annie				11 Oct 1941
530	Latson	Huey			1904	1967
531	Davis	Anthony			10 Oct 1910	26 Aug 1968
532	Bowman	Ray	Don (Bobo)			23 Dec 1955
533	Bowman	Ruth			25 Jun 1924	27 May 1979
534	Washington	Lena			1892	1968
535	Willis	Quince		Jr.	25 Jun 1959	08 Mar 1996
536	Coleman	Walter	Travis		15 Oct 1905	15 Dec 1985
537	Coleman	Sallie	Mae Land		09 Apr 1917	28 Dec 1968
538	Parish	Bertha	Hardy		1898	1954
539	Berkley	James			15 May 1884	01 Dec 1950
540	Thomas	Francis	L.		18 Nov 1953	24 Nov 1977
541	O'Neal	Mary	Lue		03 May 1925	27 Oct 2001
542	Catharn	Pirthy	T.		1922	1988
543	Johnson	Shelvor		Sergt.		
544	Matthews	La France			24 Oct 1910	24 Dec 1960
545	Sykes	Virginia	Willis		01 Sep 1919	01 Sep 2000
546	Willis	Bessie	Hardy		31 Aug 1894	14 Sep 1948
547	Willis	Jimmie			15 Dec 1891	25 Feb 1958
548	Hardy	Virgel			1901	1949
549	Johnson	Mary	A. Hardy		1908	1952
550	Webb	Dora	B. Hardy		1911	1973
551	Johnson	Hattie				1967
552	Jackson	Boley			1895	1949
553	Charles	Florence			11 Dec 1907	18 Jul 1976
554	Duncan	Evander	W.	Dr.	28 Oct 1899	06 Feb 1987
555	Duncan	Martha	J.		13 Jul 1903	21 May 1993
556	Hopkins	Wilson			05 Apr 1891	11 Dec 1949
557	Rankin	Carrie	Thiel		29 Jun 1914	10 Jun 1980
558	Rankin	William	Henry		31 Jul 1908	26 Aug 1982
559	Burns	Willie	L.		01 May 1931	05 Dec 1995
560	Haley	James			03 Jul 1897	03 Oct 1968
561	Smith	Alex			15 Aug 1875	04 Nov 1983



Sergeant Shelvor "Shelby" Johnson

In his pension file, Sgt. Shelvor Johnson stated he was born in slavery on April 1, 1845 in Franklin County, Mississippi, to Mr. Thomas Rowan, a white slave owner, and Miss Millie Johnson, a slave. At his death on June 21, 1925, in Shreveport, Mr. Johnson was survived by his wife, Amelia Brown and by his brother, Sidney L. Rowan of Tillman, Mississippi.

Mr. Johnson enlisted April 1, 1864 at Vicksburg, MS, as a private in Company "B" of Powell's Regiment then was transferred as a sergeant to Company "B," 48th Regiment of the U.S. Colored Infantry. He was discharged on January 4, 1866, in New Orleans, LA. He worked on a steamboat for twenty years then settled with his wife in Shreveport as a handyman.

ID 543

Source: Pension file of Sgt. Shelvor Johnson, Certificate No. 1102641, National Archives, Washington, D. C., in possession of Mrs. Isabelle Woods, Bossier City, LA.

To be Continued

TIPS FOR RESEARCH

No matter what area of the United States or overseas you are going to research for your ancestors—PLEASE study maps and check local history before you start your queries.

Find out if county or state lines changed and if so, when did they change. Were there name changes for the county you are going to research?

When researching Oklahoma, be aware that Oklahoma was made from Oklahoma Territory (western part) and Indian Territory (eastern and southern part) in 1907. There were no counties prior to that. Each Nation was divided into districts. The Cherokee Nation was divided into 9 districts. The Choctaw Nation was divided into 3 districts and the Chickasaw Nation was divided into 3 districts called counties. The Creek Nation had 6 districts.

If you are researching someone in Rogers or Nowata or Washington counties before 1907 ask about the Cooweescoowee District. If you are researching Delaware, Craig and parts of Mayes County ask about the Delaware District. Much of Mayes County was in the Saline District. Craig County was in both the Cooweescoowee and Delaware District as the dividing line between the districts was the MK&T Railroad that runs south from Kansas to Texas.

INDIAN HUNTING

In researching your Indian ancestors before 1865 REMEMBER the 5 mile wide Neutral Strip that ran the length of Kansas (that included Chetopa, KS) and the Cherokee Neutral Lands that became Cherokee and Crawford Counties in Kansas. The Neutral Lands were purchased by the Cherokees in their Treaty of 1835. This area and the eastern part of the Strip are listed as a part of the Delaware District of the Cherokee Nation in the 1851 Drennon Roll.

The Neutral Strip was used to keep whites and the Indians separated but was a part of the Cherokee Nation until 1861 when the Cherokees sold the area to the Confederacy for money and a promise to provide 2 regiments to fight in the Confederate Army. After the Civil War the Neutral Strip and the Cherokee Neutral Lands "which had again become property of the Cherokee Nation were sold to the U.S. Government by an Act of Congress July, 1866. Kansas had to straighten up its southern border before it could become a state and the area became part of the state of Kansas in 1867. If you will read the History of Cherokee County, Kansas, you will find 14 major Cherokee Indian families there in 1835. They included the David M. Harlan family, Richard and George Fields, John Rogers, and Dennis Wolfe. Others included the Goddard, Crutchfield, Blythe, Hurst, and Tiner.

EXCHANGE PERIODICAL REVIEW

Compiled by Constance Whatley

Many of the periodicals we receive, in exchange for "The Genie" provides up-to-date ideas on how to solve your research challenges. Always search the periodical published in your geographical interest area, but don't overlook other periodicals that may include articles of general interest to the researcher or about families that have migrated. These periodicals are located at the Broadmoor Branch Library, Shreveport, Genealogy Section.

Bluegrass Roots, Volume 32, Number 2, Summer 2006 published by the Kentucky Genealogical Society, pages 81-85, has an article by Dr. Elizabeth A. Karper, a retired university professor entitled: Maximizing Your Search Engine Efficiency. On pages 96-97, is an article entitled: Commentary on Slave Marriages. The author, Elaine Caroland, has provided a website for anyone wishing to read this. ecca@mindspring.com. Another interesting article on slave marriage in this publication can be found on pages 97-102, it is an index to Slave Marriage Declarations, Scott County, Kentucky from February 1867 to August 1907.

Legacies and Legends, Volume 10, No. 2, August 2006 published by Winn Parish Genealogical and Historical Association, pages 95-99, lists U. S. Land Patents prior to the Civil War.

The Tree Tracers, Volume XXX, Number 4, June-August 06, published by Southwestern Oklahoma Genealogical Society, pages 165-176, is an article entitled: Overlooked and Underutilized Research Sources. Of special interest maybe a paragraph on American State Papers--a source of data on settlement and migration within Trans-Appalachian America. It also serves as a finding aid to public land claims within the National Archives.

Our Heritage, Volume 27, February 06, page 9, published by Van Zant Genealogical Society, Canton, Texas lists: (1) A website for locating veteran's burial nationwide; (2) Example of how to find the birth date of someone when you have only the date of death and age; (3) Old occupations defined; and (4) A genealogical dictionary.

The Brazos Genealogist, Volume XXCII, Number 1, Winter 06, published by The Brazos Genealogical Association, pages 10 and 11, gives a method for calculating birth dates using information found on cemetery stones.

Valley Leaves, Volume 40, Number 3, March 2006, published by Tennessee Valley Genealogical Society, Huntsville, AL, page 95 states. Linkpendium is a relatively new and fast website for genealogical sources. As the name implies, your search gives links to other websites of either surnames or locations. At the end of December, the site had approximately 3,000,000 links. There were 57,000 links added from January 1-24, 2006. According to its website, Linkpendium is "The definitive directory to genealogical and other resources on the web." Users are welcome to add their personal websites to the list; A search for Madison County, AL returned 234 links to web pages. There is no charge to use this resource.

La Raconteur, Volume XXVI, No. 1, March 2006, page 1, published by Le Comite Des Archives de La Louisiane, Baton Route, La, published Judy Riffel's article: Update on hurricane damage. The information was current as of mid February.

Items discussed are: (1) *Notarial Archives*; (2) *Vital Records Register*; (3) *New Orleans Public Library*; (4) *Tulane University*; (5) *Archdiocese of New Orleans*, (6) *Louisiana Historical Center*, (7) *Jackson Barracks*, (8) *St Bernard Clerk of Court*, (9) *Cameron Parish Clerk of Court*, (10) *Welsham Plantation*, and (11) *LSU Special Collection*.

Newton County Roots, Volume XVIII, No. 1, March 2006, published by the Genealogy Friends of the Library, Neosho, MO, pages 14-15, has an article entitled: Clues in Census Records 1850-1930. This article tells how experienced genealogist use clues found in one column to find other records about the same individual.



In Memory of
Mrs. Louise Culbertson Pratt
September 18, 1916 – June 14, 2006
The Association will cherish her memories.

KING/CASON Families
of
Blackburn, Louisiana

By Brooksey King

Brooksey King was a member of the *Ark-La-Tex Genealogical Association* from the time of its founding. The Association has recently received copies of the "GENIE" that Mrs. King received from 1967-1984. Inside one issue was this draft of her family and the Cross Roads Community of Blackburn, LA. We want to thank Sharon McAvoy for this donation to be shared with you.

Blackburn is a small Cross Road community ten miles northwest of Homer and nine and one half miles south of Haynesville in Claiborne Parish, Louisiana. The Cross Roads from East to West was the Homer and Sikes Ferry Road, from North to South the Haynesville and Minden Road. Blackburn was named for a man that had a tan yard and shoe shop down the hill east of the Cross Roads on a small stream called "*Tan Yard or the Shoe Shop Branch*". Mr. Blackburn and his wife were from New Orleans.

