



VOLUME 46

THIRD QUARTER 2012

NUMBER 3

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY BY

ARK-LA-TEX GENEALOGICAL ASSOCIATION, INC.

P.O. BOX 4463
SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA 71134-0463

THE GENIE

VOLUME 46

THIRD QUARTER 2012

NUMBER 3

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FEATURES

104 Hughes Spur and Alden Bridge
By Dale Jennings

109 Legal Terms Relevant to Research
By Virginia Lee Hutcheson Davis

113 Pinckney Benton Stewart Pinchback,
1872-73

115 Notice for Publication and
Sheriff's Sale

116 Profile of Mooringsport
Submitted by James Johnson

126 The Life of Jordon Anderson, who
dictated a Letter to his "Old Master"
in 1865
By Curt Dalton

129 What is a First Cousin, Twice
Removed?
From Genealogy.com

132 Saint Luke Missionary Baptist Church
By Isabelle M. Woods

133 Rev. Scott C. Bland
By Isabelle M. Woods

135 Lake Irwin Cemetery
By Isabelle M. Woods

138 Census Search Secrets
By Juliana Smith

140 Do Not Assume...
Commonly Mistaken Assumptions in
Genealogy
By Kimberly Powell, About.com Guide

142 Start Your Louisiana Genealogical
Research in Baton Rouge
By Judy Riffel

198 From an email I received this morning...

147 A Touch in Time:
Hazard-Sheriff/Shreve Families
By Herman L. Weiland

150 Ancestry.com Completes The 1940
Census Index

DEPARTMENTS

101 The President's Message
By Jim Johnson

102 Welcome New Members

103 2012 Annual Seminar Report

123 Periodical Exchange Review
Compiled By Glenda Efferson Bernard

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.

Statement of Publication

[Ark-La-Tex Genealogical Association, Inc.]

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.

Copyright Laws

All who submit material from any source should be aware of copyright restrictions. When applicable, permission to use published material must be in writing and should be included when manuscript is submitted. Source and date of information used should be indicated.

Ark-La-Tex Genealogical Association
BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2012

President	Jim Johnson	jjohnson747@suddenlink.net
First Vice President	Reed Mathews	reedmathews@yahoo.com
Second Vice President	Glenda E. Bernard	glenda@gmail.com
Recording Secretary	Jim Jones	(318) 773-7406
Corresponding Secretary	Raymon Owens	blickblaque@shreve.net
Treasurer	June L. Scholes	(318) 686-1745
Trustee	Esther Jones	ester.eley@gmail.com
Trustee	Barbara Johnston	barbara.johnston@bossierschools.org
Trustee	Linda Lynn	jlynn48@att.net
Trustee	Sonja Webb	938-7205
Past President	Willie R. Griffin	wraygriffin3@bellsouth.net

PUBLICATION (THE GENIE)

Editor	Willie R. Griffin	wraygriffin3@bellsouth.net
Printing	Willie R. Griffin	(318) 631-6031
Printing	Jim Johnson	jjohnson747@suddenlink.net
Labels	Michael E. Broussard	(318) 222-1046
Exchange Reviewer	Glenda E. Bernard	glenda@gmail.com
Exchange	June L. Scholes	(318) 686-1745
Bulk Mailing	Reed Mathews	reedmathews@yahoo.com

ALTGA COMMITTEES

Refreshment Coordinator	Brenda Randall	custerbren@aol.com
Reception/Name Tags	Chris Stoll	(318) 746-0383
Programs	Jim Johnson	(318) 746-1851
Programs	Edwina Wise	(318) 865-7957
Education Committee	Jim Jones, Chairman	jgjones09@gmail.com
Education Committee	Phil Adderley	phil@311research.com
Education Committee	Glenda E. Bernard	glenda646@gmail.com
Education Committee	Marilyn B. Christian	mbcspirit@aol.com
Education Committee	Doris B. Hunt	dbhunt7@bellsouth.net
Education Committee	Esther Jones	estherjones09@comcast.net
Web Page	Jim Johnson	(318) 746-1851
Seminar	Jim Johnson	jjohnson747@suddenlink.net
Membership	June Scholes	jscholez@aol.com

Visit our website : <http://www.rootsweb.com/~laaltga/>

President's Message

We have had exceptional programs at our monthly meetings all year long, and this summer we have seen some of the best. We are also pleased that our membership is continuing to steadily grow. At our July meeting, officials from the Caddo Parish Clerk's Office presented "Courthouse Records 101", an overview of court house records, as well as some research techniques. For this presentation, we were privileged to have Mike Spence, Chief Deputy Clerk of Court; John Basco, Supervisor of the Real Estate Records Section; and Susan Twohig, Information Technology Director. Their presentation included a thorough discussion of the types of public records available to the genealogy researcher, some helpful research tips, as well as Louisiana laws governing maintenance and preservation of records. They explained the sources of revenue used for operation of the Clerk's Office, to include the laws requiring them to charge fees for copying records. Mr. Spence revealed an initiative they are engaged in to digitize the Clerk's records and make them available online. This option will be on a subscription basis, and will allow registered users to view and request printed copies of documents online. Their presentation was very educational and resulted in considerable audience interaction.

In August, we held our annual seminar with Russell P. Baker, retired Senior Archival Manager at the Arkansas History Commission, as our featured speaker. The seminar was very successful, and members from many of the area's genealogy societies were in attendance. This year, the National Institute of Genealogical Studies, based in Toronto, Ontario, Canada offered free online courses to the attendees, plus several door prizes. Among our guests this year, were members of the Arkansas Genealogical Society, which provided their publications and CDs for sale.

Our guest speaker at our September meeting was Reverend Pike Thomas, Pastor of St. Jude Catholic Church. Father Thomas is also an author and an avid genealogy researcher. His presentation was based on a project he is undertaking to analyze and abstract the early 1800's Barnwell County, South Carolina probate records. Barnwell County during that period was a sizeable district and its location served as a crossroads for many of the early settlers prior to their migration further west. Thus, it is rich in familiar names throughout the Deep South. Father Thomas described what can be learned about these early settlers, whose life ended in Barnwell, by carefully analyzing the inventories of their estates, which are among the documents in the probate records.

On this occasion, it is indeed my pleasure to recognize Ms. Isabelle Woods, who is a long time member of the Association and who has contributed immensely to our group as well as the entire genealogy community. Ms. Woods is an avid cemetery researcher, and has inventoried and documented numerous African-American cemeteries across North Louisiana. She is a regular contributor of cemetery inventories that appear in the The Genie. She has also published several volumes of books listing African-American funeral home programs as well as African-American burials. She is routinely consulted on matters involving African-American family research and is often asked to participate in organized panel discussions. We are very fortunate to have Ms. Woods as a member of the Ark-La-Tex Genealogical Association, and as a contributing writer to The Genie.

Jim Johnson, *President*

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Brenda H. **Lazarus**

7709 Tampa Way
Shreveport, LA 71105-5701
Surnames Researching:
Schoonover, Levy, Johnson and Hall

Robert S. **Hendrick, Jr.**

3366 Deborah Drive
Monroe, LA 71201-2151
Surnames Researching:
Hendrick, Nicolson, Youngblood and
McCook

Judy **Linnebach**

6736 W. Acoma Drive
Peoria, AZ 85381
Surnames Researching:
Bamburg, Mason, Murphy and
Longino

G. Keith **Christy**

127 Sussex Court
Bossier City, LA 71111-6060
Surnames Researching:
Gilbert, Morris, Christy and Brice

Judy **Davis**

1513 Collins Road
Nashville, AR 71852-2202
Surnames Researching:
Schulz, Kerr, Charles and Smith

Arlene B. **Polk**

8802 Jamie Lee Ct.
Houston, TX 77095-3749
Surnames Researching:
Tucker, Cash, Smith and Blanks

Nick **Davis**

1513 Collins Road
Nashville, AR 71852-2202
Surnames Researching:
Davis, Burkhart, Powell and Miller

Leroy **Stenzel**

P.O. Box 700
Bernice, LA 71222-0700
Surnames Researching:
[None Listed]

Peggy **Guilbert**

520 Pierremont Road
Shreveport, LA 71106-2208
Surnames Researching:
[None Listed]

Martha **STOVER**

4431 N. Fairway Drive
Shreveport, LA 71109-4907
Surnames Researching:
Miller, Hines, O'Neal and
Shoemaker

April D. **BARR**

2830 Wisteria Street
Shreveport, LA 71108-5034
Surnames Researching:
Barr, Davis, Hudson and Burt

Rev. Pike **THOMAS**

3800 Viking Drive
Bossier City, LA 71111-7403
Surnames Researching:
Scott, Rentz, Provosty and LeDoux

2012 Annual Seminar Report

Submitted by Jim Johnson

The Ark-La-Tex Genealogical Association held its annual seminar on August 11, 2012 in the George Pearce Hall at the Broadmoor United Methodist Church in Shreveport, Louisiana. The featured speaker for this year's event was noted genealogist, author, and lecturer Russell P. Baker, who resides near Little Rock, Arkansas. Mr. Baker retired as Senior Archival Manager at the Arkansas History Commission.

Mr. Baker began the daylong seminar with a very informative lecture titled "Wanted Dead or Alive: Searching for Southern Vital Records". Birth and death records are usually the researcher's first records of choice when searching for vital records. However, these records were not required to be filed in many states until the beginning of the 20th century. In instances where those records are either not available or incomplete, the researcher should look at alternative sources, including records from Social Security, military, church, cemetery, and funeral homes.

In the second session, "Forty Acres and a Mule", Mr. Baker explained the meaning of public domain lands and how they were surveyed, managed, and distributed. The domain was controlled by the Federal Government and sold to state and private individuals through the auspices of the General Land Office. For most of the nation's early history, the Government sought to promote settlement of the expanding frontier by selling or granting parcels of the public domain lands under such laws as the Homestead Act. Those first land records are now maintained by the Bureau of Land Management. Records of subsequent land transfers are recorded at the county or parish courthouse.

In the next session, Mr. Baker discussed Native American research in the South. He explained that there were Five Civilized Tribes in the South, and included the regions they were generally located. These five tribes are the Cherokees, Creeks, Choctaws, Chickasaws, and Seminoles. He explained the most common entries found in the U.S. Census reports that identify Native Americans. He also explained the Dawes Rolls, known as the "Final Rolls", which are the lists of individuals who were accepted as eligible for tribal membership in the Five Civilized Tribes.

The fourth and last session was "Camping in Canaan's Land: Using American Church and Religious Records in Genealogical Research". These records can sometimes provide an alternative source for supplying birth, death, and marriage information as well as valuable hints of important family relationships.

This was another very good year for seminar attendance. There were 71 in attendance, and several were from out of state. This year, the National Institute of Genealogical Studies offered each attendee a free enrollment in an online genealogy course, plus provided other door prizes. We were also privileged to have the Arkansas Genealogical Society as a publications vender. A special thanks to the local genealogical societies for supporting this event.

HUGHES SPUR AND ALDEN BRIDGE

Bossier Parish Louisiana

By Dale Jennings

Was Philo Alden's bridge actually at Hughes Spur? Why was "Cottage Grove" at Alden Bridge? And, how did "Hughes" get relocated over to Swindleville? These are things even someone with a casual interest in Bossier Parish history might like to know.

The geography of north Bossier Parish was greatly altered by the coming of the railroad in the late 1880's. A branch line of the St Louis and Southwestern was brought out of Arkansas and down through the parish in 1888. It was variously known by the name of the trunk line itself, or that of the branch, the St Louis Arkansas & Texas, or Cotton Belt. The more popular "Cotton Belt" would prevail.

Site selection for the railway stations along the track must have been comparable to today's coveted interstate exit or parkway "curb cut." Some of the new towns established at the depot sites caused nearby farming community centers not on the right-of-way to wither and die away. They saw their businessmen, doctors and even churches and post offices relocate to the new railroad towns. This was particularly true of the migration from Red Land and Collinsburg over to Plain Dealing. Benton suffered that and the loss of its name to the new Benton Depot location one mile up the track. Tiny Cottage Grove was made to share its name with the post office at another of the depots, Alden's Bridge. This was the location of a logging operation about a mile down the track from the new Hughes train station and Hughes Spur post office.

The Hughes Station location had no such great attraction, but did draw a store from Rocky Mount. The station was at the rail crossing of the road west from Rocky Mount through Cottage Grove to the Red River (presently Bossier Parish Road 160).

The little north central parish town of Rocky Mount and its surrounding area had an attraction for members of the Hughes family. A May 23, 1895, article in *The Bossier Banner*, "History of Rocky Mount," tells us that some time after the town was begun in about 1853, ".....nearly all of Rocky Mount was sold to two brothers, Messrs J. H. and A. B. Hughes." And, that A. B. Hughes, B. W. Stewman and R. D. Speight put up a store in 1855. Another store was erected by J. H. Hughes the following year. The first store was "between Capt W. J. Hughes' store and the J. H. Hughes' dwelling, which was torn down and now forms a part

of the store at Hughes Spur." The chronology of the author, identified only as "S.M.N.," requires some clarification. According to the 1890 *Historical and Biographical Memoirs of Northwest Louisiana*, William Josiah Hughes came to Bossier Parish from Alabama as a young man in 1860. He enlisted in the Confederate army, joining the first company to leave Bossier Parish for the war, and was promoted to the position of quartermaster of his regiment. Upon his return from the war, he became a planter and merchant there at Rocky Mount. Hughes Spur, of course, did not come into existence until after the establishment of the Cotton Belt railway.

The brothers James Henderson and Alexander Bell, as well as David, Robert and Frank Hughes, were all the brothers of William's father, also W. J. Hughes. The senior William Hughes did not migrate. Captain W. J. Hughes married Mary Clark, the daughter of Daniel Clark of Cottage Grove, in 1866. They had a daughter and three sons, the oldest of whom they named William Clark. William J. Hughes' biography in the 1890 *Memoirs* says that William Clark was presently engaged in merchandising in partnership with his brother, John F. Hughes.

On September 15, 1890, twenty-two-year-old W. Clark Hughes was appointed postmaster of the post office that he had proposed as "Hughes Spur." Much can be learned about Hughes Spur from his application for the post office, and concurrently to be its postmaster. Hughes said that it would be 5 ½ miles southwest of the Rocky Mount post office and 1 ¼ miles by rail north of the Cottage Grove office (at Alden's Bridge Depot). That it would be situated 200 yards west of Cypress Bayou and 18 yards east of "the Cotton Belt track and Hughes Spur." (This refers to a spur track along the front of the store and warehouse to sidetrack cars for unloading goods and loading outgoing commodities.) He numbered the residents at about thirty. This would be puzzling without the knowledge that Hughes was a track maintenance section station and probably had a ready-made population of the section crew members and their families. Hughes Spur would serve about 200 patrons in all. It seems odd that the postal department failed to ask on its questionnaire how their new post offices would be housed. In this case it would be at the Hughes Spur store.