My father, W. Wood King moved to Louisiana in 1867 with his parents, Franklin Tugle King and other members of his family. Franklin's family settled about three miles southwest on the "*old red hills*". In 1871 my father married Miss Siddia Cason who lived with her two younger brothers: James Webb Cason and William Franklin Cason, in the home her parents had left them. The house was begun in 1856 and finished in 1872; it was a large white one on top of the hill east of the shop. My mother's Grandfather, Michael Smith Cason, having home steadied some of the land. My father went to work" to improve and cultivate the land. After a few years my father bought the tan yard and shoe shop from Mr. Blackburn. The Blackburn's were supposed to return to New Orleans, no one ever had any word from them. My oldest sister, Maty Agnes King, was named for Mrs. Blackburn, as a parting gift she gave Mary' (although a small child) a gold broach, with diamond clip. The broach is now in possession of her daughter, Mrs. Mary Patten Bonner of Houston, Texas.

My father would tan the cow hides and then cut the leather and make some shoes. After some years the shop was closed and few people can now locate there the shop once stood.

On the NW corner at the Cross Road stood the old L. P. King General Merchantile Store, part of the old building is now being used by Leroy Worley for a grocery store. The King's first business location was Shongaloo. In 1902 the business moved from Blackburn, LA, L. P. Frank and John Henry with their families, their father William Sinclair King and two sisters, Camille and Alice moved to Homer. Their merchantile business was continued until retirement about 1920.

The Blackburn post office was in the store of the King's building. The King's brothers, Mrs. Kinder and John Robinson were some of the post masters. The post office being closed in __. My father had the sub contract for carrying the mail for a number of years to Homer, the total pay annual being \$17.00. The mail was carried by horse back or in a one horse sulky. Taking most all day to make the trip of 20 miles. My oldest brother Cliff

carried the mail one day. A big rain came; the shoe shop branch was overflowed. He thought that his horse could swim the swollen stream and rode into it. The water was too high and swift and he was washed off the horse and came near losing his life. Later the saddle bags containing the mail were found down the stream and his pocket book with \$200 that was washed out of his pocket was picked up about a mile away in the Mabry pasture.

On the west corner was a small one room frame building office of Dr. William Franklin Cason, after finishing medical college from Louisville, Kentucky on February 25, 1884. He was the country Dr.; riding horse back many miles, always carried his slicker or raincoat. His remarks when some one tried to joke about it were "it took a smart man to carry a raincoat all the time but any fool could carry his sometimes". He never charged for his services, but accepted whatever the patient would offer him, which often was a very small amount. He was a very humble man, a man of very few words. My mother when questioning him of how someone was getting along that he was treating, if he replied that are pretty sick, she knew that they were serious and often would pass away. He married Miss Eliza Raney in 1903. After the old ford car became available, he bought one and moved about, 1908 just out side Minden, later moving to Shongaloo. He passed away as Cliff King's in Homer and is buried in Old Haynesville Cemetery. Dr. Cason, Dr. Willis and Dr. Mont Day? were close friends. Once Henry Handle got his leg crushed while rolling logs, when to the three Drs. got together for a consultation, they whittled a trough out of a willow tree and set his leg in the trough for the cast until it was healed.

There was a Presbyterian church on the hill to the west, south of the Homer Road, some of the early ministers was John Campti and Rev. E. C. Cargill, now of Atlanta, Ga. On the north side of the road in front of the Presbyterian church was the Corinth Baptist Church. Some of the ministers were Jamerson, Henson Hollis, J. H. Wharton, R. T. Moore, and Martin. The grounds of both churches had large stately oaks and long after the ministers would finish the services the members and friends would be enjoying the shade and association of others. The members rode horse back or in wagons pulled by teams of two horses or mules.

Descendants of July Causey by Isabelle Woods

Generation No. 1

1. JULY¹ CAUSEY was born Abt. 1828 in Causey Springs Plantation, Berwick, Amite County, MS, and died in Morehouse Parish, Louisiana.

Child of JULY CAUSEY is:

2. i. BENJAMIN² CAUSEY, SR., b. Abt. 1848, Mississippi; d. 05 Nov 1919, Bonita, Morehouse Parish, LA.

Generation No. 2

2. BENJAMIN² CAUSEY, SR. (*JULY*¹) was born Abt. 1848 in Mississippi, and died 05 Nov 1919 in Bonita, Morehouse Parish, LA. He married MANERVA BARNES Abt. 1867 in Morehouse Parish, Louisiana. She was born Abt. 1846 in Mississippi.

Children of BENJAMIN CAUSEY and MANERVA BARNES are:

3. i. HENDERSON³ CAUSEY, SR., b. May 1868, Jones, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana; d. 02 Nov 1925, Jones, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana.
4. ii. DORA CAUSEY, b. Abt. 1872, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana; d. Abt. 1919, Louisiana.
- iii. MAGDALINE CAUSEY, b. Jan 1873, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana; m. HENRY KELLY.
- iv. RHODY CAUSEY, b. Abt. 1875, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana.
5. v. MARY ANN CAUSEY, b. Aug 1878, Bonita, Morehouse Parish, LA; d. 1907, Bonita, Morehouse Parish, LA.
6. vi. BENJAMIN CAUSEY, JR., b. 05 Sep 1881, Bonita, Morehouse Parish, LA.
- vii. BAYLUM CAUSEY, b. 13 Feb 1886, Bonita, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana; d. 17 May 1936, Bonita, Morehouse Parish, LA; m. CENA COLEMAN, 1906, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana.
- viii. DAN CAUSEY, b. Dec 1887, Bonita, Morehouse Parish, LA; m. (1) WILLIE CALLION, Abt. 1908, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana; m. (2) EFFIE JONES, 1920, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana.
- ix. ROAN CAUSEY, b. 30 Dec 1889, Bonita, Morehouse Parish, LA; d. 14 Feb 1979, Morehouse General Hospital, Morehouse Parish, LA; m. (1) MOLLIE WOODS, 09 Feb 1913, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana; b. Jan 1881, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana; m. (2) ELLA ?, 06 Jul 1946, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana; m. (3) MARANDY FORD, Abt. 1955, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana; b. 26 Aug 1900, Bernice, Union Parish, Louisiana; d. 25 Jun 1976, Bonita, Morehouse Parish, LA.
- x. MELISSA CAUSEY, b. Aug 1892, Bonita, Morehouse Parish, LA.
- xi. CLEVELAND CAUSEY, b. 23 Oct 1895, Bonita, Morehouse Parish, LA; d. 30 Sep 1932, Bonita, Morehouse Parish, LA; m. (1) KATHERINE RATLER, 25 Dec 1917, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana; b. Abt. 1896, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana; m. (2) PEARLIE CALLION, 21 Mar 1929, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana; b. 28 Mar 1900, Jones, Morehouse Parish, LA; d. 11 Jan 1980, Morehouse General Hospital, Morehouse Parish, LA.
- xii. MATILDA CAUSEY, b. 04 Mar 1900, Bonita, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana; d. 06 Jan 1985, Bastrop, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana; m. ? CALLION.

Generation No. 3

3. HENDERSON³ CAUSEY, SR. (*BENJAMIN*², *JULY*¹) was born May 1868 in Jones, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana, and died 02 Nov 1925 in Jones, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana. He married LAURA WATT 1892 in Morehouse Parish, LA, daughter of JULIUS WATT and MARTHA WATT. She was born Abt. 1874 in Morehouse Parish, Louisiana.

Children of HENDERSON CAUSEY and LAURA WATT are:

- i. BERNICE⁴ CAUSEY, b. Jan 1894, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana; m. JACK RATTLER, 14 Jan 1917, Morehouse Parish, LA.
- ii. WILLIAM CAUSEY, b. 13 Feb 1895, Bonita, Morehouse Parish, LA; d. 19 Jan 1988, Sterlington, Ouachita Parish, LA; m. (1) JOSEPHINE HEARD; b. 02 Mar 1903, Oak Ridge, Morehouse Parish, LA; d. Abt. 27 Mar 1976, Bonita, Morehouse Parish, LA; m. (2) MAUDE CAUSEY, 27 Feb 1916, Morehouse Parish, LA; b. Apr 1895, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana; d. 21 Oct 1918, Bonita, Morehouse Parish, LA.
- iii. VIDALIA CAUSEY, b. Abt. 1903, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana; m. DOCK HEARD, 10 Nov 1918, Morehouse Parish, LA; b. 13 Sep 1898, Louisiana.

- iv. RUBY CAUSEY, b. Abt. 1907, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana.
- v. JULIA CAUSEY, b. 01 May 1909, Bonita, Morehouse Parish, LA; d. 24 Dec 1996, Morehouse General Hospital, Bastrop, Morehouse Parish, LA; m. Abt. 1930, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana; m. (2) GULE WHITE, 24 Jan 1932, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana.
- vi. HENDERSON CAUSEY, JR., b. Abt. 1910, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana; m. MARY MATHENY, 03 Jan 1928, Morehouse Parish, LA.
- vii. ELISE CAUSEY, b. Abt. 1913, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana; m. SAMMIE SANDERS, SR., 11 Jan 1941, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana.

4. DORA³ CAUSEY (*BENJAMIN², JULY¹*) was born Abt. 1872 in Morehouse Parish, Louisiana, and died Abt. 1919 in Louisiana. She married JOHN MCNEAL Abt. 1891 in Morehouse Parish, LA. He was born Abt. 1871 in Louisiana.

Children of DORA CAUSEY and JOHN MCNEAL are:

- i. THEOPHILUS J.⁴ MCNEAL, b. 23 Sep 1893, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana; d. 26 May 1957, Morehouse Parish, LA; m. MAGGIE DENTS, Abt. 1915; b. Abt. 1896, Louisiana.
- ii. SAMUEL MCNEAL, b. Abt. 1895; m. MYRTLE PETERS, Abt. 1923, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana; b. Abt. 1904, Morehouse Parish, LA.
- iii. BESSIE MCNEAL, b. Abt. 1897.
- iv. LUTHER MCNEAL, b. Abt. 1901.

5. MARY ANN³ CAUSEY (*BENJAMIN², JULY¹*) was born Aug 1878 in Bonita, Morehouse Parish, LA, and died 1907 in Bonita, Morehouse Parish, LA. She married EDWARD HOLMON Abt. 01 Jan 1895 in Morehouse Parish, Louisiana, son of JOHN HOLMAN and ANN HAYNES. He was born 01 Sep 1870 in Portland, Ashley Co., AR, and died 13 Jul 1916 in Bonita, Morehouse Parish, LA.

Children of MARY CAUSEY and EDWARD HOLMON are:

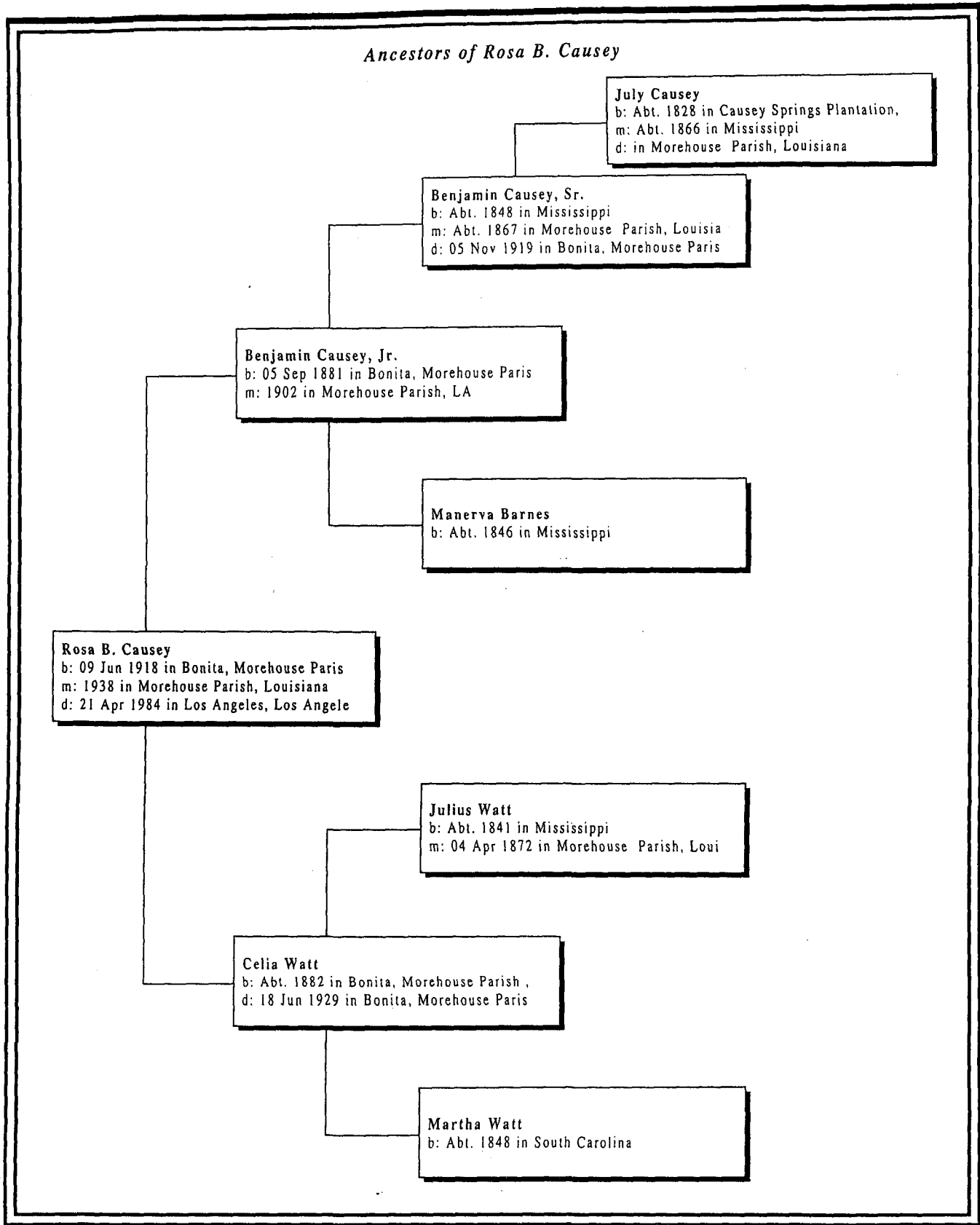
- i. CLEVELAND⁴ HOLMON, b. 19 Nov 1895, Bonita, Morehouse Parish, LA; d. 19 Oct 1977, E. A. Conway Hospital, Monroe, Ouachita Parish, LA; m. (1) HALLIE MCGHEE, 30 Jan 1918, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana; m. (2) AGNES WILLIAMS, Abt. 1940, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana; m. (3) LENA FUDGE, 31 Jan 1942, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana; m. (4) RACHEL LEE MURPHY, 29 Jan 1952, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana.
- ii. LILLIE HOLMON, b. 21 Sep 1899, Bonita, Morehouse Parish, LA; d. 13 May 1969, Morehouse General Hospital, Bastrop, Morehouse Parish, LA; m. (1) JIMMY WARE, 29 May 1921, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana; m. (2) CHARLES WESLEY FORT, Abt. 1930, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana; b. 20 Nov 1889, Louisiana; d. 08 Dec 1958, Morehouse Parish, LA.
- iii. LARKIN HOLMON, b. 01 Sep 1901, Bonita, Morehouse Parish, LA; d. 22 Aug 1990, Gravois Health Center, St. Louis, Independent City, Missouri; m. (1) JORITHER CARRYBELLE MALONE; b. 27 Aug 1907, Turrell, Arkansas; d. 22 Jul 1979, Centreville, St. Clair County, Illinois; m. (2) MARY ELIZABETH BOLDEN, 24 Feb 1945, Little Rock, Pulaski Co., AR.
- iv. ELLA MAE HOLMON, b. 12 Jul 1903, Bonita, Morehouse Parish, LA; d. 19 Jan 1998, Morehouse General Hospital, Bastrop, Morehouse Parish, LA; m. QUINCY KELLY, 19 Jan 1926, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana; b. 10 Mar 1905, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana; d. 11 Feb 1988, Bonita, Morehouse Parish, LA.

6. BENJAMIN³ CAUSEY, JR. (*BENJAMIN², JULY¹*) was born 05 Sep 1881 in Bonita, Morehouse Parish, LA. He married (1) CELIA WATT 1902 in Morehouse Parish, LA, daughter of JULIUS WATT and MARTHA WATT. She was born Abt. 1882 in Bonita, Morehouse Parish, LA, and died 18 Jun 1929 in Bonita, Morehouse Parish, LA. He married (2) SAMELLA YOUNG 1930 in Morehouse Parish, LA. She was born 20 Aug 1898 in Halley, Arkansas.

Children of BENJAMIN CAUSEY and CELIA WATT are:

- i. ELDIE⁴ CAUSEY, b. Abt. 1904.
- ii. DESSIE CAUSEY, b. Abt. 1909.
- iii. VELMA CAUSEY, b. 11 Aug 1901, Bonita, Morehouse Parish, LA; d. 16 Nov 1979, Los Angeles, Los Angeles Co., CA; m. (1) JAMES FOSTER, 08 Aug 1927, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana; b. 15 Mar 1907, Bonita, Morehouse Parish, LA; d. Bonita, Morehouse Parish, LA; m. (2) TESSLEY WILLIAMS, 31 May 1941, Morehouse Parish, LA.
- iv. JURIE CAUSEY, b. Abt. 1914.
- v. ROSA B. CAUSEY, b. 09 Jun 1918, Bonita, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana; d. 21 Apr 1984, Los Angeles, Los Angeles Co., California; m. (1) CHARLIE PAUL WALKER; m. (2) BOOKER T. MCGUIRE, 1938, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana.

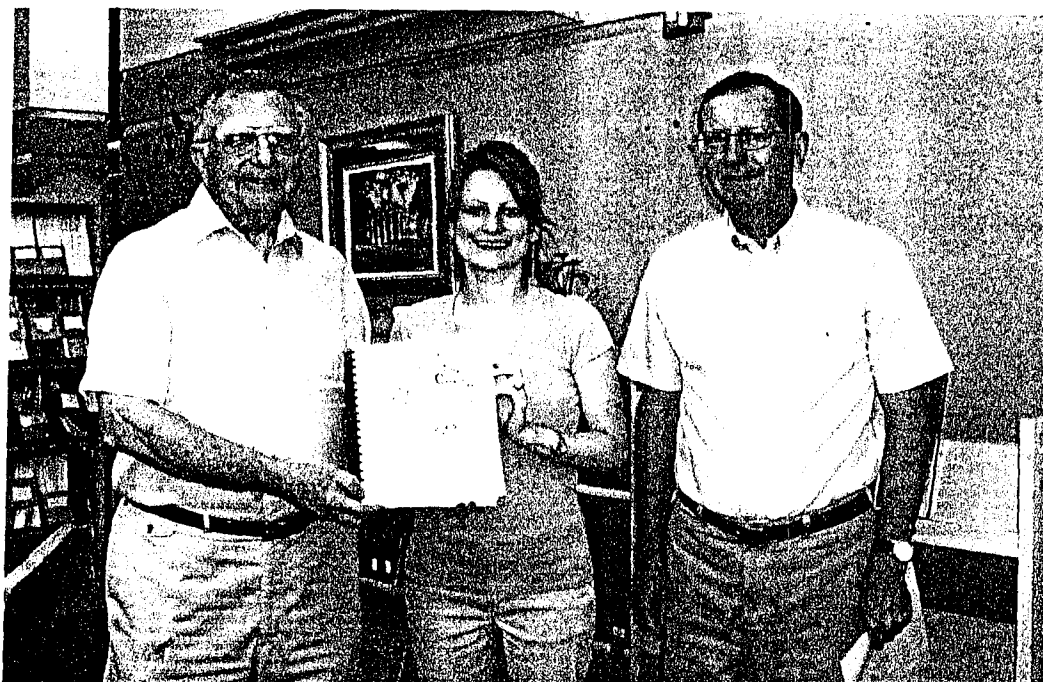
Ancestors of Rosa B. Causey



ARK-LA-TEX Genealogical Association NEW Publication

The Ark-La-Tex Genealogical Association has published a combined *"Table of Contents and Indexes from 1994 through 2004"*. This publication places all of the Table of Contents and Indexes for those issues (1994 – 2004) in one document thus saving you time from searching each issue for the information you seek. The publication will only be printed to meet the demand therefore, if you order, please allow at least 2 months to receive your issue of that publication. The cost is \$10.00, if you pick up your issue at the regular meeting, we will notify you by phone when it is ready. If you cannot attend the meetings and desire the issue to be mailed please add \$3.00 for postage and handling.