As justification for the new post office, Mr. Hughes said that the Rocky Mount patrons wanted a better scheduling of their mail coming by rail. His location would preclude the mail carrier from having to make the five mile round trip by road down the track to Cottage Grove Post Office for the mail.

Clark requested that his office be called "Hughes Spur" because, "If called by any other than Hughes Spur it would confuse the name of the station." This is taken to mean a confusion with the name of the "Hughes" train station. The naming of the Cottage Grove post office was no doubt for much the same

reason. The postmaster apparently did not want to associate his post office with the Alden's Bridge depot and a town by that name to be established there. (Before the town of Plain Dealing was born, the railroad company initially called their depot location "Geurnsheim" after a stockholder, and the postmaster named his post office "Plain Dealing" for its plantation location.)

The first owner of the Hughes/Hughes Spur tract of land was Philo Alden of the old northeastern Alden family. According to Longfellow in his "Courtship of Miles Standish," a somewhat triangular relationship had evolved between three young Mayflower passengers. Miles persuaded his friend John Alden to act as intermediary in posing the prospect of marriage to fellow immigrant, Priscilla Mullins. Her reply: "Speak for yourself John." He did and the American Alden line was started.

Isaac Alden, Philo's uncle, is said to have been the region's first English speaking settler. He had found his way to this vast northwest Louisiana wilderness area in 1811 before it was Claiborne Parish, and even before Louisiana statehood, making his home some eight miles east of the present town of Minden (from the *Memoirs*, pages 380 and 656). Philo Alden, born in 1800 and a native of Oneonta County, New York, came to Claiborne Parish in about 1830 according to his obituary, bringing with him the skills of a carpenter.

Philo's oldest son, George Richard, would write that their little family moved westward to the proximity of Red River in 1843, the year that the region was broken off from Claiborne to become Bossier Parish (*The Family Record of Isaac Alden and Irene Smith*, Manry Collection, LSUS Archives). He said that his father built a sawmill on Cypress Bayou, so named for the enormous growth of cypress timber there. This was still U.S. Government property, as the land in Township 21, Range 13, was not offered for public sale until December 1852. The September 17, 1852, government survey map had an annotation, "pond and sawmill," in the northeast quarter of Section 28. This was at the road crossing on Cypress Bayou, later to be the site of Hughes Spur. Alden did not acquire ownership of this tract he was timbering until February 2, 1858, when he bought it through the military warrant of its assignee, William Robertson.

George Alden said that he and his father did quite well at the mill until 1850, when his father set off to California, "an unfortunate venture for his family." Philo returned in 1852 and resumed his trade as a master carpenter, a skill that he had taught his son. They worked together for several more years and are believed to have built many homes and other structures for the early residents of Bossier Parish.

It has been erroneously stated that Philo Alden had constructed his sawmill and bridge on land he owned at the Alden's Bridge depot location, later Alden

Bridge. His property was not that far south. It was almost certainly another misstatement that Alden's bridge was a private venture. Bridges were rare in Bossier in 1858 when Philo bought the 160-acre tract on which the Cypress bridge was centered. His bridge is said to have been only the first or second one in the parish. The common means of crossing over its waterways were either by low water ford or parish concession-held ferry.

On September 27, 1900, the short-lived (one issue) *Free State of Bossier* newspaper included an article entitled, "Early History of Bossier." The article cited a November 1857 edition of the *Bossier Times*, which reported on a police jury bridge appropriation and plans for construction of other early parish bridges. It read, "The police jury appropriated \$1250 to bridge Red Chute and Flat river, on the road to Atkin's landing, and a communication in the *Times* favoring a bridge over Red Chute on the Minden and Shreveport road; also favoring a bridge over Bodcau, estimating the cost at \$2664." The Cypress Bayou bridge was apparently already in use.

In the July 3, 1858, edition of the *Bossier Times*, the police jury announced parish-wide road maintenance assignments to landowners whose properties the roads crossed. Such an assignment commonly ran to the bank of a bayou, and was then taken up by another crew on the opposite bank. The one exception found was on the Red River to Rocky Mount road. The two work parties would exchange responsibilities at the "centre of cypress bridge."

Philo Alden, with his construction skills and the close proximity of his sawmill and timber, would no doubt have won the police jury contract to build the Cypress bridge. In looking at the broad bayou bottom today, it must have been considered a marvel - but perhaps remembered as a fiasco. The 1860's Bossier Parish "Civil War map," used by the Confederate government for military purposes, classified each crossing as either "good" or "bad." The Cypress crossing was marked, "bad." Obviously, Alden's bridge was out. Surely not as high as the present bridge, it may have been destroyed by the timber laden current of a raging flood. Mr. J. Davis McCall, ninety-one years of age and raised at Hughes Spur, says that he remembers hearing there was once a ford over Cypress Bayou north of the current bridge.

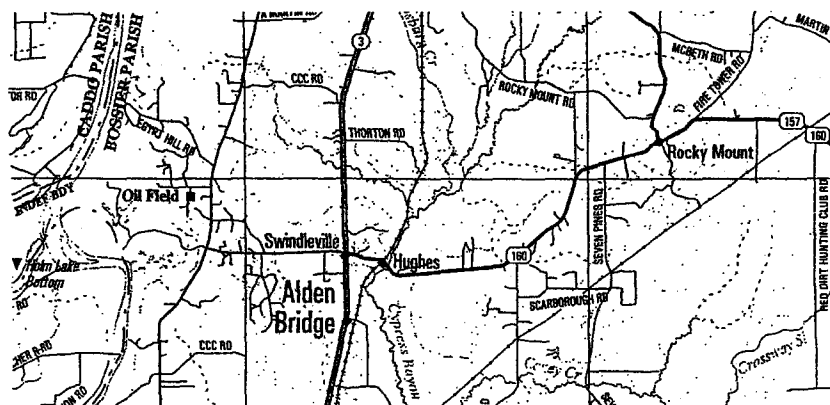
Philo Alden must have timbered out the cypress on his 160-acre tract surrounding the bridge, and that on his matching tract just east of the bridge. He sold both to Ruth Hughes, the widow of David W. Hughes, in 1863. She remarried to John J. Meares in 1865, and died two years later. William R. Thornton bought the 320-acre "Alden Tract" from Ruth's succession in 1868. He died in 1885 and his widow, Elizabeth, purchased it from his succession in 1892.

Elizabeth Thornton had in 1888 sold the railroad a right-of-way and a one-acre lot from the bridge tract for its track maintenance facilities. It was located on the west side of the track and north of the road. Young William Clark Hughes would be operating the store there on the east side of the track and south of the road.

One of those who made an effort to define the bridge was Willie Lee Keith. He responded to an April 10, 1969, *Bossier Banner-Progress* article about "How Parish Towns Got Their Names." The article said that, "Alden Bridge derived its name from being the site of one of the bridges built by the Alden family who were the earliest settlers and bridge builders. Philo Alden the sheriff during the 1860's owned property there."

Willie Keith's letter in response was published on April 17th. He said that the bridge at Alden Bridge still remained where it had been since the early days of that place. He wrote, "If you are traveling North toward Plain Dealing from Benton turn East at Swindleville and go over the rail road track and the bridge is about 50 yards from the rail road track." He further stated that the bridge was at the site of the old W. Clark Hughes store and post office. However, Mr. Keith was of the mindset that "The location of the bridge at this time is referred to as Hughes Spur by many," but that ".....it has always been within the limits of that which was called Alden Bridge." (This may have been a view held by some even though Hughes Spur was an entity unto itself; had a post office there until 1934, and the store much longer than that; and was never to be within the Alden Bridge postal service area.) It was Mr. Keith's opinion that the bridge was named for the Alden family, but not built by them. His credentials were that he had been an early resident of the sawmill town of Alden Bridge. He said that he was born at Rocky Mount in 1887 and moved with his family to Alden Bridge at age ten in 1897.

To be continued....



Legal Terms Relevant to Research

By Virginia Lee Hutcheson Davis, Research Editor
The Southside Virginian, Vol. 1X No. 3, July-Aug. 1991

It has been suggested that an explanation of some of the terms found in court records of the colonial period may be helpful to family record searchers. Many of these will be readily defined by the reader, but some may provide additional information that will enable the researcher to better interpret records.

Administrator:

The person appointed by the court to take charge of the business of, to settle, and distribute the estate of a decedent.

Annexed:

Administration with the will annexed. Administration granted in cases where a testator makes a will, without naming any executors; or where the executors, who are named in the will are incompetent to act, or refuse to act; or in the case of the death of the executors.

Attachment of estate:

It should be noted that an entry in the court records stating that an individual's estate has been attached, does not necessarily mean that person is deceased, but only that his estate is liable for a legal debt.

Coverture:

The status of a married woman.

De bonis non (administratis):

Of the goods not administered. When an administrator is appointed to succeed another, who has left the estate partially unsettled, he is said to be granted "*administration de bonis non*"; that is, of the goods not already administered.

Decessit sine prole (d. s. p.):

Dying without issue, at common law this phrase imports an indefinite failure of issue, and not a dying without issue surviving at the time of the death of the person and is generally taken in this meaning.

Deed indented:

A deed executed between two or more parties, and distinguished by having the edge of the paper or parchment on which it is written indented or cut at the top in a particular manner. This was originally done at the top or side, in a line resembling the teeth of a saw, or in a scalloped pattern.

Deed of gift:

A deed executed and delivered without consideration.

Deed of release:

One releasing property from the incumbrance of a mortgage or similar pledge upon payment or performance of the conditions.

Deed of trust:

An instrument in use in many states, taking the place and serving the uses of a common-law mortgage, by which the legal title to real property is placed in one or more trustees, to secure the repayment of a sum of money or the performance of other conditions.

Dock the entail:

To free an estate from the limitations imposed by an entail and permit its free disposition; anciently by means of a fine or common recovery, but now by deed in which the tenant and next heir join. (*See entail and fee tail*)

Dower :

The provision which the law made for a widow out of the lands or tenements of her husband, for her support and the nurture of her children. Dower is the life estate to which every married woman is entitled on death of her husband, intestate, or, in case she dissents from his will, one-third in value of all lands of which husband was beneficially seized in law or in fact at any time during coverture.

Dower by common law:

The ordinary kind of dower in English and American law, consisting of a life interest in one-third of the lands of which the husband was seized in fee at any time during the coverture.

Dowry:

The property which a woman brings to her husband in marriage.

Entail:

An estate tail abridged or limited to the issue, or certain classes of issue, instead of descending to all of the heirs.

Estate:

The interest which any one has in lands, or in any other subject of property. Estate is used in conveyances in connection with the words "right" "title" and "interest" and is, in a great degree, synonymous with all of them. Referred frequently to the property of the deceased.

Estray:

Cattle (or other animals) whose owner is unknown. An animal that has escaped from its owner, and wanders or strays about; usually defined by common law as a wandering animal whose owner is unknown.

Executor:

A person appointed by a testator to carry out the directions and requests in his will, and to dispose of the property according to his testamentary provisions after his decease. One named in will as executor is an "executor" even before probate of will.

Fee simple:

An estate limited absolutely to a man and his heirs and assigns forever without limitation or condition.

Fee tail:

A freehold estate in which there is a fixed line of inheritable succession limited to the issue of the body of the grantee or devisee, and in which the regular and general succession of heirs at law is cut off.

Feme sole:

A single woman, including those who have been married, but whose marriage has been dissolved by death or divorce; those women who are judicially separated from their husbands, identified as *feme sole* in legal documents.

Hereditaments:

Things capable of being inherited, be it corporeal, real, personal, or mixed, and including not only lands and everything thereon, but also heirlooms, and certain furniture which, by custom, may descend to the heir together with the land.

Here trix:

A female heir.

Imprimis:

In the first place.

Infant:

A person within age, not of age, or not of full age; a person under the age of twenty-one years; a minor.

Inheritance:

An estate in things real, descending to the heir. An estate or property which a man has by descent, as heir to another, or which he may transmit to another, as his heir.

Intestate:

Without making a will. A person is said to die intestate when he dies without making a will, or dies without leaving anything to testify what his wishes were with respect to the disposal of his property after his death.

Next friend:

One acting for benefit of infant, married woman, or other person not *sui furs* (not possessing full social or civil rights) without being regularly appointed guardian. One admitted to court to prosecute for infant (as legally defined).

nuncupative will:

An oral will declared or dictated by the testator in his last sickness before a sufficient number of witnesses, and afterward reduced to writing.

pars entia:

The privilege or portion of the eldest daughter in the partition of lands by lot.

Prirnogenture:

The state of being the first-born among several children of the same parents; seniority by birth in the same family. The superior or exclusive right possessed by the eldest son, and particularly, his right to succeed to the estate of his ancestor, in right of his seniority by birth, to the exclusion of younger sons.

Testate:

One who makes or has made a testament or will; one who dies leaving a will.

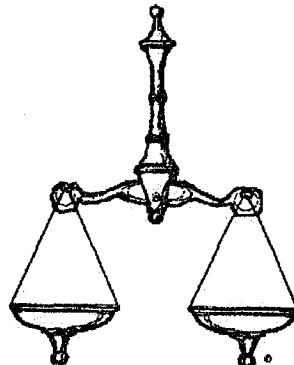
Tail:

The limitation on the inheritance of an estate.

viz.:

A contraction for *videlicet*. to wit, namely, that is to say.

Source: *Black's Law Dictionary*, Henry Campbell Black, West Publishing Co., St. Paul, MN, 1968.



Pinckney Benton Stewart Pinchback, 1872-73

[<http://www.sos.la.gov/tabid/383/Default.aspx>]



Born: May 10, 1837 in Macon, Georgia

Political Affiliation: Republican

Religious Affiliation: African Methodist Episcopal

Education: Gilmore School (Cincinnati); studied law at Straight University (New Orleans)

Career Prior to Term: Union Army Officer, Lt. Governor

How He Became Governor: Became acting Lt. Governor upon death of Dunn; became Governor upon suspension of Warmouth and then became the first African American to serve as a governor of a state of the United States

Career after Term: State Board of Education, Internal Revenue Agent, member of Southern University Board of Trustees

Died: December 21, 1921 in Washington, DC

Pinckney Benton Stewart Pinchback, the son of a Mississippi white planter and a freed slave, became active in Republican Party politics in Louisiana as a

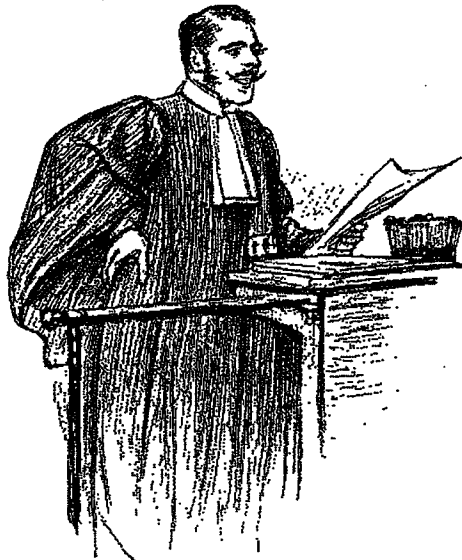
delegate in the Republican state convention of 1867 and to the Constitutional Convention of 1868.