Remit either the \$10.00 or \$13.00 to the Ark-La-Tex Genealogical Association, Inc., P.O. Box 4463, Shreveport, LA 71 134-0463.



Shreve Memorial Library

Genealogy Department

Heather McEntee (center) Genealogy Librarian at the Broadmor Branch, Genealogy Department is accepting a copy of *"The Genie: Table of Contents and Indexes from 1994 to 2004"*, from two members of the *Ark-La-Tex Genealogical Association, Inc.*, Herman L. Weiland, on her left and Jim Johnson, on her right. Mrs. McEntee expressed sincere thanks to the Association for the hard work put into compiling this resource. The Association also made a donation the Genealogy Department to help purchase a microfilm splicer. *[Compiled by Willie R. Griffin and Victor C. Rose.]*

CENSUS SQUEEZING

CONSOLIDATED TIPS AND TECHNIQUES FOR GENEALOGISTS AT ALL LEVELS

© 2006, Philip Burnett Adderley¹

INTRODUCTION

This article begins the first of several installments devoted to the best use of census material in your genealogical research. The object: is to encourage a deeper understanding of what most genealogists consider the backbone source of the field. We will start with some basic instructions, and *you* will take the role of an 1880 census taker. It all seems perfectly obvious when we look at the results today what the enumerator was required to do, right? Get ready for a wake-up call. It's far from cut and dried. When I have your attention, we will examine the real world of census taking from a consolidation of some of the best material, best tips, and best research techniques ever written for researchers of censuses.

It is customary to place a bibliography at the end of an article, but I post it here with page numbers added to encourage you to *read what you can* before the next quarterly is published. If you can only fit in one or two for now, start with either *The Source* or *Your Guide to the Federal Census*. Try to find the editions cited if you can, as some incorporate the latest uses of the Internet.

Eales, Anne Bruner, and Robert M. Kvasnicka, editors. *Guide to Genealogical Research in the National Archives of the United States*. 3rd edition. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 2000. See pages 13-47. Hereafter cited as "Eales."

Greenwood, Val D. *The Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy*. 3rd edition. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, 2000. See pages 233-307. Hereafter cited "Greenwood."

Hinckley, Kathleen W. *Your Guide to the Federal Census*. Cincinnati: Betterway Books, 2002. Hereafter cited as "Hinckley." If not the whole book, then study Chapters 2, 9, and 11.

Lainhart, Ann S. *State Census Records*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1992. Hereafter cited as "Lainhart." Scan any states of special interest to you.

Mills, Elizabeth Shown. "Advanced Methodology and Evidence Analysis," *Constructing Your Family Tree*. 2006 Course 4 Syllabus, Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research (Birmingham, Alabama: IGHR, Samford University, 2006). Hereafter cited as "Mills." This material is copyrighted with distribution limited to course attendees. Please see the writer if you would like to consult his copy.

¹ © Philip Burnett Adderley; 9828 Deepwoods Drive, Shreveport, LA 71118; phil@311research.com.

Szucs, Loretto Dennis, and Sandra Hargreaves Luebking, editors. *The Source: A Guidebook to American Genealogy*. 3rd edition. Provo, Utah: Ancestry, 2006. Hereinafter cited as "Szucs." See pages 157-218.

United States. Bureau of the Census. "1850 Census Instructions to Marshals and Assistant Marshals." Minneapolis: Minnesota Population Center, University of Minnesota, 2004. *IPUMS: Integrated Public Use Microdata Series*. <http://http://www.ipums.org/usa/voliii/inst1850.html> : 2004. To see links to the Bureau's instructions for all censuses from 1850 to 2000 start at <http://www.ipums.org/usa/voliii/tEnumInstr.html>. Hereinafter cited as "Census Bureau-yyyy," where yyyy=census year. Read it all and make working copies.

To supplement what you see here, keep up to date with articles published periodically at the national level, such as the *National Genealogical Society Quarterly*. These will expose you to new ideas and ways in which censuses can be analyzed for information.

Squeezing the most from census records today requires up-front knowledge, intuition that accumulates via personal research experience, and the ability to correlate findings with other records sources. Without the up-front knowledge, it is quite easy to (a) misinterpret specific entries or findings in any given census return, and (b) draw erroneous conclusions or inferences from one or more pieces of information. The results range from missing an ancestor completely when s/he is really "there," to adopting the wrong ancestor or collateral relative in lineages or family genealogies.

INSTRUCTIONS

READ THE INSTRUCTIONS! No, this is no joke! This subsection has nothing to do with how to read this article. It has everything to do with the written instructions issued in 1850 and thereafter for carrying out the census—by the enumerators, that is. The census marshals had one set of instructions and the assistant marshals, those who actually went dwelling to dwelling, had another. Read both sets of the instructions as they were supposed to be followed. You can ignore or forget many of the other tips that follow in this article and still get by tolerably well, except for this one. Do not make the mistake of assuming that because you have a lot of experience using censuses, that you can "wing it" and leave the census instructions for beginners. On the contrary, if you have never read them, you may have been misinterpreting the same information for years, or at the very least you may have assumed certain information as reliable information when in fact it was a best guess on the part of the enumerator! Even professional genealogists, many of whom are already certified or accredited, get strongly lectured on this topic in Elizabeth Shown Mills' course, "Advanced Methodology and Evidence Analysis," given annually at the Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research at Samford University. Trust me.

Assume for the moment that you are a census enumerator on 20 July 1880. You and many other residents of the county/parish know that the Renter family had been leasing Mr. Owner's farm on Silver Creek for several years up through 1 June 1880 (the census day) and that they had packed up and permanently headed west sometime in early July before you could get to them. You know most of their names but not their ages. Their closest kin is somewhere back east in Another State. What do you enter on the population schedule for this family? If you enter nothing, you have violated your instructions and, if discovered, you may not get paid for your census work. So you talk to the nearest neighbors and the Renter's friends, if you can find any,

and learn that they had had twin girls that were born about 25 May, and that both died sometime around the second week of June, both being christened before then in a private baptism. So now what? Must you list the twins in the population schedule? If so, what age should be entered? Must you enter the ages of the other family members if no one knows their actual ages? Can you guess?

The answers to those 1880 questions above are easy if you knew these instructions:²

Upon it is to be entered, as previously noted, the name of every man, woman, and child who, on the first day of June, 1880 shall have his or her "usual place of abode" within the enumerator's district. . . . On the other hand, every person who was a resident of the district upon the 1st day of June, 1880, but between that date and the day of the enumerator's visit shall have died, should be entered on the schedule precisely as if still living. . . . The columns 4, 5, and 6, which relate to age, sex, and color, must in every case be filled. No return will be accepted where these spaces are left blank. . . . The exact age in figures will be inserted in column 6 whenever the same can be obtained; otherwise, the nearest approximation thereto.

Yes, every Renter family member, including the twins, should be entered. The age for the twins should be 0/12 (months), meaning less than 1 month old previous to 1 June. The ages for the rest of the family must be approximated, or guessed! The penalty for blanks in the age column was rejection of the return for the affected district; therefore, the affected assistant marshal faced being uncompensated and possibly relieved. Do you see the dangers in accepting ages as reliable information in this example? Can you see why even the specific name entries may be suspect?

In the 1860 Federal Census lies column 13, headed by, "Persons over 20 years who cannot read and write." Say you find in your candidate family a W. Mueller, aged 25, and this column for him is a blank. He can read or write English, right? Guess again. Perhaps he is an immigrant from Baden who speaks and writes German but does not know a lick of English. In that case the blank is *correct*—the instructions read in part, "If the person can read and write in a *foreign* or in our own language, the space is to be left blank."³ [Emphasis added]. The correct interpretation of a blank is that the person reads and writes in *some* language, but it may not always be English.

In the name, age, and sex columns of the 1850 Federal Census, say you find an adult male and female and two young children with the same surname of major interest to you. Parents and their children, right? Not always. Perhaps it was Robert and his adult sister Elizabeth raising the children of his younger brother James and June, James' wife, both of whom died the previous year of yellow fever. *The instructions are also important for what they do not have in them.* In the censuses of 1850-1870 no relationships were required to be entered.⁴ The researcher who concludes a natural parent-child relationship from a single one of these censuses, without any other supporting, reliable sources, is placing his or her research on shaky ground.

² Bureau-1880.

³ Bureau-1860.

⁴ Bureau-1850 through 1870. In Bureau-1880 one will find the first census in which relationships are specifically entered.

By knowing the census instructions, you can better interpret specific entries and draw more reasonable conclusions. But that's not all.

Knowledge of the instructions, or lack thereof, can affect researchers in another, albeit strange way—when an enumerator *violates* his instructions. Why is this important? On the downside, not knowing the enumerators' instructions, you run the risk of becoming conditioned to returns where enumerators violated instructions and then falsely applying the same logic to other returns in which the instructions were followed. On the upside, you may be able to take advantage of the enumerator's "errors," making additional inferences, but limiting them to those sheets recorded by that specific enumerator. An example follows.

In the 1860 Federal Census, Bossier Parish, Louisiana, a particular enumerator incorrectly added "Mrs." and "Miss" before most females' given names, regardless of their economic status, with almost all the "Mrs." entries falling directly below the head of household.⁵ As these were not colonial times, where "Mrs." was used as title of courtesy for any woman of gentle birth—married or unmarried⁶—you can take advantage of the *inferred* marital status between the woman and the head of household in districts enumerated by the same Assistant Marshal. However, you must *avoid* extending the logic to other 1860 returns recorded by other enumerators. Were most of the males and females listed as the first two members of a household married? Who knows without credible information from other reliable sources, since the instructions and forms did not require the entry of marital status or marital relationships? In that void the "apparent" marital relationships can only be postulated.

Next quarter we examine the quality and accuracy of censuses, and perhaps, time and space permitting, the additional errors introduced by 20th and 21st century indexers and researchers. It's a process called "root cause analysis." It sounds fancy but it works great. Here is a small example problem to study before the next Genie: A resident with actual surname Weil is enumerated with but the surname is spelled "Vile." What are at least two root causes for the error? Are there more than two? For each cause, how would you adjust your census research strategy?

TO BE CONTINUED

⁵ For example, see 1860 U.S. Census, Bossier Parish, Louisiana, population schedule, Orchard Grove post office, page 2, dwelling 11, family 11, J. Bordinghamer; digital image by subscription, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com>: accessed 18 February 2004); from National Archives micropublication M653, roll 408; the designation "Mrs." was placed in the household and dwelling number columns preceding the entry for Eliza Bordinghamer. In addition to 3 children aged 10, 6, and 1, a "Miss Molsey Wild," aged 25 was "Bording [sic] in famley [sic]."

⁶ Greenwood, 40.

THE KNOX FAMILY

SUBMITTED BY CYNTHIA D. MILLEN

James Knox Sr. was born July 26, 1713 in Glasgow, Scotland. His parents were John Knox and Agenes Johnstone. The region where James was born and raised was Agricultural. Because of this, he grew up learning to be a good farmer, which would come in useful in the New World later on.

About 1739, James met and married Elizabeth Craig, born 1719 in Edinburgh, Scotland. James and Elizabeth lived the first few years of their married life in Scotland. It was a time of political unrest and economic hardship. They found it hard to accept the British Laws of Parliament. They had five children while living in Scotland, one of which was a son named James Knox, Jr. born 1749. As their family increased to five children, they felt that for economic betterment they would fare better in Northern Ireland. So they moved to Belfast. Life was just as hard there. They worked at farming for the next 15 years and the family increased with six more children. Because they were Protestant, the laws of Parliament made life even harder because of heavy rents and commercial acts. Escape to the New World seemed to be the only answer.

The General Assembly of South Carolina had by the Act of July 25, 1761 offered to pay the passage and provide each member of the family, 16 years of age and over, a grant of 100 acres of land upon arrival. This being an opportunity too good to miss and because of how difficult the times in which they were living the family felt they had no choice. James and Elizabeth booked passage on the Earl of Hillsborough whose destination was the town of Charleston, South Carolina.

It was a difficult time for Elizabeth who was pregnant at the time and would have to be making a difficult sea voyage. But she would also be leaving her oldest daughter Mary Pollock who was married and would be staying in Ireland with her husband. Sometime in 1767 the family sailed out of Belfast harbor with tears of farewell to their daughter who they would probably never see again. The sea voyage was difficult and for Elizabeth most of all. Sometime during the voyage she gave birth to her last child, a little girl who they named Susan. The child did not live, and was buried at sea.

Upon their arrival in South Carolina they received their land, and for the next several years devoted their time and efforts to building houses, working their farms and becoming a part of the community also getting established in church and making new friends. Things were looking up for the family. Soon they were celebrating several marriages. One in which their son, James met and married a Scotch-Irish girl named Jannet Miller in 1770. James and Jannet settled down near their families, and were eventually blessed with three children.

When the American Revolution began James, Sr. and several of his sons enlisted.

James, Jr. in particular was gone a great deal of the war leaving Jannet and the three children. He enlisted as a private horseman in Capt. Benjamin Roebuck's Regiment from June 15, 1780 to June 1, 1781 and fought in many of the great battles of the Revolution including the Battle of Kings Mountain. James, Jr. returned home to his farm in 1781. He was shucking corn in his crib one day in the fall of 1781 when he was killed by two loyalists seeking revenge for the defeat of the British at the Battle of Kings Mountain. The two were hunted down and killed by James brother William and a cousin Hugh Knox. This was a blow for the family, especially for Jannet and the three children. She moved to Charleston to be near her family and to be close to her in-laws. She would live 56 years as a widow and see children and great grand children. Some years after the war James, Sr. and Elizabeth decided to sell their land in South Carolina and make a move to Crab Orchard, Madison Co., Kentucky along with some of their children. It is thought that James, Sr., who died in 1786, did not make the move. Elizabeth did however and lived in Kentucky for several years. But it was not to be the last move for Elizabeth. In 1812 the family moved again this time to Tennessee. Elizabeth Craig Knox died at the age of 103 years. Jannet Knox, widow of James, Jr., died 18 November 1837, at the age of 83 and had been a widow for 56 years, she had 28 grand children.

Researching Claiborne Parish and the surrounding area?

Pamela Suggs, Director of the Claiborne Parish Library at Homer, Louisiana, advises they have recently completed the acquisition of the following Claiborne Parish newspapers on microfilm. They have also acquired a new microfilm reader and printer to accommodate those researching the papers.

This newspaper collection includes:

Haynesville News (Jan. 1924 - Dec. 1978)

The Guardian Journal (June 1890 - 1977)

LA Weekly Journal (Jan. 1886 - 1890) (this paper became The Guardian Journal in 1890)

These newspapers contain lots of local genealogical and historical information pertaining to Claiborne Parish and the immediate surrounding Louisiana parishes and Arkansas counties. This collection will be maintained at the main library, 909 Edgewood Drive, Homer, Louisiana 71040. For additional information, contact the library at 318-927-3845 or visit the library's website: www.youseemore.com/claiborne/

Gleanings from a past Genealogical Seminar On Texas Research

Submitted by Herman L. Weiland

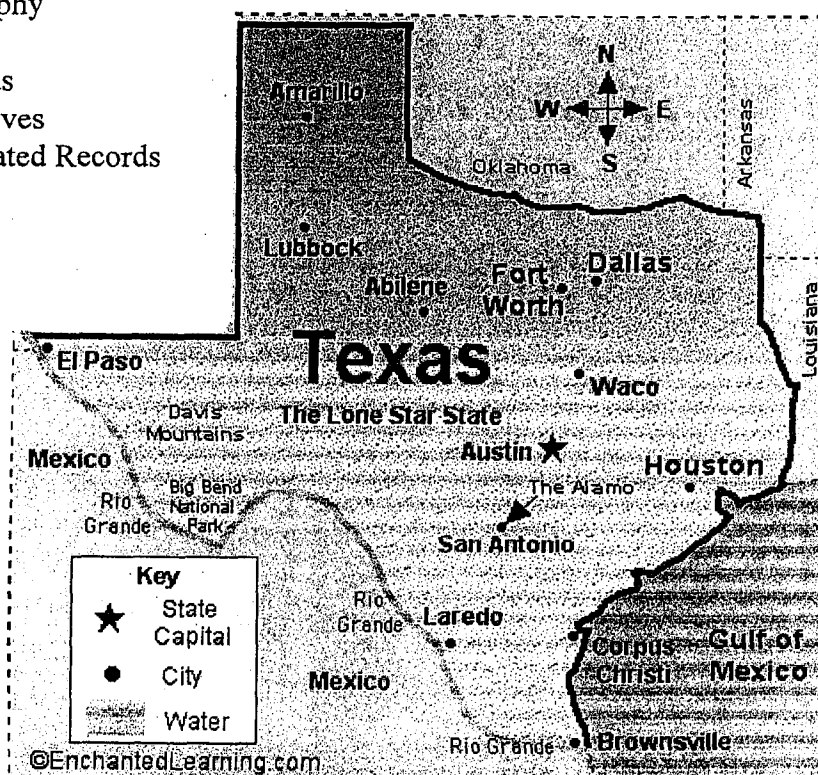
The Ark-La-Tex Genealogical Association holds seminars on various genealogical topics. The information provided is very helpful to the attendees at that seminar; however, many members are unable to attend and fail to get that information.