Pinchback became Lieutenant Governor under Henry Clay Warmoth when Oscar Dunn died. After Warmoth was impeached, Pinchback became Governor. He held office for only 35 days, but ten acts of the Legislature became law during that time.

After William Pitt Kellogg took office as a result of the controversial election of 1872, Pinchback continued his career, holding various offices including a seat on the State Board of Education, Internal Revenue agent and as a member of the Board of Trustees of Southern University.

Pinchback helped established Southern University when, in the Constitutional Convention of 1879, he pushed for the creation of a college for blacks in Louisiana.

Pinchback and his family moved to Washington and then New York where he was a Federal Marshal. He later moved back to Washington to practice law and died there in 1921. Pinchback is buried in Metairie.



Notice for Publication

Department of the Interior. Land office at New Orleans, LA, Aug. 18, 1900.

Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before the Clerk of District Court of Homer, LA on Sept. 26, 1900 viz: Bailey **Young**, H.E. 16747 for the ne ¼ of se ¼ of Sec. 17 T 21 N R 4 W, LA Mer.

He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon and cultivation of said land, viz: C.C. **Meadors**, A.T. **Boykin**, J.T. **Eppinger**, O.W. **Meadors**, all of **Lisbon, LA**.

Walter L. Cohen, Register.

Source: The Guardian Journal, *John E. Hulse, Editor*, Homer, LA, Wed., 3 October 1900

Sheriff's Sale.

In 3rd District Court of Claiborne parish, LA.

C.O. Ferguson vs. F.C. Greenwood

By virtue of a writ of seizure and sale issued out of the above court in the above entitled cause and to me directed. I have seized and taken into my possession the following described property of the defendant, to wit: a lot in the town of Homer, LA, commencing at half mile station between sections 23 and 24 T. 21, N. R. 7 W. and run west four and eighty-seven one hundredth chains, thence north eleven and twenty-seven one hundredth chains, thence east four and eighty-seven one hundredth chains, thence south eleven and twenty-seven one hundredth chains to starting point, also a lot commencing at SW corner of above describe lot and run west 30 feet, thence north 160 feet, thence east 30 feet, thence south to starting point, also a lot commencing at N.E. corner of the above lot where it joins the Hamilton land and run west 10 feet, thence south to 4th south street, 75 feet, west of last described lot, thence east 75 feet thence north to starting point, with all the improvements thereon and being the property known as the Greenwood place, and will proceed to sell the same at Courthouse door in Homer, LA, SATURDAY, the 13 day, of Oct. 1900 at public outcry within the legal hours for judicial sales to the last and highest bidder for cash to satisfy the above writ, interest and cost. Sold with the benefit of appraisalment.

J.H. **KIRKPATRICK**, Sheriff

Source: The Guardian Journal, *John E. Hulse, Editor*, Homer, LA, Wed., 3 October 1900.

Profile of Mooringsport

Submitted by James Johnson

[Source: "Profile of Mooringsport", 1976, Compiled and edited by Anna M. Moore and sponsored by Mooringsport Home Demonstration Club, Printed by Caddo Citizen.]

The first white men ever to see Caddo Lake were a group of Spanish explorers who stumbled upon it during their wanderings in 1536. At that time it was a swampy chain of small lakes and winding bayous. The area was inhabited by the Caddo Indians, a peaceful, agricultural tribe. They were ruled by a chief and by a council of elders, wise men who acted as judges and made major tribal decisions. They possessed a rich tradition of fable and legend, mostly handed down by word of mouth, but sometimes recorded on their pottery. They told of a turtle so large a whole tribe danced on his back thinking it was an island; of the girl who married a star; of a dog who talked too much; of a man who saw a lake monster two miles long. He told his grandfather who said it was a good sign but there was a very old blind wise man who thought differently. He said it was a bad sign and that the waters would rise in a short time, which it did and formed a lake.

According to another legend, a chief of the Caddo tribe was warned of impending disaster by the Great Father Above. Heeding the vision, he led his people to higher ground whereupon the earth trembled, the ground sank, and floods poured over the land where the tribe once lived and hunted.

On December 16, 1811, one of the largest earthquakes on record occurred. The quake's epicenter was in an unusual location near New Madrid, Missouri, from which it derived its name although it affected 2,000,000 square miles. It produced striking topographical changes over a vast area. A depression in the northwest corner of Tennessee was created and when it filled with water it became Reelfoot Lake. The land trembled and cracked open in places as far south as New Orleans and as far west as Greenville, Texas. Even Boston, Massettchuses felt its tremors. The current of the Mississippi River was reversed for a matter of minutes. Its banks heaved and caved. Landslides roared down cliffs. The sky was darkened by dust or by sulphurous fumes. Changes took place in northwest Louisiana and northeast Texas, and Caddo Lake was formed.

As settlers moved into this area minor problems arose that made the Caddo Indians willing to sell their land. On July 1, 1835 a treaty was signed and the United States agreed to pay the Indians \$80,000 for land; \$30,000 in goods and \$10,000 in cash per year for five years. The area involved was all of Caddo Parish and parts of southern Arkansas. For his work as interpreter in the

transaction, Larkin Edwards was allowed to choose for himself on Section (640 acres) of this land. The Caddos left and finally ended up in Oklahoma.

Long before Mooringsport had a name, a colony of hardy folks came from Alabama in 1836 and settled here. In 1842, Issac Croom homesteaded the land and where the town now stands. In 1837, two brothers, John and Timothy Mooring, came to Louisiana from North Carolina. John chose a point near the lake and Timothy operated a ferry. It was not long until steamboats were tying up here and cotton was being loaded for other points. In the early days, steamboats plied Caddo Lake regularly. Just west of town is the old Swanson Landing where goods were loaded for Jefferson, Texas, after being hauled overland from New Orleans, as the Red River was not navigable at this time. This was prior to the removal of the Great Red River Raft by Capt. Henry Miller Shreve.

Large amounts of cotton were piled up along the banks of the lake awaiting shipment. In order to protect the bales, a shed was built with a fenced enclosure. Passengers on the boats inquired as to what the building was and were told that it was "Mooring's port" in time the apostrophe was eliminated, the words brought together with usage and the name was born.

Mooring's Port was the landing along the southeastern shore of Ferry Lake, now called Caddo Lake, and the first part of its history was the pre-railroad history. Before the Iron Horse appeared, the traveling Mooringsporter could have come down off the lake through the bayou to Red River and to Shreve's Port by boat. If he went to Shreve's Port on land, it was meandering road of mud or dust through wood and farm and ford or water crossings. It took a long day to drive it in a wagon, another day to shop, and another day to return. Shreveport and New Orleans boats would go all the way to Jefferson, Texas.

In 1876, Calvin Stuart Croom, in order to facilitate a cotton boat landing area, offered to sell the "point" to J. S. Noel if he would build a gin there. The site was active through 1895.

Boats carrying cotton and passengers moored off the channel at Noel Point, at the end of Croom Street, where J. S. Noel had set up a steam gin and wood yard. Passengers embarked on the Valley Queen during the 1890's at Mooringsport for New Orleans on a three-day down voyage, and several days longer coming back upstream. Passengers disembarking at Mooringsport could rent from J. M. Fly almost any kind of buggy, wagon or other vehicle they needed to continue their journey overland. Boats were always exciting in their arrivals and departure.

The Mittie Stephens, originally built as a troop and transport boat for the Federal Forces in 1862, was converted after the Civil War into a passenger and cargo vessel. It operated between New Orleans, Shreveport and Jefferson, Texas, via Ferry (Caddo) Lake.

Leaving Shreveport at 4 PM on February 11, 1869, the Mittie Stephens, chartered by John K. Rives, traveled up Twelve Mile Bayou into Ferry Lake passing Mooringsport on its way to Jefferson, Texas, with passengers and cargo. Approaching Swanson's Landing about midnight a crewman discovered smoke rising from some hay. The alarm was given and the crew headed the vessel to the nearest shore but the banks were too steep for a landing. The fire spread rapidly and the passengers were trapped. A lifeboat was launched but became overloaded and overturned and most of those on board were drowned. Those passengers remaining on board had little choice but to jump into the chilly water or be burned to death. Over fifty lives were lost.

For many years the hull of the Mittie Stephens could be seen lying in the mud. A few items were recovered, the most valuable being the ship's bell which was placed in the Vivian Presbyterian Church as a gift from a Mrs. Stallcup. When the church was torn down years later, the bell was given to the late Harold H. Huckabay who placed it on a tower on his plantation near Gilliam. After serving many years to call laborers to and from work, it was taken from its tower and it is now in the museum in Jefferson, Texas.

Mr. Calvin G. Croom deeded to Mooringsport a town site of seven acres, recorded in Book 18, page 38, dated March 23, 1896, and filed on April 7, 1896 at the Caddo Parish Court House in Shreveport, Louisiana.

In the 1890's the Kansas City Southern Railroad was building a line from Kansas City, Kansas to the Gulf of Mexico. However, it became apparent that if a railroad came down from St. Louis and Texarkana to Shreveport it would be likely to skirt around the east end of the lake and thus by-pass Mooringsport and the village would wither and die as the boat traffic was killed. It was a small village serving the surrounding farms, with a general store, a gin and a ferry to cross the lake. Lumber and the infant oil industry were the staples that assisted cotton as the commerce of the village.

Could the railroad be induced to be routed across the lake through Mooringsport? Bridging the lake would be far more expensive than going around it. A group of local business men and farmers went to Kansas City to see what could be done. Inducements were offered--\$1,000 and free right-of-ways. Mr. C. S. Croom gave one-fourth of a mile and Mr. J. S. Noel provided a free largesse of two and one-half miles. Mr. Croom died on the way home from Kansas City.

The railroad came in 1897 but their wooden trestle helped only trains to cross the lake. Finally a truss bridge of steel was constructed in 1914 for traffic and Mrs. Emma Fly was chosen to cut the ribbon in behalf of Mooringsport.

Caddo Lake froze solid in February 1899 when the temperature dropped to the lowest ever recorded in this area. Mule teams could be driven across the lake and Harry Weston ice skated on the lake.

In the early 1900's a group of men from Shreveport built the Clubhouse on Lake Street, near the present site of Mrs. Ross Newland's home. It was a two-story building with a ballroom and dining room on the first floor and several bedrooms on the second. Local people could get their meals there, and dancing recitals and church and civil functions were held at various times. Eventually it was torn down to make way for residences.

1909 was the year of the pearl. Tom Allen and Will Teel, two fishermen, discovered a pearl in a mussel and started the pearl-rush on Caddo Lake. Many folks quit fishing and went to pearl hunting. One of the more successful pearl hunters was a Japanese by the name of Sachihiko Ona Murata. The pearls came in all sizes, shapes and colors and brought prices accordingly--\$1,500 was reportedly the largest amount paid for a single pearl. When Caddo Lake Dam was completed in 1911 this put an end to the pearl hunting as it raised the level of the lake.

This did not discourage youngsters as they spend many hours "seeking their fortune", in a mussel shell.

On Caddo Lake, in 1910, the first over water search for oil was a unique experience in drilling. Pioneering in this type of activity was the J. M. Guffey Petroleum Company, later known as the Gulf Oil Company. Its contribution to drilling progress is one of the most significant events in the history of the Caddo field. J. B. McCann, a Guffey employee, had seen gas seepages bubbling up through the water in Caddo Lake in 1907. He followed the seepages across the lake to the opposite shore igniting a string of gas bubbles on his way. On evidence of what he saw, the company leased a thousand acres of land on the Mooringsport side of the lake.

The company's first well, drilled in 1907, was completed for gas at 800 feet, but the first major completion on the property, the No. 1 Hostetter, was brought in on December 8, 1908, with 1600 barrels of oil a day from a depth of 2,282 feet. It was these two well completions that foreshadowed drilling on Caddo Lake.

The Federal Government owned the land at the bottom of Caddo Lake and auctioned off the drilling rights. W. B. Pyron, Gulf's production chief in Louisiana, was able to lease an 8,000 acre tract for \$100,000 on which more than 250 wells were completed.

Gulf's first--and the world's first--true offshore well, the "Ferry Lake No. 1" was completed in May 1911 making 450 barrels of oil a day. Gulf repeated the

over water drilling many times. Cypress pilings were driven deep into the lake bottom, crude wooden derrick platforms were constructed and drilling equipment boated to the drilling sites on barges as large as 30' x 90'. Wells were chased off to keep the water out and drilled to production in the Woodbine formation at 2,250 to 2,400 feet. Once completed oil from a well as piped to tank farms on the nearest point on shore and transferred to a system of gathering pipelines.

This was the birth of over-the-water drilling which led to offshore oil production around the world. Excursion trains were run from Shreveport so that people could see this phenomenon.

It didn't take long before Mooringsport developed into a "boom town". People moved in from as far away as Pennsylvania to work in the oil fields. Temporary housing, in the form of tents, was established. Later wooden homes were built--these have long since vanished. The Noel General Store was replaced. The Tom and Dick Lindsey General Store appeared along with Carver's Store and the Tullos grocery. There was skating rink on the lake bank; a movie house in which Carl Steiner, Sr. worked as a lad pumping the organ whose melodies accompanied the silent films. On Saturday nights there was dancing at the Club House. A bank with a colorful history came and went. There were restaurants, a pool hall and domino parlor. Mrs. M. Warren operated a rooming house near the railroad station. An all-night cafe and three drug stores served other needs. Most of the streets were dirt and along the main street there businesses flourished in wooden buildings with wooden walks covered with a roof.

Dr. Sanders Fowler, a dentist who practiced here, now lives in Shreveport. Some of the doctors who were here at various times were Dr. R. H. Gullege, Dr. Charles H. Sims, Dr. Tillinghast, Dr. Lawrence and Dr. H. P. Doles. Knife wounds and bullet holes were some of the "complaints" that came to their attention.

Bootleggers were rampant as the country was dry at that time and when kids roamed the woods and found a charred oak keg of whiskey they would swap it to their elders for a quarter.

Tom Starr, a notorious desperado, was captured and killed in a cabin on Caddo Lake Road by Sheriff Tom Hughes and his deputies. Starr had been spotted in his hideout by E. T. Currie, Sr.

From this area came Huddie Ledbetter, better known as "Leadbelly", king of the twelve string guitar players. He worked for the Gulf and put on performances in the evenings for the gasoline plant employees. He composed "Goodnight Irene" which became very popular, and eventually went to New York City where he gave a concert in Carnegie Hall.

A silent movie, written by a local woman, was made in Mooringsport with Gwendolyn Denision playing the part of the heroine.

The depression of the 30's touched Mooringsport and jobs became scarce, men and their families were transferred to other places. WPA workers cleaned up the lake bank for \$1.00 a day. Oil prices dropped. Times were hard.

In the 40's during World War II, as in other wars men from Mooringsport went off to serve their country in its time of need. Some returned to make this their home. One of these was "Pinky" Moore. While flying a B-24 Liberator on antisubmarine patrol on August 18, 1943, his plane was attacked by ten Junker-88's and after a 30 minute running battle, had to "ditch" his plane in the Bay of Biscay. Four of his crew members were killed immediately. Captain Moore, and a sergeant, after inflating both life rafts, was able to pick up the other four crew members, all of whom were badly injured. During the five days they were on the rubber raft they held prayer meetings. On the fifth day they were picked up by a British frigate, H. M. S. Nene. From these experiences and other achievements. Pinky was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Soldier's Medal, the Purple Heart and the Air Medal with two oak leaf clusters. An all-night prayer meeting was being held for him at the Baptist Church when word was received that he had been rescued.

Over the years there have been many organizations in which young people have participated. There were the Campfire Girls with Mrs. G. L. Kay as leader; Girl Scouts and Brownies; Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts; Sea Scouts and the 4-H Club.

The Lions Club has been active at various times with one of their projects being the collecting of eye glasses that could be recycled.

Twice Mooringsport was struck by cyclones leaving much devastation behind. The first time was on January 2, 1897 and the second time on June 10, 1941. The business district was partially destroyed by fire in December 1920 and again in January 1928.

There are several old cemeteries around Mooringsport. There is the Teat Cemetery on the Hereford Road with the latest date on a marker being 1901. About three miles out of town on the Greenwood Road is the Mooring Cemetery and further out on the same road is the Mt. Zion Cemetery. Many former residents of Mooringsport are buried in them. On the north side of the Caddo Lake Dam there is a small fenced-in cemetery. In the town limits there is the old Mooringsport Cemetery on Lake Street and the new Memorial Gardens Cemetery on the southwest side of town.

Mooringsport was incorporated as a village on October 8, 1910 and later as a town on January 6, 1927. These are the men who have served as mayors:

1910 ... J. F. Ivey
1912 ... W. B. Croom
1913 ... L. M. Crisp
 ... R. R. Hobson
1914 ... J. T. Tanner
 ... W. H. Morefield
 ... J. A. Talbert
 ... O. R. Jarrott
 ... W. T. Collier
1940-1944 ... H. H. Chitchester
1944-1956 ... C. M. Flanagan
 1956 ... W. T. Collier
1962-1966 ... H. R. Trice
1966-1970 ... J. C. Daniels
 1970 ... present Robert Guth

The present town government is composed of a mayor, five alderman and a marshal.

Mooringsport does not appear, even briefly, in the three volume History of the State of Louisiana by Chambers, nor in J. Fair Hardin's three volume History of Northwest Louisiana. Alcee Fortier's Louisiana (comprising sketches of parishes, towns, and events) in three volumes has this short entry:

"A village of Caddo Parish, is situated on the South Shore of Caddo Lake, and the Kansas City Southern Railroad about 16 miles northwest of Shreveport. It is a shipping and supply town of a large area in the western part of the Parish, has a money order post office, express office, telegraph station and telephone facilities. Population was 350". (Possibly the 1900 census)

So ends any official notice of the town.

PERIODICAL EXCHANGE REVIEW

Compiled by Glenda Efferson Bernard

The Ark-La-Tex Genealogical Association is part of an exchange program with other genealogical societies across the nation. The idea is to obtain newsletters and bulletins from these various societies in exchange for a copy of "The Genie." This very successful endeavor benefits genealogists who visit the Broadmoor Branch of the Shreve Memorial Library in Shreveport, Louisiana. The items discussed in this article, along with many others, are found on magazine racks to one's right upon entering the Genealogy Department.

The purpose of this article is to acquaint the reader with several publications which may be of interest in research. Generally speaking, one can find more data about the person of interest if research is covered in his locale before searching nationwide. For example, regional articles may provide an early church roster with just the name needed while a magazine showcased to reach statewide readers may not include such detail.

Numerous exchange copies have been deposited recently into the library's collection. Some interesting ones include:

Our Heritage, Civil War Sesquicentennial Edition, Vol. 53, # 3 & 4, Spring and Summer, 2012, published by the San Antonio Genealogical and Historical Society, 92 pages. This large, beautifully printed bulletin has numerous examples of poetry written by soldiers during the Civil War, an interesting article, "A Tale of Two Cousins," and a variety of Civil War memorabilia from the San Antonio area. There are highlights of area veterans from the war, both North and South, along with photos, diaries, and names of veterans buried in the San Antonio cemetery.

The Johnson County, Kansas, Genealogist, Vol. 40, #2, June 2012 published by The Johnson County Genealogical Society and Library, Inc., Shawnee Mission, Kansas, 30 pages. Celebrating forty years as a society, this organization dedicated this issue to showcasing the great event. The volume includes a rather lengthy Exchange Review section, has a page of "Tips, Tricks, Tidbits and Techniques," and a timely article by Dick Eastman on the pros and cons of using Dropbox, a website which holds pictures and files "in the clouds."

Connections, *The Hoosier Genealogist*, by Indiana Historical Society, Spring/Summer 2012, Vol. 52, Issue 1, 64 pages. This publication includes a long biography of John Wooden, the famous Indiana basketball coach. Also included are extensive articles on the Underground Railroad in Indiana and how it was effective in helping escaped slaves move north through Salt Creek Township, Decatur County, Indiana. A map was included which shows the path of movement through the township with names of land ownership and size of their property. Of special interest were letters written to Indiana family members during the Civil War. A long article on Hoosier Baptists with a list of members "P-Y" of the Flat Rock Association is a part of this extensive work. The headline article "Nurses' Records" discusses white uniforms, the application to enter nurses' training schools and photos of the 1925 class in the Home Hospital Training School for Nurses, in Lafayette, Indiana.

Ancestry, Vol. XLVII, No. 3, Summer, 2012, is published by the Genealogical Society of Palm Beach County, Florida. This 39 page bulletin is a quarterly bulletin with an outstanding article on the history and design of The Royal Poinciana Chapel, 1898. Also a lengthy manuscript "Descendants of Persy and Barbara (Tinstman/Tintsman) Chance" showcases photos, family registers and documentation of that family's life. Also one can find a book review of "Mizner Lives on In Palm Beach," a biography of Addison Mizner and his family.

The Colorado Genealogist, Vol. #73, Number 3, August 2012, is a delightful publication by the Colorado Genealogical Society and is 24 pages in length. The headline article is "Free Land!! 150th Anniversary of the Homestead Act" by Melinda Tarbox. A transcript of the act and the explanation of its ramifications are noted in full page images. A wonderful, personal account of "Kate Howell: Harvey Girl, Homesteader and Farmerette" is effective in drawing the Act and the individual into play. Another personal story is related, "A Bag of Walnuts" by Bob Easterly, who explains how Lewis Easterly moved from Illinois to Colorado to teach and started a new life with the help of the Homestead Act. Stapled in the center of this bulletin is the Colorado Genealogical Society Newsletter, August, 2012, Vol. 36, #3, to elaborate on local programs, new_members' list, upcoming programs, fall seminars in the area and local genealogical news. A nice feature is the series of photos of members who discussed and displayed their heirlooms before the membership group.

Limestone Legacy, Vol. 34, #4, July 2012, 21 pages, is a small published by the Limestone County Historical Society, Athens, Alabama. "The Molly Walton Guards" article honors the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War. "A Look at 1962—50 Years Ago in Limestone County" presents excerpts from the local Limestone Democrat. Also "The Great Depression Years Here" from the same newspaper includes a continuation article, "The History of Athens, Alabama," by Ms. Julian Newman. The publication concludes with snippets from the "Limestone County Wills Will Book 17, 1910-1912."

SGS Bulletin, Vol. 61, #2, Spring-Summer, 2012, is published by Seattle Genealogical Society and is 49 pages long. This particular issue is a special edition remembering the Royal Mail Steamer-RMS Titanic and discusses the history of the ship and its tragic demise in various articles that are quite interesting. A listing of some of the ship's 1st, 2nd and 3rd class passengers are given with attention given to passengers of the Pacific Northwest. One article "Titanic Passengers in the Family: A Seattle Connection" discusses additional passengers from the area as well as their names, ages and biographical information. On a different topic, the bulletin includes articles such as "Memories of the 1962 Century 21 Seattle World's Fair, the Lineage of John Archibald Parker and Susan Liley Bailey" and "Building a House Out of Pea Gravel or Who was Jane Graham?" Several book reviews and listings of Washington State Supreme Court extracts are included.

Austin Genealogical Society Quarterly, 2012 - 1 & 2, Austin, Texas. This small publication presents numerous two page articles which discuss Austin life and history such as "Comanche Indian Aid in Bell County, TX, 1859." This is a wonderful portrayal of Alden Jackson (A. J.) Thorp, 1845-1910, along with photos of his friends and family. Abram Marshal and Matilda "Tillie" Baker Roberts' pioneer lives are explored, as well as short biographies of "Pioneer Families of Travis County." Another short, two page write-up completes the volume which reminds readers of important safeguards to protect files due to many natural disasters which seem to abound much too frequently.

The Life of Jourdon Anderson, who dictated a letter to his "old Master" in 1865

By Curt Dalton

http://www.daytonhistorybooks.com/jourdon_anderson.html

Jourdan Anderson was born in December 1825, some place in Tennessee. He became a slave of General Paulding Anderson, of Big Spring, Wilson County, TN sometime around 1833, when he was 7 or 8 years old. General Anderson was a somewhat famous man in Wilson County, having once served in the state legislature.

One of General Anderson's sons was Patrick Henry Anderson Sr., who was born June 24, 1823, making him about 10 years old when Jourdon arrived at the family farm.

On August 7, 1844 Patrick Anderson married Mary A. McGregor. She brought with her at least two servants, Amanda McGregor (born October 1829) and her mother, Priscilla McGregor (born 1801). Patrick took several of his father's slaves to his new home, including Jourdon.

In 1848 Jourdan married Amanda McGregor, he being 23 and she being 19 at the time.

Over the years Amanda had 11 children. The ones born in Tennessee seem to have been Matilda, Catherine, Mildred (known as Milly) circa 1848, Jane circa 1851 and Felix Grundy, born on March 14, 1859. I use the word "seem" as I do not have concrete records that prove Matilda and Catherine were Jourdon and Amanda's children, although later in this article it will become clear as to why I believe they are.

Jourdon and his family left Colonel Anderson sometime in 1864, with Jourdon receiving his free papers from the Provost-Marshall-General of the Department of Nashville, TN and getting a job at a hospital in Nashville.

By the summer of 1865 Jourdon and his family had moved on to Dayton. But Matilda and Catherine seem not to have made the trip with their parents, nor have I found any record of what happened to them.

It was about this time that Jourdon changed his name to Jordan Anderson. He will be called that name from this point on.

Sometime during the summer of 1865 (probably in July) Colonel Patrick Anderson wrote a letter to Jordan, asking him to return to Big Springs and live there again. While this letter is lost to time, Jordan's reply is not. On August 7, 1865 Jordan, who could not read or write at the time, dictated a letter to his old master.

The content of that letter follows:

Dayton, Ohio, August 7, 1865.

To my old Master, Colonel P. H. Anderson, Big Spring, Tennessee.

Sir: I got your letter, and was glad to find that you had not forgotten Jourdon, and that you wanted me to come back and live with you again, promising to do better for me than anybody else can. I have often felt uneasy about you. I thought the Yankees would have hung you long before this, for harboring Rebs they found at your house. I suppose they never heard about your going to Colonel Martin's to kill the Union soldier that was left by his company in their stable. Although you shot at me twice before I left you, I did not want to hear of your being hurt, and am glad you are still living. It would do me good to go back to the dear old home again, and see Miss Mary and Miss Martha and Allen, Esther, Green, and Lee. Give my love to them all, and tell them I hope we will meet in the better world, if not in this. I would have gone back to see you all when I was working in the Nashville Hospital, but one of the neighbors told me that Henry intended to shoot me if he ever got a chance.

I want to know particularly what the good chance is you propose to give me. I am doing tolerably well here. I get twenty-five dollars a month, with victuals and clothing; have a comfortable home for Mandy,—the folks call her Mrs. Anderson,—and the children—Milly, Jane, and Grundy—go to school and are learning well. The teacher says Grundy has a head for a preacher. They go to Sunday school, and Mandy and me attend church regularly. We are kindly treated. Sometimes we overhear others saying, "Them colored people were slaves" down in Tennessee. The children feel hurt when they hear such remarks; but I tell them it was no disgrace in Tennessee to belong to Colonel Anderson. Many darkeys would have been proud, as I used to be, to call you master. Now if you will write and say what wages you will give me, I will be better able to decide whether it would be to my advantage to move back again.

As to my freedom, which you say I can have, there is nothing to be gained on that score, as I got my free papers in 1864 from the Provost-Marshal-General of the Department of Nashville. Mandy says she would be afraid to go back without some proof that you were disposed to treat us justly and kindly; and we have concluded to test your sincerity by asking you to send us our wages for the time we served you. This will make us forget and forgive old scores, and rely on your justice and friendship in the future. I served you faithfully for thirty-two years, and Mandy twenty years. At twenty-five dollars a month for me, and two dollars a week for Mandy, our earnings would amount to eleven thousand six hundred and eighty dollars. Add to this the interest for the time our wages have been kept back, and deduct what you paid for our clothing, and three doctor's visits to me, and pulling a tooth for Mandy, and the balance will show what we are in justice

entitled to. Please send the money by Adams's Express, in care of V. Winters, Esq., Dayton, Ohio. If you fail to pay us for faithful labors in the past, we can have little faith in your promises in the future. We trust the good Maker has opened your eyes to the wrongs which you and your fathers have done to me and my fathers, in making us toil for you for generations without recompense. Here I draw my wages every Saturday night; but in Tennessee there was never any pay-day for the negroes any more than for the horses and cows. Surely there will be a day of reckoning for those who defraud the laborer of his hire.