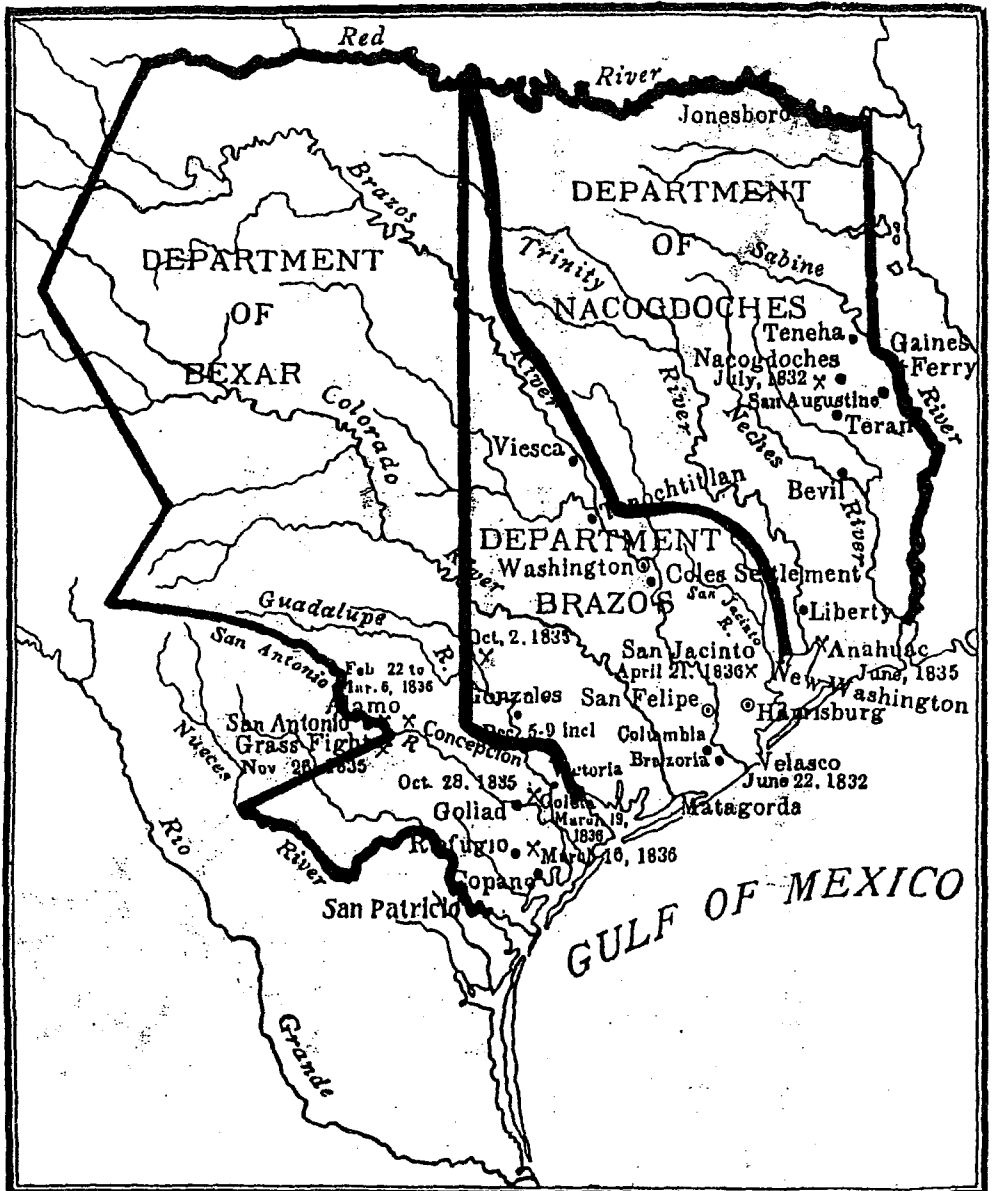
The following pages of information were given to attendees at a seminar on "*Texas Research*" and may be of some help to those of you who are researching your "Texas Roots".

This seminar was held in August 1995 and was led by Carolyn Reeves Ericson, noted author, researcher and lecturer on Texas research.

Included in this information is:

- Map of Migration Trails to Texas
- Texas Maps 1835-1836 and 1845
- Brief Texas Bibliography
- Census-Tax Records
- Miscellaneous Records
- Indexes in State Archives
- Military and War-Related Records

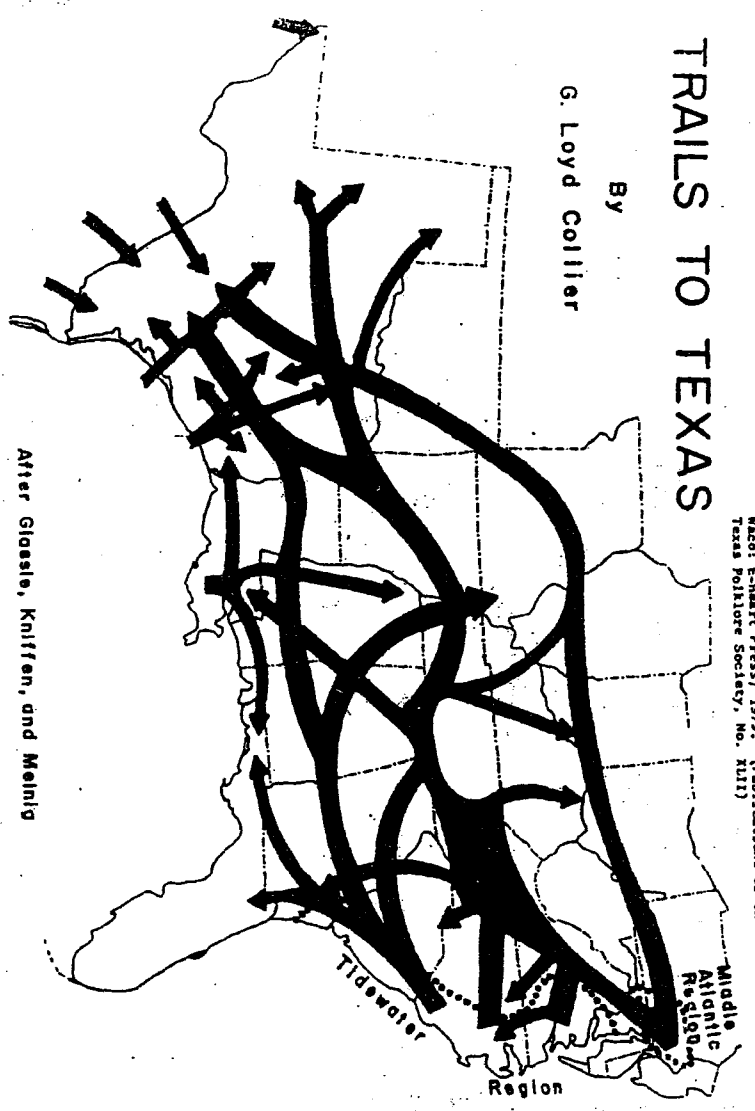




TEXAS IN 1835.

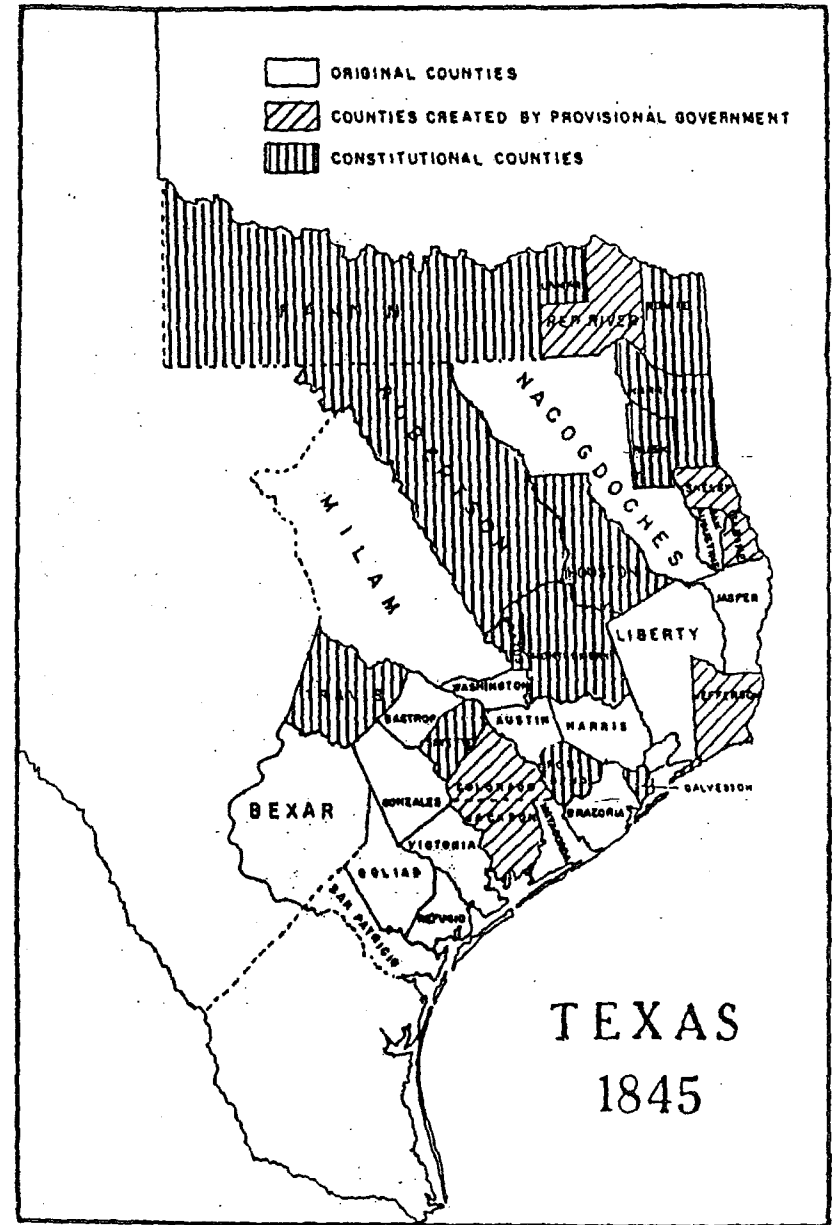
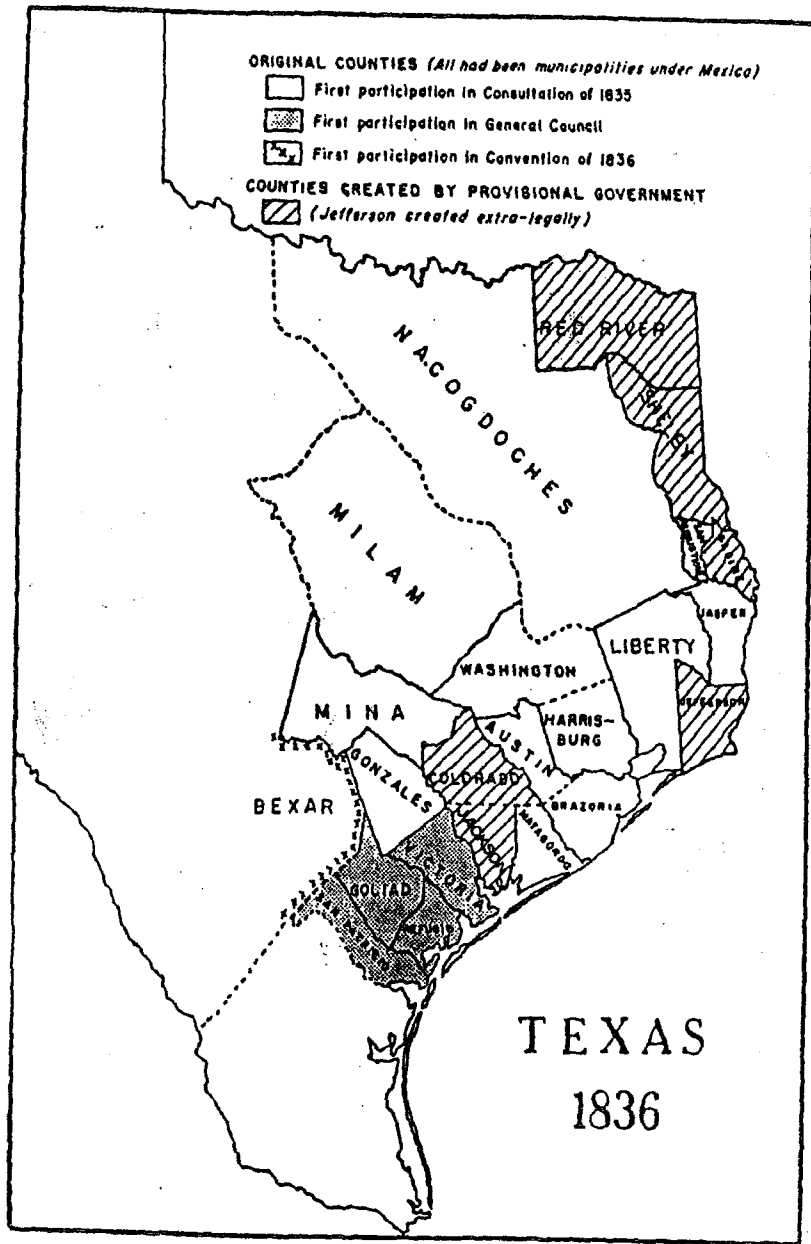
TRAILS TO TEXAS