In answering this letter, please state if there would be any safety for my Milly and Jane, who are now grown up, and both good-looking girls. You know how it was with poor Matilda and Catherine. I would rather stay here and starve—and die, if it come to that—than have my girls brought to shame by the violence and wickedness of their young masters. You will also please state if there has been any schools opened for the colored children in your neighborhood. The great desire of my life now is to give my children an education, and have them form virtuous habits.

Say howdy to George Carter, and thank him for taking the pistol from you when you were shooting at me.

From your old servant,
Jourdon Anderson

Note: From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia
(Redirected from Jourdon Anderson)

Jordan Anderson or **Jourdon Anderson** (December 1825—April 15, 1905) was an African-American former slave noted for a letter he wrote, known as "Letter from a Freedman to His Old Master". It was addressed to his former master, Colonel P.H. Anderson, in response to the Colonel's request that Jordan return to the plantation to help restore the farm after the disarray of the war. It has been described as a rare example of documented "slave humor" of the period, and its deadpan style has been compared to the satire of Mark Twain.

What is a First Cousin, Twice Removed?

By Genealogy.com

*This article was written by Genealogy.com staff.
http://www.genealogy.com/genealogy/16_cousn.html*

Figuring Out Family Relationships:

At Genealogy.com, we get asked about how to determine relationships all the time. Here, you'll learn how to figure out the relationships between family members using a simple chart.

If someone walked up to you and said "Howdy, I'm your third cousin, twice removed," would you have any idea what they meant? Most people have a good understanding of basic relationship words such as "mother," "father," "aunt," "uncle," "brother," and "sister." But what about the relationship terms that we don't use in everyday speech? Terms like "second cousin" and "first cousin, once removed"? We don't tend to speak about our relationships in such exact terms ("cousin" seems good enough when you are introducing one person to another), so most of us aren't familiar with what these words mean.

Relationship Terms:

Sometimes, especially when working on your family history, it's handy to know how to describe your family relationships more exactly. The definitions below should help you out.

Cousin (a.k.a "first cousin")

Your first cousins are the people in your family who have two of the same grandparents as you. In other words, they are the children of your aunts and uncles.

Second Cousin

Your second cousins are the people in your family who have the same great-grandparents as you., but not the same grandparents.

Third, Fourth, and Fifth Cousins

Your third cousins have the same great-great-grandparents, fourth cousins have the same great-great-great-grandparents, and so on.

Removed

When the word "removed" is used to describe a relationship, it indicates that the two people are from different generations. You and your first cousins are in the same generation (two generations younger than your grandparents), so the word "removed" is *not* used to describe your relationship.

The words "once removed" mean that there is a difference of one generation. For example, your mother's first cousin is your first cousin, once removed. This is because your mother's first cousin is one generation younger than your grandparents and you are two generations younger than your grandparents. This one-generation difference equals "once removed."

Twice removed means that there is a two-generation difference. You are two generations younger than a first cousin of your grandmother, so you and your grandmother's first cousin are first cousins, twice removed.

Relationship Charts Simplify Everything:

Now that you have an idea of what these different words mean, take a look at the chart below. It's called a relationship chart, and it can help you figure out how different people in your family are related. It's much simpler than it looks, just follow the instructions.

Instructions for Using a Relationship Chart

1. Pick two people in your family and figure out which ancestor they have in common. For example, if you chose yourself and a cousin, you would have a grandparent in common.
2. Look at the top row of the chart and find the first person's relationship to the common ancestor.
3. Look at the far left column of the chart and find the second person's relationship to the common ancestor.
4. Determine where the row and column containing those two relationships meet.

Common Ancestor	Child	Grandchild	G-grandchild	G-g-grandchild
Child	Sister or Brother	Nephew or Niece	Grand-nephew or niece	G-grand-nephew or niece
Grandchild	Nephew or Niece	First cousin	First cousin, once removed	First cousin, twice removed
G-grandchild	Grand-nephew or niece	First cousin, once removed	Second cousin	Second cousin, once removed
G-g-grandchild	G-grand-nephew or niece	First cousin, twice removed	Second cousin, once removed	Third cousin

Just When You Thought You Had it:

When you are working with older records, be aware that the meaning of the word "cousin," along with the meanings of other relationship terms, have changed over time. The Glossary section of the Learning Center can help you with any confusing relationship terms, including those in Latin.

[Take the time to use the glossary provided at this website and other excellent dictionaries, genealogical reference books and encyclopedias to interpret documents correctly.]

Additional Resources

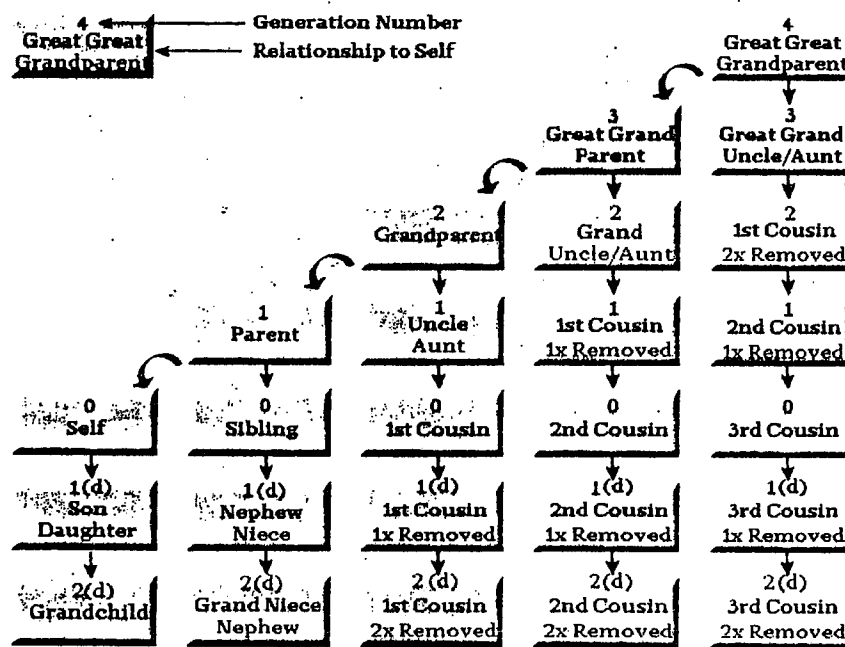
Henry Campbell Black. *Black's Law Dictionary*. 6th ed. St. Paul, Minn.: West Publishing Co., 1990.

Paul Drake. *What Did They Mean by That?: A Dictionary of Historical Terms for Genealogists*. Bowie, Md.: Heritage Books, Inc. 1994.

Arlene Eakle and Johni Cerny, eds. *The Source: A Guidebook of American Genealogy* Salt Lake City, Utah: Ancestry Publishing, 1984.

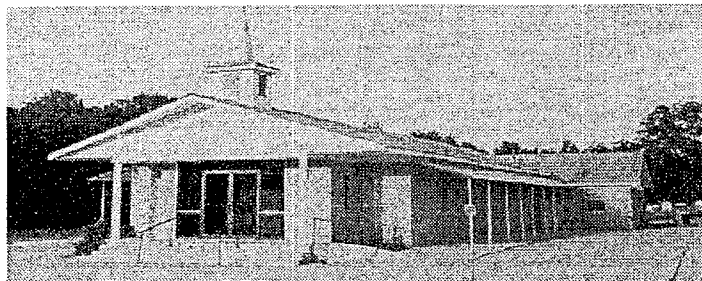
Barbara Jean Evans. *The New A to Zax: A Comprehensive Genealogical Dictionary for Genealogists and Historians*. 2nd ed. (Champaign, Ill.: the author, 1990.)

Relationship Chart



SAINT LUKE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

14163 Shuck Road
Bonita, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana
©2012, Isabelle M. Woods



The Saint Luke Missionary Baptist Church was unnamed when the first religious service was conducted by Reverend Scott C. Bland.

The McDowell family gave Reverend Bland and his congregation an old house located on the Old McDowell Plantation which, having no road, was reached by walking across a log to the east bank of Bayou Bonne Idee. The congregation demolished and rebuilt the church on a raft moored on the west bank of Bayou Bonne Idee. This church had three windows on each side, a door at each end, and was called, "The Church Across the Bonne Idee."¹

On May 15, 1908, Mrs. Ella W. Bunckley and Miss Lucy Bunckley aided and assisted by W. R. Bunckley sold to Grenson John Bland, Secretary, and Daniel A. Burks, Treasurer, of Saint Luke Church and their successors 5.4 acres, more or less, of land on which to build a church on the west side of Bayou Bonne Idee for one hundred twenty-five dollars (\$125.00). Messrs. J. J. Denham and John McNeal witnessed this cash deed, which was filed and recorded on May 25, 1908.²

In 1928, Reverend Scott C. Bland became the first Pastor of the new church, Saint Luke Baptist Church. Daniel A. Burks was a Deacon. The church was rebuilt several times by 1984. Today it is officially known as, "Saint Luke Missionary Baptist Church" and is situated within its original five acres, more or less.³

Based on existing headstones, the Saint Luke Missionary Baptist Church Cemetery's earliest burial is that of Manerva Morris, who died on October 23, 1918.

Right: Most Recent Cornerstone

ST. LUKE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
BONITA, LA
BUILDING DEDICATED OCT. 7, 1984
REV. HENDERSON E. SMITH PASTOR, DECEASED
REV. JAMES P. SMITH, PRESENT PASTOR
PRESENT DEACONS
WEST CHRISTIAN WILSON M. OWENS
HENRY HILL ODIS HILL
WILLIAM H. NOBLE THEABURY ODOM
ANTHONY T. SYLVESTER EMMITT ODOM
JAMES ODOM
DECEASED DEACONS
WILLIE WILLIAMS ROBERT HILL
ERNEST ODOM ROSCOE PRIDGETT
WILLIAM HILL

TRINITY GRAND LODGE A. M. & F. M.
JAMES ODOM GRAND MASTER

Sources

¹ Author unknown, "History of the St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church, Bonita, Louisiana," 1908; page 1; copy in possession of Mrs. Barbara Seay Hill, Bonita, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana; 1995.

² Cash Deed, Register No. 10482-A; Mrs. Ella Bunkly and Miss Lucy Bunkly to St. Luke Church dated May 15, 1908; recorded on May 25, 1908, in Notarial Book No. 31, page 224; Morehouse Parish Courthouse, Bastrop, Louisiana.

³ Author unknown, "History of the St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church, Bonita, Louisiana," 1908; page 1; original in possession of Mrs. Barbara Seay Hill, Bonita, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana; 1995.

REVEREND SCOTT C. BLAND

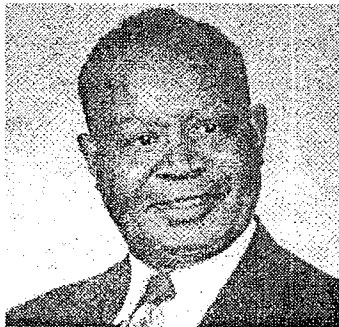
©2012 by Isabelle M. Woods

The Reverend Scott C. Bland (b ca 1849, AL; d July 25, 1923, LA)) was the first pastor of the newly established Saint Luke Missionary Baptist Church in Bonita, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana. He was also once the Pastor of St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church, Bonita, and of Shady Grove Baptist Church, Jones, Louisiana. He was born to the union of Mr. and Mrs. Agnes and Scott Bland, Sr., of Virginia.¹ By 1878, he had relocated to Bonita, Louisiana.

In Morehouse Parish, Louisiana, on January 9, 1878, he married Malinda Scott (b ca 1860, AL; d 8 December 1928, LA). She was born in Alabama and was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Solomon Scott of Virginia.² To this union, nine children were born, five of whom reached adulthood: James, Sam David, Grenson John, Agnes, and Blanche Bland. All their children were born in Bonita, Louisiana, and were married in Morehouse Parish, Louisiana.³

The eldest child, James Bland was born on 29 July 1878 and was a farmer.⁴ He married twice: (1) Mary Milton on February 19, 1907, and (2) Mary Anderson on January 22, 1933.⁵ About seven children were born to these unions: Carrie, Scott, Malinda, Lathenia or Letha, Mandy, Blanche, and John.⁶ James died on February 20, 1936 in Bonita, Louisiana, and is buried at the St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church Cemetery in Bonita, Louisiana.⁷

Born on 8 August 1880 in Bonita, Louisiana, Sam David Bland was the second son born to the late Mr. and Mrs. Scott C. Bland.⁸ Like his father, Sam became a Minister of the Gospel. Reverend Sam D. Bland married Annie Hughes (b 1888, d March 1971) on March 24, 1906.⁹ To this union, two children were born. One son, Percy Lee Bland, born on September 13, 1906, survived into adulthood. Percy married Lula Buckner, the daughter of Jim and Collie Buckner, on May 3, 1927. He preceded his mother, Annie, in death.¹⁰ Reverend Sam David Bland died on April 1, 1958 in Monroe, Ouachita Parish, Louisiana.¹¹



REVEREND GRENSON BLAND

Grenson John Bland was born on 5 June 1886, Bonita, Louisiana.¹² On January 12, 1905, he married Octavia Hughes (b ca 1890 LA; d April 14, 1930, LA) daughter of Jack Hughes; they had no children.¹³ He was ordained to the Gospel, Ministry, in Bonita, Louisiana, on February 8, 1926, by a Council of Baptist Churches composed of Reverend H. C. Williams, Moderator; Reverend S. Washington, Clerk, in the presence of the following Reverends: H. R. Flynn, E. E. Hollins, S. L. Brunson, and P. C. Keals.¹⁴ At the age of 39, Grenson married his second wife, Omega Carter, on January 22, 1933.¹⁵ He may have married for a third time. A photograph dated November, 1968, reads, "To My Friend Mrs. J. Woods (nee Jerutha Holman), made Nov-68. Rev. G. J Bland & Wife, Florence Bland."¹⁶

When the Reverend Grenson J. Bland died in California on May 4, 1971, his services were held at the North Oakland Baptist Church, Oakland, California. He was buried at the Rolling

ST. LUKE B. C.
BONITA, LA
DEDICATED
JULY 29, 1928
DEACONS
H. A. HILL W. M. NOBLE
J. M. TAYLOR C. FOX
R. GOODEN R. BELL
W. M. WILLIAMS
REV. W. J. MEN, PASTOR
TRUSTEES
J. M. TAYLOR
C. FOX
M. MOORE
J. B. WILSON
T. C. CLACK
H. A. HILL
JAS. BLAND

Hills Memorial Park in Richmond, California.¹⁷

Agnes Bland (b January 1890) married Norman Carroll on September 10, 1911.¹⁸ Blanche (b 4 November 1892) married Lucious Johnson on December 25, 1910. To this union, a son, Ozie, was born.¹⁹ Blanche died on June 13, 1919 in Bonita, Louisiana.²⁰

Sources:

¹Death Certificate, Page 8025, Volume 19, Louisiana State Archives, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

²Death Certificate, Page 15971, Volume 36, Louisiana State Archives, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

³In 1880 U. S. Population Schedule Soundex, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana; Volume 7, Enumeration District 58, Sheet 24, Line 7, Shreve Memorial Library, Shreveport, Louisiana, shows Scott Bland, age 31, born in Alabama; Melinda Scott, age 20, born in Alabama; James, son, age 3, born in Louisiana. In the 1900 United States Population Schedule, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana; Volume 21, Enumeration District 83, Sheet 11, Lines 25 through 27; Shreve Memorial Library, Shreveport, Louisiana; Microfilm T-1048, Roll 12. Parents ages and POB are questionable. Mother is about age 10 at birth of first child.