BY
G. Loyd Collier



From Bulletin in Texas, Francis Edward Abernathy, Editor.
Mason Echhart Press, 1979. (Publications of the
Texas Polklore Society, No. 1111)

After Glasie, Kniffen, and Meinig



BRIEF TEXAS BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. THE SPANISH ARCHIVES OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE OF TEXAS by Virginia H. Taylor, The Lone Star Press, Austin, 1955.
Gives name of individual, date of title, amount of land, Colony or Commissioner and present location of land.
In alphabetical order by surname.
2. AN ABSTRACT OF THE ORIGINAL TITLES OF RECORD IN THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE - Houston 1838 ---Reprint Austin, Texas 1964---The Pemberton Press.
Gives name of individual, date of title, quantity of land, where situated. Listed by Colony in Texas; alphabetically by surname within Colony.
3. BOUNTY AND DONATION LAND GRANTS OF TEXAS 1835-1888 by Thomas Lloyd Miller, University of Texas Press, 1967.
Gives name of individual, type of grant, by whom granted, length of military service, location of land granted.
Separate section s. for Bounty and Donation grants---in alphabetical order by surname in each section.
4. REPUBLIC OF TEXAS SECOND CLASS HEADRIGHTS - March 2, 1836 - October 1, 1837. Compiled by Benjamin F. Purl (1904) Transcribed by Alma Nettie Wilson Barnes 1974.
Gives name of individuals in chart form, listing where grant was located, Certificate number, quantity of land, Land District, File number and where issued.
It is an excellent source, but is not complete. Not all second class grants are listed.
5. NACOGDOCHES HEADRIGHTS by Carolyn Reeves Eriuson, Polyanthos Press, Drawer 51359, New Orleans, La. 70151, 1977.
Lists those who received Headright Grants in Nacogdoches County in Chronological order. Each section is separate, but the book is fully indexed. Tells the amount of land and has the names of two witnesses. The unconditional grants tell where the conditional grant was issued.
6. CONFEDERATE SCRIP GRANTEEES, compiled by Dr. Thomas Lloyd Miller.
Gives the names of those who received Confederate Land Grants, gives county from which issued, Certificate number, amount of land, and date issued. If a widow was given a grant, the name of her husband is given, when known. Surnames are listed in alphabetical order.
7. Several Genealogical Societies have published the land grant records of their area. It would be a good project for any group. These records are most valuable.

CENSUS-TAX RECORDS

1. 1st CENSUS OF TEXAS---National Genealogical Society, by Marion Day Mullins.
Does not include San Antonio-Austin area census. Many early records have been destroyed.

2. REPUBLIC OF TEXAS: POLL LISTS FOR 1846 by Marion Day Mullins, Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, Maryland, 1974.

This 1846 Poll list is the nearest thing we have to a complete census of the period. The poll tax of one dollar was applied to every white male resident over the age of 21 and to women who were heads of households (usually widows).

Names are given in alphabetical order with the names of county given after their names.

NOTE: Many people who were KNOWN to be in Texas at this time are not on this list. It is a wonderful guide, but don't be discouraged if your ancestor is not on this list.

3. THE 1840 CENSUS OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS, Edited by Gifford White, Foreword by James M. Day, The Pemberton Press, Austin 1966.

Actually a tax list of the counties in 1840. Excellent map in the front of the book.

Each county list is separate with the names in loose alphabetical order. Gives the number of polls, land and other property.

An excellent source for information during the Republic of Texas.

4. THE 1850 CENSUS OF TEXAS by Mrs. V. K. Carpenter, Century Enterprises, Fort Smith, Arkansas, 1969.

Mrs. Carpenter has done a monumental task transcribing the entire census for Texas. She has made many errors in transcription. It is impossible to be familiar with the names in each county of a state the size of Texas.

These volumes have an index volume which gives only the surname and the pages on which this name appears. If you are looking for an unusual name, there won't be too many listings, but if you are looking for a name like Smith, Jones or Thomas you may have to look up 100 names and then be disappointed.

5. Many county records are being transcribed and put into book form to aid in research. The computer is being utilized more and more for such lists.

Gen-Re-Put, 3624 Guadalupe, Fort Worth, 76116, has indexed and printed many Census records.

Accelerated Indexing Systems of 3346 South Orchard Drive, Bountiful, Utah 84010, Dept. P-2 has done many Census records with the aid of the computer. Be cautious in the use of these records. Many mistakes have been made in transcribing these records when the hand writing was difficult to read or the surname was an unusual one. They are a wonderful aid to research and they surely do save time. The researcher must be aware of their limitations. When in doubt—go to the original on microfilm.

6. The Texas State Archives in Austin has copies of every Census record available for every State in the union from 1790 to 1900. Some of the microfilm rolls have been used so much that they are getting scratched to the point that they are very difficult to read. They are being replaced, but it is a constant expense.

County tax records are now available on microfilm at the Archives. The L. D. S. has finished microfilming the County records of each county and copies of these records have been placed in the State Library.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

1. THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS ARCHIVES, compiled by Chester V. Kielman, University of Texas Press, Austin, 1967 \$25.00
an index to records which are available at the University of Texas at Austin.
2. VALENTINE OVERTON KING'S INDEX TO BOOKS ABOUT TEXAS BEFORE 1889. Texas State Library, Austin, 1967. A facsimile copy of the original in the collection of the Texas State Library.
name or topic listed in alphabetical order—old handwriting.
3. TEXAS RANGER-INDIAN WAR PENSIONS, by Robert W. Stephens, Nortex Press, Quanah, Texas 1975. \$12.50
4. MARRIAGE RECORDS OF EARLY TEXAS 1824-1846, Fort Worth Genealogical Society, 1971 (~~Out of print~~) *reprinted*
5. TWO CENTURIES IN EAST TEXAS - A History of San Augustine County & Surrounding Territory, by George Louis Crooket, Southwest Press, Dallas, 1932. Reprints available from Mrs. Anna Kathryn Holbrook, Box 275, San Augustine, Texas for \$12.50.
6. THE TEXAS ALMANAC 1857-1873; A Compendium of Texas History, Texian Press, Waco, 1967 (out of print)
Contains names from early land grants, muster rolls and early Texas history. Very interesting reading.
7. THE HANDBOOK OF TEXAS (3 volumes) A Dictionary of Essential Information; Editor in Chief Walter Prescott Webb, Texas State Historical Association, Austin, 1952.
Now updated and revised; contains some errors, but good guide for further research.
8. OUR CATHOLIC HERITAGE IN TEXAS by Carlos E. Castaneda.
7 volume set has been reprinted by Knights of Columbus, 2500 Columbus Drive, Austin, Texas 78746. \$190.00
9. NACOGDOCHES, GATEWAY TO TEXAS, A Biographical Directory 1773-1849, by Carolyn Reeves Ericson, Arrow/Curtis Printing, Fort Worth, 1974.
contains brief sketches of each inhabitant who was in this area from 1773. Abstracted from tax lists, census records, muster rolls, entrance certificates, marriage records, cemetery records, etc.

10. **TEXAS UNDER ARMS** by Gerald S. Pierce, Encino Press, Austin, 1969.
The camps, posts, forts and military towns of the Republic of Texas.

INDEXES IN STATE ARCHIVES

1. Biographical Index—alphabetical by Surname
2. Manuscript Holdings
3. Ranger Rolls
4. Texas Volunteer Guard
5. Spanish American War
6. Andrew Jackson Houston Collection—letters to & from Sam Houston
(in chronological order)
7. Navy Muster Rolls
8. Minute Men
9. Confederate Index
10. Muster Rolls by County
11. Muster Rolls by Commanding officer
12. Confederate Mortuary Applications
13. Maps by year
14. Memorials & Petitions
15. Picture File
16. Bonds & Oaths
17. Clemency (Pardons by Governor)
18. Index to Confederate Pensions
3 Sections
 1. Index to applications
 2. Home Pension
 3. Rejected Pensions
19. Election Returns for Republic of Texas
20. Payment for Service to Republic of Texas
21. Records of the Legislature
22. Election Returns 1845-1966
23. Extradition Papers

MILITARY AND WAR-RELATED RECORDS

Among the most carefully preserved records of any culture are those of the military organizations and of conflicts engaged in. From the Homeric and Virgilian epics throughout our own cold-warfare emphasis on who fought where, in which troop, ship, or plane has held a fascination for historians and genealogists alike. Surely among the records on file in the State Archives the military records are the most often sought and most often consulted. The following, then, is a brief listing and description of the records available.