⁴Date of birth from Selective Service Registration Cards, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana, National Archives Microfilm M1509, Reel Louisiana 28.

⁵Direct Index to Marriage Records A-Z, 1870-1900, Morehouse Parish, LA; Shreve Memorial Library, Broadmoor Branch, Shreveport, Louisiana; Microfilm FT 778, Roll No. 39. #1 marriage in Book 14, Page 335, and #2 marriage in Book 27, Page 17.

⁶In the 1910 United States Population Schedule, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana; Enumeration District 97, Sheet 22, Page 203, Lines 65 through 71; National Archives Microfilm T624, Reel 518; and the 1920 United States Population Schedule, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana; Enumeration District 82, Sheet 5A, Page 188, Lines 33 through 39; National Archives Microfilm T625, Reel 617.

⁷Death Certificate, Page 3773, Volume 8, Louisiana State Archives, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

⁸Date of birth from Selective Service Registration Cards, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana, National Archives Microfilm M1509, Reel Louisiana 28.

⁹Funeral Program entitled, "Obsequies of Reverend Grenson John Bland," Fouché's Hudson Funeral Home, Oakland, Alameda County, California; dated May 10, 1971; copy in possession of Mrs. Isabelle Woods, Bossier City, Louisiana; 1995.

¹⁰Direct Index to Marriage Records A-Z, 1870-1900, Book 23, Page 406, Morehouse Parish, LA, Shreve Memorial Library, Broadmoor Branch, Shreveport, Louisiana, Microfilm FT 778, Roll No. 39.

¹¹Death Certificate, Page 456, Volume 6, Louisiana State Archives, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

¹²Date of birth from funeral Program entitled, "Obsequies of Reverend Grenson John Bland," Fouché's Hudson Funeral Home, Oakland, Alameda County, California; dated May 10, 1971; copy in possession of Mrs. Isabelle Woods, Bossier City, Louisiana; 1995.

¹³Direct Index to Marriage Records A-Z, 1870-1900, Book 13, Page 370, Morehouse Parish, LA, Shreve Memorial Library, Broadmoor Branch, Shreveport, Louisiana, Microfilm FT 778, Roll No. 39. Death Certificate of Octavia H. Bland, Page 5177, Volume 11, Morehouse Parish, Louisiana, Louisiana State Archives, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

¹⁴Funeral Program entitled, "Obsequies of Reverend Grenson John Bland," Fouché's Hudson Funeral Home, Oakland, Alameda County, California; dated May 10, 1971; copy in possession of Mrs. Isabelle Woods, Bossier City, Louisiana; 1995.

¹⁵Direct Index to Marriage Records A-Z, 1870-1900, Book 26, Page 135, Morehouse Parish, LA, Shreve Memorial Library, Broadmoor Branch, Shreveport, Louisiana, Microfilm FT 778, Roll No. 39.

¹⁶Photograph once owned by Mrs. Jerutha Holman Woods (deceased) now in possession of Mrs. Isabelle Woods, Bossier City, Louisiana.

¹⁷Funeral Program entitled, "Obsequies of Reverend Grenson John Bland," Fouché's Hudson Funeral Home, Oakland, Alameda County, California; dated May 10, 1971; copy in possession of Mrs. Isabelle Woods, Bossier City, Louisiana; 1995.

¹⁸Direct Index to Marriage Records A-Z, 1870-1900, Book 16, Page 215, Morehouse Parish, LA, Shreve Memorial Library, Broadmoor Branch, Shreveport, Louisiana, Microfilm FT 778, Roll No. 39.

¹⁹Direct Index to Marriage Records A-Z, 1870-1900, Book 16, Page 78, Morehouse Parish, LA, Shreve Memorial Library, Broadmoor Branch, Shreveport, Louisiana, Microfilm FT 778, Roll No. 39.

²⁰Death Certificate, Page 9916, Volume 22, Louisiana State Archives, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

LAKE IRWIN CEMETERY

©2011 by Isabelle M. Woods

AT OAK RIDGE, LOUISIANA, TURN LEFT (WEST) ON SWAMP COULEE ROAD FOR TWO AND FOUR-TENTHS' (2.4) MILES TO LAKE IRWIN ROAD. TURN LEFT, DRIVING FOR FIVE AND SEVEN-TENTHS' (5.7) MILES TO BRIDGE ACROSS LAKE IRWIN ROAD. DO NOT CROSS BRIDGE. THIS CEMETERY IS AT LEFT OF PATHWAY AND AT A CLEARING AT THE DEADEND OF THE PATHWAY RUNNING ALONG THE BANK OF LAKE IRWIN.

ID	NAME (Last, First, Middle)	PRE/SUFFIX	BIRTHDATE	DEATHDATE	INSCRIPTION/NOTES
5	ASHFORD, THEADORA MACK		16 FEB 1932	31 MAR 1989	FATHER. FS: FATHER
21	BATTLE, BOBBIE JOE		16 MAY 1947	19 AUG 2001	SP 4 U S ARMY VIETMAN
17	BATTLE, HENRY	SR.	26 JAN 1921	22 JAN 1973	FOOTSTONE: "PAPA"
22	BATTLE, JAMES		30 SEP 1948	12 MAR 2005	HUSBAND
24	BATTLE, LETTIE C.	MRS.		26 JUL 1979	OBIT., BASTROP (LA) ENTERPRISE DTD 02 AUG 1979
26	BATTLE, THEODORA (DELOIS)			02 JUN 2010	F N, BASTROP (LA) ENTERPRISE DTD 10 JUN 2010
18	BATTLE, THEODORE	(SR.)	13 AUG 1932	13 JUL 1999	OBIT., BASTROP (LA) ENTERPRISE DTD 16 JUL 1999
2	COLEMAN, LOLA		04 MAY 1906	05 AUG 1984	OBIT., BASTROP (LA) ENTERP. DTD 14 AUG 1984
1	COLEMAN, MONROE	SR.	01 APR 1871	08 DEC 1972	
7	ER---, SHOLANDRIA		1973	2004	
8	GILBERT, CATHERINE S.		10 AUG 1954	24 AUG 1997	FOOTSTONES: MAMA/DAUGHTER
20	JONES, EARL MAY		11 AUG 1943	26 JUN 1964	
19	JONES, LEE ARTHUR		12 DEC 1940	13 NOV 1966	
16	LEE, JESSIE JAMES		03 JAN 1956	09 DEC 1980	
15	LEE, NOAH	SR.	25 DEC 1924	01 JUN 1984	
23	LEE, OLLIE	MRS.		12 JAN 1979	OBIT., BASTROP (LA) ENTERPRISE DTD 19 JAN 1979
25	MITCHELL, BERNICE	(MRS.)		30 JAN 1986	OBIT., BASTROP (LA) ENTERPRISE DTD 25 JAN 1986
14	PATRICK, C.			23 AUG 2006	
3	PERRY, JOHNNIE LEE MACK		22 JUL 1928	28 OCT 1992	FOOTSTONE: "MAMA"
6	REED, MURPHY		1922	1988	
13	SCATES, FRANKIE LEE		27 AUG 1925	01 FEB 1985	
4	SMITH, JENNIE MACK		23 DEC 1934	01 AUG 1990	FOOTSTONE: "MOM-MEE"
10	SWINSON, ALEN		1819	1904	AGE 85
12	SWINSON, EARLANA DEBOSE		22 OCT 1911	30 AUG 2000	
11	SWINSON, JOHN W.		17 FEB 1906	28 FEB 1996	
9	SWINSON, MARY		05 MAR 1898	03 FEB 1953	AGE 55

LAKE IRWIN CEMETERY

LETTIE C. BATTLE

"Funeral services for MRS. LETTIE C. BATTLE will be held Saturday, August 4, at 2 p.m., at the Smith Temple Church of God in Christ with Elder J. R. Liggins officiating.

"Interment will follow in the Lake Ervin Cemetery under the direction of Loche's Mortuary.

"Mrs. Battle died Thursday, July 26, at the Morehouse General Hospital following a lengthy illness.

"She is survived by three daughters: Mrs. Thelma Damon of Bastrop, Mrs. Veola Lankford of Oakland, Calif., Mrs. Ophelia Williams of Dallas, Tex.; two step-daughters: Mrs. Eddie Middleton of Los Angeles, Calif., and Mrs. Sallie Box of Richland, Calif.; five sons: William Battle of Baton Rouge, Roosevelt Battle of Oak Ridge, Theodore Battle of Oak Ridge, Vernell Battle of Los Angeles, Calif.; Charles Battle of Bastrop; one step-son, Lloyd Battle of Los Angeles, Calif.; 70 grandchildren, 72 great-

grandchildren, three great-great-grandchildren, and a number of other relatives."

Source: Obituary of Lettie C. Battle, *Bastrop Daily Enterprise*, 119 East Hickory Avenue, Bastrop, Louisiana, dated August 2, 1979. [LK 24]

THEODORE BATTLE, SR.

"Funeral services for THEODORE BATTLE, SR., will be held, Saturday, July 17, 1999, at 1 p.m., at the Old Mount Olive Baptist Church in Oak Ridge with the Rev. Darren Lanier and Rev. Michael Reed officiating.

"He is survived by his wife, Beatrice Battle of Bastrop; six daughters: Theodora Battle (Vonnice Ray), Linda (Connie) Wanzo, Donna (Henry) Martin, Sally (John) Harris, Shelly (John) Nixon, and Diane (Earl) Wanzo, all of Bastrop; six sons: Theodore Battle, Jr., of Balinger, Texas; Claude (Jeanette) Battle of Oak Ridge; Earl (Marie) Battle of Rayville; Sherman Battle of Bastrop; Donald Ray (Frederica) Battle of Monroe; and Carnell (Janet) Battle of Bastrop; two young

boys he raised: Frederick and Tyris McGill of Bastrop; three

sisters: Thelma Dun of Los Angeles, Calif.; Ophelia Williams of Dallas, Texas; and Vedla Langford of Oakland, Calif.; two brothers: Charles (Vallie) Battle of Bastrop and Vernell (Nell) Battle of Los Angeles; two special friends: Diane and Annie Joe Willis of Bastrop; twenty-two grandchildren; five great grandchildren; three sisters-in-law: Dorothy Battle of Monroe; Vallie Battle and Mary Jane, both of Bastrop; and a number of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends."

Source: Obituary of Theodore Battle, Sr., *Bastrop Daily Enterprise*, 119 East Hickory Avenue, Bastrop, Louisiana, dated July 16, 1999. [LK 18]

LOLA COLEMAN

"Services for MRS. LOLA COLEMAN were set today at 2 p.m., in the Smith Temple Church off Elm Street with the Rev. J. R. Lee officiating.

"Burial was in Lake Irvin Cemetery of Oak Ridge under the direction of Simms and

Gundy Funeral Co., Inc., of Rayville.

"Mrs. Coleman died Wednesday at Hickory Manor Nursing Home following a lengthy illness.

"She was a member of the First Church of God in Christ of Oak Ridge.

"Survivors include her husband, Monroe Coleman of Bastrop; seven sons: H. C. Coleman and L. C. Coleman, both of Dallas, Melvin Coleman, Oakland, Calif., Willie James Coleman, Ft. Mirer, Fla., J. C. Coleman, Oakland, Calif., I. V. Coleman, Chicago, and the Rev. C. R. Jackson, Monroe; seven daughters: Elvira Tippet, Dallas, Hattie Brown, Monroe, Carrie Logan, Birmingham, Ala., Ella Me McGraw, Los Angeles, Elmire Moore, Ft. Mirer, Ethel Pondexter, Chicago, and Bernice Mitchell, Bastrop; and numerous grand and great-grandchildren.

"Pallbearers are Jerry Reynolds, Eugene Reynolds, Marshall Coleman, Eddie

LAKE IRWIN CEMETERY

Coleman, Mashack Richmond and Henry Pondexter."

Source: Obituary of Mrs. Lola Coleman, *Bastrop Daily Enterprise*, 119 East Hickory Avenue, Bastrop, Louisiana, dated August 14, 1984. [LK 2]

OLLIE LEE

"Funeral services for MRS. OLLIE LEE will be held Saturday, at 2:30 p.m., in the chapel of Loche's Mortuary with the Rev. James Jackson officiating.

"Burial will follow in Lake Ervin Cemetery under the direction of Loche's Mortuary.

"Mrs. Lee died Jan. 12 in the home of her daughter, Mrs. Rosie Jones of Bastrop following a lengthy illness.

"Survivors include a daughter, Mrs. Rosie Jones of Bastrop; a son, Noah Lee, Sr., of Oak Ridge; a sister, Minnie of Monroe, 16 grandchildren; 40 great grandchildren; five great great-grandchildren and a host of other relatives."

Source: Obituary of Mrs. Ollie Lee, *Bastrop Daily Enterprise*, 119 East Hickory Avenue, Bastrop, Louisiana, dated January 19, 1979. [LK 23]

BERNICE MITCHELL

"BERNICE MITCHELL, 44, died Monday, January 20, at her residence in Bastrop.

"Funeral services are set for today at 2:00 p.m., at the Chapel of Loche's Mortuary with the Rev. S. Smith officiating.

"Burial will be in the Lake Irvine Cemetery in Oak Ridge.

"Survivors include her husband, Charlie Mitchell of Bastrop; one son, Roy Lee Coleman of Ann Harbor, Mich.; one daughter, Sadie Williams of Flint, Mich.; five grandchildren; and brothers and sisters: Arthur Coleman, Melvin Coleman, H. C. Coleman, L. C. Coleman, Willie James Coleman, Carol Lee Logan, Hattie Tippit, Elmarie Moore, Ella McGraw, Elvira Tippit, Ethel Poindexter and Ines Jones."

Source: Obituary of Bernice Mitchell, *Bastrop Daily Enterprise*, 119 East Hickory Avenue, Bastrop, Louisiana, dated January 25, 1986. [LK 25]

EARLANA DEBOSE SWINSON

"EARLANA DEBOSE SWINSON was born to the parents of Tony and Lula Wilson Debose. After the death of her birthmother, Earlane was reared by her paternal grandparents, Larry and Francis Debose. Later her father married Carrie Robinson Debose. Once her father remarried, Earlane was then reared by her father and Carrie whom she regarded as mother.

"At an early age Earlane accepted Christ and was baptized. At that time she united with the Travelers Rest Missionary Baptist Church in Oak Ridge, Louisiana, where she served faithfully as a mother of the church. She also served as a member of the Mission Prayer Band at Bright Oak Baptist Church in Monroe, Louisiana. She was also involved in The Louisiana Song Convention.

"On February 7, 1930, Earlane married John Willie Swinson, who preceded her in death. From this union, eleven children were born; three of

which preceded her in death: Albert Larry Swinson, Vernon Lee Swinson and Jessie Mae Swinson Hodge.

"She leaves to cherish her memories: three daughters, Lottie Swinson Polk, Lula Swinson Shingles of Las Vegas, Nevada; and Barney Swinson Stevenson of Irving, Texas. Five sons: John Henry Swinson, Tony Swinson of Monroe, Louisiana; Allen Swinson, I. V. Swinson, and Grady Swinson of Las Vegas, Nevada; 36 grand children; 63 great-grand children; 13 great, great-grand children; and a host of relatives and friends."

Source: "In Loving Memory of Sister Earlane Debose Swinson" (photo) dated September 5, 2000, in possession of Mrs. Isabelle Woods, Bossier City, Louisiana. [LK 12]



EARLANA
DEBOSE SWINSON
OCT. 22, 1911
AUG. 30, 2000

BLESSED ARE THE
PURE IN HEART

Census Search Secrets

By Juliana Smith
Editor of newsletters at Ancestry.com

If family historians had ruled the world, I'm sure things would be quite different. Vital records would have been recorded since the beginning of time-in triplicate. Courthouses would have been built fireproof, bug- and rodent-proof, and on high ground. There would have been no records lost to wars. (Who has time to start a war when you're hot on the trail of your third-great-grandfather?)

In the case of censuses, census enumerators would have had to pass rigorous exams, be multi-lingual, and have perfect penmanship. Alas, this was not the case. Enumerators were often political appointees who just happened to have the right connections, and anyone who has worked with census records can attest that nice handwriting was definitely not a requirement!

Despite inaccuracies, unreadable handwriting, faulty copies, and numerous other obstacles, family historians still turn to these records frequently because of the wonderful things we find in them. Here are some tips to help you find those seemingly un-findable families.

Search the census you're missing directly. While the global search forms on the homepage and search tab on Ancestry.com are great for searching all of the collections and quickly capturing the closest matches, if you're missing an ancestor in a particular census, your best approach is to search it directly. Plus, individual census search forms may include fields tailored to the content in that enumeration. For example, since the 1900 census asked married couples how many years they had been married (and that field was indexed by Ancestry.com), you can include that detail. If you don't know the exact year, you can estimate it and add a date range of plus or minus one, two, five or ten years. Scroll down on [this page](#) to access individual census collections. Or customize your homepage so that the Record Collections widget is always on your home page and census records are always at your fingertips.

Search without a last name. Too often we continue to search for variations of the last name, but overlook the possibility that the details we have beyond the surname may be enough to narrow the search to a manageable number of matches. If you're really having trouble, stick to given names, including the given names of other family members who would have been enumerated with your ancestor, locations, birth dates, etc.

Searching phonetically can be useful. Some of our ancestors simply weren't concerned about how their name was spelled. I've seen one of my ancestor's name spelled Dwyer, Ware, Wire, Toire, Wyre, and Weir.

Use wildcards to pick up name variants. An asterisk (*) matches zero or more characters and a question mark matches one character. Last year wildcard functionality was improved so that now the first letter can now be a wildcard. The only restrictions are that a) either the first or last character must be a non-wildcard character and b) names must contain at least three non-wildcard characters. I find this really helpful when I'm searching for my Huggins ancestors-a family who had a rather casual attitude when it came to the vowels in their name. H?gg?ns will pick up the variations of Huggins, Higgins, Higgans, and Huggans that I often see.

Try searching for other family members who might be living in the same household (for example, the individual's parents or siblings). Their name may be clearer than that of your direct ancestor. Relatives with more unusual given names can be particularly helpful.

Locate a neighbor (preferably a home owner who is more likely to be living in the same place) in a previous census and search for them in the subsequent census. See if your ancestor is still nearby. Where available, try to locate a state census since they were typically taken between federal censuses and may shorten the time span between.

If you can't find the individual you are looking for, do not give up. Narrow your search using city directories, and then browse through the census for that area. (Tip: Use a directory for the year after the census year. They were often created beginning in May of the previous year, which would have been right around census time. You'll often find this type of information in the introduction to the city directory.)

	Urbie	Daughter	B	7	Mar	1900	7	15			Louisiana	Louisiana	Louisiana
	Bradford George W/H	Wife	B	7	Dec	1896	14	6			Louisiana	Louisiana	Louisiana
	Mattie	Wife	B	2	Aug	1879	24	7	10	9	1	Mississippi	Alabama
	Mary	Mother	B	5	Jan	1830	70	7	18	5	9	Virginia	West Virginia
	Jessie	Daughter	B	9	Jan	1896	14	5				Louisiana	Louisiana
	Rosa	Daughter	B	2	Mar	1888	12	5				Louisiana	Louisiana
	James L	Son	B	7	Jan	1887	11	15				Louisiana	Louisiana
	Margaret L	Daughter	B	5	July	1893	16	15				Louisiana	Louisiana
	James Susan	Wife	B	5	Feb	1885	14	2	18	6	4	Mississippi	Louisiana

Do Not Assume... Commonly Mistaken Assumptions in Genealogy

By Kimberly Powell, About.com Guide
<http://genealogy.about.com/od/basics/a/assumptions.htm>

When researching your family history, it is easy to get excited about new evidence and find yourself quickly led astray. While these common genealogical assumptions can provide the basis for a good working hypothesis, they can't be seriously taken as proof without further research.

1) A man's wife or widow was the mother of his children.

A man's children could have been fathered by his wife (or widow), a previous or later wife, or even another woman. Parentage is one of those genealogical facts which should never be assumed.

2) If no marriage record is found, the children are probably illegitimate.

Early marriages were not always documented. Marriage records may have also been lost due to fire, water damage or neglect. The marriage may have been misfiled, or the record kept in a repository which you have not yet checked. When you can't find a marriage record, look for alternative forms of proof; including newspaper announcements and church records.

3) Three men living in the same county, who are close in age with the same last name, are probably brothers.

While this is an understandable assumption, these men could actually be cousins, or even unrelated. Look for further corroborating evidence, including the proximity of their homes, common naming patterns among their children, and records in which they are listed as witnesses for each other.

4) That an ancestor named Jr. has a father with the same name.

The terms "Junior" and "Senior" as well as other family terms such as "aunt" and "cousin" were often used very loosely. A designation of Jr., for example, may have been used in official records to identify between two men of the same name, even if they were unrelated (the younger of the two being called "Jr.").

5) People followed common migration routes.

Just because most of your ancestors' North Carolina neighbors came from Virginia, it doesn't mean that your ancestors did. While many individuals did follow common migration routes, making this a good working hypothesis, you can't assume it is true without further research.

6) People usually died in their sixties.

While most people in a generation may have followed the average life-span, your ancestor may have died very young from illness or accident, or lived to a much older age than many of their contemporaries. Just because your ancestor doesn't appear in the census after their 60th birthday doesn't necessarily mean that they died. Likewise, when a 20-year-old female no longer appears with her parents, it doesn't necessarily indicate that she must have married.

7) An ancestor who was born and died in the same place never moved.

It wasn't that uncommon for people to end up back where they started after spending a big part of their life moving around. Family, jobs or money may have caused your ancestors to move many times, but as these requirements lessened as they got older they may well have returned home to live near their family. Create a timeline for your ancestor's life and research their life and activities at many points along the way.

8) A female with the same last name as her father must be unmarried.

A common assumption to make, this genealogy premise often proves to be true. However, you need to rule out that the female didn't marry a man with the same surname as her father - a more common occurrence than you may think, especially in areas with a large number of families with the same surname. Alternatively, the daughter may actually have married, and then took back her father's name after a divorce.

9) That an ancestor who disappeared from the records of a town or county must have moved.

People aren't the only things that move. Political and geographical boundaries move as well. The county where your ancestor lived may have been divided into new counties, and his records may be found in a different courthouse. Or he may have started traveling to a courthouse in a neighboring jurisdiction because a new road or other reason may have made that trip more convenient.

10) A male name indicates a male, and female name a female.

Names aren't always what they appear. Naming trends change often. The female first name Kimberly, for example, was originally a boy's name. Parents may also have chosen an unusual name to honor an ancestor, a famous individual, or just because they liked it.

While assumptions are a necessary part of genealogical research, the trick is to recognize them as assumptions, and substantiate or disprove them with further evidence. Avoiding false or mistaken assumptions can save hours of time and frustration.

START YOUR LOUISIANA GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH IN BATON ROUGE

By Judy Riffel
© 2011, All Rights Reserved

Do you have Louisiana ancestors? If so, Baton Rouge is a great place to start your research. As the State Capital, Baton Rouge has a number of research facilities with both statewide and local appeal.

As the repository of the State's governmental records, the Louisiana State Archives offers countless collections of use to genealogists. Birth and death records are an important starting point for many genealogists. The city of New Orleans began recording vital records in the early 1800s, while the cities of Baton Rouge and Shreveport began in the 1870s. The remainder of the state began recording births and deaths in the early 1900s. In Louisiana, all birth records more than 100 years old and death records more than 50 years old are public and are available at the State Archives. Other record collections of use to genealogists include military and pension records, passenger lists, tax assessment rolls, prisoner records, and selected parish civil records.

Louisiana State University Libraries are renowned for their historical collections. As Louisiana's newspaper coordinator under the National Endowment for the Humanities' U.S. Newspaper Program, LSU holds the largest collection of Louisiana newspapers in the state. LSU also holds numerous collections dealing with the French, British, and Spanish colonial periods. Most notable are more than 1,000 reels of the Cuban Papers, the Spanish government's records including censuses, correspondence, military records, civil and criminal cases, and other official records. These date primarily from the mid 1700s to early 1800s. Additionally, the LSU Libraries have an extensive collection of Louisiana plantation papers including University Publications of America's microfilm collection of *Records of Antebellum Southern Plantations* as well as original documents not available on microfilm. Membership records of the United Confederate Veterans are also helpful in researching Confederate ancestors not only in Louisiana, but around the country.

The State Library of Louisiana is remarkable for its large collection of Louisiana genealogy and history related books. They also hold historic city and telephone directories for a number of Louisiana cities, historical maps and photographs, building surveys, and selected parish civil records on microfilm.

The Louisiana State Land Office holds U.S. and State historical land title information for Louisiana. This includes information related to land grants, severance documents of U.S. and State public lands, all U.S. Official Township

Survey plats and field notes, the U.S. and State Tract Books, Section 16 School Lands, State Patents, and numerous related documents. These records are useful in finding the first private owner of any piece of land in the State.

The Catholic Church played an important part in Louisiana's early history. Sacramental records of baptisms, marriages, and burials are extensive. The Diocese of Baton Rouge includes the twelve civil parishes of Ascension, Assumption, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Iberville, Livingston, Pointe Coupee, St. Helena, St. James, Tangipahoa, West Baton Rouge, and West Feliciana. The Diocesan Archives in Baton Rouge holds most historical records from these parish churches through about 1920. Most records up to 1900 for individuals with surnames have been published in book form. Only a small number of sacramental records for individuals without surnames (mostly slaves) have not been published, but can be searched by appointment at the Diocesan Archives.

The East Baton Rouge Parish Library's Bluebonnet Branch is a popular research stop for local genealogists. Its genealogical book collection extends beyond Louisiana into other states and countries. Access to online genealogical databases, including Ancestry.com and HeritageQuest, is available through the Louisiana Library Connection Databases.

Other research facilities located in Baton Rouge include a Family History Center for ordering microfilm through the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, the East Baton Rouge Parish Clerk of Court's office, the Baton Rouge Room at the parish library's River City Branch, and the Southern University Library Archives.

About the Author:

Judy Riffel is a professional genealogist and published writer based in Baton Rouge. She specializes in Louisiana USA research. Judy can be reached via Email: directoryofgenealogists@gmail.com.



Louisiana Genealogy

If you are studying Louisiana genealogy, you will have several avenues to pursue. The main source for information is through the state-registered vital records but there are other places you can look for alternative material as well. Overall, the state basically started collecting birth and death registrations in 1907 though some parishes have their own records that are older.

Louisiana Vital Records

Though there may be birth records that go back to 1907 or farther (death and marriage start in 1957), you will have some difficulty getting copies of them unless you are a direct relation to the person on the record. Privacy laws keep birth records private for 100 years, except to immediate family members. After 100 years, you are free to request any records you would like. Similar restrictions exist for death records, only the time is just 50 years.

Anything within those time frames can be requested from the Department of Health, the Vital Records and Statistics section in New Orleans. Their website has the proper forms for this along with the fees and current instructions. You can also order marriage records from this office as long as the marriage took place in New Orleans parish. For other marriages, you will have to make your request at the parish office.

Birth records are issued as either a long form or a short form, and they will cost \$15 and \$19 respectively to get copies. Death and marriage records go for \$7 each. When the clerks cannot find the record you have requested, you will get a notice saying that no file was found. Don't expect to get a refund.

If you are after birth records more than 100 years old, or death records more than 50 years old, you will have to turn your Louisiana genealogy search elsewhere.

Louisiana State Archives

The vital records no longer kept by the Vital Records office are moved to the State Archives. Along with older vital records, their collections have quite a bit more Louisiana genealogy material available for public research. Visiting their Baton Rouge location can yield census records, church records, immigration documents, passenger manifests, colonial documents and a database of Confederate material as well.

If you cannot get to Baton Rouge, they will make copies of documents for you and send them by mail. There are fees for this, and you will have to contact the Archives for the details.

Other Groups and Societies

More serious Louisiana genealogy research will probably benefit from membership in one of the many groups on the subject. There are genealogy societies based in each county, and larger state-wide groups as well. The Louisiana Genealogy and Historical Society is the largest and most wide-spread group, but there are also regional options such as the Southwest Louisiana Genealogy Society.

Not only will these groups put you in touch with other members who may have information on your family, the group may have its own collection of references separate from what you would find at the State Archives. Either way, there is more information to be found through any of these groups.