REPUBLIC ERA:

The War of Independence began formally in 1835 and lasted through the spring of 1836. Although only a relatively few full-scale battles were fought during the course of the war, the Battle of San Jacinto has the distinction of being the only battle fought west of the Mississippi to have international implications.

MUSTER ROLLS--The muster rolls for the war of independence are on file in the Records Division of the General Land Office. Veterans were awarded 320 acres of land for 3 months' service, 640 acres for engagement in a major battle. Because proof of service was needed for these grants, the records have remained in the Land Office. --In 1881 an additional grant of 1280 acres was made to widows and surviving veterans.

ARMY PAPERS--included are the correspondence of the Department of the War and Marine, recruiting records, enlistment records, Quartermaster records; commissary, ordnance and pay records; and miscellaneous, related materials. These papers are not the result of any systematic scheme of arrangement used in the War Department, but rather an artificial arrangement of papers drawn from several Record Groups.

NAVY PAPERS--included are correspondence, accounts, department reports, bills, muster rolls, provision records, ships' records and audited naval claims. In this group are the ships' logs and records for the Texas Navy.

TREASURY PAPERS-- a series of four groups of records informally titled "Payments for Services to the Republic", these papers include Pensions, Audited Military and Civil Claims, and the Public Debt Papers. Each group has been filed by recipient or applicant, alphabetically.

SECRETARY OF STATE PAPERS--Correspondence concerning military matters is largely preserved in the records of the Provisional Governments, the Executive Record Books, and in Domestic Correspondence and Home Letters.

A. J. HOUSTON PAPERS--a collection of about 5,000 Sam Houston manuscripts and records. Because of the very informal nature of preserving government records at this period, many of the records of governmental agencies were retained by the officeholder when he left office. Therefore, a large group of letters concerning military affairs throughout the period of the Republic

can be found in this collection.

MILITIA AND RANGER TROOPS-- a small group of muster rolls for these units are on file in the State Archives. The researcher needs to call for these rolls both by company name and by captain's name, however, since these rolls have not been so thoroughly processed as the Confederate Rolls.

MEXICAN WAR:

Texas never formally declared War on Mexico during the Republic period, although frequent border raids and invasions by both sides provoked several international incidents. The Mexican War, when it was finally declared, was fought between the United States and Mexico. Texas sent 8,018 volunteers to fight in the south, and Governor J. Pinckney Henderson left his office to lead the troops. The Governor's Papers for this period contain occasional correspondence concerning troops and frontier protection, but no formal records evolving from this war are on file in the State Archives.

(Microfilm Roll #274 gives names of those known to have served)
Also included in ATTACK AND COUNTER ATTACK by Nance.

CIVIL WAR:

Texas ratified the Secession Ordinance on February 23, 1861 and joined the Confederate States in the struggle against the Union. Almost immediately the problem of furnishing troops to the eastern warfront while maintaining border security at home arose and continued to be a point of conflict between the state and confederate governments throughout the war.

MUSTER ROLLS -- a large group of Confederate Muster Rolls are in the State Archives. These rolls are predominately state troops and militia rolls, so the Texan who served with the regular Confederate forces might not appear in our index. The Confederate Index is a card file arranged alphabetically by soldier. Each card gives the full muster roll entry for the individual (i.e. name, rank, commanding officer, organization, enlistment and discharge dates, etc.) Certified copies of these Index entries is accepted by the U. D. C.

ADJUTANT GENERAL PAPERS--includes correspondence, state troops, frontier regiment, quartermaster correspondence, special and general orders, company election returns, supplies, requisitions, tax-in-kind.

CONFEDERATE PENSIONS--the state of Texas provided that not more than \$8.00 a month would be provided to those Confederate Veterans who could prove financial distress. There are about 60,000 approved pension applications and 15 to 20,000 disapproved pensions applications on file in the Archives. These pensions are being microfilmed, so the researcher might not be able to see the particular one he or she desires when he is doing his research. As soon as they are outside of the area of pension numbers being shot, pensions are returned to the open files. No one should have a delay of more than a week for any pension they request.

GOVERNORS' PAPERS--the Clark, Lubbock and Murrah Papers contain a large quantity of military correspondence, particularly with regard to use of troops.

SERVICE RECORDS--service records are NOT on file in the State Archives. Researchers can frequently find this information in the National Archives in Washington, D. C.

RANGERS AND FRONTIER DEFENSE:

The Texas Rangers have existed in one form or the other throughout most of the history of Texas. During the 1870's they were split into two units, the Frontier Battalion and Special Forces, and the specific title "Texas Ranger" gave way to either the one designation or the other. This can be confusing for researchers, however, who are looking for a relative who was a "Ranger" and are told to check the Frontier Battalion records. These papers are being processed and are not readily available. Anyone wishing to find information on the topic should check to see if the materials he would be using are open for research before making the trip to the Archives.

MUSTER ROLLS--there is a card index to the Ranger rolls similar to that for the Confederate rolls, giving the same type of information.

ADJUTANT GENERAL PAPERS--all but one group of papers concerning Rangers in this Record Group are being processed. Certificates of Service for Frontier Protection are arranged in alphabetical order by individual. These were confirmations of service for applicants for federal pensions which were granted for border service. The applications for the actual pensions are in the National Archives.

"INDIAN PAPERS"--the 5 volume set, The Indian Papers of Texas and The Southwest: 1825-1916, edited by Dorman H. Winfrey and James Day includes documents from several Record Groups in the State Archives. These records all deal with the Indian affairs of Texas and the problem of protection. Should the researcher wish to have a copy of the original document, he should include the bibliographical information given at the end of each document published in the series.

SPANISH AMERICAN WAR:

The United States entered into war with Spain on March 25, 1898, and had succeeded in liberating Cuba and the Philippines by August 1898. The Treaty of Paris was signed in December of the same year. It hardly seemed like a war. Texas was a big contributor of volunteers to the war effort, and some records do remain in the State Archives as a result.

ADJUTANT GENERAL--the "Spanish American War Papers" include claims correspondence arranged both by individual and by company or unit, muster-in and muster-out rolls, pay rolls, and general correspondence.

OTHER MILITARY OR POLICE FORCES:

The State Archives also has the records of the State Police, a Reconstruction military unit which only lasted a couple of years, the

State Guard, the Volunteer Guard, and the Texas National Guard. These records are completely unprocessed and require that the researcher check the records himself for whatever information he is investigating. They consist mainly of correspondence, vouchers, and monthly returns.

WORLD WAR I AND AFTER:

Records for Texans participating in any war from World War I to the present are filed in the Federal Records Center in Fort Worth, Texas or in the National Archives. National Guard units drafted into the federal forces have their records still on file at the Adjutant General's Office at Camp Mabry, Austin, Texas. These may be requested from the Texas State Library.

Address of Federal Record Center is 4900 Hemphill Drive, Fort Worth

Tombstone Cleaning on the Internet

Submitted by Ray Owens

No wire brushes, please. The internet has an abundance of information on cleaning old tombstones and caring for gravesites. For cleaning, many web sites recommend plain water, a soft nylon bristle brush to remove stains and lichen, and a gentle touch.

Be sure to have permission from the cemetery's governing body before beginning. You may need to watch for snakes and spiders in the county.

More information can be found at these sites:

Connecticut Gravestone Network

<http://ctgravestones.com/Conservation/cleanmg.htm>

ProGenealogists

<http://www.progenealogists.com/tombstonecare.htm>

Saving Graves

<http://www.savinggraves.org/education/print/cleaning.htm>

Marriage Record Definitions for Mississippi State

[From the Mississippi State Message Board]

MARRIAGE LICENSE: A license authorizing a marriage was and is still issued by a county or town upon application and payment of a fee. The application form varies, but usually includes the name (and sometimes birth date, birthplace, address, occupation, and parents names) of both bride-to-be and groom-to-be, date and place where license was issued, and signature and title of issuing official. The license sometimes includes the name of a third party who applied for the license. The license is not proof of marriage, but proof of intent to marry.

MARRIAGE RETURN OR CERTIFICATION: After the ceremony, the officiator of the marriage returns the facts of marriage to the county or town so that it can be recorded. The marriage return usually includes names of bride and groom, date and place that marriage occurred, and signature and title of officiator. Some ministers and justices of the peace used to file marriage returns annually; unfortunately some returns were never filed. Some recent marriage license documents include the marriage certification as part of the document. The return or certification is proof of marriage.

MARRIAGE REGISTER: Some counties and towns destroyed marriage licenses and returns after recording the information in a marriage register. The marriage register may have only included the bride and groom's names and date of marriage. Later registers record detailed information from the license or return. The register is proof of marriage.

MARRIAGE INTENTION: The marriage intention was recorded in town meeting books and published prior to the marriage ceremony. In New England, the intention was the equivalent of the marriage banns published in church. The intention is not proof of marriage, but proof of intent to marry.

MARRIAGE BOND: Some southern states executed a marriage bond as a guarantee that there were no impediments to marriage. The bond included names of bride and groom, date and place of issue, and name of bondsman or sponsor (who was often the father, brother, or other relative of the bride or groom). It was usually signed by the bondsman/sponsor and groom. The marriage bond was often the only document to survive early marriages and was often dated on the date of marriage or a few days before marriage date. A note sometimes indicated the marriage date. The bond is not proof of marriage, but proof of intent to marry.

CONSENT: Court records may include a consent document from the parents or guardian for the marriage of a minor. It is useful to identify the parent of the bride or groom and to indicate the approximate age of the person for whom consent was required. The consent is not proof of marriage, but proof of intent to marry.

MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE: The license and certificate of marriage now used by states with centralized registration usually includes name, age, date and place of birth, residence, parents (and their birthplaces) for the bride and groom as well as date and place of marriage, signatures of bride and groom, officiator, and witnesses. The certificate is proof of marriage.

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