Source: <http://www.genealinks.com/states/la.htm>



From an email I received this morning...

Read more: <http://www.city-data.com/forum/genealogy/1112842-footnote-ancestry-genealogy-records-picture-birth.html#ixzz25jyBrMfZ>

"Several weeks ago Footnote.com (as part of iArchives) agreed to be acquired by Ancestry.com and that transaction has officially closed today. As we join forces with Ancestry.com there is a huge opportunity to leverage each other's strengths and move even faster toward our goals. You may be curious about how this deal effects members of Footnote.com? The plan is to continue to run Footnote.com the way we have always run Footnote.com — continuing to do what we believe is best for our customers, our business and our brand.

Now that the deal is officially closed we are excited to leverage some of Ancestry.com's resources and expertise to take Footnote.com to the next level. It has been exciting to see Footnote.com grow over the past 4 years. Footnote.com started with only 5 million historical documents and today we have nearly 70 million searchable documents, over 1 million members, nearly 100,000 Footnote Pages, and over half million annotations added. We couldn't have done it without our members and the great team at Footnote.com and we are excited for Ancestry.com's support in the next chapter."

It seems that whenever a new genealogy database goes online and becomes successful Ancestry just has to acquire the site, effectively building a monopoly on available online genealogical resources. I wonder when the cost of subscriptions to Footnote will go up now.

Editor's Note: The following information may be helpful to those of you who has no idea about Footnote.com.

Footnote.com currently has hundreds of unique record collections including: Historical Newspaper; Revolutionary War Documents; Civil War Records and Photos; FBI Case Files and Holocaust Collection.

There are some free records like the Social Security Death Index (SSDI). Although found on other sites as well, what makes the SSDI more powerful on Footnote.com is the ability to enhance the records through member contributions.

Webinar Now Available: To introduce people to what they have to offer, Footnote.com has a free thirty-minute "webinar" available. As it sounds, a webinar is a tutorial, like a seminar, offered as an online video. This one can be found at <<http://blog.footnote.com/the-worlds-first-footnote-webinar>>.

A Touch in Time

Hazard--Sheriff/Shreve Families

By Herman L. Weiland

I think it is great when you find an interesting family relationship during your searching, these just seem to add something to your family history and make it more exciting. I recently discovered a very brief **Touch in Time** between my 9th Great Grandfather, **Thomas Hazard** and **Martha Sheriff**, the 2nd Great Grandmother of **Captain Henry Miller Shreve**, for whom the City of Shreveport, Louisiana was named.

Taken from the Herman Lewis Weiland Ahnentafel published in **The GENIE**, 1996, Volume 30, Issue No. 2, pages 53-60, and Issue No. 3, page 124.

No./Direct Line Ancestor/Spouse

1. Herman L. Weiland	
3. Mary L. Leonhardt	
2. Fred Weiland	
6. Henry Leonhardt	
7. Olive E. Rudy	
13. Esther Lewis	
12. Charles Leonhardt	
27. Anna Wood	
26. Griffith Lewis	
55. Phebe Benedict	
54. Daniel Wood	
111. Anna Stephens	
110. Reuben Benedict	
222. Peter Stephens	Henry Miller Shreve
223. Ann Jackson	
445. Mercy Cottrell	Israel Shreve
444. Peter Stephens	Mary Cokely
891. Bethia Wilcox	Benjamin Shreve
890. Gershom Cottrell	Rebecca French
1783. Hannah Hazard	Caleb Sheriff / Shreve
1782. Stephen Wilcox	Sarah Areson
3566. Thomas Hazard (c1610-1680)	Thomas Sheriff (c1610-1675)
3567. Martha ____ (1610-1669)	Martha ____ (-1691)

Thomas Hazard married **Martha Sheriff**, the widow of **Thomas Sheriff**, in 1675. There is no blood relationship between the two families of Hazard and Sheriff and any step relationship ended with the death of **Thomas Hazard** in 1680. This **Touch in Time** lasted only five years in marriage, although the couple were well acquainted previous to that time.

There are many books written about Capt Henry Miller Shreve and the voyages of ships that he had designed or that he Captained. I will not attempt to restate those facts but will give you some insight into his family background.

Sheriff/Shreve Family

Thomas Sheriff was recorded first as being in Plymouth, Massachusetts and then in Portsmouth, Rhode Island by 1641 as on Dec 7th of that year he is one of the complainants against a James Laxford for trespass. He married **Martha** c1648 as their first child was born on September 2, 1649. Thomas died on May 29, 1675 with his inventory taken June 11, 1675. Shortly thereafter **Thomas Hazard** made a statement that there was a "promise of marriage betwixt Thomas Hazard and Martha Sheriff", but he disclaims any interest in or control over her estate. Evidently there was some opposition to this marriage from Thomas Hazard's children as his will signed the thirteenth day of November, 1676 gives to his three children Robert Hazard, Hannah Wilcox and Martha Potter "one shilling, to be paid in silver coigne, one month after my death". His wife Martha was bequeathed all his real and personal property. **Thomas and Martha Sheriff** had eight children: (1) Thomas (2) John (3) **CALEB** (4) Mary (5) Susannah (6) Daniel (7) Elizabeth (8) Sarah.

Caleb Sheriff/Shreve was born c1653 in Rhode Island and died c1741 in Burlington Co., New Jersey. He married a Dutch girl **Sarah Areson/Aaronson**, dau of Deidrich Areson/Aaronson and Sarah Orrest on Long Island c1680. **Caleb and Sarah Shreve** had ten children all born in Burlington Co, New Jersey: (1) Martha (2) Thomas (3) Joseph (4) Joshua (5) Caleb (6) Mary (7) Sarah (8) Jonathan (9) David (10) **BENJAMIN**.

Benjamin Shreve was born June 9, 1706 and died 1751 in Burlington Co., New Jersey. He married **Rebecca French**, the daughter of Richard French and Mary King, on February 23, 1729. **Benjamin and Rebecca Shreve** had eight children all born in Burlington Co., New Jersey: (1) Kazia (2) Richard (3) Caleb (4) William (5) **ISRAEL** (6) Sarah (7) Benjamin (8) Samuel.

Israel Shreve was born on December 24, 1739 and died December 14, 1799 in Fayette County, Pennsylvania. He married first **Grace Curtis**, daughter of John Curtis and Elizabeth Pancoast, about 1761. **Israel and Grace Shreve** had four children: (1) John (2) Elizabeth (3) Sarah (4) Kazia. **Israel** married second, **Mary Cokely**, daughter of Cornelius and Johanna Cokely, on September 16, 1773 at Christ Church, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. **Israel and Mary Shreve** had eight children: (1) Esther (2) Israel Jr. (3) George Green (4) Rebecca (5) **HENRY MILLER** (6) Benjamin (7) Mary (8) Caleb.

Henry Miller Shreve was born October 21, 1785 in Rancocas Creek, New Jersey and died 1851, he was buried in Bellefontain Cemetery in Saint Louis, Missouri. He married first **Mary Blair** and second **Lydia Rogers**.

The Sheriff Family was in Plymouth, Massachusetts and then Portsmouth, Rhode Island. Most of the Sheriff children moved to Burlington County, New Jersey starting about 1680.

Caleb Sheriff changed his family name to Shreve after moving to New Jersey. He was one of the earliest settlers in western New Jersey. He built a brick home c1688 on land he obtained from John Fenwick. The Shreve family was living in New Jersey for another 100 years and then Israel Shreve moved to Westmoreland Co., Pennsylvania in 1788 in the company of 30 individuals and on to Fayette Co., Pennsylvania by 1789. He leased land from Gen. George Washington on April 1, 1790 for a five year period. He then purchased from Gen. Washington some Fayette County land, 1,644 acres for 4,000 pounds on July 31, 1795.

Israel Shreve had joined the Continental Army of George Washington in 1775 and on October 21, 1775 was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in the 2nd Regiment of New Jersey Troops. He was promoted to Colonel on November 28, 1776. He took part and the battles on Brandywine, Germantown, Monmouth and was at Valley Forge for that horrible winter. It has been reported that Gen. Washington chose not to promote him to General in December 1780 because he was "obese" and he retired on January 1, 1781.

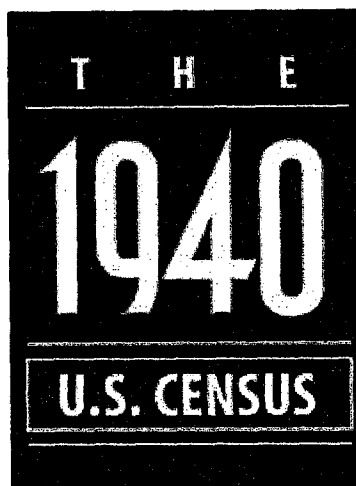
Henry Miller Shreve was born in New Jersey shortly before Israel Shreve moved the family to Pennsylvania. He was well educated as a Civil Engineer and took an interest in steamboats. He was the first to sail from Pittsburgh to New Orleans and return on the ship "Enterprise" in 1814. He was tasked with clearing the Red River by removing a log jam known as "The Great Raft" near where Shreveport, Louisiana is now and in 1837 the city was officially named for him.

References:

- Austin, John Osborne. {1887} 1982. Genealogical Dictionary of Rhode Island, GPC
- Coates, Truman. 1906. A Genealogy of Moses and Susanna Coates. privately printed.
- Crumrine, Boyd. 1882. History of Washington County, Pennsylvania. L. H. Everts & Co.
- Dorsey, Florence L. 1941. Master of the Mississippi. Boston, Houghton Mifflin
[1941] 1999. Master of the Mississippi. Pelican Publishing Co.
- Ellis, Franklin. 1882. History of Fayette County, Pennsylvania. L. H. Everts & Co.
- Hazard, Thomas R. 1879. Recollections of Olden Times, John P. Sanborn.
- McCall, Edith S. 1984. Conquering the Rivers. Louisiana State University
- Northrup, Mary R. Ed., 2002. The Lively Experiment, Vol 4, Number 3, Order of First Families of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations.
- Pope, Charles H. 1900. Pioneers of Massachusetts. Boston
- WWW. Numerous sites, use search keyword Shreve or Henry Shreve

Ancestry.com Completes The 1940 U.S. Census Index

Ancestry.com has announced that the company has now completed the indexing of the 1940 U.S. Census records and that the index is available for everyone to use. Quoting the announcement at <http://www.ancestry.com/1940-census>:



1940 Census: Now fully indexed.
Search every name, state and territory for FREE at your Library.

On April 1, 1940 history was made as the 16th U.S. Census was taken in America and its territories. And today, each and every one of the 134 million records is ready for you to explore here on Ancestry.com. Simply search for your family member by name and you could find records that include details like address, age, occupation, income, education level and more. Almost 9 out of 10 Americans has a relative in the 1940 Census. See who you can discover, right now. Search the 1940 Census.

Don't forget – free access to Ancestry.com at the Broadmoore Branch Genealogy Department of the Shreve Memorial Library, 1212 Captain Shreve Drive, LA 71105

SURNAME INDEX

[A surname may appear more than once on a page.]

A

Alden 106, 107, 108
Allen 119
Anderson 126, 127, 128, 133
Areson 147, 148
Ashford 135

B

Bailey 125
Baker 101, 103
Barr 102
Basco 101
Battle 135, 136
Bell 105
Benedict 147
Bernard 123
Bland 132, 133
Box 136
Boykin 115
Brown 136
Brunson 133
Buckner 133
Bunckley 132
Burks 132

C

Carroll 134
Carter 128, 133
Carver 120
Chitchester 122
Christian 132
Christy 102
Clark 105
Cohen 115
Cokely 147
Coleman 135, 136, 137
Collier 122
Cottrell 147
Crisp 122
Croom 117, 118, 122
Currie 120
Curtis 148

D

Dalton 126
Damon 136
Daniels 122
Davis 102, 109
Debose 137
Denision 121
Doles 120
Dun 136

E

Easterly 124
Edwards 117
Eppinger 115

F

Ferguson 115
Flanagan 122
Fly 117
Flynn 133
Fortier 122
Fowler 120
French 147, 148

G

Gilbert 135
Greenwood 115
Grundy 126
Guffey 119
Guilbert 102
Gullege 120
Guth 122

H

Hardin 122
Harris 136
Hazard 147, 148
Henderson 105
Hendrick 102
Hill 132
Hobson 122
Hollins 133

Holman 133
Howell 124
Huckabay 118
Hughes 104, 105, 108, 120, 133
Hulse 115

I

Ivey 122

J

Jackson 136, 137, 147
Jarrott 122
Jennings 104
Johnson 101, 103, 116
Jones 135, 137

K

Kay 121
Keals 133
Keith 108
Kellogg 114
Kirkpatrick 115

L

Langford 136
Lanier 136
Lankford 136
Lawrence 120
Lazarus 102
Ledbelly 120
Ledbetter 120
Lee 135, 136, 137
Leonhart 147
Lewis 147
Liggins 136
Lindsey 120
Linnebach 102
Logan 136, 137

SURNAME INDEX

[A surname may appear more than once on a page.]

M

Marshal 125
Martin 127, 136
McCall 107
McCann 119
McDowell 132
McGill 136
McGraw 136
McGregor 126
Meadors 115
Middleton 136
Miller 148
Milton 133
Mitchell 135, 136, 137
Mizner 124
Moore 116, 121, 136, 137
Mooring 117
Morefield 122
Mullins 106
Murata 119

N

Newland 119
Newman 125
Nixon 136
Noble 132
Noel 117, 118, 120

O

Odom 132
Owens 132

P

Parker 125
Patrick 135
Perry 135
Pinchback 113, 114
Pinky 121
Polk 102, 137
Pondexter 136, 137
Powell 140
Pyron 119

R

Reed 135, 136
Reynolds 136
Richard 106
Riffel 142, 143
Rivers 118
Roberts 125
Robertson 106
Rudy 147

S

Scates 135
Scott 133
Sheriff 147, 148, 149
Shingles 137
Shreve 117, 147, 148, 149
Sims 120
Smith 106, 132, 135, 137, 138
Speight 104
Spence 101
Stallcup 118
Standish 106
Starr 120
Steiner 120
Stenzel 102
Stephens 117, 147
Stevenson 137
Stewman 104
Stover 102
Swinson 135, 137
Sylvester 132

T

Talbert 122
Tanner 122
Teel 119
Thomas 101, 102
Thornton 108
Thorp 125
Tillinghasst 120
Tinstman 124

Tintsman 124
Tippeth 136
Tippit 137
Trice 122
Tullos 120

W

Wanzo 136
Warmoth 114
Warren 120
Washington 133, 149
Weilans 147
Weston 119
Wilcox 147
Williams 133, 136, 137
Willis 136
Winters 128
Wood 147
Woods 101, 132, 133

Y

Young 115